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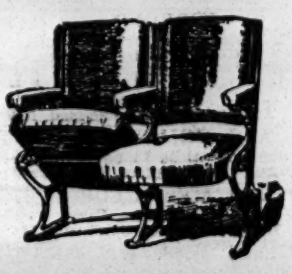

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MR. W. V. GARROD, Title-rôle, "The Prodigal Parson." July 9, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY (Kitty Jones). Thornbury, Parade, Herne Bay.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present isue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual appears once more in its familiar binding, a compendium of information and amusement for all who are interested in theatrical affairs. In the calendar will be found an array of anniversary dates, some recent, some recalling memories of old times and actors and actresses long passed away. The summary of new plays produced during the past year is admirably done, its value being increased by the alphabetical list which is appended. Well-known actors and actresses contribute stories in accordance with a custom justified by its success.—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 18, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingsworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Desprez, the editor, contributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, combines utility and entertainment. Its former aspect is exemplified by the record of the plays produced last year in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin; it also includes an obituary for the year, and lists of the United Kingdom's theatres and music halls. The attractive side of the Annual comprises numerous stories by stage celebrities, whose portraits illustrate the text. It is a delightful budget of good things. Mr. T. P. O'Connor's appreciation of the late Sir Henry Irving is brief, but tender and impressive.—Financier, Jan. 23, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are moving with the times, and are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements in time to reach the office on Thursday.

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FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.

"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES.

"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

MR. EDWARD TERRY.

"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

MR. FRANK CURZON.

"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.

"I think the list will be immensely useful."

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"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should not be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.

"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.

"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

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"I have watched with the greatest interest the progress of your alphabetical list of the plays published during the last half of the nineteenth century. It is a most useful undertaking, and when it appears in volume form it must prove of great value to all who are concerned with the drama."

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MR. ARTHUR LAW.

"The publication in *The Era* of a list of plays produced during the fifty years, 1850-1900, is an excellent idea, and will be most useful to authors who may be in doubt as to their right to a certain title. When it is issued in book form I shall be very glad to possess a copy."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

MR. TOM GALLON.

"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. HAROLD MONTAGUE.

"I think the idea of printing a list of plays produced during the last fifty years an excellent one. It should be of great value to authors."

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

"The list of produced plays was not merely a happy thought, for the same idea has probably occurred to many, though until *The Era* carried it out no one took the pains to collect and publish such a truly valuable record.

"Managers, dramatists, as well as would-be authors, will henceforward have a long list of titles to refer to, and there will be neither reason nor excuse for encroaching on pre-existing copyright in play titles. What a lot of trouble it should save us all!"

MR. WALTER MELVILLE.

"I think it shows great enterprise on the part of your journal, and likely to prove most useful and at the same time interesting to the general profession."

MR. ARTHUR MORRISON.

"The list you are publishing will be of most valuable work of reference to everybody taking an interest in the stage, and I have no doubt that when it is published as a book you will find its success warrant you in issuing fresh editions from time to time, with the information brought to date in each case."

MR. J. J. DILLEY.

"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary. *Cousin Grace* has not been included. This is a little piece from the French, played at a matinée performance at the Gaiety Theatre, Dec. 4, 1884."

MR. COSMO HAMILTON.

"I think that your new feature is an excellent and most useful one. A list of plays produced during fifty years is interesting not only to the playgoer, but essentially so to the manager and the playwright. They will only have to consult it to be sure that a title has not been used before."

MR. CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD.

"My attention has been called to your list of plays produced between 1850-1900. I have no doubt it will prove interesting and useful to many."

MR. F. FRANKFORT MOORE.

"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.

"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your paper, be invaluable."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company entered on the fourth week of their engagement with *The Octoroon* on Monday. Mr. Tearle plays powerfully as Salem Scudder; Mr. Montague Lane appears to advantage as the Indian; Mr. T. W. Benson makes an amusing Pete, and Miss Esther Tearle creditably acquits herself in the part of Zoe.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The principal attraction this week is the sensational Globe of Life act, which is presented by Wizard and Irene Stone. Wordley Hulse's company appear in a capital sketch, *A Just Revenge*; and among the other clever artists are Musical Miller, Raymond and Colby, comedians; Doyle and Gibson, comedians and dancers; Mr. Frank Lynne, comedian; Miss Rosie Kirk, serio-comic; the Hugo Troupe, and Mr. Albert Windsor, comedian.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—Von Etta, who is particularly clever in her illusions, tops the bill. The Three Schaffers give a wonderful acrobatic performance; W. B. Raby is a good comedian; Brothers Victorian is a pleasing turn; Boden and Bell are clever juveniles; George Prince is always a favourite here, and evidence of this was given on Monday; the Brothers Mellot are well received; Joe Hennessy is good; and some interesting pictures are shown.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. E. Williams.—*The Way of the World*, a melodramatic play of a sporting type has many features of interest, and there is little wonder that success follows the performances. The company is under the direction of Mr. Herbert Skardon. Miss Sidney Crowe, a clever actress, gives a powerful rendering of the rôle of Adela de la Roche; Mr. Herbert Skardon's sangfroid as the villainous Captain Slade causes this part to stand out prominently; and the juvenile lead of Cecil as played by Mr. H. Lewis is capital; whilst Miss Cissy Bellamy is good as Kate; highly effective are the circus and racecourse scenes in which three miniature ponies and two thoroughbred horses play prominent parts. The scenery carried by the company is most effective, and the staging throughout is praiseworthy.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Miss Emily Sheridan and a specially organised company are here this week with the new romantic play, entitled *A Prince of the People*, a story of the French Revolution. Mr. F. Rawson Buckley sustains the arduous part of Victor Lafond, the peasant hero, with undoubted skill and dramatic fervour; Miss Emily Sheridan as Lucille de Valeriere, the daughter of the Count, gives a fine interpretation of the dignity and sweetness of the French lady of the Louis period; Mr. W. H. Brougham, a favourite character-actor, finds a part suited to his gifts in Berthaut, representative of the Convention; Mr. Lionel Gadsden as the old Count adequately realises the proud patrician spirit of a noble of France; and Mr. H. G. Twyman as the Marquise de Sancy, and Mr. Douglas Munroe as Baudrar, a corporal, both give effective impersonations; Miss Lilian Williams as Marie, a charming vivandiere, is responsible, along with Mr. Munroe for the comic relief.

EMPIRE-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Exceptionally good houses were the order of the day at the Hippodrome on Monday, and the patrons were delighted with the programme. Gustave Fasola, the Indian illusionist, created a sensation by his wonderful tricks; Theo. Bouwmeester, the famous Dutch actor, presents a melodramatic sketch, with a cast of nine characters, seven of which he impersonates himself, his clever rendering of widely divergent comedy and dramatic characters being full of interest; Mr. Webster Lawson is a capital specimen of the dominating coroner. Burns and Bentley, a smart pair of young artists, sing and dance with success; Lou Langley, comedienne, is a tuneful vocalist, with an attractive style; Carson Hicks sings a good song, but his forte is his dancing, in which he introduces a pleasing variety; Moon and Morris are a couple of comedians, with good voices, and their eccentric dancing provoked much amusement; Cullen and Jordis, a dainty pair of young girls, sing and dance with confidence and ability seldom found in juveniles; the Bollingers, the "rag-pickers," form realistic pictures of flowers, seascapes, landscapes, &c., out of rags. Amusing pictures are presented on the Bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Since the close of the dramatic season here, excellent entertainment has been provided by the Royal Animated Picture Company, which has proved a big success. For the second week of the engagement, there is an entire change of programme, especially interesting are the "singing-pictures," introduced by Mr. Steve Fitzgerald. The show is under the direction of Mr. Matt Raymond.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris. — The Jees head the bill here, and have been accorded a capital reception nightly for their attractive musical pantomime, *The Musical Smithy*; Zarmo, comedy juggler, creates roars of laughter with his funny performance; and the fine voice of Miss Daisy Davidson has been heard to advantage in several songs; Mr. Alfred Lester (assisted by Miss Valentine Sydney) produce with effect their amusing skit, *The Scene-Shifter's Lament*; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by the Max Milian Trio of Continental equilibrists; Germaine, styled "The American Wizard," executes some clever feats; and Mr. J. C. Crawley, mimic, Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and dancers, Charles Ulrick, and the Palace Pictures are other items in the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading attraction here is provided by Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders, who have been most successful with their marvellous lightning drill. The New York Nippers appear to great advantage in their clever singing and dancing speciality; and Francis and Melli return with their musical speciality, which is always an attraction. Miss Myra Stanfield, a fascinating soubrette, is well received; and the Bros. Harrison are exceedingly funny knockabout comedians. Kavados, the Japanese Mystery, Miss Nellie Martell, comedienne, and Mr. Sam Shipley, eccentric comedian, are also in the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—*Her One Great Sin* has been played here this week with every element of success by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Mr. Hilliard Vox, a clever actor, acquits himself with distinction as Reuben Warhurst; and Miss Nina Blake Adams, a fine emotional actress, furnishes a sympathetic interpretation of Grace Warhurst. The villainies of Arnold Thornhill are done full justice to by Mr. Herbert Cecil; and Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as Dan Hundle could not easily be excelled. Mr. Luke Forster is very humorous as Jerry Jumble; and he is ably assisted by Miss Beryl Ravenswood, as Nancy Winpenny; Miss Evelyn Marrable as Charlie plays excellently; and the rôle of Gracie Warhurst is capitally portrayed by a clever juvenile actress, Miss Evelyn Kington. Miss Ada Arnott as the repulsive Bet Hundle to the life; and Mr. Cecil Ravensword is all that can be desired as Jack Hundle. The staging of the piece, for which Mr. Herbert Cecil was responsible, reflects much credit on that gentleman.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. John Power's company, in the moral drama, *Man's Enemy; or, the Downward Path*, provides an attractive entertainment. The rôle of Harry Stanton is well embodied by Mr. Francis Everard; and the Jew, Isaac Barnett, is ably impersonated by Mr. J. Newton Cowling. Mr. E. W. Bretton displays considerable power and ability as Bill Saunders; and Mr. A. Denne Mead is suitably placed as the Rev. Fred Lisle. Miss Marie Lyons gives a capital rendering of Sarah Drake; Miss Lynn Darlington is in every respect an excellent Grace Lisle; Miss Clara Reid creates much amusement as Polly Harris; Mr. Charles Clayton gives a fine performance of Tom Drake.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Wal Pink and his company of comedians, in the highly diverting sketch *Repairs; or How Not to Do It*, head an excellent company, and are scoring heavily. Mr. H. O. Wills, a clever comedian, is also a favourite turn; and the musical Schaffers, in their delightful entertainment "The Garden of Melody," are an undoubted acquisition; O'Malley and Brown, amusing patterers, are a decided success; and Miss Nellie Gannon, vocalist; Mr. Harry Wright, extempore vocalist; and Miss Peggy Fame, vocalist and dancer, are all well received. The programme also includes a display of interesting films admirably shown by Mr. A. Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Mr. Collingwood is left in possession of the field, and, with Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in *A Sister's Sin*, is meeting with satisfactory results. Mr. Kimberley as that true son of Erin, Larry, acts in buoyant and artistic style that wins much genuine applause and laughter, and his two sweethearts have many charms to recommend them as played by the Misses Edie Macklin and Alice Granville. Miss Violet Langley displays all a good woman's qualities as the heroine, Minnie Hastings; Miss Augusta Tullock acts with fine spirit as the avenging sister, Charzel; Miss M. Eversleigh is successful as the fallen one, Redempta; Mr. Andrew Money represents the villainous character of George Oakley with great force and ability, and the hero, Harold Raymond, elicits much admiration in the person of Mr. Wm. Vane. Messrs. Ernest Frere, Chas. Locke, Harry Lyndon, and the Misses Dorothy Vivian and Isa Lyndon also do well.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks this week comprise the melodious Sisters Dudley, in a pleasing selection of operatic duets; Percy Victor, with his wonderful performing dogs; Winnie Cottrell, the sweet ballad vocalist; Arthur Chappall, a droll comedian; Cullum, in his great Nemo act; George Ogden, the droll; the Cedrics, who appear in a Continental speciality comedy act with much success; and the electric animated pictures, which are changed constantly. A Chamberlain night is promised this evening, when the town will be celebrating Mr. Chamberlain's services to Birmingham and the Empire.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company opened here on Monday to an excellent house with *The Heart of a Hero*, in which Mr. Charls Draycott scored the principal success as Jem Rasdale, an impersonation which betokened earnest study. The support was excellent all round, and included Miss Laurie A. Pardy as Nell, Miss Louise Millward in a dual character, Mr. Ernest J. Fare as Wilfred Marl, and Mr. Arthur Byron as Timothy Heighno. On Wednesday and Thursday *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was essayed, with Mr. Draycott in a telling and manly exposition of the title-rôle. Success also attended the efforts of Mr. Dobson Clyde as Dalton, Mr. Ernest J. Fare as Hawkshaw, Mr. Arthur Byron as Melter Moss, Miss Daisy Norman as Sam Willoughby, and Miss Hettie Senior, who, as May Edwardes, made a capital impression. This popular engagement concludes on Friday, and to-day with *The Octoroon*, Mr. Draycott starring as Salem Scudder, Miss Hettie Senior being down for the rôle of Zoe, the Octoroon.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Dan Crawley is at the head of a capital programme here, his quaint mannerisms and songs winning loud applause; Barton and Ashley are amusing eccentrics; Harrison Brockbank and company present a musical dramatic episode, *The Freebooter*, which is well played and received; Gladys Mavius sings herself into favour; Harding and Ah-Sid are experts in the acrobatic line; Rezene and Robini, and the Folkstones in their absurdity are most amusing; Lilian Bishop is a captivating male impersonator; and Mlle. Olive displays a smart juggling turn.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal item this week is Ethel Arden and George Abel's company in the dramatic sketch *The Little Stowaway*, which is well played and staged, Nellie Bowman being seen in the title-rôle. Les François have a smart pot-pourri act, which is far above the average; Gwennie Hasto is well received in her songs and dances; the gymnastic act of the Paolias is decidedly neat; Texas Hattie is a skilful tight-rope walker; Vera and Royal have an up-to-date absurdity; and Walter Emerson and Frank and Free keep the audience in a happy mood with their bright humour.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—A visit of Donaldson Brothers and Ardell in their zoological comedy sketch is always an attraction. Martin Conway, of "Walk round, Martin," fame, is loudly applauded; Heeley and Meeley, "two lucky tramps," also have a fair share of applause; Florence Schubert is a pleasing comedienne, as also is Grace Langley. Gipsy Woolf with her troupe of piccaninnies, and Bernard and Weston, comedians, are entertaining; Harry Claff renders his operatic selections with good effect; Billy Williams is an amusing comedian; and Ford and Barris are paying a return visit.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—A most interesting and delightful item is *The Punch and Judy Girls*, a sketch presented by Denton and Rowlands' company, in which Marjorie Lawrence figures prominently and is worthy of the applause that greets her; the pretty girls, dresses, and scenery are most pleasing. The Albert and Edmunds troupe, in their absurdity, *Two Up a Tree*, are as funny as ever; while the Seddons come in for a good share of applause. Derenda and Green have a smart juggling display, while Celest is most daring on the slack wire. Palles and Cussick are also in the programme.

BLACKBURN.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. James Stillwell's company, in *The King's Secret*, a drama dealing with modern life in Egypt, is drawing excellent houses to the place of amusement.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Jake Friedman, an old favourite, is paying a welcome return visit, and delighting patrons of the Palace with his "one-man opera" turn. George Bendon also establishes himself a warm favourite, with catchy songs; Keen and Waller are a pair of humorous acrobats, whose turn is of exceptional merit; the Three Delaires appear in a striking gymnastic act *The Demon's Grotto*; and Kisbey, in his "call-boy" act, is excellent. King Roy, a coloured bass vocalist, is well received; as are Duncan and Brasque in their refined episode, *A Dressing-room Romance*. Adey Spencer, an American soubrette, and Fyne and Hurley, comedians, give good turns. Raymond's animated pictures, which bring the entertainment to a conclusion, are as good as usual.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—After a brief vacation this theatre was reopened on Monday last with Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce*. The play is well mounted and sustained by a perfect company. Miss Edith Cole reappears in her old part of Josephine, and has been well received during the visit; Mr. Frederick Moyes gives an intelligent and careful study of the character of Napoleon; Miss Elizabeth Watson is stately as Marie Louise, and Miss Clara Earle is dainty as Stephanie de Beauharnais. The parts of Talleyrand, Marquis de Beaumont, General Augereau, and Grimaud are respectively in the clever hands of Mr. F. Joynson-Powell, Mr. Geo. W. Cockburn, Mr. Geo. Howard, and Mr. Alfred Wellesley. Miss Maggie Cardiff is natural as the juvenile King of Rome.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Mr. Fred Ginnett and company are here with an improved edition of the equestrian spectacle, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Other turns engaged are Miss Agnes Molteno, operatic and ballad vocalist, in scena and song; Master Joe Conway, pocket comedian; Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers; Vanity, acrobatic and eccentric dancer, assisted by Billie Curtis, comedian and dancer; Burley and Burley, comedians; Ralph Moore, "the boy Patti"; Beaty Mayer, serio comedienne; Leo Trainer, vocal comedian, mimic, and raconteur; the *Rejected Remounts*, a smart comedy act, and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—At the top of the bill here this week are Young Colossus, aged eighteen years, and his little friend, L'homme Miniature, aged twenty-five years. The contrast between them is most

ludicrous, and causes much amusement. Albert Atlas and Lizzie Collins, the famous comedy duo, are appearing with considerable success in their latest creation, "The Italian Girl and the Monkey"; Rosie Lloyd gives a perfectly delightful turn, her songs are given in a clever and artistic style, which soon makes her a favourite; Frank Maura gives a wonderful display as a foot equilibrist; Susie and Protti contribute some excellent dancing; Yorkshire Tom mimics animals in realistic fashion; and Ada Martini, comedienne and dancer, also appears. The Hippodrome pictures conclude the programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—That dainty comedy *Cousin Kate* has been presented here this week by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company. Miss Lilias Earle plays the title-rôle with great charm and ability; Mr. Percy Hutchison as Heath Desmond once more proves himself to be a finished actor; Miss Amy Coleman as Mrs. Spencer is excellent; and Miss Hilda Honiss as Amy admirably realises the part. Mr. George Mallett has made a good impression as the Rev. James Bartlett; and a word of praise is due to the Bobby of Master Philip Priddis. The comedy was preceded by *Two in a Trap*, well played by Mr. George Mallett and Miss Hilda Honiss.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—After a long absence, Mr. Charles Carte, who is supported by an excellent company, is paying a welcome return visit with *A Noble Brother*, which has again been cordially received by large audiences. In his original character study of Jerry, the Tramp, Mr. Carte proves as versatile and successful as ever; and Miss Doris Brookes charmingly and with effect represents the heiress Nana Leigh. The arch villain Harry Travers is powerfully represented by Mr. Frank Lyndon; Larry O'Brien, played by Mr. Michael Madden, and Rosie Rapid, in the hands of Miss Rosie Conroy, afford opportunities for the introduction of some smart variety business, which is warmly applauded. The minor characters in the drama are in good hands, and the piece is staged with effect.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Plenty of variety is presented here this week in the fine entertainment which is provided by the management, and a leading feature is the performance given by the agile and skiful Hadj Abdullah Troupe of Arabs, who are warmly applauded. There is merit and humour in the acrobatic turn by the Labakans, and their dog "Folly"; Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, is here again, with more of her very acceptable contributions; a clever and enjoyable turn is furnished by the Jack Theo trio of equilibrists; the Parisian Street Players, the Dumond Minstrels, are entertaining, and have made a successful *début*; on a breakaway trapeze the Mariane Sisters again exhibit great skill and daring; the Four Olympian Stars shine as dancers and vocalists; Florence and Lilian's skill as instrumentalists meets with well-deserved applause; Hermann Melot furnishes a delightful but very perplexing entertainment in conjuring and sleight-of-hand; and some very fine and entertaining films are exhibited by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The bright little comedienne Daisy Jerome, of pantomime fame here, has scored a genuine success this week; and Lambert and Hands have made a hit with their duets. A very remarkable exhibition in rifle shooting by Lilian and Vera and Major Charles wins the unstinted and well-deserved approbation of the audience; Sadie Simpson's coon contributions are very enjoyable; as an eccentric dancer and bâton manipulator Herbert La Martine is amusing and clever; Ray Royal, chorus vocalist, contributes a good turn to the programme; Adams and Ward delight the audience with a capital comic acrobatic interlude; and there are some highly entertaining films shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. Walter Hyde, a pleasing tenor vocalist, is appearing at Herr Winternetz's promenade concerts this week. The Flockton-Foster company of entertainers opened for a season on Monday, and appear twice daily.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Sydney James's company "The Strolling Players," opened here on Monday, and soon established themselves in favour with the patrons of the Spa. In addition to Herr S. Wurm's Imperial Viennese Orchestra, Mr. Hague has added to the attractions by engaging Misses Aileen and Doris Woods, the New Zealand twins, who are excellent society entertainers and vocalists. Another novelty is Seves, a clever boy, whose feats of second sight are wonderful.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner. — The popular turn at this popular place of amusement this week is Mr. G. W. Nicholson, a great favourite with Bridlington audiences, his humorous songs and patter always giving great delight. Captain Manard is continuing his clever shooting feats with rifle, pistol, and revolver.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. C. Beanland.—The "Waterloo's" popular programmes are always good, and the members work hard to secure the amusement of the audiences who nightly assemble at this "garden by the sea." The novelty this week is a beauty show for both ladies and gentlemen. Learto and his dog "Babs" are very amusing and clever; King Leo, society ventriloquist, is well received; the Three Sisters Ruby give a talented vocal and instrumental turn; and the Rushforths' illustrated songs are still a feature. There are some up-to-date animated pictures.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Ernest Carpenter's Stock company opened the last week of their engagement here on Monday, when they gave an excellent performance of *Saved from the Sea*. Owing to the sudden illness of Mr. H. C. Lanceley, the part of Peter Scatcher was undertaken at two hours' notice by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, who acquitted himself admirably; Mr. Ronald Adair gave a popular and artistic portrayal of the hero, Dan Ellington; and Miss Daisy Halling made a charming and sympathetic heroine. Nancy Ellington; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers submitted a powerful enactment of the villainous Richard Fenton; Mr. Villiers Stanley presented a clever character-sketch as Jim Weaver; Miss Lydia Mannington made a capital Mrs. Blake; and the comic element was well sustained by Mr. George H. Asquin as Billy Snooks, Miss Lucy Murray, as Polly Blake, and Mr. Marmaduke Wetherell as Jenkins; little Miss Florrie Lidbetter was intelligent as Jack; and able support was given by Mr. George Thomas and Mr. Arthur Sampson. The drama was finely staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard. An excellent programme is sustained here this week. The Fred Karno company affords unbounded fun in their admirable representations of *The Jail Birds* and *Mumming Birds*; Marguerite Broadfoote, a delightful comedienne, is as popular as ever; Stuart and Stuart are capital acrobatic dancers and comedy entertainers; Walter King is a mirth-provoking comedian; Ted Saunders is a pleasing mimic; Maudie Ford, coon comedienne and dancer, wins hearty applause; Johnny Fuller, "the great little cat on the wire" is very clever, and contributes some good acrobatic dancing and high leaping; and the capital turns conclude with an entertaining series of Alhambrascope Pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is a very attractive company here this week. George Robey, who is enthusiastically received, achieves distinct success with his very humorous songs and amusing patter; Will Goodwin makes a great hit in his admirably-enacted production, entitled *Repentance*; George D'Albert, comedian, is highly effective; Musical Silvo, "the greatest tumbleronic-onist," gives a very fine turn; De Biere submits a clever and mystifying conjuring exhibition; Johnny Holland and company are very entertaining in their domestic sketch, *The Millionaire*; Maudie Vera is a capital descriptive vocalist and coon artiste; Fred Curran is a peculiar comedian; Harris and Worth, "the huntsman out for a day," merit praise; Annie Laurie is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Barrascope Pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Thomas Thorne and company are attracting good houses here this week with *Our Boys*. Mr. Thorne achieves complete success as Perkin Middlewick; Mr. Arthur Bawtree is well placed as Charles Middlewick; Mr. Norman Clark's Sir Geoffrey Champneys, Mr. Leonard Laurence's Talbot Champneys, and Miss Rachel de Travis's Clarissa Champneys are well played; Miss Elsie Howard Rosse makes a charming Mary Melrose; Miss Ruby Loncraine is a dainty Violet Melrose; and Miss Edith Hesketh gives an effective portrayal of Belinda.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—*Petroncilla, or a Royal Romance* is the attraction here this week, and is well received. The comic opera abounds with mirth, pretty music, and graceful dancing; Mr. Harold Payne sings and acts admirably as Captain Phillipe Bravudara; and Miss Hilda Evans submits a charming enactment of Petronella; Mr. Harry A. Gibbon is an entertaining Governor; Miss Alice Rene is a stately Queen; and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton is well suited as the chief of police; much fun is afforded by Mr. A. Lenville as Sergeant Bodega; and Miss Marie Ault as Step-Annie Flooretta Dossano; and the Spanish dancer, Torquita, is highly successful. The choruses are well sung.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Miss Minnie Letta's Sporting Girls, and the Majors, refined entertainers, are still here. On Monday a new and original farcical musical comedy was produced in the theatre. A full report appears in another column.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—*The Power of Gold* is staged here this week. The mounting of the drama is satisfactory, and Mr. Frank Ayrton's company is a capable one. Miss Lilla Wilde displays considerable power and dramatic skill as Lady Brandon; and Miss Georgina E. France acts in a sympathetic and pleasing manner as Meg Judson. Mr. Charles Whitlock gives a good exposition of Hadgi Zambra; Paul Judson and Mark Judson (otherwise Harley) are carefully taken by Mr. Richard Oliver and Mr. Albert Sefton; and the comic parts of Sammy Smudge and Nora Donnelly are impersonated in an amusing and clever manner by Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Madge Seymour.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Dinah Morris and her company are here with the smart musical-comedy sketch *The Lost Coon; or, Black Michael's Revenge*, the sketch being nicely staged, and introducing plenty of song and dance. Lotto, Lillo, and Otto do a clever turn as expert trick and fancy cyclists; Mlle. Effie White is highly successful in her kaleidoscopic dances; Desmonti and Mora are clever triple par performers; Ada Cerito is a pleasing comedienne; Warden Reed and company have an amusing comedy duologue, *Married or Photographed*; and George Ripon and Harry Wenburn, comedians, both obtain applause for their respective turns. The performance concludes with "Mrs. Brown's Misadventures," projected by Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—The leading attraction is an amateur carnival for the discovery of local talent. Several variety turns are given by amateurs at each performance, and the finals will take place at the second house on Friday. The winner will be given a week's engagement at the Empire, and money prizes will be awarded to the three next best. So far, the competitions have been very keen, and several of the amateurs have shown decided talent in various lines. The Cotton Blossom Quartette, male coloured vocalists, harmonise well; Katie Butler, character comedienne, does an excellent and amusing turn; Lucy Coventry, comedienne, is clever both in song and dance; Luck and Ford are smart acrobatic comedians; Frank Couch, patter comedian, obtains applause; Robert Beevers has some amusing songs, illustrated with comic pictures; Johnny Johnson sings well, whistles in tune, and plays the 'cello in good style; Harry Rogerson scores with his scena, "Sleepy Sam"; and the entertainment concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson. — *The Merchant of Venice*, which Mr. Frank Lindo commenced on the 25th ult., was so successful that he is continuing the representation this week to the unabated satisfaction of crowded houses. The Shylock of Mr. Lindo is a really clever performance, and the same is to be said of Miss Marion Wakeford as Portia.

CARDIFF.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*Saved from the Sea* has been capitally staged here by Mr. Beresford Whitcomb's company. A fine piece of acting is submitted by Mr. Whitcomb in his carefully-studied delineation of Dan Ellington; as Nancy Ellington, Miss Mabel Lowe is charming and sympathetic; Mr. Tom Seymour and Miss Doris Whyte introduce the comedy element; the lively impersonations of Billy Snooks and Polly Blake given by these clever artistes being much appreciated.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Cardiffians are favoured this week with a visit from Mr. George Gray and company in *The Road to Ruin*, the popular artiste delighting packed houses; Florrie Gallimore is a great favourite here, and receives a particularly enthusiastic ovation; Will Cornish is remarkably skilful with his silver-toned bells; Rose Naynon's collection of tropical birds provides a capital turn; two exceptionally smart acrobats are Pit and Cute; and the Four Figaros do exceedingly well in their attractive Dutch song and dance; Alix Lukos in his interesting scena, "Pictures in the Fire"; Margaret Ashton, the "Winter Girl"; Flo D'Orville, a versatile artiste; and Nancy St. John, a dainty comedienne, are the other contributors to the bill-of-fare.

CARLISLE. — THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—For the race week the enterprising manager, Signor Rino Pepi, has secured an unusually attractive company. The Columbia Trio, who top the bill, give a particularly pleasing musical performance; the Wedburns, with their up-to-date cross talk and comedy musical act, are also big favourites; Fred Cary's songs are distinctly funny; Gallands, a lightning sculptor, astonishes and delights his audience by his dexterity; Gladys Archbutt, a lively comedienne and sprightly dancer; the Four Jumels, in a smart musical act, and the Sisters Walmsley, clever vocalists and attractive dancers, add to the success of an excellent entertainment.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The attraction this week is the domestic play *The Drama of Life*, which is being performed by Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Company.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—One of the most amusing animal acts yet seen here is found in that given by Zacha's monkeys; another strong turn is provided by Victor Newman, whose various impersonations meet with every mark of approval; Nipper Lupino Lane proves deservedly popular in song and dance; Lacey's Erascope has some fresh views; while Will Phillips, comedian; the Paytes, duologue artists; the Two Neros, acrobatic comedians; Wall Robbins, the well-known black and white entertainer; and an extra turn in the shape of a tramp juggler complete the company.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. E. Davie; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—A good audience assembled here on Monday evening to welcome Harry Lauder on his first appearance in Chatham. This quaint Scotch comedian fairly convulsed his hearers; Frank Hartley, billed as the juggling schoolboy, is smart; Jack and Evelyn score with "Come into the Office"; Lily Black is a pleasing serio; Edgar Budden gives a neat dance on roller skates; Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist, introduces her coster pal; and Miss Daisy Ray gives coon song and dance; while the Edisonograph has another change of films.

CHELTENHAM.—MONTPELIER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company of pastoral players are this week paying a welcome return visit, opening on Monday evening to a large house with *Nell Gwyn, of Drury Lane*. Miss Beatrice Wilson wins all hearts with her delightful interpretation of the title-part; and Mr. Norman as Charles II. was equally effective and distinguished; the part of Lord Dellans was in the capable hands of Mr. Norman Leslie; Miss Hilda Gregory was praiseworthy as Lady Castlemaine; and Miss Maud Grosvenor looked and acted well as the Duchess of Portsmouth. Mr. Dennis W. Cleugh was successful as Ralph Cursitor; Mr. Alex Cassy scored as Lord Rochester; Miss Sybil Ruskin played with much feeling the part of Betty Arndale; Miss B. Stannard was good as Nell Gwyn's maid; Mr. Sam Wilkinson was a swaggering Colonel Blood; Mr. Francis Hope was convincing as Adam Bareacres. *As You Like It* and *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* are in the week's programme.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Heading the bill this week is Dainey's Circus. The Four Herberts constitute a smart acrobatic entertainment; Constance Mori is a delightful speciality dancer, with a pleasing manner; and a welcome item is the Sisters Bartholomew, who were extremely popular in the last Christmas pantomime. Walter Wade is a versatile comedian and admirable mimic; and Ena Richards is a clever dancer, and contributes some catchy songs. The "Adventures of Raffles" on the screen is the cause of much merriment each evening.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—The London Novelty Entertainment Company opened here for a week's engagement on Monday. Mr. F. W. Millis, ventriloquist, gave a clever entertainment; Cullen and Chivers, comedy skaters, created much laughter; the Bros. Esdaile, eccentric comedians, were received with favour; Marion Wills supplied a humorous fantasie; Jessie Yaiho sang a pretty song; Lazern gave a capital conjuring exhibition; La Belle Gertrella received great applause in her gymnastic act; Mulvey and Miriam, in the comedy duologue, *In the Study*, created great amusement; Minnie Dorina scored as a singer and dancing drummer; the Betsons proved themselves a clever pair of trick cyclists.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Clifton Alderson and company are here in the adapted version from Wilkie Collins's book, *The New Magdalen*, by arrangement with Mr. B. Mulholalnd. On Monday night it was accorded a most hearty reception, and is an assured success this week. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, who possesses a rich voice, is a successful impersonator of Julian Gray; Mr. H. K. Ayliff does full justice to the part of Horace Holmcroft; Miss B. Doyle wins sympathy in her charmingly pathetic representation of Mercy Merrick; and Miss G. Haskings Walton, as Grace Roseberry, and Miss Mildred Gilbert, as Lady Janet Roy, both deserve special praise.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Large audiences continue to visit this popular house in spite of the hot and oppressive weather. Miss Frances Harrold and company appear in an historical episode, entitled *Nell Gwynne*, which was afforded a hearty reception. Nell Gwynne is played by Miss Nellie Valentine, and Miss Frances Harrold is seen as Margaret Treherne. Harry Tate's company appear in a comedy-act, *Golfing*, which is very clever and much appreciated. The Paulasto Troupe are skilful acrobats, and do some difficult tricks; Lily Stewart is a coon comedienne; Cecil Eugene, champion instrumentalist; Tom Yorkly, coster comedian, and Miss Milly Florence, vocalist and Irish comedienne, also contribute to the entertainment.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton. — Kennedy's Komics are still drawing good houses. The principal artists are Messrs. Aylmer and Turner, Little Hatch, Teddy Lemar, Bert Valmore, Dolly Vince, the Incemores, Dudley Gibson, Cissy Clevendon, and the Sisters Venne.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Herrick.—The boards are this week occupied by Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company, in *The Two Hussars*. Miss Sadie Smith is capital as Marie; Miss Lallah Price is in good form as Molly Cutts; and Miss M. Danvers Smith is commendable in the dual rôles of Ellen Maythorne and Will Gunstock. Mr. Wilson Benge renders yeoman service as Harry Alford; Mr. Fred J. Webb is excellent as Paul Villiers; Mr. J. Stuart is satisfactory in the characters of Harry Maythorne and Colonel Manners; Mr. G. Paradise is quite at his ease as Sergeant M'Finne; Mr. Louis Nanton makes the utmost of his opportunities as Robert Runn; and Mr. Jones is adequate as Lewis Montague.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—A varied entertainment is put forward here. Fred Karno's company causes much hilarity in the knockabout sketch, *Jail Birds*; Emlyn Jones and his lady quartette sing with effect; the Brothers Etharien are a droll pair; Gertie Gitana is a neat vocalist and dancer; Herr Fritz is great in his conjuring turn; Herbert Madden is a commendable vocal comedian; Carney and Armstrong, comedians, are well received; Fay Walton dances admirably; and Edouin and Edwards are an amusing pair.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J .H. Asquith.—A variety combination supplies amusement and entertainment here this week, and Mr. Will Onda is to be congratulated on the merit of the corps of artistes he has selected. Hanvarr and Lee in their speciality, *The Golfer and the Maid*, give their clever Indian club juggling and feats of legerdemain with tennis racquets and bamboo chairs; Miss Lee also doing cartwheels and somersaults with amazing agility; John Higgins gives a skilful exhibition of his jumping prowess, his latest exploit being to vault over a full-sized billiard table; Will Rain and company present a most ingenious and attractive novelty in *The Motor Maniac*, in which the Bioscope is introduced in effective fashion; the Sisters Volbecque's comedy and descriptive songs are heartily relished by the audience; Clive Watts proves an adept rag-time dancer; Silbon's American Vaudeville Circus secures a good share of popularity; the Brothers Onda divert and entertain with their display as acrobatic comedians, and "Dick Turpin's last ride to York" is depicted by the Bioscope.

DONCASTER.—PAVILION.—Babs Lloyd is at the head of affairs here, for the second week, and her singing and dancing are greatly admired. A strong company, including Frank Whiteley, the Dainton Girls, and Nellie Vann, give good support.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The principal attraction here is "Dronza," the mechanical talking head, which proves an interesting item; the Brown and Kelly combination in the sketch *The Butler Knows* cause roars of laughter; and Evelyn Taylor is a pleasing comedienne; Michael Braham and his educated terrier, "Mickey," obtains appreciation; and Harry Brown's songs and dances are favourably received; a fine athletic display given by Paul Conchas merits applause; and Alice Blanford is a charming ballad vocalist; the Eight Lancashire Lads are exceedingly good vocalists and dancers; and La Tostia is an accomplished instrumentalist. A Ba-Be Picture Postcard Album and the Royal pictures complete the programme.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company in the melodrama *The Master Criminal* is here this week. Mr. Henry L. Osmond submits a telling interpretation of the part of Telford Lestage; and Miss Winifred Chalmers as Cecile speedily wins the favour of her auditors; Ben Beauday is well presented by Mr. Elmore Frith; and Miss Phyllis Vaughan is effective as Mabel Manners; a very amusing impersonation of Tommy Dale is given by Mr. Harry Cooke; and Winifred Manners is cleverly acted by little Ella Gillette; Mr. Alexander Haviland acquits himself admirably as Philip Manners; and Miss Mabel Tremere is capital in the rôle of Peggie Perks.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Bacon.—The Hollanders, a smart company of vocalists and dancers, are appearing here this week. The artists include Messrs. Leslie Gaze, Howard Cridland, Hal Gaze, and the Misses Maude Ashton, Ethelle Stapley, and Messie Allayne, who all contribute successfully to a varied programme.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—In an excellent programme provided here this week the premier position is allotted to Harry Roxbury and company in a musical mélange entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which meets with a hearty reception. Tom Woottwell has established himself here as a character comedian; and the Raies are expert dancers; Mr. Harry Trevanion and company's sketch, *A Bolt from the Blue*, is nightly applauded; and Lily Langtry, a comedienne with a winning style, has a host of admirers; the Warsaw Brothers are responsible for an interesting musical item; and Guy Ryder, boy whistler, receives due recognition; Harry Weldon is a capital comedian; and the Empire Pictures are interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The bill of fare submitted here this week includes Marie Collins, the well-known comedienne, who scores successfully; as do also Miss Hulo Hodgson and Mr. Harry Lowther in their amusing sketch, *Barmaids*; Chanti, Protean artist, makes a decided hit; and Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard, elicits applause; Mlle. Bartenelli, lady contortionist and gymnast, is well appreciated; and Elsie Earle is a chic comedienne; Dan Kirton, comedian; the Boultons, speciality artists; Tom Odlin, comedian; and the Bioscope pictures are also in the bill.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company here includes Martin Melva, clog dancer; Nancy Lil, contralto; Cliff Dover, eccentric comedian; and Syd Mountford, conjuror.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The Florodora Girls are the top-liners here this week, and their dashing turn is vociferously applauded. Their singing and dancing are much above the average; Lee's Marionettes provide a capital entertainment; Sam Thomson contributes his "Henpecked Husband" song and is recalled; Harry Lee sings with excellent effect, while G. W. Walker is also successful in his imitations; Ruby Bijou, the daintiest of dancers, gives a graceful exhibition of the "barefoot dance." Blind Henderson performed cleverly on the English concertina and piano, and Maxford and O'Neill repeat their success of last week. The Gaiety Bioscope, as usual, has some capital films, the accompaniments of Mr. Hartley's orchestra, assisted by the children's choir, being much appreciated.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—On Monday evening Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's company produced a play, entitled *For King and Country*, which deals with Dundee in the early days. As John Graham of Claverhouse, Mr. A. W. B. Kingston gave a fine performance; Mr. James Sommerville acted carefully as Sir Wm. Livingstone; as usual, the comical element was in the safe hands of Mr. Harry Egan, who, as a raw recruit, kept the audience convulsed. It says much for the versatility of the company that there is a change of programme each evening.

EASTBOURNE. — PIER PAVILION. — Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is appearing here in the American drama *The Still Alarm*. The company is a good one, and the play is staged with effective realism, particularly the fire-station scene with the trained horses. Mr. M. H. Glenville is restrained and skilful as Jack Manley, Mr. Cecil du Gue as the villain John Bird excites the virtuous wrath of the audience, and Mr. Fred Osmond gives an amusingly clever character sketch in the part of Doc Willier; Mr. Tom Beasley is a pleasing Willie Manley, Mr. J. Sutton Pateman is an appropriate Franklyn Fordham, Mr. Lewis Gordon does excellent work as Joe, and the smaller parts are all well played. A charming and capable performance must be placed to the credit of Miss Maud Warburton, who is an attractive Elinore Fordham; Miss Hettie Zillwood is a sparkling and bright Carrie Wilber, and her songs are well given; and Miss Mabel Veriton is a satisfactory Mrs. Manley. The glees contributed by a quartette are in great favour. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. James Welsh and members of his company gave a most successful matinée. Perhaps Mr. Welsh's greatest triumph was his extremely fine character work as Jabez Gover in *The Man in the Street*. In this he was ably assisted by Miss Estelle Winwood and Mr. G. F. Tully. *Judged by Appearances* and *Punctured* were also played, and in these Miss Audrey Ford was a clever and charming assistant, and Mr. Leonard Buttress and Mr. Charles Entwhistle completed the cast. On Thursday afternoon Mr. Barclay Gammon appeared in his successful musical sketches and monologues.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—At the top of a good bill is Mr. George Mozart, whose capital work as a character actor and his clever and amusing patter keep the house in continual merriment; the Dunlops are a couple of strong and dexterous artists who introduce a novel and daring balancing act; Miss Helen Martin has a charming vaoice and her songs are favourably received; Mr. F. V. St. Clair claims much applause for his rhymes on topical themes; Messrs. Nash and Noel are a couple of patterers and dancers of approved type; Miss Maudie Francis pleases much as a child singer and dancer; Mr. Ted Cowan and Mr. Bert Brantford score as comedians; Miss Agnes Asher is a pleasing comedienne; and the pictures complete the bill.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—A triple bill, consisting of *Truthful James, Shame*, a one-act drama, and *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, is being presented here this week by Mrs. Alice Chapin's company. The honours in the first piece fall to Mr. Frederick Park, a droll low comedian, in the title-rôle; and admirable support is given by Mr. Henry B. Lewis, Mr. Henry Duncan, Mr. Harold Chapin, Mr. H. A. Welchman, Miss Paula Fernau, and Miss Winsome Etherington. In *Shame*, which is from the pen of Mrs. Chapin, the author acts with power and feeling the rôle of a betrayed woman. *A Pantomime Rehearsal* is acted with immense vivacity by the company. Mr. H. A. Welchman, as Deedes, not only proves his ability and versatility as an actor, but shows to much advantage as a vocalist and pianist; a capital sketch of Sir Charles Grandison is supplied by Mr. Henry B. Lewis; and the heavy dragoon of Mr. Harold Chapin is full of humour; Mr. Frederick Park's acting as Lord Arthur Pomeroy is genuinely funny; Miss Winsome Etherington and Miss Dorothy Furniss as the Hon. Lily Eaton Belgrave and the Hon. Violet Eaton Belgrave sing and dance with considerable charm and spirit; Mrs. Chapin is stately and effective in the part of Lady Muriel; and Miss Paula Fernau and Miss Elsie Chapin act piquantly in their respective characters.

THE GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The Grand re-opened, after the summer vacation, on Monday evening, when Dr. Walford Bodie gave his fascinating exhibition of bloodless surgery and electrical power. The theatre has been redecorated during the recess, and a tasteful scheme of colour has been introduced to brighten afresh this pleasant and popular house, which is so admirably managed by Mr. Fischer. Marked success has, as usual, attended Dr. Bodie's engagement; the audiences are crowded, and the customary enthusiasm has been shown at the demonstration of the doctor's curative powers. A good variety programme precedes the principal feature of the performance. The artists include Signor Bandoni, a clever instrumentalist; Mr. Norman Mills, comedian, in a patriotic scena, *The Real John Bull*; Violet and Daisy Poole, neat and pretty dancers; Dolly Robson, a child vocalist; Miss Helen Henri, ballad singer; Miss Bella Skene, burlesque actress; and Halma, a young and graceful juggler.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—The leading position in a good all-round bill is filled by Mr. John Lawson and company, in the strong melodramatic sketch, *Humanity*; the McNaughtons provide an exceedingly amusing turn; and Mr. Hughes, in what he calls "Codology," gives a clever skit on the familiar seances of hynotists; the songs of Miss Alice Lloyd are delightfully fresh and pleasing; the Casino Comedy Four prove themselves an entertaining quartette of vocalists; Mr. Alf. Holt shows great skill in his mimicry of the songs and sounds of birds and animals; and Mr. Mark Merry displays much quaint humour in his melancholic mirthful ditties; Ross and Grayson, smart comedy artists, indulge in some extraordinary piano playing; Miss Marie Weston appears in a bright comedienne turn; Miss Gertrude Bradshaw is an attractive ballad singer; Mr. Frank Darwin is seen to advantage as an actor-vocalist; and the Bioscope display of all the latest subjects continues to be highly appreciated.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company in *The Lady of Ostend*, and *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* are here this week. Mr. Henry Hampson's humorous portrayal of Dick Whortles creates much amusement; Mr. Charles Groves as Joseph Carbury scores a success; Mr. Lawrence Brough's Baron de Longueville could scarcely be improved upon; Mr. H. Gomer May puts in good work as Toby Krockitt; Miss Kate Milford is a charming Dorothy Whortles; Miss Evelyn Ormonde is a lively Millie Grace; Miss Eleanor Gilbart's rendering of Matilda Carbary leaves nothing to be desired, and Miss Daisy Cook makes a vivacious Lady of Ostend.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—Miss Beatrice Dunn, soprano, sings a number of songs charmingly, her soprano voice being heard to great advantage; Mr. James Chilcott is a clever humorist, and his performance is both droll and interesting; the Victoria Minstrels perform three times daily, and are a great success; the Imperial Austrian Band is also much appreciated, and the popular dance on Wednesday continues to be a good attraction.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Marion Battishill, contralto, receives quite an ovation, and the Animated Pictures create amusement.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The Ergotti and King Luis troupe are at the head of the bill this week, and treat the audiences to a fine acrobatic act; the Bensons, duettists and dancers, are experts in their own particular line; and Norman French is a most accomplished dancer. Caselli and James are clever banjoists; Messrs. Frank Keegan and company, comedy cyclists, keep the audience amused whilst they occupy the stage; another mirth-provoking item is provided by Keith and Merson in a comedy acrobatic act entitled *The Meet*; the Donatos, one-legged clowns, accomplish some wonderful feats; Cliff and Kean are seen to advantage in a singing and dancing act; and the Sisters Cora, duettists and dancers, complete a most attractive programme.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Fred Earle in all his latest successes is starring here; Barton and Franklin submit a musical act which elicits much applause; the hit of the bill, however, is made by Mlle. de Rose, who sings no fewer than four songs; the Ringling Trio, American eccentrics have some amusing business; Margaret Radcliffe, vocalist, and the Animated Pictures complete the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is appearing here in *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Montague Beaudyn gives a striking impersonation of Ivan Paulovitch; the villanies of Count Karateff are excellently portrayed by Mr. Tom Robertson; and Mr. Albert Wray makes a gentlemanly Sergius Strogoff. Mr. Chris Mason portrays Malachi with considerable force, and Mr. Harry Oates as Crackles and Miss Blanche Hill as Patty Woodlands are seen to much advantage in comedy parts. Miss V. St. Lawrence as Wanda Lubinoff makes a marked impression, and Miss Irene Munro is a winsome Nadine.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, H. Macfarlane.—*The Dandy Doctor* is paying a welcome return visit, and Mr. Edward Morris is again at the head of the company; as Brown, "the tinned meat king," he is excellent; Miss Florence Smithers, the Jane of the cast, has had a good reception; Mr. Herbert Pearce scores as the Colonel; in the hands of Mr. Leslie Martin, Bertie is a capital character; Mr. Dalton Danes, as Drycoff, has made quite a hit; as P.C. Quick Mr. John Birtles gives an adequate representation; Miss Elfie Vincent sings, acts, and dances charmingly as the quondam housekeeper; Mr. E. H. Bertram is well suited as the young doctor; the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette sing "Eileen Alanah" beautifully, and were encored; the Dandy Belles and the Dutch Girls also contribute their full share to the performance.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Patrons of this house are being tre

French, the dandy comedian; Milsted and Bell, in an original Indian musical comedy scena; Miss Lalie Brooke, vocal comedienne; the Three Itrams in *Fun on a Fan*; Syd. Arnold instrumentalist and vocalist; Bros. Bright, acrobats; and the Three Sisters Geronde, vocalists and dancers.

WELLINGTON PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge. —Mr. Harold Montague's *The Vagabonds* are providing a most attractive entertainment here. Mr. Montague is a clever comedian, who with song and patter keeps the house in constant laughter. Miss Merita Leclair sings sweetly and expressively; Miss Belle Green both acts and sings well; Mr. Ernest Devereux contributes some excellent songs; Mr. Percival Mackenzie gives banjo solos, and draws impressionist pictures with lightning speed. Mr. David Norton is the pianist, and wins loud applause for his solos. Choruses, a comedietta, and a skit on grand opera complete a splendid programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Pride of place in a capital programme must be given to the Brothers Martine, who provide an exceedingly clever show as grotesque acrobats, and the Brothers de Wynne in their great equilibrist performance. Durell contributes a wonderful log-rolling act, and other artists taking part in the evening's entertainment are the Wallys, comedy and expert jugglers; Miss Florrie Humel, equestrienne; Mr. James Humel, jockey; Algie, the eccentric comedian; the Marsumas, knockabouts; and Rabbit, the favourite clown.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The domestic drama *Defending His Honour* has been seen here this week. In the principal characters of Douglas Bryce and Ethel Bryce Mr. Fred W. Goddard and Miss Chrissie Dunbar have accomplished excellent work, whilst Mr. A. Balfour Mackay as George Duncan and Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh as Stephen Graid have also well sustained prominent parts. Mr. Evan Roland has been responsible for good character acting as Jack Damish; and others who have contributed to the success of the piece are Mr. Willie Black, Mr. H. Macaulay, Miss Ida Mackay, Miss Amy Wood, and Miss Amy Manfree.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwards; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The illusions presented by Morritt have completely mystified the audiences, whilst the blind man whom the magician introduces gives evidence of possessing a phenomenal memory. The acrobatic turn of the Grovini Family is another attractive item. Capital gymnastic performances are given by the Brothers Zano, smart triple-bar artists, and the Bonanzas, expert hand-balancers. Comedy is provided in Harry Hayton's burlesque of the Coastguard, and in a sketch, *The Silly Servant*, by Tom Kelso's company, Billy Burns, the singing pitboy, sings popular songs; and a pleasing vocal turn is also contributed by Elsie Claire.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Prince.—The display of animated pictures continues to attract good attendances, and general satisfaction is expressed with the excellence and up-to-date character of the subjects.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Max Walden, the wonderful impersonator of the "fair sex," holds the premier position here this week, and is proving very successful. Les Vocos require no introduction, and it will suffice to say their singing is as good as ever; Hinton and Wooton introduce football on cycles; a thrilling episode is presented by Tamamoto, wire vaulter; an enchanting musical item is provided by the talented Stavordale Quintette; the Wilfords are fine specimens of manhood, and perform some astounding physical feats; and Maud and Sidney Wood are successful singers and dancers.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—This week that popular comedian, Nat Clifford, is making a welcome re-appearance; a smart manipulating and juggling act is submitted in a dexterous manner by the Henres; very clever Risley performers are the world-renowned Dayton Family, whose remarkable tumbling is bewildering; a clever pair of step-dancers are the dainty Sisters Brenton; and a whimsical and pleasing comedian is Percy Curry.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—The Motramos are seen here this week in their exceedingly clever and amusing turn; Jack Lorimer, the Scotch comedian, scores successfully in his capital songs and dances; Bert Byrne is a comedian of merit; Galletti's monkeys are interesting; Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws are seen in a capital sketch, *Cora's Visitor;* Beaty and Blanch do well; and the Sisters Wingrove are also successful. Mignonette Kokin contributes an original dance, and the pictures are up to date.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—Mrs. Greenwood Croft's company in Mr. Sydney Grundy's play *A Bunch of Violets*, appeared here on Monday, and two following nights. Mr. Norman Partridge is a good Sir Philip Marchant; he is ably supported by Miss Florence Russell Spiers as Lady Marchant, she plays well, especially in the strong scene in the third act; Mr. Aynscliffe gives a clever study of Harper, the secretary; Mr. Wilson Coleman is amusingly vulgar as Mark Murgatroyd; Mrs. Greenwood Croft appears as Mrs. Murgatroyd. The rest of the characters are in capable hands. Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean company was announced to appear three nights of the week in *Hamlet, Twelfth Night*, and *David Garrick*.

HASTINGS. — HIPPODROME. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—The programme is opened this week by the attractive comedienne and dancer, Miss Florrie St. Roy. A weird romance, entitled *The Doctor*, is remarkably well acted by Monty Bayley's quartette. A much appreciated turn is given by Miss Amy Elcock, serio and dancer. Some original and cleverly worked films are shown on the Hippodrome Bioscope. Miss Linda Wasey is an excellent comedienne; the American comedy artists, Cline and Clarke, score a success with their singing and dancing; Little Dando, the "Funny Man," is decidedly funny; a laughable and comic creation is introduced by Grey and Parry who are warmly greeted.

PIER PAVILION. — Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter. —Mr. A. B. Tapping and a strong company are holding the boards here in the performance of the powerful drama, *A Man's Shadow*. Mr. Frederick Sargent takes the dual rôle of Lucien Larogue and Luverson; the portrayal of the two extremes of temperament and disposition in the two parts is characterised by exceptional ability. Mr. A. B. Tapping gives a finished and intelligent piece of acting as the advocate, Raymond de Noirville; Mr. J. D. Hunter and Mr. Harry Collier are soldiers in the French army; the juvenile, Winnie Tapping, carries away the honours for her clever interpretation of Suzanne; a good character sketch of Jean Ricordot is given by Mr. John Wemyss; Mr. George Mudie, jun., does well as the president of the court; Henrietta (wife of Larouge) is a highly sympathetic performance by Miss Alice Farleigh; Miss Clarissa Selwynne plays the part of Julie with exquisite grace and finish; as Victorie, Miss Blanche Bayley makes the rosiest and merriest of waiting maids.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Concerts are being given here by a party under the name of The Gazekas. This troupe of ladies and gentlemen engage in a variety of vocal selections and songs in a pleasing style, the pianist accompanying being Miss Gazekel Fowler. Mr. Gazeka Dane clearly demonstrates the possession of a remarkably good voice; Miss Gazekel Graves sings very sweetly; whilst equally successful and appreciated are Miss Gazekel Violet Bronson and Miss Gazekel Wix. A principal feature in the programme is the clever sleight of hand and hypnotic performances by Gazeka Lynn.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company opened its summer season on Monday to a full house. Mr. Geo. Blackmore contributed some humorous songs; Mr. Jas. M. Campbell's refined nonsense proved enjoyable; Mr. Llewellyn Davies was in excellent voice, and rendered his ballads well; Miss Ada Gaskill has a rich contralto voice, and sang very acceptably; Miss Winnie Harbor submitted a clog dance, with other efforts, which was much liked. As heretofore, Mr. Geo. F. Swaine proved a capable accompanist and pianist. On the beach is located the Happy Valley Pierrots, comprising Mr. Le Hurst, ventriloquist, whose figure, "Jimmy" is a source of much amusement; Miss Ly-Jefferies, a pleasing soubrette; and Mr. J. Stock-Kershaw, pianist, who performs many of his own compositions.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill is Captain Taylor with his four perfectly trained elephants; also appearing are Miss Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne; Zanfretto and Napio, a clever and original couple of musicians; Bros. Lang, comedians; Mr. E., with a lantern show; Miss Bouverie Pleydell, serio; Morimura, illusionist; and Arthur Lennard, who increases his well-won popularity with some clever new songs.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The National Theatre Co. from Dublin is here, and on the first two nights of the week four plays were given. W. B. Yeat's *Pot o' Broth* afforded Mr. W. G. Fay an opportunity of submitting a strong character study. Very simple is Mr. J. M. Synge's *Riders to the Sea*, but it is of that simplicity that strikes home. Miss Maire O'Neill and Miss Brigit O'Dempsey as Cathleen and Nora respectively displayed real talent, and the Maurya of Miss Sara Allgood was a conspicuous success. From tears to laughter is but a very short step, and the little three-act comedy, "*The Building Fund*, from the pen of Wm. Boyle, caused unrestrained hilarity. Lay Gregory's *Spreading the News*, another comedy in one act, also adds its share to the enjoyment, and, coupled with the acting of Mr. W. G. Fay, gives a fitting finale to an excellent evening's entertainment. To the charm of the plays must be added the delightful rendering of old Irish airs by Mr. Arthur Darley on the violin. Amongst the plays selected for the remainder of the week are *In the Shadow of the Glen, Kathleen ri Houlihan*, and *Hyacinth Halvay*.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Blind Foundling* is a play new to Hull, and is one likely to interest the popular patrons. The author, Mr. Chas. H. Phelps, avails himself of all the opportunities the character of Gerald Dalton provides; Mr. Harry Tilbury extracts fun from the rôle of Dobbins; the foundling is pathetically portrayed by Miss Mabel Hall; Mr. A. G. Fry makes the most of the part of the adventurer, Mark Redman, the same may be said of Mr. Frank Harvey as Parson Ray.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—In *The Poor Must Live* the management has a play which is well in accord with their patron's taste. Mr. Shaun Glenville ably sustains the comedy part of Hooker Holdsmitch; Miss Olive Fulton scores as Olga D'Eyncourt; Miss Alice Buckland and Mr. Frank H. Dale are exceptionally good in their character studies.

THE PALACE. — Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—Marie Loftus, who is at the top of the bill, makes a big hit; George Formby is a comedian whose style suits the audience admirably. George Brooks is another comedian of much ability; the Russian Imperial Troupe are old favourites here; Maud Courtney's stories are smart. Other capital artists include Lizzie Daniels, Brett and Orford, Ike Scott and Son, Norman, the Leonard Trio, and Brown and Robinson.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs go through an exceedingly smart performance; Dent and Harris present a clever sketch, *Mary and the Squire*, in which much comedy is shown. Harry Grey's songs are very popular; Ernest Montefiore and company's sketch, *The Little Colonel*, is exceedingly well acted, and possesses many dramatic incidents; Eric Mayne, a very funny comedian; and Bessie Willow and Olive Armadale, two smart comediennes, complete an excellent bill.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Two pieces are billed for the week—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* and *Moths*, the stock company of Mr. Lewis Cohn being the exponents. The first was chosen for the opening night, and as Tom Robinson Mr. George Steel played with both skill and vigour; Mr. Chas. D. Pitt was seen as George Fielding, a part which he handled cleverly; and Miss E. Turner Elliott as Susan Merton made the most of her opportunities. Mr. Clement Wakefield gave a good impersonation of the Jew (Isaac Levi); the Misses Gwendoline Thorpe and Lesley Wynne scored as London Nan and Mrs. Meadows; Mr. Louis Cohn as Crawley and Mr. E. Bulwer Pitt as John Meadows did all that was necessary in their respective rôles.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — On Monday evening Graham, termed the Lilliputian wonder, appeared here, and his marionette business proved unique and entertaining; another attractive turn was that of the Clement Trio, who received much applause for their flying trapeze act; among other items were Ida Katharena, with her *Carnival of Toys;* Mr. J. H. Preston, a humorous exponent of Scotch songs; Mollie Seymour, an accomplished violinist and singer; the Arthur Lloyd Trio, whose performances are very droll; and the Egbert Brothers in a knockabout act.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Read.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is here this week with the popular drama, entitled *A London Actress*. Mr. Stuart Cleveland is good in the part of Sergt.-Major Clive Crawford; and Mr. Richard Vane does full justice to the rôle of Lieut. Kingstone; Captain Mannering is in the capable hands of Mr. John Worth; and Mr. George H. Doyle is excellent as Moses Mendoza; Mr. John Hitchens is very droll as Pat Maloney; Miss Maud Steeples scores as Phylis Crawford; and Miss Nellie Fern does full justice to the part of Biddy Maloney; Miss Emma Litchfield gives a capital rendering of Hilda Mannering.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—The season here opened with Mr. Walter Maxwell's company in *Little Mary*. Mr. Ben Field is thoroughly at home in the rôle of the Earl of Carlton; Mr. Arthur Kightley and Mr. Lewis Edgard as Lord Rolfe and the Earl of Plumleigh are both excellent; Mr. Edgard plays a dual part, appearing in Act 1 as Terence Reilly; Mr. Gerald Malvern and Mr. Herbert Choron appear as the two physicians; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is suited in the part of Countess Plumleigh; Miss Margaret Nybloc and Miss Madge Murray play Lady Melly and Eleanor Gray. Nothing but praise can be given to Miss Christine Selver for her sympathetic impersonation of Moira Loney.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*A Rogue's Daughter* is proving very popular with the habitués of the Royal this week. The authoress, Miss Marie Menzies, brings her own company, and herself plays the leading feminine part of Lady Mynard in accomplished style; Mr. Roy Gordon gives an admirable portrayal of Sir George Mynard, whose friend Tyler is an attractive performance by Mr. Frank V. Fenn; Mr. Richard Ferris is well placed as the up-to-date adventurer, Colonel Foster, and his accomplice in crime, Isaacs, is cleverly embodied by Mr. A. Hall Menzies; Miss Madge Devereux makes a charming and sympathetic Letty Grey.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here on a welcome return visit with the powerful domestic drama *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Walter M. Cameron has the strong part of Gabriel Garth, and in its presentation displays conspicuous ability; the nephew, Jack Halyard, is a convincing embodiment by Mr. Douglas B. Watson; Mr. Clavering Craig depicts in faithful style the evil doer, Duncan Bly; and Mr. Claude Merton is seen to advantage in an arduous dual rôle; the heiress, Mercy Merry, is a charming personation by Miss Winnie Donovan; Miss Maud Grey merits high praise for good work as Violet, and the Gertrude Garth of Mrs. Clavering Craig is also excellent; other parts are capably handled by Mr. W. H. Melrose, Mr. Sinclair Holden, and Miss Mabel Coleman.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—After a lengthy absence J. W. Rowley, a big local favourite, re-appears with topical songs and dialect patter, and is again vastly amusing. There are two other favourite comedians in the bill, J. W. Rickaby and J. A. Wilson, and both score heavily; there is an entertaining musical turn by Orpheus; that clever vocal comedy pair, Starr and Leslie, are a popular feature; Lee and Bentley submit a comedy sketch in clever style; a novel and daring acrobatic act by Conn and Conrad gets a big reception; Harry Freeman is having a great week with smart new songs; that eccentric pair Walton and Lester are responsible for a mirth-provoking interlude, and Georgina Leonard is a pleasing comedienne.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Sybil Moon's Cadets lead the programme here, their excellent singing and dancing being very much enjoyed; the Brothers Pasquali present an acrobatic act, in which they display marvellous agility; Stanley and Vandyke are provocative of much merriment in a comedy-sketch; the Musical Markies do a clever vocal and comedy turn; Andy Fagan and Sam Redfern are capital mirth-provokers; May Merton renders vocal items in good style; Lily Lonsdale and Edie Rivers have each enjoyable items to submit.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The attraction is provided here this week by a visit of Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's No. 1 company in the domestic drama *A Queen of Villainy*, which is both staged and played in excellent style. In the principal part of Cora Granville Miss Edith Blande has full scope for the display of her talents as an actress, and proves a great success. Mr. Ernest G. Batley does exceedingly well as the hero, Eric, and as the evil genius, Stephen Faucit, Mr. Edward Heanley is very good. Miss Cecilia Desmond plays sympathetically and cleverly as Rose Delmayne. Both Mr. P. Howard Sturgess as Timothy Kodac and Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie Maggs are well to the front with popular and mirth-provoking embodiments of the comedy parts. Mr. Arthur E. Maskell is a success as Reuben Hawk; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson as Kit, a waif, is effective; Mr. Charles Stirling deserves high praise as Dick Leinster; Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Sally Chimes is good; and Mr. Gordon Carnegie (the acting-manager) as Sir John Desborough, and Mr. Cecil De-Lee (the stage manager) as P.C. Martell are also to be complimented.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — The visits to Leicester of Mr. Arthur Roberts are few and far between, and the present one is doubly welcome. The popular comedian, who is assisted by a good all-round company, is presenting for the first time here *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, which keeps the audience in a continual ripple of merriment. As the masher Fitzawful Smith Mr. Roberts has a part in which he excels. The other parts are played by Mr. George P. Polson, Miss Jessie Burgwitz, Miss Ruby Celeste, Miss Topsy Shorlock, and Miss Lorna Treherne. May Henderson, the dusky charmer, returns and secures her usual hearty welcome, her versatile turn giving the greatest delight; Another firm favourite here is Austin Rudd, whose songs and parodies are rendered in a most mirth-provoking style, and prove imensely popular; Cooke and Miss Rothert are both amusing and clever; the Three Sisters Hayden, who have a fine stage appearance, delight all with their songs, which have the merit of being well rendered; the Sisters Urma give a graceful and clever performance on the trapeze; the Phydoras are grotesque musicians who give a bright and entertaining show; the Sisters Terry, fascinating duettists, and dancers, are always sure of a hearty welcome; George Ridgwell, who is possessed of a baritone voice of fine quality and power, sings his songs in a delightful manner.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The principal attraction in a capital programme here is Miss Amy B. Ellis and company, who are presenting the sensational sketch *Justice* and the domestic sketch *The Harvest of Crime*. Miss Ellis sustains the part of Laura Heywood, the heroine, in the latter sketch in admirable style, and Mr. J. H. Brownson as Tom Heywood also renders his part of the hero in an attractive and successful manner. As the unscrupulous Leonard Walton Mr. Ernest Munroe is very good; Mr. Frank Dalton is capital as Mr. Walton; and Master Jack Ellis shows great promise as Wilfred Heywood. The variety part of the programme is contributed to by Daisy Silcott, an entertaining comedienne; the Brothers Curran, in their laughable and original boxing act, *Taking the Census;* Millie Denham, an attractive burlesque actress; Fields and Lewis, in a novel and clever burlesque act; Jack Heath, comedian; Sam Veld, character musician; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with good films. The band here is now under the conductorship of Mr. Fred Gough.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—An enjoyable entertainment is provided here this week by the following, whose versatility in many ways is rewarded with spontaneous applause:—Fanny Adamson, soubrette; Ernest Hildred, baritone vocalist; Dan Lyndon, comedian; Edith May, comedienne; Bert Wallace, comedian; the Bohemian Glee Singers; and Alf. Unsworth, pianist and musical director.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—A capital representation of *The Octoroon* is given here this week by Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company. The popular drama is staged in a complete manner, and several scenes are very realistic. Mr. Hugh Montgomery in the part of Salem Scudder plays with marked effect, and proves to be one of the pillars of the play; Miss Leslie Warner ably fills the title-rôle, exercising much care and discretion; as Jacob McClosky Mr. J. O. Stewart affords the utmost satisfaction; credit is due to Mr. Phil Harper for his excellent Wahnotee; Mr. Frank M. Thorne does justice to Colonel Pointdexter; as Paul, Miss Maud Russell introduces some popular singing and dancing; Miss Florence Thorne is an efficient Mrs. Peyton; Miss Marie Harcourt handles the rôle of Dora Sunnyside with satisfaction; and Mr. W. G. Clements is to be commended for his Captain Ratts.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Good business has been done here this week with *A Wrecker of Men*, presented by Mr. Charles Watson Mill, the author. Mr. Eric Campbell has the part of Jim Murley, and gains much applause for his excellent work; Miss Amy Elham as the adventuress, Risca Mallison, acts with power and intensity; Mr. Thompson Carruthers exercises much judgment with the character of Eric Melville; Miss Cissie Podmore is seen to advantage as Doris Melville; a good deal of capital humour comes from Miss Kitty Melville as Vavasole Slopper; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy, in the parts of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus, proves satisfactory; Mr. Milner Noble skilfully fills the rôle of Pharosophus. The remainder of the cast are efficient, and the staging of the play acceptable.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Miss Hettie Jeffries's company, under the direction of Mr. Whitmore Ledger, has visited here this week with *The Curate*. The part of Gilbert Westwood is in the good keeping of Mr. Ledger, who plays with dramatic strength; Miss Jeffries makes herself extremely popular as Dick, the trumpeter, a character which is well enacted; Mr. Robert Gilbert displayed ability and tact as the Rev. John Audley; Miss Winifred Stuart gives a striking impersonation of the Russian adventuress, Vodsky; Mr. Sidney Clayton as Simon Muggs, and Mr. Alfred Horton as Benlebow, are particularly humorous; praise is due to Mr. Frank Stuart for his Sergeant Snipe; and Miss Agnes D'Aragon helps effectively with the fun as Mrs. Muggs.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Nellie Wallace is in big type here this week, and has had a warm reception for her capital songs and patter; Vernando is exceedingly funny as the ventriloquial barber; Howard and Collinson present a humorous sketch, *The Porter and the Parcel;* the Jackson family are refined and clever musicians; the "Sorg, play, and mirth" entertainment by the Gems is loudly applauded; capital songs and stories are introduced by Miss Alexandra Dagmar; the violin solos submitted by Miss Gladys Hooley in Corrie and Dereves's sketch are appreciated; and other artistes mentioned in the list are the Three Rubys, acrobats; Sutcliffe Family of pipers and dancers; Arthur Gill, vocalist; and the Two Madges, juvenile song and dance artistes.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Another excellent programme presented here this week has been drawing large houses. At the top are Rawlins and company with a laughable trifle *Mashing the Missus;* Coram, a gifted ventriloquist, supplied an admirable turn, and is warmly applauded; Lina Verdi gives an exhibition of remarkable powers as a mimic, her imitations of leading music hall artists being duly recognised and appreciated; Tom Lloyd, the eccentric comedian, is as funny as ever; as comedy equilibrists, Correze and Keith keep their audience in a merry mood; Zeta Grey and company provoked great applause with their musical comedy *The Lancashire Lass;* it would be difficult to excel the smart juggling of the Four Geraldos; Mabel La Blanche sings sweetly; Will Driscoll, as a swell comedian and dancer, is a good turn; and Lola Patey affords much satisfaction as a comedienne. The Barrascope pictures are particularly fine.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—So popular have the fine series of animated pictures proved here, that this particular form of entertainment is being continued. The variety turns by several talented artists are also greatly appreciated.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Despite the summer weather that prevails, this popular house is well attended twice nightly by delighted audiences. The "Royal" Stock Dramatic Company have this week selected *The Anarchist Terror*, which is admirably put on. The comedy part of Joe is capitally held by Mr. Percy Boucher; Mr. Harry Tresham makes an excellent Lieut. Armstrong; Mr. John Burton does justice to the rôle of Silas Goldstraw; a villainous Ravageon is presented by Mr. Sidney Grant; Mr. Leo Montgomery, for a dramatic recruit, gives satisfaction as Pietro; Mr. E. D. Allen displays his well-known ability in the character of Ishmael; Miss Florence Palmer is sweet as Columbria Goldstraw; and the Marita of Miss Nina Mazeby is well drawn. The evening's enjoyment is concluded with some excellent Bioscope pictures.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Charles Majilton and his smart combination of comedians are here this week with *The Plumber*, which has aroused great laughter; the Idento Bros. give an excellent turn as comedy and expert jugglers; a smart military burlesque is provided by Louie Leonard and Lazy Larry; the Sisters Kildare have an up-to-date vocal scena; and Edna Cragge, burlesque actress, also appears.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Principal in the bill here this week are Percy M. Stevenson and company with the sketch *A False Friend*. H. O. Borie executes some smart comedy juggling; the Sisters Douglas are dainty comediennes; Warden gives an acceptable ventriloquial turn; and Smith and Johnson, a lively pair of coloured vocalists, are well received. Some capital pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The whole of the programme presented here this week is occupied by Will Hebden and his large combination of comedians, with *Jocularity, or a Day in Paddy's Market*, this place being a well-known quarter of Liverpool, where old and cast-off clothing is dealt in. The comedy has had many a representation in this city, but never fails to prove a strong attraction. Mr. Hebden is the main pillar, and his four grotesque characters provoke endless laughter, while he receives great assistance from Mr. James McGrath, who plays Michael O'Hennessey, a traveller in railway bridges. The eight tableaux include scenes of Paddy's Market, a well-known public-house, the police cells, and New Brighton Sands.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—That exceedingly funny combination of comedians, the Boissets, remain here a second week, creating incessant laughter with *A Trip to the Continent*. Alexandra Dagmar is well received for her taking songs; a novel and daring show is given by the Avalos, perpendicular bar athletes; the Mackways, "The Mad Trio," cause endless fun on the tight wire; the efforts of the Northern Troupe of International dancers meet with cordial applause; a remarkable exhibition of hoop manipulating is given by Stylo; Beatrice Bonnie is a comedienne who sings with taste; and J. Alexander and company have a smart comedy sketch.

LONG EATON.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Meakin.—The company here this week opened with *The Shaughraun*. Mr. Hugh Brady is excellent as Conn; and Mr. Henry Burnard as Robert, and Miss Florence Creagh as Claire Ffolliott are very good. Mr. Morton Thorpe is a capital Captain; and Miss Lily Lewis, Miss Daisy Stone, and Miss Grace Power all contribute to the success of the drama. The villain is well played by Mr. Algie Spalding. On Thursday, Mr. Brady had a benefit, when specialities were given by several members.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is still here, the attraction this week being *Home Sweet Home*, which is warmly received.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. George Gilbert.—This week we have the Redcaps' Costume Comedy company, under the direction of Mr. Edwards Towle.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS AND SPARROW NEST PARK.—Mr. Paul Mill.—These charming grounds are now open for the season, and the attractions provided are attracting hundreds of visitors. The Sparrows' Nest Park is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and picturesque resorts on the East Coast. Amongst the artistes are:—Messrs. J. G. Taylor, Philip Pitte, Harry Harmer, Robert Macay, Paul Mill, and the Misses Haidee St. George, Winifred Channing, Doris Lee, Evelyn Keath, &c. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Paul Mill.

LYTHAM.—PIER THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harrison.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, in *Too Many Cooks*, is the attraction for the first part of the week here. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore is a highly-successful Arthur Winton; Mr. Jackson Wilcock does well as Major Brasket; Mr. Wilfred Roy is a suitable Lieutenant Ashurst; and Mr. Willis Seale is amusing as John Bimbleby; Mr. George Ide gives a good rendering of P.C. Simkin. Miss Lilian Rogers is clever as Dora Brasket; Miss Hilda Fairfax has a fitting part in Georgina Winton; Miss Dorothy Maud does well as Susan. In a clever one-act play, *The Fatal Stocking*, which precedes, the author, Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Miss Lilian Rogers appear.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. E. Oswald Brooks presents here this week *The Trial of the Serpent*, a sensational and exciting melodrama. Mr. Wilford Cheetham as Ralph Hammond (the "Serpent") has a very strong part, and portrays it well; Miss Marjory May is charming as Ethel Maynard, and the yound lady who is suspended over a fiery furnace in the third act; Miss Nannie Cameron makes the most of her part of Rachael, the discarded gipsy; Mr. Booth Conway is very good as Gipsy Jake; and Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly is a vigorous Gerald Kingston; considerable humour is added by Mr. Vincent Kelway as Higgins, Esquire, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Rose Wilson. The play is well staged and quite enjoyable.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme here this week comprises Wyndham and Waters, "the Professor and the Pupil," in a comedy-act; Jessie Jukes, juvenile comedienne and dancer; Johnson and Pelham in their amusing "golf-match"; Marlow and Manton in a clever sketch *Other People's Babies;* Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, excellent singing boxmakers; Phedona, in a gorgeous electrical musical act; Hector and Sultan, acrobatic comedy grotesques; the Four Albertos, head and hand equilibrists; the Sisters Valli, popular comediennes, musicians, and top-boot dancers; and a series of comic pictures on the Bioscope.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—A variety programme, presented twice nightly, takes the place of drama here this week, and proved greatly to the taste of a good house on Monday. Madame Ada Colley, the Australian prima donna, is the top star, and is exceedingly well received; capital turns are given also by Lytton and Bland, comedy duo; the Arizona Troupe of jugglers, acrobats, and contortionists; Will Percival, a smart pedestal dancer; Walter Whitley, comedian; F. Jenning's Comedy company in *The Indian*, an extremely comic sketch; Mike Johnson, a clever Dutch comedian; Nancy Renshaw, laughing comedienne and bone soloist; and a novel and amusing sketch called *Comical Cleaners*, presented by a combination of the various artistes who make up the general programme.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —A production of *East Lynne* is to be seen here this week, played by a capable company, among whom Mr. H. Carmichael is conspicuously good as Archibald Carlyle, and Miss Nelson Ramsey presents a very sympathetic rendering of Lady Isabel. Others who do well are Mr. Donald Gow, Mr. Fred Wilberforce, Mr. Arthur Allen, Miss Melville, Miss A. Hardy, and Miss B. Rutter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Jack Haddon's No. 1 company is here this week in the popular drama *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Jack Haddon sustains the rôle of Captain Demetrius in excellent style; and Miss Marie Rayner is worthily placed in the important dramatic part of Luka Marischka; Mr. Bernard Mervyn and Mr. Cecil Melton are very good as Michael and Ivan Romanoff; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is admirable as Vera Vassiloff; and Mr. Hal Forde and Miss Agnes Howard retain their original parts of Peter Poulski and Ogarita with all the old success. The remaining parts are all satisfactorily filled.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—A very strong programme here includes Marie Lloyd in her latest London successes; the Poluski Brothers, who give a fine comedy turn; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, in typical songs and dances; Yamamoto and Koyoshi, wonderful Japanese equilibrists; Captain Max Gruber's elephant, horse, and pony in a well-trained performance; Will Souls, laughing comedian; the Elgars, vocal entertainers; Tiny Arnold, a capital dancer; and Ernest Rees, a favourite comedian.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—*Casey's Circus*—a street-urchin idea of a circus entertainment—is a big attraction here this week; Marie Kendall, comedienne, is also very popular; Johnson and Bert give an admirable comedy turn; the Deane Tribune Trio present an amusing sketch; some excellent singing is heard from the Royal Naval Quartet; and other capital turns are given by Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; Leah Arden, vocalist; Hector Grant, comedian, and Stave, the musical Kaffir.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Big houses are attracted here by Little Tich, who gives a very amusing performance in his usual eccentric style; Jacques Inaudi, the man of figures, is a marvellous calculator; the Empire Comedy Four are extremely pleasing vocalists; Harold Thorley sings barrack-room ballads with effect; Spry and Monti present an agreeable combination of wit and humour; Rosie Ashton is seen in clever song sketching; a good turn is given by Ella Retford, comedienne; and several vocal items are added to the programme by the choir. Fielding and Hull, medley vocalists, did not appear on the night of our visit.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Harriet Vernon, the popular burlesque actress, is starring successfully here this week; De Voy, Hurst, and Fredericks present a very funny negro sketch; and good turns are added by Ivan Deering, musical speciality artiste; Ariel and Astarte, clever gymnasts; Billy

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—This popular pleasure resort, in all the glory of white enamel and bright gilding, gay with floral decorations over trellis work, looking spick and span and attractive with its tasteful decorations and ornamentation, was re-opened for the summer season on Monday night. There was a very large attendance, and the genial proprietor, who has once more come to reside among his old townsmen, was complimented upon the work, which has been carried out under his personal supervision. There are to be popular prices for the afternoon performances, and the usual ball, in the ornate ball room, will follow the evening variety entertainment. The Westonville Orchestra has been engaged for the concerts, and the Blue Hongroise Band contributes the dance music, both being under the direction of Lieut. W. Harvey. Under the new arrangements, ample and comfortable seating accommodation is provided for a very large audience. The speciality programme for the current week includes some seven excellent turns, and on the opening night the various artists met with an enthusiastic reception. These were Bessie Spear, vocalist; Three Boleros, in their comedy triple bar act; Bessie Travis, a clever lady ventriloquist; Rita and Roma, vaudeville entertainers; the Hulines, modern musical eccentrics; the Four Rosaires, gymnasts; and the Westwoods, dainty and daring cyclists.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—The animated pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight for the light-weight championship of the world are one of the chief attractions in this week's programme, which also includes Kid Gwynn, who gives an excellent exhibition of ball-punching; Creswell Bernard presents excellent character sketches from Charles Dickens's works; and the 'Frisco Girls provide some good singing and dancing. There is also an amateur wrestling competition.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The stock company here continues to meet with well-merited success. This week Mr. Frank Harvey's popular play *The World Against Her* is being presented. Miss Rosamund Mayne Young in the character of Madge Carlton and Miss Molly Malone in the rôle of Jenny Clegg are both particularly successful. Mr. George Antley as Bob Millett and Mr. Malcolm Cumming as Dick Markland cause much amusement. Mr. Bryce Methven is excellent as Robert Danvers, and Mr. Ivan Gore plays the part of Simon Clegg admirably.

—EMPIRE PALACE.—Amongst the many enjoyable turns on the programme here this week perhaps the most popular is Bijou Russell, a clever little sand dancer; the Three Laurels give a gymnastic performance which is distinctly smart; and Goodfellow and Gregson have some amusing songs and patter. A capital turn is provided by Douglas and Ford, comedy artists, and Harry Bent is an excellent mimic; Cavern and Cave cause roars of laughter in their comedietta *An Early Morning Dip*; and Alice Maple sings well. The other turns are provided by Carlotta Lund, and the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. An ingenious and mystifying turn is provided by Dou-Ban, a model of a human head which answers various questions which are put to it; the Sisters Marian, two charming juvenile duettists, sing in a cultivated and tasteful style; and Joe Humphreys is a vocal comedian of first-rate ability. The Breton troupe create roars of laughter in their sketch *The Tramp's Picnic*, and H. R. Friscari provides an excellent juggling turn. Other turns are May Fallowfield and the Lorrisons.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. Thomas McKenzie's West End company has been seen to great advantage during the week in *Mrs. Goringe's Necklace*, the charming comedy by Mr. H. H. Davies. Miss Marie Illington has scored a great success as Mrs. Jardine, and as may be safely imagined Mr. Yorke Stephens, as Captain Mowbray, is all that could possibly be desired. A delightful performance is that of Miss Mary Webb as Isabel Kirk, and Miss Frances Vine plays the difficult part of Mrs Gorringe with ease and intelligence; Mr. Maitland Dicker is a capital Colonel Jardine, and there are also in the cast Messrs. W. Briscoe Owen, Reginald Walter, Lawrence J. White, Miss Mabel Melba, and Miss Isabel Fladgate. The comedy is preceded by the comedietta *Uncle Joseph*, in which the trio of characters are sustained by Messrs. Lawrence White, T. O. Stephenson, and Miss Isabel Fladgate.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The star turn here has been Taro Myaki, the wonderful exponent of the art of jujitsu, and the powerful and scientic Jap has defeated all comers, one of whom was Joe Carroll, the "catch-as-catch-can" champion; the Three Merrills are responsible for some clever trick and comedy cycling, and their comic telegraph messenger has brought down the house; Cullen and Carthy, with whom is Little Cluley, who is "extra," have caused the greatest amusement, and their patter is clean and smart. Other turns are Harry le Barr, comedy tramp juggler; Lottie Bray, smart banjoist and clever clog and skipping-rope dancer; Harry Maynard with good songs well sung; Madge Osmond, tricky male impersonator, and Jessie Sylvesto, speciality artiste.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Little Dot Pardy, the clever male impersonator, and Soros with his clever illusion have proved highly attractive here, and other turns have included Belle Leaburn, comedienne and descriptive vocalist; Akbar, a smart performer on the silver rings; Peters, caricaturist; Violet Morgan, impersonator of music-hall celebrities and the Three Coopers, harmonising vocalists.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Mr. Millar Anderson's répertoire company is here this week, and have presented with much success *East Lynne*, *Camille*, *Lena*, and *Bachelor of Arts*. In Mrs. Henry Wood's famous work Miss Mabel Mannering won the plaudits of all for a charming and sympathetic rendering of Lady Isabel; Mr. Jerold Heather enacted the rôle of Archibald Carlisle in masterly style; and Mr. J. S. Maine was satisfactorily placed as Sir Francis Levison. Good support was forthcoming from the remainder of the company. Friday night was underlined for a well-deserved complimentary benefit to Miss Mannering.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*Life's Sweetest Sins* is an interesting drama which is being presented here this week by Miss Marie Daventry and company. As Doreen Miss Daventry gives a thoroughly successful interpretation of the part; Miss Elsie Walton creditably sustains the rôle of Bess Grayson; and Miss Mary Ainslie is a praiseworthy Fay Colbrooke. Mr. T. Arthur Jones portrays in clever style an excellent study of Captain Marston; the villainies of Dr. Colbrooke are interpretated in callous style by Mr. Oswald Douglas; and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner brightens up the more sombre scenes with some acceptable comedy.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Premier position in this week's bill is occupied by Mr. Neil Kenyon, the clever Scotch comedian, whose popularity among Novocastrians is undoubted; Mr. Kenyon, we may add, is engaged to appear in the next Theatre Royal pantomime. Lilian Lea renders three songs in her usual charming manner, including her scena *My Bungalow in Borneo*; Fred Poplar is vastly amusing as a comedian: and a like comment may be applied to Will Poluski, jun., who is also a neat dancer. Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts introduce a clever act, of which the chief accomplishment is dancing; Maud Mortimer, stately as of yore, is a decided favourite; and others who contribute successfully are Kitty Wager, comedienne; Sam Redforen, comedian; and the Les Bastiens, acrobats on horseback. The Bioscope is also a prominent feature.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Prominent in this week's programme are the Four Madcaps, a quartette of charming ladies, whose dancing and equilibristic act wins well-merited applause. T. E. Finglas is an old favourite here, and his efforts as a coon impersonator and dancer are as successful as of yore; Dandy George, with his clever dog, receives due recognition; Downes and Langford are a couple of merry jesters, whose success is well deserved; *Dreams* is the title of a song-scena wherein Cyril Carte disports himself to advantage; as a mimic Harry Thurston is very clever; Harry Carlton's sketch is responsible for much hilarity; Harry Cotton, comedian, is well received; Mlle. Sylvesto, in a speciality act, is deservedly applauded; and other entertaining items include the Lurims, sketch artists; Gill and Gilbey, in a novel speciality act; and the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Geo. Lashwood is the principal attraction here this week; Belle Davis and her pick-chicks are also well received; Mark Melford's sketch, *Only a Wedding*, keeps the house in continual laughter; quite a pretty "Venetian Love Scena" is presented by the Classicum Quartette; and Amber Austa sings a taking song; Frank Seeley is a comedian of merit; Hamilton and Hill sing a stirring story of the "Fire Brigade"; and the Sisters Oswald sing and dance prettily; Will Harries, a successful coloured singer; and the Henry Tayler Trio, Mexican jugglers, complete a good programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr. H. Kemble has engaged this hall for the Northampton cricket week, and his Star Vaudeville Company has been well patronised. Miss Bertha Stuart, the popular Scotch ballad vocalist, is a songstress far above the average, and her songs are loudly applauded; Katie La Blanche is a great success as a serio and dancer; Rappo, with the assistance of Ella, gives a sensational display of balancing; Sylvia is a dainty little dancer; the Three Richards give a clever comic acrobatic turn; the Sisters Petram supply a delightful show with their marvellous Fantoches; and the up-to-date cinematograph pictures of the Hippograph complete a well-varied entertainment.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The theatre has been closed with the exception of Wednesday evening, when the proprietor (Mr. Arthur Jefferson) took his second annual benefit, an attractive bill of fare being provided for the occasion.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The bill here is headed by the Five Astleys, the American musical farmers, who come in for a cordial reception; the Gondolier Glee Singers also meet with much appreciation; Messrs. Spencer and Marks, speciality comedians, have made a great hit; the Two Kays, quick-change artistes, are smart, and Miss Marie Sandes, comedienne; Mr. Arthur Stratton, vocal comedian, and the Bio-Photoscope are also billed.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrots Co.—The Pavilion has been packed nightly this week in consequence of a welcome return visit of Little Alice Maude, and this exceedingly clever little artist well deserves the title she has earned of "the pocket Vesta Tilley." Miss Hetty Lind, the possessor of a sweet soprano voice, delighted her audiences with her charming singing; Miss Sivane won hearty applause for her cleverly-executed skipping-rope dance; Mr. Glanmore Jones was again in good voice and earned unstinted approval. The entertainment is brought to a close with a laughable sketch, entitled *Keep off the Grass*, in which the Sivaines are eminently successful with their dancing.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A delightful programme is presented this week; John Terry and Mabel Lambert in their character studies are immensely popular; Charles Vincent also scores in his mirthful entertainment; the Edgar Forrest's Comedy Sketch company is a very fine turn; Lillian Elfreda is a charming mimic of noted music-hall stars; the Brothers Zampah, one-legged performers, are clever artistes; Tokio, the Japanese mimic of sounds, is very good; Clarke's Nippers always present a welcome entertainment; Tray and Rich are well received, and the Hippo Bioscope, showing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, makes up a capital programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—The company of Miss Emily Huby has received a warm welcome in *The Convent Bell*. Mr. B. Ross plays with ease and ability as the hero, Philip Vautier; and Miss L. Barley Clarke is to be congratulated on her sweet and pathetic interpretation of Marguerite Courier; Mr. Charles E. Howell looks and acts with distinction as Colonel Vautier; and Mr. J. H. Howard capitally fulfils all requirements as Captain Drummond; the unscrupulous villainy of Henri Cassella is strongly portrayed by Mr. R. Harris, whose partner in crime, Christine Valgrave, finds an able exponent in Miss Mara Collings; there is plenty of humour interspersed, led by Mr. Howell Webb, who creates roars of laughter by his comical sayings and actions. He receives able support from Miss Dot Russell, Mr. Ben Fletcher, Mr. F. Acton, and Mr. L. Manville. *The Price of Pleasure* was also played for one night.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The success of the Royal Animated Picture Company's excellent films grows weekly, and a constant change of pictures gives great delight to large audiences.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The latest creation of Mr. Fred. Karno, entitled *Moses and Son*, can well lay claim to be the best of its kind, the fun, scenery, and songs being excellent. The brunt of the work falls on the shoulders of Mr. Fred Kitchen, who never fails to keep the laughter moving, and he is ably supported by Miss Leah Morris, Miss Janet Reeves, Miss Madge Rockingham, and Mr. Anthony Gordon; Cole de Losse Duo are an exceedingly smart pair of wire walkers who merit their hearty reception; the quaint mannerisms and comical patter of Josh Dixon evoke the utmost hilarity; and the knckabout item by Flem and Brok helps along the merriment; Baker and Balfe, xylophonists, are deservedly rewarded; and capital films on the Urban Bioscope are shown; the comedy element is further assisted by Barney Vox, ventriloquist; Charles Austin, eccentric; and Johnny Gilmore, comedian.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Kennedy's Komiks are still doing good business here; Miss Veronica Brady is much in demand for her songs; Miss Flora Mears does well; and Miss Florrie Wright contributes some pretty ballads. Mr. Fern Pounds and Mr. T. W. Lenner continue to please; whilst Mr. Frank Lyndon's musical speciality is always enjoyable. A dramatic sketch, *A Queen's Messenger*, receives hearty applause. The characters are capably represented by Mr. Drew Macintosh and Miss Annie Stalman. The cinematograph pictures are excellent.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*The Rich and Poor of London*, presented by Mr. Sidney Dench's company, was witnessed by a good audience on Monday evening. Spider Jack is played by Mr. Dench in a capable manner, and he infuses much humour into the part; Mr. Graham Arthurs is a manly Dr. Morton; and Mr. A. Avinal is good as Mark Stanley, the villain; Mr. Gilpin does well in the rôle of Billy Binks, as also does Mr. A. Jarvis as Gussy Lamb; Miss Dora Dench portrays the part of May Braithwaite in a capital manner; and Miss Violet Lytton is excellent as Ruby Redgrave; Miss Molly Hackett is a capital Polly Philpot; and Miss Ethel Denville makes the most of the part of Seadrift; Miss Emily Woodleigh scores as Auntie Scrimp; and Master Bert Dench is also good as Dixie; Mr. F. Danner plays the Earl of Ravenswood and Mr. Hartley is Dan'l Drake; while the rascally lawyer, Matthew Grabbem, is in the capable hands of Mr. J. Templar Ellis.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—The principal attraction here this week is Dr. Carl Hermann, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist; Haley's Prize Juveniles are paying a return visit in a capital carnival scena; Dot and Spot are well received. Other turns are Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires; Leopold and Lorna, comedy sketch artists; Mdlle. Anna Nanoni, soprano vocalist; Horton and Linden, eccentric Chinamen, on the bars; the Three Bostonians, in a clever singing and dancing act; and Leon Lorette, vocalist and dancer; the Bioscope, with a good selection of pictures, completes the programme.

PENZANCE.—ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—The attraction here this season is supplied by the Lindon Vaudeville company, a talented party of artistes who are meeting with cordial receptions at every performance. Miss Edith Blockley is a bright comedienne, singing her particular numbers with dainty charm, and assisting in sketches with much humour and vivacity; Miss E. Emingsley's soprano ballads elicit well-merited applause; Mr. Bob White, laughing comedian, is a great favourite; Mr. John E. Nester, in character sketches, &c., displays marked versatility, which is thoroughly appreciated: Mr. Surrie Lindon occupies a prominent position in the daily programmes as a baritone vocalist, and a banjoist of considerable ability; Mr. Henry Collard, both as accompanist and sketches at the piano, is a host in himself.

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The now popular stock-company is appearing in *Her Wedding Day*. Mr. Edwd. Lloyd in the leading rôle of Harold Saxby gives an excellent representation; Mr. Cecil Collins as Seth Mayson, an ex-convict, has a realistic make-up, and Mr. C. H. Lester scores as Weedon Kenyon; Miss Ethel Kay is the principal lady member, others including the Misses E. Dane, B. Whitney, S. Hammersley, and C. Fenton. Mr. Greene Taylor provides the humorous element with marked success.

DEVONPORT METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Messrs. Geo. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt's romantic drama *In the Ranks* has lost none of its pristine popularity. Mr. Douglas Phelps was quite at home as Ned Drayton, and Mr. Leonard Cardale was a conspicuous success as the villain Gideon Blake. The comic business is effectively undertaken by Mr. F. Hudspeth and Miss Evy Durell. Others contributing are Miss Pattie Hoskings and Miss Lallah Davis.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—This exceedingly cool and comfortable place of entertainment has been well patronised this week, the Komedy Koncert Kompany paying its first visit for the season. Miss Hope and Miss Vincent, lady vocalists, had hearty receptions and applause; Mr. Le Butt rendered a violin solo in a finished manner, and Messrs. Richarson and Flockton-Fraser were responsible for plenty of laughter. A comedy dramatic sketch entitled *The Secret* was well presented.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Owners, County Theatres and Hotels, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. Field; Treasurer, Mr. N. Carlton.—G. H. Chirgwin the star turn, was unable to appear on Monday, but the breach was well filled by Martine and Son, who gave some excellent songs, accompanied by realistic scenic effects; Luis Hardt combines remarkable strength with smallness of stature; Tony Iveson, the ragman pianist, has some capital patter; the Lannons submit graceful and accomplished pedestal and floor dancing; Tennyson and Wallis are humorous as two comic policemen; and the fun of the evening is also materially assisted by Steeley and Dowton, eccentric vocalists. May Bass, comedienne, and Vernon's Pictures are the remaining attractions.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Madge McIntosh and Mr. Lumsden Hare's company are here this week, presenting the diverting comedy *Mollentrave on Women*. The philosopher Mollentrave is cleverly depicted by Mr. Michael Sherebrooke; Sir Joseph Balsted, in the hands of Mr. Lumsden Hare, is a capable performance, the indecision and vacillation being effectively portrayed; Everard Swenboys is commendably played by Mr. Murry Carrington; Mr. Stockall Ward is responsible for a neat rendering of Lord Contareen; Miss Maud McIntosh as Lady Claude Derenham is charming; Margaret Messilent is acted by Miss Gwladys Wynne in a highly satisfactory manner; Miss Alice Arden as the depressing companion Miss Treable, and Miss Ida King as Miss Martelli, the grim housekeeper, play their parts carefully and well. The impressive play in two scenes, *The Great Silence*, is the curtain-raiser, and is greatly appreciated.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The sensational melodrama *The Days of Cromwell* is the attraction here for the week, Messrs. Beaudyn Livesey and Hardy's No. 1 company being responsible for its presentation. The rôle of Ironhand, the avenger, is finely and powerfully played by Mr. Henry Belding; Mr. Robertson Foulis scores as Sir Marsden Mardyke; Matthew Mardyke, his son, is well portrayed by Mr. Howard Hardy; Mr. George Misser ably fills the part of the Protector; Miss Gertrude Gilman as Ruth Avondale acts consistently and well; Miss Cissie Coleforth as Mistress Judith Shadwell and Miss Annie Clunn as Betsey display considerable histrionic ability.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Harry Tate's No. 1 company in *Motoring* is heading the bill here for the week, and creating roars of laughter. Daisy Dormer is a charming comedienne and scores heavily with her coon melodies; Bennett and Martell, in the nautical absurdity *The Shipwreck*, are well received; Fox and Melville, with their specialty "Vocal Pictures," is a turn much appreciated; Walter Stanley, eccentric comedian and dancer, does well; Esta Stella, the military maid, is a capable and dainty artist, her singing and dancing being most cordially applauded; the Zerbinis, who appear in the gorgeous spectacular musical scena, *The Enchanted Glen*, are a troupe of capital musicians; Harry Maxam, versatile comedian, Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, together with Payne's Pictures, make up a good programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—*The Youngest of Three* has been played here with considerable success this week by Mr. H. F. Maltby's company. As George Wendover Mr. Maltby gives evidence of marked ability, and Gerald Wendover is a part skilfully handled by Mr. W. Hargreaves; Miss Beatrice Marsden is a charming Lucy Dulley, and the other parts are carefully impersonated.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Richeux.—*John Drayton, Millionaire?* a "fanciful comedy," has been presented here this week by Messrs. Ross and Dew's company. Mr. Fredk. Ross is excellent as John Drayton, and the part of the Mysterious Visitor, Constantius, is impressively represented by Mr. R. A. Greene. Miss Dorothy Mayhew is a capable leading lady, and the remainder of the company acquit themselves admirably.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Howard Lees.—The principal turn is an admirably played sketch by Minnie Palmer and company, entitled *Orange Nell*. All the parts are well acted, that of Nell Gwynne being played in a charming manner by Miss Palmer. Miss Lucretia gives a smart display of top-boot dancing, and Chris. Richards is a good eccentric comedian. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Collison, is entitled to every praise.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—One of the leading turns in this week's programme is the appearance of Laurie Wylie and his Mimicking Mannikin; Maynard Dakin meets with his customary success; Arthur Aldridge is the possessor of a clear tenor voice, which is heard to advantage; Jack Macdermott is nightly recalled, his selection of songs being most popular. Others appearing include Edna Barret, a clever comedienne and dancer; Lillian Barnes, contralto; and Foreshaw Kershaw, pianist.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. E. A. Bell and Fred Chabot's company is here this week with *The Romany's Revenge*. Mr. Charles Gallier is highly successful as John Hope, and Mr. Fred Green scores as Archibald Heath. Mr. Harry C. Robinson is seen to advantage as David Renard, and Mr. David Hamilton is amusing as Bobbie Bloom. Mr. William Mosell as Jack Nubbles is deserving of mention. Miss Evas Elwes is sympathetic as Lilian Hope and Miss Fannie Wallace sprightly as Polly Pluck; Miss Lil Francis speaks her lines very prettily as Archie, and Miss Ethel Ashleigh gives a powerful rendition of the rôle of Zanet, the Romany.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—Mr. W. Bingham's variety combination is here this week. Lachie Thompson's "Topweights" head the bill with an exceedingly entertaining juvenile boxing and wrestling show; and other turns include Vera Winstan, soprano vocalist; John E. Lindon, burlesque comedian; Harry Moleneux, tramp musician; Will Bowman, coon vocalist; Peakman, Walsh, and Davis in a funny sketch; Arthur Dagmar, ventriloquist; "Spooney," a most attractive dancer, &c., and Will Bingham, a ju-jitsu wrestler.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—The famous old play, *The Octoroon; or Life in Louisiana*, appears to have lost none of its popularity, as shown by the good house which welcomed it on Monday at this theatre, when Mr. W. J. Miller represented Jacob McClosky, and Salem Scudder was in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Fuller. Miss Katherine M. Davies was a charming Zoe; Miss Ethel Lanyon-Maude was an excellent Dora Sunnyside; Mr. Roy Milton did good work as George Peyton; Wah-no-Tee was an impressive study by Mr. Fred Emery; Mr. Bert Ellis as Pete had a lot to do with the comedy business. Adequate support was given by the other members of the company.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Tom Foy and company in the funny sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, keeps the house in roars. Charles Bignell has a good reception for his amusing songs; Mlle. Thelma does some clever clay modelling; Amy Elvira is much applauded for her singing; *The Excursion Dépot* is a funny absurdity by the Five Foys. Other good turns are given by the charming Polly Jerome, on the trapeze; Beattie Lyndon, comedienne and dancer; Hill and Lane, in original speciality, *Home Lessons*, and Burg, Hand, and Wise in humorous acrobatic act.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Eight Samthalers are much applauded for their national songs and dancing; *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, is a clever sketch by Whimsical Walker, assisted by the child actress Frances Maddock; Jordison's Eight Dancing Dotts are very good in their terpsichorean act; smart conjuring is done by C. H. Charlton. Good business is also done by Kiaro, clever balancer; Cavalli, ventriloquist; Rita Bell, little singing and dancing Dutch girl, and Shelia McNeil, Scotch comedienne.

SALISBURY.—VICTORIA PARK.—The first of a series of promenade concerts under the direction of Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby, was given here on the 29th ult. Mr. Skidmore was a host in himself, and sang several songs, being very successful in a duet with Miss Ramsdale; Little Midge sang nicely, and contributed several smart dances; Miss B. Witham, Mr. Dyar, and Mr. Ben Barnes all provided good turns.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Waddington and Sons; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Chas. Windermere's company in *Facing the Music* provides plenty of fun, the success of the play being due in no small measure to Mr. Charles Windermere's abilities, and he is most ably assisted by Miss Loe Davis and Miss Clare Mansfield in their respective parts of Smith's wives, both proving a distinct success.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Miss Agnes Barnes, the vocalist for the week, possesses an excellent soprano voice; the Alskarno Trio of Risley acrobats and tumblers, contribute smart items to an excellent programme; Will Douglas, a humorous entertainer, is awarded loud applause; Bruce and Ross are responsible for comedy and dancing; Francisco gives a good juggling exhibition; Stellings and his dog introduce originality; Carl Howard as a crazy conjurer is undeniably interesting; the Musical Keiths are entertaining; Zasma, gymnast, is a performer of ability; and other attractions are the Vernon Bioscope, Madame Levante's orchestra of ladies, and Miss Ada Webb and her troupe of lady swimmers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Signor Volpi has opened here for two or three weeks, and on his arrival on Sunday afternoon last he had a flattering reception; his Royal Italian Circus, which comprises over 200 animals, includes Jumbo Junior, the elephant who does the cake walk; Madame Batavia, a wonderfully-trained bear; Fasolin, the trapeze-monkey, and Nino, a well-trained dog.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayney; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company in *The Naval Detective* is on a visit here; Mr. Kirke, who takes the leading parts, shows marked ability, especially as the Rev. Frequent Nipper; Mr. Lorrimer Stuart plays the part of the earl's son with humour; Mr. Charles Burns makes an excellent German, as Hans Winklepump; Susan Scrubbs is admirably interpreted by Miss Edith Claris; Miss Annie Brunette is successful as Lulu Kaufmann; Miss Louie Fountaine takes her several parts with distinction, and the Sisters Violet and Lille English execute some clever dances.

SHEERNESS.—BAND PAVILION.—Herbert Moule and E. Bartel's company are giving a series of al-fresco concerts this week, and are meeting with a hearty reception. The Brompton Brass Band have also contributed a capital vocal and instrumental programme, which has been much enjoyed.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—For the last week of the spring season *The Gamester of Metz* has been played by Mr. Charles March's company. Mr. March appears very successfully as Paul Baldot, and assumes several disguises in a clever manner; Miss Una Lane makes a pretty and graceful representative of Lucie Baldot; and other parts are effectively impersonated by Mr. J. B. Murray, Mr. Fred Aldworth, Mr. P. Wentworth, Mr. George Paget, Mr. William Protheroe, Miss Cissy Haighton, and Miss Eva Lynhurst.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The theatre was well-filled on Monday when that stirring nautical drama, *The Hero of the Flag*, was again performed by Mr. Sydney Spenser's company. That great local favourite, Miss Lizzie Hall, easily secured the applause and warm sympathies of the house as the heroine; the "villain of the piece," Paul Mansfield, was depicted in no uncertain colours by Mr. Sydney Spenser; Mr. Alfred Goddard was a characteristic up-to-date naval type as Captain Hilliard; Miss Tremaine was a pleasing Ruth; and Mr. W. Heilbron was a bold and dashing representative of Jack Lawrence. The naval episodes were well-managed, and the entire performance reflected credit on all concerned.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—With its sliding-roof and refreshing fountains, the Empire is a delightful summer resort, especially when the visitors are entertained by such a bill of fare as the following: Paul Cinquevalli, the world-renowned juggler; Miss Dot Hardy, a vivacious comedienne; Miss Edith Courtney, the popular ballad vocalist; Messrs. Harrigan and Holt, amusing comedians and dancers; Miss Marie Reeve, a pleasing characteristic vocalist and dancer; that old favourite, Mr. Horace Wheatley, a genuine humorist; the Obersteirers, in their delightful Swiss, vocal, and terpsichorean sketch; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, comedy artists; and Miss Carrie Lawrie and her pleasing "Kindergarten" act. In addition, there is the Bioscope.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—The favourite dramatic artist, Miss Carlotta Yonsen, supported by Mr. C. A. Carlyle and a good company are appearing with success this week in *The Dandy Detective*, and a sketch called *Playing the Game*. The variety turns include Mr. E. W. Selman, Rozel, Miss Ivy Gallard, and Mr. George Grogie.

CENTRAL HALL.—The pièce de résistance this week is *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, supplemented by comic and topical animated pictures and a capable company of entertainers.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—A welcome change is provided this week, the local patrons being treated to a week of opera. The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is staging the productions. Miss Vera Zizard makes a capital Maritana in the opera of that title; Mr. F. S. Gilbert is particularly good as Don Cæsar; Mr. H. Brindle as the King of Spain, Mr. J. Kneale Campbell as Don Jose, Miss Doris Gilbert as Lazarillo, Miss Kate White as the Marchioness de Montifiore, Mr. H. Blagrave as the Marquis, Mr. Fred Featherstone as Alcade, and Mr. James Knox as Captain of the Guard are other members of an evenly balanced company. On Tuesday *The Bohemian Girl* was rendered with conspicuous success, Mr. Evan Davies appearing as Devilshoof. The week's programme also includes *Faust*, with Miss Faith Labord as Marguerite, *The Daughter of the Regiment* and *Il Trovatore*.

SOUTHAMPTON.—PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—George Chirgwin is the topliner here, and is as popular as ever. Excellent pictures of the Salisbury railway disaster are shown on the bioscope, and other entertaining turns are given by Herbert Rule, a droll comedian; Frank Cumminger, sand dancer; Emmie Ames, in a scena, *'Neath the Shadow of Big Ben*; The Brontes, in a comedy duologue; Edwards and Dacre, sketch artists; Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator; Mansel Fane, actor vocalist; and Harry Bancroft, vocalist, also prosper.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—Georges Hackenschmidt, the champion wrestler, is proving a strong draw here. Verno and Voyce sing a number of popular character songs in good style; Milner Verren, a big local favourite, sings several excellent songs; the Mezzettis, gymnasts; Walter Wallis, comedian; A. B. Houghton, trick pianist; Minnie Wren, comedienne; and the Sisters Hall also contribute to the evening's enjoyment.

PIER PAVILION.—The Haydn Opera Singers, a North country combination of entertainers, are appearing here under the direction of Mr. Albert Whipp.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A first class diversified programme is being given here by Miss Edith Muir and Mr. Herbert Bartlett's vaudeville and concert party. Joe Raymond, a comedian, is well received; Mr. Arthur Wallis, American monologue entertainer, is good; Miss Edna Richards is an active comedienne and dancer; Alberto proves himself a smart conjurer and illusionist; Miss Muir and Mr. Bartlett in a comedietta are capital artists; and Miss Carrie Sharpley, ballad vocalist, gains well-earned praise. The extraordinary tabloid comedy entitled *The Collar Stud* evokes considerable laughter, and is well acted by Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Arthur Sillan, Mr. Lloyd Earle, and Miss Muir. The excellent pictures shown on the Urban Bioscope are new and interesting, and the popular Red Band contributes towards an excellent programme.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The romantic Irish drama, *A Warning to Women*, is the attraction here this week. Dr. Marcus Dread is powerfully portrayed by Mr. C. Watson Mill, who has an excellent coadjutor in Miss Rosalind Tate as Moira Kennion. Mr. Henry Londsdale gives a good interpretation of Shaun. Fergus McNaughton and Sheila Kennion are both well represented by Mr. W. Lawrence and Miss Emmie Barton. Squire Kennion is ably sustained by Mr. Henry Rutland, and Mr. N. C. Slaughter scores as Lord Eversleigh.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Starring here this week is Mr. Bransby Williams, who delights the audience by his selections from his répertoire, including "The Student" and "The Modern Showman," &c. The Borellis contribute a clever, humorous and musical entertainment; Howard and St. Clair are well received in a comic sketch; the mimetic monologues of J. P. Ling are very good. Also in the bill are Frank Coyle, eccentric comedian; the Casselli

ably. Mr. Robert Hyett is a vocalist of ability; and Mr. Reginald Mountfield is a capable humorist.

TYNEMOUTH. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. —Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Linden Travers. —The season at this popular northern resort is now in full swing, and excellent audiences assemble to enjoy the admirable entertainment provided by the astute and experienced Mr. Linden Travers. The Yedo troupe of Japanese artists' Risley acts and acrobatic feats call for hearty applause; Trefelyn David's vocal party are entertaining in their well-rendered quartettes, songs, and comedy sketches; Rosal's clever dogs provide an interesting interlude; Sandy and Carl are a couple of amusing eccentric comedians. In addition there is a cleverly played 'cello solo by Mr. Brooke, and some admirable up-to-date pictures are shown on the Bioscope. The Grand Casino orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Henry Sprake, maintain their popularity.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Revell Troupe are successful in their pantomimical acrobatic sketch, entitled *Mischief*; Zaro and Arno contribute a clever bar act; the Two Dianias, American comedians, are amusing; the Marvellous Howards, mystifiers, give an astounding second-sight performance; the Shamrocks are a trio of smart dancers; Sam Shipley, eccentric comedian; Miss Beatrice Worth, comedienne; the Princess Leah, wire walker; Arieello, mystic maiden; and Miss Agnes Kent, dancer, are all acceptable turns.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—That popular comedian and raconteur, Mike S. Whallen, is here this week, and quite a novel turn is the marionette performance of Ruby Dahl; Nellie Young is a charming comedienne and dancer; the musical ability of the Anartos is greatly appreciated and the comedy element deservedly rewarded. Ben Albert creates much laughter; the Stella troupe of vocalists and dancers are very successful; Eloise Brinsmade, from the Carl Rosa Opera Company, in special picture songs, proves a great attraction. The programme is brought to a close by the American Bioscope pictures.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company is appearing here this week in *The Conscript*. Mr. Harry Cullenford in the title-rôle submits a fine performance; Mr. Walter Steele makes a capital Ivan Manloff; Mr. Chas. E. Johnson is well placed as Count Hardiski; Miss Olga Dafre infuses much feeling into the part of Catherine, and Miss Violet Carlyle deserves commendation for her Nadia.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is here this week, opening on Monday in Max Goldberg's play *Lady Godiva*. In the title-rôle Miss Ethel Griffies acted charmingly; Miss Catherine Brook was an excellent Lady Aldyth; and Edith Lorrane was a vivacious Elfrida. Mr. F. B. Woulfe, as Tom of Coventry, was a pronounced success, acting forcibly throughout; and equally successful was Mr. James Duncan as Algar. Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf Unwolfson did well and Mr. Howard Barlowe was good as Leofric; Mr. Leslie Lingham was suitably placed as Edgar, and much humour was extracted from the part of Robin Shackleton. On Tuesday night *Nell Gwynne* attracted another capital house, and Miss Ethel Griffies again won high encomiums for a faithful portrayal of the flower girl. On Friday *Jane Shore* was staged.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Violas in their wonderful feats of telepathy have scored well; Cardo is a really fine illusionist; and Miss May Zant and her juveniles also win favour. Other turns well received are Will Llyton, comedian; Illumina Statuo, song-tableaux; Clarence L. Wineton, coloured vocalist; Arthur Croxon, mimic; and the Royal Bioscope.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The Moore-Kennedy Variety company is again attracting large houses here this week. The male impersonator, Miss Eva Dunville, proves herself a clever artiste, and Miss Ada Hender, soubrette, makes a good impression; excellent amusement is provided by Mr. Charles Levey in his comedy sketches; the musical speciality by Mr. Frank Lyndon is a great success; Miss Marie Bonner, contralto vocalist, evokes loud applause; and excellent support is also rendered by Miss Ella Dare, soubrette, and the quaint comedians and dancers, Messrs. Lander and Lovett.

WEST BROMWICH.—HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore. —Kennedy's Komiks are still playing here to crowded houses, and their popularity is assured. Miss Constance Bellamy is encored for her artistic rendering of her songs; Charlie Bayham is still to the fore with his host of comic songs and sayings; the Sisters Silvani submit their songs in a pleasing manner; Sands and Vincent gain much applause for their smart turn; an enthusiastic welcome is given the Three Behans, who submit a bright and clever show; the Sisters Horsley give an acceptable dancing turn, and some humorous films are also shown.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — PALACE. — Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The programme submited for this week includes the comedy trifle by Helm and Cozens, *The Doctor and the Patient*, which is distinctly humorous. Baroni and Kemp, the lightning quick-change artists, are remarkably smart in their business, and a neat dance is appreciated; a grotesque acrobatic performance by Howe and Ardie is awarded a well-deserved encore; Hyram Travers' coster songs are excellent, and his patter clean and witty; merriment is rampant whilst Sid Cotterell and company are on with their comedy sketch *The Substitute;* dainty Molly Doon has found many admirers; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are more than usually interesting.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank H. Lindon.—Pardoes' Enterprise company is here this week. The Pardoes are clever aerial gymnasts and contortionists, and their human skipping rope creates quite a sensation; Miss Lottie Holland, vocalist, renders up-to-date songs in a winning manner; Neddy Vokes, musical comedian, is responsible for a good deal of amusement; Bert Gordon, Tyrolean vocalist and Milan pipe-player, scores; Violet Rivers does well in her male impersonations; Miss Elsie Kedwards is a smart dancer and singer; Tom Hulme, comedian, is applauded; a lively sketch, entitled *The Doctor's Assistant* is heartily applauded; the Pierott Troupe give a pleasing realistic performance, and the entertainment concludes with a series of Pictures on the Pardograph.

WIGAN.—THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. Arnold Bell and company is paying a welcome return visit to Wigan in a répertoire of plays. On Monday evening the company presented *Ben-My-Chree*. Mr. Arnold Bell gave a powerful representation of the part of Dan Mylrea, and the rôle of Ewan was well played by Mr. John Belton; Mr. W. G. Gregory acted the part of the Deemster; and Mr. Cuthbert Imrie's interpretation of the part of the Bishop of Man, Gilchrist Mylrea, was very realistic. The character of David Fayle was delineated by Mr. F. C. Robson with humour and fidelity. Miss Violet Campbell as Kitty, combined with a handsome presence a remarkably fine voice, and she gave a most impressive rendering of the song "The girl of my heart." Miss Lilian Vine as Kerry, and Miss E. Mack and Miss Henley as the fishwives, were also very entertaining. The part of Mona Mylrea, the devout daughter of the Deemster, was played by Miss Lilian Earle with great sympathy and refinement. *Called Back*, *The Shaughraun*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* were the other pieces played during the week.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbot and company appeared on Thursday in *Caste*. Mr. Arthur St. John and company are here this week presenting *The Three Musketeers;* Mr. Marmaduke Langdale is excellent as Louis XIII.; Mr. W. J. Mackersey is good as Cardinal Richelieu; Mr. C. Walters does well as Count de Rochefor; Mr. Wilfred Blair scores as George Villiers; Mr. Arthur St. John deserves praise for a capital representation of D'Artagnan; Miss Kitty Bennett, as Anne of Austria, does good work; and Miss Ida St. John is admirable as Lady de Winter.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week Baroux and Bion, eccentric acrobats, provide a capital show; the Bodino Trio are clever on various instruments; the Sisters Le Bas do some smart dancing; while Miss Cissy Loveday, vocalist, and Mr. Ted Waite, comedian, with the Pictures, complete an attractive all-round entertainment.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The Theatrescope is here again this week, as is also Mr. T. C. Jacques, a vocalist who has become extremely popular. The musical novelties introduced by Mlle. Zelda are a source of great attraction; and as a contortionist Zaid would be hard to beat. Emma Don and her Black and White Comedy Four come in for much applause.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke. —The Royal Operatic Quartette are giving selections from *Maritana* with great success; they are artists of ability. Van Allan is a musician and raconteur of the first rank, his business is original and funny. Mannon's company in *The Motor 'Bus Outing* cause much amusement. The Davenports are magicians of more than average merit; and the Strads, in their musical sketch, are in good form. Stan Aubrey, Edie Endon, Lottie de Abbey, and Tom May complete the company.

A LINK WITH THE PAST.

There are few prominent players either in England, Australia, or America who have not at one time or another met Mr. J. H. Fowkes, of Leicester—14, Marble-street. Years ago he was Mr. Toole's advance agent, serving in a similar capacity Mr. and Mrs. John Billington, Wilson Barrett, Joseph Eldred, Madame Beatrice, Barry Sullivan; but to continue the list would simply mean an inventory of the names of all the distinguished artists of the Victorian era

Seventy-two years old, he is hale and hearty and cheerfully awaiting an offer to go on the road again. Forty out of the seventy years have been spent on the working staff of the Leicester Theatres—for that is the town where "The old Fowkes at Home." Since Major Winstanley gave up the Opera House things have not been too bright for the veteran, so a few local gentlemen have arranged a benefit performance to take place the first week in September. We hope the affair will turn out the success it deserves to be.

A CORRESPONDENT points out that the success of the historical pageants at Sherborne last year, and at Butleigh Court and Warwick Castle this year, has been so marked that there is no reason why the general idea should not be elaborated in Bristol to fulfil the function of some great carnival in support of charity. The picturesque incidents in the history of Bristol are certainly numerous enough to provide the material for a thoroughly interesting series of tableaux worked out on a comprehensive scale such as was the case at Warwick Castle.

EVERYONE who has grey or faded hair, and who wishes to restore it to either golden, auburn bronze, or chestnut brown of natural shades, can be strongly recommended to write to the proprietors of "Condy's Fluid," 65, Goswell-road, London, for a leaflet containing full directions they are sending out free of charge. "Condy's Fluid," which is guaranteed to be perfectly harmless and non-poisonous, has enjoyed a large and increasing sale for over half a century. It claims to restore hair to any of the shades above referred to, and ladies' papers of the highest class constantly recommend correspondents to use it.

"THE GIRL NEXT DOOR."

Farcical Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, written by Walt Flint, with Music by A. S. Taggart, produced at the Brighton Aquarium Theatre, on Monday Afternoon, July 2nd.

Dolly King	MISS GERTIE WASLEY
Bob King	MR. MONTAGUE MOULTON
Adolphus King	MR. W. E. MATTHEWS
Tom King	MR. DENNIS LYNDON
Amelia Pratt	MISS BELLE D'ARCY
Bill Bottle	MR. DAN WHITLEY
P.C. Tarmac	MR. GEORGE TEARL
Motor Girls	MISS LILLIAN MATTHEWS, MISS CISSIE VERNE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A large audience at the Brighton Aquarium Theatre gave a very cordial reception to the new and original farcical two-act comedy, *The Girl Next Door*, on Monday afternoon, when it was produced by Mr. B. A. Rutley, and performed by Mr. J. J. Sallmayer's company. Mr. Walt Flint, the author, has written a story which, though light in character, is thoroughly interesting and amusing, while his lyrics are excellent. The music by Mr. A. S. Taggart (who conducted) is bright, tuneful, and of a winsomely attractive character, while the new scenery, painted by the well-known local artist, Mr. Tom Pilbeam, is highly picturesque, and presents a charming view of the river at Kingston, the moonlight scene in the second act furnishing a beautiful stage picture.

The incidents of the first act take place on the lawn, Kingston Villa, and after an opening chorus, we are introduced to Adolphus King, an impecunious half-pay Major, who is anxious to improve his prospects by securing the cheque-book and heart of some eligible lady. He hears that a wealthy young lady and her brother are expected to take up their residence next door, and he determines to pay his attentions to the former. Amelia Pratt, the housekeeper at Kingston Villa, is, however, in love with the Major, and gives vent to her feelings in a capitally written song, "That's Love." Dolly King, the girl next door, and her brother Bob, who are not related to the Major, arrive. Tom King, the Major's nephew, also puts in an appearance, and it is soon evident that Tom is enamoured of Dolly. The situation becomes very lively when Bill Bottle turns up anxious to serve a writ upon a Mr. King for breach of promise. He finds his task far from easy, as there are, he says, "four kings in the pack." Dolly and Bob realise the mercenary intentions of the scheming Major, and determine to change clothes in order that they may enjoy the fun of outwitting the gallant officer. The fun that follows is easily imagined, and while the Major resolutely lays siege to Dolly's hand and fortune, the housekeeper, Amelia Pratt, does not relax her amorous attentions towards her master. A very amusing scene takes place between the supposed Dolly and the Major; and Bob, attired as his sister, is not slow in boasting of estates and riches in her possession.

In the second act, on the lawn after the Kingston Regatta, the Major, in a drowsy state, takes a nap on a garden seat, and this affords Amelia Pratt the opportunity of giving several clever impersonations. Attired as an old lady, as a Japanese girl, and as a mad maiden of the Ophelia type, she indulges in song and dance, and the Major is perplexed to know whether he is in a dream or in a lunatic establishment, though at last he seems to identify Amelia, and declares, "I knew you all the time." There is also an amusing burlesque fight between P.C. Tarmac and Bill Bottle, who is found hanging about the villa. At last Dolly, once more her real self, confronts the Major, who realises that he has been fooled by the girl next door, and that Dolly is engaged to his nephew Tom. The Major is consoled, however, on learning that Amelia receives a telegram informing her that a deceased aunt has left her a fortune of £10,000. The Major has, of course, he says, loved Amelia "from the first," and the infatuated housekeeper readily listens to his wooing. Bill Bottle serves the writ on the wrong Mr. King, and exposes a black eye as the result of his adventure.

Miss Gertie Wasley made a bright and charming Dolly, and carried out her impersonation of her brother Bob very cleverly. She displayed very tasteful vocalisation, and was especially successful in the songs, "When Dolly goes to London for the day" and "My dainty little Valentine." Mr. Montague Moulton was highly effective as Bob King, and his assumption of the character of the lady showed great versatility. He was warmly and deservedly applauded for his spirited rendering of the song, "The Sussex Artillery Volunteers." Mr. W. E. Matthews was admirably suited as the Major, and acted with alertness and vivacity. He sang "When I was a Major in the Army" in capital style. Mr. Dennis Lyndon made the most of his opportunities as Tom King. Miss Belle D'Arcy merits unstinted praise for her enactment of Amelia Pratt, and gained an enthusiastic encore for her "Laughing Song" in the first act. Mr. Dan Whitley was very droll as Bill Bottle, the reformed burglar and writ server, and won hearty applause for his humorous songs, "No more burgling for me" and "One at a time." Mr. George Tearl added to the fun of the piece as P.C. Tarmac. As motor girls, Miss Lillian Matthews and Miss Cissie Verne acquitted themselves in very entertaining fashion. The former gave a refined and graceful rendering of "Moonlight on the River" (composed by Walt Flint), and the latter was conspicuously successful in her song and dance, "When the goblins whisper in the breeze." The choruses were well sung, and Mr. A. S. Taggart conducted with great tact and skill.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

KIMBERLEY, JUNE 4.—Messrs. Wheeler's London Comedy Company concluded a fortnight's season here on Saturday, during which time was presented for the first time in Kimberley *Beauty and the Barge*, *The Freedom of Suzanne*, *The Perfect Lover*, *Mr. Hopkinson*, and *What Happened to Jones*. The company, a good all-round one, gave most enjoyable performances of each piece, but unfortunately the venture could scarcely have proved a profitable one, considering the poor "houses" during the second week. The company entrained for Johannesburg on Sunday morning, where doubtless the merits of the company will be better recognised.

"THE DRUMMER OF THE 76TH," an historical playlet, by Lewis Coen, was produced for copyright purposes at the Coronet Theatre on Tuesday.

THE departure of the Cabots for America and their return to the port of Bristol would furnish several effective groups; the visit of Queen Anne and Queen Elizabeth, the work of Wesley and Whitefield, the reproduction of what was once the great St. James's Fair, and a host of other noteworthy incidents will immediately suggest themselves to the minds of those who may think seriously of embarking on the artistic labour of "reconstruction."

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HEAVY TABLEAUX CURTAINS.

Dear Sir,

It gives me much pleasure to testify to the admirable work done by you in the cleaning of the exceptionally heavy tableaux curtains of this theatre. It must have been no easy task, especially the bringing up of the gold to the state of perfection you have achieved.

Yours truly,
HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE,
His Majesty's Theatre, March 4th, 1905.

Mr. Harris,
The Chemical Cleaning Co.

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HARRIS WILL
UNDERTAKE TO CLEAN UP
THE THEATRE OR
MUSIC HALL
BETWEEN THE SHOWS.

Read the following: A Smart Feat.

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STAGE I.	STAGE II.	STAGE III.	STAGE IV.	STAGE V.
ACCEPTATION.	**CONFIRMATION.**	**CONSIDERATION.**	**INSPIRATION.**	**REALIZATION.**
Call from Nottingham, Monday. "Is that you, Harris?" "It is." "Can you clean up my box curtains and draperies by to-morrow night? I am expecting the Mayor." "Why, certainly," says Harris.	"Put the things in the train leaving Nottingham for London at 10 a.m. I'll do the rest."	Meet the 4.20 a.m. at Marylebone. Works at 7.0 a.m. Finish 1.0 p.m. Catch 1.15 p.m. to Nottingham.	Annihilation of time and distance. Quite an easy matter when you know how to do it.—T. HARRIS.	Call from Nottingham, Tuesday. "Is that you, Harris?" "Yes." "I've called you up to tell you that at 7 p.m. the things were all fixed. Theatre opened looking like a new theatre, thanks to you. You're a wonder." "Glad to hear it. Recommend me to your friends."—T. HARRIS.

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ORIGINAL THEATRICAL CLEANERS AND DYERS.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

MILLER AND HIS MEN (YE), Corn Exchange, Maidstone, Dec. 26, 1893.
MILLER AND HIS MEN, Burlesque, Strand, April 9, 1860.
MILLER AND THE MAID, Cambridge, May 4, 1898.
MILLER OF FIFE, R. Col., Glasgow, March 24, 1869.
MILLER OF MILLBERG, Gaiety, April 13, 1872.
MILLER'S DAUGHTER, Haymarket, May 15, 1865.
MILL GIRL, THE, Theatre Royal, Coventry, June 23, 1884.
MILLICENT, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Nov. 2, 1868.
MILLINER, THE, Walsall, Aug. 11, 1893.
MILLIONAIRE, THE, Pavilion, May 25, 1874.
MILLION OF MONEY, Drury Lane, Sept. 6, 1890.
MILLIONS IN IT, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 16, 1877.
MILLIONS OF MONEY, Sanger's, March 1, 1886.
MILORD SIR SMITH, Comedy, Dec. 15, 1898.
MILLS OF GOD, Greenwich, Feb. 6, 1892.
MIMI, Court, Nov. 7, 1881.
MIND THE SHOP, Globe, April 22, 1878.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, Haymarket, May 3, 1852.
MIND YOUR STOPS, Olympic, Dec. 2, 1850.
MINE HOSTESS, Bayswater, June 12, 1899.
MINE OF WEALTH, City of London, July 1, 1867.
MINER'S DOG, Queen's, Barnsley, June 28, 1872.
MINER'S LUCK, Pontypridd, June 4, 1894.
MINER'S QUEENS, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Jan. 25, 1892.
MINISTERING ANGEL, Bayswater, June 8, 1893.
MINISTER OF SPAIN, Standard, Feb. 28, 1863.
MINISTER'S CALL, Royalty, March 4, 1892.
MINKALAY, THE, Devonport, Dec. 10, 1896.
MINNA, Crystal Palace, July 20, 1886.
MINNIE; OR, LEONARD'S LOVE, Globe, March 29, 1869.
MINNIGREY, City of London, April 19, 1852.
MINT OF MONEY, Toole's, Jan. 10, 1884.
MINX AND MAN, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, April 15, 1895.
MIRABEL, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Jan. 24, 1883.
MIRACLE, THE, Surrey, March 24, 1883.
MIRACULOUS DOLL, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, July 12, 1886.
MIRAGE, Princess's, Feb. 9, 1888.
MIRELLA, Her Majesty's, July 5, 1864.
MIRETTE, Savoy, July 3, 1894.
MIRETTE (new version), Savoy, Oct. 6, 1894.
MIRIAM, QUEEN OF JERUSALEM, Standard, July 6, 1896.
MIRIAM'S CRIME, Strand, Oct. 9, 1862.
MIRKA THE ENCHANTRESS, Craig-y-Nos Castle, July 22, 1895.
MIRROR, Criterion,
MIRZA, Opéra Comique, Nov. 4, 1893.
MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE, Sadler's Wells, May 27, 1882.
MISCHIEF, Gaiety, June 23, 1886.
MISCHIEF MAKER, Globe, June 12, 1891.
MISCONCEPTION; OR, LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Aug. 27, 1873.
MISER, A, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 16, 1887.
MISER OF SHOREDITCH, Standard, Nov. 2, 1854.
MISER, THE, Prince's, July 17, 1884.
MISER'S DAUGHTER, Tunbridge Wells, Oct. 16, 1900.
MISER'S TREASURE, Olympic, April 29, 1878.
MISER'S WILL, Hastings, Dec. 3, 1888.
MISJUDGED, Queen's, Manchester, April 4, 1884.
MISLED, St. George's Hall, May 26, 1887.
MISOGYNIST, St. James's, Nov. 23, 1895.
MISS CHESTER, Holborn, Oct. 5, 1872.
MISS CHIQUITA, Birmingham, Aug. 7, 1899.
MISS CINDERELLA, Avenue, March 15, 1890.
MISS DECIMA, Criterion, July 23, 1891.
MISS EILY O'CONNOR, Drury Lane, Nov. 25, 1861.
MISS ESMERALDA, Gaiety, Oct. 8, 1887.
MISS FRANCIS OF YALE, St. Leonards, Aug. 18, 1897.
MISS GALATEA, Avenue, Nov. 16, 1894.
MISS GALATEA OF OREGON, Stafford, Dec. 4, 1895.
MISS GWILT, Alexandra, Liverpool, Dec. 9, 1875.
MISS HOBBS, Duke of York's, Dec. 18, 1899.
MISS HOYDEN'S HUSBAND, Shaftesbury, July 4, 1890.
MISSING, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, June 2, 1890.
MISSING LINK, Theatre Royal, Workington, Feb. 22, 1886.
MISSING MORTGAGE, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Sept. 3, 1883.
MISSING; OR, SAVED FROM THE SCAFFOLD, Britannia, June 6, 1881.
MISSIONARY, Ilkeston, May 19, 1900.
MISSIONARY, THE, Warrington, July 23, 1900.
MISSIVE FROM THE CLOUDS, Princess's, Sept. 18, 1871.
MISS LEAR, Surrey, April 11, 1864.
MISS MARITANA, Dublin, April 21, 1890.
MISS MULTON, Duke's, Nov. 23, 1878.
MISS RUTLAND, Gaiety, April 3, 1894.
MISS TIBBETT'S BACK HAIR, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Dec. 5, 1870.
MISS TOMBOY, Vaudeville, March 20, 1890.
MISTAKEN, St. George's Theatre, Nov. 15, 1872.
MISTAKEN IDENTITY, Theatre Royal, Runcorn, Feb. 12, 1883.
MISTAKES, Pioneer Club, Oct. 19, 1893.
MIST BEFORE THE DAWN, Royal Amphitheatre, Leeds, Aug. 31, 1868.
MISTLETOE BOUGH, Adelphi, Dec. 26, 1870.
MISTRESS CLARE, Bayswater, Oct. 25, 1900.
MISTRESS OF CRAIGNAIRN, Liverpool, Feb. 26, 1900.
MISTRESS OF THE SEAS, West London, Feb. 27, 1899.
MISTRESS PEGG, Vaudeville, Feb. 23, 1892.
MISS WALKER OF WOOLOOMOOLOO, Globe, Oct. 5, 1900.
MISUNDERSTOOD, Steinway Hall, May 6, 1899.
MIT FREMDEN FEDERN, St. George's Hall, Oct. 27, 1900.
MIXED MARRIAGES, Hastings, June 3, 1895.
MIXED; OR, ALL IN THE WRONG, Blackpool, June 22, 1884.
MIXED PICKLES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, Dec. 19, 1889.
MIZPAH, International, Dec. 22, 1883.
MOB CAP, Drury Lane, April 14, 1853.
MOCK DOCTOR, Covent Garden, Feb. 27, 1865.
MOCK DOCTRESS, Ealing, May 7, 1887.
MOCK TURTLES, Savoy, Oct. 17, 1881.
MODEL HUSBAND, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 9, 1853.
MODEL TRILBY, Opéra Comique, Nov. 16, 1895.
MODEL UNCLE, Drury Lane, Oct. 26, 1868.
MODERN CRAZE, St. George's Hall, Nov. 2, 1899.
MODERN DON QUIXOTE, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, July 17, 1893.
MODERN EVE, Haymarket, July 2, 1894.
MODERN FAUST, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Nov. 19, 1881.
MODERN HERCULES, Grand, Oct. 11, 1886.
MODERN HYPATIA, Bayswater, Feb. 20, 1894.
MODERN IRELAND, Theatre Royal, Bacup, Sept. 13, 1890.
MODERN JUDAS, Vaudeville, Feb. 25, 1892.
MODERN JULIET, Terry's, July 26, 1893.
MODERN MARRIAGE, Comedy, May 8, 1890.
MODERN TUTOR, Southall, Feb. 8, 1892.
MODERN WIVES, Royalty, Jan. 20, 1887.
MODERN WIZARD, Opera House, Torquay, Dec. 26, 1895.
MOHICANS OF PARIS, Britannia, July 14, 1873.
MOLIERE, St. James's, July 17, 1891.
MOMENT OF TERROR, Grecian, June 9, 1862.
MONA, THE BRIDE OF GLEN MAYE, Theatre Royal, Hyde, Dec. 11, 1893.
MONCRIEFF, Court, Wigan, April 22, 1896.
MONEY, Vaudeville, April 9, 1891.
MONEY BAGS, Novelty, Nov. 5, 1885.
MONEYLENDER, , Warrington, Aug. 6, 1888.
MONEY MAD, Surrey, April 3, 1893.
MONEY SPIDER, Matinée, April 19, 1897.
MONEY SPINNER, Prince's, Manchester, Nov. 5, 1880.
MONICA, Hatfield, Feb. 8, 1893.
MONK'S ROOM, Prince of Wales's, Dec. 20, 1887.
MONMOUTH UP TO DATE, Shepton Mallet, April 23, 1895.
MONSIEUR AND MADAME PIERROT, Royalty, May 20, 1897.
MONSIEUR DE PARIS, Royalty, April 16, 1896.
MONSIEUR JACQUES, Opéra Comique, Nov. 5, 1892.
MONSIEUR LE DUC, Prince's, Manchester, Aug. 28, 1879.
MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE, Gaiety, June 18, 1883.
MONSIEUR MOULON, Shaftesbury, Oct. 28, 1890.
MONT BLANC, Haymarket, May 25, 1874.
MONTCALM, Queen's, Sept. 28, 1872.
MONTE CARLO, Strand, Sept. 20, 1894.
MONTE CHRISTO, Adelphi, Oct. 17, 1868.
MONTE CRISTO, Avenue, Feb. 7, 1891.
MONTE CRISTO, JUNIOR, Gaiety, Dec. 23, 1886.
MONTH AFTER DATE, Reading, Feb. 27, 1888.
MONTILLADIOS, Bedford, Jan. 18, 1897.
MONT ST. MICHEL, Princess's, Oct. 4, 1852.
MOONBEAMS, Liverpool, July 30, 1891.
MOONLIGHT BLOSSOM, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 21, 1899.
MOONSHINE, Hereford, Dec. 8, 1892.
MOONSTONE, THE, Olympic, Sept. 17, 1877.
MOONSTRUCK, Alexandra, Nov. 10, 1873.
MORAL SUASION, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Jan. 4, 1875.
MORAYS; OR, A LIE FOR A LIE, Prince of Wales's, Blackpool, June 24, 1884.

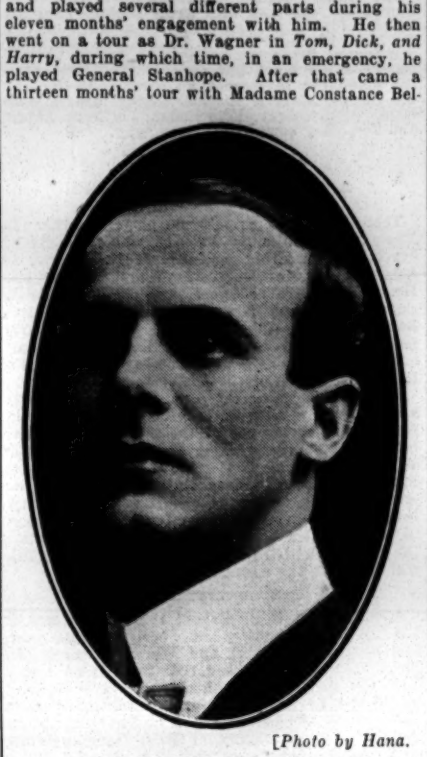
PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. J. FORBES KNOWLES.

Mr. Knowles was intended for the Law, but at an early age joined a nigger minstrel troupe, and later sang at Saturday evening concerts. Some eleven years ago he had a wretched time in fit-ups and "dry-ups," and has tramped from village to village with a few "props" on a farmer's cart. He can remember a small band of seven quietly dispersing, each going a different way, and rendered sadder and wiser by their experience. He eventually reached home penniless and hungry, and went back to the desk until he had saved sufficient money to start with again, determined to see if there was not a brighter side of the profession.

During his career Mr. Knowles has been agent in advance, low comedian, stage and acting-manager, and juvenile leading man.

On recommencing his chequered career he joined Arthur St. John in *Dishonoured* and *Vengeance*, and played several different parts during his eleven months' engagement with him. He then went on a tour as Dr. Wagner in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, during which time, in an emergency, he played General Stanhope. After that came a thirteen months' tour with Madame Constance Bel-



[*Photo by Hana.*

J FORBES KNOWLES.

lamy, Mr. Knowles playing the Laird in *Trilby*. Danny, and sometimes Myles, in *The Colleen Bawn*, Pumpernickel in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and Dupres in *The Secret*. A short special engagement followed as juvenile lead in *The Guiding Star*, and later he appeared in *The Ups and Downs of Life*. He next joined Miss Muriel Wylford's company as assistant-stage-manager, and was then engaged by the late Harry Monkhouse for the part of Charley Dempster in *Larks* and Barney O'Shea in *Pat*, and had a most pleasant tour. After this came a stock season with Mr. Fred Gould as juvenile gentleman. He played in *The Streets of London*, *Black-Eyed Susan*, *Father's Bath*, *The Colleen Bawn* (again Danny), *All that Glitters is Not Gold*, *Robert Macaire*, &c. After being engaged for a short time as advance agent, Mr. Knowles joined Messrs. Dottridge and Longden for the part of Prefect in *The Terror of Paris*. Next he played a comedy part in *The Lass that Loves a Sailor*, and this was fololwed by a tour as acting-manager for *Cissy*, he also playing the part of Dossy Bowers.

On the Monday morning following the conclusion of this tour he made a call at the offices of the A.A., and was asked if he knew *Robert Macaire*. Replying in the affirmative, he was engaged, and opened that evening with Mr. George Conquest at the Terriss Theatre as Germine, after which he was re-engaged by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden for the part of the Rev. Fred Lisle in *Man's Enemy*. Then he again played his old part in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*. Mr. Knowles next went to his native town, Aberdeen, as stage-manager (after the production) of *Robinson Crusoe*, and he found it very arduous work looking after a company of over sixty people. He then joined the late Kennedy Miller's company in Irish répertoire, playing a round of good parts and creating the character of Captain Airlie in *The Insurgent Chief*. He remembers in "the smalls" in Ireland playing in a different piece each night, and not having a proper dressing place for weeks; no pegs to hang clothes on; sometimes dressing in a passage with a stone floor, and using the top of a basket for wardrobe. He often thinks that a similar experience would be a lesson to those who grumble at adequate accommodation in theatres to-day. In conjunction with one or two old members of *Man's Enemy* company, Mr. Knowles then took out a summer tour of that play by arrangement with Dottridge and Longden, and the result proved highly satisfactory.

Another re-engagement with Dottridge and Longden as Louis, "King of Crime" (during which tour he created a part in *The Village Blacksmith*) was followed by a long tour with *The 10.30 Down Express*, Mr. Knowles playing the part of Jack O'Malley. While fulfilling this engagement he first met his present partner, Mr. Edward L. Garside, and they arranged to take out a company of their own. While arranging preliminaries Mr. Knowles had several special engagements round London in music hall sketches, &c. He has a vivid recollection of his last Saturday night "on the halls," when driving in a brougham from one house to another, and being rather late, and the coachman rather drunk, they were nearly precipitated into Old Father Thames. Then followed Detective Jeal in *Too Many Cooks*, Sam Gerridge in *Caste*, after which he and Mr. Garside launched out with Mr. Arthur Shirley and Mr. Geo. Conquest's drama, *The London Fireman*, which they have continuously toured for nearly three years. For the first few weeks Mr. Knowles played the comedy part; then he undertook the title-rôle, which part he has played now over 700 times.

GREAT interest is being taken at Düsseldorf, Frankfort, and Cologne in the approaching visit of the Yorkshire choir, under Mr. Coward. The Corporations of those musical towns have voted money in aid of the expenses, and will also spend considerable sums on the entertainment of the choir, which will be the guest of the local choral societies. There are to be grand receptions in each town. The Düsseldorf City Orchestra will play for the choir in their own town and at Cologne, and the Frankfort City Orchestra will play at Frankfort. Miss Gertrude Lonsdale, who has just returned from the Watkin Mills round-the-world tour, has been engaged by the committees of the Leeds and Sheffield choirs to sing in Sir Edward Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, which will take place in September at Cologne, Düsseldorf, and Mainz.

MME. KIRKBY LUNN, whose success as Carmen this season at Covent Garden has been so marked, is engaged for the Museum Concerts at Frankfort in October.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 5.—The Porte-Saint-Martin have just produced *Strasbourg! ou les Prussiens en Alsace*. As the title indicates, it is a patriotic piece, wherein the author, M. Champagne, gives us a series of thrilling incidents connected with the 1870 war. For some unexplained reason our Censor would never allow its production in Paris, although it had been given in several provincial cities with a fair amount of success, and without having caused the least trouble. It is needless to relate the plot, a description of which appeared already in these columns. The work was well received.

MME. BERTHE LEGRAND has left the Palais Royal, and it is even rumoured that this excellent actress intends to withdraw altogether from the stage. We sincerely hope that this news is unfounded, for Mme. Legrand, immensely popular with the public, will not be easily replaced.

LAST season has been anything but a prosperous one for our theatres, yet, if we are to believe all that is said, we are threatened with an avalanche of new playhouses. Here, like elsewhere, it is the ambition of every actor or actress to own a house. M. Antoine, not content with his little theatre that bears his name, conceived the idea of constructing one on altogether new lines. He had, in fact, already selected the spot on a Boulevard, between the Rue Lafitte and the Rue Taitbout, when the trouble broke out with M. Ginisty, and M. Antoine became manager of the Odeon. For all that, the latter has not relinquished his idea. The next on the list are MM. Paul and Edouard Franck, who, a year ago, opened the Théâtre Royal, a bijou little house, well patronised by the best class of Parisians. Unfortunately for them, the building was pulled down. They had to look for another place, and their negotiations with a well-known restaurateur in the Rue Saint-Honoré having failed, they will, I am told, try their luck elsewhere. Then there is M. Michaud, one of our luckiest managers, who, with his Théâtre des Nouveautés, has amassed a considerable fortune. He, too, is the victim of the demolisher, for at the close of the coming season the Nouveautés premises will come down. M. Michaud might rest on his laurels, but as he is not the man to remain inactive, he is also seized with the building fever, and is, we are assured, looking out for a suitable spot. The fourth are the Brothers Isola, who have taken over the Nouveau Cirque, where they intend to produce operettes. On special evenings they will also give us a variety entertainment, and I know of several engagements that have been signed. Mme. Réjane, as you know, has already established herself in the Nouveau Théâtre, which is to open in September prox.

WE have, however, reached the "silly season," and it is, therefore, not surprising that other combinations are mentioned, for which the whisky bottle probably is responsible. Thus we are gravely informed that M. Cassien Bernard, the architect of the opera, has designed the plans of a magnificent theatre to be erected on the spot of the former Cirque d'Eté, in the Champs Elysées. M. Léoncavallo would manage this new undertaking. MM. Le Bargy and Tarride are, we are told, also on the theatre-building track; and even Fursy, of the Boite-à-Fursy, is suspected of similar designs. I happened to meet M. Fursy a few nights ago, and asked him whether I could contradict the rumour. "Please don't," he replied, with a twinkle in his eye, "it is good for a man's credit!"

THE French are a theatre and music-loving race, and the governor of the penal settlement in Noumea, wanting to try the effect of music on his flock, has organised a band, which, it appears, is giving satisfaction all round. All its members are under life sentence. The conductor is a famous assassin; the flutist killed the woman with whom he cohabited; the cornet-player broke his master's skull with a hammer; the saxophone strangled a soldier; the bugler half-murdered an old gentleman in the Paris Streets to rob him of his watch; and the drummer killed his wife. They, however, refused to admit in their midst a gentleman who cut up his victim into little pieces. They draw the line somewhere.

MM. CLEVES AND LAROCHELLE, managers and lessees of the Porte-Saint-Martin, will not renew their treaty with the Authors' Society until next season. The reason for this rather unusual proceeding is that they intend bringing out *Cinderella*, the English authors of which are not members of the Société des Auteurs. By not renewing their treaty, MM. Clèves and Larochelle can, therefore, make special arrangements with their English friends, without being tied down by the rules of the society. This is all very well, if, as is anticipated, *Cinderella* proves a success in Paris. In the contrary case, however, and if they want to change their programme, the Porte-Saint-Martin management may find itself in a somewhat awkward position.

THE old feud between that witty playwright, M. Georges Courteline, and M. Antoine, has come to an end. The two have shaken hands, and the result will be the production of a new piece by the talented author of *Boubourocke*.

WE have had no less than five theatrical lawsuits this week, two of which are interesting. The first was an action brought by Mlle. Lary, a comedienne, against the proprietor of a small music-hall here, for wrongful dismissal. The latter's explanation was that Mlle. Lary had called him a "pig." The lady denied this; but added that if that word had dropped from her lips, it was because the manager had acted like a pig. This raised a rather delicate point, so delicate that the learned judge asked him for reflection, and deferred judgment till next week.

THE other case was a claim of 20,000 francs by M. Abel Deval, lessee of the Athénée, against M. Coquet, the well-known actor. M. Coquet, who played a leading rôle in *Le Prince Consort*, had been engaged for a lengthy period at a salary of £30 per month, with a forfeit of 20,000 francs to be paid by either side in case of breach of contract. M. Coquet, in the belief that he could secure better terms in Marseille, asked M. Deval to release him from his contract. This occurred at the end of the theatrical season, and M. Deval, hoping to replace M. Coquet by a cheaper man, consented to this arrangement, on condition that the actor should not appear on any Paris stage before the end of 1906. But the Marseille affair proved a failure, and M. Coquet then joined the little Théâtre des Capucines, where he appeared with Mlle. Lender in *Le Pantalon de la Baronne*, and afterwards was engaged by M. Guitry, of the Renaissance, for a rôle in *L'Escalade* with Mlle. Brandès, and it was in the latter house that he received a summons to pay the 20,000 francs forfeit. Both parties appeared in person; and M. Couquet laid stress on the fact that M. Deval, who never troubled him whilst he played at the Capucines, pounced down upon him when he went to the Renaissance. He asked the tribunal to draw their own conclusions from this strange attitude. His argument certainly weighed with the judge, for he reduced the sum claimed to 500 francs.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN has opened his Paradise Garden on the roof of the Victoria Theatre, New York, and visitors thereto are regaled with a feast of variety calculated to suit all tastes, the programme comprising *La Belle Baigneuse*, Abbie Mitchell, the Constantine Sisters, the Camille Trio, Green and Werner, Rice and Prevost, the Four Bard Brothers, Cliff Berzac's Novelty Circus, Collins and Hart, and the Kitabauza troupe of Japanese balancers.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. J. A. Dawes was appointed a member of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. D. S. Waterlow, M.P.

AN EXTENSION OF TIME.

The Council, on Dec. 19, 1905, decided, subject to certain conditions, to grant a certificate under Section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, in respect of a music hall building proposed to be erected in Upper Tooting-road in accordance with the drawings submitted by Messrs. Rings and Myers. One of the conditions provided that the building should be commenced within six months from Dec. 19, 1905, and Messrs. Rings and Myers have now asked that this time may be extended by six months.

The Theatres and Music Halls' Committee recommended that the application be granted upon condition that the building referred to be commenced within twelve months from the 19th day of December, 1905, and that the conditions contained in the resolution of that date be otherwise strictly observed.

Agreed to

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

The following report was received from the Theatres Committee:—The question having been raised whether the Council has any jurisdiction with regard to the entertainments given at the Royal Albert Hall, we have inquired into the matter, and we now report the facts for the information of the Council. The Royal Albert Hall was erected under a Royal charter dated April 8, 1867. By this charter the corporation in whom the management of the hall is vested are entitled to use the hall for (among other objects) "performances of music, including performances on the organ." A supplemental Royal charter, dated Oct. 25, 1888, provides that the hall may be used for "operettas, concerts, balls, or any other than theatrical entertainments for the amusement and recreation of the people." We are advised that having regard to the terms of the Royal charters the hall is exempt from the provisions of the statute under which music and dancing licences are granted (25 Geo. II., cap. 36), but that the use of the hall for stage-plays performances without a licence under the Theatres Act, 1843, would constitute a breach of that Act. The powers conferred on the Council by the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, for the prevention of danger from fire apply only to the theatres kept open under letters patent from the Crown and to places licensed or requiring to be licensed for the public performance of stage-plays or public music or dancing, and as we are advised that the Royal Albert Hall does not require to be licensed for music or dancing it would appear that so long as the premises are not used for theatrical purposes the Council has no jurisdiction in the matter. If the corporation in whom the hall is vested should express a desire to have the opinion of the Council as to whether the hall is reasonably safe from the danger of fire we should be pleased to take the necessary steps to comply with such a request.

THE WOOLWICH ARTILLERY THEATRE.

The Committee's report concerning this theatre, which has been on the agenda for the last two weeks, was again postponed.

MRS. SIDDONS.

The Local Government Records and Museums Committee reported that the tablet commemorative of Mrs. Siddons which was affixed by the Society of Arts to No. 27, Upper Baker-street, has, since the demolition of those premises, been refixed to the building erected on the site, together with a supplemental tablet. They thought, however, that the residence of Mrs. Siddons at No. 54, Great Marlborough-street, should be also commemorated. They had verified the facts connected with the house, and had obtained the necessary consents to the affixing of a tablet. Provision for the expenditure has been made in the estimates for the current financial year. The Committee accordingly recommended that a tablet be affixed to No. 54, Great Marlborough-street, W., to commemorate the residence thereat of Mrs. Siddons.

Agreed to

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, June 20.—One of the most important events of the autumn season will be the opening of the new Astor Theatre, at the corner of Forty-fifth-street and Broadway, of which the lessees are Messrs. Wagenhals and Kemper. In its architectural design and colour scheme the new playhouse corresponds with the Hotel Astor on the opposite corner. A proscenium arch of uncarved stone and walls covered with green and gold tapestries are among the innovations. The seating capacity will be about 1400. An elaborate production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Miss Annie Russell as Puck, will be the opening attraction.

MISS HILDA SPONG will "star" under the management of Mr. Walter N. Lawrence next season, appearing in *Lady Jim*, a three-act comedy of modern life, by Harold Heaton.

"THE MUSIC-MASTER" had been performed 593 times when the season ended, and, according to a careful estimate, the play had been witnessed by at least six hundred thousand people. Mr. David Warfield had not missed a performance, and the original cast remained intact throughout two seasons.

THE roof gardens are in full swing, and the Wistaria Grove on top of the New York Theatre has commenced its season with the production of a musical piece called *Seeing New York*, by Joseph Hart, Clifton Crawford, and A. Baldwin Sloane. A feature of this offering that tickles the audience immensely is the "business" accompanying the singing of one of the musical numbers by a squad of stage policemen. While they gossip in pairs and doze on each other's shoulders a burglar lifts a first-floor window, drops his swag to the street with a resounding thud, and ere he makes his escape relieves one of the "cops" of his badge of office. A scene at the Flatiron Building on a windy day shows a number of girls turning the sharp corner formed by that precipitous pile of masonry, the pranks of the breeze causing an embarrassing display of lingerie. Miss Carrie De Mar, Miss Cheridah Simpson, Mr. Al Leech, and Mr. Clifton Crawford introduce a number of songs and specialities, their contributions being largely responsible for the success of the entertainment.

THE Aerial Theatre and Garden is another of those breezy summer resorts peculiar to the Empire City, to reach which one must "take the elevator." This roof garden is situated on top of the new Amsterdam Theatre, and is different from the others, as the entertainments are given in a fully equipped theatre, largely built of glass, numerous windows admitting the air and keeping the place cool and comfortable. During the intermissions the audience adjourns to the illuminated garden surrounding the theatre—a veritable fairyland of flowers and foliage—from which one gets a fine view of the city by night. George M. Cohan, in his own musical comedy *The Governor's Son*, is the reigning attraction here, the company including Jerry and Helen Cohan, Ethel Levey, Truly Shattuck, and Julius Tannen.

THE WARWICK PAGEANT.

History repeated itself to the letter at Warwick on Monday, when the brilliant Pageant invented and arranged by Mr. Louis N. Parker, the celebrated dramatist, unfolded itself on the spacious stage provided by the grounds of Warwick Castle. The town itself was crowded with sightseers of all nationalities, and the enormous grand stand was closely packed by an audience remarkable in its character and dimensions. Fully 5,000 people were present, among them being the Earl and Countess of Warwick, Lord Leigh, Viscount and Lady Helmsley, Lord Algernon Percy, Viscount and Viscountess Hereford, Lady Anna Chandos-Pole, Lady Mordaunt, Captain Sir Wroth and Lady Lethbridge, Lady Peel, Sir William Jaffray, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Marie Corelli, Master Gordon Bland, Mr. Cuthbert Kemp, and the Masters of Rugby and Repton.

The Pageant, which commemorates the 1,000th anniversary of the Conquest of Mercia by Queen Ethelfleda, is a production of unexampled splendour, and reveals with wonderful accuracy the momentous episodes of English history, more especially in regard to Warwick, from its earliest records. The production, which is in eleven episodes, containing innumerable tableaux, was represented by a company of 2,000 amateurs, all drawn from the county of Warwickshire. The cast, so far as the leading parts were concerned, was as follows:—

Kymbeline	MR. HOLTE
Caradoc	MR. SUTTON
Ethelfleda	MISS DICKENS
Piers Gaveston	MR. RYBOT
Lancaster	MR. ROSS
Warwick	MR. H. BROWN
Roger de Newburgh	MR. C. BROWN
Gundrada	MISS BROWNE
Shakespeare	A Boy from Stratford
Queen Elizabeth	MRS. H. BATCHELOR
Leicester	EARL OF YARMOUTH
Thomas Fisher	MR. SAM BROWNE
Mrs. Thomas Fisher	MRS. SAM BROWNE
Recorder	MR. KEMP (Mayor of Warwick).

There also took part in various episodes Lord and Lady Willoughby de Broke, Lady Heath, Lady Victoria de Trafford, and the Rev. Ralph Goodenough.

A flourish of trumpets heralded the opening scene, and the approach of the Narrative Chorus, robed as Druids in white, blue, and green, and impressively chanting a chorus. The earliest episode reveals the "Dawn of Christianity." A crowd of Ancient Britons sorrowfully stretch out their arms as "Kymbeline," their dying King, comes forward leaning on the shoulders of two pages. He calls for his son (Caractacus), and crowns him King of Britain. The joyous shouts of the crowd bring on the scene the warlike Adminius, who threatens to depose his brother. The Druids again appear, and snatching a child from a frantic mother, offer it up as a sacrifice. Caradoc, however, orders the release of the boy, and for his blasphemous interference the Druids invoke the vengeance of the gods on the King. The Romans enter, and after a fierce battle the Britons are defeated, and the King captured and taken to Rome. A battle between savage-looking Picts and Scots and the Britons, who defeated their Northern foes, takes place in Episode two, and the incident of the bear and rugged staff, showing why those objects were selected as the arms of the Earls of Warwick, is depicted. The next episode opens with the flight of the Britons from the Danes, and subsequently shows the victory of Ethelfleda, Great Alfred's daughter. She enters on horseback, followed by a large retinue with the captured Danes chained by the neck on heavy yokes. This scene illustrates the Conquest of Mercia, and the overthrow of Paganism a thousand years ago.

Episode four unfolds the romantic career of Guy of Warwick, his marriage with the fair Phyllis, and the slaying of the Dun Cow, the monstrous head of which is borne on a trolley across the arena. The fifth episode, which brings the play to the Twelfth Century, furnished one of the most exquisite scenes of the spectacle. Gundrada announces that her lord, Roger de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, is coming home from the Holy Land, and a picturesque spectacle is provided. She and a group of girls form into a ring, and throw a red ball round and round the circle. Then comes a scene from Marlowe's "Edward II.," in which Piers Gaveston, the unworthy favourite of the King, is tried by the Barons and sentenced to death. The Kingmaker scenes from Shakespeare's "Henry VI." follow, the characters being taken by the Kineton amateurs. Episode eight, which deals with the charters, furnishes two delightful scenes, one a group of girls in charming, delicately-hued dresses, singing "Summer is a-coming in, loudly sing cuckoo." In the other the boys of the King's School sing in spirited style a composition by Mr. W. T. Keeling.

The ninth episode takes place at the time of the short reign of the ill-fated Lady Jane Grey, whose proclamation at Warwick is depicted. Episode ten begins with a comic meeting of the burgesses of the city; then the Earls of Leicester and Warwick ride on with their retinues, preceding Queen Elizabeth, who is driven on the stage in a magnificent coach with six horses, surrounded by a cavalcade of ladies and gentlemen.

Local dignitaries are presented to the Queen, among them the bailiff of Stratford, who is accompanied by his little eight-year-old son. The Queen asks the boy's name, and he answers, "William Shakespeare," and then the Queen kisses him, and says: "I like thy name, and I like thy looks. Tell thy playmates the Queen kissed William Shakespeare." After the deputations have been received, Queen Elizabeth rests for a little upon a throne that has been prepared, the boys of the King's County School sing, and dances are performed before her, the crowd in the arena numbering at that moment quite 1,500 persons. Then a procession is formed, and Elizabeth and her courtiers walk down to the Avon, and are rowed up the river in the State barge.

The last episode concerns the burning of the city in 1694 and its rebuilding, followed by a final tableau, in which all the characters that have been seen appear again together grouped round a figure of Britannia in the foreground. Mounted on a pedestal, surrounded by the fourteen Colonial and American Warwicks, the entire company of two thousand performers then sing the "Old Hundredth," and to solemn music the march-past begins. The last figure to leave the arena is that of the boy William Shakespeare, who as he goes out kisses his hand to the audience in token that the Pageant is at an end.

The performers all acted with wonderful precision and unanimity. The tableaux were mounted with prodigal liberality, and the eye never wearied of the elaborate spectacles, which took shape with marvellous accuracy. Every praise should be given to the music, vocal and instrumental. The chorus of Druids was in fine unison, the voices showing careful training. Miss Greig, the Mistress of the Dances, also deserves high commendation. The whole performance enraptured the vast audience, whose appreciation was heartily expressed. The Pageant reflects credit not only on the town, but on the whole country, and the reputation of Mr. Parker, already great as a dramatist, is worthily enhanced by the production.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MISS ISABEL GREY.

MISS ISABEL GREY, who has just returned from a tour of *Sweet and Twenty*, is engaged for the part of Mrs. Bolingbroke in *His Excellency the Governor*.

Miss Grey has had a long and varied experience on the stage. She has been equally successful in comedy, drama, and opera, gaining valuable experience on tour with the late Mr. Bandmann's Shakespearean company, also with Miss Sarah Thorne, and various other managers. She was the first to introduce plays of serious interest on Hastings Pier, and is also the author of a musical farce, entitled, *Outwitted*, which was successfully produced at the now defunct Holborn Theatre. For a few years Miss Grey left the stage and travelled on the Continent. On her return she appeared at the Royalty with Mr. Lionel Brough. Since then she has distinguished herself in such parts as Mrs. Cross in *The Idler*, the Duchess of Berwick in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, Lady Bletchley in *A Woman's Reason*, Mrs. Stonehay, in *The Profligate*, etc. During the run of *Sweet Nancy* at the Avenue she undertook the part of Mrs. Gray at a moment's notice, and continued the impersonation with such marked success that Mr. Edmund Maurice immediately made her an offer to resume the part on tour, and that offer she accepted.

Photo by Langton, Belgravia.

MISS ISABEL GREY.

PROPOSED MOTOR CONTEST.

A correspondent offers a challenge cup of the value of forty guineas for an Automobile Handicap. The following are the general conditions set down for the contest:—

(1) Cars may be entered by genuine members of the stage or music hall only.

(2) All cars must be driven by lady members of the dramatic or music hall professions.

(3) All cars must be owned (a) either by bona-fide members of the stage or music hall professions, or (b) by bona-fide amateur and non-trade owners, and lent to the lady entering the car, and who, in this case, must also be the driver.

(4) No cars may be entered by male members of the professions unless bona-fide their private property.

(5) A member of the dramatic or music hall professions shall be any manager, acting or stage-manager, or any person who, within six months of the date of entering the car has been in receipt of a salary for appearing on the stage.

(6) If the winning car is owned by a member of the two professions, he or she will receive the challenge cup, the driver taking the added prize.

(7) If the winning car is owned by a non-professional (see 3b) the driver will take both challenge cup and added prize.

(8) The cars shall be handicapped in such a way that a small car may have as good a chance as a large one.

(9) Points shall be given for skill in driving. (This may be ascertained by one or more gymkhana scouts, "tending" races or suchlike). Also for general excellence of the car; and if it can be arranged, also for speed over a short distance.

(10) A committee of, say, six ladies and six gentlemen, with the donor as an honorary member, shall be shall be formed to draw up the conditions, &c.

(11) Any gate money after expenses are paid to be handed to one or other of the theatrical charities.

(12) Any dispute arising under the terms of the contest shall be referred to the donor, or to some person nominated by him, whose decision shall be final.

Besides the cup, our correspondent will give for the next five years £5 added money, or a prize of that value.

Motorists are invited to communicate with the Secretary, Motor Committee, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Gluck's *Armide*, which was to be produced at Covent Garden yesterday evening, was sung for the first time in 1777 at the Académie Royale and is regarded as one of its composer's masterpieces. It followed *Alceste*. Of these two operas Gluck himself wrote to Bailly du Rollet: "They are so different that you will hardly believe them to be by the same composer. . . . I have endeavoured to be more of the painter and the poet than the musician. I confess that I should like to finish my career with this opera (*Armide*). . . In *Armide* there is a delicate quality which is wanting in *Alceste*, for I have discovered the method of making the characters express themselves so that you will know at once whether it is Armide who is speaking or one of her followers."

AN entertainment given at the Pioneer Club, Piccadilly, on Wednesday, included skeches entitled *Promotion*, translated from the French, and *The Lady Doctor*, taken from the same source. Both pieces were played by Mlle. Juliette Milo, of the Comédie-Française, and Mr. W. Anning, and were very cordially received. The entertainment also embraced excellent vocal and musical items.

The charming selections given by the orchestra at the Aldwych Theatre, between Miss Ruth St. Denis's Indian dances last Thursday afternoon, are the work of a Cingalese composer, Mr. E. A. W. Rodrigo, who has arranged and orchestrated some of the oldest Indian airs. He is a well-known bandmaster in Ceylon. The selections played at the Aldwych are named "Gorth," "Chial," and "Mohanni," signifying a dance, an interlude, and a prayer.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, July 2, for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts,
By S. Buchanan Rogerson,
entitled,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."

Count Otto Steinbach	MR. EDWARD E. ASHBY
Countess Natalie Steinbach	MISS GERTRUDE HUNT
Baron Cratzlaw	MR. HORATIO SINCLAIR
Lieut. Karl Ctzarteryski	MR. REGINALD FOX
M. Stambuloff	MR. ERNEST H. CLARKE
M. Koska Marinavitch	MR. G. H. HURST
The Hon. Bertie Bray	MR. FRANK HOWARD
Peter Peteroff	MR. FRED PRIOR
George Orloff	MR. ARTHUR BRANDHURST
Manfrid Speinletch	MR. GILBERT DANCE
Paul Slivanovitch	MR. WALTER P. CARR
Alexander Gortz	MR. GEORGE H. PAYNE
Max Mecklebach	MR. ARTHUR CUFF
Michael Lartoff	MR. W. R. SPEAKE
Stella Melakoff	MISS MARIE RAMUZ
Mlle. Zila Zeyelda	MISS FLORRIE HALL
Zanette	MISS BRENDA MAY
Cora Gouldhart	MISS VIOLET SIMS

The Woman Who Gambles, which was produced at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, on January 29 last, was submitted to the verdict of a London audience on Monday evening. The author, Mr. S. Buchanan Rogerson, has devised a fairly interesting plot, and as the action of the play takes place in Balaka, the chief city of the State of Bilcrona, an imaginary kingdom on the Adriatic Sea, abundance of scope is given for the introduction not only of a series of sensational incidents, but also of a number of clearly defined character sketches, well calculated to impress an audience. The smart uniforms worn and the well-painted picturesque scenery add considerably to the general effect. Indeed, *The Woman Who Gambles* is a very good specimen of the class of play to which it belongs, and can be recommended accordingly.

The most important personage in the story is the Countess Natalie Steinbach, the weak points in whose character are a passion for gambling, and a proneness to unreasonable jealousy. Baron Cratzlaw, the villain of the piece, hopes with the aid of his accomplice, Stella Melakoff, to bring about the financial ruin of the Countess, so that he may be in a position to pay her debts, and so earn her gratitude, if not affection. A despatch arrives notifying the Baron that a society of Anarchists called the Friends of Freedom are about to set a revolution on foot. Cora Gouldhart is the bearer of the plan of campaign. This document she hands to Karl Ctzarteryski, a member of the secret society, with instructions that he is to deliver it to the central committee. On Karl asking for the address of the meeting-place, he is informed that a lady will that evening hand him a slip of paper, on which will be written the place and hour of meeting. Baron Cratzlaw, overhearing this conversation, confronts Karl, accuses him of being a revolutionist and of bearing upon his person the plan of operations. He, however, offers to save Karl and also Cora, with whom Karl is in love, provided he (Karl) will induce Otto Steinbach to carry the documents to the revolutionary meeting, the Baron's plan being to have Otto arrested in the midst of the Friends of Freedom with the incriminating papers upon him. Karl, who is jealous of Otto, at length consents. He gives the papers to Otto, who, believing he is saving Cora, promises to deliver them. The Countess is led by the Baron to believe that an appointment between her husband and Cora has been arranged. Roused to a fury of jealousy she gambles wildly at the tables, and incurs debts she is unable to pay. The Baron comes forward and offers to cancel her notes, when Otto, entering, announces his intention of selling his estates to preserve his wife's good name.

The scene of Act. II. is the Palace of the Countess Natalie, her husband being absent endeavouring to raise the money to satisfy his wife's creditors. Still tortured by jealousy, she goes to his private desk in search of letters from Cora, in place of which she discovers the revolutionary documents entrusted to Otto. The Baron tells her that her husband is to deliver these papers to Cora that evening, and that she is to convey them to the revolutionary committee, whose place of meeting he does not know. Mad with jealousy, Natalie hands the address to the Baron, making a stipulation that the person arrested with the papers found on him or her is to die, believing Cora will be the one taken with the plans in her possession. She leads the police to the meeting-place, only to find she has betrayed her own husband into the hands of justice.

Otto is condemned to be shot as a rebel. Natalie pleads with the Baron for her husband's life. He offers to spare Otto if she will sacrifice her honour, and gives her one chance of winning by staking his love against her husband's life. She consents to hazard the decision on the dice-box. The Baron wins, and thinks he has gained his object, but Natalie holds him in check by presenting at him a loaded revolver. This is a specially powerful scene, and evokes loud applause.

In the last act Lieut. Karl, repenting of his share in Otto's betrayal, comes disguised as a monk to the condemned cell. He chloroforms Otto, wraps him in the monk's cloak, and has him taken out of the prison, while he (Karl), assuming the traitor's hood, which conceals his features, is led to execution. The last scene is Natalie's boudoir. The unhappy woman swallows poison to end her miserable existence. The Baron, entering from the bedroom, attempts to take her away with him, but is shot by one of the revolutionists, and Cora arrives with the Prince's pardon for Otto.

Mr. Morton Powell's company gives an adequate representation of the drama. Miss Gertrude Hunt, who has succeeded Miss Louisa Peach in the part of the Countess Natalie, quite realises the passionate, jealous nature of the woman, and puts plenty of force into her embodiment of this leading character. Her performance gives complete satisfaction. Mr Edward E. Ashby displays all the necessary feeling and earnestness in the part of Count Otto Steinbach, and scores a genuine success in his thoroughly sound representation of the hero of the story. Mr. Horatio Sinclair plays the villain, Baron Cratzlaw, with consistent intensity, and though occasionally somewhat indistinct in his utterance, he possesses a complete grip of the character, and never misses a favourable opportunity of scoring. Mr. Reginald Fox gives a bold and highly effective rendering of Lieut. Karl Ctzarteryski. Mr. Ernest H. Clarke is well placed as M. Stambuloff, the Chief of Police. Miss Violet Sims plays with care and discretion the part of Cora Gouldhart, and Miss Marie Ramuz is good as Stella Malakoff. he play is brightened by Mr. Fred Prior's amusing portrayal of Peter Peteroff, a comically cowardly spy in the pay of the police, and also by Mr. Frank Howard's impersonation of the Hon. Bertie Bray, of the British Embassy, whose sweetheart, Zila Zeyelda, has a lively representative in Miss Florrie Hall. Minor rôles receive satisfactory treatment from Messrs. G. H. Hurst, Arthur Brandhurst, Gilbert Dance, Walter P. Carr, Arthur Cuff, and Miss Brenda May.

SIR,—I see by your columns Edward Stebbing was convicted of theft. Would you please mention that it is not the Edwin Stebbing, acrobat, as a mistake may arise that may be very harmful to me.—Yours faithfully, EDWIN STEBBING.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on Saturday night, the 30th ult. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left on Saturday night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared this week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other. She was also found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground.

Photo by Russell and Sons.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

Miss Stephens is progressing most favourably at the Wolverhampton Hospital, and she has been greatly cheered by the many letters of sympathy which have come from all parts of the country—there have been quite a lot from Walsall, where she had sung with such acceptance during last week.

Characteristic of that good fellowship which exists amongst the profession, a matinée is being arranged for her benefit at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

The following sympathetic letter has reached us from Mr. J. Bannister Howard:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly advocate the case of Miss Dot Stephens in the columns of *The Era*? I think a subscription list should be opened at once. I have many promises and some contributions already. It is a terrible thing for this young girl, who is only twenty-two years of age, to be suddenly and permanently deprived of all means of livelihood. She has been the sole support of her widowed mother for the past four years.—Yours truly, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.

In reply to Mr. Howard's letter *The Era* will gladly advocate the claims of Miss Stephens to the generous consideration of both the dramatic and variety professions. She is a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

A fund has been opened by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, and the following subscriptions have been received:—

George Dance	£5	5	0
Herbert Ralland	5	5	0
C. P. Levilly	5	5	0
W. W. Kelly	5	5	0
Miss Edith Cole	5	5	0
J. B. Howard	5	5	0
Miss Queenie Leighton	2	2	0
Frank King	2	2	0
Fredk. Mouillot	2	2	0
George Alexander	1	1	0
M. R. Morand	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
E. Lockwood	1	1	0
E. Graham Falcon	1	1	0
Wilfred Esmond	1	0	0
Andrew W. Spens	1	0	0
William Martin	0	10	0
Rollo Balmain	0	10	6

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

MR. G. BERNARD SHAW essayed the latter rôle in his play *Man and Superman* on Tuesday afternoon, when he made an aerial voyage in Messrs. Spencer's balloon "Norfolk." Mr. Shaw was accompanied by Mrs. Hugh Cholmondeley, Mr. Robert Loraine, Mr. Granville Barker, and Mr. Percival Spencer. The ascent was made at Wandsworth at 3.20 p.m., and, after attaining the remarkable altitude of nearly two miles, the descent was made at Chobham Place, two and a half hours later.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, MAY 10.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—After a most successful run, *Dorothy Vernon* will be withdrawn on Friday night. Miss Brune's season is rapidly drawing to a close, and, on Saturday evening next, *Sunday* will be staged for a few nights. On Saturday evening last the performance was witnessed by a large number of Japanese officers from the three warships which are making a short stay at Melbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant).—The stirring melodrama, *For the Sake of a Woman*, is proving highly successful, and another large audience witnessed the performance on Saturday evening. The piece abounds in sensational incidents so dear to all lovers of stirring melodrama. The acting throughout is uniformly good, Mr. George Cross as the stalwart and eventually triumphant hero, Mr. A O. Millard as the villain, and Mr. Bert Bailey as the leading comedian deserving special mention. *The Night Birds of London* is in active preparation by Mr. Anderson's company.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—Several new artists appeared at the Opera House on Saturday evening. Baby Watson, a young lady of apparently about four summers, exhibited wonderful talent, and her quaint, old-fashioned deportment was a source of much amusement; she was several times recalled for her singing and dancing. The Three Lees astonished everyone with their remarkable contortion act; the wonderful playing of the Miles-Stavordale Quintet figures as the chief attraction on the programme; while interesting items are contributed by Miss Breghlie Smith, Mr. Howard Hall, Mr. Tom Dawson, Mr. Alf Lawton, and a host of others. On Monday evening Mr. Harry Rickards made his re-appearance for one night, prior to leaving for England and America in search of novelties for his various Australian theatres. He contributed a number of his most successful songs, which, needless to say, were enthusiastically received, encores in each case being demanded by his many admirers.

GAIETY THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. Frank Clark; Business-Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons).—A complete change of programme on Saturday night by the Folly Company attracted a large house. Mr. Joe Charles made a satisfactory first appearance, and was accorded a hearty reception; Miss Bella Perman introduced new dances, which won instant approval; the Lazaras and Mr. Frank York are still prime favourites; while other artists whose turns prove interesting include Miss Amy Blackie, Mr. Andy Roberts, and Miss Lucy Levinia.

THE success of the Living London moving pictures shown at the Town Hall, under the direction of the Messrs. J. and N. Tait, continues unabated. The Messrs. Tait are to be congratulated upon presenting to Melbourne audiences undoubtedly the finest living pictures yet seen in this city.

SYDNEY, May 22, 1906.—Mr. J. C. Williamson revived *A Country Girl* on the 19th at Her Majesty's. The audience included Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Northcote and a large party from Government House. Miss Florence Young fairly revelled in her old part of Marjory Joy. Mr. Haigh Jackson never sang better or made love more naturally, and Miss Margaret Thomas as the Princess Melaneh sang admirably. By the by, this young lady will shortly wed a well-known barrister, Mr. Gordon, K.C., and the happy pair intend spending the honeymoon in Wales. Mr. George Lauri is again Barry, and Mr. Claude Bantock convulses the house with his "Rajah of Bhong." The part of Douglas Verity fell to Mr. W. S. Percy. Miss Rose Musgrove, Miss Evelyn Scott, Miss Nellie Wilson, Miss Mabel Morgan, and Mr. Fred Young were all in the cast, and Mr. Gerard Coventry directed the performance.

MR. GEORGE STEPHENSON'S London Musical Comedy Company finished on the 20th, when an enthusiastic house at the Palace called on Mr. Edward Lauri, Mr. Charles McNaughton, and Miss May Beatty for speeches prior to their departure for England in the China on the 26th. The stage hands presented Mr. Lauri with a handsome three bottle tantalus, he giving each of them a sovereign purse, and from Mr. McNaughton each received a silver match-box. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, and then everybody went home.

MR. GEORGE WILLOUGHBY, who is appearing in *The Man from Mexico* at the Criterion, was lately married to Miss Kenna, of Bathurst, sister of the operatic baritone, Mr. P. Bathurst.

MR. BLAND HOLT sees no reason for withdrawing *The Prodigal Son* from the Royal stage, but when he deems it necessary he will produce *For England*, a spectacular and military play.

THE Tivoli saw last week the advent of Blake and Granville, who created a favourable impression in *The Man in Possession*, and Miss Elaine Brown, who sings acceptably. The Homer B. Mason-Keller company is still appearing in *Hooked by Crook*, and a long list of artists includes Fanny Powers, the Carnos, Larola, Rose Cabani, Slade Murray, Fred Bluett, Warner Sisters, Baby Cooper, Baby Sutton, Harry Sadler, Tambo and Tambo, and the Cathedral Choristers. Mr. Harry Rickards is now on his way to England.

A REVIVAL of Shakespeare in operatic form seems imminent. Carl Goldmark, it is said, has recently completed a lyric-drama founded on *The Tempest*, and called *Caliban*, while Engelbert Humperdinck is at present engaged in writing an opera based on *The Merchant of Venice*. Among Shakespearean plays which have already been wedded to music, Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Verdi's *Othello* Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, and Ambroise Thomas's *Hamlet* may be recalled.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 2,
the Drama by Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, entitled
"A MILLION OF MONEY."

For the second week of his season Mr. Eade Montefiore has chosen another favourite piece, *A Million of Money*, which is played by a talented company and staged in a most effective manner. As is usual with the Drury-lane dramas, a good opening for scenic effect is always provided, and the Exhibition Fête is an especially fine set. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in the leading rôle of Harry Dunstable gives a manly and earnest portrayal of the character, and is the central figure throughout. Miss Doris Gilham plays Mary, Dunstable's wife, in a sweetly pathetic manner, and creates a very good impression. Miss Cecil Cromwell has a fine part to score in as Stella St Clair, and she makes full use of her opportunities, playing with great force. In the scene in which Stella is denounced by Dunstable, she gives a really fine piece of dramatic acting which is greatly applauded. The scheming Major Belgrave is neatly hit off by Mr. W. F. Grant, while Mr. Leslie Carter scores by his clever delineation of Geoffrey St. Clair. It is quite one of the best things in the play, being marked by admirable restraint. That amusing comedian, Mr. Victor Widdicombe, appears as Dick Bounder, and he plays in his usual breezy style and with every success. Mr. Frank M. Wood is good as Whetstone, the solicitor. Hetty is delightfully embodied by Miss Amy Grace, who is equally effective in pathetic and light comedy scenes. Mr. George Percy is successful as Tom Cricklewood, and Mr. W. Beckwith is seen to advantage as the Rev. Maythorne. Mr. Murray Carrington does well in the small part of Frank Hastings, while Miss Viola Finne is acceptable as a gipsy girl. The other characters are ably filled, and the stage management is highly creditable.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 2,
The Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"HOW LONDON LIVES."

That the engagement this week of Mr. Ernest Norris's company in the above successful drama is a popular "booking" is amply testified by the large audiences. Excellently acted, the play from start to finish goes with a swing, and the attention of the audience is closely held throughout. Clever Mr. Ernest E. Norris successfully plays the part of Happy Jack Ferrers, being frequently applauded for the effective delivery of his telling lines, while Jack's happy disposition under trying circumstances leads to much real comedy. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, as Colonel Sir George Ferrers, acts with dignity and earnestness that carries conviction; and in the rôle of Stephen Grainger Mr. Oscar Adye gives a finished impersonation. Mr. William Burchill does well as Lieutenant Harry Maxwell; and Mr. William Stevens, as the Pawnbroker, is very good. Mr. Thomas Ball gives a clever study of a drunken gentleman; while Mr. Arthur Wilson as Bertie and Mr. Cecil Jordan as Gus cause much merriment in their respective parts. Messrs. Harold Wagner, Arthur Dudley, Tom Wallis, and Harry Royce are typical newsboys; and Mr. Edward Snow is efficient as a Police Inspector. In the exacting rôle of Gladys, Miss Theresa Osborne is seen to advantage, and quickly gains the sympathy of the audience by her pathetic rendering of the part. Miss Georgie de Lara is admirably placed as the scheming Lady Ferrers, and acquits herself with distinction; Miss Alice Spry capably sustains the part of Mollie Crockett; Miss Gladys King is amusing as Mrs. Delaney; Miss Gabrielle Rômeo is good as Maudie; and Miss Florrie Green, as Katie, plays her part with much expression.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 2,
the Play, entitled
"CALLED BACK."

Mr. Henry Bedford and the members of his company are interesting Dalston audiences this week with the exciting play, entitled *Called Back*. This of course is an adaptation of the late Hugh Conway's well-known novel, but no reference to the original author or to the adaptor appears on the programme. The presentment of the play, however, is very good indeed. Mr. Henry Bedford appears as Dr. Manuel Ceneri, and gives an interesting and effective rendering of the part. Mr. J. Monkhouse appears as Macari, and Mr. Howard Sidney represents Petroff, Italian conspirators. Mr. Alec Alexander ably embodies the blind Gilbert Vaughan, who subsequently has his sight restored, and is the accusing witness in regard to the murder, in which the chief interest of the play is centred. Mr. Walter H. Domoney seems to revel in the part of Arthur Kenyon, Vaughan's merry friend. Mr. George W. Hewetson represents Anthony March, who is murdered in the first act, and Miss Bessie Bedford is that unfortunate man's sister, Pauline March. Miss Bedford acts the part with dramatic effect. The cast also includes Miss Jennie Risley, Miss Frances Foley, Mr. Sid Bedford, Mr. George Howard, and Mr. B. Leonard Page.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 2,
the Drama, by Geo. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"MASTER AND MAN."

The exciting drama, *Master and Man*, played by the Lyric stock company, is much appreciated by Hammersmith playgoers. Mr. Henry Herne as the young engineer, Jack Walton, is very successful, acting with earnestness and spirit, and winning the sympathy of the audience from the commencement of the play. Mr. Fred Morgan, who is responsible for the part of Robert Carlton, gives a quiet, yet telling picture of the villainous ironmaster. A good opportunity of showing his ability is taken advantage of by Mr. H. H. Barrington, who sustains the rôle of Humpy Logan, and skilfully portrays the scheming cripple. Miss Minnie Grey is a pathetic Hester Thornbury, to which character she imparts a winning grace and sweetness. A well-studied portrayal of the rough, but good-hearted mechanic, Jim Burleigh, is submitted by Mr. Fred Waller; Mr. Willie Scott as Tom Honeywood, and Miss Ella Seton as Letty Lightfoot, are suitably placed in humorous rôles. They are assisted in their laughter-making by Mr. Ashton Whiteman, who, as Crispin St. Jones, is decidedly good. Commendation is also due to Misses Bertha Baker, Florence Lovel, and Messrs. John Cayne, Sydney Sinclair, Leonard Morris, H. Whiteman, Major Mason, and Chas. Hetherington, all of whom, in their several parts, showing considerable talent.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 2,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Clarence Burnette, entitled
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."

The attraction this week at the Elephant is the drama *A Gambler's Daughter*, somewhat new to London, and quite so to this theatre. The piece is strong in sensational incidents, and in many powerful scenes depicts the ruin and misery brought about by drinking and gambling. These are tempered by a good deal of comedy, which evokes considerable laughter. Miss Adria Hill, who, with Mr. Robert Ayrton, heads the capable company, gives an excellent reading, first as mother, then as daughter. In the first act the pathos of the character is well manifested, while later as Miriam, the daughter, her love-making, with its light touches of comedy, and, when needed, her more serious acting, are much appreciated. Mr. Robert Ayrton gives a clever portrayal of the light-hearted Irishman, Desmond O'Dare, and whether pathetic or humorous he wins unqualified applause by his careful acting. Mr. Harry Barham submits a finished impersonation as Captain Stanhope; Mr. Alfred Sanders as Solomon Solomons, a Jew, is responsible for much of the fun of the evening; while Miss Harriet Loydall as Zeb, a negress, gives an unforced and pleasant reading. As Stephen Brand, Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe portrays the villainy of the character with marked skill; Mr. Richard Pitt is effective as the drunken gambler, John Grant; while as his son Jack, Mr. Victor Millard is successful. Mr. Vincent Carlyle gives a capital reading of the part of Ralph Gillman, an American capitalist. Numerous other characters are ably sustained.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, July 2,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Capt. Robert Marshall, entitled
"HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR."

After the season of French plays, in which Mme. Jane Hading and company appeared, this theatre has once more reverted to its customary fare in the form of the typical English comedy, from the facile pen of Robert Marshall, *His Excellency the Governor*. Preceding this comedy comes a very clever and amusing little sketch *à la* "Musketeers," entitled *Waste of Time*, in which sundry members of the company, which is enrolled from six of the best-known London theatres, appear with great *éclat*. Messrs. Lionel Mackinder (Gaiety), Lennox Pawle (Prince of Wales's), James Blakeley (Daly's), H. Marsh Allen (Haymarket), Loring Fernie (Criterion), and Littledale Power (New), comprise this sextet, who sing and dance and recite most agreeably and entertainingly. In Capt. Robert Marshall's satirical comedy of the Amandaland Islands, with its mock-heroic muddling, and the midsummer madness, induced by the yellow dust of the aloes, causing all and sundry to be touched by a tender passion, a capital company does full justice to the daring wit of the author. Mr. Loring Fernie acts with his usual energy and vehemence, tempered with an appropriate air of calm, dispassionate officialdom, as His Excellency, Sir Montague Martin, G.C.S.I., Governor of the Amandaland Islands. Mr. Lennox Pawle is very funny as the unctuous old politician, Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., who is one of the many victims of Cupid's shafts. Mr. H. Marsh Allen makes an excellent impression as the smart young A.D.C., Captain Charles Carew, who comes in with a wet sail in the Ethel Carlton matrimonial race. Mr. Lionel Mackinder is highly diverting as John Baverstock, the Private Secretary, whose inky inspiration and inventive genius stand no chance against the eloquence and ardour of a handsome young military aspirant for matrimonial honours. Mr. James Blakeley is content with the small part of a sentry, which he magnifies, however, into quite a little character-sketch. Miss Janet Alexander is very sweet as the much sought-after Ethel Carlton; and Miss Ethel Mat thews is both pretty and pert as the smart actress, Stella de Gex, or "the evening star." Miss Dolly Jones enacts the part of the acerbic Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke, satisfactorily. Mr. Littledale Power as Captain Rivers and Mr. Arthur Willoughby as Major Kildare also do all that is required of them.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, July 2,
the Drama, by the late J. R. Murray, entitled
"THE LUCK OF LIFE."

Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company in the above drama forms the current attraction at the Grand, where the popular-price policy has proved a great success, and good houses are the result. The drama, which is staged in a very complete and elaborate manner, is admirably adapted for popular audiences, and is excellently interpreted by a very good company. Mr. Polson Turner as Bahadoor, an Indian, submits a good performance; Mr. Roland Yorke as Bazilovitch portrays that unpleasant rôle with great intensity and effect; Mr Fred Danvers, who is starring, is a comedian of skill and resource, and his efforts to amuse are very successful, his song and dance gaining an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Petroff is good; as is Mr. A. Cuthbertson as Powlowski; and Mr. T. Willaine as Stanhope is satisfactory. Miss Gertie Bonsor as the Countess Vlaine is excellent in a trying part, acting with great power; Miss Adelaide Clair as Vivienne deserves commendation for a good piece of acting; Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North causes considerable amusement; and Miss Mary Pawson as Réne Bazilovitch gives a performance of merit. The remaining members of a large cast are all adequate, and a very favourable reception is accorded the drama.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, July 2,
The Spectacular and Military Drama, entitled
"DISHONOURED."

The attraction this week at this popular playhouse is Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company in the above drama. *Dishonoured* is full of the varied incidents which are beloved of popular audiences, and abounds in comic relief and strong appeals to patriotism. Mr. Percy Ballard gives a capital embodiment of the hero, Captain Philip Cunningham, who is so foully wronged; Mr. Jackson-Hayes presents a careful study of the villainous Lieutenant Pentland, justly exciting the righteous ire of "the gods"; Miss Violet Cranford is successful in the part of the devoted heroine and Red Cross Nurse, Leslie Maynard, and she also acts with much effect the part of the ill-starred Indian maiden Azeemah in the prologue. Ann Maria is played with humour by Miss Pollie Denville; and Mr. Val Gully is amusing as the faithful servant Jem Stokes. Mr. Cecil Morand gives a good character-sketch as the villain's accomplice Mike Farthing; Mr. T. Salaman presents a good rendering of the good-hearted Lieutenant Cholmondley, "the fool of the regiment"; and Mr. A. Raymond Shaw is impressive as the Hindoo Ayuskim. Mr. Geoff Broughton presents a dignified portrait of the old Colonel Sir William Cunningham. In Act III. there is a concert, in which the various items are acceptably rendered by Miss Georgie Allen, and Messrs. Val Gully, Cecil Morand, and T. Salaman.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 2,
The Drama, in Four Acts,
Adapted from Mrs. Henry Wood's Novel,
"EAST LYNNE."

East Lynne is a drama which it seems safe to prophesy will never lose its hold on the affections of the play-going public. Though always sure of a hearty welcome in Marylebone, nevertheless it must have been very gratifying to the capable members of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company to find such an enthusiastic house awaiting them. In the rôle of Lady Isabel Miss Julie Kennard is remarkably successful; her varying gestures and intonations of voice prove her complete sympathy with the character she is portraying, whilst the mother's tender solicitude for her dying child is delightfully natural. Miss Violet Thorold is sufficiently engaging as Barbara Hare; Miss A. Byrom is quietly effective as the faithful Joyce; Miss Emily Frith is bright and cheery as Suzanne; Miss Dorothy Townrow is an intelligent little Willie; and Miss Ethel Hardacre is effectively prim and precise as the well-meaning Cornelia Carlyle. As Archibald Carlyle Mr. Alfred Beaumont is dignified and reserved, his conception of the character being admirable; Mr. Paul Belmore gives a capital representation of the fussy, irascible Justice Hare; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is full of determined energy as the much-wronged Richard Hare, and Mr. Cyril Hayward is well placed as Lawyer Dill. The P.-C. Bullock of Mr. C. C. Gratton is a performance full of broad comedy and humour, whilst Mr. Eric Mayne enacts Sir Francis Levison in a cool calculating manner, his elocution being specially fine, and his methods resourceful and well-thought out.

ELOCUTION AT THE POLYTECHNIC.

For twenty-two years past Mr. and Mrs. S. Hasluck have had the privilege to enlist the services of some prominent member of "the" profession to act as honorary examiner at the annual recitals of the students of the Polytechnic School of Elocution, the consent of the late Sir Henry Irving having been obtained to officiate at this year's function. Mr. H. B. Irving, with his respected father's generous spirit, kindly stepped into the breach, and on Saturday afternoon last at the Queen's (Small) Hall awarded the Polytechnic's two silver medals, six first-class certificates, and four second class certificates.

In making the awards, Mr. Irving said, "The most trying part of this afternoon's performance is over, and now it is my turn, and I rather envy those who have finished. For the manner in which the dozen performers have acquitted themselves this afternoon I have nothing but praise. Their task has been a most difficult one, inasmuch as by their elocutionary powers alone they have to make themselves entertaining without those aids we enjoy in our theatres. What they have to do they have to do well, and not only to interest their hearers but to make themselves thoroughly understood. The task of a judge where all are so good is made all the more difficult, and he must look beyond the influence of a mere personality. Students in choosing their examination pieces are apt to strain after 'effect,' and forget there are other salient points in the art they are studying, and a critical judge has to consider in a student's portrayal of character what is aimed at. To make my point clearer I will take, for instance, the admirable impersonation of Poor Joe from Dickens' 'Bleak House,' by Miss Alice Mellish. That is a character easy to interest an audience with. I am agreeably surprised at the general excellence of all that has been done this afternoon, which reflects the highest credit on the students and their instructors, Mr. and Mrs. Hasluck, alike. Therefore, where all are so good, one's decision must be relative to the piece chosen. Given another occasion and before another judge the unsuccessful candidates for the medal will no doubt gain the much-coveted prize. I, however, think you will agree with me that the silver medal should be given to Miss Laura Godfree, whose delineation of Ophelia's mad scene was throughout easy, sympathetic, intelligent, discreet, and sweetly pathetic—for it has been said that Ophelia when mad was sweet. The other silver medal for gentlemen I have awarded to the gentleman with the most auspicious name—Mr. Ernest Wellbeloved, for it was a real pleasure to listen to his recital of 'The Seven Ages of Man,' with which I was much impressed. Now there are the first and second class certificates; these I have awarded as follows: First class certificates to Miss Rita Gallally, Miss Nancy Tripp, Miss Alice Mellish, Miss Lillian Church, Miss Ethel Chandler, and Mr. Arthur W. Steed; Second class certificates to Mrs. Sweasey, Miss Rosa Smith-Rose, Mr. W. Francis James, and Mr. William J. Douglas. Those in the second class must not be downhearted, for somebody's got to be second, and they, in course of time, will assuredly be first. I think a second class is rather a good place, for I now remember I was in the 'second' when at Oxford; therefore do not be discouraged. I am much impressed with the fact that I could hear every word that was said this afternoon, and my advice to all students of elocution is to aim at making every word heard and understood, and not to sacrifice feeling and discretion in order to over-emphasise unimportant words."

Mr. S. Hasluck, in a witty speech, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Irving, which was seconded by Miss Laura Godfree, who in feeling terms thanked Mr. Irving for the honour he had so unexpectedly bestowed on her. Miss Godfree also paid a high tribute of affectionate regard to Mrs. Hasluck.

ROYAL COLLEGE PATRONS' FUND.

At Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening the sixth concert was given of the Royal College of Music Patrons' Fund for the performance of works by native musicians under the age of forty. On this occasion no fewer than seven compositions were heard, the composers represented being Mr. Carse, educated at the Royal Academy of Music; Messrs. Carey, Gibson, and Morris, at the Royal College of Music; Mr. Speaight, at the Guildhall School of Music. Messrs. Gardiner and Hazlehurst have studied abroad and privately in England. Of the various pieces given on Tuesday night, by far the most important were Mr. Hazlehurst's Overture, Mr. Gardiner's two songs, and Mr. Carse's Symphony. The Overture, "When the heart is Young," by Cecil Hazlehurst, is perhaps the best orchestral work yet produced at these concerts. It contains a wealth of melody, the scoring reveals undoubted ability, and the music well indicates the feeling suggested by the title Mr. Hazlehurst has chosen for his Overture. Mr. A. von Ahn Carse has before given frequent proof of his talent during the days of his training at the Royal Academy, but on this occasion he attempts—and with success—a work of a more serious character. The Symphony in C Minor contains ideas that should bring the young composer to the front. Of the four movements, melody of no little beauty is shown in the clever Adagio Maestoso, while throughout the Symphony Mr. Carse reveals musicianly talent of a high order in his able scoring for the wind instruments. Mr. Balfour Gardiner's two songs, "When the lad for longing sighs" and "The Recruit," with orchestral accompaniments, were an undoubted success; indeed, "The Recruit," with a bright and pleasing refrain, sung in a most spirited manner by Mr. Frederic Austin, proved so entirely to the taste of the audience that an irresistible encore followed. The other compositions were a not particularly interesting Symphonic Rhapsody by Mr. Henry Gibson—an ambitious work for the orchestra somewhat beyond the present power of the composer, who attempts too much in giving expression to the poem of Owen Meredith which gives the motive to the Rhapsody. Mr. J. Speaight, however, may be congratulated on his two clever violoncello solos, "Even Song" and "Spinning Song," admirably interpreted by Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans; and Mr. T. F. Morris for his brilliant playing of two characteristic pieces, for violin andorchestra, of his own composition. The four vocal quartets of Mr. F. C. Carey, on poems by W. E. Henley, proved the least attractive of the works performed at the concert. The executants were Miss Gladys Honey, Miss Dorothea Kershaw, Mr. Spencer Thomas, and Mr. Robert Chignell. All the pieces performed were conducted by their respective composers, with the exception of the violin solos of Mr. Thomas Morris, which were conducted by Sir Charles V. Stanford.

A BISHOP ON THE BARD.

A special meeting of the British Empire Shakespeare Society was held on Monday afternoon at the Garrick Theatre, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Arthur Bourchier. Mr. Sidney Lee (President) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.

Miss Ellen Terry, looking very charming in black and cream lace, with a shady-brimmed crinoline hat, sat between the Chairman and Sir Squire Bancroft, while Lady Bancroft occupied the seat on the left of the chair. The Bishop of Ripon, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Joseph Knight, and Miss Morritt were also present on the stage, and Miss Marion Terry was in front of the house The Dean of Westminster occupied a box.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, reminded those present that the Society was founded in 1901 with the object of extending throughout the Empire the knowledge and appreciation of Shakespeare's works. The methods adopted combined the serious study of their text with social recreation, the members, after rehearsal, giving readings to more or less public audiences.

Lady Bancroft then presented the prizes as follows:—

For Elocution: Miss Mary Webb (professional), Miss Winifred Rae (amateur), Mr. Lewis Casson.

For Essay (Senior prizes): Miss E. O. Browne (Worcester Branch), Miss Sarah A. Robinson (Whitelands College). Honourably mentioned, Miss Eleanor R. Denham. Junior prize, Miss Gladys Schlesman (London).

The prizes for Elocution are generously given by Mr. J. M. Dent, Mr. John Murray, and Mr. Bernard Quaritch. The Essay prizes are offered annually by the President, who himself sets the subjects.

The Bishop of Ripon, after acknowledging the kind way in which the Chairman had spoken of him, said he came there in all simplicity and attachment to the movement initiated and carried on with so much vigour, energy, and enthusiasm by Miss Morritt and her associates. It was an organisation which must endear itself to the minds and sympathies of those who desired that the noblest ideals of the drama should be placed before our countrymen, as there was a fear lest the things which had been so good should degenerate in our hands, and that future generations might speak of them as a feeble folk, who did not know how to appreciate at its true value the great inheritance which Providence had handed down to them. The existence of that Society was a proof that many were willing to study Shakespeare earnestly and seriously. And when he made use of that word "seriously" he did so in no mere professional sense—he meant it with the most absolute sincerity, because, in the first instance, he should like to plead this: that all people who attempt to look into the great products of the past and observe what kind of gifts have been handed down to us are bound to bring a serious and earnest attention in order that they may appreciate and that they may learn. It was unworthy to treat the great literature of the past as the tripper treated the great monuments he saw in foreign lands. To give a casual glance, to make a note in a memorandum book that they had seen the Coliseum, was surely to deal unworthily by so majestic a monument of the dignity of the past. And, whether he looked at a fine statue, or a great picture, or a noble cathedral, he felt he was bound to bring to it that seriousness of attention which befits fine expression in form, colour, or dignity of magnificence. And so he would plead in every case for a serious mind in the study of the great works of the past; and might he say this: that he would like especially to put in a plea for seriousness in the study of the great literature of the past? The other monuments, the monuments of the other arts, come to us with a kind of impressive exterior. After all, it was hard not to feel something like reverence in the presence of a majestic cathedral. But when one picked up a book at quite a cheap price, perhaps with some discount given if purchased through our bookseller, one felt that such cheap literature was often looked upon askance and was deemed rather to take its place amongst those—what should he call them?—sixpenny romances which are to be hurried through. But, surely, because a work comes to us in so simple and so cheap a form, because the greatest creations of the minds of the past are now accessible to the simplest and the poorest—this, instead of being a reason for treating our studies lightly, should be a reason for regarding them with a deeper reverence. For, just as he found Heaven's noblest gifts are those which come without money and without price, so he should say that the noblest gifts of the minds of the past are given to us practically freely to-day. So much the more as he reverenced God's air and God's sky and God's sunshine, so would he bring the same spirit of reverence to bear when he marked how God's highest order of creation has produced some wonderful work. This was a plea for seriousness of study, and, happily, the British Empire Shakespeare Society encouraged that seriousness; and when he pleaded for it in relation to Shakespeare he could not help calling to mind the words which the first President of the Society, the late lamented Sir Henry Irving, used when he spoke of the value of Shakespeare—for Shakespeare was not like a writer of distant time, who was removed from our own affairs; for, in point of fact, his life lived, as it were, in our thoughts, and his words were to be found in our speech; and, what was more, if we could enter into his spirit we would gather unending lessons of that noble charity which is the highest inspiration of our religion. And in that way, therefore, he felt, in speaking to them of Shakespeare, he might with all earnestness, impress not only upon those who are members of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, but upon all those who would perhaps support it by becoming members hereafter, that, whatever they did, they should treat Shakespeare with the reverence with which he treated life and mankind, and that they should not do the injury of levity, he being so majestic as he is. He (the Bishop) had been announced to give an address on "Shakespeare's Plays," but to deal with such a vast variety would, he confessed, be beyond the scope of his powers, and would also be a severe trial to their patience. Shakespeare was the supreme dramatic genius of the world, and if he held the mirror up to nature, it was for the sake of reflection, and, he would add, self-reflection. Therefore, he expected when he looked into his pages that he would give some lessons on that art of all arts, the art of living. He desired to limit his thoughts that afternoon to Shakespeare as a teacher of the art of living. Attempts had been made to disentangle the genuine Shakespeare from the dramatist, and judging from his writings some had considered him to be a most melancholy person, and they urged in support of their view such lines as "Let's talk of worms and graves and epitaphs. Make dust our paper, and with rainy eyes write sorrow on the bosom of the world." Of course, he was ready to admit—and he was quite sure their Chairman would admit also—that it would not be at all impossible to make out a good case for that—that is to say, if one could rely upon quotations and upon the characters that spoke to us in such melancholy fashion. He could imagine himself sitting down amongst the company of the exiled Duke, and then he was sure he should hear their melancholy friend expressing so many of the sad and trite utterances which they were so familiar with, and he should be told it was in such passages as these that the real Shakespeare speaks. And, indeed, he remembered that Shakespeare puts into the lips of some the cry that all life is vanity, and that we are such stuff as dreams are made of. He knew well that he would be told that there are times in which we are to the gods very much what the flies are to wanton boys, and in sport they kill us. And he could also imagine, though the poet did not speak it so clearly, that even the very highest joys of life, like the joys of love, were always unsatisfactory in some form or another; either people were unequally matched in character, or in circumstance; or, even if all things converged to make a match one of genuine simple affection, yet even there stood the vanity of life that came in to mar it, all making those joys momentary as sound, fleeting as shadow, short as any dream. In all this, and perhaps in that bitterest saying of all that falls from Wolsey's mouth, the sorrow and the sadness—and should he say the unworthiness?—of life finds expression when the old Cardinal, speaking of the misplaced Bishop, says, "He was a fool, but he aimed at virtue." He knew nothing that speaks with greater sarcasm or sardonic belief in the vanity of the world equal to that utterance. So he could imagine one might hold a brief in behalf of that; and so, as he read his Shakespeare he heard a melancholy voice everywhere, and he would be inclined to agree with the modern who says, "Life is not worth living." He demurred to that conclusion. He would be sorry to accept it, for he could not build anything solid on that. It could, on the other hand, and again with ample quotations to support the view, be asserted that Shakespeare was an optimist, enjoying life royally, taking delight in the beauties of Nature. Even then the thesis would have no solid foundation. He looked on Shakespeare as many-minded; the dramatist appeared to him in so many masks that he found it difficult to say which was the true face. Such theories as he had mentioned had first been evolved and then sought to be proved, and he distrusted that method of arguing. But if the message of Shakespeare was neither melancholy nor cheerful, where did he find the assurance that Shakespeare was giving an adequate teaching in the art of life? He might go to the Sonnets as expressing the soul of the poet, and then select from the Plays passages in accord with them, but he preferred not to build on any doubtful foundation. He was therefore thrown back on a prosaic method, on the simple facts to be gathered from what we knew of Shakespeare's life. He was born at Stratford-on-Avon in the year 1564, came to London when he was twenty-five—having been married at eighteen—a rash proceeding for a young man. He applied for a patent to use a coat-of-arms in 1596, and next year he purchased a new house, which was said to be the finest in Stratford, while by the year 1611 he was possessed of considerable property in his native town. Did not that indicate prosperity due to prudence and sagacity? The actor living in the generous atmosphere of the theatre was not always thrifty-minded. Then, too, what self-restraint there was in what we know of Shakespeare's life! For twenty-eight years he worked hard, and then went back to his birthplace, to rest, realising that life should be divided into three parts, a period of preparation, a period of production, and a period of repose. He assumed, therefore, that Shakespeare was neither carried away by the passion of melancholy nor by the passion of the joie de vivre—he was a self-possessed, common-sense, prudent, sagacious soul. If that were true, it gave cause to distrust the theory which declared that genius was symptomatic of insanity. Would all madmen were wise enough, like Shakespeare, to provide for a rainy day! Among the lower order of genius eccentricity might be predicated, but the great genius was accompanied by "a large and wholesome sanity," as shown in Dante and Milton, and which was a very strong force, and a very powerful influence in the plays and in the life and mind of William Shakespeare. Having reached that conclusion, then he saw in Shakespeare not a melancholy person, who gives way to his melancholy and sits down and morbidly complains that life is such a bad sort of thing. If, on the other hand, he found that Shakespeare was a man who had been able to disengage himself from the *mere* attractive joys of the world, that he possessed a good strong piece of common-sense within his nature, then when he came back to his plays and asked, What is his teaching concerning life? he thought he had taken possession of something which might be a silver thread to guide him, and that he should not be selecting at haphazard quotations to prove his point, because his point as to the sagacity and sanity of Shakespeare seemed to him to be established on independent grounds. What then would Shakespeare teach us concerning life? He would say that we were beings possessed of emotions and judgment. He would not have us ignore our emotions, for they are messengers of sweetness, power, and experience, but he would have us live our life in fulness, and take it as it came. If it presented joy, he would have us enjoy it; if sorrow, we should endure it. But whatever we did, he would have us remember that royal prerogative of our nature, judgment, and self-control. Live while you live. "Yes," continued the speaker, "I think he would say that—take up the joys of life. For when I open a play, for instance, like *Love's Labour's Lost*, what do I find? And I speak with the authority, I think, of Professor Dowden. I find that here you have a play which indeed criticises the follies and passions of his own time; but under it there is a serious suggestion of this—that it is a bad thing to try and introduce artificial restraints in life. Shakespeare is no friend of, shall I say? the Puritan or the ascetic, who would say to you, 'Life is full of pleasures and joys, and therefore avoid them.' On the contrary, it seems to me as if he said, 'You cannot play with Nature, for God has made you with capacity for joy, and you cannot resist any great tendency of Nature without suffering from it somewhere'; and those who have dreamt that they could produce good by a series of, what shall I call it?—artificial and arbitrary restraints are those who are likely to provoke a tragedy in the long run. And as I listen to that sort of thing expressed generally throughout that play, I find myself also remembering that he has a kind of suspicion always of the people who cannot, who do not, possess the capacity for enjoyment. Why, if he cannot love music he thinks there is something bad about the man. The man that does not love music is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils. And I suppose it is the same sort of thing which makes him imagine that the lean kine of the world are to be suspected. Let me have men about me that are fat! Surely that means that he realises, or he thinks he does, that there is something suspicious in his mind concerning men that seem to be putting themselves arbitrarily outside the natural enjoyment of life. And is not that a reason why he presented to us Falstaff as amiably as he did? Don't you think he had a little sympathy with that immense capacity for enjoying things in the gloriously unscrupulous way that Falstaff did? Yes, I think there was a touch of sympathy in his portrayal of our friend Falstaff. So far as I can see, he would certainly say to you, 'Take this enjoyment of life.' But he would equally say to you—yes, and more strongly, if I have judged him rightly—'Remember that, although these joys are indeed to be enjoyed—and it would not be natural that you should do otherwise than enter into them fully'; and he would echo that apostolic thought that 'God gave us all things richly to enjoy'; yet he would say, also, 'At the same time, remember this: these very emotions which are capable of such exquisite pleasures are also capable of plunging you down into the deepest and most abject misery; and remember also that it is precisely here in the possession of these things when they take possession of you and lead you away, it is in that direction that lies the tragedy of life

nine times out of ten.' Therefore, when he portrays life, he seems to say to us, 'Enjoy, but hold your own judgment in self-possession all the while.' Why, what do I find? I find that, as I watch these tragedies, the most characteristic feature, I think, of them all is this—that he does make the tragedy in the majority of cases turn upon some passion, some emotion, some weakness of the character, which ends, as it were, in, or leads on to, tragedy. It may be Marc Antony. Here is a man who can enjoy grossly down to the verge of sensuality; and such a man found his tragedy, as you know, written there. And Shakespeare points also to that nobler kind of passion which leads astray, such pride, for instance, as that of Coriolanus—for, nevertheless, pride is a passion. Here, also, we see that a passion not held in control will lead to a terrible end. So, too, with ambition, which is uppermost, perhaps, in *Richard III.*—that also is a passion which carries him away, and which ends, of course, in the tragedy. All the cruelties and all the wrongs which follow upon the indulgence of that lead on to the end of the story. Then, passing on from those passions, which are the passions, more or less, of strong men, I think we find that Shakespeare has a kind of disdain for that weak emotionalism which betokens a feebler character. In *Richard II.*, for instance, we see a man, as Coleridge reminded us, full to overflowing of his emotions; and instead of restraining them, and keeping them back so that they may be a power of energy when the time for action required such help, he allowed them to overflow till they became sources of weakness; and then his temper broke forth in wild menaces, and he lost, as it were, the strength and the stalwartness of character. And in the hours of emergency he is ready to change from one course to another as a man is who has lost his power of judgment and surrendered himself to the emotions of a self-pitying passion. These things to me seem to show a kind of caution on the part of Shakespeare as against the indulgence of passion, although, he says, these emotions may be sources of joy. Equally does he warn us against the weakness which arises from the surrender of a man's determining power out of his own hands. You are to be a man. You are to be self-possessed, and your soul is to hold its own against the currents of the world. Therefore the man that is overwhelmed by circumstances, or the man that is over-persuaded by his neighbour, may very likely meet with disaster. And so he pictures all the weak hesitation of Hamlet in the presence of changeful circumstances; and still more when Othello yields to Iago, or Macbeth to his wife. Have we not pictures here of what our Shakespeare would point to as being sources of almost inevitable tragedy, when a man allows the self-directing energy of his own life to pass out of his own hands into the hands of another? And in all this he is not the friend of those who would say, 'Oh, you know, life is too hard, and the powers of life are too strong, and I have to give way.' I do not think Shakespeare was quite the friend of those who blame circumstances. Professor Bradley has pointed out that he does not make use of what we may call external agencies except in support of a tragedy which has already been initiated by moral weakness. He may introduce the witches in *Macbeth*, but the moral weakness lay in Macbeth's heart before. He may introduce the external agency to heighten the tragedy."

In conclusion the Bishop said: "Shakespeare was no friend of those who said 'Life is too hard' and blamed circumstances. He would not tell Youth to be prepared for perpetual disillusions; he would say: 'Take all the joy God gives you, and be thankful to rejoice in it, but never part with your self-possession. The art of life consists not in a sort of aloofness from the life in which you are plunged, for to feel is to sympathise and grow in character—for we grow by emotions, not by thought—but the emotion must be within your judgment. Then will it minister to you; you must not let yourself go, for that way lie madness and tragedy.' As a poet has said:

"Unless above himself he can erect himself
How small a thing is man."

The moral is that every man should have a sanctuary in the ideal life, in the Divine affection, in something more enduring than the passing joys and sorrows of this world, in the realisation of that Kingdom of God which is larger than earth's little kingdom and embraces more than this little time, and which is within us."

Miss ELLEN TERRY said she felt very proud indeed that it had fallen to her to propose that the best thanks of the meeting be accorded the Bishop of Ripon for his delightful and stimulating address. She added—with emphasis—"One of the most beautiful sermons I ever heard in my life."

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. George Alexander, who was to have seconded the proposal, was unable to be present owing to an attack of hay-fever.

Professor BOAS then seconded the motion, and the Bishop of Ripon briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Sir SQUIRE BANCROFT, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Arthur Bourchier for the use of the theatre, referred to the eloquent speech to which they had been treated by the Bishop of Ripon. All those connected with the calling to which he himself belonged were indebted to his lordship for the beautiful link he had forged that day between the Church and the Stage. They all thanked him from their hearts, and he would only add, in the words of the great poet, for whom the Bishop shared their love, "My lord, your presence makes us rich." With equal sincerity he had to thank Mr. Bourchier for giving them the opportunity of listening to the delightful address they had so greatly enjoyed. Referring to Mr. Bourchier's able and interesting performance of *Shylock*, the speaker expressed the hope that he would give further studies from the works of the great magician, who was not "of an age but for all time."

Mr. FORBES ROBERTSON said he had great pleasure in seconding the proposal. They owed Mr. Bourchier a great deal for that afternoon's perfectly delightful entertainment, using the word in a wide sense; for he was sure they all had been most deeply touched by the Bishop of Ripon's address. They had indeed hung upon every word with the greatest interest, and they were deeply grateful, both to him and also to Mr. Bourchier, for lending his theatre.

Mr. BOURCHIER, in reply, said he often wished that instead of being an actor, or, rather, an actor-manager, he had been a critic. If he had been a critic on that occasion, and sent by his editor to report the proceedings, he should have said that Mr. Bourchier, instead of being thanked, should have been warmly congratulated on his stage being selected by the Society for the deliverance of the brilliant address by the Bishop of Ripon. But not being a critic, he must of course change his point of view. It was really a great pleasure to feel that the Church was assisting the Stage to foster a general interest in the educational value of the works of Shakespeare. The theatre managers were beginning to feel the value of this movement, and he gladly admitted they were being seconded by the music hall managers. Before his revival of *The Merchant of Venice*, he witnessed at an East-End hall a remarkable representation of the play in Yiddish. It was an excellent performance, but in Poplar they gave their own version of Shakespeare, and allowed Shylock in the trial scene to have bets with the jury. The attempt to bring Shakespeare home to the people was to be commended; and he was delighted to lend his theatre to the Society on that occasion.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Morritt proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr. ACTON BOND seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN replied, and the meeting then separated.

DEATH OF MR. MONTGOMERY.

Many members of the theatrical and music hall professions will learn with regret of the death of Mr. Matthew Montgomery, of Liverpool. The deceased gentleman, who had attained the age of sixty-one years, had been confined to his house, 55, Grey-road, Walton, for about a month, and died on Sunday last. He leaves a widow, a daughter, and four sons. The eldest, Mr. Matthew Montgomery, has for years superintended his father's properties—the Rotunda Theatre, the Westminster Music Hall, the Theatre Royal, Breck-road, and other theatrical enterprises, his next younger brother, Mr. Gerald, occupying the position of acting-manager at the Westminster. Some twelve months ago, in consequence of ill-health, the deceased gentleman retired from active interest in business affairs.

Mr. Montgomery was born in Liverpool on March 27, 1845, and consequently has passed his sixty-first year. After finishing his education at the Liverpool Institute, a school from which many men now holding important positions have emanated, Mr. Montgomery entered upon his business career in an insurance office. It was soon evident that the young man's tastes lay in another direction, for on reaching the age of sixteen years he betook himself to sea, and was for nearly four years in the employ of the South Pacific Steamship Company, whose vessels traded about the South American coast, and when the Spanish war broke out in Peru in the sixties his spirit of adventure led him to take part in it.

Subsequently, returning to Liverpool, he became connected with the White Star Line, and was engaged in the fine vessels of that company for some years. One of the most awful marine disasters ever recorded was the loss in April, 1873, of the magnificent liner Atlantic, belonging to the White Star, when hundreds of souls perished off Nova Scotia. Mr. Montgomery was one of the survivors, and his account of the terrible scenes was of a most thrilling nature. Having thoroughly satisfied his longing to see the world, Mr. Montgomery determined to settle down, and in the course of a short time established a mineral water manufactory at Birkenhead, which he successfully carried on for several years. In 1887, however, his inclination underwent another change, and, in partnership with his brother Thomas, he erected and opened at Liverpool the Westminster Music Hall, the manager appointed being the well-known Mr. James Kiernan. In the year 1892 Mr. Montgomery took over the sole control of the place.

Mr. Montgomery the following year opened the Royal in Breck-road, followed soon afterwards by the Royal at Garston, situated a few miles from the centre of Liverpool, and another place of

MR. MATTHEW MONTGOMERY, OF LIVERPOOL.

varieties in Linacre-road, Bootle, since demolished for street improvements. Some six years ago his enterprises were added to by his taking over from a limited liability company the old-established Rotunda Theatre, Scotland-road. Mr. Montgomery spent a large sum of money in making the place as comfortable and cosy as possible, and became the pioneer in Liverpool of the now generally adopted plan of good drama at popular prices. With this addition, Mr. Montgomery's theatrical ventures ceased, he believing that he had sufficient to occupy his time.

Evidence of the widespread esteem in which Mr. Montgomery was held was shown on Wednesday, when the funeral took place at Ford Cemetery. Friends and acquaintances in exceedingly large numbers attended to pay a last tribute of respect to one whose unostentatious generosity can only be estimated; for the innumerable kindnesses showered on people by the deceased gentleman were generally done in secret. It is known that the death of Mr. Montgomery has deprived many of a genuine friend, and his memory will be long cherished by not a few whose successful careers have been due to his unhesitating, practical sympathy.

The chief mourners were Matthew, Gerald, Thomas, and Lee Montgomery (sons), Thomas and J. W. Montgomery (brothers), Frank O'Toole (brother-in-law), Edward Morton, Frank McGuinness, Arthur T. Parr, J. Gradwell, John G. Howard (Bent's Brewery Company), W. Burnside (Threlfall's Brewery Company), Dr. Henry M. Bayer, George A. Jones, Edwin W. Smith (Parthenon Music Hall), F. H. Fletcher, G. Allen, and H. E. Viola. It is impossible to mention all those who attended at the graveside, but the following are principal:—Representing the theatrical profession: Messrs. Fred L. Arthur (Queen's Theatre), John Gaffney (Manager, Shakespeare Theatre), J. Waters (representing Mr. Fred Willmot), Percy Boucher (Theatre Royal), W. Hebden, Eric Graham, Tom Coyne, J. Hesselgrave, Smith and Johnson, and J. McGrath. Representing places of business: Robert R. Leitch (David Allen and Sons, Ltd.), H. W. Lambert (Parr Bros.), Henry Hayes (H. Hayes and Son, Ltd.), J. Duffit (W. McCall and Co.), John Williams (J. R. Carmichael and Co.), E. Taylor, E. A. Bainbridge, and W. Langfield (Plough Inn Bowling Club), W. Lovelady (St. Bernard's Association), B. Lipson (Queen Anne Bowling Club), F. Duckitt, and Philip Armstrong. About forty wreaths were sent from all quarters, among them being some from the wife and family, Mr. Fred Willmot, and the staffs of the Rotunda, Royal, and Westminster Theatres. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. R. McDougall and Co., Ltd., under the direction of Mr. R. H. Leckie.

KEEPS THE SKIN COOL AND REFRESHED during the Summer.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, heat, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentleman will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

MISS LOUISE MOODIE.

Miss Louise Moodie, who has just returned from a successful engagement in America, has been very favourably noticed by the critics. A writer in the Chicago *Daily News* says:—One of the really beautiful performances of the play is a mother—given exquisite loveliness of character and person by Miss Louise Moodie. Her actual refinement, her grace and dignity, her charm of

Photo by Deneulain.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE.

individuality, and the beauty she threw into the type of sweet old lady outlined in them were all adorable in their surroundings.

MISS RUTH ST. DENIS.

HINDOO DANCES AT THE ALDWYCH.

Miss Ruth St. Denis, the American actress, made her European début at the Aldwych Theatre on Thursday afternoon, under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman. It was a very pleasant little programme that was presented, and it consisted entirely of attractive and picturesque Hindoo dances, accompanied by the enchanting strains of Oriental music, interpreted by the Aldwych Theatre orchestra.

The opening dance bore the title of "The Spirit of the Incense." Bare-footed and white-robed Miss St. Denis made her appearance from behind double curtains, holding in her hand a pan of smoking incense. There was an air of mystery about the whole scene strangely in keeping with what we have heard about the wonderful East. The stage was draped with beautifully worked cloths, and the lady danced upon a huge hand some Indian rug. Slow, dignified, and silent were her movements as she lightly stepped from one repoussé work bronze vase to another to impart to each the spirit of the incense. The religious aroma—if we may use such a term—sent up from these curious censers pervaded one's nostrils and accelerated the imagery of the weird ritual. The effect was rendered still more fanciful and mystic when the dancer's robe and the fumes from the incense-pans were suddenly trans-coloured from white to a vivid purple, the whole spectacle being extremely fascinating. The special music, composed by Mr. H. W. Loomis, contributed much to the charm of the scena.

The second item was "The Cobra, or Snake-Charmer" dance, the incidental music in this instance being furnished by Mr. Theodore Bendix. A masterpiece of the scene-painter's art provides an appropriate background to the scene. A long line of buildings, characteristically Eastern in their solid and handsome architecture, faces the sea. A sea more blue and tranquil there never was, and a clear sky completes a picture of singular loveliness. A couple of gaudily-attired merchants stand by their bazaar of many-coloured oddities languidly offering silks and shawls and other commodities for sale. They cease their bargaining with the entrance of the dancer, and all sit cross-legged on the ground while they watch her exquisitely graceful evolutions. She gives a human representation of a denizen of the jungle—the cobra. It is almost a feat of contortionism, but no words are required to indicate the species of animal she is so well describing by her own powers of symmetry. It is one of the most effective of Miss St. Denis's dances.

A Hindoo temple dance, "Radha," was Miss St. Denis's concluding effort. Radha, it may be mentioned, is the god-like wife of Krishna, one of the favourite deities of the Hindoo religion. A special worship is made to Radha by the Temple priests, who desire to be shown the way of liberation. At the close of their ceremonial rites, while they are prostrate before the shrine, the spirit of Radha enters the idol, and, descending from her pedestal, delivers a message in the form of a mystic dance. The first figure of this dance consists of five circles, each circle typifying one of the five senses. The second figure portrays the three stages of the renunciation of these senses, the determination to be free and the throwing off of bondage. At the end the idol is once more seen in the niche, the spirit of Radha having departed. A very fine limelight effect is employed to reveal Miss St. Denis as Radha on the shrine of Krishna, and of her dancing in this set it need only be said that it is full of expression and character. The scene is splendidly mounted, the magnificent carved pillars and marble canopy over the pedestal of the deity giving to the temple an appearance of grandeur and dignity. This dance is accompanied by the ballet music from *Lackme*, and among the other old East Indian airs were some arranged by Mr. W. Roderigo and Mr. Carl Kiefert.

THE fact that it is possible to guess the owner of a mouth by its characteristic expression has induced the proprietors of Odol to start a new and most interesting mouth competition. Twenty-four pictures of the mouths of well-known living celebrities, taken from recent photographs, will be depicted, and the competitors will be required to identify the owners of the respective mouths. This competition will be announced in all the most important publications. The prizes offered by the Odol Proprietors are very substantial ones, viz., first prize, £20; second prize, £10; third prize, £5, and fifteen prizes of one guinea, besides consolation prizes.

THE title of "foreign member" has been conferred by the Municipal Academy of Stockholm upon the following composers: Enrico Bossi, Sir Edward Elgar, Carl Nielsen, Rimsky-Korsakoff, and Jean Sibelius. The same distinction has been bestowed upon the "virtuosi," Hugo Becker, Edouard Risler, and Eugène Ysaye.

THE Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife were present at the performance of *Pagliacci* and *Les Deux Pigeons* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Monday evening.

ACTOR AND MAORI CHIEF.

CHAT WITH MR. J. J. DALLAS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

The sunburnt face, the lively manner, the sprightly gait, the look of health and of holiday-making all conspired to tell the tale of a very happy and successful trip to the antipodes.

"You've had a jolly good time, Mr. Dallas?"

"Yes, I'm certain that Australia and New Zealand are the solution of the unemployed question."

The unemployed question was flung at us with such abruptness that we ventured to inquire if the speaker had made an immense pile of money in Australia and now intended to expend some of it in a political career.

"Seriously, there is work waiting for everybody—miles and miles of land undeveloped, and you get land given to you. The temperature in Australia is practically the same as in England, and in New Zealand the climate is still more delightful. Canada's not in it with these countries. Why don't Britishers emigrate to Australia?"

"I don't know; but can I persuade you to say why you emigrated there, what you did when you got there, and why, if it's such a lovely country, you ever condescended to come back to dismal London?"

"New Zealand's the most beautiful country I've ever struck. The soil is most prolific. I believe if you planted a box of matches there'd be a fine crop of asparagus in a week!"

There is an ulterior reason for Mr. Dallas's fulsome adulation. The fact is, Mr. Dallas is himself a high dignitary of New Zealand. He is no less than a Maori chief, in spite of the fact that he has not yet had time to procure ear-rings nor get his face and hands tattooed.

"The Maoris are quick to recognise ability, Mr. Dallas."

Chief Dallas laughed. "It happened in Rotorua, in North New Zealand, where we came across the wonderful hot springs and geysers. At the ceremony, when the honour was conferred, the people of the tribe danced round me shrieking and chanting a strange and dissonant refrain."

We suggested that Mr. Dallas might have arranged a photograph of the weird scene, so that it could be used as a poster advertisement of some new comic opera. But with a contemptuous wave of the hand he dismissed the impertinence. We were assured that his chieftainship was an affair of serious national importance, and when his eminent Maori lordship, aided by a tip-toe movement, rose to the full dignity of his physical proportions, and more than touched the mantelpiece with his hand, visions of shields ornamented by death's heads and skull bones

MR. J. J. DALLAS.

came to our perturbed imagination. Furthermore the Chief hesitated not to assume a warlike demeanour, and as his strong right hand was held out in the act of poising a deadly spear, the writer became horribly sentimental, and reflected that "peace hath her victories no less renowned than war." Military operations between Great Britain and the aborigines of New Zealand must be avoided at all costs! Relations with such bellicose nations must be conducted with the utmost diplomacy!

To pacify a man, bring Cupid in—so long, of course, as you are not a rival. An inquiry about the Maori love rituals brought a ready response.

"The Maoris have no education, and their love-letter is a very simple affair. The proposal of marriage is made by means of a piece of wood on which the tender passion is indicated by burnt-in hieroglyphics. Thus the damsel is wooed by the suitor, but if the latter's advances prove not desirable, the lady places the love-letter on the river, and the tide returns it to the anxiously waiting gallant, who accepts it as an intimation that he is not wanted. It is then handed to someone else, who tries his luck. If the article on which the question is popped is not sent back, the gentleman has to fetch it, and, incidentally, he fetches the maiden, too. The same piece of wood is used by the whole tribe. I wondered how they would get on in the case of a breach of promise action."

It was a strange experience to interview an actor who forgot, temporarily, at least, that he had ever been on the stage. "We are allowing the Germans and Americans to get ahead of us in New Zealand, as in other countries," commented Mr. Dallas.

"I thought you went out to Australia as a comedian, not as a politician."

The interviewee gave way to an outburst of merriment. "I did, and one of the most comical things I met with was the theatre in Kalgoorlie. It is constructed of odd bits of tin and egg boxes. In my dressing room there was no glass in the window-frame, and I didn't altogether appreciate having to dress, after the heat of acting, in the open air. Consumption cures are all right in their way, but I'm not afflicted with that malady. Calgoorlie is a remarkable place. The town is situated in the middle of a desert, and is quite up to date in some respects. There are electric trams, electric light, brilliant shops and stores like our Whiteley's, and the jewellers and drapers especially do a roaring trade."

Mr. Dallas's trip lasted nine months. He played in *The J.P.* and *There and Then*, under Messrs. Clyde Meynell and John Gunn's management. It was intended to revive *Are You a Mason?* and other comedies, but the two pieces mentioned proved so popular that it was not thought necessary to put on anything else. Altogether the company appeared at forty-nine different places, Melbourne and Sydney being favoured with the longest runs, the entire journey, by sea and land, totalling 40,000 miles. Mr. Dallas has a good word for Australian actors and actresses. "The Australians we engaged out there knew their business perfectly and worked like niggers. Nothing was a trouble to them, and they were full of ideas and suggestions, while their *esprit de corps* was admirable."

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN

On Friday, June 29, Tschaikowsky's opera, *Eugène Onéghin*, was given at Covent Garden. Tschaikowsky composed this opera in 1877, and it was first heard in London during an autumn season of opera at the Olympic Theatre in 1892; the Moody-Manners company also had considerable success with *Eugen Onegin*, performed in English at the Coronet Theatre last April. The Russian composer's works are very familiar to us in the concert-room, the "Symphonie Pathétique" being perhaps the most admired of all his compositions. It must be admitted that the story of *Eugène Onéghin* is one not well adapted to operatic representation, and the dramatic element so marked in the composer's symphonies is strangely absent in the present work. The story, which is founded upon a poem by Puschkin, relates how a young girl, Tatiana, who has most of her life lived in the country, and is very sentimental, falls in love with Eugène Onéghin, a young man from the city whom she meets, and without finding out what his feelings are, at once writes a love-letter to him which is received coldly, as Onéghin is already in love with Olga, the wife of his friend Lensky, who, hearing of this, challenges his friend to a duel in which, however, he is killed by Onéghin. It is in the first and second acts that all this takes place. Between the second and third act some time is supposed to have elapsed. Onéghin returns to Russia after an absence, and again meets Tatiana at a ball, the lady, in the interval, having become the wife of Prince Gremin. Onéghin, who seems to have a great penchant for other men's wives, at once fall violently in love with the lady whom he formerly rejected. Tatiana, who feels all her old affection revive, is almost on the point of yielding to his advances, but making a strong effort, flies from the man she has always loved. Onéghin left alone, shoots himself in despair. As might be expected from a composer of Tschaikowsky's ability, the opera contains some happy moments. Chief among these may be mentioned the music accompanying the letter-song in the second scene of the first act, the air sung by Lensky in the first act, the national chorus of peasants, and the sparkling waltz, which afford relief from some of the duller portions of the opera.

The cast was excellent. Mlle. Destinn appeared with success as the emotional heroine, and Madame Kirkby Lunn, in the character of Olga, the wife of Lenski; while Signor Battistini's Onéghin had many points of interest. The part of Lenski was intelligently undertaken by M. Altchevsky; and the minor characters of Gremin, Larina, Capitano, and Filiperona, well filled by M. Journet, Mlle. Grimm, Signor Rossi, and Mme. Paulin. There was a large audience; both chorus and orchestra were satisfactory, and Signor Campanini conducted with the utmost care. The National Anthem preceded the opera.

Gounod's *Faust* was performed on Saturday last, with Mme. Melba and M. Laffitte in the principal rôles. Mme. Melba's Marguerite is familiar to opera-goers, and on Saturday, being in her finest voice, she gave a most finished rendering of the "Jewel Song," and the other charming music of the garden scene, being rewarded by the most enthusiastic greeting from the large audience. In the part of Faust, M. Laffitte sang with skill and intelligence, though he was somewhat lacking in power. M. Marcoux, as Mephistopheles, showed great ability both as singer and actor, while his make-up was entirely satisfactory. Mlle. Das proved a bright and attractive Siebel; and M. Seveilhac did good service as Valentin. M. André Messager conducted.

MR. WM. POEL'S MATINEE.

There was a very fair audience at the New Royalty Theatre on Friday afternoon, the 29th ult., when under the direction of Mr. William Poel a capital entertainment was given. The programme consisted of two amusing little comedies, *Mamma's Opinions* and *Love and Halfpence*, and a Shakespearean recital by Mr. Samuel Arthur King, M.A.

Mamma's Opinions, which deals in a light and entertaining way with the absurd political aspirations and doings of a notoriety-seeking dame, was first produced at the St. George's Hall in 1893. In the revival under review Miss Clare Greet treated the audience to an amusing personification of the eccentric Mrs. Leopold Gadabout, who in her shallow-mindedness is a very near approach to our up-to-date suffragettes. As the husband disguised as a cabby, Mr. William Poel gave us in the earlier portion of the play an admirable portraiture of an irritable coach-driver of the old-fashioned type; but, after this guise had been thrown off, we were shown a very homely, affectionate and fatherly head of the house. Miss Rita Jolivet acted pleasingly in the rôle of Lucy, and Mr. Edwin Coates submitted an entertaining study of the larkish lover.

Mr. S. A. King, with his Shakespearean selections, furnished adequate evidence of his wonderful dramatic powers. The range of his speeches was varied, and presented a severe test. However, Mr. King came out of it with flying colours. His recitations included Buckingham's farewell in Scene I., Act II., of *Henry VIII.*, Mercutio's description of Queen Mab in *Romeo and Juliet*, Clarence's dream in *Richard III.*, the King's speech before the battle of Agincourt in *Henry V.*, the speech on sleep in *Henry IV.* (part 2), Hamlet's soliloquy commencing "Now I am alone," and Mark Antony's oration at the funeral of Julius Cæsar. The quality and spirit of Mr. King's delivery were above criticism. How subtly and yet how naturally did he blend the light and shade of life in his acting, and how well did he estimate the pathetic, the tragic, and the amusing phases of his characterisations! In Mark Antony's oration he displayed a remarkable degree of passion, along with a thorough knowledge of technique. Mr. King is to be congratulated upon his mastery of most difficult elocutionary passages, and his efforts certainly met with the warmest appreciation from his audience.

The concluding part of the programme was the one-act play *Love and Halfpence*, first produced in 1887. In this piece Mr. William Poel excited one's laughter with his representation of Jimmy Tompkins, with all that worthy's eccentric gallantry and equally eccentric love-making. Mr. Poel has realised how to treat such a character and he gave us of his best comedy work. Mr. Edwin Coates adequately presented the idiosyncrasies in manner and speech of an elderly merchant whose latest venture is of the matrimonial kind. The picture, from the point of view of make-up, was a perfect one. Miss Ernita Lascelles as Kathleen and Miss Rita Jolivet as Eily appropriately fulfilled the requirements of their rôles, and between them furnished some lively moments.

Miss Burgess ably presided during the afternoon at the piano, and Mr. Andrew Spens was the acting-manager for the occasion.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY had a regal reception in her native city of Coventry on Saturday, when she performed the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of Mr. George Dance's new theatre. Miss Terry's speech, of which a full report will be found elsewhere, was a most interesting one, and again contained a tribute to Sir Henry Irving, with whom, she said, no thought was ever idle or impracticable, and who for fifty years served the theatre with an unswerving belief in its high purpose. The words of the famous actress were happily chosen, and indicated exactly the character of the great actor with whom she shared her chief artistic triumphs.

A HAPPY coincidence of Miss Terry's visit was the fact that she was received at the Corn Exchange, the site of the new theatre, by the "Actor's M.P.," who represents Coventry in the House of Commons, Mr. A. E. W. Mason's association with the stage is chiefly through the medium of his plays. He is the author of the novel, "The Courtship of Morrice Buckler," which he dramatised in conjunction with Miss Isabel Bateman, and of "Miranda of the Balcony," which was produced as a play in New York in 1901. His publications also include "The Philanderers" and "Parson Kelly," which he wrote in association with Mr. Andrew Lang.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will suspend the success of *Colonel Newcome* this evening, in order to make way for the production of *The Winter's Tale*, which is due on September 1, with Miss Ellen Terry as Hermione. So determined a hold has Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation from Thackeray obtained on the public, that Mr. Tree has definitely decided to make it his first revival on his return to His Majesty's after a short tour.

MR. E. S. WILLARD, who opens his season with *Colonel Newcome* in Montreal on October 1, has been at considerable pains to study the incidental values of the play. He sat through several performances of *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's, each time occupying a seat in a different part of the theatre, beginning with a box view, and finally taking the most distant point of observation in the upper part of the house. The more familiar he became with the play, the more firmly was he convinced that it is one with which he cannot fail to command the favour of his audiences in America. *Colonel Newcome* is just the sort of character to bring into expression those qualities of tender yet virile sentiment that have endeared Mr. Willard to the best classes of theatre-goers, and secured a patronage that has guaranteed the success of his American tours for the last sixteen years.

THE Musical Copyright Bill, which has met with the usual objections in the House of Commons during the week, was brought in again on Thursday night, when Mr. T. P O'Connor stated that he might be able to meet certain amendments which had been put down, and the Committee stage was accordingly adjourned till Monday. Earlier in the day Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman announced that the Government were favourable to the measure, and would do all they could to pass it.

MR. JOHN HARE will give another Napoleon to the stage next winter, when he will appear in London under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman in *La Belle Marseillaise*—a play by M. Pierre Berton, which was one of the successes of the last Paris season. The English translation has been made by Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley.

THE play was originally produced at the Ambigu in March of last year, and deals with the escape of the Emperor from the explosion of an infernal machine, and with a subsequent attempt to poison him, from which he is saved by La Belle Marseillaise, the wife of the would-be murderer. There are no less than sixty characters, half of whom have an important bearing on the action, and it is intended to make the play, which will be stage-managed by Mr. Dion Boucicault, one of the most ambitious productions of the year. After the London run Mr. Hare is to go on tour with the piece in the provinces.

GOOD news of Mr. J. L. Toole has been continued throughout the week, during which his health has manifested such steady improvement that it may be hoped that the critical stage of his illness has at length been passed. So favourable was the patient's condition on Wednesday night that it was thought he might be allowed to sit up on Thursday for the first time since his attack, but though he passed a restful night, sufficient strength had not been gained to warrant such a course being taken.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S production of *His House in Order* bids fair to defy the hot weather, and seems likely to continue on its triumphant career at the St. James's throughout the summer months. The success of the play is, moreover, not to be confined to the Metropolis, as it is Mr. Alexander's intention to send two companies into the provinces with Mr. Jones's powerful play.

THE following have been definitely selected to compose the London team at the seventh annual cricket match between London and provincial actors at Kennington Oval on Friday:—Messrs. Oscar Asche, F. Blackman, Gerald du Maurier, B. Egerton, Robert Evett, H. Nye Chart, V. O'Connor, R. Selby, and C. A. Smith, the two remaining places to be filled from among Messrs. J. C. Brooke, L. Belmore, Horace Lane, F. Stayton, and H. B. Warner; the provincial actors will be represented by Messrs. E. D. Burnaby, G. F. Hannam Clark, Leslie Holland, P. Knight, P. F. Knox, S. Livesey, H. Morgan, and J. P. Wilson; the three remaining places to be filled from among Messrs. C. Aldred, R. Denbigh, T. Homewood, R. P. Johnson, A. W. Metcalfe, Horace Mills, and A. Whitby. Play commences at 11 a.m. The band of the Amalgamated Musicians will be in attendance. The proceeds of the match are to be devoted to the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage Fund.

MR. H. B. IRVING will begin an autumn tour at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, August 6th, with a repertoire including *The Lyons Mail, Charles I., Mauricette, Louis XI., and Paolo and Francesca*, the entire production of which Mr. Irving has acquired from Mr. George Alexander. The second week of September will witness Mr. Irving's departure with the same repertoire for New York, where, at the New Amsterdam Theatre on Monday, October 8th, he will commence a season of fifteen weeks under the management of Messrs. Nixon and Zimmerman. Mr. Irving will be accompanied on his English and American tours by his accomplished wife, Miss Dorothea Baird, and the company will also include Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. Lionel Belmore, Mr. Frank Tyars, Mr. Archer, and Miss Maud Milton.

MISS EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON has been engaged for the part of Braugwai in Mr. Comyns Carr's play *Tristram and Iseult*, the production of which at the Adelphi is fixed for September 4. Mr. Otho Stuart, who has been on the Continent, returns in time to be present at rehearsals. Meanwhile the last nights are announced of *The Taming of the Shrew*, which will be withdrawn on Saturday.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER intends to produce and play the principal part in his own adaptation of Anatole France's play, *Crainquebille*, under the title of *Down Our Alley*, at the Garrick Theatre before going on his provincial tour. The action of the play is transferred from the costermonger quarter of Paris to that of London.

THE Bishop of Ripon who, under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, delivered so eloquent an address at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, was always a famous preacher, and was a special favourite of the late Queen Victoria, to whom he was Chaplain-in-Ordinary, both before and during his canonry of Windsor. The eloquence by which the Rev. Boyd Carpenter was distinguished while a London vicar he still retains; and he spoke on Monday afternoon without a single note. He walked the stage as if he were acting a part, and his finished elocution was accompanied by appropriate gestures. He was listened to with the closest attention and evident delight by such well-known theatrical people as Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and Miss Ellen Terry, who alluded to the address as "one of the most beautiful sermons she had ever heard in her life."

THE Bishop was appointed vicar of St. James's Church, Holloway, in 1870, and held that position for nine years, when he became vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, being appointed Canon of Windsor in 1882. He was Select Preacher at both Oxford and Cambridge, as well as Hulsean and Bampton Lecturer. His speeches in the House of Lords are listened to with almost as much interest as those of the late Dr. Magee, one of the finest orators who ever entered the Gilded Chamber. The Bishop has always been popular amongst the laity by reason of his broad, enlightened views and his hearty sympathy with all movements that are for the benefit of the masses. He possesses a fine collection of Dante literature, and is a devoted admirer of that great writer as well as of Shakespeare.

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY" and *Pantaloon* come to a conclusion at the Duke of York's Theatre on Friday next. Nothing definite with regard to the immediate future of the theatre can be announced, but it is whispered that Mr. Cyril Maude may be seen there in a new play. At Christmas *Peter Pan* will visit its birthplace for the third time.

NOBODY appreciates the beautiful weather more highly than pastoral players, and many of them are making hay—or, rather, making a hit—while the sun shines. Miss Mary Bessle, whose little company is appearing in *Twelfth Night*, at Putney to-day (Saturday) arranges performances all the year round, playing on the greensward in the summer and on a draped stage in the winter. She possesses an artistic and carefully arranged wardrobe, having dispensed with tinsel and showy ornaments as much as possible, and greatly reduced the number of "properties" usually considered indispensable. The company still bears the well known name of her late sister, Miss Elizabeth Bessle, and is carried on in the same unpretentious way. Miss Mary Bessle's favourite part is Puck, in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and she has recently appeared as one of the Dromios, in *A Comedy of Errors*, the other twin being played by Miss Lil Corbett, a daughter of the popular novelist and serial writer, Mrs. George Corbett.

MR. FRANK CURZON has elaborate schemes for the future under consideration. He contemplates sending on a tour of the principal towns *The Girl Behind the Counter*, with the complete London company, including Mr. Hayden Coffin and Miss Isabel Jay. Later in the autumn the enterprising manager goes to America to arrange for a Christmas tour in the States of the same play. For this production a company of American performers will be engaged. Mr. Curzon is developing his plan for the continuance of dramatic exchanges, and has definitely decided upon the American production of *The Little Stranger*, with Master Garrett in the name part, and many of the original Criterion players in the cast.

"THE MAN FROM BLANKLEY'S" is so thoroughly justifying its revival at the Haymarket that Mr. Frederick Harrison will re-present it on the re opening of the theatre after the summer vacation early in September. A successor to *The Man from Blankley's* will be found in Mr. R. C. Carton's comedy, *Lady Huntworth's Experiment*, in the cast of which will be included Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Henry Kemble, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Pollie Emery, and Miss Compton. A new play now being specially written by the same author will afterwards figure in the Haymarket bill.

MR. STERLING MACKINLAY, the eldest son of the late Mme. Antoinette Sterling, was the last of the late Manuel Garcia's pupils, the teacher being then over ninety. "He was an exacting master in the right sense of the word," says Mr. Mackinlay, "for he had the highest ideals as to singing, and took the greatest trouble to explain them."

A NEW one-act play by Philip Gibbs, entitled *The Escape of John Marchant*, will figure in the matinée performance to be given at the Duke of York's Theatre on Tuesday in aid of the funds of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The chief parts will be played by Miss Beryl Faber and Mr. Frank Cooper. The programme will also include *A Sense of Humour*, the three-act play by Mr. and Mrs. Cosmo Hamilton, originally produced at the Comedy in January, with Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Athol Stewart, Miss Edyth Olive, Mr. Reginald Dance, and Miss Beryl Faber in the cast. On Tuesday the play will again have the services of Mr. Smith and Miss Faber in the principal rôles, and Miss Maud Hoffmann will also take part in its representation.

AMONG those present at the Duchess of Sutherland's reception at Stafford House were Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hicks (Miss Ellaline Terriss), the latter looking as charming as ever.

THE sixth annual conference of the Actors' Church Union will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday next, at the Bishop of Southwark's house, Kennington Park. Mr. Martin Harvey has promised to speak. Mrs. Talbot will be "At Home" in the garden, from four to six. Members of the profession will be admitted on presentation of their cards.

S. FEINMAN'S historical operetta *The Viceroy* has become so popular at the Pavilion Theatre during the engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Co. that it was again repeated on Monday evening to a crowded house, when Mesdames Zwiebel, Bryh, and Kayzer, and Messrs. S. Shilling, Schapira, M. Gusofsky, Streng, and J. Fineberg were once more successful in their respective parts. During the week *The Bells, Azaria, the Hero of the Army, Korah's Treasures*, and *Son of the Star* have been played.

MR. GEORGE AUSTIN is engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona to play Gus Trail in *The Toreador*, the part played by Lionel Mackinder in the original production at the Gaiety. Mr. Austin has recently concluded an engagement with Mr. William Maclaren, during which he played Azazil, the blacksmith, in *Claudian*, for a period of ten months.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES'S new play—*The Hypocrites*—will be produced by Mr. Charles Frohman in September at the Hudson Theatre, New York. The play deals chiefly with church people, and some of the leading characters are the Vicar, the Curate, the Lawyer, and the Doctor of the little town of Weybury. The motto of the play has been taken from "The Pilgrim's Scrip"—"Expediency is man's wisdom: doing right is God's." Among the strong company of English and American actors which Mr. Frohman has engaged will be Miss Jessie Millward, who thus returns to America after her brief reappearance in this country.

THERE are so few theatres in the provinces today under the personal management of their proprietors that it was pleasing to see such a capital closing scene on Saturday last at the Queen's Theatre, Swindon. An excellent season was brought to a close with a visit from that interesting drama, *The Still Alarm*, and although it was such a delightful summer evening on Saturday the house was crowded with an enthusiastic audience. During one of the intervals there were loud shouts for Mr. Alfred Manners, the popular proprietor and manager, who, on making his appearance at the footlights, was heartily welcomed to the tune of "He's a jolly good fellow," followed by three ringing cheers. Then came the usual short speech, during which he thanked his many patrons for their steady and hearty support during the past season, and begged for a continuation of that support for the coming season, which would open on August Bank Holiday with *Under Two Flags*, with Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow in the leading rôles. He also announced other strong attractions for the season, such as *Bluebell in Fairyland*, Moody Manners Grand Opera Co., *The Blue Moon, The Great Wilderness, At Cripple Creek, San Toy, Earl and the Girl, Trumpet Call, When London Sleeps, Lights o' London*, etc., etc.

MISS ELLEN TERRY has accepted the dedication of a book just about to be issued, entitled "An Actress's Pilgrimage," by Miss Ina Rozant, a racy narrative of an actress's adventures. The fact that Miss Terry, in cordial and complimentary terms, has permitted the book to be dedicated to her is sufficient proof that it is not of the kind usually written about the stage, but is the work of one who knows and understands her subject. It will be issued in an attractive picture cover at one shilling net by T. Sealey Clark, 1, Racquet Court, Fleet Street.

MISS KATIE JOHNSON and Mr. Frank G. Bayly will, on July 16th, start a provincial tour of *Billy's Little Love Affair*, by H. V. Esmond, at the Theatre Royal, Yarmouth. Miss Johnson will play the part of Billy, and Mr. Bayly that of Jack Frere. The company also includes Misses Clara Nicholls, Gladys Bartle-Frere, Dorothy Watson, Beatrix Bell, Vera Codd, Norah Codd, and Messrs. W. Lemmon Warde, Orlando Barnett, Brember Wills, and Reginald Maurice. Mr. Talbot Homewood will be the business manager.

MR. OWEN HALL writes to point out that he is the author of *Florodora*, the lyrics of which, by the late Mr. Boyd Jones, were so charmingly set to music by Mr. Leslie Stuart (with additional numbers by Mr. Paul Rubens).

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON terminated playing the leading part in *Man's Enemy* at the Alexandra, Sheffield, June 23rd, and is now taking a well-earned rest, having played since Christmas two leading parts in sketches and two star parts in dramas, *The Luck of Life* and the above.

MR. JAMES WILLARD'S drama, *In the Shadow of Night*, which has altogether been played upwards of 4,000 times, will at the West London on Tuesday register its 500th performance in suburban London. The piece is going as strong as ever, and bids fair to run on with undiminished success for a long time to come.

MR. WILLIAM BAILEY has selected his pantomime for next season, viz., *Sinbad*, and the same will be produced by Mr. G. Brydon Phillips. The version is by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and is the one which has formerly proved so successful under the latter gentleman's management at Dalston, Brixton, Cheltenham, Ealing, and other theatres during the last two years. *Little Red Riding Hood*, Mr. Phillips's other pantomime, book by Mr. Victor Stevens, is placed at two of Messrs. Milton Bode's and Edward Compton's theatres, and also at another large and popular house.

MR. A. B. IMESON, who produced *The Rivals* and *His Excellency the Governor* for the Trinity College Amateur Dramatic Club, Dublin, on the occasion of the visit of her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, had the honour of being presented to her Excellency after the performance of Captain Marshall's comedy. Her ladyship graciously congratulated him on his successful production. Mr. Imeson, who was called upon to make a speech on the Saturday night, was also the recipient of a fine Sheraton clock, given to him by all the members of the Club connected with the production.

MR. FRANK STANMORE, who has been engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona for the title rôle of *Mr. Hopkinson*, has been rapidly coming to the front the last two or three years, and is confidently looked upon as one of London's coming men. He has served under Mr. Tree's banner at His Majesty's Theatre for several years, his chief achievements perhaps being Sir Hugh Evans in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, the draper's clerk in *Resurrection*, and last but not least, the Artful Dodger in *Oliver Twist*. He has also appeared successfully under Mr. Lewis Waller's management. He left Mr. Tree to play the Rev. Aloysius Parfitt in W. S. Gilbert's *Fairy's Dilemma* (Mr. Arthur Bourchier's Co.), and then succeeded Mr. James Welch in the title rôle of *The New Clown*. Last year, Mr. Stanmore played the Dame at the County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

SMOKING is now the fashion at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, the authorities having graciously allowed the management to revert to the custom which was in vogue here some twenty-five years ago.

UNDER the direction of Mr. Harry Fischer *A Trip to the Highlands* starts an autumn tour at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, with the following powerful cast:—Messrs. Wal Croft, Wellesley Smith, Gus Wheatman, Arthur Poole, Frank Barclay, J. B. Montague, Misses Millie Engler, Maisie Ellinger, Kitty Clinton, Lillian, Kevil Davies, Kathleen Naughton, and Nellie Burdette. Mr. E. T. De Banzie will be the musical director, and Mr. J. D. Newton the business manager.

MISS EVELYN MAXWELL has been engaged by Mesrrs. Dauncey and Levaux for Lady Porchester in *The Walls of Jericho* for autumn tour.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART, who has just concluded a year's engagement with Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company, playing Towzer, has been re-engaged by Mr. Calvert for the same part. Mr. Lockhart will also take over the stage management on the retirement of Mr. Walter.

MR. FRED PAUL has secured from Hardie and Von Leer a new musical farce bearing the peculiar title of *The Lord of the Last*. The "book" is by Fred A. Ellis, and the music is from the pens of Percival Knight and Denham Harrison. The tour, which will commence late in August, will be under the direction of Mr. E. P. Clift.

MR. LEWIS WALLER, who brings his successful stay at the Lyric to a close at the end of next week, will renew his occupancy of the theatre on Oct. 15, when the new play by Mr. Henry Hamilton and Mr. William Devereux, of which Robin Hood is the hero, will be produced. Richard Cœur de Lion, Prince John, Queen Eleanor of Acquitaine, and Lady Marian de Vaux figure in the long list of celebrities, and the scenes of Old English life and picturesque forest sets will be embellished by appropriate music.

SERVAIS LE ROY (who shortly starts a tour of the theatres with a new and original mystical play) has many witty tales to relate of his experiences in different parts of the world. In one portion of the act now being given by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, they all go into the auditorium and perform conjuring feats absolutely in front of individual members of the audience. Just recently Le Roy came across a would-be wag in the dress circle of a certain building, who remarked as Le Roy presented himself, "You seem to be a clever sort of chap. You get money from everywhere. Can you get cash from a block of wood?" Le Roy was equal to the occasion; he passed his hands rapidly over the head of the "humourist," and showing him some coins seemingly drawn therefrom, he said, politely, "Certainly, sir, here it is!"

MR. HENRY SWINERD'S successful musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, which is now in its 151st consecutive week of tour, will open at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday. The cast, which is exceptionally strong, includes Miss Dorothy Desmonde, Miss Nellie Harcourt, Mr. Walter Ashley, Mr. Henry C. Ward, and Mr. Edward Kipling.

MISS FLORENCE HAMER has just returned from two felicitous years in Australia, and is now ready, after a few weeks' holiday at her home in the West of England, to continue work. As chief comedienne in Mr. Williamson's company she had the opportunity of playing parts after her own heart, including Mrs. Mulholland—rather a youthful Mrs. Mulholland, by the way—in *The Duke of Killicrankie*, and the title-rôle in *Cousin Kate*. The latter is her favourite part, perhaps because it was her biggest success. Although Miss Hamer has never been to America, she could well be mistaken for an American, with her small, piquant features, and quantity of hair that makes her look like one of Mr. Dana Gibson's New York beauties. She is of Welsh family, and made her début in a musical piece called *Lost, Strayed, or Stolen*, at the Duke of York's Theatre, afterwards understudying at the Adelphi, an engagement which was followed by a series of tours as leading lady in comedy and drama.

MISS HAMER, whose experiences "down under" included "jumps" of nine days between performances, has reason to admire the inventive talent of enterprising interviewers. On one occasion, in Australia she was surprised to read in a certain newspaper that one of her little holidays had been passed in writing a play. As a matter of fact, she does write—impressionist articles, but not plays—and happening to hear that the information came from a lady who lived on the opposite side of the street, she ventured to ask how the lady knew of her literary efforts. "Oh, I've been watching you at your desk for weeks," was the cool response. "My desk is in the farther corner of the room, a long way from the window," exclaimed Miss Hamer. "Yes, but I have a beautiful pair of strong opera-glasses!" was the smiling answer.

APROPOS of interviews, Mr. George Grossmith tells an amusing story of his first experience with three members of the New York Press. They all arrived in the early morning, so he invited them to breakfast, and let them all talk to him—or, rather, to one another—at the same time. When the "private chats" appeared on the following day he discovered that the three interviewers had evidently decided among themselves to give the reading public variety, so each interviewer credited Gee-Gee with widely different opinions on the same subjects, and even the details of his morning meal were fully described, but with careful alterations in the menu of his three "hearty breakfasts."

MISS ZENA DARE will be the heroine of *The Beauty of Bath*, at the Aldwych Theatre, during Miss Ellaline Terriss's absence on holiday.

MR. ERIC BLIND has been engaged by Mr. Frank Curzon to play the part of Alec Howard in Mr. Michael Morton's play *The Little Stranger*, in the forthcoming production in New York. Mr. Blind created this part in the provinces last autumn, and since then has shown a quality of versatility by making a success as Posthumus Leonatus in Mr. Flanagan's production of *Cymbeline* at Manchester, in a record run of thirteen weeks at the Queen's Theatre there.

A SPECIAL performance of H. V. Esmond's comedy *One Summer's Day* will be given on Tuesday next, at 3 p.m., in the Passmore-Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock-place, W.C., in aid of the Trebovir School of Dramatic Art. The following artists have kindly promised to take part by permission of their respective managers:—Messrs. Clive Currie, Kenelm F. Foss, Walton Palmer, Max Montesole, Esmond Egerton Hine, Reginald Craven, and Misses Florence Wells, Jane Saville, Muriel Alexander, Maud Ross, Marion J. Byrd, &c.

THE '05 Club, in King-street, Covent Garden, has just entered on its second year. There are now over 300 members in the club, and these are of both sexes, the literary, the dramatic, the journalistic, the legal, and social worlds being well represented. Arrangements for the production of original works in theatres and first-class halls are being completed for the autumn and winter, and experts will give careful attention to the manuscripts submitted for production by members of the club. Concerts and general entertainments are frequent, and as the club possesses the only garden in Covent Garden, the green spot is utilised these summer nights for illuminated open-air assemblies. Culture and comfort are leading points in the '05 Club, and the whole arrangements may be inspected by making an appointment with the secretary at 36, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

PRE-SHAKESPEAREAN plays, recently brought to light in the lumber-room of an old mansion in Ireland, were disposed of at Sotheby's on Saturday, all the volumes, which were put up separately at auction, being bought by Mr. Bernard Quaritch. The total amount realised was £2,602, the highest price being fetched by Thomas Inglelend's 1565 interlude, *The Disobedient Child*, which realised £233. Among the more advanced returns were the John Waley imprint of *Youth*, which yielded £230; the rare *Welth and Helth*, £195; the 1575 edition of *Gammer Gurton's Needle*, £180; George Wapull's comedy, *The Tyde Taryeth no Man*, 1576, £176; *The Nice Wanton*, 1560, £169; the tragedie of the *Life of Cambises*, by Thomas Preston, £169; *The Triall of Treasure*, £160; *Impatient Poverty*, 1560, £150; *New Custome*, £155; *Jacob and Esau*, 1568, £148; *Lusty Juventus*, £140; *Darius*, 1577, £122; *John Evangelist*, £102; *Appius and Virginia*, £101; John Heywoode's *The Playe of the Weather*, £90; and *Octavia*, 1566, £82.

MR. WILFORD BAILEY has had to decline an offer for Australia, as he is re-engaged by Mr. Wm. Maclaren for Chamboran, in *Proof*, for the autumn tour, commencing August 6th.

THE homeward voyage of the Armadale Castle from the Cape to England was lightened by a recital given on the 14th ult. by Miss Rose Lemoine, a talented young American lady who, after some experiences in South Africa, has come over to London to appear on the English stage. The great saloon was crowded to excess, and everyone was delighted with the efforts of the young lady, who gave in admirable style no fewer than eight selections from the works of Rudyard Kipling. Miss Lemoine won warm applause in an artistic rendering of a scene from *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Rostand), and in J. W. Reilly's "Little Orphan Annie." The proceeds of the sale of programmes amounted to £6 10s. 9d., half of which was given to seamen's charities and the other half to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Miss Lemoine also took part in several concerts, and at the fancy dress ball on June 8, she was awarded first prize for her costume as "Galatea," made up of a couple of sheets, bootlaces, and a little ribbon. There was an influential sports and entertainments committee, of which Mr. J. M. Gerald, a well-known South African athlete, was chairman.

MR. CHARLES SPARROW, an Australian elocutionist, and Miss Dorothy Wren, the vocalist, will give a musical and dramatic recital at Steinway Hall on the 19th at 8.30. Mr. Sparrow comes to England with good credentials, and Miss Dorothy Wren at one period was heard by Madame Patti, who so appreciated the young lady's voice that Mr. Charles Santley was asked to train it, and did so very successfully.

INTEREST in the romance attached to Haddon Hall is to be maintained by a book, entitled "Haddon: The Manor, the Hall, its Lords and Traditions," by Mr. G. Le Blanc Smith, which will be published immediately by Mr. Elliot Stock. The traditions of Haddon Hall have already been turned to the purposes of the stage in the Savoy opera to which the historic name was given, while the latest Dorothy o' the Hall, is, of course, Miss Julia Neilson. The book will contain an account of the great families that have owned Haddon from the time of the Norman Conquest, together with some curious stewards' accounts, the only existing letter of Dorothy Vernon, with a facsimile of her signature, and the pedigree of the Vernons.

THE electrical music invented by Dr. Thaddeus Cahill, a scientist of repute in America, is quite different to the playing of an organ from a distance by means of currents of electricity passing along connecting wires. It is not electric wires setting musical instruments at work. The music is initiated by electricity, the expression is controlled by electricity, and it is distributed by the same force. Here the actual wave motions which are afterwards translated into sound waves are electric vibrations. It has been known for long that electric waves of like frequency to sound waves can be produced. But electric waves are vibrations of the ether, while sound waves are vibrations of the air. So, then, the main problem in producing electrical music is to transform vibrations of the ether into sound waves.

DR. CAHILL'S music is all generated at a central electric station, and can by means of wires be laid on like the electric light, the music thus produced being loud and full. The laboratory and factory is at Holyoke, Mass., and the plant consists of a switchboard, with 200 switches, transformers, rheostats, and other pieces of electrical apparatus. The musician plays on a keyboard, the keys of which operate the switches which bring the alternators into action Vibrations of the requisite frequency to produce the required note are set up, and when these reach the telephone receivers sounds are produced. To give an idea of the strength of this electric music, it is stated that the generators for single notes are sometimes of from 15 h.-p. to 19 h.-p.

A NOVEL problem story is told of a popular theatrical manager. The dramatic critic of a prominent paper had the habit of abusing all of the manager's productions, minimising what was good in them and being unduly severe on their faults. After a bad first night, the manager took supper at a club, where his worst fears as to the success of his play were confirmed, and as he walked home, moody and depressed, his foot struck upon a packet on the sidewalk. It was an unsealed envelope, dropped by some careless messenger, and it contained a criticism of the play from the pen of his enemy, who outdid himself in virulent denunciation. The problem is, What should a manager do with the packet under such circumstances? Tear it up, throw it into the gutter, or replace it on the pavement where he found it? The manager took the criticism to the office of the paper, and went to bed with the happy consciousness of having done his duty as a gentleman. But when he read the article the next morning and figured up the hard cash it would cost him to change his bill, he wondered whether honesty is always the best policy.

MR. H. H. DAVIES'S comedy, *Cousin Kate*, has just been produced at the Lustspielhaus, Berlin, in German, the version being by Mrs. George Pogson. The play was very well received.

THE Dalston Theatre, which will close this evening until August Bank Holiday, will undergo extensive improvements in the interval. Important alterations will be made on the stage, so as to allow of more elaborate scenic effects, and the lighting will be also considerably improved.

A NEW three-act play entitled *Major Jennings* has been written by Mr. Besant Rice for production in London next season. The action is laid in the offices of a matrimonial agency.

MME. YVETTE GUILBERT, who is about to make a tour of Europe and Egypt, will on her return to London devote herself to the study of the part which she is next season to play in a dramatic version of Mr. George Moore's *Esther Waters*, which has been prepared by the author and Mr. Edward Knoblauch. Mme. Guilbert will also appear in a comedy adapted from the German of Dr. Paul Lindau.

MME. REJANE, who has been making a tour of the London theatres in order to gather hints for the introduction of the latest improvements into the new theatre which she is building for herself in Paris, admits that the theatres of London are far superior in structure and design to those of Paris. "I could name theatres," she says, "where there is not even a cupboard, let alone a room, where a lady can leave her hat or her wraps, and if she finds the atmosphere of the auditorium too stuffy, and wishes to seek fresher air, she is compelled to stand in a dismal passage."

AGAIN, "the box-office system is a miserable farce. The numbered ticket system with counterfoils which is, of course, general in this country, is practically unknown in Paris. In my theatre I mean to alter all that and to introduce the most up-to-date American system. I intend to provide the audience with pleasant salons in which they can either wait for their friends, or spend the intervals between the acts." The colour scheme which Madame Réjane has chosen is similar to a favourite gown which she wore in one of her most successful rôles. The seats on the ground floor in the stalls will be upholstered in white, those on the first tier in lemon, and those on the second tier in deep orange."

REVIVAL OF "MIRETTE."

A Comic Opera, in Three Acts, Founded on the French of Michel Carré, English Lyrics by Fred C. Weatherly, English Dialogue by the late Harry Greenbank. New Version with New Lyrics by Adrian Ross, Music by André Messager. Revived at the Scala Theatre on Monday afternoon, July 2.

Baron van der Berg .....MR. A. C. BOTTOMLEY
Gerard de Montigny .....MR. F. CAREY
Picorin .....MR. J. F. TOYE
Bobinet .....MR. J. PHILLIMORE
Francal .....MR. E. TEWSON
Bertuccio .....MR. T. BONHOTE
Mirette .....MISS INA PELLY
Bianca .....MISS E. LONGMAN
Zerbinette .....MISS MARGARET WILEY
Marquise de Montigny .....MISS ESMÉ HUBBARD

At its inaugural performance on Tuesday at the Scala Theatre the Cambridge University Operatic Club revived the comic opera in three acts, entitled *Mirette*, founded on the French of Michel Carré. By far the best part of *Mirette* is the exquisite music of M. André Messager, who, by the way, had been announced to conduct the orchestra, but was unable to be present, his place being taken by Mr. Geoffrey Toye. Another absentee, through illness, was Miss Viola Tree, who had been cast for the part of Zerbinette, a gipsy, the rôle being undertaken by Miss Margaret Wiley at short notice.

Mirette was first produced by Mr. D'Oyly Carte at the Savoy Theatre on July 3, 1894, the title-rôle being then played by Miss Maud Ellicott, others in the company being Mr. Courtice Pounds (Picorin), Mr. Walter Passmore (Bobinet), Miss Rosina Brandram (Marquise de Montigny), Miss Florence Perry (Bianca), Miss Emmie Owen (the dancing girl), Mr. Scott Fishe (Gerard de Montigny), Mr. John Coates (Baron van den Berg and the Burgomaster), Mr. Herbert Ralland (the Notary and Max), and Mr. Avon Saxon (Francal). Some of these characters have, apparently, been omitted from the present production.

Ten years ago the piece was called an opera. We differed from that description by setting it forth as an opéra comique, which undoubtedly it is, and we noticed that in Tuesday's programme our opinion was confirmed. The story is of a pleasing but not intensely absorbing kind. *Mirette* is that form of opéra comique as understood by Auber and other famous French musicians, not the comic opera of topical songs and up-to-date allusions.

Mirette, an attractive gipsy maiden, is in love with Picorin, one of her own tribe. But the aristocratic Gerard de Montigny, who is betrothed to Bianca, the daughter of a baron, falls a victim to the enchanting influence of the Romany queen, and on the very day that he is to be wedded to the fair Bianca he turns traitor to his vows, and announces that Mirette has won his affections. The law of equality eventually asserts itself. The lordly Gerard and the humble Mirette discover that, after all, they are not quite suited to each other. Mirette goes back to Picorin and her people of the caravan, and Gerard seeks out the baron's daughter, and we quit the playhouse with the happy reflection that everything has ended as it should end.

Taking into account that the play was presented by amateurs, the production was most praiseworthy. And when it is also taken into account that this was the first performance given by the Cambridge University Operatic Club, congratulations may be showered upon those who, in one way or another, gave a helping hand. In the title-rôle there was Miss Ina Pelly, whose singing, if somewhat indistinct, was at least tuneful, her "Fly Away" verses being perhaps her finest effort. Her acting of the gay, careless, light-hearted young gipsy was distinctly commendable. From Mr. J. Phillimore (Bobinet) we had a delightful bit of comedy work. Bobinet, with all his absurd notions and his absurd antics, was in Mr. Phillimore's hands just the frivolous creature of the author's imagination. His song, "A very fine duck," was rendered with humorous expression, as was also his duet with Miss Esmé Hubbard (the Marquise), "Rather more than you know." Mr. F. Carey cut a gallant figure as Gerard. He realised the requirements of the character, and played up to them, and his singing of "I have them all," evidenced an excellent delivery and vocal range. The picturesque Picorin had a capital representative in Mr. J. F. Toye, whose spirited manner was well in keeping with the part. Mr. Toye possesses a well-trained voice, and was heard to advantage in several numbers. Miss Esmé Hubbard was charming and graceful as the Marquise de Montigny, and her "Fan" song proved a dainty bit of vocalism. Another swarthy gipsy, who sang and danced prettily, and otherwise made herself very agreeable, was Miss Margaret Wiley as Zerbinette; and an able and dignified exponent of the old Baron was found in Mr. A. C. Bottomley. Mr. E. Tewson as Francal and Mr. T. Bonhote as Bertuccio also performed goodly service.

If all the amateur actors and actresses work as well in the future performances of the C.U.O.C. as they did on Tuesday afternoon there will be no question as to the success of the entertainments yet to be given by the Club. The *tout ensemble* was admirable, the chorus sang well in unison, and the three scenes were superbly staged; while the dresses and their wearers furnished a spectacle of life and colour, and were a really brilliant display. Great credit is due to Mr. Richard Temple, the old Savoyard, under whose experienced direction the piece was produced. The instrumental music was provided by the Una Orchestra, whose leader, Mr. Edgar Shelton, is a Musician-in-Ordinary to the King. Mr. C. W. Lowther acted as stage-manager, and Mr. Eric Alden as treasurer. The scenery had been kindly lent by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, the management of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, and the Pavilion Theatre Company; while the costumes and wigs came from Mr. B. J. Simmons. Mr. R. M. Crompton was responsible for the arrangement of most of the dances, but an extremely pleasing solo dance in the third act was the result of Miss Peggy Ross's training.

L.C.C. STEAMBOATS v. OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It seems a pity that the L.C.C. cannot see that a National Opera House would be better than a continued loss on steamboats—proved to be not wanted.

I can show that, with the money already spent, and the time it has taken to spend, the L.C.C. could have built an Opera House, costing £250,000, and have given over 600 performances, with chorus of 200 and orchestra of 100, with scenery, costumes, and principals second to none in the world.

Moreover, 104,000 people could have seen opera for nothing—all this without counting on anyone wanting to pay for admittance, and leaving 2,800 seats empty at each performance.

CHARLES MANNERS.

Hendon, July 3.

APPLICATION was made on Monday to Mr. Paul Taylor at the Marylebone police court, for a licence to permit little Max Darewski, the boy conductor, to appear at the Steinway Hall on Thursday and at the Botanic Gardens theatrical garden party on Friday to conduct the full band of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, by permission of Colonel Trollope, V.C., and Lieut.-Col. Sir Howard Vincent, M.P. The magistrate readily acceded to the application.

ELLEN TERRY AT COVENTRY.

The historic town of Coventry was decorated with banners, flags, Venetian masts and other emblems of rejoicing on Saturday, the occasion of the visit of Miss Ellen Terry to her birthplace to lay the foundation stone of Mr. Dance's new Empire Theatre, Hertford-street. As the time for her arrival approached, thousands of people were congregated near the building hoping to catch a glimpse of the famous actress. At one time the crowd was so dense that the chief of the police, fearing some danger, sent a constable to turn the procession another way. Miss Terry arrived at 1.15 with Sir Albert Seymour, Miss Edith Craig, Miss Kate Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Courtenay, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. G. Dance, Miss C. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Ascherberg, &c. Shower bouquets were presented both at the railway station and at the Empire Theatre.

Mr. A. E. W. MASON, M.P. for Coventry, in a bright speech called upon Miss Ellen Terry, whom he described as a distinguished native of Coventry, to lay the foundation stone. Miss Terry performed the ceremony with a handsome silver trowel with ivory handle, presented by Mr. Dance, and, striking the stone three times with an ivory mallet, said in tragic tones, "I declare this stone well and truly laid." She immediately turned to the friends round her and said, "There, I've done it beautifully," laughingly merrily the while.

Miss TERRY then stepped forward towards the people (who seemed delirious with joy) and said, "Ladies and gentlemen,—I have great pleasure in laying this foundation stone, and I hope the new theatre will flourish and help to revive a love of the drama in my native town. When the suggestion of my coming here was first made, there seemed to be some doubt in people's minds as to whether it was to be a music hall, a coliseum, or a theatre to which I was to give my blessing. However, I was quickly reassured by Mr. G. Dance that it *was* a theatre, and here I am. But suppose it had not been so? Suppose, shall I say, the worst, and that this was the first step in the making of a new music-hall; well, I see no reason why a music hall or a palace of varieties should not be dedicated to the honour and glory of the arts as well as a theatre. I can never forget the beautiful twelfth century legend called by the pious chronicler 'Our Lady's Tumbler.' It is the story of a juggler who, at festival time, saw the monks giving their arts and crafts to the Virgin, and was filled with despair because he had nothing better to offer than his skill in juggling and dancing. However, faith came to him that if he did his best his service would not be despised, and he danced before the statue of the Virgin in the chapel. Then, according to the legend, the image stretched out its hands in blessing, and a great light shone from its face upon the man who in humility had given his best. It seems to me that theatre and music hall alike can be of incalculable benefit in our social life if only they are so organised that the best standards are upheld in both. Whether this organisation should be left to individuals, or whether the State or the municipality should take a hand in it, is a question that is raised from time to time, only to be dropped again. My great comrade, Henry Irving, who for 50 years served the theatre with an unswerving belief in its high purpose, thought (and with him no thought was ever idle or impracticable) that the municipality should concern itself with maintaining the standard of dramatic taste, and to those who argue that in England itself that is impossible, I would answer that all great enterprises seem impossible. Anybody can do easy things. This problem is rather Lenten fare for a holiday entertainment, and I will not trouble you with it further. It has been a great delight to me to come here to-day and to wind up the celebration of my stage jubilee by inaugurating a new theatre in my birthplace. Two years ago I intended to act here in your old theatre, but to my great disappointment illness prevented me from coming. Ever since I have wished to 'restore amends,' and if all goes well I hope that I may some day act before you here."

The stone itself is white marble with sunken gold letters, and is inscribed as follows: "This stone was laid by Miss Ellen Terry on June 30, 1906. 'There was a star danced, and under that star I was born' (*Much Ado About Nothing.*)"

After the ceremony had ended, the guest of honour entered a motor-car, and proceeded with her friends to St. Mary's Hall, there to receive an illuminated address presented by the Mayor and Corporation of the city. A private lunch was first given by the Mayor and Mayoress at which Miss Terry and her friends were present, then coming through the Mayoress's parlour into the grand old hall, which had been decorated with palms and flowers, Miss Terry had a magnificent reception, some 300 of the leading citizens and their wives cheering again and again.

The Mayor, in his robes and chain of office, said: "Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Albert Seymour, ladies and gentlemen,—I am sure it has been a great pleasure to assemble here for the purpose of giving Miss Ellen Terry a hearty welcome upon this visit to her native city. We would add in all sincerity our congratulations to the many expressions of admiration and esteem which have been recently voiced in connection with Miss Terry's distinguished career in dramatic art. By her genius she has secured a high place in the temple of fame, but her noblest position rests upon the broad foundation of human affection. Miss Terry has won her way close to the heart of the public. Conscience and character have been influenced by her powerful insight into human nature; emotion has yielded its tears and gladness its pleasant smiles. The true artist does not merely amuse or entertain, but leaves a real impression on the mind; nay, more, the mind is moved to hitherto unknown depths and reveals new beauties and perhaps greater possibilities. It is because Miss Terry has proved herself a true artist in the highest sense of the term that we delight to render her honour. Coventry is not so closely associated with the name of any other notable exponent of the drama, and in this sphere of art Miss Terry is therefore our dearest treasure, our bright and glorious star. In asking her kind acceptance of this illuminated address, I beg of her to do so, accompanied with the assurance that it represents the best wishes, the proud congratulations, and the widest esteem of the people of her native city." The Town Clerk then read the address, which was as follows:—

"CITY OF COVENTRY.

"To Miss Ellen Terry,

"We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of the city of Coventry, offer to you a most hearty welcome on the occasion of your visit to your native city. To us belongs the privilege of claiming you as our illustrious townswoman. To you the ties of birth make dear the city which we love so well. We are proud to welcome you as representing the ideal in historic art; and it is our pleasure to express to you our admiration for your own personal accomplishments and achievements, which other people have delighted to honour and admire. Our sincere hope is that you may be spared to enjoy long life and happiness, and that the love of your native city may increase as time rolls on his ceaseless course. Given under our Corporate seal this 30th day of June, 1906."

The address was artistically illuminated in gold and colours. The city arms were depicted at the top, and at the base were the initials of Miss Terry. The lettering was in old English, with an elaborate border, and bore the signature of the Mayor, together with the Corporate seal, and framed in a handsome frame of classic design.

Miss ELLEN TERRY, whose rising to reply was greeted with loud and long continued applause, said, "Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Coventry,—The honour you have done me to-day makes me very proud. It seems to me quite wonderful that in this busy manufacturing town, the centre of great industries, you should be able to keep a place in your thoughts for one who has done nothing for you except to be born here. Even that I seemed to have muddled, for am not I credited with two birthplaces in the same street? I wish I could say with Hood, 'I remember, I remember, the place where I was born,' but I cannot. As my dear mother's Market-street topography was always a little hazy, I fear that must always remain unsettled as far as I am concerned; at any rate, I am proud that I was born in Coventry. It was a very happy omen that made me a native of Warwickshire—Shakespeare's own county—and you will not blame me, I hope, for loving Coventry the more because it neighbours Stratford-on-Avon. I shall always value this beautiful address, not only because it is a token that kind hearts beat here who are glad to count me a fellow citizen, but also because it shows me that you sympathise with the work that I have been able to accomplish during the last 50 years. The welcome you have given me to-day means that you in Coventry have a real love for the art which I have striven to serve, and I hope that the new theatre that I had the pleasure of inaugurating just now may stimulate and increase that love. Mr. Mayor, I do thank you and your fellow townsmen with all my heart for your esteem and goodwill, and I hope that you will believe that this has been one of the best days in the life of a Coventry woman."

MR. MASON, M.P., proposed, and Alderman WEBB FOWLER (Deputy-Mayor) seconded, a vote of thanks to the Mayor for his part in the day's proceedings.

After the ceremony had ended, Miss Terry walked leisurely among the guests, chatting freely and shaking almost everyone by the hand. St. Mary's Hall, which is a beautiful mediæval building of the local trade guilds, was afterwards inspected, and the party subsequently drove through the town in motor-cars. Every part of the route was lined with spectators, and great enthusiasm was shown when the cars stopped at the street in which Miss Terry's birthplace is situated. The tour of the town being completed Miss Terry, conducted by the Mayor and Mayoress, proceeded to the station and returned to London by the four o'clock train.

MISS ELLEN TERRY AT COVENTRY.

THE LATE SENOR GARCIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In recording the death of Manuel Garcia, the wonderful centenarian, it has been stated that "he never smoked." That is not true, for on the occasion of the grand banquet which was given at the Hotel Cecil in celebration of Señor Garcia's hundredth birthday on March 17, 1905, and at which I was present, I saw him smoke a cigarette.

ALGERNON ASHTON.

Hamilton-gardens, St. John's Wood.

MR. CLAUDE AVELING, who possesses remarkable skill in adapting Latin and other foreign works to English idiom, while preserving the poetic qualities of the text, has done for the Covent Garden authorities the English version of Glück's setting of *Armida*. Sully, it should be noted, set the same book by Quinault some years before Glück did.

MR. RUDOLPH ARONSON, who has recently been on a visit to Milan, has signed with Maëstro Leoncavallo for the initial production of his new opera, *La Jeunesse de Figaro* (the libretto by Victorien Sardou) in New York in 1907.

DEATH OF MANUEL GARCIA.

A remarkable figure of the musical world passed away on Sunday, when Señor Manuel Garcia died in his sleep at his residence at Cricklewood at the great age of 101. Little more than a twelvemonth has passed since the celebrations of his centenary were made, the rejoicings attaining world-wide proportions. On that occasion, the King, in addition to receiving Señor Garcia in person at Buckingham Palace, also conferred upon him the honorary Commandership of the Royal Victorian Order. The King of Spain invested him with the Royal Order of Alfonso XII., and the German Emperor awarded him the much-prized Great Gold Medal for Science. Addresses were presented by various learned and scientific societies, including the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, and his portrait, painted by Mr. John S. Sargent, was handed to him. A banquet in his honour was held the same evening, at which he replied to the toast of his health in a speech of profound sentiment.

Manuel Garcia's claim to fame rests principally upon his invention of the laryngoscope, an instrument by which diseases of the throat could be correctly diagnosed. He was not, strictly speaking, the first to employ a mirror for the purpose of examining the throat, but it was as a result of his investigations and experiments that the idea was made practical in its application. The method of making scientific use of the voice in speaking and in singing is due to his discoveries of the action of the vocal cords and of the glottis in the production of sound. In one instance, at least, his knowledge and his ability in applying it was the means of saving a valuable voice, namely, that of Mme. Jenny Lind, who, in 1841, finding that her voice was suffering from strain and incorrect production, went from London to Paris to consult the young professor of singing, who had won a considerable reputation as a vocal teacher, having in the previous year laid before the Institut de France his "Mémoire sur la voix humaine," which embodied the discoveries he had made relative to the mechanism of the voice.

Born at Zafra, in Catalonia, on March 17, 1805, Manuel Garcia, at the age of fifteen began his musical studies under François Joseph Fétis and his father, Manuel del Popolo Vicente Garcia, who was a man of many gifts. Not only was he celebrated as the tenor singer for whom Rossini composed the part of the Almaviva in his *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, but also as a composer of over thirty operas in Italian, Spanish, and French, many of which were highly successful. He had a remarkable gift of extemporisation, which stood him in good stead in the course of his work as singer, composer, conductor, and impresario. In 1825 Manuel Garcia came with his father and his sister Maria, who afterwards became famous as the contralto singer Malibran, to England. At the end of the same year the family proceeded on an operatic tour to America, where Manuel Garcia took part in the first performance ever given in New York of Rossini's *Il Barbiere*.

Afterwards, the Garcias produced Rossini's *Otello*, with the elder Garcia as the Moor and young Manuel Garcia as Iago, Malibran being Desdemona. The season was entirely successful, but during a subsequent visit to Mexico the family fell into the hands of brigands, and was robbed of all its savings. A return was made to Paris, where the elder Garcia abandoned the stage, and adopted the teaching of singing; while the younger, whose taste for adventure had been aroused, secured an appointment in the commissariat of the French Army, which he held until the taking of Algiers. He then began the study of medicine, at the same time giving his attention to the vocal organs. Consequent upon his investigations he began the work of teaching, which led to his appointment by Auber as professor of singing at the Paris Conservatoire in 1847. He published in that year his famous "Traité complet de l'art du chant." A year later, in consequence of the troubled condition of affairs in France, which were inimical to artistic pursuits, Manuel Garcia came to London, and in the autumn of 1848 was appointed to a professorship at the Royal Academy of Music, a post which he held for forty-seven years.

The story of how Señor Garcia invented the laryngoscope is best told in his own words: "I was strolling in the Palais Royal, Paris, one September day in 1854, when I saw in a shop window two mirrors in a position that seemed to me the proper method for examining the throat. I immediately bought a dentist's mirror—such as is used for examining teeth—and placing it against the uvula and flashing on its surface with a hand-mirror a ray of sunlight I saw at once the glottis wide open before me, and so fully exposed that I could see a portion of the trachea. From what I then witnessed it was easy to conclude that the theory attributing to the glottis alone the power of engendering sound was confirmed." Next year Garcia presented a paper on the subject to the Royal Society, entitled "Physiological Observations on the Human Voice." It was then found that more than twenty years earlier Babington had devised a similar apparatus, but he had never examined his own larynx as the Spanish maestro did. Strangely enough, the medical profession was slow to realise what an invaluable instrument for observation Garcia had provided them with. For years superior persons treated the laryngoscope as a "physiological toy." Nor was it in England that its value was first recognised. That distinction belongs to Czermak, of Buda-Pesth, who made a tour of the medical centres of Europe to demonstrate the scientific and practical possibilities of the invention. Huxley declared that in the laryngoscope the physician had gained "a new ally against disease, and a valuable addition to that series of instruments, all of which, from the stethoscope onwards, had come into use within the memory of living men, and the employment of which had effected a revolution in medicine."

In practice Garcia was always careful to secure proper use of these registers on the part of the pupil. Ever courteous and ever patient, his lessons were always of the utmost value to the student in search of knowledge. The first step consisted invariably of the production of a steady tone, deep breathing being insisted on for the purpose.

The famous *coup de glotte*, or shock of the glottis, with which his name is associated, has often been misapplied from ignorance of its real object, which was to secure that the vocal cords were closed at the commencement of the tone and that there was consequently no preliminary escape of the breath. How far his methods, which also included the imparting of a remarkable grasp of every phase of vocal expression, were successful is to be gathered from the list of his pupils, which includes some of the most prominent representatives in the world of vocal art. First among those still remembered is that of Mme. Jenny Lind, and at a later period come Mme. Mathilde Marchesi, Mr. Charles Santley, Herr Julius Stockhausen, Mme. Antoinette Sterling, and many others who have established a reputation for themselves. Another pupil was Mr. Gustave Garcia, who is still an active exponent of his father's great method.

Manuel Garcia was a member of the Legion of Honour and a Knight of several Orders of Chivalry, the insignia of which had on different occasions been conferred upon him by Continental Sovereigns in recognition of his services to musical art. His vitality was to the last extraordinary. It is not more than a few weeks ago that he was at a Philharmonic concert at Queen's Hall, and keenly enjoyed the music, and so active was he that he refused with indignation an offer to be helped up or down the steps.

Señor Manuel Garcia was buried on Wednesday morning, in a private burying-ground attached to the Catholic Chapel of St. Edward's, at Sutton-place, near Woking. In compliance with his wishes only the nearest relatives were present, with his valued friends, Sir Felix Semon and Mr. Charles Hallé, and his physician, Dr. Paul Griffith.

KEATS—SHELLEY MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Some three years ago a group of British and American literary men in Rome, at the initiative, to their honour be it said, of the American members, organised informally a movement to purchase by popular subscription the house on the Piazza di Spagna in which John Keats died, and to establish therein a permanent memorial of Keats and Shelley, consisting of a library of their works in various editions, together with portraits and manuscripts connected with them. The trustees of the memorial would also assist in protecting from future disturbance the graves of the poets and of their two companions, Severn and Trelawny, who are buried beside them in the beautiful cemetery outside the Porta San Paolo.

Committees have been formed in England and the United States to give effect to the project. His Majesty King Edward, to whom the scheme was early submitted, has been graciously pleased to signify his sympathy with the labour of love which united the two great branches of the English-speaking race in doing honour to the poets' memory. The President of the United States has also given warm-hearted testimony to his anxiety to see the project realised. It is a further matter of special gratification to know that King Victor Emmanuel has chivalrously extended the hand of welcome to the proposed institution.

The first great difficulties which beset the acquisition of the house have been surmounted, and the British and American Committees are at length able to announce publicly that they have secured an option on the property, thanks to the support which has been privately enlisted. They now trust to the generosity of all lovers of English poetry to enable them to complete the purchase and place the house beyond danger of destruction or absorption (as at one time threatened) into a big hotel. The time available for the completion of the purchase is necessarily limited, and the response must be prompt and generous if this appeal is not to be made in vain. It is hoped, too, that the humbler contributions of less wealthy admirers of Keats and Shelley will help to reinforce the contributions of those who are better able to afford larger sums. Up to now the amount raised privately has been on a much more generous scale in America than on this side of the water, and Great Britain owes it to herself, as the birthplace of these two immortals, to redress the balance.

The sum required for the actual purchase of the house is slightly over £4,000, but it is hoped that it may be possible to collect more than the sum necessary for the mere acquisition of the house, in order that sufficient means may be provided to equip it worthily, to provide for its structural maintenance, caretaking, &c., and possibly to make it hereafter a centre from which a love of poetry and literature in our language may be diffused.

The Committees appeal, therefore, not only for the purchase money, but for enough to provide an ample endowment fund, and in such a cause they do not think that they will appeal in vain to the many thousands of their fellow-countrymen and women who cherish the memory of the two poets and are grateful and devoted admirers of their works.

Donations may be sent either to the Honorary Secretary, as below, 120, Victoria-street, S.W., or to Messrs. Child and Co., bankers, 1, Fleet-street, E.C., for account of the Keats—Shelley Memorial.

*CREWE (Chairman)
ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR
J. M. BARRIE
*H. E. BEECHING
AUGUSTINE BIRRELL
S. H. BUTCHER
*SIDNEY COLVIN
*CURZON
EDWARD DOWDEN
*H. BUXTON FORMAN
*G. LEVESON GOWER
THOMAS HARDY
ANTHONY HOPE HAWKINS
ANDREW LANG
SIDNEY LEE
E. LYTTELTON
REGINALD W. MACAN
GEORGE MEREDITH
EDWARD HENRY PEMBER
RENNELL RODD
WILLIAM M. ROSSETTI
ERNEST DE SELINCOURT
J. ST. LOE STRACHEY
ALGERNON C. SWINBURNE
ARTHUR SYMONS
TENNYSON
A. W. WARD
MARY A. WARD
THEODORE WATTS-DUNTON
*GEORGE WYNDHAM

*HAROLD BOULTON (Hon. Sec.).

*Executive Committee.

ACTORS' DAY.

We publish to-day a fourth list of those who have promised their support on Actors' Day. Since the details of the scheme have been laid before our readers, the committee have received every day a substantial addition to the number of volunteers, accompanied in a large number of cases by letters expressing keen interest in, and entire approval of, the proposal. They hope in time that every member of the profession will be on the list. The committee gratefully acknowledge the assistance of all who are helping them to achieve this result. The following are the additional names:—Charles Allan, William Allison, Henry Armstrong, Cyril Austin-Lee, Madge Beresford, Esmé Beringer, Vera Beringer, Ada Blanche, Joe Bracewell, Ethel Bracewell, Arthur G. Brown, Maude Buchanan, William Burchill, May Carnegy, Alice Chapin, Harold Chapin, Albert Chevalier, Alfred H. Clarke, Wilfrid Compton, Mildred Cottell, Vera Cunningham, Coleman Davies, Georgie De Lara, Georgina Delmar, Ada Dempster, Alfred Denville, Marie De Solla, John Douglas, Arthur F. Dudley, Hubert Dunbar, Pollie Emery, Winsome Etherington, Paula Fernan, Alec. Findlater, Isabel Fladgate, H. Athol Forde, Robert Forsyth, Hawley Francks, H. George, Ina Goldsmith, Louise Graeme, Sybil Hare, Louis E. Hector, Agnes Hill, C. L. Mason Holmes, Mrs. C. L. M. Holmes, Eric Hudson, Herbert Jarman, Arthur T. Jones, Charles Langley, Jessie Price Langley, Horace Lingard, George Henrique Liot, Emma Litchfield, Charles L. Ludlow, Harry McFarland, Aubrey Mallalieu, Mary Mallalieu, Nellie Mallalieu, Jerrold Manville, Arthur B. Murray, David G. Noble, Theresa Osborne, Robson Paige, Frederick Park, Henry Parr, Kate Parry, Emily Patterson, Grace Richardson, W. E. Richardson, George Riddell, Helena Rigby, Harry Royce, Agnes St. Clair, Kate Saville, Madge Severn, G. H. Snazelle, Edith Stewart, Augustin Symonds, Mabel Syringa, George Tempest, Thomas Thorne, A. E. Walker, Nellie V. Warden, Harry Welchman, Laurence White, Leonard Williams, Henry Worrall, May Wright, Edwin H. Wynne.

As it is, unfortunately impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal and forms for signature, will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"PUT IT IN BLACK AND WHITE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—With reference to Mr. Herbert Blackmore's letter to *The Era* on the subject of theatrical engagements, I am strongly of opinion that the verdict against the Vaudeville Theatre, viz.—"That all engagements are for the run of the play, unless there is a written contract to the contrary," ought to become a precedent for theatrical custom. In these days, when the theatrical profession is so over stocked and engagements for so many are few and far between, it is most important that an actor or actress should be protected from the danger of being turned out of work in a fortnight at the caprice of his or her manager. By all means have every engagement settled by contract, but failing this let the artist have the guarantee of work which a successful run affords as secured by the Vaudeville Theatre verdict.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES ALLAN.

Lyric Theatre,
June 29, 1906.

Sir,—This "custom of the profession" has been argued from all its different aspects times without number. Now we have got it settled for us, and surely that is a very excellent thing, for we have proved absolutely incapable of settling it for ourselves. In my contracts I have a definite clause stating that the agreement "may be determined by either party giving a fortnight's notice, in writing, dating from a Saturday." This is such an easy thing to insert when one is drafting out an agreement form, and yet of such importance, that I do not think there need be much sympathy extended to anyone who deliberately has ignored it. But now that we have got our "custom" defined for us, is it any use telling each other what our respective opinion may be? We have been asked the question, and have been able to give no definite answer for ourselves. Now we know.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER MAXWELL.

Grand Theatre, Southampton.
June 29.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly inform the friends and subscribers to the Herbert Campbell Memorial that the work has now been completed. Mr. Harry Randall, the Chairman of the fund, and myself, to-day inspected the very handsome obelisk which has been erected to our dear old friend's memory by Messrs. Winter in Abney Park Cemetery.

The monument is in red polished granite, and on the face has the following cut in clear gold letters:—

Sacred to the Memory of
Herbert Campbell
(Herbert Edward Story),
Comedian,
Who departed this life on July 19, 1904.
This monument was erected to his memory by a few friends, in affectionate remembrance.

The memorial is erected very close to the entrance to the cemetery, from Stoke Newington-road, near to Stoke Newington station on the G.E.R. and Alexandra Theatre.

The grave is very near to that of Nelly Power, George Leybourne, and Walter Laburnum.

On behalf of Mr. Harry Randall and myself, I wish to thank the subscribers to the fund, and trust they will visit the cemetery themselves and view the very handsome memorial.—I am, sir, yours truly,

HENRY JOYNER.

Camberwell Palace of Varieties, S.E.
July 4, 1906.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0	Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
Arthur Collins..	10	10	0	Lydia M. Roberts	1	1	0
Henry Joyner ..	5	5	0	Thomas Mason	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Harris	5	5	0	C. Chuck	1	1	0
R. Jay	5	5	0	S. A. Graddage	1	1	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0	G. H. Chirgwin	1	1	0
G. W., J. R., and F. H. Fortescue	3	3	0	H. J. Ward	1	1	0
				Mr. Temperley .	1	1	0
				A. Duffy	1	1	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0	Mr. Willett	1	1	0
R. Astley	1	10	0	Mrs. M.A. Hearn	1	0	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0	W. Clarkson ..	0	10	6
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0	A. Lazarus	0	10	6
H. Comfort	1	1	0	Mrs. C. L. Lawson	0	10	6
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0	Mrs. White	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow..	1	1	0	Richard Box ..	0	10	6
Pat Doherty....	1	1	0	K. Lanner	0	10	6
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0	A. May	0	5	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0	M. M. M'Neill..	0	2	6
Thos. Cracknell	1	1	0				

Per Harry Randall:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Harry Randall..	5	5	0	J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0				
Little Tich	2	2	0	Charles Hector..	0	10	6
Eccentric Club..	2	2	0				

Total £84 5 6

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cheque to Frank Heath	10	0	0	Balance to Music Hall Home ..	0	5	0
Do. for Memorial	74	0	0				

Total £84 5 0

F. H. PEDGRIFT,
Hon. Treasurer.

July 6, 1906.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Fanny Brough—Saturday, July 7.
Amy Augarde—Saturday, July 7.
Kita Everard—Saturday July 7.
Glyn Cymro Vaughan—Saturday, July 7.
Mamie Iris—Saturday, July 7.
Mrs. Alfred Mellon—Sunday, July 8.
Laura Dyson—Sunday, July 8.
Ernest Williams—Sunday, July 8.
Marion Walker—Sunday, July 8.
H. A. Jordison—Sunday, July 8.
Florry Cooper—Sunday, July 8.
Julian Cross—Monday, July 9.
Ena Ethelburne—Monday, July 9.
Morley Carroll—Monday, July 9.
Doris Beresford—Monday, Ju'y 9
Carlotta Addison—Monday, July 9.
Whitmore Ledger—Monday, July 9.
Leslie Murray—Monday, July 9.
Schackey Seebold—Tuesday, July 10.
Frank Howard—Tuesday, July 10.
Charles Yorke—Tuesday, July 10.
Marie Craig—Tuesday, July 10.
George E. Bellamy—Tuesday, July 10.
Lucy Weston—Tuesday, July 10.
Walter Giffard—Tuesday, July 10.
Adeline Raby—Wednesday, July 11.
Lillie Harrison—Wednesday, July 11.
Agnese d'Aragon—Wednesday, July 11.
Terry Wynne—Wednesday, July 11.
Myra Stansfield—Wednesday, July 11.
Ida Cunard—Thursday, July 12.
Hilda Bretton—Thursday, July 12.
Allan Hanbury—Thursday, July 12.
Hettie Cornwallis—Thursday, July 12.
Lottie Govell—Thursday, July 12.
Joe Tennyson—Thursday, July 12.
J. E. Vedrenne—Friday, July 13.
Gladys Archbutt—Friday, July 13.
Jack Camp—Friday, July 13.

ALBERT CHEVALIER

IN "PANTALOON," BY J. M. BARRIE.
DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
Sole Representative for Mr. Chevalier, Mr. Ingle 7, Dorset-road, Ealing.

Pall Mall Gazette.—That Mr. Chevalier would do well in the part was never in doubt. But few, we imagine, were prepared for so great a triumph. Mr. Chevalier had some friends in the house, who greeted him warmly on his first entrance. But they were not enough to make one-tenth of the uproar of approbation at the fall of the curtain, and Mr. Chevalier, who was almost overcome by his reception, had to appear again and again. On the grotesque, fantastic side of Pantaloon's character he did not lay very much stress, but the pathetic passages he handled with a delicacy and a power, a variety, and a resource that carried all before them. On Saturday the audience was visibly affected. It was very quiet while the play was going on, but at the end its pent-up feelings expressed themselves in a scene the like of which we cannot recall this side of the late Sir Henry Irving's last season at Drury Lane. We imagine that Mr. Frohman will be emboldened to give Mr. Chevalier (who is admirably supported by Miss Pauline Chase in her old part of Columbine) a show in some drama of—to use an American phrase—"great heart interest." Mr. Chevalier is an actor of the Robson stamp, and though Robson drama has long been out of fashion in the West End, it is quite within the power of Mr. Chevalier's genius to bring it again into vogue, purged, of course, of its crudeness.

The Times.—On Saturday two old plays were revived, Mr. Barrie's *Pantaloon* and Mr. Lennox's *The Marriage of Kitty*. In the former Mr. Albert Chevalier takes up the part of Pantaloon, the Old 'Un, who has grown too old to be funny, and must give his daughter Columbine in marriage to the Clown if he is to keep his place in the company. And Mr. Chevalier played the part to perfection, keeping his audience between tears and laughter and wholly delighted with Mr. Barrie's fantastic, impishly sentimental little comedy. To watch Mr. Chevalier's face when, on Columbine's return, he feels the familiar rub of the red-hot poker on his legs and learns that she and Harlequin are the parents of a real clown, to see him beg his old master for a bite of his sausage and quail before the terrible reply, "I only bites with the perfession" is to be absurdly moved with emotion. Of Mr. Chevalier, we can only say what the Old 'Un said of the Clown, "What a hartist he is."

The *Daily Telegraph.*—The present revival brings back to the legitimate stage Mr. Albert Chevalier, after an interval of fifteen years, if his brief appearance some little time ago at the Royalty in musical comedy may be ruled out of the count. The return of so versatile, so resourceful, and so clever an artist to the medium in which he first made his mark is distinctly a subject of congratulation, and it may be hoped that, admirable as his platform sketches are, more may be seen of Mr. Chevalier in the immediate future at the theatre. His impersonation of the old Pantaloon in Mr. Barrie's playlet conclusively showed that his art is as fine and as polished as ever. Nervousness doubtless lent to his opening scenes a certain air of formality, of stiffness, of premeditation. But as the actor warmed to his work this impression wore off, and on the fall of the curtain Mr. Chevalier received an ovation the warmth and sincerity of which abundantly testified to the powerful effect his performance had produced on all present.

The *Morning Post.*—Mr. Chevalier acted Pantaloon as a human being. He had to reproduce the "business" and "gags" of pantomime, but that was his misfortune. You did not judge him by it. It was as if one had St. Vitus's dance and could not control his actions. He made one forget his clothes, and acted the part as a "straight" part. His Pantaloon was simply a weak, kindly, sore-troubled, down-trodden old man; in the second act half senile. And Mr. Chevalier from the moment he got over his nervousness acted magnificently. To match his impersonation one has to go back to the Corporal Brewster of the late Sir Henry Irving. The result was that there was almost unbroken silence during the play, but on the curtain falling there went up a vast roar, which continued until the curtain had risen and fallen many, many times. Nor was the curtain worked quickly, as it sometimes is when it is desired to put the best appearance on things. Those who have steadily refused to recognise Mr. Chevalier as an actor—he is among the greatest we have—are silenced, and we can only hope that Mr. Frohman will see his way to "presenting" Mr. Chevalier in characters worthy his abilities.

The *Referee.*—A most finished and attractive impersonation. His acting towards the end, when the family-forsaken and playgoer-neglected 'Old-'Un" welcomed back his Columbine daughter and Harlequin son-in-law because they had brought him back a little "kid" who already shaped as a clown, was touching in the extreme. Mr. Chevalier received some nine or ten calls at the end of the little piece.

Daily Graphic.—Mr. Albert Chevalier, who has not been seen on the regular stage for many years, plays this character brilliantly, and his performance was a triumphant success. He gave us the real decrepit "fallen star" in a manner that was at once subtle and beautiful, and at the end he reached a fine climax of emotion when the old man realises that he has a grandson—a young clown. Mr. Chevalier is so fine an actor that it is much to be hoped that after this signal triumph he will remain in London and appear in another play.

The *People.*—The comedy was preceded by Mr. J. M. Barrie's little play, *Pantaloon*, to the revival of which a special distinction was given by the return to the regular stage of Mr. Albert Chevalier, who appeared in the title part. It was a performance which roused the audience to great enthusiasm; time after time the curtain was raised for Mr. Chevalier to bow acknowledgment of a genuine ovation.

Evening Standard.—Mr. Chevalier's Success.—Mr. Albert Chevalier's appearance as Mr. Barrie's Pantaloon gave us another little flash of something rather close to genius. On the previous afternoon, at the same theatre, we had seen him hold his own as an artist, in every sense of the term, with Mme. Yvette Guilbert. On Saturday evening he played the Pantaloon exquisitely. It was something to remember.

Sun.—That Mr. Albert Chevalier possesses the true instincts of the actor, no one who has listened to him singing his Coster songs needs to be told, but I rather fancy his performance as the "Old 'Un" in Mr. Barrie's *Pantaloon* at the Duke of York's on Saturday night came as something of a revelation. The scene with "fairy" and the "boy," when he is compelled to tell them that the clown, his master, wants his child for wife, was perfect in its sincerity, but best of all was the joy of the old man when Harlequin and Columbine come as the returned wanderers with "the kid," who is ready to play the baby clown to this aged and neglected pantaloon. Mr. Chevalier roused his audience to a degree of enthusiasm not often witnessed in the theatre, and was called again and again at curtain fall.

The *Daily Mail.*—The evening was chiefly notable for the fact that Mr. Chevalier returned to the "legitimate" stage. Those who know and admire Mr. Chevalier's delightfully artistic methods—and who does not?—will be able to picture him as the quavering, proud, humble old Pantaloon. One realised the full beauty of the character on Saturday evening. Mr. Chevalier drew the tears of the whole house, and was called again and again at the fall of the curtain.

THE HIPPODROME.

In the acquisition of ethnological novelty the management of the Moss' Empires, Limited, has shown considerable enterprise. Not long since audiences were attracted to the London Hippodrome by the appearance and performances of the Pygmies—interesting dwarfs from Central Africa, and on Monday some curious specimens of an almost extinct race in Central America were exhibited for the first time in the arena of the fine house in Cranbourn-street. The "Three Small Heads" are females, aged respectively 18, 17, and 16 years, who vary in height from 3ft. 6in. to 4ft. They are carried into the arena in palanquins borne by black men. They are unquestionably most curious specimens of humanity, if such a term can be legitimately applied to them, as owing to the peculiar conformation of their jaws and the shape of their tongue they have no intelligible language. They can do nothing apparently but walk, and even their gait is most eccentric, being both unsteady and slovenly, and their deportment quaint. They grin incessantly, and are very imitative, clapping their hands with delight after noting the action of the audience. The skull of each is totally deficient of formation when compared with that of a human being. The back portion of the cephalus is non-existent, and the brain is consequently exceedingly small, its estimated weight being about 250 grammes, whereas the average human brain in a female weighs from 1,175 to 1,875 grammes. The apex of the skull is about the size of a five shilling piece. These creatures are said to be perfectly normal from the nape of the neck downwards, but are singularly weak in the facial muscles, resulting in the most extraordinary grimaces. By the process of retrogression and degeneration they have reached the lowest type of the human form, and from an ethnological standpoint they are altogether unique, and well worth a more minute inspection that seems permissible.

Among other prominent items in a really excellent programme are Morton and Elliott, who while singing duets "tear out" designs of great intricacy and rare beauty from quires of coloured paper, the "lacy" effects produced being very remarkable. Albertus and Miller in their act, *A Scene at the Fair Grounds*, are responsible for versatility. The lady of the duo plays cornet solos, and the pair prove themselves to be astonishingly rapid and expert in their manipulation of Indian clubs. Staley's act is a surprising novelty to many of the audience, though it is not new to London, having been seen a few years since at the Palace. We first see the trio of performers in a cooper's shed, wherein they produce melody from all kinds of unpromising objects. They stroll about with the greatest unconcern, when, hey, presto! at the sound of a whistle the stage is darkened, and when the lights go up a moment afterwards our friends the coopers come forward in evening dress in a brilliantly-lighted drawing-room. One of them—we are now certain—is a lady, who dances charmingly in skirts, the gentlemen of the party sharing the success of a violin and pianoforte duet, the subject of which is the much-hackneyed "Miserere" scene from *Il Trovatore*. The performers get back to the original scene, the lady, however, retaining her skirts. The lightning change or startling transformation—whichever we choose to call it—affords a legitimate surprise, and the house warms to enthusiasm at the conclusion of a very ingenious act. The Three Olympiers, fine specimens of athletic manhood, whose nude forms are coated in silver bronze, reproduce a series of groups of statuary from the antique. They look graceful representatives of classic heroes when they support "the earth," and their final picture—a happy adaptation of classicism to modern surroundings—is a great success.

A very remarkable exhibition of skill on the wire is given by James H. Jee, who leaps over six chairs placed upon the thread of steel and retains his balance. Mr. Jee is very daring in his slack wire feats, and his grace, alertness, and finish place him far beyond the ruck of performers in his line. The attractiveness of his turn is assisted by the charming appearance of the young lady who assists. Max Yorke's educated dogs are quite equal to a game of leapfrog or to somersaults. They are imitative, highly intelligent little creatures, are these fox terriers, one of them turning somersaults with as much ease as his master, and doing it with an *aplomb* and willingness that excite the audience to enthusiasm.

It would be impossible to see a more graceful or pretty group of girls on bicycles than the Kauffmann troupe, whose intricate evolutions are admirably performed. The trick cycling is also interesting, and the exit of the whole octet on one bike remarkably effective. The Trapnell Family sustain their reputation, which is very high, by their somersaults and shoulder balancing. The smallest performer creates considerable amusement by his deftness and imperturbability in a series of feats with his elders. Other acrobatic and gymnastic turns include the Jurgens Trio, gymnasts on globes; the Barowskys, head and hand balancers; Lavater Lee, acrobatic humourist, and the Lios Alfas, gymnasts.

Mr. Lloyd Langdon, a tenor new to us, is heard in "Homeland of my heart," the words being by Herbert Shelley, and the pretty illustrations emphasise the well-expressed sentiment of the number, to which Mr. Langdon does complete justice, his purity of intonation and his sweetness of voice evoking considerable applause. The entertainment is still wound up in a sensational manner by *The Flood*, the waters of which in their terrific descent of the mountain gorge create a deliciously cool atmosphere, and make the Hippodrome positively the coolest lounge in London. One can listen to Mr. Arthur Shirley's story in circumstances that make one forget the torrid heat of July that is experienced outside.

The death is announced of Laurinea Solomons, the wife of Leo Solomons, and the youngest daughter of Professor Alf. Ball, at 1, Weldon-street, Kettering, where the funeral took place on Monday. Wreaths were sent by the bereaved husband, the mother, father, sister, and other relatives, also from Mr. and Mrs. Thurston, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Bromich and Family, Mrs. H. Hughes, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Partridge, and many others.

The twelfth annual gathering of the friends and staff of the Birmingham Empire was held on Sunday last at Bidford-on-Avon, where a most enjoyable time was spent Mr. A. W. Matcham had charge of the party, which numbered upwards of a hundred. Journeying in saloon carriages to Stratford, the party afterwards proceeded in coaches to Bidford, where a cricket match was arranged, Friends versus Staff. Dinner was put on at the White Lion, after which a fishing contest for members of the staff took place, the prizes falling to Harry Barrett (first, clock); T. Foukes (second, a fishing-rod); and Harry Calver (third, a hundred cigars). Boating proved very attractive, and after tea the party returned to Stratford by road, finally reaching Birmingham by rail at nine in the evening, after one of the most delightful outings on record. Those present and who contributed to the felicity of the event included also Mr. W. P. Wells, assistant-manager; Mr. Albert Bushell, Gaiety; Mr. Edward Foster, Bordesley Palace; and Mr. P. D. Elbourne, Hippodrome. The speeches were commendably brief, and evoked hearty responses.

Mr. Robert Forsyth is doing record business at the Pier Pavilion, Bognor. The Jamaica Choir are there this week, and are charming everybody by their beautiful singing.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The staff and employees of the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, had a very enjoyable outing on Sunday last, in delightful weather. Starting from the theatre, the party, which numbered about fifty, journeyed in two well-appointed brakes to Burnham Beeches, where the day was spent. Luncheon was served at the Crown Hotel, and was presided over by Mr. E. Body, the popular acting-manager.

After the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, Mr. Body proposed the health and success of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett. That they met under such happy circumstances was largely due to the energy with which Mr. Bennett had worked to ensure the success of the outing, and also to the generous local support received, which, on their behalf, he gratefully acknowledged. During the day various sports were held, in which Messrs. Hook and Barclay were the chief prize winners. The return journey was made in good time, and the party got back to Clapham after spending what was admittedly the most enjoyable outing they had ever had.

On Sunday, July 1st, the entire staff and orchestra of the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, took their first outing. The party, which numbered about sixty, and included Mr. W. W. Kelly, the proprietor, journeyed to Chester, where at the "Hop Pole" Hotel an excellent dinner was provided. The afternoon was devoted to a trip up the river, and an "al fresco" five o'clock tea was presided over by the ladies of the staff. A return to the city was made for supper, after which thanks were offered to Mr. Kelly for his generosity as well as his presence, which so materially tended to make all pleasant, for the worthy chief was in one of his merriest moods. In response to the toast of the healths of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, the former expressed his delight at the day's outing, and took the opportunity to thank his staff for their services and loyalty towards the great success of the New Theatre. Thanks were also tendered to Mr. J. B. Kelly, secretary, Miss Harvey, treasurer, and the remainder of the committee for the excellence of the management.

The "Tipping Question" seems to have aroused considerable discussion at the weekly meetings of the members of the Variety Artists' Federation. It would be interesting to know to what extent this practice prevails, and who ultimately benefits by it. Presumably there are others besides the members of the stage staff who apparently benefit by the largesse of the artists. So far as the stage working staff are concerned, it often happens that some of them are requested to do some special service for the artist, and the present given is often less than the artist would have to pay had he to call in the help of those not connected with the staff. It may be, of course, that no objection is entertained by the artist to giving donations or remuneration for special services, and that the ground of complaint is that some employees expect something for nothing.

There is no doubt but that the practice has caused much friction between artists and employees and between the employees themselves, with a loss of mutual respect on both sides. In the West-End, generally, an arrangement exists which is, perhaps, the best possible one in the circumstances. The money given by artists, either by way of payment for special attention or extra work, or "tips" given to make things go smooth, or in pure kindness of heart, go into the Outing Fund, and all members of the working staff benefit in an equal degree. It may be that in such places where the remuneration received by the staff from the management is small the "tipping system" is abused, and verges close on imposition. The management know that the system exists, and in some cases justify the low wages by allusion to such sources of additions to the weekly earnings—or takings, as one might say.

In either case the artists have the remedy in their own hands, and no doubt the National Association of Theatrical Employees would be willing to co-operate with the Federation in removing from the system its more pernicious elements. One rule the artists might make for themselves, and that is, not to help those who are not trying to raise their status above such means of making a living. The employees have a right to expect a fair wage from the management; with such a wage they would have no excuse, if indeed they have now, to try to share the earnings of the artists.

It is estimated that a sum close upon £1,000 is raised and disbursed in connection with the annual outings of the staff representing the theatres and music halls in the West-End and inner circle of the Metropolis. This large sum indicates what an enormous amount must be spent annually in this country in this way. Almost the whole is raised by donations from managers, actors, artists, and tradespeople. The figures stated and the purposes to which this sum is devoted arouse reflections by no means reassuring to those who attach more importance to efforts made for the purpose of securing the more general well-being of theatrical employees than one day's enjoyment, however satisfactory such day may be as a "blow out," to use the common term describing these outings.

In one case the front of the house attendants have collected over £50 for their outing. The attendants in this case numbered about fifteen. All the expenses of the day in regard to fares, dinner, tea, drives, &c., are paid from the common fund, and the balance is divided. Some of the subscribers have given £10 10s. at one theatre and £5 5s. at others. One manager is stated to have subscribed from £25 to £30 between the funds of several theatres in which he is interested.

If we consider the purpose of these outings, it may be granted that where they bring all engaged in a theatre into contact—manager, stage-manager, and staff—and thus create a better social feeling, they serve a good purpose, but it is obvious that few outings are so representative or produce such a result. In many cases it is just a day for eating and drinking a larger and more varied quantity than usual. The silver sea, the leafy lane, the field of ripening corn are things seen and passed by in haste to get from one place to another. In this way £1,000 is dispersed! It has helped few, if any, to supply some real need, to remove some irksome burden. Little, if any, of this vast sum is saved for the inevitable "bad time"—a time more certain in the course of days in the theatrical world than in any other.

When one considers that there is no National Benevolent Fund in existence for the benefit of stage employees, and that such a fund is urgently needed to help those who suffer unmerited hardship, and are often in absolute destitution, through circumstances over which they have no control, it seems deplorable that so much money should be spent in less worthy ways.

We have, for example, a thoroughly representative Committee who organised the Theatrical Sports to raise the nucleus of a National Benevolent Fund The members of it worked for months, giving their time and services, and as a result of their labours a sum of about £15 has been raised! No manager sent £10, or even £2 2s. to that fund. With £500—one-half of the sum raised in the West-End for these outings—a benevolent fund could be started, which would bring far more happiness to those in need than is ever likely to come from a "blow out." The generosity of the profession is proverbial, and if it were exercised in well-considered efforts to relieve undeserved distress it would work incalculable good.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Bedelia.—*We are not sufficiently acquainted with the lady's private life to be able to inform you.*

W. H. G.—*Florodora was produced at the Lyric Theatre on Nov. 11, 1899. The piece may possibly have been played at the house you mention on some special occasion, but has never been staged there for a run.*

Rufus.—*Love and Money, a drama, in a prologue and five acts, by Charles Reade and Henry Pettitt, was produced at the Adelphi, Nov. 18, 1882.*

Kensington.—*Henry Smart, organist and composer, died July 6, 1864.*

H. H. W.—*The Red Lamp was first produced by Mr. Tree at the Comedy, April 20, 1887.*

C. C.—*No; the parties have the right to proceed in the usual way if they please.*

Old Stager.—*The Bancrofts' last performance at the old Prince of Wales's, in Tottenham-street, took place on Jan. 29, 1880. Mr. Edgar Bruce then took up the management. The last theatrical performance there was on July 24, 1882.*

W. Howes.—*The Empire was first opened as a theatre of varieties on Dec. 21, 1887.*

J. C. M.—*No doubt they can sue you in the County Court for the balance, and if you can prove that the other party owes you money you should sue him in the same way.*

Bookworm.—*Try Hachette's, King William-street, Strand. We do not know of an English translation.*

Alf. Harding.—*Write to S. French, Ltd., Southampton-street, Strand.*

ON THE ROAD, JULY 9.

Abandoned Woman.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
At the World's Mercy.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Beautiful Fiend.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Boom of Big Ben.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Conscript, The.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Cousin Kate.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Islington.
Defending His Honour.—Stockport.
Dishonoured.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
Drama of Life.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Gambler's Daughter.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Her One Great Sin.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Hero of the Flag.—Alexandra, Birmingham.
Honour Thy Father.—T.R., Smethwick.
How Money's Made.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
I Defy the World.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
In Old Madrid.—Grand T., Hull.
In the Shadow of Night.—West London Theatre.
Kennedy's Komiks (A Co.)—T. R., W. Bromwich.
Kennedy's Komiks (B Co.).—T. R., Worcester.
Kennedy's Komiks (C Co.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Kennedy's Komiks (D Co.).—Saltley, Birmingham.
Kennedy's Komiks (E Co.).—O. H., Dudley.
Kennedy's Komiks (F Co.).—T. R., Wednesbury.
Kennedy's Komiks (G Co.).—Empire T., Cradley.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Silloth and Maryport.
Lady Godiva.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Seaham-Harbour.
Man's Enemy.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Manxman, The.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Master Criminal.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace.—Great Yarmouth.
Octoroon.—T. R., Rotherham.
Plucky Nipper.—O. H. Coventry
Poor Must Live.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Aldershot.
Romany's Revenge.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Royal Divorce.—Opera House, Blackpool.
Shadows of a Great City.—T. R., Bristol.
Silent Witness.—Theatre Royal, Runcorn.
Still Alarm.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
Throne of Terror.—Junction T., Manchester.
Two Hussars.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Under The Czar.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Warning to Women.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Wrecker of Men.—O. H., St. Helens.
Youngest of the Three.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
Under the Russian Flag.—County T., Kingston.
Way of the World.—Prince's T., Poplar.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Gaiety T., Douglas.
French Spy.—Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GUILDHALL OPERATIC STUDENTS.

On Thursday evening, July 5, a performance of John Barnett's *Mountain Sylph* was given at the Guildhall School of Music by the members of the Opera Class. John Barnett, born in 1802, at Bedford, was the son of a Prussian jeweller, who changed his name from Bernhart Beer to Barnett on settling in England. *The Mountain Sylph* therefore cannot entirely be called English opera. Mr. Barnett has written nearly four thousand songs and several operas, but the present work will always be considered his principal opera, and though sounding somewhat thin and jaded at the present day, the famous air, "The Magic Wove Scarf," at one time so popular in the concert room, will always prevent the opera being forgotten. The authorities at the Guildhall School are therefore wise in giving works in which their youthful operatic aspirants are not likely to go far wrong In the cast Miss Julie C. Huntsman, who, on several occasions, has given proof of her ability as an actress, undertook the part of Dame Gourlie, while Miss Frances M. Langton sang the music of Jessie with taste and expression. Miss Emmeline M. Coppin made a picturesque Æolia (the Mountain Sylph), singing with freedom and ability. Mr. Edwin Lewis gave at first a slightly tame rendering of Donald's music, but greatly improved later on in the opera, and Mr. W. L. Soliague showed a broad comedy spirit in the character of Christie, a rival suitor for the hand of Jessie. Baillie Macwhapple was capitally enacted by Mr. Charles Pope, and Mr. E. Robert Carr made an effective Hela, the part of Etheria being cleverly taken by Miss Lillian J. Smith. The first and second girls were sung by Misses D. Pratt and Winifred Popham, and the first witch by Mr. Robert Moore. The scenery, painted by Mr. Hemsley and Mr. Schönberg, was picturesque and appropriate, and the stage management, under the direction of M. B. Soutten, most effective. The chorus and small orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Richard Walthew, rendered good service. The costumes were kindly lent by the Royal Opera Syndicate and the Royal College of Music. Mrs. Charles B. Smith, as usual, superintended the young ladies appearing on the stage.

The combination of clever children forming Collinson's "Topsy-Turvy School" explodes the fallacy that talent is rarely hereditary, because the whole of this troupe are the children of well-known performers, and by their comedy, singing, dancing, and specialities, they make this act one of the smartest on the road.

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Allen, Miss Madge
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Applin, Mr. Arthur
Attwood, Happy
Baldry, Mr. H.
Baptiste, Mr. Alfred
Barnes, Mrs. L. A.
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Bayne-Smyth, Mrs.
Bell, Mr. W. G.
Belleu, Mr. Kyrle
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Lewis, Miss Isabella
Linde, Herr
Linforth, Mr. Arthur
Long, Mr. Hyam
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Lovel, Mr. L.
Lynn, Mr. A. H.
Lynn, Miss Millie
Lyons Trio
Lytton, Mr. H. A.
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Maravilla, Herr E.
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Martin, Miss Sylvia
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Vay, Mr. Will
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Ventris, Mr. Arthur
Vetter, Mr. O.
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Walton, Mr. W.
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence** every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

GRAHAME.—On Thursday, July 5, 1906, at 28, Fairmead-road, Holloway, the wife of J. G. Grahame, junior (Zerlina Harrington), of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

IRIS—CLAXTON—At Brixton, June 20, Miss Mamie Iris to Mr. Leonard Claxton.

LIVESEY—CHAMBERS.—On Saturday, July 11, 1891, at the Registry Office, Barnsley, Edward Carter Livesey to Lizzie Chambers.

WARNER—PALMER.—On Wednesday, July 4, by special licence, at Brixton Registry Office, Charles Moore Warner, of the Garganis, and Carrie Palmer of MacGovan and MacGovan. Thanks to all friends for congratulations.

DEATHS.

FRIEND.—On June 3, Violet Friend, after a long illness, at Kinver (Stourbridge), late Empire, Dudley, Palace, Oldbury, &c.

LUDLOW.—July 1 at Coolbawn, Ailesbury-road Dublin, suddenly, Mrs. Eliza Ludlow, aged 87 years, mother of Mr. Michael Gunn.

O'MALLEY.—On Thursday, June 28, at Sheffield, after a long illness, Dan O'Malley (late of the O'Malleys), aged 42. Never forgotten by O'Malley and Brown. R.I.P.

O'MALLEY.—Dan O'Malley, of the Two O'Malleys, died June 28, and was laid to rest beside his son, Intake Cemetery, Sheffield, July 3. Deeply mourned by his wife and children. At rest.

MONTGOMERY.—July 1, at his residence, Gray-road, Walton, near Liverpool, Matthew Montgomery, theatre and music hall proprietor and manager, of Liverpool, aged 61.

GARCIA.—July 1, at his residence, in Cricklewood, Manuel Patricio Rodriguez Garcia, singing master, and formerly Professor of the Royal Academy of Music, aged 101.

KELLER.—July 1, in the railway accident to the South-Western boat express at Salisbury, Jules Keller, acrobat and equilibrist, known as the "Human Enigma."

SOLOMONS. — June 28, after giving birth to a daughter (on May 24), Laurinea Solomons, age 22, beloved wife of Leo. Solomons, and youngest daughter of Joseph Ball, at 1, Weldon-street, Kettering. May her soul rest in peace.

IN MEMORIAM.

HEMMING.—In loving memory of my dear husband William Walton, who died July 8, 1904. Never forgotten by his wife (Annie Craston) and his daughter Daisy.

WALTON.—In loving memory of William Walton, who fell asleep July 8, 1904. Till the day breaks and the shadows flee away.—LEONORA CASTELLE.

WALTON.—In loving memory of William Walton (Hemming), who departed this life July 8, 1904. Deeply regretted by L. and G. Hand.

BUREAU DE CHANGE

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1906.

FUTILE CRITICISM.

The other evening we happened to be present at a performance of *The Sign of the Cross* at a suburban theatre, and we made a special study of the audience. There could be "no possible doubt whatever" of their intense enjoyment and satisfaction. Towards the conclusion of the play the greater part of those present were in tears; and as the house was emptied an old woman, with every sign of the wear and tear of life's troubles on her, said to her friend, "I haven't cried for years!" As for the applause, it was almost frantic in its enthusiasm.

The little experience made us reflect on the futility of much that is written in the way of dramatic criticism. After all, the merit of a knife is that it will cut; and as long as it divides the wood or the meat which it is required to separate, we do not object to it because it fails to perform the functions of a fork or a spoon. The drama, it has been said, is the "wooden spoon of the arts." If this is so, where is the wisdom in constantly censuring it for fulfilling its functions? It is quite reasonable to ask of pieces produced, say, by the Stage Society under the Vedrenne Barker *régime*, that they shall satisfy the *cognoscenti*. But the average play is intended for the average man and woman; and all the argument in the world will not alter the average man or woman an inch. For generations every endeavour has been used to induce ladies to dispense with corsets. One has only to turn to the illustrated advertisement pages of our feminine weeklies to be assured that there never was a period when so many different inventions for compressing the female waist, and disturbing in consequence the positions of the interior organs, were in favour. It may be argued that the fair sex is *hors de loi* in matters of logic. The contention will not stand. Men are just as immovable. No doubt we all should wear nothing but "all-wool clothing" and "nature form boots." We knew a man whose boots were so natural in shape that it was impossible for him to appear in a crowded thoroughfare without exciting remark. He never had corns; but his hand was against every man's and every man's hand was against him. Boots are universally laid down on lines supposed to be "neat," and certainly cramping; and white linen shirts are practically the only wear for the respectable. Most of the articles which are written to advocate the abandonment of stays and the adoption of boots which follow the form of the foot are therefore futile. They are what the Catholic Church calls counsels of perfection. Those who pen them have only the cold comfort of Beatrice's remark to Benedick: "I wonder you will still be talking, signior; nobody marks you." The "extinct volcano" is a melancholy object; but not such a sad one as the burning mountain which erupts unregarded.

To take a parallel in another art, the objection to the Royal Academy is not that it panders to the Philistines but that the body, according to its detractors, uses its quasi-official position it has more for the commercial advantage of its members than for the advancement of English art. Otherwise, the style of painting which is in favour at Burlington House is nobody's business but that of the R.A.'s; and criticisms of the Academy from the New Gallery point of view are futile.

Coming back to the drama, we marvel at the patience and perseverance of a certain class of dramatic critic. Year in, year out, they approach the plays produced at our West End Theatres from a Stage Society point of view; advocate inferentially an alteration in public taste which never comes to pass, and decry the forms of entertainment which flourish in spite of all animadversions. It must be depressing, to say the least, to perceive that, after columns of fulmination, nobody seems a penny the worse, and that the world wags on unmoved by the sneers or the applause of the superior person. It is curious, too, that some of these unavailing ironies occur in papers which ostensibly cater for Philistines of the Philistines. It must, we should think, sometimes spoil the breakfasts of the subscribers to be assured in the most pungent and sarcastic terms, that the plays they like the best are those which they should most strictly avoid seeing, and that the entertainments which bore them and puzzle them are those which they ought to love and admire. The action of the average reader can only be accounted for by the theory of sin and penance. He considers that he has atoned for his artistic crimes by reading a critique; and so goes off to "plan sins anew," and book seats for himself and his family at a musical play.

Far more logical and practical than superfine criticism is the work done by the Stage Society, whose sixth annual report has just reached us. It does not interfere with the ordinary theatrical enterprises; it submits over-praised dramatic works to the useful test of actual practice; and it occasionally, as in the cases of Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S plays, tries experiments, of which a West End theatre afterwards takes advantage. It also supplies, by direct demonstration, the strongest possible indictment of the modern pessimistic French school of playwriting. Nothing could be a stronger object-lesson on the liver disease from which so many novelists and dramatists in France are suffering at present, than the presentation of a piece like *The Three Daughters of M. Dupont*; and one cannot appreciate the quaint humour of *When We Dead Awaken* till one has seen the two principal characters floating little paper boats down a stream. The Stage Society may be compared with the medicine which maintains the health of a patient by encouraging eruptions. It is also a thoroughly business-like association. It does not revive IBSEN; and it has invested £400 in 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock.

MISS ITALIA CONTI'S RECITAL AT STAFFORD HOUSE.

Under the distinguished patronage of H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, H.R.H. Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll, and by kind permission of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, Miss Italia Conti held a highly successful dramatic and musical recital at Stafford House on Thursday afternoon, July 5. The first portion of the programme consisted chiefly of musical items, Miss Pattie Hornsby greatly pleasing by her singing of two songs by Albert Mallinson, "My Garden" and "The beech tree and the rose." Mr. John Coates was also greatly applauded for his fine singing of Elgar's "In the dawn." To give variety to the concert, a pantomime by Miss Aimèe Lowther, entitled *Le Madrigal de Pierrot*, was introduced, in which the clever dancing and pretty dresses of Miss Aimèe Lowther as Pierrot and Miss W. Hart-Dyke as La Marquise were much admired. A pleasing little sketch, *Two in a Tent*, by Mrs. Craigie, was skilfully performed by Mr. Graham Browne and Miss Italia Conti in the characters of Captain Meredith and Miss Walsingham, Mr. Edric Kingscote taking the part of an orderly. The action takes place in a tent at the close of the Delhi Durbar. Miss Conti also took part in *The Decision*, a dramatic incident, playing the part of Lady Chevring, Mr. Lewis Casson appearing as Dr. Langham. Miss Marion Gordon Kerby was heard in some amusing selections of negro dialects, and Miss Amy Castles sang three songs from *The Conqueror*, the words being by the Duchess of Sutherland and the music by Edward German. Mr. Haydn Gunter played Mendelssohn's violin solo "Andante from Concerto" with care and intelligence. It was the first appearance of this gentleman in London. The second part of the concert was devoted to the masque of *The Princess and the Stranger*, with words by Alix Egerton and music by E. Overbeck. The masque proved most attractive and well adapted to its surroundings. The story relates how the Princess Douce Cœur falls under the spell of a lady called Sorrow, and therefore takes a dismal view of all things. The envoys Fame, Riches, and Power in vain seek her hand, when Hope announces the Stranger (who is Love). This person succeeds where the others have failed, and Fame gives up his wreath to him, Riches his money, and Power his might. The scene is supposed to take place in the Palace of Life; period, Once upon a Time. There were a host of characters, and the costumes lent by Mr. Beerbohm Tree and others designed by Mr. Ernest Thesiger were charming. Miss Italia Conti appeared to great advantage as the Princess Douce Cœur, speaking her lines admirably; indeed, all were letter-perfect, and worked well for the success of the masque. Miss Lily Brayton was most effective as Sorrow, Miss M. Bright Morris as the Herald, Mr. Henry Ainley as Love (the Stranger), and Miss Eileen Maltby in the small but striking part of the Jester; while Poetry, Service, and Song were cleverly undertaken by Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Evelyn Marthèze, and Miss Pattie Hornsby, Miss Pauline Chase proving her dancing ability in the part of Dance; even the very small part of Hope (a Messenger) was performed with care by Miss Tiny Bryce. Mr. Harcourt Williams undertook Fame, Mr. Matheson Lang, Riches, and Mr. Arthur Whitby (by kind permission of Arthur Bourchier, Esq.) the character of Power, all giving due importance to the clever lines of their separate parts. The music, though somewhat secondary in interest, was quite in keeping and harmony with the story. The masque was produced by Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Arthur Chesney acting as hon. stage-manager with Mr. Edgar J. Coyne. Miss Italia Conti may be heartily congratulated on the success of her recital.

MR. JAMES BOOTHMAN, acting-manager for Mr. Geo. Sesto Sante at Radcliffe, has been suffering from rheumatic fever.

Miss Ethel Smyth's new opera, *Les Naufrageurs* which is to be produced at Leipzig in September will be the third stage venture of the composer, who is a daughter of General J. H. Smyth. Her first one-act opera, *Fantasio*, was produced at Weimar in 1898, and afterwards performed at the Grand Ducal Theatre, Carlsruhe, under the direction of Mr. Felix Mottl. *Der Wald*, Miss Smyth's second work of the kind, was first heard at Berlin early in 1902, and subsequently brought to Covent Garden in July of that year, and performed under Mr. Lohse It was also given in New York. A few years ago Miss Ethel Smyth wrote a Mass which was produced by the Royal Choral Society at the Albert Hall.

Mr. Frederick Stanhope will be accorded a benefit at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, on Thursday next.

MR. FRANK WEIR, who has been appearing successfully with Mr. Harry Marvello, has been released by that gentleman in order that he may fulfil a special engagement with Mr. C. Macdona, to play the part of Barry (*The Country Girl*), starting Aug. 6.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association, specially called to consider Mr. Cecil Barth's proposition respecting the body of voluntary workers known as Missioners, was held on Thursday, the 28th ult. There were present:—Mr. A E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mesdames Kate Bishop, Kate Phillips, Georgina Hamilton, Gertrude Homewood, Agnes Finlay, Kitty Lofting, Rose Mathews, Helen Mosley, and Blanche Stanley; Messrs. Blake Adams, Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, F. Cremlin, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, Spencer Trevor, S. Major Jones, Archibald McLean, Russell Norrie, George Riddell, Edmond T. Sayers, A. Morrice Seaton, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The Secretary explained the origin of the body, which was appointed shortly after the holding of the tenth annual general meeting of the Association, the idea having been suggested by Mr. Cyril Maude as a means of increasing the membership. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr. Cecil Barth, seconded by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, and agreed, that a representative body of seven should be appointed, and Cecil Barth, Georgina Hamilton, S. Major Jones, Rose Mathews, Edmond T. Sayers, Blanche Stanley, and Brandon Thomas were duly elected as such.

Mr. Cecil Barth suggested that members of the Council who are missioners should be ex-officio members of the representative body just elected. This was referred to the Council at their next meeting, and those present (with the exception of Messrs. A. Morrice Seaton and Blake Adams, and those already appointed) volunteered their services to act as missioners, and were duly elected.

It was proposed by Mr. Cecil Barth, seconded by Miss Kate Phillips, and agreed, that the representative body should hold monthly meetings, beginning on Monday, July 2, at three p.m., and that they should then fix regular days for future meetings. Mr. Cecil Barth suggested the establishment of a qualification for missioners, and that something should be done to increase the number of landladies' advertisements—also the organisation of provincial meetings. Mr. Quinton McPherson suggested that the meetings should include centres.

The first meeting of the representative body of seven was held on Monday last. Mr. Brandon Thomas was unanimously elected chairman of the body, and will hold office until the next annual general meeting of the Actors' Association, or until a successor shall be appointed in his stead. It was agreed that the deliberations of the body be controlled by a quorum of three when a greater number of members are not present. It was decided that in future the regular meetings of the body be held on the last Monday in each month in the Council Chamber of the A.A., at three p.m., and it was further decided that a special meeting be held on Monday next at three.

It being understood that the title, "The Missioners," was considered an undesirable one, different members of the body suggested eleven others, and the further consideration of the selection of the fittest was held over until the next meeting. It was suggested that Mr. Leslie Carter and Mr. Quinton McPherson should join the body, and the question was referred to the Council.

It was proposed that a form of monthly report of work done by the missioners be drawn up, and that they be called upon to fill in and return same periodically, and that in the event of any missioner failing in sending in at least four of such reports in any year he or she shall *ipso facto* vacate his or her position, but shall be eligible for re-election. All missioners are to be requested to obtain new landladies' addresses, and the Council be asked to accept the recommendation of a missioner alone. I was also agreed that when two or more missioners meet in a provincial town they may organise and hold meetings, and that a set form of agenda (hereafter to be framed) be used at such meetings.

Mesdames Georgina Hamilton, Rose Mathews, and Blanche Stanley, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, S. Major Jones, Edmond T. Sayers, Brandon Thomas, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary); also Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman of the Council), and Miss Kate Bishop (of the Council) were present.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present:—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison and Kate Bishop, Messrs. Cecil Barth, J. Cooke Beresford, F. Cremlin, A. E. George, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, Spencer Trevor, Frank Vernon, Frederick Volpe, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The Hon. Solicitors reported progress in several matters, and were requested to pay the costs incurred by a member of the Association in bringing an action which had resulted in a verdict being given against the member. The report of the representative body of the missioners was given, Mr. Quinton McPherson was elected to that body, and Mr. Leslie Carter was invited to become a missioner, and to join the body; it was also agreed that all members of the Council who are missioners shall be ex-officio members of the representative body. The Secretary announced that the holidays of the staff would commence on the 14th inst., and the arrangements were left in his hands.

Two claims by members for salaries due were referred to the honorary solicitors. A letter from a gentleman advocating the cessation of Sunday travelling was read, and the Secretary was directed to reply that actors would naturally be glad to have Sunday as a day of rest, but the abolition of travelling on the Sabbath would involve many additional hardships and inconveniences. Daisy Clinton, Madge Avery, Marie Löhr, W. Barnett Parker, William P. Sheen, and Cecil F. Yapp were nominated for election.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last. Mr. A. E. Drinkwater occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, C. Aubrey Smith, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several questions of routine having been discussed, the Secretary received instructions.

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FRENCH PLAYS AT THE ROYALTY.

Star succeeds star at the popular house in Dean-street, and if we have said *au revoir* to the incomparable Réjane, we find consolation complete in the appearance of Mlle. Marthe Brandès, who, at her début in Sardou's *Georgette*, after a brilliant career at the Conservatoire, immediately attracted the attention of the critics. One of them said, "She satisfies the intelligence; she enraptures the eyes; she touches the heart. She is a mixture of maidenly reserve and passionate sincerity; and her every movement is harmonious. Her success is indeed great." To this frank eulogy of a really admirable actress audiences at the Royalty have already subscribed, and Mlle. Brandès is quite sustaining the prestige she won at the Comédie-Française and at the Renaissance. She opened at the Royalty on Monday in the piece in four acts, by Georges de Porto-Riche, entitled

"LE PASSÉ."

François Prieur.....M. ANDRE CALMETTES
Maurice Arnault .....M. SEVERIN
Béhopé .....M. HOURY
Bracony .....M. CHARTOL
Mariotte .....M. GRAMMONT
Dominique Brienne ....MLLE. MARTHE BRANDÈS
Antoinette Bellangé ..MLLE. MARGUERITE CARON
Odile .....MLLE. LOLA NOYE

Produced originally at the Odéon on December 30, 1897, the comedy proved disappointing to those who had anticipated better things from the clever pen that wrote *Amoureuse* in 1889. Nevertheless the piece shows considerable ability. Its dialogue is witty and incisive—rather too rasping, perhaps, at times; but the subject, disagreeable in itself, contains little or no interest for the general run of theatre-goers. The literary qualities of the work are indeed striking, but this feature, if it attracts an ultra-critical spectator, is thrown away upon the vast majority of an audience. The plot is extremely thin, so that the four acts appear wiredrawn—although spun out with remarkable talent.

The heroine of the story, Dominique Brienne, has loved and been basely deserted by a Don Juan of a diplomatist, François Prieur, who since he left her some half-dozen years ago—she is now thirty-eight—has carried on intrigues with more than half-a-dozen of her friends. She courts forgetfulness in the close study and practice of the art of sculpture; but, strange to say, she has no objection, at the beginning of the play, to gossiping with male friends of *affaires de cœur*, nor does she hesitate to speak to them of her "past." If she has been unhappy in her experiences she extends a ready sympathy to her friend Antoinette Bellangé—for whom she had found a husband—in a serious difference with that gentleman. Antoinette, however, refuses to be a party to any reconciliation with her spouse, and when cross-examined on the point, admits the existence of a lover, who has been successful, and who turns out to be none other than Prieur. With unsurpassable impudence, he calls on Dominique in the next act to ask her not to interfere in his little affair with Antoinette. She makes the necessary promise, and the two begin to discuss the past. François discovers that Dominique is very attractive, and she—poor moth—still feels a heart-flutter at the tenderness of his addresses. In the end, however, she discovers his utter baseness, and, disillusioned and disgusted, she orders him from her presence, and turns to find consolation in the patient devotion of the doctor Maurice Arnault, who loves her for *le bon motif*.

The play is a minute study of the complexity of a woman's character. Dominique is loyal and true, and is always interesting. Mlle. Brandès made of her a highly-strung creature, and the struggle of the better instincts of the woman against the insidious advances of an incorrigible, impenitent, and worthless deceiver was finely shown. Both the strength and weakness of the character are well emphasised, and the success of the actress on Monday was well deserved. M. André Calmettes had scarcely a light enough touch as the mendacious François Prieur, who agrees that the practice of deceit softens manners. M. Severin was effective as the sentimental doctor; and Mlle. Marguerite Caron made a satisfactory Antoinette.

By some critics *Francillon*, which was revived by Mlle. Brandès on Thursday evening, is regarded as Alexandre Dumas the younger's masterpiece, being considered superior in many respects to *Le Demi-Monde*. It is a captivating piece is *Francillon*; its story is interesting, and the extraordinary rapidity of the action, with the nervous atticism of the dialogue, grips the spectator's attention at the outset, to hold it fast to the close. Only for a moment or two in the second act, when the author gives rein to his didactic proclivities, is this grasp relaxed, but it tightens again almost immediately, and audiences are carried along by the master-playwright to the very end of the chapter. Indeed, M. Dumas showed us his dramatic genius in the plenitude of its force, while, as for wit, of which he was never more prodigal, it is sparkling throughout, gay and satirical in turn, though he took a hard, cold, pessimistic view of his contemporaries, and told them so in terms that are, perhaps, too bluntly frank to secure sympathy. The personages of the play belong to the *haut monde* of Paris in the 'eighties. The heroine, Francine de Riverolles—to whom her husband, Lucien de Riverolles, gives the pet name of Francillon—belongs to a noble family, but has been brought up with small respect for the proprieties, and has—for a Frenchwoman *bien entendu*—odd notions of a wife's duties and rights, which she is destined to transmute into highly reprehensible action. Indolent and selfish, Lucien had passed his youth in easy pleasure, and since a son had blessed his union with Francine he has returned to his old tastes—to his club and his mistresses. He appears totally indifferent to his wife's familiarity with his friends; but a crisis in the ménage is precipitated when, at the end of the first act, Francine reproaches him with his coldness, and asks him where he is going that night. "To the club; I have not seen my friends there for a week." "Neither have I seen you for a week. Since the birth of our son you've not been the same." "You should have taken a nurse!" is his stinging reproach, at which Francine fires up, replying, "It is the first time I have heard a woman blamed for being a mother. Patriotism for us is maternity!" This reply brought down the house at the première at the Comédie-Française on Jan. 17, 1887. A sudden suspicion then comes into Francine's mind. "You are deceiving me; you have a mistress; and if I am convinced of your treason, I give you my solemn promise that an hour afterwards I will have a lover!" Francine carries out her threat, and in the second act flings in the husband's face a tale of degradation, and gives every evidence she can of its truth. She had been to the Opéra ball, had been a witness of her husband's conduct with a lady, and had accepted the escort and attentions of a young man entirely unknown to her. But she preserved her wifely honour, in spite of these blazing indiscretions, and the curtain falls eventually upon a scene of forgiveness.

In the original representation Febvre was the Lucien; Coquelin cadet the Célestin; Mlle. Bartet the Francillon; Mlle. Pierson the Baronne Thérèse Smith; and Mlle. Reichemberg the Annette de Riverolles. In the character of Francine Mlle. Marthe Brandès deepened the favourable impression she created on Monday, and played very finely throughout. Every phase of feeling is handled by her with perfect mastery. M. Rousselle plays the rôle of the egoist Lucien with energy and aplomb, and is decidedly clever in the "business" of one of his scenes where he is left alone on the stage after Lucien hears Francillon's frank and damning avowal. Mlle. Carèze was an excellent Annette, and Mlle. Marguerite Caron a sympathetic Thérèse.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MRS. HARRY RICKARDS, the wife of Mr. Harry Rickards, the well-known and esteemed proprietor of many theatres and music halls in Australia and New Zealand, has kindly consented to present the prizes at the Music Hall Sports on Thursday next at the Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham.

AT the Music Hall Sports next Thursday special attention will be paid to the comfort of the ladies (an item that was sadly overlooked in past years at Herne Hill). The newly-formed grounds at Stamford Bridge are replete with every comfort, and, given fine weather, the function should prove a complete success. Mr. Angelo Asher will conduct his "Cadogan Military Band," assisted by Mr. J. H. Alexandra.

MR. BOB HUTT will be the "Funmaster-General at the sports on Thursday next, and will champion a catch-as-catch-can cricket match, a grand military tournament, an invasion, and other items, including the clergyman's picnic."

THE Archbishop of Canterbury told an amusing story at the Lord Mayor's banquet to the archbishops and bishops at the Mansion House on Wednesday evening. The other day, apropos to the Education Bill, which is now being piloted through the House of Commons by Mr. Augustine Birrell, a letter was addressed to him from France as follows:—"Archevêque, Canterbury, London." Some difficulty occurred in its delivery, and when it did reach the palace of the prelate in Lambeth, it was endorsed by the Intelligence Department of the Post Office, "Not known at the Canterbury Music Hall."

MR. "JACK" EDGAR, the manager of the Metropolitan, while crossing the road at Charing Cross on Thursday, was knocked down by a motor-car, and narrowly escaped being run over. He fell on his right side, badly bruising his arm and hand. On Thursday evening Mr. Edgar was found at his accustomed post at the "Met.," but was suffering from the severe shock, and was unable to make use of his injured arm and hand.

THE general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, as already announced in these columns, will be held at the Trocadero on Tuesday, at eleven o'clock sharp. Members' tickets must be shown at the door to secure admission. The principal business will be the adoption of the Constitution of the Federation, and the discussion and passing of its bye-laws and rules.

LITTLE TICH has vouchsafed the information to a Manchester journalist that he has determined to give up big-boot dancing—a form of hard labour to which his amusing exhibition has condemned him for some years. He has become an enthusiastic motorist, and owns a fine Panhard car, in which he tours from town to town. We are given to understand also that he has forsworn pantomime, as it demands too much exertion.

CARL HERTZ, the popular illusionist, has produced at Keith and Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre, a very puzzling new illusion, which has set New York wondering. It is called "The Bridal Chamber," and is in the line of cabinet mysteries. He transforms the interior of a cabinet, the walls of which are constructed solely of draperies, from absolute emptiness to a completely furnished boudoir, with bedstead, mattresses, pillows and linen, and bearing also the sleeping figure of his clever assistant, Mme. Hertz.

THE Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons, No. 3098, had its first regular meeting, after the installation, on Friday, the 22nd ult., under the presidency of Mr. Albert Le Fre, W.M., Mr. J. W. Mathews, I.P.M., Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer, acting as S.W., in absence of Serpentello, who is in America, Mr. G. H. Dyball, J.W., and a full muster of the Brethren. Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, the treasurer, proposed that a letter be forwarded to the directors of the Chelsea Palace thanking them for having kindly placed the board room during the past year at the services of the Lodge, which was unanimously carried. Pathetic reference was made to Mr. Edward Swanborough, the first Past Master of the Lodge.

PARAGRAPHS have been appearing of late as to the probability of two houses being erected in Willesden or Harlesden. We have the best authority for stating that at present there is only one house projected, which is in Station-road, Harlesden. Plans have been passed by the District Council, but as the site is opposite a church the most strenuous opposition by the congregation to the granting of a licence is feared. No plans have not yet been deposited as to any other house in the parish of Willesden.

MR. JAMES STEWART, the tramp at the piano, met with rather a severe accident on Monday evening. Just after leaving his house in Gibson-square, Islington, in his brougham, a box of "safety" matches exploded whilst he was lighting a cigar, and severely burned his left hand. However, notwithstanding the dreadful pain that this caused him, he would not allow it to interfere with his performance, and pluckily went through his well-known show four times that evening at the following halls: Grand, Clapham; London Pavilion; and Camberwell Palace

ALTERATIONS are in progress at the Oxford which will yet further enhance the beauty and add to the comfort of that fine house. A very old habitué was heard to remark that, were it possible to pull down all one side of Oxford-street, and, taking in the Princess's Theatre, to enlarge the celebrated music hall, even then it would be always packed to the doors.

MR. EDGAR BATEMAN was asked on Wednesday by a celebrated comedian if he could supply him with a good lying song. The writer thought not, but offered to furnish one embodying actual truths that would almost appear like lies, and then went on to state that on Saturday morning last on Southend Pier he caught a flounder, and, after affixing to its fin a note of good wishes to his confrères (then enjoying their annual outing up the Thames), tossed it in the air like a pigeon, and solemnly asseverated that it was picked up in an exhausted condition at Windsor by a waiter outside Tull's Restaurant just as the members of Messrs. Francis and Day's staff had finished dinner. The comedian, himself a fisherman, now insists on having the song, but stipulates that the ditty shall be built up of tarradiddles and not actual facts.

MR. JOE ELVIN, who is nothing if not funny, lately conceived a droll idea for a comic song, and presented it to Mr. Alf Lotto with a desire that it might be used, when written up, by his wife, Miss Ada Cerito, whose famous song, "When Father Backs a Winner," is still remembered. Edgar Bateman, who on the 4th inst. completed his eighth year as Mr. David Day's London representative, has been specially selected to turn Mr. Elvin's idea into Cockneyese.

THE palmy days of the Metropolitan will be reflected in the production on Monday of a ballet divertissement by the pupils of Madame Katti Lanner, so long the directrice and instructress of ballerine at the Empire. Mlle. Papucci is that prima donna assoluta. In former days Madame Collier, a near relative of Miss Constance Collier, arranged ballets at the popular house in the Edgware-road.

MR. GEO. JACKLEY has to thank Mr. G. H. Chirgwin for a very fine day's fishing, his catch being altogether about three stone.

MR. RICHARD THORNTON'S new theatre of varieties in Sunderland is making rapid progress. The façade of heavy, fine freestone is already appearing above the hoardings. It is not, however, expected that the opening will take place before May next. The new King's Theatre in the same town is also making steady progress, and it is reported that endeavours will be made to open at Christmas.

MR. GEORGE DICKINSON, who has served under the Macnaghten banner as manager of the Grand, Sheffield, has been appointed resident manager at the Theatre Royal, Attercliffe, and took up his duties last week.

MR. ARTHUR D. BURTON, the enterprising manager of the old-established George Burton gala firm, made a lucky "find" in his discovery of the Hamiltons, two original burlesquers, who are scoring a big success in their novel absurdity *The Mesmerist*. The Burton firm has again been entrusted with the entire catering for the great Charity Fêtes at Sheffield.

MISS CONSTANCE MOXON is taking down to the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, next week, and the week following. A really first-class variety company. Visitors to the popular Kentish seaside resort are fortunate in having such excellent prospects of amusement.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON will, on Monday week, have a special production of his new song-scena, "A Tale that will never Die" (founded on the wreck of the Birkenhead), by Harrington and Tate, at the Canterbury. The number will, at an early date, be included in the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes" series.

THE LEAS, Folkestone, was the scene of great enthusiasm on Wednesday, when a large and fashionable assemblage gathered to enjoy, for the first time this season, the musical treat provided by Mr. Karl Kaps' famous military band. Special items in a noteworthy programme were "Pick o' the Basket," a selection of popular airs arranged by Warwick Williams; "Trafalgar," a characteristic piece by that well-known musician George Miller; and Wilmott and Rether's *chanson*, "The Rose of My Heart."

MRS. M. BARRASFORD has inaugurated this week a beauty show, which was held at the Café Chantant at the Devil's Dyke, Brighton, on Wednesday afternoon. The competition was open to ladies employed in hotels, boarding houses, warehouses, and shops in Sussex, and attracted a large number of visitors. Some twenty entered the competition, and the awards were made as follows:—1, Miss Saunders (Royal Sovereign Hotel, Brighton); 2, Miss Mabel Lockhart (St. Leonards-terrace, Portslade); 3, Miss Grace Darling (King's Hotel, Brighton); 4, Miss Nora Saxby (King's Hotel, Brighton); 5, Miss May Chambers (Portslade); and 6, Miss Winstone (Vauxhall, London). The consolation prize went to Miss Ethel Williams, of Brighton. A variety programme was carried out by The Majors (from the Aquarium, Brighton), Miss Vera Ray, and Mr. Albert Marks; and the Dyke Park Military Band, under Mr. William Armstrong, contributed popular selections.

MR. JAMES P. MOORE must be complimented on the sensational success of "Kennedy's Komiks," a novel entertainment, which is now running in no less than eight theatres and entering the fifth and sixth week in some towns on Monday next. It certainly shows enterprise, and the various local managers, who are delighted with the results, are asking for a prolonged stay of ten or twelve weeks in each town. The business in West Bromwich continues phenomenal, but "Kennedy's Komiks" must give way on August Bank Holiday to Mr. Moore's new venture, the New Hippodrome and Theatre Royal, worked in conjunction with the powerful Walter De Frece circuit.

DR. WALFORD BODIE commenced his annual Scotch tour on Monday, opening at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, to a packed house. Many students from the University and the electric works were present. Although several appeared to be hostile when the doctor made his appearance, before the night was over he was loudly cheered, and at the conclusion a deputation of medical students came to his dressing room and congratulated him.

THE balance-sheet of the New Gaiety Theatre Company, Dundee, has been issued. The directors in submitting the account of profit and loss and balance-sheet, both applicable to the period between July 31, 1905—the date on which the company commenced business—and May 15, 1906, have the satisfaction of proclaiming a surplus of £92 13s. 2d. They pay a dividend to the shareholders at the rate of 5 per cent., free of Income-tax, for the period embraced in the accounts, and place £50 to a reserve fund. The first annual meeting of the shareholders will be held on Thursday next.

BY the success of the musical sketch *Bertie's Birthday Party* at the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, Mr. Barney Armstrong has been encouraged in his project of producing next Christmas two pantomimes on the twice-nightly system at both his theatres. The subjects are to be *Cinderella* and *Dick Whittington*. Mr Harry Pleon, Miss Annie Cohen, and a number of well-known artists have already been engaged. The *Cinderella* chosen was written by the late Walter Summers, and produced some four years ago at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham. The original music, scenery, and dresses will be utilised.

MLLE. ROZA'S Canine Hippodrome is appearing this week at the Palace by the Sea, Tynemouth, where the fair trainer's success has been such as to warrant her retention for a second week. Independent of the clever performance of her animals, Mlle. Roza's stage setting and effects are extremely fine and artistic.

THE rage in America for Miss Vesta Victoria's song, "Waiting at the Church," by Leigh and Pether, instead of abating, is increasing. Advices from Mr. David Day's New York branch, received a few days since, state that it has just "caught on" with a vengeance in Boston; that a big order for copies has reached Mr. Fred Day from Oakland, in far-off California; and that it is a feature at all fashionable wedding assemblies throughout the States.

MESSRS. TOM MELLOR, Alf. J. Lawrance, and Harry Gifford, the popular song writers, have been well represented at the Grand, Hanley, during the week, no less than five of their compositions having been sung there each night, namely, "My Cosy Caravan" and "Don't Cry, Little Girl," by Miss Lil Hawthorne, and "Ma Havana Queen," "What Is Your Name?" and "The Only Coon Without a Gal," by G. H. Elliott. All are published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.

A "BALLETA," entitled *In Sunny Spain*, invented by Mr. John Tiller, written by Mr. George R. Sims, with music by Mr. Herman Finck, is to be the feature of the entire summer season at the Blackpool Winter Gardens, where it is to be produced on Monday. The "balleta," it may be necessary to explain, is a combination of ballet and musical comedy. No less than 150 performers will be engaged in the representation, which is to be elaborately mounted.

MR. DAVID HART, the general-manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend, is leaving to-day for a tour through Germany and Belgium, and expects to be away for two weeks.

MISS VESTA TILLEY started on Tuesday on her 40-h.p. Panhard for a tour round England with her husband, Mr. Walter de Frece. Mr. de Frece is part proprietor of various hippodromes dotted about the South Coast and other parts of England, and he is combining business with pleasure. Miss Tilley comes to the Palace Theatre at Christmas.

VESTA TILLEY'S coiffure as the representative of smart English youth, has always been a puzzle to the uninitiated, and it has deceived even her own wig-maker, the only Willie Clarkson. Most people imagine that the popular "boy" wears her own hair dressed in a particular way. All her hair is plaited into a number of little twists with which she pads her head to make it the shape of a man's. Over that she wears a thin wig. There are no joins. They are prevented by the interlacing of her own hair into the wig from the front. The operation takes her maid an hour every night.

AMONG the victims of the deplorable railway accident on the London and South-Western Railway at Salisbury was Jules Keller, well-known in the variety world as the Human Enigma. Some fourteen months ago he performed at the Lyceum, and since then has been to New York, where his wife carries on a business.

RETURNING from New York, he was booked for a series of engagements at the Moss's Empires, the first of which dated from Monday at the Hackney Empire. He had wired on Saturday night from Plymouth to his aged mother, who lives in Aldersgate-street, stating that he would be home in the morning about five o'clock. His brother-in-law went to meet him, quite unconscious of the accident. He waited at Waterloo, and then went on to Salisbury. It was a pathetic sight to see him when he recognised the mangled remains of the deceased acrobat. Keller was well known in England, and had been a performer in London for the past ten to twelve years. He was noted for doing a remarkable dance on his hands—with his nether limbs, entirely useless to him, poised in the air.

THE annual general meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel, York Road, on Wednesday next, at 2 p.m. All members of the Society who are in town are invited to be present.

MR. HARRY FRAGSON, during his engagement at the Tivoli, which commences on Monday next, will give his most successful number, "Most politely," which relates, in a number of smart verses, "how the managers in London received his play," which was a particularly bright interlude in *Castles in Spain*.

THE Central Executive Staff of the Moss's Empires and Stoll Companies in Leicester-square will have their outing on Sunday, the rendezvous being Cranford Bridge, near Hounslow, where there are ample facilities for the enjoyment of boating, cricket, and other outdoor pleasures.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS wishes us to point out that through inadvertence he quite omitted to mention, during his interview with our representative (published last week), that the enormous business he did last year at his Australian theatres was largely due to the drawing capacity of the "La Milo" and Cruickshank act, now appearing at the London Pavilion.

MR. TOM M'NAUGHTON (of the M'Naughtons) has forwarded a cheque to the manager of the V.A.F. for £15, the result of a concert given by the happily associated pair on board ship whilst returning from South Africa, for distribution between the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home.

MR. EDWARD LAURI, the well-known comedian, has just returned from a successful Australian tour. He will shortly appear at the London halls with a new and screamingly funny pantomime sketch.

MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY'S delightful rendering at the Oxford of the well-known song, "Do a good turn when you're able," by Murphy and Lipton, has sent up the sale of the song by leaps and bounds, and Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have had to repeat large orders to the printers for copies of the same.

"STILL they gazed, and still the wonder grew, that one small head could carry all she knew." Such a paraphrase of Goldsmith's description of his schoolmaster might well be applied to the "Queen of Sheba," especially when it is recalled that the head of Her Majesty is of wax. The phenomenon is on view this week at the Empress, Brixton, where it forms the leading attraction, and is presented by Mr. E. Sardonis Albini, who calls it the second edition of his "talking head."

THE effigy is mounted on a pedestal, the door of which is opened to allow of an investigation of the delicate mechanism inside, and its utterances are preceded by a weird rolling of the eyes and a movement of the head. The Queen is first induced to reveal her name, and then describes the costume of various members of the audience. Mr. Albini afterwards descends to the stalls with a lady, bearing a tray of cigars, cigarettes, and bouquets, which are offered to the occupants of the seats. Each is in turn described by the Queen, who is afterwards prevailed upon to sing one of a given number of choruses selected by the audience, the popular "Rainy Day" and "The Bungalow" being rendered in a high-pitched voice. The novelty is presented in agreeable fashion by Mr. Albini, who exacts loud applause from a thoroughly interested audience.

MR. "JOHNNY" WOOD, brother of Miss Marie Lloyd, has become associated in the management of the Loughborough Hotel, Loughborough-road, Brixton, and will invite his friends to the opening which he will celebrate on July 17 next.

MISS SYRIA LAMONTE, who has recently been touring the Continent, appearing in Russia, Roumania, and other cities with great success, is shortly going to America, and sails by the s.s. Philadelphia on July 29.

MISS ALICE LORETTE, with her statue setter Ben, has left England for a long Continental tour, opening at the Casino de la Mouillere, Besançon. She expects to return to England with her wonderful dog in August next year to fulfil her English engagements.

MESSRS. WILL CATLIN, Paul Mill, Chas. Cardow, Andie Caine, and other prominent pierrots report to the Monte Carlo Publishing Company the fact that that enterprising young firm's "Winner," by Lawrance and Mellor, "Bamboo Bungalow," is the absolute "hit" of their respective programmes. Apropos, the charming American artist, Miss Lucy Ashton, is scoring a marked success at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, nightly with the same song, assisted by a sextette of lovely girls.

STERLING AND LOVE (Leo and Addie) of vocal and instrumental comedy fame, are anxious to assure managers that they are in no way connected with any other act (or acts) similar in title. They are the original Leo Sterling and Addie Love from the Palace, Shaftesbury Avenue.

THE Bandurrias are in much request at the present time at the receptions and garden parties of the élite of Society. These superb mandolinists in their picturesque Spanish costumes are greatly admired.

MOST of the really great artists on the legitimate as well as the variety stage have become identified with a distinct "line of part." Miss Louie Freear, for instance, in a certain rôle of Cockney "slavey," has on more than one occasion delighted the great public, which recognises the true humour and observation displayed by the quaint little actress. Once more Miss Freear is to present another "slavey" part—a one-act sketch—written for her by Mr. B. Soane Roby, and entitled *Snooks*, the first performance being booked for Monday at the Hackney Empire.

IN this Miss Freear has a part after her own heart, by which she will add one more character-study of the area drudge to the gallery already so well known to playgoers. The piece is bright and merry, and deals chiefly with the dilemmas of a deserter from the Grenadier Guards, who is befriended in his frantic endeavours to escape in disguise by the love-lorn melodramatic "domestic" Jemima—played of course by Miss Freear. Miss Freear will have the support of an excellent company, specially selected for their respective parts.

IT is an old saying that talent runs in families, and the natural gifts of Peggy Pryde, another princess of low comedy who is on the Hackney Empire bill next week, are only what one might expect from the daughter of so talented a mother as Jenny Hill. With her ever-ready wit and high spirits Peggy has always been a universal favourite.

THE Terriers are moving their registered offices to 4, Kennington-road, S.E., and committee meetings will in future be held at the Three Stags, Kennington-road. The final meeting at the Hercules (Mr. Douglas White's hostelry) was held on the 29th ult. Many hearty wishes for future prosperity were expressed towards Mr. White, the hon. treasurer of the association, who is retiring from the house.

MISS KELLERMANN, the lady swimmer, who last August created quite a sensation by her plucky attempts to swim the English Channel, has returned from the Continent after most successful professional engagements, spending the last six weeks at Vienna in the well renowned "Venice in Wien" at the Englischer Garten. Prior to leaving Miss Kellermann made a long distance record for the Danube, covering twenty-two miles in three hours and ten minutes.

MR. TONY PASTOR writes, under date New York, June 21:—"Another English artist has scored an American success. Princess Pauline, who opened here at my house on Monday, June 18, is already a town topic. Her song, 'I've got 'em,' is whistled and sung by the audiences, and her magnetic personality attracts many admirers. I want her English friends and fellow professionals to know of her instant success, so beg you will give it mention in your valued paper. 'Standing Room Only' in New York City in mid-June is a record for Princess Pauline."

MISS MAREE KEAN is achieving much success at the Syndicate Halls in a new and original répertoire of comedy songs, all specially written and composed for her by Messrs. Harrington and Tate, who are busily engaged in preparing other comedy specialities for the same talented young artist.

THE entertainment season at Felixstowe commenced on Monday, when Mr. Litho, who has erected an improved and enlarged stage on what is now known as "Litho's Ring," just off the Sea Road, gave his first entertainment of the summer. The company Mr. Litho has engaged includes Miss Clarice Lilian, a solo violinist and vocalist; Mr. W. H. Mann, R.A.M., pianist; Mr. F. J. Hudson, baritone, musical mimic and siffleur; Mr. Crane Watson, tenor; and Mr. Frank Frere, a versatile comedian. These, with Mr. H. Litho's contributions as raconteur and vocalist, make an excellent company of entertainers.

MR. W. H. CLEMART, vice-chairman, presided over the 470th meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association on Tuesday, when the chair was also occupied during a brief period by Mr. Harry Blake. There were also present Messrs. R. Abel, Charles Coborn, Frank Gerald, H. Griff, Fred Neiman, Michael Nolan, George Preston, and C. Douglas Stewart (secretary. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them were dealt with. A member of the Association attended, at the committee's request, to explain his action in regard to a complaint made to the general manager of the London and North-Western Railway. The complaint concerned a dispute with a ticket official, and should have been made through the Association. The matter had been sifted from top to bottom by the authorities at Euston, and had assumed such proportions as to menace the cordial relations existing between the Association and the railway companies. Eventually the member undertook to seek an interview with the Theatrical Traffic Manager, with a view to promoting an amicable settlement and to report to the secretary of the M.H.A.R.A.

THE agency at Colchester was transferred to Mr. Triscuit, of the George Hotel, and Mr. S. Johnson, of the Gresham Hotel, was appointed agent *pro tem.* for Llandudno. A lady member wrote complaining that her ticket was being fraudulently used by another member, and asking the Association to recover it, and the secretary was instructed to demand the return of the ticket. A member, whose subscription was overdue, applied to be allowed to obtain the concession in order to fulfil an engagement, promising to forward his fees at the end of the week. The member having before been granted the same favour, and having paid up as promised, the request was allowed. A communication from the Great Central Railway was under discussion, and the secretary was instructed to write to the theatrical traffic agent.

THE secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. G. W. Gerald, the agent in Paris, who stated that he had been successful, in conjunction with a friend, in obtaining a concession on certain Parisian railways, by which a reduction of 50 per cent. at individual rates is to be allowed on journeys *vid* Calais or Boulogne. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Gerald for his efforts in securing the concession. The secretary announced that he was in treaty with officials of the English companies in order to make the negotiations complete.

THE agreement for a yearly tenancy received from the landlord was submitted, and the secretary was instructed to apply to the solicitor for an exact definition of its terms. The general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation taking place on Tuesday, the next meeting of the committee was fixed for the day following (Wednesday). It was decided that the secretary should attend the Music Hall Sports on the 12th inst., as representative of the Association. Mr. Fred Neiman undertook to report, while at Clacton-on-Sea, on the desirability of instituting an agency in that town. The secretary's report for the week ending June 30 showed the addition of forty-one new members, the receipt of £35 10s., and the expenditure of £19. 6s. 8d. The vice-chairman was empowered to sign cheques on behalf of the Association, during the absence of the chairman, Mr. Joe O'Gorman, in South Africa.

THE late Jules Keller, who met his death in the terrible railway accident on Sunday, was, up to a couple of years ago, a member of M.H.A.R.A., but, owing to his absence in America, allowed his membership to lapse. Consequently the benefit of insurance was forfeited, and the sum of £500 is thus, it is sad to reflect, lost to the widow.

WE draw the attention of our readers to some interesting letters on Dangerous Performances, which appear on page 22. At an extraordinary meeting of the International Artists' Lodge, on Tuesday, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"This meeting is of the opinion that the proposed Act before the House of Commons, entitled "The Dangerous Performances Act," should meet with exhaustive criticism, and, if necessary, the united opposition of all branches of the variety profession in the interest of the whole body."

THE Executive Committee looks with confidence for the support of the Press and the public in presenting a firm opposition to the present form of the "Dangerous Performances Act," which seriously threatens the means of livelihood of great numbers of people, who by years of practice have perfected themselves in the performance of acts of daring and courage, which, so far from having a demoralising effect upon the community, are eminently calculated to encourage the highest and best qualities of mankind. In those few instances where accidents have occurred, they have generally arisen in cases where people without the necessary training and experience have been allowed to take part.

THE most casual inquiry would prove that the training to which all recognised performers are generally submitted tends to render comparatively harmless and free from danger feats which would undoubtedly involve considerable risk to those who had not had the advantage of such preparation. These arguments we regard as particularly worthy of note when it is considered that the proposed Bill aims at placing women of all ages, intelligence, and training on the same level as children, and the Bill, if passed in its present form, would deprive them of the fruits of years of hard work, study, and practice.

THE people who present these so-called dangerous feats and acts are undoubtedly the most cautious and prudent class of people in the world, as the nature of their calling demands the exercise of those qualities in a maximum degree. In all cases performers executing hazardous feats are protected properly against accidents by various safe-guards, which, however, are not apparent to the public. It is a fact that every artist supervises and attends personally to the construction and testing of these safe-guards before every performance, in no case leaving it to assistants to guarantee a safe performance. Statistics can be submitted to prove that considering the number of female artists in acts which might be considered dangerous, the accidents occurring among them are infinitely less than those among an equal number of mountain-climbers, motorists, bicyclists, factory employees, operators of machinery, etc.

THE Egbert Brothers have been playing their laughable *Happy Dustmen* sketch for nearly five years, and it was going as strong as ever at Ipswich this week. Trained in the circus ring, and with experience of every branch of stage work, they are both clever acrobats, dancers, and tumblers. Mr. Seth Egbert writes their patter for pantomime—they go to Edinburgh for *The Babes in the Wood* next Christmas—and spends his odd time in gardening and photography. Both of the brothers are keen on athletics, Walter having recently gone in for the study of Ju-Jitsu, and they showed their interest in football, and their kindness of heart at the same time, by getting up a team among the employees of the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, last winter. They played several matches with promising success, and it is known to this day as the Egbert team.

AFTER the performance on Monday night at the Hackney Empire, there was an extra "turn" in the early hours of the morning without any audience, and at the expense of one of the artists engaged at the hall. Mr. Herbert Lloyd, the "Diamond King," left his dressing-room at 10.50 on Monday night as he thought safe from all instruders. At 11.10 on Tuesday morning his assistant, who holds a duplicate key, entered, and found the room in the greatest confusion, and at once saw that "artists" not engaged by the management had been very busy. He raised an alarm, and summoned Mr. Lloyd, who promptly answered the "call," but only to find that a diamond medallion cigarette-holder, eight cluster rings, whiskers with diamond centre, jewelled walking stick, shirt-front brilliants, shoes studded with gems, and a diamond collarette of his wife's had vanished. An examination showed that the catch of the dressing-room window had been forced. Mr. Lloyd estimates his loss at £50, but showed our representative that he had sufficient brilliants left still with which to dazzle the public; but, not being insured, he is naturally grieved at his loss. The police are investigating the daring burglary.

THE Paragon Trio (Mr. Sharplin and his two daughters Lillie and Katie) should have been fulfilling an engagement at the Palace Theatre, Halifax, this week, but unfortunately they have been unable to appear owing to injuries they sustained in an alarming tram accident on Sunday. The well-known trio only arrived from Blackburn just before noon. After dinner the delightful weather tempted them to take a short tram ride to the village of Sunny Vale. On their return, owing to the greasy state of the metals, the driver lost complete control of the car, until it finally upset. Two men were killed on the spot and many severely injured. Of the trio Mr. Sharplin fared the worst, his face, hands, and legs being very badly lacerated. His daughters sustained several slight bruises, and are suffering from shock. The three were taken with all speed to the Royal Halifax Infirmary, where they were detained. On making inquiries on Wednesday evening our correspondent was informed that the injured artists were making very satisfactory progress.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR has been specially engaged to appear at the Empire and Olympia, Liverpool, this week, where she has made an emphatic hit.

FRED SINCLAIR and Gracie Whiteford are meeting with such success with their duologue *Getting Even* that they have played at Mr. Stoll's halls in Glasgow three times in three months.—Owing to music-hall bookings, Grantley and Coleman have been compelled to cancel their alfresco engagements.—Fred Curran has just produced a big number, written by Murphy and Lipton, entitled *'Taters and Bacon*.—The Four Herberts have just concluded a most successful and comfortable engagement on the De Frece circuit.

VISITORS to the Coliseum will remember that genial Irishman, Mr. J. Wallis Healy, who always added something to the charm of an interview in the Press bureau. He is seeking an engagement as Press agent, and in these days of hustle his energy and resource should be of considerable value to anyone fortunate enough to secure his services.

MR. C. W. MURPHY, the graceful charm and freshness of whose melodies have placed him in the very forefront of living writers for the variety stage, has just completed a ballad entitled, "At the Bend in the Old Country Lane." Fierce competition for rights of the number is expected from exploiters of illustrated songs—a form of entertainment pregnant with great possibilities.

MR. MONTE BAYLY produces on Monday next at the Bedford an episode in real life entitled *The Doctor*.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

Monologue entertainers are not new to the stage of the Palace Theatre, for have we not heard thereon the nimble-witted George Fuller Golden from the States, and the lively and broadly comic lecturer, R. H. Douglas, of Cockney origin, each the antithesis of the other, and both supremely funny? Mr. Golden is, unfortunately, not sufficiently well to revisit these shores just yet, but during his absence we will be content to listen to a brother American comedian, Mr. F. Niblo, who made his first appearance at the fine house in Shaftesbury-avenue on Monday evening, when he was warmly welcomed. We are told that the monologue shares the first place in popularity at the American vaudeville theatres with the illustrated song-scena. We are not surprised at it if its exponents are anything like as good as Mr. Niblo. He rattles on in most amusing fashion, and is full of paradox and anecdote. He dissects the mere man, and explains how "unfinished" he is, and how much better he might have been made. How can a man "sit down in front," when the joints of his knees make him "take a seat behind?" exclaims he. Real nonsense all of it, of course, but just the thing for summer evenings when one is too languid to sit and think. Another new-comer to the Palace is Mr. Evan Evans, Welsh comedian, who explains that he comes from Llanfairfechan, and speaks of the well-known village in Anglesey which takes up almost the whole of the alphabet in the spelling of it. Mr. Evans is mostly an anecdotist, but he shows his versatility and his command of dialect other than his own by a series of imitations of various people singing the chorus of "Bill Bailey," and is rewarded with favourable recognition of his abilities.

Selbo, another new introduction, is a remarkable performer with Indian clubs, and an astonishing manipulator of plates and other articles. He takes to buck-dancing while performing his tricks, and is generally very alert, smart, and entertaining. Mlle. Bordeverry, a daughter, we believe, of the celebrated colonel bearing the same name, is a most skilful markswoman, who cracks glass balls and shoots visiting cards off the head of her companion with the greatest ease. Her final trial of skill consists of the sensational performance of disrobing a lady fully dressed for an afternoon call with a repeating rifle with which she has just scored nine bulls-eyes. Hat and cloak are shot away, then sleeve and dress fastenings become severed one by one till the fashionable lady is reduced to a smiling model clad in fleecy wrappings only.

Guerrero appears in *Le Cauchemar*, a sensational drama, in which a peasant girl dreams that a monk to whom she has offered shelter leaves a sack behind when he departs. This bundle contains beautiful apparel and jewels, and the poor girl naturally bedecks herself. Then she stands in front of the mirror admiring herself, and dances. Hardly has she finished when she sees the monk standing before the door staring at her. He calls on her to give up the jewellery and the dress. She is paralysed with fright, and seeing this he throws off the false beard and his monk's cloak, and the girl discovers that he is a brigand. He commands her to hand everything over to him, and, hypnotised as it were, she slowly removes the rings and the dress. But when he points to the necklace she refuses to surrender it. How can she part with that which has made her so beautiful? She endeavours to gain the door, but the brigand seizes her and stabs her to the heart. She wakes in the end to find that her tribulations are only a dream, and falling on her knees murmurs a thanksgiving. Guerrero's acting and dancing are very fine.

The Colberg family, mostly of girls, are concertina players, xylophonists, campanologists, mandolinists, and guitarists of considerable ability. One of their number—a very small human boy, as Mr. Chadband would say—assumes the airs and graces of a miniature Sousa, and conducts the Palace orchestra with a consequential swagger that is intensely amusing.

Early in the evening is presented Mr. Charles Brookfield's sketch *The Lady Burglar*, which is not quite new to the stage, though it is making its first appearance at the Palace this week. Its wit and amusing imbroglio are well brought out by Miss Stella Hammerstein, a pretty daughter of the famous New York impresario, and Mr. Henry J. Ford, a son of the popular Lottie Venne, who displays considerable promise as an actor. Miss Daisy James has become quite a favourite with audiences at the Palace, whom she entertains with her comedy songs and chic style; and earlier in the evening Miss Lucy Ashton scores with a capital scena. Other turns include Mlle. Berthe Saverny, a brilliant vocalist; the Alaskas, in their refined acrobatic act; Matthews and Ashley, American comedians; and Clarice Mayne, also from the States. Scenes from Henley Regatta shown on the Bioscope are a most interesting addition to Mr. Alfred Butt's programme, which is one of the best in London. Mr. Herman Finck's orchestra during the evening submits a most enjoyable selection in Edward German's "Henry VIII. Dances."

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

No lack of novelty is apparent in the current programme at Mr. Walter Gibbon's newly-constructed hall in Holborn, where the single-turn system allows for the presentation of a programme in which no less than seventeen items are included. A first production this week has been the comedy sketch *A Very Bad Boy*, presented by Mr. Hal Godfrey and company. A young curate is engaged by a lady for her nephew who has recently been bequeathed to her by her brother, and is shortly to become a member of the household. The lady and her husband are not on speaking terms, and the latter, to spite his spouse, determines to convert the nephew into a "boy" of the gayest type. He mistakes the curate, who is of the meekest and most inoffensive kind—for the nephew plies him with whisky and cigars, and finally induces him to give the lady of the house a kiss. The tutor, muddled with the strong drink, complies, and receives a box on the ears and is ordered to leave the house. Before he goes, he indulges in a round with the boxing gloves with the old man, with the result that the latter is reduced to the most pitiable condition. So slight a plot seems scarcely to give much opportunity for comic elaboration, but the piece nevertheless bristles with funny sayings and incidents, and the laughter that accompanied its progress was continuous. The chief provoker of merriment was Mr. Godfrey, who made up in eccentric fashion and adopted a sepulchral tone that was most ludicrous. He was remarkably well supported by the other two performers, and the result was a gratifying success.

The appetite for novelty is further stimulated by the inclusion in the programme of D'Arc's Marionettes, in which the art of the puppet-show is advanced in a unique degree by the imitation on the miniature stage of well-known artists. Happy Fanny Fields, in her Dutch song and dance, and R. G. Knowles, with his long stride and peculiar utterance, are portrayed with marvellous fidelity; and other remarkable impersonations, from George Lashwood to Harry Lauder, from Vesta Tilley to May Henderson, are included in the interesting gallery of imitations. The attempt to put popular favourites before the audience by means of wooden dolls, with costume, action, and voice complete, is one of no little daring, but its success is rendered unmistakable by the enthusiasm of the audience, who would gladly see more of the clever show. Miss May Mars, the handsome and dashing comedienne sings in impressive style, "I've no right to love you, but I do," and in the ballad about an Indian maid, her rich and cultured voice is heard with inexpressible delight.

A "talking dog" has also a place in the programme, and proves to be a beautiful little poodle called Vermouth, introduced by a French gentleman, who takes the audience into his confidence in his native tongue. The dog is made to utter a kind of whine, and by placing his hand in the animal's mouth, sounds of the open "a" are produced with different consonants prefixed. The words "Mama," "La-ba," &c., in more or less close imitation of the human voice are heard, and have an effect that is decidedly interesting. "Klio" embraces a series of studies in sculpture, presented by Miss Irma Lorraine. Numerous subjects are treated, including Music, Venus, and the Nymph at the Fountain, and ending with an effective representation of the Rock of Ages. The brief intervals between the poses are made enjoyable by the display of Maurin's fountains, by means of which a number of highly picturesque waterfall designs are obtained.

The art of Jiu-Jitsu is agreeably demonstrated by Raku, in whose behalf £50 is offered to any three European wrestlers, if he fails to defeat all of them in fifteen minutes. Only one opponent turned up on Tuesday evening in the person of an army sergeant, who was disposed of after a four minutes' round. The way in which the frailest lady can overthrow the burliest ruffian is also shown by a comely Japanese maiden and Raku's assistant who assumes the manner and methods of the street hooligan. Miss Mabel Thorne puts the house into the highest spirits with her song of "Mr. Brown," and gentlemen of different hues whom she identifies in the audience. The Sisters Anderson appear to advantage as novelty dancing experts; Mr. Harry Herbert sends the audience into roars of laughter by his funny sayings as a red-haired lady; Cullane's comedietta, *The Lady's School*, is played to unceasing mirth, and the programme also includes Kahn and Kahn in a magical act; Prof. Dunning, ventriloquist; Mr. Ryder Slone, the clever descriptive comedian; Sibb and Sibb, trapeze artists; the Imperial Bioscope, and Robins and Collier in the sketch, *The Lady and the Porter*

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Arrangements for the amusement of the variety-loving public of Shepherd's Bush are perfect at the handsome Empire close to the "Tube" terminus, where the most luxurious accommodation is combined with an entertainment the excellence of which is assured under the wise supervision of Mr. Oswald Stoll, aided by the assiduous acting-manager, Mr. E. H. Dobson. A prominent place in the current week's programme is occupied by the popular comedian, Mr. Harry Ford, the "inquisitive" one creating much hilarity by his humorous renderings of "What do you think they keep me here for?" and "Ain't it nice to be with people who're so kind?" the latter ditty telling of the questionable benevolence of an obliging landlord. The comedian also appeared as a dude—an impersonation which owed all its fun to the ability of Mr. Ford. Another humorist who was accorded a flattering reception was Mr. Ambrose Thorne, a light comedian who should do well in musical comedy. He has a funny number in "Be very, very careful what you do," in which he reminds his listeners that things are not always what they seem; and there were many in the audience who regretted that this finished and smart artist only gave one song. There was much quiet humour also in the ditty for which Miss May Evans was responsible, "He opened his mouth too wide," in which the comedienne amusingly warbles of "Bill," a gentleman who means well, though he sometimes has an unfortunate way of expressing himself.

Familiar as all music hall frequenters must be with the boxing sketch of the Brothers Horne, who not long since returned from South Africa, its success is as pronounced as ever. Roars of laughter are awakened by the ribald remarks of the shoeblack at the expense of the masher; and when the latter can stand the insults no longer, and dons the "mittens," finally completely vanquishing the bully, the excitement is intense. The boxing bout is as smartly managed as it ever was, and the brothers work well together for the success of the entertaining trifle—a success which is also contributed to by the lady member of the quartette, who executes a neat little step-dance. Spry and Austin submit an amusing interlude, in which the male appears as a weird-looking creature who indulges in many humorous antics and sayings. His fair partner ably aids him in the fun-making, and the couple conclude their turn with a well-written and laughable song descriptive of "The Girls of England." One of the finest animal acts to be seen in the music halls is certainly that given by Miss Tina Clementa, who, besides introducing some wonderfully intelligent and highly-trained dogs, proves herself an accomplished horsewoman. A couple of exceptionally smart terriers and a number of high-leaping hounds especially deserve mention; and the interesting and much appreciated turn is concluded by a number of dogs "looping the loop," a much-applauded feat.

The varied and attractive musical interlude for which Violi is responsible includes the playing of "Il Bacio" on the concertina, and many other popular selections on bells and other novel instruments, the gifted musician being accorded a most flattering reception; and the expert and easy juggling, hoop-manipulating, and numberless other difficult exploits of Atroy are appreciated at their true worth. Much hilarity is the outcome of the funnily-worked show of the "merry monopedes," Conway and Leland, the cleverness of their act also being recognised in no half-hearted fashion; and also contributing largely to the enjoyment of the evening are the popular Irish comedian, Mr. Pat Rafferty, in a couple of well-rendered songs; and the clever "farmyard" mimic, Mr. Harry Carsdale.

THE DUCHESS.

Evening breezes from the neighbouring common have been powerless to induce variety lovers at Balham to forego the pleasures of the music hall which Mr. Walter Gibbons enables them to enjoy, and the strength of the programme last week caused them to flock in crowds to the elegant and well-appointed hall. The inimitable Chirgwin was a great source of attraction, but on the Wednesday Mr. Bertram Ross, the new manager, was obliged to announce that the "White-Eyed Kaffir" was indisposed, and that he had secured a deputy in Hayman and Franklin, who were most favourably received. Their duologue, in which a gentleman of the Jewish persuasion enters the office of a matrimonial agent and indulges in pleasant conversation with the proprietress, created hearty laughter, and a subsequent duet in which a medley of choruses are quaintly strung together, proved equally entertaining. The comedian of the pair is eccentric to look upon, and his stolid utterance is in happy contrast to the bright and animated delivery of his fair partner.

Cordial greeting was given to King and Benson, old favourites in Balham, whose devices for creating mirth are many and various. The daintily-costumed lady is charming as ever both in appearance and in voice, which blends tunefully with that of the irrepressible "messenger-boy." Mr. Albert Le Fre adopts what may be called an international make-up in his costume, and the difficulty is to determine whether he pretends to be a Scotch, Irish, or German tourist. Whatever his nationality, however, there is no question as to the humour, the novelty, and the artistic finish of his entertainment. Beginning with a series of funny stories, each droller than the rest, Mr. Le Fre proceeds to portray "What one sees on the

(*Continued on column four.*)

CHAT WITH MISS VESTA TILLEY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

There are not many famous historical personages—go back as far as you like—each of whose autographs would realise, if put up for auction, the sum of £200, so that Miss Vesta Tilley, who arrived in London a week ago after a successful American tour, ought to feel mightily proud at the fact that only a few weeks ago her signature on a programme was sold for 1,000 dollars, or, in English money, £208 12s. 8d.

"Why not retire from the stage and sell autographs, Miss Tilley?"

"Ah! I may retire in six years' time—you see, I have contracts as far ahead as that. My husband wants me to give up work at once, but I'm afraid I'm too fond of it."

"So that, in all probability, the stage will see your farewell performance in 1912?"

The lady evidently did not wish to make a definite statement. "I can only tell you," she replied, "that I hope to retire in six years. I won't make a promise—I might even retire before—so that's all I say on that subject."

"Then suppose we talk about America?"

"Certainly," came the vivacious reply. "This last trip I was away for two months, and without flattering myself in the slightest, I can say that we did record-breaking business all the time. At the Colonial in New York, where I appeared most of the time, we had a matinée and an evening performance every day. At the afternoon show there were always about 100 women to every man

[*Photo by Gullemberg.*

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

in the audience. Oh, and the stage-door receptions! And the presents! I never had less than three bouquets at every performance, and on my farewell night I had twelve, as well as three huge boxes of chocolates, a chain, and a satchel, the last-mentioned being made of beads by a little girl. I'm awfully fond of America. The audiences there are just as good to me as they are in England."

"So you will be going back?"

"Rather—if I can only arrange it. Mr. H. H. Feiber, the well-known New York manager, offered me a thirty-five weeks' engagement if I would remain on. We cabled to London to know if the Moss Empires Company would release me from contracts, but Mr. Stoll replied that he could not see his way to do so. However, I shall go to America next year provided some of the English managers will release me from certain dates in this country."

"But you are going for a holiday now?"

"Why shouldn't I?" laughed Miss Tilley. "I shall go to Paris next week, and then I shall, with my husband, start off on a motor tour somewhere. We have a 40-h.p. Panhard, and I never now travel in a railway train in England. And I feel safer, too, in the motor even than in the train. At the conclusion of my holidays, a tour of the Moss and Stoll Empires will bring me up to Christmas, then I return to London and its suburbs."

We are not surprised that our American cousins have fallen in love with Miss Vesta Tilley, for is she not the neatest, daintiest, jolliest, and sprightliest little artist that we have? She sings in a manner as delightful as it is free from vulgarity, and from the moment she steps on the stage she has the audience with her. The most critical of playgoers capitulate to her charms and wax enthusiastic over the smoothness and finish of her acting. Her songs and studies of English characteristics are complete in every detail of inflection, and time does not seem to deprive her in the least of her superior qualities of entertainment, refinement, and cleverness. She is an artist to her finger-tips, her every movement in giving the lightest song is a suggestion, and there is no woman on the stage who better acts her songs, in addition to singing them so delightfully and with such a twinkling sense of humour.

Miss Tilley is proud in the possession of a massive solid silver loving-cup, which was presented to her during her recently-concluded New York engagement. The inscription engraved upon the cup is as follows: "Miss Vesta Tilley, from Percy G. Williams, June 10, 1906. A slight souvenir of the fact that you did the record business of this season at the Colonial, the Orpheum, and the Alhambra."

It may interest some folk to know where Miss Tilley made her first appearance as a public entertainer. It was at the St. George's Hall, Nottingham, of which house the débutante's father was manager. We won't say how long ago that is, but the lady herself had then reached the age of three years, and she was so small that she had to be placed upon a table while she sang her song. Miss Tilley commenced wearing male dress at the age of five, and ever since has stuck to masculine attire—on the stage only, of course.

SWANBOROUGH TESTIMONIAL FUND.

Amount acknowledged	£328	18	0
G. Barclay	1	1	0
Marguerite Ashton	1	1	0
J. Brill	6	6	0
F. H. Pedgrift	2	2	0
F. Weeks	1	1	0
London City and Midland Bank	2	2	0
J. J. Dallas	1	1	0
"J. S."	1	1	0
S. Gow	5	5	0
Mrs. Onslow	0	10	0
Graydon's Agency	1	1	0

MR. J. F. CONNOR has secured Capt. Gruber, with his elephant, horse, and pony for four weeks for the Hippodrome, Douglas, Isle of Man. The elephant, Minni, is the largest performing pachyderm in the world, and she will enjoy her sea bath every day for her health.

halls," in which illustrations of an acrobatic performance and those of a juggler, a magician, and an illusionist are given, concluding with an oddly conceived dance. Each feat is smartly enough executed, but fun is the predominant feature, and the laughter which the comedian causes still mingles with the recalls which continue long after his number has been removed.

Tit-bits of burlesque were furnished by the Two Bostons, who in their capacity of showmen create merriment by their fooling and evoke admiration for the "cake walk" which they have trained a couple of dogs to perform. Dancing is also favoured by the Bostons, one of whom gives a very creditable exposition of the art. The Original Cecilias, two graceful ladies, introduced themselves in a post-horn duet, one of the fair performers afterwards giving an effective rendering of "Queen of the Earth" on the cornet. Tubular bells and sleigh bells also serve the purposes of popular melodies, and so entrancing do the selections prove that an irresistible demand is made for more.

The inspiring notes of the reveille, played on silver bugles, heralded the appearance of the Musical Howards, one of whom makes a comely representative of a bugler boy, while her partner, dressed in military attire of a most eccentric kind, exerts himself with the happiest results in an endeavour to create laughter. "Let me like a soldier fall" is given in fine style on the cornet by the lady, while the popular "Little Boy called Taps" is made to sound very well as a duet on the same instruments. Mr. Joe Archer proved his right to the style and title of "The Curious Chappie" in his singing "That's what a man can't do"; and the Ten Dixie Girls submitted an enjoyable series of songs, choruses and dances. The saltatory talents of the Glenroy Troupe are united in their pretty spectacle, "The Lads of the New Brigade," in which military manœuvres are executed with agreeable precision and the art of dancing attains a high degree of perfection; and the attractiveness of the bill was further increased by the pictures shown on the Imperial Bioscope.

The liberal entertainment was made still more generous on the 27th ult. by an "extra turn" submitted by the Vernon St. Clair company in a sketch called *Peter's Dilemma*. The interlude is chiefly notable for the antics of a page boy, who is left in charge of a dressmaker's establishment, and by the exercise of his fancied powers of hypnotism induces the young daughter of the house to give him the money to secure admission to a neighbouring music hall. This gives excuse for a dance and for the appearance of the page boy in the stalls, whence he is summarily ejected. The little piece, which afforded real pleasure, was played by a comedian of distinct talent and by a young girl who spoke her lines agreeably and danced neatly, the part of a fashionable dressmaker being also creditably sustained.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

With a wise prodigality—if one may use a somewhat paradoxical expression—Mr. Arthur J. Barclay this week provides his patrons with a programme calculated to attract audiences at the busiest time of the year instead of the season frequently associated with makeshifts. The result is highly successful from the public's point of view, and, we hope, equally so from the managerial standpoint. Great expectations had been aroused by the announcement of the engagement of Miss Eugenie Fougère, who sings French *chansons* as only a born Parisienne could do, and introduces the latest Parisian novelty, "Mattchiche," a dance which on Monday was received with a peculiarly chilling silence. By far the most dramatically artistic performance of the week is the appearance of Miss Arabella Allen in some of her famous Dickens impersonations. Here we had something truly artistic. It may be unfortunate that Miss Allen elected to make her initial appearance in two such characters as Quilp and Uriah Heep: they did not allow of sufficient contrast to exhibit the talented lady's undoubted versatility. But both are marvellously clever. The manner in which the actress, with a few touches, extinguishes her identity and assumes the personalities of these two really repulsive characters is a triumph of art. Miss Hettie Chattell is one of the very best male impersonators we have seen. In the correct evening dress of the good-looking young man about town, Miss Chattell sings her two songs, "When you're courting" and "That's what I call love," in admirable style. Carl Lynn is a cheerful and clever mimic—or rather imitator—of animals, some of his efforts being startlingly true; Hector repeats a performance that has won him favour before now on these boards as a wire artist and hoop manipulator; Burt Shepard's alleged parodies at the piano are not always amusing; and an original "electrical review" is E. Rousbey's *Paris in London*, in which is exemplified to what extraordinary lengths the uses of electricity may be put on the stage. Four beautiful scenes of Paris are displayed, and the lighting is simply marvellous, the effect of the sky from daybreak, through tempest to sunset and moonrise, being admirable. The review is witnessed with rapt attention, and accorded unstinted applause. Bonnie Goodwin and her Piccaninnies appear, and the wildly grotesque dancing of the youngsters goes as well as ever; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some pleasing pictures; and the able stage-management of Mr. John Grant deserves mention. The overture for the week is the ever-welcome *Faust*, of Gounod, well played under the bâton of Mr. H. Petersen.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Miss Amy Clevere returns to the Hippodrome this week, and again wins the plaudits of her many admirers. Her two numbers, "Sweethearts all over the world you'll find," and "You tell me you are going to wed a white man," are rendered with that inimitable winsomeness which this dainty comedienne has made so peculiarly her own. As a dancer, too, Miss Clevere possesses grace and chic, and her turn is altogether a delightful one. In the engagement of the "comedy trio" of jugglers, Drawee, Frisco, and Hambro, Mr. E. W. James has secured a strong attraction. Remarkably expert in himself, Drawee is fortunate in possessing two clever assistants—a nigger and a collie dog, which appears to enjoy the entertainment fully as much as the audience, while the antipathy he exhibits towards his African confrère is amusing to a degree. Drawee himself is responsible for some clever wine-glass, plate, and umbrella manipulation, though the house misses some of his finer points in the amusement caused by the performance of his beautiful dog. Mr. C. Cranston finds great favour in his song, with the refrain, "Girls, I like to please them, but I always like to tease them," and his "Matrimonial News" number is also of a mirthful character, and provokes roars of laughter. Miss Maidie Scott, who is "just a comedienne," presents a most enticing stage picture. Her song of "Once again the curate preaches" has a quaint and tuneful melody which strikes pleasurably upon the ear. Miss Scott's second song, "Won't you listen to that big brass band," is a marching tune which calls irresistibly for the accompaniment of tapping feet—and in no more convincing a manner could the audience show how thoroughly the artist's efforts are appreciated. Clad in a principal boy's costume of silver satin, Miss Maggie Rimmer gives her song, "There's a girl I love sincerely" with excellent effect. Her step-dancing is also exceptionally neat, and never fails to gain applause. Mr. Jack Wood, "the Lancashire tenor," who has a fine voice, affords real pleasure by the delivery of his two songs, and at once establishes himself as a first-class favourite.

In the Hardinis, juvenile musical instrumentalists, is found a quartette of most capable violinists. A concerted opening by the young troupe is followed by a violin solo, in which harmonic effects are exquisitely obtained. In a mazurka, which also forms part of their entertainment, the pizzicato movements are perfect, and the young people were again and again recalled. Mr. C. Whittle is one of those amusing comedy vocalists whose mere appearance at the footlights is the signal for an outburst of merriment. He is funny without effort, and every line of his patter is really droll. In "I'm Muggins the Juggins" the artist is at his best, and some of his facial contortions are irresistibly comic. The musical comedy sketch, *A Broken Journey*, supplies Hallam and Stanton with a vehicle for some tuneful songs and several funny situations. Rose Singleton, on her way to a wedding, is delayed by a railway contretemps, and Tom Carter finds himself in the same position. In the midst of their troubles both find time to deliver one or two solos and a spirited duet. Amusement is caused by the couple mistaking each other for criminals of the worst type, and some comical episodes are developed. Ultimately, explanations follow, which prove that the lady and gentleman are old sweethearts, and the trifle ends happily enough. Both artists are excellent comedians, and their little sketch goes with a merry swing. Apollo and his pupils present an interesting exposition of jiu-jitsu methods.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

Excellent audiences are being attracted here this week, delighted with the fare provided by Mr. John Lawson, who is loyally aided by his trusty lieutenant, Mr. Reginald Grant. The performance opens with a capital overture under the able *bâton* of Mr. Roden, which is but a forerunner of many good things to come. The Sisters Rose, who win recognition at once, good-humouredly bid the audience "Follow the Band," and having acquitted themselves satisfactorily as vocalists, they demonstrated their ability in high kicking and various acrobatic feats, manifestly to the admiration of the whole audience. *Tit for Tat* gives Howard and Hanson an excellent opportunity to display their versatility, and they extracted quite a lot of fun from the imbroglio resulting from a surreptitious visit by a lady disguised as a military man to a Covent Garden ball. The ruses of a jealous husband to bring his wife to book prove exceedingly funny, and the fun waxes fast and furious when a mock duel between husband and wife brings matters to a climax, and the usual explanations follow. Miss Elly Amorelle sings very sweetly "Down the Vale," the scenes being pictorially represented on a screen. The reception accorded to her efforts is in the highest degree satisfactory, so much so that the talented vocalist narrowly escaped a demand for a repetition of her efforts. Jury's Bioscope affords the audience an opportunity of witnessing the race for the Grand Prix, and it is hugely enjoyed.

A local scena, *The Lady Highwayman*, from the pen, we understand, of Louie Cissie Lawson, follows. The plot of this little piece turns on the escapades of Lady Muriel Giles, who is wont to masquerade as a highway robber on Hounslow Heath. She is in love with the local poet, one Rudolph, but the course of true love runs anything but smoothly, as the match is opposed by her parents, Lady and Squire Giles. When, however, the latter couple find themselves stranded on Hounslow Heath, and beset with the threats of a dashing young highwayman, they are grateful for the timely assistance of Rudolph, who is, of course, in the plot. As the result of his timely rescue they bestow on him the hand of Muriel, and the curtain falls on a general reconciliation. Miss Janett Delore is a pretty and winsome Muriel, Mr. George Grantham proves excellent as the Squire, Mr. James Hardie is distinctly humorous as the poet Rudolph, and Miss Emily Spillet lends her aid with advantage as Lady Giles. The "scena" is an unambitious effort, smartly written, and contains several amusing situations.

The Hippodrome company appears in *The Sleigh Bells*, an adaptation of the Lyceum production.

THE METROPOLITAN.

On Monday was produced a new sketch, in three scenes, by H. Leslie Bell, entitled

"ARE YOU A GENTLEMAN?"

Ethel Graybrook ..... MISS LILLY PEARL
Miss Clements ..... MISS M. BERESFORD
George Wells ..... MR. H. LESLIE BELL

From a literary point of view Mr. H. Leslie Bell's new sketch is considerably superior to the average music hall production. There is a crispness in the dialogue that is quite refreshing, and though the plot is slight enough, skilful workmanship is shown in its development. The first scene represents the office of a busy theatrical agent, who has just received a curt intimation from a popular leading lady to the effect that she will not accept an engagement to appear in a new musical play about to be produced unless she is allowed to have a free hand in regard to the dialogue. Mr. Wells, the agent, instructs his typist to write to the "star" declining to accept her conditions. He will have to find someone able to take her place. Just at this moment a young lady enters the office, and in a flurried manner explains that she has lost her purse. Will Mr. Wells kindly help her out of the difficulty? In the course of the conversation which follows the lady reveals the fact that she is desirous of obtaining a stage engagement; and as evidence of her ability she gives a song and dance which quite satisfies the agent as to her ability. She also gives him to understand that she is well off, and invites him to her home. The drive in a hansom cab is shown by a series of pictures on the biograph, the couple evidently holding an animated discussion on the way. The last scene is a sumptuously furnished apartment in a house in Mayfair, which duly impresses the agent, who eventually engages the lady to appear in the new production at a big salary, and signs the contract then and there. The ink is not dry before the lady makes a full confession that her story of the lost purse was only an excuse for obtaining an interview with the agent, and as to the sumptuously furnished room, she had hired that for the occasion. "Why didn't you write to me?" asks the agent, who, finding he has been deceived, threatens to break the contract. The lady replies that she wrote several times, and reads his reply, stating that he could not interview unknown people who wanted engagements. The agent relents, admits she is a plucky little woman, and says he has no doubt she will make a hit in the new piece. The sketch concludes merrily and musically with a duet. Miss Lilly Pearl is a very bright and animated representative of the would-be actress Ethel Graybrook, and sings and dances in admirable style; Miss M. Beresford plays well in the minor part of the typist; and Mr. H. Leslie Bell is delightfully easy and natural in his embodiment of the agent.

The excellent bill this week includes Griff, in "The Clown in Apartments," his quaint performance giving unqualified satisfaction. The Serenaders, a quintet of masked singers, are well received; and the Six Brothers Luck continue to extract much fun out of their bustling pantomime, *The Hotel Grande*. The Ongars score in their admirable illustrations of various styles of national dancing; Barlee and Smith appear in the comedy and musical duologue, *A Rehearsal*; and Booker and Narbis, in *The Society Burglar*, are highly successful. Mr. Charles Whittle is a quaint comedian that is rapidly rising in popularity; and other attractive turns include Mr. Will Johnson, comedian; Mr. Will Dalton, comedian; Miss Leonie Dixon, soubrette and speciality dancer; Mr. Whit Cunliffe, comedian; Miss Lily Morris, comedienne; Burns and Evans, eccentric comedians; and the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers.

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With the greatest astonishment I read the article *re* the Dangerous Performance Bill in the last issue of *The Era*. Are not courage, pluck, and cleverness qualities which should be admired and encouraged? If this new Bill is directed against all acrobatic performers, I can only say that it would be extremely unfair. There is a very great difference between a dangerous performance and a clever performance, but people who are not thoroughly acquainted with each line of acrobatic accomplishment cannot possibly be fair judges whether a performance is dangerous or clever. Every experienced acrobat or clown will tell you that there is no real danger in clever acrobatic performances, as the permanent practice which is required for a smart acrobatic act makes even a dangerous trick easy and absolutely sure. The acrobatic business is surely restricted enough already by the existing laws and regulations, and there is no real necessity therefore to bring fresh laws and restriction in force against acrobatic performers.

The Dangerous Performances Bill, if it ever comes in force, will surely not prevent accidents happening, but on the contrary the measure would, by its stupid and unwarrantable restrictions, without the slightest doubt produce many accidents, and this for the following reasons:

1. Compelled by the law not to perform (seemingly) dangerous tricks with boys under 16 and girls under 18, acrobatic performers would of course do their acts with girls and boys over the age limit, which certainly would be much more difficult, and through this reason might become dangerous.
2. By the new Bill boys and girls could not commence early enough to become really clever acrobatic performers, and would be brought on to the stage half trained in their line of business, and then of a surety accidents would be very frequent.

If it be really necessary to introduce the Dangerous Performances Bill, the only way to handle the subject fairly would be to appoint a committee of four or five old acrobatic performers to say in each case whether an act or performance is dangerous or clever. If the Bill comes into force as it stands now, it will only be a great trouble to the authorities and more so to clever performers who try, and have always tried, to earn an honest living for their families and themselves.—Yours truly,

O. HANS DAYTON,
of the Dayton Family.

Palace, Halifax, July 3, 1906.

P.S.—I commenced the acrobatic business when three years of age. I have been now over 30 years in the business, and have never met with an accident. I am strong and healthy, and have strong and healthy children, thank God. So the acrobatic business cannot be dangerous, after all.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—If you can spare me a few lines in your valuable paper to protest against this most obnoxious Act in its drafted shape you will confer a boon on numbers of members of the variety profession, inasmuch as if the Act is passed in its present shape we shall have no gymnasts, acrobats, cyclists, equestrians, or other people who will be considered to be performing dangerous feats. I do not mind the Act as regards hazardous, or what you might term risky, exhibitions—such as parachute descents, &c.; but we cannot tell how it will affect members of the profession generally.

If the Act would only define what performances are to be considered dangerous—all well and good. But it is left to some individual of little authority and less intelligence, who may or may not be prejudiced against certain acts in variety theatres, and he may consider even a Risley act dangerous. Then, again, one might go to some other towns, and a person in power might look at the same performance from a totally different standpoint.

The Act would not work, but it would be the means probably of throwing out of employment hundreds of people who have no other means of gaining a livelihood, being inexperienced at other trades, and having served a lifetime in amusing the public. Besides, the Act also interferes too much with the liberty of the subject, and we are supposed to live in England—the home of the free.

I might also state that serious accidents are very rare in the acrobatic or gymnastic businesses. I am sure the percentage would be very small, and I think also that risks in factories and workshops are far more dangerous, and are responsible for a far larger percentage of accidents than any performance given in either music hall, circus, or theatre.

Now, Mr. Editor, knowing you are always willing to take up these matters, I ask you if it would not be well for the profession generally to try and stop this Act becoming law, and I think the several Associations, including the proprietors, should form a deputation to obtain an interview with the Home Secretary, so as to defend our interests and prevent anything becoming law that may be unjust to the variety profession generally, or to any section of it.

There are many feats performed in school gymnasia under inexperienced instructors that are far more risky than any performed by experienced artists on the variety boards or in the arena. Should a committee be formed, I will do all that lies in my power to further our cause, as I feel that the last Children's Act was a useless and unnecessary Act for the stage, and now, in these new proposals of Mr. Herbert Samuel, we are going from bad to worse. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children can do all that is necessary.

Trusting that something will be done before it is too late; and thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of these remarks.—Faithfully yours,

E. A. W. CAMEO.

95, Stretford-road, Manchester,
July 4.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Re the new Act concerning dangerous performances. I think it will do a lot of harm to good English artists if the authorities don't specify what (in their idea) is dangerous to life and limb. I have performed on the three bars for eighteen years, and on bars for twenty-six years, and am strong and well yet. I have had no broken bones. My daughter works the trapeze, and has done so for the last four years, and if some official should call it dangerous (which some old fossil might do) she would have to leave out the best part of her act, although she can sing while performing it, and it hardly alters her breathing. She is only 8½ft. from the mattress. It ought to be stated in the proposed Act what performance is considered dangerous, so that everyone may know if they run a risk of a penalty or not.—

Yours faithfully,
FRED ARTELL,
(of the Bros. Artell; father of the Three Rubys).

Empire, Liverpool, July 4.

MR. THEODORE JONES has decided that in order to avoid further misunderstanding, his new scena in future will be known as *The Prodigal's Return*.

MISS FANNIE LESLIE—who alas! all too seldom graces the boards she so well adorned—was a visitor at the Oxford on Monday evening, and was observed chatting with that well-known pantomime librettist and author, Charles Wilmott, who wrote for the lady, in conjunction with John S. Baker, her celebrated song "The Boys of London Town."

THE EMPRESS ANNIVERSARY.

The eighth year of the existence of the elegant palace of variety at the foot of Brixton Hill was ushered in on Friday, the 29th ult., when the occasion was marked by the presence of a crowded audience, and by the attendance, at the invitation of the directors, of many people prominent in variety circles. The Empress, it may be recalled, was the first of the new suburban halls to feel the pinch of the teetotal policy of the London County Council, and determined attempts were made without avail to change the intolerant attitude of London's governing body. The hall was for some time run under the Lord Chamberlain's licence, during which period a drink permit was held, but smoking was forbidden. Eventually the music hall licence was taken up, along with the drink restrictions, the scent of the fragrant weed was restored, and the hall has since enjoyed a career of unvarying prosperity.

Great enthusiasm was displayed on Friday in all parts of the house, and though the refreshment bar was left for the most part desolate, a little apartment upstairs, where Mr "Johnny" Wood presided over the feast, was filled and refilled with many people anxious to

MR. NELSON FRANCIS.

offer congratulations to Mr. Nelson Francis. Besides the success of the celebration, the popular manager had the additional pleasure of noting the hearty reception given to three small daughters of the house, the entertainment contributed by Little Maudie, Ivy, and Gladys Francis being one of the most appreciable items of the evening. Maudie has already taken honours on the variety stage, and her singing on Friday of a song in praise of "Lulu" and her neat dancing obtained the heartiest applause, which increased in volume when a veritable counterpart of the dainty little maiden appeared and joined her sister in the dance. There was still further excitement when at the third recall a child in pink, who could scarcely have seen four summers, joined the other two in an effective *pas de trois*. The little "mite" was profuse in her acknowledgments of the cheers and of the floral tributes bestowed, bowing not always in the right direction, but certainly with every desire that no one should be left out.

Artists of eminence contributed to the special programme, which contained some extra turns. Miss Victoria Monks' song of "Moving Day" had an immediate effect on the audience, who sang the refrain with remarkable unanimity, the popular artist being obliged to respond with another selection. Mr. Wilkie Bard caused the customary roars of laughter with his plaintive request, "Let me sing"; Mr. T. E. Dunville dilated in characteristically funny fashion on the virtues of tramway tickets; and Mr. George Robey presented the sorrows of a serio with irresistible drollery. Miss Daisy James, for whom a handsome basket of flowers and a fan made out of elegant blooms were held in reserve, sang her "policeman" song with her usual gaiety and animation; and Miss Lottie Lennox, in glittering dress of marvellous pattern, gave a rousing chorus song. The wonderful dancing of Mr. John Ford, who, attired in evening-dress, goes through a series of the most intricate steps, caused demonstrative applause. King and Benson were cordially received in their snatches of harmony and fun; the Selbinis won the approbation of the house for their wonderful cycling feats; Miss Edie King made a pretty appearance as "Red Riding Hood"; Mr. Bob Hutt rendered one of his most comical selections; Mr. Gilbert Girard submitted a specimen of his vocal powers in his imitations; Miss Alice Blandford exercised a cultivated soprano in a popular ballad; Jack Wayho and Eva Hope gave impressive illustrations of Dickens stories; and among others who contributed to the programme were Miss Gladys Anderson, Mr. Thos. Brooklyn, Mr. George Neno, Miss Carrie Woods, the Sisters Morgan, Mr. Syd May, Miss Eddie Comet, Mlle. Nadji, Mr. Dan Crawley, Harvey and Holt, Miss Anna Kenwick, Forrest and King, Vesta and Hylton, the Vernon Troupe, Miss Edie King, Mr. R. H. Douglass, Mr. Dutch Daly, Miss Jessie Harper, Miniature Marie, and the Moving Pictures.

Mr. E. Johnson, the chairman, represented the directorate, the other members of which were, it is understood, on a holiday. Mr. Francis Winchcombe, the courteous assistant-manager, was ubiquitous throughout the evening, and the visitors included Mrs. Winchcombe, Mrs. Wood, the mother of Marie Lloyd; and Messrs. J. Murray Herriot, the former manager of the theatre opposite, Fred Miller, Frank Weeks, the veteran George Burgess, Jesse Sparrow, Theo Dunckley, Will Oliver, Tom Pacey, George Barclay, Fortune and Granville, Hyman, Dave Cohen, C. J. Barber, Raleigh Abrahams, and Bert Lamonte. The stage was smartly directed by Mr. Ernest Aplin, who had the invaluable assistance of the regular stage-manager, Mr. Albert Burridge.

"ARE YOU A GENTLEMAN?" a novelty sketch, was produced at the Metropolitan on Monday by the H. Leslie Bell and Lily Pearl company. In evolving the plot use is made of a bioscope picture.

WE regret to announce the death of the mother of Miss Cissie Louie Lawson (Mrs. John Lawson), to whom much sympathy has been extended in her bereavement.

THE remains of Mr. "Teddy" London, well known as the representative of Mr. Larway, the music publisher, were laid to rest at Nunhead on Wednesday. He died at the early age of 39 in Westminster Hospital, liver trouble being the primary cause of his decease. In such esteem was he held that it would be difficult to name a music publishing house that was not represented at the funeral.

FRANCIS AND DAY'S OUTING.

Ideal conditions prevailed on the occasion of the fifth annual outing on Saturday of the firm of Francis, Day and Hunter, the principals of which the employees delight to honour by entertaining them every year at an excursion. This time it took the form of a trip on the water, for which the weather was exactly suited, the hot sun being tempered all day by a refreshing breeze. Travelling by train to Staines the party, which numbered twenty-eight, embarked upon the launch "Diamond Queen," and steamed to Windsor, where an excellent dinner was enjoyed at Tulli's Restaurant, which faces the Curfew Tower. The chair was occupied by Mr. C. J. Smith, the manager, and Mr. W. Eyke adorned the vice-chair. Mr. William Francis and Mr. David Day occupied places of honour, and among the company were also Mr. Charles Wilmott, Messrs. Leigh and Pether, Mr. Arthur Francis, and Mr. John Abbott.

At the conclusion of dinner the Chairman proposed the "Health of the Firm," and thanked the members thereof on behalf of the staff for granting them the holiday, and also for honouring them with their presence. It was a great pleasure to see them there. There was one absentee, Mr. Hunter, who, he regretted, was very queer, and who, he sincerely trusted, would soon recover. He had received a telegram from Mr. Maynard, who was in Scotland doing his duty towards the firm, which read: "I wish you all a pleasant day; sorry I cannot join you," and a very unfortunate member of the staff—Mr. Bob Burridge—who was unable to be present, owing to his son having been taken ill with fever, wired to say: "My thoughts with you; wish you all a happy day." With these few remarks he would ask them to charge their glasses and drink to "The Health of the Firm."

The toast was drunk with musical honours, Mr. "Charlie" Rooker, realising his responsibility as the oldest employee of the firm, rendering his share of the harmony with due fervour.

Mr. David Day, who was received with hearty cheers, said Mr. Francis had asked him to say a few words in his behalf, and he would add a few more on behalf of himself, but would endeavour to make the proceedings short so as to get out again to the delights of that beautiful day as soon as possible. He and his partner thanked them sincerely for singing their praises in such exalted tones. The business of the firm was going on very nicely, notwithstanding such obstacles as Mr. Caldwell and his friends in Parliament. Although the music trade was to a great extent paralysed they managed to jog along. He congratulated the staff on that fact, and the staff could congratulate the firm on their prosperity. He thought everything was pointing towards a prosperous season. Good news came by every mail from the American branch, which gave every indication that it was going to be successful. There was no want of success, too, in Denmark Street; on the contrary, there was soon to be an extension of those premises, the prosperity of which was bound to continue, and be even more pronounced than hitherto. They had an excellent musical comedy to deal with for the next few months in *The Belle of Mayfair*, and, on the whole, there was emphatically no reason to be downhearted.

The Vice-Chairman said he wished to propose the toast of "Absent Friends," namely, Mr. Fred Day and Mr. Willie Francis. In all probability they were at that moment thinking of them in America, and would, no doubt, be very pleased to be with them. With these two names he would associate that of Mr. Chas. Day, who was in Manchester, pushing the interests of the firm and of the "Sixpenny Pops."

The Chairman proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was duly acknowledged. The toast of "The Committee" was responded to by Mr. John Abbott, who advocated that after-dinner speeches should be delivered before dinner. He looked upon his efforts to organise the excursion more as a little hobby to be indulged in during the summer weather; but if the Committee's work had been satisfactory that in itself was sufficient reward. Mr. H. Harris and Mr. Fred Leigh also acknowledged the toast.

Once again aboard the launch the party proceeded on a delightful journey up stream, to the far-famed Boulter's Lock, passing on their way the beautiful riverside home of Miss Vesta Tilley, and Bray Lodge, the late habitation of Mrs. Brown-Potter. A view was also afforded of the "eights," with the crowd of yelling supporters, practising for Henley, while the toilers of the towpath propelled their cargo-laden boats laboriously towards the scene of the great event. The only thing wanting was a piano, with the presence of which the river would doubtless have echoed with the entrancing melodies of Leslie Stuart, the popular productions of Leigh and Pether, of Airlie Dix and Edgar Bateman. Failing that, the party occupied themselves with the transient joys of "Nap" and the more sedate delights of Whist, while the fishermen of the party gazed in envy at the disciples of Izaak Walton who lined the bank. Mr. Eyke proved a veritable pocket edition of the "Compleat Angler," and seemed familiar with the pedigree of every member of the finny tribe who approached the surface of the water. Tea was served on board during the return journey, and the party reached Staines about eight o'clock, subsequently proceeding, by reserved corridor coach, to Waterloo, with the full conviction that never before had they spent a more enjoyable day.

BEN HARRIS and Nippers have returned to town after a successful tour of twenty weeks, and intend going on the road with their own company of vaudeville artists during the summer months.

DEATH OF DAN O'MALLEY.

It is with great regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Dan O'Malley (late of the O'Malleys), who passed away, after a long and sad illness, at Sheffield, on Thursday evening, June 28. Although the poor fellow had been given up for a long time by the doctors, and they considered his end was only a matter of time, his death has been a great shock to his relations and his many friends, especially to his old partner and comrade, Mr. Fred O'Malley, of O'Malley and Brown.

Deceased was for many years a well-known and respected performer, as one of the O'Malleys, whose name and fame extended all over Great Britain and even America. Formerly known as Dan Hildon, he gained considerable success as a clog dancer. Eventually joining Mr. Fred O'Malley, the firm became one of our foremost double turns, and quickly gained a reputation which they upheld for a number of years. The O'Malleys' name was one to conjure with for a long time in all the principal towns, more especially in Glasgow, of which place deceased was a native. It was a usual thing to see advertised extensively on the hoardings in many big provincial cities: "The O'Malleys are coming," and "Monday next, the

[*Photo by Berry.*

THE LATE DAN O'MALLEY.

O'Malleys," and they shared honours in popularity with the Two Macs, Tennyson and O'Gorman, Farrell and Willmot, and all the leading double turns of the day. Their success was so marked that they were promptly booked for America with Harry Williams' show, with which they played the principal American houses for a long season. They also served Mr. Oswald Stoll, when that gentleman had only one hall, the Parthenon, Liverpool, and likewise Messrs. Moss and Thornton when they first started. And year after year the O'Malleys were always to be seen at each new hall erected by the above-named gentlemen. They were also favourites for years at all the leading London establishments.

Many provincial theatres can record the good work done by the O'Malleys in pantomime, notably the old Prince of Wales' Theatre, Liverpool, season 1893-4, when the pantomime was *Cinderella*, which ran for seventeen weeks. In the cast were Jenny Rogers, Kate Barry, Lilian Stanley, Fred Williams, E. W. Colman, Stratton Mills,

MR AND MRS. EDGAR BUDDEN'S WEDDING PARTY AT "THE LAURELS," EAST MOLESEY, JUNE 27.

and the O'Malleys. Also the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Theatre Royal, Leeds, and many others.

Deceased became suddenly overtaken with a sad and serious illness while playing at the Empire, Holloway, in May, 1905, and it was evident then that his career was finished. He never recovered, and the end came on June 28. He was buried on Tuesday at Sheffield, and his widow received many expressions of condolence from friends of deceased. His old partner sent an everlasting wreath, with card, "From one who will never forget him, his chum, Fred O'Malley." Billy Brown also sent a wreath: "In fond recollection."

Deceased leaves a widow and four children, and was 42 years of age.

MR. TOM J. MORTON'S concert company, which includes Miss Empsie and Maggie Bowman, appearing in their original entertainment *High Life Below Stairs*, met with a great ovation on the last night of their visit at Prince's Parade Pavilion, Bridlington. Mr. Charles Palmer, the manager, came upon the stage and publicly thanked them. The company is appearing this week and next at the Spa Saloon, Whitby, which, under the management of Mr. Payne Seddon, has become a popular resort.

MISS DAISY JEROME has accepted a strong working song, written and composed by H. F. Greenfield, tentatively entitled "How they propose." The same writer, who is quite an adept in employing dissimilar methods, has just disposed of a comic ditty called "Was ever a man so unlucky as me?" to Mr. Sam Mayo.

THE SPORTS HANDICAPS.

The following are the entries for the Handicaps at the Music Hall Sports which will be held on Thursday next at Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham:—

COMIC COSTUME SCRAMBLE.

FIRST HEAT.—George Antill, Bert Burnell, Cecil O. Crackles, Bert D'Arcy, Charles Elkins (Collinson's Co.), Fred Evans, Harry Ford, Hal Forde, Gus Garrick.

SECOND HEAT.—Fred Griffiths, jun., Frank Harvey, Bob Hutt, Syd May, F. Napoli, Dan Thomas, A. Wright (London Pavilion), W. H. Wright (London Pavilion), Little Zola, Theo. Bouwmeester.

ONE MILE "BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE.

FIRST HEAT.—Will Barker (late St. Clair's troupe), Edgar Budden, Bert Burnell, H. Coleman (Vay's Juveniles), Alf. Cyclo, Ted Cowan, Leo Fritz.

SECOND HEAT.—Jack W. Hall, Gent Lotto, Archie Nicol (Tivoli, Glasgow), Wm. J. Simpson (Ealing Hippodrome), Will Vay, A. F. Webb (Standard, Victoria), Jimmy Zaro, William Swan (Hammersmith Palace).

TUG-OF-WAR.

THE "CANTERBURY" TEAM.—J. Barry, J. Fletcher, J. Gann, C. Haig, J. Ladd, T. Nunn, W. Seaman, F. West; reserve, J. Field; coach, W. Burrey.

THE EMPIRE (LEICESTER-SQUARE) TEAM.—S. C. Cross, C. Cruttwell, J. Finch, J. Fleming, H. Jackson, J. F. Pett, B. Tidman, P. Wiesson; reserve, F. Symondson.

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP (Agents and Agents' Clerks).

FIRST HEAT.—Horace Sheldon, scratch; Ernest Cadle, 3yds. start; Sam L. Bury, 3; Cecil O. Crackles, 5; F. Napoli, 9.

SECOND HEAT.—Pierre Pringle, scratch; Leo Fritz, 3yds. start; Tom Pacey, 5; David Cohen, 7½; R. D. Lincoln, 15½.

ONE MILE "FRED KARNO" CUP RUNNING HANDICAP.

Frank Dunlo, scratch; Sam De Wynne, 20yds. start; Dan Thomas, 20; Hal Forde, 35; C. Bicknelle, 40; Fred Fyne, 75; A. Wright, 135.

TERRIERS' CUP HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.

Arthur Williams (London Coliseum), Sam De Wynne, Frank Dunlo, and W. L. Murray, scratch; Horace Sheldon, 10yds.; Geo. H. Clarion, 10; Ernest Dillon, 10; Harold H. Jasper, 35; Dan Thomas, 40; Fred Fyne, 40; Harry Ford, 40; C. Bicknelle, 45; Mark Leslie, 45; Hal Forde, 50; Gus Garrick, 55; Arthur Wright, 60; Syd May, 90; Mike Asher, 110.

360 YARDS "HENRI GROS" CUP OBSTACLE RACE.

FIRST HEAT.—Ernest Dillon, J. McGrath (Vay's Juveniles), scratch; Arthur Williams (London Coliseum), 5yds.; Harry Ford, 10; W. H. Wright, 20; Syd May, 25.

SECOND HEAT.—Frank Dunlo, Dan Thomas, scratch; Jas. Maskell, 10yds.; A. Wright, 10; Phillip Hayes (Brothers Hayes), 12; Bob Hutt, 40.

440 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

W. L. Murray, Geo. Morgan (Austell and Line), Jas. T. Kiddie (Shepherd's Bush Empire), Dan Thomas, scratch; Sam L. Bury, 20yds.; Arthur Wright, 40; Dick Pearce (Camberwell Palace), 40; Chas. Alger (Camberwell Palace), 40; Thos. McGowan (the Oxford), 50; Wm. Moreton (Empire, Leicester-square), 50.

100 YARDS BOYS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

Clarence H. Smythson, 12yrs. 11mos., scratch; Frank Zola, 10yrs. 3mos., 15yds.; Geo. Antill, jun., 9yrs., 20; Jack Garrick, 8yrs. 8mos., 25.

100 YARDS GIRLS' RUNNING HANDICAP.

Marie Vay, 13yrs. 11mos., scratch; Cissie Adele Lupino, 12yrs. 11mos., 5yds.; Sarah Rich, 12yrs. 11mos., 5; Violet Hutt, 12yrs., 7½; Leonora Andrus, 11yrs. 6mos., 10; Vera Andrus, 9yrs. 7mos., 15; Amy Ferris, 8yrs. 11mos., 20; Hilda Pacey, 6yrs., 50; Andrian Petit, 6yrs., 50.

ONE MILE "FRANK ALLEN" CUP WALKING HANDICAP.

Tom Pacey, scratch; Harry S. Hart, 30yds.; Harold H. Jeapes (Ruffell's), 35; Dan Thomas, 45; J. W. Winton (Rickard's, Melbourne), 50; Hal Forde, 50; Harry Bancroft, 60; Thos. McGowan (Oxford), 60; Cecil O. Crackles, 70; Charles Ferris, 70; Fred Griffiths, jun., 90; Walter Stanley, 100; James Wynes, 100; W. H. Wright, 160; Gus Garrick, 180; Fred Griffiths, sen., 300.

120 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

FIRST HEAT.—Dion Wade, scratch; Hal Forde, 5yds.; Frank Harvey, 6; Sam De Wynne, 7; Bert Brantford, 9; A. Wright (London Pavilion), 10; J. Elvin, 25.

SECOND HEAT.—George Clarion, scratch; C. Bicknelle (clay modeller), 5yds.; Dan Thomas, 6; Tom Mazzetti, 6½; Syd May, 10; Tom E. Cliffe, 10; Bob Hutt, 14.

THIRD HEAT.—Max Reubens (Palace, Blackpool), scratch; Harry Ford, 5yds.; Edward Harvey, 6; Harry Bancroft, 7; James Wynes, 10; Will Crackles, 18.

FOURTH HEAT.—Mark Leslie, scratch; Jack Andrus, 4yds.; Horace Sheldon, 5; Dennis Harvey, 6; Charles Ferris, 6½; Bert Burnell, 7½; Little Zola, 20.

FIFTH HEAT.—Donald Wallace (Greener's Sketch Company), scratch; W. L. Murray, 2yds.; Hughie Vay, 5; Gent Lotto, 6; Fred Griffiths, jun., 8½; Mike Asker, 10.

120 YARDS "BALLARD MACDONALD" CUP HURDLE HANDICAP.

FIRST HEAT.—Sam De Wynne, scratch; Hal Forde, 1yd.; Harry Ford, 2; Jack Andrus, 3½; Syd May, 9; Fred Griffiths, jun., 20.

SECOND HEAT.—W. L. Murray, owes 2yds.; Horace Sheldon, scratch; Bert Brantford, 3yds.; Dan Thomas, 3; Bert Burnell, 6; A. Wright, 11.

TWO MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP.

Ted Cowan, Gent Lotto, Archie Nicol, scratch; Wm. Swan, 30yds.; Will Vay, 50; Jas. Zaro, 90; H. Coleman, 100; Bob Mezzetti, 100; Jack W. Hall, 120; Manuel Roma, 150; Edgar Budden, 225; Wm. J. Simpson, 250; J. Maskell (London Pavilion), 250.

FIVE MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP.

Gent Lotto, Archie Nicol, Ted Cowan, scratch; William Swan, 25yds.; Will Vay, 50; H. Coleman, 55; William J. Simpson, 250; J. Zaro, 250; Jack W. Hall, 260; Edgar Budden, 440.

All entries are subject to alteration.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow. The Fund is now being held in trust in the joint names of Mr. Richard Waldon, Royal Princess's, Glasgow, and Mr. Crichton:—

	£	s.	d.
Walter Passmore (219)	1	1	0
Athole Lodge, No. 413	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Willie Garvey	0	10	0
Wm. Lowe, Liverpool	0	5	0
R. D. Donaldson	0	5	0
A Friend, per J. Cole, Sutton, Surrey	0	5	0

IN our notice last week of the Middlesex, a curious error occurred. The names of Miss Rosie Lloyd and Miss Gwennie Hasto were transposed, and to Miss Lloyd's account were placed the songs of Miss Hasto and *vice versa*.

MR. BERT HULL (of Fielding and Hull), who for the last two weeks has been so seriously ill with pleuro-pneumonia at Nottingham, is, we are glad to learn, now on the road to recovery.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

PENZANCE CORPUS CHRISTI FAIR was again very largely attended, the principal shows being those provided by Messrs. Hancock, Anderton, and Rowland, and J. Jones. The star attraction was undoubtedly the brilliantly-illuminated front of Anderton and Rowland's, the inside attractions being equally good. John Jones' popular variety show merited its large patronage, little Miss Sophy Jones evoking well-deserved applause in her step-dance. Professor Ruby brought his two excellent shows all the way from Coventry to attend this fair, his enterprise meeting with the support it deserved. Mr. Weston attracted large crowds to his athletic booth to witness his knife-throwing. The other entertainers were S. Reader, with freak show; Alfred Wright, with boxing booth; and Ruby's second exhibit, the giant lady. The machines included Hancock's new motor track and a steam horse set, Heal's two roundabouts, and Chapman provided both big boats and park swings. The minor novelties were rifle saloons and bottle-smashers by Messrs. Jones, Oldridge, Hurford, and Whitelegg. Coker-sheets and striking-machines by the Jones family.

CONSIDERABLE inconvenience was inflicted upon the show people by the newly-made regulation of the Corporation that the showmen must leave the fair ground by 6 a.m. on Sunday. This vexatious rule, it is hoped, will be repealed before next year's fair. Besides being unnecessary and in excess of the powers possessed by the Corporation, it forces the showmen to work all night pulling down, and this, too, after the busiest day of the fair. This mistaken and reactionary policy of the Penzance Corporation is, unfortunately, but part and parcel of a wide-spread movement in the West of England to hamper the show business.

OUR West of England correspondent, Mr. G. W. A. Norton, has drawn out attention to the recent proceedings of the Devon County Council, wherein it transpires that the County Council has been corresponding with the Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Local Government Board respecting the application of the Teignmouth District Council that a by-law may be made prohibiting the passage of caravans through the streets of Teignmouth during certain hours on Sunday.

THE Town Council of Totnes also have renewed their application that a similar by-law may be made for their borough, and the General Purposes Committee of the Council recommend with regard to Totnes that the by-law shall apply only to certain specified streets, and with regard to Teignmouth that a by-law dealing with the matter be made under the Locomotives Act, 1896, and that these by-laws be submitted to the Local Government Board for approval. This is a matter of serious moment to large concerns taking the Western fairs.

WE have made inquiries, and we find that it will be extremely difficult, and in some cases impossible to take the run of West of England fairs if the free passage of the shows on the Sunday be delayed or in any way hampered. Furthermore, we consider it a matter for serious regret that the West of England showmen have practically no organisation to defend their interests.

ON general principles the Showmen's Guild will take all possible measures to defend the interests of showmen, East, West, North, or South, and we cannot help but point out to West of England show people that during the past few years they have ceased to support the funds of the Showmen's trade society.

WE sincerely hope that this local danger will induce them to return to their old time support of that society which has done so much for sixteen years past to defend the interests of all show people and travellers at our fairs.

THAT enterprising Yorkshire showman, Harry Ashington, of marionette fame, has succeeded in reviving Robert Town feast. For five years, owing to the puritanical policy of the District Council, the fair has been suspended. Better councils, however, now prevail, and the result has been in every sense satisfactory. Ashington's theatre of varieties and cinematograph was the principal attraction; Johnson's steam horses and park swings, and the well-known varieties, games, &c., of Messrs. Mitchell, Cookshaw, Blackburn, Bassett, Lorenzo, and Vanner were the minor attractions.

ANOTHER capital fair on this ground—Hightown Rant—had for its attractions Ashington's show, Permane's performing bears, Wilson's savage South Africa, the flying motors (two sets) were by Connolley and Harniess, steam horses by Johnson, and swings by Connolley, Gledstone, Blake, and Johnson; and the variety merchants were Bassett, Blackburn, Blake, Crowther, Guthrie, Gledstone, Saunder, Walker, Powell, and Hartley.

THERE are few men on the road who know better the needs of the show business than Mr. P. Collins; we have, therefore, great pleasure in giving the widest possible publicity to the plain, practical advice of this expert showman and fair-ground lessee.

NOTICE TO TENANTS.

Gondola Works, Walsall.

I beg to remind all my tenants and their families and servants that we are all caterers for the great British public, and that the eyes of the public are always upon us and our business.

From year to year it becomes more difficult to get and to keep fair grounds in good and central positions; it therefore behoves us, one and all, to do all that lays in our power to avoid giving cause for talk and objections. I therefore ask you all to do whatever lays in your power to obtain and maintain the respect of the public, our patrons, and to give our adversaries no chance to find fault with us or pick flies out of us. Keep your shows and stalls, and especially your living-wagons, scrupulously clean and tidy; don't keep your doors and windows wide open when you are performing domestic duties. Keep your living-wagons behind the scenes. Doors should never face the crowd.

Our mothers can do a lot in this matter by setting a good example to the younger generation.

In your dress, in your speech, and in your manners, be an example to others.

Don't go in large numbers to storm the public-houses directly they open; and never talk business, family matters, or grievances over in them.

Try and be a credit to our class, be proud of your calling, and uphold its time-honoured reputation.

Our fair grounds must be model pleasure grounds where nothing unseemly is to be found or seen, and no foul language to be heard.

In the very best interest of the whole of our community I must insist on everybody doing his or her best to uphold our good name and reputation; and anyone infringing rules or regulations laid down for the good conduct of the fair grounds I shall in future be reluctantly compelled to exclude from my grounds.—Yours fraternally,

P. COLLINS.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Kidwelly, Leeds Summer Fair, Menston, Ringwood, Stroud, York Fair, Brierfield, Burnley, Headless Cross, Chumleigh, Holmesfield, Linton, and Salisbury. In Scotland Glasgow, Jedburgh, Motherwell, and Johnstone.

THE agricultural shows and cattle fairs for this month are Stockport and Oakham on the 9th; Stockbridge, Peterborough, Leeds, Macclesfield, Holsworthy, and Drogheda on the 10th; Alnwick on the 12th; Chester, Congleton, and Leicester on the 13th; Salisbury, Seamer, and Spilsby on the 16th; Peebles and Warrington on the 17th; Overton, Topcliffe (Yorks.), Swaffham, Luton, Escrick, Stone (Staffs.), Brighton, Ely, and Gainsborough on the 19th; Stamford on the 23rd; Alston, Wisbeach, Leek, Malton, Birkenhead, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Belfast on the 25th; Hatfield (Herts.), Sherborne, Alresford, Clones, and Limerick on the 26th; Weyhill on the 27th; Alnwick and Rugby on the 30th; Alford on the 31st.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS, the world-renowned Australian manager and proprietor, has purchased a number of chronophone singing and talking picture machines from Messrs. Gaumont and Co., and has also contracted with the same firm for sole rights with the chronophone for Australia for six months; for which privilege he has paid a handsome premium.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS first saw the chronophone on his last visit to Europe twelve months since, and was very much impressed with it. He could not, however, at that time obtain immediate delivery of machines, as he was so fully booked up. The matter was not forgotten, however, and having been in constant correspondence with Messrs. Gaumont and Co. on the subject, Mr. Rickards made it his first business on arriving in Europe this year to secure the novelty.

MESSRS. GAUMONT have made a very good year's progress with the machine, and with their programme of talking and singing subjects, since Mr. Rickards first saw the machine, and there can be no further doubt that the mechanism of this marvellous instrument has now reached perfection in its simplicity and reliability; while the pictures which the inventors and proprietors are now able to show we can only characterise as simply wonderful.

THAT enterprising concern, the St. Louis Animated Picture Co., owned by Messrs. J. H. Iles and Co., have just completed one of the most successful tours in which animated pictures have well figured, and they attribute their unprecedented success to the chronophone. We hear that Messrs. Iles and Co. are putting a duplicate company with the second chronophone out this autumn, which in itself is a sufficient indication of their success with the first.

LLOYD'S CIRCUS visited Sligo on Monday, and two most successful performances were given. The Comedy Trick Cyclists, the Cranks, gave an interesting comic act; the Three Rolands are marvellous acrobats, their wrestling bringing forth much applause; Lang and Beal, musical comedians, were, without doubt, one of the most acceptable items on the programme; Johnny Quinn, the favourite Irish clown, had a good reception, and he contributed a number of excellent songs; the Lloyds, bounding rope performers, gave a most sensational performance; and Rossini danced an Irish jig on stilts The performance concluded with Professor Coate's bioscopic pictures.

AT the County Petty Sessions, held at Lancaster on Saturday, William Murphy, of Newcastle, a well-known show proprietor, was fined 1s. and costs for causing a steam organ to be played to the annoyance of the public at Carnforth. The defendant hired land from the Urban District Council, and set up a roundabout. Two doctors, who reside close by, stated that it hampered their consultations. Mr. Murphy had the support of both District Councillors and tradesmen to defend his case.

MR. CHARLES A. JAMES, the proprietor World's Fair Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin, gave on Wednesday, the 27th ult., his annual outing to the newsboys. Special tramcars were engaged to convey them to Merrion, where all kinds of sports were indulged in, special prizes being given for different competitions. In addition, each boy received a present, and was regaled with plenty of sandwiches, cake, and milk. The exuberant crowd returned to Dublin in the evening, after spending a very enjoyable day.

AT the Priory Field, Studley, Mr. C. Herbert's World's Fair—roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, &c.—have done good business

CHAPELTOWN FEAST commenced on Friday, the 22nd ult., when the chief amusements were provided by Messrs. W. H. Marshall and Sons, and Marshall's motor cars, Bishton's flying motors, and T. Burgin and Sons' steam swings. Messrs. Crowther, Lawrence, and Proctor's cinematograph shows; Mastrillo, card king; and Texas Bill; shooting exhibition, with minor shows, are also there. Messrs. Bishton, Burton, Bentley, and Lever have shooting saloon and pannum; cokers and dolly stalls are exhibited in great variety. Children and visitors are supplied with presents at Hepworth's fancy bazaar.

LOVERS of music were afforded an especial treat in the Market-yard, West Hartlepool, recently, when Randall Williams, the prince of cinematographists, tried, for the first time in public, his beautiful Gavoli organ, which has been erected at a cost of nearly £3000. The operatic selections, especially one from *Poet and Peasant*, were listened to with pleasure by a numerous concourse of people.

MR. THOMAS SCOTT'S grand new set of steam roundabouts, galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle, egg, and globe shooters are included in the attractions at Inkberrow.

OF the big town fairs that remain to Yorkshire, it is probable that Bradford and Halifax are still the most important. Certainly, judged by the number of large concerns that still make a point of taking these fairs, there can be no doubt that they still retain their business importance.

BRADFORD FAIR commenced on June 30, and lasted until July 3. Here the show was Tuby and Sons' mammoth coliseum of varieties and cinematograph theatre. The principal machines and roundabouts were:—Motor sets by Waddington, Tuby, Redfern, and Marshall; a gondola switchback by Marshall; steam swings by T. Burgin; flying ostriches and steam yachts by Waddington; and park swings by Baker, Hughes, and Redfern. There were also the usual supplies of rifle saloons, bottle batteries, Emma sheets, cokers, and varieties.

AT Halifax Fair there were three high-class cinematograph shows—the concerns of Monte Bros., E. Farrer, and J. Creighton. Professor Gibson, with his *exposé* of the "black art," and Professor Blakeley, with thought-reading temple, provided the mystic side-shows. Westray's well-known freak exhibits and the fine art galleries of W. Shaw and G. Ling completed the exhibition list. There were sets of motor-cars by Howden, Waddington, and Marshall; John Collins provided galloping horses, ostriches, and steam yachts; and Howden and Collins whirling the whirl.

THREE sets of steam swings were provided by Corrigan, Shaw, Morley, and Sons. The excellent array of shooting concerns included rifle saloons and egg and bottle batteries by Cornwell (2), Seed (2), Humphries, Ratcliffe, and Mrs. John Cornwell. There were rows and rows of throwing games and varieties: twenty-one Emma sheets, eight cokers, sixteen variety stalls, four football frames, and ten pannum stalls, Messrs. J. Seed, Gledstone, and Howarth occupied, as usual, considerable space with their fairing bazaars, and there were four sets of children's motor-cars and four gem-swings.

FOLLOWING hard upon what we have already written concerning the state of public opinion in the West of England with regard to travelling shows, we have received an interesting correspondence concerning Anderton and Rowland's outside music. The correspondence is much too long to be inserted in its entirety, we therefore give the salient features of the controversy as it appeared day by day in the *Western Morning News*.

IT appears that Anderton and Rowland's show was taking private business at Newquay, and that there came down from London a gentleman and his family, with the intention of spending their holidays at this charming watering place. The paterfamilias, judged by his long and querulous effusion, is a sort of modern Don Quixote, bearing a lance against everything and anything that disturbs that which he is pleased to call "quiet." First he quarrels with the lodging accommodation; then he quarrels with the golf links and the golfers; and finally runs a tilt against the showman's orchestrephone.

"In the evening," he says, "we walked up again to look at the rooms and to take them for our six weeks' holiday, but in turning the corner we heard the strains of a steam musical organ going for all it was worth not 200 yards from the house. I need not tell you we did not take those rooms, but went back to our hotel, very sad that we had come so far to find quiet. What I want to bring to the notice of the residents of Newquay is that they can stop such a nuisance by applying to the superintendent of police. It is no use going to the police-constable, for he in all probability does not know this law, which runs thus:—

"'No person shall, to the annoyance of residents, or passengers, keep or manage, or use, or permit to be used, any steam organ, or other like thing, in any street or public place or land adjoining thereto.'

"I have written to my doctor, telling him he has made a mistake in thinking Newquay a quiet place. I have also written to a London paper, and hope by so doing to save others from taking a long, trying journey to end up with our experience. I made inquiries, and found that last year Newquay was at the mercy of two of these steam organs for a great part of August. Thanking you in anticipation,

"June 23rd." COUNCELLOR.

BUT Messrs. Anderton and Rowland were not without local champions, as the two interesting letters of residents clearly indicate:—

SIR,—With the approach of the coming season at Newquay, a firm of entertainers, of living picture fame, are now attacked by some individual for creating a nuisance near the Lower-road. I can safely say that the protest against music is unwarrantable, as the organ only plays half an hour previous to the two performances each evening, and is thoroughly enjoyed by all, and as the show is patronised by the nobility as well as the working classes, I fail to see where the objection comes in, and an amusement of the kind now referred to is quite a treat to old and young alike. A suggestion of mine would be that certain parties would visit Timbuctoo, where all music would cease, and neighbours few and far between.

Newquay, June 24 AN OLD RATEPAYER.

SIR,—I am most anxious to sympathise with "Councellor," who seems to be suffering from a severe attack of "nerves," but, really, is it not after all a case of "much ado about nothing"? The steam organ of which he writes is in connection with a high-class exhibition of "living pictures," is an instrument which I am credibly informed has cost £2,000, is appreciated for its merits by all to whom I have spoken, and is only played from half-past six until seven and from half-past eight until nine o'clock each evening.

Newquay is quiet, but it is not, nor does it desire to be, deadly dull, and is certainly not so quiet as the cemetery towards which instinctively your correspondent wended his steps on the second evening of his arrival. But if he will only be patient for a few days the nerve-bracing climate of Newquay will so improve physical conditions as to prompt him to join in the general conviction that Newquay is quiet without being dull, and that there are few places where a holiday can, by reasonable people, be more fully enjoyed.

I was a little amused to learn that "Councellor" had written to his doctor, and should have rather liked to have got a glimpse into the "inwardness" of that gentleman's thoughts when he read "Councellor's" letter. But was it fair to the inhabitants of a seaside resort, who have invested their capital there, to write to a London paper with a view of preventing others from visiting the town, after such a brief experience, and with what will appear to most on such insufficient grounds? But Newquay is too much admired by the thousands who have visited it, and many of whom come back again year after year, to sustain any serious damage from your correspondent's effusion.

I hope "Councellor" will stay here his six weeks and derive much benefit from the change. He will thus gain in health, and may also be cured of the attack of "cacoethes scribendi" from which just now he is evidently suffering. A NEWQUAYITE.

FOLLOWING upon these local defenders of the travelling showman, Mr. Geoffrey W. A. Norton, the correspondent of the Showman World in the West of England, and hon. agent of the Showmen's Guild, wound up the controversy with an admirable letter.

SIR,—I regret to be so soon again on the war-path in defence of the showman's business, but the querulous letter of "Councellor" urges me to advise him to find a surer cure for dyspepsia in visiting a doctor than in writing to you. "Councellor" surely labours under an exaggerated sense of his own importance. Newquay is a charming holiday resort for all and sundry, and not for him alone. The popularity of the show in question is abundantly evidenced by the crowds which visit it, and the magnificent organ is not only one of the very finest on the road, but has evoked well-deserved appreciation wherever it has been played.

May I suggest to "Councellor" that, as a man who has such enlightened ideas as to the running of a watering-place, he should sign his name to any further communication he may have to make? The simple method of procedure he suggests to others, by which the legitimate and useful business of a showman might be stopped, would be found to be not quite so simple as he imagines. Should he essay it himself he would realise this fact

GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON,
Hon. Member "Showmen's Trades Union."
Beachfield Hotel, Penzance, June 27th.

WE should like to add a note of warning with regard to the complaint of "Councillor." It is not *the law*, as he states, but it may possibly be a local by-law, and only applicable to the locality wherein it has legal force; there is no such law generally applicable to the United Kingdom.

THE important legal action between the Bolton Corporation and Mr. E. P. Holland, roundabout proprietor, and projector of the celebrated machine novelty whirling the whirl, came on for decision last week before Mr. H. G. Shee, K.C., at the Salford Hundred Court of Record. Mr. Holland, for whom Mr. Brocklehurst appeared, claimed £42 from the Corporation as damages. The plaintiff's case, according to Mr. Brocklehurst, was that he contracted with the Bolton Corporation for space on the fairground for his razzle-dazzle during the fortnight commencing on Dec. 22 and ending on Jan. 5 last. "He was to pay £4 for the first week and £25 for the second, which, being New Year's week, was likely to be more remunerative than the other. There was a binding contract for the uninterrupted occupancy of a frontage of 41ft. and a depth of 50ft., and the show was erected on the space marked out for it by the markets superintendent. On Dec. 27 plaintiff was ordered by the markets superintendent to move his show seven feet further forward, and upon his refusal to do so was threatened with certain penalties. Two days later a roundabout was placed across five feet of the frontage for which the plaintiff had contracted, and a large stall was set down immediately in front of his razzle-dazzle

The plaintiff estimated that the loss of frontage had cost him £10. In addition to that he had been required to close his show for one day, and he estimated that that meant a loss of another £10. Further than that, he estimated that as a result of the obstruction he had also sustained a loss of £22.

THE plaintiff, in cross-examination by Mr. Gibbons, who appeared for the defendants, estimated his takings during New Year's week at a little short of £100.

Mr. Gibbons: Not bad takings out of pennies, eh?

The defendants' story was that plaintiff engaged a space of ground which was not definitely fixed up to the time he got his machine on the ground. According to the by-laws of the Corporation he was bound to place his show exactly where he was told by the markets superintendent. It was true that the roundabout and stall had been put up in the neighbourhood of his show as described, but Mr. Gibbons argued that the plaintiff's rights had not been infringed in any way, and that he had not been shown to have lost a penny of his trade as a consequence of the acts complained of.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for £25, and judgment was given accordingly.

BEFORE the Lancaster County Magistrates on Saturday William Murphy, a showman, was charged with causing a nuisance to residents at Carnforth on June 21 by the use of a steam-driven organ in connection with his roundabouts. There has been a great deal of contention at Carnforth about the market-ground being used for shows, &c., and the last election to the District Council turned largely on the question, the residents generally being of opinion that the market-ground should be used.

THE defendant took the stand from the District Council on conditions imposed by them, but Mr. Whinray, Dr. Jackson, Dr. Butler, and others formally complained of the annoyance of the organ, and laid an information under the County Council by-law against the use of steam organs when a nuisance, except at fairs, &c.

THE defence was that defendant was bona-fide using the ground under the District Council, to whom he was paying rent. It was said that ninety-nine out of every 100 persons in Carnforth were in favour of the use of the market-ground for shows, &c., and witnesses were called to say that the steam organ was no nuisance or annoyance to them. Amongst these was Mr. A. Hoyle, of the Station Hotel, whose premises are nearest to the market-ground. On the other hand, Mr. Whinray said he could not do business in his shop for the noise, and the two doctors said they were unable to consult with patients in their surgery. After a long hearing the Bench convicted, and fined defendant the nominal sum of 1s. and costs.

NUMBERLESS indications are to be seen of the steady growth of a better public opinion, and of the progress of movements and principles that in a remarkable manner justify the showman and his mode of living. For example, there is a considerable revolt against the artificiality and unnecessary complexity of town life. The so-called higher civilisation, better and more hygienic advantages of life in towns, has been used as an argument by some would-be reformers that in driving the showman and his family off the road, and compelling them to settle in some trade or industry in a town, was to do the showman a great kindness, however harsh the showman might regard the pressure put upon him to be. Repeatedly we have been told, in defending the movable dwellings of fairground traders, that these dwellings were unhealthy in themselves, and a risk to public health wherever they might be for the time located.

IT almost seems laughable in the light of our past experiences to read of the "*return to a simple life*," now advocated by great leaders in the medical profession, and again, the modern craze of people for dwelling in tents and bungalows and going for long touring expeditions in caravans. It has lately become the fashion to hire a living van and to go from place to place in the simple and delightful freedom which only a few years ago was regarded as a sort of barbarism, and certainly out of date. Thus is wisdom justified of her children, for showmen know and have always practised the high principles of a simple life. A well-ordered caravan is the very acme of comfort, convenience, and simplicity.

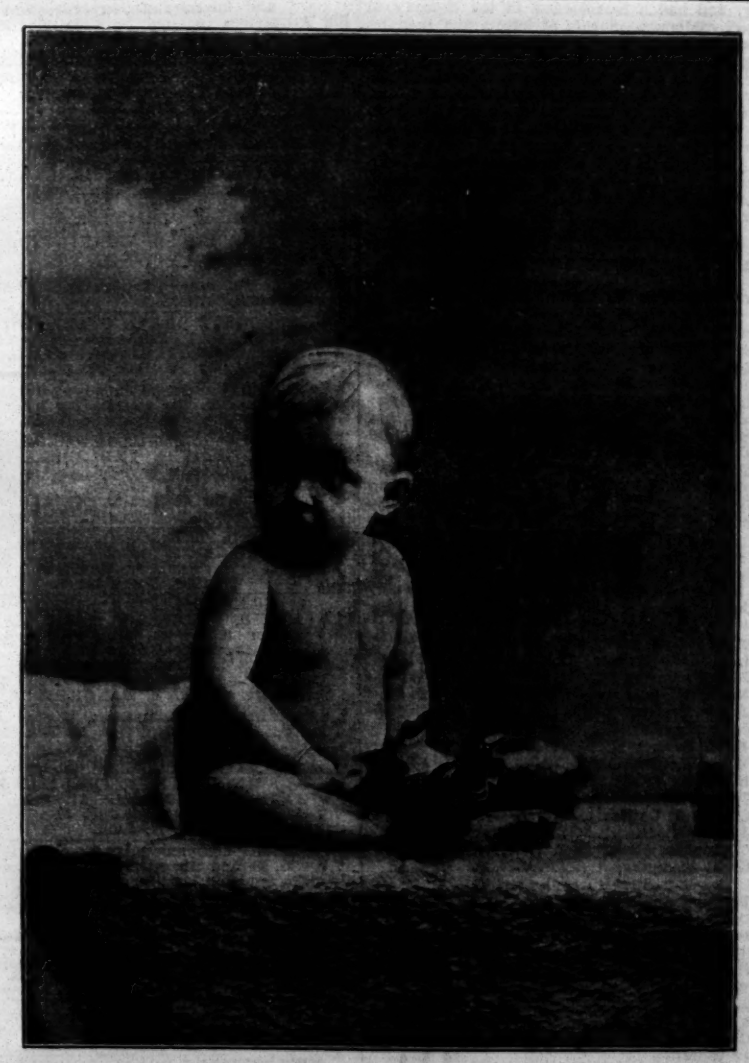
THE artificiality of town and city life, the congestion of the workers in the slums of our great industrial centres, the interminable fight with bad drains and ill-constructed, jerry-built dwellings, inevitably shorten life, but the constant travel, the necessary living in the open air, the perfect hygienic simplicity of the caravan, the change of scene, and the many-sided interests of their life and business, tend to lengthen and strengthen life. The showman is a long-lived being. The preaching of the "simple life" and the return to nature, which now marks the prevailing philosophy, and the health and rest cure: "Go thou and dwell in a tent; leave thy stuffy home and go and live in a booth; let it be a feast of tabernacles, O modern man; get closer to the earth, thy mother; get away from the wearing and death-dealing excitements and complexities of town or city life"—these are the messages that the modern prophets are sounding in the ears of the victims of a mistaken and effete civilisation.

THERE is another interesting and encouraging evidence of a growing public opinion in favour of shows and showmen—the revival of great open-air pageants, shows, and processions. Last year the magnificent pageant, organised by Louis N. Parker, the famous author and dramatist, at Sherborne Castle, lasting the inside of a week, was the beginning of a series of magnificent historical shows conceived and carried through with the strictest regard to historic accuracy, and the pageant this week at Warwick, under the same clever direction, indubitably marks a tremendous change in the public mind. It is the revival on a large scale of that love of the show and love of acting which are in-bred in human nature. The great truth that man is a born mimic is being again recognised, and its true place apportioned as an educational factor in the life and progress of the nation.

IT is also encouraging to notice that in the organisation of big efforts to raise funds for public institutions or for philanthropic movements, the idea of a fair has become the most popular method of attracting and holding public attention. Only a few weeks ago the magnificent gardens at the Temple were turned into a fair, entirely carried through by lady and gentlemen amateur show people, and at a Richardson show booth some of the greatest actors and actresses of the day strutted the mimic stage and came upon the front in sock and buskin after the best manner of the mummers of the olden time. We have before us now the organisation of a country fair to be held in the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, a society for the encouragement of kindness to animals, under the patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the leading nobility and gentry of the land.

TO professional showmen it is more than encouraging to notice how very complimentary the amateur is in his selection of "drawing novelties" to the admitted novelties of the ordinary fair. For example, there is the cinematograph show, the Theatre Royal, the waxwork show, the freak show, the variety show, the Punch and Judy show, roundabouts, shooting saloons, swings, Aunt Sallies, novelty stalls, striking and strength testing machines, and all the fun of the fair. So we see that if imitation be, as it is said, "the sincerest flattery," showmen and show-women have no need to be ashamed of their trade and business in life.

INKBERROW wakes had for its attractions Mr. Thomas Scott's new set of steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, and Arrowsmith's varieties.



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Daughter of Mr. Chirgwin, the Well-known Entertainer.

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RIDGE'S PATENT COOKED FOOD.

FECKENHAM wakes was maintained by Strickland's gallopers and electric motor cars, Herbert's roundabouts, Strickland's and Herbert's park swings, shooting saloons, bottle batteries, Fletcher's ring boards, and Kemp's Oriental bazaars.

ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS visited The Butts, Salisbury, on Saturday, and presented a good programme to delighted audiences. Diabelo topped the bill in his daring act, "Looping the Revolving Wheel."

CONTINUING the Midland Round, Mr. P. Collins and the crowd of caterers under his banner have been this week at the curious old town of Droitwich, world famous for its brine baths. The Collins' list of entertainments included the No. 2 show, and sets of gondolas, galloping horses, steam horses, steam yachts, and park swings. Side shows were provided by The Mystics, Hutins, Gal Hague, Wright, and H. Gess; Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, bottle batteries, and throwing games were provided by Dobson, Ford, Wright, Herbert, Stokes, Humphrey, Hughes, and Cordwell.

THE entertainments and novelties at Richmond (Yorks) Fair were in the hands of local showmen. Mr. Crowe had steam horses and swings; Mr. Cowie, swings, rifle gallery, throwing games; and the other fairground caterers were Messrs. Arthur, Hall, and Miller.

THE recent lease of the show-ground at Hawick having expired, the Town Council invite tenders for a lease during the Common-Riding fortnight in June, with right to sub-let. Offers are to be sent to the Town Clerk's office, Hawick.

AT the cricket ground, Hastings, is located this week Forrest's World's Fair and Carnival, which includes the Japanese airship, an orchestraphone as powerful as fifty-two instrumentalists, Herman (the high rope performer), park swings, Aunt Sally coker shies, shooting galleries, and cinematograph shows.

THE tenth annual Horticultural Show at Hanley Park was opened by Lady Harrowby on Wednesday, when a huge crowd assembled. The usual pitch was allotted to the customary aggregation of itinerary shows. Mr. Pat Collins, of Walsall, who was in supreme command, estimated the value of his collection on the field at £25,000. He introduced at these fêtes novelties on their first visit to North Staffordshire. Chief among them were two motor-switchbacks, each valued at £4,500. These are most elaborate creations, ornately decorated, and with substantial and realistic appointments. The Mercédès, Darracq, Wolseley, Napier, and other well-known cars are represented. Another novelty was the Japanese "Whirling the Whirl," a ponderous invention driven by a 6-horse engine, and worked upon a universal knuckle-joint. The sideshows and stalls were of the usual character.

THE programme of stage shows included the Two Rays, in a grotesque boxing exhibition; Rubina, a graceful wire dancer; and the Valdo Boys, amusing comedy acrobats. The Docars were assisted in their eccentricities by ponies, whose tricks were very comical; Elton and Elma contributed a laughable turn on the bars; and the Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats gave a smart performance; Ponchery on the high rope displayed perfect confidence at the dizzy height, and his feats were followed with great interest; turns were also given by the Capaldi Bros., musical clowns.

THE Mansfield Pleasure Fair commences on Thursday, and is followed by Mansfield Woodhouse Feast on Monday and following days.

ALL the places of amusement in Mansfield are closed for the present. The New Grand Theatre is rapidly approaching completion, and it is hoped that it will be opened on August Bank Holiday.

AT the Birmingham Police Court on Wednesday, Charles Birch, showman, and Cecilia Freeman, his assistant, were summoned for occupying premises in High-street for the purpose of public music without having a licence. It was stated that the defendant Birch was the proprietor of a penny show, and had a barrel-organ in the doorway to attract customers. Shoals of letters had been received from shopkeepers in that neighbourhood complaining of the nuisance. Birch applied for a music licence in May, but it was refused. If the defendant would give an undertaking to discontinue the music, the summons would be withdrawn. For the defence, it was stated that the offending instrument was not a barrel-organ, but a musical-box, and only played when visitors fed it with pence. Defendant eventually undertook to discontinue the playing, and the summonses were withdrawn.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

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Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Charles J. Childs	0	10	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
C. Douglas Stuart	0	5	0
G. A. Rampling	0	2	6
Per Harry Lester.			
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Douglas White	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	0	10	6
Harry Gage	0	10	6
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
Mark Ringham	0	5	0
Bros. Obos	0	5	0
Forest and King	0	5	0
Sam Stockton	0	5	0
George Nyman	0	3	0
Charlie Jerome	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Fred Greville	0	2	6
T. C. Callaghan	0	2	0
L. A. Smith	0	1	0
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COUNTY THEATRE, READING, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Aug. 13, Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, 25, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 24, Christmas week, Jan. 7, 14, Feb. 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, July 30, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Christmas week, 31, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON, Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 8, 22 (three nights), 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton; and Aug. 13 at Opera House, Leicester.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Aug. 27, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
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SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

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Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS
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ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, 29, and intermediate onwards; also Big Attractions required for Christmas and New Year's weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Grand Theatre, Southampton. Sept. 3.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad Court-chambers, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical or Comedy, Comic Opera, &c., for only dates, SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON. Electricity, &c., throughout.
Aug. 9, 10, 11, 27, 28, 29, Sept. 13, 14, 15. No dramas.
HAGUE, General-Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, July 30, Aug. 20, 27 (3 nights), Sept. 24, Nov. 5, 15 (3 nights), 19, and Dec. 3. Apply, STANLEY ROGERS, Esq., 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Company, for July, 12, 13, 14 (three nights).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, Companies, Broadway Theatre, New Cross. Please address for booking, Mr. GIFFARD, 53a, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. Aug. 13 possibly vacant.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 13 and 20.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Aug. 20 probably Vacant for High class Attraction.
Address, WM. MORTON.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, First-Class Company, Aug. 13, for Re-opening week, after nine weeks' vacation, Musical Show preferred.
GEORGE E. MUDD, Business-Manager,
This, Opera House, Buxton;
next, QUEEN'S, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Good Companies, Paisley, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29; Perth, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Address, J. H. SAVILE,
The Spa, Whitby (till July 13).

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, good Dramatic Attraction or Star Combination, July 30.
E. H. PAGE.

WANTED, Companies, Drama or Variety, July 23, 30, and Big Attraction for August Bank Holiday, and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

T. R., RUGBY.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, for Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 15, 29 (3), Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, and various Spring dates, for new theatre.
A. F. CROSS, P.O.W., Nuneaton.

P.O.W., NUNEATON.
WANTED, Sound Musical Attractions, for the following money-making dates: Sept. 3, Nov. 12, Jan. 14, Feb. 4, 25, March 11. A. F. CROSS.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBORO'.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 29, and Nov. 12, last three days of each week.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Wanted, Good Companies, Oct. 15, Nov. 12 (Drama), and Dec., on.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES.
All bookings complete for 1906.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant Sept. 10 or 17, last 3 days only.
Dumfries, first three days; Hawick, last 3 days of alternate weeks only.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, unexpectedly Vacant, July 26 (3 nights).
Only Open Date this season.
E. MICHAEL, Theatre Royal, Margate.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, 17, Feb. 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, March 25, April 22.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 20.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedies, for the only two vacant dates this year, Oct. 20 and Dec. 3. A few Spring and Autumn Dates, 1907, left. Bookings include:—"Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl" No. 1, "Veronique," "Trip to the Highlands," "The Bauble Shop," "La Poupee," "Amorelle," "The Night of the Party," "Breed of the Treshams," Moody-Manners No. 1 Co., "The Orchid," "Claudian," "Two Little Michus," "Harlequin King," "Sign of the Cross," "Prince of Pilsen," "Sherlock Holmes," "Peggy Machree," F. R. Benson's Repertoire Co., F. R. Benson's "Midsummer Night's Dream," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime "Dick Whittington," "Bluebell in Fairyland," &c., &c.
All communications to
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 30, and several Autumn Dates vacant. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, Aug. 13, Grand Theatre, Hull, Aug. 20. Musical Attraction preferred.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 13.
Terms, &c., to RICH WALDON.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating with "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24. Managers please note these are the only dates I have vacant this year. Fast filling up 1907. Apply to JAMES KILRNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 3, 17, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 13 and 20.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H.M.T., Barrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for few remaining Autumn Dates, last three nights of week only, Aug. 30 (re-opening), Sept. 6, 13, 20, Nov. 8. Dec. 6, Xmas, on. Good Panto. write; first in. EDWARD MARRIS, Proprietor.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, September onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, Known, Opera House, Cheltenham, open August Bank Holiday, open; first-class, Musical or Drama. H. OSWALD REDFORD, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, BILSTON.
WANTED, Aug. 6 (reopening date), First-class Attraction. Address
HARRY BATTERSBY, Corneville House, Bilston.

WEST BROMWICH
NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Companies and most Celebrated Stars and Combinations. Vacant Oct. 1, 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10. The only permanent Hippodrome and Theatre in the Town. Address all coms., J. P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

KIDDERMINSTER
NEW OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, for this Beautiful Theatre, First-class Companies with High-class Plays. Vacant Aug. 6. Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 5. Address, J. P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

VICTORIA THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Autumn, last three nights of each week.
Apply, GEO. FOX.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.
WANTED, a First-Class Attraction, Musical preferred, for Sept. 3 (vacant through postponement of Tour). Address, J. WORSWICK, as above.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Known, Attractions, something to draw, Aug. 13, 20, Chorley; also Sept. 10, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED, First-Class Drama, for July 16 (wire). Apply, J. E. BULL (General-Manager for Samuel James), Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 20 and 27. Only Vacant Dates this year.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS.
The West End Theatre of Hastings.
WANTED, through disappointment, Aug. 6, week, good Company, Musical Comedy preferred. Apply, Mr. ELVEY THOMAS, as above; or Mr. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, London.

WANTED, good Company (Musical preferred), for important Theatre on Kentish Coast, for Aug. 16 (three nights); excellent business certain. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, London.

THEATRE ROYAL and CONCERT HALL, DEAL.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 20 to 26, 30, 31, Sept. 1, and Sept. 5 to 13, onwards.
Apply, JAS. C. WHITE.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Dec. 24.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
22, Upper Hagley-road, Birmingham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 3 and 17.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY," the most successful play produced during the year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates in First-Class Theatres only, Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

Mr. CHARLES HARRINGTON,
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN," Big Production.
WANTED, July 23, 30, Aug. 27.
"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
a Huge Success. Wanted, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Garden Teatre, Folkestone.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, and 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, Sept. 24, on.
July 30. Wire,
J. W. CORDINER, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, Sept. 24, on.
Fifth Year of Tour.
New printing, scenery, and dresses.
Excellent cast.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, Sept. 24 on.
STUART CLEVELAND, Metropole, Glasgow (return).

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
WANTED, Best Theatres. Vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 19, and 26.
Christmas and New Year's Weeks vacant.
A Powerful Attraction.
Fifth year of continuous tour.
Now booking Spring, 1907.
T. R., SOUTH SHIELDS, July 9.

WANTED, good Theatres, after Aug. 25, for "THE NEW CLOWN," with G. H. Snazelle as Mr. Dixon.
B. HOLMES, 167, Brondesbury-villas, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Managers seeking a Big Drawing Attraction are referred to Companies Page for particulars of Mystical Play, including LE ROY, TALMA, and BOSCO, The World's Monarchs of Magic, supported by a Powerful Company.

"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY,"
by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane.
Tour under the direction of
Ernest Carpenter and Sidney Cooper.
WANTED, for this startling success, booked at practically all leading Drama houses, Oct. 15, Nov. 12 and 19. A magnificent production. Re dates address,
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, and 22.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
T. R., Hyde.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 17, Nov. 5, Xmas, New Year. FRANCES DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-road, Whitstable-on-Sea.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
"THE PENALTY OF CRIME,"
"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, August Bank Holiday.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON,
Lyric, Hammersmith, W.

"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS" Co.
WANTED, Good Theatres, South preferred, July 23 and 30, also Aug. Bank Holiday, Mr. Norman Partriege as Sir Philip Marchant. Refer to Managers Theatres visited as to excellence. Opera House, Buxton; next, Queen's Theatre, Manchester. GEO. E. MUDD, Manager.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, Aug. 20 (Midlands), only vacant date this year; booking 1907. Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, to-day, King's, Glasgow; next week, Grand, Blackpool.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, July 30 and Aug 6, between Newport and Birmingham.
Wire, "Busily, London."

WANTED, "The Traitor," Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19.
First-Class production.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, for this sterling Costume Drama, July 16, on, Aug. 20, various on.
W. J. MILLER, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Aug. 6, Wanted, Aug. 6, to follow Islington, West London, and Peckham.
Last Saturday's house at Q. T., Manchester, nearly three times larger than Monday.
The play is smartly staged, prettily dressed, and is kept bright and clean, therefore an ideal holiday attraction. S S. thanks Managers for offers, but I travel experienced people, consequently want fair terms. Ad., SYDNEY SPENCER, Alex. T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, for Henry Bedford's Co., to follow fortnight at Devonport; could play two weeks at any Theatre. Have several plays ready.
HENRY BEDFORD,
99, Halton-road, London, N.

WANTED, High-Class Theatres for Mr. H. F. Maltby and Co., "The Youngest of Three," Aug. 13 and 27, Sept. 3 (?), Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 19, also Spring. WYN WEAVER, Royalty, Morecambe.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 24 (?), Oct. 1, 15, 29 (?), Xmas, A powerful piece played with a powerful company. JOHN B. SHINTON, Elm Dene, Victoria-road, Tuebrook, Liverpool.

HILLIARD VOX'S
"ALASKA."
"ALASKA."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 24.
HILLIARD VOX,
Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S COMPANY, in "THE NEW BOY."
WANTED, Known, July 23, unexpectedly vac.
Address,
GRANT ALLEN, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 6, 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED Good Theatres, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, and onwards. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vacant Sept. 3, 24, and Nov. 5.
L. CARSON, Keighley

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT,"
Cast of fifteen experienced Artists, headed by MR. HARRY CULLENFORD as KARL.
MISS VIOLET CARLYLE as NADIA.
Bookings include:
DERBY,
ST. HELENS,
SHEFFIELD (ROYAL),
BRADFORD (PRINCE'S),
SCARBOROUGH (ROYAL),
SWINDON, JARROW,
DEWSBURY,
BARROW, MEXBOROUGH,
LIVERPOOL (QUEEN'S), HULL (ALEX),,
ROTHERHAM, SWANSEA (STAR),
LINCOLN, LUTON, SALFORD, ABERDARE,
YARMOUTH, BURNLEY, BARNSLEY,
OLDHAM, CASTLEFORD, KIDDERMINSTER,
WALSALL, MANCHESTER, &c.
New Scenic Effects specially painted for this production by Egerton, Bradford.
Unrivalled Plant of Pictorials and Catchy Letterpress (twenty-five varieties).
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 24, only vacant dates this year.
Refer M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens.
Refer J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury.
Refer T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby.
Refer J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield.
who say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"THE CONSCRIPT" specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Address all coms.,
This, Grand, Walsall; next, Prince's, Bradford.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-sixth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., 1907.
WANTED, Aug. 6 (unexpectedly vacant), Aug. 6 (follow Star, Swansea).
Wire Aug. 6, Wire.
FRANK AYRTON, T.R., Stratford, E.

MISS MARY NEIL'S and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by CHARLES DARRELL.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston) and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby), must be First-Class Theatres and give equitable terms.
GEO. KIRK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

"WHAT MEN DARE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 17 and 24, Oct. 1 and 8, Nov. 19 (Scotland), magnificent production, strong cast. Thanks Arthur Carlton, Esq., Herbert Vere, Esq., Frank Percival, Esq., W. E. Potts, Esq., and many other gentlemen for Contracts.
Wire or write,
PERCY NORMAN, 68, Sayer-street, Walworth.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres only, July 23, 30, Sept. 3 and 10,
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY, in "THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 13 (between Yarmouth and Scarboro'; Aug. 16 (three nights, between Ramsgate and Brighton);
Oct. 8 (between London and Plymouth),
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY,
22, Charing Cross, S.W.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, onwards, with exceptions,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Special New and Elaborate Production of the World-famous Drama,
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
by Special Arrangement with Mr. Wainwright.
Everything carried.
Beresford Whitcomb as Tom Robinson.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29, few later,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Great Dramatic Success,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Everything carried.
The company includes Lewis Gilbert, Leonard Lawrence, H. H. Barrington, F. Thorpe Tracey, Fred May, &c.; Marie Macaulay, Florence Lovel, Irene Ross, Ella Seton, &c.
Autumn Bookings include
Grand, Islington; Alex, Hull; T. R., Bolton; Palace, Newcastle; T. R., Sheffield; Junction, Manchester; Liverpool; Aston (pencil); Smethwick (pencil); &c,
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8.
Communications, c/o "The Era."

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED Aug 6, Special
Aug. 6, Scenery,
Aug. 6, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Pier, Eastbourne.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 23, Aug. 27, onwards.
A Perfect Production.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Wire, to-day, 136, Great Clowes-st., Manchester; next, GRAND, BYKER.

HENRY E. LEIGH'S COMPANY,
"THE 'VARSITY BELLE."
Fifth Year of Tour of this Phenomenally Successful Farcical Comedy.
See Companies Column, Page 2.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 8.
Communications re dates to
ANDREW W. SPENS, 1, Brookwood-rd., Southfields, S.W.

WANTED, Best Theatres, for Stanley Carlton's Co's., "A Life's Story," "A Marriage of Vengeance," Sept. 3, 10, on, with exceptions. Xmas and few Spring Vacant. Exceptionally strong cast. Magnificent plant of pictorials. All specially cut for both plays. Aug. 9, STAFFORD.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER" CO.
WANTED, for the above Enormous Attraction, Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8, and on.
Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8, and on.
One of the most elaborately dressed and mounted dramas touring.
Address, FRANK BATEMAN,
28, Seaton-place, St. Heliers, Jersey.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates,
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Aug. 13, Sept. 3, 24, various, on. Thanks to William Bailey, Esq., and Ernest Carpenter, Esq., for contracts, August B. H. (West London), and 20th (Grand, Brighton) respectively.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
including Miss Edith Blande in her superb impersonation of Cora Granville.
Aug. 6, 13, 20, various, on. Thanks to Cecil Paget, Esq., Samuel James, Esq., Milton Bode, Esq., Richard Flanagan, Esq., J. C. Imeson, Esq., Allan Edwardes, Esq., H. G. Dudley Bennett, Esq., Andrew Melville, Esq., Ernest Dotridge, Esq., Lingford Carson, Esq., Sheriff Howard, Esq., W. H. Westwood, Esq., and J. Potter, Esq., for contracts, and to J. W. Boughton, Esq., for negotiation re August B. H., Plymouth.
"MIDDLEMAN" and "SAINTS,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North), Dec. 3, 10, 17 (en route Scotland to Wales). Thanks to Robert Arthur Esq., R. C. Buchanan, Esq., and Harry Fischer, Esq., for contracts.
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON."
Terminated—as the result of trial production—special three weeks' contract with Oswald Stoll, Esq. (to whom my best thanks), Saturday last. Scored an emphatic success at the Coliseum, Glasgow, and Empire, Liverpool and Manchester (bottomed bills each house). Various open dates.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GLASGOW, Ltd.
Chairman and Managing-Director, A. J.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
Lessee and Manager, A. J.
Re dates at both theatres, address
R. C. Buchanan, Esq.
BORO' THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
To Let for all classes of Shows (non-dramatic). Address, A. J. Thanks to Sutton Vane, Esq., J. H. Clyndes, Esq., John Clyde, Esq., J. D. Hunter, Esq., Fred Sinclair, Esq., Edward Ranier, Esq., and Norman A. Overton, Esq., for enquiries re Booking Agency; also to the numerous Resident Managers who have written expressing confidence in and promised support to same.
Address, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

MIDLAND SYNDICATE'S PLAYS.
WANTED, July 9, 16, 23, Aug. 20, for Musical Versions of "Life," "East Lynne," &c., known Artists; special scenery, unlimited pictorials. "Aladdin" Panto. vacant, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 11, a superb production. HERBERT BARRS, Theatre, Ashington.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Various Dates for any of Above, all Beautifully Mounted, and played by Best Talent Procurable. Refer Harry Yorke, Esq., Stenhen Pritt, Esq., R. C. Buchanan, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq., C. P. Cooke, Esq., or McLeod Loader, Esq. Managers are invited to communicate.
EDWARD MARRIS, Grand, Blackpool.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 3, 10, for this Big Production.
Address, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS,
2, Sunnyside-terrace, Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by Miss Iné Cameron
and Mr. G. Alexander Marsh.
WANTED, Sept. 10 and 17, Midlands or North, Oct. 22 and 29, Midlands or South, Nov. 12, between Hastings and Folkestone. Nov. 26, onwards, with exceptions.
WILKIE, 28, Oxford-gardens, W.

Managers looking for money book
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 10. Refer J. W. Whitbread re drawing powers.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Queen's, Dublin; next, Met., Manchester.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Mr. Edward Graham Falcon
has secured the entire rights from
Messrs. Gatti and Frohman,
and has purchased the
No. 1 Production
from Messrs. Murray King and Clark.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 5, and Good Theatre not doing pantomime for four weeks at Christmas.
Managers send Spring Dates.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Managers seeking
a Big Drawing Attraction
are referred to
Companies Page for
particulars of
Mystical Play,
including
LE ROY, TALMA, and BOSCO,
The World's Monarchs of Magic,
supported by
a Powerful Company.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, to open Aug. 6, rehearse in London ten days previous, good Irish Comedian, must be over 5ft. 9in.; Character Old Lady and Gentleman, Gentleman to Stage-Manage (a joint could be arranged), Young Juvenile Gentleman, Utility Gentleman, also a Baggage-man, able to take charge of scenery. Interviews in London imperative, and will be arranged with suitable applicants. State age, height, experience, lowest terms, and enclose recent photo., to EUGENE BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Rehearse, London, next week, Smart Chambermaid; Good Robust Heavy Lady, must be young and attractive, capable of Big Fight, for Sketch; Responsible Man for Small Juvenile Part; Young and Pretty Actress for very Small Juvenile Part; Good Amateur may write. Terms for special week, full particulars, and photos. If suitable, a Long Engagement will be offered. MOULD and NICHOLLS, Surrey Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, for Special Week, West Pier, Brighton, July 23, company for "Masks and Faces," to rehearse in Brighton week prior. Terms, &c., Mr. TAPPING, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Artists for New Musical Production, "The Lord of the Last; also Quartette or Troupe of Dancers, Stage Carpenter, Props., Musical-Director, Advance Agent. Apply, with full particulars, photos., &c., to FRED PAUL, 29, Waldegrave-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Leading Man, Good Comedian, and Good Responsible Man. Send lowest terms and last two references to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOURS.
Commencing Aug. 20.
WANTED, a Lady and Gentleman as Pupils for Modern Drama; also for Legitimate Répertoire. Address,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Good Leading Lady, and Child (small, but over 14), joint is possible.
Full particulars and enclose photo. to
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 188, Hammersmith-road, W.

WANTED, Lady, for "Bluebell,"; Boys (over 14), must have good voices; Good Comedians for Blob and King, must sing and dance well. No notice will be taken unless age, height, lowest terms, ladies' photos., and full particulars are forwarded.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, "Assassin," rehearse July 30. Sunderland, Light Comedy Lady; must dress exceptionally well. Gentleman for Aristocratic Light Comedy to combine Acting-Management.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, 19, Dunalley-parade, Cheltenham.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, for Five or Six Weeks, a Really Good Low Comedian,
to open immediately.
All particulars to Her Majesty's T., Aberdeen.

ARTISTS WANTED.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR,
"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, Strong Character Actor for Doggervitch; also Artists in other Lines for possible vacancies. Lowest terms, references, photo. (with stamped envelope) to
F. WYBERT CLIVE,
Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, for next Season, commencing Aug. 4, a Tall Young Gentleman, with a little experience, for a small part and assistant Stage-management. State age, height, experience, lowest terms, and enclose a recent photo., to EUGENE BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-rd., Lewisham, S.E.

"THE BAUBLE SHOP."
Mr. T. DOUGLAS WENTWORTH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, for few weeks during Mr. T. W. Rawson's indisposition, recognised Leading Man for Clivebrook; also Ladies and Gentlemen in all Lines to complete cast for Autumn. Rehearse July 15. T. W. RAWSON, 18, Euston-grove, Morecambe.

WANTED, Juvenile, Character, and Acting-Manager, for Autumn Tour.
Height, references, lowest terms, &c., to
HENRY BEDFORD, 99, Halton-road, London, N.
No interviews unless arranged.

WANTED, Rehearse at once, Gentleman for King Charles, must be tall; sketch. A. HOWARD, 14, Kingsdene, Vassall-road, Brixton.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Leading Gentleman for Thornhill, Good Responsible Actor (tall); also Clever Child Actress. Rehearse July 24. All particulars, photographs, E. V. EDMONDS, 2, Sunnyside-ter., Weston-s.-Mare.

WANTED, Known, a few Vacancies occur in First-class Touring Company for One or Two Gentlemen Amateurs; small premium; salary to commence; thorough tuition.
Apply by letter,
P. N., 68, Sayer-street, Walworth, S.E.

WANTED, One or Two Amateurs, to Walk On and Understudy, for Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire. Apply, ALLAN WILKIE, 28, Oxford-gardens, W.

WANTED, Smart, Young, and Pretty Lady. Good terms. Write, enclose photo. and state age, &c., to WHITTAKER, Lower Gates, Rochdale.

WANTED, Two or Three Amateur Ladies who can Sing; no premium; fares paid. New musical play. Apply, with full particulars, Box 3,434, "The Era."

WANTED, Al Fresco, covered stage, Soprano, Tenor, large rep., age, height, compass, photo. (essential), refs., lowest terms for seven weeks, Pier, Redcar; open July 23. DROLLS, 22, Red Lion-street, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, First-class Tenor; must be good; have good répertoire. Terms, age, photo., to GROVES, Pleasure Gardens, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Boys, about 14 years of age. Good Voices.
Apply,
with full particulars, to
EMMA DON, Pavilion, Newcastle.

WANTED, a First-class Gentleman Artist (Vocalist or Variety), for High-class Costume Party, for 5 weeks, commencing Aug. 13. Terms, £3 per week, and fares. Particulars, GEO. AVON, Southbank, Lyall-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Enormous Success.
THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA, specially brought to this country by Sir Alfred L. Jones, K.C.M.G., causing a sensation everywhere. Novel, refined, humorous, and a sure draw.
WANTED, Known, only two vacant weeks, July 23 and Sept. 3; special Sacred Concerts on Sundays if desired. At Tynemouth nearly 15,000 paid for admission. Record business at Dundee. Return visit to North Pier, Blackpool, booked for Aug. 13, after an interval of six weeks only. Wire for July 23.
Full details and printing sent on application. This week, Pier Pavilion, Bognor; next week, HIPPODROME, LOWESTOFT.
Sole Agents, Messrs. JONES and DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, and 14, Dale-street, Liverpool. Telephones 2449 and 5650 Central. Telegrams, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by High-class Tenor Vocalist; good pianist, sight-reader, and transposer; fine répertoire; smart, gentlemanly, and steady. COMPOSER, 4, West-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Tenor (good Répertoire) would join Concert Party for Summer Tour. Address, BELL, 19, Colebrooke-row, Islington.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, for Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, reliable Stage-manager and Producer, Comedians, Principal Boy, Girl, Single and Double Turns; also Artists required for Aug. 6, onward, 4 weeks given in Scotland. Communications,
BARNEY ARMSTRONG,
Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists all Lines, Principal Boy, Girl, pair Sisters, pair Knockabouts, Abanazar, Chorus Ladies and Dancers (tall), photos. and terms in first instance; also a Stage-Manager and Musical Conductor (Piano), 12 weeks' run. DAN THOMAS, 131, Coutts-road, Bow, London, E. Only seen by appointment.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words. Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, The Two Kays (Madeline and Fedora), at Liberty for Xmas, First or Second Boy and Girl, any Pantomime. Do not object to travelling. On Tour. Per. address, 36, Medora-road, Elm Park, Brixton Hill, London.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist; Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, Manchester Scenic Co., Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester. Storage, Renovations, Secondhand Stuff, Variety Effects. Write, Bostock.

WANTED, Contracts, for High-class, Effective Scenery, at lowest prices. CARLYLE SCENIC STUDIO, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-class Stage-Manager, experienced
in all its branches.
None but experienced men need apply.
Must enclose copy of last situation, which will be strictly investigated.
Apply to the
General-Manager,
Mr. JOE MAY,
King's, Gateshead.

WANTED, an Experienced Manager, for the
Grand Amphitheatre, Ramsgate;
an experienced person only need apply.
Must be strictly of temperate habits.
Address, with full particulars, to
LORD GEORGE SANGER,
the sole Proprietor,
Grand Hall-by-the-Sea,
Margate.

WANTED, at once, a recognised Business-Manager, for well-known Concert Party.
Address,
GAZEKA, Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth.

WANTED, Business-Manager for Cinematograph Co., for India; must be single, and know the country. Apply, stating age and experience in first instance to Box 2,075, Willing's, 125, Strand.

WANTED, Stage-Manager and Carpenter; must be practical. Apply by letter only, with references and salary required, to Stage Department, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, an Efficient Traveller, to obtain Adverts. for Curtains and Programmes; must have had similar experience before. Constant employment. Apply, Box 3,428, "The Era."

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, Good Advance Agents; must be able to use Brush and Sticks, and not afraid of opposition. Terms and references, J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Advance Agent, young, steady, accustomed to fit-up or no use. Terms, references, and full particulars, Miss MAGGIE MORTON, Hurworth, Twickenham.

GRAND THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced and reliable Electrician. Lowest terms and references to J. GLADWIN, 48, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced Stage-carpenter; must have own tools and know how to use them. Apply, J. E. CULKEN, Cattle Market Hotel.

WANTED, good Carpenter and Baggage Man, to play small part. Send last two references, photo., age, and lowest terms. ARTHUR CARLTON, Worcester.

WANTED, Carpenter, thoroughly experienced in fit-ups. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Carpenter, with own Tools, accustomed to Variety Theatres, and willing to be useful. References and terms, Mr. SAVILE, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Bill Inspector, at once, smart and hardworking. Apply full particulars, references, and lowest terms for permanency, to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, Billposters, steady High-ladderman. Apply, giving references, RICHEY & Co., Ltd., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Travelling Maid, First-class Dressmaker; abstainer; references; must understand all duties. Address particulars to Box 3,427, "The Era."

Resident-Manager.

WANTED, Known, Smart Up-to-date Music Hall Manager of Good Appearance and Address will shortly be at Liberty. Highest references and thoroughly experienced in all branches. Offers invited for First-class Music Hall, Theatre, or Touring Co. Address, Box 3,437, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Business-Manager, position as Resident in Provincial Theatre, might take small interest in same; good references. Write, MANAGER, 169, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Variety, &c., Now or Autumn; 19 years' London and Provincial experience. Address, MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, William Payne, resigned Manager and Treasurer Palace, Tottenham, open for Resident-Act. Man., Secretary, &c. 1, King's-parade, High-rd., Tottenham.

WANTED, Employment, C. H. Reed, at Liberty, Circus Agent, Manager, Secretary, assist Entertainment Manager, Advertising Agent, any position not menial; experienced, reliable. Address, The Stores, Leigh-road, Leigh, Essex.

WANTED, by Tom Kuner, Advance Agent, Engagement, late Moody-Manners Opera Co.; good refs. Add., 87, Bank-street, Gateshead.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical M.C. London references; resident or tour; and wife for Wardrobe, single or joint. Apply Box 3,424, "The Era."

WANTED, by Electrician, Situation, knowledge of Cinématograph, &c.; good references; age 26, speaks German. Address, R. SCHWABE, 26, Brook-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Electrician wants change; 10 years' theatrical experience; competent steam and gas engineer; steady, reliable; well known in profession. Moderate salary.

WANTED, by Alf. George, Engagement as Master Carpenter, 9 years Grand Theatre, Islington; good references. 3, Remington-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, by Wardrobe Mistress, Engagement, now, or Panto.; cut, make, alter; reference, middle-aged. P. L., Bedford House, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Conductor (Violinist) and various other instruments, to open Aug. 6. Apply, full particulars, references, and lowest terms for permanency, to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Musical Director, Violin; also Clarionet and Double Bass, to complete Orchestra; open July 30. Give references, &c.
GEORGE ZALVA.

WANTED, good reliable Leader, for First-class Music Hall, must be fully qualified. Apply, FREDERIC FEY, Conductor, Palace Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, for the Spa Theatre, Bridlington, First Violin (Leader), Flute, Cornet, Double Bass, and Pianist (Musical Director), latter to combine another instrument (strings preferred). Open July 23, eight weeks certain. Must be experienced in Comic Operas, good players, &c.
Address, Mr. HAGUE,
General-Manager of the above.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants. First Violin, must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, for Royal Naval College, Dartmouth,
a Good Violin Player,
to combine Clarionet or Cornet.
Duties as Cadet Servant.
Army or Navy man preferred.
Apply at once to
BANDMASTER, R.N. College.

WANTED, good Violinist or Flautist, at once, to join Harpist. Terms, Shares; good shop. Must be respectable and reliable. Address, ALBERT WATERS, Church-street, Shrewsbury.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and 'Cellist, to complete Trio, play twice daily (Sundays included). State terms. MUS. DIRECTOR, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First Violin, also Cornet. Lowest terms and refs., JOHN HOLMAN, JUN., Palace, Tottenham, London, N.

WANTED, First Cornet, for Queen's Park Hippodrome, and Clarionet for the Hippodrome, Manchester; open July 16. Apply by letter to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Cornet, must be good, to open Monday next, 9th inst. Terms, 30s.; permanency. Evening dress. Wire, MITCHELL, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, at once, Solo Clarionet, also Violin, Flute, and Piccolo, Pianist, String Bass, Double-handed men to combine Reed or Brass preferred; must be first-class men. Engagement till Sept. 30; twice daily, two hours each performance. J. H. ROWE, Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, immediately, for Royal Artillery Band, Dover, Clarionet, Cornet, and French Horn, must be single men. CONDUCTOR, R.A. Band, Dover.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Clarionet. Lowest terms for permanency; steady and reliable musicians only need apply. HARRY HINCHCLIFFE, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, for West of England, Solo Clarionet, Flute, and Trombone, to combine Euphonium, commencing July 28. 10, Cavendish-rd., Herne Bay.

WANTED, for Eight Weeks, open July 16. Good Bass. Send terms and all particulars to R. FORSYTH, Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD.
TENTING SEASON.
WANTED, Good Euphonium, to join Mon., July 16. Terms, 32s. 6d. weekly. Address, BANDMASTER, Sangers, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

BAND, 3rd WEST KENT.
WANTED, for Permanent Staff, Euphonium and Trombone Players; good band pay given during training. Apply, BANDMASTER, Barracks, Maidstone.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, Euphonium; must be steady. Write or wire, Kilrush; Monday, Co. Clare.

WANTED, Euphonium or Trombone, for Tenting Circus; join immediately. Wire, Sat., BANDMASTER, Circus, Worthing; Monday, Shoreham.

WANTED, 'Cello, Flute, Trombone, for seven weeks from Aug. 6, subject six nights, two matinées, two rehearsals weekly. Terms, £2 weekly. MUS. DIRECTOR, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, to Open Aug. 6, a good 'Cellist. Terms, &c., WARDEN, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, 'Cello and Oboe, London and Tour, competent Grand Opera, commence August. Refs., letters, to ST. CLAIR, Moody-Manners Stores, The Hyde, Hendon.

WANTED, Flute and Euphonium, for Seaside Military Band, must be experienced, with large journals. Terms, SMEDLEY, Bandmaster, Union-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, First-Class Pianist, to travel with Auction Mart, must read at sight, and be a good vamper, make himself generally useful during the day. Permanent engagement to a suitable man. One who has been in the business preferred. Can open at once. Full particulars first letter. Apply, C. F. ROWLEY, Rose Mount, Middle-road, Sholing, Hants.

WANTED, Pianist, powerful Baritone Voice, good répertoire songs, wishes join Masked Al-fresco. High-class only. Shares. MUS. BAC., Oxon., 75, Sutherland-avenue, W.

WANTED, First-Class Orchestral Pianist, must be able to play good Solos and accompany. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 95, Gloucester-road, Regent's Park, London.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to combine Second Violin or Viola; must be good at both. Commence July 16. Terms and refs., SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Pianist (combine other instrument), Violin, Flute, Clarionet, permanency. Lowest terms, refs., SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, commence Aug. 6, Double Drums and Trombone; must wear evening dress and assist with fittings when travelling. J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Verona, Malmesbury.

WANTED, Cymbalon Player and Musicians, for Special Engagements with Orchestra at Garden Parties, &c. Write, CONDUCTOR, Box 3423, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Instrumentalists to complete small Military Band, for Seaside (Wales), short season, commencing July 16; few to combine Stringed Instrument if required. Apply, stating lowest terms, &c., to CONDUCTOR, Box 3,439, "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C., "Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (Diploma), late Yeomanry and Volunteers, appointment, temporary or permanent. Bands found for Trainings. Own Instruments and Music. Box 3,398, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Bachelor of Music (Oxford), thoroughly exp. Conductor, Pianist, Chorus Trainer, powerful Baritone Voice. MUSBAC, 75, Sutherland-av., W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, summer or permanency, Liberty through closing, any business. First-class refs. LEADER, 16, Latham-st., Bolton.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement as Leader or First Violin, in Orchestra. Miss MORTIMER, 78, New-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, any Business, thoroughly competent and reliable; excellent refs. H. JACKSON, 132, Lowe-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or Solo Cornet, used to Circus Business; good répertoire. REYNOLDS, Red Lion, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin), Engagement, Variety business preferred; thoroughly experienced; highest credentials. Apply, CHAS. P. FOX, 69, Childers-street, Doncaster.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Good Leader (Variety or other Business), at Liberty; experienced; and Stock of Music; and Brilliant Violinist. CARPENTER, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, experienced reader, good accompanist on piano, has own pianette; any Bus., or join Partner, lady or gent. VIOLINIST, Hippo., Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Known, Good Violinist, at Liberty, any Business. Good refs.
G. W., 132, Bolton-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, can combine Clarionet, any business; good refs.
H. FROST, 20, Methley-st., Kennington Cross, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, experienced, Engagement, season or permanency; good refs. C. LISTER, Crimsworth-terrace, Hebden Bridge.

WANTED, Engagement for a few weeks, First or Second Violin; Pantos. arranged; first class refs. MADDEN, 4, Ducie-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, young, répétiteur, is open to accept Engagement, few weeks, through hall closing; can open at once. Address, VIOLINIST, 26, Greenfield-st., Commercial-rd., E.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, Royalty T., by T. Hulby (Violin), C. Sutcliffe (Piano), any Business. Wire, 14, Crewe-street, Chester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet Player, Orchestral or Military; experienced, steady. JAMES WHITFIELD, South Cottage, Lansdowne-road, Worcester.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, any Business; just finishing long tour. Liberty July 16. LUKE KENYON, Cornet, Assembly Rooms, Pontypool, Mon.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Cornet, First or Second, through season closing; refs.; reliable and steady. A. BIANCOLI, 111, Sydney-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, combine String Bass; returning from Engagement abroad July 5; liberty after; steady and competent. Box 3,421, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet (Second preferred), young, total abstainer.
H. RUSSELL, JUN., 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo or Second Cornet, any business, at Liberty July 9. Address, ROBT. HORROCKS, 6, Nut-street, Halliwell, Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Lady Cornetist, Few Lessons to Finish, from Teacher with Knowledge of Music Hall requirements; must be moderate. Write lowest terms, Box 3,430, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once.
Address, CORNET, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement; excellent references; would take permanent engagement. Address, CLARIONET, 9, Corporation-street, Aberystwyth, Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, thoroughly experienced and reliable; excellent refs. Address, CHARLES MANTLE, 12, Windermere-street, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet, July 16, fully capable of Solo, Military or Orchestral. J. R. GARDNER, Assembly Rooms, Pontypool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, string or military, seaside or permanent; steady and reliable. Address, BATEMAN, Hascombe, Godalming, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged June 30, Open to Engagement, Double Bass, and E flat Bombardon, late Staff Band. NORRIS, 35, Bellefields-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by E flat Bass, situation, permanent or otherwise; good reader. Refs., &c. F. B., 33, Grange-road, Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement or Deputising, by competent Double Bass (string), in London, any Business. Address, BASSO, 3, Rutland-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement as Double Bass; good references; three years Moss Empires. W. GOTT, 13, Albert-terrace, North Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, by E flat Bass, combine Second Violin, season or permanency. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham. Undeniable references.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Double Bass Player, either Opera, Drama, or Var. Good refs.; moderate salary. BASSO, 22, Church-street, Leominster.

WANTED, Known, experienced Double Bass, at Liberty for permanent Engagement; excellent references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-rd., Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Trombone (good), Theatre or Music Hall; good refs.; young, sober, and reliable. J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone and Double Drums; sober and reliable. Now at Liberty, any Business. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, any business, excellent references, or would deputise. METCALFE, 159, Lower-rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by First-Class Oboist, seven seasons Moody-Manners Opera Company, permanent engagement. MCDONAGH, 107, Charlmont-rd., Lower Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Oboist, Engagement; good references. Address, T. WADSWORTH, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, Pier, Southend-on-Sea. Sun., July 8. Address, 7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, Disengaged from Aug. 6, London or Suburbs preferred. LA TREMOLO, 45, Beaumont-st., Portland-place, London, W.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement, Empire, Dudley, closing.
Address, FARRAR, 16, Anderson-road, Tipton, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Soloist, at Liberty July 16; good répertoire, thoroughly reliable. FLAUTIST, Assembly Rooms, Pontypool.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, any Business; join at once; reliable. FLAUTIST, 244, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, good Engagement or Deputising, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, through closing of Theatre, Orchestral or Military; good refs. T. B. KNIGHT, 35, Pentney-road, Balham.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, open for Seaside Engagement.
FLAUTIST, 62, Devonport-road, W.

WANTED, Known, Refined Mezzo-Soprano, Accompaniste, Solo Pianiste, long experience, desires Evening Engagements with Society Entertainer; would join Concert Party, or accompany anyone practising; excellent shorthand typist. CHARRINGTON, 30, Alfred-pl., Russell-sq.

WANTED, Known, Stanley Holt, talented young Pianist, champion Soloist, Varieties with Morton's Yokels, Spa, Whitby. Open Sept., on. Address, HARRY WELDON, c/o Vaudeville Club, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, orchestral, dance, or concert. Liberty July 10 till Sept., abstainer GARNER, 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Theatre position, as Pianist, Conductor, or First Violin, years of experience under best masters. A. B., 21, Montrell-road, Streatham Hill, London.

WANTED, by Orchestral Pianist (Lady), Engagement, for Summer Season; experienced. Address, K., Blagden, Fairfield North, Kingston-on-Thames.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, can double on Clarionet, vac. 9th, Dramatic or Variety; best references; sober and reliable. PAVEY, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Aug., Sept., Lady Pianist; good accompanist and sight reader; Violin and Viola (used to Band Work), Mandoline, 'Cello. VIOLA, 75, Ferne Park-road, Hornsey.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing by experienced Pianist, combine Clarionet; sober and reliable; good references. PIANIST, 3, Mill-street, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, 28, wishes to join Concert Party of good standing; would take share in expenses and profit if required. BAYES, 16, Alexandra-road, Twickenham.

WANTED, Engagements, Double Drums, and Effects, for Concerts, Oratorios, Conversaziones, &c.; abstainer; good references. CRYER, 34, Myrtle-place, Bingley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable Double Drummer, with effects, vacant 14th. DRUMMER, c/o Poole's Myrio., Pontypool, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS, ON TOUR.
General Manager, G. SCOTT.
WANTED, Tenting, Smart Ground Act, single man doing more than one act preferred. State full particulars, 12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

TRANSFIELD'S CIRCUS COMPANY.
WANTED, Clowns, Ponies, Riders, and Horses, Bioscope, &c., Disengaged for July 23 and 30. Entire programme 2½ hours. Share or salary. Apply, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, a good Comedy Man, for Juggling Act, good Hand-balancer or Tumbler preferred; good salary. Amateurs not wanted. Address, E. MORRIS, G.P.O., Dublin.

WANTED, by well-known Troupe of Acrobats, a Youth, between 16 and 20 years of age, must be able to do a good hand-to-hand Balance, and between 7st. to 8st. in weight; good home, pocket money, and everything found.
Apply, by letter, to
P. M.,
129, Fentiman-road,
Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Youth; must be a good Tumbler. Full particulars, age, height, salary expected. Address, Box 3,419, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Straight or Comedy Three-bar Performer, one that can tumble preferred. Address, Box 3,432, "The Era."

WANTED, Comic Knockabout Acrobat; good Tumbler preferred, must be single man. ZARO, 47, Larkhall-rise, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, John Fossett, at Liberty Monday, through disappointment, with this Up-to-date Comedy, Animal and other Acts, Fun and Talent. Great success, Dudley Castle Fête. Big Acts for Galas (Al-fresco), &c. Wire, 40, Tiverton-road, Selly Oak, Birmingham. Philips write.

WANTED, Known.
Miss Ella's Lion Show,
vacant July 9, 16, and Aug. 13.
Com.,
24, Overy-street, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Circus and Hippodrome Proprietors, Managers, Agents, &c., to Note that the Sisters Ohmy, greatest acrobatic bareback somersault three-horse riders will be at Liberty till the opening of the Coliseum, London, including Claude Ohmy, the greatest circus rider in the world. Great success at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. The talk of Blackpool. Re-engaged by particular desire. For full particulars, address, CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Lillian Davies, Equestrienne, Touring America with Barnum and Baily, Greatest Show on Earth. Perm. address, Irvinstown, Co. Fermanagh.

WANTED, observed. right here, novelty, science, humour, must be catalogued, Dec., Jan., Zampo, with Clown, Rebounding, Bar Canvas, bar long distance, Variety Somersault number, Lord John Sanger's Hippodrome, Ltd., current season. FRED NEIMAN, Representative, or mail direct, 168, Beresford-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Le Quips, up-to-date Clown and Comedian, Liberty for Summer; good entrees. 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Aerial Gymnast, Sensational Aerial Spar Trapeze Act, 50ft. high, no net. Great success Alexandra Park Gala, Pontefract Gala, Geo. Green's Carnivals, Whiting's Carnivals. Lib. Aug. for Galas, Wire, 77, Liverpool-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., the great Triple Bar Act. Liberty July 16. Aug. 6. This week, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea. All coms., 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known. The Maros. Comedy Bar Performers, Liberty 9th, 16th. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull. The Clean Comical Couple.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, Alex and Jolly, First-class Comic Three Bar Act; The Holmars, Burlesque Acrobatic Boxing Act; big success June 30, Leeds Gala; July 2, Stratford Park, Guildford; National Fire Brigade Carnival; to follow, Grimsby Sports. Yeadon Charity Gala, Rhymney Fête, &c., &c. 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Society Acrobats and Equilibrists, now on Tour. Success everywhere. All communications, 130, Magdalen-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Galas, &c., Sisters Rizareli, novel Trapeze Act; also The Recars, Acrobats; two distinct acts; Vacant July 9 and later. Address, 3, Bowdon-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, The Ostieers, Flying Ring and Bar Performers, Two Acts, Liberty for Aug. 6, Galas. Wire, 76, Westmoreland-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, just finished Eight Weeks' Tour. Liberty July and August Bank Holiday. Big Act for Galas. Agent, HARRY LEMAR, 157, Strand, London; or, JOHN IRVIN, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo and Princess Ina now travelling England with Fossett's Grand Circus. Perm. address, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, Bearer, Catcher, Tumbler, with good Troupe. Address, TUMBLER, 44, Arkley-rd., Markhouse-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Parachutist, at Liberty Aug. Bank Holiday; also Righiaway, Passenger Balloon and Ballonist. Apply, Lieut. LEMPRIERE, Aeronaut, Handsworth, Birmingham.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Secretaries of Sports, Flower Shows, Fêtes, &c., to Know that they can always ensure Big Gates by engaging Lieut. Lemprière, the popular, reliable Aeronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Parachute Races between Lieut. Lemprière and his charming Lady Pupils (3 in number) will draw vast crowds where all other Attractions fail.
LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement as Tentmaster, experienced, just finished previous engagement. JOHN WARD, 1, Jubilee-place, Regent-rd., Great Yarmouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich, Aug. 6 and 13, and forward, First-Class Variety Artists of every description. Big Top Liners, Comedy Acts, Novelties and Specialities, powerful Pantomimes, Sketches, and gigantic Ballets; in fact, everything that will draw and please the public. Any price paid for the right Attractions.

Notice.

The management respectfully call the special attention of Artists and all whom it may concern to the name of the above Hall, which will be known as the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

This notice is made necessary by the fact that just latterly the name "The West Bromwich Hippodrome," under which the Hall has been for some months past advertised, and was to have been known, has been appropriated by others, and in order to avoid confusion and disappointment we wish to clearly notify Artists of the above title, the management having had several communications from Artists offering to provide combinations on sharing terms, a practice we do not follow, as we engage the best Artists and pay the best salaries.

Apply, with terms, &c.,
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Sites, Limited,
213, Piccadilly, London.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists, Big Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Comedy Acts,
Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.
Send list of bookings, lithos., and terms.
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Scotland, 9th, 16th, and on.
Address,
JAS. ANDERSON and SONS' Agency,
6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow. Wires, "Varieties."

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, July 16, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 23, on. Lowest combination terms to DALE, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Variety Artists,
Broadhead's, Manchester,
July 16, on.

THE TIVOLI, SOUTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, for immediate Dates, Artists in all Lines, Comedians, Sketches, Song Sheets, &c., to finish Summer Season in conjuction with pictures. No fancy salaries; no humbug. Just quote absolute lowest you will come for, and if not suitable there will be no reply.
Address all coms. to
Councillor HALL,
Tivoli, South Shields.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists all Lines, Big Gala Acts, July 16, on. Terms, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. Telephone 09261. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for immediate dates; those replied before please write again; nothing too big.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 16, 23, Aug. 6, 20. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. Freaks and Novelties write.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT,
Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, Palace Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Llandudno, Artists in all Lines, July 16. Those working two Acts preferred. Would consider good Combination. One House. SELWYN, Prince's, Llandudno.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, July 9, on. Send lowest terms and bookings. FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, for Al Fresco Entertainments, Artists in all Lines, good Vocalists, &c. PRICHARD'S PIERROTS, Kinver, Stourbridge. Write, Palace, Oldbury.

Wires, "Benbrick, London." 'Phone, 8148 Gerrard.
BLANCHARD'S
AMUSEMENTS ASSOCIATION.
49, Charing Cross-mansions,
Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Artists (all Lines) in want of Concert, Theatrical, or Variety Engagements, to communicate with Blanchard's Amusement Association (Professional Employment Department), as above.

Proprietor's Benefit of Hippodrome, Dartford, on Saturday, July 14.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for new town and willing to show this night, write in. Rail fares paid.

WANTED, for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 6, Artists doing Two Acts. Write, stating lowest inclusive terms, lithos., &c., E. E. HAYWARD, Agent, 18, Melbourn-place, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Sheerness, closes Saturday, June 30, for alterations and redecorations. Due notice will be given of re-opening. REYMOND.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; re-open Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Drawing Numbers.

O'CONNOR AND BRADY'S VAUDEVILLE CO.
WANTED, a few Good Turns,
T. R., Dewsbury,
July 23, one week;
must state last appearance and lowest terms.
J. O'CONNOR, 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham.

WANTED, for towns near London, Comedy Turns, Speciality Artists,
July, August, and September.
Lowest terms, lithos. (if any), money sure.
Bioscope Operator write in. Letters only.
BEN HARRIS, 9, Tredegar-sq., Bow, London, E.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, good Funny Turns doing Singles and Double. ACHILLES, Coronation Hotel, Market-place, Manchester.

WANTED, Really First-Class Musical Turns.
Address replies to
West End Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Turns, good Top Liners; nothing too big; fortnight to the right stuff. WILLIAMS, Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars,
immediate and onward dates.
Send full list bookings, lowest terms, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above.
The Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKE'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Best of Talent, Doubles doing Singles, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, and Specialities, can always have one week, Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, and elsewhere, but must be summer terms. Wire or write, DREW BAYLEY, Agent (the old firm), 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Talent of every description for immediate and future dates, for ALVANTEES' Agency, Eastham Gardens, Cheshire.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound Attractions,
July 30, Aug. 6, 13 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

Telephone No. 288.
Telegraphic Address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."
GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
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GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
Residential Offices, The Hippodrome, Scarboro'.
Sole appointed Agent for the
Yarmouth and Lowestoft Hippodromes.
WANTED, Aug. 6, 20, and 27.
Three Big Specialities
Three Big Specialities
Three Big Specialities
and
Novelties.
Novelties.
Novelties.
For other Dates onward.
Give Full Bookings, lowest terms.

WANTED, Refined Specialities, to follow McAskell, Rosa Loader, Frank Hartley, Capt. Devereux, Alskarno Trio, Vosper, Sidney Gandy, &c., for July 16, onwards. Al-Fresco Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, Specialities, July 30, on; absolute lowest Summer Terms or no notice taken. ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Combinations, Al-fresco, with Speciality preferred, Open-air Pitch near Liverpool. Particulars, YATES, 16, Hart-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Acts, for London and Provinces, for immediate and future dates. Booking for all London and Provincial Halls. Immediate dates can be fixed for suitable acts. Also wanted, Small Reliable Turns for Seaside Tour, but must be cheap. Serios, Sisters, Comedians, &c. No strong or animal acts represented. Write full particulars, lowest rock-bottom terms, to the AUDITION CO., Ltd., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C. 'Phone, 10231 Central. No callers seen except by written appointment.

WANTED, High-class Variety Acts, six months bookings for suitable numbers. Interviews only by appointment. Wires, "Engagement, Manchester." 'Phone 60, Rusholme. Postal communications, J. ROBERTS, Secretary, 33, Shakespeare-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Acts, Dumb Shows, &c. MARTINO'S Agency,
125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Acts in all Lines, July 23 and on. ALFRED SELWYN, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, top of Bill and Variety Acts, near Bristol. Lithos., memos., T. GANNON, Agent, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Sound Tops, July 16, on, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Big Sensational Tops of Repute for Hippodrome, Leigh, Aug. 6. Lockhart's Elephants, Woodward's Seals write. 46, Millhill-road, Acton, W.

WANTED, First-class People, in all Lines, for July 16, on, for Llandudno and Wakefield. Lowest summer combination terms. Say if you have been in Wakefield, and when. Dr. CARL HERMANN, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

ALBERT HALL, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, good Picture Shows, Variety Companies, Choirs, &c., &c., Rental or Shares. This Hall is situated in the best part of the City (West End), lighted by electricity, proscenium, scenery, &c., seats 800. Open dates, now, onwards. Write for terms, MANAGER.

FLINT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
WANTED, applications from Entertainers for Annual Snow, on Aug. 15, in Flint Castle.
Send particulars and terms
immediately to
HON. SEC.,
Flint, North Wales.

WANTED, Animal Acts, Refined Specialities, South Coast Pier, July 23; Stars Aug. (Lancashire); Comedienne for Speciality. Lithos. 46, Mill Hill-road, Acton.

WANTED, for the South Side of Bridlington, a good Troupe of Pierrots. For terms apply GEORGE WRIGHTSON, Thorpe-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, Four Troupes of Lady Dancers and Singers (from 4-8), for America, sail beginning of Aug., forty weeks. GUISE, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Singers, Instrumentalists, Humorists, open air Concerts, refined, Seaside, London (evenings). "Amusement" Office, 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C. "Amusements," 6d. everywhere

WANTED, Eight Lady Dancers, for Music Hall Production; good appearance and figure indispensable; salary. Also Two Coloured Boys and Girls, over 14, and very small. Apply Tuesday or Wednesday, before 12, to AUDITION Co., Ltd., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Good Serios, Sisters doing Singles, for Monday next and onwards. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow

WANTED, for the Continent, Good Lady Singers and Dancers; must do step dancing. SHEREK and BRAFF, 10, Leicester-place, W.C.

WANTED, July 23, a clever young Comedienne or Mimic; must be refined, versatile, and have a large and varied Répertoire (Musical Comedy lady preferred), for High-class Seaside Concert Pavilion. Lowest terms, with photo., to WALTER CURTIS, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Lady, for Sketch, young, dark, good appearance. Letters only. Lowest terms photograph, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8A, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, W.

WANTED, Lady Trick Cyclist, for well-known Troupe. State height, age, and salary expected. Address, DAUNTON, Palace, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Comedian, clever, young, and essentially for established Concert Party; extensive répertoire, original songs absolutely necessary. Address, 32, Edith-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Comedian that can Dance and Yodel. State experience and lowest terms for long engagement. Box 3,433, "The Era."

WANTED, to complete Pierrot Troupe, Comedian and Dancer, with good répertoire. Write, stating lowest terms, &c., LESLIE, 44, Hortonlane, Bradford.

WANTED, for Season, Smart Humorist, with good voice and latest songs, July 16. Full particulars to R. FORSYTH, Pier, Bognor.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Mon. next, Al-fresco, Three Good Comedians, with good Répertoire, those with own Pierrot Dresses preferred. Wire lowest, TEMPEST, 51, Macklin-street, Derby. Alf. Bishop wire if at Lib.

WANTED, First-class Al-fresco Comedian, also experienced Pianist, and Specialities, for Dunoon, Ayr, Kilmarnock, and Saltcoats. LEE and ARDEN, Arcadia, Dunoon, N.B.

WANTED, First-Class Refined Comedian, plenty of Songs, dress well, for Camp, from July 28 to Aug. 11; return fare paid from Wrexham to Ludgershall. Terms, TOM GARLAND, P., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Comedians, Serios, Vent., Specialities all Kinds, Refined, Al-fresco; open immediately. Share or salary. Wire, GORDON, 184, High-street, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, Young Man, about 5ft. 5in., light Baritone, slight knowledge of Dancing, for well-known vocal Act; good salary to capable performer. Well booked. Address, A. BEE, G.P.O., Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, immediately, Top Man for Hand to Hand, Staircase Tumbling, &c. Apply by letter, full particulars, FEARNLEY, 199, Chester-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Youth, as Stage Assistant. Fares paid; uniform found. Permanent situation. Lowest salary, particulars, &c., Box 3422, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, to assist on Stage. State age, height, and terms; fares paid. WYNDHAM, Post Office, Douglas.

WANTED, Cinématograph, with latest Pictures, to occupy one hour. Share or salary. Tour Aug. 6; also Advance Agent and Useful Handyman. Address, "DEFALLION," Post Office, Carlisle.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, Speciality, the only Lady Imitator of Orchestral Instruments, and Piano Entertainer, Halls, Al Frescos, Piers, Concerts. Address, VIOLET IRVING, 38, Pembridge-road, London, W.

WANTED, July 9, on, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, also Nellie Van, Comedy Artist. Wire, 19, Baker-street, Doncaster. After Sunday, B158, Witten-road, Aston, Birmingham. Wire cure success.

WANTED, Known, Bessie Willow, Versatile Vocalist, terrific success Hippo., Hull; Vac. July 16 (four weeks), any line, Piers, Al Frescos, &c. July 9, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, July 9 and 16, Mabel Kessler, Vocalist, Cornet and Post Horn Speciality, at Lib. Wire, 162, Gt. Mersey-st., Liverpool; next, Theatre, Rotherham.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, are at Liberty Mon., July 9, and on. Wire or write, 35, Florence-street, Islington, N. Offers invited.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Delamere, Song and Dance Artists, Lib. Aug. 27 and Future Dates. Agent, HONFROY PACE, 80, Ormside-street, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged July 16 and Aug. 20. Address this week, Empire, Bradford. Monday next, Empire, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Rex King, the One Man Programme, re-booked twenty-three weeks 1907 Moss and Stoll Tour, has some immediate dates open owing to postponement of American Tour; a novel turn, fine posters, big success everywhere; finished last week Moss and Stoll Tour at Empire, Manchester. Agents and Managers note, wanted, immediate dates.
95, Parchmore-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, by Jimmy Shields, Comedian, Monday next, also July 23, 30. Prince's T., Preston; after Sat., 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday, July 9, and on, by Charlie Dillon, Comedian. Wire, 1, Castle-street, Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, Monday, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquist, Pierrots, &c. Wire, PIERROTS, Dunoon, N.B. (Scotland preferred).

WANTED, July 9, 16, Soros, the Mystery; also Two Other Acts; cheap and good. Wire, SOROS, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, Humorous Songs, Brilliant Piano Solos, Tricks, Illuminated Oil-paintings, Fit-up, Illustrating Songs. Write, MARIETTE, 61, Wellfield-road, Streatham.

WANTED, Known, W. L. Murray, in Roman Speciality Act, magnificently staged in Three Scenes. Wire, 373A, Battersea Park-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. Villrae, the 9st Undefeated Champion Weight-lifter and Wrestler of England. Address, 2, Court, 7 House, Allen-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, July 9, onward, by the Original Kyoto, Versatile Japanese Act; May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne. Wire, 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, at Liberty, July 9 and 16. Wire, 115, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, on, The Mintos, Lady and Gentleman, Refined Musical Eccentrics and Vocalists, Versatility Artists, Pierrots, Halls, Piers. Wire, 34, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ryder Davis, Comedian; Eva Ward, Comedienne. Wire, 17, Wolseley-road, Aldershot; after Sat., 41, Cambridge-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, Le Brun and Irene, Novel Equilibrist and Lady Juggler, vacant Monday next. Wire, 18, Shortridge-street, Attercliffe.

WANTED, Aug. 6, by Tomps and Wells, the original Musical Comedians; sure success. Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Monday, also 16th, 23rd, on, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Vocalists and Patterers. Wire, 87, Wollaton-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, the World's Greatest Musical Clowns, July 23, 30, Aug. 6. Add., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success, at Budapest, Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Duo, vacant Monday. Terrific Success, Prince's, Preston. Wire for a sure success. Two Acts if required.

WANTED, by Paulo Bros., Refined Athletes, July 16, 23, 30.
Wire, Tivoli, South Shields.

WANTED, an Engagement, Al-fresco, by the Two Castellas, Doreen and Charlie, Serio, Coon, Balladist, Comedian, Gags, Duets, &c., large répertoire; good appearance. Coms., 1, Nelson-road, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Monday next and July 16, The Monckton, in original excruciatingly funny Musical Comedy Duologues; also Lillie Monckton, Descriptive and Burlesque Artist. 6, Charles-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, 9th and 16th, by Atlas, Vulcana, and Sisters Atlas, Vulcana's Classic Poses, most beautiful act ever known. Wire, Sat., Pal., Clacton; after, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, The Three Astburys, in their Musical Comedy Act, "The Telegraph Boy." Big Success. Dates wanted for Summer and Autumn. 20, Temple-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, The Three Rollatts, at Liberty Monday, July 9, with Comedy Sketch, "Stage-Struck," success guaranteed. Wire all offers, 27, Westgate, Barnsley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, The Three Cheers, vacant July 9, 16, original Musical Scena, own scenery, "Dick Whittington," real performing cat. Wire, P.O., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free July, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Four Herberts
Vacant
July 9, 16, 23, and Aug. 6.
Communications,
229, Kennington-road, London, S.E.;
or F. HIGHAM.

WANTED, July 16, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays, the Greatest Juvenile Actors in the World. ALEXANDER, 78, Gresham-road, Brixton.

WANTED, July 16 and 23, by Stanley's Urchins and Mlle. Du Roche. Wire offers, Palace, Dundee, Scotland.

WANTED, Revell Troupe Vacant, Monday next, July 9, through disappointment. Terrific success; two acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, July 16 and onward, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope; everything bang up-to-date. Wire, Pavilion, Bilston, Staffs.

WANTED, July 30, on, by Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist, just returned from highly successful Colonial Tour; splendid figures; smart act. Address, BROADHEAD'S Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Alex. Fox, in his Funny Ventriloquial Travesty, "The Yokel and His Dog." Huge Success. Vacant Mon. Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusionist), July 16, 23. Offers invited; two First-Class Acts. Pleasure Pavilion, Gourock.

WANTED, some early and later bookings, salary or share, good printing, Mr. HARRY LISTON'S Vaudeville Party, St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Capt. Gruber's
Capt. Gruber's
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Finish to-night, with grand success, Palace, Manchester. Liberty Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10.
Next four weeks, HIPPODROME, DOUGLAS.
Managers, SOMERS and WARNER.

WANTED, by Billy, the Educated Horse, July 16, 23, and 30, only vacancy this year. Address, JIMMY DE VOYE, Empire, York.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's famous Troupe of Dogs, tremendous success Marquis of Northampton's Castle, Ashby, June 23, also Cadbury's, Bourneville, 27th; highly complimented 30th Arboretum, Walsall. First date vacant Sept. Address Red Lion, Coleshill; or Wilders Brothers, Birmingham, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Troupe of Dogs, the Greatest Animal Sensation before the Public, Liberty Monday; share and salary. Wire, Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, immediate dates, Chard's Dog Circus and unapproachable Troupe of High Leaping Hounds; the most sensational act ever seen with dogs. Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dog Circus and unapproachable Troupe of High Leaping Hounds. A Sensational Act. Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's famous Dogs; tremendous success, Selby Show, July 4; Liberty Sept., winter season. Address, WILDERS BROTHERS, Birmingham.

WANTED, The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act; also Lillian Sivado, in a new and novel Trapeze Act; two distinct Acts. Vacant July 16, Aug. 20, 27. Address, 21, Eyre-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Acrobatic Leaping Cyclist, this and next, Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth; two good Acts for Galas; free July 23 and 30.

WANTED, by Lad, situation with Trick or Comedy Cyclists, can do 18 Different Tricks on Bike. SWIFTO, 23, California-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Special Weeks, with really First-class Al-fresco Parties, by Melverne's Living Marionettes and Ventriloquial Shows; two Splendid Specialities that will draw and hold any audience; reliable, refined. 6 Tyndale-pl., Islington.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Le Clair's Bioscope, change of pictures weekly; also Troupe of Dogs; Vacant Sept. onwards; engaged for seventy weeks Pier, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Graph Operator, electric or lime, finishing tour with Poole's Myriorama. W. CROCKETT, Theatre, Pontypool.

WANTED, Known, Bioscope Operator would like to join a gentleman with own machine, to accept engagements. Further particulars, HARRIS, 18, Denmark-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, with or without Machine, entire change of pictures weekly, latest and best, 8½ years' experience; Bow Palace fourteen months; references. FIELD, 9, Culford-grove, Dalston.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.
Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Amusement Caterers &c., Shanks and Taylor's Patent Flying Roundabouts are now ready for sale. Anyone wanting a draw for the Summer Season should secure one of these great novelties, size to carry twelve adults or eighteen children, £125, complete. We also have two machines that have been used a few times, at £95 each. 17, Poland-street, London.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

To Auctioneers, &c.
WANTED, Known, that the Western Umbrella Co., 83, Regent-street, London, are the Cheapest in the World for Umbrellas. Send for 10s. sample parcel. Business sure to follow.

WANTED, Known, Butterscotch, with Fortunes, 3s. and 3s. 9d. a gross;
Large Monster Packets, five squares, marked 3d., 5s. 9d. a gross.
L. COHEN,
25, Glover-street, Leeds.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR JULY, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

July 7. Blandford.
July 7. Chapel-en-le-Frith.
July 7. Dore and Totley.
July 7. Gloucester.
July 7. Harbottle.
July 7. Selstone.
July 7. Taunton.
July 10. Kidwelly.
July 10. Leeds Summer Fair.
July 10. Menston.
July 10. Ringwood.
July 10. Stroud.
July 10. York Fair.
July 12. Brierfield.
July 12. Burnley.
July 13. Headless Cross.
July 14. Chumleigh.
July 14. Holmesfield.
July 14. Linton.
July 14. Salisbury.
July 16. Baildon Feast.
July 16. Darwen.
July 16. Spilsby.
July 16. Tunstall.
July 18. Atherstone.
July 18. Horsham.
July 19. Dursley.
July 19. Launceston.
July 20. Kingsbridge.
July 21. Chesham.
July 21 Dewsbury Feast.
July 21. Hatherlow.
July 21. Haworth.
July 21. Hollinwood.
July 21. Longsight.
July 21. Nelson.
July 21. Normanton (Temple).
July 21. Stalybridge.
July 21. Tipton.
July 21. Walton.
July 23. Bramley Feast
July 23. Cheddingley.
July 24. Glemsford.
July 25. Epsom.
July 25. Hockswold.
July 25. Reading.
July 26. Alresford.
July 27. Cley-next-the-Sea.
July 27. Melsham.
July 28. Bollington.
July 28. Compstall.
July 28. Falmouth.
July 28. King's Nympton.
July 28. Mossley.
July 28. Olney.
July 28. Shirland.
July 28. Stretton.
July 28. Unsworth.
July 30. Heyford.
July 30. Keighley Feast.
July 30. Saltaire Feast.
July 30. Sandford.
July 30. Shipley Feast.
July 30. Windhill Feast.
July 31. Alfreton.
July 31. Knottingley.

SCOTLAND.

July 7. Galashiels.
July 7. Hawick.
July 9. Glasgow.
July 9. Jedburgh.
July 11. Motherwell.
July 12. Johnstone.
July 16. Forfar.
July 18. Rothsay.
July 21. Arbroath.
July 21. Kinross.
July 25. Stirling.
July 26. Edinburgh.
July 26. Kilmarnoch.
July 26. Kirkcudbright
July 28. Leith.

WALES.
July 31. Tenby.

Notice.

WANTED, Known, write to the Internationale Cinématographen and Lichteffekt Gesellschaft, Berlin, Markgrafenstr. 91, for Bioscopes, Films, and particulars of prize competition. Dealers have dozens of our Cinématographs. We are in touch with scientific authorities, and performed before Emperor.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, TRADE EXHIBITION.

Oct. 20 to Dec. 8, 1906.

WANTED, Good Side-shows and Novelties.

W. A. COWIE,
43, Grainger-street,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Novelties of Every Description, for Waxwork Exhibition, Monday, onwards, for Birmingham; Castle-street, Bristol; St. Mary's-street, Cardiff; six weeks certain. Wire for Monday, WEST, 28, Old Market-street, Bristol. Two good reliable Doorsmen write in.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Living Freaks and Novelties, open at once; sale of books and postcards allowed. Wire, CHARLES JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, at Once, Flying Lady Show, complete, with Two Workers. No lecturer required. Open Monday. Wire absolute lowest summer terms, THACKWARY, 21, Valley-road, Harrogate.

WANTED, for Holland's Cinematograph, for Parading, good Foot Equilibrist, Juggler, or Hand-balancer; must make themselves useful about the Exhibition. Can join at once. State terms, first letter, Selston, Notts. Monday, Mansfield.

WANTED, Two Knockabouts, able to do an Act inside if required, and make themselves useful; also Two Female Paraders; those used to the business preferred. Lowest terms in first letter. BIDDALL, Bioscope, Fair Ground, Gloucester, Sat. and Mon.

WANTED, Good Comedian and Planksman; must be funny, and plenty of songs, gags, &c. Auction Mart, Cymmer, Port Talbot, S. Wales.

WANTED, Smart Doorsman; must be tall. State age, height, salary required, and references, MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Doorsman; must be steady and reliable. Apply, Glass and Wax Exhibition, 8, Market-hill, Barnsley.

WANTED, to Join at Once, a tall, smart, gentlemanly Coloured Man, as Doorsman and Describer; good wages to the right man. Full particulars, Professor RUBY, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Auctioneer. Apply, FARR, Central Sale Rooms, Blackpool.

WANTED, two good Planksmen and Comedians, used to tents and new gag, must be sober. Dennie Clarke write in. WEST'S Auction Mart, Little Lever, Bolton.

Waxworks.

WANTED, Man, used to Dressing and Display, good at door; seaside; wages and commission. Box 3441, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Character Reader, on shares, for Matlock. Particulars, age, photo., &c., WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class Character Reader, gentleman preferred, for Caston's refined waxworks; best position, facing pier, Aberystwyth. Terms shares.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, from this date Carl Howlett's Royal Marionettes will be known as Captain Ottellar's Marionettes.

WANTED, Known, three marvellous Indian Freaks, entirely new to England, including Piramel, the only living double man, and Sopromanien, the shortest living man, will arrive July 17, enormous draw. Engagements wanted. Write, DEVEREUX, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, Known, Character Reader attends Bazaars, At Homes, &c.; distance no object; 21s. a day. YOGA, 91, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., for Winter Season, in First-Class Exhibition, for Minni Letta's High-class Side Show, the only one of its kind in the world. Can be seen working daily in the Bijou Kursaal (Aquarium-terrace), Brighton. Please note.—The Bijou Kursaal will be for sale end of season, price £150; composed of corrugated iron, built in sections (bolted together), stage opening 28ft., dressing-rooms, and stage-door entrance. Address, A. LETTA, 65, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Fair Ground, good position, main high-road, East Finchley. Will let the sole right or otherwise. E. J., Catherine Cottage, High-road, East Finchley.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Side Shows, Automatics, and outdoor Attractions, Colosseum, Blackpool; opening Monday, July 16, for season. Apply, MANAGER, Colosseum, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let.—Spaces on Blackpool Sands for Shows of every Description. Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 81, Central-beach, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Showmen and other Travellers to know that Gorton Wakes will be held as usual on the Chapel House Hotel Grounds. Rents reduced. Commence Aug. 31. Apply for Ground as usual to JOHN SMITHSON, Chapel House Hotel, Gorton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, we have Ground to Let for all Kinds of Amusements. Holsworthy Fair, July 9, 10, 11; Exmouth Regatta, July 14; Exeter, Regatta, July 21; Honiton Fair, July 25; Kingsbridge Fair, July 26, 27, 28; Lympstone Regatta, Aug. 1; Newton Abbott and Torquay, Bank Holiday, Aug. 6; Dawlish Regatta, Aug. 9; Teignmouth, Paignton, Brixham, Torquay, and Dartmouth Regattas, and Totnes Races. No other than those who can be relied on for respectability need apply. Also to Let, the Winter Gardens, with or without large yard, used for Fancy Fair. W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known.—Wimbledon. Nothing to pay for incoming. Shooting Range to Let, fully fitted and up to date, Automatica, Darts, Punch Ball, everything ready, £1 week rent, no taxes. Open door, you begin to take money. Apply, L. J. SANDERS, 12, Merton-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, best part of sea front, Scarborough. Apply, GAMBART, 10, Foreshore-road.

WANTED, Known, a Room to Let, suitable for Medical Electrician, or other things, palmistry excepted. Write for particulars, CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin.

WANTED, Spaces, for One or Two Good Sideshows, seaside preferred. Sharing terms or rental. Address, A. MARTIN, Town Hall, Hitchin.

WANTED, to Sell, Positively the Handsomest Road Front and Home on Wheels Travelling, fitted for Traction Engine or Horses; also First-class Savage's Portable Engine. To be seen at Foster's, Engineer, Lincoln. Address, E. LAWRENCE, Market Chesterfield, Next week, Cattle Market, Buxton.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Pullman Living-Vans, road or rail, 18ft. long, cheap. GREENWOOD'S Auction Mart, Factory-lane, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Waggon, containing room and kitchen, 4 years old, go by road or rail Cheap. TODD, Vinegar Hill, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Road or Rail Living Wagon, 15ft. by 6ft. 6in; or exchange anything. Central Sale Rooms, Skegness.

WANTED, to Sell, Burrell 8-horse Compound Spring Road Engine, equal to new. Apply, J. COOPER, The Lodge, Wheatley, Oxon.

WANTED, to Sell, one 4-abreast Set of Gallopers, for road or rail, complete with waggons; one 3-abreast Set of Gallopers, with waggons, complete for rail; also one ordinary Machine, complete, with waggons, for road. Can be seen working. All the above are equal to new. Arrangements can be made for part cash and part hire of any of the above. WALKER, Roundabout Maker, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, an Entirely New Kind of Roundabout, big money-maker. Write, DEVEREUX, Poste Restante, Charing Cross, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Steam Hobby Horses, Shooting Gallery, Shooting Saloons, Swings, Emmas, &c., cheap. Owner giving up. Apply, J. BEAUMONT, Market Yard, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, to Sell, Groups of Waxworks, also good Window Attractions, Brigands' Cave. Will sell cheap. EXHIBITION, 10, Foreshore-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, to Sell, a complete Waxwork Exhibition, Mechanical Models (Dennison's make), carved and gilded entrance, Mechanical Piano, ready for exhibition. As a going concern or separate. GAMBART, 10, Foreshore-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, to Sell, Booth, 10 by 16, white tilting, with lamps, complete. Price £3. Letters only, 9, Trinity-street, Derby.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Pictorial Postcards, cost £5, price 30s.; Chocolate or Packet Cigarette, 20s. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Butter Scotch Fortune packets, 3s. 6d. and 4s. per gross, net cash with order. THE NEW BRIGHTON CONFECTIONERY CO., 55, Victoria-road, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines of every description; best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, 50,000ft. of Films, just received from the Myrioramas, majority good as new, from 1d. per ft. POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED to Sell, Sticky Back Outfit, complete, together with full instructions to beginner (cheap). Good living for steady man. Present owner going abroad. Apply, WEST, 156, Kentish Town-road, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Three Steel Targets, 6ft. by 3ft., for Shooting Gallery, Smaller Steel Target with Bell, Three Steel Comic Faces, with tobacco pipes of steel, Naphtha Lamp, Valise with quantity Piping, &c. First offer of £2 10s. gets the lot. Apply, MANAGER, Kirkgate Boarding House, 112, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, to Sell, Puncher, 60s.; Weight and Height, 60s.; Avery's £20 Weighing Chair, £6; Bosco Photo Machine, cost £60, price £8. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, the King of Novelties, the World's Claimed Largest Bullock, with booth and painting, cheap; also Rail Wagon, nearly new, 18ft., with living compartment over, lock; also Booth, 12 by 15, complete. THOMAS MATSON, 2, Westmoreland-place, Harrogate.

WANTED, to Sell, Three Splendid 10ft. Oil-paintings, by Spilsbury, Bristol, good as new, war subjects, suit picture show, &c. Cost £30; take £5. WILDE, 175, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, to Sell, Twelve Beautiful Oil-painted Glass Boards, largest and best lenses, for Two Fine Art Shows, suit palace or booth, £3. Seen in London. WILDE, 175, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, to Buy, a Rail Living Wagon, door open on side; must be cheap for cash. Full particulars, Madam FLORENCE, c/o G.P.O., Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, at once, Competent Steady Traction Driver, one used to Show Business; permanent situation to suitable man; also Smart Young Man, knockabout, used to Fair Business. TAYLOR'S Electric Coliseum, Woodford, Thrapston, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, a good Traction Engine-driver; must be used to Show Business; 30s. weekly, board, washing, and lodgings; long engagement to a suitable man. Apply, W. C. and S. HANCOCK. Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Traction Engine Driver, to drive 6 horse Traction, Burrell's; none but steady and reliable men need apply; good wages; can join at once. COTTRELL'S Cinématograph, Market-place, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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WANTED, to Sell or Let, Boro' Theatre (and site), North Shields. Bonâ-fide enquirers address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class Theatre, No. 1 Town. Address, Box 3,429, "The Era."

PIERROT PAVILION.

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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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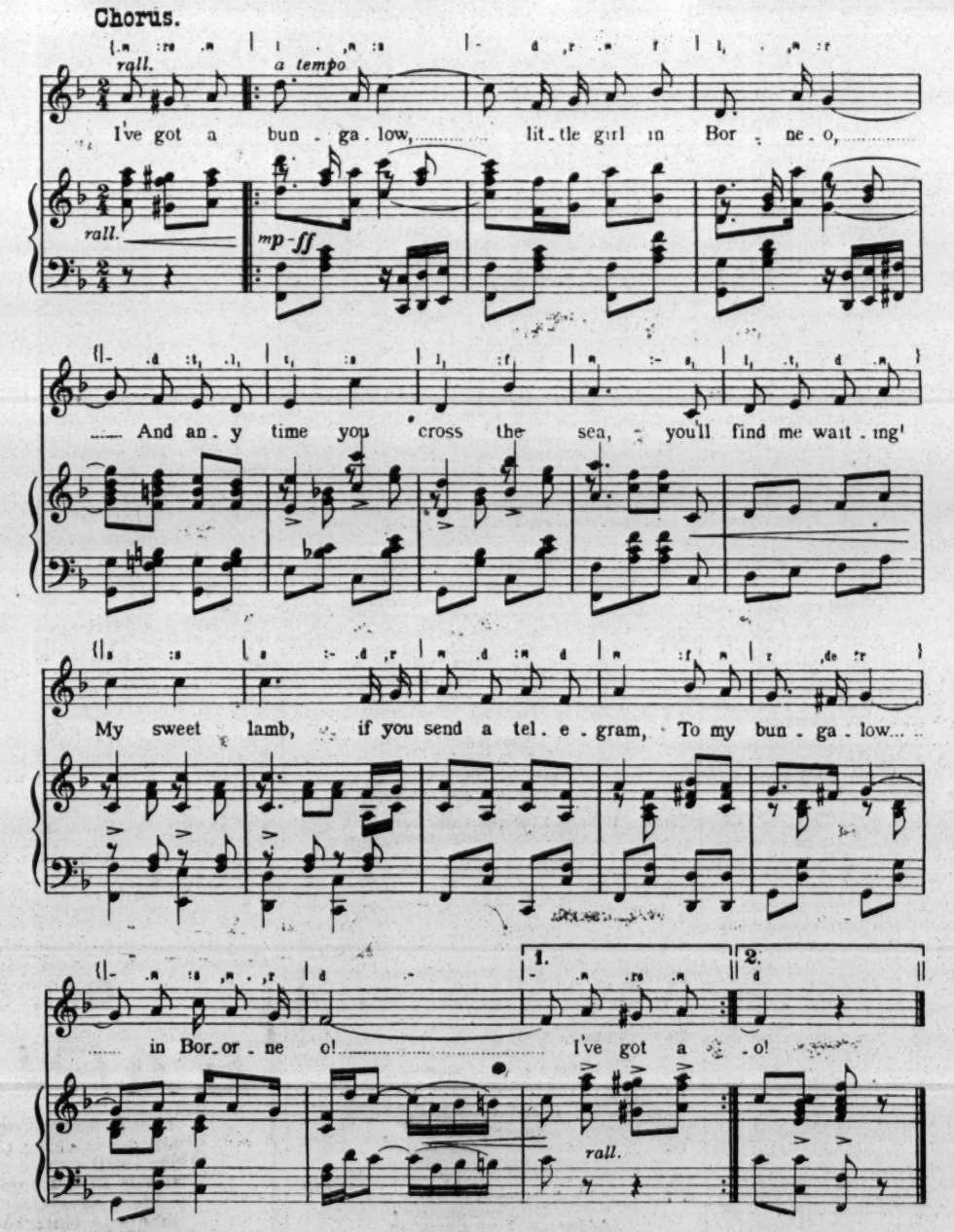

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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GLASGOW PAVILION.

CALL for Monday, July 9, 1906. Rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp for T. Finglass, De Marce and Monkeys, Four Madcaps, Musical Schaffers, Gillan, W. H. Downs, Martinengo, Little Soutter, Marcus Boyle.

PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Monday, July 9, 1906.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for Dent and Harris, Walker and May, G. W. Foster, Ida Katrine, Florodora Girls, Pictures.

All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled.
By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS. All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance. Call for Monday, July 9. Stewart and Morgan, Hill and Lane, Cyril Carl, Pender Troupe, Harry Cotton, The Lurins, August and Ada, Frazers Iona, Cheery Lass, Ada Fawn.

Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.

CALL for Monday, July 9, Rehearsal, 2 o'clock. Captain Max Gruber's Elephant, Horse, and Pony, Five Saxonias, Five, Du Calion, Carlo Bianchi, Agnes and Arthur Lynch, W. Tudor and Horses and Ponies, Eugene Foote and Lizzie Rowland, Bros. Leotard, O. T. Robinson and Towerograph, Equestrian Goat Peter, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gregory, Mr. R. Albino, Woffles, Billy, and Tommy, A. D. Willcox and Band. F. J. CONNOR, Director.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.

The Hippodrome Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, will be closed July 14. for cleansing and re-decorations, and re-open Aug. 6. Contracts can be cancelled or dates re-arranged.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 9, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Carlotta de Yonson and Co., E. W. Selman, Madge Northcote, Rozel, Ivy Gallard, Frank Cumminger, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Closed.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Deer Family, Carl Millon, Millie Denham, Sam Veld, Harry Village, Fields and Lewis, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Closed.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Colby and Way, Herbert Rule, Leo. Lester's Dogs, Helm and Cozens, Donatos, Sid Cotterell and Co., Sisters Lytton, Herbert Clifton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
De Biere, Sadie Simpson, Hyram Travers, Adams and Ward, Sisters Wingrove, Herbert La Martine, Belrose and De Velin, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Daisy Jerome, the Elgars, Fyne and Hurley, Adey Spencer, George Bendon, Three Delaries, Kisbey, Molly Doon, Keen and Waller, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Jake Friedman, Correzee and Keith, the Henres, Percy Curry, Marguerite Broadfoote, Downes and Langford, King Roy, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Alec Hurley, Maud Prenton, Three Bros. Curran, Cabaret's Dogs, Johnny Holland and Co., Maude Vera, Duncan and Brasque, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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G. M. Marriott and Co., Hans Lux, Charles Lilburn, George Barrington, Ivy, Hesse Loloist, Jenny Belmore, Eva Hope and Jack Wayho, Edwards and Dacre, The Ellertons, Raymond's, Davis and Glenhill.

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinée Monday.
The Vaudeville Sketch Co., Raymond Pictures, Joe Oliver, Rose Stanley, Mabel Le Roy, The Almos, Adeline Yohl, Bridget's Idea, Tony Iveson, The Rushforths, King Leo, Bros. Ashley.

FORESTERS.
Telephone, 6954 Avenue.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Jack Collinson and Co., Raymond Pictures, Burnetti, Bros. Risto, Little Ada Merry, Fred Erick, The Lynches, Fanny Humber, Kroney Bros., Gladys Williams, Lozelle, Gordon Brooks Duo, Playfair and Nichola.

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Telephone, 5890 Central.
Matinée every Monday.
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SURREY THEATRE.
Telephone, 1460 Hop
Matinée every Monday.
"Face at the Window," Raymond Pictures, Miss Schuberth and Co., Victor Travers, Bert Bowden, Ellis Watts, Sterling and Cashem, Lidden Hayward, Martinett and Wallace, Carl Rosine, Sisters Varley, Fred Moule and Co. in "Love-Makers."
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.

Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
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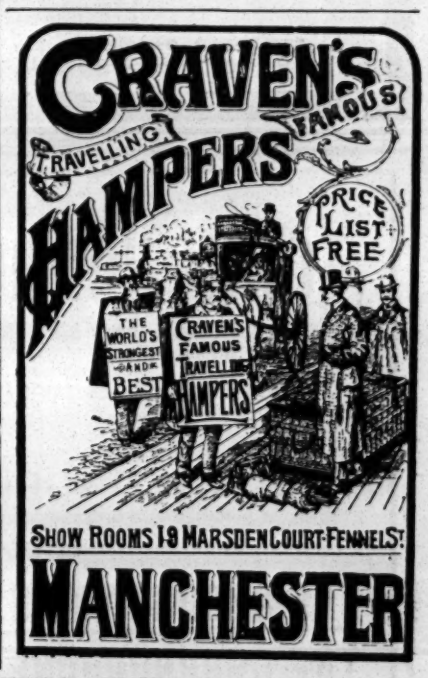

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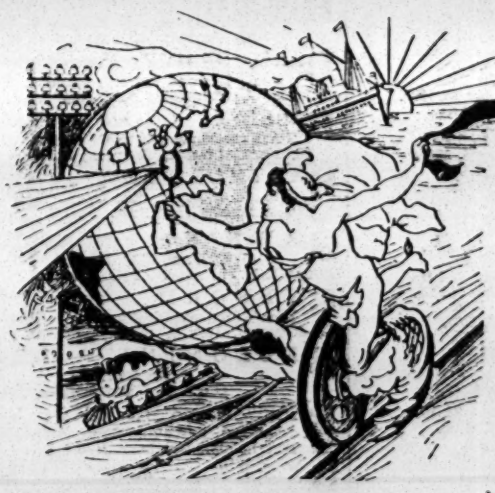

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1838—Section B.
ORDER OF PICTURES.
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12. The Bear and Staff—Origin of the Arms of Warwick. A.D. 500.
13. Advent of Queen Ethelfleda.
14. Guy of Warwick Returns from the Crusades.
15. Phyllida Commands Guy to Slay the Dun Cow.
16. Bringing in the Dun Cow's Head.
17. Betrothal of Phyllida and Guy.
18. The Wedding Procession to the Church.
19. Return of Roger of Neuburg with Templar Knights.
20. Lady Gundrada and Maids of Honour.
21. Romantic Meeting of Roger and his Lady.
22. Episode of Edward II. (A.D. 1312) and Piers Gaveston.
23. Entry of the Bishop of Coventry with Retinue of Priests.
24. Degradation of the Bishop of Coventry by Gaveston.

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26. Condemnation of Gaveston by his Peers.
27. Gaveston Led Off by the Executioner.
28. King Louis of France and Earl of Warwick, Kingmaker, A.D. 1464.
29. King Louis and Lady Bona on the Throne.
30. Entry of Queen Margaret of England and Prince Edward.
31. Warwick's Threat against King Edward IV.
32. Departure of Louis of France and Retinue.
33. Warwick's Minions Overpower and Discrown King Edward.
34. The Charter Instituting the King's School, Warwick.
35. Procession of Boys of the King's School.
36. Arrival of Ambrose Dudley and Thomas Fisher.
37. The Ordeal of Thomas and Dame Fisher.
38. The Scrivener in the Stocks.
39. The Bailiff and Councillors of Stratford Deliberating.
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ALPHABETICAL LIST
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Name.	Date.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
Gwynne, Miss Daisy	October 14, 1905
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sophie	April 7, 1906.
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Heron-Brown, Miss Edith	June 16, 1906.
Holloway, Mr. Baliol	April 15, 1905.
Holmes-Dallimore, Mr. A.	Dec. 9, 1905.
Howard, Mr. Frank	April 1, 1906.
Howard, the Late Mr. W.	August 12, 1905.
Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Jenoure, Miss Aida	June 24 1905.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Johnson, Mr. William	December 16, 1905.
Jones, Miss Marie	April 1, 1905.
Jones, Miss Gladys Rose	September 16, 1905.
Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
Karno, Mr. Fred	August 12, 1905.
Kenney, Miss Rosa	July 1, 1905.
Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Kinnaird, Miss Helen	March 3, 1906.
Klein, Mr. Cecil	March 18, 1905.
Lang, Mr. Matheson	September 23, 1905.
Lathbury, Mr. Stanley	March 11, 1905.
Lazarus, Mr. A.	May 5, 1906.
Le Hay, Mr. John	August 26, 1905.
Leggett, late Mr. Richard	February 3, 1906.
Le Roy, Servais	June 23, 1906.
L'Estrange, Mrs. Louise	July 15, 1905.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	June 16, 1906.
Liddon, Miss Adele	August 26, 1905
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	January 20, 1906.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	March 11, 1905.
Love, Miss Mabel	December 16, 1905.
Mackinlay, Mr. Sterling	September 9, 1905.
Macmillan, Mr. J. T.	May 26, 1906.
Marinelli, Mr. H. B.	April 15, 1905.
Mario, Miss Minnie	April 1, 1905.
Maskelyne, Mr. J. N.	May 13, 1905.
Matthison, Miss E. Wynne	May 13, 1905.
Maude, Mr. Cyril	June 2, 1906.
Mervyn, Mr. Edward	April 15, 1905.
Miller, Miss Agnes	September 23, 1905.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Millis, Mr. F. W.	May 5, 1906.
Mills, Miss Kate	Dec. 9, 1905.
Montefiore, Mr. Eade	June 2, 1906.
Morgan, Miss Ida C.	Aug. 5, 1905.
Moss, Sir Edward	December 16, 1905.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nelson, Mr. Henry	April 22, 1905.
Neville, Mr. Henry	September 2, 1905.
Newham, Late Miss Rose	April 15, 1905.
Nicholls, Miss Clara	March 18, 1905.
Oliver, Mr. Will	February 24, 1906.
Pagden, Mr. Leonard	April 22, 1905.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
Paulton, Mr. Harry	March 10, 1906.
Phasey, Mr. H. V.	April 29, 1905.
Phillips, Miss Ida	January 20, 1906.
Price, Miss Dora	March 3, 1906.
Ramsay, Mr. Ernest	June 10, 1905.
Raynor, Miss Alice	July 23, 1905.
Rees, Miss Rosemary	September 30, 1905.
Renee, Mlle.	June 2, 1906.
Rickards, Mr. Harry	June 30, 1906.
Ross, Miss Adelaide	May 26, 1906.
Ross, Miss Irene	May 5, 1906.
Russell, Miss Kathleen	June 24, 1905.
Saker, Miss Annie	March 3, 1906.
Sanger, Lord George	November 4, 1905.
Sargent, Mr. Frederick	April 7, 1906.
Sennett, The Late Mr. C.	November 4, 1905.
Sheridan, Mr. Philip	March 24, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Sinden, Miss Topsy	Aug. 19, 1905.
Sprague, Mr. W. G. R.	December 16, 1905.
Standing, Late Miss Ellen	April 14, 1906.
St. John, Miss Florence	May 27, 1905.
Swanborough, Mr. Edward	June 16, 1906.
Temple, Miss Rose	April 15, 1905.
Terraine, Mr. Alfred	September 30, 1905.
Terry, Miss Ellen	May 5, 1906.
Tich, Little	September 9, 1905.
Turton-Brown, Miss M.	February 25, 1905.
Vernon, Late Mr. W. H.	Dec. 9, 1905.
Victoria, Miss Vesta	June 16, 1906.
Vincenti, Signor	Oct. 21, 1905.
Waldegrave, Miss Lilias	Nov. 11, 1905.
Walker and May	March 3, 1906.
Walton, Miss Gladys	March 17, 1906.
Warner, Mr. Charles	October 28, 1905.
Wheatley, Mr. Horace	March 24, 1906.
Williams, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Winstanley, Lieut.-Col. J. A.	February 17, 1906.
Woolf, Mr. Jack	March 31, 1906.
Zorn, Mr. Fritz	February 17, 1906.

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Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines.

ABADAROFFS, FOUR, Great Comedy Act, "Prehistoric Peeps." Coms., 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH ARABS, THE TWELVE, the biggest Troupe on the Market. July 9, Palace, Hull.

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ACHMED IBRAHIM'S ARABS. Not the Biggest, but the Best Arab Troupe. Hippodrome, Dartford.

AKBAR, Gymnast; BELLE LEABURN, Comedienne. Vacant July 16, 23. Address, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

ALBANO TROUPE, Palace, Aberdeen.

ALBINI, DR. EWING. Topping this week Empress, Brixton. Address, TOM SHAW and Co., 18, Adam-street, Strand.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company, Empire, Bradford.

ALFONZO, Foot Equilibrist. Great success on tour. Liberty Panto, 1906-7. Thanks offers. 38, Balaclava-road, Sheffield.

ALLSOPP and BEKWITH, Splendid Reception, this week, Empire, Wolverhampton; next, Hippo, Coventry. Return Dates

ALVANTEE, King of Slanting Wire, Great success at Eastham Gardens, Cheshire, in his 200ft. slide down a slanting wire. Lib. Sept.

ANDRE and BRENTON. "Oh, Kitty." Vac. Mon., and July 16. 12, Kyotts Lake-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

ARCHBUTT, GLADYS, Comedienne and Specialité Dancer. Palace, Carlisle. Next week, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

ARDELLS, Gymnast (Double Somersaults) thanks Mr. D. BURTON, of Burton's Agency, 72 Church-st, Harpurhey for Contracts.

ARIZONA TROUPE, Acrobatic Tumblers, Jugglers, and Japanese Top-Spinners. Central Pier Pavilion, Morecambe.

ASHDOWN, PERCY, Author-composer and first class arranger. Clients please note new address, 56, Clapham-road.

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ASTLEY BROS. and FREDA TUDOR, Comedians. Male Impersonator. Astley Bros. Cadets, Fleetwood. Vacant for Panto.

ATHLONES, THE, This, Ipswich; July 9, Yarmouth. At Liberty July 16.

ATLAS, the Beautiful MISS VULCAN, and the SISTERS ATLAS, free 9th and 16th. Wire, 17, Waterford-rd., Fulham.

AUBREY, STAN, Eccentric Comedian. The Man with the Legs. Empire, York. July 9, Standard, Pimlico, S.W.

BADDOW, Ventriloquist, Clement's Entertainers. The Lawn, Skegness.

BANCROFT, HARRY, Terrific Success, Palace, Southampton. Monday next, July 9, Royal Albert, 9.45.

BANDONI, Original Concertina King and One-Man Band. Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, Dr. Bodie's Co.

BANKS, FLO, the Smart Comedienne. Big Hit this week at Portsmouth. Monday, Palace, Plymouth.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agent. Telephone, 84 Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Comedienne. Just Concl. 4 weeks, Gaiety, Dundee, Hit of Programme. Unexpectedly vac. July 9, 16, 23. Wire.

BARRETT and KNOWLES. "Are we downhearted? No!" All Coms., 28, Farrant-street, Douglas; or, TOM SHAW.

BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS Hip., Colchester; 9th, Gran. Walham Green. No vacancies this year. Pantomime fixed.

BAWN'S, AGENCY, 145, Balham Hill, London, S.W. 'Phone 1178 Battersea. Tels., "Orderless, London."

BELFORD and MARS Novel Comedy Singing Duo. This, Bowness, Windermere. July 9, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

BELLONINI, WALTER, On Tour. C/o "The Era" Office.

BELROSE and DE VELIN (GEO. and MAUD), Basso and Soprano Speciality Duettists and Soloists. Palace, Blackburn.

BENET, MR HARRY, Proprietor Alhambra, Sandgate. Artists communicate FRED DURHAM'S Agency.

BENT, HARRY, the Mimic, and CARLOTTA LUNN, 4 and 5 turn, Empire, Middlesbrough. Trem. Hit. Mon., T. R., Dewsbury.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 12706 Central.

BERNARD, GEO., Vocal Entertainer. I've known alter spelt with an H—afterwards. Letters, &c., Pendennis Hotel, Teignmouth, Devon.

BERNARDO, Comedy Juggler, Hanneford's Circus. "Speeding them up." Address, c/o "The Era."

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BLARNEY and KENNARD, in a Refined Comedy Act, Monday, Hippodrome, Manchester. Vacant 16th and 23rd. Panto. settled.

BLISS and BLISS, James Dunn Park Pierrots. Address, King Alfred Hotel, Walney, Barrow-in-Furness.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR BLOUNT, Eccentric Entertainer, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

BLYTHE, MARIE, The Popular Contralto, July 9, Empire, Wolverhampton. Agents, S. M. HYMAN, Ltd.

BODEY BROS., Comedy Triple Bar Act. Kursaal, Southend.

BODIE, DR. WALFORD. Address, 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists and Comedy Artists. July 9, Tivoli, Dublin.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Empire, Edinburgh. Agents, T. SHAW and Co.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI. This, Tivoli, Dublin; next, 22, St. Mary's-square, Gloucester, for Season.

BOWDEN, BERT, Quaint Comedian. Sole Agent, STEBBING, Manchester. 'Phone, 09261. This week, Foresters'; next, the Surrey.

BOYLE, MAROUS, My Bonny Boy. Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

BRAY, LOTTIE, Usual Success, Winter Gardens, Morecambe. Monday, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Dancers, Big Success, Palace, Halifax.

BREWSTERS, THE, Circo de Casino, Buenos Aires, Usual Success, Re-engaged Two Months Longer.

BRIGGS, HARRY, Triple-Voiced Vocalist, Resting. Address all communications, Briggs, vocalist, Burnley.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BUCKLE, JESSIE, Vocalist and Soubrette, This, Pav., Rusholme, Manchester; Next, Pier Pav., Plymouth.

BUDDEN, EDGAR, Big Hit, Gaiety, Chatham. Monday, Granville, Walham Green.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn," Monday, Empire, Cleethorpes.

BURTON'S AGENCY, Sheffield, Require Sensational Gala Acts all Lines, July, Aug. 6, onwards. Send Lithos, Memos, Terms.

BUSH, MISS SADIE, Contralto Vocalist, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Payne's White Coons. St. Andrews, Scotland.

BUXTON, FREDERICK, Proprietor, Pierrot Village, Douglas, I. of M. Artists and Specialities write in.

CADLE'S AGENCY. 105 and 106, Strand. Telephone No. 1975, Gerrard.

CAMERON, LOUDOUN, The Celebrated Conjurer. Vac. July 23, 30, Aug. 6. July 9, Pier, Skegness.

CARL and CARR, the Refined Comedians, in "Fun Outside the Workhouse," Harbour Green Pav., Portobello. Panto. Settled, 1906-7.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Comedian, in his Latest Success, "The Window Cleaner." Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

CARR and ROSE, the Humorous Singing Duo, "Always Awake." Next, "Barnard's, Chatham (7th return).

CARTER and GALE (HARRY and ETHEL), Refined Duettists. Vac. now and on. Coms., 93, High-st., Maryport, Cumberland.

CHALLIS, FLORENCE, Resting until July 23. After Tremendous Success in Australia.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS and Unapproachable Troupe of High Leaping Hounds. At Lib Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

CHARNLEYS, THE (ANNIE and EDIE), Dainty and Clever Duettists and Dancers. Monday, Return, Tivoli M. H., Dublin.

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CHESTER & LEE'S MARIONETTES, Gaiety, Dundee.

CHESTER'S AGENCY, LIMITED, Temporary Address, 27, Fisher-street, Blackpool.

CHIRGWIN, London, Nightly. London, Nightly.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Big Success in "A Trial Trip." Monday next, Empress, Brixton.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CONLIN, HARRY, 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

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COOKE, STEVE, Comedian. Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea. Vacant Panto.

CORA, SISTERS. This, Gateshead; 9th, Walsall; 16th, Glasgow. "I Only Live for you," by Papa Bates.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This Week, Empire, Cardiff; next, Empire, Swansea.

COVENTRY, LUCY, Empire, Bristol. HETTY COVENTRY, Jardine Emertage Theatre, Moscow, Russia.

CRAGGS, THE, in New Act, "Billy." This, Palace, Sunderland; 16th, Palace, Hull.

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CULLEN, DOLLY, and ELSIE JORDISON, Dainty Little Vocalists and Dancers. July 9, Hip., Hulme, Manchester.

CURRAN, FRED, Quaint Parody Singer. Monday, King's Theatre, Gateshead. GEO. FOSTER.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. No Vac. dates this year. This, P., Halifax; next, P., West Hartlepool. New songs by Nat Clifford.

DAINEZ, E. R., Famous Circus Donkey, Ponies, and Dogs. Hippo., Colchester, Monday, Palace, Chelsea, W. Free Aug. 13.

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DAVENTRY, SISTERS (DOLLY and MAY). This, Albert, Canning Town. Next, Palace, Grimsby. Liberty Panto.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

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DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, The Sprightly Burlesque Actress, Big Success, P., Leicester; Monday, G., Sheffield.

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DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli; J. H. HAWTREY, Actor-Vocalist. Ardenlea, Claremont-rd., Birkdale, Southport.

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DILLONS, BOUNCING, Granville Theatre of Varieties, Walham Green, London.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND. All Letters, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich, London, S.E.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Factory Nightingales, Bottom of Bill, this, Metropole T. Monday, Pavilion, Newcastle (Return).

DONNA, AMY, Vacant August 6 and 13, for Seaside. Only address, Farrar's Pierrots, Seaforth.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, The chic comedienne.—Vide Press. London, Nightly.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers. This, Pal., Aberdeen; next, Pal., Dundee. Vac. July 16 and 23.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Comedienne and Dancer. Perm., 11, Arnold-st., Liverpool. Thanks to Mr. Clarke for Contract.

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DUNCAN and MORTON, "Ain't we Popular?" Grapho and Jackson's Pierrots, Abington Park, Northampton.

DUNNING AND KAHN AND KAHN. Finish to-night, Royal, Holborn. Monday, Hippodrome, Norwich.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

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EILEEN and MAYNIE, Novel Instrumentalists, Dancers. Park Palace, Liverpool.

ELCOCK, AMY, and FLORRIE ST. ROY, Success, Hippodrome, Hastings. Vac. Panto. Add., next, Regent Theatre, Salford.

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FORD, SISTERS, Comedy Duettists, Thank Rosen and Bliss for Contracts. Address, 110, Kennington-road, S.E.

FORREST,S, EDGAR, Comedy Co. Tremendous Hit, Hippodrome, Norwich; Monday, Hippodrome, Ipswich. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309 Gerrard.

FOX and MELVILLE, After Six Months' Absence, Stoll Tour. Monday, Empire, Hackney.

FRASER and ROBERTS, The Two Dromonions. 64, Maitland-street, Glasgow.

GANNON, NELLIE; HARRY WRIGHT, conclude Argyle, Birkenhead; Re-engaged once more, Mon., Hippo., St. Helens.

GARLAND, TOM, Welsh Vent., and Co., thanks B. Armstrong for offers, and Drew Bailey for contracts; next, Palace, Aberdeen.

GERONDE, THREE SISTERS, Great success Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. Panto. settled. E. STEBBINGS, thanks for offer.

GILMORE, BARRY. Going Big. Fifth Week, Mr. John Williams's "Merry Men," Rhyl, Welsh Wales.

GLENN, MARY, Premier Vocalist, 16th, Hippo., Ipswich. Perm., 170, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

GRAHAM'S, DAISY, Performing Birds, on Tour with C. W. Poole's Co., Workmen's Hall, Blaengarw, S. Wales.

GRANADAS, LOS, 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham. Agent, TOM SHAW.

GRANTLEY, COLEMAN (CHAS.) (LILLIE) Second Week, P. Palace, Portsmouth.

GRANVILLE, GUS, Comedian, "The White Coons." Address, 3, Lodore-road, South Shore, Blackpool.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, in Burlesque Scena, "In a Restaurant." Coms., Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

GRAVETTA and PARR. Great Potpourri Act, entitled "There's Going to Be a Show," Vac. 23, 30. 9, Wolseley-rd, Blackpool.

GRAY, GEORGE, Stoll-Moss Empires. Stoll-Moss Empires.

GREEN, MR. TOM, the Inventor, Stage Director, and Comedian, 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GREEN, MRS. TOM, the Success of the "Tell-Tale Telephone," Exhibited at the London Hippodrome, Four Weeks.

GREEN, MISS JENNIE, In her Great Impersonation of Lady Audley, Produced for the Waltundaw Co.

HALL, CLIFTON, Vocalist. Scotland for Summer Season. Coms. next two weeks, C/o D. and F. Combination, Rothesay, N.B.

HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in Musical Comedietta, "A Broken Journey." Palace, W.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid." Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

HARRIS, FRANK. At Lib. for Advance or Bill Inspector. Good refs. Address, c/o Brighton Queen, West Pier, Brighton.

HARRIS and WORTH, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116 Brixton.

HARTLEY, FRANK, the Juggling Schoolboy. A Pocket Cinquevalli. Success at Gaiety, Chatham; next, Star, Bermondsey.

HARTLEY WONDERS, Jumping Speciality. MAGGIE WALSH, Singing Mill Girl. Two Acts. Palace, Blackpool.

HASTINGS, CLARA, Refined Soubrette, also JOE HASTINGS, Jumper, own Co., Pier, Beaumaris, Anglesey. Offers invited.

HAVERLEYS, THE, American Song-Illustrators. All coms., 15, Albert-square, Clapham. Agents, PACEY and REEVES, G. FOSTER.

HAYDEE, City Varieties, Leeds.

HAYTORS, THE (EDIE, ARTHUR, and FRANK), Address, Cravenholme, Bowdon, Cheshire.

HECTOR, the Wire King. Pre-eminent in Wire Walking and Hoop Rolling. This, P., Walthamstow; next, South London P.

HELMES, MISS LILIAN, Comedienne and Dancer. July 16, Greenwich.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius, Gaiety, Dundee. Monday, Queen's, Keighley. Thanks Mr. Dottridge.

HENDERSON, LADE, Character Vocalist. Monday, Oxford, Middlesbrough. All Coms. to Billy Henderson.

HENRIETTE and SELINA, Artistic Society and Drawing-room Entertainers. This, Lyric. Monday, Haymarket, Liverpool.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR, Vacant July 9 and 16. Wire, 185, St. James'-road, Croydon.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist, Grand, Gravesend.

HERIOT AND CO., WILTON, "An Anglo-American Alliance." July 9, Regent, Salford; 16th, Britannia, N.

HESSEY SOLOISTS, Classical Flute and 'Cello players and Piccolo duettists. July 9, Palace, Bow.

HILL, ROWLAND, Pavilion, Portrush. Pantomime Settled, "Ye Dame."

HINTON and WOOTON, Flower Show, Wolverhampton. P.A., Market-place, Willenhall, Staffs.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH & NELLIE) The London Pavilion.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Dancers, Thank F. Baugh, Esq., for Releasing. Lib. Oct. Ad., Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist. Two first-class Acts. Vac. July 16 and 23. Letters, Pleasure Pavilion, Gourock.

HULINE & LE-MAY, Famous Musical Clowns. Vacant 9th, 16th. Wire, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Address, c/o "The Era."

INGLE, ARTHUR, Coster Juggling Comedian. Free for Galas. (Bank Holiday settled). Add., King's Head Hotel, Ashby-Zouch.

JOHNSON, KATIE, "Billy's Little Love Affair," Tour. July 9, Rehearsing. Address, 10, King-st., Covent Garden.

JONES, MR. THEODORE, Big Success of "Jack Sheppard" and "Prodigal's Return." Vac. 30th. July 9, Hip., Stockton.

JORDISON'S DANCING DOTS, July 9, Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Crystal Palace. Booked by R. Cass.

KARL, ALBERT, Comedian and Dancer. Panto. with J. Gar Kiddie, Esq. C/o Perry, Valley, Llandudno.

KAVADOS, Juggler, Empire, Belfast. FLO MELVILLE, Vulcari's Concert Party, Monifieth, N.B. K., Monday, c/o SLEY.

KEITH and MERSON, Palace, Carlisle.

KELLERMANN, MISS ANNETTE, The Lady Channel Swimmer. Training at Broadstairs.

KEMPTON, REX, Comedian, Vocalist, and Dancer. Dan Randall's Promenade Concerts, Littlehampton. Coms., WARNER AND Co.

KLOOF and RAMSAY. Vacant 9th, 16th, conclude Starring Hit, Dover, Bexhill, Canning Town. Address, 12 Gladstone-st, S.E.

KYOTO, the Original One; MAY GERALDINE, Comedienne; vacant July and Aug. 25, Devonshire House, Bath-ter., London, S.E.

LACK and FORD, Comedy Acrobats. Vacant July 23, 30, and Aug. 6. Empire, Bristol.

LA MARA CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT. Molineux Hotel, Wolverhampton.

LANG, GENTLE BROTHERS, Hippodrome, Huddersfield. Lithographs by David Allen and Sons.

LASSAH, LILLIE, This week, Sandgate. Monday, 9th, Crystal Palace and Standard, Pimlico. Booked by CASS.

LE BRUN and IRENE, Novel Equilibrist and Lady Juggler. Vac. Monday next. Wire, 18, Shortridge-street, Attercliffe.

LEE and ARDEN, "The Scotchman in London." Arcadia, Dunoon, Scotland.

LEFRE, ALBERT, London Pavilion. London Pavilion.

LEMPRIERE, LIEUT., Balloonist, Handsworth, Birmingham, Parachute Descents by himself and charming lady pupils.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI. On Tour this week, Cheltenham; also MELITA. Private Address, 53, Third-avenue, Manor Park, Essex.

LESLIE BROS., Australia's Representative Musical Comedians. July 9, Boscombe.

LESTER'S, LEO, "Sports." Palace Theatre, Bradford.

LINTON, Greatest Acrobatic Cable Performer now before the public. Vac. Aug. 13, 27. July 9, Alhambra, Morecambe.

LITHO and LILIAN, Sixth Season, Own Show, Felixstowe.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS Lady Acrobats. ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer. Tues. Wed. & Th., Flower Show, Wol'pton.

LORCH FAMILY, the Marvellous, Greatest Risley Act, including Three Ponies, One Donkey. Oes Budavara, Budapest, Hungaria.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO, Trick Cyclists, 2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LOVELACES, THE, American Song-Illustrators. Great Success, this, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester; next, Hippo., Salford.

LUCRETIA, MDLLE., Big Success, Palace, Rhyl. Return Monday, Tower Theatre, New Brighton.

LUMIERES, MLLE., Electric Dances, Still Drawing, Palace, St. Helens. Free July 16. Wire above.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, in American Picture Songs. This, Surrey; Monday, Two Weeks, Hippodrome, Douglas.

MACS, THE NEW, Comedians Monday, July 9th, Palace, Camberwell, S.E.

MADCAPS, THE, A. Winkler's World-famed Dancers. 20, Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, London, W.

MARCONIS, THE GREAT. Most Wonderful Electric Act on Earth. Address, 23, Colnbrook-street, St. George's-road, S.E.

MARJUTTI, ADA, the Flexible Venus; MARTI AND JULIETTA. Vacant 16th, 23rd, and Later. Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

MARLO, the Clever Young Juggler. July 9, Sadler's Wells, London. Agent, STEBBINGS, Manchester.

MARLOW and MANTON, "Other People's Babies." July 2, Metropole, Manchester.

MARTIN, MISS HELEN, Hippodrome, Eastbourne. July 9, Palace, Plymouth.

MARTINETTES, Only Three, Eccentric Comedians, Lib. July 23, 30. Mon., Green's Carnival, Glasgow, Two Weeks. Great Gala Acts.

MAY, ALICE, "Tranquillity," July 9, Hippo., Norwich. Perm. Address, 15, Rupert-street, W.

MAYE, PERCY, Empire, Stockport. See Back Page. Coms., DAY'S.

MAYNALL, ALF, July 2, Pier, Margate (10 weeks). Booked by Mr. Edwin Adeler.

McASKELL, Thanks A., Stockton, for altering date, also Proprietors Al-Fresco, Bradford, for Cancelling. 16, Arthur-st., Burnley.

McNEIL, SHEILA, Thanks Friends for Kind Inquiries. Monday, Empire, Stockport.

McVEIGH, DAN, the Glenrone Bar, 43, Moss-street, Paisley. Professional House of Call. Era, Stage, &c., taken.

MELOT, HERMANN, French Conjurer. July 9, Empire, Leeds.

MEPHISTO, Society Contortionist, Concludes to-night, Macnaghten London Circuit. July 9, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

MERLIN, MAX, as Crocodile. Prettiest, Most Novel of its Kind. Conclude Standard, Pimlico; Return, 9th, Hippo., Norwich.

MILLARD, JACK, George Hotel, West Derby-rd., Liverpool. Close to Hippodrome. Everything of the best. Barney Vox's headquarters.

MILSTED, EMMIE, and JOE BELL, Musical Comedy Scena, a Big Success. Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES, On Tour. Communications, c/o "The Era" Office.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED, THE, TROUPE of Eight Real Souasa Arabs. Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MONTAGUE, LEO, Business Representative for the Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies. C/o. "The Era."

MOORE, SHEILA, The Colleen and her Irish Harp. Coms., Care of "The Era" Office.

MORELL, MISS DAISY, Pavilion, Portrush. Vacant Pantomime, Principal Boy.

MORGAN, VIOLET, Speciality Mimic, Alhambra, Morecambe, Second Week. Vacant next. Wire above.

MOXON BROTHERS (Three), Acrobatic Comedians. Liberty Dec. 17, 1906.

MOZZETTO, Juggler. July 9, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

MULVEY, FRED and MINNIE MIRIAM, "In the Studio," July 9, Hippo., Llandudno.

MUNROE, MR. WALTER, The Palace, Blackpool. "I'm coming back to Dublin," F., D., and H.

MURRAY, LESLIE H., Magician, July 9, Pierrot Village, Douglas, I.O.M.

MYERS, ERNIE, & LILY LONSDALE, City Varieties, Leeds. Monday, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

NATION, HARRY, Mitchell's Grounds, Herne Bay, with own Vaudeville Co. Coms., W. OLIVER, Spot.

NEIMAN'S VENTRILOQUIAL MINSTRELS. Palace, Clacton.

NELSON and THOMAS, Thank Rosen and Bliss for more contracts. Dis., 9th and 16th. Wire 495, Stapleton-rd., Bristol.

NEWPORT, BROS., Comedy Gymnasts, At Liberty, all coms. to the Bull Inn, Winslow, Bucks.

NORTON, RUBY, Indisposed. Thanks friends for letters and kind enquiries. 18, Wandle-road, Croydon.

NOTE, R. C., & DAISY DEVONPORT, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

OAKLEY and JAMES (BERT and POLLY). July 9, Euston Palace, London.

OBO, BROS., The Popular Laughing Comedians. July 9, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, See "Wanted" Column. 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham, London.

OLIVER, JOE, the Singing Coon. 60 inches of Vocalism. This week, Foresters'; next week, Surrey Theatre. Agent, STEBBINGS.

O'MALLEY and BROWN, This week, Argyle, Birkenhead. Next week, Grand, Stockton.

O'MALLEY, DAISY, Vocalist and Dancer, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 8, Canterbury-street, Liverpool.

ONDA BROS., and WILL ONDA and Co., in "The Motor Maniac." A Draw. Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

ONDA and LEON, Conversational Gymnasts. Galas. Address, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

OWEN, WAL, The Comedy Man. Albert Hall, Southport.

PADLEY BROS., Comedians and Acrobats, Vacant shortly, now on Tour. All communications, 23, John-street, Blackburn.

PALETTE, Premier Lightning Sketch Artist, and Clever Dog "Max." Vacant July 23. Monday, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa.

PALMERS, THE MUSICAL, Monday next, Palace, North Shields; also MISS DAISY PALMER, Serio, &c., &c.

PANLO BROS., Comedy Acrobats. Lib. for Panto, Animal and Comedy Parts; also Speciality. Offers, &c. Panlos Tower, New Brighton

PARLATO, Facialist and Impersonator. 1, Brinkburn-road, Scarborough.

PEARSON'S, GEORGE, AGENCY. Manager, Mr. George Pearson, 6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

PHYDORA, HARRY, Permanent address, 88s, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

PIRMANS, THE THREE, Novelty Pantomime Gymnasts. Thanks to Mr. Graydon, Permission to play Hip., Stockton, Mon.

PLANT, HARRY. Big Success. The opinion of Visitors and Natives is "He's Great." With Buxton's Pierrots, Douglas.

POOLE, DAVID, the Ventriloquist. Monday, Palace, Carlisle.

POOLE, LOTTIE, and FRANK WEIR, Soubrette and Comedian. Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, N.B.

PRIMAVESI, Unique Juggler, The Homestead, New Malden, Surrey.

PRINELLAS, THE (JOE and LIECEE). Enormous Success Everywhere. Splendid New Scenery. Fully Booked.

RAYMOND BIO-TABLEAUX CO., THE, 56, Great Queen-st., Kingsway, W.C. 'Phone, 5781 Central. Cables, &c., "Vivagraph, London."

REDFERN, RUBIE and ELSIE, Next Week, Pavilion, Newcastle.

REED, MR. LESLIE, Cremorne Tavern, Havelock-road, Gt. Yarmouth. Apartments, 2 minutes' Wellington Pier.

REGAN and RYAN, This week, Grand, Clapham; Next week, Duchess, Balham.

REX and FORD, Comedians and Sketch Artists. Alexandra Palace, London. Dan Noble send address; letter mislaid.

RICH and RICH, Stoll Tour. Empire, Stratford. Agents, GEORGE BARCLAY.

RICHARDS, ARTHUR, RENEE WALON, Reliable Performers, who are a hit in any program. Vac. Aug. 6. 16, Swale-st., Poplar.

RIOGOKU FAMILY, THE, Manager, Y. Hamamura. July 9, Fête, Wolverhampton.

RIZARELIS-RECARS, Lady Gymnasts, Revolving Trapeze and Acrobatic. Two Numbers. 3 Bowden-st, Stockport.

ROBY, ELSIE, Stoll Tour, Empire, Stratford. With "The Slavey's At Home."

ROCHESTERS, THE, Refined Juveniles. With Chas. W. Poole. Offers invited for July and on, for novelty act. "Era."

ROMAINE, SISTERS, Comedy Duettists. Returned to England, July 2. Good Authors Communicate care of "The Era."

ROSAIRES, ORIGINAL (Four Men), Great Acrobats and Bars, Two Acts. Mon., T. R., Dover. Vac. July 23, 30. Wire.

ROUSBY'S, E., "Around Paris." 3, Bayley-st., Bedford-square, London, W.C.

ROWLEY, MR. J. W., Lynton House, Durand-gardens, Clapham, S.W. Also Miss ELLA DEAN.

RUBYS, THE THREE. last but not least on Empire, Liverpool. programme, according to applause. Th. R., Dewsbury.

RUSHFORTHS, THE, and KING LEO, Song Illustrators and Ventriloquist. First Vacant Date Oct. 29. Next, Sadler's Wells.

RYLAND, CLIFF, Monday next with Miss Constance Moxon. Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

SABINO, Man of Many Instruments. Monday, Pier Pavilion, Westward Ho. Lib. July 16. Letters to Strand, Bideford.

SALMON, W., the Cycle King. Re-engaged, Pagoda, Littlehampton. Vac. July 9 and 23. Wire, above, or Albany-terrace, Burnley.

SANFORD and LYONS, Comedians and Simultaneous Dancers, Empire, Swansea. Monday, Empire, Newport. T. SHAW.

SAN SIMOSA, Dainty Little Jap. Lady Juggler, Free July 16, 30, and Aug. 6. Monday, Return, P., Pavilion, Clacton-on-Sea.

SANTOI, MARIE, and CO., Drawing packed house at Grand, Gravesend. Monday, Return, Palace, Grimsby.

SAUTERON, MONS., Drawing-room Expert Champion Jumper, Stanley, Durham. All coms. to Billy Henderson.

SCOTT, GEORGE, Adam and Eve, High-st., Peckham. House of Call for Professionals. Nr. Crown T. Cars pass door.

SCOTT, KENNETH, the English Entertainer. Vacant for Pantomime, 1906-7. 62, Stimpson-avenue, Northampton.

SCOTT, MISS MAIDIE. Just a Comedienne. H'smith and Ealing; next, Hippo., Birmingham.

SCOTT, MISS WINNIE, Concluding Two Weeks, Gaiety, Dundee. July 9, Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.

SCOTTIE'S WAIFS AND STRAYS and Whizzing the Whirl. All coms., Mr. Alexander, 78, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.

SERENADAS, LUIGOS. Scena, "Naples by Night." Better than ever. Next, Gaiety, Dundee. Manager, Edgar Harper.

SHAMROCK TRIO, THE, Harmonising Vocalists and Expert Dancers. This week, Big Success, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

SHEFFIELD, NELLIE, at Liberty July 23. 26, Greyhound-road, Fulham Palace-road, W.

SHIELDS, JIMMY, Comedian. Vacant Monday; also July 23, 30. Prince's Theatre, Preston; after Sat., 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

SHIPLEY, SAM, and BEATRICE WORTH. This, Empire, Belfast. Monday, Tivoli, Dublin. July 16, 23, 30. Vacant. Wire.

SILBON'S CIRCUS, With Marvellous Cats. Free July. 6, Norbury-street, Stockport.

SILCOTT, THREE SISTERS, Regent, Salford.

SILVO, MUSICAL, July 9, Palace, Chelsea.

SINCLAIR and WHITEFORD (FRED.) (GRACIE.) Monday, Ardwick, Empire, Manchester.

SKENE, BELLA, The Gay Prince Charlie, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

SLINGSBY, CAPTAIN, with Something Fresh in Ventriloquism, Quite Away from the Hackneyed Style, Novelty. Novelty.

SMITH and JOHNSON, Success! Haymarket, Liverpool. July 9, Royal, Halifax.

SMYTHSONS, THE, in their celebrated antidotes to melancholy, July 9, Palace, Hammersmith.

SOLO, FRED (of SOLO and MAYO), Own Co., Seaside Tour. Disengaged Sept. 24. Panto. Settled, Robert Arthur, Esq. Add., co Era.

SPENCER, FRED, Expressionist, Maxwelton, Littlehampton.

STACEY, ARTHUR, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer. This week, Kursaal, Southend; next, City, Leeds.

STANLEY'S URCHINS, Palace, Sunderland. Next week, July 9, Palace, Dundee. Vacant July 16 and 23.

STAVORDALE QUINTETTE, THE. This Week, T. R., Halifax. Liberty 9th and 23rd. 'Phone, 1195 Battersea.

STEBBING BROS., on Tour, Alexandra's Circus. Vacant November. Address, 3, Waverley-road, Wood-street, Walthamstow.

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. 'Phone 09251. Telegrams, "Stebbing."

STEINWAY QUARTETTE, Charming Vocalists.—Vide Mr. Stoll. 80, Union-road, Clapham, S.W.

STELFANE, Lady Magician. 13th week of Provincial Tour. Liberty July 16, on. Add., Johnson's Theatre, Neath. J. T. write.

STEWART, JAMES, the Tramp at the Piano, Grand, Clapham, London Pavilion, and Camberwell. Vacant Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 10, 17, 24.

ST. JOHNS, THE, Musicians, Campanologists, Gaggiste, and Dancers. Vacancies from July 16. Palace, Bridlington.

STYLO, Wonderful Hoop Juggler; BEATRICE BONNIE, Comedienne. Vacant next week. Wire, Olympia, Liverpool.

SWIFT TRIO. Humorous Cycle Speciality. This week, Galas. Address, Post Office, Skipton, Yorks. Vacant July 16, 23, 30.

SWORD and ROBB, Comedians and Dancers, Liberty Sept. 10 and 17; also Panto. Coms., 50, College-street, Cleethorpes.

SYLVESTO, MLLE., Speciality Act. This, Pav., Newcastle; next, Empire, Middlesbrough. Vac. 16th. Agents, DE VERE and HART.

TAFT, HARRY, Enjoying himself in America with the proceeds of Mount Lyells. Thanks J. Hymans. "Era."

TAIT, SILENT. This week Tivoli, Dublin. I am open to dance any of the champions for a packet of Gold Flake. "The Era."

TALLY-HO TRIO (Erne Chester, Wm. Doust, and Eric Farr). Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

TAMAMOTO, C., the Japanese Blondin on the Perpendicular Rope and Slack Wire. Monday next, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL, Including LOUIE GILBERT, celebrated soprano. Palace, Bridlington, two weeks.

THOMAS, ALFRED, Principal Comedian, "The Redcloaks," Barnouth. Good songs wanted. First vac. Sept. 17.

THOMPSON, MR. ALEC F., Comedian. Letters to 11, Somerville-place, Dundee, N.B.

THORPE and COE (HARRY and ZOE), In original Comedietta, "My Burglar." Vac. Oct. 15. Add., 9, Prescott-street, Halifax.

TOMPS AND WELLS, Liberty Aug. 6, With a Funny Musical Act. Letters, Hippodrome, Hastings.

TRANSFIELDS, LOS. Three Ladies. Refined Musical Speciality, At Liberty Monday. Wire, Lyceum, Eccles.

TURLE and TURLE, Comedy Gymnasts. Two Acts, Vacancies for Al Frescoes, Galas, Terms or Shares. 5, Wood-st. East, Manchester.

UNTHAN, C. H., Gigantic Success, but no Return Date, at Droitwich, Kingsland Lodge, Last Week.

URMA, THREE SISTERS, Premier Triple Trapeze Performers. Hippodrome, Oxford-street, Manchester.

VALVO, CHARLES, the Military Ventriloquist. Re Winter Dates, address 90, Amberley-street, Bradford.

VANDEAN, TESSIE. Big Hit H., Hull. "Iona" sketch, 3 great characters, each one a study. A success. Monday, Pal., Glasgow.

VANDYKE'S, CHARLES, "Sensations" and "Nicodemus." July 9, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

VERE and ROYAL, Vocal Comedy Duo. Big Success, Gaiety, Birmingham. Vacant Monday, wire.

VERNE and VOLPE, Modern Magicians and Artists Extraordinary. Visit England Shortly. Care of "The Era."

VERNO'S, JESS, AGENCY, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment"; Telephone, 2076 Royal.

VERTE, AMY PRY, Violinist, Banjoist, Mandolinist. 130, Somerset-street, Hessle-road, Hull.

VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert, July 9, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

VIOLET, LITTLE, (the Original). Success, "Britannia's Friends." All coms. D. Hart, Grand, Gravesend.

VIOLI, Lady Instrumentalist, Empire, Cardiff.

VOLBECQUES, TWO, Comedy Duettists, Great Success, Theatre, Dewsbury. Monday, Empire, Stockport. Free 16th, 23rd, 30th.

WALFORD, MARIE, Bodie's Real Trilby, The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

WALKER'S COMEDY NIPPERS; REKLAW, Globe Performer. Next, Aquarium, Scarborough; Vac. July 16. Halls, Galas, &c.

WALLACE, MISS RAY, The Original Lady Mimic at the Piano. Collins's and London. Agent, HUGH J. DIDCOTT.

WALLIS, W. H. (Tennyson and Wallis), the Successful Song-Writer. July 9, 12, Victoria Park-rd, London, N.E.

WALTON and LESTER, The World's Worst Wizards, Empire, Sheffield. Vacant for Panto.

WAMBAS, THE, Gymnasts, Musicians. Next week, Gala, Wolverhampton. Vac. 16th, Aug. 6. Add., 151, Knutsford-road, Warrington.

WATSON, D. W., Cornetist and Coach Horn Artist, this week Alhambra, Sandgate. Monday next, Empire, Dover.

WEBB, THE BROS., The World's Greatest Musical Clowns, Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, S.W.

WEDBURNS, Comedians, &c. Big Success, Palace, Carlisle, This Week, July 9, Palace, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WELDON, HARRY, July 9, Olympia, Liverpool. Coms., TOM SHAW, Esq., or Vaudeville Club, W.

WELLS, JOSEPH, Pyrotechnist, Limelight Operator, and Illuminator. Only Address, Ashleworth, Honor Oak-park, London, S.E.

WESTON, MISS MARIE, Thanks Messrs. Moss and Stoll for batch of contracts. Monday, Empire, Glasgow.

WHEATLEY, HORACE, Monday, 9th, Empire, Birmingham.

WHITELEY, FRANK, Comedian and Dancer. Great Success Doncaster. Mon. next, July 9, Argyle, Birkenhead.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artists, Gala and Fête Agents, 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILKINSON'S, MATT, Laughter-makers, and VIOLET BEATRICE, Comedienne, 15 Canterbury-street, Liverpool.

WILLIAMS, GLADYS, Comedienne. This week, Surrey Theatre; next, The Foresters'. 45, High-street, Peckham.

WILLIAMS and WARDEN, The Irish Cross-Talk Comedians. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester.

WILLS, MR. H. O., Bottom of the Bill, and a Great Hit, Argyle, Birkenhead. Monday, Tower, Blackpool.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. Empire Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Sole Agent, TOM SHAW, London.

WINSOME, MISS MARIE, Address, Pierrot Village, Douglas, I.O.M.

WISPER and BEATTIE BLOOM. Monday, Hippodrome, Colchester; Vacant July 16, 23, and 30. Wire.

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Important Notice.
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906. "The Era" Almanack and Annual ("Era" Office, 1s.), a copy of which lies before me, is an invaluable publication for those who wish to have stage records by them. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, lists of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres during 1905, and also of plays produced in the provinces. Further, we have lists of the new plays and revivals produced at the principal Paris and Berlin theatres. "The Era" Almanack has been regularly issued since 1868, when is was compiled by Edward Laman Blanchard, a comedian whose fascinating life was recorded by Clement Scott. The Almanack closes with an illustrated list of those members of the profession who died during the course of last year, headed, naturally, by Henry Irving. Amongst the other names are those of William Rignold, Frank Celli, Ada Neilson, and Minnie Mario. There is an added pathos in the deaths of those who were so long bodily before the public, and the ringing down of the last curtain seems to have added significance.—T. P.'s Weekly, Jan. 26.

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is well constructed and smartly written; while it enjoys the inestimable blessing of being ABSOLUTELY free from the FAINTEST suspicion of anything that might OFFEND the taste of the most FASTIDIOUS. It is, in short, a PERFECTLY CLEAN, WHOLESOME, and AMUSING LITTLE PLAY.—*Era*, 23/6/06.

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"WELCOME HOME."

The Craggs in Sunderland, with their New Comic Sketch,
"BILLY."
PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.
Those clever acrobats and pantomimists the Craggs head a capital bill of fare that is provided at the Palace this week. Last night's audiences were large and appreciative. The Craggs appeared in their laughter-provoking sketch, "Billy." That individual is from the country, and a new steward on the passenger vessel Channel Queen, the cabin of which is shown. Billy's debut among his fellow stewards is most mirth-provoking, and comprises some of the funniest and smartest knockabout business seen on the music-hall stage. To it are added those marvellous acrobatic feats that have made the Cragg troupe famous. The act gave universal pleasure last night.—Daily Echo, Tuesday, July 3, 1906.

Production, July 9, SURREY THEATRE.
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I LEAD—FOLLOW WHO CAN.

Veni, Vidi, Vici.

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The Stockbridge entertainment house threw open its doors last night for another season, and the initial performance drew an attendance that packed every part of the building. The programme was to a large extent filled by Dr. Walford Bodie, who lays claim to such titles as "The Bloodless Surgeon" and "The Electric Wizard." Dr. Bodie has been somewhat in the public eye of late, and that perhaps accounted for what at the outset looked like being a hostile reception from certain sections of the house, but Dr. Bodie frankly set forth what had happened at Leeds, and in the end had a most attentive and appreciative hearing. He began by showing the extraordinary voltage of electricity he was able to pass through his body, and then the house was in an uproar of merriment when he experimented both with men on the stage and with members of the audience, the current first passing through the Doctor. Articles which he had touched the men on the stage dropped like hot potatoes or clung to because they could not drop them. A chair charged with electricity was another object of great interest, but the most outstanding part of the performance was when Dr. Bodie dealt with three cases of paralysis held to be incurable by Edinburgh institutions. The first was a young woman of 27, the second a little girl, and the third a boy. In each case, where the heel was not resting on the ground, Dr. Bodie, after putting the patient in a state beyond feeling pain, gave the limb a wrench over his knee and then "bathed" it with electricity, the patients each walking off the stage, to which they had had to be carried. There were many doctors and medical students present, and Dr. Bodie was loudly cheered again and again at the conclusion of his performance.—Vide *Edinburgh Evening News*, July 3, 1906.

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THE ONLY ZARMO,
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Sole Agent, JAMES FIONI.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

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Holiday.
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Good Representative required for same.
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Starring,
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Usual Success at the
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Tremendous Success, Grand, Clapham.
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Concludes to-night
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No Vacancies.
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STERLING and LOVE,
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Original Vocal and Instrumental Comedy Act.
"A Domestic Musical Squabble."
By the Original Leo Sterling and Addie Love.

PETE and MINNIE LEE, going stronger than ever; now at the Palace, Hammersmith. "All Scotch," in their screaming skit, "The Scotchman's Visit to London."
Farewell to bonnie England, farewell to England's rose;
We're going back to Scotland, where the jaggy thistle grows.
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HECTOR and SULTAN,
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Era, June 23, 1906.—Hector and Sultan must be complimented on their smart acrobatic act.
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Topping the Bill Again this Week.
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the Irish Cross-talk Comedians,
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Full of irresistible comicality.
One of the best things the famous coster comedian has given us.
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Scene: The Wrong 'Un's Bedroom.
Time: 12 o'clock in the Day.
Music composed and business arranged by Mr. Elen.
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Phenomenal Hit,
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METROPOLITAN and CRYSTAL PALACE till July 21. A Certain Winner for Panto.
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Lightning Artist with Beautiful Effects.
Has no equal, and is absolutely
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Continuous applause from start to finish.
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The Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road.
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"Any More Orders?"
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Written by Wal Pink and Mark Melford.
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"Hullo old Dear."
"Owd Yer Row,"
"The Little Shirt my Mother Made."
The Character Songs of the Century.
TOM WOOTTWELL,
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London's Latest Star!
RUSSELL
WALLETT,
The Lady in Black.
With honours thick upon him.—
Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq.
Next Week, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
Business Manager and Sole Agent,
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MENDEL, the Marvellous Blind Pianist, a novel and unique performance, three tunes at once.
Coms. to PALACE, BLACKPOOL, or 12, Grosvenor-street. BAWN'S and CADLE'S Agencies.

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Morton's Man of Memory.
The Man who sold his head for £2000.
Vacant Dec. 17. Address, Datas, PALACE T., SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE, LONDON, W.

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GILLIN,
Unique Ventriloquial Humorist.
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The Premier Dame Comedian.
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"One of the cleverest and most amusing ventriloquists ever seen."
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Delmar's Latest Published Successes.
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"Snowflakes," "Come Down Lovers' Lane,"
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
In "The Era" Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), Miss Vesta Tilley breaks into verse, and a score or more of her comrades of "the boards" try their hands at fiction. The result is entertaining, and as there is added a list of new plays and revivals during the past year, with other information, the annual is worth a place on the playgoer's bookshelves.—The Yorkshire Post

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual appears once more in its familiar binding, a compendium of information and amusement for all who are interested in theatrical affairs. In the calendar will be found an array of anniversary dates, some recent, some recalling memories of old times and actors and actresses long passed away. The summary of new plays produced during the past year is admirably done, its value being increased by the alphabetical list which is appended. Well-known actors and actresses contribute stories in accordance with a custom justified by its success.—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 18, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Desprez, the editor, contributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanack and Annual ("Era" Office, 1s.), a copy of which lies before me, is an invaluable publication for those who wish to have stage records by them. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, lists of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres during 1905, and also of plays produced in the provinces. Further, we have lists of the new plays and revivals produced at the principal Paris and Berlin theatres. "The Era" Almanack has been regularly issued since 1868, when is was compiled by Edward Laman Blanchard, a comedian whose fascinating life was recorded by Clement Scott. The Almanack closes with an illustrated list of those members of the profession who died during the course of last year, headed, naturally, by Henry Irving. Amongst the other names are those of William Rignold, Frank Celli, Ada Neilson, and Minnie Mario. There is an added pathos in the deaths of those who were so long bodily before the public, and the ringing down of the last curtain seems to have added significance.—T. P.'s Weekly, Jan. 26.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Edmund Tearle's company continues its visit with *East Lynne*. Miss Kate Clinton plays powerfully in the more moving scenes as Lady Isabel; Mr. Montagu Lane gives a careful representation of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Tearle acts skilfully as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Ernest Lodge makes a capital Justice Hare; and Richard Hare receives full justice from Mr. A. W. Wynne. The part of Willie Carlyle is intelligently played by Miss Mary Greig, while Joyce is admirably presented by Miss Ethel Storey.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—One of the chief turns this week is that of the Albano troupe of musical instrumentalists; the Brothers Lawrence, speciality artists, provide a most entertaining show; and Mr. H. Garland proves himself to be a ventriloquist of more than ordinary ability; Mr. Jack McKay is highly successful as a Scotch comedian; Mr. James Dunlop dances and sings well; Professor Anderson is exceptionally clever in his conjuring act; and Glennie's Anglo-Franco Marionettes are as keenly appreciated as ever. The World's Champion Pedestrian Combine is the principal attraction.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The Savonas in their musical entertainment are appearing here this week with deserved success; the Meynotts can be highly complimented on their smart performance in the sketch *Semi-Detached;* Pete and Juno are clever patterers, singers, and dancers; Barbara Babbington is well received; the Elliotts give a wonderful cycling performance; Louie Leonard and Lazy Larry appear to advantage in an amusing military burlesque; Lily Breton is very good on the trapeze. The entertainment concludes with a series of interesting biograph pictures.

ALDERSHOT.— THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—*The Prodigal Parson*, which is being played here this week by Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company, should suit all tastes, containing as it does a mixture of pathos, exciting and thrilling situations, and really funny comedy. As the Rev. Tom Godley, Mr. W. V. Garrod is powerful and effective; while Miss Barbara Kingston impersonated Mrs. Godley with true dramatic instinct; Mr. Albert Northway filled the rôle of Enoch Jaggins as only an accomplished actor could; and Mr. Frank Dallas scored as Ben. On the lighter side of the melodrama, Mr. P. Dawsone as Phil Drive and Miss Lydia Hart as his German wife were full of brightness and vivacity, and greatly conduced to the success achieved.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here in the play, entitled *Darkness*, founded on the popular novel "When it was Dark," by Guy Thorne. The acting by the company is very effective. The lady who is the victim of a designing scoundrel, one Constantine Schwabe, is played by Miss Laura Walker with much skill, and touching pathos in the later scenes. Mr. Jno. Davidson as the Rev. Basile Gortre, the much-persecuted curate, plays with dignity; Mr. Ernest Griffin has an arduous rôle as Schwabe, and plays with intensity; Mr. Edward Valentine as Llewellyn scores as the lover of Gertrude and the confederate of Schwabe; effective impersonation is also given to a number of minor male characters by Messrs. Henry Heller, Miller Wilson, Louis Lingard, Eric Forth, J. Noel Bird, and D. M. Stormont; while Mrs. Morton Powell imparts amiability and sympathetic feeling to the Vicar's daughter; Miss Nellie Freeland as Gracie also does well. The piece is adequately mounted.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here includes Rita Bell, who sings "The Girl from Rotterdam" and gives a graceful dance in wooden shoes; the Albertos, a clever quartette of equilibrists; Cosgrove and Burns, Scottish-American comedians; Johnson and Pelham, in a comedy act; Houser, comedy clay modeller; Cavalli, ventriloquist; George Young, the "Blind Collier," musical artist; *The Shoeblack's Dream*, a musical scena; the Sousa Arabs, marvels of agility and strength, and the Bioscope concludes a capital programme.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The entertainment provided by the Imperial Animated Picture Company is proving highly popular and successful. This week there is an entire change of pictures, the series including the latest up-to-date films, humorous and interesting. Mr. Baker E. Belphor, the popular concert vocalist, has been engaged, and his songs, rendered with artistic finish, are illustrated with realistic views, which are highly appreciated.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Emily Sheridan is here with *A Prince of the People* company. She herself, as Lucille de Valriere, does much for the success of the play, acting very cleverly, and Mr. F. Rawson Buckley is a convincing and artistic Victor Lafond; Mr. Wm. H. Brougham is good as Berthaut, and Mr. Lionel Gadsden as Count de Valriere and Mr. George Twyman as Albert are both excellently drawn portraits; while the Marie of Miss Lillian Williams is brightly and capitally done.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert-Routledge.—The entertainment given by the British Empire Photo and Variety Company is proving exceedingly popular and drawing good houses here this week. The pictures are most instructive, and a capital variety programme considerably brightens the entertainment.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—At the top of the bill here this week the Columbia Trio are delighting all the lovers of good music with their operatic selections, and their humorous numbers are equally enjoyed. The Four Jumels also give an instrumental musical treat on some quaint and novel instruments; Vandino submits a marvellous lightning-like picture-painting show; Howe and Ardie are exceedingly amusing comedy gymnasts and acrobats; Flo Rayner is much applauded for her character songs; and Gladys Archbutt is a pleasing comedienne and clever dancer.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The leading feature this week is the pantomimical burlesque, entitled *Front and Behind; or, The Unrehearsed Deputy*, produced with every element of success by the Cratons and company. The Brown and Kelly combination appears in the amusing absurdity *The Butler Knows*, which has created roars of laughter; a capital exhibition of the terpsichorean art has been submitted by the Eight Lancashire Lads; and a hit has been made by Mr. Harry Brown, a clever coloured comedian. A good reception has nightly been extended to the Royal Six, lady singers and cyclists; and others appearing are Burnetti and Corri, eccentric jugglers; Miss Alice Blandford, balladist; and Miss Blanche Holt, comedienne.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading feature this week is the musical comedy *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, successfully presented by Mr. Harry Roxbury and company. Another feature of the bill is the sterling drama *A Bolt from the Blue*, presented by Mr. Harry Trevanun, Mr. Stephen Crossley, Mr. M. White, and Miss Pauline Emeric, a talented actress and vocalist; Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the accomplished comedienne, made a big hit on Monday; and Mr. Arthur Gill's imitations are most realistic; Miss Lily Esplin, comedienne, soon establishes herself a favourite; and Mr. Will Mitcham, an old favourite here, is well received; Miss Maud Ross, comedienne, is a smart dancer; and others appearing are Mr. Fred Bronte, comedian; and Miss Kathleen Cogan, comedienne.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Unquestionably the season of drama established here is enjoying a large measure of success. This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company is appearing in *Mysteries of London*, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, jun. Mr. Herbert Cecil portrayed the villainies of Victor Levigne so realistically that he fairly earned the loud anathemas of the crowded house on Monday; and the rôle of his companion in crime, Bill Rawson, was done full justice to by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Miss Nina Blake Adams, an accomplished emotional actress, as Lena North, gained the entire sympathies of the house; and Mr. Hilliard Vox was a manly Philip Conway; Miss Beryl Ravenswood sustained the difficult rôle of Sybil Grey with much credit to herself; and the humour of the piece was ably interpreted by Mr. Luke Forster as Dick Coppem; Miss Evelyn Marrable as Liza Stumps; and Mr. Victor Gordon as Robert Best; Miss Lila Arnott as Charity Rawson; and Mr. Cecil Ravenswood as Franz Muller completed the cast. The stage management, for which Mr. Herbert Cecil was responsible, calls for special praise.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Peil.—Mr. Charles March and a capable company are paying a return visit with *The Gamester of Metz*, and are once again cordially received. Mr. March as Paul Baldot presents an impersonation of much power and versatility; Captain Badaire is well represented by Mr. John B. Murray; Mr. Fred Aldworth is an effective General de Monparasse, and Mr. George Paget is an excellent Lieut. Herve. Babette is well played by Miss Beatrice Sims; Miss Una Lane displays much ability as Lucie Baldot, and Miss Eva Lyndhurst is an efficient Countess.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A leading feature here is the engagement of the popular comedian Mr. Arthur Roberts, who, in conjunction with a strong company, appears in the entertaining sketch *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife* with excellent results. Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires, are renewing previous successes, and a capital programme is also contributed to by Mr. Sam Thomson, an entertaining Scotch comedian; Miss Lily Lena, an accomplished serio; Lorraine, whose powers of mimicry are undeniable; Mr. Frank Whiteley, comedian and patterer; and Miss Gertie Cunningham, a talented comedienne. An interesting display by the Royal Bioscope is a feature of the entertainment.

BIRMINGHAM. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernard.—*The Hero of the Flag* is the attraction here. Mr. Sydney Spenser, who plays the heavy lead, Paul Mansfield, in an exceedingly plausible manner, is responsible for both the play and the company, and in each his judgment is unerring. Mr. William Heilbronn is well suited and most popular as the light-hearted Jack Lawrence; Mr. G. F. Royd gives a life-like study of the catspaw, Stephen Clifford; Mr. Unwin Crafton is successful as Blue Jake, and Mr. Alfred Goddard as Captain Hilliard, Mr. Edward Hatwood as Mark Forrestor, and Miss Roma Treymayne in her cleverly played rôle of the discarded wife, Ruth Clifford, are in strong evidence. Miss Lizzie Hall acts in clever simulation of the intrepid "hero of the flag," Mabel Forrestor; Mr. Sydney Benson as Johnny Truckle, and Miss Amy Maitland as Jenny Stubbs diffuse much humour; and Mr. Wilton Hardcastle shines as Puncher.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks continue their successes here. Mr. Frank Lyndon proves himself to be a really marvellous musician; the Four Sisters Godfrey are acrobatic dancers of a successful order, and Clarence Turner, the "little Lancashire Lad"; the Vivacious Vervains, coon experts; Dorothy Drake, operatic vocalist; and Harry Lennon, comedian, are much appreciated. The electric animated pictures of serious, comic, and instructive subjects are viewed with intense interest; and a musical chair competition for a purse of silver is among the attractions.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A Warning to Women* is presented here by Mr. C. Watson Mill and company, which includes the handsome and accomplished actress Miss Rosalind Tate in her fascinating study of Moira Kennion. Mr. Watson Mill is warmly recognised by his rare good acting as Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. Wingold Lawrence is favourably regarded as the young Irish squire, Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Henry Lonsdale gives an exceedingly good portrayal of the wandering minstrel, Shaun; and others who score are Mr. Henry Rutland as Squire Kennion, Mr. Norman B. Cannon as the Rev. Emmanuel Wallace, Miss Edith Rutland as Myles O'More, Miss Emmie Barton as Sheila Kennion, Miss Ellen Beverley as Molly O'More, and Miss Ida Fane as Hildred. The humour of the play is well served by Mr. W. Palliser Acock, in his amusing impersonation of the Frenchman, Ferdinand de Joules; Mr. George Scully as Mike McQuade, and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter as that entertaining sprig of nobility, Lord Eversleigh.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Auguste Van Biene is entertaining crowded audiences this week with a sketch *The Master Musician*, in which his acting and 'cello playing are highly appreciated. Mike S. Whallen is a most eccentric comedian; Annie Abbott, "the little Georgia magnet," has a novel entertainment; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden are seen in a bright duologue *Two to One*; Florence and Lilian are high-class instrumentalists; the Dandies have a refined drawing-room entertainment; the singing and dancing of the Four Olympian Stars are greatly admired. Other popular turns are the Labakans, eccentric comedians; the Mariano Sisters, in a breakaway trapeze act, and the bioscope.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—A varied and popular bill is presented here this week, Sam Mayo being the star turn. Amy Anderson and company in a sketch *The Banana Queen* is a big attraction; Charles Diamond, harpist, and Miss Beatrice, saxaphonist, are highly entertaining; Ben Hur is an expert athlete; Little Ganty is more amusing than ever; the mysterious second sight entertainment of Mahatma is clever; Stella Stanley, Madge May, and Katie Butler are pleasing comediennes; the Five Bon Bons and Tom E. Hughes also come in for a fair share of applause.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—The long programme here is headed by George Gilbey, whose quaint style and songs win loud applause; Bishop and Vale, Talberto and Douglas, Tom Lloyd and Tod Lowen also do well; Lina Verdi is one of the finest mimics we have seen here; the novel musical entertainment presented by Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker is quite up to date; the juggling act of Wallaw is clever; Madie Scott and Lola Patey are attractive comediennes; George Adams renders his baritone songs with much success.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Marie Kendall, one of Bordesley's greatest favourites, and Mark Melford and his company, in a sketch *Only a Wedding*, are attracting good houses this week. The Dumond Minstrels are most entertaining; in international dancing the Northern Troupe are experts; Belle Brahame renders some pictorial songs with effect; Horace Wheatley and Steve McCarthy are both mirth-provoking comedians. The bioscope, as at the Empire, depicts the great Chamberlain demonstration at Small Heath Park.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Fred Russell is delighting the patrons of this house with his well known ventriloquial entertainment. Verno and Voyce are always popular; Harry Rogerson as "The Tired Comedian" is very funny; the Mezzettis, gymnastic comedians, are giving their comedy triple bar performance, *The New Recruit*. Other turns of a varied kind are the Sisters Hall (charming vocal duettists), T. C. Callaghan (refined character-comedian), and Massona (juggler).

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart. — *His Excellency the Governor* was presented here on Monday by a company comprising some well-known London actors. Mr. Loring Fernie gave a very clever rendering of His Excellency; while the John Baverstock of Mr. Lionel Mackinder was a delightful piece of comedy. Mr. Marsh Allen played Captain Carew with ease and vivacity; and Mr. Malcolm Cherry contributed a convincing sketch of the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P.; while strong support was rendered by Mr. Charles Brown as Captain Rivers; Mr. Arthur Willoughby, as Major Kildare; and Mr. Littledale Power, as the sentry. To Miss Ethel Matthews special praise must be accorded for her conception of Stella Gex, a part which she played and dressed admirably; Miss Isabel Grey was good as Mrs. Wentworth Bolinbroke; as was Miss Valerie Salberg as Ethel Carleton. The play was preceded by an original sketch entitled *A Waste of Time*,

is which all the male members of the company took part, and which was very much to the liking of the audience.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is paying still another visit here this week with *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Frederick Moyes contributes an excellent portrayal of Napoleon, and Miss Edith Cole again wins the utmost admiration as the Empress Josephine. Mr. F. Joynson Powell does well as Talleyrand and Mr. Alfred Wellesley very ably portrays Grimand. Miss Elizabeth Watson as Marie Louise and Miss Clara Earle as Stephanie de Beauharnais are also deserving of favourable mention. Other parts are in capable hands, and the scenery and dresses are in the best taste.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Sergenson.—*The Dandy Doctor*, played by Mr. Edward Marris's company, is the attraction here. Mr. Marris appears as Melchisadeck Brown, and scores a great success. Colonel Pendred has an able exponent in Mr. Herbert Pearce, and Messrs. E. H. Bertram (Arthur Vandyke), Leslie Martin (Bertie Bollingbroke), and Dalton Dane (Mr. Drycoff) also assist in the fun-making. Miss Florence Smithers carries all before her as Jane, and Misses Ethel Dunker, Bell Hamilton, Rosie Chandler, and Marie Gerrard also give satisfaction in their respective parts.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Lauder is the big-type man here this week, and his efforts in song and story are nightly received with tremendous applause. Other capital turns are supplied by Leo Dryden, the actor vocalist; W. J. Churchill, comedian; Charlene and Charlene, drawing-room entertainers; Omra, on the silver wire; Crown Trio, vocalists; Haig and Novel, acrobats; Sterling and Lone, in a sketch; and Lilian Lowe, vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—A very popular programme is supplied here this week by Arthur Lennard, comedian and vocalist; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in their sketch, entitled *The Would-be Actors*; Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne; Harry Carmen, in a budget of up-to-date songs; Daisy Lane, the chic comedienne; the Snow Family, expert skaters; Gus Hindel, comedian; George French's troupe of acrobats; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; and the Two Dixons, song and dance artists.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—A new ballet-extravaganza, entitled *In Sunny Spain; or, the Troubles of a Tourist*, was produced here on Monday. A detailed notice will be found in another column. In addition to the ballet there is to be a variety bill of exceptional brilliance. The artists will include a newcomer in the person of Mons. Jules Angelos, who will make his first appearance in England at the Winter Gardens Pavilion with his famous tableaux vivants; Lucia and Viata, charming and graceful wire performers; the New York Comedy Four, humorously harmonious comedians; the Family Belaguer, in their clever acrobatic display; the Scala Girls, charming lady vocalists and dancers; the Castillian Serenaders; Albertine Melich, with her wonderfully trained parrots, macaws, and cockatoos; Mlle. Lopezina, in her clever trapeze act; and pictures on the Graphoscope.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Social discord in Russia has provided Mr. F. Wybert Clive with plenty of material for his drama, *The Conscript*, which he submitted to an interested audience on last Monday night. The piece has been remodelled since it was presented here some years ago, and it is distinctly up-to-date in incidents dealing with the terrible trials of the unfortunate exiles; and the company engaged on the representation is a strong one. Mr. Harry Cullenford acts with great power as the unfortunate conscript Karl Truevitch, and he has fine support from Miss Violet Carlyle, who fills the part of the heroine Nadia Truevitch, his wife, with marked dramatic ability; Ivan Manloff, the Nihilist, is a character which fits Mr. Walter Steele well; the villain, Count Paul Hardiski, is effectively represented by Mr. C. E. Johnson; Doggervitch is a good performance by Mr. Edward Lowrie. In the part of the Ferrett, Mr. F. H. Bellwood, too, is good; and the gloom is much brightened by the humour of Mr. Tom Breen as Tretch Trotoff; and Miss Connie Meadows as Wanda Khoval.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Pantomimic effects and riotous fun are features of the programme here this week, and Herbert Darnley's company in *Moving In* provide endless amusement in the way of knockabout business. The Mackweys, too, give a good comic acrobatic display and do some clever things on the wire, and in *A Merry Trifle* J. Alexander and company are very funny and display plenty of agility. Monsieur Albany gives a diverting entertainment in sleight-of-hand and does some clever sketching and picture building; Maude Courtney in song and story is entertaining; Orpheus reappears with distinct novelties, and his "solitary rehearsal" on wind instruments is clever; Eloise Brinsmade's illustrated songs are very interesting. In the comedy sketch *The Porter and the Parcel*, by Howard and Collinson, the clever representation of an animated doll is much appreciated; Georgina Leonard, comedienne, submits an acceptable turn; and there are some interesting films shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—A programme of general excellence is presented here this week, and Colby and May are to the fore in a clever turn, the former as a ventriloquist and the latter as a wonderfully realistic mechanical doll; the duets by the Sisters Lytton are well rendered; Herbert Clifton is responsible for some excellent mimicry; in their sketch *The Doctor and the Patient* Helm and Cozens are particularly entertaining; and in a comedietta, *The Substitute*, Sid Cotterell and company are the recipients of marked favour. The one-legged clowns, the Donatos, are clever and diverting; Herbert Rule submits a capital comedy turn; Leo Lester's "canine pantomime" is very interesting and affords a lot of amusement; and there are some fine films exhibited by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—The latest addition to the company at this popular resort is Vosper, the entertaining mimic.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Elaborate programmes were arranged at this popular resort in honour of the visit of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London. On Monday the fine band of the Irish Guards were the great attraction. The new Grand Pavilion, which had been formally opened by the Lord Mayor of London on Friday, was thrown open to the public for the first time on Monday night, and a crowded audience assembled, who appeared delighted with the beautiful building which has been erected on the Parade extension. The programme included a promenade concert by Herr Winternitz's Royal Viennese Orchestra, whose fine performance added to the popularity of the talented conductor. Miss Esme Atherden, a lady with a sweet soprano voice, was the special vocalist. The Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company gave a fine show of up-to-date pictures. Mr. Palmer, the manager, is to be highly complimented upon the arrangements he has made for the extra entertainment he has provided for the enjoyment of the patrons of the Royal Prince's Parade.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—A colossal programme was provided by the enterprising manager of the Spa to mark the visit of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London on the 6th inst., which included a balloon ascent and parachute descent by Professor Gaumont. This week the vocalists at the promenade concerts include Miss Bertha Bird, who continues, to delight the audiences with her fine vocalism; Mr. Ernest Hastings, a really smart humorist; and Mr. Fred Forden, society entertainer.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The programme this week includes the Sisters Rubie, vocal and instrumental artists, in a charming répertoire; the Royal Temple Trio, a talented company of vocalists; Clown Learto and his amusing canine performer Babs; Gale and Frank St. John, in a capital instrumental entertainment and some cleverly executed dances; and Mr. Hubner's animated pictures, which are kept well up to date, and cause great delight to the audiences.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Danton.—Mme. Samina's Ladies' Orchestra is one of the amusing items provided this week by the managers of this attractive place for the seaside visitors, whose programmes include vocal and instrumental items by the Waterloo Pierrots, and the company appear nightly in amusing and well played sketches, which are always a source of great enjoyment.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company opened here on Monday with *East Lynne*. Miss Julie Kennard achieved conspicuous success in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine; Mr. Eric Mayne gave a powerful enactment of Francis Levison; Mr. Alfred Beaumont was admirably suited as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Paul Belmore was highly effective as the impulsive Justice Hare; and Mr. Campbell made a capital Richard Hare. Miss Ethel Hardacre submitted a good character study as the brusque Cornelia Carlyle; Mr. C. C. Gratton afforded much fun as P.c. Bullock; Mr. Cyril Hayward was amusing as Lawyer Dill. Able support was given by Mr. Spencer Goodwin, Miss Violet Thorold, and Miss Emily Frith; and the two children's parts were intelligently rendered by Miss Dorothy Townrow and Miss Ethel Rae. The play has attracted large audiences.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. The Fred Karno company provide unbounded fun by their admirable performance of *Early Birds* and *The Mumming Birds*; the Borghetti Troupe are wonderful head balancers; George French, comedian, is heard to distinct advantage in his latest successes; Lilian Rigby, "queen of music and dancing," is well received; Kittee Rayburn is a pleasing comedienne; Derenda and Green are capital juggling comedians; Ernie Mayne, "the simple one," submits a good turn; Cecilia Morde wins warm applause, and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and entertaining.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is sustained here this week. The Four Holloways submit a clever and astonishing wire act; the Midget Mimes are excellent in their novel burlesque, *The Palis of Varieties, Casey's Court*; Fred Earle is a very amusing comedian; Martin Conway, comedian, is highly successful; the Australian Twin Andersons (Lillie and Minnie) dance themselves into great favour; Edward Lewis, comedian, is very funny as Bumps, the phrenologist; Evelyn Taylor is a smart and original comedienne; Nash and Noel, comedians, patterers, and dancers, are well received; Frank Wood, tenor vocalist, achieves great success; Alice Ormonde, comedienne, merits warm praise, and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Messrs. William Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company is here this week with *The Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Jessie Danvers gives a delightful impersonation of Mrs. Pellender; Mr. Gilbert Heron acquits himself admirably as Mr. Tister; Miss Alice Esther Belmore merits unstinted praise for her capital enactment of Miss Pellender; Mr. George Belmore make an amusing Noel; Miss Jessie Ramsey is a pleasing Edith Pellender; and Miss Alice Bowes is well suited as Nancy.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—*The Impertinence of Nancy* is performed here this week by Mr. Roland Bottomley's company. Miss Mary Thornhill submits an admirable portrayal of Nancy; Mr. Reginald Eyre is capitally suited as Ned Wynton; Mr. Roland Bottomley gives an excellent impersonation of Brabazon; Mr. Tom Shelford as the Rev. Joseph Tivles is entertaining; and Miss Edith Bottomley as Sylvia Wynton and Miss Mary Stuart as Mrs. Armstrong merit warm commendation.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—The musical comedy, *The Girl Next Door*, is repeated here this week, and proves very interesting and amusing.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Ernest Carpenter's excellent company is here with the interesting and well-staged drama, *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr. Ronald Adair acts remarkably well as Tom Cooper; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers is effective as George Benson; Mr. H. C. Lanceley makes a good part of Detective Arkwright; Mr. George H. Asquin distinguishes himself and also displays dry humour as Jim Farren; and Mr. Louis Palgrave in the part of Abe Nathans presents a good study. In Acts I. and II. Miss Lydia Mannington is highly commendable as Annie Standish; in Acts III., IV., and V. Miss Daisy Halling is pleasing and effective as Nellie Standish; Miss Susie Price is amusing as Mrs. Higgins; and Miss Lucy Murray acts in a very pleasing and vivacious manner as Biddy Roonan. The scenery throughout is considerably above the average, and the attendance has been highly satisfactory during the week.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Mr. Fred Storey, supported by a competent company, is here with a dramatic sketch of *Rip Van Winkle*. The sketch is worked out in six scenes, it is nicely staged, and the acting throughout is commendable. Walter Bellonini obtains considerable applause for his smart juggling act; the Lannons (Will and May) are highly successful as duettists and pedestal dancers; Alma Burton, comedienne and dancer, submits a pleasing and successful turn; Charles Bignell, comedian, maintains his popularity; James Kurry, eccentric comedian, obtains applause; Raglus displays skill as an indiarubber ball manipulator; and Belle Harcourt is a pleasing comedienne. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures by Vernon's bioscope.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Frederick Maxwell and Loie Du Cane's company is here with the interesting dramatic sketch *Dick Dare, M.P.* The sketch is well played by a highly competent company. Luis Hardt presents a fine turn as a strong man; Jeanette Reynolds is an attractive and pleasing vocalist; Cordite and Buffalo are expert lasso and rope spinners; Stephens and Rennior, comedians and dancers, obtain applause; Sidney Wilson excels as a juggler; and Walter Stanley, comedian, is popular. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Corsican Brothers* was given before a good house on Monday, with Mr. Frank Lindo in the title-rôle, which he ably sustained; Mr. John F. Traynor made an excellent M. Le Chateau Renaud; Emilie de Lesparre was charmingly presented by Miss Marion Wakeford; Mr. Ulick Burke as Mr. Alfred Meynard, Mr. Cyril Crier as Le Baron de Montgiron, and Mr. F. Miles Hodgson as Le Baron Martelli were successful in their several characters. The small parts of Mr. George Overs and Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as the heads of the rival vendettists were very well done. Adequate support was given by Miss Mary Denver as Madame Savilia dèi Franchi, Captain Gerald Gambier as Antonio Sanola, Miss Muriel Clay as Marie, Miss Hetty Webster as Coralie, and Miss Rochefort as Celestine. The dramatic monologue *Shamus O'Brien*, a stirring tale of '98, is the curtain-raiser each evening, and is given by Mr. John F. Traynor. *David Garrick* was announced for Wednesday and Friday.

BURY (Lancs.).—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—This week's bill is headed by Theo. Bouwmeester, a Dutch protean character-actor, who represents seven distinct characters in a sketch, entitled *Who is Guilty?* G. W. Kenway, mimic; La Vells, in a comedy acrobatic act; Victoria Dagmar, a smart horizontal bar performer; Howard Ward and Louie Davis, in an excellent comedy duologue, entitled *Wanted, a Typist*; Carson Hicks, vocalist and dancer; Geo. Gulliver, ventriloquist; Blarny and Kennard, in a comedy act, and the bioscope pictures make up a good programme.

CARDIFF.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—The drama *Dishonoured* is being presented here by a powerful company. Miss Blance St. Albans appears in the rôle of Leslie Maynard, and makes a conspicuous success; the well-known actor, Mr. Henry Renouf, is seen to much advantage in the difficult part of Philip Cunningham; and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson as Capt. Cholmondley could not be more suitably placed. The other characters are equally well represented.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. M. S. Dring.—The popular George Lashwood is the star this week, the clever artist being a great favourite with Cardiffians. Pat Rafferty is another favourite; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are as entertaining as ever; the Bros. Horne are extremely diverting as "The noble art exponents"; Spry and Austin, vaudeville artists, are well received; and Tina Clementa presents her clever animal act, winning much appreciation; Ambrose Thorne, the natty comedian; May Evans, a characteristic comedienne; Harris Corndale, the farmyard mimic; and Atroy, the society juggler, make up a capital programme.

CARLISLE.—THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Miss Madge Gray, who tops the bill here this week, is a delightful comedienne with capital songs; Les Bollingers can certainly claim originality in their wonderful rag painting act, which is already one of the most popular items on the programme; David Poole, ventriloquist, is one of the best we have had here; Miss Minnie Lenton contributes comical Scotch songs and tales with tact and skill; Smiler Lee's quiet humour meets with much appreciation, and Sidney Dolf proves himself an able entertainer; Keith Merson and company are popular in their hunting absurdity, entitled *The Meet*, in which they do some wonderful acrobatic contortionist work. The Pepiscope with new pictures completes a well varied programme.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Sunny Moss, comedian; the Two Roses, juvenile duettists and dancers; Fred S. Peake and company in a well-staged sketch *The Gambler*; Ossi Souplessi with some startling contortions; Carr and Rose in vocal scena; the Four Hearnes in a comedy acrobatic act; Lacey's Erascope with some good views, entitled "Crowning Norway's King," while special mention must be made of Mabel Thorne, who gives every satisfaction with her ditties.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank J. Donne.—Tom Costello tops the bill here, and is doing well; some neat acrobatic feats are performed by the Falcons; the Sisters May are popular; Flo Varley's "Looking for John" amuses; the Maxwells' illustrated songs include "Good bye, sweet Marie." The Edisonograph has a capital picture in "The Chaser Chased." Kittie Corrie, comedienne; and Prof. Earle, illusionist, complete the company.

CHELTENHAM.—MONTPELIER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The Dagonets opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Mr. Joseph Blascheck in his sketches had an excellent reception; Mr. Charles Magrath, a first class baritone; Mr. Reginald Mountfield, a humorist of excellent quality; Mr. Henry Stockwell, a very acceptable tenor; Miss Lily Beaton, who made a decided hit in her coon songs, and Miss Mildred Wrighton, who has a powerful and cultured voice, make up a decidedly capable and attractive company.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bently are old favourites here. Each one of the merry trio is a clever comedian, and with the aid of Mr. Wilfred Alderton, silver hand-bell soloist, and Mr. Owen Clark, conjurer and entertainer, they have delighted and amused great crowds. Miss Alice Braunstein, who is on a long engagement at these gardens, has not only a fine voice but is a finished artist of great charm and delicacy.

Mr. Ford's Palace-by-the-Sea and Theatre continues to attract big crowds. Mr. C. J. Thomas's really fine band bids fair to become an institution at Clacton. There is an excellent variety show in the theatre, amongst whom appearing this week are the Four Great Ramlos, Gullane Trio, Fred Neiman, the Evalos, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

Manager McLeod seems to be doing well for the Cliff Bandstand concerts. The Council band, under Mr. J. Sainton's direction, have had as vocalists this week Miss Dorothy Carlton, soprano, Mr. Cyril Thompson, baritone, and Mr. Edwin Henry, society entertainer.

Messrs. Ashton are running concerts at the Pier Pavilion, and are well patronised.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Harry Champion tops the bill this week, and meets with a very hearty reception; the Two Lorrisons, in a comic extravaganza, and Wisper, the juggler, are much appreciated; Gladys Whitton, a juvenile contralto with an excellent voice, scores heavily with "Dear Homeland" and "Dream of Paradise," the applause being both hearty and prolonged; Sydney and Maud Wood execute a couple of charming Oriental dances in smart style, and Beattie Bloom is greatly liked in her two humorous songs. The well-chosen opening and interval music also gains applause, and, as usual, the Bioscope rings down the curtain.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A return visit of Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in the comedy-drama, entitled *The Plucky Nipper*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Edward Surrey wins notice by his able impersonation of the character of Bill Burgess; Mr. Fred Rivers gives a good account of the villain Richard Vanbrugh; Miss Bonwin Carlton delights the audience by her study of The Nipper; Mr. Edward Stream makes a capital soldier, Captain Frank Leslie; Mr. Douglas Campbell is effective in his humorous efforts; Miss Evelyn Derwent as Ina Fenwick, and Miss Kitty Maynard as Daisy Paget also contribute to the success of the piece.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—A good show is again provided at this house. Ernest Rees, the popular comedian, obtains a hearty reception; Jimson's novelty sketch, entitled *The Burglar's Surprise*, is well received; Allsop and Bekwith give an amusing comedy act, entitled *I'm Coming Upstairs*; Fred Keeton is responsible for some very taking songs; Elsie Hill and company appear in a farce, entitled *Fanny's Flat*; and the Elvio Comedy Trio give a clever knockabout act. The programme concludes with animated pictures.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company is winning approbation here in *The Luck of Life*. Mr. Roland Yorke does well as Michael Bazilovitz; Mr. Leonard Thackeray is a suitable Count Petroff; Mr. Albert Cuthbertson is good as Ivan Polowski; Mr. Joseph Millaine scores in the rôle of George Stanhope; Mr. Fred Danvers is droll as Simon Stanley; and Mr. Polson Turner makes the most of Bahador. Miss Gertie Bonser is commendable in the rôle of Countess Vlame; Miss Adelaide Clare is adequate as Vivienna D'Artois; Miss Dora Huggett takes a prominent position as Laura North; Miss Kate Peroune is good as Mlle. de Beaudyn; and Miss Mary Dawson acts with tact and judgment as Rene Bazilovitz.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The week's bill is received with approbation. John F. Preston's company in *Rogues of the Turf* is making a big hit; Billy McClain's company is untiring in song and dance; Arthur Reece, comedian, is encored nightly; Woodhouse and Wells are whimsical story tellers and dancers; Leo Tell, imitator of sounds, meets with a cordial reception; a sensational novelty, Vermouth, the talking dog, causes astonishment; Ernesto is a smart juggler and musical equilibrist; and Amy Sullivan and Anna Kenwick are fascinating comediennes.

DEAL.—PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Geo. Rivers.—Opened on Monday for the season. The artists that appeared during the week were Miss Elizabeth Davies (soprano), Mr. Herbert Emlyn (tenor), and Mr. Thos. Batty's Red Band.

The celebrated Monks Quartette opened on Monday for the entire season, on the Beach Plot and North Parade, and their fine singing has been greatly appreciated.

THE BANDSTAND.—The Whitfield-Rose Quartette, who made a great success last year, are here again, and are assisted by that clever young artist Mr. Charles Resti, the well-known sleight-of-hand entertainer.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Mitchell.—A new sketch entitled *Her Nameless Child* made its initial appearance on Monday, and went very well for a first production. The authoress is Mrs. Madge Duckworth, wife of the proprietor of the Tonypandy Theatre, Wales.

GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Tom Craven's *The Stowaway*, with the humorous and versatile Mr. Greene Taylor in the title-rôle, goes very well, having plenty of music and catchy songs interpolated between the more serious parts. Other members of the company are Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Charles Lester, Frank Harrison, Gordon McLeod, and Miss Ethel Kay.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The variety entertainment presented here includes Mr. James Willard and company in the sketch *Did He Deserve It?* in which Mr. Willie Atom figures prominently as a messenger boy; the Three Rubys are agile acrobats and trapezists, and the applause showered upon them is thoroughly merited; Harry Bent scores in his clever mimicry of music hall celebrities; Harwood's Juveniles in the scena *A Children's Christmas Eve* display youthful talent in song and dance; Morimura is neat and rapid in his Japanese illusions; Conan and Doyle (patter comedians), the bioscope, and Carlotte Lunn (American comedienne) also contribute.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Large and delighted audiences have been the rule at this house, where *The New Barmaid* is being presented by Mr. Alexander Loftus's company. Miss Violet Osmund as the Lady Journalist acts with much vivacity; Mr. Alexander Loftus successfully essays the part of William White, head waiter at the Owlett's Club; Mr. Charles Adeson evokes amusement as Bertie White; Miss Amy Preston displays talent as Ethel Joy; and Miss Maud Nickolls acts and sings with energy as the old barmaid; Miss Winifred Preston does all that can be done with the rôle of Lady Moulton. The Colonel Claymore of Mr. James Grant contributes to the interest of the performance; Mr. Leslie Austin is quite at home, and displays the best musical comedy manner as Captain Lovebury. The other characters are all effectively sustained. The dances introduced are much appreciated, especially a Scotch dance by Miss Queenie Bell.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—This is a gala week at the Gaiety Theatre. Mr. Herbert Ralland brings has successful stock season to a close with his benefit, which took place on Wednesday. The play for the week was Mr. Haddon Chambers's emotional drama *The Idler*, most intelligently interpreted by the clever members of his company, Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont, Mr. Fred Fowler, Mr. Richard Walsh, Mr. Arthur Dennis, Mme. Kitty Cavendish, Miss Chrissie Ralland, Miss Minnie Walsh, and Miss Nina Zambray. At the benefit (which was under the patronage of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Lord Raglan, Lady Raglan, and all the minor notabilities of the island), in addition to *The Idler*, a galaxy of talent appeared, including Miss Stella Gastelle, Mr. R. A. Roberts, Mr. Jack Lorimer, Miss Lil Hawthorne, and Mr. J. W. Knowles. It was a most successful function, financially and fashionably.

PALACE., LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Junior Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Brittain.—The directors presented a fine programme here on Monday night. The music, under the direction of Mr. Harry Wood, was up to date, and the variety entertainment exactly to the taste of crowded audiences. Mr. R. A. Roberts, the protean artist, in his sketches, *Dick Turpin* and *Ringing the Changes*; Esta Stella, comedienne and dancer; Dome, clay modeller; the Daunton Shaw troupe of trick cyclists; the Wedderburns, the Vekeys, and Stelling and Revel, are all clever turns that are received with acclamation. Vernon's bioscope is also an attraction.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Business Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The variety programme here always includes star turns. This week Miss Lil Hawthorne is an immense success, her new songs and "Don't cry little girl" being vociferously encored; the Five Bogannys repeat their previous popularity; Mr. Jack Lorimer is amusing. The latest prize dance, the "A la Mode Waltz," is the vogue here, and M.C., Mr. Tom Walton, introduces it nightly, and gives exhibitions.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—An overflowing audience attended the re-opening of this place of enjoyment on Monday evening. The programme is a long and interesting one. Captain Maximilian Grubben, with his performing animals—elephant, horse, and pony—rouses enthusiasm. There also appear Carlo Bianchi, Mons. Eugene Foote, and Mlle. Lizzie Rowland Du Calion, all smart, up-to-date ring people. The clowns are funny, particularly Dan Gregory. There is an equestrienne goat of parts and clever ponies trained by Mr. W. Tudor; Mr. W. R. Albino is the ring master.

Other amusements in Douglas are: Frederick Buxton's Pierrots and tea village, Charles Daw's minstrels on the Head, Mr. Charles Elderton's variety shows twice nightly at the New Empire, and various other small entertainments.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Large audiences have patronised the excellent variety show here this week. The Three Boleros appear in a clever and amusing triple bar act; the Four Rosaires give a wonderful acrobatic display; and Wragg and Wragg, smart military athletes, submit an interesting turn. The Elliotts are good vocalists, and win praise with their sand dancing; Mlle. Roseltha is equally expert in her international or skipping-rope dance; the Franklin troupe excite much amusement with their grotesque Russian dance; and some admirable pictures on Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete the programme.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A capital evening's amusement is provided this week by Mr. Trefelyn David's Vocal Quartette. Miss Marie West sings light comedy songs in a fascinating manner; Miss Marie Longmore has a sympathetic voice, which she uses with good effect; Mr. David himself sings several tenor songs with much charm of expression; and Mr. Roland Foster's excellent bass is of great assistance to the quartettes contributed by the party, and is heard to advantage in some rollicking sea songs. Miss Norman Grant wins much applause with her daintily rendered sketches at the piano, and also acts as an efficient accompanist.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—One of the cleverest turns at this house for some time is that given by Le Tinge, female impersonator. Make-up and voice are alike excellent, and this talented artist scores a decided success. Forbes, Murray and company appear in an episode entitled *Blind*; W. W. Watson, the one-armed cornet and posthorn player, is well received; and Rosie Lenard also wins popularity. The Two Leslies, in a new and original act; Bessie Spears, with "I sha'n't sing a coon song"; and the Murrays also add to the humour of the evening.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Hackenschmidt, the famous wrestler, is the chief attraction here this week, and is accorded a hearty reception; Ethel Walker's impersonations of music hall artists are distinctly good; and Max Duffek is a clever contortionist. The Max Milan troupe of equilibrists meet with appreciation; and Miss Daisy Davidson renders her vocal numbers with excellent effect. The daring bicycle act of Bert Woodward merits applause; as does also the mysterious illusion of the Four Kweeries. An interesting exhibition on the tight-rope is given by Texas Hattie; and Zarmo's eccentric juggling creates much laughter. The Jees' pantomimical sketch *The Musical Smithy* proves highly enjoyable; and the Royal pictures are also good.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—*The Crimson Club*, played by Miss Evelyn Moore's company, had a good reception here on Monday night. Mr. Fred G. Kay is excellent in the rôle of Sir Philip Garside; and Miss Millie Hastings is equally acceptable as Esther Craddock. As Reginald Garside Mr. Percy Shaw gives an admirable delineation; and Miss Kitty Elliott as Sophonisba Garside is highly impressive. Mr. J. Clifford Wright plays well the part of Richard Fenton; and Miss Florence Delmar is capital as Julia Marsden. Others who ably sustain their respective parts are Mr. Joseph Magrath as the Hon. Herbert Selby, Miss Sidney Barrasford as Muriel Lockwood, Mr. Charles Nugent as Sir Richard Steele, and Mr. Will Shaw as Silas Craddock.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Bacon.—The John Ridding's Opera Company opened here on Monday, when *Maritana* was successfully presented to a large and appreciative audience. Miss Kitty Brownless as Maritana displayed considerable ability; and Don Cæsar had an able exponent in Mr. Charles Le Sueur. The rôle of Lazarillo was ably sustained by Miss Jessie Dennis; and Mr. John Ridding made a capital Don Jose. Mr. Fred Glendon as the King, Mr. Lifford as Alcade, and Mr. Arthur Fisher as the Captain of the Guard were also creditable in their respective parts.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A capital programme is provided here, the chief item being Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders, whose marvellous exhibition of lightning drill is deservedly applauded. The New York Nippers cause much amusement in their clever singing and dancing act, *Bedtime*; and Nellie Martell is an engaging comedienne and dancer. Francis and Melli, musical grotesques, secure a favourable verdict; and Fred Elton's vocal and musical speciality, *On an Ocean Liner* is warmly appreciated. The Brothers Harrison are capital comedians and dancers; and Myra Stanfield is a vivacious comedienne whose songs are well received. A Japanese mystery presented by Kavados is highly interesting; and the Empire pictures are up-to-date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here we have the Tom Davis Trio, whose sensational act *Motoring in Mid-Air* is loudly applauded. Another successful turn is supplied by the Schiavonis troupe and the Charnleys, duettists and dancers, win popular favour. Miss Addie Dorina, in an amusing duologue, *How it was Done*, is well received; and Will Daniels, comedian, scores. The Bohemians, instrumentalists and comedy artists, supply an interesting turn; and Bessie Willow is an acceptable vocalist. Vardon, ventriloquist, makes a decided hit; and Sam Shipley is a smart comedian. The bioscope is projecting some new films.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Walter Roselle, ventriloquist; Nancy Lil, contralto vocalist; Syd Mountford, shadowgraphist; and Martin Melia, clog dancer.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here includes:—A. G. Collette, Irish comedian and dancer; Lilian Davis, ballad vocalist; Syd Kirwan, eccentric comedian; and Captain Medeca's performing sea lions.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, E. J. Dexter.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week, the principal item being *The Globe of Life*, one of the most daring acts ever seen here. Stanley's Urchins provide a pleasing turn, their delightful singing and clever dancing winning rounds of applause; Mlle. Du Roche achieves great success as a soprano vocalist; while Doyle and Gibson greatly amuse with their clever and funny business. Other capital turns are contributed by Musical Miller; Harry Adams, character comedian; Maggie Binnie, song illustrator; Pat Turner, newsboy comedian; and Vernon's animated pictures.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Another capital bill is presented to the patrons of this popular house headed by the Royal Welsh Meister Singers, whose refined and popular selections are most enjoyable. J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, is a favourite; Vaselli and James, banjoists are well received; Charles Lestree's juggling is very neat, his manipulation of lighted torches on the darkened stage being very effective; Chester and Lee's Marionettes in new business repeat their last week's success; the Gaiety Bioscope depicts a series of interesting pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—An exceedingly bright and pleasing entertainment is submitted by the Pardoes, nine in number, who open the proceedings with *On the Sands at Brighton*, in which glees, duets, and solos play the principal part. The rest of the programme is divided into individual turns, and the talent of the several members of this versatile company is displayed to advantage, principal amongst wh

and force the grim little play, *The Monkey's Paw*, and succeed in sending a shiver through the audience; Mr. Wilkie Bard's droll songs and patter are received with the heartiest laughter and applause; Miss Rachel Lowe, graceful and natural, sings with humour and sparkle; and Miss Kitty Wager is a pleasing comedienne; those accomplished artists, Signor and Mme. Borelli, provide admirable entertainment both by their skilful playing of piano and mandoline, and clever imitations of the vocal peculiarities of comic singers of various nationalities; Mr. Fred Poplar's mimicry shows close powers of observation; while capital turns are given by the Caselli Sisters, duettists and dancers; Miss Nellie Stratton, comedienne; and Messrs. Howard and Sinclair. The acrobatic performance of Toledo and Price is worthy of praise, and the Bioscope completes an excellent bill of fare.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a visit from Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim gives a most amusing performance; Mr. Leonard Maitland as Paul Pettitoe is funny, and his efforts meet with well-merited applause; the part of Bimbo finds a capable exponent in Mr. Willie Reid; Miss Madge Brownie plays the part of Eliza Bird very nicely, and sings and dances capitally; Miss Madge Locke capably undertakes the rôle of Virginia Blatherwick.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 Company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is the attraction here this week. Mr. J. Carr is an excellent representative of the hero; Mr. J. H. Renney is a manly Phineas Fletcher; Mr. B. Lenton as Mr. St. Clair deserves praise; and Mr. Leslie Beaufort as George Harris would be hard to improve upon; Mr. J. Henry Rogers gives a bold and forcible rendering of Legree; Miss Hettie Johnson shows histrionic ability as Eliza Harris; Miss Carrie Ellis is capital as Emmeline; Miss Jennie Malcolm makes the most of Aunt Ophelia, and Miss May Turner gives able support as Mrs. St. Clair. Miss Annie Watson's acting of Topsy gains well deserved applause; Mrs. Carr distinguishes herself as Aunt Chloe; Little Minnie scores a success as Eva, and Miss Ethel Mildmay acts cleverly as Cassy.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—Mr. G. H. Snazelle, raconteur and vocalist, is on a return visit here this week, and is accorded rounds of applause; Miss Gertrude Snow is a pleasing vocalist. La Senorita Dareta de Romana was a special feature on Wednesday evening in her dances, entitled "Old and New Spain." The Royal Austrian Band meets with popular approval.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Setter.—Miss Alice Burraston, soprano, is heard to advantage; Mr. Charles Bulwar provides a smart conjuring act, and the animated pictures complete a good programme.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Kirk.—The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is here this week. On Monday the ever-popular *Maritana* was given, and Miss Vera Vizard gave a charming representation of the title-rôle; Mr. Gilbert sang excellently as Don Cæsar de Bazan; Mr. Kneale Campbell was the Don José, and Mr. H. Brindle the King. The company includes a well-balanced chorus. On Tuesday *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and on Wednesday *The Bohemian Girl* were given.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The heartiest welcome awaits Miss Rose Elliott, who pays a return visit, and once again delights her hearers with some excellent singing; Fred Curran, an eccentric comedian in the true sense of the term, makes a huge hit with his parody songs, and Mr. V. L. Granville, who impersonates characters from famous plays, meets with much appreciation. The Monte Carlo Girls, a sextette of vocalists and dancers, are very pleasing; Almonds is an acrobat of considerable ability; and the Jalvans are seen in an amusing juggling act. The Original Cecilias appear to advantage as instrumentalists; and Arthur Croxon is an accomplished humorous entertainer. Baby Jackson is one of the smartest child artists ever seen here; Blanche Marion, comedienne, completes the "bill."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Taro Myaki, the world's champion ju-jitsu wrestler, is drawing large audiences to this house; Cullen and Carthy, assisted by Little Cluley, cause roars of laughter; and Lambert and Hands are an excellent pair of duettists. Salida and Vone are expert rag-time dancers, and the following complete the show: Commemara, comedienne; Alec Thomas, comedy artist; Sid Arnold, boy instrumentalist and vocalist; and Downey's pictures.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company is appearing here in the drama, *The Days of Cromwell*. Mr. Henry Belding as Ironhand is the central figure, and his exposition is deserving of the highest praise. Mr. Robertson Foulis portrays Sir Matthew Mordyke with much force, and receives able support from Mr. Howard Hardy, who distinguishes himself as Matthew Mordyke, jun. Mr. Jack C. Gray is a dashing Walter Clifford, and Mr. Herbert Melton makes up well as Oliver Cromwell. Messrs. G. Harvie and Harry C. Momber prove clever in comedy parts, and excellent support in this department comes from Messrs. Tom Bustin and Arthur Mewburn. Miss Gertrude Gilman is a sweet Ruby Avondale, and Miss Cissie Colford as Judith is seen to advantage. Miss Annie Clum as Betsy is the cause of much merriment.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—An entertaining programme is submitted this week by Mrs. Alice Chapin's triple bill company. A start is made with the one-act drama, *Shame*, in which the part of the injured woman is touchingly played by the author, Mrs. Chapin, the other two characters being capitally represented by Messrs. Harry Welchman and Harold Chapin. The amusing farcical comedy, *Faithful James*, is the centre piece, the title-rôle being admirably filled by Mr. Frederick Park; the Admiral Vincent of Mr. W. Butler is a fine conception; as the husbands, Duncan and Melville, Mr. Harold Chapin and Mr. Harry Welchman act with a deal of spirit; while their respective wives are handsomely portrayed by Misses Paula Fernan and Winsome Etherington. The concluding item, *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, reveals Mr. Harry Welchman (Jack Deedes) as a singer and accompanist of more than average ability, and also shows the singing and dancing talent of Miss Dorothy Firmin and Miss Paula Fernan; three characteristic and amusing studies are seen in the Grandison of Mr. W. Butler, the Lord Pomeroy of Mr. Frederick Park, and the Captain Robinson of Harold Chapin; while the lady amateurs are ably represented by Miss Elsie and Mrs. Chapin, and Miss Winsome Etherington.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—*A London Actress* is visiting here, and is ably interpreted to well filled houses by Miss Emma Litchfield's company. Sergeant-Major Crawford is played in manly style by Mr. Stuart Cleveland, and Miss Emma Litchfield displays real ability as Hilda Mannering. Mr. Richard Vane and Mr. John Worth do ample justice to their parts, the former as Lieut. Kingston, and the latter as Capt. Mannering. Miss Maud Steeples does good work as Phyllis Crawford, and Mr. George H. Doyle is very successful as Moses Mendoza. The humorous element is in no wise neglected, and Mr. John Hitchen (Pat Maloney) and Miss Frances Ferina (Rose Blythe) make the most of their opportunities. The part of Biddy Maloney is well looked after by Miss Nellie Fern.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Chas. Mussett.—There is a capital company here for the Fair holiday week. The Ten Loonies get a good reception for their clever and intensely funny musical entertainment; Sam Redfern scores in a smart turn, and provokes much laughter by his quaint songs and queer sayings; Ina Lorimer is a juvenile artist of great promise; the marvellous training of a troupe of cats, presented by Claire Beasy, elicited admiration and much applause; Carlisle and Walker are seen to advantage in a short comedy sketch; Alice Lloyd sings catchy songs charmingly; Les Bastiens, father and son, bring a touch of humour to bear on a neat display as acrobats and balancers; the McNaughtons once more convulse Empire patrons with their patter and burlesque wrestling and boxing acts; while the Deane Tribune Trio are very amusing. The Bioscope pictures are distinctly fine.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Raku, of Ju-Jitsu fame, is here this week, and has had some exciting bouts with local exponents of European wrestling; Harrison Brocklebank, assisted by Miss Florence Parfrey and Messrs. Michael Dwyer and R. H. Drysdale, appear with good effect in the striking musical episode, *The Freebooter*; a notable hit is made by the Howard Bros. with their brilliant banjo playing; the Folkstones get a deal of fun out of the sketch, *Swimming the Channel*; a capital reception is given Harold Thorley for his artistic rendering of Kipling songs; J. P. Ling, the famous mimic, keeps the audience in good humour; MacGovan and MacGovan, the clever lady vocalists and dancers; Will Polnski, jun., comedian; and Marie Weston, comedienne, also contribute to a bright and pleasing entertainment.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Samuel Lloyd.—Owing to her great success, Miss Rose Stahl and her company are re-engaged this week, and they are again very successful in *The Chorus Lady*; the Four Madcaps give a series of well executed dances; the varied and clever performance by the Musical Schafers is a pleasing and enjoyable item; Mr. Geo. Martinengo is as good as ever as a 'cello player, and he sings baritone songs in a cultured manner; Mr. W. H. Downs, coloured vocalist, gives several well-chosen ballads; the coon element is realistically depicted by Mr. T. E. Finglas, and more variety is imparted by a humorous ventriloquial display by Gillin, both artists being welcome. Mr. Marcus Boyle is a capable singer of comedy songs, and F. de Marco excels as a trainer of animals, including baboons, dogs, and ponies.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD. — General Manager, Mr. David Hart. — For this week Jack and Evelyn have been specially engaged and have been performing with great success their act of the period, *Come Into the Office*; Lily Black, comedian; and Tom Collins, character comedian, have both done extremely well. Hector and Paulus are funny acrobats; Beattie Kent is a bright comedienne; and Fred Herbert a clever topical vocalist; *Cauliflower Joe*, a comedy sketch presented by Walter Purvis and company, has been giving much amusement.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, interpreted by Mr. Thomas Mackenzie's strong company, is attracting full houses this week. Mr. Yorke Stephens as Captain Mowbray depicts the chivalrous man of the world with admirable effect; Mr. Maitland Dicker as Colonel Jardine is natural and amusing; Lieutenant David Cairn is ably played by Mr. W. Brisco Owen; and Jernignan the detective is well represented by Mr. Reginald Walter; Miss Marie Illington is delightful as Mrs. Jardine; Miss May Webb is sympathetic as Isabel Kirk; Miss Isabel Fladgate is bright and winsome as Vicky; and Miss Frances Vine enacts the rôle of the vain and frivolous Mrs. Gorringe with complete success.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Vernon Troupe, xylophone experts, are this week scoring successfully. Gus Barra, musical motorist, gives a smart musical act, and his antics call forth much merriment; the Athlones, athletes, in classical poses and gymnastic act; W. H. Gatty, descriptive vocalist; Miss Cissie Sinclare, dainty singer; Miss Mabelle May, terpsichorean expert and vocalist; and Witty Watty Walton, comedian, who makes a distinct success, are also on the programme. Madame H. E. Anglers Ladies' Pompadour Band, play a capital programme of music twice daily.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The Scarlet Mr. E.'s and their jester, Mr. Walter Dowling, are providing an excellent programme of mirth and melody this week. In addition, there is Banning, the human mystery; Mr. Vivian Vivian, the well-known character actor, and M. Rafalewski, the eminent pianist and violinist.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme is again provided here. The Jackson Family win enthusiastic applause for their musical entertainment; Mozzetto juggles dexterously, the Wynford Bros. prove themselves wonderful jumpers, and the Cumberlands give one of the cleverest acrobatic cycling turns ever seen in Yarmouth. Other artists appearing are the Andreassen Bros., the original Danish midshipmen; Bros. Carr, equilibrists; Handy Andy, comedian; and James Humel and Miss Florrie Humel, equestrians.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree. Three plays of historic interest have been staged this week by Mr. John F. Preston's repertoire company. The ever-popular *Lady Godiva* opened the week, with Miss Ethel Griffies in the principal character; her conception of the noble wife of Earl Leoffric delighted all, whilst Mr. F. B. Woulfe, as Peeping Tom, aroused great enthusiasm. *Lady Godiva* was repeated on Wednesday and Saturday, whilst *Nell Gwynne* was the attraction on Tuesday and Thursday. Mr. F. B. Woulfe appeared as Charles II., and Nell was played by Miss Griffies. In addition to *Nell Gwynne* on Thursday, there was a midnight performance of the farcical comedy *Jane*. This was held in connection with the double celebrations of the opening of King's Parade at Cleethorpes and the commencement of a new deep-water dock at Grimsby. On the remaining evening, *Jane Shore* was played, with Miss Griffies and Mr. Woulfe in the principal characters. Others who have taken prominent parts in the various plays are: Miss Catherine Brook, Miss Edith Lorraine, Miss Sarah Wheatman, Mr. Bob Anderson, Mr. Howard Barlow, Mr. James Duncan, Mr. Ernest Hamilton, Mr. Leslie Lingham, and Mr. Hardy Mucro.

THE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwards; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton. — Much interest was taken in the appearance of De Gracia's elephants, a troupe of remarkably intelligent and well-trained animals; their representation of a barber's shop was very laughable, and the display of elephantine cricket showed new possibilities in the summer pastime. A very charming entertainment was given by Marie Santoi's merry little Japs, the turn comprising pretty dancing and tuneful songs and choruses. Ada Marjutti, in presenting a series of artistic poses, justified her claim to the title of The Flexible Venus. The programme also included a sketch, *Husbands, Beware!* given by Frances Ferina and J. Hitchins, whilst Alf Levarni gave a smart performance on the wire, Marti and Julietta displayed skill as pyramid artists. Nat Watkins sang amusing songs, and the Sisters Daventry contributed pleasing duets.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. Baker.—Sybil Moon's Cadets have given a bright entertainment, including very smart dancing, and the turn was deservedly popular. The speciality, "The Old Brown Cow," by Burg, Haud and Wise, proved a piece of capital burlesque, many novel effects being introduced. As equilibrists the Seymon's Trio have given evidence of considerable skill, the ball juggling of a young member being especially good. Flo Warner was well received, her songs being given in pleasing style, whilst Andy Fagan contributed amusing representations of Irish humour, Vasey and Ramsey gave excellent step dances. Whirlo, the cycling monkey, performed in novel fashion, and Cissy Paris, a dainty comedienne, exhibited much originality.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—This hall re-opened on the 6th inst. with *Little Mary*, ably interpreted by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company. Moira Loney, in the capable hands of Miss Christine Silver, was especially interesting; Miss Madge Murray distinguished herself as Eleanor Gray; and Milly was very creditably enacted by Miss M. Nybloc; Mr. Ben Field did excellent service as the Earl of Carlton; Mr. Arthur Kightley as Lord Rolfe and Mr. G. Malvern as Sir Jennings were both admirably cast.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—This week Jacques Inandi occupies the leading position in the programme, and his remarkable elucidation of mathematical problems are astounding, while his memory never fails him as to dates of events. An excellent little sketch is *Heart Strings*, which wins unstinted applause. The Three Laurels are renowned for their clever acrobatic feats. Clown Barker's dogs, donkey, and pony are admirably trained to perfection. Mlle. Renee provides a musical treat in an entirely original drawing-room monologue; while the singing and dancing of Smith and Johnson, coloured minstrels, is well above the average. The Fitzroys and whimsical Chas. Russell are as good as ever.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—A good turn here is presented by Kean and Waller. Their equilibrium business is very clever, and is interspersed with some refreshing humour. Fyne and Hurley are making a welcome re-appearance with their scena, *The Coster and the Duke*, which has been revised since the last visit. Daisy Jerome contributes some very humorous songs. Others appearing in a good bill are: Delairies, gymnasts; the Elgars, society entertainers; Geo. Bendon, the White Coon; Molly Doon, comedienne; Kisbey, in a speciality act; and the fascinating Ada Spencer, in imitations.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—*Casey's Court* heads the bill this week, and the performance, consisting of singing, acting, ventriloquism illusions, &c., is exceedingly entertaining. The Westwoods in their clever and daring cycle performance are much appreciated; Gray and Welford return, and are, as usual, a huge success; Dora Lyric sings two songs in an admirable manner; the Sisters Lunelle are a smart pair, their dancing being quite a feature; the Alans are musicians of much ability; Mike Gray causes roars of laughter in his comedy juggling act; the dog which he introduces is well trained; Urbanora shows some excellent pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—That popular farce *Facing the Music*, presented by Mr. Chas. Windermere's company, is here again. Mr. Windermere plays the "other Mr. Smith" well; Mr. Norris Mathews is seen as the Rev. John Smith; Mr. Wentworth is an excellent Dick Desmond; Miss Clare Manifield scores as Mabel; Miss Zoe Davis is well placed as Nora; Miss Shelley is very good as Mrs. Ponting the housekeeper; Miss Leslie as Miss Fotheringay; Mr. Henry Nelson as Sergt. Duffell, are both worthy of mention. *Facing the Music* was preceded by *The Bookworm*. The latter half of the week the stage was occupied by Miss Esmond's company in *The Sorrows of Satan*.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—This house reopened on Monday evening, much having been done during the annual recess to brighten the pleasant house. Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in *The Still Alarm* provided a capital entertainment. The engine-house scene in the third act proved very effective, and really excellent singing was contributed by a vocal quartet of firemen (the Lyric Comedy Four). Miss Maud Warburton acted with much feeling as Elinor Fordham, and Miss Hettie Zillwood was a bright and pleasing Carie Wilber. Mr. M. H. Glenville played effectively as Jack Manley. The Doc Wilber of Mr. Fred Osmond was highly realistic, and Mr. Cecil du Gue proved very capable as John Bird.

HIPPODROME. — Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — Mr. Ted Cowan, the eccentric comedian, heads the programme here; Mr. Robert Beevers introduces amusing pictures as adjuncts to some original and interesting songs; the comic effusions of Tomps and Wells are much enjoyed; Miss Flo Deighton, an attractive comedienne, possesses a voice of remarkable compass; the films of the Hippodrome Bioscope are quite up to date; the Seven Wolfrunas are successful with their laughable sketch *Fun in a Café*; the Dunlops introduce some clever acrobatic balancing; in their burlesque comedy Goodfellow and Gregson achieve a decided success; Percy Houri, a clever musician, contributes a very interesting turn in *Concordia*;. A chorus of ballet girls assist, and some graceful dancing is seen.

HASTINGS PROMENADE PIER.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—A varied entertainment opens with a sparkling vaudeville entitled *Why Don't You Marry?* in which Mr. J. D. Hunter in the part of Gratz Tiec contrives to bring its diverting qualities into strong relief; Mr. George Mudie, jun., is no less happy in the character of Corporal Max; whilst his sister Lizette, taken by Miss Blanche Bayley, could scarcely be more delightfully played. Picett and Lizette highly amuse in a clever illusionary extravaganza entitled *The Crazy Cook*; the Smart Set Entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Walter George, go through a humorous and interesting programme. The artists associated with Mr. Walter George are Miss Lena Hutchings, soprano; Miss Ethel Wilford, elocutionist; Miss Hilda Light, vocalist; Miss George Martin, comedienne; Mr. Arthur Court, tenor; Mr. Chas. F. Howard, bass; and Mr. Herbert Oliver, solo pianist and accompanist.

"THE DONS AND THE DUNCE" provide an amusing entertainment on the Hastings Pier Promenade two or three times daily. Mr. Joe Cookson, a novel and clever ventriloquist; Mr. Reuben More, comedian and elocutionist; Mr. Jack McLaren, comedian; Mr. Will Ellerslie, the popular Dunce; Miss Margery Lyton, entertainer; and Miss Maud Gerrard, vocalist and accompanist, also contribute to the entertainment.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company here attracts enthusiastic audiences, who thoroughly appreciate the clean comic songs and patter contributed by Messrs. G. Blackmore and James M. Campbell; Miss Winnie Harbor is a vivacious comedienne; and the ballad-singing of Miss Ada Gackill and Mr. Llewellyn Davies is much enjoyed.

A troupe of talented comedians and vocalists under the title of the Happy Valley Pierrots are giving al-fresco concerts here daily on the beach. In characteristic costumes, the bright and taking songs and selections prove very attractive. The company consists of Mr. J. Stock-Kershaw, pianist and composer; Messrs. Charles Comfrey and Harry Loftus, comedians; Mr. Scot Rae, a Scottish tenor; Mr. James McLeod, baritone; Miss Lye Jeffries, a pleasing soprano; and Mr. Le Hurst, who as a ventriloquist introduces in a smart conversational manner a juvenile knee pierrot figure.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—A light comedy musical sketch entitled *The Sabots* is being produced here this week by Mr. Ivimey and a capable company of singers and dancers. Mr. Ivimey is responsible for the humorous part of the programme, and is associated with Mr. George Curzon, baritone; Miss Lorence Moore, mezzo-soprano; Mr. Walter Walters; Miss Clara Stroud Wilson, soprano; and Miss Gwenllian Lewis, contralto.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The turns appearing here are George Leyton, with his effective new scena entitled *Nelson's Name*; Natalie and Diana, clever young gymnasts; Viviana, expert dancer; Harry Maynard, light comedian; Tamamoto, Japanese performer on the slack wire and perpendicular rope; Les Voces, operatic vocalists; Pasquali Brothers, a couple of smart and daring hand-balancers; Ernie Myers, comedian; Miss Lily Lonsdale, a ballad singer with a pleasing voice; and the Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Arthur Holmes Gore, associated with a capital comedy company, is responsible for a large amount of the fun to be found in the farcical comedy *Too Many Cooks*. Mr. Gore makes the rôle of Arthur Winton a conspicuous success, whilst Mr. Chas. E. Dering is a capital fire-eating Major Brasket; Mr. Willis Searle hits off amateur-detective Bimbleby with skill. As Dora, Miss Lilian Rogers is well suited; the Georgina of Miss Hilda Fairfax being also a pleasing contribution. The curtain-raiser, *The Fatal Stocking*, from the pen of Mr. Gore, is highly amusing.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Fred. Kirke's company *In Old Madrid* brings the summer season to a conclusion. The entertainment they provide is light, and of not too exacting a nature; the music is pleasing, the dances dainty. There is woven through the production a web of romance that cannot fail to please. Mr. Fred Kirke achieves success in the rôle of Count Corregillo; Miss Annie Brunette has a capital part as Violet Lyndhurst. The comic element is safe in the keeping of Mr. Lorimer Stuart.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. George Morton.—In that striking drama *The Two Hussars* Mr. Morton has evidently hit the taste of his audience. As the heroine, Ellen Maythorne, Miss Saidie Smith scores heavily, especially when, disguised as a man, she follows her lover to the war. Mr. Fred Webb plays the villain with sufficient force to arouse the anger of the gods. In the comic rôle Mr. George Paradise is good as Sergeant McFinnie. The hero, Harry Alford, is safe in the hands of Mr. Wilson Benge. Mention should also be made of the clever comedy couple, Mr. Louis Nanton, as Robert Runn, and Miss Lallah Price as Molly Cutts.

THE PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett. — Cinquevalli, the incomparable juggler, gets a great share of popularity for his clever tricks; the Hadj Abdullah troupe of Arabs are very smart as acrobats and pyramid builders; J. W. Rickaby causes much amusement in some cleverly rendered songs; Dot Hardy is a young lady of much merit; and Marie Reeve, a big favourite panto artist, comes in for a good reception; Harrigan and Holt are comedy artists of ability; and Edith Courtney, Die Oberstelrers, and Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten complete an excellent bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—Dou Bank tops the bill in a weird performance; *Barmaids*, presented by Hodgson and company, comes in for much hearty laughter; Frank Crisp, an agreeable baritone vocalist, and Margaret Radcliffe, a refined vocalist; Charles Ulrick, the Barrel King; Harry Pleon, comedian; and Tiny Arnold, a smart young lady artist, all contribute towards a capital entertainment.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—For the last week of their visit the stock company of Mr. Louis Cohn are playing *The Octoroon* and *The Ticket of Leave Man*, Friday evening being set apart for a complimentary benefit to Mr. Cohn. *The Octoroon* was played on opening night, Miss Gwendoline Thorpe achieving marked success in the title rôle. Mr. E. Bulwer Pitt presented a fine reading of Salem Scudder, and as George Peyton Mr. Reginald Hargreaves was a capital representative. The part of the Indian Wah-No-Tee was admirably taken by Mr. George Steel. The Misses E. Turner Elliott and Lesley Wynne were well chosen for Dora Sunnyside and Mrs. Peyton; Mrs. Clement Wakefield as Pete and Miss Lizzie Jacques as Paul were acquisitions to the cast. Mr. Cohn himself gave a good impersonation of Colonel Pointdexter, and Mr. Chas. D. Pitt exhibited some excellent acting as Jacob McClosky.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—This week's programme contains some novel and pleasing items. The Brothers Zampah, one-legged athletes, claim to be champion chair jumpers, and also execute some marvellous feats of strength; John Terry and Mabel Lambert present humorous character delineations successfully; Charles Vincent renders a medley of popular songs, and Lilian Elfrida's impersonations of London stars are very clever. Other turns include Clark's Nippers, who give an exhibition of boxing, ball punching, and step dancing, which evoked much applause; Takio, a talented Japanese mimic; Tray and Rich, black-and-white comedians, whose patter is very funny; an amusing sketch by Edgar Forest's Company, and the Hippodrome pictures.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is here in the pantomime burlesque, *Sinbad's Adventures*. Mr. A. E. Mann is amusing as Mrs. Sinbad, Mr. Fred Dobits is good as Rum Phiz, the Emperor, and Mr. Sydney Russell gives a breezy interpretation of the Captain of the "Mary Jane"; Mr. Fred J. Little introduces several musical novelties; Mr. George Rapley, as Sinbad, evokes roars of laughter; Messrs. Bass and Guinness, as Baccah and Sloppah, help to keep the fun going; Miss Louie Adair is a sprightly Sinbad, with a pleasing voice; Miss Nellie Moore as Zorilda is fairy-like and graceful in her dance; Miss Flora Buxton is successful as the Princess. The burlesque is exceedingly well staged.

TRIANGLE PARK.—That popular troupe, the Royal Comedy Entertainers, conclude their engagement this week, the special attraction being Mr. Charles Rex King, the modern marvel.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Mr. Clifford Essex's troupe of pierrots opened on Monday a three weeks' season. Miss Ella Barkley, A.R.A.M., Miss Frances Roscorla, the dainty comedienne, Mr. Fred. Rome, Mr. Joe Morley, and Mr. Langford Kirby, with Mr. Clifford Essex, give a good all-round show.

KEIGHLEY. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. Kendall.—Among the excellent items here this week are The Welfords, whose herculean equilibrist act is decidedly clever; Henderson, in his musical performance wins lond applause, and is recalled nightly; the Three Coopers provide a good turn; Mr. Oliver Conroy, comedian, is the source of much amusement. The sketch, *Turtle Doves*, is presented nightly by Mr. George de Gray and Co.; Mr. Richard Nugent's hercules pigeon is brimful of fun; capital pictures are displayed on the Queen's Bioscope.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Insurgent Chief* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Robert Faulkner depicts the warlike chief Michael Dwyer with power and conviction; and admirable assistance is forthcoming in a fine and effective personation of Captain Carr by Mr. Dan Clark. Mr. Henry Forrest and Mr. Harry Richardson have each a big part to play, and both secure generous appreciation; whilst in leading feminine parts Miss Cecilia Dare and Miss Madeline Hurst deserve high praise for special good work.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Messrs. Phelps and Tilbury's company is presenting here *The Blind Foundling* in good style. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps is very strong as the artist down on his luck Gerald Dalton; Mr. Frank Harvey secures the approval of his audience by an excellent personation of Parson Ray; the adventurer Mark Redman is effectively portrayed by Mr. Alfred G. Fry; Jasper Waterford is carefully embodied by Mr. Bernard Webb; some acceptable comedy is carefully dispensed by Mr. Harry Tilbury and Miss Millie Doris; the Viola Waterford of Miss Amy Dalby is a sympathetic and praise-winning effort; the name-part is cleverly done by Miss Mabel Hall; and Miss Belle Tilbury depicts the important rôle of Isabel with distinction.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—A visit from the Scotch comedian Neil Kenyon is a big drawing card in the week's Empire bill, for his clever methods and sparkling humour have moved his audience to uncontrollable mirth at every appearance; Herman Melot with a remarkable conjuring show adds more laurels to an established reputation; the Norman-Leonard troupe are popular in a musical speciality; Brown and Robinson again score heavily in a clever vocal scena; Nelson's Newsboys prove smart juvenile entertainers; the Russian Imperial troupe display agility in specialty dancing; Ancillotto introduces his marvellous thought-reading canine; the Seddons are doing exceedingly well in a comic juggling act; and Grace Merton, popular vocalist, adds her quota to a most enjoyable programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Fred Cary leads the way here with excellent comedy contributions, and A. Stacey is also successful in a similar line. The novel performance by Haydee's Mannikins proves very enjoyable; a comedy act by Gold and Sterling meets with approval, and the eccentricities of Stave, electric comedy artist, arouse great merriment. A clever and graceful acrobatic act by Forest and King evokes enthusiasm, and genuine enjoyment is also derived from the contributions of Leah Arden, operatic vocalist; Bennett and Martell, eccentric comedians; and Little Don, juvenile vocalist.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The musical comedy drama entitled *At the World's Mercy*, presented by Mr. Carr Loates's company, holds the boards here this week. Mr. W. G. Irving as Captain Frank Manley and Miss Isabel Singleton as Alice Lloyd are both very successful; and Mr. Carr Loates is seen to advantage as the Jew, Morris Goldstein. Mr. H. Evan Gibbon as Charles Smart and Miss Cissie Milford as Kitty Knott give popular and amusing portrayals of the comedy parts. Miss Minnie Dallow makes a capital Rosie; Mr. Arthur L. Read does well as Jabez Barber; and Miss Jennie Gilmour as Mrs. Rourke is also to be complimented. Little Daisy is praiseworthy as Dot. Specialities are introduced by Miss Cissie Milford, Mr. H. Evan Gibbon, Little Daisy, Miss Molly Bee, Mr. Leo Rodway, and Miss Minnie Dallow, which prove acceptable.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — At this beautiful theatre, which the courteous manager keeps delightfully cool these hot summer evenings, novelty succeeds novelty in rapid succession, and the principal attraction this week, which is provided by Fred Karno's latest creation, entitled *Moses and Sons*, calls for nothing but the highest praise. The staging and dressing are a feature, and the company engaged is a particularly capable one. A great favourite here, Mr. Fred Kitchen, makes a conspicuous success as Perkins, infusing into the part an amount of humour which keeps the audience in the merriest of moods. Others in the cast are Miss Leah Morris, Miss Janet Reeve, Miss Madge Rockingham, Mr. Herbert Landeck, and Mr. Anthony Gordon. At the bottom of the bill is Josh Dixon, a comedian who resembles the late Dan Leno in style, and who succeeds with his patter, songs, and clever dancing in making himself a favourite. A fine exhibition on the wire is given by the Cole de Losse Duo, which has also the merit of being very funny. Flem and Brok, aerial pugilists, evoke laughter; the Stella troupe of lady dancers and singers are well to the front with a pretty and neat turn; Baker and Balfe are extremely clever xylophone players, and the male partner also does a clever dance; Charles Austin is an eccentric comedian who scores a success; the American Bioscope, always a popular feature here, is depicting scenes of the King's visit to the "Royal" at Derby.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Carlotta De Yonson and here dramatic combination are again, after a week's absence, the principal attraction, and are presenting the sensational dramatic sketch *The Dandy Detective* and the amusing sketch *Playing the Game*, the various characters in both being played in good style by Carlotta De Yonson, Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, Mr. Charles A. Carlile, and Lee Gilbert. The variety portion is contributed to by Frank Cumminger, the remarkably clever sand dancer; Madge Northcote, a delightful soprano vocalist; Rozel, in his sensational performance on the rope; E. W. Selman, a funny eccentric comedian; Ivy Gallard, comedienne and dancer; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with the usual entertaining pictures.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The Bohemians continue to give bright and attractive entertainments here, which are of a thoroughly diversified character, and af

dian; Ernest Hildred, an excellent baritone vocalist; Edith May, a favourite comedienne; Bert Wallace, an amusing comedian; Alf. Unsworth, a first-rate pianist and musical director; and the Bohemian Glee Singers.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—*Man's Enemy; or, the Downward Path*, is the attraction here this week, being presented by Mr. John Power's company. The part of Harry Stanton is entrusted to the good keeping of Mr. Francis Everard, who plays with much dramatic power; Mr. J. Newton-Cowling makes a villainous Jew, Isaac Barnett; Miss Edith Leslie is a sweet Grace Lisle, and contributes a couple of capital songs; Mr. John Power gives a fine rendering of Tom Drake; a deal of amusement is caused by Miss Clara Reid as Polly Harris; Miss Marie Lyons portrays the unscrupulous Sarah Drake with powerful effect; Mr. G. Beresford affords satisfaction as Bill Saunders; Miss Linn Darlington makes an excellent Mrs. Saunders; and Mr. F. Denne Mead is well placed as Fred Lisle. The scenic effects are excellent.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Arnold Bell and company, in the dramatic sketch, *A Sightless Witness*, top the bill, and are deservedly applauded. Zeta Grey and company prove themselves to be well adapted for musical and comedy sketches, and their *Lancashire Lass* is greatly enjoyed. The Indento Brothers create much laughter with their comedy juggling; as juvenile vocalists and dancers Boden and Bell delight the audience; Will Llyton is the cause of a deal of merriment; and Edie Lindon is a pleasing comedienne.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Rich and Poor of London* is here this week, played by Mr. Sidney Dench's company. As May Braithwaite, Miss Dora Dench acts with discretion and feeling; Mr. Dench, as Spider Jack, and Miss Molly Hackett, in the part of Polly Philpot, create endless laughter; Miss Emily Woodleigh presents a finished type of baby-farmer in Auntie Scrimp; Master Bert Dench gives an intelligent rendering of the youthful part of Dixie; Mr. I. Templar Ellis affords every satisfaction as the rascally lawyer Grabbam; Mr. F. Danner plays well as Earl Ravenswood; and Miss Violet Lytton is an excellent Ruby Redgrave.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Another drama new to Liverpool has this week been presented here under the title of *The King's Secret*, the company responsible being brought by Mr. James Stillwell. It is a work full of intense interest, and has been much appreciated, while the mounting is a special feature. Miss Zana St. George, who wears several charming dresses, has the important part of Zenopa, an Egyptian adventuress, and shows a high degree of dramatic ability; Mr. Stillwell's rôle of Captain Fairburn is marked with a true manly spirit; Miss Katharine Barnett, as his wife, displays much earnestness; satisfaction is afforded by Mr. Edward Fryer, who enacts Hassan Alfar; the Count Bernstein of Mr. Robert Bentone is carefully drawn; Mr. Paul E. Teulon makes a spirited, rollicking Boatswain Jack; as the Yankee Newark, Mr. Robert A. Earl is diverting; and Mr. Charles Crosby is eminently successful as Lawyer Swiverton. Praise is also due to little Marie Pardy for her intelligent rendering of the part of Charlie; and to Miss Kitty McPherson for her Star Newark.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The favourite Ernest Shand is top of the bill here this week, his amusing songs being keenly appreciated; Datas again shows his remarkable powers of memory in answering some "stiff" queries; Galletti's monkeys go through some smart tricks; the ever lively Lily Langtry is as delightful as ever; Russell Wallett's performance proves as acceptable as when first given; Frank Elliston and company have a laughable farce, *Aunt Matilda*; the drollery of Tom Woottwell is most enjoyable; and also in the programme are Guy Ryder, whistler; Warsaw Bros., musical comedians; Mignonette Kokin, American soubrette; and the Raies, dancers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Foremost here this week is Mr. Ernest Leicester and company, with Arthur Shirley's dramatic episode, *The Galley Slave*, which is well presented. Heeley and Meely, as the eccentric tramps, provide a large amount of fun; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright have a most amusing trifle, entitled *Cockie;* the Bensons, local favourites, submit a smart comedy and dancing act; Edie Gray and her white coons have several harmonious and pretty songs; Harry Thurston displays much ability in his imitations of popular comedians; Rose Harvey, charmingly attired, has a most acceptable scena, entitled *Black and White*, into which she introduces several sweet songs; the original Arleys, comprising a lady, two gentlemen, and three dogs, have an interesting little entertainment; and others in the list are Vincent, acrobatic table expert; and Bert Brantford, comedian.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—The interesting series of moving pictures recently introduced here are continued with gratifying success. Among the variety artists, who give turns at intervals, are the wonderful Violas, a talented couple, whose mental telegraphy is neatly and skilfully executed; Dot Pardy, a wee comedienne, who is much appreciated; and the mysterious Cardo.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock company are presenting the eight tableaux sketch, *Why Woman Sins*. Mr. Percy Boucher creates a deal of fun with his Sam Spavins; Mr. Harry Tresham has the popular part of Lieut. Maxwell; Mr. Sydney Grant presents an able Captain Carlton; Mr. John Burton plays with his customary ability the rôle of Oliver Desmond; Miss Nina Nazeby makes an admirable Ida Valette; and Miss Florence Palmer acts sweetly as Nell Desmond.

HAYMARKET. — Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot. — The greater part of the evening's entertainment here this week is furnished by a capital series of moving pictures, which are much enjoyed. Included in the variety programme are Matt Wilkinson and company, with their laughable absurdity, *The Registry Office*, which proves extremely popular; Edward Ind has some excellent character songs; the musical act of Henriette is smart and pleasing; and Violet Beatrice is a dainty comedienne.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—A capital evening's amusement is being provided at this popular hall this week by means of a long and delightful series of moving pictures. Several turns are also given by talented variety artists.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The treat they supply has been so highly appreciated that the Boissetts have put in a third week. *A Trip to the Continent*, in which nearly twenty smart comedians take part, has been regarded as one of the funniest things seen on the stage for some time. The rest of the bill is particularly strong. Binns and Binns, the comedy musicians, are as humorous as they are capable in the manipulation of their instruments; the performance of Belloni's cockatoos is watched with interest; a hearty reception is accorded to Harry Weldon, the swell comedian, whose humorous songs and witty sayings are largely enjoyed; the popular comedy artists, Spry and Monti, are as excellent as ever; Francis, with his clever handling of the cannon ball, comes in for much appreciation; Ruby Dahl, with her merry mannikins, proves an admirable turn; Odeyne Spark is a delightful comedienne and dancer; and Alcide Capitaine also appears.

REYNOLDS'S EXHIBITION. — This old-established place of entertainment still commands a large share of public patronage, particularly during the present holiday season. Among the latest attractions Mr. Charles Reynolds offers are some splendid cinématograph views of the Spanish wedding and the Warwick pageant.

LLANDUDNO. — PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin; Musical Director, Mr. Jess Holroyd.—A high-class variety company is the attraction here this week. Mr. J. H. Milburn, comedian, scores heavily, having the house convulsed with laughter time after time; Miss Lottie Bray is exceptionally good in song, dance, and banjo playing; and hearty commendation may also be given to the Three Pescadores on the flying rings. La Superb displays great cleverness as a dancer and acrobat; Miss Madge Osmonde as a male impersonator is excellent; the Three Rickards, comedy acrobats, in a *Giddy Golfer* sketch, are comical, yet withal clever; and the Bros. O'Brien, in their horizontal bar act, are daring and skilful to a degree.

GRAND THEATRE.—Responsible Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. James Welch and company are appearing in four pieces nightly. Mr. Welch as Jim Crimp and Miss Audrey Ford as Eliza Biff are excellent in *Punctured;* and in *The Lady Burglar*, with Mr. G. F. Tully as Darcy Fitzherbert and Miss Estelle Winwood as Honora Macfarlane, sustain their parts exceedingly well. Mr. Welch appears in his irresistible impersonation of Jabez Glover in *The Man in the Street;* and Mr. G. F. Tully as Philip Adair and Miss Estelle Winwood as Winnie Adair well merited the applause they received. *Judged by Appearances* again gave Mr. Welch appreciable opportunities of exercising his comedy talents; and Miss Audrey Ford and Mr. Leonard Buttress also appear with every success.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is this week presenting *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. A. Hinton appears successfully as Prince Lucio Rimanez, and Mr. W. Travis Green is equally good as Geoffrey Tempest. Miss Leila Zillwood (who had a complimentary benefit on Thursday) is well placed as Lady Sybil Elton.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The native singers from Jamaica are appearing this week, and new pictures are being shown on the bioscope.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS AND SPARROWS NEST.—The concerts under Mr. Paul Mill in these charming grounds are attracting large and appreciative audiences.

On Claremont Pier an excellent entertainment is provided by the Verdi Concert Party, amongst whom figure C. Mayverne, a good ventriloquist; C. Austing, a very clever and refined humorist, and those well-known dramatic and musical entertainers, Miss Marian Brereton and Mr. Lawrence Derrick, whose humorous duets and musical sketches have proved a big attraction.

MAIDENHEAD.—NORTHWICK HOUSE GROUNDS. —Mr. G. Leone's "White Coons" concert party opened here for the season on Monday to a large and appreciative audience. All the members of the party, which consists of Mr. Ray Travers, Mr. Major Miles, Mr. J. P. Wilfred, Miss Beattie Olna, and Mr. G. Leone, met with a good reception.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager. Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's production of *East Lynne* at the Grand Junction Theatre is transferred here this week with satisfactory results.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's company, including Mr. Henry L. Osmond in the title-rôle, are once more attracting local audiences by their powerful and interesting performance of *The Master Criminal*. In addition to Mr. Osmond's fine effort, Miss Winifred Chalmers is seen to great advantage as Cecile; Mr. Alexander Haviland acts with convincing energy as Philip Manners; Miss Phyllis Vaughan presents a sympathetic rendering of Mabel, Philip's wife; Mr. Elmon Frith is distinctly successful as Ben Beaudy, the detective; and acceptable humour is provided by Mr. Harry Cooke as Tommy Dale, and by Miss Mabel Tremere as Peggy Perks.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —An exciting drama, entitled *The Throne of Terror*, forms the attraction here. It is played by a clever company, headed by Mr. William J. Miller, who gives a powerful depiction of Robespierre; while Miss Katherine Maude Davies renders excellent assistance in the prominent part of Marguerite Le Roquefort; Mr. Roy Milton and Mr. Frank Fuller are admirable as Captain Eugene de Lisle and the Comte de Roquefort; Miss Ethel Lanyon-Maude is well placed as Victorine; and among others, Mr. Bert Ellis gives a humorous rendering of Joujou. The whole play presents a very good picture of the Reign of Terror, and is interesting throughout.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—*A Bunch of Violets*, a favourite play of patrons of this theatre, was presented here on Monday by Mr. George E. Madd's company. An exceedingly good portrayal of Sir Philip Marchant is submitted by Mr. Norman Partridge, and the important rôle of Mrs. Murgatroyd receives full justice from Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft. A telling depiction of Mark Murgatroyd is to the credit of Mr. Wilson Coleman; Mr. C. W. Spencer misses no opportunity as Jacob Schwartz; Miss Florence Russell-Spiers makes an excellent Lady Marchant; and a very effective piece of work is the Violet of Miss Tessa Myers. The play is preceded by Buckstone's *Nan*.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Something of a development of Ju-jitsu athletics is presented here this week by Apollo "and his pupils," who are endeavouring to instruct the audience in the art of self-defence as practised by the Japanese. Germaine, the American wizard, does some very clever conjuring tricks; Alfred Lester (assisted by Miss Valentine Sidney) appears in an amusing skit, *The Scene Shifter's Lament;* Ryde and Beaman are accomplished comedy acrobats; Walter Wade gives a capital turn as comedian and mimic; Davis's Black and White Zouaves are seen in a smart exhibition of drill and wall scaling; the Mammon Troupe present their clever speciality, *Much Yank up to Date;* Bert Byrne, comedian, appears successfully; Duncan and Godfrey score decisively in their coster romance *Me and 'Er;* and Bijou Russell, coon singer and dancer, is worthily applauded.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Principal honours are divided here this week between the Casino Comedy Four, excellent humorous singers, and Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, who present their successful sketch *Getting Even*. Other capital turns are the Phydoras, grotesque musicians; the Two Madges, juvenile singers and dancers; the Avolos, in the wonderful feats on upright poles; Cooke and Rothert, in a typical American mix-up; George Ridgwell, an excellent baritone; the Sisters Terry, clever comediennes and dancers; and Macdonalds, melody-makers, in a quaint musical act.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The big turn here this week is provided by Bella and Bijou, a clever and delightful comedy duo, who are received with unstinted approbation. Popular also are May Henderson, the well-known "dusky" comedienne; and the Anartos, who are well described as merry musical mirth-makers. Other excellent turns are Radford and Valentine, in crazy juggling; Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne; Ben Albert, a favourite comedian; the Sisters Urma, in sports on the trapeze; the Three Sisters Hayden, in spirited songs; and a couple of items by the choir.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—A capital programme here includes Edith Helena, the wonderful American vocalist, in popular numbers; Prince Fee Lung, the great Chinese illusionist; Gertrude Moore, vocalist and speciality dancer; Tom Yorke, character comedian; Zaid, in a novel and clever acrobatic speciality; Lizzie Daniels, a popular soubrette; George Brooks, the versatile comedian; Williams and Warden, in duets, dancing, and patter; and Taitbout, a smart Continental mimic.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Carl Mysto, the handcuff king, is prominent here this week; along with the exceedingly popular Eight Sarnthalers, who make a great success in their national songs and dances. Very good turns are given also by Wallace Muirhead, tenor vocalist; the Wild, Willie, and West Troupe, in *The Bounding Navvies;* Lil O'Gorman, burlesque artist and dancer; G. H. Charlton, the society conjuror; Adams and Rouss, a smart comedy duo; and Lambert and Robertson in their quaint and interesting sketch of Scottish life.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —This week Jordison's Eight Dancing Dotts head the bill in a smart and effective act; Mons. and Mme. Henri give a good gymnastic exhibition; the Davenports contribute a marvellous series of illusions; Kiaro shows himself exceedingly supple and adroit in his balancing feats; and Hector and Sultan are seen in a laughable comedy act. Other good turns are the Sisters Valli in their musical and dancing act; Dicks' Comedy Five in a clever acrobatic performance; the Two Errolls, who give a humorous and wonderful exhibition of leaping; Olga Fane, a sweet singer of chorus songs; and Stephen Blythe, an accomplished vocalist.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Here this week we have the Tokios, the famous troupe of Japanese acrobats, who are highly successful and popular; Wyndham and Waters, "the professor and the pupil," meet with a good reception; the Boston Twins are a couple of good vocalists and dancers; Cullen and Jordison are two dainty and clever juveniles; the Zanos give an excellent comedy bar act; and other good turns are the Bonanzas, hand balancers; Bernard Katz, the Hebrew basso; Phedona, in a pleasing musical act; and Trick and Trixie, vocal, instrumental, and acrobatic artists.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—Well played by Mr. Jerrard Grant-Allen's company, and received nightly with great delight by highly amused audiences, Mr. Arthur Law's farcical comedy, *The New Boy*, has, during the current week, again been a welcome attraction at this house. Mr. Leon M. Lion gives an admirable rendering of the diminutive husband, Archibald Rennick. Mr. A. Corney Grain is a successful Dr. Candy, his schoolmaster manner being very realistic. The Felix Roach of Mr. Talbot Homewood is in all respects excellent; whilst Mr. Harold Weston is satisfactory as Théodore de Brizac. Mr. Stanley Weston, as the school bully, Bullock, is very amusing, and Mr. M. A. Scott plays well as Mr. Stubber. The youthful flirt, Nancy Roach, as played by Miss Margaret Fareleigh, is a performance of genuine merit, and Miss Katherine Harrington, as Mrs. Rennick, whose majestic proportions are in such strong contrast to her husband, is a great success. Miss Sybil Brooke is bright as Susan, the maid. The farcical comedy has been preceded each evening by a highly interesting sentimental comedy, in one act, *The Borrowed Uncle*, exceedingly well played by Miss Margaret Fareleigh and Messrs. Leon M. Lion, Harold Weston, and A. Corney Grain.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The Poluski Bros. are here this week in their latest creations, including *Laughs*, and their turn has been a most popular one; Alice Hollander, Australian contralto, has had a remarkably good reception, and the droll Charles Sloman has proved very mirth provoking; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins, with their successful creation, *The Italian Girl and the Monkey*, have had a recall at each performance; Fred Hallam, comedian, and Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer, help to make up an attractive programme, whilst the bioscope pictures are, as usual, exceedingly good.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—A pleasingly varied programme has been presented here this week, in which a conspicuous place is taken by Park's Eton Boys, who have, prior to this appearance, given Margate audiences proof of the excellence of their vocal abilities. Their turn is as popular as ever. Sibb and Sibb, double trapeze artists, present a neat and clever performance, and Mlle. Ameda, novelty entertainer is good; Gilbert Girard, animal and instrumental mimic, is wonderfully true to life in all his imitations, and his efforts have received due recognition; other contributions to the programme include Marie Neilson, comedienne and dancer, who has a pleasing manner; Bishop and Hanlon, comedy artists; and Miss Una, instrumentalist, with her dogs.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott, is presenting here *The Heart of a Hero*. Jem Resdale is portrayed with power and skill by Mr. Charles Draycott; the villainous Wilfred Marl has an able exponent in Mr. Ernest J. Fare; Miss Laurie A. Pardy shows ability in a convincing presentment of Nell Resdale, and Miss Louise Millward gives a sympathetic rendering of the character of Mrs. Ryder. The humorous part of Timothy is capitally done by Mr. Arthur Byron, whilst Miss Hettie Senior, Mr. Sydney C. Cranston, Mr. Morley Carroll, and Mr. J. Harold are successful in their assumptions of other leading rôles.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Here we have animated pictures, and varieties contributed by Ackbar, gymnast; Glen Lisbon, comedian; Bella Leaburn, comedienne; and the Miltons in a comedy skating act.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Howard Sturgess's company in the drama, *A Queen of Villainy*, is here this week. Miss Edith Blande, in the rôle of Cora Granville, is a decided success; Mr. Gordon Carnegie does full justice to the part of Sir John Desborough, and Dick Leinster, an escaped convict, has an excellent representative in Mr. Charles Stirling; Miss Amy Ross Clyde is good as Sally Chimes, and for the part of Rose Delmayne a clever representative is found in Miss Cecilia Desmond.

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Dion Boucicault's Irish play, *The Colleen Bawn*, is being played here this week by a stock company. Miss Elsina Gaunt gives a refined and sympathetic portrayal of the part of Emily O'Connor, and Mr. Godfrey Tearle is excellent as Hardress Cregan; Mr. John S. Chamberlain causes much amusement as Myles, while the rôle of O'Moore finds a capital interpreter in Mr. J. Cumming; Mr. Ivan Gore as Mr. Corrigan, and Mr. George Antley as Danny Mann act their respective parts well.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. Alexandre and Hughes head the bill and cause much laughter with their songs and sayings; Huntington and Macdonald provide some excellent singing, as does also Ghita Corri; George Lawrence, of Middlesbrough, is making his first professional appearance, and has had an enthusiastic reception; Walter Emmerson causes much amusement, and Merton and Rydon sing well; other turns are provided by the Four Esmeraldas, Mlle. Sylvesto, and Ada Rentford.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—Few artists have been given such an enthusiastic reception as that which is accorded to Jack Pleasants; Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel cause much laughter in the sketch, *Three of a Kind*, and the Jackley Trio prove themselves clever acrobats; Jack Crawley is an excellent mimic, and Mons. Slippère provides some good music; J. C. Manley, vocalist, and Sade Henderson, alto, also contribute to the programme.

NEW BRIGHTON.—GRAND TOWER THEATRE.—The company here this week includes Joseph Hennessy, club manipulator and juggler; Mr. Arthur Weber, baritone vocalist; Aldro Lukos in a clever swinging perch act and tumbling antics; Jake Euston, sand and buck dancer; the Victorian Bros., international dancers in character; Paulo Bros., a smart and amusing pair of comedy acrobats; Mlle. Lucretia, burlesque artist and dancer; and the Towerscope with the latest in animated pictures.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE. —Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*The Romany's Revenge*, which is now nearing its 2500th performance, is being presented here this week by Messrs. E. A. Dell and Fred Chabot's company. Mr. Charles Gallier submits a vigorous rendering of John Hope; Archibald Heath is played in acceptable style by Mr. Fred Green; Mr. Harry C. Robinson gives an excellent account of himself as David Renard; Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Zamet, a gipsy boy, sustains the rôle with marked ability; Miss Eva Elwes is well placed as Lilian Hope; Miss Lil Francis is a natural and boy-like Archie; and the comedy element is in the safe hands of Mr. David Hamilton as Bobbie Bloom; and Miss Fannie Wallace as Pollie Pluck.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy. —Fred Ginnett and company are appearing here this week in their well-known equestrian act, *Dick Turpin*. William Lee and Helen Bentley have a very amusing racing sketch, entitled *Mabel B;* an old pantomime favourite in J. A. Wilson, now appears without the burnt cork "make-up," and again proves successful; Starr and Leslie do some clever Indian club juggling, to the accompaniment of acceptable vocalism; those Newcastle comedians, Ike Scott and Son, are again greatly in evidence with a clever act; Conn and Conrad submit, with approval, their speciality act; Vernando's business as a ventriloquist is original; Brett and Orford, in a humorous entertainment are popular; Harry Freeman, comedian; and the Jagos, baton manipulators, singers, and dancers, also contribute successfully.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A good all-round programme is being submitted here this week, headed by that clever trio Servais Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, whose clever conjuring and remarkable illusions are more astonishing than ever; as a ventriloquist, Coram is decidedly smart and worthy of all the applause he receives; Frank Cass is a highly effective vocalist; a welcome return visit is made by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales; Emma Don and company appear with their customary success in a vocal scena, entitled *The Prodigal Parson;* Dusty Rhodes's business again affords much pleasure; Rale Walters versatile comedienne, introduces her latest success, *Fishing;* the Redferns, lady banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Lowenwirth Bros, Hebrew comedians; Otto and Olga, with music and mock opera; Frances Hasnoll, speciality vocalist; and the Barrascope are the remaining successful items.

NEWPORT. — EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Eugene Stratton, the chief attraction here, is in high favour; the Clarkes, banjo players, receive quite an ovation for their excellent performance; Sandford and Lyons amuse with their patter and clever dancing; and Jack Love, the Yorkshire rustic, is accorded an encore; Flo Esdaile sings in good style; Alfred Hurley is a sweet tenor singer; and Will Musgrave contributes a couple of songs with catchy choruses; the Remingtons give a clever acrobatic performance in evening dress; and Irene Rose, a comedienne of merit, completes the bill.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould. An attractive bill of fare is provided here, headed by the Five M. P.'s in their musical act *Officers at Play*, which has been cordially greeted; the Henriques, comedy acrobats, are smart at their business; Messrs. Sandy and Carl, knockabouts, have made a great hit; the Firnans' Comedy Artists are well received; and Miss Daisy Palmer, comedienne and dancer, Mr. W. H. Smart, Hibernian vocalist, Mr. Arthur Stratton, comedian, and the Biophotoscope all meet with favour.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrots Company.—Owing to her great success, Alice Maude, a clever little artist, has been retained for an extra week, and each new song she sings still further proves her ability; Blanco White provides a turn which is both smart and funny; Miss Sybil Lee sings with good taste; Miss Gertrude Young also sings nicely; Mr. Harry Nelson proves himself a high-class comedian, and causes much merriment; Mr. Glanmore Jones still maintains his popularity; and a younger brother of his proved himself an excellent elocutionist, reciting "The Women of Mumbles Head" with much dramatic force.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Austin Rudd deservedly heads the bill this week; Crissie Cross is an excellent comedienne and dancer, and Laura Lorne and Nell Rene, in a Lancashire scena, entitled *Capital and Labour*, score an immense success; Mr. R. Denning, ventriloquist, scores; Max Merlin displays ability as a contortionist; Kahn and Kahn are clever necromancers, and meet with much approbation; Miss Alice May and company in their protean sketch, entitled *Tranquillity*, are well received; Otto Menotti, the Stockholm wonder, creates great enthusiasm; his performance is very clever. The Hippo-Bioscope is also very entertaining.

NOTTINGHAM.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The Royal Animated Picture company's excellent films and the songs of Mr. Wensley Russell continue to be appreciated by large audiences.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The Casey Circus, organised by Harry Cadle, is truly a burlesque performance, evoking the greatest hilarity and vociferous applause. As a comedienne and dancer Gladys Marius is well equipped both in style and agility, and her hearty reception is well deserved; the Classium Quartette introduce a Venetian love scena, the charming scenery and pleasing singing calling forth enthusiastic plaudits. A well-earned mead of praise is accorded Hamilton Hill for his songs; and the Sisters Oswald execute a dainty dance with their accustomed skill; the Henri Taylor Trio, equilibrists and jugglers, accomplish some smart and difficult feats, and the quaint singing and dancing of Amber Austa receive appreciative recognition; Frank Seeley, comic singer; and Will Haines, comedian, help in the programme, which is closed by an exciting picture on the Bioscope, entitled "The Smugglers' Dogs."

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—A capital programme is provided this week. The Uessems, equilibrist wonders, give an excellent show; A. J. Rebla introduces a funny juggling act; the Bros. Obo are smart comedians; the Three Donals furnish a good turn; Mlle. Marvelle, with her trained cockatoos, obtains a favourable reception, and Will Walton is a popular comedian; Nellie Navette is a favourite comedienne and dancer; Lily Arthur, toy comedienne, is well received; and Henry Abdy, with his Dalmatian dogs, completes the bill.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Owners, County Theatres and Hotels, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Little Tich, who has not visited Plymouth since the days of *Miss Esmeralda*, drew a packed house on Monday, his quips and grotesque antics causing roars of merriment; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler, strikes out a very original line in the juggling business; the Fordyces, two little singers and dancers not yet out of their teens, submit a turn which would do credit to many their senior; Desmonti and Nora have a finished triple bar item; Helen Martin, vocalist, obliges with some acceptable pieces from standard opera, and Flo Banks is a popular comedienne; Vernon's bioscope have a humorous film, entitled "Summer Boarders."

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The Lyric Entertainers supply a couple of hours' excellent variety entertainment. Mr. W. H. Jackson has a répertoire of songs well suited to a baritone voice; Miss Clara Greenhalgh, soprano, is heard to advantage in some well known numbers; Miss Jessie Buckle is a fascinating soubrette; Mr. Fred Walmsley supplies the lighter element, and Miss May Williams, accompanist, is responsible for no small share of the company's popularity.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company is here for the week presenting the pleasing domestic comedy, *Cousin Kate*. The title-rôle is daintily and charmingly taken by Miss Lilias Earle. She makes an admirable Kate Curtis. Heath Desmond is very effectively played by Mr. Percy Hutchison; the tenderness and humour of the part are well delineated. The Rev. James Bartlett is unctuously played by Mr. George Mallett; Mrs. Spencer is characteristically acted by Miss Amy Coleman; Miss Hilda Honiss acts the part of Amy Spencer in convincing style; Master Phillip Priddis is natural as the boy Bobby Spencer, and Miss Kitty Priddis does well as Jane. The comedy is preceded by the trifle *Two in a Trap*, in which Mr. George Mallett and Miss Hilda Honiss appear with success.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate. —For the first time in Portsmouth the Anglo-American play, *A Gambler's Daughter*, is being presented at this house. The piece is interesting, and is well interpreted by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company. Desmond O'Dare, an Irish emigrant, is humorously sustained by Mr. Robert Ayrton; the villain, Stephen Brand, is powerfully played by Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe; Mr. Alfred Sanders ably seconds him as Brand's confederate, Solomon Solomons; Ralph Gillman, an American capitalist, is impersonated by Mr. Vincent Carlyle in a capable manner; Miss Adria Hill in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant is most successful and natural in her personations; Auntie Zeb is another well-rendered part by Miss Harriett Loydall.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A strong and attractive programme is put before the patrons of this hall. Topping the bill, G. H. Chirgwin, the white-eyed musical Kaffir, is again welcomed with much appreciation. Morley and Percival in a comedy duologue, *Turtle Doves*, have created a favourable impression; Rosie Lloyd, chic comedienne, gives four most acceptable numbers; E. J. Sheldon, speciality comedian, is much liked for his capital turn; Doody and Wright Australian comiques, are a hard-working pair, and cause roars of laughter; Terry and Bentley in the comedy sketch, *The Hunt*, are pleasing; Rose Cass, descriptive vocalist, is a success; the Five Whiteleys are a clever acrobatic and wire walking turn; Payne's Bio-Photoscope with new and amusing pictures completes the show.

PRESTON.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week is Le Diabelo, who gives a sensational cycling performance in and upon a revolving wheel; R. Ryding, a local athlete, is seen to advantage in an exhibition of strength; Hurman scores a great success with his juggling and manipulation of hoops, balls, plates, and Indian clubs; and Mdlle. Von Etta provides a highly effective display of illusions, and also proves herself a charming and versatile actress; other good turns are those of the Sisters Thurban, vocalists and instrumentalists; Jessie Jukes, juvenile comedienne and dancer; Merton and Rydon, comedy artists; Carney Bros., duettists and character vocalists; Burns and Bently, comedians; and Lon Langley, vocalist and dancer.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's mysteries have been most successful at the "Pav." this week. Mr. David Devant has performed some marvellous feats of sleight-of-hand, and his efforts to amuse have been materially supplemented by Mr. John Warren, who introduces the accommodating "magic kettle" and the Burmese gong. Mr. Warren, who has long been a local favourite, is to the fore again with his ventriloquial figure "Marmaduke," and there are other capital items in a programme which, for all-round attractiveness, is one of the best ever carried out in the Pavilion.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—This playhouse has during the past week been given over to the "two houses a night" principle, and an excellent company of variety artists has performed to satisfactory houses. Miss Constance Moxon, who assumes male characters, sings with much success, and is at once a favourite with her hearers. Cliff Ryland tells funny stories and cracks smart wheezes; Master Cliff is a sand, step, and clog dancer of exceptional cleverness; and a smart pair of Continental costume dancers is found in Les Sprays; Peter Simple is successful with his comic songs. In addition, Mr. Tom Craven, with the assistance of Mr. Corry Thomas, Miss Rita Tompkins, and Miss Marie Shields, has nightly produced *The Lady in Red*. The sketch raises roars of laughter, Tom Craven in the rôle of William, the manservant, being especially funny. To conclude there is Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope with films showing the latest event.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—A grand concert was given in this theatre on Tuesday evening, the proceeds of which were for the benefit of the popular acting-manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller, who for some five years past filled that post with distinct success, and who has made himself immensely popular with the habitués of all parts of the house. The house was well filled. Turns were given by the Goodshaw Prize Band; the Rossendale Dramatic Society gave their scenes from the *Merchant of Venice;* Miss Hetty Chapman was also a great success in her musical turn; the Two Shamrocks were warmly applauded for their clever song and dance turns; Mr. George Ingham, descriptive vocalist, met with a great reception; and the same can be said of Miss D. Inglis Oakley (soprano) and Mr

the week is Mr. Frank M. Quinn, who possesses a well-trained baritone voice. The four Grovinis are retained for another week; Renson and Waite submit an up-to-date entertainment; Bruce and Ross are expert dancers; Mlle. Thelma shows considerable ability in clay modelling; G. W. Nicholson, the Yorkshire humorist, pleases with his songs; Reklaw and his nippers are comical; Phil Rabey is a droll comedian; Walker is always at home on the rolling globe, and the Alskarno troupe of acrobats are smart; Vernon's Bioscope is as popular as ever.

THE HIPPODROME, St. Thomas-street.—Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva.—Signor Volpi's Royal Italian Circus is still here, and forms one of the leading attractions. The performing ponies are a great feature of the circus, and show remarkable intelligence and training.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here in *An Abandoned Woman*. Miss Georgette Thierry shows considerable ability in the title-rôle; Mr. Harry Foxwell, as Robert Saunders, makes the most of his opportunities; as Captain Herbert Seaton Mr. Wolston Forster acts capably; Mr. Bernard J. Leill fits the character of Philippe Malvoisin exactly; as Paddy Boyle Mr. Will Percy is very funny; Mr. Harrison Forbes, as Sammy Sharp, makes an excellent impression, especially with his song, "Beautiful Bed"; and as Sally Sloper, Miss Lily Beverley ably represents the housemaid and dances well.

SHEFFIELD.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay. The thrilling drama, dealing with the intrigues and abuses of Muscovite rule, entitled, *Under the Czar*, is again being played to good audiences, under the direction of the author, Mr. Fred Jarman.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The generous programme submitted on Monday gave unalloyed delight to big houses, being contributed to by the following popular artists:—Miss Harriett Vernon, the famous comedienne; Mr. Dan Crawley, a funny and mirth-provoking comic singer; Rejene and Robini, two old favourites of many years' standing; Barton and Ashley, the talented Transatlantic providers of neat comedy; Mr. Gus Harris, the Hebrew character artist, in his scena, *The Synagogue;* Miss Leonie Dixon, vocalist; Messrs. Walton and Lester, the "World's Worst Wizards"; the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures; and Mr. G. H. Elliott, the clever coon impersonator, vocalist, and dancer, in new business.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—The company here this week includes the Deer Family, in an Indian episode; Mr. Sam Veld, variety entertainer; Mr. Harry Village, comedian; Mr. Carl Milton, Miss Millie Denham, Fields and Lewis, in a novel act, and Pallister's Biograph.

CENTRAL HALL.—*Dick Turpin's Ride to York* and other entertaining items, together with a smart variety concert, give pleasure to the patrons of this hall.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Honour Thy Father*, an old favourite here, is presented by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, which includes Messrs. Walter W. Cameron (in the principal rôle), Douglas B. Watson, Cjavering Craig, Miss Winnie Donovan, and Mrs. C. Craig.

SOUTHAMPTON.—PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Alec Hurley, in his scena, *The Coster's Friendly Lead*, provides the star turn, and he is enthusiastically received; Johnny Holland and Co. are successful in a capital sketch, *The Millionaire*, and Duncan and Brasque score in a dramatic episode, *A Dressing Room Romance;* Maud Prenton is a delightful comedienne, and other turns are given by Carbaree's wonder dogs, the three Bros. Curran, in a boxing act, and Maud Vera, descriptive vocalist. A special matinée was given on Thursday in aid of the staff outing fund, when an excellent programme, including several extra turns, was submitted.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Powell.—That favourite comedian George Mozart is creating roars of laughter with his comic patter and songs, and nightly receives enthusiastic appreciation. F. V. St. Clair scores with his topical songs, and Susie and Protti excel as dancers; Yorkshire Tom is a capital mimic; Frank Maura is an expert equilibrist; the three Prestons are very funny in their absurdity *The Liftman's Rise;* Fred Collins and Flo Somers also contribute their quota to the programme.

WEST MARLANDS.—Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie is attracting huge crowds daily.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—On Monday *Caste* was played here by a good all-round company. Mr. Arthur Bawtree as the Hon. George D'Alroy presented a capital portrayal, and he was ably supported by Mr. Herbert Robinson as Captain Hawtrey; Mr. Charles Otley was responsible for the rôle of Eccles, and this clever comedian delighted the audience by his impersonation. Sam Gerridge found in Mr. William Allison a humorous exponent, and Dixon was successfully played by Mr. Fitzpatrick; Miss Phyllis Manners as Marquise de St. Maur was decidedly good, and a dignified and pleasing portrayal of Esther Eccles was given by Miss Olive Palmer; Polly Eccles was entrusted to the talented Miss Marie Jonquil, who is deserving of praise for her lively and humorous delineation.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Owners, Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Morton Powell is providing this week's attraction, in the drama entitled *The Woman who Gambles*, which is played in capital style by a capable company. Mr. Edward R. Ashby takes the rôle of Count Otto Steinbach in an admirable manner, and the Countess is forcibly and cleverly embodied by Miss Gertrude Hunt; Baron Cratzlaw is in the capable hands of Mr. Horatio Sinclair, who plays the villain with commendable success; Messrs. Reginald Fox and Ernest H. Clarke are good in their respective characters of Lieut. Karl Czarteryski and M. Stambuloff; whilst Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Bray is amusing. Peter Peteroff is creditably impersonated by Mr. Fred Prior; Miss Clayton as Stella Melakoff, Miss Florrie Hall as Mlle. Zila Zeyelda, and Miss Brenda May are all worthy of mention; and Miss Violet Sims is responsible for the portrayal of Cora Gouldhart: she presents a pleasing and creditable characterisation.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—This week's programme is an excellent one. The theatre entertainment provides plenty of interest, and those who take part are Miss Queenie Lawrence, burlesque artist; Henri Carn, versatile comedian and patterer; the Franko Midgets, comical conjurers; Gaston and Grevell, comedians and dancers; Miss Florence Pentin, soprano vocalist, who gives selections that merit well-deserved recognition; the Weimars, who are excellent in their musical turn and wire walking, gaining repeated applause; and the Ten Dixie Girls, who are delightful as the Kursaal ballet. New pictures are shown on the Bioscope. The Café Chantant and the Hippodrome both provide good programmes, the former having Lorenzo's circus for its chief attraction.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The diversified programmes submitted here at intervals throughout the day under the direction of Professor Vincent, the well-known illusionist, &c., are very popular. The artists appearing this week are Mr. Steve Cook, comedian; Professor Golding, ventriloquist; Mons. Le Clair with his clever troupe of performing dogs, including the high-diving terrier Spot, and Mr. W. Banks, ballad vocalist. The Urban-Bioscope depicts some capital pictures, and the Bijou Orchestra performs in good style under the direction of Mr. H. Syme.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Enormous crowds visit this popular place of amusement daily, where Mr. Ballard Brown's company provides excellent entertainments that meet with evident favour and appreciation. Messrs. Findlay Dunn and Arthur Thomas have established themselves great favourites, whilst Mr. J. W. Bowie is a tenor who is heard to great advantage, and Mr. Ballard Brown is a host in himself.

SOUTHPORT.—ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—After being closed for a brief period this popular variety hall was reopened on Monday under entirely new management, the handsome building having been leased to Mr. Charles Parker (late of the Pier Pavilion) by the Winter Gardens Company. A capital all-round programme was submitted to a large audience, one of the most prominent items being supplied by the Sutcliffe Troupe of novelty acrobats, pipers, and dancers, who presented a picturesque and interesting performance; other turns were Happy Tom Parker, comedian; the Carina Sisters, in their artistic musical mélange; Wal Owen, comedian; Lilian Travelli, American burlesque and light ballad vocalist; the Sisters Marion, juvenile duettists; Mlle. Zelda, musical novelty act; Nellie Adams, refined vocalist; and Kitts and Windrum company in a merry military contretemps entitled *The Cuckoo*.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. C. H. Johnson.—The attractive company of variety artists appearing here this week are headed by Lilian, Vera, and Charles, who give a marvellous exhibition of their skill with the rifle. The programme also includes Fred Horsfall, vocalist, mimic; Maude Kaye, vocalist and dancer; Toney, the society sifteur; Harris and Worth, comedians; Frank Hope, trick cyclist; Agnes McKellar, the Scotch soprano; Baroni and Kemp, lightning change artists; and the Bio-tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. I. and F. Coulson.—*The Manxman* is being played here to large and appreciative houses. Mr. Alfred B. Cross, in the rôle of Pete, portrays the part in a manly and powerful manner, entirely enlisting the sympathy of the audience; Kate Cregeen is admirably delineated by Miss Minnie Watersford; other good studies are Philip Christian by Mr. Frank Liston and Cæsar Cregeen by Mr. James Dillon.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—That quaint comedian, George Formby, who is the principal turn here this week, has had a most gratifying reception; Lilian Lea, vocalist, renders her numbers in artistic style; Ross and Grayson, in a musical comedy duologue, still maintain the high excellence of their entertainment; Maud Mortimer is a charming actress-vocalist; smart conjuring is contributed by Lazern; Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, is a strong attraction; Katie Marsh is appreciated in her new entertainment, "Grave and Gay"; and the Bioscope completes an excellent bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The universal living pictures are drawing big houses; the Brothers Paulo, society athletes, are seen to advantage in a weight-lifting performance; a competition for local strong men is well appreciated; other items are Allan McAskell, the comic talking conjurer, and Tom Hornsby, the singing slinger.

COSY CORNER, SEA FRONT.—The increasing popularity of Mr. Geo. Burton's excellent company of comedians is seen by the crowded attendances. The entertainments now take place in a large marquee, in which the audience can hear in comfort, without the former distressing noises.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The attraction here this week is *Fritz, Our German Cousin*. As Fritz, Mr. Phil Herman has a part which suits him admirably; as comedian, musician, and vocalist, he is in every way a success. Miss Susie Beavan as Katrina acts with ability and sings well; Mr. Stanley Carlton is suitably placed as the villainous Colonel Crafton, and the company includes Mr. Milton Marsh, Mr. Fred. C. Imbert, Miss Rubie Maud, and Dorris Middleton.

ST. ANNES-ON-THE-SEA.—PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Carlton.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *Too Many Cooks* appeared here on Thursday and two following evenings. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore was excellent in the part of Arthur Winton; Mr. Jackson Wilcox made a fiery Major Brasket; Mr. Wilfred Noy was a suitable Lieutenant Ashurst, and Mr. Willis Searle a clever John Bumbleby, the amateur detective; Mr. George Ide was good as P.c. Simpkin. Miss Lilian Rogers was a charming Dora Brasket, and Miss Hilda Fairfax a good Georgina Winton; Miss Dorothy Maud ably represented the maid Susan. The principal piece was preceded by a neat little one-act play, *The Fatal Shockings*, in which the author, Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Miss Lilian Rogers appeared.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd. General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—The attraction here this week is *A Wrecker of Men*, played by Mr. Charles Watson Mill's company. The melodrama is full of interesting and exciting incidents. Miss Amy Ellam gives a powerful impersonation of Risca Mallinson, the adventuress; as Jim Murley, a slogger, Mr. Eric Campbell submits a life-like portrayal; Miss Cissie Podmore, Doris; Mr. Milner Noble, Pharosophus; Mr. T. Carruthers, Melville; Miss Kittie Melville, Vavasole; Mr. Matthew Boulton, Guise; and Mr. H. P. Kennedy in the dual rôles of Ezekiel and Karnaphus all do well; and the piece is exceptionally well staged. After this (Saturday) evening the theatre closes until Bank Holiday.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. T. Barrasford, W. Sley, and F. Willmot.; Manager Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The principal turn here is Gustave Fazola, the Indian illusionist. Others appearing are: Henri Cazman; Miss Nellie Gannon, contralto vocalist; Miss Peggy Fame, vocalist and dancer; Miss Florence Yaymen, coon burlesque artist; Mr. Harry Wright, extemporaneous vocalist; and Les Marsumas, comedians on wheels.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill.—Mr. Lingford Carson's drama, *Defending His Honour*, has been excellently presented here this week by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Mr. Fred W. Goddard as Douglas Bryce makes a capital hero, and Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh depicts the character of Stephen Grald with powerful effect. Mr. Walter Manfree capably fills the part of David Pellar, and Mr. A. Balfour Mackay acts satisfactorily as Geo. Duncan. Miss Chrissie Dunbar commands deserving praise for her effective portrayal of Ethel Bryce.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Large audiences have heartily enjoyed the amusing sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, given by Tom Foy and company, who occupy the pride of place on the bill this week. Among others appearing are Haley's Prize Juveniles, who are well trained and highly entertaining; Lottie de Abbey is a pleasing vocalist, and Pollo Jerome is a graceful and clever performer on the trapeze; the Five Foys are amusing in their sketch, *The Excursion Dépot;* Sheila McNeil is a talented Scotch comedienne; the efforts of Will Souls, the laughing comedian, are applauded; and the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists, meet with success.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Tom Grove, with daring cycling act, is here, and on his success in "Flying the Revolving Wheel" is warmly applauded; J. C. Scatta, comedian, does well; Little Rose Pink is an acknowledged success. Other items include Theo. Jones and company in a scena *Jack Sheppard;* the Vandyke Troupe; Edney and Wade, dancers; the Three Pirmans; and Florence Hill, comedienne.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The Harvey Boys top the bill here, and cause roars of laughter with their antics; Horace White, ventriloquist, is good; Joe Humphreys, descriptive vocalist, is well received; Mlle. Sylvia's tableaux are excellent; O'Malley and Brown, in their comedy act, have scored a success; the Brontes and Johnny Walker, comedian, conclude a good programme.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Harry Leslie's Lyric Entertainers, under the musical directorship of Mr. Arthur Rogerson, are here this week; Mr. Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian, is as good as ever; Miss Nellie Gallafent has a pleasing style and a good contralto voice, whilst Miss Maud Hastings sings very acceptably; Mr. Charles North is a baritone of repute, and Miss Mabelle Ashton sings with much vivacity.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Barclay Gammon in a mirth-provoking musical interlude heads the bills at this favourite resort this week, and is accorded a flattering reception; Mlle. Rosa's canine hippodrome remains under engagement another week, and is as popular as ever; Craig, Rose, and Craig prove themselves athletes of more than average ability; Ray and Miles, comedians, provide a diverting turn; Trissie March, danseuse, scores by her exceptionally smart and graceful dances; Gena Manon, soubrette, is heartily appreciated; and J. M. Hamilton, vocalist, and the Palace Bioscope complete the programme.

WAKEFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Drayton family, Risley performers, perform some wonderful feats; the Milfords are a clever trio on the tight rope; Mr. Frank Coyle, comedian, scores in his topical songs; the two Isons are a versatile pair; Les Fontaines Marionettes provide an interesting turn; Miss Ada Carr, comedienne, sings well; and the De Roys, eccentric conjurers, are amusing.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Denton and Rowland's company is proving a great attraction here this week. The Sisters Cora are attractive duettists and dancers; Barney Vox, ventriloquist, is clever; Lord Murray, and Lord give their comedy act, *The Intruder;* Max Yorks gives a capital performance with his dogs; Johnny Gilmore, comedian, is well received; Belle Davis and her Pick-Chicks prove successful in their entertainment *Three Merry Nigger Boys;* and the pictures on the American Bioscope are very interesting.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. John Cecil's company in the drama *How Money's Made* is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. Elton Morgan has made a big hit in the character of Glory Hallelujah Jackson; Mr. John Cecil makes a capital Sir James Franklyn; Miss Flo Norman does well as Phillis, and Miss Minnie Leslie is a distinct success as Ruth Franklyn.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter. Well supplied with attractive features, Mr. Barclay's programme for this week is attracting large numbers of interested and enthusiastic spectators. The longest and most important item is a diplomatic dramatic episode, entitled *The Secret Spy*, which, dealing with a proposed triple alliance between England, France, and Russia, is a short play full of incident, carefully constructed and told in dialogue that goes straight to the point. It is well acted by Mr. Fred. G. Brooke and his company; that gentleman himself appears as Private Adams, acting with great intensity, and delivering his effective lines with convincing fervour; Mr. Brooke is frequently and loudly applauded. A good performance is the Lieut. Harry Tunbridge of Mr. Ernest Owttrim, thoroughly manly and robust; Mr. Wellesley Draper is excellent as the villain of the piece, Dr. Redfern, alias Henri Vasea; Mr. Walter Thornton is dignified as General Sir Francis Tunbridge. Quite a melodramatic success is achieved by Miss Dora Deane as Cora Leclercq, the "Secret Spy," and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is sweet and earnest as Ethel Danby. The piece is well staged and handsomely costumed. Mr. Charles Somers is a comedian possessing a deal of dry humour, which finds vent in two good songs. A charming comedienne is Miss Kitty Beresford, of whose two contributions, "What Nerve!" proves the more popular. Mr. George Power and his company appear successfully in an amusing sketch entitled *Matrimonial Bliss*, in which a henpecked husband is laughably contrasted with one who treats his wife as a slave; shouts of merriment reward the bustling trifle. Miss Rose Hamilton sings a catchy song, in the course of which she reproduces the accent and manner of a New York girl, a London coster, and others; the artiste also appears in a clever monologue, of which Jack Sheppard is the hero. The Morton Trio, three gentlemen with fine voices, appear in a mixture of comedy and vocalism that goes with immense spirit, their voices blending pleasantly and their fun being unobtrusively funny. A big hit is made by Mr. Arthur Rigby, who, capitally made up as an elderly female, discourses with much drollery on Woman's Rights, and repeats his popular song "The March of the Married Men," in which he is well suported by several nameless (and speechless) comedians. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some excellent films.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Edith Isabelle's company is here this week in the musical comedy *The Girl from the Halls*. Mr. Newton Pearce scores as the Rev. Hezekiah Twinkle; and Mr. George Elsworth as Jack Weston; and subsequently Mlle. Mimi Jou Jou makes up effectively, and evokes considerable laughter. Mr. George Martin, as the Hon. Richard Graham, uses a rich baritone voice to advantage; Miss Edith Isabelle is a charming Minnie Weston; Miss Lily Ward as the Hon. Frederick Augustus Humphum; and Miss Connie Laurie as Janie, display considerable vivacity. Miss Helen Douglas is good as Mrs. Twinkle; and a clever character sketch of Penelope Ann is submitted by Miss Nellie Loft. Miss Bertha Hart is well placed as Miss Edna June.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Brothers Redmond head the bill here this week, and their knockabout business is highly appreciated; the Three Schaffers are seen to advantage in a gladiatorial entertainment; and H. O. Bovie is a clever humorous juggler; George Grossie a smart comedian; and Marion Scott a dainty comedienne; the mysterious patter comedian, "Mr. C." who has a capital voice; and the Brothers Mellot, the blind vocalists, all earn applause; the Royal Bioscope pictures are interesting.

WEST BROMWICH.—HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Kennedy's Komiks still continue to draw crowded houses nightly with their varied programme. The artists appearing this week are Mr. Charles Bayham, Sisters Bathurst, Harry Chappell, Marie Bonner, Geo. Ogden, Messrs Dunville and Dare, Herbert Cullum, The Cedrics, and Little Hatch, and some good animated pictures are also shown.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Marguerite Broadfoote, in capital voice and graceful style, is winning persistent encores nightly; Jake Fried man, an old favourite, is quite up to his old form; King Roy, the coloured basso-cantante, gives a capital rendering of popular songs; Downes and Langford, burlesque actors, and Percy Curry, comedian, have already earned popularity locally and still retain it; the Hermes give a good exhibition of juggling and club manipulation; the comedy equilibristic act of Correzee and Keith is well received; and a new display of pictures on Raymond's Bioscope is an attraction.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is here this week in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Leslie-Holland shows excellent histrionic ability as Mr. Crosbie; as Mr. Flambert, Mr. Fred Rolph gives a highly artistic and humorous representation; the interpretation of Mr. Frank Frayne is full of artistic touches in the hands of Mr. George Stephenson; Mr. Allen Gunard is a praiseworthy Sir Charles Hampshire, and Mr. George Sade deserves commendation as Mr. Roundle; Mr. Ernest Cresfen successfully doubles the parts of Alderman Hargen and Mr. Bogle; Miss Vera Vere gives a delightful impersonation of Paulina; Miss Evelyn Howard makes a charming Lady Hampshire, and Miss Eva Erskine is entitled to unstinted praise for her delineation of Gipsy Vandeller; Miss Maisee Jones (Mrs. Young), Miss Hilda Saroo (Nannie Portland), Miss Gertrude Manners (Baby Hastings), Mr. Conningsby Brierley (Alec Montressor), Mr. Charles Wilson (Horace Clonge), Mr. William Consett (Mr. McRotz), Mr. Samuel Plinge (Captain Bleary), and Mr. Patrick (Boy), are all excellent exponents of their respective characters.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Royal Strolling Players are attracting large audiences here nightly, and on Monday were enthusiastically received. Miss Madeline Rossiter was loudly encored for her singing of "A bit of blarney"; Mr. G. W. Desmond's rendering of "Eva" was warmly received; Mr. Alfred Wootten sang "My Dreams" in an artistic manner; Mr. Sydney James fairly brought down the house with his extremely humorous songs; he also introduces a very comic ventriloquial interlude; Mr. Frank Leno shows a really good series of pictures on the Bioscope, and Herr Julian Kändt's Austrian Blue Band is proving a great attraction.

WEYMOUTH.—ROYAL JUBILEE HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—On Thursday last Mr. George Stephenson's company paid a highly successful visit with *The Night of the Party*. Miss Evelyn Howard as Lady Hampshire created a favourable impression; Miss Vera Vere was remarkably good as Paulina, the housemaid; as also was Miss Eva Erskine as Gipsy. Mr. Stephenson played Mr. Frayne with marked effect, while the Crosbie of Mr. Leslie Holland was a most finished piece of acting; Mr. Fred Rolph as Mr. Flambert caused roars of laughter; and the Sir Charles Hampshire of Mr. Allen Cunard was carefully portrayed. Miss Maisee Jones as Mrs. Young; Miss Hilda Saroo as Nannie Portland; and Miss Gertrude Manners as Baby Hastings were all good in their respective parts; and the Mr. Roundell of Mr Geo. Sade, the Mr. Bogle of Mr. H. V. Suney, and the Alderman Hargen of Mr. Ernest Crespan, were capitally played.

WHITBY.—THE SPA.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Tom J. Morton's concert party, better known as "The Yokels," in their novel, amusing and attractive entertainment, *A Holiday at the Farmhouse*, are a great attraction here. The company includes Miss Empsie Bowman as a Shepherdess; Mr. Albert Chapman as a Farmer; Mr. Tom J. Morton, who creates constant laughter as a Country Bumpkin; and Miss Maggie Bowman, whose dancing is much admired, as a Milkmaid. "The Yokels" have an extensive repertoire, and give a constant change of programme, every item being received with approbation. Master Stanley Holt is an excellent pianist.

WIGAN.—THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. Geoffry Fulton's principal company has presented the "moral" drama *The Poor Must Live* during the week. Mr. Shaun Glenville enacts the part of Hooker Holdsnitch very humorously, and Miss Olive Fulton gives a strenuous representation of the character of Olga D'Eyncourt, a revolutionary leader of the people.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Messrs. Ernest R. Abbott and F. C. Berridge's company is paying a welcome return visit here this week with *A Wife's Triumph*. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott gives a manly impersonation of Frank Wilton; Mr. Ernest Hartington typically portrays the villainies of Ellis Jordan, and is ably assisted by Mr. Weedon Ross as Julius Hartman. Mr. Edwin Keene capitally provides the fun as Ben Bradford; his vocal ability is of a high order. Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown does well as Stubbs; Mr. George C. Doughty as Robert Dewhurst soon becomes a general favourite. Miss Phyllis Atherleigh is excellent as Bessie Dewhurst, being alike graceful and winsome; Miss Marjorie Tennant ably assists as Margery Crib; Miss Elsie Jones gives a touching presentment of Little Frank; Miss Jessie Mason does well as Alice Wilton.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week a good all-round company has appeared here, the programme being sustained by the Schallers, in their up-to-date comedy act, entitled *Billy's Blunders;* Read and Wright, duettists and dancers; Mr. Tom Melrose, comedian and dancer; Miss Jessie Harper, "the singing mill girl"; Clown Ohmy, and his performing dog Toby; and the pictures.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Closed.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Billy, the educated horse, is the attraction this week, and is a great draw; the Attraction Comedy Four are tuneful singers, and do well; the Three Renards are expert gymnasts, and Vera Mayne is a dainty singer; Bugler Carr gives a neat show, and James Willard's company cause much amusement in a sketch; George Ripon's songs are amusing; and the Sisters Bronson also score.

THE HURLINGHAM PASTORALS.

On Wednesday, July 11, at 9 p.m.,
Pastoral Play by
Patrick Kirwan's Idyllic Players,
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

Sir John Falstaff	MR. PATRICK KIRWAN
Justice Shallow	MR. GEORGE P. HAWTREY
Master Slender	MR. GERALD VENNING
Mr. Ford	MR. ST. CLAIR BAYFIELD
Mr. Page	MR. DOUGLAS ALLINGTON
Fenton	MR. T. EDWARDS
Dr. Caius	MR. J. M. NAPPER
Sir Hugh Evans	MR. JOHN KELT
Host of the Garter Inn	MR. FRANK ELLISON
Pistol	MR. CHRIS. WALKER
Nym	MR. VAN T. RANNEY
Bardolph	MR. GERALD SAFFERY
Robin	MISS JESSIE STANTON
Simple	MR. BALLINGER
John Rugby	MR. VAN T. RANNEY
Mrs. Ford	MISS LENA JAMESON
Mrs. Page	MISS DOROTHY MILNE
Anne Page	MISS BARBARA GUTHRIE
Dame Quickly	MISS DAVIES WEBSTER

(Singing fairies by members of Messrs. Bellew and Stock's Choir).

An excellent representation of the *Merry Wives of Windsor* was given in the lovely grounds of the Hurlingham Club on Wednesday evening. To follow it closely throughout, played without intervals in one pastoral scene (to which the play, with its many interior and street scenes, does not, as a whole, essentially lend itself), the *Merry Wives* demands some imaginative effort on the part of an audience. For the final Windsor Park scene, however, with its (pseudo) fairy revels, the spot selected—the familiar pleasaunce, rising gently to a low knoll crowned and o'er-canopied by grand old trees, with the glimmering lake beyond—formed an appropriate and most effective setting; while the textual allusions to the Thames in which the ardour of the amorous knight is to be cooled, which here actually flows close at hand, came out with particularly happy point. Somewhere on the dim heights of Olympus Jupiter must surely have been beguiled by Thespis into "sweet conspire," for a more perfect and ideal night could hardly be imagined for the unfolding of the tale; just such a night of whispering trees and late-rising moon as must have been that magic one in which—what wonder!—sweet Anne Page forgot her other trysts and stole away through the woodland with young Fenton by mistake (?).

Interpreted by Mr. Patrick Kirwan's capable Idyllic Players of Botanic Gardens fame, the whole thing went with a swing from start to finish; faults, where apparent, being merely small ones of technique. With such a good all-round cast it were almost invidious to discriminate; but, perhaps the laurels of the evening should go to Mr. Kirwan's Falstaff, an admirable, well-rounded conception of the fat Don Juan of Windsor on the traditional broad lines. A droll piece of work the Shallow of Mr. George P. Hawtrey was, yet we fancy, hardly senile and "shallow"-pated enough, and the same under accentuation of type might be urged against Mr. Gerald Venning's Slender, in general a very excellent fool. A finely virile study of the jealous Ford came from Mr. St. Clair Bayfield, finding a good foil in the more confident Page of Mr. Douglas Allington. Good readings of Caius and Evans were given by Mr. J. M. Napper and Mr. John Kelt, the latter especially well finished; while Mr. Frank Ellison portrayed to the life the jovial host. Swaggering embodiments of the drunken trio were forthcoming from Messrs. Van T. Ranney (doubling also Rugby), Gerald Saffery, and Chris. Walker as Nym, Bardolph, and Pistol respectively, the later's defection somewhat too sinister and hardly sufficiently born of the cup.

Fine, well-differentiated assumptions of the merry wives themselves rippled (there is no other word for it) from Misses Lena Jameson and Dorothy Milne as Mistresses Ford and Page; very good in other respects, versatile Miss Barbara Guthrie (seen here lately as a merry-mad Puck) through slight strenuousness of voice, missed, in some degree, the customary ingenuousness of "sweet" Anne Page, while a wholly admirable and loquacious Quickly was portrayed by Miss Davies Webster.

Mr. T. Edwards, doing well with his few lines as Fenton; Miss Jessie Stanton as a pert little Robin; Mr. Ballinger as a well-named Simple—not forgeting the make-believe fairies of Messrs. Bellew and Stock's clever children—completed the cast.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

MR. CHARLES WILSON, stage-director of the Alhambra, was presented on the 5th with a beautifully framed address subscribed for by the whole of the employees, ninety-eight in all, comprising the stage, flies, property, and electrician's staff. Mr. George Gray, a member of the electrician's staff, presented the address on behalf of the subscribers, and in doing so said: "Mr. Wilson,—Sir, I have the honour to represent the whole of the men employed in the stage, flies, property, and electric light departments, and on their behalf to ask your acceptance of this address."

MR. GRAY then read the address, which was as follows: "Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—To Charles Wilson, Esq.—We, the undersigned stage employees of the above theatre, desire to place on record our high appreciation and admiration of your abilities as our stage-director and the good fellowship and affability extended to us at all times. As a slight token of our affection and esteem, we beg your acceptance of this testimonial on the eve of your departure for America, every subscriber to which echoes the heartfelt wish that your future may continue to be a prosperous and a happy one." Then followed the ninety-eight names of the subscribers.

CONTINUING, Mr. Gray said: "The artist was instructed to take for his design the proscenium of the Alhambra stage, and to place at each side a panel showing the name of your first ballet, *Jack Ashore*, and your latest, *L'Amour*. In asking your acceptance of this testimonial I beg to assure you on behalf of the boys at the Alhambra that they sincerely hope the good feeling expressed in this address may continue, and they wish you God-speed, a safe return, and long life and happiness." The presentation was most enthusiastically applauded.

MR. CHARLES WILSON, in acknowledging the testimonial, could hardly speak, but in a voice choked with emotion said, "Boys, you know what I think of you. I shall value this more than anything I possess." Hearty cheers brought the proceedings to a close.

THE address has been illuminated by Mr. E. C. Collings, illuminator by appointment to his Majesty the King, and is a fine piece of work.

THE Empire, Leicester-square, annual outing will in numbers exceed this year that of any other theatrical outing from London. The management has taken great interest in the arrangements, and Mr. Hitchins, the general manager, will accompany the party, numbering 140, to Clacton to-morrow. The outing will be free of cost to any of the staff; dinner, tea, and drives will be provided. Five coaches have been reserved, and refreshment and smokes will be supplied during the journey.

MR. AND MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, the lessees of His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, and staff had their first annual outing last Sunday. Journeying by rail to Lakeside, the party took steamer to Ambleside, at which place a char-a-banc was waiting to convey them on to the White Lion Hotel, where a very substantial dinner was disposed of. After dinner the party went for a twelve mile drive round Grasmere Lake and Rydal, passing the birthplaces of Wordsworth and Coleridge on the way. On the return to the hotel tea was partaken of, the homeward journey being commenced at 6.15. Barrow was reached at 8.45, everyone having spent a thoroughly enjoyable time. The officials of the party were Mr. R. Ellison, hon. secretary, and Mr. H. Potter, hon. treasurer, and great credit is due to both for the admirable way in which all the arrangements were carried out.

THE staff of the Eastbourne Hippodrome took their annual outing on Sunday last. The party, to the number of about fifty, drove to Rushlake Green, where an excellent dinner was satisfactorily dealt with. Mr. Winter, the managing-director of the Hippodrome, occupied the chair, and his health was enthusiastically drunk. The other toasts were those of Mr. Smith, the manager, and the staff. The day was beautifully fine, and the outing was greatly enjoyed.

THE Alhambra staff went for their annual outing to Dovercourt last Sunday. Dinner and tea were provided for the party, numbering sixty-three,

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Baildon Feast, Darwen, Spilsby, Tunstall, Atherstone, Horsham, Dursley, Launceston, Kingsbridge, Chesham, Dewsbury Feast, Hatherlow, Haworth, Hollinwood, Normanton (Temple), Stalybridge, Tipton, and Walkden. In Scotland the fixtures are:—Forfar, Rothsay, Kinross, and Arbroath.

LONGSIGHT Wakes, Manchester, will begin July 26.

AT Oundle are Tiller's mechanical mannikins and bioscope exhibition, giving high-class performances.

THE attractions at Kettering Feast were Barker and Thurston's motors, Thurston's Royal cinematograph show, Purchase's menagerie and waxworks, W. Taylor's cinematograph, Hughes' school of boxers, and a fine art exhibition; Messrs. Johnson, Suett, Bromwich, Harris, Hearns, Holmes, Parkins, Essam, and many others.

AT Upton Snodbury were Strickland's Newmarket gallopers and motor cars, Scott's gallopers, park swings, and Fletcher's varieties.

INKBERROW Wakes was maintained by Scott's steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, striker, &c., and varieties by Messrs. Arrowsmith and Smith. On the Wakes Sunday the members of the Ancient Order of Foresters paraded to church, headed by the Inkberrow brass band. The vicar conducted the usual feast day service, and in the afternoon threw open to the public the beautiful rose gardens of the vicarage.

THE address of our correspondent on the Worcester round and the hon. agent for the Showmen's Guild is:—Mr. W. C. Sorrell, Victoria-avenue, Astwood Bank, Redditch, Worcestershire. Mr. Sorrell requests that his correspondents give the address in full, as he finds that some of his letters, insufficiently addressed, have been sent to Reddish, Lancashire.

IN the interests of the numerous body of circus performers not only engaged in tenting business, but also following the fairs, the executive of the Showmen's Guild have carefully considered the proposed Dangerous Performances Bill, and acting on the expert opinion of the Parliamentary Agent of the Guild, it is not deemed expedient to offer serious opposition.

IN order to allay any unnecessary alarm with regard to the proposals of the Bill, the executive point out that Clause 2 provides "That no performance can be stopped or proceedings instituted without the consent in writing of the chief officer of police in the district where the offence is committed." It is also to be noted "That no constable or common informer can institute proceedings under the Act." The Parliamentary Agent expressed his conviction that this proviso of an appeal to a trained officer, before proceedings could be taken, would safeguard ordinary circus performances from factious or officious interference.

THE Showmen's Guild fully recognises that the Government Bill has been most carefully drafted, and also that performances of an unskilled and yet altogether dangerous character can only be stopped by a measure of the character indicated by the terms of the proposed Bill. Of course, there is always the danger of the mis-interpretation of an Act of Parliament in the early stages of its existence and working, and these instances must be dealt with as they occur. We feel certain that the whole equestrian profession regrets that suspicion and odium should be cast upon performances in which skill and arduous practice are the dominant factors by the utterly foolish and bravado exhibitions of the kind which have re-recently so seriously alarmed public opinion as to necessitate the introduction of the Government Bill.

MR. GEO. WHITE'S annual carnival is now in full swing at Carnoustie, Scotland. The principal attractions are the new Star Pavilion of animated pictures and varieties; Dr. J. C. Oliver, descriptive lecturer and versatile entertainer; Will Weaver, Scotch comedian; Ted Lewis, comedian, at the piano; Miss Minnie Leslie, contralto; little Fanny Newsome, international dancer; Max Wemberg, Russian vocalist and dancer. The motor-cars of the same management are a great success, and the side attractions are numerous. The grounds are brilliantly illuminated by electricity.

MR. JAMES WHITE'S electric gondolas and other attractions have opened at Wick. Mr. Geo. White's No. 2 Cinematograph Pavilion is also there. Business is moderate.

FAULKNER'S cinematograph and steam swings are at Arbroath enjoying a fair amount of patronage.

MLLE. JEANETTA, the original queen of handcuffs, in conjunction with Madame Herculine, are running North with attractions consisting of lady wrestlers and athletes, and variety performances by Joe Chadwick and Prince Lobelia. Business is good.

ASTWOOD BANK Temperance Fête will be held on Saturday, August 18, instead of Wednesday, August 8, as previously announced.

FOLLOWING Halifax Fair we have the old-fashioned fair at the quiet cathedral town of Wakefield. The fair is held under the very shadow of the old parish church, now dignified as the cathedral.

THE shows were: Enoch Farrer's coliseum of varieties and cinematograph; Professor W. Gibson, with exposé of the black art; Professor Blakey, with second sight séance; Westray's freak show; Permayne's performing bears; the lady athletes and wrestlers; and W. Shaw's fine art gallery. With these were Aspland's motor car circle, Waddington's steam yachts, P. Collins's set of ostriches, W. Shaw's steam swings, and the rifle concerns of Messrs. Houldsworth, Cornwell, Steward, and Mrs. J. Cornwell. There were four coker sheets and ten throwing games and varieties.

FROM Wakefield to Leeds is an easy jaunt, and in the olden days most of the shows on the Yorkshire round went from the one town to the other.

AT Leeds Fair this year the exhibitions were: Westray's natural wonders, Professor Watson's school of boxers and athletes, and George Ling's fine art academy. The machine list included motor cars, by J. W. Waddington and W. H. Marshall, John Collins's galloping horses, steam yachts and whirling the whirl, Corrigan and Morley's steam swings, J. W. Waddington's ostriches, and sets of park swings by Morley and Hughes. The rifle saloons and bottle batteries, four in number, were by J. Seed, W. Ratcliffe, and Mrs. Jameson. The minor novelties, some thirty in number, were provided by W. Turner, A. Rhodes, Mrs. Jameson, J. Joy, and ten other amusement caterers.

SKIPTON, on July 9 and 10, was well maintained by E. Farrer with cinematograph, W. Murphy with motor cars, Messrs. Scott, Casey, Chapman, and Gledstone with swings, Casey and Humphreys with gem horses, Scott, Humphries, and Casey with shooting concerns, and Powell, Smith, Hales, Chapman, and Humphries with varieties, cokers, and throwing games.

IT will be of business interest to our readers to know that by order of the Home Secretary, on the representation of the local authorities concerned, Ormskirk Fair has been changed to the second Monday and Tuesday in September, and Conway Fairs and markets to March 26, May 15, September 13, November 15, and December 23, and big markets on the second Friday in February, April, June, August, and October.

THAT enterprising showman, Alfred Ball, of bioscope fame, finishes this week a most successful season of private business at Tilbury Docks. During his stay of five weeks, the magnificent portable coliseum and cinematograph theatre have been crowded twice nightly, and have been patronised by all classes of residents in and around Tilbury. The local clergy and ministers of religion unite in testifying to the high-class nature of the entertainment provided by Mr. Ball. During his stay Mr. Ball has given benefit performances in aid of the local hospital and other charities, and his liberality is much appreciated by the people of Tilbury, who will no doubt look forward with pleasurable anticipations to a return visit of Mr. Ball and his excellent company of entertainers.

IN connection with this visit very pleasing features were that the leading artists from the show gave their services at the smoking concert in aid of the funds of the Church Lads Brigade and that Mr. Ball has been made a life governor of the local hospital.

OUR many showmen readers in the West of England will hear with regret of the impending departure to British Columbia of their great friend and champion, G. W. A. Norton, Esq.

To the children of the Western fair grounds Mr. Norton's absence from their midst will be irreparable, and we know that the show children will miss his kindly smile and generous comradeship on the fair grounds of the West.

IN defending the showman and his child from misrepresentation and prejudiced attack, Mr. Norton has done most valuable work, and we do not know anyone more admirably equipped by personal knowledge of the show world and ability to express that knowledge than Mr. Norton.

WE feel sure that we are only expressing the wishes of all those whose privilege it has been to know him when we wish him a prosperous voyage and God-speed in his enterprise, and if in the providence of events he should return again to his showmen friends they will welcome him back with both hands.

WE understand that this visit to British Columbia by Mr. Norton is with a view of settling there, but it is not absolutely determined that he will do so. Again we wish him every success, and thank him heartily for all he has done for the showmen of the West.

THE film of the Coronation of the King of Norway, for which R. W. Paul, of 68, High Holborn, is responsible, forms a very complete series of views taken at Trondhjem of this grand event, comprising the whole of the route, and showing all its most interesting features. The first view reveals a fine military procession. There is, too, a very distinct view of the interior of the carriage, showing King Haakon and Queen Maud bareheaded as they are approaching the cathedral before the coronation. The next portion of the film was taken on their return after the coronation, approaching the palace, and shows some of the most important occupants of the carriages, followed by the Royal carriage itself. A very fine view of the interior of this is obtained for the second time, showing their Majesties almost life-size, wearing their crowns and acknowledging the salutes of the people.

THE picture finishes with a view of the window of the palace, at which the King appears with his little son, giving place later to the Queen, who also appears and bows to the people. Length, 120ft.; code-word, "Haakon."

THE business hitherto carried on under the style of the Pathé Cinematograph Co., Ltd., has been acquired by, and will in future be continued under the name of, Pathé Frères, London, 14, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C. A reduction in prices, rendered possible by the large increase in sales, has been made by this well-known firm, and the new cost of films is now 4d. per foot, net., that is to say, 6d. less 33⅓ per cent.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Charles J. Childs	0	10	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
C. Douglas Stuart	0	5	0
G. A. Rampling	0	2	6
Per Harry Lester.			
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Douglas White	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	0	10	6
Harry Gage	0	10	6
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
Mark Ringham	0	5	0
Bros. Obos	0	5	0
Forest and King	0	5	0
Sam Stockton	0	5	0
Griff	0	5	0
George Nyman	0	3	0
Charlie Jerome	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Fred Greville	0	2	6
Ben Whiteley	0	2	6
Fred Ryan	0	2	0
T. C. Callaghan	0	2	0
L. A. Smith	0	1	0
Total	£30	8	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

SHOWMEN AND EDUCATION FADDISTS.

We are very much afraid that showmen will have to face another crusade of mis-representation and ultimate persecution if a few men who may be rightly termed education faddists have all their own way.

There is a Bill now before Parliament which revives, under worse conditions, some of the provisions of the late George Smith's Moveable Dwellings Bill. The ostensible object of the Bill is to provide for the education of vagrant children, but it is so badly drafted that all children of parents whose work in life necessitates moving from place to place will be brought under the powers and penalties of the Act should it unfortunately become law. There is not the slightest effort made to differentiate between the child of the habitual tramp and the child of any respectable showman or itinerant trader, all alike of every class are brought under the new offence and penalties proposed by the Bill.

We have not the slightest hesitation in warning the showmen of the United Kingdom that they are face to face (if this Bill becomes law) with the greatest invasion of their domestic rights and privileges, and are also subjected to the greatest degradation ever attempted to be imposed upon them and their avocation in life.

Before proceeding to deal with the extraordinary proposals of the Bill, we give the text of the measure in full.

The Bill proposes to provide for the better protection of children of vagrant parents, and is presented by Mr. Spicer, and supported by Sir John Kennaway, Mr. Toulmin, Mr. Cameron Corbett, Mr. Lewis Haslam, Mr. Vivian, and Mr. MacLean, and it comes on for second reading on Monday next, July 16.

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. When a child is so moved from place to place as to prevent such child from receiving regular education under the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 to 1902, the parent or person having the custody or charge of such child shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable, upon summary conviction, to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding three months, and such child may be adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents within the meaning of this Act
2. Any constable may take into custody without a warrant and charge before a Justice of the Peace with the commission of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, any person whom he shall have cause to suspect of having committed such an offence, and such Justice of the Peace may order the detention of such person in prison until the charge is heard and such constable may take charge of any child in respect of which an offence is suspected, and deliver him for safe custody to the master of the workhouse of the parish or union in which the aforesaid person has been apprehended until the charge is heard.
3. When any parent has been convicted of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, the Court may adjudge any child in respect of which an offence has been committed to be a child of vagrant parents, and may order that the child of vagrant parents shall be received into the workhouse of the union in which the parent was taken into custody, or the child was adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents, whereupon Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1889, as amended by Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1899, shall apply, and the Guardians of the poor of such union shall be empowered, as regards such child of vagrant parents, *to pass a resolution vesting in themselves*, as provided by the said section, *the rights of the parent or parents of such child*. If the Court orders such child of vagrant parents to be received into a workhouse, the Court may order that the whole or any part of the cost of the maintenance of such child shall be provided by the parent of such child, and paid to the Guardians by whom such child is maintained.
4. Where a child of vagrant parents has been sent to a workhouse under the last preceding section, and the rights of the parent or parents of such child shall have vested in the Guardians of the union to which such workhouse belongs under the provisions of the Poor Law Acts, 1889 and 1899, the said Guardians shall be empowered to board out such child beyond the union under the regulations of the Local Government Board in relation to the boarding out of orphan and deserted children, or to assist the emigration of such a child to a British colony, in the same manner, with the same authority, and under the like conditions as they are already empowered by the statutes in that behalf in the cases of orphan and deserted children.
5. Where a child of vagrant parents has been sent to a workhouse under Section 3 of this Act, the cost of maintaining such child so far as it is not paid by the parent of such child to the Guardians of the union in which the said child is maintained, shall be repaid to the said Guardians by the county council of the county in which the union is situate out of the county rate, but so that the rate of repayment for the maintenance for each child shall not exceed *six shillings* a week. When a child shall, under the provisions of this Act and the authority of the Local Government Board, be assisted to emigrate to a British colony, the expense of the emigration to such extent as may be approved by the said Board, shall be repaid to the Guardians by the county council of such county.
6. Nothing in this Act shall relieve any person from any liability to contribute to the maintenance of a child sent to or relieved in a workhouse or other child institution, or boarded-out under this Act.
7. Where the Court has made an order under Section 3 of this Act that the cost of a child sent to a workhouse shall be borne in whole or in part by the parent of such child, the payment of any sum so ordered to be paid shall be enforceable, and may be enforced if the Court think fit in the same manner as the payment of money is enforced under an order of affiliation.
8. In the interpretation of this Act the word "child" shall be construed to mean any child apparently under the age of *fourteen years*.
9. This Act may be cited as the Elementary Education (Vagrant Children) Act, 1906, and shall be read with the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 to 1902.

First of all it is to be noticed that this Act would create an entirely new offence, and one that interferes with the most valued right of individual action. It makes the parents guilty of an offence if they move from place to place, taking their family with them.

Clause 1 of the Bill proposes to make itinerant traders obliged to travel from town to town liable to imprisonment if they take with them a child under the age of fourteen, and no discrimination whatever is made: all parents alike are brought under the power of the law, and are at once stigmatised as vagrant parents.

The promoters of the Bill, having thus created an entirely new offence, and one that involves the most drastic invasion of the liberty of the subject, proceeds in Clause 2 to give to any constable power to apprehend without a warrant any person whom he may suspect of having committed the offence created by the Act. And even more outrageous still, before the parents be brought to trial the constable is given the power of taking charge of the child and making a pauper of him, until such time as the charge be heard.

It is quite impossible to find language strong enough to characterise this most astounding proposal, a proposal so repugnant to every sense and feeling of justice, that even were it proposed to do this with the children of habitual criminals the sense of common fairness inherent in the public mind would rebel against it.

In Clause 3 of the Bill we have another instance of the extent to which education faddists are prepared to go in order to secure what they conceive to be the best thing for the child. By this clause the Guardians of the poor of the union in which the child was separated from its parents are given the power of adopting the child, taking it entirely out of the hands of its natural guardians, the parents; and more than that, the Court may order the parent whose child has been thus stolen from him by law to pay the whole or any part of the maintenance of the stolen child.

The Bill, as will be seen, contains powers to enable the Guardians to board out the child or to send it away to a British Colony.

The Bill, as we have shown it, whilst evidently aiming at the compulsory separation of the children of the habitual tramp, gipsy, and vagrant from their parents, makes no provision of exception whatever to cover the case of travelling hawkers, pedlars, showmen, and fairground traders, and is even, when taken at the valuation of its most liberal-minded promoters, capable of the grossest injustice to a large and industrious section of the community.

It must never be forgotten that in all legislative proposals it is not the pious intention of the legislators that becomes law, but the actual wording of the Bill when it passes Parliament and becomes part and parcel of the Statute law of the land. It may be the pious intention of the promoters of the Bill to take the children of the habitual tramp and the poor little ones begotten in crime, and dragged in their infant years from casual ward to casual ward, from criminal slum to criminal slum, and to make these unfortunate little ones the children of the State, but the Act does not specifically limit its operations to these unfortunate classes.

The Bill does propose to give to any constable power to arrest on his own sweet will and motion any stranger within his beat whom he sees with children apparently under the age of fourteen, and also gives him power to send a child to the workhouse until such time as the parents can be brought to trial for the offence of neglecting the education of the child.

We can well imagine in some of the little country districts how the advent of a travelling show, with its necessary complement of workers, young and old, will be keenly watched by the policeman given for the first time the summary powers of taking into custody without a magistrate's warrant the showman whom he may suspect of committing this new offence, having a child apparently under fourteen not in attendance at an elementary school.

The result would be the utter ruin of the showman and his family, parents would be sent to prison, the children sent to the workhouse, and the show sold up to provide for (as far as it could) the cost of these most outrageous proceedings.

We have said enough to draw attention to the drastic provisions of the Bill, and we have no doubt that the showmen of the Empire (as well as other traders whose business necessitates moving from place to place) will take every step to oppose a Bill so utterly bad and so flagrant an invasion of the liberty of the subject.

We also beg, on behalf of the showmen and fairground traders, to repudiate with all the force and vigour we possess the assumption that lies at the root of this Bill; that is, that any special legislation is at all required to secure for the showman's child the blessing of education so fully enjoyed by the children of other classes in the community. We claim that the showman is as keenly alive to the benefits of education as any other citizen, and that he takes, as a father, as great an interest in the well-being and education of his children as any other man. At the same time it must not be forgotten that the show business is a highly technical and expert trade, and that whilst it is necessary to go to school for the elements of a useful general education, it is also necessary that the child, to learn the business of his life, shall learn it in the school of experience and serve his apprenticeship in the work and business of the show.

The Honorary Chaplain (the Rev. T. Horne) and the Parliamentary agent (F. Millar, Esq.) of the Showmen's Guild, have been in conference upon this most obnoxious Bill, and it has been determined to take every possible measure to safeguard the interests of the showmen threatened by this Bill, and we confidently anticipate that the numerous friends of the showman in the House of Commons will oppose the Bill, and expose its manifold injustice.

A CURE for liver complaint has been discovered in the Topsy-Turvy Railway at the Crystal Palace. The first voyage on the cleverly constructed arrangement may not be appreciated by all, but one soon gets used to it, and after a few trips those who suffer from their liver realise the benefit derived. This is the first topsy-turvy railway erected in England, and is situated in the North Tower Garden. The passenger cars first ascend at an angle of 28 degrees and then descend a slope with an average angle of 45 degrees, the descent giving sufficient momentum to carry the cars right round the loop and on to the starting platform, the journey occupying just over 1½ minutes. Probably the beautiful air of Sydenham, in conjunction with the action of the railway, may have something to do with the cures which have been reported.

THE Mansfield Pleasure Fair commenced on Thursday, and the attractions included Twigdon's switchback and show, Holmes, Neal, and Hall, cinematograph shows, and the usual paraphernalia. On Friday it was unfortunate for the showmen that the majority of the school children were taken out of the town for the day. Mansfield Woodhouse Feast commences on Monday.

T. SCOTT'S new set of steam gallopers, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle batteries, and other shows were at Peopleton Feast.

SINCE the days when the Britannia Theatre of Varieties in the Trongate, Glasgow, had only one rival in Glasgow, it has passed through many vicissitudes. A few months ago Mr. A. R. Pickard took it over, and in the interval he has converted it into a unique place of entertainment, which opened on Monday.

THE interior of the old music hall has been entirely reconstructed, and equipped for the most part with novelties of a most varied description. There are statues and paintings of celebrities, mechanical working models and automatic machines, distorting mirrors, electric shooting saloon, and several tableaux representing human sacrifices in Dahomey.

IN the entertainment hall, which can accommodate about 500 persons, enjoyable turns are given this week by Miss Kate Gourlay, Little Victoria Connor, and the Bioscope. Music is provided by the Japanese ladies' orchestra. There are no fewer than six performances.

MITCHAM FAIR.

We are extremely glad to give our metropolitan showmen readers the welcome information that the Home Secretary has refused to abolish the ancient charter fair at Mitcham. The fair on the 12th of August will therefore take place as usual.

It is interesting to recall the stages of the agitation promoted by a certain number of the residents of Mitcham, to obtain the abolition of the fair, and also to recapitulate the splendid work done by the Showmen's Guild to defeat the scheme for abolishing the fair, and yet at the same time to make every possible effort to conciliate those opposed to it.

The Rev. T. Horne and Mr. Alf. Ball, acting for the Showmen's Guild, have made a number of visits to Mitcham, and have interviewed the leading objectors to the continuance of the fair, and in fact London showmen are under a deep debt of gratitude to these gentlemen for the successful work they have achieved.

With all desire to be fair and just to the gentlemen who wish to abolish the fair, Messrs. Horne and Ball discovered on their first visit to investigate the matter that a great deal of hole and corner work had been done, and a strong effort made to prejudice the fair in the eyes of the powers that be, and to deter the people of Mitcham from defending their fair rights and franchises.

There was a deep rooted impression that it was hopeless to attempt to save the fair, and that the people who were moving to obtain its abolition were too powerful to attack. To make matters more difficult the District Council of Mitcham were co-operating with the enemies of the fair, and local labour circumstances made it a very uncertain quantity to make an appeal to the people direct.

In these circumstances the Guild workers opened up negotiations with the Conservators of Mitcham Common Lands, with a view of getting the fair removed to a more convenient and roomy site on the Common.

These negotiations involving on the part of Messrs. Horne and Ball interviews with the clerk and with the chairman of the Board of Conservators, occupied various days in May, June and July. After every effort on the part of the Guild delegates to arrange matters with the Board of Conservators, the conclusion was the refusal of the Conservators to grant the use of any land under their control for the purposes of the fair.

Now at the end of all these efforts to arrange matters comes the welcome official intimation of the Home Secretary, that after full consideration of all the reasons put before him for abolition and the petition of the showmen against it, he determines that the fair shall remain.

"HUSH."

A Simple Little Story From Real Life.

By FRED COOPER (Uncle Fred).

(Copyright).

Very many years ago, as I passed on my way from school
I often met two tiny mites, performing and "playing the fool,"
Their faces looking so clean and bright, and their tights with spangles gay,
I always loved to see them, as they neared the old highway.

One of these two sometimes for me, seemed to wear a charm,
With a little roll of carpet, tucked so neat beneath the arm,
I'd follow them until they stopped, then drawing up quite near,
Would hear one to the other say "let's have it down just here."

Quickly the little carpet is spread out upon the ground,
The smoothest place selected, whilst the audience gathered round,
These daring little acrobats would then begin their show,
Such wonders never seen before, my heart was all aglow,

Amazed I stood, bewildered, at their strange vocation,
T'was the little one who pleased me most, with the "act of dislocation."
Quite soon the other little one turned to another job,
And with smiling face, passed round the hat, for what he called the "nob."

* * * * *

Again we met, they were playing, and down by the river, stood
Watching the boats on the water, and the boys on logs of wood,
I said, "how nice to paddle, see the river's as smooth as a pearl,"
"Hush!" came the cry, "I mustn't, don't you know I'm a little girl."
The secret was out and then Sir, I saw that first sweet blush,
And ever since then, I've remembered to value that little word "Hush."

* * * * *

T'was many years, perhaps ten or more, ere we met again
And learned the secret two fond hearts no longer could retain—
So home again in England, I settled down in life,
And wooed and won the tumbler's girl, that's now my darling wife.

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

NELSON FAIR takes place on July 28, not on the 21st, as previously stated.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA FONTAINE DE JOUVENCE."

Mythological Comedy, in Two Acts, by M. Emile Bergerat.

Produced at the Comédie-Francaise on July 5.

Télamon ..... M. DEHELLY
Archis ..... M. LOUIS DELAUNAY
Unberger d'Arcadie ..... M. RAVET
Néère ..... MLLE. YVONNE GARRICK
Daméta ..... MME. MADELEINE ROCH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 12.—*La Fontaine de Jouvence*, as everybody knows, is the magic fountain, the waters of which have the wonderful effect of rejuvenating the old and ripening the young. M. Bergerat has taken for his theme the legend of Jupiter's experiment on two couples—one a pair of young lovers, and the other an elderly couple—and in delightful verse he tells the effect the magic water has on each. Archis and Daméta, having loved one another for half a century in the valley of Arcadia, are ready to die like they lived, in each other's arms. But the gods do not allow mortals to be perfectly happy, and Jupiter, disguised as a shepherd, decides to spoil their last days on earth. He shows them the fountain where they who drink the waters can recover their youth. For all that Dalméta is not tempted; but Néère, a sixteen year old maiden, is anxious to test the love of Télamon, her admirer; and she wants to know whether, if their hair is suddenly turned grey, he will still pine for her. Télamon does not relish the experiment, and whilst he turns his back on the fountain Néère stays behind and laments. Archis perceives her, and thinks she is Daméta rejuvenated. The wily Jupiter then advises Archis to drink the waters to become as young as the girl whom he takes for Daméta. The old man refuses, and in the meanwhile Télamon, returning to the fountain, meets Daméta. He starts, for he thinks she is Néère, who has carried out her idea, and has suddenly become old. He no longer hesitates, and rushes up to the fountain to follow her example. But Daméta watches over them, and shows him Néère hidden behind some trees, opening her arms to embrace him. Jupiter's plan has failed. The old couple are glad to quit this life, and the young pair rejoice in their youth and love. Written in musical verse, M. Bergerat's new play met with an excellent reception. It was well acted, but we would recommend to Mlle. Garrick not to make so many grimaces when she becomes emotional.

THE Comédie-Francaise also gave us a revival of Alexandre Dumas fils' *La Princesse de Bagdad*. The work had dropped out of the répertoire, and it was a mistake to blow the dust off this ancient work, and serve it up again. Written in 1881, it seems as if it were at least a century old. Curiously enough, Dumas fils' plays lose their hold on the public; and of all his productions his *Dame aux Camélias* is the only one that seems to remain in favour. But in *La Princesse de Bagdad* there is a rôle that may well tempt any actress. It is that of Lionnette, created by Mme. Jane Hading, who was admirable in it. Lionnette, with royal blood in her veins, is beautiful, so beautiful that all men fall at her feet. She is proud, and her morals are pure; but her mother was a courtesan, which is the reason why a kind of fatal charm emanates from her. The rôle this time had been entrusted to Mme. Raphaele Sises, a clever actress, but not suited to that part. Lionnette's haughty temperament is beyond her, and it was a pity she made the attempt. In rôles where she can impersonate tender, self-sacrificing women, she will be more at home. The pleasure of the evening was also marred by an unexpected incident. M. Coquelin, cadet, had forgotten his part. The prompter shouted; everybody in the house could hear him except M. Coquelin, who tried to save the situation by improvising. But, as he does not possess that gift, all we heard was a confused noise and words mumbled that never came from Dumas' pen. The courteous Comédie-Francaise public took no notice of the incident, which, if it had taken place in one of the provincial theatres, would have caused a commotion. Two or three of the artists engaged in the piece gave us clearly to understand that they were in a bad temper about something, and I do not remember having ever seen a play produced on a Paris stage in such an extraordinary fashion. The fault, of course, lies with the management, whose laxity has become proverbial. But M. Jules Claretie takes things very philosophically, and reasons: "Après moi le déluge."

M. CLARETIE has accepted *Poliche*, a comedy by M. Henry Bataille, wherein the two principal rôles will be played by Mme. Cécile Sorel and M. de Féraudy. M. Bataille has also a piece ready for production at the Vaudeville. It is called *La Femme Artiste*, and was specially written for Mme. Berthe Bady.

THE Comédie-Francaise, moreover, has put into rehearsal *Le Philosophe sans le savoir*, by M. Sedaine, with Mlle. Bergé in the principal part. At that theatre we will also have in the autumn *La Courtisane*, a play in five acts in verse by M. Arnyvelde. It was wrongly announced that M. Paul Adam's piece, *Les Victimes*, had been accepted at the house of Molière. The work, a three-act one, will only be read there this week.

THE Opéra-Comique promises us great things for the coming season. First there is *Le Songe d'un soir d'automne*, a one-act musical tragedy, the poem by M. Gabriel d'Annunzio, music by M. R. Terre Alpira. It will be sung by M. Litvinne.

NEXT we will have Alfred de Musset's *Le Chandelier*, adapted by MM. de Flers and de Caillavet, set to music by M. Messager. The rôle of Fortunio has been entrusted to Mlle. Geneviève Vix, and the other parts will be sung by Mme. Marguerite Carré and MM. Fugère and Defranne.

MME. EMMA CALVE, we are told, will make once more her appearance at the Salle Favart in *Le Mariage de Figaro*, with Mlle. Mathieu Lutz as Chérubin.

M. ALPHONSE FRANCK, of the Gymnase, has accepted two plays by M. Albert Guinon, *Les Fauves* and *Elles et Eux*, to be produced one after the other. The Gymnase cast, an exceptionally strong one, will comprise MM. Duménу, Gaston Dubosc, Henry Burguet, Pierre Achard, Mmes. Marthe Regnier, Simone Le Bargy, Felyne, Henriot, Catherine Fonteney, etc.

M. GEMIER, who has taken over the management of the Théatre Antoine, intends to open on the 20th of September. He will start with a revival of M. Emile Fabre's *La Vie Publique*, produced at the Renaissance. He will also give us Courteline's *Les Gaietés de l'Escadron*, and again interpret the rôle of the old general which he created. Of the new pieces to be brought there M. Gémier does not make any mention.

THE Bouffes-Parisiens, under the new management of MM. Clot and Dublay, will open their doors with a five-act piece by MM. Georges Buysieu and Roger MAX. It bears the title *Petit Léon*. Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod will interpret the principal rôle.

M. ANTOINE has engaged at the Odéon Mlle. Lucie Brille, who, in the Théatre Antoine, created such an excellent impression in *Le Roi Lear*. Mlle. Brille will appear in the Odéon in the classical répertoire.

THERE seems to be a hitch in the negotiations between the brothers Isola and the liquidators of the Nouveau-Cirque. It is, however, probable that the difficulties will be overcome.

THE Cluny Theatre intended to keep open all through the summer, but, like the rest of us, overcome by the heat, it has closed its doors, and will reopen in September.

DEATH OF MISS REBEKAH DEERING.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Rebekah Deering (Mrs. Ernest Stevens), a talented actress, a cultured lady, and a genial and kindly friend. She was suddenly taken seriously ill, and passed peacefully away at Upper Holloway early on Tuesday morning. She had not acted for some time before her death. Her last appearance was as Helen MacGregor in the play of *Rob Roy*, produced about three years ago at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, of which her husband, Mr. Ernest Stevens, was proprietor and manager. Since then, however, Mr. Stevens has sold this establishment, and settled in London; he is the lessee of the Brixton Theatre, and is interested in other theatrical undertakings.

Miss Deering was born in the picturesque little city of Portland, Maine, U.S.A. She made her first professional appearance at the age of fifteen, under the name of Annie Waite, as Parthenia, in *Ingomar*, at the National Theatre, Boston, being a pupil of the late Wizeman Marshall. After a few months' experience in the smaller towns she was engaged by John Ellsler for juveniles and boys' parts, at Wood's Theatre, Cincinnati, Ohio. Playing here with the late Edward Sothern, she was recommended by him to the management of the

MISS REBEKAH DEERING.

theatres at Buffalo and Albany, where she undertook the full line of leading business in the legitimate and romantic drama, being then known as the youngest leading lady in the United States. For some years she played in most of the principal American cities, supporting, among others, Edwin Booth, Edwin Forrest, John E. Owens, Joseph Jefferson, John M'Culloch, Mr. and Mrs. Florence, E. L. Davenport, Lester Wallack, J. W. Wallack, Edward Sothern, M'Kee Rankin, Lawrence Barrett, and the British actors Barry Sullivan and T. C. King, playing such parts as Ophelia, Desdemona, Emelia, Rosalind, Beatrice, Juliet, Portia, Lady Macbeth, Viola, Katherine, Kate Hardcastle, Lady Teazle, Lady Gay Spanker, Marguerite in *Faust*, Pauline, Nancy Sikes, Leah, Camille, &c. Coming to Britain she adopted the family name of Deering, and began touring with her own company in 1882, playing the leading rôles in a répertoire of Shakespearean plays and old English comedies; Lady Isabel, in a special version of *East Lynne;* and, later, Josephine in Charles Reade's *Double Marriage*, and Jacqueline in Frank Harvey's *A Woman's Vengeance*. An altogether unusual performance for an actress was her appearance as Richard III., a rôle which she sustained some 200 times. In 1883 she became lessee of the Agricultural Hall, Walsall, and improved and reconstructed it, rechristening it the Theatre Royal; but, finding it unsuccessful, relinquished it eighteen months later. In 1887 Mr. Ernest Stevens joined Miss Deering as acting-manager, and two years afterwards they together leased the Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, in which town they were married. After two and a half years of successful management, they sought wider fields, and toured with *Queen's Evidence*, by arrangement with the late Sir Augustus Harris, Miss Deering appearing as Kate Medland. In 1894 Mr. Stevens leased the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, and Miss Deering appeared there in stock seasons in a fine revival of *Macbeth*, as Lady Macbeth, and also as Helen Macgregor and Jeanie Deans. In October, 1895, she created the part of Lady Wallace in her husband's drama, *Scots Wha' Hae Wi' Wallace Bled*. In April, 1896, she appeared as Rebecca in his adaptation of *Ivanhoe*, and in October, 1897, she also played the leading character of Margaret Gordon in Mr. Stevens's Jacobite play *For Bonnie Scotland*. She secured a notable success in this fine emotional heroic rôle, and the play proved a hugely popular production, being revived for long and prosperous runs for several seasons.

THE Military Fête which took place at the Government House, Aldershot (by permission of General Sir John French) on Tuesday and Wednesday was from a musical point of view alone a great success, no less than 1,300 performers (under the bâton of Mr. Sims, R.A.M.B.), discoursing music with marvellous precision and effect. The spectacular portion, too, was a sight ever to be remembered by those who saw it, grand historical pageants, naval and military displays, and a torchlight tattoo in which upwards of 1,200 troops took part, being some of the features. Praise is due to the committee, with Brigadier-General Heath as chairman, and to the hon. sec., Mr. R. Courtenay Welch, for the success which was achieved.

ON the opening of the Great Eastern Railway Company's new route to Sheringham on July 23, it is announced that a luncheon car will be attached on week-days to the 1.30 p.m. express from Liverpool-street to Cromer, Mundesley, and Sheringham, and from the same date similar accommodation will be provided on the up journey by the 1.0 p.m. express ex Cromer, which is joined at North Walsham by trains leaving Sheringham at 12.36 p.m. and Mundesley at 12.47 p.m. Dining cars are already running on the 4.55 p.m. train from Liverpool-street to Cromer, and a breakfast car is attached to the 8.0 a.m. train from Cromer to London on week days. The latter, from the 23rd inst., will be in connection with a train leaving Sheringham at 7.35 a.m., due into Liverpool-street at 11.25 a.m.

A NOVELTY of peculiar interest appeared at Mme. Amy Sherwin's concert at Bechstein Hall, on Wednesday, when Mr. J. Dorasami, a "high caste" Mudaliar of the Madras Presidency, contributed to the programme. He plays the violin in what may be called the prehistoric way—held between the knees as the 'cello, and as the native Indian fiddle, the Sarangwe, is still played. In the Wieniawski "Legende" and the finale from the Mendelssohn Concerto he displayed musical feeling and admirable execution.

"IN SUNNY SPAIN;
or,
THE TROUBLES OF A TOURIST."

Terpsichorean Extravaganza in Three Scenes.
Invented and arranged by Jno. R. Huddlestone and Jno. Tiller.
Libretto and Lyrics by Geo. R. Sims and Chas. Fletcher.
Music by Hermann Finck.

Produced at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, on Monday, July 9.

Dolores ..... DOROTHY GOULD
Nina ..... LIZZIE HAY
Isabella ..... RENE HOWARD
Don Alfonso ..... JESSIE TEMPLETON
Don José ..... TEDDY GIBBS
Bill Hopkins ..... BOB SELVIDGE
Polly Hopkins ..... MAY SHARPLES
The Nipper ..... BARNEY DIXON
Sancho Blas ..... HARRY ELLISTON
Fra Philippo ..... CHARLES HAMPDEN
Sebastian ..... EMMIE FRANKS
Pedro ..... FREDDY FRENCH
Carraco ..... SENOR MANUEL
Carramba ..... SENOR GABRIEL
Inez ..... MILLIE WILLIAMS
Carmina ..... DAISY WOODWORTH

When the curtain fell on Monday at the conclusion of the new ballet *In Sunny Spain*, the Winter Gardens Co. and the gentlemen who were responsible for the various parts added another success to their already big list. Elaborate spectacle, handsome dresses, and a plot which is humorous and well told throughout are combined in a production which was received with every mark of approval. The first scene is the Market Place of the town of Bolero on a feast day, and the folks are enjoying themselves in the true Spanish spirit. A ballet of muleteers, cigarette makers, goatherds and grape gatherers is here introduced, the vintagers starting one of the prettiest songs of the evening, "Wine, wine, beautiful wine." Next the Alcalde of Bolero appears and proceeds to unravel the thread of the play. The late Lord of Bolero, after a wrecked life, has left this world heavily in debt. By his will he orders that his title, his lands, and the hand of the daughter Dolores shall be drawn for in a lottery, the proceeds of which should pay off his creditors. Unfortunately, Dolores already has a lover, one Don Alfonso, who swears to prevent anyone but himself wedding the maiden. Alfonso now makes his entrance and sings a duet with Dolores. The lottery is drawn and the winner turns out to be Don José, an adventurer, who for some shady reason had to leave Spain and, going to England, became "pally" with a Bill Hopkins, a retired cat's-meat man and greengrocer. José borrows money of Hopkins to purchase tickets for the lottery, promising, should he win, to make the Englishman a "Count" and to give him a concession for Spanish onions. Bill, his wife and "The Nipper" arrive in Bolero in time for the result of the draw. But Don Alfonso and his friends combine against José and prevail upon Hopkins by threats to take the place of José, while they hold the latter prisoner under the name of Bill Hopkins.

The second scene is a camp, and here Bill Hopkins, as Lord of Bolero, has to act as judge in an action which Mrs. Hopkins brings against Don José, her pretended husband, for restitution of conjugal rights.

The last scene is the Plaza de Toros. According to the conditions of the lottery the winner has to engage in a bull fight, and the pseudo don in fearful trepidation takes a lesson in the art. He escapes the real contest, however, for it is found that the number of the lottery ticket has been read upside down, and that the prize really belongs to Don Alfonso. All is soon made right, and amidst a blaze of light and colour, pretty faces and charming dresses the curtain falls. There is a succession of gorgeous ballets, the grand finale coming with a glorious floral and fruit fête amid beautiful electrical effects.

Miss Dorothy Gould, as Dolores, acts and sings in a manner which soon captivates her audience, and her lover, Don Alfonso, as played by Miss Jessie Templeton, is as brave and dashing a fellow as any girl could wish for. Mr. Teddy Gibbs and Miss Rene Howard, as Don José and his sister, are excellent. Mr. Harry Elliston makes a first rate Alcalde of Bolero, and Mr. Charles Hampden as the monk, Fra Philippo, sings splendidly. Freddy French as Pedro and Miss Lizzie Hay as Nina, his lover, are excellent, while a deal of the credit should go to Bob Selvidge, Miss May Sharples and Mr. Barney Dixon as Bill Hopkins, his wife, and The Nipper, their son. They are extremely funny, Hopkins bringing down the house with his song "When I'm M.P." The funniest episode of the evening is the fearful bull fight "Bill" engages in. Altogether the show is first-class from beginning to end, and reflects great credit on all responsible for its production.

THE CANONBURY CLUB.

The Canonbury Club annual garden party and concert took place at the Club House, Canonbury Tower, on Saturday evening, and was favoured by delightful weather. There was a large attendance of members and their friends, this being the only occasion during the year when the ladies have an opportunity of viewing the ancient Tower, which was built in 1362, and frequently visited by Queen Elizabeth. The programme opened with a charming selection of music by Mr. Lovett King's excellent Bijou Orchestra. From the Islington Empire came Mr. R. H. Douglas, whose monologue was greatly appreciated; and another highly successful turn was Mr. Percy Honri, for whose presence the Clubites were indebted to the courtesy of Mr. C. W. Adams, manager of the Holloway Empire. Mr. Honri delighted the company by his admirably-played selections on the concertina, accompanied by amusing patter. The clever instrumentalist was loudly applauded. Mr. Arthur Helmore, the original Private Secretary, gave a choice selection from his extensive répertoire. Mr. Walter Grace, the veteran vocalist, sang "The Carnival" and other songs with characteristic vigour. A duet, "Domestic Economy," by Miss Edith Shorey and Mr. Will Carney, was well received; as were also their solo contributions. Mr. Charles Gellett recited "The Browns of Walham Green" and other pieces with unqualified success. Miss Minnie Henstridge sang "Smiles," Tosti's "Good-Bye," and "The Land of Hope and Glory" in charming style. Miss Lucy Weston, Miss Maud Hodgson, and Mr. Ralph Carlssohn also scored as vocalists; and Mr. Philip Levard, boy conjurer, gave a smart performance. Mr. Will Scott, coster comedian, was applauded. Mr. Lovett King rendered valuable assistance as accompanist and musical director. The entertainment, which concluded with a dance on the lawn, was under the management of Messrs. R. T. Baines, J. Benjamin, Will Clinch, L. King, and H. T. Pearson, the energetic, hard-working secretary of the Club. At dusk the grounds were brilliantly illuminated, and the general effect was much admired.

THE Worshipful Company of Musicians held a Court dinner at Stationers' Hall, on Tuesday evening. The Master, Mr. E. E. Cooper, occupied the chair, supported by Sir Homewood Crawford (Senior Warden) and Mr. A. C. Hunter (Junior Warden). Among others present were Mr. S. E. and Mrs. Palmer, Cavalier Alberto and Mrs. Randegger, Sir Frederick Bridge, Sir Ernest and Lady Clarke, Mr. C. B. and Mrs. Edgar, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Trood Mason, the Rev. R. H. and Mrs. Hadden, Mr. T. Lea Southgate, Mr. A. F. Hill, Canon Duckworth, and Mr. T. C. Fenwick. In recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Robert Schumann a "Schumann" programme of music was given.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on Saturday night, the 30th ult. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left on Saturday night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared this week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital, where it was

Photo by Russell and Sons.
MISS DOT STEPHENS.

found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other. She was also found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground.

Miss Stephens is progressing most favourably at the Wolverhampton Hospital, and she has been greatly cheered by the many letters of sympathy which have come from all parts of the country—there have been quite a lot from Walsall, where she had sung with such acceptance during a previous week.

Characteristic of that good fellowship which exists amongst the profession, a matinée is being arranged for her benefit at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

The Era will gladly advocate the claims of Miss Stephens to the generous consideration of both the dramatic and variety professions. She is a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

A fund has been opened and the following subscriptions have been received:—

David James Fund (per Sir Squire Bancroft and Edward Terry) ..	£20	0	0
Edna May	10	0	0
Ellen Terry	5	5	0
George Dance	5	5	0
C. P. Levilly	5	5	0
Herbert Ralland	5	5	0
W. W. Kelly	5	5	0
Edith Cole	5	5	0
J. Bannister Howard	5	5	0
Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson	5	5	0
Mrs. Trepp	5	0	0
The Neilson Fund	5	0	0
Frank King	2	2	0
Stella Gastelle	2	2	0
Greet and Engelbach	2	2	0
Frederick Mouillot	2	2	0
Empsie Bowman	1	10	0
George Alexander	1	1	0
M. R. Morand	1	1	0
E. Lockwood	1	1	0
E. Graham Falcon	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Winnie Brown	1	1	0
A. M. Latham	1	1	0
Charles E. Machin	1	1	0
Lewis Waller	1	1	0
H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Clarence Sounes	1	1	0
Nora Lancaster	1	1	0
Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Maud Darling	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morton	1	1	0
Colin M. Johnston	1	1	0
T. E. Reid	1	1	0
John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren	1	1	0
Tom B. Davis	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
May Lewis	1	1	0
Annie Brophy	1	0	0
Miss Millard	1	0	0
Arthur Poole	1	0	0
Wilfred Esmond	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Spens	1	0	0
Toddie Lewis	0	10	6
Mickie Lewis	0	10	6
Rollo Balmain	0	10	6
W. H. E.	0	10	6
E. Dottridge	0	10	6
Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Arthur Howard	0	10	6
Otto C. Culling	0	10	6
A. H.	0	10	0
E. Stanton Sharp	0	10	0
William Martin	0	10	0
Charles Carey	0	5	0
Dallas Aderson	0	5	0
Percy L. Day	0	5	0
J. B. Young	0	5	0

It is intended that the proceeds shall be devoted to the purchase of an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of Benevolent actions.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words:—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes:—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes: "I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note:—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"HER NAMELESS CHILD."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Madge Duckworth and Ridgewood Barrie.

Produced for the first time at the Theatre Metropole, Devonport, on Monday, July 9th.

Anthony Ford ..... MR. DOUGLAS C. PHELPS
Arthur ..... MR. F. R. GWYN RICHARDSON
Lord Henry Woodville .. MR. LEONARD AARDALE
Mongrole ..... MR. HERBERT SYDNEY
Tom Rivers ..... MR. FRANK HUDSPETH
Jake ..... MR. R. MACDONALD
Jack ..... MR. T. WALTER
Jim ..... MR. GERALD BAYNE
XXX41 ..... MR. T. BERNE
Officer ..... MR. GEORGE VYE
Bessie Brooks ..... MISS LALLAH DAVIS
Sarah ..... MISS HYAM TWYSON
Crayont ..... MISS BEATRICE VANE
Lady Sybil Woodville .. MISS GRACE HARLINGTON
Phyllis Ford ..... MISS PATTIE HASTINGS

The story of the new play is as follows: Anthony Ford, a prematurely-aged blacksmith, a kindly man stricken with sorrow by the death of his wife at an early age, devotes what little money he has managed to scrape together to the welfare and advancement of his two children, Arthur and Phyllis. Phyllis marries a Captain Mannering, who, on the outbreak of the Boer war, goes out to the front and is killed, leaving Phyllis a widow three months after her marriage. Arthur, studying to qualify as a civil engineer, is led into gambling and drinking by his cousin, Lord Woodville, for whom he good-naturedly but foolishly "backs" a bill for £5,000. Just as Phyllis receives the terrible news concerning her husband's death, her father gets a letter informing him that his brother Mark has died suddenly and bequeathed a fortune of £50,000 to Phyllis and Arthur, provided they are both unmarried at the time the will is proven. Arthur, pressed for money, reproaches Phyllis for ever having married, thereby causing them to lose their uncle's fortune. Lord Woodville persuades Phyllis to save her brother from ruin, by avowing that she was never married to Captain Mannering. Phyllis, moved by affection for her brother, denies her marriage, and in a very strong and powerful scene tells her father that she was never a wife. Ford, almost bereft of reason, disowns his daughter and Phyllis goes out to fight the battle of life, a child being born to her as some consolation for the sacrifice she has made. She finds the struggle to keep herself and the child of her dead husband a hard and bitter one, but suffers bravely and alone. How Lord Woodville, after this, lures his other victim, Arthur, into a marriage with his own wife, Sybil, so as to obtain, through her, Arthur's share of the fortune; how the poor wife, after weary waiting, approaches her father with the truth, by bringing to him, as she thinks, her marriage certificate; how she finds, upon arriving at her father's old cottage, that the certificate has been stolen; how, in the end, the partly-burnt marriage register, containing the entry of Phyllis's marriage, is discovered intact by Mongrole, Woodville's catspaw, and given to Phyllis out of revenge for Woodville having, years ago, betrayed his wife, occupy the rest of the action.

The play is written in terse and vigorous style, the situations are strong, and the interest is well maintained.

The character of Anthony Ford, the blacksmith, was undertaken by Mr. Douglas C. Phelps, who was alike good in the strong as well as the more tender passages; the numerous little touches he imparted were natural and convincing, and his make-up was excellent. Arthur was played in vigorous fashion by Mr. F. R. Gwyn Richardson, and Mr. Leonard Aardale, as Lord Woodville, was duly sinister and plausible. Mongrole was capitally rendered by Mr. Herbert Sydney, his acting in the disguise of the Sexton in the last act being especially noteworthy. Phyllis, the much sinned against wife, was pathetically played by Miss Pattie Hastings, and she gave a careful and well thought-out reading of a difficult part. Miss Grace Harlington, as Lady Sybil, was very effective, her occasional touches of pathos being excellent. Mr. Frank Hudspeth and Miss Lallah Davis were well to the fore in very good comedy-parts, the latter being especially sweet and winning. The other characters were well represented.

The piece was effectively mounted, and the production was in the hands of Mr. Phelps, who must have devoted careful thought on the work, as evidenced by the thoroughness of the performance on the opening night. The play was enthusiastically received by a full house. The authors were loudly called for, but did not respond.

AN action was heard before Judge Grantham in the Civil Court at Newcastle Assizes, on the 5th inst. in which Messrs. Bolton, Fane, and Co., of London, claimed from Stuart Mould, a Newcastle architect, £145, the price of a fire-proof curtain supplied to the King's Theatre, Gateshead, of which Mr. Mould was the architect. It was stated that there was no question that the work was done—the question was whether Mr. Mould was liable for the bill or not. The order for the curtain was given by Mr. Mould by letter, and under the circumstances Messrs. Fane chose to sue him, for there was some difficulty in finding out who the principals were. After hearing the evidence, the jury found for Messrs. Fane for £145.

MR. JOE MAY, the enterprising manager of the King's, Gateshead, has this week promoted a singing competition, which has attracted a large number of amateurs. The first prize is £3 in cash, the second £2, and the third £1.

MR. JOE HORROCKS has been engaged to produce Mr. Lingford Carson's pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Queen's Theatre, Keighley. Mr. Horrocks has had a lengthy experience, and this will be his twenty-first production.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 9,
the Drama, entitled
"THE SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."

Melodrama still holds the sway here, and Mr. Robert Arthur is this week presenting that well-known drama, *The Shadows of a Great City*, which is of American origin, but is quite as popular on this side of the "herring pond" as the other. The company on the whole is a very good one, and the play has attracted capital audiences during the week. Mr. Fred Victor, who appears as Tom Cooper, the sailor, gives a very fine embodiment of the character, playing it in a breezy but earnest style. That amusing personage, Jim Farren, is humorously depicted by Mr. George Ross, who never misses a chance to create amusement, and he is most successful in his endeavours to supply the light comedy of the story. Another cause of hilarity is the old pawnbroker of the Jewish persuasion, Abe Nathan, who is cleverly portrayed by Mr. E. Howard Templeton, whose make-up is notably good. That clever actress, Miss Emily Spiller, appears as Biddy Roonan, and plays the character with real Irish spirit, thereby making herself an immense favourite. Miss May Chevalier appears in the dual rôle of Annie Standish and Nellie Standish, and she portrays the two characters in a decidedly clever manner; the pathetic side is shown in the earlier scenes as the mother, and then later, as the daughter, she depicts a light-hearted young girl. It is a praiseworthy piece of acting, deserving of hearty approval. The villain of the play, George Benson, is well rendered by Mr. Stanley Harrison, who acts with much force. Mr. J. Norrie is seen to advantage as the detective. Messrs. Leon Stewart, Brocklebank, and Coates, and Miss Hettie Summers also lend valuable assistance in the minor rôles. The play is adequately mounted, and the scene of the rescue on the rocks is particularly good. Mr. Wilfred Stanford continues to look after Mr. Robert Arthur's interests here, and Mr. George Lord and his orchestra deserve mention for their share in the evening's amusement, their efforts meeting with much appreciation.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, July 9,
the Musical Comedy novelty, entitled
"DARE DEVIL DOROTHY."

A very pleasant change is provided this week at the Grand by Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in the above attraction. A novelty it decidedly is, inasmuch as it contains within it the germs both of the drama and the go-as-you-please musical comedy, the combination proving greatly to the taste of the patrons of this theatre, where good houses have been the result. Mr. Wilfred Carr has supplied a satisfactory book that can easily be adapted to circumstances, and the music, in which is interpolated a good many popular songs, is bright and tuneful. A capable company has been engaged for the production. Mr. Edward Kipling as Crump is quite the hit of the evening; an experienced comedian, and a clever dancer, his quips and songs kept the audience highly amused, and encores being much in demand. Special mention should be made of his plantation scena with Miss Nellie Harcourt and a chorus of children, which gained a big reception. Mr. Walter Ashley as Captain Fielding made a favourable impression, using a good voice with effect, and acting well. Mr. Henry C. Ward as Captain Dudley played the heavy rôle with great success. Mr. Deane Cliffe as Featherstone Haugh did everything possible with a poor part; Mr. Alf. Stretton as Hawkins was commendable in a part of limited opportunities; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith gave a bright and animated performance. This lady is an accomplished dancer, and special mention must be made of her skipping-rope dance in Act 3. Miss Marie Vere as Ruth was acceptable in a small part; Miss Dorothy Desmonde in the title-rôle made a decided hit, singing a number of songs charmingly and acting daintily. The Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake introduced, with happy results, several dances, all of them very clever; and in Act 3 Mlle. Dora gave some solos on the oboe, gaining cordial applause. Mr. Herbert Somerville directed a good performance, and the tour is under the direction of Mr. J. W. Gardiner.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, July 9,
the Melodrama, in Four Acts, by G. Howard Watson and W. P. Sheen, entitled
"THE WAY OF THE WORLD."

This stirring melodrama, with its scenes of circus and sporting life, is appealing strongly to the patrons of the New Prince's Theatre, and is ably interpreted by Messrs. Montague Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's capital company. The character which stands out most prominently is that of Adela de la Roche, the "Queen of Lions," and Miss Sidney Crowe is to be congratulated on a most able and telling performance. She imparts life and vigour to the impersonation of the adventuress Mr. Harold B. Lewis as Cecil Montague has a part that fits him like a glove, and he makes the most of his opportunities as Captain Fred Slade. Mr. Herbert Skardon earns the villain's portion, and draws the usual disapproval of the patrons of the gallery upon him. His acting throughout is powerful and intense. Mr. Clarence Temple gives a capital performance as Matthew Malyon, a disgraced clergyman; and Mr. Augustus Hammond as Horatio Bluff, a broken down swell, creates much amusement. Mr. Fred Mace does well as Sir John Slade; and Mr. Pat Quinn is quite at home in the part of the circus proprietor, Silas Montague. As Joe Sparrow, Mr. Dick Seddon adds to the humour of the piece, and he is ably seconded in his efforts by Miss Marie Fontaine, who plays Polly Bell in a bright and merry fashion. Miss Cissie Bellamy as Kate Montague is well placed, and acts with care and dignity; and Miss Violet Ingram wins golden opinions by her impersonation of Marian Fanshaw. As Ned Montague, Mr. Frank Stanley could not be bettered; and the smaller parts are all in capable hands. The equine actors deserve the highest praise, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, the two miniature ponies, showing great aptitude and intelligence. The incidental music is well rendered under the capable direction of Mr. Stephen E. Blythe, and Mr. Herbert Leonard, the courteous business and acting-manager, is never-failing in his efforts to secure the comfort of the patrons of the theatre.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, July 9, the play entitled
"THE BELLS."

The adaptation of *The Bells*, presented by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company on Monday evening at the Pavilion, contains not only the principal features of the famous Lyceum production, but also a sensational and startling incident which adds considerably to the interest of the play. At the same time the interpolation of songs into a piece of this character appears altogether unnecessary, and protracts the performance to a late hour. A highly melo-dramatic portrait, although a trifle unequal, of Mathias Trachtman was presented by Mr. M. D. Waxman, who was extremely good in the first act, while Mr. Joseph Fineberg gave an admirable representation of Steinhertz. Mr. M. Streng appeared as Hershel. Undoubtedly the success of the evening was achieved by Mr. J. Scherman, who, by his fine impersonation of Benjamin, secured a triumph which was deservedly popular, his portrayal of lost memory, fear, and the return to reason being done with great artistic skill, and the sympathy of the audience was repeatedly expressed by the loud applause which testified their appreciation of the actor's ability. Madame Rose Waxman was earnest and efficient as Regina, Madame J. Kayzer made a commendable Serel, and Madame F. Waxman was duly effective as Helena. Mr. Gusofsky carried off honours by his forcible and thoughtful rendering of Nobel, and Mr. Schapira was satisfactory as Adolf. Mr. Zeidel was seen to advantage as Abraham Nobel, and Mr. Iasacowitz apparently read the part of the Judge. Madame Goldstein did all that was necessary as Hana-Sarah. The week's programme includes *The Jewish Minister*, *The Jewish Priest*, *Korah's Treasures*, *Judith and Alphernas*, and *Haman the Second*.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 9,
the Play in Four Acts, entitled
"THE NEW MAGDALEN."

At the Shakespeare Theatre this week a cordial greeting is being extended to Mr. A. Clifton Alderson and his London company who, by kind permission of Mr. J. B. Mulholland, are presenting Wilkie Collins' *The New Magdalen*. The acting throughout is worthy of warmest praise, but most of the success of the performance is due to the admirable interpretation of the parts of Mercy Merrick and Julian Gray by Miss B. Doyle and Mr. A. Clifton Alderson. Miss Doyle depicts the feelings of the heroine with a power and intensity that quite enthral the audience and rouse their sympathy to the utmost. Equally successful is Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, whose excellent rendering of the part of the unconventional but warm-hearted clergyman, Julian Gray, evokes the warmest appreciation. Mr. H. K. Ayliff is to be commended for a sterling performance in the rôle of Horace Holmcroft. Miss Mildred Gilbert is seen to advantage in the part of Lady Janet Roy, and Miss G. Hastings Walton is eminently satisfactory as the vindictive Grace Roseberty. Mr. Harry Wright as Ignatius Wetzell and Mr. Richard Cameron as Surgeon Martini capably sustain their respective parts. The play is preceded by the farce *Bamboozling*, which evokes roars of laughter and is capably acted by Mr. H. K. Ayliff as Captain Bamboozle, Mr. H. Wright as Sir M. Meadows, Mr. Richard Cameron as Frank Tiverton, Miss Mildred Gilbert as Lady Meadows, Miss G. Hastings Walton as Sophy Western, and Miss Moya Mannering as Emily.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, July 9,
the Domestic Play, in Four Acts, by Lingford Carson, entitled
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Company is appearing this week in the domestic play *The Drama of Life*. A company of all-round excellence, aided by the most elaborate staging and effects, holds the audience from start to finish. Mr. J. M. East has indeed secured a great attraction for the close of the season. Mr. George M. Newall is responsible for a fine piece of acting as Harry Beech, first as a young husband, then, when mourning the loss of his wife, who leaves him through the machinations of his cousin, the habitual drunkard being slowly killed by brandy. Mr. Newall's elocution is especially fine, and his methods are resourceful throughout. Walter Beech, the cousin who is responsible for the villainy of the piece, is played in a sufficiently repulsive way by Mr. Edward M. Hamilton, his varied action and expressive delivery giving full value to the part. The detective, Richard Brenton, is capably represented by Mr. Horace Booth; Mr. Maxwell Payne as Jack Lawton, in the employ of Walter Beech, causes much amusement; Mr. Sydney Fiennes as Dave Crane, who is killed somewhat early in the play, is effective; Mr. H. Roberts as an amateur detective causes much amusement; while Miss Florence French as Lady Jane Wilde gives much assistance in this direction. Mr. E. Edwards as John Walsh, a railway porter, is responsible for one of the funniest scenes of the evening when directing passengers, his efforts being much appreciated by the audience; as a lodging-house keeper of the lowest type Miss Nellie Birchenough gives a capital piece of character acting; Miss Elsie May charmingly portrays the little boy Robert Beech, and gains much applause by her singing as a poor street beggar. Miss Kate Hallam as the unfortunate wife, Sylvia Beech, soon wins the deepest sympathies of the audience, her scene in the snow-laden street being especially affecting; indeed, throughout the play the actress's dramatic gifts are fully apparent. Other characters are safe in the hands of Messrs. Edward van Biene, L. Murray, Henry Miller, and Cal. Hunt-Mortlake. Mr. Edward van Biene is general-manager for Mr. Lingford Carson.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, July 9,
the laughable mythological Comedy, entitled
"NIOBE."

This week, after a series of melodramas, we have a welcome change in the advent of *Niobe*. The piece was originally produced some years ago at the Strand Theatre, with Mr. Harry Paulton and Miss Beatrice Lamb in the principal parts, and since then has always kept its place in the affection of the playgoer. It was not, therefore, to be wondered at that Mr. Fred Winn's company, which included Mr. Harry Paulton in his original part of Peter Amos Dunn, received a very warm welcome at the hands of the good folks of Peckham on Monday night. Mr. Fred Winn's company certainly gives a rendering of the amusing comedy which it would be difficult to beat. That sterling comedian, Mr. Harry Paulton, with his dry, stolid humour, convulsed the audience as the henpecked little draper, Peter Amos Dunn, and the many awkward situations in which that sorely-tried individual is placed are greeted with shouts of laughter. Miss Annie Esmond, with her auburn hair and statuesque beauty, looks the part of the animated statue to the life. Niobe's ingenuousness was delightfully rendered, and Miss Esmond's performance was undoubtedly a great success. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., played well as the vacuous swell, Philip Innings, and Miss Violet Hallam was charming in the ingénue part of Hattie Griffin. The fine art dealer, Hamilton Tompkins, was done full justice to by Mr. Frederick Thompson, and Miss Mary Kilpack was satisfactory as Helen Griffin. Mr. J. Edward Pearce gave a polished and effective reading of the part of the unscrupulous Cornelius Griffin. Other characters were well played by Miss Kate Turner, Miss Lucie Verrier, Miss Alesia Jones, Miss Dorothea Rowe, and Mr. George Farrow. The curtain-raiser was a duologue, entitled *Acting Mad*, written by Mr. Harry Paulton, in which Miss Kate Harwood and Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., acquitted themselves with much credit.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, July 9, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."

Mr. Jack Haddon's company forms a strong combination, and does admirable justice to Mr. Howard's thrilling play. In the leading character of Luka Marischia, Miss Marie Rayner makes a most creditable appearance; and a pretty and engaging portraiture of the wronged Vera Vassaloff is given by Miss Elaine Vanbrugh. Mr. Geo. Herbert appears as the Russian General Romanoff, and the parts of his two sons who take such conspicuous places in the play are ably filled by Mr. Bernard Mervyn and Mr. Cecil Melton. Creditable appearances have also been made by Mr. Jack Haddon as Captain Semebrius, by Mr. W. Wilson as Colonel Louvaroff, and by Mr Wm. Rivers as Dr. Keroff. The comedy of the production is ably sustained by Mr. Fred Haming as Alexis Skopolopki, by Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita, and by Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Poluski.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 9,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Mark Melford, entitled
"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

Mr. Robert Arthur has done well this week in reviving Mr. Mark Melford's popular drama, the attendance at the Kennington Theatre being of quite an abnormal character for this time of the year. Mr. Melford has put some of his best work into the drama, which he wrote at the period prior to his production of the music hall sketches with which his name is associated, and the piece has secured the entire admiration of audiences who have a regard for what is undeniably good melodrama. The piece is replete with effective situations, constructed with a skilful hand, and the well-written dialogue contains many witty tilts against social institutions that lay themselves open to ridicule. The outstanding character of the play is a coiner named J. Haldane Gully, a man of indomitable force and irresistible purpose; and in Mr. James C. Aubrey an actor is found with experience and capabilities properly to express the masterful nature of the part. Mr. Aubrey delivers his lines in a resonant voice with due deliberation, and acts with intensity and real dramatic power. A commendable impersonation is also that of Mr. Fred Morgan, who well indicates in manner and speech the invincible courage and resource of John Lacarsey, whose mission of tracking down his father's murderer attains such thrilling proportions. Miss Mary Raby is capitally suited in the part of Winnie Bradley. She has to portray the character of an adventuress whose nature contains an agreeable element of humour, and to this phase of the part Miss Raby gives special prominence, making the audience very merry at frequent intervals, besides giving ample proof of her dramatic powers at other portions of the play. A graceful exponent of Mildred Parkes is found in Miss Jessie Winter, who makes an irresistible appeal to the hearts of her audience by her quiet, yet effective, acting. The family name is well upheld by Mr. Young Melford, who gives a striking rendering of Charles Bearing, the student, who is done to death in the coiners' den, and his vigorous delivery and gallant presence are of distinct value in the part. Miss Blanche Stanley gives an excellent account of Mrs. Bearing, the devoted mother, her rendering of the long denunciation of the villainous gang being skilfully emphasised. Mr. E. Major Jones presents a well-studied picture of Major Parkes, giving a realistic representation of the remorse and horror which come by turns upon the depraved officer. A comic complexion, at all times acceptable, is put upon the coiner Pearly Tanner by Mr. W. H. Morgan; and Mr. Jackson Willcox clothes Woodruff (another member of the gang) with an aspect of gentility that is very effective. Mr. George Barker is Adler, another of the nefarious group; and Mr. Tom Allen acts the rôle of a convict poacher with ability. Mr. Ernest Carter makes the most of the part of Pevitt, a butler; and Mr. M. Marshall distinguishes himself as the Welsh captain of the Curfew.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 9,
the Drama, by Frank E. Thorne, entitled
"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

The patrons of the Lyric are so fortunate as to have Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's principal company at the local theatre this week in the drama, entitled *Her One Great Sin*. The theme of a woman, who, after committing a great wrong, repents and is forgiven, is by no means a new one, but a drama written on these lines is interesting, and gives many opportunities to the actress who portrays the leading female rôle. Miss Blanche St. Albans, who takes the part of the repentant woman, is fully alive to this fact, and presents the character in a powerful manner. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford as the villainous Arnold Thornhill is excellent, proving beyond all doubt that he has plenty of ability. Mr. Sam Arthur as Reuben Warhurst renders this character in a business-like and spirited way which is much appreciated. Wholesome humour is introduced by Mr. Fred Hodson as Jemmy Jumble, and, assisted by Miss Nellie Lambert, he evokes much laughter. In the juvenile parts of Gracie and Charlie, Miss Maud Lambert and Miss Phyllis Damian are both good. Mr. Charles E. Lambert, Mr. Sam Roberts, and Miss Louie Walton, in low comedy rôles, amuse the audience very much, while Mr. J. Nella makes a capital solicitor. Messrs. F. M. Wright, Tom Bollard, W. W. Dudge, Gerald Smythe, and C. Dale, in smaller parts, afford valuable assistance.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 9,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by James Willard, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

This powerful spectacular drama, full of exciting scenes and carefully devised situations, has appealed effectively to the habitués of Mr. Bailey's comfortable Marylebone playhouse. A performance ful of sterling merit is that of Mr. Fred C. Imeson, who first as Joe Jackson, the postman, and afterwards as the Rev. Nathaniel Hope, gives one of those easy and natural exhibitions of acting of which only a player of pronounced ability is capable. The part of Clifford Yorke receives skilful treatment at the hands of Mr. George R. Montford, who certainly is the beau ideal of the gentlemanly villain. Mr. Austin Mortimer enacts Gordon Allington in manly, vigorous fashion; Mr. E. Arnold Palmer is well placed as Tom Nainby; Mr. Harry Emmerson does well as James Woodstock; and Mr. Fred Norburn puts good work into his rendering of Jake Grudgewell. Miss Nellie Sheffield sustains the rôle of Molly Woodstock with plenty of life and go, her versatility making her a warm favourite; Miss Phyllis Dailley is quietly successful as Violet Kingston; and the efforts of Miss Phyllis French as the good-natured little tramp Bob receive plenty of well-deserved encouragement. The play is elaborately staged and mounted, the whole production being thoroughly sound. Mr. Dobell Lyle is the business manager for Mr. Jas. Willard, and Mr. William Bailey's interests in front are, as usual, well looked after by Mr. James Sinclair.

"PEGGY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I note in your last week's issue a report of a play, entitled *Peggy*, produced at the Palace Pier, Brighton, on June 25th. I should like to call your attention to the fact that a play of this title (and of which I hold the rights) was produced at the Royalty, London, over twenty years ago.

It was written by the late Joseph Mackay, and the season was under the direction of the late Miss Kate Lawler, who appeared in the title-rôle, supported by Mr. Frank Cooper as Beppo Spartolotti, the Italian organ-grinder; the late Mr. Edward Righton as Dr. Molloy, and Miss Harriett Coveney as Granny Flannigan. I wrote to Miss Robertson acquainting her of these facts, and asking her to kindly re-name her play, as I had the prior claim to the title, but not having a reply, I shall be pleased if you will insert this letter, so as to avoid confusion.—Your truly,

JO. MONKHOUSE.

Camberwell, July 5.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

THE WOOLWICH ARTILLERY THEATRE.

The report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, with reference to the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, was submitted.

This theatre, which has recently been re-built after destruction by fire, is not licensed for public entertainments and does not possess a certificate under the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878. The committee stated: "It would seem to be quite clear that the Council had no jurisdiction in the matter and no responsibility for the safety of the public attending the theatre, and in the circumstances we do not think that the Council should take any further action. As regards the construction of the theatre, no plans were submitted to the Council, and the Council's officers have no knowledge of the structural arrangements of the building. But, however well a theatre may be planned, it is impossible, except by frequent inspection during the time a building is open to the public, to ensure that the arrangements for preventing or minimising the danger from fire or panic are properly maintained."

In reply to Mr. Dolman, Mr. Yates, chairman of the committee, said he agreed that it was a strange state of things, that the Woolwich theatre, to which the general public were admitted, should be the only one in the London area that was not open to inspection by the London County Council. The Theatres and Music Halls Committee, he assured the hon. member, had done all they could in the matter. The Secretary of State, however, had taken his stand on the lines set forth in the committee's report, arguing that it was a "recreation room" within the meaning of the Act. The committee had been careful to point out to the military authorities that the building was not in a desirable condition, and that it must be understood the County Council did not accept any responsibility in regard to it.

THE MUNICIPAL MUSIC HALL.

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee recommended that application be made in the next session of Parliament for authority enabling the Council (1) to arrange for vocal music to be provided as an extension of the music now provided under its existing powers relative to the provision of bands; (2) to make charges for programmes, and for the use of seats and chairs at band performances; and (3) to make a charge for admission to such performances as the Council might think desirable to provide, within doors, such charges to be made for the purpose of defraying expenses.

Mr. Sankey (chairman of the committee) said that there had been some misconception among the public as to the very modest proposals of the committee. They had no intention of establishing or carrying on a tea-garden or a music hall, but merely wished to lessen the strain upon the bands by introducing a little vocal music into the performances. With regard to the indoor entertainments, there need be no fear that this was the thin end of the wedge for the establishment of a municipal opera-house or music hall. The proposal was to make a small charge for these indoor concerts, as the committee thought it was not right that the rates should bear the cost of the entertainments. There was a great demand for these concerts.

Mr. Piggott moved that the recommendation be referred back. This proposal was not so innocent as it looked. Their parks and open spaces were not like Margate sands; and if the recommendation of the committee were carried they would no doubt have applications for pierrots and niggers and all the rest of them. He hoped the parks would be kept for those who went there to hear the songs of the birds.

Mr. Goldsmith seconded the amendment. He questioned Mr. Sankey's contention that the proposal would entail no increased expense. The Council had no right to compete with private people in providing such entertainment.

Mr. Goodrich was afraid that if vocal music were permitted, then "green rooms" would be demanded; and from one end to the other considerable expense would be incurred.

Mr. E. Smith contended that the proposition of the Parks Committee meant nothing more or less than municipal music halls.

Mr. Barnes asserted that the bands in the parks had done much to encourage an appreciation of instrumental music; but he would like to see encouragement given to the old English glees and madrigals which in olden days gave so much gratification to the public.

On a division, Mr. Piggott's amendment for referring back was negatived by 61 to 31.

Mr. E. Smith next moved, as a further amendment, that application be made in the next session of Parliament for authority enabling the Council to make charges for programmes and for the use of seats and chairs at band performances, leaving out the other clauses in the committee's proposal.

Sir M. Beachcroft, who seconded the amendment, argued that the only vocalist that could be heard in open air was a music-hall singer.

Mr. McKinnon Wood, M.P., opposing the motion of the committee, said that the proposition was to supply unlimited indoor concerts—concerts which, indeed, were to be self-supporting. As to outdoor concerts, he maintained that no vocalist, except, under pressure of poverty, would risk his voice by singing in the open air. There was no doubt that the supply of voluntary choirs would not in any way be equal to the demand.

Mr. Leon supported the recommendation of the committee as a counter-attraction to the public-houses; yet he thought that admission to the concerts should be free, leaving the income to be derived from the charges for programmes, &c.

Mr. Hunter admitted that had it not been for counter-attractions in musical entertainments to public-houses he might have been a drunkard. He therefore advocated the recommendation of the committee.

Mr. W. Bailey, as an old caterer, warned the Council that they were venturing upon a dangerous undertaking. They would find that they would not get the people to come to concerts in any numbers unless they provided the "comic element," which he understood they had had to provide at Glasgow, in connection with such entertainments, at considerable cost. There were the fire regulations and other matters to think of, and the committee would find that they were rushing into an enormous expense.

Only 20 voted for the amendment, and the recommendation was approved by 40 to 17.

HENRY SMART.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Allow me to point out a little error which has crept into the current issue of your excellent journal. In your "Answers to Correspondents" you state that "Henry Smart, organist and composer, died July 6, 1864." The year of Henry Smart's death was, however, 1879. His grave, which I have often visited, is in Hampstead Cemetery, not far from the resting-places of three other famous musicians—Sir George Alexander Macfarren, Walter Bache, and Joseph Maas.—I am, Sir, yours very faithfully,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, N.W., July 10.

ALBERT CHEVALIER

IN "PANTALOON," BY J. M. BARRIE.
DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
Sole Representative for Mr. Chevalier, Mr. INGLS
7, Dorset-road, Ealing.

Pall Mall Gazette.—That Mr. Chevalier would do well in the part was never in doubt. But few, we imagine, were prepared for so great a triumph. Mr. Chevalier had some friends in the house, who greeted him warmly on his first entrance. But they were not enough to make one-tenth of the uproar of approbation at the fall of the curtain, and Mr. Chevalier, who was almost overcome by his reception, had to appear again and again. On the grotesque, fantastic side of Pantaloon's character he did not lay very much stress, but the pathetic passages he handled with a delicacy and a power, a variety, and a resource that carried all before them. On Saturday the audience was visibly affected. It was very quiet while the play was going on, but at the end its pent-up feelings expressed themselves in a scene the like of which we cannot recall this side of the late Sir Henry Irving's last season at Drury Lane. We imagine that Mr. Frohman will be emboldened to give Mr. Chevalier (who is admirably supported by Miss Pauline Chase in her old part of Columbine) a show in some drama of—to use an American phrase—"great heart interest." Mr. Chevalier is an actor of the Robson stamp, and though Robson drama has long been out of fashion in the West End, it is quite within the power of Mr. Chevalier's genius to bring it again into vogue, purged, of course, of its crudeness.

The Times.—On Saturday two old plays were revived, Mr. Barrie's *Pantaloon* and Mr. Lennox's *The Marriage of Kitty*. In the former Mr. Albert Chevalier takes up the part of Pantaloon, the Old 'Un, who has grown too old to be funny, and must give his daughter Columbine in marriage to the Clown if he is to keep his place in the company. And Mr. Chevalier played the part to perfection, keeping his audience between tears and laughter and wholly delighted with Mr. Barrie's fantastic, impishly sentimental little comedy. To watch Mr. Chevalier's face when, on Columbine's return, he feels the familiar rub of the red-hot poker on his legs and learns that she and Harlequin are the parents of a real clown, to see him beg his old master for a bite of his sausage and quail before the terrible reply, "I only bites with the perfession" is to be absurdly moved with emotion. Of Mr. Chevalier, we can only say what the Old 'Un said of the Clown, "What a hartist he is."

The *Daily Telegraph*.—The present revival brings back to the legitimate stage Mr. Albert Chevalier, after an interval of fifteen years, if his brief appearance some little time ago at the Royalty in musical comedy may be ruled out of the count. The return of so versatile, so resourceful, and so clever an artist to the medium in which he first made his mark is distinctly a subject of congratulation, and it may be hoped that, admirable as his platform sketches are, more may be seen of Mr. Chevalier in the immediate future at the theatre. His impersonation of the old Pantaloon in Mr. Barrie's playlet conclusively showed that his art is as fine and as polished as ever. Nervousness doubtless lent to his opening scenes a certain air of formality, of stiffness, of premeditation. But as the actor warmed to his work this impression wore off, and on the fall of the curtain Mr. Chevalier received an ovation the warmth and sincerity of which abundantly testified to the powerful effect his performance had produced on all present.

The *Morning Post*.—Mr. Chevalier acted Pantaloon as a human being. He had to reproduce the "business" and "gags" of pantomime, but that was his misfortune. You did not judge him by it. It was as if one had St. Vitus's dance and could not control his actions. He made one forget his clothes, and acted the part as a "straight" part. His Pantaloon was simply a weak, kindly, sore-troubled, down-trodden old man; in the second act half senile. And Mr. Chevalier from the moment he got over his nervousness acted magnificently. To match his impersonation one has to go back to the Corporal Brewster of the late Sir Henry Irving. The result was that there was almost unbroken silence during the play, but on the curtain falling there went up a vast roar, which continued until the curtain had risen and fallen many, many times. Nor was the curtain worked quickly, as it sometimes is when it is desired to put the best appearance on things. Those who have steadily refused to recognise Mr. Chevalier as an actor—he is among the greatest we have—are silenced, and we can only hope that Mr. Frohman will see his way to "presenting" Mr. Chevalier in characters worthy his abilities.

The *Referee*.—A most finished and attractive impersonation. His acting towards the end, when the family-forsaken and playgoer-neglected 'Old-'Un" welcomed back his Columbine daughter and Harlequin son-in-law because they had brought him back a little "kid" who already shaped as a clown, was touching in the extreme. Mr. Chevalier received some nine or ten calls at the end of the little piece.

Daily Graphic.—Mr. Albert Chevalier, who has not been seen on the regular stage for many years, plays this character brilliantly, and his performance was a triumphant success. He gave us the real decrepit "fallen star" in a manner that was at once subtle and beautiful, and at the end he reached a fine climax of emotion when the old man realises that he has a grandson—a young clown. Mr. Chevalier is so fine an actor that it is much to be hoped that after this signal triumph he will remain in London and appear in another play.

The *People*.—The comedy was preceded by Mr. J. M. Barrie's little play, *Pantaloon*, to the revival of which a special distinction was given by the return to the regular stage of Mr. Albert Chevalier, who appeared in the title part. It was a performance which roused the audience to great enthusiasm; time after time the curtain was raised for Mr. Chevalier to bow acknowledgment of a genuine ovation.

Evening Standard.—MR. CHEVALIER'S SUCCESS.—Mr. Albert Chevalier's appearance as Mr. Barrie's Pantaloon gave us another little flash of something rather close to genius. On the previous afternoon, at the same theatre, we had seen him hold his own as an artist, in every sense of the term, with Mme. Yvette Guilbert. On Saturday evening he played the Pantaloon exquisitely. It was something to remember.

Sun.—That Mr. Albert Chevalier possesses the true instincts of the actor, no one who has listened to him singing his Coster songs needs to be told, but I rather fancy his performance as the "Old 'Un" in Mr. Barrie's *Pantaloon* at the Duke of York's on Saturday night came as something of a revelation. The scene with "fairy" and the "boy," when he is compelled to tell them that the clown, his master, wants his child for wife, was perfect in its sincerity, but best of all was the joy of the old man when Harlequin and Columbine come as the returned wanderers with "the kid," who is ready to play the baby clown to this aged and neglected pantaloon. Mr. Chevalier roused his audience to a degree of enthusiasm not often witnessed in the theatre, and was called again and again at curtain fall.

The *Daily Mail*.—The evening was chiefly notable for the fact that Mr. Chevalier returned to the "legitimate" stage. Those who know and admire Mr. Chevalier's delightfully artistic methods—and who does not?—will be able to picture him as the quavering, proud, humble old Pantaloon. One realised the full beauty of the character on Saturday evening. Mr. Chevalier drew the tears of the whole house, and was called again and again at the fall of the curtain.

ACTORS' CHURCH UNION.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The sixth annual conference of the Actors' Church Union was held at Bishop's House, Kennington Park, on Tuesday afternoon, under the chairmanship of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of SOUTHWARK, the president of the Union. Many clergymen were present, as well as actors and actresses, Mr. Martin Harvey attending as one of the principal speakers.

The President, in opening the meeting, called upon the honorary secretary, the Rev. Donald Hole, to read the report, which was as follows:

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1905-6.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen.—The progress which I have had to report in past years has been well sustained.

INCREASE OF NUMBERS.

Since our last conference our Professional Members have increased from 125 to 190; our Associates from 28 to 50; our Centres from 89 to 120 and our Hon. Chaplains from 115 to 153.

VISITING.

We have always recognised that our progress was bound to be slow, we must rely chiefly upon the quiet, steady work of our Chaplains in their various centres. I have so far as is possible, notified the Chaplains from week to week, of the visits of members of our Union to their towns, and they have always made a point of calling upon them. This is good, but if the Union is to progress as it ought to do, we must remember that the *ideal* at which we have to aim, is a regular weekly visit paid by the Chaplains to the members of theatrical companies which come to their towns, whether they happen to belong to the Union or not. This has, in some cases, actually been carried out, and there are numerous indications, both in the reports of chaplains and in letters I have received from members of the profession, that the work is really beginning to tell, and is very far from being unappreciated.

REV. J. W. PARISH (of Gateshead) writes:—"After eight years' calling, I frequently get a welcome from those I have met before. I am glad to find that the Union is now known."

RESPONSE OF THE PROFESSION.

REV. P. L'ARGENT BELL (of South Shields) writes:—

"It is gratifying to find that our work meets with the approval of some of the prominent members of the English stage. We have several of these with us this afternoon, and there are others who would have been with us had they not been unavoidably prevented."

MR. F. R. BENSON writes:—

"I take it as a great compliment that you should wish me to be present at your meeting. I fear, however, that at that time I shall not be in London. Should I be able to do so, I will gladly avail myself of the opportunity. I will send you my donation, as a small mark of the appreciation of the good work done by your society, of which I can speak from personal experience."

But, however gratifying may be such marks of approval from the leaders of the profession, I think we must all feel that if the A.C.U. is to fulfil its object, it must make its appeal also to the rank and file.

One actor writes home:—

"I have read pamphlets re Actors' Church Union, and I like the idea very much. I am a Churchman and have often found it difficult to attend a service on Sunday owing to travelling arrangements. And I see that this Union has made a big step to make matters re church-going convenient to us. I am only a very small member of the theatrical profession, but I will do my best to make known this Church Union to my fellow actors."

Now that is a sort of letter I like to receive. It shows that the Actors' Church Union is supplying a need that is really felt, and it goes far to answer the objections which we still sometimes hear urged against the existence of our society. Only the other day I was asked: "Why have a Church Union for Actors, any more than for bankers or any other profession?" I made the obvious reply that if bank clerks and managers went to a different bank every week and always travelled on Sundays, then a "Bankers' Church Union" would be a most useful and necessary institution. One might have hoped that, after eight years, it would have become unnecessary to go on reiterating platitudes of this sort, but prejudice dies hard, and it is therefore all the more encouraging to hear (as I so often do) from Churchmen and Churchwomen upon the stage, that the A.C.U. is justifying its existence by really meeting a practical difficulty.

I hope that before long we shall succeed in entirely dispelling the idea that the existence of the A.C.U. implies that actors stand in any different relationship to the Church from other people, or that they require any "special treatment." The fact is that the object of our organisation is to bring about a relationship between touring actors and the local Chaplain of a precisely similar character to that which exists between ordinary Churchmen and their parish priest.

Now the parish priest touches the life of his flock in three particulars—in ordinary pastoral ministrations, in caring for the sick, in relieving distress. Let me give you some illustrations of how the work of the A.C.U. is being carried on under these three heads.

WORK OF THE CHAPLAINS.

(1) The difficulty of church-going is lessened as much as posible by our notices in the theatres and lodgings stating where the church is to be found and giving the hours of services.

(2) The care of the sick has, from earliest times, been held to be one of the ordinary functions of the Catholic Church, and it is one in which our Chaplains find many opportunities for usefulness.

(3) The relief of distress is always a somewhat complicated problem in modern times, and it presents features of special difficulty in connection with the work of the A.C.U. As a rule, our Chaplains are advised to refer all applicants for pecuniary help to the Actors' Benevolent Fund or the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, who have greater facilities for dealing with such cases than we can have; but there are instances where it may seem that the Chaplain can act with advantage on his own initiative. A case in point reaches me from one of our centres. Our Chaplain reports that some members of a certain company came to him one Sunday in great trouble about their fares to London, where they had to get back to rehearse for a new play. The manager had had a bad week and the treasury was empty. The Chaplain ascertained that the facts as stated were correct, and he was enabled to send the stranded players back to town by an arrangement with the Station Master, the manager refunding almost all the money within a short time."

On the other hand another Chaplain writes:—"An actor (not a member of the A.C.U.) borrowed 30s. to enable him to join a new company in the north. I had one or two letters from him but I still wait for the fulfilment of his promise to repay me! I hope he will do so for the sake of some others who may need such temporary help in a tight place."

It is, of course, this difficulty of making adequate enquiries, which renders it as a rule advisable for Chaplains to give relief through the medium of one of the two Theatrical Societies which I have mentioned. On one point all our Chaplains are unanimous, and that is the kindness and courtesy which they almost invariably meet with from both actors and managers. All this, I think, shows that the work of our Union is advancing steadily, if slowly, along the right lines. There are, however, three points in which there is still great room for improvement.

(1) The professional members would greatly facilitate the work if they would be more careful to furnish me with their tour lists. I follow their movements from week to week as well as I can in the columns of *The Era*, and send post cards each week to our various Chaplains intimating when they may expect a visit from a member of the Union. But it is impossible for me to do this unless our members will let me know when they go on tour and in what companies they are acting.

(2) I should like to urge upon the Chaplains the importance of making their annual reports. Without this it is impossible to get any true idea of what progress we are making. A month before the conference I sent out 150 forms, only 61 of which have been returned to me.

(3) I should like to call attention to the fact that more than 100 subscriptions for the current year still remain unpaid.

FINANCE.

In spite, however, of the difficulty of getting in subscriptions, I am pleased to be able to report that our financial position shows a marked improvement. The balance sheet will be printed together with the annual report, but I may state that our total receipts for 1905 amounted to £51 14s. 7d., as against £25 4s. 8d. for the previous year. That is to say that we have more than doubled our income. We have had, however, a proportional increase in our expenditure. The work involves a considerable outlay in printing and postage, and we are still badly in need of funds.

SPECIAL SERVICE.

The experiment of holding a special service at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, in connection with the A.C.U., which was tried for the first time last year, has been repeated this year with equal success. The preacher was the Lord Bishop of London, and his sermon has since been printed and can be obtained together with our other literature at the end of the room.

THE COLONIES.

I regret to state that the efforts which we have been making during the past two years, to get the A.C.U. started in Australia and South Africa, have so far not met with success. It is obviously impossible to organise the Union in these distant parts of the world from London; it must be left to local effort; and what is wanted is a man who will do in each of the Colonies what our good friend Mr. Bentley has done in the United States. A few weeks ago, however, I received a letter from a priest in Grahamstown, who may, I hope, be able to take up the work in South Africa, and I trust that by the next conference I may have more to report on this matter.

THE A.C.A. OF AMERICA.

It is, I am sure, a matter of regret that we have not with us to-day any members of the Actors' Church Alliance of America, as we had last year. But perhaps you will permit me to read a letter which I have received from Mr. Spooner, President of the Brooklyn Chapter of the A.C.A., who spoke to us so delightfully at our last conference.

"Dear Mr. Hole,—Your letter inviting the American A.C.A. to your Annual Convention was read to the Brooklyn Chapter, also to our Annual Convention, and was very much appreciated. I do not know of any of our members going to London at this time. Remembering the pleasant time we had last summer it is with regret we realize we cannot be present this year. Edyth Totten McGrath was elected first Vice-President of the National Organisation for the coming year, a position she has earned by her faithful work for the Alliance. . . . . I would be glad to have some notes from your Convention at your convenience. . . . . I am so pleased to see the gradual growth of good feeling between the Church and the Stage. . . . . With kindest remembrances of the kindness and courtesy of the Bishop and yourself, sincerely,

MARY GIBBS SPOONER.

Bijou Theatre, Brooklyn, New York.

Before I sit down I should like to say the application for membership forms have been distributed in the room, and I would also ask any of those present (whether members of the profession or not) who would like to join our Union to fill up their forms and let me have them at their convenience.

The next item on the agenda was the election of a president, committee, and officers.

The Bishop of Southwark was unanimously re-elected president, and the Rev. H. Montague Villiers, Prebendary of St. Paul's, was elected vice-president. The old committee were re-elected, two new members being added to their number in the Rev. H. F. Davidson and Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn. The Rev. Donald Hole was re-elected hon. secretary.

The PRESIDENT, in addressing the meeting, said: One of the items on this paper is the address of the President. I should like to make that a short item, but I want to make it a cordial one. I want very much to say how heartily again I welcome the meeting of the Union here, and those who have been present on former occasions will, I think, take pleasure with me in saying that it is undoubtedly the fullest and largest meeting we have yet had. In that respect it tallies with those figures which have been read aloud to you by our secretary, Mr. Hole. This shows that it grows from year to year, and is doing an increasing work. You have been good enough to name me as president, and I do feel it a very real honour and a very true pleasure to be president of this Union, and to feel that I am doing something for what it represents. That though is followed closely by the other thought—how little that is; but if the work is going on it doesn't matter much how much any one of us puts into it, and we can altogether rejoice in its progress and its prosperity. I have spoken before about it, and now we are getting to know more what it means, and therefore I need hardly again emphasise the simplicity of its method. It is but little that we can do individually, and it is only a little that we try to do corporately. The method, which you heard illustrated in rather vivid detail in the report, of securing in each town visited by theatrical companies that one clergyman shall be appointed with the sanction of his own bishop and on the nomination of the President of this Union, to be a chaplain for the profession in that town, is the method of this Union. That is, indeed, what this Union attempts to do. The principal object of an institution like this is to bring together those who most directly represent the Church on the one side and those who represent the stage on the other. The more I look at the world in which we live, the higher I rate the importance of a good understanding and mutual co-operation between the different forces which make for good. They must understand one another. They must not suspect one another; but they may, I hold, criticise one another, for I suppose it to be true that all of us have our own way of going about what we are pleased to think as being of use in the world and doing good. I am quite sure that if the world was left to no other method of doing good than the clergy—and I am second to no one in the value I set upon that way of doing good—it would soon be a very dreary place. I am quite sure that we want criticising, and we want supplementing—I do not quite like the word; it is not exactly the word I mean. I think what I do mean is complementing, not complimenting. We need to question one another, we need to co-operate with one another, and we need to have one another's honest criticisms. I feel that all the more because, as one lives, and perhaps comes to realise increasingly what the strength and power of the forces of evil in the world are, under the veneer of a civilised society, under its fair and polished surface, there are influences of evil and forces of evil which are no less strong than at any other time whatever. It may be that, at any rate in the ways which are obvious to us and of which we can take stock, those who are concerned with the stage have often to deal with the presence or the proximity of some of those forces of evil in a very special degree. I hope that I shall not be saying anything which will not be endorsed by the most thoughtful members of the profession if I say that those who there are trying to live the lives of uprightness and of faithfulness are perhaps often in one of the hottest parts of the battle. I was thinking whether the faults of clerical life are not as grave at least as, though in certain cases less obvious than, the faults to which the profession of the stage is liable. I do not think you will judge me wrongly when I say that there are strong forces of evil which need the gathering up of all our combined moral strength to roll them back—to make the theatre what we desire the theatre to be, to keep it clean and strong as an engine of good, and to make it such that it may be a place where—to refer again to what the Bishop of London spoke so well in the sermon that he preached on the subject—everyone who goes from a good home or is driven to the stage to earn her living shall find a Christian, chivalrous band of men and women, with whom she shall be as safe as in her own home. That is the kind of standard I wish to secure. I do not feel it a very great happiness that we are trying with mutual respect and with increasing mutual understanding and regard to speak of things together and to work together and to aim together at these objects. That is the deeper reason why I value the work of the Actors' Church Union, and I am so glad to see that it thrives. I will now give way, and ask Mr. Martin Harvey to say what he has to say.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, said: "My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen, in moving the adoption of our Secretary's report, I think, while we may congratulate ourselves on a fairly satisfactory position, we must admit there is room for expansion. A useful purpose may be served by reverting for a moment, however, to an old source of difficulty and danger which encountered those who founded this Union. I refer to a certain amount of prejudice which existed, and still lingers in the minds of some, as to the fundamental idea of the Actors' Church Union. Such prejudice is wearing thin, I believe, but while it exists it is well to meet it. I cannot help thinking such fault as there is, is mostly on our side; I mean the side of the actor. Our hide has been rendered sensitive, perhaps, by the flagellations of several centuries of a vastly more intolerant clergy than we have the blessing of meeting to-day, and that is why I would urge upon my fellow-workers to become members of the Church Union. Meet these men, I would say, who have come forward so frankly, and the prejudice will vanish—vanish instantly, because the Actor is by nature intensely susceptible, and he will recognise instantly that no far off touch of patronage exists behind their frank and fellow-manly attitude. I can speak from experience on this point. In my travels I have had the good fortune to meet many of the chaplains of the Actors' Church Union—the initiative I am bound to say has always been on their side—and I can speak heartily of their tact, their good fellowship, their sympathy with the workers in my profession. Surely the enlightened liberality of mind, the expansion of a generous and charitable spirit in the Church in these days is one of the most beautiful signs of our times. Of course the habit of mind of centuries is not more easily shaken off by the actor than the priest. I remember a humourous illustration of this. I had been asked by the active spirit of a certain Congregational society in a northern city, to open a bazaar for the raising of funds to defray the costs of their new church. The suggestion that I should officiate had come, it must be admitted, from his daughters. After much perturbation, and honest wrestling of the spirit the worthy man broached the point to me, and I, of course, consented willingly. But that an actor should officiate at the opening of a church bazaar was such an upheaval of all his inherited convictions as to the propriety of things, that the honest *wonder* of the thing broke through such small tact as he possessed. And as he contemplated the length he had gone to for the sake of the church funds, and in anticipation of the wrath to come, he exclaimed, looking at me "Eh, it's wonderful to see ye here, Sir. Eh, it's wonderful what length a man will go to for the sake of raising money." My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will not detain you much longer, but before I conclude I should like to make a suggestion to you—a suggestion which may, I think, link together in a common bond of veneration and remembrance the givers and the receivers of the benefits of the Actors' Church Union. The idea is not my own; it originated with one of our chaplains, Mr. Henderson, and he will perhaps allow me to give voice to it to-day. It is this, that on each anniversary of the death of our beloved chief, Sir Henry Irving, a memorial service should be held, at which, upon the invitation of the Actors' Church Union, the whole dramatic profession should be asked to attend. The memory of my great master's work for the stage, and indirectly for the English speaking race at large, and his incalculable influence for good upon the minds of his generation, would be most fittingly enshrined and perpetuated by such an annual gathering of the profession he so uniquely adorned. And the more so, I think, when the gathering were associated with the Actors' Church Union whose object is so largely the extention of usefulness, of liberality of mind and of a charitable and essentially Christian spirit. Sir Henry Irving took a keen interest in the formation of our Union, and I question whether a more fitting or more significant memorial could perpetuate his name, or bear witness to the veneration his work inspired.

The Rev. J. W. S. J. DANBURY, who acts as chaplain of the Union at Southampton, appealed for greater support of the Union. The Church, he said, was a debtor of the actor in the same way that St. Paul was a debtor of the Greek and the barbarian. The stage was a calling in which a man or a woman might obey the voice of God. As God fulfilled himself in many ways, so the calling of the actor was one of the mystical ways of life. The meetings of the Union should not be held for the purpose of mutual admiration, but for improvement and expansion. Was this organisation fulfilling the intention of the framers of it? It had been in existence eight years. In last July's report it was stated that they had 103 actor members; now they had eighty-six more. Were they satisfied that that was reasonable progress? He did not think so. They, the chaplains, needed to imbue the actor member with the missionary spirit. If the Actors' Church Union be good for him, then he should be ready to share its goodness with his confrères. Another point was that if a priest took on the work of a chaplain he took upon himself the obligation of the office, and that obligation was not discharged simply by allowing his name to be on the theatre call-board or in the Union's directory.

The PRESIDENT stated that in regard to Mr. Martin Harvey's suggestion as to an annual commemoration service, his lordship would be very glad to recommend to the committee that the proposal be seriously considered. The medical and the legal professions had their great annual service, and he thought that much good might result from an acknowledgment of faith and worship on the part of the theatrical profession. He was pleased to be able to inform the meeting that they might have a member of the Royal Family, Princess Alexander of Teck having written to say that her Royal Highness and her husband would consider the matter of joining the Actors' Church Union.

Among the members of the profession present were:—Mr. Martin Harvey, Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Viola Compton, Miss Haidee Heath, Miss Rose Matthews, Mr. J. Henry Twyford, Mr. R. E. Saunders, Miss Harriet Greet, Miss Nita Ashby, Miss Beatrix Bell, Miss Millie Grey, Mr. E. H. Bull, Mrs. E. H. Bull, Mr. Chris Walker, Mrs. Chris Walker (Molly Page), Miss Robertson, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Miss Barbara Fenn, Mr. Allan Jeayes, Mr. Valentine Williams, Mr. Frederick Wright (senr.), Mrs. Frederick Wright, Miss Violet Hedda, and Mr. W. M. Chapman Huston.

Letters expressing regret for inability to attend were received from:—The Lord Bishop of London, Rev. Preb. Villiers, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. F. R. Benson, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mrs. Alfred Bishop, Mrs. Carson, Miss Edith Rimmington, Miss Leila Lovell, Miss Helen Ford, Miss Gertrude Lovell, Miss Mildred Hodson, Mr. Arthur Webster, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Victoria Addison, Mr. Charles Cruikshank, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mervyn, Mrs. Gwen. Clifford and Miss Helen Ferrers.

Votes of thanks to the Bishop for presiding, and to Mr. Martin Harvey, concluded the conference, after which Mrs. Talbot entertained the company at an At Home in the garden.

THE N.S.P.C.C. MATINEE.

The dramatic profession was again active in the cause of charity on Tuesday, when several popular players combined in a matinée in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, given at the Duke of York's Theatre, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Charles Frohman. The performance consisted of two plays, in both of which the name of Mr. Cosmo Hamilton appeared as part author, while Miss Beryl Faber, who also figured as authoress, sustained important parts in each piece. The first item was a play in one act, by Philip Gibbs and Cosmo Hamilton, entitled

"THE ESCAPE OF JOHN MERCHANT."

John Merchant .....MR. FRANK COOPER
Pete .....MR. CHARLES BRYANT
Mrs. Male .....MISS PAUNCEFORT
Bess .....MISS BERYL FABER

A trio of tragedies, deftly combined, but straining to the utmost the laws of probability, is made the basis of a number of thrilling moments which occur in a "cottage by the sea." A storm rages outside, and Bess, a fisherman's wife, laments the illness of her child. Her thoughts run upon her former sweetheart, John Merchant, to whom she had promised to be true a couple of years ago when he had been sent to penal servitude for stabbing his rival Pete. Since that time, however, she had yielded to the protestations of Pete, and had married him, and she now dreads the return of her former lover. Her worst fears are realised, for Merchant, who has escaped from prison, returns to claim his bride. Fearful of his wrath, the girl endeavours to conceal the fact of her marriage, but with the entry of her husband the truth comes to light, for though Bess strives to induce Pete temporarily to leave the house, the man is too drunk to take the warning, and is about to strike his wife. John rushes to her protection, but at Bess's entreaty restrains himself, and would even make friends with his old rival. Pete refuses to take his hand, and retreats to the bedroom, followed by John, who discovers the dead body of the child, thus learning of the marriage of Bess. Ignoring the grief of the bereaved parents, John thinks it incumbent upon him to avenge himself on Pete, and is about to deal him a blow with a hammer, when he becomes blind, and falls to the ground. At this moment Bess's mother, who has gone out on the pretence of visiting a sick neighbour, returns with the police, only to find that death has enabled John Merchant to make good his escape. The gloom which surrounded the little play was to a large extent dispelled by the excellence of the acting. Mr. Frank Cooper brought all his experience and practised skill to bear in the impersonation of the convict. He invested the part with a rugged nobility of character that almost obscured the appalling egoism which led John Merchant to seek the death of his successful rival, even in the face of the young father's bereavement, and he held the house in closest sympathy. Miss Beryl Faber, who appeared by permission of Mr. George Alexander, gave a remarkable performance of the young mender of nets, with a broad dialect that she always managed to preserve. The homely appearance, the wistful expression of the face, and the power of the young mother's love were perfectly in keeping, and the production of the play would be justified if only for Miss Faber's performance. Mr. Charles Bryant was an impressive and picturesque Pete; and Miss Pauncefort gave a realistic rendering of the old woman.

The more substantial piece of the afternoon was *A Sense of Humour*, a comedy, in three acts, by Beryl and Cosmo Hamilton, which was originally produced at a matinée at the Comedy last January. The play deals with marital infelicity and its cure by the application of "a sense of humour," and on Tuesday it found many admirers. Miss Faber, who was in the cast at the first performance, repeated her charming assumption of Lady Hutton, the injured but philosophic wife, acting with rare delicacy in situations where it was desperately needed. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, who was also in the Comedy production, was again the Captain Archibald Hay, the wronged and illogical husband, and charmed by his utterance and his manly bearing and amused by his comic perplexity. A comedy creation of a surpassing kind was submitted by Mr. Athol Stewart, who, as the peccant Sir William, was again responsible for continuous roars of laughter. A stately and impressive rendering of the equally culpable Mrs. Archibald Hay was given by Miss Maud Hoffman, who quite justified the superlatives bestowed upon her appearance, both by her whilom lover and her doting husband. A very material contribution to the enjoyment of the piece was made by Mr. Reginald Dance, who reappeared in the part of the sagacious and sarcastic valet Meakin; and Miss Margaret Sefton gave an amusing character-sketch as the maidservant Stanna.

STEINWAY HALL.

A NEW RECITER.

Under the direction of Mr. N. Vert, Mr. Edgar Vaughan Grey made his début as a reciter before a large audience at the Steinway Hall on Wednesday afternoon. Although not, strictly speaking, a pupil of the late Mr. Clifford Harrison, whose recitals at this hall were for so many years a feature of the London entertainment season, Mr. Grey was for many years associated with him in his work, and has evidently had the benefit of his talent and experience. Mr. Grey gave a varied and interesting programme, which included two pieces of his own composition, one in English and the other in French. One of his most pleasing and successful items was "What the wolf really said to Little Red Riding Hood," by Bret Harte. Mr. Grey was admirably assisted by Mr. Percy Sharman, solo violin, and Miss Warwara Irmanoff, solo 'cello. Herr Curt M. Plato and Mr. Walter Wiltshire ably assisted at the pianoforte.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The first performance in England of Gluck's *Armide*, an event that has aroused considerable interest among opera-goers, took place at Covent Garden on Friday, July 6. *Armide*, originally produced in Paris in the year 1777, was last year revived at the Paris Grand Opéra, Mlle. Bréval playing the principal character. Musicians are aware that this opera was one of Gluck's last works and considered by him as his greatest achievement, and its production caused a great sensation, Paris being at that time divided into two great parties, one side admiring Gluck's works, and the other those of Piccini, somewhat after the manner in which the works of Wagner have been ridiculed by admirers of the Italian school at the present day, but the quarrel in the older times was pursued with greater bitterness, and it is even said that some duels took place in consequence.

In *Armide*, the libretto of which was written by Quinault, Gluck marks a departure from the classical school, the story of *Armide* being purely romantic. A queen of great beauty and skilled in the art of magic, named Armide, finds one person proof against her charms. This is a warrior called Renaud, who, indeed, goes so far as to attack her troops and rescue some of her prisoners, and the first act ends with Armide sending forth her people to smite and capture the offender. In the second act Renaud is conversing with Artemidore, who advises Renaud to keep away from the wiles of Armide. Renaud, however, says he is strong enough to resist her, and taking off his armour prepares for a nap. The imps of Armide, disguised as wood nymphs, on finding him asleep, bind him with garlands of roses, an occasion which gives opportunity for some charming pictures of great beauty and classic grace. The wood nymphs depart and Armide enters armed with a dagger, but she is disarmed by the handsome form of her victim decked with flowers, and decides to put him to the torture of love, and casting on him a spell bids her imps convey Renaud to a far-distant spot, and seated by his side they are borne away.

In the next acts are shown the results of Armide's spell. To her surprise she herself is in love with Renaud, and to free herself calls on Hate, and then follows some incantations to banish love, but before these are complete Armide's courage fails and Hate, in revenge, dooms her captive for ever in the toils of love. In the fourth act Ubalde and a Danish knight seek Renaud, whom Armide has placed in an enchanted castle, but Ubalde has a golden sceptre, and they succeed in their attempt. The last act shows us the gardens of the enchanted palace. Renaud is seen seated by Armide's side; Armide for a short time has to leave him, and to relieve him in her absence treats him to a ballet, *Pleasures*, but this does not console him, and he dismisses them. At this moment Ubalde and his friend enter, the spell cast over Renaud is broken, and when Armide returns, he firmly declines to stay. Armide then destroys the palace and departs in her flying chariot.

As might be expected, Gluck has composed melodious and pathetic music to this somewhat absurd libretto. All the chief and most important music falls to the exponent of Armide, her first scena, "Heaven Warns Me," in the first act, and "At Last Within My Grasp is He," which Armide sings when finding Renard asleep, take high rank in all that is great in musical art, while the pathos of her farewell, "Betrayed am I," and the imaginative infernal music of the third act, as well as the grandeur of Armide's final air, giving expression to her dread of the doom announced by Hate, reveal the great composer in his finest and most impressive moments.

Not the least attractive music in the opera are the many charming classical dances most skilfully executed by Mlle. Boni and the Brussels *corps de ballet*, while the scenic effects generally were triumphs of the Covent Garden stage management, the beasts guarding the enchanted castle, the aerial flights of Armide and Renaud, and Mr. Brookes' scenery were alike excellent, while chorus and the orchestra, conducted by M. Messager, gave ample evidence of careful and complete rehearsal. Mlle. Bréval proved a thoroughly efficient exponent of the part of Armide, both vocally and in its dramatic portions, and Madame Kirkby Lunn sang the music of Hate with great intensity, while M. Laffite fully realised the heroic nature of the character of Renaud. M. Seveilhac made an excellent Hidroat, and M. Crabbe appeared to advantage in the part of Ubalde. Le Plaisir and Sidonie were cleverly impersonated by Mme. Gilibert-Lejeune, and Miss Gleeson-White gave due importance to the part of Phénice, the two characters of Lucinde and La Naïade being undertaken by Mlle. Das, while M. Altchevsky, M. Dognies, and M. Artus completed the rest of the cast.

On Saturday Verdi's *Traviata* was given at Covent Garden, with Madame Melba, Signor Caruso, and Signor Battistini in the cast. With such fine artists in the principal rôles, and with each in perfect voice, the result was perhaps the finest performance of Verdi's opera ever heard at Covent Garden. Signor Campanini conducted.

"THE GIRL NEXT DOOR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of last Saturday there is a report of a musical comedy, produced at Brighton, with the above title. As far back as Easter, 1901, I produced a two-act musical comedy entitled *The Girl Next Door*, and have played the same at various times since. I enclose copy of programme.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY S. DACRE.

Olive House, Tournay-road, Fulham, S.W.
July 11, 1906.

AT a dramatic and musical at home, held in Philbeach Hall, Earl's Court, on Monday, Mrs. Crowe (Miss Bateman) provided an excellent programme for the entertainment of her guests. The first item was Matthew Arnold's *Tristram and Iseult*, arranged for acting by Miss Muriel Currey and played by Mr. Jules Shaw and three of Mrs. Crowe's pupils. The poetic atmosphere of the play was fairly well preserved, and the dresses of Miss Muriel Currey, as Iseult of Ireland, and Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter, as the page, were picturesquely effective. Miss Viva Birkett, whose part of Iseult of Brittany contained an unaccompanied song, sweetly sung to an air of her own composition, was of necessity less telling in costume, but she filled in the picture gracefully. Mr. Shaw gave a conscientious and nervously dramatic rendering of Tristram, Miss Currey made an impressive Queen, and Miss Hunter, who is Mrs. Crowe's grand-daughter, showed distinct signs of having fulfilled the laws of heredity. One speech, in which she became a sort of chorus to the story, was delivered particularly well. Afterwards came songs by Miss Muriel Gough, Landon Ronald's setting of Keats's "I had a dove" being sung exquisitely; Mr. Arnold Gange, Mlle. Braquaval, and Signor Caffetto, a dramatic tenor with a fine voice, and a pleasing violin solo by Mlle. Louise Simons. Miss Dorothy Bewley contributed to the success of an enjoyable afternoon by her playing of the accompaniments.

OWING to the success of the performance of the three *Chester Mysteries*, the English Drama Society will revive a cycle of these plays early in the autumn.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

At the sitting of the House of Commons on Friday, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman announced that the Government were going to adopt the Musical Copyright Bill as a Government measure. This is excellent news, and the passage of the Bill through the House is now certain.

Miss Ellen Terry and Miss Edna May appear in the list of subscribers to the fund now being raised in our columns on behalf of Miss Dot Stephens, who recently met with an accident on the railway. Miss Terry sends a cheque "for the poor child, with loving sympathy," and Miss May, equally commiserate, says, "I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident." The generosity of the dramatic and musical professions, indeed, has seldom been invoked in a more necessitous case, and we commend its merits to our readers.

Mr. Arthur Collins announces with much satisfaction that he has persuaded Mrs. Patrick Campbell to create the leading rôle of the heroine in Mr. Hall Caine's *The Bondman*, the drama in a tableau and four acts which is to be the autumn attraction at Drury Lane. This involves the postponement of Mrs. Campbell's tour in the United States. In connection with this interesting engagement, it may be noted that it was through the medium of melodrama that the dramatic powers of the popular actress first came to fruition. After witnessing her performance as Astrea, the adventuress, in *The Trumpet Call* at the Adelphi, Mr. Pinero at once chose her to create the part of Mrs. Tanqueray, a rôle that is indelibly associated with her name and fame.

"The Bondman" will have the services of at least three notable actors who took part in last autumn's production of *The Prodigal Son*, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Frank Cooper, and Mr. Austin Melford all being included in the cast. Mr. Lionel Brough is another engagement of the most popular character, and the presence in the company of Miss Marie Illington, Miss Henrietta Watson, Miss Lily Malyon, Miss Polly Brough, Messrs. James Fernandez, Francis Chamier, and Fred Groves will make the cast one of exceptional strength. Another important engagement is pending with a prominent actor whose name must not be divulged.

Mr. Cyril Maude's "Playhouse," which was demolished by the lamentable accident at Charing-cross, is to be rebuilt, and the new theatre should be ready before the end of the year. A happy arrangement has been come to with the South Eastern Railway, by which the cost of the re building will be covered by that company—a settlement that calls for the heartiest congratulations to Mr. Maude, whose losses through the calamity will thus be minimised to a very great extent. Meanwhile, Mr. Maude, after a summer vacation, will fulfil his engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman, appearing in London with Miss Winifred Emery in a new play.

Lady Bancroft will award the prize and certificates at the annual elocutionary examination in connection with the Birkbeck College, Chancery-lane, which will be held this afternoon. Proceedings will commence at three o'clock, and the twelve candidates, having previously undergone a reading test, will be called upon to recite the various pieces selected.

Among those present at the first performance of *L'Espionne* at the Royalty Theatre on the evening of the 6th inst. was Sir Squire Bancroft, by whom *Diplomacy*, the English equivalent of Sardou's famous piece *Dora*—now re-named as above—was produced at the Prince of Wales's on Jan. 12, 1878. Mr. Bancroft, as he was then, played Count Orloff, who illustrated Russian diplomacy, a matter that was then of vital interest, for those were the days of "We don't want to fight, but by Jingo if we do!"

Mr. Martin Harvey, who is now enjoying a well-earned rest prior to the opening of his autumn tour next month, has just been made the recipient of a much-valued gift. The donor is Mrs. Freeman, of Cormongers, Nutfield, the famous breeder of Skye-terriers, and her gift is the splendid bitch Nutfield Queen, a "Skye" with a fine prize-winning record. She was awarded a first at Edinburgh, a first as novice in the Kennel Club Show of 1902, and on the same occasion won a special first as the "best terrier novice of any breed" in the show. Mr. Harvey, whose fondness for canines is well-known, is appropriately proud of his new possession.

The Bishop of London sat in the stalls at the Court Theatre during the first night of the revival of Mr. Bernard Shaw's play *You Never Can Tell*, and was as enthusiastic in applause as anyone in the audience, which also included Mr. A. J. Balfour. At the end of the first act Dr. Ingram turned to a lady on his right, and, clapping his hands, said, "It is awfully good, isn't it?"

The Moody-Manners Opera Company will begin their five weeks' season of grand opera in English at the Lyric on Saturday evening next. Devotees of music will note with pleasure that for this particular season Mr. Tom B. Davis and Mr. Charles Manners have agreed to confine the prices of admission to the following rate:—Stalls, 10s. 6d. and 7s. 6d; balcony stalls, 5s. and 5s; upper circle, 4s. and 3s.; pit, 2s; gallery, 1s. Such an arrangement should be very acceptable to the enthusiast, and prove attractive to that section of the British public whose taste for opera in English it is Mr. Manners' earnest endeavour to interest.

The works to be presented are taken from a répertoire of twenty operas, commencing with *Lohengrin* on Saturday, July 21. On Monday *Tännhauser* will be given; on Tuesday, *Faust*; Wednesday (matinée), *Trovatore*; Wednesday evening, *Eugéne Onegin*; Thursday, *The Huguenots*; and Friday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*. In the course of the season Mme. Blanche Marchesi, Mme. Fanny Moody, Mme. Do Vere, Miss Toni Seiter, Miss Ethel Cadman, Miss Rosina Benyon, Misses Lever and Baker, Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, Wilson Pembroke, Charles Carter, Lewys James, William Dever, Marshall Vincent, Charles Magrath, and Charles Manners will appear. The conductors are Herr Richard Eckholdt and Signor Remualdo Sapio. There will be seventy in the chorus and fifty-five in the orchestra.

The cluster of Claudias in *The Prince Chap*, the comedy from America which is to be produced at the Criterion on Monday, will be impersonated by little Betty Green, Geraldine Wilson, and Miss Janet Alexander, who will respectively suggest the character from childhood to a more advanced age. The cast will also include Miss Lilias Waldegrave, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. George Shelton, and Mr. H. R. Roberts.

Referring to the enduring success of *His House in Order*, last week, we were led by a slip of the pen into attributing the play to Mr. Jones. The popular St. James's piece is, of course, one of the most notable examples of Mr. A. W. Pinero's brilliant wit and dramatic invention.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has selected Wednesday, July 25, as the date on which he will produce his adaptation of Anatole France's play *Crainquebille*, under the title of *Down our Alley*. The new play, in which Mr. Bourchier will appear as an old costermonger, has been elaborated to an extent sufficient to supply the evening bill in conjunction with *Monsieur de Paris*, in which Miss Violet Vanbrugh will play her original character of Jacinta, the Executioner's Daughter. The proceeds of the first performance will be devoted to the funds of Charing Cross Hospital.

The principal part of *Crainquebille* is that of an itinerant seller of vegetables, a most estimable old man who has a collision with his barrow. He is accused of having uttered words offensive to the authorities, and is haled before the magistrate, who inflicts a fine. The money is paid by a sympathiser, but the odium of the conviction remains, and the old man is unable to gain a living. Friendless and starving, he would fain seek refuge in prison, and repeats to a police officer the words with which he was formerly accused, but the officer ignores them. Here in the French original the old costermonger is left, but in the English version a happy ending is arrived at through the good offices of a newspaper seller.

Amongst Mr. Bourchier's plays in prospective is a new comedy by Malcolm Watson, entitled *Handsome Jim*, which he has arranged with Mr. Edward Michael to be produced by the Répertoire Theatre Association at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday. The cast, in which a Chancellor of the Exchequer and a Labour Party leader figure, will include Mrs. Culling, Miss Evelyn d'Alroy, Miss Helena Millais, Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, O. P. Heggie, A. E. Anson, Arthur Eldred, Edmund Baker, Edward Mervyn, E. F. Saxon, H. G. Mason, end A. Austin Leigh, the last-named being responsible for the production. *Handsome Jim* is destined to be seen eventually at the Garrick.

Miss Nora Lancaster has been engaged by Mr. Tree to play leading parts on his forthcoming tour. She will make an especially charming Ethel Newcome. In accepting this welcome engagement she has been reluctantly compelled to refuse an offer to appear in *Cymbeline* in Glasgow. It will be remembered that she was a most successful Imogen at the Manchester revival last year, and holds the record of having played the part over a hundred times without a break—longer than any other actress. Miss Lancaster—who is, as everybody knows, a daughter of Miss Wallis (Mrs. Walter Reynolds), has crowded a great deal of experience into her comparatively short career on the stage. She was with Sir Henry Irving for nearly three years, and her other engagements include a season in a Pinero first production, a tour with *Mice and Men*, special weeks with Mr. F. R. Benson at Stratford-on-Avon, starring in Manchester revivals, and leading parts under Mr. Curzon's management in London.

A quaint little exhibition of pictures, painted by Mr. Ugo Catani, is being held at Old Oak House, Bond-street. It includes two very dainty water-colours of Miss Ellaline Terriss. The first is called "Crush at the Aldwych," and shows the Beauty of Bath evidently making her escape Strandwards, with Cupid, mounted on a lion, watching her go, while an unconscious crowd is waiting for the opening of the doors. In the second little painting Miss Terriss is evidently swimming in the old Roman baths at Bath, with Cupid seated on a block of marble. In an unfinished sketch of Mr. G. P. Huntley the artist has cleverly caught, in a few lines, the pose and expression of the popular comedian off the stage.

Mr. George Edwardes is seeking recuperation at Carlsbad after a very busy season, and making ready for a still busier one. The popular entrepreneur has with him Mrs. Edwardes and Miss Edwardes, who will not return until the autumn.

The English version of *Die Lustige Witwe*, which Mr. Edwardes will produce in due course, is being made by Mr. Edward A. Morton, the author of *San Toy*. The piece will bear marked differences from the German original, and will contain at least one new part of importance for which a low comedian of great resource will be requisite.

Miss Mabel Love will be the stellar attraction of Mr. Percy Hutchison's company with *The Freedom of Suzanne* on its forthcoming autumn tour. Miss Love's stage career has been marked by many shades of progression, and her accession to a part of such importance as that of Suzanne in Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox's comedy is a well-earned tribute on the part of an enterprising manager to her abilities as an actress and to her powers of attraction.

Mr. Louis Parker has been the hero of the hour—or rather of the week—at Warwick. He was carried shoulder high by the performers to the courtyard of Warwick Castle at the close of the last performance of the pageant on Saturday, and there he was congratulated by the Mayor on good work well done The attendance on the last day surpassed that of any of the other days, and the performers displayed, if possible, greater spirit. The pageant is to be repeated at some future date. The thousandth anniversary of the founding of Warwick Castle, ten years from now, is suggested as a suitable occasion.

Miss Zena Dare took up the part of Lady Betty at the Aldwych Theatre on Monday, Miss Ellaline Terriss having gone on a short holiday trip. A new version of *The Beauty of Bath* will be produced when Mr. Seymour Hicks removes in December to his new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue, which has been leased to Mr. Charles Frohman, and the spring of next year will see Mr. Hicks and Miss Terriss on a tour of the provinces lasting during March, April, and May. The news that the clever actor-manager-author is engaged upon the writing of a new musical piece is very welcome.

According to the decision of the New York Appeal Court given on Thursday in the case of James Metcalfe, dramatic critic, the management of a theatre has a right to refuse admission to a person even if tickets have already been purchased and seats allotted, but if managements cooperated to refuse admission to Mr. Metcalfe for the sole purpose of injuring him in his calling, then they are guilty of illegality, but such was not proved in the present case. The managers of the so-called Theatre Trust simply barred Mr. Metcalfe as an "objectionable person."

Mr. Louis Calvert has engaged a talented company for his forthcoming season at the New Theatre with the Egyptian opera-comique by Messrs. Frederick Fenn and Michael Faraday, entitled *Asmaris*. The leading parts will be impersonated by Miss Ruth Vincent, Messrs. Norman Salmond, Rutland Barrington, Roland Cunningham, and Whitworth Mitton.

Mr. Bannister Howard has arranged with Messrs. Greet and Engelbach for the rights of *The Earl and the Girl* for all towns not visited by them. Next year Mr. Howard will probably take over the entire rights. In addition to this company, which starts out in September, Mr. Howard is responsible for the management of no less than nine other companies, particulars of which will be found in the companies' advertisement column.

"Colonel Newcome" reached the end of its successful season at His Majesty's on Saturday evening, when, in response to loud calls at the close of the performance, Mr. Tree came forward and said: "'All's well that ends well.' Our season, which began with Dickens, has appropriately ended with Thackeray. To-night we are celebrating the success of *Colonel Newcome* with your plaudits. I am well aware that there are those who hold that the only possible excuse for placing literary masterpieces on the stage is success. I am glad to think that we have this excuse. Our past season has again been an eventful and a happy one. After Mr. Comyns Carr's version of *Oliver Twist* we produced Mr. Stephen Phillips's *Nero*, interrupting its run in order to produce a series of Shakespearian plays during the Shakespeare birthday week. Then the last play of the season has been that which you have witnessed to-night, *Colonel Newcome*.

"At the opening of next season, early in September, I have arranged to tour through the provinces, renewing, I hope, old acquaintances and friendships, and taking with me not only *Colonel Newcome*, but also *Business is Business* and *The Man Who Was*. Whilst I am in the country, this stage will be occupied by a production of *The Winter's Tale*, which we have been busily engaged rehearsing this week, for which I have been so fortunate as to secure the services of Miss Ellen Terry for Hermione and Mr. Charles Warner as Leontes. I feel it a specially happy circumstance that in this jubilee year of Miss Terry's stage career she should again appear in the play in which she originally figured on the stage. Fifty years ago Miss Terry appeared before the London public as the boy Mamilius, and this year she will appear as Hermione.

"With the announcement that during September and October Mr. Tree will positively not appear at this theatre, I fully anticipate there will be an immediate and unprecedented run on the box office of the theatre. On my return to this theatre, I hope again to revive for some time this play, *Colonel Newcome*, and follow it with *Macbeth* and *Antony and Cleopatra*. The great success of our Shakespeare Festival last April has determined me to continue for at least a fortnight the Shakespeare Festival during the coming April. Ladies and gentlemen, I think that is all, but whenever I hear the public call I shall be here to say 'Adsum.'"

Princess Alexander of Teck and Princess Louise of Wieh were present at the performance of *Armide* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on the night of the 6th inst. Among the distinguished audience was also Miss Maxine Elliott, the beautiful wife of Mr. Nat Goodwin and sister to Miss Gertrude Elliott (Mrs. Forbes Robertson).

"Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush" will start its fourth tour at the Grand Theatre, Llandudno, on July 23. Mr. William Mollison will still play Lachlan Campbell. At the termination of this tour we understand Mr. Mollison intends taking out a Shakespearean company—a step which will be greatly appreciated by all theatre-goers.

A very successful performance of *Twelfth Night* was given last Saturday afternoon in the beautiful grounds of Redmere, Putney. Ideal weather and picturesque surroundings favoured a perfect representation. The performance was organised by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn in aid of the Organ Fund of All Saints' Church, Putney, which we understand will benefit substantially.

The exacting character of Malvolio was excellently portrayed by Mr. Lauderdale Maitland; a really charming and natural performance of Viola was given by Miss Gertrude Valentine; and Miss Gertrude Tate's Olivia was sweet and dignified. Mr. Francis Chamier gave a scholarly reading of the Duke; Mr. Howard Templeton was duly impressive as Antonio; and Mr. William Burchill as Sebastian is to be congratulated on both his performance and make-up—the latter resembling very closely the twin-sister, Viola. The comedy scenes went with a swing, causing much merriment. Miss Mary Bessie was a bewitching Maria; Mr. Fewkass Llewellyn was highly effective as Sir Toby Belch; Mr. Arthur Valentine as Sir Andrew was intensely funny; and Mr. L. Ord Pink as the clown Feste showed a true spirit of comedy, and sang the songs incidental to the part in a thoroughly artistic manner.

Mr. J. Sanderson Moffat having recently finished a ten months' tour with Mr. Arthur Carlton in *The Span of Life*, has been re-engaged by that gentleman for the autumn tour of the same piece, opening at North Shields on August Bank Holiday. Instead, however, of playing Richard Blunt, as formerly, Mr. Moffat will assume the heavy leading part, Dunstan Leech.

Messrs. Chas. Beresford and W. H. Moore having secured the sole rights of M. Hall-Page's successful drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*, will tour the same in the coming autumn, commencing on August Bank Holiday at the Theatre Royal, Macclesfield. Many new specialities have been introduced, and no expense will be spared to ensure success.

The Oddfellows' Hall, Deal, is now being partly rebuilt and the stage much enlarged, in order to accommodate No. 1 companies. It will henceforth be called the Theatre Royal, Deal. The whole of the alterations will be carried out under the direction of the manager, Mr. J. C. White.

Mr. Haddon Chambers's new "comedy of the suburbs," has been secured by Messrs. Liebler and Co., of New York, under whose direction it will be produced. Mr. Frank Curzon for some time had an option upon the comedy, but was unable to secure Mr. Weedon Grossmith for a characteristic part, owing to the latter's engagement at the Haymarket, so Mr. Curzon reluctantly abandoned the project.

Miss May Beatty, a young but well-known Australienne, who has been in the theatrical profession since her early girlhood, is about to pay her first visit to this country. Miss Beatty has done invaluable service with the Pollard Opera company and with Mr. J. C. Williamson, and has just finished a two years' engagement as leading lady in musical comedy with Mr. George Stephenson.

Mitchell's theatre ticket agency in Old Bond-street has been purchased by Mr. George Ashton on behalf of Ashton and Co., Ltd., of which he is managing director. Mitchell's was established some eighty years ago The founder, John Mitchell, says the *Daily Chronicle*, was the second bookseller to take up the business of selling theatre tickets to his clients, the originator of the system being a book dealer in St. James's-street, known as Sams.

He was a great character in his day, and liberally subscribed to all the operatic ventures, and made huge profits by his speculations in seats. He also introduced French companies to London audiences at the St. James's Theatre, and among his "stars" were Fargueil and Desclée. One of his biggest undertakings was to provide the State performances at Her Majesty's in 1858, on the occasion of the marriage of the Princess Royal and the future German Emperor.

Mr. Harry Esden, the resident-manager of the Opera House, Northampton, has resigned his position, which he has occupied for the last twelve months.

Miss Queenie Leighton returns to Drury Lane at Christmas to play principal boy. Miss Leighton is desirous to emphasise the fact that she is appearing as the hero of *Sinbad*, and thus correct some of the reports which have appeared without warrant in certain daily papers.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has acquired the rights of a powerful play in four acts on the subject of *Robin Hood, the Outlaw of Sherwood Forest*.

Mr. Lester Collingwood has decided upon *Cinderella* as the subject for his pantomime next Christmas at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. For the title-rôle he has engaged Bessie Butt, who made a big success in the same part last year at the Opera House, Cheltenham.

Mr. Edward Terry, who will open his autumn tour at Llandudno on August 6, has engaged as his stage-manager Mr. Montague Wigan, a relative of the celebrated actors Alfred and Horace Wigan. Mr. Montague Wigan, who has had a varied experience of management, started his stage career under Mr. Forbes Robertson, finally joining Mr. F. R. Benson, with whom he remained nearly four years.

The illustrations on pages 29 and 30 of this week's *Amateur Photographer* are from photographs by Mr. Bert Gilbert, who has won honours as an amateur photographer by his capital plates "When the day's work is done," a picture of a bay with sailing-boat hauled upon the shore, and "Wallasey Beach," near New Brighton.

Mr. Samuel James has just secured from Miss Mary Stafford Smith the sole rights for Great Britain and Ireland of her last new play, and will produce the same on August 27 at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

The New Theatre, Cardiff, now in course of erection in Park Place, is making rapid progress and will be ready for opening at the end of the year. The building has been designed by Messrs. Runtz and Ford, of London, the architects of the new Gaiety, Strand, which building it will somewhat resemble, and will be fitted with the very latest requirements. It will possess a fine stage, 70ft. wide by 45ft. deep, electric light will be everywhere, and an admirable system of heating and ventilation will be installed. There will be twenty large dressing-rooms. Mr. Robert Redford, the present lessee of the old Royal, is the sole proprietor.

In Mr. Leonard Rayne's production of *Sporting Life* at the Opera House, Cape Town, Mr. Frank Beresford, as Lord Woodstock, had to meet Mr. Jack Valentine, Cape Town's heavy-weight champion, in the Great National Sporting Club scene. The knock-out blow by Woodstock in the second round was the cause of great enthusiasm nightly, and the Cape papers describe Mr. Beresford as no mean novice in the noble art.

The Rawtenstall Theatre will be re-opened on August Bank Holiday by Mr. Arthur De Frece, of London, who has taken a long lease of the building. He has secured the services of Mr. Geo. Dickinson as manager, and an efficient staff.

The many friends of Miss Lydia Donovan and Mr. C. Quinton Fulford will be sorry to hear that Mr. Fulford was taken ill suddenly last week with an acute attack of pneumonia. Miss Donovan relinquished the parts of Grace in *Her One Great Sin* and Isabel in *East Lynne* in order to nurse her husband, Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson being kind enough to release her at practically a few hours' notice. Mr. Fulford is now well on the road to recovery, but the doctor orders complete rest until the rehearsals begin for *The Temptress*, in which piece Miss Donovan is engaged to star in the title-rôle and Mr. Fulford to play a principal part.

Mrs. Chapin, who this week concludes her summer tour of that ever-popular musical absurdity *A Pantomime Rehearsal* at the King's, Glasgow, intends shortly to produce a new bijou comic opera, the music of which is from the pen of Mr. Percy E. Fletcher. This, together with *The Pantomime Rehearsal*, should prove an effective double bill. Mr. Harold Chapin, who has been so successful in the rôle of Captain Tom Robinson, will create the part of the hero, a Dresden statuette.

Mr. Dickie Clark's company, in *Lucky Liza*, is having a successful tour, and is well booked up. Miss Madge Brownie in the title-rôle is a big success, and in her numbers with Mr. Clare she scores heavily.

Mr. Henry Bowman, who for a number of years has been associated with the management of the Ramsgate Amphitheatre, is shortly severing his connection with that establishment, and will take a farewell benefit.

Mr. C. Robert Perkins, the energetic lessee of the Jersey Opera House, is to be congratulated on his latest innovation. The stage of the Opera House is now lighted on the incandescent gas system, the illumination being equal to 7,500 candle power. There are several other improvements this season, notably the opening of a comfortable smoke-room for the use of the occupants of the stalls and circle

Mr. Leslie Carter has been engaged by Mr. Walter Maxwell for the part of Justice Ryder—the Lion—in *The Lion and the Mouse*.

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are at present on a first-class variety theatre tour, which includes Blackpool, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, and Paris. Truly, Servais Le Roy's Comedians de Mephisto company may be termed cosmopolitan, as there are very few places of note throughout the world they have not visited. Moreover, it must be gratifying for "the world's monarchs of magic" to be in a position to acknowledge that their efforts are invariably as successful on the Continent, in New York, Chicago, or San Francisco as they are at the Alhambra, London, at which latter place, by the way, they have just finished a fourth extended season. That astute Australian entrepreneur (Mr. Harry Rickards) only just recently volunteered the statement that Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco had been played by him with "immense success, both artistically and financially," through Australia and New Zealand.

The Tunbridge Wells Opera House re-opens for the season on Monday, when Mr. Charles Carey will present *Mollentrave on Women*, from the St. James's. During the week the Countess of Lathom and Mr. Alan Mackinon will also appear with a distinguished company of amateurs.

Miss Louie Tinsley has been engaged by Mr. Fred Paul to create the part of Mrs. Ermyntrude Jones-Jones in the forthcoming tour of *The Lord of the Last*, and goes to the Marlborough Theatre at Christmas to play Elvera—one of the sisters in *Cinderella*.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt was the defendant in a case brought before the Paris Sixth Chamber last week, in which a Brussels firm sought to recover 3,200fr. (£128) for a hand-made lace bedcover. Mme. Bernhardt contended that she had merely taken the bedcover on approval, but the firm contended that it was a sale. The Court decided in favour of the plaintiffs, but considerately gave the concession that Mme. Bernhardt might pay the bill by monthly instalments of £12.

The Prince of Wales presided on Monday last at the seventeenth annual meeting of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, held at Marlborough House. The gathering was attended by a large number of prominent musicians, including Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Hubert H. Parry, and Dr. Charles Harriss, of Canada.

The annual report stated that in the past year the number of candidates who entered for the local centre examinations in rudiment was 488, and in harmony, counterpoint and practical subjects 3,436, making 3,924 in all, as against 3,878 in 1904-5.

In moving the adoption of the report, the Prince said its most pleasing feature was that the percentage of passes and honours was higher this year, showing an advance in the quality and training of the candidates. His Royal Highness quoted the words of the King at the annual meeting of the Associated Board in 1893, when his Majesty referred to the extraordinary popularity of examinations, or rather of certificates, without regard to their quality, and the consequent growth of self-constituted and irresponsible examining bodies. His Royal Highness added that the association of the most eminent representatives of music on the board was the best guarantee of the worth of the certificate of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music. The medals gained by the successful candidates were afterwards distributed by the Prince.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the Corporation of the Royal College of Music was also held on Monday at Marlborough House. The Prince of Wales, who presided, congratulated all connected with the college on the marked progress which characterised the institution. He said during the past year no fewer than 305 candidates were examined, and out of these 164 obtained certificates, which in itself spoke for the increased public appreciation of the value set upon the associateship of the Royal College of Music.

His Royal Highness presented to Miss May Harrison the gold medal annually given by Raja Sir S. M. Tagore, of Calcutta, for the most generally deserving pupil of the year; and to Miss Phyllis Emanuel the Challen and Son gold medal and the John Hopkinson silver medal—both for pianoforte playing.

Mr. Herbert Ralland and his répertoire company conclude their season at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, on the 14th inst. The company has been highly appreciated for its performances of such good works as *Captain Swift*, *The Idler*, *Caste*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, *Arabian Nights*, and *Dandy Dick*. In recognition of Mr. Ralland's services, the directors of the theatre arranged a special complimentary benefit on Wednesday under the distinguished patronage of Lord and Lady Raglan and the leading families of Douglas. In addition to *The Idler*, played by the company, the following artists kindly gave their services at a grand concert, viz.: Miss Lil Hawthorne, Miss Stella Castelle, Miss Kitty Cavendish, Miss Chrissie Ralland, Mr. W. H. Powell, Mr. Jack Lorimer, Mr. J. W. Knowles, Mr. Fred Fowler, and Mr. R. A. Roberts.

Mr. Wilton J. Selby's many friends and admirers will learn with deep regret of his death, which took place on Tuesday at his residence at Sydney Mansions, Bowes Park, N., after three months' suffering from cancer of the throat. He was for many years one of the most popular members of Mr. Mouillot's musical comedy companies. His greatest success perhaps, was scored in Mr. W. Melville's drama *Her Second Time on Earth* by his clever impersonation of the Italian character-study Beppo, which brought him many complimentary notes from members of the Italian colonies at the different cities he visited. His last appearance was with the farcical comedy sketch *Barmaids* in the character of Tadwell Teague, in which capacity he visited most of the London music halls. It was while fulfilling this engagement that his health gave way.

It has been stated in the Press that Mr. Walter Slaughter has just completed an opera, and has called it *My Lady Tatters*. For the book Mr. Herbert Leonard, the author of *The Girl of My Heart*, is responsible, and he has also named the piece, for which Mr. Walter Slaughter has written the music. The lyrics are from the pen of Mr. Roland Carse

Mr. Charles Frohman has engaged Miss Hilda Stewart to play Miss Sarah Brooke's part in *Raffles* on tour.

Mr. Leonard Shepherd is an actor to be envied—young enough for his career to be before and not behind him, but old enough to have the training that varied experience alone gives. He is one of the most recent discoverers of America, and, accompanied by his charming wife (Miss Helena Head), sails for the United States in a few weeks' time, having made his name there as a prominent member of the Ben Greet Shakespearean Company, and played several other important engagements.

Mr. Shepherd is essentially a strong actor, and makes a great feature of the art of making up. His method is to draw his idea of the character to be portrayed, and then copy his own drawing in every detail. That he succeeds in making himself unrecognisable is proved by the following incident that really occurred in America. He was playing Trivulzio in *Monna Vanna*—an old, shrivelled man—and having given a ticket for the theatre to the proprietor of his hotel was rather anxious to hear what impression his performance had made. "Ah, it was very good, but I couldn't 'place' you," said the proprietor; "I didn't get a programme, but I guess you appeared as one of the young fellows in the crowd. Say! That old man you've got in your company is great! What do they call him—Trivulzio—that's it—but he won't last long. It seems kind of mean that he can't retire, although I must say I thought him the best of the whole crowd!"

Miss Helena Head, who comes from Wales, has not been on the stage quite so long as her husband. She is very pretty, tall, and dark, with a particularly sweet expression. It is the fate of many actors and actresses to get younger behind the footlights as they get older in real life. Miss Head started her career in playing such parts as the Queen in *Hamlet*—she even acted Widow Melnotte to the Claude of Osmond Tearle—but her recent parts have been suitable to her age and appearance. Very ambitious for her husband, she is most diffident about her own performances. Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd have one little daughter, but she is too young to stand the wear and tear of American touring, and will remain in England, looking forward to their return next spring.

"The Open Door," a new play by Mr. Alfred Sutro, was one of the attractions of a fête given at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, on Tuesday, in aid of the organisation fund of the Legion of Frontiersmen. The piece drew crowded audiences to the Conservatory Theatre, and the acting of Miss Grace Lane, who shared the responsibilities of the representation with Colonel Marshall-West, was greatly admired. An excellent open-air concert was contributed to by Miss Nancy Price, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Constance Collier, Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, Mr Albert Chevalier, Mr. Franklin Clive, Charles Bertram, Edward Sass, and Robb Harwood.

THEATRICAL GARDEN PARTY.

Friday last week at the Botanical Gardens was undoubtedly a field-day for the womenfolk. Well-known actresses were telling fortunes, selling programmes with wonderful pertinacity of purpose, presiding over hat-trimming competitions in which the contestants were mere men, performing in orchestras, retailing strawberries and cream and all manner of beverages at prices which the purchasers thought were excessive in the ordinary way, but not too much in the cause of charity; playing street organs, selling picture postcards, acting as stewards, winning cricket matches against masculine "professionals"—and doing all these things with as much charm and grace as they had stood before the footlights and wrung the hearty appreciation of many audiences! The weather was all in their favour. In the brilliant sun their dresses and their hats were shown off to better advantage than they could have been in the finest fitting-room of any Court costumier.

The sweet-scented atmosphere was well in keeping with the verdure, the flowers, the shrubs, and the beautiful dresses. Indeed, the light summer costumes presented a spectacle of dainty loveliness. The male population was not at all well represented, and consisted mainly of actors. Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree and Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander were fairly early arrivals.

Possibly some folk are so ignorant as not to know that there existed a playhouse called the Theatre Royal, in Regent's Park. True, a person with fanciful ideas might suggest that the said Theatre Royal bore a great resemblance to a penny gaff, but high art can be interpreted in a hut as well as in a palace. And high art was last week expended on "a new, startling, original, pathetic, blood-curdling, and entrancing tragedy," entitled

"GRUESOME GRANGE; or, The Banished Earl."
Act I. by Captain Robert Marshall, Act. II. by Anthony Hope, Act III. by Comyns Carr.

Sir Joseph Bellingham..	MR. CHAS. ALLAN / MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL
Major Paul Bellingham..	MR. PERCIVAL STEVENS / MR. LENNOX PAUL
William	MR. FRANK MILLS / MR. G. M. GRAHAM
Harold	MR. BASIL GILL / MR. GRAHAM BROWNE
Lady Deborah	MISS ANNIE HUGHES / MISS ETHEL MATTHEWS
Sophia	MISS NANCY PRICE / MISS JANET ALEXANDER
Julia	MISS ALICE CRAWFORD / MISS GRACE LANE
Mrs. Bridget Browne	MRS. BEERBOHM TREE / MISS POLLY BROUGH
Butler	MR. W. CHEESEMAN / MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS
Will Warrant	MR. W. H. BERRY / MR. LYN HARDING
The Banished Earl	MR. E. DAGNALL / MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE

"Alternately played by two companies of star artists."

That sentence, we think, sufficiently explains why two people are set down to play in each character. *Gruesome Grange* is a sad, sad story, so sad indeed that the actors in their overwhelming sorrow forgot some of the authors' lines and interjected phrases of their own. The plot is somewhat lacking in continuity—the three authors having each written an act without reference to one another's work—but we will make a brave attempt to explain it. Sir Joseph Bellingham, a fretful millionaire, has invited his relatives to spend a happy Christmas with him at his country mansion, Gruesome Grange. He suspects them of evil designs upon him, as each expects to profit largely at his death, and he has therefore secured the services of a renowned detective from Scotland Yard. The latter, the better that he may hide his identity and his profession, assumes the name of Will Warrant. The relatives bring presents with them with which to cheer the aged millionaire. One tenders snuff, and another chocolate cream, but Warrant warns the baronet against making use of the gifts lest they contain a deadly poison. Even when the thoughtful little grand-daughter Julia offers the old man a pound and a half of neuralgic powder to cure him of a physical martyrdom the cautious detective whispers, "Be careful, sir, or they will see that you suspect them, and may not attempt your death." The relatives retire to their respective bedrooms, the doors of which are "officially sealed" by Warrant. Left alone, Sir Joseph falls asleep in his armchair. A hideous figure enters through the window, and after a desperate struggle with the millionaire, stabs him, and makes his exit. Enter the relatives—in spite of the fact that their doors have been sealed—and Lady Deborah charges Warrant with the crime on the hypothesis that his was the only unlocked chamber. End of Mr. Robert Marshall's masterpiece—sensation—tableau—curtain!

The second act, by Mr. Anthony Hope, opens with the following morning. Warrant is discovered bound with cords to a chair, the relatives sleeping on the floor around him, all armed with guns, pokers, and hammers, and one with a banner bearing the legend, "Votes for Women." Warrant says he will never be hanged, as he is an earl. "An earl!" cry Sophia and Julia simultaneously. "Oh, joy! How long we've hunted one!" The major insists that the fact of the detective being an earl will only add prestige to the occasion, whereupon Warrant exclaims, "I cannot be hanged, for I am mad—notoriously mad—I and all my family." Lady Deborah addresses Warrant affectionately. "My love," she says as she embraces him, "what care I for that!" Warrant is released, although he demands to be a prisoner. Like the suffragette on a recent occasion, he doesn't want to be set free. He glories in being a martyr! Then Mrs. Browne, the housekeeper, astonishes the assembled company by informing them that she—unknown to herself or to anybody else—was secretly married to Sir Joseph two days ago. For this awful inexactitude she is murdered by the hideous figure who had so cruelly done to death the millionaire.

Mr. Comyns Carr lends the lustre of his blank verse to the third act. Enter Will Warrant and the Banished Lord. "Banished," we presume, is a delicate synonym for "murdered." "The moon is high," comments the Banished Lord. "Oh, tender moon!" "Aye," responds Will Warrant. "tender truly, but not high, my lord." The Banished Lord takes upon himself the responsibility of the murder, and Warrant expresses his gratitude for the valuable clue, but points out that a motive for the murder is lacking. "Sir, I love my work!" says the Banished Lord. "That should suffice," and then he follows with the argument:—

B. LORD: Art for Art's sake is graven on each blade
These hands employ; as singing 'gainst the dawn
I wander forth to slaughter young and old.
'Tis in our family. Oh, rise, good Will,
Long years gone by we served great Shakespeare's need,
Aye, sir, and Bacon, too; ponder on that.
In later days we laboured at the Vic.
But times have changed, and my proud father, sir,
An exile from that End they dub the West,
Earned a poor pittance on the Surrey side.
Yet worse remains; our calling now is dead,
The nerveless drama of these recreant days
Needs us no more, and I who love my work
And erst was used to slaughter Kings and Queens,
Driven from the stage to face the world of fact,
Am forced, without a lime to guide my steps,
To murder in the common light of day!"

It is agreed, however, on the earnest protestations of Warrant, who sees promotion in his wonderful method of detecting crime, that the identity of the murderer shall be kept a secret for the time being. The relatives once more come in. Sophia and Julia arrayed like Ophelia. The bodies of Sir Joseph and the housekeeper are brought in, the two Ophelias scattering flowers on them, while the others perform mad antics. Warrant arrests the Banished Lord as the murderer of Mrs. Browne. The Banished Lord insists that the handcuffs be taken off. The murders that the detective saw were wrought by a false stiletto, and were but the mere wanton frolics of a mime! Here the corpses sit up, grinning in best holiday fashion. "And we but feigned to die. Oh, simple Will!" Warrant's disgust at being fooled by a poor actor impels him to commit suicide, and the curtain falls upon the Banished Lord and the others dancing round the body, exultantly singing in chorus.

As may be imagined, this burlesque melodrama caused intense merriment among the audience, who entered the Theatre Royal fully prepared to be fooled. Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, as the housekeeper, attired in Elizabethan costume, fittingly rose to the heights of the tragic possibilities of her part. Her death scene was singularly affecting—it affected the spectators to roars of laughter. Miss Annie Hughes also cut a comical figure as Lady Deborah, and as a shrieking suffragette she added to the rollicking humour of the character. Mr. Charles Allan as Sir Joseph Bellingham, Mr. E. Dagnall as the Banished Earl, and Mr. W. H. Berry as Will Warrant brought a fund of absurd notions to their impersonations, and Miss Nancy Price as another suffragette, armed with a whip to enforce her opinions, was not less diverting. Everybody in the double cast worked with hearty good will. The orchestra, the members of which entered into the fun of the thing, comprised Messrs. John Ansell, H. B. Nesbett, O. Hill, J. Solomon, T. Gutteridge, C. H. Bradberry, J. Symmonds, and P. Clayton. Mr. Brandon Thomas, attired as an old-fashioned showman, stood outside the imposing edifice, and shouted out all about the alluring attractions of the gory proceedings that were going on within. Miss Adela Measor acted as the booth proprietress, Miss Betty Green as the Columbine, Master Walter Cross as the Clown, Master Reggie Andrews as the Harlequin, and Master Cyril Smith as the Sprite. The sandwichmen, programme, and ticket-sellers were the Misses E. Titheradge, May Taverner, May Chevalier, Georgina Hamilton, Cicely Turner, Isabel Collier, Isabel Roland, Elsie Bloxham, Mrs. Alfred Turner, and Messrs. Reginald Eyre, Percival Stevens, Fred J. Turner, H. Cannon-George, King Fordham, and Robert Bottomley, the business-manager being Mr. Alfred Turner, and the stage-manager Mr. John Harwood. Books of the play were kindly printed and published free of all charge by Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, Mr. John Hassall providing the drawings gratuitously, and Mr. Carl Hentschel giving the blocks. The song in the third act was specially written and composed by Mr. Landon Ronald.

Mr. Henry A. Lytton, made up as a quaint sandwichman, paraded among the promenaders and secured many customers curious to witness the art of properly trimming ladies' hats, explained by such well-known authorities on the subject as Messrs. Cyril Maude, Henry Lytton, Rutland Barrington, Sydney Brough, C. Hayden Coffin, Frank Lacy, H. M. Morand, Courtice Pounds, Walter Passmore, C. Aubrey Smith, Herbert Sparling, William Spray, Farren Soutar, Godfrey Turner, Fred Wright, jun., and Huntley Wright. It was a sight for the gods to watch Mr. Cyril Maude's deft digits operating upon a red hat with violet decorations, and Mr. Hayden Coffin and Mr. Huntley Wright working in their exquisitely light-fingered way—sometimes they lost the big needle, they were so light-fingered—upon pink confections. And how proud they all were of the result of their labours! Each coquetted in the fashionable headgear of his own creation before Mrs. Alexander, the judge. Mr. Cyril Maude looked rather coy and shy in a lurid bonnet which set off his blushes and his complexion to immense advantage. Mr. Hayden Coffin scarcely attempted such heights of delicate maidenly susceptibility, for, with his "loud" feminine headgear and the huge band-boxes which he grasped with such affectionate tightness under each arm, he gave the impression of a milliner's assistant. In fact, you wouldn't call him a lady at all. He was distinctly a "person." At the time of our attendance in the tent, Mr. William Spray was awarded first prize, a consolation prize being given to Mr. Hayden Coffin. Then Mr. Cyril Maude attempted to sell the hats, "covered with autographs," he suggested as an inducement. But there seemed to be very few ladies present who appreciated high-class workmanship, and Mr. Spray's hat only fetched four shillings. The ladies selling tickets for hat trimming were the Misses Agnes Fraser, Mary Fraser, Ada Bland, Clara Jecks, Ida Lytton, Olive May, Gabrielle Ray, and Stella St. Audrie, while the "acting-managers" were Messrs. J. E. Lethbridge, Sydney Grahame, and Fred Wright, sen.

The cricket match, Actors v. Actresses, under the direction of Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Vane Featherstone, was a huge success, both from the point of view of finance and fun. It mattered not if the technicalities of England's royal pastime were for the time being ignored, and ignored they certainly were. The gentlemen had their right arms in slings, the ladies being allowed the full use of their limbs. But bowl the men never so furiously and field never so smartly, they apparently were no match for the ladies, for whom triumph was declared. Miss Charlotte Granville was imbued with the noble resolve of sticking at the wickets, and nothing would tempt her to take a modest run, even when she had driven the ball a good distance with her bat. Miss Billie Burke and Miss Muriel Beaumont also showed remarkable "form" with their fearless and unorthodox hitting. The ladies' team consisted of the Misses Muriel Beaumont, Pattie Browne, Billie Burke, Ethel Burnand, Constance Courtenay, Pollie Emery, Margaret Fraser, Charlotte Granville, Molly Pearson, Marianne Stayton, and Ada Webster; while the actors were Messrs. Sydney Brough, C. Hayden Coffin, Wm. Devereux, Robert Evett, Horace Lane, Horace Mills, H. Nye Chart, C. Aubrey Smith, Frank Stayton, Athol Stewart, Arthur Whitby, and Fred Wright. The umpires were Messrs. R. Rivington and J. Cranford.

Mr. Willie Edouin and Mr. George Grossmith, jun., resurrected that popular official of the days of our fathers, the music hall chairman, and each of the gentlemen mentioned presided, in turn, over "the grand vaudeville entertainment," which included turns from the Palace, Empire, Alhambra, Tivoli, Pavilion, and other leading variety theatres. Mr. Alfred Butt kindly assisted in the arrangement of the programme, which comprised such names as Miss Sybil Arundale, Messrs. Alexander and Hughes, Mr. Louis Bradford, Mr. Albert Chevalier, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mr. R. H. Douglas, Miss Connie Ediss, the Colberg Family, Mr. Evan Evans, Mr. Victor Germinal, Bros. Griffiths, La Belle Guerrero, Mr. Morris Harvey, Mr. Lavater Lee, Miss Millie Lindon, Mr. Horace Lane, Mr. Henry Lytton, Miss Clarice Mayne, Matthews and Ashley, Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Fred Niblo, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Miss Alice Pierce, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Miss Mariette Sully, La Sylphe, Mr. Harry Tate, the Tscherniavsky Trio, and York's Dogs. The stage-director was Mr. M. V. Leveaux, his assistant, Mr. F. Damar, while the hon. pianists were Messrs. Ernest Bucalossie, Herman Finck, Harold Samuel, J. W. Tate, and Lamber, the scenery and act-drop being provided by Mr. J. T. Bull. Mr. Lionel Brough would scarcely take a refusal while selling his tickets.

The delightful café chantants, managed by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, were well patronised. At the piano there were Mrs. H. Warner Hollis, Madame Hastings Warren, Miss Dorothy Foster, and Mr. Algernon Lindo, while Mr. A. Corbett Smith performed excellent service as stage-manager. Miss Clare Hamilton, Miss Annie Wilson, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Grace Woodward, Miss May de Sousa, Miss Saville Foster, Miss Denise Orme, Miss Kitlie Loftus, Signor Barto, Mr. Huntley Wright, Mr. Sterling Mackinlay, Signor Moscarella, Master and Miss Morris, Mr. Walter Passmore, and Mr. George H. Hodgson were all down in the programme for songs. Mr. David Devant, assisted by his sister, Miss Dora Devant, gave a séance of mental magnetism; Miss Mabel Love and Miss Constance Collier recited in capital style; Master Max Darewski charmed the audience with his pianoforte work; Miss Helen Mar told a number of amusing American stories; other artists being Mr. Douglas Beaufort, Herr Voorzanger, Miss Haidee Voorzanger, Miss Winifred Jones, Miss Wanda Rudford, Miss Frances Edmonds, M. Sandor Karesay, and Miss Vera le Fleming. Julian's orchestra played for an hour in the evening, and at the *Daily Mirror* concert, under the direction of Mr. Hermann E. Darewski, performances were given by the Queen's Westminster Volunteer Band, Master Max Darewski, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Alice Hollander, Miss Carry More, Miss Florence Smithson, Miss Queenie Leighton, Miss Mabel Green, Miss Winifred Hare, and Miss Clare Hamilton.

Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, looking as charming as ever in highly-coloured Romany rags, told fortunes in the gipsy encampment under her control. A mysterious mine of information was revealed to Mr. Anthony Hope and Mr. Alfred Sutro, and when Mr. George Alexander appeared on the scene and heard of the ordeal through which the two playwrights had nervously passed, he decided that he would content his soul with things as they were, and not trouble his head about the possible perils of the future. Miss Amy Augarde played a street piano, arranged the shies at the alleged milky cocoanuts, and, indeed, generally attended to the duties of an all-round show-woman. The two ladies were assisted by Mr. Harry Fragson, Miss Edna May, Misses Helen Macbeth, Daisy Thimm, Maud Wynter, Mrs. Abingdon, Sydney Ellisen, Jack Tresahar, Master Philip Tonge, Madame Dorlia, and Mrs. Neville Ross. Mrs. St. Hill gave delineations of character by palmistry, and Prof. Annie J. Oppenheim read character from the face.

In Bassano's photographic tent, under the direction of Mrs. Gay, there were Misses Adrienne Augarde, Pauline Chase, Lily Elsie, Mabel Green, F. Glossop Harris, Isabel Jay, Gertie Millar, Helena Millais, Delia Mason, Denise Orme, Louie Pounds, Gabrielle Ray, Nina Sevening, Dora Sevening, Florence Smithson, Doris Stocker, and Miss May de Sousa.

In the rhododendron tent Miss Lilian Braithwaite and Miss E. Wynne Matthison dispensed strawberries and cream in their most engaging manner. The two ladies were assisted by Misses Mabel Adair, Jessie Bateman, Beatrice Beckley, Gertrude de Burgh, Constance Collier, Sybil Carlisle, Lettice Fairfax, Dorothy Grimston, Pamela Hope, Iris Hawkins, Marie Löhr, Hilda Moore, Dorothy Minto, Grace Noble, Edyth Olive, Marion Terry, Ruby Millar, Marie Mackenzie, Marcelle Chevalier, Beatrice Irwin, Teresa del Riego, Beatrice Forbes Robertson, Olive Terry, Kathleen Taverner, Wells, and Freda Watson. Stewards: Messrs. Walter Edmunds, Robert Horton, Ralph Kimpton, H. Meyer, and Owen.

Miss Winifred Emery, with the help of Miss Beatrice Ferrar and Miss Maud Cressall, sold "orphans," in the shape of Dutch dolls, not remarkable for their symmetry or personal beauty. However, Mr. Maude's autograph helped business considerably. Mrs. Edward Compton ably presided over an American ice-cream parlour, some of the merry waitresses being Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Fanny Brough, Mrs. Alfred Bishop, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mrs. Fred Wright, and the Marchioness of Headfort.

Picture postcards were sold by Miss Zena Dare, Mrs. Walter Abrahams, and others, and in the ice cream tent, behind the conservatory were Mrs Mangles, and Misses Beatrice Ferrars, Evelyn Millard, Ruth Maitland, May Elliott, Lena Brasch, Ethel Brogan, Blanche Love, Grace Murielle, Kathleen Russell, Dorothy Trollope, and Mr. Geoffrey Saville. Acting-manager, Mr. David Barone.

One of the most pleasing programmes of entertainment was that furnished by Messrs. Bellew and Stock's juvenile company, the Romps, who, in addition to producing a petite absurdity, entitled *Motor-Carmen; or, They Auto-Bust*, sang popular songs and danced smartly and gracefully. The youngsters comprising the troupe were Misses Edith Streeter, Olive Pickance, Clarisse Batchelor, Winnie Brown, Becky Abrams, Florrie Harrington, Olive Cooke, and Messrs. Clement Kent, Charles Byron, George Wingrove, Cyril Cooke, George Shaylor, Cecil Doyle, and Michael Finn.

Master Edward Garrett, the smallest artist in London, excited much wonderment as he drove round the grounds in his miniature coach and pair of ponies, and he netted a nice sum of money, taking children for trips in his conveyance.

The Æolian Ladies' Orchestra, under the able conductorship of Miss Rosabel Watson, the Serenaders, and Miss Gascoyne Old's professional orchestra sent forth sweet melody into the air, and a splendid programme of music was played by the full band of the Honourable Artillery Company, under the direction of Mr. Herbert W. Lock. The West End Gramophone Company were responsible for an agreeable "Melba, Caruso, Kubelik, and Max Darewski concert."

Among the ladies and gentlemen who kindly consented to sell programmes and tickets, attended at the bars and acted as stewards were Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Maie Ash, Miss Gertrude Barnett, Miss Dora Barton, Miss Inez Bensusan, Miss Helen Bertrand, Miss Marian Bird, Miss Kitty Bishop, Miss Edith Blunt, Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Beatrice Bramah, Miss Ethel Bryan, Miss Enid Spencer Brunton, Miss Lena Brophy, Miss Dorothy Buckstone, Mrs. E. H. Bull, Miss E. Byone, Miss Betty Callish, Miss Alexandre Carlisle, Miss Gladys Carrington, Miss Marguerite Chute, Miss Blanche Clarke, Miss Nellie Clarence, Mrs. Coltson, Miss Coltson, Mrs. Charles Compton, Miss Viola Compton, Miss Fay Compton, Miss Katherine Compton, Gisella Darewski, Miss Maudi Darrell, Miss Lilian Digges, Miss Doris Dean, Miss Elsie Don, Miss Sidney Fairbrother, Miss Nita Faydon, Miss Fraser, Miss Maud Godden, Miss Dorothy Grahame, Miss Gay, Miss Beatrice Grant, Miss Millicent Hammond, Miss Marie Hassell, Miss Nora Hastings, Miss Agnes Hill, Miss Annie Hill, Mrs. H. Warner Hollis, Miss Marie Hudspeth, Miss Sophie Harriss, Miss Esmé Hubbard, Miss Leah Hunter, Miss M. Jarirs, Mrs. C. Lane Joynt, Miss Nora Lancaster, Miss E. Leveaux, Miss Violet Lewis, Miss Lind, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Ruth Maitland, Miss Dorothea Mapleson, Miss Elly Malyon, Miss Gladys Mason, Miss Milvaine, Miss Edith M. Moore, Miss Irene Moncrieff, Miss Kate Neville, Mrs. Elbert Orton, Mrs. Edmund Phelps, Miss Max Pireau, Miss Hilda Pocock, Miss Carrie Read, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Faith Reynolds, Miss Roberts, Mrs. Saintsbury, Miss Louise Stopford, Miss Stuckey, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Dorothy Thomas, Miss Violet Thunder, Miss Madge Titherage, Mme. Helen Townshend, Mme. Maud Waller, Miss Nellie Walters, Miss Henrietta Watson, Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Winter, Miss Wood, Miss Grace Woodward, Miss Marie Wright, Miss Haidée Wright, Miss Muriel Wylford, Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth, Mr. Henley Attwater, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Charles Bishop, Mr. Siddon Bishop, Mr. Reginald Besant, Mr. S. Sherrington Chinn, Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. Henry Crocker, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, Mr. Frank Darfield, Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. H. Farringdon, Mr. J. Fraser, Mr. C. Milne Gay, Mr. C. M. Hallard, Mr. H. W. Hewlett, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. G. Wallace Johnston, Mr. Cecil King, Mr. Arnold Lacy, Mr. Algernon Lindo, Mr. E. W. Compton Mackenzie, Mr. F. S. Mackenzie, Mr. Maurice Mackenzie, Mr. L. Maney, Mr. Eugene Mayer, Mr. B. Millett, Mr. W. S. Miln, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. H. R. Morand, Mr. J. Napper, Mr. Goodwin Nock, Mr. Norman V. Norman, Mr. G. Parker, Mr. Cecil Phillips, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. Geoffrey Saville, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Mr. Bertram Steer, Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, Mr. Gerald Stevens, Mr. Victor Stevens, Mr. Christopher Stone, Mr. Allen Teayes, Mr. Spencer Trevor, Mr. F. Williams, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., Mr. Fred Wright, jun., and Mr. Huntley Wright.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

"WHAT THE MEMBERS WANT."

A paper on the above subject was read by Mr. Cecil Barth at the meeting of the Actors' Association on Thursday. Mr. Barth said:—

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In choosing this title for the paper which I undertook to read at the bi-monthly meeting to-day, I am quite aware of the comprehensive nature of the subject, and realise how little can be done at a short meeting of this kind to carry out the actual requirements of the members. What I would rather do is to point out how you may help yourselves and at the same time make a few suggestions which you can think over and discuss and, if deemed advisable, recommend for the consideration of the Council.

Before dealing with this part of the subject, however, I would draw your attention to the fact that these bi-monthly general meetings were arranged after considerable agitation on the part of some of the members of the Association, to give them an opportunity of bringing forward new ideas, improvements, and suggestions that would benefit this institution. Of course it is always open to a member to place his views before the Council in writing, but it was felt that the members themselves should have opportunities of bringing forward and discussing any questions that might be of general interest to the majority.

Unfortunately, very little advantage has been taken hitherto of this, and I think perhaps the reason is that many members look upon it as a trying ordeal to get up at a general meeting and express their opinions extemporaneously.

Hence my suggestion to the Council that a series of papers should be started and read dealing with questions of interest to all our members, and the Council will gladly welcome, I am sure, offers from any of the members to read papers at these general meetings.

Before turning to the future and dealing with "What the Members Want," I should like to make a few remarks about the past and present. Considering that the A.A. has been established for nearly sixteen years the membership list is distinctly disappointing.

Roughly speaking, the numbers are 1,500 out of an approximate number of 15,000 members in the theatrical profession, which is practically ten per cent.

The question naturally arises—Why is this? How is it to be accounted for? The reasons are not far to seek—it is owing, in a great measure, to the general apathy that the profession as a body has fallen into. Perhaps I am wrong; it may only be that the business instincts are lying dormant, and have not yet been aroused. In saying this I don't mean the endeavours made by individual artists to obtain engagements, but the long-sighted co-operative policy that it is necessary to adopt not only to elevate but to maintain the present status of the profession.

Even the ambition of the actor is only active so far as his own personal career is concerned. The artistic temperament is known to be self-absorbed. It is most difficult to arouse individuals to take any initiative. They procrastinate.

Many may argue—many do argue—why trouble? We are quite content as we are, so long as we continue to obtain engagements, and so long as we receive fair and reasonable recompense. This may be true for the few fortunate ones, but we must all admit that there has been a growing feeling for some time past that the average salary is steadily growing less. If this is the case, it is quite time that something was done, that an enquiry should be instituted to determine the cause. And who should undertake it but the representative body of the theatrical profession? And yet is it representative? What are the facts. The members number barely 1,500 out of a possible 15,000.

The first thing to be done, then, is to increase our numbers. Let every member put aside his petty grievances for the time being and work for the good of his association. For the good of his profession. Let each one work to enlist during the next few months, say, one new member. The results would be astonishing and far-reaching. It would mean that our members would immediately go up to 3,000. And yet by perseverance, loyalty, and energetic talks to our comrades it is not only possible, but comparatively little to ask each one to do to benefit his association and incidentally himself.

With this end in view efforts have recently been made to organise our voluntary body of workers known as "Missioners." They have done excellent work during the past few years in a quiet and unobtrusive way, and I feel sure that with our scheme of organisation and under the supervision of a strenuous committee we shall obtain far-reaching results. At the present time we have about sixty missioners, but further volunteers are needed, and will be heartily welcomed. Apart from this special body of workers, however, I want to urge upon every member of this Association the necessity of feeling that he is responsible for enlisting at least one recruit.

Let the attempt be made, and I am sure great results will ensue. I may say that the "Missioners" are considering a pamphlet styled by our Secretary the twenty-nine reasons why every actor and actress should belong to this Association, and I think this will be an immense help to energetic workers in this direction.

In dealing with the question of the future the Council has under consideration many suggestions and improvements that cannot fail to be appreciated by all the members. At the same time, I feel there are many new features which would tend to make the A.A. more popular, and in mentioning a few of these briefly I would ask you if you approve of the suggestions to recommend them for consideration to the Council.

They are as follows:—

1. That recognised agents who may require the addresses of actors should be supplied with them without being required to forego any proportion of their usual commission—that, if agreed to, the Secretary should write to all agents advising them of this, and pointing out that the Association would be of service to them particularly when an artist is required at short notice; also, that an "Emergency" board should be placed in the entrance hall, and if any particular member of the Association is required urgently, that his name should be posted.

I brought this suggestion forward at a recent Council meeting, and urged that it should be adopted, because as a member of the Council I feel it is our duty to watch the interests of the members and help them by every means in our power. The Council adjourned the discussion until last Tuesday, and then thought it would be advisable for the matter to be put before the members at this meeting. The position of dramatic agents is this. They carry on their business as a means of livelihood, and naturally will not come to an institution like ours when they realise that they will have to halve the commission by so doing. The agency work done in the Association is a side issue, and the Association is not supported by the commissions drawn from this branch. I feel that nothing should be allowed to interfere with the chance of our members getting additional engagements, and that we should therefore do all we can to encourage agents to apply to the Association. If the members present here to-day agree with this proposal they have to consider whether it is advisable or not to give the addresses of artists to agents, or whether the Association should only undertake to communicate with any artist that may be required at the expense of the agent. Personally I am inclined to think that any address should be given freely, as recognised agents have a certain standing, and are not likely to take advantage of this concession for ulterior motives.

2. That a committee should be formed to read and consider any new plays that may be introduced by members, and if deemed worthy, that efforts should be made by the Association to have them produced at a special matinée.

I have for some considerable time thought that a scheme of this kind would not only be of real service to the members, but it also might be turned into the means of revenue for the funds of the Association. For instance, suppose the Reading Committee come across a well-written, well-constructed play, and consider it worthy of being produced, I think it would be quite possible with the help of our vice-presidents to obtain the loan of a theatre for a special matinée. The play should be cast under the guidance of the committee from members of the Association who happen to be disengaged at the time, and who would give their services. In many cases it would be of help to unknown actors in London by giving them the chance of an appearance in a West-End theatre, and also should the play prove successful they would have the chance of being retained when the play found a permanent home. Another point to be considered is that should a good play be found and produced in this manner the Association should always have an interest in it in the shape of a small royalty. I should like to mention that a similar idea has occurred to two of our members—Mr. Frank Bayly and Mr. A. E. Anson, and I believe they have gone pretty deeply into details. Mr. Anson is at present away, but possibly Mr. Bayly will give you their ideas on the subject.

3. That an experiment should be tried next summer of running a company of members of the Association, who may happen to be disengaged, on commonwealth lines.

At first sight this suggestion that a commonwealth company should be organised and run under the supervision of the Association may appear to be altogether impracticable. I must confess that I have only on one occasion had an experience of a commonwealth, and then nearly all the members of the company had warm arguments as to what was to be done and what was to be left undone. However, that experience proved to me that a commonwealth could only be run successfully by the members being bound down to conform to the usual clauses found in most agreements, and to the recognised custom. Therefore a rigid contrast is necessary. The finance question is always a difficult matter, and would have to be gone into carefully. The artists who might be willing to go in for it would probably have to make a preliminary advance. If the formation of such a company could be settled early in the year, and the decision of the play or plays to be performed arrived at, there would be an excellent chance for the venture proving successful. One of the chief reasons for the failure of commonwealth ventures is the utter lack of organisation and management, and the way in which everything is rushed. As a further suggestion on this subject, I think such a play as *As You Like It* might be entertained, or possibly even an open-air pageant. Charities could be communicated with early in the year, and a good many bookings possibly secured on certainties and guarantees. There is no doubt that any movement of this kind organised by the A.A. would be popular, and it would be well received by managers and others, as it would certainly bear the hall-mark of respectability. At any rate, it would be welcomed as a progressive step, and a sign that the Association was endeavouring to grapple with the bad times for its members.

4. That the question of tea, coffee, and light refreshments being on sale on the premises of the Association should again be tried.

It seems to me that there is a distinct want on the Association premises, and that it ought to be possible to obtain tea, coffee, and light refreshments at reasonable charges. I know this has been tried before and failed, and on two or three occasions when I have made suggestions to the Council on various subjects I have been met with the remark that the matter has had the consideration of the Council six, eight, or even ten years previously, and been vetoed. But I maintain that because an experiment has been tried possibly years ago and failed that is no reason why it should not succeed amidst new surroundings; and possibly with new blood in the government of these experiments and renewed energy, past failures can be turned into successes. I therefore strongly urge that this proposal should be carefully discussed, and referred for the consideration of the Council.

DESTRUCTION OF THE RUNCORN THEATRE.

A disastrous fire occurred at Runcorn on Monday afternoon, by which the Theatre Royal was completely demolished, only the side entrance staircase being left standing. The greater part of the building was constructed of wood, and was practically destroyed in half an hour. The theatre was surrounded on all sides by public-houses, offices, and dwellings, and but for the promptitude with which four fire brigades were on the spot much other property would have been destroyed. The greatest excitement and confusion prevailed, furniture being thrown into the street for removal. A possible explosion was averted by a young man, who entered the burning theatre at great risk and removed two cylinders of oxygen. The whole of the scenery was destroyed, and Mr. F. H. Neville, of *The Silent Witness* company, which was to have opened the same evening, lost nearly all his properties. Mr. Caddick recovered a very few "props," &c., much damaged by water and fire, and Mr. Neville regained some of his company's baggage.

The theatre was erected about forty years ago by a Mr. Storey for a Mr. Robson, a member of the profession. Very soon after it was completed a Mr. James came into possession and leased it to several persons, among who were Mr. Ottley, Mr. Butler Stanhope (of *Gombeen's Gold* fame), Mr. W. Waldron (a writer of several dramas), and lastly, the present lessee, Mr. W. H. Caddick, who has had the place for the last seventeen years.

The building, which cost about £1400, was not insured. Mr. Caddick is exceedingly popular in Runcorn, and during his residence there has done a great deal towards furthering every good project, giving many performances in aid of local philanthropic institutions.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Mordecai Lyons, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Oct. 26, 1882.
More Precious than Gold, Strand, July 8, 1861.
More than Ever, Gaiety, Nov. 1, 1882.
Morgiana, Woolwich, Jan. 8, 1892.
Mormon, The, Vaudeville, March 10, 1887.
Morning Call, Haymarket, March 17, 1851.
Morning Drive, Stockport, Dec. 2, 1896.
Moro, Her Majesty's, Jan. 28, 1882.
Morocco Bound, Shaftesbury, April 13, 1893.
Mortgage Deeds, Britannia, Feb. 22, 1875.
Moses and Son, Royalty, June 11, 1892.
Mossoo in London, St. George's Hall, April 2, 1888.
Moss Rose Rent, St. George's Hall, Dec. 17, 1883.
Moth and Flame, Theatre Royal, Hull, May 20, 1878.
Mother, The, Olympic, May 31, 1879.
Mother and Child, Princess's, Edinburgh, Nov. 17, 1879.
Mother and Son, Princess's, Manchester, Sept. 14, 1883.
Mother Bunch, Surrey, Dec. 24, 1881.
Mother Goose, Alexandra, Dec. 26, 1868.
Mother-in-Law, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 23, 1881.
Mother of Three, Comedy, April 8, 1896.
Mother's Dream, Adelphi, March 18, 1850.
Mother's Love, Theatre Royal, South Shields, Aug. 13, 1900.
Mother's Sin, Elephant and Castle, July 25, 1885.
Moths, Globe, March 25, 1882.
Moths a la Mode, Princess's, Edinburgh, March 5, 1883.
Moths Quitos; or, Ouida's Moths, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, April 21, 1882.
Motto on the Duke's Crest, Grecian, July 20, 1863.
Motto, The, I am All There, Strand, July 16, 1863.
Mountain Devil, Surrey, March 26, 1879.
Mountain Dhu, Adelphi, Dec. 26, 1866.
Mountain Heiress, St. George's Hall, March 7, 1883.
Mountain King, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Jan. 25, 1875.
Mountebanks, Lyric, Jan. 4, 1892.
Mousetrap, The, Haymarket, May 14, 1853.
Moustache Movement, Adelphi, March 30, 1854.
Mouth of the Pit, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, Feb. 8, 1892.
Move On; or, The Crossing Sweeper, Grand, Sept. 1, 1883.
Moving Tale, Adelphi, June 7, 1854.
Moyna-a-Roon, Theatre Royal, Chester, Oct. 25, 1875.
M.P., Prince of Wales's, April 23, 1870.
M.P. for Puddletown, Sadler's Wells, Nov. 23, 1868.
M.P.'s Wife, Opéra Comique, Feb. 16, 1895.
Mr. and Mrs. Daventry, Royalty, Oct. 25, 1900.
Mr. and Mrs. Muffet, Gaiety, Hastings, June 6, 1892.
Mr. Barnes of New York, Olympic, May 16, 1888.
Mr. Cynic, Trafalgar Square, May 2, 1893.
Mr. Dick's Heir, Chatsworth, Jan. 1, 1895.
Mr. Donnithorpe's Rent, Opera House, Chatham, June 9, 1890.
Mr. FitzW——? Bayswater, Feb. 1, 1894.
Mr. Flimsey's Family, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Sept. 23, 1868.
Mr. Gorilla, Adelphi, July 1, 1861.
Mr. Guffin's Elopement, Toole's, Sept. 29, 1882.
Mr. Hughes at Home, Haymarket, July 2, 1856.
Mr. Jericho, Savoy, March 24, 1893.
Mr. Jofkin's Latchkey, Charing Cross, Jan. 25, 1875.
Mr. Martin, Comedy, Oct. 3, 1896.
Mr. Potter of Texas, Liverpool, Aug. 20, 1888.
Mr. Richards, Shaftesbury, March 10, 1892.
Mr. Robert Roy, Burlesque, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Dec. 11, 1880.
Mr. Scroggins, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Feb. 6, 1871.
Mr. Smith, Stoke Newington, April 23, 1900.
Mr. Sympkyn, Globe, May 1, 1897.
Mr. versus Mrs., Royalty, Dec. 4, 1895.
Mrs. Annesley, Criterion, July 1, 1891.
Mrs. Beflat's Blunder, Gallery of Illustration, Jan. 23, 1869.
Mrs. Brown, Britannia, May 11, 1874.
Mrs. Dane's Defence, Wyndham's, Oct. 9, 1900.
Mrs. Dexter, Court, Liverpool, Dec. 26, 1892.
Mrs. Eversley-Wednesdays, Steinway Hall, April 18, 1893.
Mrs. Green's Snug Little Business, Strand, Jan. 16, 1865.
Mrs. Hilary Regrets, Criterion, June 21, 1892.
Mrs. H—— will give Lessons in Love-making, Parkhurst, March 12, 1897.
Mrs. Jarramie's Genie, Savoy, Feb. 14, 1888.
Mrs. Johnson, Drury Lane, July 26, 1852.
Mrs. Jollybut's Out, Prince of Wales's, Rochdale, Dec. 15, 1876.
Mrs. Jordan, Royalty, Feb. 19, 1900.
Mrs. Lessingham, Garrick, April 7, 1894.
Mrs. Mackenzie No. 2, Queen's Gate Hall, May 11, 1896.
Mrs. M.P., Worthing, Sept. 28, 1891.
Mrs. Othello, Toole's, Nov. 11, 1893.
Mrs. Ponderbury's Past, Avenue, Nov. 2, 1895.
Mrs. Slimmer's Lodgers, Theatre Royal, Bolton, July 17, 1893.
Mrs. Weakly's Difficulty, Vaudeville, July 5, 1887.
Mrs. Westerfield? Theatre Royal, Batley, July 2, 1900.
Much Ado About Nothing, Lyceum, Jan. 5, 1891.
Much Too Clever, Gaiety, Feb. 23, 1874.
Mudborough Election, Prince of Wales's, July 13, 1865.
Muddler, The, Grand, Nottingham, July 18, 1890.
Muddles, Imperial, March 2, 1885.
Muddle Up, The, Oldham, Sept. 10, 1900.
Muff of the Regiment, Globe, Dec. 21, 1896.
Mugwump, The, Court, Oct. 19, 1898.
Mulberry Bush, Theatre Royal, Brighton, June 19, 1882.
Muldoon's Picnic, Marylebone, Nov. 8, 1886.
Muleteer of Toledo, Princess's, April 9, 1855.
Mullibaloo, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Sept. 21, 1874.
Mummers, The, Ladbroke Hall, May 24, 1900.
Mummies and Marriage, Folkestone, Dec. 6, 1889.
Mummy, Chester, Sept. 6, 1895.
Mummy, The, St. George's Hall, April 22, 1884.
Mumps the Masher, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, June 2, 1884.
Muriel; or, The Warning Voices, Liverpool, April 16, 1870.
Musette, Opéra Comique, Dec. 22, 1883.
Music a la Mode, St. George's Hall, Feb. 11, 1895.
Musical Box, Gaiety, Oct. 1, 1877.
Musical Clock, Stoneleigh Abbey, Jan. 22, 1883.
Musical Discord, Grand, Hull, May 14, 1897.
Musical Family, St. George's Hall, Dec. 27, 1880.
Musical Interview with the Parish Pump, St. George's Hall, Jan. 16, 1894.
Musical Marionettes, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Oct. 6, 1876.
Musical Village, Morley, Dec. 18, 1893.
Music at Home, Opera House, Chatham, June 9, 1890.
Music Hath Charms, Princess's, July 7, 1856.
Musician's Romance, Halifax, March 21, 1898.
Music Master, Wolverhampton, Nov. 19, 1887.
Musketeers, The, Her Majesty's, Nov. 3, 1898.
Mute Princess, Standard, Dec. 19, 1899.
Mutines the Traitor, Liverpool, Nov. 14, 1898.
Mutual Mistake, Court, March 21, 1891.
Mutual Misunderstanding, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Jan. 31, 1876.
Mutual Separation, Princess's, Edinburgh, Dec. 7, 1877.
My Artful Valet, Terry's, Aug. 22, 1896.
My Astral Body, Court, April 22, 1896.

Miss E. Pauline Johnson, who is giving a recital of her own works at Steinway Hall on Monday evening, is the only Redskin poetess in the world. She comes from the province of Ontario, Canada, and belongs to the famous Mohawk tribe of the Six Nations Indians. She recites in a most effective buckskin costume, adorned with silver ornaments, the sleeves of ermine tips and strips of leather, and the mocassins gay with beadwork. At her wampum belt hangs a real scalplock, and she wears an eagle feather in her dark hair. Lord Strathcona has promised to be present at Miss Johnson's first London recital, and it is expected that Sir Charles Tupper, the veteran Canadian statesman, will also attend.

To the many wonderful musicians we have heard in London this season must be added the Brothers Cherniavsky (Leo, Jan, and Mischel), who have just come from Odessa. They made their first appearance at Mr. Praga's Studio on Sunday last. They are all gifted executants, quite young, and highly trained. Leo is a violinist with a fine technical equipment, who infuses much fire into his playing. Jan is a most sympathetic and intelligent pianist, evidently an accomplished musician, and dear little Mischel is a 'cellist whose soulful mastery of his instrument is a delight to listen to and to watch. We shall doubtless hear more of this talented trio during the winter season.

T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the performance of *The Man from Blankley's* at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday evening.

MR. F. STANHOPE'S BENEFIT.

A testimonial performance was accorded on Thursday to Mr. Frederick Stanhope, who is retiring from the management of the Broadway, New Cross, to take up an appointment at the New Theatre. The performance was under the patronage of the Mayor of Deptford (Mr. John Peppercorn, J.P.), Mr. Alderman Bowerman, L.C.C., M.P. for Deptford, Major Coates, M.P. for Lewisham, and Mr. A. H. Tarleton, M.V.O. A special programme had been arranged for the occasion, and in the course of the entertainment the following address, executed by Mr. Algernon Percy, was presented to the beneficiaire:—

"To Mr. Frederick Stanhope.—Dear Sir,—We, the undernamed members of the staff connected with the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, ask your acceptance of this address as an expression of the high respect and esteem we entertain for you. During the period in which you have had the management of the theatre, your genial disposition and affability of manner have won our sincere attachment, and we feel we cannot allow you to sever your pleasant relations with us without recording our warm appreciation of your many social and businesslike qualifications. We sincerely hope that your future career will be a long and prosperous one, and with our best wishes for your health and happiness, remain, dear sir, yours very faithfully." [Forty names.]

New Cross, S.E., July 12, 1906.

Mr. Stanhope, who was very cordially received, said in returning thanks that he had been very happy among them, and was most regretful at leaving, but promised, on behalf of the new management, many improvements and greater attractions in the future. He thanked Mr. Oswald Stoll for permitting artists from the New Cross Empire to appear, and also thanked the Mayor for his patronage and presence, the Benefit Committee for their successful efforts on his behalf, and the staff of the theatre, both before and behind the curtain, for their loyal service during his period of control of the theatre. The programme was rich in variety and talent. Mr. Charles Coborn, by his clever turn, proved that his hold on an audience has not lessened by the progress of time. Miss Mildred Baker sang with great taste and skill. Miss Frances Drew rendered "If I may fly with you" in charming style. Miss Emily Taylor made an excellent impression by her singing and dancing. Mr. Fred Karno's comedians delighted all by their rendering of "Six Little Burglars," and Mr. Edwin Barwick contributed his "Sorrows of Satan," which was enthusiastically received. Mr. George Reeves caused much amusement, as did Carlton the card manipulator. The Brothers Durants' clever turn was greeted with applause, as was that of the Olive Trio, and commendation was also bestowed upon Mr. Fred Lincoln, Mr. Harry Mayville, Miss Daisy Neill, and Miss Vi Ward. Mr. Joe Elvin and his merry little company delighted all present. Mr. H. Cooper Cliffe, excellently supported by a gentleman whose name does not appear, gave a very fine rendering of "Wolsey's Farewell," from *Henry VIII.* Mr. Cliffe's great ability as an actor and his splendid elocution made this item one of the most interesting on the programme. Mr. Louis Calvert's company appeared in the first act of *Sunday*, which was admirably acted by all concerned.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert on Thursday evening, July 12, included an interesting quartet for strings by Smetana. This composer has written some comic operas that have brought his name into repute, one being *Des Geheimniss* (The Secret) first produced at Prague in 1878, khere it had considerable success; but the composer will always be better known by his comic opera *Der Verkawfte Brant* (The Bartered Bride), which was first heard in London during a short season given by the Saxe-Coburg Opera Company at Drury Lane in the summer of 1895, when the merits of Smetana's work created a most favourable impression. The quartet played on Thursday evening was thoroughly characteristic of Smetana's music, and the young performers—Mr. Arthur Beckwith, Mr. Tom Morris, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans—gave an able interpretation; although somewhat uncertain in attack in the opening movement, they, however, quickly recovered, and did justice to the fine third movement and the spirited finale. Mr. Ralph Douglas has a good and well-trained voice, but he required more contrast in his singing of "Eldorado," Albert Mallinson's setting of E. A. Poe's verses. In Kurschmann's vocal trio, "Ti Prego," warm praise may be awarded to Miss C. Florence Nixon, Miss Bessie Bowness, and Mr. B. Merlin Davies for their really admirable concerted singing. Two clever piano solos, Chopin's "Berceuse" and Brahms' Rhapsody in E flat, op. 119, were given by Miss Grace de Rozario, who, in Chopin's music, quite realised the master's intentions, the young performer, who is an A.R.C.M., being warmly greeted by the audience at the close of her solos. Other excellent work done at this concert included the capital performance of Miss Beatrice Formby and Miss Alice Cotton of Grieg's beautiful Sonata for violin and piano in C Minor; "Mignon's Song," by Goring Thomas, sung by Miss A. Christine Bywater with much purity of intonation; and Mr. Harold E. Darke's organ solo, Toccata and Fugue in C, by J. S. Bach. The accompanists were Miss Dorothy Purser and Mr. Harold Samuel.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 16.

Abandoned Woman.—O. H., Coventry.
As Midnight Chimes.—Buxton and Harrogate.
Billy's Little Love Affair.—T. R., Gt. Yarmouth.
Conscript, The.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Pier Pavilion, Hastings.
Dishonoured.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Luck in London.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
Her One Great Sin.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Hero of the Flag.—Grand Theatre, Islington.
Honour Thy Father.—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.
How Money's Made.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
In Old Madrid.—Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
In the Shadow of Night.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Hexham and Bellingham.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.
Major's Double.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Man's Enemy.—Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
Octoroon.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
Plucky Nipper.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Poor Must Live.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
Power of Gold.—West London Theatre.
Prodigal Parson.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Romany's Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Royal Divorce.—Opera House, Blackpool.
Still Alarm.—Pleasure Gardens T., Folkestone.
Throne of Terror.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
Traitor Prince.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Trip to the Highlands.—Grand T., Edinburgh.
Two Hussars.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Under the Czar.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Walls of Jericho.—Grand Theatre, Douglas.
Warning to Women.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Wrecker of Men.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Youngest of the Three.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's open-air café chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace has been well patronised during the week. Mr. Frank Lawton, the well-known whistler of the *Belle of New York*, proved a decided draw. The other entertainers included Miss Ettie Sheffield, operatic soprano vocalist; Miss Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Bert Danson, humorous comedian; and Ariel and Astarte, the wonderful aerial gymnasts.

GRAND PAVILION, BRIDLINGTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This popular watering-place, which has grown so rapidly of late years as to become a serious rival to Scarborough, has just added one more to its list of attractions for the thousands of visitors who come to enjoy their holidays by the shores of the beautiful Bridlington Bay. The new Pavilion, which has been built on the extension of the Royal Prince's Parade, is a fine structure, and was designed by Messrs. Mangnell and Littlewoods, of Manchester, and its contruction has been superintended by Mr. A. T. Martindale, a rising young local architect. The holding capacity is about 3,000, and there is a handsome café at the south end.

The Pavilion, which has a balcony round it on the east, west, and south sides and a stage at the north end, is built in the style known as the French Renaissance, and has a segmented roof with a large octagonal dome. This has given free scope to the work of the decorative artist, as it has enabled him to introduce sculptured figures in the beautiful plaster work of the ceiling. The general effect of the scheme of decoration employed is extremely light and graceful. The relief work is white, on a ground of pale cream, the centre panels being very pale pink alternating with palest green, the whole being picked out with gold. The electroliers are lacquered brass with clear glass globes, of a very good design, and all the woodwork is stained green. The building can be thoroughly warmed when required by means of hot water radiators on the low pressure system.

The stage has been fitted on the most modern and approved principles by Messrs. Fred Wilkins Bros., Ltd., scenic artists, &c., of Liverpool. The drop curtain represents an Italian palace, the background looking out into an old English garden of the Elizabethan period. There is an oak-panelled chamber of the sixteenth century style, and another in the Louis Quatorze style represents a full wood set scene. The stage slopes to the front of the proscenium 1in. in 24in., and the arrangements, made under the direction of Mr. Palmer, the manager, are such that the scenery can be drawn straight up to the gridiron floor above. The crimson drop curtain has been supplied by Messrs. H. R. Dean and Co., of Birmingham.

Special attention has been paid to artificial lighting, as the building has been fitted with Tantalum lamps, two of them being of 46 candle-power, and requiring only the same energy as one of the old pattern of incandescent lamps of 16 candle-power. The whole of the work is done in steel-screwed tubing, which practically minimises any risk from fire. The fittings are by Messrs. Ward and Barker, of Harrogate, and the whole scheme of electric lighting, which includes 1,450 lamps outside, was by Mr. Beckett, the chief electrical engineer, who arranged for winches so that the electroliers could be lowered when required.

The cost of the works, including the new terraces facing the sea, has been upwards of £40,000, and a wonderful improvement in the appearance of the sea front has been effected. The importance to the town of the new works induced the Corporation to invite the Lord Mayor of London to open them, which he kindly consented to do, and on Friday, the 6th inst., he took part in a public procession through the town. The route, which was five miles long, had been elaborately decorated by that eminent London firm, Messrs. Pain and Son. The Lord Mayor was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs of London, and they were heartily received as they passed through the town in their state coaches, accompanied by the Mayors of most of the Yorkshire towns, the Mayor and Corporation of Bridlington, and other public bodies. After opening the new terraces, the new Pavilion was formally opened by London's chief magistrate, who was presented by the architect with a gold key for the purpose. In the evening a grand banquet was given in honour of the Lord Mayor's visit,

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

A vocal recital, by the pupils of Madame Bessie Cox, was given on Thursday afternoon, July 12. The recital proved a success, many of Madame Cox's pupils doing great credit to their instructor, the only fault that could be found was in choosing songs far too advanced for any student to attempt. The programme commenced with the trio, "Orpheus with His Lute" (German), sung by Miss Leah Phillips, Miss Frances de Saxe, and Miss Mary Williams. Miss Hilda Morris was heard in "The White Sea Mist," by Ronald, and "Lovers in the Lane," by Lehmann; while Miss Muriel Clark sang that conventional air, "The Enchantress," by Hatton, and was heard to greater advantage later in the concert in Verne's pleasing song, "For Me." One of Madame Cox's most promising pupils is Miss Mary Williams, who sang Meyerbeer's "Nobil Signor" with taste and artistic expression; the young lady also gave later in the concert the inevitable recit. and air, "O My Heart is Weary," from Goring Thomas's *Nadeshda*. Miss Williams has a fine and pure mezzo-soprano that will amply reward the careful training she is evidently receiving. In "Plus grand dans son obscurité," usually sung in English as "Far Greater in his Lowly State," by Gounod, Miss Leah Phillips attempted a work, as yet, somewhat beyond her powers, and the same may be said of Miss Frances de Saxe's ambitious "Ombra leggiera," the famous "Shadow Song" from *Dinorah*. Miss Vera Leleu, a clever pupil of Herr Francesco Berger, and a prize-winner in 1905, need not have punished the keyboard so severely, even in Liszt's *Grand Polonaise in E*, the young lady being heard with more pleasure in her piano solos of Chopin's "Nocturne in D flat" and Berger's "Tambourin," later in the recital. Miss Leah Phillips was also again heard in that most difficult valse song from Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, an air that requires such a singer as Melba to render perfectly. Miss Cissie Durant presided at the pianoforte, and the recital on the whole did the greatest credit both to the pupils and their clever teacher.

Miss Irene Ainsley, the new contralto from New Zealand, who has the inestimable advantage of being a protégée of Mme. Melba, made a successful début at Bechstein Hall on Tuesday. Miss Ainsley possesses an exceptionally fine voice, and sang some familiar light songs with purity of tone. Mme. Melba accompanied in some of her songs. The débutante's home is in Auckland, and she first imbibed a taste for her art by listening to the beautiful singing of her mother as she went about her household duties or sang the younger sister to sleep. Later on, during the years passed at a convent school, the love of music became a veritable passion, and the discovery that she herself possessed a singing voice was a source of great delight. A subsequent interview with Mme. Melba served to confirm the discovery, and she received many valuable lessons from the famous diva, who has become so interested in her career.

The new departure in curtain-raisers, called *A Waste of Time*, that is being given by the clever "Commonwealth" company playing *His Excellency the Governor*, on tour, has made a big hit at Bournemouth this week. The six young actors who waste the time with capital songs and recitations succeed in amusing their audiences quite as much as they amuse themselves. The tune and wit of "Clementine" cannot grow stale, but it is a pity that the stage-manager cannot find a song more up-to-date than "A little peach in an orchard grew." Mr. Lennox Pawle is the host of the party, and Mr. "Jimmy" Blakeley is a host in himself.

SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS.

ADDRESS BY MR. F. R. BENSON.

The summer examination of the Shakespeare Schools of Rhetoric and Dramatic Arts was held at the Cripplegate Institute, E.C., on Monday evening, Mr. F. R. Benson being the examiner. There were forty-two names down in the divisions for reading, reciting, and acting, and the majority of the candidates certainly showed remarkable ability in their different branches. The programme, of course, was a big one, commencing as it did at 6.45 p.m., and concluding about a quarter past ten. Mr. F. R. Benson gave the utmost allowable consideration to the work of each candidate, and it was admitted on all hands that his judgments were most fair and impartial. The result was that he awarded five first-class and six second-class certificates for reading; three first-class and eight second-class certificates for reciting; and two first-class and two second-class certificates for acting. He particularly praised the performances of Miss Marion Ockleston, whose recitation of part of Dickens' "Barnaby Rudge" and whose reading he considered to be the best performances of the evening. He paid a further compliment to this young lady by saying that she had exhibited exceptional ability and given evidence of much hard work.

Addressing the audience at the conclusion of the examination, Mr. Benson said:—"It has been a very great pleasure to me to examine the candidates this evening. In arriving at a satisfactory decision it is a little bit difficult to fix an absolute standard of merit in any art connected with recitation or elocution. I have been given several valuable guides to try and act upon some sort of standard as has been acted on before by Mr. Willis, and in the light of that standard and premising that some of those I have been unable to give certificates to have possessed as much—possibly more—talent as those I have awarded certificates, I believe that many of those who have failed this evening will succeed on another day. Let me also lay stress on the fact that it is not given to everyone to appear at his or her best at the moment they particularly wish to do so. I would point out that some failures have been due, possibly, to some extent to such an accident as a person with a strong dramatic bent choosing a subject which is not altogether suited to the expression of dramatic talent. In arriving at my conclusions I placed high value upon audibility. Some cases of inaudibility were the result of too much characterisation in an attempt to assume a great number of voices. Never sacrifice audibility to characterisation. Then I want to touch upon one performance, the promise of which was marred possibly by some interruption of the examiner, possibly by some temporary fit of nervousness, or possibly by a feeling of surprise that the examiner had not given the forgotten word. In after years that candidate will owe a great deal to that unpleasant experience of 'drying up.' Nearly all of us have dried up in our lives. I remember drying up on the stage of the Lyceum during the first engagement I had."

The successful candidates were as follow:—

Reading.—First-class certificates: Viola Roach, Lilian Exton, Isabel Griffith, Alice Law, and Marion Ockleston. Second-class certificates: Edith Sullings, Fanny Sniders, Winifred Creswell, Rose Ellen Clarke, Florence Gower, and George Uttridge.

Reciting.—First-class certificates: Ella Backwell, Fanny Sniders, and Marion Ockleston. Second-class certificates: Evelyn Vine, Isabel Griffith, George Uttridge, Edith Sullings, Ruth Mitchell, Lilian Harrison, Florence Gower, and Lilian Exton.

Acting.—First-class certificates: Amy English and Fanny Sniders. Second-class certificates: Dudley Bishop and Viola Roach.

Mr. Carrington Willis, who founded the Shakespeare Schools in 1899, was present at the examination accompanied by Mrs. Willis. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Benson for his address and his work as honorary examiner.

A special meeting of the representative body appointed to control the operations of the "missioners" of the Actors' Association was held on Monday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Brandon Thomas, supported by Mesdames Georgina Hamilton and Rose Matthews, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Leslie Carter, Quinton McPherson, A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman of the Council), and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The Secretary reported that the Council had elected Messrs. Leslie Carter and Quinton McPherson as members of the representative body. The question as to changing the name of the missioners was again under discussion, and ultimately after the submission of various suggestions as to the proposed titles, the subject was left for further consideration at the next meeting, which was fixed for next Monday at three o'clock, when the form drafted for the use of the missioners, upon which to make their monthly reports of work done, will be submitted for approval.

The Secretary read the twenty-nine reasons for joining the Actors' Association which he compiled and published some years ago, and he was requested to draw another set up to date, and submit them to the representative body at their next meeting. It was thought the possession of such reasons in tabulated form would be of considerable use to missioners when in pursuit of their vocation and in their efforts to bring about an increase of membership to the Actors' Association. It was suggested that Mr. Charles Esdale should be appointed a missioner, and the matter was referred to the Council.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Kate Bishop and Maud Milton, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, C. Hayden Coffin, F. Cremlin, A. E. George, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The Hon. Solicitors reported progress in several matters, and in the case of a complaint of alleged bogus management, they were requested to consider the matter and advise. H. Stanley Turner, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., 211, Bridge-road, Battersea Park, and 7, Hertford-street, Mayfair, was elected as an hon. medical officer to the A.A., and Dr. G. D. Parker, late of Gipsy-hill, Norwood, having removed to Harrow, was appointed hon. medical officer for that district. A question affecting the agency department was discussed at considerable length, and a resolution having been put before the meeting, an amendment was proposed that the subject should be brought before the members at the next bi-monthly meeting. The amendment was carried. Violet Lewis, Ottley Cranston, Margaret Damer, and Gertrude Bibby were nominated for election. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

A play called *Hatshepset*, by Miss Rose Seaton, was produced at the Ladies' College, Cheltenham, on the 5th inst. The representation consisted of scenes from Egyptian history of the period 1516 to 1481 B.C., and Miss Seaton has attempted no more ambitious task than to put life into the mummies of Egypt to produce something like animated pictures.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. B. (BRIXTON).—*The last part played by Mr. Bransby Williams in a piece on the regular theatre stage was Tom Cooper in* Shadows of a Great City, *which is this week being performed at the Camden Theatre.*

QUIDNUNC.—*Miss Mabel Hackney (Mrs. Laurence B. Irving) was the original representative of the Countess of Rassendyl when* The Prisoner of Zenda *was produced by Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's Theatre.*

INQUIRER.—*Miss Constance Gilchrist, now the Countess of Orkney, appeared at the Oxford in January, 1878, in a sketch written by the late G. W. (Jingo) Hunt, entitled* Americanophobia.

B. MAYER.—*A Trip to Chinatown was played for the first time in England at Toole's Theatre on September 29, 1894. The Theatre was then under the management of Mr. H. Tripp Edgar. We do not know the date of the play's production in America. Mr. R. G. Knowles, who was in the cast, might be able to inform you.*

E. GOOD.—*We regret that we are unable to decide the question.*

R. C. H.—*Mr. Herman Merivale's Anglicised version, entitled* The Queen's Proctor, *was produced at the Royalty, June 2, 1896, with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier in the characters corresponding to Des Prunelles and Cyprienne respectively.*

PRO.—*(1) Write direct to the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, Somerset House, Strand, London. (2) You had better consult a Solicitor.*

W. H.—*The Dove-cot, comedy in three acts, adapted from MM. Bisson and Leclercq's* Jalouse, *was produced at the Duke of York's, February 12, 1898. The cast included Messrs. Seymour Hicks, James Welch, Geo. Raiemond, Charles Sugden, Laurence Caird, Chas. V. France, and W. Wyes; Misses Ellis Jeffreys, Sybil Carlisle, Leonora Braham, Kate Kearney, Dorothea Desmond, and Carlotta Addison.*

J. W. E.—*Gaiety Chronicles, by John Hollingshead, was published by Archibald Constable and Co., in 1898.*

TOM.—*The Two Obadiahs was originally sung by the late G. H. Macdermott. Mr. Toole also sang it in one of the Gaiety burlesques. It was published by Hopwood and Crew.*

BRIGHTONIAN.—*The Belle of New York was originally produced at the Casino, New York, September 28, 1897. Its first London production was at the Shaftesbury, April 12, 1898.*

J. W. B.—*The play has not been published.*

W. KING.—*The seating accommodation is about 1500.*

D. T.—*The present Haymarket Theatre opened with* The Rivals, *July 4, 1821.*

H WEIR.—*Write W. J. Williams, music publishers, 32, Great Portland-street, London.*

ARISTARCHOS—*Next week.*

AN OLD PRO.—*The winner of the mile race in 1888 was A. Payne. For second place F. Barnes and Watson ran a dead heat. J. Albert was placed third.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ANNIVERSARY.

STAPLES—COMBER.—July 15, 1899, at St. Mark's, Kennington, Edwin Statham Staples to May Comber (May St. Aubyn).

DEATHS.

BEAUMONT-DRIVER.—July 6, at Hull, suddenly, of pneumonia, Tom Beaumont-Driver, contra bass, late of London and provincial theatres. Interred at Mirfield, July 9.

D'AUBAN.—July 3, after a long and painful illness, patiently borne, Mariette D'Auban, maîtresse de ballet and dancer, aged 60.

DAVIS.—On 12th inst., Robert, the beloved father of Heleanor Gordon, late of the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Southampton.

HAXTON.—On July 7, at Clarke City, Quebec, John Dee Haxton (Jack), aged 18. Drowned while bathing. Only beloved son of Agnes Thomas, and brother of Eily Malyon.

MELLOR.—On July 11, Albert Joseph, vocalist, at his residence, the Duke of York Hotel, Salford, after a short illness. Deeply regretted. Age 58.

SELBY.—On July 10, at his residence at Sydney-mansions, Bowes Park, Wilton J. Selby, the well-known provincial actor, after three months' illness.

STEVENS.—July 10, suddenly, at Upper Holloway, Mrs. Ernest Stevens (Miss Deering), aged 51.

SUDLOW.—July 1, at Coolbawn, Ailesbury-road, Dublin, suddenly, Mrs. Eliza Sudlow, aged 87 years, mother of Mrs. Michael Gunn.

IN MEMORIAM.

BLANDE.—In memory of my mother Mrs. S. A. Blande, who died July 15, 1901.

MARTIN.—In loving memory of my dear daughter, Ada Beatrice Martin, beloved wife of William Martin, who fell to rest on July 11, 1905. Always remembered by her sorrowing mother. Rest, dear heart, until we meet again.—MOTHER.

WALTON.—In loving memory of George Walton (Hemming), who passed away at Durban, South Africa, July 15, 1903. Still fondly cherished in memory's garden by GEORGE SWINNERTON.

WALTON.—In loving memory of our dear father, George Walton, who dies at Durban, July 15, 1903. R.I.P.—GLADYS and ELSIE.

THE San Carlo Opera Company of Naples will again give an autumn opera season in Italian at Covent Garden, beginning about the first week in October. The present opera season at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, must end on Thursday, the 26th inst.

PROFESSOR SPEELMAN, of Manchester, who has entered upon his twenty-fourth season as conductor of the North Pier Orchestra, Balckpool, expresses himself delighted with the improvement in the taste for music among Blackpool's visitors. In the course of a chat with our correspondent he said he was proud of the lead the North Pier had taken in providing seaside music. For the last ten years he could say without fear of contradiction that the special concerts had been an example to every seaside place, whether in the North or South.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday evening at the Prince's Theatre, Preston, Mr. Bijou (of Bella and Bijou) was presented with a case of razors containing seven, numbered for each day of the week. Miss Bella also received a bouquet of flowers.

HOW TO KEEP COOL.

We strongly recommend all who suffer from the prevailing heat to add a few drops of Condy's Fluid to the Daily Bath or Foot Bath.

A Condy's Fluid Bath imparts a delightful sensation of Coolness, Freshness, and Purity. It invigorates the body and braces the nerves. The Cooling, Strengthening, and Bracing effects are Simply Magical, they are so very lasting.

Tired and Tender Feet are instantly relieved, and every trace of Odour and all other unpleasant effects of Perspiration immediately disappear. Book on bottle contains full directions and reports by a great many Eminent Physicians.

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"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Abbott, Mr. Chas. H.
Adeson, Mr. Martino
Albert, Mr. Arthur
Alberto, Mr. H.
Algar
Allen, Mr. H. S.
Almos, The
Anderson, Miss Mary
Ando, Mr. M.
Anthony
Applin, Mr. Arthur
Armitage, Mr. H.
Attwood, Happy
Baptiste, Mr. Alfred
Barker, Mrs. J.
Barnes, Mrs. L. A.
Baroni and Kemp
Bedwell, Mr. Stanley
Belleu, Mr. Kyrle
Bellonini, Mr.
Bellssohn, Mr.
Bendons, The
Benson, Mr. T. J.
Bert, Mr. Alfred
Bertini, The Great
Birch, Mr. Chas.
Blair, Mr. R.
Booker, Mr. Geo.
Bosanquet, Mr. E.
Bostock, Mr. F. C.
Bostons, The Two
Brough, Miss Fanny
Buatier de Kolta, Mdme
Burton, Miss Alma
Byford, Mr. Roy
Caban, Mons.
Caban, Mrs. C.
Cardona, Mr. Wm.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur
Carson, Mr. J. W.
Cartwright, Mr. Chas.
Chadwick, Mr. George
Charlton, Prof.
Claribell, Miss Flo
Cliffe, Mr. Cooper
Collingham, Mr. A.
Cooke, Mr. Walter
Cooper, Mr. Milroy
Corcelli, Miss Cora
Corri, Mme. G.
Costello, Mr. Tom
Courtneidge, Mr. Robert
Danby, Mr. Gus
Darling, Miss Maud
Davies, Mdm. M.
Davis, Mr.
Davies, Mr. Fred D.
Dawson, Mr. Forbes
Day, Miss Lilly
Dean, Mr. Charlie
Dempsey, Mr. W. P.
Desmond, Sisters
De Vries, Mr. Henry
Dodd, Miss R.
Drawee, Mr.
Dunroy, Mr. A.
Dunville, Mr. Fred
Edoni, Miss Enid
Elgar, Mr. L. B.
Elliott, Miss Maxine
"Elverton"
Elworthy, Mr. W. T.
Fawcett, Mr. Chas. S.
Feiber, Mr. W.
Findlay, Mr. James R.
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Florador, Mrs. Fred
Foote, Mr. Eugene
Forbes, Mr. J. Morgan
Forsey, Mr. A.
Forster, Mr. Luke
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Fossett, Mr. Robert
Foster, Mr. H. Flockton
Fox, Mr. J.
Friars, Mr. Austin
Gamble, Mr. E. C. W.
George, Mr. Henry
Ginningham, Miss
Godfrey, Lady Dancers
Godfrey, Mr. Syd
Gold, Mr. Harry
Goold, Mr. Chas.
Grave, Mr. Tom
Grimson, Mr. H. Naylor
Grovinis, The
Guiver, Miss Hilda
Hackett, Miss Jenny
Handel, Miss T.
Harcourt, Mrs. F.
Harding and Ah Sid
Harker, Mr. Keane
Harland and Rollinson
Hart, Mr. Patrick
Harwood, Mr. Robb
Haywood, Mr. G. W.
Hearn, Mr. Dick
Hedmondt, Mr. E. C.
Helena, Miss
Helene and Emilon
Hemelsoét, Mons. Louis
Henriot, Mr. Walter
Herman, Dr. Carl
Hoban, Mr. Stanley
Holland, Mr. Wm.
Hollom, Master
Holloway, Mr. Chas.
Hollister, Mr. Herbert
Horton, Mr.
Housden, Mr. H. L.
Howard, Prof.
Howard, Mr.
Hurley, Miss Marie
Jay, Miss Carrie
Jenkins, Mrs.
Johnson, Mr. H. T.
Johnson, Mr. Kidd
Keene and Waller
Kendal, Mr. Alec
Kent, Mr. Wal.
Kerno, Mr. Louis
Kingston, Miss G.
Kitts, Mr. Chas.
Klein, Mr. W. H.
Lalla, Mr. E.
Lauri, Mr. Ed.
Leavitt Brothers
Leffler, Mr. H.
Leslie, Mr. Gerald
Leslie, Mr. James
Lewis, Miss Isabella
Lewis, Mr. Edward
Linde, Herr
Lister, Mrs. Kate
Lorne and Rene, Misses
Lynn, Miss Millie
Lyons Trio
Lytton, Mr. H. A.
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Madcaps, The
Marritt, Mr. C.
Martin, Miss Sylvia
McGregor, Mr. J. D.
Meadows, Mr. Arnold
Meadows, Mr. Langley
Merrin, Mr. R.
Milton, Miss Maud
Minster, Mr. Robert
Montague, Mr. Herbert
Montifiore, Mr. Ernest
Morris and Morris,
Morrison, Miss Marie
Morritt, Mr. C.
Moxon, Miss Cissie
Murray, Mr. G. C.
Murray, Mr. Tom E.
Newton, Mr. T.
Palmer, Miss Minnie
Partridge, Mr. Norman
Pate, Miss Mabel
Payne, Mr. W.
Pearson, Mr. Bob
Pelham, Mr. Paul
Phillips, Mr. Harry
Pinder, Mr. John
Playfair, Mr. Arthur
Potter, Mrs. Brown
Primrose, Mr. Harry
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Protheroe, Miss
Purchase, Mr. A.
Radford, Mrs. R.
Rastus and Banks
Raymond, Miss
Reiff, Miss Tina
Renolds, Mr. Walter
Ripon, Mr. Geo.
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rosamond Sisters
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Sidney T.
Sacha, Mdme.
Searelle, Mr. L.
Serenaders, The
Shepherd, Mr. W.
Shrapnell, Mr. L.
Shields, Mr. W.
Stansfield, Mrs. Fred
Steele, Miss Millie
Steene's American Co.
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Sullivan, Mr J. E.
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Tavner, Mrs. G.
Truman, Mr. Jack
Tyrell, Miss F.
Urquhart, Mr.
Vansittar, Miss Louise
Vattar, Dr. Carl
Vay, Mr. Will
Venne, Miss Lottie
Ventris, Mr. Arthur
Vetter, Mr. O.
Vezzey, Miss Unity
Vincent, Miss Violet
Wallser, Mrs. L.
Walton, Mr. W.
Warburton, Mr. H.
Ward, Mr. S.
Waterburgh Bros.
Watson, Mr. Dock
Weeden, Miss J.
Whalle, Mr. Ernest
Wills, Miss Rosalie
Wrigley, Mr. H.
Wylford, Miss Muriel
Wyndham and Kitty

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Forbes Dawson—Saturday, July 14.
Jessie Millward—Saturday, July 14.
Oscar Beringer—Saturday, July 14.
Nellie Malcolm—Saturday, July 14.
Herbert M. King—Sunday, July 15.
Jennie Hallworth—Sunday, July 15.
Joseph Joachim—Sunday, July 15.
Marie Tempest—Sunday, July 15.
Beatrice Lamb—Sunday, July 15.
William Winter—Sunday, July 15.
Fred Herbert—Sunday, July 15.
Tom M'Kay—Sunday, July 15.
Ida Mackay—Sunday, July 15.
Ada Blanche—Monday, July 16.
Conway Wingfield—Monday, July 16.
Evelyn de Worms—Monday, July 16.
Arthur W. Howard—Monday, July 16.
Joseph O'Mara—Monday, July 16.
Will Sley—Monday July 16.
May Korrie—Monday July 16.
Minnie Jeffs—Tuesday, July 17.
Florrie Robina—Tuesday, July 17.
Dorothy Fairley—Tuesday, July 17.
Cecil Clayton—Wednesday, July 18.
George Richter—Saturday, July 14.
Harry Clyo—Sunday, July 15.
Herr Fritz—Monday, July 16.
Frank Percival—Monday, July 16.
Mrs. Carmen Caicedo—Monday, July 16.
Master A. Caicedo—Monday, July 16.
Victor Knight—Tuesday, July 17.
Ada Brogden—Tuesday, July 17.
Marjory Armstrong—Tuesday, July 17.
Tom Edwards—Tuesday, July 17.
Chas. Pierpoint—Wednesday, July 18.
Mrs. Austin Melford—Wednesday, July 18.
Queenie Leighton—Wednesday, July 18.
Gracie Clements—Wednesday, July 18.
Peggy Pryde—Thursday, July 19.
H. Cooper Cliffe—Thursday, July 19.
Alma Steele—Thursday, July 19.
Lizzie Norman—Thursday, July 19.
Nellie Gannon—Thursday, July 19.
Datas—Friday, July 20.
Clara Wieland—Friday, July 20.
May Korrie, Monday, July 16.
E. A. W. Abadaroff, Monday, July 16.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Comedy Theatre on the 6th inst., and witnessed the performance of *Raffles*.

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St. Pancras, "	..		9.45		10.18	..	12.20		4.10	..	5. 7
Newmarket, arrive	10.33		11.45		12.18	12.50	2.20		6. 5	6.19	7.17

Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	D	p.m.	D	D	B*	A†	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.30	3.57	4.10	5.55	6.15	4.15	5.40	6. 0	6.15
St. Pancras, arrive	10.23	11.15	..	2.45	6.15	6.55	..	..	7.35	8.10	8.35	..
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

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SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1906.

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES BILL.

We made it our business early in the week to draw the attention of the HOME SECRETARY to the serious objections held—and rightly held—by the acrobatic and gymnastic professions to the provisions of the Dangerous Performances Bill, which objections, by the way, were excellently put in the letters from well-known and experienced members of those professions in our last issue. Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL'S letter in reply will be found in another column; and though it is intended, we feel sure, to be reassuring, we certainly think that some stronger and more exhaustive pronouncement of the Government on the Bill now before the House of Commons should be made. We are glad to learn, therefore, that in answer to a deputation that waited upon him on Wednesday, Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL will urge upon the HOME SECRETARY the very strong objections to the Bill entertained generally by "dumb-show" artists; and it is hoped that by the introduction of an explanatory clause Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE will be able to dissipate the very natural fears that have been expressed both in professional coteries and in the Press concerning a measure that, to say the least, lays the gymnastic, acrobatic, and circus professions open to much grandmotherly interference. In the actual working of an Act of Parliament it is not so much the pious intentions of its promoters and supporters that impose conditions rebelled against by the followers of an industry or the members of a profession as the legal interpretation of clauses setting forth these intentions in more or less ambiguous phraseology. Now what is a dangerous performance? We consider there is more risk to life and limb in a football match lasting two hours than there is in a skilled acrobatic exhibition during a whole year. And our contention is borne out by the opinion of the Executive Committee of the International Artists' Lodge, who say "the most casual inquiry would prove that the training to which all recognised acrobats are generally subjected tends to render comparatively harmless and free from danger feats which would undoubtedly involve considerable risk to those who had not had the advantage of such training; and in all cases those executing hazardous feats are protected properly against accidents by various safeguards which however are not apparent to the public."

These performances belong to the category of those spoken of by Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL, which may be "dangerous in appearance but harmless in reality." The courteous and accomplished UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE for the Home Department would certainly so regard them; but would a similarly enlightened view of a skilled exhibition of gymnastics obtain with the "chief officer of police of the police area," who is designated as the consenting authority to a prosecution under the Act? We do not think so, in spite of the fact that the Executive of the Showmen's Guild states that this provision of the Bill provides so complete a safeguard to performers that they do not deem it expedient to offer any opposition on behalf of those performing in the tented arena. Suppose the DOGBERRY of Little Pedlington to be afflicted with the most virulent form of the Nonconformist conscience—with a pious horror of all forms of amusement—what is to prevent him from becoming busy at the expense of a local music-hall proprietor, and initiating proceedings under the first clause of the Bill, which subjects to fines and penalties any person who causes a girl or boy or woman to take part in any performance which endangers life or limb? If not influenced by religious scruples, Dogberry, of great authority and little intelligence, as Mr. CAMEO pointed out in his excellent letter last week, may or may not be prejudiced against certain acts in variety theatres, and he may consider even a Risley act dangerous. It is the possibility of the clauses of the Act being interpreted in the direction of vague and excessive restriction that the acrobats, the gymnasts, and the equestrians have to guard against; and the great mass of them consider that some stronger limitation than is at present to be found in the Bill should be put upon local authority—of whatever kind it may be.

That widely different "interpretations" of a Statute may be responsible for an infinity of harm and result in oppressive interference and downright tyranny is being proved week after week by the decisions of metropolitan magistrates—gentlemen of the highest integrity, possessing the best legal training—in regard to the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act; and we can readily understand, therefore, the alarm of acrobatic performers. These, the most cautious and prudent class of people in the world, it must be remembered, follow a calling the nature of which demands the exercise of the qualities of discipline and self-restraint in the highest degree. They have to undergo, too, a training that should in a limited degree become universal if we are to hold our place as a nation; for the acquisition of muscular strength and alertness of body is the first necessity of men who are to defend the Empire. That the ladies of the gymnastic and acrobatic profession are thoroughly aroused will be learnt from the announcement in a "Gossip" paragraph of a mass meeting of them to be held under the auspices of the International Artists' Lodge on Wednesday July 18, for the purposes of organising active opposition to Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL'S Bill, and preventing the passing of an enactment which in its present shape must do a great injustice to a worthy and honourable profession. That gentleman may drastically amend it by clearly stating the method to be adopted by a local authority in determining a dangerous performance; or, egged on by humanitarian cranks, he may make use of the big Radical majority at his back and bundle it through the House. The better plan would be to drop it altogether, as it is, after all, a form of panic legislation caused by a lamentable accident to a performer under conditions that entrepreneurs and proprietors endowed with modern enlightenment would in no circumstances permit or countenance in the future.

A PAGEANT is to be held in June, 1907, at Romsey, to celebrate the millenary of the foundation of Romsey Abbey. The pageant will be under the direction of Mr. F. R. Benson.

THE Northern Theatre Company appealed on the 6th inst. against the assessment of the Theatre Royal, Halifax, on the grounds that the valuation was excessive and incorrect, especially in comparison with the assessments of the Halifax Palace Theatre and the Victoria Hall. It was stated that the present assessment of the Theatre Royal was £800 gross and £640 net. The theatre had sitting accommodation for 1,500 persons, and the highest amount that could be taken in one night was £72, and £70 on the two houses per night principle.

HALIFAX, it was said, was overstocked with places of theatrical and music-hall entertainment. In Leeds and Bradford there was a public place of entertainment to every 57,000 of the inhabitants, but Halifax was in the position of having one place of public entertainment to every 27,000 inhabitants. The Victoria Hall, which it was urged was assessed at a less amount than the Theatre Royal, in addition to its very occasional use for dramatic and operatic purposes, was often used for bazaars, mayoral receptions, political meetings, Sunday lectures, &c. As to the Palace Theatre, there was a licence for the sale of intoxicants, which the Theatre Royal lacked. The committee eventually decided to reduce the assessment by £64.

FRENCH PLAYS AT ROYALTY.

A most interesting wind-up to the season of Mlle. Marthe Brandès was furnished on the evening of the 6th inst., at the Royalty, in the revival of the famous Sardou play, *Dora*, which has been re-christened *L'Espionne*, the name first given to it by the now veteran playwright. It may be said with perfect truth that *Dora*, on its production at the Paris Vaudeville on Jan. 22, 1877, provided one of the most interesting premières of the century. Chroniclers and critics of the period tell us that most extravangant prices were paid by enthusiastic theatre-goers to be present at the triumphant first-night, and that the success of the piece completely re-established the author's fame, which had been somewhat dimmed by the failure of *La Haine* and the merely partial success of *Ferréol*. Sardou never shines by any originality of conception, and in *L'Espionne* he has not scrupled at introducing types of character which bear a very close resemblance to others with which we had already been made familiar in *The Demi-Monde* and *L'Etrangère* of M. Dumas. But the striking feature of M. Sardou's art is that he knows how to excite in the highest degree the attention of an audience by weaving with the most dexterous workmanship a plot generally artificial, but all the details of which lead up to a climax of surpassing interest. Indeed, one is tempted, perhaps, to accuse him of abusing this faculty which he possesses to so remarkable an extent. As a piece of dramatic handicraft, *Dora* is perhaps unrivalled; and the many effective touches make us feel how exactly Sardou knows how to gauge the mental attitude of the average theatre-goer, who is exigeant in the matter of numerous and varying sensations.

The triumph of the Parisian production was repeated when the English version of *Dora*, under the title of *Diplomacy*, was produced at the Prince of Wales's—the little theatre in Tottenham-street—during what has been termed the adaptive interregnum between the death of T. W. Robertson and the appearance on the dramatic horizon of Arthur W. Pinero, the exact date being Jan. 12, 1878. The English version of the masterpiece was announced on the bills as from the pens of "Savile and Bolton Rowe"—Messrs. Clement Scott and B. C. Stephenson—who, alas! have both passed over to the majority. The wit, movement, and emotion of the original were well preserved in the adaptation, and all doubts as to the great success of the piece were dispelled at the end of the second act. A famous cast included the late Miss Le Thiere as the Marquise de Rio-Zarès, Mrs. Kendal as Dora, Mr. Kendal as Julian Beauclerk, Mr. Charles Sugden as Algie Fairfax, Mrs. Bancroft as the Countess Zicka, the late Mr. John Clayton as the elder Mr. Beauclerk, Mr. Bancroft as Count Orloff, the late Mr. Arthur Cecil as Baron Stein. The success of what has come to be known as the three-men scene was shared by Mr. Kendal, Mr. Clayton, and Mr. Bancroft. In the revival under notice MM. André Calmettes, Severin, and Rousselle, in the same scene, played with great finesse and power; and the Dora of Mlle. Marthe Brandès was a beautiful and touching embodiment, one that deeply interested both the English and French theatre-goers, who evidently enjoyed a very timely revival of the fine play. Mme. Virginie Rolland as the Marquise de Rio-Zarès distinguished herself by an impersonation of gentle dignity; and there was plenty of the polite vixen about the Comtesse Zicka of Mlle. Marguerite Caron.

On Monday, July 9,
the Comedy in Four Acts, by Maurice Donnay.
"LA BASCULE."

Hubert de Plouha	M. FELIX HUGUENET
Amédée de Jugan	M. ARVEL
Paul Lorsay	M. JEAN DAX
Chavresac	M. SCIPION
Massut	M. PERIER
Brucarol	M. PAULET
Adrien	M. CRETOT
Victor	M. DESIRE
Rosine Bernier	MLLE. GABRIELLE DORZIAT
Marguérite de Plouha	MLLE. VALENTINE PETIT
Marthe de Jugan	MLLE. FONTENAY
Augustine	MME. DORLIA
Louise Guerny	MLLE. LANGE
Marie	MLLE. DUPARC

"Man, thou pendulum betwixt a smile and a tear," wrote Byron, and M. Maurice Donnay represents the hero of the above comedy on a "see-saw" (*bascule*), swaying to and fro from his marital love and duty to the forbidden fruit of illicit intimacy. The piece, which is extremely flimsy and superficial, contains little or no subject, and the author would be the last to pretend that in writing it he had any other motive than to afford exercise to his very pleasant humour, in which the piece—which is vapid and lacks action—abounds. In writing of its première at the Gymnase on Oct. 31, 1901, the Parisian critics pronounced M. Donnay's work disappointing; still, its reception by first-nighters was tolerably favourable.

Its opening act takes us to the dressing-room "au Théâtre Moderne" of Rosine Bernier, a young actress who has just scored brilliantly in a new piece, whose author, Paul Lorsay, aspires to become her lover. But being a timid youth he courts her in such a lackadaisical fashion, that, despite a sneaking likeness for him, she turns a deaf ear to his half-hearted suit. Another admirer, too, is there to pay her marked attention, M. Hubert De Plouha, a wealthy gentleman, married, but childless. They had known each other five or six years previously, when he was still a bachelor, and Rosine an obscure débutante, whose name had not yet crossed the footlights. Their acquaintance at that period had been platonic, but the actress's success has inflamed Hubert with sudden passion, to which he gives the warmest expression, and the two leave together as the curtain falls upon the first act—"ma pauvre petite femme," as Hubert designates Marguerite the sharer of the joys of his hearth, being away at Plombières, in the hope that the waters there may further her eager desire to become a mother. In the second act we find Hubert at the house of his brother-in-law, Amédée de Jugan. Rosine has taken a villa at Dinard, which is not far off, where she receives a former husband, Blancas—from whom she had for some years been separated by mutual consent—quite in the rôle of *bon comarade*. Blancas sends a telegram to Hubert, couched in these terms: "Come instanter; business urgent and serious." The flippant Hubert looks at the matter seriously, and takes it into his head that Rosine's husband, having discovered their liaison, intends challenging him to a duel, and, though by no means a coward, fears such a scandal will cause his darling wife great pain. In his fright he takes into his confidence a friend called Chavresac, who owns a motor-car, requesting him to go to Dinard and find out what Rosine is about, giving him at the same time a reproachful letter for her, almost breaking off their connection. Chavresac returns with word that Rosine had signed the name of her husband—who is absent—to obviate suspicion. "I trust then you did not deliver my letter?" "Of course I did, because you told me expressly to do so." "You're a bungler," exclaims Hubert in a rage.

We return to Paris in the third act to see Rosine flirting in her house at Passy with Paul Lorsay, the young author, who has grown much bolder in the interval. In a pretty scene the actress gives him to understand that his turn will soon come. For, bored by Hubert's never-ending precautions and shilly-shally, she has had enough of their liaison. Hubert, however, will not give her up; he protests she belongs to him, and she, to punish him, knowing that he is really very much in love with his wife, locks him into the studio while she goes off to the theatre. After all Amédée rescues Hubert, takes him back to his wife, and persuades him to invent a droll story about frightening her on purpose to give her hysterics, because that may have a beneficial effect on her health. For the moment Hubert determines to have no more to do with dangerous women like Rosine.

The piece was chiefly amusing on account of the very excellent acting of M. Felix Huguenet, who was the original Hubert on the production of M. Donnay's comedy at the Gymnase, and plays the part with a finesse, an impetuosity, and a humour that had a most exhilarating effect on Monday night's house. Mlle. Gabrielle Dorziat was not merely a fascinating Rosine, but played the character with an abandon, a charm, a light-hearted gaiety that secured for her a triumph equal to M. Huguenet, and both artists were warmly complimented at the end of the third act. Mlle. Petit played Marguerite with gentle dignity and forbearance, and as the quiet impulsive Amédée de Jugan, M. Arvel did extremely well.

INTERESTING SHAW REVIVAL.

The oddities, the perversities, and the extravagances of George Bernard Shaw are sure of sympathetic, appreciative—and even enthusiastic—audiences at the Court, and Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker have therefore wisely ordained that the successful run of *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, with the incomparable Ellen Terry in the delightful rôle of Lady Cecilia Waynflete, should be followed by a revival of the pleasant farce, in three acts, entitled

"YOU NEVER CAN TELL."

Mrs. Clandon	MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Gloria Clandon	MISS LILLAH MCCARTHY
Dolly Clandon	MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Philip Clandon	MR. NORMAN PAGE
Fergus Crampton	MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Finch McComas	MR. J. H. BARNES
Valentine	MR. HENRY AINLEY
Bohun, K.C.	MR. JAMES HEARN
The Waiter	MR. LOUIS CALVERT
A Parlourmaid	MISS HAZEL THOMPSON

The piece, so the author has informed us, was "an attempt to comply with many requests for a play in which the much-paragraphed 'brilliancy' of *Arms and the Man* should be tempered by some consideration for the requirements of managers in search of fashionable comedies for West-End theatres. I had no difficulty in complying, as I have always cast my plays in the ordinary practical comedy form in use at all the theatres; and, far from taking an unsympathetic view of the popular preference for fun, fashionable dresses, a little music, and even an exhibition of eating and drinking by people with an expensive air, attended by an if-possible-comic waiter, I was more than willing to show that the drama can humanise these things as easily as they, in undramatic hands, can dehumanise the drama." The "if-possible-comic waiter" William proved to be an admirable creation on the part of the witty playwright at the original production at the Strand Theatre on May 2, 1900, when the rôle was delightfully played by Mr. James Welch, who portrayed the old man's calm, gentle, sunny nature, and realised his quaint philosophy to perfection. Mr. Shaw's flippancy and superficiality are redeemed by his spontaneous fun, his fertility of invention, his comic side-issues; and Monday's audience, which included Dr. Winnington Ingram, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Stepney, and Mr. A. J. Balfour, gave *You Never Can Tell* the warmest of welcomes, hearty and continuous laughter being evoked, not only by the purely humorous effect of the dialogue, but by the genuine comicality of the scenes. The piece passes lightly along its allotted track until it reaches in the last act the pleasaunce of extravaganza, and as a summer entertainment it is more than refreshing.

It was very finely acted on Monday evening by a specially selected cast, which contains at least three members of the company concerned in the last revival. The first of these is Mr. Louis Calvert, who, as William the waiter, repeats a performance that is simply perfect in suggestion and completely acceptable in its oddity. "I have always said," remarks William reflectively, "that the great advantage of a hotel is that it's a refuge from home life, sir." The part is full of such speeches, and to them their best value is given by this experienced and finished actor. Gloria Clandon is quite a Shaw-like type of femininity—paradoxical, intellectual, and without *mauvaise honte*. Miss Lillah McCarthy, who is cultured in Shaw traditions, invests the character with charm—much natural charm—and plays it with convincing earnestness and complete success. Mr. Henry Ainley is perhaps a thought too serious in his embodiment of Valentine, but on the whole is very acceptable, being especially good in the love passages with Gloria. Miss Dorothy Minto, who is cast to play Dolly Clandon, looks the character exactly, and is both fresh and ingenuous. Mr. Norman Page endows Philip Clandon with irrepressible vivacity and engaging youthfulness. Mr. James Hearn essayed with excellent results the part of Bohun, K.C., who wishes to put everybody down with his catch-phrase, "No, you wouldn't; you think you would, but you wouldn't." He was neither too ponderous nor too tame, but reached the *juste milieu* in his realisation of the salient qualities of the character. Mr. Edmund Gurney, as Fergus Crampton, the "kind-hearted man," with an incorrigibly bad temper, plays with sound discretion; Miss Henrietta Watson acts with high intelligence and sincerity as Mrs. Clandon; and Mr. J. H. Barnes, as the elderly solicitor McComas, submits an admirable sketch of a comedy character; the cast being completed by Miss Hazel Thompson, a neat parlourmaid.

NEW YORK magistrates have acquitted Mr. Arnold Daly, the actor, and his company, of violating the Penal Code by producing Mr. G. Bernard Shaw's play, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. They admit that Mr. Shaw made vice less attractive than some authors had done, and say he "merely used old and hackneyed materials in so bold a fashion as to surprise and shock his audience." In a cabled message to New York Mr. Shaw laid the blame of starting the agitation upon the New York critics, "whose stupidity, inhumanity, and scurrilous and obscene language in dealing with the play drove the poor, wretched little Police Commissioner to steps he was reluctant to take." Whereupon the Police Commissioner retaliated by declaring that "it is a pity that a man who at one time gave some promise of dramatic talent should spend his declining years in abusing others and advertising himself."

MR. SHAW retorts in characteristic fashion. "It is unkind, very unkind indeed," said the dramatist, "that this should have been cabled over. Mr. McAdoo alone knows the value I have been to him. I have advertised him as no one was ever advertised before. Until I drew him into the limelight of publicity he was an obscure nobody; no one had ever heard of him, nobody ever would: but now, owing to what I have said about him, his name will go ringing down the ages; it will be inscribed on the roll of fame, and will be as well known to posterity as Shakespeare's, as Pluto's, as Euripides'—as my own."

AN illuminated fête, under the auspices of the Playgoers' Club, will take place at the Botanic Gardens on Tuesday, from eight o'clock in the evening till one the next morning. High-class concerts will be given in the Conservatory, as well as other entertainments in the grounds, and a feature of the evening will be a distribution of prizes to lady visitors.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

At the sitting of the House of Commons on Friday, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman announced that the Government were going to adopt the Musical Copyright Bill as a Government measure. This is excellent news, and the passage of the Bill through the House is now certain.

Mr. Herbert Samuel, Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, on Wednesday received a deputation which protested against the passing of the Dangerous Performances Bill, on the ground that as only two serious accidents had happened to women during the last five years in about 7,800,000 performances there was no need for the wide-reaching and stringent restrictions proposed. Mr. Samuel undertook to bring the matter before the Home Secretary.

Mr. Willie Edouin is the latest comedian to temporarily desert the theatrical for the variety stage. That well-known and clever comedian, having accepted a very advantageous offer from Mr. Oswald Stoll, will make his first appearance on Monday at the New Cross Empire. The creator in England of the Heathen Chinee—"whose smile is childlike and bland"—in his earlier career as a comedian, Mr. Edouin is known to the present generation by his Nathaniel Glover in *Our Flat*, his Hilarius in *La Poupée*, his General Des Ifs, in *The Little Michus*, and other humorous characterisations, and such a laughter-maker should be extremely welcome on the halls.

Ballads and Bands is the latest idea of the London County Council, who consider that such attractions are a great counter-attraction to the public-houses. Mr. William Bailey, of the West London Theatre, and formerly of the Metropolitan and Alhambra, a veteran entertainer himself and a variety caterer of immense experience, warned the Council that they were "venturing upon a dangerous undertaking. They would find that they would not get the people to come to concerts in any numbers unless they provided the 'comic element,' which he understood had had to be provided at Glasgow, in connection with such entertainments. They would be rushing on to enormous cost," which will have to come out of the pockets of the ratepayers, who will thus be finding money for opposition shows to the regular music halls, in which many thousands of hard-working citizens have invested.

Mr. G. H. Chirgwin is giving a benefit matinée in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home at the "Happy Valley," Southend, on Wednesday. An attractive programme is being arranged, and it is hoped the performance will result in an appreciable addition to the funds of these excellent institutions. A special carriage for artists from London is to be provided from Fenchurch-street to Southend, particulars of which may be obtained from Mr. Chirgwin, whose address is Easdale, Leigham Court-road, Streatham Hill.

Mr. J. T. Fruin, the secretary of the Music Hall Home Fund, in acknowledging the receipt of cheque, value £135 4s. 6d., desires to express the thanks of the committee to Mr. Barrasford, *The Era*, the Collectors, the Contributors, and to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund, who have all worked so well to make this Fund a great success.

A mass meeting of lady performers will be held at the Hotel Provence, Leicester-square, on Wednesday next, at 1 p.m., under the auspices of the International Artists' Lodge, for the purposes of organising active opposition to the proposed "Dangerous Performances Bill, 1906." All ladies interested in the welfare of their sex in the profession and recognising their right to earn their own living unrestricted by class legislation, are earnestly requested to attend.

Messrs. Frank Matcham writes:—"The paragraph referring to the projected Willesden Music Hall in 'Variety Gossip' in last week's *Era* is quite contrary to the facts of the case. Mr. Walter Gibbons recently paid a large sum for the freehold of a splendid site in High-street, Willesden, and every effort is being made to accelerate building operations, so that the Willesden Empire may be opened at the earliest possible date—at the end of the year most probably. We may mention that our plans for the new hall provide for a holding capacity of close upon 4000, with provision of an uninterrupted view of all parts of the stage for every visitor as the primary object of the auditorium plan. The Willesden Empire will be the largest and most magnificent music hall in the Metropolitan suburbs. It will be run on the same lines on the other Gibbons establishments."

Miss Kitty Loftus, the famous musical comedy artist, who is, by way of venturing on the "halls" again, at no very distant date. She has commissioned those well-known song-writers, Messrs. Harrington and Tate, to supply her répertoire, of which she has already selected three numbers, viz., "Thousands of Years," "Embarrassing," and "Isn't Any Place for Me."

"L'Amour" is so great a success at the Alhambra, that crowded houses have been the rule ever since its production. The management has now strengthened the variety side of its programme by the addition of a most remarkable company of canine comedians, which appear in a farce, *In a Garrison Town*. Admirably trained and grotesquely garbed, these dogs (belonging to Herr Ernst Perzina) give an irresistible burlesque of continental militarism, playing their parts with perfect ease and spontaneity without the presence of their trainer. Herr Perzina (an ex-official of the Zoo, of Vienna) also shows, earlier in the evening, a patiently-taught troupe of monkeys, cockatoos, and cats. The "Ubanora" picture exhibition is constantly being augmented by an animated record of the passing events of the moment.

The famous French athletic club, Le Stade Francais, will meet a team of the Polytechnic Harriers in a series of matches this afternoon at Grove Park, Chiswick The French team are bringing over some of the finest men in France in their respective events, and some keen racing should be witnessed. In the evening the teams have accepted the invitation of the directorate to be present at the Empire.

A decided acquisition to the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, programme is Miss Clarice Mayne, a most charming and accomplished comedienne and mimic, who is quite English. Messrs. Harrington and Tate are supplying all the original songs in her répertoire, and Miss Mayne will, at Christmas, be seen at a leading West-End hall in a special and important new production from their joint pens.

The Fougere case was mentioned at the North London Sessions at Newington on Wednesday, when the two defendants were due to surrender in order that their bail might be renewed pending a decision on points of law. The male defendant, having surrendered in Court, was ordered to renew his bail to appear at the next Sessions. Counsel for Madame Fougere, who was stated to be ill, said the legal position was that she had to the end of the Sessions to surrender, and if she did not then appear her bail would have to be estreated, and he (the Judge) would issue a Bench warrant, to be executed when she was well enough to appear. Meanwhile, it was said, her solicitor, who had only heard of the position that day, would try to find other bail.

The new Pavilion, Bridlington, which was formally opened by the Lord Mayor of London on the 6th inst., will be under the management of Mr. Charles Palmer, who has succeeded in making the Prince's Parade and Floral Pavilion so popular by his excellent catering for the summer visitors and residents, and he has every confidence that this new venture can be made equally popular.

Mrs. Cissie Lawson will open the Hippodrome, Ilfracombe, on Monday. This is another case of a theatre being turned into a music hall, the one in question being the Runnacleave. The interior has been re-decorated, and improvements on the stage have been also effected. Among the many artists booked are Harry Tate's Motoring and Golfing company, Little Zola, &c.

The Empire Theatre, Oldham, has been closed for some weeks past, and is in the hands of the decorators. It will be re-opened July 30 with Mr. Fred Karno's vaudeville company, when a thorough transformation will be found. Messrs. Goodall, of Manchester, are furnishing the carpets and draperies, while a new system of electric plant is being effected by Messrs. Loader, of St. Helens.

The Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, will close up July 28 and re-open on August 27. During the interregnum the theatre will be fitted with a thorough system of ventilation and heating, and will be decorated.

The old Britannia in the Trongate, Glasgow, has been converted into the New Panopticon by Mr. E. A. Pickard. In the new establishment, which is delightfully fresh and clean, the entertainment will be novel and wholesome, and the general arrangements, including entrances and exits, leave nothing to be desired.

Mr. Frank Gallagher, who has been assistant manager at the Swansea Empire for the last 5½ years, is shortly vacating that position to take up the management of a theatrical company. Mr. Gallagher has acted as agent for the M.H.A.R.A. for some time. An influential committee has been formed to start a testimonial on his behalf.

After a considerable amount of negotiation, the Filey Urban District Council has agreed, subject to the approval of the Lord of the Manor, to give the exclusive right of performing on the sands to Mr. Andie Caine's troupe of pierrots for the present season at a rental of £25, and they are also willing to sign a lease for the next three years—1907, 1908, and 1909—at a rental of £55 per annum. These terms have been accepted by Mr. Caine, and under the terms of the contract he has the privilege of performing on the Foreshore-road when the tide is up. The Council attempted to extract a bigger rent for the pitch than in past seasons.

The third annual staff outing of the Bordesley Palace took place on Sunday at Bewdley, whither the manager, Mr. Edward Foster, conveyed his party of nearly a hundred friends and employees, per G.W.R., in special saloon carriages. Mr. Foster's plans, as usual, had been well laid, and his followers, on arrival at the beautiful Severnside, found every provision for their comfort and enjoyment. A cricket match for Friends *versus* Staff—albeit it was difficult to determine which side had won—produced some interesting, if curious, play; and advantage was taken of the facilities for bowls, fishing, and boating until the hour of dinner, when the party gathered at the George Hotel.

Mr. Foster, as chairman, was supported by Mr. A. W. Matcham, of the Empire Palace; Mr. Lester Collingwood, of the Alexandra Theatre; Mr. Albert Bushell, of the Gaiety; and Mr. W. P. Wells, Empire, &c.; and the post-prandial oratory of each in the matter of the toasts was well appreciated. During the afternoon the majority of the party were taken in brakes to Witley Court, an arrangement which certainly added hugely to the enjoyment of the day, for the surprisingly interesting beauty of its surroundings. The remainder of the party went by boat to Arley, which was enjoyed with no less a zest, and a hearty tea was partaken of at both places.

Miss Ethel Walker, the clever society entertainer and mimic at the piano, made her second appearance in Ireland this week, opening on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, when she had an enthusiastic reception. The *Irish Times* on Tuesday, referring to her success, said:—"She was very effective in her imitation of several music hall artists. She is an excellent mimic, and displays considerable ability in her study and portrayal of character." We are not surprised to learn that Mr. J. Lauri Graydon has just booked this promising young artist for the next three years for the De Frece circuit. To-night Miss Walker doubles back from Dublin to open on Monday at Clacton, distance being no object or objection to a good "Walker."

The death of Mrs. Jessie Violet Prichard (more generally known as Violet Friend) occurred at The Forest, Kinver, on Tuesday, July 3, after a lingering illness, at the early age of thirty-two years. The deceased lady will be remembered as a favourite on the variety stage, having toured (in conjunction with Mr. Tom Prichard) the principal cities and towns of Europe and America, and having achieved success at the Tivoli and the Oxford.

It will be recollected that she appeared in pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, some nine years ago with Miss Harriet Vernon. In 1903, through her instrumentality, the Dudley Empire was built. As "Violet Friend" she was the recipient of handsome gifts, including one from the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, and a diamond pendant presented to her by the members of the Millionaires' Club at New York in February, 1900. There was an enormous attendance at the funeral at the new cemetery at Dudley on Saturday, the deceased, whilst in that town, having identified herself with several movements for the benefit of the poorer classes, who were largely in evidence. The wreaths were exceedingly numerous and beautiful.

Mr. Geo. Chirgwin, who was unable to fulfil his recent engagement at the Palace, Plymouth, will appear there on the 30th inst. Apropos of the Palace, we noted with pleasure that Mr. Jack Field, the genial and popular manager, who has been suffering from a carbuncle in the neck in such a position as to render an operation difficult, is almost recovered, and able to superintend matters again.

There was a special sitting of the Sheffield Licensing Magistrates at the Court House on July 4, to hear an application by Mr. A. Muir Wilson for a public dancing, music, and singing licence for a house to be called the Tivoli Music Hall, in Burton-street, Owlerton, a suburb of Steelopolis. The building would hold 500, and the licence was only wanted for the hours between 7 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. The magistrates decided to visit the premises before giving their decision, and the application was adjourned till Aug. 15.

The Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, closes to-day for three weeks. During the interregnum the proprietors intend to thoroughly renovate the place, which will re-open on August Bank Holiday.

Miss Kellerman, the Australian lady swimmer, will compete with Fraulein Rosa Frauendorfer, a Viennese girl of 20, in the 7½ miles swim through Paris to-morrow. Miss Kellerman is training hard for her cross-Channel swim, and is feeling very fit.

Mr. Louis de Rougemont recently fulfilled his promise of riding a real live turtle at the Hippodrome, and we are given to understand that he intends to make a voyage on the back of one of these inoffensive creatures—suggestive of Lord Mayor's feasts—in the near future in the River Avon—not, fortunately, in that part of the stream that flows by the church where the bones of the gentle Shakespeare lie, but close to Bristol.

The annual outing of the staff of the Grand, Clapham, was favoured with glorious weather on Sunday, when a happy party numbering upwards of sixty went by early train to Hampton Court, thence by launch to Egham, where dinner was served at the King's Head, Mr. A. W. Deer occupying the chair. Afterwards the party went as far as Old Windsor, returning to Clapham about eleven.

The following artists will sail from Southampton to-day to fulfil engagements with Messrs. Hyman in South Africa:—Mr. Joe O'Gorman, Miss Jessica Grace, the Brothers O'Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas, and Robbins and Collier. The artists returning home the same day are:—Mountford and Walsh, Meier and Mora, Miss Clare Romaine, Mr. Edgar Romaine, and Miss Cora Corina.

A link with the past at both theatre and music hall has been snapped by the death of Miss Mariette D'Auban, who passed away on the 3rd inst. The deceased lady was a sister of Mr. John D'Auban, the celebrated *maître de danse* and teacher, and with him shared the success of many entertainments in which ballet was a feature. Miss D'Auban's most recent stage work was in connection with the dances in *Morocco Bound* at the Shaftesbury and *Go Bang* at the Duke of York's. She passed away after a long and painful illness at the age of sixty, and was buried on the 6th inst. at Brompton Cemetery.

Mr. Arthur Lennard, like other variety entertainers, is much troubled at the dearth of good songs. He says:—"It is one of the biggest troubles of the successful artist. A man makes a big success with a certain class of song, and after going round with it a few times, he has to get something new. The chances are all against him getting another equal to the successful one, and the public immediately conclude that the artist has 'gone off.' Up to now I have been fairly fortunate in obtaining good successors to my songs. I write many of them, and, of course, have a number of agents always on the *qui vive* for something suitable."

Mr. Charles Wilson, stage-director of the Alhambra, was presented on the 5th inst. with a beautifully framed address subscribed for by the employees, ninety-eight in all, including the stage, flies, property, and electrician's staff. Mr. George Gray, a member of the electrician's staff, presented the address.

At the Garden Theatre at the Crystal Palace Mr. J. Bannister Howard is running Café Chantants twice daily. They seem to have "caught on," as they are packed out at every performance, due probably to the strong bill, which includes Frank Lawton, Lillie Lassah, Ettie Sheffield, Bert Danson, and Ariel and Astarte.

Mr. Frederick Melville, manager for Motogirl, is sailing for Australia to fill a six months' contract with Mr. Harry Rickards, leaving immediately after the conclusion of Motogirl's most successful engagement at the Orpheum, Karlsbad. Mr. Rickards has ordered 6,000 lithographs for the billing of the act in Australia and New Zealand.

The well-known Paragon Trio (who were unfortunately victims of a tram-car catastrophe at Halifax, as we briefly stated in our last issue) are on the high road to complete recovery. Mr. Sharplin is now the only inmate belonging to the Trio, in the Royal Halifax Infirmary. His two daughters, Lillie and Katie, have been discharged from that institution, and have left the town. On making enquiries on Wednesday morning, our correspondent was informed that Mr. Sharplin was doing splendidly, and will be able to stroll about in the garden shortly.

Friday, July 6, was made a souvenir night to Miss Maidie Scott at the Palace, Hammersmith; the management presenting two photographs of that lady to every person paying for admission. There was a crowded house to welcome this popular artist.

Mr. Tom Leamore will produce on Monday at the Palace, Walthamstow, a new comic character entitled *The Prodigal Son*, which will be built up on the same lines as his successful character Rip Van Winkle. His latest is from the pen of Mr. H. Wincott.

Miss May Mars will shortly produce a new Egyptian scena, written and composed by H. K. Hamilton Field (author-composer of the popular song, "His Country, King, and Girl"), entitled "My Pyramid Girl," and published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, who are also issuing two other songs which Miss Mars is about to exploit, viz., "My Queen of Old Samara," by J. F. Lambe, and "Rosie is Waiting," by Harrington and Tate.

The success of Messrs. Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher's charming song, "My Tiny Firefly," with pierrots, has already been remarkable, and Mr. Andie Caine, who is this season at Filey, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's favourite rest resort on the Yorkshire coast, as usual, early this week sent a substantial order for copies to the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, his letter conveying to that enterprising firm the gratifying intelligence that "Firefly" was selling "like hot cakes."

An amusing incident happened to Mr. Walter Slaughter and Mr. Maurice Jacobi, who are on a cycling tour. As they were passing through the main street of Lowestoft, they heard an organ grinding out one of Mr. Slaughter's most popular songs from *Bluebell*. The music was so devoid of any expression that Mr. Slaughter immediately jumped off his bicycle and seized hold of the handle of the organ and showed the "grinder" how the work should be played, with the proper pauses, &c. This caused the greatest amusement to the passers-by, and to the shopkeepers around, who recognised Mr. Slaughter as a musician who is equally well-known in Lowestoft as in London. To witness the distinguished composer playing his own music on a street organ was indeed a novelty. Next week there will be a copyright performance of the new opera, *My Lady Tatters*, written by Mr. Herbert Leonard, for which Mr. Slaughter has written the music.

After a professional tour round the world, extending over a period of two and a half years, Mr. Edward Lauri, the well-known variety entertainer, has returned to his residence at Cranes Park, Surbiton.

Mr. John Leopold's latest successful sketch, in two scenes, entitled *The Houseboat*, by John Leopold and Wilfred Vaughan, will be seen next week at the Empress, Brixton. The sketch was produced in June in Manchester, and has proved a big success in the provinces.

Mr. James Willard has decided to re-name his comedy sketch which has hitherto been played under the somewhat cumbrous title, *The Strange Little Stranger*. It will in future be known by the more distinctive title, *The Little Wonder*.

Griff, the popular comic conjurer, and Mr. H. E. High, who is successfully appearing at the Bedford this week in his clever speciality "A Lunatic on Skates," were elected hon. auditors of the Music Hall Sick Fund at the annual general meeting held at the York Hotel on Wednesday afternoon.

The first general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation was held at the Trocadero on Tuesday morning, when about 200 members were present, the chair being taken by Mr. Joe O'Gorman. The members of the Press were excluded.

Owing to the enormous success of *The Would-Be Actors* at the Hippodrome, Blackpool, Messrs. E. Carter Livesey and company have been retained for another week, making a three weeks' engagement. They will also appear at Southport, Morecambe, and Douglas during the summer season, before returning to the Palace Theatre.

Mr. Harry Lauder has been specially honoured at Chatham, where he made his first appearance last week at the Gaiety. He was invited to dine with the officers at the Barracks on Saturday last, being afterwards carried shoulder high from the sergeants' mess to the barrack gates. After his performance on the same night, the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders met him at the Hall, and he was marched to the station by the band of thirty pipers, playing "Will ye noo come back again."

Mrs. W. Skinner, mother of Mrs. John Lawson, who died Saturday, June 30, was buried at Tooting Cemetery on Tuesday, July 3. Mrs. John Lawson has lost both parents in the short space of four months, and, in consequence of these bereavements and the anxieties of motherhood, this popular lady is taking a complete rest.

"La Milo," of the London Pavilion, generously consented to give some of her classical poses during the garden party in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, at the Botanical Gardens on Friday (yesterday) afternoon. Mr. Frank Glenister kindly granted the necessary permission.

Miss Rosie Lloyd wishes it to be known that in future her sole business representatives are Somers and Warner.

Mr. Albert Bushell, general manager of the Birmingham Gaiety, fishing in Whitacre Reservoir on Thursday last week, caught over ninety perch, the heaviest fish weighing 2¼lbs. All the fish were caught with small red fly. It was a remarkable capture from the fact that it was accomplished in two hours.

The Crystal Palace Company offer for subscription at par 50,000 Seven per Cent. Cumulative Preference shares of £1 each. It is mentioned that the company's capital account was overdrawn as per the last balance-sheet by £26,387, since which date it has been necessary to make some further expenditure upon the football ground and in connection with the new football club amounting to over £6,000. In order to replace the overdraft on the capital account, which has been temporarily met out of the general funds of the company, and to place the company in a more satisfactory financial position, the directors have decided to make the present issue of £50,000 Preference shares.

The average net profits (subject to interest and directors' fees) for the four years to Dec. 31, 1905, were £18,148. The net profit for the year 1905, the latter half of which was adversely affected by shortness of working capital and the consequent difficulty of arranging special attractions, amounted (subject to directors' fees) to £12,384. The year 1905 was, it is believed, in the experience of nearly all places of entertainment, an unsatisfactory year. The year 1906 is benefited by the Handel Festival, and the provision of the new capital should assist in restoring the improvement of recent years.

The 471st meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Wednesday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Albert Le Fre, and subsequently by Mr. Charles Coborn. There were also present—Messrs. R. Abel, Harry Blake, George Booker, A. Carlton, W. H. Clemart, George Preston, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and cases arising out of them dealt with.

The Secretary stated that the member who was implicated in a dispute at Euston had reported that he had waited upon the theatrical traffic agent there, and that a satisfactory settlement had been arrived at, the ticket-collector of whom he had complained being severely censured. A letter was subsequently read from the theatrical traffic manager stating the contrary was the case, and adding that the collector was in no way to blame, as the officials had orders to remove labels from reserved carriages if the number of occupants did not reach a certain amount. He said, however, that if the member was satisfied the matter was at an end.

Application for compensation was made on behalf of three members who had been injured in the tramway accident at Halifax, and the Secretary received instructions to obtain the insurance money from the company. Mr. S. Newstead, of the Carlton Restaurant, Clacton-on-Sea, was appointed agent for the Association in that town, on the nomination of Mr. Fred Neiman. The consideration of other appointments was deferred. The Secretary reported that the member's ticket withheld by another member had been forwarded to him with an expression of regret, and he was instructed to send it to the rightful owner.

A letter was read from Mr. G. W. Gerald, stating that there was a slight hitch in the negotiations with regard to the concession obtained in Paris, the individual rates proving an obstacle, but he was hopeful of effecting a satisfactory arrangement. A member appeared before the committee with regard to a refund for which he had been held liable, and as he proved that he was not in fault, the obligation to pay was removed. The Secretary's financial statement for the week ending July 7 showed that £20 2s. had been received, and £16 5s. 3d. expended; and that the membership had increased by twelve. Five pounds was voted for the purchase of office furniture, in addition to the same amount previously passed. On the proposition of Mr. Harry Blake, it was decided to send a telegram on behalf of the committee wishing "A pleasant voyage and safe return" to Mr. Joe O'Gorman, the chairman of committee, on his departure for South Africa to-day.

Personal acknowledgment of the utility of the hon. medical officers of the M.H.A.R.A. was given at the committee meeting on Wednesday by Mr. A. Carlton, who has completely recovered from a recent illness under the care of one of the Association's doctors. Testimony to their value was also supplied in a letter from another member which was read to the meeting. With such material advantages, coupled with the railway concessions, the liberal insurance provisions, and other benefits offered by the Association, it is hardly credible that there should be a single eligible variety artist outside its ranks.

The American song composers have long been famous for their pretty catchy melodies. We find one of the very best in the delightful number "Moon Dear," now being so successfully sung by Miss Sybil Arundale in the revue *Venus* at the Empire. The attractiveness of the song is evinced by the number of applications the publishers, M. Witmark and Sons, have already had for pantomime rights.

Miss Elizabeth Firth is also singing a "Witmark" number in the Empire revue, "Little Miss Noone from nowhere," from the pen of that popular composer, Mr. Gus Edwards, the composer of "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye."

Miss Rachel Lowe, who was prevented by illness from appearing in Glasgow last week, opened on the Stoll tour on Monday at Edinburgh. Her songs, "The Gay Bohemian Knights" and "They all go to Church on Sunday," were hailed with delight by the audience, and the local papers were very flattering in their notices of this clever little artist.

M. Witmark and Sons, who are ever on the lookout for good songs for clever artists, have fitted Miss Winnifred Hare with a number which will doubtless be one of the songs of the year. Miss Hare is producing it during the coming week.

Miss Millie Payne leaves town to-night, and returns at Christmas. She has been busy while in town with the authors and publishers, and promises several novelties for Yuletide.

Messrs. Corri and Dereve, whose musical sketch, *Heart Strings*, is proving very successful on the Moss and Stoll tour, will produce on August 20th, at the Richmond Theatre, their latest musical screamer, *Office Hours*. For this a strong company, numbering 26 people, is being engaged. A special feature of this production will be the music specially composed by Clarence C. Corri, of *Dandy Fifth* and *In Gay Piccadilly* fame. The book and lyrics are by Mr. Dereve.

The Leslie Brothers, the Australian musical comedians, are delighted with Brighton, where they have scored an undoubted success at the Alhambra, and are looking forward to their return there next summer. On Sunday they take their departure for Brussels, where they open at the Palais d'Eté, after which they return to the Oxford and other halls for a season.

Mr. Charles Collette, who has concluded a most successful third month's engagement at the London Pavilion, on Monday produces his famous musical patter sketch, *Hard Luck*, at the New Palace Theatre, Plymouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas sail to-day (Saturday) by the Walmer Castle for South Africa. The popular Dickensonians open at the Empire, Johannesburg, at the beginning of August, followed by an equally long visit to Cape Town. Returning to England in November, they will appear at Bournemouth a couple of days after landing, and they hold contracts for Moss and Stoll tours as far ahead as 1908. Mr. Lucas and his clever wife will make their début in South Africa in scenes from *Martin Chuzzlewit* and *Bleak House*.

Mr. Arthur Elvy has been very successful on the Barrasford tour with his scena, *The Up-to-Date Tipster*, having given the winners of the "Royal Hunt Cup," "The Gold Cup," "The Ascot Stakes," "The Northumberland Plate," and the "London Cup," besides some winners in minor races. He returns to town on Monday.

Miss Cora Corina, the Spanish singer and dancer, after fulfilling a most successful engagement in South Africa with Messrs. Hyman, returns to-day by the Briton. She will shortly visit the Continent for three months. Her business is in the hands of the well-known and popular Mr. Fred Higham.

Mr. Ernest Dillon, of the old original famous Dillon family of flying gymnasts, is the latest to join the ranks of the Terrier fraternity. Terrier Spot performed the ceremony.

Graham, "the human marionette," has been appearing at the Hippodrome, Ipswich, where he has produced, with most gratifying success, his latest novelty, a scena entitled *King Neptune*, which is realistically mounted

Mr. George Gulliver, ventriloquist, who arrived home safely from India on July 2, was immediately secured by Mr. W. B. Broadhead for three weeks, and within an hour of settling with him, the popular artist received three more offers for this week.

Les Rallis, who have scored a great success on the Continent, return to England and open on Monday at Morecambe. They received some very tempting offers to remain, but were compelled to refuse them, having to fill their English bookings, which extend far into 1907.

Mr. Robert Barton, for nearly two years acting-manager at the Palace of Varieties, Northampton, has given up the management of that popular place of amusement, much to the regret of his numerous friends.

The Palace, Tottenham, is for the present closed for alterations, and will re-open on August Bank Holiday with a strong company. The hall has been vastly improved, and will be more so when the installation of electric light is complete.

Thirty years ago one of the junior clerks employed by the firm of Mitchell's, in Old Bond-street, was a George Ashton. He had not long been in Old Bond-street before he was ordered to arrange for a Royal visit to one of the theatres, and he tells the story to a daily newspaper that, being only a poor man, earning under £2 a week, he had to borrow a dress suit from a friend, who was a clerk at Hays' library. This friend was Mr. Dundas Slater, who eventually became Mr. George Edwardes's right-hand man, and then was appointed manager of the Alhambra, a post he relinquished a few years ago to take over the control of the enterprises of the Messrs. A. and S. Gatti. The dress suit was a bad fit, for the owner was small in stature, while the wearer was tall. But the attire amused the Royal party.

George Ashton shortly afterwards was promoted, and was able to buy his own evening dress. By a coincidence, the first time he wore it he was in attendance on the King (then Prince of Wales) at a theatre, and since that day his Majesty has never visited a playhouse without Mr. Ashton also being present. He is known, indeed, as the King's "play-taster," for it is understood that his Majesty has the highest confidence in Mr. Ashton's opinion of a piece. He has also arranged for all the "command" performances at Windsor, Sandringham, and Buckingham Palace. When Mr. Ashton left Mitchell's he bought up Olivier's "library," and Ashton's Royal Agency has since become the leading establishment of its kind, the annual profits averaging over £10,000 a year. Mr. Ashton then bought the business of Messrs. Nathan and Somers, the well-known music-hall agents, and has now purchased Mitchell's Agency. Further interesting developments in his business may be expected shortly.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

The chief novelty in the current bill at the favourite and admirably situated house in Piccadilly-circus, managed so efficiently by the popular Mr. Frank Glenister, is an American sketch, presented by Miss Mabel Bardine and company, and entitled

"NELL OF THE MUSIC HALLS."

William Middleton .....MR. HUGH ARDALE
Madeline Middleton .....MISS MOLLY PEARSON
Nell .....MISS MABEL BARDINE

Marital infidelity is variously treated on the stage. Often enough the illicit intimacy of a husband with a lady other than his wife becomes in the hands of a French author the foundation of a rollicking Palais Royal farce, but in England and America we look at these straynings from the path of morality through different spectacles. A story such as is told in *Nell of the Music Halls* might, in the hands of a Parisian playwright of fecund imagination be highly spiced with extravagantly farcical situations and amusing *équivoque*. The author, presumably an American, has, however, presented it quite melodramatically William Middleton, a married man with children, has fallen madly in love with Nell, "an actress in vaudeville," and suspicions of his attachment have induced his faithful and affectionate wife, Madeline, to visit the object of his guilty passion. Nell is without her dresser, and immediately sets Madeline to work to assist in her robing for her character in a new piece, which is to be produced that evening. A bouquet of roses is sent by Mr. William Middleton—known to Nell as Billy—and it is easily to be foreseen that she of the music halls will discover that Madeline is the wife of her admirer. After a scene of bitter upbraiding Nell parts from her admirer, whom she bids go back to his wife and children. Miss Mabel Bardine, who is making her first appearance in this country in the character of Nell, possesses a fascinating personality and plays with considerable power. She is specially to be commended for her utterance of Nell's reproaches to the man who has stolen into her life. Mr. Hugh Ardale, in the difficult part of William Middleton, struggles bravely to stimulate interest in that character, and Miss Molly Pearson as the forbearing wife gives gentleness and dignity to the rôle.

To the variety portion of the bill Mr. Walter Tilbury and Miss Daisy Ford are still heartily welcomed contributors in the musical sketch, *When the Cat's Away*, the popularity of which has secured for it an extension of the original term of the engagement. Mr. Albert Le Fre and the Pavilion Girls deal most successfully with the scena, *The Typical Topical Topper*, in which he has a very scathing verse at the expense of the Chicago meat packers. Mr. Le Fre's fine dancing is an item of considerable value in the sketch.

La Milo, with Nature as her only costumier, is responsible for the production of various celebrated statues of Venus by distinguished sculptors, both ancient and modern, and never have classical posings been more popular. Between the various "statues" shown by this pretty and perfectly-shaped girl, the lightning impressionist, Cruikshank, sketches in outline a number of celebrities—cricketers, politicians, &c. Of course, a rousing cheer greets the familiar outline of Mr. Chamberlain, who has just celebrated his seventieth birthday.

Mr. Whit Cunliffe in a new comic version of the dictionary is very successful, and there is something essentially Spanish about the amusing parody of Mr. Edwin Boyde. Mr. Chris. Richards, a wonderful dancer and legmaniac, intersperses his welcome low comedy with a number of tricks with his hat; Mr. Willie Gardner is an expert skate dancer; and the wire act of Atalanta, who disrobes while walking on the thin filament of steel, is full of fascination and charm. Mr. Phil Ray's abbreviated patter is as amusing as ever. Mr. Albert Whelan cleverly mimics Mr. Alf. Gibson in "It takes a lot of that to upset me"; Mr. Harry Lauder in "Stop yer tickling, Jock," and also whistles tunefully. The Kentucky Four have won a well-deserved success, and receive ovations nightly for their musical and singing act, which is distinguished by some remarkable dancing on the part of Topsy, a lithe little negress, who is simply irresistible in her wonderful energy.

Miss Alice Pierce, who has won fame in the Antipodes since her last engagement here, submits impressions of the most famous of stage stars; Foreman and Fannan renew their popularity in some droll cross-talk; Miss Rosa Loader, a newcomer to the London Pavilion, justifies her engagement by her realisation of "the slavey at the piano"; Ray and Calden are bright and entertaining in a smartly rendered comedy act; Miss Dolly Golden is a graceful dancer; and Miss Nora Moore, comedienne; the Howards (Ralph and Nellie) in comedy and melody; and Miss Daisy Mayer, a remarkably neat dancer, are other attractions in a well-arranged programme. Mr. William Cobbett is well-placed in front as assistant-manager; and the orchestra does good work under the artistic direction of Mr. Bond Sayers.

THE BEDFORD.

The task of providing for the variety lovers of Camden-town has been fully grasped by Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, who always supplies an entertainment that wins the steady patronage of appreciative audiences. A prominent item in the programme here is invariably the sketch, and that figuring in the current week's bill, *The Doctor*, described as "an episode of real life," is a serious trifle that is certainly quite different from the usual sensational playlet. On the rising of the curtain we gather there has been a terrible motor smash. The chauffeur has been killed; and the owner of the car is seen lying on a couch, shockingly mutilated and apparently dead. The man's valet—the names of the characters are not given on the programme—has telephoned for a doctor; and when he arrives he at once sees that it is a very serious case. He also discovers that the patient, who is now completely at his mercy, is his wife's lover, she having left her husband and her little child some time previously. His first impulse is to leave the sufferer to die, but he recognises that it is his duty to do all in his power to save him; and at once proceeds to perform an operation on the injured man's head, informing the anxious valet that his master will in all probability recover. A lady is expected, and the Doctor, knowing it to be his wife decides to wait. Her first anxiety on her arrival is for her lover; and the Doctor tells her he will live, but will be always disfigured and probably paralysed for life. She then endeavours to excuse her faithlessness by accusing her husband of indifference to her and their child, the study of his profession having always been his one interest. He tells her she might have had patience, and when she pleads to have the child he refuses. He will, however, renounce the laboratory for ever, and devote himself entirely to his offspring. The wife would, apparently, go back with him, but he bids her stay with the man of her choice, and the curtain falls on the wife sinking to the ground declaring that it is always the woman who suffers. The two important characters of the Doctor and his wife were admirably enacted by Mr. Monte Bayley and Miss Diana Hope; and if the gloomy nature of the playlet did not arouse the audience to enthusiasm, it certainly interested them, and compelled attention throughout.

Johnny Johnstone, the "musical dandy," was rewarded with lavish applause for his rendering on the 'cello of "The Shade of the Sheltering Palm," and a solo on the one-stringed fiddle; and his whistling song, "Mocking Birds," descriptive of the doings of a set of jolly boys who frequent the West End, also met with favour, his humorous remarks adding to the attractiveness of a very acceptable turn. Miss Linda Wasey, a smart comedienne, sang with decided point an amusing topical song "A Matter of Business"; and had the audience entirely with her in her second number "The Boy who Looks after his Mother," the sentiment of which appealed alike to gallery and stalls. Expert club juggling was the principal contribution of the Roma Troupe, six prepossessing damsels who looked delightfully cool in their white frocks, some of their exchanges being particularly neat and clean; and Gray and Parry submitted a clever comic acrobatic interlude that was rightly accorded a flattering reception.

Neither Harry Mansfield nor Little Ganty answered to their number at the second house on Monday, but the deputies in each case were most entertaining substitutes. In place of Little Ganty a couple of ladies appeared, and gave an excellent rendering of the tuneful ditty, "There's nobody just like you," being also heard with considerable pleasure in a catchy coon song, the dance with which it was embellished being particularly smart, and their business throughout being excellent, the "sisters" working with an enthusiasm which greatly added to the attractiveness of their contributions. The other deputy was also a double turn—two amusing cross-talk comedians who were particularly mirth-provoking in their spoof second-sight entertainment. Miss Theresa Moore gave a humorous number concerning a gentleman who kept one eye on the parrot and another on his ladylove, a neatly executed step-dance being loudly acclaimed; and the Four Charles in their transformation acrobatic performance; and the Imperial Bioscope, with new pictures, also added to the enjoyment of the evening.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The warm weather must be held responsible for the closing of a large number of London and provincial theatres and music halls, but, happily, most of our suburban variety houses hold out bravely against such a powerful combination as the holiday season and the outdoor amusements that fill up the long summer evenings. Mr. John Christie, at Hackney, at all events has no idea of hauling down the flag and surrendering to the superior forces of King Sol. Indeed, despite the numerous outdoor attractions, we found one evening this week a large audience assembled at the fine variety theatre in Mare-street, and a glance at the programme revealed quite a plethora of variety talent.

The novelty in the bill is a farcical sketch written by Mr. B. Soane Roby, entitled *Snooks*, which affords Miss Louie Freear an opportunity of representing another of those clever character studies that have gained for her a front place amongst the comedy actresses of the day. Jemima is a London slavey in the service of Mrs. Stiggins, a widow, living at Brixton, and she has a tall soldier sweetheart named Joshua Snooks. But for some reason or other Snooks deserts from the Grenadier Guards, and a search party being sent out to arrest him, he seeks refuge at the widow's residence. At the approach of Mrs. Stiggins and her daughter, Amelia, he conceals himself under the couch, and so becomes an unobserved listener to the conversation, from which we gather that the young lady has a strong objection to marry the rich dude who has a staunch advocate in her mother. Amelia, however, prefers a good looking officer in the Guards, and speaks her mind plainly on the subject. The ladies having departed, the masher makes his appearance and is persuaded by Snooks to exchange clothes at a neighbouring public-house. They presently return, considerably the worse for drink, and after a good deal of funny comedy business, in which Jemima takes a prominent part, the slavey buys her sweetheart out and Amelia and her lover also pair off, the dude expressing his determination to marry the widow. Miss Louie Freear quite revels in the part of Jemima, the love lorn "domestic," and her embodiment of the quaint-looking little slavey is marked throughout by a genuine humour which delights the audience. Her by-play is excellent. Everybody laughs when Jemima washes the seats of the chairs with a flannel cloth dipped in water and then proceeds to dry them by a highly original method. All the other characters are exceedingly well played—the names of their respective representatives are not given on the programme—and the new farcical sketch has proved a decided success.

Amongst other items in the current bill, hearty commendation can be bestowed upon the extremely popular playlet, *A Bachelor's Dream*, in which Miss May Edouin and Mr. Fred Edwards continue to do so well. A hearty welcome is accorded Miss Peggy Pryde, who opens with her amusing ditty and patter descriptive of a wedding. She next appears as a newsboy to sing "In the Streets of London Town," an impersonation that has the merit of being life-like and real. Finally she gives in pretty and appropriate costume a yodelling song, "My Little Dicher Girl," and is several times recalled. Peppo's monkeys submit an interesting performance, one of these cleverly-trained little animals giving a performance on the tight rope. Nipper Lupino Lane is a smart boy comedian, displaying ability both as a singer and dancer. His impersonation of a Dutchman, with song and dance, is particularly good, and is received with quite a storm of applause. Billy Hobbs is a favourite coon singer and dancer, and on the night of our visit, Talbot and Pearce, pleasing duettists and dancers, deputised for Sam Soda, comedian. Tuneful songs, illustrated by pictures, are shown by Fox and Melville, the audience being invited to sing the chorus of each. Chas. Pastor, with a laughing ditty, meets with success, and the American Bioscope presents a series of interesting pictures The orchestra here is under the direction of Mr. Walter Johnson.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

The new musical comedy sketch entitled *The Chauffeur*, is one of the principal attractions in the current programme at the Holloway Empire, and has met with a decidedly favourable reception. Played by Mr. Frank Danby, supported by a company of twenty artists, the novelty has recommended itself to local audiences by reason of its many bright and lively features and pretty music. Mr. Danby plays the part of the chauffeur, who is regarded as the "smartest on the road"; and his arrival at the hotel, which is the scene of the new piece, seems to be regarded as quite an event, the guests receiving him with musical honours and the most demonstrative of welcomes, as if he were no less important a personage than a Royal Prince. He gets something of a shock when in the chief bar attendant he recognises his own brother, who thinks that driving a motor-car is far better business than serving drinks in an hotel bar. Most people would no doubt agree with him, but the chauffeur is quite prepared to exchange places with his brother—for the time being, at any rate. The barman is delighted, and the guests having cleared off, the chauffeur proceeds to put on his brother's jacket and to take his place at the bar. But it has no doubt not occurred to the motor driver that a business, whatever its nature, has to be learnt; and his want of experience in the new line very quickly lands him in difficulties. When asked for American drinks bearing various curious names he is completely bewildered, for he does not know one from another The result may be

(*Continued on Col. 4.*)

CHAT WITH MR. SID COTTERELL.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"I think," says Mr. Sid Cotterell, "that the sketch, drama, or comedy, or farce, or even opera, will be an important and strong feature of music-hall programmes in the future. But let me say this: Such sketches must be entirely free from vulgarity. When you write clean 'lines,' you are doing something which the public will appreciate, and you will be well repaid for your trouble in making your play as refined as possible. I am pleased to say that I have been complimented, both by managers and members of the public, on the cleanliness of my present sketch."

Mr. Cotterell's reference is to a merry trifle, entitled *The Substitute*, he is at the present moment running in the variety theatres. The plot of the piece turns upon the troubles consequent upon the conduct of a gay young married man, who, wishing to absent himself at night without the knowledge of his wife, and for the purpose of meeting a former "flame," enlists the aid of the new hall-porter to occupy his bed till he returns. The complications that arise can be easily imagined; but of course all comes straight. *The Substitute* is well constructed and smartly written; while it enjoys the inestimable

Photo by Emberson.

MR. SID COTTERELL.

blessing of being absolutely free from the faintest suspicion of anything that might offend the taste of the most fastidious. It is, in short, a perfectly clean, wholesome, and amusing little play. It is admirably acted. Mr. Cotterell himself is possessed of a rich fund of humour, and employs it with good effect as the bewildered hall-porter. Miss Trixie Holland acts the young wife with great spirit, and looks charming; while Mr. Frank Wheatcroft as the young husband is handsome and debonair.

Questioned as to the strong competition in the music halls, Mr. Cotterell states that there are always opportunities for good people on the variety stage. "In fact," he says, "there are far more chances on the halls to-day than on the legitimate stage, because in the former an artist is able to display his own individuality, which, if he be one of the large crowd in a three of four-act play, is not always permissible." Mr. Cotterell should certainly be in a position to speak with authority on this subject, on account of his long experience in both branches of the theatrical profession.

He first faced the footlights, at the age of six, with Mr. Charles Collette, in *Little Em'ly*, at the Opera House Cork, and, as he is now twenty-eight years old, his association with the stage is of twenty-two years' duration. After appearing in a round of juvenile parts, and for a short time with Sanger's Circus, he started as a singer and dancer in the halls. Then he was with Miss Elsie Phillips and Mr. Harry White in the sketch, *The Bewitched Curate*, and afterwards was seen in a number of operettas From these he joined dramatic touring and stock companies—notably, so far as the latter is concerned, at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Among the characters he has impersonated may be mentioned those of Bob Bartlemay in *The Old Toll House*, Johnny Lamb in *New Babylon*, Wahnotee in *The Octoroon*, and Bullock in *East Lynne*, as well as a lot of comedy rôles. Mr. Cotterell was with Mr. Arthur Jefferson in *The Orphan Heiress*, playing the part of Ginger; and soon after this engagement he returned to the music halls, running his own sketch, *The Wrong Girl*. He went back to Mr. Jefferson, however, to resume his part in *The Orphan Heiress*, following which he undertook the principal comedy part, Tommy Jinks, in *The Power and Glory*, subsequently again doing stock work at the Metropole and Osborne Theatres, Manchester, where he "created" the comedy rôles in some of Mr. Broadhead's dramas, two of the principal plays being *Struck Off the Rolls* and *Manchester by Day and Night*. At the conclusion of the stock season he was engaged by Messrs. Jennings and Herrick for the part of Ben Lanky in *The Girl of My Heart*. An engagement which lasted for three years, and of which Mr. Cotterell carries very pleasant recollections, was with Mr. W. H. Hallatt, for whose piece he created the part of Benjamin Baxter. He left Mr. Hallatt, of whom he speaks in terms of admiration, to take up the rôle of Billy Bung, the bookmaker, in *The Flood Tide* at Drury Lane, and, owing to the able manner in which he handled the character, he was re-engaged by Mr. Arthur Collins, and not so very long ago terminated his fourth season of pantomime at the National Theatre.

Mr. Cotterell tells us that he is very fond of pantomime work, his favourite part being Idle Jack in *Dick Whittington*. He enjoys the excitement which goes on from the start to the finish of a Christmas production. "But," he remarks, "you have to be thoroughly alert all the time, and try to find something new to put forward as a gag, local topics having specially to be studied."

The subject of this interview has won several prizes at the music hall sports for running, and is, moreover, a golf enthusiast. His intention, so far as his professional work is concerned, is to continue writing and producing sketches.

MR. AND MRS. ERNEST DE VERE were amongst the guests invited by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress for their conversazione at the Mansion House on Tuesday.

MR. RUDOLPH WHITELEY, of the Five Whiteleys, and Miss Florrie Cleveland, of the Five Clevelands, will be married at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, on Sunday, July 22, at 12.30, from 29, Brixton-road.

MISS GEORGINA MORRIS, the charming young ballad vocalist and comedienne, who was recently engaged by Mr. Bannister Howard at the Café Chantant at the Crystal Palace, has been specially engaged to appear at the Exhibition at Limerick next week.

easily imagined, and is highly amusing. The hotel guests, failing to get served with what they have ordered, wax angry, and an appeal is made to the landlord. A policeman is also summoned, but matters are set right by the return of the chauffeur's brother, who has apparently had some unpleasant experiences as a motor driver. Explanations are made, and the amateur bar attendant is forgiven. Mr. Frank Danby proves to be a capital exponent of the leading part, entering into the fun and frolic with much briskness and spirit. His song and dance contributions are excellent, and evoke deserved applause. The principal female character is also brightly played, and the ladies and gentlemen of the chorus are well up to their work.

Amongst the single turns in this week's bill is Mr. Herbert Lloyd, who chooses to be known as the "Diamond King." His devices for causing merriment are numerous and varied, and always effective His so-called imitations are exceedingly funny, and a ludicrous make-up assists this clever and original comedian considerably in his successful performance. It is generally admitted that cats are by no means easy to train, but Techow's troupe of feline performers have evidently received a very sound education, and their doings are watched with much interest. Spot, "the enchanted coon," with the assistance of his company, gives an amusing and well-worked travesty, called *The Cake-walk Craze*. The Glenroy Troupe, who appear as Gordon Highlanders, and also as sailor boys, display both ability and agility in their dances, as well as in various military exercises and evolutions. Bernar's Fantouche marionettes are very smartly worked, and are a popular item in the programme. Miss Edie King's "Cinderella" song and dance meet with approval; and Simms and Simms give a musical performance that is greatly appreciated. Helene and Emilton excel as gymnasts; and the pictures on the American Bioscope complete the entertainment. Under the management of Mr. C. W. Adams everything works smoothly in front of the house, and the orchestra continues to be capably directed by Mr. Henry W. May.

THE BRITANNIA.

An attractive programme and the cooler nights have combined in inducing the Hoxton folk to congregate in their hundreds—in fact, thousands—at the Britannia. The accommodation at this theatre is of the most ample order, but on the night of our visit the house was comfortably crowded, and that is saying a good deal. A singing coon who has, to use a common phrase, "caught on" this week at Mr. Macnaghten's Hoxton establishment is Mr. Joe Oliver. Mr. Oliver treats us to a sentimental lyric concerning one Maisie, and it is sung with great taste and expression. Ventriloquism will never die out so long as we have such excellent exponents of the art as King Leo, who, with the assistance of a dummy, gives us much to laugh at. But his Majesty triumphs most when, through the medium of his miniature artificial man, he renders, with all the peculiar intonation that one expects from a well-bred dummy, the verses of "Rock me to sleep." It is a commendable performance. A sweet, well-trained voice and a pleasing stage appearance, and you have Miss Adeline Yohle. Full of feeling and character is her interpretation of "Sing me to sleep," and, indeed, it is not an ill compliment to pay to the lady when we say that she would grace any concert platform. Extraordinary equilibristic evolutions are indulged in by the Almos. Some half-dozen chairs are cleverly balanced on top of each other, the topmost being placed in a vertical position, the two front legs resting on the edges of the seat of the lower chair On the horizontal bar of the back of the highest chair a member of the troupe poises his body, head downwards. It is a particularly daring and neatly executed feat.

One would be moved to tearful sympathy for the tramp whose wearing apparel had battled with the storms and stress of a wicked world to the extent that the rag store Mr. Tony Iveson carries on his back seems to have experienced. In spite of the accumulation of odd bits which adorns Mr. Iveson's physical proportions, he is as jovial a jester as ever you met. He sings snatches of popular ballads in the liveliest manner, and tunefully withal, while as for humorous sallies he is simply overflowing with them. He understands, too, how to play the piano so as to add zest to his comicalities. For a hearty laugh we can recommend Mr. Iveson. How to avoid ejectment when you can't pay the rent is the praiseworthy "moral" that Mr. Dick Cruikshanks and company set out to point and adorn the tale of the sketch *Bridget's Idea*. The assumption of death on the part of a drink-sodden husband must surely gain the wife the pity of the most stony-hearted landlord, and our Bridget's idea succeeds with better results than are even anticipated by that scheming old beldame herself. Mr. Cruikshanks as Patsy Maloney and Miss Kitty Kirwin as the wife act with laughable effect up to the absurdities of their characters; and Mr. Allan Hope as the landlord and Miss Florence Lynn as his sister give capital impersonations. Miss Rose Stanley, attired in the latest fashion of a stylish "coster lydy" going to meet her bloke, details her experiences of "Bill's garden party." The lines are funny, but Miss Stanley would be well-advised to make her delivery a little clearer and louder. The Brothers Ashley engage in frolics of the knockabout order in their sketch *Next, Please*. Their speciality lies in the direction of boxing antics, and their doings cause a veritable uproar of merriment. The Ashleys are wonderfully smart and "handy" with the gloves. Miss Mabel le Roy makes her appearance in a becoming pale blue dress, and tenders good advice in her well-rendered song "Keep on the sunny side."

Picturesque pictures lend enchantment to the singing of songs written and composed by the Rushworths. "The true-hearted Irish lad" and "Heroes who have never been to war" prove much to the liking of the audience, and the pictures are quite artistic reproductions. The Vaudeville Dramatic and Comedy Company under the management of Mr. Ernest Wingfield present an admirable dramatic playlet in *Travellers from the Tomb*. The story is extremely interesting, indeed thrilling, and is rather well written. Mr. Wingfield himself portrays in his vigorous fashion a very wicked personage, seducer of women, and what not, in Major Geoffrey Scott; and Mr. Herbert Pearson, as a somewhat novel kind of hero, acts in a spirited manner. Miss Helena Walbran wins the sympathy of the house by her really clever interpretation of the rôle of Noona; and Miss Marguerite Trevosper is good as the deceived wife of Melayr. Mr. F Fellows Bassett gives a commendable impersonation of a priest; and Mr. Leslie Vyner is a capital exponent of a dandy officer. The sketch is exceedingly well mounted and staged, and the company are to be congratulated upon the whole production. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux furnish a series of exceedingly clear pictorial representations of the ceremonies in connection with the coronation of King Haakon.

A POWERFUL sketch of Romany life, entitled *Gipsy Dick*, the libretto and lyrics of which have been written by Mr. John P. Harrington, with tuneful and appropriate music by Mr. Jas. W. Tate, will shortly be produced at a leading hall by a company of well-known Thespians.

TERENCE WHEATLEY, son of Mr. Horace Wheatley, the famous Irish comedian and dancer, has just performed a grand feat at Clapham College Sports, entering for four events and winning each of them. His age is eleven. He is surely "A chip of the old block."

"THE LOVE MAKERS;
OR,
THE EXTRA EXTRA-TURN."

A Musical Comedy Sketch, in One Act, by Fred Moule, produced for the first time at the Surrey Variety Theatre, on Monday, July 9.

Onionana .....MISS NELLIE LAURAINE
Dulciena .....MISS EDIE LANGLEY
Belvedere Bing..MR. J. WILLOUGHBY WOODWARD
Mic Moribund .....MR. FRED MOULE

The scene is laid in the Green Room of the Prince Como Palace of Varieties, the occasion being the trial performance of a number of extra turns, and we are introduced to some twenty variety artists, all aspirants for honours. It is soon evident that the jovial comedian, Mic, has set his affections on the dainty comedienne, Dulciena, and that the rhyming topical tenor, Belvedere Bing, has lost his heart to the shapely strong woman Onionana, the winner of the extra-turn prize. He seeks to win a return of his passion by penning a sonnet to his lady love. Mic manages to get the sonnet from Bing, and when the strong lady appears, Mic, by the ardour of his pleadings, spoils poor Bing's chances entirely. Mic is accepted by the strong lady as her husband, and to effectually secure him, she makes the ardent lover put his proposal into writing. This little document she places in a cash-box for safety, and gives Mic a proof of her wonderful strength. The news is brought into the Green Room that the "sleepy serio" Dulciena, is the heiress to a million of money, and the fickle Mic's affections once more veers round to his first love. He enlists the aid of the timid Bing, and gains possession of his written proposal, but when he proposes to Dulciena, she has one of her sleepy attacks, and he cannot make her understand his protestations of affection. Onionana is a witness of his perfidy, and when she discovers the loss of her precious document, she gives an unrehearsed demonstration of her powers by dropping both Bing and Mic out of the window. They soon reappear, considerably the worse for their hasty exit, and are eventually forgiven. The faithless Mic is consoled by the charming Dulciena, and the timid Bing receives the protection of the powerful Onionana.

Mr. Fred Moule as Mic Moribund is the life and soul of the production, and throughout is humorous and resourceful, and has a catchy ditty in "Oh, oh, for a Life on the Sea." Mr. J. Willoughby Woodward as the timid Belvedere Bing, the terrible topical tenor, has plenty to do, and does it all so well that he helped in no small measure the humorous intentions of the author. As the shapely, buxom Onionana—the amateur strong woman—Miss Nellie Lauraine is delightfully diverting, and evokes an abundance of genuine merriment by her pugilistic efforts and strenuous acting. Miss Edie Langley as the dainty, yawning serio Dulciena, is fresh, bright, and distinctly clever, and in her sleepy song, "Shake Me, Girls," gives a smart piece of genuine comedy. The comedy is smartly written, and is bright and entertaining. The bevy of pretty girls who form the chorus deserve a word of praise for their careful and admirable work, which conduces not a little to the general success. The setting of the piece is admirable.

Another new production here this week is Miss Annie Schuberth's pretty song-scena, entitled *The Dream*. In this we find a young and stately wife decorating with flowers the interior of her pretty villa at Brighton, in anticipation of the home-coming from active service of her soldier husband. In the fulness of her joy she breaks into song, and her fine voice does full justice to Clay's "There is love in the land," with its pretty bell-like accompaniment. She is disturbed by the entrance of a gipsy girl who pleads for alms, but the lady answers her curtly and drives her away. The gipsy, in her anger, curses the lady, who directly she has gone relents and calls for her to come back. Just at that moment the maid brings a telegram, which tells the now anxious wife that an accident has robbed her of her husband, and later she is discovered by her maid fainting on the floor. In the next scene we find the gipsy's prophecy has come true, and in rags the dainty lady, reduced to poverty, is trying to sell her flowers in the streets. In this scene Miss Schuberth again scores with her singing of Martyn Van Lennep's beautiful ballad, "Our World." Once again the scene changes to the villa, and the maid awakens her mistress, who finds she has realised poverty only in a dream, and is made still more happy when a letter arrives telling her that her husband is alive and will soon be with her. Miss Schuberth's portrayal of the dual characters leaves nothing to be desired, while her artistic efforts are ably supported by Miss Irene Basil as the gipsy girl and M. Forbra as a newsboy. The staging and dressing are in the best of taste, and this charming scena deserves to be seen by many audiences.

"CAULIFLOWER JOE."

A Comedy Sketch, in One Scene, by Alfred Holles and Arthur E. Godfrey, Produced at the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend, on Monday, July 9.

Mrs. Simkins .....MRS. J. W. BRAITHWAITE
Gwendoline .....MISS HILDA BEVERLEY
Matilda .....MISS LILY BRAMMER
Cauliflower Joe .....MR. WALTER PURVIS

The above interesting item was successfully produced at the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend, on Monday. Mrs. Simpkins, *née* Smith, is discussing with her daughter their impecunious situation, when she discovers an advertisement in the morning paper enquiring for a certain Joe Smith, to whom is due a legacy of £20,000. This Joe Smith is her sister's long-lost child, who has drifted into the coster line, and carries on business as a greengrocer. Mrs. Simpkins immediately schemes to make friends with the fortunate coster, say nothing about the legacy, and get him to marry her daughter Gwendoline. Joe appears, and is informed he is no longer a coster but a Smith. He is introduced to Gwendoline, who sets her cap at him, and he consents to have some lunch. When Matilda, the servant, serves the meal she is surprised to recognise her sweetheart, who has taken her to Hampstead Heath on her day out. Joe tells her he has come into his rights, and is going to marry a lady. Recriminations ensue, and Matilda is ordered from the room by Gwendoline; a love passage ensues between Joe and Gwendoline, and Mrs. Simpkins is informed they are engaged, when Matilda flies into the room with the paper in her hand in which she has seen the advertisement for Joe. Explanations follow, and Mrs. Simpkins and daughter exit in high dudgeon, and the curtain falls on Joe's promise to marry Matilda.

Mr. Walter Purvis created roars of laughter at his ready wit in the portrayal of the coster Joe, being ably assisted by Miss Lilly Brammer as Matilda; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite was capital in her impersonation of the mother; whilst Miss Hilda Beverley, who looked very charming as Gwendoline, left nothing to be desired.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscription has been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow. The Fund is now being held in trust in the joint names of Mr. Richard Waldon, Royal Princess', Glasgow, and Mr. Crichton:—

	£	s.	d.
Hugh P. Arthur, P.M. of 359 C.C...	0	10	6

MUSIC HALL SPORTS.

From the point of view of the programme of events the seventeenth annual Music Hall Sports in aid of the variety profession's benevolent fund, held at the Stamford Bridge grounds on Thursday afternoon, were a great success. One might have expected better support from the public, and it was rather unfortunate that the weather didn't seem to know its own mind. The sports opened in brilliant sunshine, but the fickle jade who sits high in judgement upon the meteorological throne, after a couple of hours of sweet courtesy, showed how disagreeable she could be, and, by way of a contrast, visited us with black clouds. Then came and continued for awhile an indecisive drizzling of rain, so much more dreaded by human beings than a downright, definite, strong-minded thunderstorm. That, however, was not permitted to act as a deterrent in the merry-making and in the exhibition of athleticism. After all, one can afford to look with the utmost contempt upon the vengeance of the elements when there is a chance of taking a dinner gong or a case of fish cutlery home to the wife.

[*Photo by Baker and Muggeridge.*

GENT LOTTO, WINNER OF THE TWO MILE BICYCLE HANDICAP WITH HIS BROTHER ALF LOTTO.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rickards—the latter kindly fulfilled the office of presenter of prizes—arrived soon after lunch, and among other prominent music hall people were Mr. J. L. Graydon, Mr. Laurie Graydon, Mr. Sydney Hyman, Mr. Angelo A. Asher, Mr. W. Clarkson, Mr. Charles Beecham, Mr. C. E. Howells, Mr. Tom Shaw, Mr. Walter Norman, Mr. Tom Pacey, and, of course, Mr. Horace Marriott, the energetic secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. Mr. Frank Weeks, who had been announced to officiate as one of the superintending stewards, was kept at home through illness. The other superintending stewards were Mr. C. E. Howells (gate), Mr. W. F. Hurndall (police and attendants), Mr. Alan Macey (transfers and programmes), and Mr. Tom Pacey (events). Mr. G. H. Dyball acted as marksman, Mr. Robert Watson as handicapper, while the duties of referee, starter, timekeeper, lap-scorer, and judges were undertaken by members of the Sports Committee, the judges being Mr. Harry Lundy, Mr. Sid Hyman, and Mr. Laurie Graydon.

During the progress of the various events Mr. Angelo A. Asher's Cadogan Military Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Asher and Mr. J. H. Alexandra, entertained the spectators with a score of musical selections, which were rendered in exquisite style.

There was an official on the grounds to whom we have not so far referred. This was the august "Fun-Master General," who otherwise is known as Mr. Bob Hutt. He commanded a small battalion of "military" buffoons, all attired in grotesque fighting garb. Their daring manœuvres included the "invasion of 1910" and a sanguinary "tournerey milement." As General Hutt marshalled his gallant men, they presented a most formidable array, albeit one of the corporals was so neglectful of military discipline that he had to be given the very elementary command—"get behind yourself and push yourself." The "General" would brook no falling out of line, no laxity of soldierly conduct. Out came his trusty sword whenever any of his subordinates attempted to dispute his authority, and a faithless deserter who defiled the regiment and insulted the British Army by flinging his red tunic in the dust was very properly brought to book at the point of the commander's glittering steel. Then, when the never-to-be-daunted warriors had eased them of their cumbersome uniforms and long boots and had so deservedly replenished their interiors at the canteen, they engaged in barrack-room rollicks. For instance, there was a wrestling contest between the short Zola and the long Carlton. It was a case of the meeting of extremes. The conflict, though brief, was exciting, and in a few seconds the diminutive man of muscle planted his foot in triumph on the breast of the vanquished Goliath, who was carried off, stiff and cold and pale of countenance, by his lamenting comrades. It was rare fooling, which everyone heartily appreciated. Mr. Hutt's "command" comprised such redoubtable foemen as Harry Mayville, Bert D'Arcy, Fred Evans, Charles Elkin, Dennis Curzon, in addition to the two we have mentioned. We must not forget, too, that during an interval a gory Spanish bullfight took place, the toreador leader being Signor Huttino. The ferocious creature whom the dare-devil Huttino band challenged to a death-or-glory combat was a new kind of bull. Some folks, jealous of the accomplishments of the dashing toreadors, and not possessing the requisite courage to emulate their brave deeds, made the dastardly insinuation that the bull was a human being disguised as a donkey with the added dignity of movable horns.

In the serious contests, excellent form, physical strength and skill, and qualities of endurance were in evidence on all sides. In the five-mile bicycle handicap Mr. J. Zaro won the first prize, a silver cigar-case, presented by Mr. Richard Warner, after a hard-fought race with Mr. Jack W. Hall, who came second. For four or five laps Mr. Edgar Budden kept the lead, and it was some gratification to know that he got the fourth prize.

[*Photo by Falk.*

MRS. HARRY RICKARDS,
THE FAIR DISTRIBUTOR OF THE PRIZES WON AT THE MUSIC-HALL SPORTS AT STAMFORD BRIDGE, JULY 12TH, 1906.

[*Photo by Dixon and Co.*

THE PRIZES.

The tug-of-war for the silver Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. F. F. W. Oldfield, which is to be won twice to ensure perpetual ownership, was taken by a team from the Empire, Leicester-square, who defeated the Canterbury men. Mr. Payne's prize of a massive entrée dish in the two-mile bicycle race was won by Mr. Gent Lotto, in spite of the fact that for obvious reasons he was scratched. The one-mile "Frank Allen" Challenge Cup for walkers, to be held by the winner for one year, went to Mr. Harold H. Jeapes, whose performance in this event was a highly commendable one. The previous holder of the cup was Mr. Walter Stanley, who gained the fourth prize on the present occasion. To Mr. Arthur Wright's possession went the fine tea and coffee service and tray, presented by Mr. J. L. Graydon, as the premier prize in the 440 yards running handicap, the time being 57 2-5sec. Children were not overlooked in the sports, for there were races for boys and girls between the ages of six and fourteen. Among the little men the youngest competitor, Master Andrian Petit, aged six, took the leading award in the 100 yards run; and as to the lassies, Miss Vera Andrus, who lays claims to the burden of nine years and seven months, came in first, and she will now be able to adorn her dainty arms with a handsome bracelet and dress her tresses by the aid of a brand new silver-mounted mirror. The Grand Order of Water Rats gave a handsome silver-mounted dressing-case as the winner's trophy for the 120 yards' running handicap, in which there were six heats, Mr. Dan Thomas being first in the second final. The challenge cup provided by Mr. Ballard Macdonald for the 120 yards hurdle race, three heats, was won by the smartness and agility of Mr. Fred Griffiths, jun., and if he be the victor next year, or on some other occasion, and premising he allows no time for anyone else to seize it, it will become his for ever. A hard fought contest was that for the Buchanan Cup in the one-mile cycle race. The cup, which is to be won three times in succession for undisturbed possession, was held before by Mr. Gent Lotto, and is now in the safe keeping of Mr. Ted Cowan, who is to be congratulated on a very determined "scorch." Unfortunately, Mr. Cowan and Mr. Lotto fouled at the winning line, but Mr. Cowan's claim was confirmed by the judges. The Terriers' Association Challenge Cup and gold medal—the former to be won twice in succession or three times in all—for the half-mile running handicap fell into the hands of Mr. Mike Asher, who was allowed a big start of 110 yards.

[*Photo by Baker and Muggeridge.*

TOREADOR SIGNOR HUTTINO (BOB HUTT).
WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SPANISH BULL FIGHT.

Agents and their clerks were afforded a chance of winning fame and a silver cup presented by Mr. Frank Weeks, in a 100 yards sprint. This was secured by a scratch competitor, Mr. Horace Sheldon. The fun was fast and furious in the comic costume scramble, and here Mr. Bob Hutt, attired in a dainty blue female bathing costume, again distinguished himself. Mr. Cecil O. Crackles took the first prize. The 360 yards "Henri Gros" obstacle running race for a cup, to be held by the winner for one year, created roars of laughter as the contestants struggled through sheets and nets and scrambled through tubs and sacks and finally executed the water-jump more or less gracefully. Mr. A. Wright was foremost, and will be able to rejoice in the temporary possession of the cup, and in the indisputable proprietorship of an entrée dish presented by Mr. Wilkie Bard.

At the conclusion of the sports Mrs. Harry Rickards charmingly performed the pleasing ceremony of handing the prizes to the various winners. A vote of thanks for her services in this direction, and for the presence of herself and her husband was proposed by Mr. J. L. Graydon, and enthusiastically supported by the onlookers. Mr. Rickards responded on behalf of his wife, and expressed their delight at being able to attend at the grounds that afternoon.

Among those who collected for the fund were Mr. Walter Norman's "Have'em Quartette" of "pitching" minstrels.

The names of the prize-winners and the results of the contests are as follow :—

120 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First prize, silver-mounted dressing case. Presented by The Grand Order of Water Rats, together with a memento shield (presented to the fund by Mr. H. G. Hibbert, vice-chairman), to be held by the winner for one year only, and returned. Winner's name to be inscribed on the shield.
Second prize, dinner gong. Presented by Mr. H. B. Marinelli.
Third prize, writing desk. Presented by Mr. John Lawson.
Fourth prize, case of fish cutlery. Presented by Messrs. J. A. Britton and Sons.

Winners of first round.—Hal Forde, 5 yds.; Dan Thomas, 6 yds.; Harry Ford, 5 yds.; Burt Burnell, 7½ yds.; W. L. Murray, 2 yds. Second round.—Heat 1: Dan Thomas, 1st; Hal Forde, 2nd; Harry Ford, 3rd; A. Wright, 0; G. Clarion, 0. Won by 3 yds.; the rest close up. Time, 12 3-5 sec. Heat 2: F. Griffiths, jun., 1st; W. L. Murray, 2nd; Burt Burnell, 3rd; H. Sheldon, 0. Won by half a yard; same second and third. Time, 12 4-5 sec. Final: Dan Thomas, 6 yds., 1st; W. L. Murray, 2 yds., 2nd; F. Griffiths, jun., 8½ yds., 3rd; Hal Forde, 5 yds, 4th. Won by 2 yds.; same divided second and third. Time, 12 2-5 sec.

440 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.

First prize, tea and coffee service on tray. Presented by Mr. J. L. Graydon (President).
Second prize, pair of silver backed brushes in case. Presented by Mr. Tom Shaw.
Third Prize, plated spirit kettle. Presented by Mr. W. F. Hurndall.

Arthur Wright, 40 yds., 1st; W. L. Murray, scratch, 2nd; Charles Alger, 40 yds., 3rd; Dick Pearce, 40 yds., 4th. Won by 10 yds; Murray collided with Alger in the straight. Time, 57 2-5 sec.

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.
(Children only, over 6 and under 14 years.)
Boys.

First prize, plated biscuit box. Presented by Mr. Tom Pacey.
Second prize, pin. Presented by Mr. Hary Dawson.

Adrian Petit, 50 yds., 1st; Jack Garrick, 25 yds., 2nd; Frank Zola, 15 yds., 3rd. Won easily.

"LITTLE ZOLA" IN TROUBLE. [*Photo by Dixon and Co.*

GIRLS COSTUME COMPETITION.

GIRLS.

First prize, bracelet. Presented by Mr. Geo. H. Green ("White Horse"). Silver-mounted dressing table mirror. Presented by Mr. E. A. Gosnay.
Second prize, silver cake dish. Presented by Mr. Bob Hutt.
Third prize, work basket. Presented by Craven, of Manchester.
Costume prize, brush and comb in case. Presented by Messrs. H. and A. Smith.

Hilda Pacey, 60 yds., 1st; Leonora Andrus, 10 yds., 2nd; Vera Andrus, 15 yds., 3rd; Marie Vay, scratch, 0; Sarah Rich, 5 yds., 0; Violet Hutt, 7½ yds., 0; Amy Ferris, 20 yds., 0. Won by 8 yds.

TWO MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP.

First prize, massive plated entree dish. Presented by Mr. G. Adney Payne (trustee).
Second prize, silver spirit kettle. Presented by Mr. Jack de Frece.
Third prize, salad bowl and servers. Presented by Mr. Chas. Brisley.

Gent. Lotto, scratch, 1st; Ted Cowan, scratch, 2nd; Jas. Zaro, 90 yds., 3rd; Wm. Swan, 30, 0; Will Vay, 50, 0; H. Coleman, 100, 0; Jack W. Hall, 120, 0; Wm. J. Simpson, 250, 0. Splendid race, won by half a yard; a few inches dividing the rest. Time, 5 min. 12 1-5 sec.

ONE MILE "FRANK ALLEN" CHALLENGE CUP WALKING HANDICAP.

The Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, presented by Mr. Frank Allen, is to be held by the winner for one year only, and returned to the committee. Present holder, Walter Stanley.
First prize, solid silver cup. Presented by Mr. Harry Rickards (Australia).
Second prize, plated tea-service on tray. Presented by Mr. Dan Thomas.
Third prize, luncheon basket. Presented by Craven of Manchester.
Fourth Prize, plated teapot. Presented by Messrs. M. Harland and Son, Hull.

Harold H. Jeapes, 35 yds., 1st; Gus Garrick, 180, 2nd; Thos. McGowan, 70, 3rd; Walter Stanley, 100, 4th; Harry S. Hart, 30, 0; Hal Forde, 60, 0; Charles Ferris, 70, 0; Cecil O. Crackles, 100, 0; Fred Griffiths, jun., 100, 0; James Wynes, 100, 0. Won by 20 yds., after a fine race; 12 yds. between second and third. Time, 7 min. 41 2-5 sec.

ONE MILE "FRED KARNO" CHALLENGE CUP RUNNING HANDICAP.

Challenge cup, presented by Mr. Fred Karno. To be won twice, not necessarily successive years.
First prize, plated two-bottle tantalus. Presented by the London Pavilion, Ltd.
Second prize, handsome coffee pot. Presented by Mr. Emanuel Warner.
Third prize, writing portfolio. Presented by Mr. G. H. Chirgwin.

Frank Dunloe, scratch, 1st; Sam de Wynne, 2 yds., 2nd; C. Bicknelle, 40, 3rd. Won easily. Time, 5 min, 10 3-5 sec.

120 YARDS "BALLARD MACDONALD" CHALLENGE CUP HURDLE HANDICAP.

Challenge Cup, presented by Ballard Macdonald's Melody Makers. To be won twice, not necessarily successive years.
First prize, mounted claret jug. Presented by Mr. Harry Randall
Second prize, candelabra. Presented by Mr. Leon Bassett.
Third prize, fancy deck chair. Presented by Messrs. H. Lazarus and Son.

1st heat: Fred Griffiths, jun., 20 yds., 1st; Harry Ford, 2 yds., 2nd. 2nd heat: Dan Thomas, 3 yds., 1st; A. Wright, 11 yds., 2nd. Final: Fred Griffiths, jun., 20 yds., 1st; Dan Thomas, 3, 2nd; Harry Ford, 2, 3rd; Jack Andrus, 3½, 0; A. Wright, 11, 0. Won by 3 yds.; a yard between second and third. Time, 18 3-5 sec.

ONE MILE "BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE.

Challenge Cup, presented by Messrs. James Buchanan and Co., High Holborn, E.C. To be won three times in succession. Professional racing cyclist barred. Present holder, Gent Lotto.
First prize, silver cigar case. Presented by the proprietors of *The Era*.
Second prize, kit bag. Presented by Mr. Laurie Graydon.
Third prize, silver cigarette case. Presented by Mr. Angelo Asher.
Fourth prize, crumb scoop. Presented by Mrs. Cloughton.

Heat 1: Ted Cowan, 1st; H. Coleman (Vay's Juveniles), 2nd; Edgar Budden, 3rd; Will Barker (late St. Claire troupe), 0. Great race, won by three-quarters of a yard. Time, 2 min. 42 3-5 sec. Heat 2: Jack W. Hall, 1st; Gent Lotto, 2nd; Jimmy Zaro, 3rd; Wm. J. Simpson (Ealing Hippodrome), 0; Wm. Swan (Hammersmith Palace), 0. Won by 6 yds. Several fell. Time, 2 min. 46 2-5 sec. Final: Ted Cowan, 1st; Gent Lotto, 2nd; J. Zaro, 3rd; Edgar Budden, 4th. A smashing finish, and a collision between Lotto and Cowan almost on the post when the latter was leading. Both fell, and there was great cheering when Cowan's number was hoisted. Time, 2 min. 25 sec.

COMIC COSTUME SCRAMBLE.

First prize, dressing basket. Presented by Messrs. White Brothers, of Nottingham.
Second prize, water-colour drawing. Presented by Miss Maud Howells.
Third prize, three-bottle tantalus. Presented by Dr. Walford Bodie.
Fourth prize, fruit and flower stand. Presented by Messrs. J. B. Roberts and Co.

Heat 1: Fred Evans, 1st; Bert D'Arcy, 2nd; Cecil O. Crackles, 3rd. Heat 2: Bob Hutt, 1st; A. Wright (London Pavilion), 2nd; Fred Griffiths, jun., 3rd. Final heat: Cecil O. Crackles, 1st; Bert D'Arcy, 2nd; Bob Hutt, 3rd. Won by 2 yds.

TUG-OF-WAR FOR THE "OLDFIELD" CHALLENGE CUP.

Solid Silver Challenge Cup. Presented by Mr. F. F. W. Oldfield (per Mr. Alan Macey). To be won twice, not necessarily successive years.
First prize, eight gold centre medals and silver medal for reserve man. Presented by Mr. T. A. Edwards, Derby.

The "Empire," Leicester-square team—S. C. Cross, C. Cruttwell, J. Finch, J. Fleming, H. Jackson, J. F. Pett, B. Tidman, and P. Weisson—beat the "Canterbury" team—J. Barry, J. Fletcher, J. Gann, C. Haig, J. Ladd, T. Nunn, W. Seaman (Polly Perkins), and F. West.

HALF-MILE "TERRIERS" CHALLENGE CUP AND MEDAL RUNNING HANDICAP.

Challenge Cup presented by the Terriers' Association, 4, Kennington-road, S.E. To be won twice in succession, or 3 years in all.
Gold medal for Cup winner. Presented by The Terriers' Association.
First prize, handsome flower and fruit stand on plateau. Presented by Mr. Thos. Barrasford.
Second prizes, gold medal. Presented by Atlas and Vulcana. Two-bottle tantalus. Presented by Messrs. W. Anderson and Co.
Third prize, plated biscuit box. Presented by Miss Ada Dell.
Fourth prize, fruit and flower stand. Presented by Mr. Amery Parkes.

Mike Asher, 110 yds., 1st; Geo. H. Clarion, 10, 2nd; Dan Thomas, 40, 3rd; Arthur Wright, 60, 4th; Harold H. Jeapes, 35, 0; C. Bicknelle, 45, 0; Mark Leslie, 45, 0. Asher, a boy fifteen years of age, led throughout, and won by 20 yds. Time, 2 min. 4 sec.

FIVE MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP.

First prize, silver cigar case. Presented by Mr. Richard Warner (trustee).
Second prize, plated flower stand. Presented by Mr. Edmund Edmunds.
Third prize, oak biscuit box. Presented by Mr. Fred Conquest.
Fourth prize, fruit knives in case. Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Syd May.

J. Zaro, 250 yds., 1st; Jack W. Hall, 260, 2nd; Wm. J. Simpson, 250, 3rd; Wm. Swan, 25, 0; H. Coleman, 55, 0; Edgar Budden, 440, 0. A magnificent race, won by half a yard. Time, 14 min. 52 4-5 sec. Cowan and Lotto did not start.

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP FOR AGENTS AND AGENTS' CLERKS.

First prize, silver cup. Presented by Mr. Frank Weeks (chairman).
Second prize, horn inkstand. Presented by Mr. G. H. Chirgwin.
Third prize, three-bottle tantalus. Presented by Mr. Wm. Dell.

Horace Sheldon, scratch, 1st; Pierre Pingle, scratch, 2nd; Cecil O. Crackles, 5 yds., 3rd. Won by 1½ yds.; half a yard separated second and third. Time, 11 4-5 sec.

360 YARDS "HENRI GROS" CHAMPION CUP OBSTACLE RUNNING HANDICAP.

Champion Cup presented by Mr. Henri Gros. To be held by the winner for one year only and returned to the committee.
First prize, plated entrée dish. Presented by Mr. Wilkie Bard.
Second prize, Dresden clock and ornaments. Presented by Mr. W. Clarkson.
Third prize, mounted claret jug. Presented by Mr. James Zaro.

A. Wright, 10 yds., 1st; Frank Dunlo, scratch, 2nd; Jas. Maskell, 10, 3rd; J. McGrath (Vay's Juveniles), scratch, 0; Arthur Williams (London Coliseum), 5, 0; W. H. Wright, 20, 0; Syd May, 25, 0; Dan Thomas, scratch, 0; Philip Hayes (Bros. Hayes), 21, 0; Bob Hutt, 40, 0. Won by 8 yds.; good third. Time, 1 min. 59 2-5 sec.

[*Photo by Dixon and Co.*

MUSIC HALL SPORTS AT STAMFORD BRIDGE.

MR. J. L. GRAYDON, THE PRESIDENT, AND MR. TOM PACEY, CHIEF STEWARD.

IT is to be doubted if there exists at any fashionable watering place two more popular entertainers than are Mr. Alf Lawrance and Mr Tom Mellor, who are appearing just now at Folkestone. Songs identified with their names are being freely inquired for at the famous resort, and "My Cosy Caravan," written by them in conjunction with Mr. Gifford, bids fair to attain lasting popularity.

MR. G. H. SNAZELLE has been this week drawing record houses at the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, the brilliant artist and fine raconteur being ably assisted by Miss Gertrude Snow. Mr. J. Fenton Walsh, who so ably manages the entertainments on this fine pier for Messrs. Keith, Prowse and Co., has for assistant Mr. F. G. Stratford, late advertising expert of the Hackney Empire.

IN addition to sliding roofs and specially constructed canopies to keep the theatres cool, fans are now being served out free to patrons of the Hackney, Holloway, Stratford, New Cross, and Shepherd's Bush Empires.

MESSRS. JOHN P. HARRINGTON AND JAS. W. TATE have just equipped Mr. Arthur Reece with a powerful new descriptive song, entitled "Romance," which this well-known actor-vocalist will shortly produce at all his engagements.

LES SPRAYS, who are this week appearing with remarkable success with Miss Constance Moxon's Variety Company at the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, have just signed to appear in all the principal States of America.

CARR AND ROSE, the humorous singing duo, are producing a new vocal operetta entitled *The Society Lady and the Cockney Swell*, by Walter Gilbert.

THOUGH a late turn at the Metropolitan, Mr. Charles Whittle, the Yorkshire comedian, has, caused some of the heartiest laughter and evoked some of the most spontaneous outbursts of applause ever heard at the well-known house, and the chorus of his song, "I'm Billy Muggins," will soon be all over the town. Mr. David Day has secured the ditty, which is by Charles Ridgwell. Mr. Whittle will presently be heard at other first-class London halls.

MISS LILLIAN DOREEN has made a profound impression with Brixton audiences with that charming ballad "The Rose of my Heart," by Wilmott and Pether, and it is declared by experts to be one of the biggest successes ever identified with the career of this cultured vocalist. It is published by Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter.

MOVING TIMES AND STAGNANT LAWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The extraordinary lack of protection afforded by the present condition of the law relative to modern conceptions of authors and composers provides the thinking man with much food for reflection, more especially in regard to the various items connected with public entertainments.

The "Encyclopædia Britannica" says:—

"The law of copyright recognises the right of property in the production of mental as well as in the production of physical power, and it must be allowed that nothing can more justly be said to belong to a man than the creations of his own thinking faculties, and in this view he and his heirs are entitled to whatever profit or advantage may result from them in perpetuity. . . . The act acknowledges the right of property in the author," &c.

Can the man who has taken the trouble to "invent" an original song, sketch, or "act" read the above without smiling? Where is the protection for the poor author under the existing Acts of Parliament?

In "Chambers's Encyclopædia," we are told, under the heading of dramas and musical pieces:—

". . . If they are performed in public before appearing in print the author retains the sole right of permitting them to be represented during the term of copyright." (Forty-two years or the life of the author and seven years, whichever of the two terms would be the longer.)

"A register of proprietors of copyright is kept at the Stationers' Hall, in which the owner of a copyright may make an entry on payment of a fee of 5s." (Inspection 1s. for each entry, and copy of certificate 5s.)

"Authors complain that the law, as it stands, does not sufficiently protect them against unfair use of their materials and ideas.

"In regard to books" (and according to "Chambers's" dramas and musical pieces are subject to the same rules), "an author may resort to previous works for facts and ideas; he may extract or abridge the copyright composition of another, provided he does not actually copy it or an unreasonably large part of it."

So it would appear to be that if affairs change by the effluxion of time, surely the laws should be brought up to date for the protection of the property of the working community.

Blackstone says:—

"When a man, by the exercise of his rational powers, has produced an original work, he seems to have clearly a right to dispose of that identical work as he pleases, and any attempt to vary the disposition he has made of it appears to be an invasion of the right. Now, the identity of a literary composition consists entirely in the sentiment and the language. The same conceptions clothed in the same words must necessarily be the same composition, and whatever method be taken of exhibiting that composition to the eye or ear of another by a recital, by writing, or by printing in any number of copies or at any period of time, it is always the identical work of the author which is so exhibited, and no other man, it hath been thought, can have a right to exhibit it, especially for profit, without the author's consent."

Then again, by referring to the "Penny Encyclopædia" we find it recorded that

"The exclusive property of authors in their manuscripts has always been recognised by the law."

And proceeding to a recital of the Act of Parliament the "Penny Encyclopædia" continues:—

"Which provides that the author of any dramatic piece shall have as his property the sole liberty of representing it or causing it to be represented at any place of public entertainment. The penalty for violating these enactments is to be enforced by action for damages with double costs, to be brought within twelve months from the commission of the offence."

Here is the whole thing in a nutshell. Take, for example, a song, sketch, or act, which we will say is strictly original in detail. The author fondly imagines he can assure to himself the sole ownership of his own work; he accordingly procures the necessary public performance, fills up a Stationers' Hall form, and pays 5s. But what for? Merely for the right to register the title, which title may be changed at any moment and invalidate the registered right. Thus, what is the use of registering a title when a pirate is at liberty to sneak along and annex for his own use and benefit the best ideas and material in the real author's creations? The argument would appear to be as clear as daylight, so having presented it in as concise a manner as possible, I would propound an idea which may be deemed worthy of consideration by representative gentlemen who are in a position to protect and advance the interests of the community.

My suggestion is a simple one: Whenever a song, sketch, or act is produced, there is—in pretty well every instance—a detailed report published in the professional newspapers for the purposes of record. If, therefore, one of these printed reports was cut out and (in a space to be provided) pasted on to the registration form, there would for all time be placed in the register conclusive evidence of ownership of not only a title, but also the original ideas of verses, situations, business, scenes, &c., &c. It is apprehended that this formula would show a little value for the 5s. expended, but at the present moment authors and composers are full of growls that the value received is somewhat remote. Of course it is clear that the remedy for infringement lies in a Court of Law, but—well, that is not protection.

You, sir, will readily appreciate that this letter in no way seeks to trespass on the preserves of Mr. A. A. Strong in his excellent treatise on the Law of Copyright. It is merely my aim to call attention to a flaw in such law caused by modern innovations in public entertainments, which flaw—experts stoutly maintain—could be easily remedied by contemporaneous legislation.—Yours faithfully,

WAT. W. ESSPEA.

PYGMIES AND PERCENTAGE.

At the Brighton County Court on the 29th ult., before his Honour Judge Scully, the case was concluded in which Theodore Filippo, variety entertainer, Riley-road, Brighton, whose real name is Theodore Phillips, sued for damages for breach of covenant and wrongful refusal to allow him to enter the Brighton Aquarium, and also claimed an account relating to his percentage of the takings at the Pygmies' show at the Aquarium.

Plaintiff's case and part of the defence were heard last week, when the plaintiff declared that when he gave a receipt for £1 18s. on the night of March 31 last for his proportion of the week's takings at the Pygmies' show he did not notice on the receipt form words purporting that the receipt was in full discharge of all claims, or he would not have signed it.

Evidence was given by Donald Arthur Piness to the effect that he paid Filippo on March 31 the sum of £1 18s., as his share in respect of the Pygmies' show, and received from him the receipt produced, "in full discharge."

Henry de Groot, acting-manager at the Aquarium, gave evidence to the effect that the show on the night of March 31 was very poor indeed. As an illustration of the kind of "talent" put on, he mentioned that an employee at the Aquarium gave a ten minutes' performance, and another employee gave some "facial experiments." He declared that with the exception of Miss Phillips, Filippo, and Mr. Russell, the people advertised did not appear.—Cross-examined by Mr. Harker, he admitted that in a musical entertainment of this class one would not always expect to get all the turns equally good. There was nothing to complain about in Mr. Filippo's personal turn, except that in *Il Trovatore* he was a "little out of form." On the evening of March 31 Filippo told him he had finished, and was not going on, and would not allow the Pygmies to go on. He went away; but returned in about two minutes and said he had changed his mind and would go on. Witness admitted that Mr. Sallmayer had objected to Filippo having a singing competition.

Mr. Tressidder, of Shaftesbury-road, Brighton, gave corroborative evidence as to the quality of the entertainments, and Alexis Taggart, a musical director, said he went to see the "gala" performance. Some of the artists he had seen a week or two previously at New-road at the back of the chapel there. The performance could not be called high-class. It was an amateur performance all through, with the exception of one or two turns. Miss Phillips was one of the exceptions. She was a very good singer with a fine voice.

Miss Dorothy Wilson also spoke to the poor quality of the performances in question.

Arthur H. Ayling, clerk in the box office, said he received numerous complaints about the show, and that numbers of people left before the end of the performance. He had never received complaints before about a performance during his three years' experience.

Counsel then addressed the jury, and his Honour, in reply to a juror, said the agreement did not give Mr. Sallmayer any right to stop the show before the three months had expired, the only power given to him being to veto any objectionable performance. Summing up, his Honour pointed out that the question to be decided was whether the agreement was cancelled on March 31 by mutual consent.

The jury, after a short deliberation, found for the plaintiff for £25 damages, and his Honour gave judgment for that amount. As to the account, his Honour said the receipt marked "in full discharge" only applied to claims up to March 31, and not to the future, and he did not think the plaintiff was debarred from claiming his 20 per cent. of the receipts from the Pygmies' show subsequent to March 31.

Eventually it was agreed that plaintiff should be awarded £10 9s. in settlement of his further claim for percentage of takings in connection with the Pygmies' show, and judgment for the plaintiff for £35 9s., with costs, was recorded.

WILLIE CLARKSON supplied the whole of the costumes and wigs for the pageant at the military fête, which was held at Government House, Aldershot, on Tuesday and Wednesday.

ON Tuesday afternoon the body of a well-dressed man of about thirty-five was washed up by the tide near the Llanelly pier-head. In the waistcoat-pocket was a silver watch with the inscription, "Presented to M. Walters by Will Smithson, Theatre Royal, Merthyr." There was a gold watch in another pocket, together with a number of sovereigns. The body could only have been in the water for a few hours. It is supposed that the deceased fell overboard from a Bristol Channel excursion boat.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SHEBA has been ordered to take a rest, as a manager insists upon Dr. Ewing Sardonis playing an old contract with another act already booked.

THE Gotham Quartette, better and stronger than ever, are making a big hit with "I Never Knew till Now how much I Loved You."

FOR Henri Coi, the giant at the Crystal Palace, it is claimed that he is the only French giant known for 200 years. He is 21 years of age, 8ft. 7in. in height, and weighs 390lb. He is a man of enormous proportions. According to the statement of medical men he has not yet attained his full height, and is not likely to do so for some four years. He was born at l'Aveyron, France, of peasant parents, being the last of a family of six children, but his father, mother, sisters, and brothers were not in any way conspicuous by their height.

STANLEY AND VANDYKE, who are at the City Varieties, Leeds, are appearing in a new sketch, entitled *On the Shelf, or a Broken Promise*. The sketch is brimful of humour, and keeps the audience in one continual roar of laughter.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, May 29, 1906.—Mr. Allan Hamilton took possession of the Palace Theatre on the 26th, and introduced Mr. Leslie Harris, Mme. Yeamans-Titus, and Mr. Fred J. Titus in a refined entertainment. Mr. Harris's comparisons between old-time and modern songs and pianoforte selections were delightful, and his dialect contributions were also excellent. Mme. Yeamans-Titus is an old favourite, and her child songs, &c., are as meritorious and well received as ever. The lady shared in the enthusiasm which greeted Mr. Leslie Harris's début in the Australian metropolis.

"A COUNTRY GIRL" will be withdrawn on June 1, and next night Mr. J. C. Williamson will produce *The Little Michus*, the cast being now completed by the arrival of Mr. Reginald Roberts from San Francisco.

AT the Criterion large audiences have been attracted by *The Man from Mexico*, so charmingly acted by Miss Grace Palotta, Mr. Hugh J. Ward, Mr. George Willoughby, and their specially selected company, directed by Mr. Edwin Geach.

MR. BLAND HOLT will revive *For England* on June 2, once more appearing as Manasser Marks, a favourite part with him. Meanwhile *The Prodigal Son* delights capital houses.

THE Tivoli audience heartily welcomed the O'Natis troupe of Algerian jugglers on Saturday; the whole performance is startling and unique, and loud applause greeted every act. Mlle. Omega accomplished some capital wire walking. Her début was a distinct success. Irving Tayles and Lizette Parkes reappeared, and the sketches of Homer B. Mason, Marguerite Keller, and Henry Travers are important features of Mr. Harry Rickards's long programme. Miss Nita Leete with song and illustration is valuable. Fred Bluett, the Warner Sisters, and the Carnos, Blake and Granby and all the rest make up a popular programme.

MR. HENRY BRACY, the veteran tenor, who is directing the performances of J. C. Williamson's Répertoire Company in New Zealand, appeared in Auckland owing to the illness of Mr. Charles Kenningham. I hear that Mr. Bracy sang with all his old ability and sweetness and looked as young as ever.

MISS MAY BEATTIE, Miss May Garstang, Mr. Edward Lauri, and Mr. Charles McNaughton, who have concluded a two years' engagement with Mr. George Stephenson, left for London in the China on Saturday. A crowd of friends and admirers wished them "bon voyage."

SYDNEY, JUNE 5.—Her Majesty's Theatre had a crowded and fashionable audience on the 2nd, the Governor-General and Lady Northcote, with their suites, being present, and the occasion was the première of *The Little Michus*. Mr. Reginald Roberts, the popular tenor, who reappeared after a two years' absence, sang better than ever. Miss Florence Young's Marie Blanche was an unmistakable triumph. Excellent also was the Blanche Marie of Miss Margaret Thomas. Mr. Reginald Roberts made his best hit in the song about "The Moon." He had a very hearty reception. Mr. George Lauri, well made up, was good as General Des Ifs, and Mr. Fred Leslie made Bagnolet a terpsichorean clown. The Aristide Vert of Mr. W. S. Percy was praiseworthy. Miss Clara Clifton gave prominence to Madame Michu, and nothing could be better than Mr. Claude Bantock's Pierre Michu. Miss Henrietta Bernard was a painstaking schoolmistress, and Miss Nellie Wilson won favour by her acting and singing as Madame du Tertre. Mr. Arthur Hunter was the "lone gardener" in the first act, and the marketer in the third, two capital bits of character-acting. A couple of very pretty and novel ballets, arranged by Miss Minnie Everett, were danced, with Miss Tilly Woodcock as solo pirouettiste. A word must be added for Miss Pressy Preston, who gave a capital character sketch as a fat old market woman. On Friday night, the last of *The Country Girl*, an enthusiastic send off was accorded Miss Rose Musgrave, who goes shortly to England. *For England* was revived by Mr. Bland Holt at the Theatre Royal on the 2nd, when the popular actor-manager reappeared in his old part of Manasses Marks. The cast was otherwise as before.

MR. HERBERT LLOYD, who is on the bill of the Hackney Empire this week, is a native of Philadelphia, and was a commercial traveller before he started to entertain on the halls. In San Francisco he made his début some three years ago, and since then has toured the Continent, and appeared in London in 1804-5. His humour is distinctly American, and he manages to crowd the fun of half-a-dozen turns into his thirteen minutes on the stage, burlesquing every style of variety artist from the slack-wire walker to the impersonator of noted men, from the juggler to the contortionist. The automobile in which he makes his entrance suggests one of Mr. E. T. Reed's prehistoric peeps in *Punch*, with its tiny candle in a huge lamp, and small wooden wheels.

MR. LLOYD changes his suit of vivid red and yellow, covered with diamonds, behind a screen of about eighteen inches high, and appears as a tramp—a clean tramp—with wee electric lights dotted over his clothes and glittering in his beard, and wearing no less than a hundred "dickies," which he throws off one by one. Much of the success of his lively act depends upon the promptitude of his wife, who is billed as Miss Lilyan, and makes a pretty little figure on the stage in her pale blue frock sparkling with sequins and high silver boots.

ONE time when he was touring through the States he had a "gag" which, at a certain period, necessitated his asking the audience to lend him a knife. When he was in Columbus, Ohio, he came to the footlights and made his request, which of course he never anticipated would be acceded to, but a bowie knife came flying from the gallery, and just missed the juggler's head by an inch. Another time, when he was in Jersey City, the same request was made, and a poor trombone player in the orchestra became the unfortunate target. After that the "gag" was buried in oblivion. It was feared that something more corporeal would have to be interred if the game continued.

A MONUMENT to Sebastian Bach is shortly to be erected in front of the church of St. Thomas, Leipzig. The City Council has made itself responsible for the cost, and has also voted a thousand marks towards the expenses of the house of Bach at Eisenach.

PRINCE COLIBRI, the tiniest man on earth, now at the Crystal Palace, is an accomplished linguist, and cheerfully converses with the visitor in French, German, and Russian. He is twenty-five years of age, and it is remarkable to see a man of his years calmly sitting on the palm of the hand of Mr. C. Lloyd, his manager. He is 23½ inches high, and weighs 8½lbs. The remarkable little man—remarkable not only from a sightseer's point of view, but also as a scientific curiosity of the first order—was born in the year 1880 in the little town of Brigen in Central Russia. When a year old the Czar heard of the wonderful child, and the parents were summoned to St. Petersburg. A house was placed at their disposal, and they remained there till the lad was ten years of age. Ultimately the parents obtained the permission of the Czar to leave St. Petersburg. A tour through Europe followed, and in the various Courts the tiny man was heartily welcomed.

MUSIC HALL HOME FUND 1905-6.

STATEMENT.

	£	s.	d.
Belfast Theatrical Charities (per Fred W. Warden)	20	0	0
Leeds Tivoli Collecting Box	5	8	0
Dr. Walford Bodie	5	0	0
Wm. Morton	3	3	0
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mannering	1	5	0
Johnny Holland	1	1	0
P. Madden	1	1	0
G. H. Chirgwin	1	1	0
Mr. Pat Doherty	1	1	0
Charles Weldon	1	0	0
Nellie Wilson	0	10	6
Bros. Webb	0	10	0
Bostons	0	5	0
Andie Caine	0	3	0
Lydia Dudley	0	1	0
Marie Gautier	0	1	0
Fred Ewing Albini	0	1	0
Rozel	0	1	0
Nellie Nora	0	1	0
Total of the above	£41	13	6
Regan and Ryan	1	1	0
F. Kitchen	1	12	0
Griff	1	10	0
Fred Solo	1	3	0
Karr and Kooney	2	0	0
Frazer and Mac	2	12	6
Horace Wheatley	2	10	0
Harry Conlin	1	16	6
Daisy Morell	0	15	0
Baroux and Bion	0	13	0
Walton and Lester	0	16	0
Dan Crawley	0	5	0
James Brady	0	9	0
Eugene and Willie	0	16	0
Maud Mortimer	1	14	0
Barrett and Knowles	1	5	0
Charles Beanland	1	2	0
Ernie Mayne	0	9	0
Harry Conlin	1	17	0
Harris and Worth	0	15	0
T. C. Callaghan	0	10	0
Ernest Shand	1	2	0
Sandford and Lyons	1	4	0
Frank Dunlop	1	0	0
Fred Herbert	0	14	0
Charles Clifford	0	8	0
Swan and Vesta	0	5	0
The Danbys	1	5	0
The Bowery Boys	1	5	6
Nellie Wallace	1	5	0
Maud Beaumont	0	16	0
Geo. Rapley	0	6	0
The Clevelands	1	3	0
Imro Fox	0	17	0
Mr. Alexander	1	18	0
Miss Ra Leslie	1	13	6
Edward Johnson	1	0	0
Will Johnson	1	15	6
Lawrence Barclay	1	6	0
The New Macs	1	0	0
George Collins	2	2	6
Kathleen Courtenay	1	7	0
Haig and Novel	0	4	0
James de Voye	2	10	0
Sisters Terry	0	9	0
Chant and Chant	0	12	0
Harry Rogerson	1	0	0
Ethel Dove	0	2	0
Fred Kitchen	1	4	0
Harry Phydora	0	10	0
Arthur Elvey	1	1	6
Bliss and Bliss	0	16	0
Tiller's Snowdrops	2	2	0
Tony Iveson	0	16	0
Frazer and Mac	1	7	6
Daunton and Shaw Troupe	0	10	0
Bert Brantford	0	12	0
Horace Wheatley	1	2	0
Gus Garrick	1	2	0
Marie Weston	0	7	0
Arthur Lennard	7	0	0
Mlle. Raffin	0	13	0
Elizabeth Neiman	2	3	6
Cruikshank	0	18	0
May Moore Duprez	2	10	0
Kitty Beresford	1	14	0
Prof. J. H. Maccann	0	10	0
John Coyle	0	7	0
Harrigan and Holt	0	10	0
Walter Munroe	1	10	6
Frank Lynne	2	8	0
Billy Kloof	0	15	0
Lillie Lassah	0	13	6
Atlas and Vulcana	0	10	0
Geo. Aytoun	0	13	0
Cliff Ryland	0	15	0
Papa Brown	0	10	0
Russell Wallett	1	0	0
Billy Leonard	0	13	0
Joe Lawrence	1	4	0
The Haytors	1	1	0
Frank Folloy	0	1	0
	£135	4	6
July 4. By Cheque to Secretary	135	4	6

F. H. PEDGRIFT,
Hon. Treasurer.

THE THREE SMALL HEADS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Much discussion has been going on within the past few days in certain newspapers regarding the mental ability of "the three Small-heads" from Central Mexico, now being exhibited at the London Hippodrome. The fact that they are of a distinct race has also been violently discredited. Perhaps Dr. Winslow's statement—he being one of the greatest authorities on lunacy in this country—will set at rest any doubts that there may be on this subject, especially as his examination took place in the presence of Dr. A. A. Cumming Grant, M.B., M.S., official physician to the London Hippodrome; Dr. G. W. F. Macnaughten, M.B., M.S., M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., Dr. Arthur Keith, M.B., M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., Anatomist to the London School of Medicine; Dr. Leonard Hill, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Physiologist to the London School of Medicine; and Professor Palmer, the eminent phrenologist:—

"11, Burwood-place,
"Hyde Park, W.,
"July 6, 1906.

"This is to certify that I have this day seen and examined three girls supposed to be microcephalæ. In my opinion they cannot be properly placed under this category. They appear to belong to a distinct race. They are well developed and have plenty of intelligence, and notice with interest everything that goes on about them.

"According to the general definition of idiocy, there is no justification for their being classed with such. I fail to detect any indications, mentally or bodily, to warrant this. An ordinary microcephalic idiot is devoid of all intelligence, and has the usual abnormal formation on the palate, which is conspicuous by its absence in these, especially in two of the girls, although in one there is a slight irregularity in this.

"(Signed) FORBES WINSLOW,
"M.B., D.C.L., LL.D."

In the interests of our patrons and the medical fraternity in particular, I shall esteem it a great service if you will give publicity to this communication.—Yours faithfully,

H. W. GARRICK, Press Representative.
London Hippodrome, July 9.

A MOSS OUTING.

The Executive and clerical staffs of Moss' Empires, Ltd., and Stoll Companies had their first annual outing on Sunday to Cranford Bridge. The party, numbering twenty odd, journeyed from Cranbourn Mansions by brake to Cranford Bridge, arriving at their venue about 12.30. From thence onwards till eight o'clock, with the exception of intervals for luncheon and tea, sports were indulged in. A fiercely-contested game of cricket resulted in a win for "The Mansions," their opponents being "Ryder's-court."

After luncheon, Mr. W. R. Gillanders proposed the health of "The King," and Mr. Bertie Shelton and Mr. G. V. O'Connolly gave "The Firm." After tea Mr. Will Collins proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. secretary, Mr. W. P. Murray, and the hon. treasurer, Mr. A. C. Mumford, and the latter suitably responded. At eleven o'clock the Mansion were again reached, bringing a most enjoyable day to a close.

Those present included Mr. Bertie Shelton, Mr. G. V. O'Connolly, Mr. W. R. Gillanders, Mr. Frank Elliott, Mr. H. Cocks, Mr. P. Wilde, Mr. W. Nokes, Mr. T. Osborne, Mr. C. Emery, Mr. P. Rowe, Mr. A. Read, Mr. R. Carr, Mr. J. Palmer, Mr. O. Werth, Mr. A. Hunt, Mr. Lloyd

Langdon, Mr. A. C. Mumford, Mr. H. Crocker, Mr. Will Collins, and Mr. W. P. Murray.

We append an index to the above illustration. Reading from left to right, the names are:—Front row: Mr. W. P. Murray (publicity and hon. sec.), Mr. C. Emery (correspondence), Mr. H. Cocks (correspondence), Mr. H. Crocker (Coliseum). Second row: Mr. R. Carr (accountancy), Mr. J. Palmer (accountancy), Mr. P. C. Rowe (accountancy), Mr. A. Read (accountancy), Mr. A. C. Mumford (hon. treasurer), Mr. Bertie Shelton (stage), Mr. T. Osborne (correspondence). Last row: Mr. Will Collins (district manager), Mr. P. Wilde (contracts), Mr. L. Langdon (pictorial), Mr. G. V. O'Connolly (publicity), Mr. W. Nokes (correspondence), Mr. O. Werth (accountancy), Mr. A. Hunt (correspondence), Mr. Frank Elliott (contracts), Mr. W. R. Gillanders (Press representative).

"BALACLAVA."

A Spectacle, in three Scenes, produced at the Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar, On Monday Evening, July 2.

Trooper Goodwin, alias Nellie Temple ..... MISS ALICE PENNINGTON
Trooper Ainsley ..... MR. HARRY BRUCE
Corporal Wylie ..... MR. SYDNEY NEVILLE
Sergeant McBride ..... MR. HARRY BRISTOW
Captain Ferrett ..... MR. CHARLES YORKE
Colonel Norris ..... MR. ROBERT PURDIE

Balaclava is something more than a mere spectacle—it is a sketch containing an interesting and highly dramatic story, which is disfigured occasionally by absurdities that might easily be removed.

A special interest attached to its production last week at the Queen's, Poplar, in that the daughter of a trooper who took part in the historic charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava plays the principal part. This is Miss Alice Pennington, whose father, W. H. Pennington, is one of the few survivors of the famous Six Hundred. Mr. Pennington will also be remembered by his performance of Hamlet, which won the commendation of no less a personage than the late William Ewart Gladstone.

The spectacle opens with the arrest of Trooper Ainsley for sleeping at his post. The penalty is death, and he is bound with irons and thrown into a hut to await the carrying out of the sentence. Trooper Goodwin is set to guard the prisoner. Goodwin is no other than Ainsley's sweetheart, Nellie Temple, disguised as a Hussar. During conversation with one Sergeant McBride, she discovers that the reason for her lover's dereliction of duty is that he drank from a flask containing a drug, which had been dropped on the ground by Captain Ferrett, who employs this questionable method of wreaking revenge upon the young trooper for some grudge he bears him. Trooper Goodwin wins the Victoria Cross for an act of conspicuous gallantry, and the colonel in command, as a further mark of his appreciation of noble conduct, tells Goodwin that he can make what request he likes, and it shall be granted. Naturally, Nellie Temple wishes to save the life of her sweetheart, and the flask Trooper Ainsley is set free, and Captain Ferrett is placed under arrest. In the—to quote from the programme—"realistic tableau of the soul-inspiring charge of the Light Brigade and the thrilling, terrific sword fight" Goodwin and Ainsley are seen in a hand-to-hand combat against overwhelming numbers of the enemy. Unsupported and unaided, they place Russian after Russian *hors-de-combat*, and the curtain falls upon a lurid scene, in which the victorious couple stand side by side, surrounded by the bodies of the slaughtered Muscovites. The programme is right—it is thrilling

So far as the work of production went—in which, we understand, the producers had the able assistance of the experienced and energetic general manager of the Queen's, Mr. Jack Woolf—it can be said that the piece was well staged. As to the acting, Miss Alice Pennington impersonated the heroine with vivacity and earnestness, and we think that more should be heard of the young lady as a dramatic actress. Mr. Harry Bruce gave us a manly, straightforward, and virile soldier in his portrayal of Trooper Ainsley, and from Mr. Harry Bristow, as Sergeant McBride, we got an amusing Irishman, the brogue being natural and well sustained. Mr. Robert Purdie furnished a characteristic study of a stern, abrupt, mercilessly dutiful old martinet of an officer in his rôle of Colonel Norris, and Mr. Charles Yorke, as the scheming Captain Ferrett, was an able exponent of a villain. The spectacle was produced under the direction of Mr. Harold Maxadler.

"THE FIGHTING PARSON" IN COURT.

In the Court of Appeal on Saturday, before the Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Gorell Barnes, and Lord Justice Farwell, the case of Gray v. The Oxford (Limited), was an appeal by the plaintiff from the judgment of Mr. Justice Phillimore. The action was brought by Mr. George Gray, the author of a sketch known as *The Fighting Parson*, to recover £90, one week's salary, for producing *The Fighting Parson* at the Oxford Music Hall. The defendants pleaded that the plaintiff's sketch was a stage play, and the defendants had not a licence to perform it at their music hall, and that it was a term of the contract entered into between the plaintiff and their manager that if the performance was contrary to law the contract should be cancelled, and that they had been compelled to cancel it for that reason. The plaintiff entered into an agreement with the defendants, dated June 19, 1903, whereby the plaintiff (therein called the artist) agreed to perform the sketch at the Oxford seven times a week for a period of six weeks from September 12, 1904, and to provide necessary supernumeraries and scenery for production of the same; and it was further agreed by Clause 6 as follows:—"If it should be found that the artist's performance is contrary to law, or is objected to by any licensing or other public authority, this engagement may be cancelled by the company." The plaintiff played for five weeks, after which time Mr. Payne, the manager, purporting to act under Clause 6 of the agreement, wrote the plaintiff that, owing to a decision of Mr. Kennedy, the police magistrate, that a somewhat similar sketch called *The Belle of the Orient* was a stage play, and that it was therefore contrary to section 11 of the Theatres Act, 1843, to present it at a place not licensed as a theatre, he could not continue to do his sketch, *The Fighting Parson*, any more; and that all contracts he held with Mr. Payne at the Oxford and other halls were cancelled. The plaintiff thereupon brought the present action. Mr. Justice Phillimore held that, as it had been decided by a competent tribunal that a similar sketch was a stage play, the defendants were entitled to cancel the engagement under Clause 6 of the agreement, and further that, apart from the above clause in the agreement, inasmuch as both parties intended the performance to be at a place licensed only as a music hall, and as it was illegal to perform a stage play at such a place, the defendants were entitled to cancel the engagement. He accordingly gave judgment for the defendants. The plaintiff appealed.

Mr. Eldon Bankes, K.C., who appeared for the plaintiff, said the sketch in question was very well known. Objection had been taken to the production of sketches at music halls, on the ground that they were stage plays, and that they could not therefore be lawfully performed at any place of amusement which did not hold the Lord Chamberlain's licence. Mr. Gray's contract with the Oxford (Limited) provided that if it should be found that the performance in question was contrary to law the engagement might be cancelled by the company. In the Court below it was contended that the contract was illegal. The learned judge found that that was so, but he (Mr. Bankes) disputed that. He believed it was admitted that this sketch came within the definition "stage plays." It was said to be illegal, because the agreement was for the performance of a stage play at a place which, as a matter of fact, was not licensed for such a performance. Their answer was that at the time Mr. Gray entered into the agreement, the question of the licence never came into his head. His case was that if you brought home to the contracting parties a common intention to engage in a performance which was contrary to law, the contract was illegal; but you must bring it home to both parties. The appellant entered into an engagement that he would not for three months before the commencement of his engagement at the Oxford perform anywhere else. Nothing was said to Mr. Gray when the time came to begin the engagement about the Oxford not having the right kind of licence. Mr. Justice Phillimore, in dismissing the claim, said if Mr. Gray was entitled to succeed, it was for £85.

The further hearing was adjourned till Monday, when, without calling upon counsel for the respondents, the Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said that in this case Mr. Justice Phillimore had decided that the defendant was not liable for declining to continue the performance of that which was admitted to be a dramatic play during the six weeks of its run. The learned Judge had decided on two grounds—(1) that of the illegality of the contract; (2) that by the conditions of the contract itself the defendant was justified in his action. He did not base his judgment on the first point. The other objection arose on the sixth clause of the contract. That clause occurred in a contract in which the name of the sketch, *The Fighting Parson*, was inserted, but it was quite plain that it was originally inserted in reference to a sketch the name of which was not known, and which, therefore, might or might not turn out to be contrary to law. But it had been allowed to remain in the contract, and, therefore, it was necessary to give effect to it. Section 11 of the Theatres Act, 1843 (6 and 7 Vict., c. 68), created the difficulty, and was as follows:—"Every person who for hire shall act or present, or cause, permit, or suffer to be acted or presented any part in any stage play in any place not being a patent theatre or duly licensed as a theatre" should forfeit certain penalties. He did not think it possible to successfully contend that Clause 6 must be confined to something found out afterwards. It appeared that the Lord Chamberlain's licence was not often granted to music halls, at any rate one was not obtained by the Oxford. The contract related to a piece to be performed at the Oxford, which was a music-hall, and which, of course, was known by the plaintiff to be a music hall. Mr. Bankes, in order to succeed, would have to contend that, if anybody was going to raise any question as to the legality of the performance, there was an implied duty on the defendant to get a licence. That was too narrow a construction to put on the clause. He thought it meant as between the parties, "If it turns out that this performance cannot be legally carried out, then the defendant may put an end to it." During the performance it became clear that proceedings would be taken against pieces of this character, and the defendant did put an end to it. If continued, the plaintiff himself would have been liable to a penalty. He thought it impossible to say that the clause did not apply to this state of circumstances. Mr. Bankes' argument that everything known at the time the agreement was made must be excluded was too narrow. This was a business agreement made between business men. The appeal must be dismissed.

Sir Gorell Barnes said he was of the same opinion, and, having read Mr. Justice Phillimore's judgment, he approved the reasons therein given.

Lord Justice Farwell delivered a short judgment to the same effect.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.

Mr. Spencer Bower, K.C., and Mr. Walter Payne (instructed by Messrs. Andrew, Wood, Purves, and Sutton) appeared for the respondents.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund Benefit Society was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel. Mr. Pat Carey (the president) occupied the chair and there were also present Messrs. W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), H. E. High, W. Brisco, J. Mulcaster, H. Griff, Seth White, W. West, and Frank Heath (hon. treasurer).

The Chairman announced that the framed bills calling attention to the existence and objects of the Society had been placed in the dressing rooms of most of the London and suburban music halls.

The principal business of the meeting was the election of the Management Committee and the officers for the ensuing year. With a few alterations the Committee was re-appointed.

The officers elected were as follows:—President, Mr. Pat Carey; vice-president, Mr. W. J. Wainratta; hon. vice-president, Mr. Frank Weeks; hon. auditors, Messrs. H. E. High and F Griff; treasurer, Mr. Frank Heath; secretary, Mr. R. T. Baines. The trustees are Messrs. H. Jennings, Geo. Adney Payne, and Douglas White.

Mr. H. Griff proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the officers and trustees for the able manner in which they had conducted the business of the Society.

Mr. High seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously and acknowledged by the Chairman, who also expressed his obligations to the editors of the journals who had inserted his letter of explanation in regard to the case of the late Mr. Frank Coyne.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

BILLY FARRELL RIGHTLY COMPLAINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to ask a question through the valuable columns of your paper—What constitutes a law-abiding citizen?

When I was engaged by the English managers to come to England to work, I began to study the laws and regulations, and I came to the conclusion that they were founded on common sense. I have always worked, paid my honest debts, and have done no one any injury. But I am all wrong, because, while standing at 11.30 p.m. on a recent Sunday waiting for a 'bus, to return home, I was arrested and accused of insulting ladies up and down the street. I'll give £10 to any charitable institution if any police-officer can prove that during the ten years of my stay in England I ever approached any lady in a manner unbecoming a gentleman.

The fact of the matter is, I left home at 10.30 p.m. and went to a West End public-house. On entering I heard an argument between three officers and an American. The argument not concerning me, I left the place. When doing so I heard one of the officers say, "We'll 'pinch' some of these 'Yanks' to-night."

What I should like to know is why, in nine cases out of ten, they do not individualise the people, and not take us as a whole, entirely forgetting that there are good and bad in every race.

And still these same officers kiss the Holy Bible with tears in their eyes, and swear to a falsehood.—Yours faithfully,

ONE BILLY FARRELL,
55, Tottenham Court-road. An American.
July 4.

In the Salford Bankruptcy Court on Thursday a receiving order was made against Mr. J. B. Williams, a member of the Manchester City Council, and secretary to the Amalgamated Musicians' Union on the petition of Mr. J. P. Hardacre, theatre proprietor. Mr. Williams was the defendant in an action for libel brought by Mr. Hardacre, and a verdict for £50 and costs was given against him.

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Some misunderstanding appears to have arisen as to the scope and attention of the Dangerous Performances Bill, which, at the request of the Home Secretary, I have recently introduced into the House of Commons. It seems to be supposed that some vague but excessive restriction is to be placed, by a new procedure, on the large class of persons who make their livelihood by public performances. This is far from being the case. For many years past the law has prohibited the employment of boys under sixteen and girls under eighteen in displays involving a real danger to life and limb. The Bill does no more than to repeat these earlier laws, without alteration, in a consolidated form, and to extend their provisions to women. The method of determining what is or is not dangerous to which the performers' profession has long been accustomed will be the method employed under this Bill. Whatever has been legal for a girl under eighteen hitherto will remain legal for women in the future.

I am glad to learn from various quarters that those who are most directly concerned generally agree that, so long as there is no interference with performances which may be dangerous in appearance, but which are harmless in reality, it is a desirable thing to legislate against displays which may, and sometimes do, end in shocking disaster. This, and no more, is the purpose of the Bill.—Yours sincerely, HERBERT SAMUEL.

Whitehall, July 6, 1906.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In reference to the above Bill, which interferes equally with the thoroughly trained artist and the "dupe" of a person who dares not do the act in which he employs a deputy, the Bill should be drafted so as to prohibit all mechanical sensations, which have been the cause of nine out of every ten accidents occurring since 1878—in fact since "Zazel," the "Human Bullet" of that period, first performed, artists and others copying that lady's act in different styles have nearly all come to grief. These copyists were the cause of the Bills of 1879 and 1880. I am open, either alone or with artists, to form a deputation to visit Mr. Herbert Samuel, the M.P. who brought the Bill forward, or the Home Secretary himself, and I will explain the safety of any genuine gymnastic act that he may bring forward and comment upon—mechanical sensations barred.—Yours faithfully,

July 10. ARTIST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—As nothing appeared in your issue of June 30 from the artists most interested, I wrote a letter to Mr. Russell Rea, M.P. for Gloucester, to see what he could do to prevent any injustice to the variety profession. I pointed out how the Empire had been built up by the daring of her sons and daughters, &c., &c. I enclose his reply; also one from Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., but as that did not quite satisfy me, I sent the paragraph and letters contained in *The Era* of July 7 to Mr. Samuel, together with an illustration of the German navigable balloon driven by motor power that has just been tried, and pointing out that we may soon require trained men and women to carry despatches by means of balloon and parachute. Now is the time for those interested to bestir themselves, and instead of having fresh legislation to hamper them, to try and get some of the present restrictions abolished I pointed out in my letter how we were at the mercy of any particular magistrate whether or not a child well cared for should appear on the stage or not, yet there is no law to prevent children, barefooted, hungry, and poorly clad, selling newspapers and matches in the streets late at night. I also pointed out that unless children were taught acrobatic performances young, we should be compelled to send abroad for all such talent, which would be a gross injustice to thousands in this country, and that the British public loved clever children, and the children loved their work and were well looked after.—Yours faithfully, C. W. POOLE.

Theatre Royal, Gloucester, July 12.

P.S.—I append a copy of Mr. Rea's letter.

22, Lyndhurst-road,
Hampstead, N.W.,
July 10, 1906.

C. W. Poole, Esq.,
Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

Dear Mr. Poole,—As I told you yesterday, Mr. Herbert Samuel has carefully read your letter, and he said that he thought you were under a misapprehension as to the scope of his Bill, which is really a consolidation Bill, and imposes no new restrictions in the existing law excepting one, and that is, to extend the prohibition of the employment of girls under 18 in displays involving a real danger to life and limb to women. I enclose a copy of a letter I have just received from Mr. Herbert Samuel in reply to your criticisms.—I am, yours truly,

RUSSELL REA.

[Mr. Herbert Samuel's letter will be found above.—ED. *The Era*.]

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield, Ltd.*

THE GARDENS OF EASDALE, STREATHAM-HILL, CHIRGWIN'S HOME. CHIRGWIN, AFTER ENJOYING THE HAPPY VALLEY AT SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, RETURNS TO HIS HAPPY HOME AT STREATHAM-HILL, S.E

CHAT WITH MISS JOSEPHINE SABEL.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Among her many mementos of a successful music-hall career, Miss Josephine Sabel perhaps treasures most of all a gold medal with which she was presented by the directors of the Etablissement Ronacher, Vienna, after winning golden opinions for her performances at that house. No wonder Miss Sabel prizes this small piece of gold, when it is borne in mind that only two other persons beside herself have been honoured in the possession of a similar medal. One is Herr Josef Modl, the well-known Austrian comedian, who has appeared at the Establissement Ronacher for the last fifteen years and regularly performs there throughout every season now. Miss Sabel mentions the interesting fact that, as far as she is aware, Herr Modl holds a record in the shape of the longest music-hall engagement in the world. The third person to whom one of these gold medals of merit was given was the late (now deceased) leader of the orchestra at Ronacher's.

Miss Sabel is a most versatile lady. During her turn one hears a French song, "L'Amour," a couple of coon songs, some interesting and entertaining monologue, and sees eccentric dancing. She possesses a sort of forceful personality which makes her audience laugh whether they will or not. We have seen numbers of dancers who have proved great successes by reason of their eccentricities, but Miss Sabel is unique in the fact that, while bizarre, she is always graceful. She has undoubtedly a certain personal magnetism which compels her audience to await with almost breathless eagerness her next unconventional sally. That she is recalled again and again shows how highly she is appreciated. Miss Sabel writes her own songs, composes her own music, and no one will deny that her work shows originality of theme and treatment. It was once said of her that she had made more songs famous than any ten other artists together who had come from America. She tells us that she has never sung a song that has been taken up by any artist before her, and she would not sing any song printed for public sale. Many of her most successful ditties will be long remembered—some of them for the sensation they caused at the time of their introduction. Amongst those which attained the greatest popularity may be mentioned "A hot time in the old town to-night," which was produced at Koster and Bial's, New York, and created nothing less than a furore both there and in Chicago; "Somebody loves me," "My baby is mighty warm," "I hates to get up early in the morning," "My girl from Dixie," "A bit of blarney," "I am happy when I'm by my baby's side," "When summer comes again," "Streets of London Town" (introduced at the Empire twelve years ago), "Standing on the corner," "Suzanne," "Adam and Eve," and "L'Amour."

In a modest way Miss Sabel claims to be a lingnist. She has sung and acted in Hungarian and French, and understands German fairly well, so that she is quite at home in a Continental city. During her long experience she informs us she has never appeared at a single place of amusement without having been offered a return date. Her career as a vocalist commenced when she was but nine years of age, when she sang in the church choir. From that she went into comic opera with the Bennett-Moulton company; after that into comedy, and then into vaudeville, to which line of business she has permanently attached herself. According to Miss Sabel's statement, she has played a longer engagement at Koster and Bial's, New York, than any other artist, and she was the last performer to sing on that stage prior to the establishment being demolished. It will be remembered that both of the proprietors of this music hall died, and the house was pulled down in order that a huge store might be erected on the site.

In twelve years Miss Sabel has performed for an average of ten and a half months per annum, and during the last four years, we are told, she has not lost a single day. Curiously enough, Miss Sabel's first appearance in England, thirteen years ago, when she performed at the Empire, was coincident with Miss Cissie Loftus's first trip to America.

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THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged descriptions are specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55/56, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the patenting of inventions.

4963. Displaying. Patentee S. R. R. Matthews, 13, St. Mary's Road, Peckham, London, S.E. This invention relates to an apparatus for automatically displaying and illuminating advertisement cards, pictures, or the like. The cards or pictures are inserted from the top into grooved frames pivoted between discs secured to a drum or axle adapted to be rotated in a case by clockwork or the like. The frames are connected by springs to the discs. It then springs past the stop over a lug on a spring lever secured to the case and engages a stop on the lever. It is held stationary by this stop so as to display its other face until the next frame depresses the lever. Electric or other lights arranged above mirrors throw light on the cards etc.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

For "Showman World" see page 10.

PLAYS FOR AMATEURS.

Amateurs theatricals will no doubt always be a favourite form of entertainment, though, like many other amusements, it has its ebbs and flows of popularity. At all events, the amateur cannot complain that he is left unprovided with plays suitable for the limited scope of his histrionic ambition, and, more frequently, perhaps, the small stage accommodation at his disposal. A volume containing half a dozen "Short Plays for Amateur Acting," by Mrs. Barry Pain (published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Ltd.), we can, with confidence recommend to the notice of those in search of something new and suitable for the amateur stage. Mrs. Barry Pain writes excellent dialogue, and has a keen sense of humour. Evidence of this is found in the first play in the volume, entitled "Thirteen." There are three characters. Mrs. Hartop is discovered hurriedly finishing her toilette, her maid assisting. She is presently joined by her husband, whom she implores to dress at once for the dinner that they are about to give in celebration of the anniversary of their wedding day.

MRS. HARTOP: If you knew what ghastly anxiety I've been in! Never, no, never as long as I live, do I give another dinner for fourteen people. Anniversary or no anniversary. It's too risky. It's impossible!

HARTOP: Quite so. May I know what's up!

MRS. HARTOP: It's all right *now*, thanks to my indomitable energy; but at one time I really thought—just imagine. That fool Jane Renshaw wires me at twelve o'clock this morning that she has got influenza and can't come.

HARTOP: [*At dressing-room door, dressing.*] Fool to have influenza, or not to come, or to wire, or what?

MRS. HARTOP: Don't be irritating, Percy. To have influenza just to-day, of course. Don't you see that that made us thirteen? [*He whistles and disappears.*] Well, I immediately wired to May Walker. She couldn't. I wired to Polly Sands. She couldn't. I sent across to Lewis, giving up the sex question altogether. *He* couldn't. It was four o'clock by this time. And then I remembered that someone had said dear Mrs. Sakes was back, and Tom Sakes still in Bordeaux. So I wired frantically: "Do *please* dine here to-night as *greatest* favour. Forgive short notice. Will explain all."

HARTOP: [*From dressing-room.*] You're sure you wired in just that tone?

MRS. HARTOP: Yes. And she wired back, "delighted." The angel! I could hug her. I feel as if she'd saved my life—all our lives. I say, are you nearly ready?

A telegram arrives stating that Captain, one of the invited guests, cannot come, as he has been summoned to Aldershot, so the number of diners is again reduced to the fatal thirteen! Mrs. Hartop insists that her husband shall absent himself on the plea of illness—he can dine alone in the study. After this scheme has been discussed and arranged, Mrs. Hartop re-enters in wild despair, for Mr. Sakes has brought his wife with him—again the company numbers thirteen. And the announcement has been made to the guests that the master of the house is prostrate. Mrs. Hartop has a fainting fit, and when she recovers, the couple agree to dine by themselves, and the soup is brought on as the curtain descends.

In a duologue, entitled *Trust*, the two characters are a bachelor of thirty and a fascinating widow of twenty-five, whose jealous suspicions are aroused by seeing the gentleman take a photograph from his despatch box and kiss it. It turns out that the portrait is that of the widow when she was a child, her devoted admirer having surreptitiously obtained the photograph from her mother.

A Lesson in Pearls illustrates how Sir George Fullerton, intent on punishing his young wife for her carelessness in leaving on the table a pearl necklace—his gift on her birthday—places it in his cigarettes case. The lady is led to suppose that the necklace has been stolen, but discovering the cigarette case and its contents, is enabled to turn the tables on her husband in most amusing fashion.

A Vicious Circle is a capital duologue for a lady and gentleman, and there is also a monologue for a lady. This is entitled *Undecided*, and can be acted without a curtain.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, June 23. Fred B. Nicholls bowled well for Music Halls C.C. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs: Harry Hare, b Fred B. Nicholls, 2; Jack Lewis, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Frank Thorne, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Harry Belding, b Dan O'Connor, 13; Archie Hamlin (captain), b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Harry Edwards, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Frank Morgan, b Fred B. Nicholls, 3; Walter J. Horton, b Dan O'Connor, 0; Ted Palmer, lbw, b Fred B. Nicholls, 9; Syd Carter, not out, 4; E. Belding, retired hurt, 7; extras, 5; total, 43.

Music Halls C.C.: Frank Hansford, b Harry Hare, 0; Will Hinder, b Harry Hare, 4; Harry C. Douglas, b Harry Belding, 0; Jack Tyley, b Harry Hare, 17; Patrick Reardon, b Harry Belding, 4; Fred B. Nicholls, b Harry Belding, 38; Tom Neagle (captain), b Harry Hare, 3; Dan O'Connor, not out, 19; extras, 11; total, for seven wickets, 96. Bob Cullen, Teddy Denton, and Joe Lacey did not bat.

"PUT IT IN BLACK AND WHITE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—During the twenty-eight years of La Comédie Anglaise fit-up tour, I have never met with any objection to the fortnight's notice rule.—Yours faithfully,

WM. L. DOBELL.

Aspatria, Cumberland, July 3.

A very promising song, and one which "principal boys" will shortly be asking for, is now being sung by Miss Marguerite Broadfoote and Mr. Gus Harris. It is entitled, "I wonder what we'd do without a girl?" is by J. F. Lambe, and has been secured by the Charing Cross-road publishing house.

MRS. FRED GINNETT had a beautiful diamond brooch sent to her at the stage door of the Hippodrome, Liverpool, on the 25th ult., by an anonymous donor. The brooch takes the form of a pheasant designed entirely in valuable stones.

MR. J. C. COE, of the Hammersmith Palace, has approached Miss Teresa Billington, the Suffragist, with a view of inducing her to appear on the stage. Liberal terms were offered, and it was suggested that the boards might prove a valuable platform from which to advocate Women's Suffrage. Mis Billington thinks the suggestion absurd, and refused it, but she must remember that Mrs. Brown-Potter became an apostle of Tariff Reform, when she recited a specially-written ode on the stage of the Tivoli.

THE variety portion of the entertainment at the recent garden party at Buckingham Palace was organised by Mr. Fred Trussell and Mr. Frank Parker, of the London Hippodrome.

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"The Flood," Kaufman Troupe, Jurgens Trio, Jas. H. Jee, Lios Alfas Sisters, Albertus and Millar, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle. Olive, Iles, Antonio, Barowskys, Lloyd Langdon, Bioscope, Lavater Lee, Jack Theo Trio, Three Smallheads.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Fred Ginnett's Co., in "Dick Turpin," Millie Payne, Will Poluski, jun., The Bastiens, Brett and Orford, Lilian Lea, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Sam Redfern, Jacques Inaudi, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
John Lawson and Co., in "Humanity," Bioscope, Kate Traill, Datas, Will H. Sloan, The Borellis, Mount and Corelli, Sisters Cora, Peggy Pryde, Griffin and Dubois.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
"Prince of Monte Carlo" Co., Bioscope, Anartos, Kashmar Bros., Two Madges, Fred Poplar, Caselli Sisters, Kitty Wager, Borghettis Troupe. Artists please note matinée on Monday.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bransby Williams, American Bioscope, Amy Anderson and Co., Deane Tribune Trio, Max Yorke's Dogs, The Phydoras, Sisters Terry, Achmed Ibrahim Troupe, Raku, Howard and St. Clair.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Paul Cinquevalli, Marie Weston, Norman and Leonard Trio, Bioscope, George Formby, Brown and Robinson, Imperial Russian Troupe, Ross and Grayson, Rachel Lowe, Barton and Ashley.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Craggs, Maud Mortimer, Georgina Leonard, Harriett Vernon, G. H. Elliott, Melot Hermann, Orpheus, Eloise Brinsmeade, Annie Abbott, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
McNaughtons, Harrigan and Holt, Edith Courtney, Dot Harvey, Laurie's Kindergarten, Howard and Collinson, Alice Lloyd, Ober Steirer Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Tate, Rezene and Robini, Tom Woottwell, Lily Langtry, Warsaw Bros., Guy Ryder, Northern Troupe, Sutcliffe Family, J. W. Rickaby, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Steve McCarthy, Harrison Bros., Nelson's Newsboys, Alexandre and Hughes, The Seddons, Bioscope, Helen Forde, Solbrig's Automatos, Marie Kendall.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ernest Shand, Bioscope, Francis and Alfred, Bessie Butt, Jagos, Lady Julia, Mackweys, Walton and Lester, J. Alexander and Co., Lockhart's Elephants.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Dolly Elsworthy and Co., Bioscope, Ernest Tilbury, Harry Weldon, Alcide Capitaine, Binns and Binns, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Claude Ginnett's Co., in "Rorke's Drift," Bioscope, Nellie Martell, Althoffs, Alf Barker, Cooke and Rothert, Will English, Klos Sisters, Harold Thorley, Alf Holt, Harrison Brockbank and Co., New York Nippers.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Alfred Hurley, McConnell Trio, Johnson and Bert, Eily Adair, Francis and Melli, Myra Stansfield, Clement Trio, Gordon Highlanders.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher, Spry and Monti, Pisera Troupe, Harrison Worth, Harry Grey, Cabaret's Dogs, Four Francois, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Talbot and Pierce, George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Nipper Lane, Fox and Melville, Chas. Pastor, Peppo's Monkeys, Billy Hobbs, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Willie Edouin, Bernar's Fantoches, Glenroy Troupe, Brown and Le Clerq, Helene and Emilon, Techow's Cats, Edie King, Herbert Lloyd, Spot, Simms and Simms, E. J. Sheldon.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Geo. Gray and Co., in "The Fighting Parson," Durant Bros., Barnard's Marionettes, George Reeves, Carlton, Olive Trio, Adelmann, O'Gust, Prof. Therese.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Frank Danby and Co., Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Drew and Alders, Minnie Cunningham, Goltz Trio, The Zannettos, Winifred Hare, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Florence St. John, Griffiths Bros., Tally-Ho Trio, The Tupps, Tatten Hall, Max Wessellys, Sisters Iris, Leonard and Francis, J. W. Hall, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Pat Rafferty, Spry and Austin, Atroy, Violi, Ambrose Thorne, Tina Clementa, Conway and Leland, Harry Carsdale, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Florrie Gallimore, Four Figaros, Margaret Ashton, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Flo D'Orville, Rosa Naynon, Will Cornish, Pit and Cute, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
George Lashwood, Flo Esdaile, Sanford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Abdullah Arabs, Madge Osmond, Toledo and Price.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Bros. Horne, May Evans, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis and Piccs.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Boissetts, Kathleen Cogan, Arthur Gill, Maud Ross, Claire Beasy's Cats, Will Mitcham, Felina and Grata, Ida Lorrimer.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Howard Bros. Chas. Craston, Calile and Walker, Pictures, Duncan and Godfrey, Maggie Rimmer, J. P. Ling, Casino Comedy Four.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Wilkie Bard Nellie Stratton, J. A. Wilson, Pictures, Vernando, Ike Scott and Son, Marie Reeve, Starr and Leslie.

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Re-open August 6, 1906.

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Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Odeyne Spark, The Remingtons, Bioscope, Fred Lincoln, Henri Taylor Trio, The Raies, Marvelle's Birds, Abdy's Circus.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Herbert Martell, Arthur Croxon, Harry Zetta, Chas. Williams, Flo Challis, Nellie Wilson, Queenie May, Three Sisters Grosvenor, Fatma Diard, The Sakers, Three Schallers, Mora and Mareece Trio, Bros. Ashley and Co., Rita and Roma, Joe and Louie Love, Pictures, Hal Godfrey and Co., Ancelotti's "Pilu."

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Woolmer Young, Vandequotte, Chas. Lilburn, Sidney Dolf, Sisters Bartholomew, Dolly Denton, Nellie Adams, Ruby Norton, Cissie Schofield, Kitts and Windrum, The Allisons, Woodhouse and Wells, Thurbani Trio, The Cranks, Sibb and Sibb, "Barmaid" Sketch, Du Gros Trio, Pictures, Ben Hur, Fred Storey and Co.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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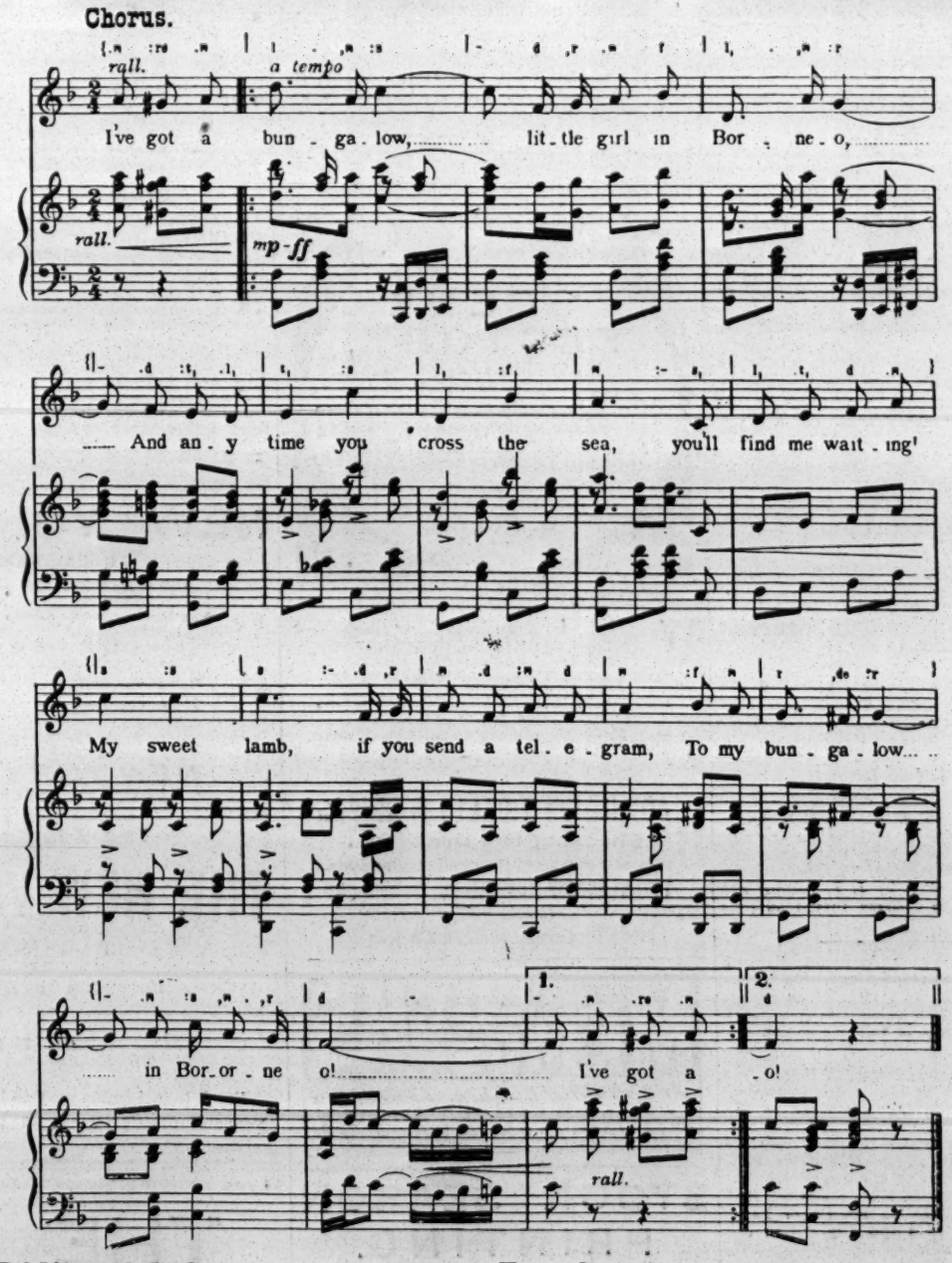

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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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CALL for Monday, July 16, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp for
Miss Alice Pierce, Mons. Slippere, Miss Ida Kathrena, Martini, 8 Mimosa Girls, Miss Nora Moore, The Wyffs, W. G. Webber, Mdlle Von-Etta.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Sid Cotterell and Co., Ruth Lytton, Harry Thurston, Miss Lena Robertson, The Pavoscope, The Lurins.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled.
By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS. All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance. Call for Monday, July 16, 1906. J. W. Rowley, Fyne and Hurley, Prince Kuroki, Sybil Moon, Fred Neiman, Clarisse Heney and Co., Ella Dean, T. E. Finglass, Charles Denton, Billy Williams.
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Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
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Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

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Matinée Thursday.
Deer Family, Rose Harvey, Percy Curry, Carl Millon, Sisters Daventry, Hettie Le Bon, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Closed.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Harry Carmen, Daley and Collins, The Lindons, Daisy Lane, Pallister's Bioscope, Three Cheers.

PALACE, BATH.
Closed.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
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PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
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PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
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Colby and May, Herbert Clifton, Tiny Arnold, Jalvans, Maisie Calder, Joe Dale, Keen and Waller, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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At the PALACE?

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Soon after the old man rushes in, and with dismay sees his open safe. Picking up the letter which the eloped couple have left, he gets quite furious, and taking a revolver goes out in search for them. Finding his daughter alone, after a successful search, he threatens her with his revolver. Her lover coming on the scene seizes the old man's wrist and points the weapon upwards out of danger. After a short struggle he gains possession, and turns the tables by pointing it at the father. The girl rushing up falls fainting at the feet of her parent, thus causing the old man's heart to melt, and he kneels with anxiety at the side of his daughter. Her lover, also very anxious, abstains from his threatening attitude, and together they try to restore her. The father, seeing how fond they are of one another, puts aside his previous harshness, and joining their hands, gives them his blessing.

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III.—The arrival of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales.
IV.—The arrival of H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia.
V.—Their Majesties entering the Cathedral in their State Coach.
VI.—Leaving the Cathedral Crowned.
(*In Nos. V. and VI. Section Their Majesties are plainly visible INSIDE the carriage.*)
VII.—The King, Queen, and little Prince at the Palace Window, in all their robes and wearing their Crowns, bowing to the people. (*A splendid finish to a fine picture.*)

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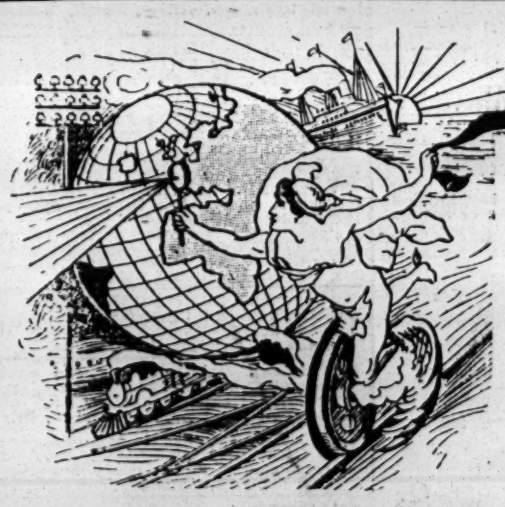

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER. Aug. 13, Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan 7, 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 24, Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 29, Nov. 12, 19, 26, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton; and Aug. 13 at Opera House, Leicester.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Jan. 14 and 28.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Aug. 27, Dec. 17, Feb. 25.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 1, 15, 22, Nov. 12, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, on.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS
WANTED, Dramas and Musical Companies, Aug. 6 (?), Sept. 24, Dec. 3. HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 20, Operetta House, Clacton (full season date), three nights each. Communicate,
CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Aug. 13. Apply,
HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, unexpectedly Vacant, July 26 (3 nights).
Only Open Date this season.
E. MICHAEL, Theatre Royal, Margate.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH, LANCS.
Proprietor, Mr. J. W. CRAGG.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 27, Dec. 10, and Xmas week, only open dates. H. ROUSBY, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Company, Aug. 13 (local holiday week), to reopen after Summer Vacation. Address, GERALD HARDING, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

WANTED, Companies, July 30, Aug. 13, and on. Now booking Autumn.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

P. O. W., NUNEATON.
WANTED, High-Class Musical Attractions, for two specially reserved weeks, Sept. 3 and Nov. 12; also vacant, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, 25, and various on. A. F. CROSS.

T. R., RUGBY.
WANTED, Companies, Musical or Burlesque, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 10; Drama, Oct. 29 (three), Nov. 5 (three), 19, Dec. 3, 10. A. F. CROSS, P.O.W., Nuneaton.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Musical preferred. Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, Chorley; Sept. 10, Oct. 15, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Good Companies, Paisley, Oct. 22, 29; Perth, Oct. 22, Nov. and January dates.
Address, J. H. SAVILE,
The Spa, Scarborough (till July 20).

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, Aug. 20. Address, SAWYER and WOODRUFF, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

WANTED, Aug. 6, good Companies of all descriptions, for Treherbert and Maesteg, three or six nights each. Trade now good in these towns. POOLE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, Special Attractions for Aug. 13 and 27, through disappointment, only Dates this year. HORNER, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

BOROUGH THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, all Classes of Attractions, non-Dramatic, August B. H. vacant, various. n. Address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Metropole, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Cos., July 16, 30, Aug. 6 and 13.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Aug 27, Sept. 3, 17, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Best Companies, for Coliseum, Aberystwyth, July 16 and 23 onwards; magnificent place, in best position. For season dates apply PHILLIPS.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction for Aug. 6, to oblige Mr. Fred Granville. Apply,
HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, September onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24. Managers please note these are the only dates I have vacant this year. Fast filling up 1907. Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Feb. 11, 25.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Dec. 17, March 25.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant July 16, 23, 30.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 20, Oct. 8.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 8.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 24.

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedies, for the only two vacant dates this year, Oct. 20 and Dec. 3. A few Spring and Autumn Dates, 1907, left.
Bookings include:—"Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl" No. 1, "Veronique," "Trip to the Highlands," "The Bauble Shop," "La Poupee," "Amorelle," "The Night of the Party," "Breed of the Treshams," Moody-Manners No. 1 Co., "The Orchid," "Claudian," "The Little Michus," "Harlequin King," "Sign of the Cross," "Prince of Pilsen," "Sherlock Holmes," "Peggy Machree," F. R. Benson's Repertoire Co., F. R. Benson's "Midsummer Night's Dream," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime "Dick Whittington," "Bluebell in Fairyland," &c., &c.
All communications to
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 30, Aug. 6 and 13. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. L. CARSON, Keighley.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. ERNEST STEVENS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 10, through transfer,
Sept. 17 (?).
Brixton Theatre.

THE NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Theatre Royal, Rochdale, Aug. 6; Theatre Royal, Halifax, Aug. 20. Address, OTTO C. CULLING, Tavistock Hotel, W.C., until Monday; after, T. R., Bury.

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
WANTED, exceptional Attraction, Sept. 24, 25, 26, 1906, through alteration. Pier, Eastbourne, has following three nights. Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Aug. 20, the only vacant date this year.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Aug. 13, 20,
Sept. 3, 10,
Oct. 1, 22, 29,
and intermediate dates onwards.
Required, Big Attractions for Christmas and New Year's weeks (Musical preferred).
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating with "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, Companies, brick and stone theatre, being erected centre of town, holds 1,300; stage 60 by 40; 40ft. grid; 30ft. opening.
Vacant Sept. 17, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17, various vacancies after Xmas.
Bookings include "New Barmaid," "Eternal City," "Christian," "Orchid," "Florodora," Silver King," "Golden Ladder," "Three Little Maids," &c.
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, booked in con. All coms., CECIL CLAYTON, Walthamstow, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, THORNLEY, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, good Attractions, Sept. 3, onwards. Good Terms given to Sound Shows. Apply, DAVID WILLIAMS, 43, Wellington-road, Rhyl.

WORTHING PIER PAVILION.
WANTED, Good Attractions, for August. Apply,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRE TOWN HALL, HERNE BAY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Comedy, Comic Opera, Aug. 9, 10, 11, Sept. 3 and 4, 17, 18, 19. T. B. WATSON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 3 and 17.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play produced during the year 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, on, a big production, "Sailors of the King," an enormous success. Charles Harrington as Admiral Drake. Wanted, Aug. 27, Sept. 3,
Corn Exchange, Ashford.

Granville and Thorne's Tours,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, and 22.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
T. R., Hyde.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Tour, on a most elaborate scale, commences August B.H., West London Theatre.
Aug. 27, Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 1, various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
This, T. R., Middlesbrough; next, Queen's, Manchester. Sept. 17, 24, Oct 1, various, on.
"SAINTS AND SINNERS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"A ROYAL REVENGE,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 3, various, on.
"JEANNIE DEANS" and "ROB ROY."
(John Clyde and Special Cast).
Feb. 11, 18, various on.
"HEIRESS" and "VERDICT" TOUR.
Postponed, owing to Mr. Payne's illness. Due notice of opening date will be announced. A. J. thanks numerous managers who have, meantime, transferred dates booked.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 31. J. W. CORDINER, Pier Pav., Hastings. See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY, in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 13 (between Yarmouth and Scarboro'); Aug. 16 (three nights, between Ramsgate and Brighton) Sept. 24,
Oct. 8 (between London and Plymouth),
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY,
22, Charing Cross, S.W.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

WANTED, July 19, 20, 21 (3 nights), also July 23, 30, and on, for
"HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,"
preceded by "A WASTE OF TIME."
Mr. H. Marsh Allen, Mr. Lionel Mackinder, and all Star Cast.
Wire to-day, BERTRAM, T. R., Bournemouth; next week, Killarney, Lewisham.

HILL AND AYRTON'S GREAT SUCCESS,
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 3 and 10, for this Artistic and Financial Success. Provincial verdict endorsed by London. Re-booked at the West London after the third act on the Monday night.
Big reception at the Elephant and Castle Theatre; same at Portsmouth.
Refer to Messrs. William Bailey, H. V. D'Esterre, J. M. East, and J. N. Boughton.
The Referee, July 8, says: The play is interesting, as strong as Hackenschmidt, and was warmly welcomed. The action is rapid in the extreme. . . The scene wherein a number of American workmen's neglected wives, led on by the heroine, work a Carrie-Nation-al Catastrophe by wrecking the liquor saloon at Cedarville, aroused the audience to enthusiasm.
Wire to-day, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Next week, THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, three nights, Aug. 16, 17, 18, follow Aberystwyth; also six nights, Aug. 20, entirely new production. Band for parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, this and next, T. R., Scarborough.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8.
Communications, c/o "The Era."

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, 27, and onwards. Address,
CHAS. BERESFORD, 53, Greyfriars-road, Reading.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, July 23, on, Aug. 20, various on, an absorbing and well-written Costume Play. W. J. MILLER, Junction, Manchester; next, King's, Cardiff.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-seventh Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., 1907.
WANTED, Aug. 13 (unexpectedly vacant), Aug. 13 (follow Queen's, Liverpool), Oct. 22 (though obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, West London Theatre, W.

"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."
ERNEST CARPENTER and SIDNEY COOPER'S TOUR.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 12 and 19. Booked at practically all Best Drama Houses. A magnificent production. Re dates, address, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15, Xmas,
A Perfect Production.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

MISS MARY NEIL'S and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by CHARLES DARRELL.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston) and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby), must be First-Class Theatres and give equitable terms.
GEO. KIRK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

HENRY BEDFORD'S CO.
WANTED, September, onwards, with exceptions. Apply, HENRY BEDFORD,
99, Halton-road, London, N.

Managers looking for money book
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 6 and 27. Thanks Samuel James for Contracts.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Met., Manchester; next, King's, Longsight.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Special
Aug. 6, Scenery,
Aug. 6, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Aug. 6, 13, and 20, to precede Preston, for Mrs. Alice Chapin's Triple Bill Company, in a new Bijou Comic Opera, "A Twilight Fancie," and the celebrated Musical Comedy, "A Pantomime Rehearsal." Bookings include Gaiety, Dublin; Lyceum, Edinburgh; King's, Glasgow; Lyceum, Newport; H.M., Carlisle, &c.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 26, Xmas, New Year. Refer Alex., Sheffield; Alex., Hull; Met., Birmingham; Devonport, Portsmouth, Stratford, &c., &c.
FRANCES DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-road, Whitstable.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, July 23, 30, Sept. 3 and 10.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
HARRY FOXWELL, Opera House, Coventry.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 17, 24, for musical versions of these sound Dramatic Attractions, played by a star company, and advertised by magnificent pictorials. HERBERT BARRS, 10, Featherstone-st., Roker, Sunderland.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 6 and 13, to follow Islington, West London, and Peckham; breezy and bright; an ideal holiday show. Address,
SYDNEY SPENSER, Grand T., Islington.

HILLIARD VOX'S
"ALASKA."
"ALASKA."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 24.
HILLIARD VOX,
Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 6, 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 30, Sept. 3 17, Oct. 15. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vacant Sept. 3, 24, Nov. 5, and Dec. 10. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, also Xmas and New Year week.
Address, Brixton Theatre, S.W. (vacation).

"HOW MONEY'S MADE,"
by F. Brooke Warren.
WANTED, through obliging, Aug. 6. Unexcelled printing. 160 sheets without a repeat. Boomed ahead by the Prince of Pioneers, Hal Cummings ("Tiny"). Wanted, Aug. 6. No other vacant dates. Booked and re-booked at all the Leading Dramatic Theatres. Cast includes Miss Minnie Leslie and Elton Morgan (in his original part of Glory). Address, JOHN CECIL, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley (Holiday week).

"TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."
WANTED, good Theatre, for above Attraction, Sept. 24, must be North. HARRY FISCHER, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, High-Class Theatres for Mr. H. F. Maltby and Co., "The Youngest of Three." Aug. 13 and 27, Sept. 3 (?), Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 19, also Spring. WYN WEAVER, Lyceum T., Edinburgh.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Mr. E. Graham-Falcon thanks the following managers for offers of dates:—Messrs. John Hart, G. T. Minshull, Milton Bode, C. Machin, J. R. Huddlestone, Robert Arthur, P. Davey, W. H. Westwood, F. Warden, Mrs. Gunn, Hugh Robertson, J. H. Saville, John Horgan, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Autumn entirely filled except Oct. 1 (?), 3, Nov. 12. All dates till Easter booked or in pencil except Jan. 21, 28, March 4 (North).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre Bedford.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR,
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, for this reliable Draw, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct. 15 (?), and Nov. 5. Cast second to none touring. Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1907. Address during vacation,
JOHN B. SHINTON,
Elm Dene, Victoria-road, Tuebrook, Liverpool.
Telegraphic address, "Inez, Liverpool."
Telephone, 97 Anfield.

CHARLES WINDERMERE and CO.,
"FACING THE MUSIC"
"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"
WANTED, Aug. 30 (3), Sept. 27 (3), Oct. 1, 29, Sept. 5. July 16, C. T., Warrington.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, and Xmas week.
GEORGE DENHAM, 7, The Crescent, Barnes, London.

"CARMEN,"
Strong picturesque Drama, Special Scenery, Costumes, and Strong Cast; incidental Music from Bizet's Opera (by permission).
WANTED, Xmas week and certain Spring 1907 dates, for Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply, Miss F. GROSSOP HARRIS,
or Mr. FRANK CELLIER, JUN.,
Terry's Theatre, Strand, W.C.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 13 (North or Midlands), Sept. 24 (London or South). H. HOLLISTER, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, onwards, with exceptions,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Special New and Elaborate Production of the World-famous Drama,
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
by Special Arrangement with Mr. Wainwright.
Everything carried.
Beresford Whitcomb as Tom Robinson.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29, few later,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Great Dramatic Success,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
Everything carried.
The company includes Lewis Gilbert, Leonard Lawrence, H. H. Barrington, F. Thorpe Tracey, Fred May, &c.; Marie Macaulay, Florence Lovel, Irene Ross, Ella Seton, &c.
Autumn Bookings include
Grand, Islington; Alex., Hull; T. R., Bolton; Palace, Newcastle; T. R., Sheffield; Junction, Manchester; Liverpool; Aston (pencil); Smethwick (pencil); &c.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, July 23 (wire), Sept. 10, onward.
DICKIE CLARE, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

"GEOFFREY STIRLING, BANKER AND THIEF."
WANTED, good Theatres for this High-Class Drama, Sept. 10 and 17.
Full plant of printing by Allen's.
Perfectly mounted and dressed.
Powerful Company.
Apply, HENRY DOUGHTY,
Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Aug. 6. Wire, JACKSON, L., Hammersmith; next, Croydon.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
For a Big Drawing Attraction refer to Companies Page for particulars of MYSTICAL PLAY, including
LE ROY, TALMA, and BOSCO,
The World's Monarchs of Magic.

THE ORIGINAL ARTHUR SAXON'S TROUPE AND VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
Twelve Star Turns.
WANTED, Theatres, Hippodromes, in fact anything holding money, July 23 and Aug., on. Wire or write, P. O., Ludgershall, near Andover.

WANTED, Theatres or Hippodromes, for the famous Kellinos' "Fête in Venice" and Star Vandeville Company, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8, Share or Certainty, with or without Company.
All communications until further notice to Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, for E. Oswald Brooks' Co., "The Trail of the Serpent," under the direction of A. Campbell-Kelly, through disappointment, July 23. PAN. E. DRACO, T. R., Chesterfield.

WANTED, Aug. 6, on, for "A LONDON ACTRESS."
Add., STUART CLEVELAND, Metropole T., Gateshead.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

CORRI and DERREVE'S MUSICAL SCREAMER, "OFFICE HOURS."
WANTED, Really Clever Artists, as follows:—Gentlemen: Robust Low Comedian (sing and dance), Eccentric Comedian (must be clever eccentric dancer). Two very Smart Acrobatic Comedians, very Short Comedian (cheeky boy part), Light Singing Comedian, and Dude. Ladies: Smart Singing Soubrette, Lady for Eccentric Old Woman. Chorus: Several Smart Ladies, with really Good Voices (to dance a little), photos. imperative; also Four Chorus Gentlemen. Dancers: Clever Quartette (Acrobatic, and with voices), photos. imperative. All to rehearse Aug. 7 (two weeks; open Aug. 20, London. To those suitable, very long engagement will result. All must send fullest particulars, references and photos., age and height. Very lowest terms must be quoted.
Address, CORRI and DERREVE,
48, Burleigh-mansions, W.C.
Note.—Interviews only by appointment.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Walter Reynolds is now making Engagements for the Autumn Tour of "Mr. Smith." Address by letter only,
5, Netherhall-gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

"The SPIDER AND THE FLY."
WANTED, for Autumn, rehearse July 30, Young Lady for Boy Waif and Understudy. Photos., height, and salary to ERNEST CARPENTER, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, Lady for Sketch, young, dark, very good appearance. Letters and photograph, EDWARD CRANSTON, 84, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-road.

WANTED, for Sketch, tall smart-looking Young Lady; evening dress. Lowest terms, photos, &c., PHYLLIS ATHERLEIGH, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, a Leading Man for Detective, able to speak Irish; also Juvenile Lady, Gentlemanly Heavy Man, Character Actor, and Chambermaid; also a good Practical Carpenter (own tools). Photos., age, height, references, and lowest terms to FRANK BATEMAN, "Holcroft," 28, Seaton-place, St. Heliers, Jersey.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Character Actor, Jew part; also Child (over 14), Waif; Agent and good Specialities write, lowest, photos., &c., MOORE, 53, Greyfriars-road, Reading.

WANTED, an Intense Actor, Miser, height not over 5ft. 6in. State experience, salary, preference given to one speaking foreign languages. Letters only, LONG, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, Baritone, for Ashleigh, Soprano Ingenue for Lulu (must dance a little), Pathetic Old Man (negro), Heavy Man, Character Actor, Short Soubrette for Freddie, Two Smart Acrobatic Dancers, and Musical Director. Rehearse July 24. Photos., &c., to EDWARD MARRIS, O. H., Buxton.

ALFRED NORTHWAY and W. V. GARROD'S TOURS, "THE PRODIGAL PARSON."
WANTED to Rehearse, Birmingham, July 30, Comedian, young, medium height, powerful voice, capable of heroics and big drunken scene; also joint with above, Lady for small parts and understudy, to introduce speciality dance. Terms and photographs to T. R., Aldershot.

WANTED, good Comedian. State where playing, height, salary. Apply,
LONG, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs in well-established Dramatic Company for Amateur Gentleman to play Light Comedy Part and learn duties Acting-Management; small salary commencement. Apply, full particulars, Box 3,464, "The Era."

F. B. WOULFE REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, two good responsible men, rehearse immediately. Photo., age, height, &c.
F. B. WOULFE,
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, Sound Young Actor, tall, for Legree, "U. T. C." Fit-up Tour, starting August. Lowest terms, &c., HYBERT, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"OLIVER TWIST" COMPANY.
WANTED, Bill Sikes and Stage-Manager. Address, W. MARTIN, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

WANTED, Responsible Actor, for Small Part; also Amateur Gentleman. Send lowest terms, photos., &c., to FOREST, 50, Elsham-rd., Kensington.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Man and Tall Responsible; long tour to suitable people. Full particulars, photo., &c., BEAUDYN and LIVESEY, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Gentleman, to play responsibles and character, also small parts. Full particulars, NORMAN V. NORMAN, Marina T., Lowestoft.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, Tall Character Actor, for Aristocratic Old Man. Terms, height, photos., H. HOLLISTER, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

WANTED, 23rd, tall Lady and Gentleman, leading business, joint preferred, capability and refinement essential. Letters only, with full particulars, DIANA HOPE, 35s, Morat-st., Brixton.

WANTED, Few Smart Amateurs, for Small Parts and Understudy, Tour, London success. Small premium; salary commence. Particulars, Box 3,451, "The Era."

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gentleman for Long Tour. Recognised management. No premium. Apply, with full particulars, Box 3,452, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, several Talented Ladies and Gentlemen (Amateurs or Novices), with really good voices and smart appearance; long engagement to those suitable. Address, with full particulars, to SECRETARY, 48, Burleigh-mansions, W.C. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, immediately, young, handsome Show Lady, excellent figure essential. Letters only and photograph, EDWARD CRANSTON, 84, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-road.

WANTED, by Gentleman, High-class Artist (Violin and Piano) of standing, a Young Lady Variety, Refined, Mystic Art, or Light Songs and Ballads, who could accompany select Violin Music, for five weeks, beginning July 23.
Write, Box 3,461, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately Tenor or Baritone (good Musical Comedy Répertoire), for Al-fresco Seaside Quartette. Shares. Call (with song) to-day, 2 to 4. 39, Bishop's-road, Highgate.

WANTED, Small Boys, over 14 years old, with Good Voices. Apply, 7, Gladstone-street, London-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Small Boys with good Voices, must be fourteen years. Apply by letter to MAURICE GERALDO, Hippodrome, Ealing, London.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, the Pier Pavilion, Ryde. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Lady with Light Operatic Soprano Voice would accept small salary, good concert party; sake of experience. Box 3,459, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Light Tenor, high compass, used to Musical Comedy and Sketches; also Contralto accompanist. TENOR, 47, Kellett-road, Brixton, S.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a young dashing Prince; age, height, last two Pantomimes, where can be seen, lowest, photo., and perm. address, to GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. 'Phone 1949 Hop. Chorus Ladies and Acrobatic Quartettes write.

WANTED, for Pantomime, smart Step and Acrobatic Dancers, must be thoroughly experienced. Height, photo., and latest references (which will be applied for), to Miss LILLIE LEICESTER, Queen's Theatre, Keighley, Yorks.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, to commence July 30. Address, with terms, &c., A. DE FRECE, 12, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts, for High-class, Effective Scenery, at lowest prices. CARLYLE SCENIC STUDIO, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c., experienced, quick, moderate charges. W. HENRY, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Contracts, Scenery, &c. Compare terms and models. All work guaranteed. BOSTOCK SCENIC CO. (estd. 1894), Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Robert Burriss, Scenic Artist, just completed Palace Theatre and Gardens, Clacton. G. R. Sims says:—A wonderland of valuable work which compels the admiration of all. 33, Rampayne-street, Pimlico.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, Stage-Manager and Day Man, used to Variety Business, Billing, and Electricity, must be workers; suitable applicants permanency. Terms, refs., &c., T. A. EDWARDES, Derby.

WANTED, a really smart Advertising Manager, for Hippodrome and Pleasure Gardens, Llandudno. None who are afraid of work apply. Must be up to every advertising scheme to bring in money. ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Advertising."

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WANTED, Energetic Business Man, with some Knowledge of Machinery and Electric Lighting, to take full Management of Electric Lighting and Water Carnival Business, as shares or salary. Established 20 years. Will Mr. Simpson write W. REYNOLDS, Engineer, Bedford.

WANTED, Manager for Seaside Entertainments; must invest £50; salary and commission. Address, ENTERTAINER, 31A, Queen-st., Rhyl.

WANTED, Stage Manager, one that can use tools and make himself generally useful, must be competent in stage work. Apply, JACK WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel, E.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Advance Agent, good appearance essential, none except those thoroughly acquainted with first-class managements need reply, stating terms and references (which will be thoroughly investigated). RICHARD MAYNARD, 15, Bury-st., Bloomsbury.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, as Advance Agent. Full particulars to FRED MCCREA, Gloucester.

WANTED, for Coventry Hippodrome, to open immediately, First-Class Electrician, not afraid of work, and able to do all own repairs.

Write, stating salary required,
T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippodrome, Coventry.

THEATRE ROYAL, BURY.

WANTED, good working Stage Carpenter. References and full particulars to OTTO C. CULLING, Tavistock Hotel, W.C., until Monday; after Bury.

WANTED, Resident Carpenter (own tools) assist with billing, and make himself generally useful. Recent refs. (which will be investigated) to HARRY BATTERSBY, T. R. Bilston.

WANTED, Carpenter, thoroughly experienced in Fit-ups. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

Billposters.

WANTED, six High Laddermen, at once. To sober, steady men highest wages will be paid.

MACDONALD, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-Class Window Biller, must have had good experience, able to use the brush and not afraid of work; sobriety indispensable.
Apply,
T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Ld., 213, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, Steady Youth, Billposter (permanent). Apply, stating age, experience, and wages to ACCRINGTON BILLPOSTING CO., LTD.

WANTED, a Young Man, permanency assured to good man. State wages required. Apply MERTHYR BILLPOSTING CO., Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, Travelling Maid, First-class Dressmaker; abstainer; references; must understand all duties. Address particulars to Box 3,427, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, William Payne, just resigned his position of manager and treasurer of the Palace, Tottenham, under Mrs. Lawson, after five years' service, is open for engagement as Manager, Treasurer, Assist.-Manager, or any position of trust. Address, 1, King's-parade, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED.—Young Gentleman would like appointment to learn Acting-Management; small salary commence, with good prospects. Box 3,446, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Disengaged for Acting or Business Management, Resident or Tour, London and country experience; highest references. Box 3,444, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, Variety, &c., now or Autumn; 19 years' London and Provincial experience. Address, MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Charles Herman, Advance Representative, just concluding two seasons C. W. Poole's Myriorama, has six weeks vacant, commencing July 16; open to boom any reputable entertainment. Wire, Theatre Royal, Pontypool. After Monday, Monmouth House, Lower Church-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, by Young Man, 22, Situation in Theatre, Variety, or with company, to learn Stage or Business Management; no previous experience. Write, Box 3,455, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, 22, Clerk, good appearance, references, Engagement in Theatre, or anything respectable. MOAR, 13, Grosvenor-terrace, Langside, Glasgow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Electrician desires change; extensive theatrical experience; competent steam and gas engineer; steady, reliable. Moderate salary. Box 3,449, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Electrician, with own electric limes and colours, effects, can work illustrated songs, curtain advertisement, dancing troupes, &c. Terms, HARRIS, 18, Denmark-rd., N.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, Re-engagement as Carpenter, Resident, Now or Autumn; tools. Abstainer; refs.; bench. 11, Little Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Master Carpenter, London references; resident or tour. Apply, Box 3,424, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Bill Inspector or Billposter; late P. Theatre, Glasgow; Pavilion, Edinburgh, sixteen years; touring and residential; abstainer; 32. LEONARD EMERSON, 59, Grange-rd., Ilford, E.

WANTED, Situation, by Practical Experienced Leading Hand Billposter, age 28; good ladderman, good references. GREENWOOD, 42, Albert street, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady, in Theatre or Music Hall, town, as Attendant or for Programmes. M. H., 24, Linden-grove, Peckham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, Aug. 6, First-class Conductor, to play Violin (with répertoire of music); also First Violinist and Pianist, used to Variety Business, must wear evening dress. State lowest terms and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Palace Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, Halifax, Conductor Leader, First Violin, Second Violin, Viola, Harp, Flute, Clarionet, Oboe, Bassoon, 'Cello, Bass, Cornets, Horns, Trombone, and Drums, to open Aug. 6; must thoroughly understand Variety business. Apply, J. WHITELOCK, Musical Director, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.

WANTED, Musician Attendants. First Violin, must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £55, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Musicians.

WANTED, for the R.M.S. Ortona (Australian Trade), leaving Tilbury July 27, Violin, Piano, and Clarionet. Light duties only. Character references indispensable. Apply to F. C. CANE, 28, Nelson-street, East Ham, Essex.

WANTED, experienced First Violin, Flute Player, Cornet, String Bass, and Trombone, open July 23, eight weeks. State salary. Good Musicians. Mr. H. HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, a Good Violinist, Town Band, Colwyn Bay (Summer Season). Terms, age, and references, UNDERWOOD, Bandmaster, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, at Once, through disappointment, Good Violin; shares, or lowest terms. Apply, J. DUCHSCHERER, Victoria-road, Exmouth.

WANTED, Good Lady Violinist (solo and Leader), open Monday, London. Write or wire only. CONDUCTOR, 238, Blythe road, Kensington, W

WANTED, good Violin and Viola, young, smart appearance, and well up in Concert and Variety business; commence at once; evening dress; two performances daily. Terms, references. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Palace-by-the-Sea, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Clarionet, Orchestra, East Coast; must be gentlemanly and efficient; salary £2 5s., and fares. Also Good Violin, suburban theatre, 5 weeks; state terms. Box 3,465, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Violin, Pianist, and String Bass, Double-handed Men, to combine Reed or Brass preferred; must be first-class men. Engagement till Sept. 28. Twice daily, two hours each performance. Lowest terms to J. H. ROWE, Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Reading Professional Town Band, good Cornet, Trombone, Bombardon; reliable and steady. Sec., Horn Hotel, St. Mary's Butts, Reading.

WANTED, at Once, a good Orchestral Clarionet; sober and capable. A good shop for a good man. R. NIBLETT, 8, Oxford-street, Scarborough.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WANTED, Bass Player, reliable and sober, open Aug. 6. Latest refs., age, and salary to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Other instrumentalists may write in.

WANTED, for short London season, Double Bass, Second Bassoon, First, Second, and Third Flute, First, Second, and Third Cornet, First and Second Trombone, First, Second, and Third Horn, and 'Cello. Apply, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Lyric Theatre, W.

SOUTHPORT CORPORATION MILITARY BAND.

WANTED, an experienced E Flat Bass Player, to commence at once. Address, with references, Messrs. BARTLE and RIMMER, Belmont-street, Southport.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.

WANTED, Good Double Bass and Drums, with all Effects. Permanency. Terms and refs., W. HARTLEY, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, for next Monday, for two weeks, good Bass. £2 10s. per week. Wire, LUCAS, Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Bassoon Player, Grand Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, July 23 to Sept. 15. Apply, stating terms and references, ALFRED HAINES, Hippodrome, Oxford-street, Manchester.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, First-Class Double Bass (four string). Apply, stating terms and refs., CHAS. W. JOHNSON.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, Euphonium, must be steady. Monday, Ennistymon; Tuesday, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare, Ireland.

WANTED, at Once, Good Euphonium, for Town Band; shares, permanent. PHILLIPS, 11, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.

WANTED, Oboe and Cor Anglais Player, for Season to Sept. 30, two performances daily, commence at once. Applications with particulars of experience, references, and salary required, to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, for a smart Light Infantry Band, First-Class position for young Flute or Piccolo Player, anxious for a better Musical education, or ex-twelve years' Army man; no other players wanted. Apply, P. S., care of HAWKES and SON, Denman-street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, Male Attendant, Pianist or Euphonium Player preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Pianist, to Read at Sight and understand Variety Business, for a long tour; from one to four weeks in a town; must assist in building up and pulling down. To open July 30. SILVESTER, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope, a First-class Pianist, must read at sight. State age and previous experience; open at once. DOONER, Bioscope, Ferndale, Saturday; Barry Dock, Monday.

WANTED, a good Double-handed Man, for First-class Pleasure Steamer; portable or harp; good vocalist indispensable. Apply, BILLY BAINES, Pontoon, Cardiff.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist, combine other instrument, to commence Aug. 6. Lowest terms and references, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, good Pianist and Violinist, at once. References and lowest terms; six or eight weeks, seaside. Box 3,447, "The Era."

WANTED, Drummer, for Orchestra, Musical Comedies; 9 weeks' engagement. Open July 30. Refs., lowest terms, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Double Drummer, for eight weeks from Aug. 6, Theatre. Terms to W. W. BENNETT, 1, St. Leonard's-rd., Bournemouth.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.

WANTED, First-class Military and other Bands for Sunday Concerts. Full particulars to ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Bandsmen (Orchestral and Military) for short commission, H.M.S. Jupiter, must be competent performers, pensioners eligible, Band extra pay in addition to Service pay, uniform, and instruments supplied. Rail fare refunded after joining. Apply, 596, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Violins, Cornets, Clarionets, Basses, Trombone, Piano, &c.; open Aug. 6. TIDSWELL, 23, Kent-square, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, at once, for abroad, Solo Boy Soprano Singer, also Boy Instrumentalists, to enlarge a well-known English Orchestra of thirty; play only Concerts; must be good players; age from 15-19 years.

State lowest salary, height.

Box 3,466, "The Era" Office.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (Diploma), late Yeomanry and Volunteers, appointment, temporary or permanent. Bands found for Trainings. Own Instruments and Music. Box 3,398, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Mus.-Dir., Leader, or Viola, any business; good references; thoroughly reliable; splendid repertoire. SMITH, 13, Vincent-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by well-known Conductor and Solo Violinist of great experience, Engagement in really First-class Hall or Theatre; smart, reliable. References, library. Address, Box 3,446, "The Era," London.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Conductor (Pianist, Violinist, and Composer), of the Grand Opera in Amsterdam. ANTON PEERS, 53, Tottenham Court-road, W.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Disengaged; terms moderate; ten years' London variety experience; violinist, pianist, &c.; thoroughly reliable. Box 3,416, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin), Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Variety business; five years last engagement; good refs. THOS. RICHARDSON, 13, Roberts-rd., Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; also Répétiteur or Second Violin; together or singly. W. and G. VERNON, Elgar House, Downs-road, Walmer, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor (Pianist), experienced; excellent refs. and testimonials. COLLINGS, Van Tromp Hotel, St. Helens.

WANTED, by Bachelor of Music (Oxford), Engagement; thoroughly Expert Pianist, Mus. Dir., and Chorus Trainer. High refs. MUSIC, 75, Sutherland-av., W.

WANTED, by Violinist, immediate Eng., any part; experienced Theatre, Variety, &c Good refs.; age 28; abstainer. 62, Priory Park-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lizzie C. Matthews, experienced Violinist, at Liberty for Engagement. 2, County-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, can combine Clarionet; good refs. H. SMITH, 20, Methley-street, Kennington Cross, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, good Violinist, any business; good refs. G. W., 132, Bolton-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, three weeks, good seaside Orchestra, last season Leader Barmouth Pavilion; Liberty July 28. SHAW, Heanor, Notts.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Violinist, experienced Variety, &c.; smart and reliable; best refs. STONE, 8, Hardwick-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Violinist, experienced in all lines of business, Engagement. G. F. LORKIN, 6, Sumatra-road, W. Hampstead.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Good Second Orchestral Violinist; steady and reliable; good references. GEO. A. FARNHILL, Wesley-street, Ossett, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Good Violinist, at Liberty, Leader or First Violin, experienced; and good stock of music; any business. J. C., 11, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Cornet, Orchestral or Military; steady, abstainer, age 21. Open at once. ELLIOTT, Cornet, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet Player, Orchestral or Military; experienced, steady. JAMES WHITFIELD, South Cottage, Lansdowne-road Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Cornet, Orchestra or Military, young, total abstainer. Address, H. RUSSELL, JUN., Cornet, 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Ethel Barrs, Cornet Soloist, age 15, any business; splendid ref. HOLMES, 23, Strand, Blaengarw, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experienced in all Lines; can join immediately. CORNET, 19, Townsend-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet (good), Engagement; well up in varieties; 2½ years' refs. BENSON, 367, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Town Band or Small Orchestra, first time as professional, young, total abstainer. P. F., 8, High-street, Hailsham, Sussex.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, or Second Violin. Address (not after Monday), STEELE, c/o Taylor, 15, Nicolson-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by expert and reliable Clarionet, fully qualified to undertake Solo Clarionet, Military or Orchestral; Variety or Musical Comedy. J. R. GARDNER, Assembly Rooms, Pontypool.

WANTED, by E flat Bass, situation, permanent or otherwise; good reader. Refs., &c. F. B., 33, Grange-road, Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Double Bass player, either Opera, Drama, or Variety. Good refs. BASSO, 22, Church-street, Leominster.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass player, at Liberty July 23. W. G. STONE, Orchestra, Empress Club, Dover-st., Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, at Once, Engagement, Double Bass; 10 years under last management; good references. J. PAYNE, 1, Ivy-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Employment in Factory or Works Band, by Baritone, Bass, Drums, Euphonium, Horns, Trombone; or would take Bandmaster's duties. Address, MUSICIAN, 61, Corrance-road, Brixton.

WANTED, through disappointment, Engagement by good Trombone, Theatre or Varieties; permanent; sober and reliable; good refs. J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, near Leicester.

WANTED, Known, First-class Trombone at Liberty Aug. 6, First-class Theatre or Music Hall, or Opera Tour. Box 3,462, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, W. J. Smith, Trombonist, commence at once, any business. 1A, Manchester-street, Southampton. Monday, 23, Hampton-street, Walworth, London.

WANTED, by experienced Trombone, any Business. Can join at once. GEORGE NICKS, 29, Portland-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Season Engagement, Euphonium, any business, experienced; good refs.; can join at once. FARQUHAR, 29, Kenn road, Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, experienced, Engagement; good Soloist; hotel preferred. HARVEY, 11, South Hill Park-gardens, Hampstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist; good references. Address, W. KNUSSEN, 30, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, Pier, Southend-on-Sea. Sun., July 8. Address, 7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, Disengaged from Aug. 6, London or Suburbs preferred. LA TREMOLO, 45, Beaumont-st., Portland-place, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, open for Seaside Engagement.
FLAUTIST, 62, Devonport-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, well up in Variety Business. F. BROUGHTON, 3, Montague-villas, Horncastle-road, Boston.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral, Military, Seaside, Theatre, or Variety; good refs. KNIGHT, 35, Pentney-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged any business; can join at once; reliable. FLAUTIST, 244, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, First-Class Accompanist and Soloist, sight reader, transposer; used to high-class concert and Al Fresco work; several seasons Tunbridge Wells, Broadstairs, &c. Address, stating terms and particulars, GEO. E. HEDGES, 50, Chester-road, East Ham, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Accompanist, young, refined, good appearance (photograph), experienced, assist management; also really fine Boy Solo, Soprano, no busking. Box 3,454, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, orchestral, dance, or concert. Liberty till Sept.; abstainer. GARNER, 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Known, Fred Hooton, Pianist and Orchestral Harpist, is open for high-class Engagement, at Liberty July 21. 14, Clarendon-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Engagement for Bank Holiday Week. W. H. DAVIES, 12, George-street, Lozells, Birmingham.

WANTED, Pianist (Accompanist), Leader, and Cornet, for Felixstowe, from July 21 to Sept. 8, one performance daily. Terms and references to TAYLOR, 142, Norwich-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, Orchestra, Dance, or Concert, good Organist; abstainer. Address, H. BONEHILL, 5, Dorton-street, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, accompanist, sight reader, orchestral or otherwise. R. STONE, 52, Winstead-st., Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Stanley Holt, talented young Pianist, Champion Soloist, Original Tricks, Fine Accompanist. Next week, Tenby. Liberty Sept., on. Address, HARRY WELDON, c/o Vaudeville Club, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, used to Variety, can open at once. FRED GRIMSHAW, Whitestreet, Seedley, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist, can combine Clarionet; sober and reliable; good references. PIANIST, 3, Mill-street, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Engagement, by good smart Double Drummer, own Tympani, to commence August. DRUMS, c/o Wood, 113, Lynton-road, Bermondsey, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Drums, &c., effects; any Business. M. CONNOR, Dir., Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, competent and reliable; highest refs. MUSICUS, 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, for Small Orchestra, any number; smart uniform, good up-to-date répertoire. LOUIS METZ, 62, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, by the Blue Hungarian Band, Engagements
for Exhibitions, Bazaars, Flower Shows,
Promenade Concerts, &c.
Handsome Uniforms.
Address, SIDONA, 4, Endlesham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to December; Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Ladies' Trio, Piano, Violin, 'Cello; together or separate; experienced soloists; abroad preferred. CONDUCTRESS, 40, Northumberland-avenue, Kingstown.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS, ON TOUR.
General Manager, G. SCOTT.

WANTED, Tenting, Smart Ground Act, single man doing more than one act preferred. State full particulars,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Mr. T. E. Read, Lessee of the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, has arranged with Messrs. R. Fossett and Sons to supply a First-class Circus Company, with an Entire Change of Programme weekly, commencing Dec. 22, 31 Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Feb. 4. Star Artists in all Branches required. Male and Female Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, and Novelties of a First-class Character. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. FOSSETT and SONS, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. (Please give time for re-direction of letters.)

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.

WANTED, Circus, to open July 23, for Season. Splendid position on Parade. Reply to ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Circus."

WANTED, Aug. 6, Halls, Fêtes, near Bristol, Circus, Cycle, Star Specialities. Paulett write. Lithos., memos., T. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, experienced Comedy Bar Performer, one who can tumble preferred. Harry Sanderson, formerly of Three Pirmans, write. Box 3,467, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Youth, must be a good Tumbler, age 15 to 17; live in; everything provided; liberal pocket money, comfortable home. Apply, with list of tricks, weight, and height, to R. FRANTZ, Hippodrome, Preston.

WANTED, Youth that can do Front Bending, and Tumble a little. State age and tricks. Letters only, Box 3,458, "The Era."

WANTED, two Small Boys, must be fourteen years, knowledge of juggling. State particulars first letter, MAURICE GERALDO, Hippodrome, Ealing, London.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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WANTED, Known, for Sale, John Henry Cooke's Diving Stags or Reindeer.
Apply,
Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Lillian Davies, Equestrienne, Touring America with Barnum and Baily, Greatest Show on Earth. Perm. address, Irvinstown, Co. Fermanagh.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Sylvia Martin, La Belle Equestrienne (Manège and Liberty Act), with her wonderful mare Beatrice (late the property of Mr. Mansfield), at Liberty. Address, 8, Templeton-place, Earl's Court.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, Clown Ohmy, High One-stilt Act, and Performing Dog Toby, and Original Oldham Singing Mill Girl, Jessie Harper. Two big acts. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Sensational Lady Aërial Gymnast, 50ft. high, no net. The success of all Galas. Liberty Aug. for Galas. Wire. Add., GREEN'S Carnival, Glasgow. Wire. Wire.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Bar Performers, Liberty 16th, 23rd, 30th, the Clean Comical Couple. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Great Triple Bar Act, vacant for Galas, Halls, &c., July 30 and Aug. 20, cn. All coms., 10, Fillwood-rd., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, The Ostieers, Flying Ring and Bar Performers, Two Acts, Liberty for Aug. 6, Galas. Wire, 76, Westmoreland-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Max Merlin Crocodile, Prettiest, most Novel of its kind. Complimented everywhere on act, scenery, and study of the Saurian. This, Norwich; 16th, Hip., Ipswich. Liberty 23rd.

WANTED, Galas, Zarinella, Contortionist, last week, Guildford Gala (five days). Aug. 6, Alexandra Palace (return). 21, Coleman-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, placed here, Dec. and Jan., American Novelty Number, now with Lord John Sanger, Ltd.
Zampo and Assistant,
Bar Lifting, Canvas, Somersault, Humorists.
Mail, 168, Beresford-street, Camberwell.
Or FRED NEIMAN.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Tumbler and Bar Performer, Bearer and Catcher. Address, TUMBLER, 44, Arkley-road, Markhouse-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Elephant Trainer; can do his own Novelty Act at the same time. Captain ROBERTO, 7, Bateman's-buildings, Soho, London, W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

GRAND HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, open July 21 (seven nights). No fancy prices.
FRANK MUNDILL.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, July 23, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 30, on. Thanks to those who have written; cannot answer all. DALE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, also Clever Boys, Comedians and Dancers. Send all particulars to CRANE, Pierrot Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Chorus Girls, &c., to register their names and send photographs, with a view to engagements in first-class Halls and Theatres of the community, to M. MACKENZIE, Scottish Vaudeville Agency, 16, Chalmers-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, July 23, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Henri Cazman's own Companies, Star Artists, Features and Headlines, for Accrington, July 23; Society Entertainer, Pianist, Pier, Dover, July 30; good opportunity to see new numbers with view to booking Acts, London, country, and Continent. Write, with lithos., full bookings, CAZMAN, Hippo., Warrington.

WANTED, Artists for Australia, India, &c. AYTOUN'S Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop. Provincial representative, FRANK LYNNE.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 23, Aug. 20, Sept. 3.
CHARLES A. JAMES,
Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.
Freaks and Novelties write.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, terms, age, height, references, photo., &c. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Corn Exchange, Ashford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Artists, Al Fresco, Vocalists, Double, Single, and Musical Turns; seaside. Apply at once, lowest terms; also good Pianist and Violinist. Box 3,448, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines for Littlehampton Promenade Concerts. Alf Bert please wire and all Artists known to me please write. Apply, Fred Spencer.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. Frank Lynne, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists; must be versatile, young, refined. State lowest, rép., photos.; long season. Will Knott, Pavilion, Girvan, N.B.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, used to Pierrot work, good Baritone, Soprano, Contralto; must be good, willing workers. Photo., lowest, Imperials, Pier, Cleethorpes.

CHARITY SPORTS AT SUNDERLAND, AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.
WANTED, Known, as additional Attraction, am Open to Entertain Applications from Artists capable of giving an Attractive Outside Show. Apply, stating lowest terms, to Mushen's Dispensary, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, July 16, on. Send lowest terms and bookings, Fred Durham's Agency, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, world-wide connection. See "Amusements," 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C. Summer, Autumn, Winter dates. Steinway Hall, 19th. Edwin Drew.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, Coventry Hippodrome Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. Sylvester, Manager.
G. E. Wright, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Sheerness, closed Saturday, June 30, for alterations and redecorations Due notice will be given of re-opening. Reymond

WANTED, all Artists, to note that the Hippodrome, Dartford, will be closed after to-night for repairs and alterations, and will re-open on Aug. 6 with Water Carnival. Suitable artists communicate with manager.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; re-open Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Fell. Wanted, Big Drawing Tops.

WANTED, Known.—Will the following Artists kindly wire addresses, or anyone knowing where they are at present kindly communicate with me, and oblige?
The Lorch Family of Acrobats,
Six Clevelands, Acrobats,
Rappo and Ella.
Harry Burns's Agency.
Head Office: Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." Telephones, 0231 and 0231a Hartlepool.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, Stars, immediate and onward dates.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c., &c.
Jess Verno's Agency,
61, West Derby street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Refined Turns, suitable Picture Show, for Theatre Royal, Matlock, immediate dates; Globe Theatre, Deal, Aug. 6; and Albert Hall, Edinburgh. Lisle, Buxton House, Matlock Bridge.

WANTED, Big Star Turns, Aug. 13, near Middlesbrough. Address, Will Onda, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Speciality Turns for Aug. Bank Holiday, for Reading. Geo. Baker, Elm-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Variety Talent, Operator with own Bioscope, Pianist (read at sight), long tour, from one to four weeks in a town. Open July 30. R. Silvester, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, and other First-class Acts, suitable for Paris, Nice, Marseilles, Rouen, Lyons, Bordeaux, and other Provincial Towns in France. Send lithos., photos, and vacant dates, and state where turn can be seen. Sam L. Bury's Agency, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket, London, S.W.

WANTED, Specialities, Aug. 6, on, absolute lowest Summer Terms, or no notice taken. Entertainment Manager, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Monday next, July 16 (through illness), Good Speciality for Hippodrome, Castleford. Those doing two turns preferred. Wire, with lowest terms, Revell, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Aug. 6 near Bristol, Star Acts, Serios, Sisters, Animal Acts. Can book vou. Lithos., memos., Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines, Martino's Agency.
Address, Martino, Queen's T., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, July and August, Dutch Act, Gags, Song, Grotesque Dance, Concertinacalities. Dutchy, Charles House, Netherton-rd., Tottenham.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Sound Tops, July 16, on, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Big Tops and Novel Acts, for July 30, on. Those new to Glasgow write. Those on my book keep me posted. List of bookings and permanent address most important. Fred Neiman, Buchanan-street Station Hotel, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, and Opera House, Porth, will be run as the Palace Theatres of Varieties, twice nightly, commencing Aug. 6. Anything really good can write to C. W. Poole, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

LLANELLY ANNUAL HOSPITAL FETE AND GALA, Aug. 24 and 25, 1906.
WANTED, Sensational Outdoor Attractions, new to Llanelly or District. All Artists should state very lowest terms, which may lead to other business. Hy. Studds and Son, Market Grounds, Maesteg, S. Wales.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. Carl Hermann and Alfred Selwyn.
WANTED, to Open July 23, for Season, Good Troupe of Pierrots. Sharing terms. Reply to Alfred Selwyn, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Pierrots."

WANTED, Doubles doing Singles, Comedians Serios, Specialities, and Good Tops, Aug. 6, 13, 20, and on, for Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, London, and other towns. Remember this is the old firm and reliable Agents, Drew Bayley and Co., 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

HIPPODROME, ILFRACOMBE.
Cissie Lawson, Lessee.
Short Season.
WANTED, July 23, on, Sketch Team, funny, or Troupe, couple Comedians. Wire, V. Newman, Hippodrome, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, for Aug. 6, and later dates, First-class Trick Cyclist for Galas; wire. Also First-class Specialities, all Lines, with lithos., to write in.
Vincelle, 140, Walbrook-road, Derby.

WANTED, for Covered-in Pavilion, Humorist, Comedians, Vocalists. Lowest terms, photos., address, Billy Moore, G.P.O., Aberavon, S.W. Rex Sugden write.

WANTED, Soprano, Tenor, and Baritone, for Hythe Kent. State where you can be seen working. Bob Graham, 7, Salford-road, Streatham, Hill.

WANTED, for Music Halls, good Soubrette, small, with strong voice, to sing Character Song (Nellie Farren style); must also be able to dance well. Also good female Troupe of Acrobatic Dancers, no good unless absolutely first-class; young, petite, and good appearance essential.
Apply, with full particulars,
Tom B. Conover, c/o "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. Will Avis, A. W. Gamage, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, for towns near London, Serios, Comedy Turns, Speciality Artists, July, August, and September.
Lowest terms, lithos. (if any), money sure.
Bioscope and Operator write in. Letters only.
Ben Harris, 9, Tredegar-sq., Bow, London, E.

WANTED, Lady Serios, and Comediennes, Sisters, Doubles, doing Singles.
Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Sisters, Banjo Soloists and Dancers, or Coon Singers, &c.,
for a well-known English Troupe;
must be young.
Lowest salary.
Box 3,467, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Comedienne, Open 23rd, famous Double Speciality. Performers call to-day, 3 to 5, or write, 46, Millhill-road, Acton.

WANTED, Mime Performer, Acrobat, for Sketch, height not over 5ft. 5in. State salary; preference to one able to speak and write foreign languages. Apply letter, Long, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road.

WANTED, Character and Mime Performers. State expeience, height, salary, used to Continent for Sketch Apply, letter only, Long, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Al-fresco Comedian, open Monday Also Specialities in all Lines for Dunoon, Ayr, Kilmarnock, and Saltcoats. Lee and Arden, Arcadia, Dunoon, Scotland.

WANTED, First-Class Comedians, to augment Troupe; also Lady Vocalist, well up in concerteds. Send references; open Monday; good Baritone write in. Harry Marvello, 26, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, good Comedians and Speciality Artists, for Monday next, onwards; evening dress. Wire, Prichard, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Smart Knockabout Pantomimist, one doing Singing Single Turn preferred; long tour. Dress and fares after joining. Dargo, 578, Leek-road, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Good Humorist and Good Comedienne, for Royal Palace Pierrots. Apply, Edgar Curtis, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Robust Athletic Heavy Man, canable of Big Struggle, Sketch. Particulars, photo., &c., C. Wordley Hulse, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

High-Class
Marionette Show
Marionette Show
Marionette Show
Marionette Show
Marionette Show
and an
Operator
Operator
Operator
Operator
Operator
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for a Foreign Country.
Apply,
Box 3,443,
"The Era."

WANTED, Cinématograph Performer, with own apparatus, and good variety of pictures; also slides for illustrated songs. Arthur Warren, Proprietor, Camp Theatre, Kilworth Camp, Co. Cork.

WANTED, immediately, good reliable steady man, as Operator and Developer, must understand business. Apply, with references, &c., Manager, Photo Studio, 1, Gallowgate, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with own machine, for a long tour; must understand electric and limelights; from one to four weeks in a town. Open July 30. Silvester, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, July 16, on, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, topped bill for two weeks, packed houses, owing to success was re-engaged third week; also Nellie Vann, big hit with new comedy business. Wire for two first-class turns, Pavilion, Hexthorpe Flats, Doncaster. Barrasford Tour booked. Pantomime to follow. Wire quick. Agent, Aytoun.

WANTED, July 16 and onwards, by Mabel Wrey, Comedienne and Dancer. Permanent address, 33, Mytton-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, July 23 Aug. 6, by Little Rose Pink, Comedy Vocalists, Top Boot and Russian. This, Hippo., Stockton; next, 51, Croft-avenue, Wallsend.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Monday, 16th, also 30th Unique Speciality. Wire, Empire Palace, Middlesbrough; or Agents.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Eldine (late), Barnard, in Musical Scena, "Little Drudge," want Monday, 16th, also 30th, Aug. 6. Offers, 229 Wath-road, Mexborough.

WANTED, by Maud Howard and Madge Townsend, Harmonising Duettists, July 16 and onwards. 13, Howard-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED. Known, Paganini Redivivus, the old veteran Violinist, aged 70, is at Liberty to accept Engagements for Theatres, Circuses, Music Halls, Ballets, Pantomimes, &c. Notice.—Paganini Redivivus uses his new invention, which he has named "The Chin Lever," which greatly reduces the difficulty of violin playing. The act he appears in will awaken enthusiasm, as Paganini Redivivus seemingly turns young again in presence of the audience while playing the splendid overture to "William Tell," a musical tour de force considered quite unequalled by all violinists. Please address Paganini Villa, 3, Kimberley-rd., East Southsea, Hants.

WANTED, by Frank Whiteley, Comedian and Dancer Monday next 16th; good turn, great success. Argyle T., Birkhenhead. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, by James Stewart, the celebrated Tramp at the Piano, Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Al-fresco. Offers invited. Address, 19, Gibson-square Islington, London, N.

WANTED, by Harry Morris, Comedian, Patterer, Mimic, &c., July 16, 23, Aug. 6, and 13. Address, Comedian, Hightown, Manchester.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, Versatile Comedian and Ventriloquist, July 23, on. Big success. This, T. R., Windsor; next, Aquarium, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, Comedian, Specialities, Whistling and Laughing, well up in Concerted Numbers, Sketches, Gags, &c. Big Success with Thiel's Pierrots, Roker (see Card). Vacant for Al-fresco Wire or write, 43, Bede-street, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, A. Prentice, Hand-balancer and Pantomimist, is at Liberty to join Sketches, &c. Address, 39, Tweed-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Kavados, First-class Juggling Act, Liberty Halls, Al-frescos, July 16, 23. Wire, 2, Rosamond-place, Upper Brook-st., Manchester.

WANTED, July 23, 30, for Dhuleep Singh, in Black Magic. The greatest illusion of the century. Wire or write, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker (Houdini's Greatest Rival), Straight-jacket Challenges. Big top; sure draw. Sails for New Zealand shortly. Address, 6, Oakden-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, July 23, 30, Halls, Piers, Al Frescos, Palette, Lightning Artist and Smoke Painter, and his novelty dog, Max; great success everywhere. Monday, Pagoda, Littlehampton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Earle, Royal Illusionist, is at Liberty few weeks commencing Monday next, July 16. All coms., Gaiety, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, Lightning Cartoonist and Comedian (Amateur so far) requires suitable Engagement, to commence August. Versatile, 125, Stockwell-road, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, and following Dates, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystic Lady. Also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Wire, People's Palace, Portsmouth. Wire.

WANTED, July 16, onward. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E. Kyoto, Versatile Japanese Act. May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; also Ada Whitton, Burlesque Wire, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Trick and Trixie, Instrumental and Comedy Artists, an act which pleases any audience. Big Success, Hippo., Hulme, Next week, Hippo., Salford. 23rd, Leeds. Vacant July 30, on. Communications, Fred Trick.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, at Liberty July 16 and 23. Wire, 115, Loughboro'-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, July 23, 30, by the Fordyces, Singers and Dancers Extraordinary. Wire to-day, Palace, Plymouth; Mon. next, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, the World's Greatest Musical Clowns, July 23, 30, Aug. 6. Add., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success.
at Budapest, Hungary.

WANTED, by Lack and Ford, Comedy Acrobats, July 23, 30; this is a Big and Novel Act. Monday, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, Monday next, and 23rd, The Lashmars, Comedy Acrobatic Song and Dance and Hand-balancing Artists. Thanking J. Dooner and Son for 12 weeks' comfortable engagement Wire, 42, Taff-street, Ferndale, Glam.

WANTED, Known, Esdale Bros., Novelty Comedians, vacant Monday, Wire, 28, Ayres-road, Manchester, quick.

WANTED, July 23, on, The Mintos, Refined Musical Eccentrics and Vocalists; Piers, Galas, Pierrots. Wire, Pavilion, Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, the Versatile Singing and Pattering Duo; also 23, 30. Wire, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Conversational Comedy Bar Act, vacant July 23 and 30. Address, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Proprietors, Managers, &c., to Know that the Albano Troupe have this week taken Aberdeen by storm. The Aberdeen Express says: Perhaps the chief turn is that presented by the Albano Troupe, whose manipulation of various musical instruments is not only effective but decidedly above the average of music hall acts. Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, and 27. 39, Newcastle-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, July 16 and 23, Scottie's Waifs and Strays, and "Whizzing the Whirl." Wire, Alexander, 78, Gresham-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by Atlas, Miss Vulcana, and Sisters Atlas, Athletics and poses. Wire, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, De Cora Trio, Modern Athletes, Herculean Equilibrists, in an entirely New and Original Act. Want Sept., on. A good Agent wanted. 94, Langdon-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free July, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, July 30, on, by Geo. Gulliver, Polyphonic Entertainer and Ventriloquist, fresh from his Colonial Triumphs. The most successful Ventriloquist who has ever visited India. One word all along the line, Success. Arrived in England, July 2, and was immediately secured by W. B. Broadhead, Esq., for three weeks. Novel act; splendid figures; beautiful costumes. Huge success this week. Hip., Bury. Next week, Metropole T., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. Great Success, second week, Pavilion, Bilston. Wire for Monday. Sure draw.

WANTED, Known, a Conjuror and Ventriloquist, also a Piano Sketch Artist, both at Liberty; doing high-grade turns and used to drawing room, garden party, and good class Al Fresco work; Sketch Artist, also an Accompanist, and Ventriloquist; able to work three entirely different shows.
Besoni, Athenæum Club, Reading.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 13, for Matt. Wilkinson's Laughing Success, "The Registry Office"; also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Regent, Salford.

WANTED, week, Sept. 24 (between Ryde and Blackpool), salary or share, Mr. Harry Liston's Concert Party. Pavilion, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

WANTED, Pauletti, Comic Leaping Acrobatic Cyclist. Big success, Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth. Next, Wilder's Galas Thanks Proprietors for Panto. Offers. Re-engaged by J. P. Moore, Esq. Per., 106, Bigland-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Le Diabelo, July 23, "Looping the Devil's Wheel," Share or Certainty. Hippodrome, Preston. Monday, Greyhound Hotel, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Capt. Gruber's
Capt. Gruber's
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Liberty Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10.
Next four weeks, HIPPODROME, DOUGLAS.
Managers, Somers and Warner.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's famous Dogs, July 14, Northwich Show, 18th Gala, Ashby; first date Sept. Add., Red Lion, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dog Circus, 1, Waterloo-crescent, Orchard-street, Weston-super-Mare. Wanted, Good Comic Act for few weeks.

WANTED, Known, Pygmies, from Central Africa, just back from Berlin, have open dates for engagements during Sept. and Oct., for farewell visits. Apply, James Harrison, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
Minerva Automatic Co.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. Clacher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice.
WANTED, Known, write to the Internationale Cinématographen and Lichteffekt Gesellschaft, Berlin, Markgrafenstr. 91, for Bioscopes, Films, and particulars of prize competition.
Dealers have dozens of our Cinématographs.
We are in touch with scientific authorities, and performed before Emperor.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the world, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. The most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. The Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
TRADE EXHIBITION,
Oct. 20 to Dec. 8, 1906.
WANTED, Good Side-shows
and
Novelties.
W. A. Cowie,
43, Grainger-street,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, Owen Bagan, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Novelties or Freaks, two months, good half share; also Lady Character Reader. L. P., 3, St. Bede's avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, now and onwards. Pickard,
American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Living Freaks and Novelties, open at once; sale of books and postcards allowed. Wire, Charles James, Waxworks, Dublin.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. Carl Hermann and Alfred Selwyn.
WANTED, to open July 23, for Season, Cinematograph Show, with good organ. Alfred Selwyn, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelope, "Cinematograph."

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. Carl Hermann and Alfred Selwyn.
WANTED, Strange People from Strange Lands, Dahomey Village, Zulu Warriors, Marine and Aquatic Exhibitions, Mechanical and Working Models, Naval and Military Displays and Tournaments. Alfred Selwyn, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Two Young Ladies who can Parade on Front of Cinematograph Show; also a young lady Pedestal Clog Dancer. Six weeks' engagements at Southport for suitable persons. Address, Wilder's Exhibition, Shore, Southport.

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FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

MY AUNT GRUMBLE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, April 21, 1877.
MY AUNT'S HUSBAND, Strand, Sept. 27, 1858.
MY AUNTS IN TOWN, St. George's Hall, June 10, 1889.
MY AWFUL DAD, Gaiety, Sept. 13, 1875.
MY AWFUL LUCK, Lyric Club, Jan. 24, 1892.
MY BEAUX, Marylebone, April 1, 1868.
MY BENEFACTOR, Strand, Nov. 21, 1883.
MY BONNY BOY, Criterion, Dec. 2, 1886.
MY BOY, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Nov. 12, 1886.
MY BRAVE LITTLE WIFE, Toole's, July 24, 1882.
MY BROTHER'S SISTER, Manchester, Sept. 3, 1888.
MY COLLABORATOR, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, March 8, 1892.
MY COMRADE, Theatre Royal, Stratford, May 18, 1885.
MY COURIER, Comedy, Manchester, Aug. 23, 1886.
MY COUSIN, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Oct. 16, 1885.
MY DARLING, Gaiety, Feb. 13, 1882.
MY DAUGHTER, Shepherd's Bush, April 9, 1888.
MY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, Criterion, Sept. 27, 1899.
MY DAUGHTER THE DUCHESS, Vaudeville, Oct. 30, 1884.
MY DRESS BOOTS, Royalty, Sept. 5, 1864.
MY ENEMY, Olympic, Jan. 15, 1880.
MY FIRST CASE, Opera House, Chatham, March 25, 1897.
MY FIRST PATIENT, Bradford, Feb. 12, 1887.
MYFISTO, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Jan. 24, 1887.
MY FRIEND, Vaudeville, Nov. 17, 1885.
MY FRIEND FROM LEATHERHEAD, Lyceum, Feb. 23, 1857.
MY FRIEND GOMEZ, Preston, near Brighton, May 28, 1896.
MY FRIEND IN THE STRAPS, Haymarket, Oct. 24, 1850.
MY FRIEND JARLET, Canterbury, Aug. 2, 1887.
MY FRIEND THE MAJOR, St. James's, Oct. 2, 1854.
MY FRIEND THE PRINCE, Garrick, Feb. 13, 1897.
MY GIRL, Gaiety, July 13, 1896.
MY GOOD NAME, Woolwich, Feb. 24, 1896.
MY GUARDIE, Kew Bridge, Dec. 19, 1896.
MY HEART'S DARLING, Theatre Royal, Bath, Feb. 14, 1876.
MY HEART'S IDOL, Lyceum, Oct. 16, 1850.
MY HUSBAND'S SECRET, Vaudeville, April 22, 1874.
MY HUSBAND'S WIFE, Prince of Wales's, Greenwich, March 17, 1885.
MY INNOCENT BOY, Royalty, May 11, 1898.
MY JACK, Princess's, Oct. 6, 1887.
MY KNUCKLEDUSTER, Strand, Feb. 2, 1863.
MY LADY CLARA, Alexandra, Liverpool, Feb. 22, 1869.
MY LADY DAINTY, Theatre Royal, Brighton, July 2, 1900.
MY LADY FANCIFUL, Margate, Aug. 15, 1899.
MY LADY HELP, Shaftesbury, Nov. 24, 1890.
MY LADY HILDA, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, March 21, 1870.
MY LADY M.D., Wimbledon, Jan. 29, 1895.
MY LADY'S ORCHARD, Glasgow, Aug. 23, 1897.
MY LANDLADY'S DAUGHTER, Maidenhead, Jan. 2, 1893.
MY LATEST OPERA, St. George's Hall, Nov. 24, 1894.
MY LIFE, Gaiety, Dec. 6, 1882.
MY LIFE BY MYSELF, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, July 8, 1876.
MY LITTLE GIRL, Court, Feb. 15, 1882.
MY LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD, St. Leonards, Oct. 16, 1895.
MY LITTLE WILLIAM, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, April 17, 1876.
MY LORD AND MY LADY, Haymarket, July 12, 1861.
MY LORD CARDINAL, Avenue, Nov. 16, 1894.
MY LORD IN LIVERY, Princess's, Oct. 9, 1886.
MY LOVE AND I, Prince of Wales's, May 3, 1886.
MY MAGGIE, Sefton, Liverpool, Oct. 22, 1884.
MY MILLINER'S BILL, Court, March 6, 1884.

THE half-yearly general meeting of members of the Heads of Departments' Association was held on Thursday evening. The financial statement to June and auditor's report was submitted and approved. The committee reported that over 900 circulars had been issued to heads of departments in London and provinces, relating to the objects and benefits of the society. Plans for securing further additions to the membership were considered, which will be laid before the members. It was decided to co-operate to promote a joint concert as in previous years for the benefit of the working staff benevolent funds. The question of a share-out society was deferred with a view of a joint meeting of the various committees being convened to consider the matter.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—This week Mr. Edmund Tearle and his company appear in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Tearle plays Brierly with a great amount of skill, and Miss Kate Clinton is equally successful in the part of May Edwards. All the other members of the company act capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Dr. Walford Bodie had a great reception when he appeared on the stage on Monday. His various experiments were followed with breathless interest, and the vast audiences were delighted with the ingenuity and dexterity with which they were carried out. The Doctor is supported by an excellent company, including Mr. Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice, who give an admirable vocal and instrumental turn; Halma, an exceptionally clever juggler; Miss Dolly Robson, vocalist; Miss Nelly Langtry, vocalist; Signor Bandoni; Miss Bella Skew, burlesque actress; the Sisters Poole; and Belford and Mars.

ABERYSTWYTH. — COLISEUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. Phillips.—Prof. Hocking's Anglo-American Vaudeville company is this week occupying the boards here. On Monday night there was a crowded audience, and Prof. Inman Hocking caused much laughter with his hypnotism and electrical performance; the mystic, Violet Raie, is also clever in her thought-transmission performance; the Bioscope, with the latest pictures, together with songs and dances, contribute towards the evening's entertainment.

MARKET HALL.—Mr. Fawcett Lomax opened here on Monday with *Rip Van Winkle*. The company, which is an excellent one, gave every satisfaction, and was well received.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—On Monday night the above hall was crowded to excess to witness the performance of a fine company of artists. The top of the bill is the Geni Family in their new act in a Spanish amphitheatre, which is remarkably well presented; the Three Saymons are very clever; Mlle. Zelda is an expert performer, and is well received; Mr. Clarence L. Winston must be complimented on his excellent voice; Baroni and Kemp are a pair of the finest quick-change artists we have had here; Will Llyton is very good; and the Amphletts do well. Some very clever pictures conclude the entertainment.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—*The Woman who Gambles*—a drama with a series of sensational incidents and thrilling situations—is proving a much-appreciated fare by the patrons here, Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, giving a capital interpretation of the drama. Miss Gertrude Hunt as the Countess puts plenty of force into the embodiment of this important rôle. Mr. E. E. Ashby's is a clever impersonation of the Count; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair plays the villain, Baron Cratzlaw, with consistent power and intensity; Mr. Reginald Fox's Lieut. Karl is natural, and Mr. J. Sherwin is good as Stamboloff. Miss Florence Halton gives a capable portrayal of Cora; Miss Rhoda Clighton is acceptable as Stella; Messrs. F. Prior, F. Howard, and Miss F. Hall do well in the comedy scenes. Mr. E. H. Clarke is stage-manager; whilst Mr. W. P. Carr is business-manager of the company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The drama, entitled *A Traitor Prince*, well played by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company, is here again; Mr. G. M. Montanini realises very vividly one's ideal of the fiendish Hindoo prince; Miss Hesta Sandford gives an equally picturesque and clever delineation of the snake charmer, Vashti; Miss Rose Routledge depicts, with many telling touches of pathos and with dramatic force, the part of Lela Vane, the heroine; Mr. Ernest A. Duval is a manly hero as Lieut. Derrick. The humorous business is in the hands of Miss Kitty Thomas, Miss Clara O'Grady, and Messrs. Edmund O'Grady and E. Fenton. Messrs. Victor Rae and A. W. Norman are capable exponents of minor parts.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here includes Kiaro, in his clever continetal speciality; C. H. Charlton, society conjurer; Hector and Sultan, knockabouts and smart dancers; Wallace Muirhead, tenor singer; M. and Mlle. Henris, an attractive couple of artists; Lambert and Robertson, in *Scots' Folks Wooing*; the Three Panamas, acrobats; and Carl Mysto.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesay, and Hardy's company is occupying the boards here this week with *A Soldier's Revenge*, a tale of the days of Cromwell. Mr. Harry Belding as Ironhand the Avenger gives an excellent embodiment; Mr. Robert Foules as Sir Marsden Mardyke, Mr. Howard Hardy as Mathew Mardyke, and Mr. Geo. Harvey as Shadrack Shadwell leave nothing to be desired in their respective parts; Miss Gertrude Gilman as Ruby Avondale plays a prominent part in the cast, as also does Miss Cecilia Crawford as Judith Shadwell, and the Betsy of Miss Annie Clunn is very good.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Roulledge.—The British Empire Photo and Variety Company continues to draw excellent houses here. *In Honour Bound* was presented on Friday night by the students of the Furness Academy of Dramatic Art.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The French troupe of acrobatic comedy cyclists top the bill, and prove a great success on this their first visit to Barrow; Fred Cary, eccentric comedian, is an exceedingly funny turn; the Bros. Obo are successful with new business; Katie Butler is as popular as ever; and Miss Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, wins much applause.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Hackenschmidt, the wonderful wrestler, has drawn enormous crowds with his remarkable performance; the Pender Troupe of pantomimists create roars of laughter with their absurdity, *Hands Up; or, The Bold, Bad Highwayman*; and Mr. Bert Woodward, "the cycling coon," has been accorded a splendid reception. Miss Alexandra Edwin is a delightful ballad vocalist; and the Stilt Walkers appear to great advantage in their funny speciality. Also appearing are Mr. Johnny Fuller, in his clever wire act; Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers; Mr. Frank Couch, local comedian; and the Palace pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The Howard Brothers have been most successful with their remarkably clever banjo performance, and are aptly described as "wizards with the flying banjos." A hearty reception has nightly been extended to the Casino Comedy Four, who delight all with their vocalism, while their comedy evokes much merriment; Duncan and Godfrey appear in their well-acted coster remance, *Me and 'Er*, which takes immensely; and Miss Maggie Rimmer is a charming comedienne and capital dansense; Mr. J. P. Ling appears in a mimetic monologue, his imitations being very realistic; and Mr. Chas. Craston is a droll comedian; Calile and Walker, a smart comedy duo; and the Bioscope, with new pictures, also contribute to the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Douns.—The great success of the dramatic season here continues, and on Monday a crowded audience greeted the production of *A Fiend of a Woman*. W. Hilliard Fox was a manly George Bevan, speaking his lines with the utmost effect; and the rôle of the heroine, Nelly Bevan, was cleverly interpreted by that talented emotional actress Miss Nina Blake-Adams. The villainies of Dr. Nicola were realistically enacted by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Miss Beryl Ravenswood, as Lady Aldin, gave a rendering of a difficult part. The humour of the piece was capitally sustained by Mr. Luke Forster (a big favourite here) as Billy Budge; and he was ably assisted by Miss Evelyn Marrable, a charming Patty Malone. Mr. Herbert Cecil deserves much commendation for his clever assumption of Harry Bevan; and other rôles were creditably sustained by Miss Ada Arnott, Messrs. A. Jones, Victor Gordon, and Cecil Ravenswood. The staging of the piece reflects much credit on Mr. Herbert Cecil.

BILSTON. — AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby.—The entertainments by the Imperial Pierrots are sailing merrily along. Gilroy, the ventriloquist, and Professor Arnold, the conjurer, are the latest arrivals, and please immensely. Miss Minnie Newman, soprano; Mr. Tom Griffiths, baritone; and Messrs. Syd Bazley and Alf Brookes, comedians, change their songs nightly. The programme also contains a laughable sketch, as well as the Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale and his capable company are doing big business here. On Monday an overflowing audience had the pleasure of witnessing a capital representation of *The Sleigh Bells*, Mr. Hoggan-Armadale giving a masterly rendering of Mathias; Mr. F. Wilberforce played Christian with force and acumen; Miss Georgina Wynter displayed charm and skill as Madame Mathias, whose daughter Annette was carefully played by Miss Violet Macaire; and the lighter portions of the piece were admirably sustained by Mr. David Beattie as Hermann and Mr. T. G. Westland as Fritz. Mr. Arthur Rose rendered excellent service, and the remaining parts were in able hands. The time-honoured farce *Box and Cox* served as a curtain-raiser. On subsequent evenings *The Vicar of Wakefield*, *David Garrick*, and *The Lady of Lyons* have been played.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A decided novelty has a prominent place in the programme in the appearance of D'Arc's marionettes, which are certainly a revelation in the way of skilful manipulation. The Wakeman Quartette of Vocalists, including Miss Nancy Bruce, Mr. Charles Wakeman, Mr. Herbert Watts, and Mr. George Winden, are an acquisition, and the Korries furnish an attractive turn; Mr. George French is a versatile comedian; and other artists include Miss Ida Brophy soubrette; Craig, Roze, and Craig, in an imposing gymnastic display; Ray and Mills, eccentric jugglers; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Woman's Redemption* has been played here with excellent results by Mr. James Hare and company. Mr. Hare himself does admirable work as the Hon. Bernard Sutcliffe; Miss Irene Clifford as Ruth wins a high meed of praise and sympathy by means of her skilled acting; Mr. Percy Brown is eulogised and cheered for his manly presentment of the young cleric, John Ganthony; Miss Ethel Bracewell in a fresh and winning manner portrays the heroine, Mary Griffiths, and Mr. Albert H. Clarke personates the farmer, Reuben Griffiths, with marked success; Mr. Herbert M. King suggests the character of the ne'er-do-well in telling style; Mr. Joe Bracewell is a great favourite as the Shakespeare-quoting Leonatus Lowe, supported by Miss Jenny Hallworth as Sally Slaccaby; and Master Freddie Bentley as Claudius Lowe contributes cleverly to this engrossing and excellently staged play.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks continue in possession, and this week introduce many fresh additions. Mme. Constance Bellamy has added to the enjoyment and success of the programme with her beautiful rendering of old English ballads; Mr. Freddie Marston, a clever comedian with a capital voice, is another great favourite; and Miss Elsie Marston has won favour with her brightly-rendered songs; the Sisters Bathurst, Clarence Turner and Mollie Revell, Kine and Kirby, F. L. Levey, and an entirely new selection of electric animated pictures have also attracted much attention and praise. Friday night was set apart for the benefit of Freddie Marston.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Darkness*, which is a cleverly dramatised version of Guy Thorne's famous novel, "When it was Dark," has been represented here to large houses by Mrs. Morton Powell's company. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee by his finished acting brings the rôle of the Rev. Basile Gortre into speedy favour; Mr. Ernest Griffin presents the character of the millionaire, Schwabe, in an intensely dramatic and fascinating manner; Mr. Edward Valentine is likewise excellent in the part of Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Louis Lingard plays the rôle of the newspaper correspondent, Harold Spense, with real *aplomb*; and Mr. Henry Heller as the Rev. Mr. Byars is well suited. Mrs. Morton Powell is excellent as Helena Byars; Miss Laura Walker is eminently successful as Gertrude Hunt, and Mr. Millar Wilson in his cleverly humorous rôle of Gayfly, Miss Nellie Freeland as Gracie Goldeye, and others prove of exceptional merit.

BOTANICAL GARDENS, EDGBASTON.—Mr. Patrick Kirwan's company of idyllic players gave here on Monday and Tuesday pastoral performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Mr. Kirwan and his company are new to Birmingham, but their performance at once ensured their popularity. As Bottom, Mr. Kirwan acted with much unction, and his associates, Messrs. George Hawtrey, John Kelt, E. G. Venning, J. M. Napper, and St. Clair imbued the scenes with humour appropriate to the comedy. A charming Oberon was revealed in Miss Phyllis Relph; Miss Josephine Arthur was vocally and histrionically successful as the Fairy Queen, and Miss Barbara Guthrie's Puck was a notable embodiment. Mr. Douglas Alington as Theseus, Miss Elizabeth Holt as Hippolyta, Mr. Frank Ellison as Lysander, Mr. Gerald Saffrey as Demetrius, Miss Jessie Stanton as Hermia, and Miss Dorothy Milne as Helena acted in good style, and the lyrics were given full expression.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Ernest Shand heads an excellent programme here, which is attracting large audiences. The patter of this quaint comedian is exceedingly funny. Lockhart's elephants, presented by Capt. Taylor, are paying a return visit; while the absurd attitudes of Lady Julia, an ape, are most amusing; Francis displays much skill with cannon balls; Bessie Butt is an attractive soubrette; and other popular turns are J. Alexandra and company in a sketch; the Jagos, duettists, dancers, and baton manipulators; Walton and Lester, burlesque wizards; and the Mackweys Trio, in a wire act.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Tom Edwards, Birmingham's popular ventriloquist, presents his entertainment to appreciative houses; the Trapnell Family, in their clever acrobatic display, are loudly applauded; and the Two Errolls have a smart leaping act; the Arthur Lloyd Trio are amusing in their sketch; Les Belles Americaines sing and dance themselves into favour; as also does Annie Laurie; the excellent singing of Lade Henderson is loudly applauded; Charles Mildare and Minnie D'Aubyn are also in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The popular attraction here is Little Tich, who is entertaining crowded houses. He has some new songs which "catch on," and are repeatedly encored; Cyril Carle gives an effective rendering of Charles Godfrey's song, "Dreams"; Bert Brantford, the Harlem Brothers, Jack and Evelyn, Will Godwin, Evelyn Taylor, and Margaret Agnes all come in for a good share of applause.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company are presenting the sketch, *The Orange Girl*, which is played and staged with much excellence; Miss Elsworthy making an ideal Nell Gwynne. Belloni's Cockatoos are both clever and amusing; Binns and Binns have a smart comedy musical act; Ernest Tilbury and Harry Weldon, in a burlesque on coon songs, are both applauded; and another popular turn is supplied by Alcide Capitaine.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce*, continues its visit for another week. Miss Edith Cole is as successful as ever in the part of Josephine, and Mr. Fredk. Moyes makes the most of Napoleon. Miss Elizabeth Watson very ably plays the part of Marie Louise, and the other parts are equally well placed.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. F. Sergenson.—The lively musical comedy *Sergeant Brue, of the C Division*, is being played here this week by Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company. A good house attended on Monday to give the piece, with its sparkling music and abundant humour, a good welcome. Mr. Arthur Reynolds, as Sergeant Brue, is the life and soul of the evening; Miss Hebe Bliss is charming and appreciated as Lady Bickenhall; whilst Mr. Charles McHagan makes the most of Crookie Scrubbs. Mr. Cecil Burt, Mr. E. Percy Rogers, and Miss Mary Hay are all good in their respective parts. The singing and mounting are well above the average.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Harry Lauder retains his position at the top of the bill for another week, and his reception is as enthusiastic as ever. Charlene and Charlene, the clever jugglers, are here again; Haig and Novel, in their acrobatic comedy act; Jake Friedman, the one-man opera; Sterling and Love, in a comedy, *A Domestic Musical Squabble*; Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians; Rebla, the comedy juggler; Terry and Bentley, comedy duo; and the Palace pictures make up a good programme.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—Miss Billie Barlow, with her up-to-date songs, is on top of a good programme here; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery are seen in their funny skit, *The Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama*. Other capital turns are provided by Miss Elsie Barle, comedienne; Martine and Son, singing picture artists; Four Jumels, in a musical act; the Redferns (Rubie and Elsie), banjoists, vocalists and dancers; Violas, the White Mahatmas; Mark Ollive, in a whistling scena, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry; Mlle. de Rose, the lady Foli; MacBunker, the mountebank; Ford and Hanson, American musical millionaires; J. V. Hawtry, actor-vocalist, and the Royal Bioscope.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—The new ballet, *In Sunny Spain; or The Troubles of a Tourist*, is now in full swing, and being greatly appreciated. In addition, Horace Goldin is mystifying the audience with his clever illusions, and a capital programme is made up of Dr. Jules Angelos's Tableaux Vivants; New York Comedy Four, singing comedians; the Family Balagner, acrobats; Scala Girls, vocalists and dancers; Castillian serenaders; Mlle. Lotezina, in her clever trapeze act; and the Graphoscope.

TOWER CIRCUS. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—A capital list of artists are entertaining the patrons of the popular "Circus." They are: Kellinos, acrobats; Family C. Lecussons, exposition of horsemanship; Marosso, American jockey; Duncan's troupe of dogs; Musical Johnstons; Paul Conchas, who juggles with real Krupp and shrapnel shells; Willie Hale, globe expert and hoop manipulator; Klein Family, acrobats and musical cylists; August and September, comedy boys; the Novellos, in an equilibristic act; and the Finneys, champion swimmers.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—*The Gamester of Metz* is here this week and is being admirably presented by a company under the direction of Mr. Charles March (the author), who himself appears with marked success as Paul Baldot; Captain Bedaire has an excellent exponent in Mr. John B. Murray, and the part of General de Montparasse is well placed with Mr. Fred Aldworth. Miss Eva Lyndhurst sustains effectively the character of Paul's mother, the Countess Baldot. Other principal characters are well taken by Messrs. W. G. Dudeney, Wilfred Protheroe, Montagu Corri, P. Wentworth, W. A. Brayne, and Misses Una Lane and Cissie Haighton.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Chung Ling Soo is the principal attraction here this week, and his marvellous sleight of hand causes much wonderment; the Brothers Dean give a neat exhibition of step dancing; Ernest Montefiore and company appear in a dramatic scena, *The Little Colonel*, in which not the least pleasing item is the singing of Miss Lilian Rose; F. V. St. Clair gets a big reception for his topical songs; Will Van Allen, the tramp musician, plays the banjo with great skill; Mark Leslie, coon comedian and dancer. Three Prestons, in their absurdity *The Liftman's Rise*; and Chas. Sloman, comedian, are also included in the programme.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Geo. Saphrini.—The native choir from Jamaica, who are touring under the direction of Messrs. Jones and Douglas, commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. Their initial performance drew a crowded and enthusiastic audience. It is impossible to imagine anything more picturesque and dramatic than their rendering of the "Folk" songs of Jamaica in native dress; Mr. Drysdale's beautiful tenor voice was heard to advantage in "Good Night, Beloved"; Mr. J. Pacter Ramsay, bass vocalist, was well received; Mr. Nation was recalled for his pianoforte selection.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—The revival of the late Dion Boucicault's famous drama *The Octoroon* is interesting large audiences here this week, and Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company combines admirably in portraying the thrilling incidents reminiscent of the days of slavery. The fiendish Jacob M'Closky is a powerfully sustained effort on the part of Mr. J. O. Stewart, who makes the character sufficiently repulsive. Salem Scudder, the overseer, has an able exponent in Mr. Hugh Montgomery, who scores in the part. Mr. W. G. Clements is good as the captain of the "Magnolia" steamer, and the Auctioneer is capitally played by Mr. F. M. Thorne. Miss Leslie Warner in the title-rôle wins sympathy. Pete is humorously played by Mr. Harry Howe; Mr. H. Earlsmere fills the part of George Peyton satisfactorily, and excellent work is done in the minor rôles by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Mr. Phil Harper, Miss Maud Russell, Miss Marie Harcourt, and Miss Florence Thorne. Much of the new scenery, painted by Mr. E. Egerton of Bradford, is artistic and effective.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. Harry Tate is here this week with his funny sketch *Fishing* providing hilarious fun; J. W. Rickaby with his quaint comedy elicits much laughter; the Northern Troupe of Dancers reappear with their accustomed success; a very fine and picturesque entertainment is submitted by the Sutcliffe Family, Scotch pipers, dancers, and smart acrobats; in her usual bright and animated style Lily Langtry submits a song and dance; Guy Ryder is an accomplished sifleur who scores well; with their wind instruments and capital comedy the Warsaw Brothers are very entertaining; Rezene and Robini, droll as ever, are on a return visit; Tom Woottwell provides a capital comedy turn which wins favour, and there are some highly diverting films shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—An entertaining turn in singing and dancing is submitted by McDonald and Huntingdon, and Leah Arden renders operatic ballads with skill and taste. In their humorous burlesque business Fields and Lewis are entertaining. Excellent character comedy is provided by Hyram Travers, Osborne and Brookes present an exceedingly humorous musical comedy sketch cleverly. In her descriptive songs Millie Denham is graceful and successful. The duets submitted by Belrose and De Velin meet with warm marks of appreciation. In their Irish absurdity *Bridget's Idea* Dick Cruickshank and company provoke much laughter. Excellent contributions to the programme are the finely illustrated songs of Miss Gertie Moore; and some entertaining films are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—Mabel Sinclair, the lady ventriloquist, is a distinct acquisition to the smart company this week at this resort.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—An enormous audience assembled in the Grand Pavilion on Monday. Mr. Flockton-Forster and his company met with a hearty reception, and their programme was a capital one, the various songs and concerted numbers being capitally rendered. A clever sketch, *The Secret*, gave the members of the company an opportunity of showing their versatility. Mr. Le Butt as Captain Vallare and Miss Eileen Hope as Madame Vallare were at home in their well-played characters; Mr. Flockton-Forster as Mr. Greenwood, gave a most amusing rendering of the part, and was capably supported by Miss E. Lonsdale as Miss Greenwood; and Mr. A. Richardson was very laughable as the butler. In the Floral Pavilion Mr. Elliston Webb is the vocalist at the promenade concerts, and his powerful tenor voice is heard to advantage in some of the old English songs. Herr Maurice is also a great attraction at Herr Sigmund Winternitz's concerts, his finely executed pianoforte solos being always re-demanded. Mr. Emmerson's Loyal Dominion Picture company is showing a very fine series of animated pictures in the Grand Pavilion, the series of colour pictures including a very fine set, "The Butterfly's revenge" being especially brilliant; and Mr. Palmer, the general-manager of the Royal Prince's Parade, is evidently quite hitting the taste of the visitors by the show he is giving them in this new attraction.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Band are giving special promenade concerts this week. The vocalists are Mr. Dan Billington, the popular baritone, and Mr. D. J. Jones, a good tenor. Mr. Foden Williams has been delightful in his humorous entertainments. Mr. Sydney James's strolling players have with them this week that excellent dancer and soloist, Miss Madeline Rossiter, who is such a favourite with the Spa audiences.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—Miss Frances Haskoll is the star of the programme with her rendering of ditties in the illustrated song series; Gall and Frank St. John continue their success in their well-rendered musical entertainment and clever dances; Bruce and Ross, in comedy duologues; the Royal Temple Trio, vocalists; the "Vocal Chameleon," a transformation mystery; and Mr. Hubner's animated pictures make up a big evening's programme. The Palace Pierrots in the gardens give some excellent entertainments each afternoon.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company opened here on Monday with *The Prodigal Parson*, and has been doing good business. Mr. W. V. Garrod submitted a masterly enactment of the Rev. Tom Godley, whose wife was represented by Miss Bertha Kingston with great feeling and artistic finish. Mr. Alfred Northway achieved distinct success with his forcible and convincing impersonation of Enoch Jaggins, and Mr. Frank Dallas was highly effective as Ben. The comedy element was admirably sustained by Mr. Percy Dawsone as Phil Drive, and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen Von Crans; and the remaining characters were satisfactorily rendered.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a first-class company here this week. Alec Hurley and his coster comedians win hearty applause for their admirable performance of *The Coster's Friendly Lead*, in which Alec Hurley is very prominent as the chairman, "thick-eared Jim"; the Three Amaranths, Continental acrobatic dancers, contribute a series of delightful and clever dances in splendid style; Sam Mayo, a prime favourite, is enthusiastically received in his latest successes; Griff, in a new and original act entitled *The Clown in Apartments*, is as entertaining as ever; Tennyson and Wallis are very amusing comedians; Dick Williams scores heavily with his cleverly executed banjo solos; George Antill is an eccentric comedian; Dorothy Vane is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Alhambrascope pictures are, as usual, highly interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. Maidie Scott, "just a comedienne," evokes great enthusiasm by the winsome and delightful manner in which she renders her quaintly humorous songs; Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker are charmingly effective in their unique novelty in music and song; the Four Athos, original ball manipulators and novelty acrobats, are decidedly clever; Leonard Russell, baritone vocalist, is well received; the Lyons Trio, pantomimists, submit a very amusing turn; Lily Lena, comedienne, is vivacious, and vocally very effective; Charles Vincent, comedian, sings a capital medley of popular songs; Bijou Russell, coon singer and sand dancer, merits warm praise; the Donaldson Brothers and Ardel are seen to advantage in their original and laughter-provoking pantomimical speciality entitled *A Zoological Comedy*; Nora Emerald, soubrette and dancer, is a dainty and winsome artist; W. B. Raby is a quaint comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here this week with the delightful play *Sunday*. Miss Emélie Polini sustains the title-rôle with charming ingenuousness and vivacity; Mr. Leonard Pagden gives a very fine impersonation of Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. G. Wallace Johnson makes the most of his few opportunities as Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas presents a capital character sketch as Tom Oxley; Miss Aimée Murray is a dignified Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Muriel Pope is earnest and impressive as the nun. Admirable portrayals of Sunday's Wild West friends, Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, are given by Messrs. William Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walter, and Arthur Vezin respectively.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's mysteries are attracting crowded and delighted audiences here this week. Mr. Maskelyne submits inimitable feats of dexterity. The magical farce, *Doctor Hardley's Experiment*, is irresistibly funny. Mr. David Devant, assisted by Miss Dora Devant, is highly successful in *Mental Magnetism*, while his illusions in *The Problem of Diogenes* are bewildering and astonishing. Mr. John Warren introduces his magic kettle, and is effective in *The Burmese Gong*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Kardoc, the jail-breaker and handcuff king, is a great attraction here, and performs some astonishing feats; Madame Rosini's toy menagerie is also a popular turn; and others who contribute to the entertainment are Harry Keeble, versatile character comedian; Gipsy Ann, and her famous fortune-telling dog Rosie; Miss Minnie Letta's Sporting Girls, who repeat their refined performance; and the Majors, who are also re-engaged.

DEVIL'S DYKE.—Proprietress, Mrs. M. Barrasford.—A singing competition held here on Tuesday afternoon attracted sixteen entrants. The prize offered by Mrs. Barrasford was a gold medal and a week's salaried engagement in London. The three judges failed to arrive at a definite decision, though they intimated that Mr. George Hide and Miss A. Taylor were first and second respectively in the afternoon's competition. All the singers will be given an opportunity of competing again next Tuesday afternoon.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening, attracted by the well-known Irish drama, *The Shaughraun*, which was well staged and capitally played by Mr. Ernest Carpenter's company. Conn had an excellent exponent in Mr. George H. Asquin; Mr. Ronald Adair was highly satisfactory as Captain Molineux; Mr. Marmaduke Wetherell acted expressively as Robert Ffolliott; Mr. H. C. Lanceley made a good part of Father Doolan; and both Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers and Mr. Louis Palgrave displayed power and consistency in the rôles of Corry Kinchela and Harvey Duff. Arte O'Neale and Claire Ffolliott were both rendered in pleasing and artistic style by Miss Lydia Mannington and Miss Daisy Halling; Miss Lottie Wentworth was amusing as Mrs. O'Kelly; and Miss Lucy Murray was delightfully vivacious and attractive as Moya, her scenes with Conn going capitally.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Wizard Stone and Irene Stone are here with their sensational motor cycle act, "The Globe of Life," in a huge steel cage sphere, the act being both daring and effective. The Bouncing Dillions (Willie and Hilda) do a smart act, and prizes are offered to amateur competitors; Fred Collins, Scotch comedian, has some amusing songs; Evie Hamilton, soubrette, dances in good style; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian and dancer, obtains considerable applause; Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell amuse with their speciality scena, *The Belle of Arizona*; the Fordyces (Jenny and Willie) are promising juvenile song and dance artists; Queen Le Brun and company have a smart sketch, *The Cockney Huntsman*; and some excellent animated pictures are projected by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Nellie Wallace, low-comedy artist, heads the programme here; she has some capital songs, which are rendered in amusing style, and justly obtain appreciation by all parts of the house; Germaine, American wizard, is very expert in sleight-of-hand and other mystical acts; the Dunlops provide a good acrobatic and balancing act; Freeman and Tench have a smart comedy duologue, "The Broken Honeymoon"; Bishop and Hanlon, eccentric comedians, &c., obtain considerable applause; May Marton, comedienne, is both pleasing and tuneful; W. H. Downe, coloured vocalist, has a nice tenor voice, which he uses to advantage in pretty and well-selected songs; Gertie Gitana scores with her vocal scena, *The Schoolgirl's Holiday*; and Ted Cowan, comedian, obtains applause for his comic songs. The performance concludes with a good selection of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Plenty of fun is provided this week, and on Monday a good house appeared well pleased with the efforts of the artists in the new musical, farcical absurdity, *Lucky Liza* (by Fred Locke). The title rôle has an excellent exponent in Miss Madge Brownie, whose singing and dancing gave much pleasure; the two crusty old lawyers, Peter Pettitoe and Barnaby Blatherwick, are respectively played by Mr. James Chippendale and Mr. A. W. Thompson very cleverly, and arouse much laughter. Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim is full of fun; Mr. Leonard Maitland gives a clever study of a dude as Paul Pettitoe; Miss Belle Russell as Marie Pettitoe and Miss Madge Locke as Virginia Blatherwick are charming; Mr. Dan Ryan is a funny William Biffins; and the support by Mr. George Minto, Mr. James Quinn, and Mr. Bert Collins is cleverly given. The Astor trio of lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers add much to the success of the performances.

BURY (LANCS.).—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The entertainment here this week consists of cinématograph pictures, showing the fight for the boxing championship of the world between Jimmy Britt and Battling Nelson. Other turns are given by Maria Gibson, soprano; and Kid Gwynn, American ball-puncher.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. Edward Morris and company in *The Dandy Doctor*. This musical absurdity drew capital and appreciative houses, and was excellently put on. Mr. Edward Morris is a host in himself as the many-sided Melchisadeck Brown; and Mr. Herbert Pearce was admirably cast as Colonel Pendred. Mr. E. H. Bertram very ably impersonated Arthur Vandyke; and Mr. Leslie Martin was particularly good as the young doctor's locum tenens. Quite the lion's share of the laughter-making fell to the lot of Miss Florence Smithers as the Jane, the maid of all work, Miss Smithers keeping the house in roars of laughter. Miss Elfie Vincent was a charming Ivy Pendred; and the smaller parts were all admirably played. The dresses and staging were beyond reproach.

CARDIFF. — KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, King's Theatre, Cardiff, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—A thrilling drama, founded on the French Revolution, entitled *The Throne of Terror*, is presented this week by a powerful company of artists. Mr. W. J. Miller gives a vivid portraiture of the incorruptible tyrant, Robespierre, and Miss Katherine Maude Davies is charmingly realistic as Marguerite de Roquefort. Count de Roquefort, one of the old régime, could not have been placed in better hands than Mr. Frank Fuller, and Mr. Roy Milton is excellent as the patriotic Eugène de Lisle. Miss Ethel Lanyon-Maude as

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The masculine gender is responsible for all the turns this week, and the programme is a capital one. Chas. Morritt, with his mysteries and illusions, accentuated by his very happy manner of execution, is an extremely popular turn. Max Duffek, the Teutonic contortionist, with a series of clever musical introductions, is greatly applauded; whilst an item which is causing a deal of interest is the Blind Memory Man, nightly bombarded with queries, which he answers with wonderful exactitude. The Cribb Trio cause endless amusement; and Clive Watts is a marvellously clever dancer. Master Louis Victor, the boy comedian, affords a striking instance of juvenile adaptability; and the Bioscopic turn, which vividly portrays the holocaust of San Francisco, is most instructive.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here in the drama entitled *An Abandoned Woman*. Miss Georgette Thierry gives an admirable embodiment of the part of Ninon Malvoisin, and is ably supported by Mr. Bernard J. Leill as Phillipi; Mr. Wolston Foster gives an able rendering of the fearless Captain Herbert Seaton; and whose wife is well played by Mrs. Harry Foxwell. Mr. Harry Foxwell ably portrays the character of Robert Sanders. The humorous element is in the capable hands of Mr. Will Percy (Paddy Boyle), Mr. Darcy Kelway (Sammy Sharp), and Miss Lily Beverley as Sally Sloper.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—The turns here include: Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubin, who appear in a charming musical comedy duologue; the Three Sisters Sprightly, comediennes, are well received; Victor Travis is an excellent comedian; Williams and Warden are also first-class comedians; Miss Beatie Worth is a character and descriptive vocalist; the Four Hearnes give a capital acrobatic turn; and Sam Sharpley is an acceptable comedian. The usual set of animated pictures concludes the performance.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—*Her One Great Sin* is admirably mounted at the Royal this week. Mr. Sam Arthur is creditable as Ruben Warhurst; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson is efficient in the part of Arnold Thornhill; Mr. Fred Leicester acts with ability as Jerry Jumble; Mr. Harold B. Ford is a life-like Jack Humble; Mr. J. Nela is adequate as Mr. Benton; and Mr. F. Morton Wright praiseworthy as Ben Barkley. Miss Phyllis Damian is interesting as Charlie; Miss Louie Walton is good in the rôle of Bet Hundle; Miss Nellie Lambert makes the most of Nancy Winpenny; Miss Blanche St. Albans gives a faithful rendering of Grace Warhurst; and Miss Maudie Lambert is expressive as Little Gracie.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The attractions here are enjoyable. Harry Tate, in *Motoring*, is funny; Dale and O'Malley are whimsical comedians; the Daunton Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists bring down the house; the Astley company as the Musical Farmers are droll and clever; Bert Williams is a talented ventriloquist; the Twin Sisters Anderson are untiring dancers; Maude Nelson is a pleasing character and burlesque actress; Lillian Alfreda is a genuine mimic: and much hilarity is caused by the Thirty Midget Mimes in the sketch, *Casey's Court*.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—A variety company, under the joint direction of Mr. Leo. Dryden and Miss Ada Colley, is drawing crowded houses here this week. Madame Ada Colley, the Australian prima donna, evokes great admiration for her brilliant singing, which is listened to with rapt attention, and applauded with enthusiasm. A vocal actor of undoubted excellence, gifted in the art of touching the emotions of his hearers, Mr. Leo Dryden proves an immediate favourite with his songs, "Bachelor Boys" and "The Only Way," in which he appears as the heroic Sydney Carton. The Arizona Troupe cause great interest with their exhibition as jugglers, acrobats, and contortionists. Lytton and Bland, serio comedienne and dialect comedian, figure in an amusing sketch. Mr. Ed. E. Ford creates amusement with his "Australian Sundower" and his mimicry of a would-be member of Parliament. Mike Johnson (the famous Dutch comedian), Miss Nancy Renshaw (a coloured comedienne), whose blithe singing and skill with the "bones" elicited much praise, and Will Percival (champion pedestal dancer), were other artists who contributed most usefully to the programme, which was completed with a laughable Australian after-piece, *The Indian*.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Grand Theatre Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. Silvaunus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company is appearing here this week in Mr. Alfred Sutro's society drama *The Walls of Jericho*. Miss Florence Jackson was quite suited to the rôle of Lady Alethea Frobisher, and the applause which greeted her efforts was well reserved. The Jack Frobisher of Mr. Herbert Bunston was a resolute performance, and he spoke his lines with point. Mr. George A. Brandram was excellent as Hankey Bannister. The Marquis of Steventon was a Thackerayan portrait, as presented by Mr. Cyril Baleine. Lord Drayton, well played by Mr. Alexander Cassy, was a material help in strengthening the situation. Miss Molly Carton was suitably placed as Lucy Dersingham. Other characters were admirably played by the members of the company, of which Mr. George D. Day is the general manager. The scenery and effects were all that could be desired.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. C. P. Levelly's company is appearing at this theatre in the celebrated comic opera *La Poupée*, and the houses have been good. Miss Stella Gastelle appears as Alesia, the Doll, and is as successful as ever; her acting, dancing, and singing are alike delightful. The Hilarius of Mr. Wm. Powell is very funny. Mr. Manfred Russell sings nicely as Launcelot; Mr. Frederick Hobbs acts with sincerity as Father Maxime; Mr. Arthur Dennis, a resourceful actor, does well as Loremois; Mr. Fred Seymour enhances the laughter by his delineation of the Baron Chanterelle; Miss Avis Grahame looks well as Madame Hilarius, and plays with point; the Henri of Miss Kitty Cavendish is piquant, and this bright actress makes the most of her few opportunities. Other characters are well sustained by Messrs. Vernon Reed, J. Davis, Aubrey Carr, F. E. Tongs, Ernest Watts; and Mesdames Mabel Fairchild, Florence Wynn, Rose Lytton, Pearl Vivian, Edie Oakes, Adelaide Burgon, and Lola Trevor. The full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Harry Rushworth, and Mr. Herbert Ralland controls.

PALACE, LTD.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox; Junior Business-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The attendance at the Palace recently has been phenomenal. The bright particular star is again Mr. R. A. Roberts in *Lucinda's Elopement* and *Ringing the Changes*, two bright playlets which display this protean artist to the finest advantage; Miss Esta Stella, in her scena, is much applauded; Ernesto is a smart juggler and equilibrist; Stelling and Revell, comedy horizontal bar artists, are quaint and clever; the Wedburns are past masters in the art of up-to-date patter, and excite laughter; the Bohemians present a pleasant show; Mr. Alf. Gibson gains his end, which is merriment, by means entirely legitimate. Dancing in the ball-room goes on from 7.30 until 11 without cessation; Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra provides the music. Vernon's Bioscope presents pictures quite up to date. A Fancy Dress Carnival was held on Wednesday.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—The programme this week is full of attraction. Miss Lil Hawthorne repeats her last week's success, which was very great; Mr. Jack Lorimer puts forward new japes and fresh storiettes; Miss Texas Hattie, a new turn, is an agile and daring tight-rope artist, and is well received; the Lavelle Brothers introduce a clever acrobatic act; the Bohemians have a novel and refined interlude; the Bioscope has many admirers; Messrs. Frank and Jen Latona, with their musical exhibitions, secure sincere admiration. Dancing in the ball-room has a good following. This week a dancing competition, in the new dance, the Lansdowne, has brought a large number of entries; valuable prizes are given. The picture galleries and lounge, with a full licence, are thronged.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The attendance at this, the children's palace of delight, has been very gratifying to the management since its re-opening. The programme has been received with enthusiasm. Captain Maximilian Grubber and his performing animals—pony horse, and elephant—present an act which the little ones cordially appreciate; all these quadrupeds are well trained, but the one which Rudyard Kipling's Mulraney called Mr. Double Ends is the favourite; and when he picks up his master with his trunk, and carries him out of the ring, the laughter is uproarious; the Lynch's give some pleasing ballads, illustrated by animated pictures; Dan Gregory and his fellow mimes have evolved new jokes, and all the turns are interesting to Mr. F. J. Connor's constituents.

BUXTON'S.—Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots and Tea Village have drawn an enormous concourse of people three times a day this week. The songs are constantly changing, new business is introduced, and original sketches put forward. As an additional attraction, Guiseppe Saggo, the celebrated fasting man, commenced, on Tuesday, a fast of forty days.

NEW EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Elderton; General-Manager, Mr. Elwyn Walter.—A smart variety company occupies the boards of this bright little playhouse presenting two shows nightly. Mr. Harry Bent is entertaining in a monologue, entitled *A Peep into the Music Halls*; in this sketch his imitations of well-known stars of the variety stage are realistic. Cambo, the man monkey, gives a weird turn; Professor Milne, the Scotch ventriloquist, makes a hit. The double-voiced vocalist, John Ross, Carlotta Lunn, and the Sisters Vere make up a programme that visitors like.

Mr. Charles Davis's Minstrels attract thousands to Douglas Head with their burnt cork comicalities.

Mr. Montgomery's troupe of pierrots, who occupy the band stand on the promenade morning and afternoon, are quite public favourites; their entertainment is clever and refined.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The attraction here this week is Arthur Roberts and company in their sketch, *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*, which keeps the audience convulsed with laughter from start to finish; Burnetti and Corrie, comedy jugglers, do an excellent and amusing turn; and Miniature Marie is a charming mimic of noted music hall artists; Luis Hardt does some remarkable feats of strength, which merits applause; and Miss Helen Charles is a clever and refined artist; the Royal Six, lady cyclists, vocalists, and dancers, meet with a cordial reception; and the Holloways score successfully in an acrobatic wire act; an exceedingly graceful bending and twisting performance is given by Mlle. Nadje and F. De Marce's equestrian novelty; and the Royal pictures complete an enjoyable programme.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—The boards here are occupied this week by Mr. Carr Loates's company in the musical comedy drama *At the World's Mercy*. The part of Captain Frank Manley is ably depicted by Mr. W. G. Irving; and Miss Isabel Singleton effectively portrays the rôle of Alice Lloyd; the unscrupulous villainy of Morris Goldstein is strongly portrayed by Mr. Carr Loates, whose partner in crime finds an able exponent in Mr. Arthur L. Reed as Jabez Barber; there is plenty of humour interspersed, led by Mr. Evan Gibbon as Charlie Smart, who receives able support from Miss Cissie Milford as Kitty Knott; the rôle of Dot is played in a praiseworthy manner by Little Daisy, and Mr. Leo Rodway makes the most of the part of Slouching Sam; Miss Molly Bee is clever and amusing as Skittles; and Miss Jennie Gilmour is satisfactory as Mrs. Rouke.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Bacon.—The Drolls commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, and met with a flattering reception. The artists include Miss Dorothy Carr, Mr. Broughton Black, Miss Essie Prenton, Mr. Harry Pegg Carr, Miss Phyllis Beadon, and Mr. Herbert Fordwych, who all contribute successfully to the excellent programme provided.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The Boissett's combination of comedians hold premier position here this week with *The Bricklayers*, which has aroused great laughter. Ida Lorrimer gives a delightful turn; her songs are given in a clever and artistic style; Will Mitcham acquits himself well as a musical comedian; Felina and Grattan are a smart pair of comedy artists; and Kathleen Coogan is a lively comedienne and sprightly dancer. A clever and interesting exhibition of animal training is given by Claire Beasey's cats; and Maud Ross, comedienne, is much in demand for her songs. Arthur Gill, mimic, is immensely popular, and the Empire pictures are up to the usual standard.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Tom Foy and company in their laughable sketch *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, head the bill here this week, and repeat their former success; the Sisters Transfield contribute an exceptionally good musical turn; and Will Bell is a comedian and dancer of no mean order; the Five Foys, acrobatic absurdity, *The Excursion Depôt*, is highly amusing; and the Greys, operatic vocalists, score successfully. A mysterious illusion act, *The Shrine of Isbar*, presented by the Chaldean Yogi Simbri, elicits applause, as does also the refined speciality act of Gold and Stirling; the Sisters Brooke are pleasing comediennes and dancers, and J. W. North is a capital comedian. The Bioscope pictures are up-to-date.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company here includes:—Walter Roselle, ventriloquist; Little Dandy, character comedian; Nancy Lil, contralto vocalist; and Martin Melia, clog dancer.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here:—Professor Capiba, living marionettes; George Carlton, comedian and dancer; Kitty More, comedienne; Ted Seymour, vocalist; and Lucy Bartle, burlesque artist.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Two capital houses assembled here on Monday evening, and every turn met with warmest approval. Topliners are the Sextett Serenaders, who appear in their neatly constructed scena *Naples by Night*, the scenery and dresses of which are both elaborate and pleasing. Theodore Jones and company score heavily in *Jack Sheppard; or The Burglary at the Grange*. Mrs. R. A. P. Williams, the talented wife of the genial lessee, sings "Waltz me round again, Willie," the song that sent New York crazy, and Dundee has emulated New York's example. Tom Garland is as smart a ventriloquist as has appeared here for some time, while Anderson's smart conjuring turn is much enhanced by his clever patter. Alice Townsend gets a flattering reception, her medley of popular songs being very enjoyable. Charles Howard and Fred Burnard, comedians, are warm favourites. Little Beano causes much laughter with his Mechanical Donkey, and the two Clarks give a marvellous performance on the rolling globe. The Bioscope, with a series of new pictures, brings the entertainment to a close.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. Edward Neville's company is appearing here this week in *The Anarchist Terror* and *The Sorrows of Satan*. The first-named was presented on Monday evening, Mr. W. H. Wilson impersonating Ravagoon, the anarchist, in a very creditable manner. As Washington Goldstraw, a Chicago millionaire, Mr. John Turner played well; and as Columbia, his daughter, Miss Rose Neville acted with grace and sweetness. As Micky Doolan, a rollicking Irish sailor, Mr. Edward Neville proved very amusing.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mr. Jerrard Grant-Allen's company is appearing here in *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion provides a great many laughs as Archibald Rennick; Mr. A. Corney Grain does capital work as Doctor Candy; Mr. Barrington Logan is an effectively insinuating Felix Roach; Mr. Harold Weston is an excellent de Brizac; and Mr. Stanley Logan is a hearty and brisk Bullock; Miss Catherine Harrington makes a handsome and clever Mrs. Rennick; Miss Margaret Fairleigh is a bright and attractive Nancy Roach; and Miss Sybil Brooke acts appropriately Susan. *The Borrowed Uncle* precedes and is well played by Miss M. Fairleigh, and Messrs. L. M. Lion, H. Weston, and A. Corney Grain.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is appearing here in *Charley's Aunt*, and the hearty laughter from a big house on Tuesday evening proved conclusively that the famous comedy has lost none of its power to excite mirth. Mr. Stanley Cooke, a tried exponent of the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley, is a host in himself, and the chief success of the evening is undoubtedly his; Mr. C. B. Keston is a refined Colonel Chesney; Mr. Walter Beaumont is an enthusiastic Spettigue; Mr. Hastings Lynn is a distinct and pleasing Jack Chesney; Mr. Richard B. Mason is satisfactory as Charley; and Mr. Sydney Compton has an effective style as Brassett; Miss Lena McNaughton, a lady of fine and handsome presence, makes a most effective Donna Lucia; Miss Gladys Storey is a dainty Ela; and Miss Marion Ripley and Miss Dorothy Deacon are attractive representatives of Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—A capital variety programme is being offered here this week, and good houses have been the rule. A most popular number is the novel musical fantasy entitled *Concordia*, which is a decided success. The scene is most elaborate and very pretty, and the costumes are rich and handsome. In addition to his unrivalled powers as a concertina player, Mr. Percy Henri has a fine voice, and his changes are carried out with surprising smartness. He is assisted by clever ladies and gentlemen, and the whole act is worthy of the highest praise. Miss Marie Santoi and her Japs have a dainty "set," and very pleasing singing and dancing are introduced. Gregson and Goodfellow, a lady and gentleman, keep the house interested and amused; Tomps and Wells are a couple of good comedians who play well, and supply abundant laughter; Johnny Johnstone is a success as a singer, dancer, and musician; Beever's comicscope is amusing; Miss Rose Revell pleases as a comedy artist, and Mr. Alf Levaine is a clever wire-walker.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—A variety company again holds sway here twice nightly. Mr. George Ripon, comedian, is very well received; Mr. Joe Graham proves himself a very capable ventriloquist, and meets with approval; Miss Nellie Gannon is successful with her songs, and Mr. Harry Wright causes endless amusement with his extempore verses; Ryde and Beeman, comedy acrobats, come in for a good share of applause; and Peggy Fame meets with success as a comedienne; the turn of Mlle. Flora Lumière, entitled *The Fairy Grotto*, is a striking example of what can be done in the way of lighting effects in connection with some very graceful dances. The Bioscope also shows the latest pictures.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The attraction here this week is Mr. H. F. Maltby and company, in the costume comedy, *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. Maltby's acting of the bluff squire, George Wendover, is marked by much power; and Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves presents a masterly study of the part of Gerald Wendover. Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver gives a satisfactory rendering of the character of the East India merchant, Philip Radford; and there is much humour in the Samuel Johns of Mr. Ralph Hutton. An admirable sketch of the old landlord, Joshua Pynne, is submitted by Mr. Ernest Noble; while the village idiot, Loke, is amusing in the hands of Mr. W. Reginald Favell. Miss Beatrice Marsdene, in the title-rôle, plays with brightness, intelligence, and charm; and the parts of the other sisters, Anne Dulley and Florence Dulley, are acted with grace and sincerity by Miss Janet Hodson and Miss Mara Maltby. Miss Hodson's impersonation is, indeed, one of the best things in the play. The small part of the maid, Jane, is cleverly played by Miss Nancy York; and two minor characters are satisfactorily filled by Mr. Harris Fraser and Mr. George Laidlaw. The comedy, which is beautifully mounted, was received on Monday evening with every sign of enthusiasm by a large audience. A sombre little play, *Hounslow Heath*, also from the pen of Mr. Maltby, precedes the comedy. It is well acted by the author, and by Mr. Ernest Noble, Mr. Ralph Hutton; and Mr. Wyn Weaver.

THE GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The revival of *A Trip to the Highlands* has been marked by indications that this production has lost none of its popularity. Mr. Wal Croft is once more seen at his best in the genial rôle of the McMutchkin; and Mr. Arthur Poole continues to show his versatile powers as the detective with many disguises. The part of Timmins loses nothing in the hands of Mr. Joseph B. Montague, a talented comedian. Among the lady principals, Miss Maisie Ellinger and Miss Millie Engler—good singers both—find much favour with the audience; and Miss Nellie Burdette is a vivacious maid-servant.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—Novelty adds considerably to the attractions of this week's bill at the Empire. Mr. Fred Ginnett and company, with a number of trained horses, present an interesting dramatic performance of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Among the principals engaged in this production, Mr. F. Ginnett as Turpin, Mr. George Jennings as Tom King, and Mr. C. Barello as the Beadle, are distinctly successful; but the chief honours rest with the highly-trained mare, "Black Bess." M. Jacques Inaudi gives a marvellous display of his gifts as a lightning calculator; the acrobatic turn of the Bastiens, father and son, is a clever and unique exhibition in its way; Mr. Will Poluski, jun., entertains his audience with song and dance; Miss Millie Payne shines as a new style of comedienne; while Mr. Sam Redfern is a good specimen of the old style of coloured comedian; and a ventriloquist, who appears as deputy for Miss Lilian Lee, is cordially received. Brett and Orford appear in their well-known comedy sketch; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, contribute some smart dancing in an extravaganza, entitled *The Cowboy, the Swell, and the Lady*; and the American Bioscope shows a series of up-to-date films.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Alexander Loftus is this week presenting the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Loftus, as White the Waiter, takes a prominent part in the piece, and with the aid of Mr. Charles Adeson as Bertie White keeps the house in constant laughter. Mr. Leslie Austin as Captain Lovebury and Mr. James Grant as Colonel Claymore also ably sustain leading parts; whilst Mr. W. E. Chewd and Mr. Geo. Roslyn help to make the piece a success. The title-rôle is taken by Miss Maisie Ellenger, a talented actress, and Miss Amy Preston and Miss Winifred Preston both acquit themselves with credit. Miss Violet Osmond, as the Lady Journalist, gives a clever character study, and a troupe of lady dancers contribute some excellent dancing and singing.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is presenting here *The Still Alarm* in good style. Mr. Cecil du Gue takes the rôle of John Bird in an admirable manner; Mr. Fred Osmond does well as Doc Wilber; Miss Maud Warburton is a sympathetic Elinor Fordham; Mr. M. H. Glenville as Jack Manley is natural and pleasing; Mr. J. S. Pateman gives a fine character study of Joe Jones; Mr. Lewis Gordon's Franklyn Fordham shows power; Miss Mabel Veriton is creditable as Mrs. Manley; and Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley is all that could be desired. The vocal quartette in Act III. introduces some fine singing.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—Mr. Frank Lawton, whistler and humorist, is the source of much amusement; Miss Kate Hemming renders her vocal numbers with excellent effect; Miss Alice Braunstein achieves great success as a soprano vocalist, and Mr. George Curzon's fine singing is greatly appreciated. The Victoria Minstrels give a very bright entertainment, and the Royal Austrian Band, under the conductorship of Herr Franz Meisel, plays a capital programme of music twice daily.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—An excellent programme here includes Miss Sylvia Jarra, soprano, who scores a success nightly with her selection of songs; Mr. Wilfrid Stracey is a great favourite, his comic songs and patter earning well-deserved applause; the Ladies' Blue Salon Orchestra is heard to advantage, and the animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

THE PIERROTS, under the direction of Mr. Charles Cardow, opened last week for the season on the Beach Plot, and amuse great crowds.

BATHING ESTABLISHMENT GROUNDS.—Cardow's Cadets, who made a great success last year, are here again. The bright and taking songs prove very attractive; Mr. George Ellis gives some clever character sketches from Dickens, &c.; Mr. Oak Dene comes in for a good reception, and Miss Cecilia Gold wins rounds of applause.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Staley's Transformation company heads the bill here, and goes through a marvellous performance with smartness; Harry Tate's company in *Golfing* causes much laughter; Walker and May are excellent coloured comedians and dancers; the Otleys prove themselves an amusing and smart pair of acrobats; Le Marsumas are seen in a comedy cycling act; Arthur Boyne, comedian, is worthily applauded; the Three Sisters Tree, comediennes, present a refined hunting episode; and Eugene and Willie, in a speciality act, and Will Driscoll, swell comedian, complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Starring here are the Merrills, trick and comedy cyclists of extraordinary ability; the Saletos present a very clever acrobatic turn; Martino, described as "the world's greatest animal and reptile imitator," is an accomplished contortionist; and Arthur Stratton, comedian, Clara Victor, vocalist, and Downey's pictures also appear.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is appearing here in *A London Actress*. Mr. Stuart Cleveland depicts Clive Crawford with much force, and Mr. Richard Vane is well suited to the part of Lieut. Kingstone; Mr. Geo. H. Doyle proves an excellent comedian in the rôle of Moses Mendoza; Mr. Charles A Preece is an amusing Pat Maloney; Mr. John Worth cleverly sustains the character of Capt. Mannering; Miss Emma Litchfield (the authoress) fills the part of the villainess, Hilda Mannering, with marked ability; and Miss Maud Steeples effectively represents Phyllis Crawford; Misses Nellie Fern and Frances Ferina are successful in comedy parts.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. M. Russell Rosse is again at our West End house, presenting Mr. C. Haddon-Chambers' fine play, *Captain Swift*, and is meeting with very good houses. The piece is lavishly put on, and the acting is of all round excellence. Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont makes a brilliant appearance in the rôle of Wilding—Captain Swift, and his whole performance is very closely followed, not less interest being shown in the sayings and and doings of Gardiner, finely portrayed by Mr. William Griffin. Mr. A. J. Harding as the kindly old parent, Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Rex B. Foote, as Harry, the somewhat impetuous son, Mr. Bertie Ralland, as Ryan, the detective, Marshall, the butler, by Mr. Jas. Gelderd, and Bates, by Mr. Clarence Pelham, are all worthy of note. The four ladies in the cast could not have been better chosen for the varied emotions of their parts, as they impress the audience highly all through. They are Mrs. Seabrook (Miss Nina Zambray), Mabel (Miss Eva Lonsdale), Lady Staunton (Miss Ethel Verne), and Stella (Miss Chrissie Ralland). The visit is a very welcome one.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company is here in two plays, *In Old Madrid* and *The Naval Detective*. They opened on Monday in the former, in which, Mr. Kirke made an excellent appearance as Frank Lyndhurst; Miss Edith Claris was well placed as Madeleine; an dthe character of Lola Stillagano received able treatment from Miss Louie Fountaine; Mr. Mark Practice gives a clever performance as Mendoza; the Sisters Violet and Lillie English made two attractive dancers. Other parts were ably interpreted by Misses Lillie Seymour and Annie Brunette, and by Messrs. Frank Beaulieu, Lorrimer Stuart, and Charles Burns. Numerous songs and dances are interspersed throughout the play, and were heartily appreciated.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—John Lawson and Co., in *Humanity*, prove again a very strong card in this dramatic episode. The piece is finely staged, and, no doubt, many present saw it for the first time with evident delight. In a pleasing duet and dance, the Sisters Cora appear with great success; while Kate Traill, at the piano, gives a tuneful rendering of ballads. In a gymnastic act of the comedy order, several smart things are done by Griffin and Dubois; in three descriptive songs, Peggy Pryde proved as chic and funny as ever; in her street arab delineation, she was at her best, and her reception was very flattering. Datas, the memory wonder, is simply pelted with questions, and he gives astonishingly smart answers; Mount and Corelli, in a musical comedy act, is an enjoyable item; Signor and Mdme. Borelli's imitations are well relished; *The Plumber*, a sketch by Will H. Sloan gives that droll comedian his opportunity, in which, assisted by Florence Gerald, and Kitty Hamilton, he makes a telling success. The fine Bioscope display is up to the usual Empire standard.

Zoo HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Harry Roxbury's company, in the brisk musical sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, provides an enjoyable half-hour's fun here. Fred Poplar is a smart comedian, and his welcome was most cordial; the Anartos give a clever and humorous musical turn; Caselli Sisters sing and dance with considerable ability; the Two Madges are clever young vocalists; Miss Kitty Wager, comedienne, is well received; and J. D. Toner, the Belfast newsboy, is a smart mimic. An exceedingly good acrobatic turn is provided by the Borghetti Troupe; and Kashma Bros. take well as knockabout comedians. The Bioscope views of Bostock's menagerie in Cornwall are popular.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Excellent houses greeted the company here on Monday evening. Alice Pierce makes a brilliant success in her impersonations of renowned actresses and is repeatedly encored; W. G. Webber sings three fine bass songs, including an encore, in excellent style; and the Eight Martini Mimosa Girls gave a very clever singing and dancing turn, which is warmly applauded. In a pleasing song, descriptive of a toy bazaar, Ida Kathrena gains attention, and her dancing is also admired; Nora Moore as a very acceptable comedienne has a good reception, and the novel performance on the piano by Mons. Slippere, a blind artist of much accomplishment, evokes great sympathy; he is also most heartily greeted for his tasteful singing. Mlle. Von Etta gives a mistifying performance of the conjuring order, her changes of costume are remarkably clever and novel. In several box tricks she proved a lady illusionist of a very high order, and makes quite a hit. The Wyffs closed the programme in a very humorous and capitally acted sketch.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—Bransby Williams is the star here, his impersonation of an old showman being wonderfully good, and in addition he gives several other clever monologues; Raku, the clever Japanese, gives a marvellous display of ju-jitsu wrestling, assisted by Miss Moto Miyaki; the Deane-Tribune Trio provides a lively new sketch, entitled *Applicants*. Howard and St. Clair are big favourites here, and their new business is smart; Sisters Terry also receives an enthusiastic recall after their "baby" song; Amy Anderson and company contribute a cleverly arranged scena *The Banana Queen*; the Phydoras give a neat musical and acrobatic turn; Achmed-Ibrahim Troupe of Arab tumblers show some extraordinary feats; and the Bioscope pictures are new and up-to-date.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—That popular old Glasgow favourite, J. W. Rowley, was due here this week, but owing to indisposition did not appear on Monday. Billy Williams, the Australian comedian, makes a hit with a parody, "All Coons look alike to me"; Ella Dean's songs ensure her a hearty welcome; Prince Kuroki shows some clever and dexterous conjuring feats; Sybil Moon and her Six Cadets provide a smart turn; Fred Neiman scores as a ventriloquist; Nora Moore, comedienne, is very clever; T. E. Finglass is a lively comedian; Charles Denton, Fyne and Hurley, Henderson Stanley Quartette, and Clarisee, Heney and Co. complete a well varied bill.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—The boards of this popular theatre are being occupied this week with that brilliant farcical comedy, *The Barrister*, played by Mr. Henry Doughty's company. Mr. Henry Doughty as the Barrister acts the part with considerable spirit, and Mr. W. E. Dunlop as Capt. Walker is exceedingly good; Mr. E. W. Thomas gives a capital interpretation of the rôle of Major Drayton; and Mr. A. C. Thornhill is a great success as Jack Roderick; Mr. Hawley Francks is amusing as Tom Price, and Miss Beryl Graham wins rounds of applause in the character of Kitty Drayton; whilst the audiences are no less enthusiastic over the efforts of Miss Vera Leslie as the Barrister's wife, and Miss Cicely Hammond as Miss Foster. The other artists, who all acquit themselves well, are Mr. Geo. Burke, Mr. Jas. Seymore, Mr. Franklyn Walford, Miss Edith Coleman, and Miss Amy Lloyd Desmond. *The Barrister* is preceded by Tom Taylor's drama, *Still Waters Run Deep*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—This popular little playhouse was re-opened for the summer season this week with the amusing comedy, *Billy's Little Love Affair*, under the management of Miss Johnson and Mr. Bayly. Miss Katie Johnson played the part of Wilhemina Marr (or "Billy"), and Mr. Bayly that of Jack Prere; and their efforts were ably supported by Miss Clara Nicholls as Mrs. Jim Greaves, Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere as Lady Dureen, Mr. Orlando Barnett as Jim Greaves, and Mr. Reginald Maurice as Mr. Munkittrick.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Witty Watty Walton is again topping the bill at this popular resort; Vasey and Ramsey, in eccentric comedy dancing act, score well; Miss Rosa Loader, the merry musical mimic, quickly plays her way into the favour of her audience; Le Brun and Irene, jugglers and equilibrists; Mons. Aeric, in a musical balancing act; the Four Abadaroffs, prehistoric mountebanks, who give a fine acrobatic and lofty tumbling act; and Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist and mimic, are all well received. Mme. H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Band perform twice daily; Alder and Sutton's Pierrots give a smart show at the open air promenade concerts twice daily; and G. W. Houghton, the human torpedo, gives his high diving and scientific swimming exhibitions three times daily from the Pier head.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The programme at this popular place of amusement this week consists of The Motorists, in which ladies and gentlemen in motor costumes give a capital variety entertainment. Miss Edith Eatherley sings coon songs which are much appreciated, and Mr. Harry Halstead possesses a pleasing tenor voice, and is well received; Mr. Lester James is the humorist of the party. In addition to The Motorists, Mr. Maurice Victor mystifies the audience with sleight of hand tricks, and Mr. Griffith Humphreys appears as a society entertainer.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr. Tom Culeen.—A great attraction this week is the Tokio Troupe of Japanese equilibrists, and Ford and Barras, two boys recently taken from the streets of London. J. W. Hall and Wilson give novel bicycle racing on the cycle racing treadle, which is watched with much interest; Uthan, the armless wonder; the Humels, equestrians; and Durell, who performs on a rolling log, continue to prove great draws. Other artists are Hector, the wire and hoop manipulator, and the Bros. Carr, musical comedians.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERT.—Proprietor, Mr. James Chappell; Manager, Mr. Harry

Cook was in the able hands of Mr. Syd Russell; Messrs. Bass and Guinness caused much laughter; Mr. A. E. Mann was highly diverting as Mrs. Sinbad; Mr. Fred Dobito and Miss Flora Buxton sang admirably together; Mr. Fred Little, a favourite here, introduced some excellent musical specialities; and the Sydney Girls also deserve mention.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—This week more than usual interest is being manifested in the visit of the Seven Savonas, whose magnificent spectacular scene *The Palace of Orpheus* is attracting crowded audiences. A notable turn is that given by the Six Cycling Elliotts, whose performance throughout is truly astounding. Mlle. Toza's canine hippodrome is greatly appreciated. The Five Olracs are playing a welcome return visit. That charming dancer Viviana maintains her high reputation and is presenting entirely new items with success. Mlle. Florizel scores in her novel contortionist act. Harry Maynard, comedian, is well received, and William Rigby is smart and piquant in a captivating musical entracte.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghton; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—This week Lily Marney, the chic comedienne, is one of the chief attractions. The sketch *The Doctor and the Patient* is artistically represented by Helms and Cozens. Herbert Bull, comedian, is in good form. "The Donatos" score in their acrobatic display. Adams and Ward and Rozel, the clever gymnast, are well received. Besides being a capital vocalist, Herbert L. A. Martine dances very smartly, and Millie Denham is very popular. The Bioscope is an additional attraction.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—During the earlier part of the week Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *Cousin Kate* was the attraction. Although it is the fourth visit of the piece to this town the large audience on Monday evening showed that it has lost none of its popularity here. In the title-rôle Miss Lilias Earle, charming as ever, soon found her way to the hearts of the audience. Miss Hilda Honiss repeated her delightful study of the undecided Amy. And as Mrs. Spencer, Miss Amy Coleman was all that could be desired. Mr. Templar Powell is deserving of high praise for his frank and natural acting as Heath Desmond. Mr. George Mallett as the smug curate makes the most of his opportunities. As Bobby Master Philip Priddis was good, as also was Miss Kitty Priddis as Jane. The comedy is preceded by A. E. Drinkwater's playlet, *Two in a Trap*, admirably acted by Miss Hilda Honiss and Mr. Geo. Mallett. For the latter end of the week Mr. Edward Marris and Miss Florence Smithers are billed in *The Dandy Doctor*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager and Musical Director Mr. C. L. Naylor, M.A., Mus. Bac. Cantab; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—Business continues to improve here. This week, in addition to the Kursaal Orchestra, Miss Bertha Riddiough and Mr. Alfred Heather are the vocalists for the first three nights, and Miss Alys Bateman (soprano) for the end of the week. In addition, Dr. Lynn, the celebrated magician, gives his entertainment in the café, supported by The Mysterious Lillith, at frequent intervals during the afternoon and evening.

HARLOW MOOR.—Mr. Tom Coleman's Pierrots continue to give their clever and refined entertainment daily in the bandstand.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company is attracting good houses with H. H. Davies' comedy *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Yorke Stephens plays with great effect the chivalrous rôle of Captain Mowbray. The Colonel Jardine, of Mr. Maitland Dicker is well embodied, and clever Miss Marie Illington plays her original rôle, Mrs. Jardine, delightfully. Miss Frances Vine represents Mrs. Gorringe very successfully. The detective Jernigan has a good exponent in Mr. Reginald Walter. Miss Isabel Fladgate as Miss Potts, Miss Mary Webb and Miss Mabel Melba as the daughters of Mrs. Jardine, and Mr. W. Brisco Owen as Lieut. David Cairn give valuable assistance in their respective rôles. The comedietta *Uncle Joseph* precedes the comedy.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—Miss Jane Temple, an attractive comedienne, leads in an excellent selection of artists; the Evalos do a smart turn in original juggling; a decided success is scored by the duettists, the Sweetings; a laughable skit is given by the Elvio Comedy Trio; Miss Florrie Forde is an excellent serio, her capital singing soon establishes her a favourite; Mr. E. gives some humorous patter in describing a series of bioscope pictures; Walter and King creditably contribute to the bill as comedians; Sunny Moss in female attire is truly eccentric; Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company, in a sketch entitled *The Daybreakers*, prove good exponents of burlesque comedy; the films shown by the Hippodrome Bioscope conclude a strong programme.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—This pleasant resort continues to attract well-pleased audiences to the entertainments provided by Mr. Wallis Arthur's company of vocalists and comedians, who, in the afternoons, give their attractive performance in the Alexandra Park and St. Leonard's Gardens alternately.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The musical comedy novelty entitled *Dare Devil Dorothy* is being played here by Henry Swinerd's No. 1 Company. Mr. Edward Kipling as Silas Crump creates great fun and laughter, his sweetheart Judith being well embodied by Miss Nellie Harcourt; Miss Dorothy Desmonde and Miss Marie Vere introduce some pleasing songs; Mr. Walter Ashley gives a manly tone to the part of Captain George Fielding; equally well represented is Captain Edward Dudley by Mr. Henry C. Ward; a good character sketch of Featherstone Haugh is presented by Mr. Deane Cliffe; Miss Lillie Blake and Miss Mabel Blake are dainty representatives of Polly and Rosy Ann.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Sydney Grundy's powerful society play, *A Bunch of Violets*, is holding the boards here. Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft has brought a capable company of artists, who interpret the delightful piece with admirable finish and precision; as Mrs. Murgatroyd Mrs. Greenwood-Croft is excellent; Mr. Norman Partriege presents a clear-cut, intelligent study of the character of Sir Philip Marchant; Sir Philip's secretary is well played by Mr. Leon Aynscliffe; Mr. William Attfield gives a good character sketch of Lord Mount-Sorrel; Jacob Schwartz has a capital exponent in Mr. Joe Bebb; Lady Marchant is ably represented by Miss Florence Russell-Spiers, who from the beginning to the end holds the sympathies of the audience; Miss Tessa Myers gives a charming rendering of Violet.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A pleasing programme includes Ernest Leicester, George Bellamy, and Miss Kathleen Copeland, in a strongly written one-act piece, *The Galley Slave*; the Clavers, in a smart juggling act; Miss Jeanne D'Amyel, contralto vocalist; Gallando, an expert clay modeller; Bugler J. Carr, in his exhibition of musical skill; Miss Violet Morgan, a more than usually accurate mimic; the Wilfords, a couple of strong men; Miss Emma Don and Walter F. Munroe, in their popular musical speciality; and Stewart and Morgan, duettists.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The patrons of this house are favoured this week with a triple bill, which combines in it elements to suit every taste. In *Andrew Paterson*, a dramatic episode, Mr. Percy Marshall does excellent work, and Miss Lilian Hallowes is a very pleasing heroine, the other rôle being efficiently filled by Mr. Charles Hanbury. *The Major's Double* is a farcical comedy which keeps the house well amused. It is effectively acted by Mr. James Danvers, a comedian of real merit; Mr. J. B. Gordon, always favourably received in Hull; Mr. Percy Marshall, and Miss Lilian Hallowes. The miniature grand opera, *The Gamester*, composed by Aiulf Hjorvard, is well sung by Miss Dorothy Southgate, a young lady with a sweet soprano voice, which she uses to great advantage; and by Mr. Andrew Roy, a pleasing tenor, who knows how to use his voice with artistic taste and skill. Mr. Charles Cautley with equal effect renders the baritone parts. Mr. Martin Morris is directing the company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*Dishonoured* is the attraction here this week. The play has many striking episodes, and Mr. Henry Renouf, as Captain P. Cunningham, has a rôle which suits his histrionic powers to the full. Mr. Jackson Hayes brings the part of Captain Peyntland into vivid relief; and the remainder of the company assist to make the piece a great success.

THE PALACE. — Resident - Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—The Craggs top the bill in their new sketch *Billy*, which causes much laughter. Hermann Melot makes a welcome reappearance in his clever conjuring tricks. Annie Abbott "the little magnet," causes much astonishment. Orpheus in his musical act gains much applause. G. H. Elliott is a big favourite. Harriett Vernon, in some handsome gowns, both looks well and sings well. Eloise Brinsmade appears in special picture songs. Maude Mortimer also hits the fancy of the audience. Georgina Leonard and animated pictures complete the bill.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—The Jackley trio, Dora Lyric, Keith and Merson, Carr and Rose, and Fred Mason are a quintette of popular turns. Other artists include Tom E. Hughes, a good eccentric comedian; Mystery Gaaze, a Canadian artist; and W. L. Lee and company in a thrilling sketch, entitled *The Coward's Revenge*.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson. —Animated pictures are still drawing good houses, this being the tenth week.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company is this week presenting the drama, *My Native Land*. As Winnie Blake Miss Amy Dalby is distinctly successful, and Mr. Frank Harvey as Andy Blake makes a good impression. Miss Belle Tilbury gives an excellent representation of Myra Pyne, whilst Mr. Chas. H. Phelps makes the most of the part of Dr. Magee. Mr. Bernard Webb is a quaint Mike, the doctor's boy. Mr. Harry Tilbury works assiduously as the Jew, Solomon Moses, and Miss Millie Doris makes up well as Rebecca, his wife. Mr. A. Geo. Fry is a capital exponent of the rôle of Norry Boyle.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief turn here this week is Menotti, the "Stockholm Wonder," who thoroughly justified his claim to the title with an exceptionally clever and unique performance; Austin Rudd is also "starred" on the bill, and his songs win unstinted applause. Other turns include the Brothers Webb, in their clever musical entertainment; Mary Glenn, a pleasing vocalist; Max Merlin, contortionist; Laura Lane and Neil Rene in a sketch; and Alice May, in a protean entertainment.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is this week paying a visit with the powerful drama, entitled *Under the Czar*. Mr. Gerald Smythe gives a good account of the part of Capt. Johnson; Mr. Jack Fortesque is well placed as Nicholas Yeroslaff; Mr. W. H. Riley makes the most of the rôle of Zakhar Kovesky; Mr. Amalia gives an admirable reading of the part of Count Nesseldorf, the Governor-General; while Mr. Merrin is quite at home as Michael Granovisky. Miss Francesca Strickland is charming in the trying character of Sonia Gregorovitch; and Miss P. Carewe is well suited as Zara Bhure.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's burlesque company is this week presenting *Mr. A. Baba; or, The Thieves of Bagdad*. Messrs. George Rapley and A. E. Mann as Ali and Cogia Baba keep the house in fits of laughter; Messrs. Bass and Guinness are most amusing as the Lieutenants of the Thieves, and Mr. Will Hicks undertakes the important rôle of the donkey; Miss Marie Adair is a shapely Abdallah; Miss Nellie Moore as Ganem once more proves herself a most charming and clever little dancer; and Miss Flora Buxton sings well as Morgiana. Good turns are introduced by the Marvellous Ladderites, and the Three Zaracs in their funny horizontal bar acts. The show all-round is excellent, and should prove a good draw.

SPRINGFIELD GROUNDS.—Mr. Victor Stevens opened here on Monday with his Premier Pierrot company. The evening unfortunately proved wet, but, despite this fact, their was a fair audience, and His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Gough, with a party of friends, honoured the performance with their presence. Mr. Victor Stevens is a host in himself, and is well supported; Miss Ethel Locker has a fine soprano voice; Miss Alice Brookes is a dainty comedienne; Mr. George Neilson's vocal talents are well-known; Mr. Will Pettitt is a good banjoist; and Mr. Tomlin is a most amusing raconteur.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Gaieties, under the direction of Mr. Wilson James, are here with a good all-round company, including Mr. Charles Conyers, an old Jersey favourite, who on Monday night met with a most enthusiastic reception.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—The Clifford Essex Pierrots are still here, and are a great attraction.

KEIGHLEY. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Varieties continue to hold sway here, and crowded houses are the rule. De Voye heads the bill with his wonderful pony, "Billy." The animal's performance is one of exceptional merit. Friscarie provides a capital juggling act; Charlie Chard's songs are well received; the Sisters Vol Becque win applause; an excellent sketch *The Lady Help* is presented by Mr. Geo. De Gray and Co.; Mr. Richard Nugent, who has become a Keighley favourite during the variety season, is seen to advantage in the character of Dick Longbottom.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A capital dramatic company, under the direction of Mr. F. B. Woulfe, occupies the boards here, and the répertoire for the week, consists of the two historic plays *Jane Shore* and *Nell Gwynne*. A good house on Monday witnessed the former piece, the name-part being exceedingly well presented by Miss Ethel Griffies, whilst the arduous Royal characters of Richard and Edward were played with power and conviction by Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Mr. Alfred Wade respectively; Miss Katherine Brook, as the Queen, acted the part with conspicuous ability; Mr. Leslie Lingham and Miss Eva Cartwright are other prominent members of a strong caste. *Nell Gwynne* was played on Thursday and Friday evenings.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—A new sensational drama has proved a strong attraction at this popular theatre. It is played by Miss Evelyn Moore's company. A careful study of the exacting part of Sir Philip Garside is to be credited to Mr. Fred G. Ray. Mr. J. Clifford Wright is satisfactory in a strenuous embodiment of Richard Fenton, and Mr. Sydney Bland sustains with ability the character of the Hon. Herbert Selby. Miss Sidney Barrasford is charming as Muriel Lockwood, and Julia Marsden is a fine study in dramatic acting by Miss Florence Delmar. The comedy characters are played with success by Mr. Percy Shaw and Miss Kitty Elliot, the former finding opportunity for the display of his whistling abilities. Other parts are capably portrayed by Mr. Charles Nugent, Mr. Franklyn-Heywood, and Miss Millie Hastings.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—That very amusing pair, the McNaughtons, lead the Empire bill this week, and their inimitable comedy interludes are thoroughly enjoyed; Die Oberseterers, a troupe of Tyrolean singers and dancers, find an appreciative reception of their clever entertainment; Carrie Laurie's juveniles again appear with success; that charming comedienne, Alice Lloyd, is irresistible in catchy new songs; Maud Courtney, the clever American girl, displays conspicuous ability and versatility in entertaining song and story; Harrigan and Holt, eccentrics, are still here; Dot Hardy, a diminutive comedienne, is deservedly applauded; and Edith Courtney sings love ballads in captivating style.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A pretty show scene, in which Haley's Juveniles sing and pirouette in accomplished and graceful style, is a distinct novelty, and is amongst the best things of this week's bill; Harry Pleon is doing a clever burlesque turn, and is vastly amusing; as also are Mr. and Mrs. Bronte, with comedy sketch; a juggling act by Prima Vesi has several novel features. The fine vocalist, Ailsa Douglas, again charms hosts of admirers, whilst the Three Crowns are also successful with vocal renderings. Contributions by Flo Cecil, comedienne, and Ray, comedian and mimic, are very enjoyable.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The interesting comedy-drama entitled *The Plucky Nipper*, presented by Miss Bonwin Carlton's capable company, forms the attraction here this week, and on its initial production on Monday evening met with an excellent reception from an appreciative audience. In the name-part Miss Bonwin Carlton gives a clever character sketch; Mr. Edward Surrey, as the ne'er-do-well, Bill Burgess, plays extremely well; Mr. Fred Rivers is seen to advantage as the villain, Richard Vanbrugh; Mr. Edward Stream makes a good impression as Captain Frank Leslie, and scores with his well-rendered songs; Mr. Douglas Campbell is amusing as Tommy Atkins, and is also heartily received for his songs and dances; Miss Kitty Maynard is reserving of high praise for her impersonation of the blind girl, Daisy Paget; Miss Evelyn Derwent is capital as Ina Fenwick; and both Mr. Pringle Roberts as Colonel Fenwick and Mr. Claud Kingston as Henry Paget are also to be meted out praise for their commendable impersonations.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — The principal attraction here this week is supplied by Harry Cadle's company of juveniles, who create hearty laughter with a novel eccentric act entitled *The Casey Circus*, a clever burlesque performance, which has the merit of originality. At the other end of the bill is Belle Davis and her pick-chicks, whose delightful "show" is accorded well-deserved and unstinted applause. The Brothers Horne create roars of laughter, and prove very popular in their well-worked boxing sketch *The Dude and the Bully*. Praise should also be accorded to the clever little lady partner for her vivacious singing and dancing. The Classicum Quartette present a beautifully-staged Venetian love scena, and are well applauded for their excellent singing; Hamilton Hill, possessed of a baritone voice of pleasing quality, renders his songs in a manner calling for the highest praise; Amber Austa, with her original and novel style of singing and dancing, scores a well-deserved success; the Sisters Oswald, dainty vocalists and dancers, are favourites; Frank Seeley, an excellent comic singer and dancer, keeps the audience in the merriest of moods; May Evans, comedienne, and Will Haines, comedian, also contribute successfully to the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The following artists are appearing here this week, and are meeting with well-deserved approbation: The Deer Family of North American Indians, who are presenting their sensational act, *Indians of the Past*, in a series of tableaux in two scenes, Princess White Deer being being very successful in her songs and Indian war dance; Hettie Le Bon, top-boot dancer; the Sisters Daventry, excellent duettists; Rose Harvey, burlesque artist; Percy Curry, eccentric comedian; Carl Millon, ventriloquist; and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope, with the usual well-selected series of pictures. The staff here are looking forward to their annual outing, which takes place to-morrow (Sunday), the place selected being Skegness.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—An excellent and diversified entertainment here is contributed to by the following company: Dorothy Baddeley, soubrette; Herbert Simister, comedian; Frances O'Reilly, an excellent vocalist; Dan Lyndon, a popular comedian; Bert Wallace, comedian; the Bohemian Glee Singers; and Alf Unsworth, pianist and musical director. A comic singing competition is also announced.

LIMERICK.—EXHIBITION THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. E. Travers.—The great attraction here this week is the Ladies' Mather Orchestra, who render classical and other selections admirably. The audiences are large and appreciative, and the solos executed by the Misses Eva and Dora Mathers are en thusiastically received. The Misses Jennie and Hilda Mathers are equally appreciated for their masterly execution of the Irish pathetic melodies. Master Alexander Mathers is the gifted 'celloist, and Miss Minnie the efficient pianist and conductor.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—The attraction here this week has been *A Beautiful Fiend*, played by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Miss V. St. Lawrence in the title-part played with conspicuous ability, her work being followed with keen interest; Mr. Montague Beaudyn held the rôle of Ivan Paulovitch with much credit; as the scoundrel Count Karateff Mr. Tom Robertson proved eminently satisfactory; Mr. Harry Oates was responsible for a deal of good comedy as Christopher Cackles; Miss Blanche Hill made a lively Patty Woodlands; and the rest of the cast did justice to their respective parts. The piece was excellently mounted.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A varied programme has been provided here by the management. The premier position on the bill is deservedly occupied by Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Valentine Sydney, in his funny sketch, *The Scene Shifter's Lament*. The magical performance of Fazola, who bottoms the bill, is largely applauded by the mystified audience; Tom Lloyd, comedian, is a favourite; the rifle shooting of Lilian and Vera receives due recognition; Marlow and Manton are good in their sketch, *Other People's Babies*; the Vekeys are clever banjoists; Walter Emmerson's eccentricities create amusement; and the Sisters Marion, juvenile duettists, do full justice to their training.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—A return visit of *Trilby* has been welcomed here, and having been put on in excellent style, the play met with much public patronage. Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is one of more than average merit, each of the artists showing considerable histrionic ability. Miss Bessie Rignold was a pleasing Trilby, and speedily gained the affections of her audience, her acting being marked by power and discretion; as Svengali Mr. Paul Belmore scored a complete success; the rôles of Taffy, the Laird, and Little Billee were admirably handled by Messrs. William Fayan, Charles Cecil, and Campbell Goldsmid; Mr. W. F. Clitherow just fitted the character of the Rev. Thomas Bagot; Mr. Harry Rutland afforded every satisfaction with his Gecko; a capital Manager Kaw was provided by Mr. Harry Morgan; and Miss Helen Lowther's Mrs. Bagot proved acceptable.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred. L. Arthur.—*The Conscript*, presented here this week by Mr. F. Wybert Clive, has proved a great attraction, the popular parts of the vast theatre being filled to overflowing on Monday night. The play was admirably mounted and dressed. Mr. Harry Cullenford held the part of Karl with credit, his playing being manly and intense; Miss Violet Carlyle exhibited a high degree of talent as the distressed Nadia; Mr. Walter Steele gave a powerful rendering of the character of Ivan Manloff; credit is due to Mr. F. Bellwood for his capital Maxim Fedka; Mr. Edward Lowrie was particularly good as Doggervitch; Mrs. Charles Wood, a highly accomplished actress, submitted a finished type of landlady with her Dame Katinka; Mr. Charles E. Johnson gave satisfaction as Count Paul, a well-drawn character; and the comedy by Mr. Tom Breen as Tretch Trotoff, and Miss Connie Meadows in the part of Wanda, was much appreciated.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The principal item in the programme here this week is the military spectacle *Rorke's Drift*, excellently presented by Mr. Claude Ginnett's company; Harrison Brockbank's combination are seen to great advantage in the musical episode, *The Freebooters*; the New York Nippers go through an attractive entertainment as singers and dancers; a graceful athletic act comes from the Klos Sisters; Clown Barker and Miss Roysika introduce some highly trained animals; the Althoffs have a funny and smart musical act; the barrack-room ballads rendered by Mr. Harold Thorley are pleasing; and others in the bill are Will English, coon vocalist; Alf Holt, a clever mimic; Cooke and Rothert, dancers and knockabouts; and Nelly Martell, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing - Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—De Biere is in big type here this week, completely mystifying everybody by his wonderful conjuring. Included in a capital programme are Fanny and Harry Dent, with a laughable comedy sketch, *Mary and the Squire*, which has been richly enjoyed; Frank Bernard and company also provoke much merriment with *Hello*, Mr. Bernard, as Blatz at the telephone, being particularly funny; a clever and attractive show is *The Shoeblack's Dream*, presented by Fred Fuller and company; Bishop and Vale are a pair of excellent acrobatic comedians and dancers; Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre, which introduces a Chinese scena, is a neat show; some remarkable juggling comes from the youthful Wallace; Harry Claff renders several operatic selections with taste; the Musical Schaffers go through a pleasing comedy act; possessed of a fine baritone voice, Mr. George Adams sings with effect several popular pieces; and others in the bill are Tod Lowen and George D'Albert, comedians.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W Smith.—A fine series of moving pictures are still the attraction here, interludes being provided by several variety artists. The Tuesday matinée is well patronised.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Considering the summer weather that prevails, excellent business is being done at this cosy little place, which boasts of the only stock company in Liverpool. *Hazel Kirke*, a neat domestic and pathetic sketch, occupies the stage this week. Mr. Percy Boucher is the life and soul of the play as Petticus Green, causing continuous laughter; Mr. John Burton handles the rôle of Dunstan Kirke with care; Mr. Harry Tresham makes a manly Arthur Carrington; as the villainous Squire Rodney Mr. Sidney Grant is particularly strong; Mr. Robert Wilton is good as Joe; Miss Nina Nazeby submits a well-drawn picture of Nancy Kirke; Miss Sara Blumenthal, an actress of much ability, is Lady Travers; Miss Florence Palmer plays sweetly as Hazel Kirke; and Miss Ada Salmon makes a vivacious Dolly.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Here this week are the Brothers Lilian, talented and daring performers on the silver bars; the mysterious Mr. C. has several popular songs; Zaid provides an Oriental speciality act: as a comedian Frank Coyle acquits himself creditably; Boden and Bell are a pair of smart juvenile vocalists and dancers; and Lily Vane, comedy artist, also appears.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Some admirable Bioscope pictures occupy the greater part of the entertainment here, variety business being also introduced by Tennis and Laune, vocal comediennes; and the Bensley-Evens sketch company, including Miss Olive Lanty, with *Retribution*.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Bioscope pictures are continued here, variety turns being introduced between each series.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W Young.—Eugene Stratton seems to have lost none of his power of attraction, for the audiences in this beautiful building have this week been large and appreciative. The brilliant military drill undergone by Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders was keenly appreciated; a clever musical sketch by the McConnell Trio earned for those talented performers loud applause; Johnson and Bert were amusing with their *A Queer Customer*; a novel eccentric musical act by Francis and Melli proved most enjoyable; the Three Clements gave a remarkable exhibition on the trapeze; Eily Adair was most pleasing with her songs and dances; and the list also contained the names of Alfred Hurley, vocalist; and Myra Stanfield, comedienne.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE.—Responsible Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's Co. opened here on Monday night with *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby, in the rôle of Badger, is all that could be desired, his drolleries evoking frequent outbursts of applause. The other comical parts, viz., Mr. Jones Puffy (Mr. Clifford Brown), Dan Puffy (Miss Marion Armitage), and Mrs. Puffy (Miss Violet Vivian), are all in capable hands; and Mr. Riddell Robinson scores as Gideon Bloodgood.

PRINCES THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—For the second week in succession, a variety entertainment is presented at this theatre. The bill is headed by Dr. Hermann, the electrical expert and hypnotist; Lean Lorette gives some dainty songs; Lily and Albert perform smartly on the trapeze, &c.; the Three Bostonians are great favourites, their dancing being much admired; Poole and Poole are exceptionally clever and at the same time amusing; the Two Wambas show skill in playing several kinds of instruments; and Miss Bertha Duckett contributes some effective dances.

PIER PAVILION, LTD.—Secretary, Mr. S. Hughes.—The famous orchestra, under Mr. A. W. Payne, continues to draw crowded houses. Miss Rosina Beynon, the vocalist for this week, charms all. Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's pierrots perform twice daily at the pier-head, and are always popular with visitors and residents.

THE PIER THEATRE OF VARIETIES, of which Mr. S. Hughes, jun., is lessee, is occupied mainly by the Royal American Bioscope, together with a few excellent musical turns.

MR. MOHR'S Promenade Band has been increased in numbers, and with the evergreen Mr. Curtis R'Alton as vocalist, provides many pleasant hours for the crowds who throng around nightly.

MR. PERRY'S minstrels are, if possible, more popular than ever, and with such artists as S. A. Atherton, Billy Richardson, M.P., Albert Stern, &c., there are no dull moments in the "Happy Valley."

EGYPTIAN HALL. — Lessee, Prof. W. Beaumont; Manager, Mr. W. F. Holt.—This week a Vaudeville company is entertaining good audiences, the artists including Mr. Wilfred Holt, ventriloquist; Estelle Vernon, soprano; the Mysterious Merry Magician; Will Dennis, humorist, vocalist, &c.; and Hyam Long, musical entertainer.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company is delighting large audiences this week with *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *David Garrick*. The first mentioned was submitted to a capital audience on the opening night, Miss Beatrice Wilson giving an admirable embodiment of the title-rôle, for which she was warmly applauded. Mr. Norman V. Norman presented fine study as Sir Geo. Sylvester, and Mr. Dennis Cleugh was well placed as the Earl of Hessenden.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager. Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A return visit is paid here this week by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's principal company in *The Poor Must Live*, a drama of enthralling interest. The company, a very able one, includes Mr. Shaun Glenville, the comedian, in a telling character-part—that of Hooker Holdsmith, a "swank"; Miss Florence Creagh as "the Vengeance"; Mr. Cecil Borer, who figures well as Donald, son of the Earl of Marswood; and Mr. Walter Spinner, who makes a distinct success as Clifton Manville, a society blackguard; while Mr. Walter Fysher shines as the Earl of Marswood; Mr. George Arnold is well placed as Sam Sully; a good idea of Dick Sully is presented by Mr. Frank Dale; Miss Marguerite Thorne is very effective as Sal Darling; Miss Una Marsdene makes a pleasing Dorothy Murdock; and the part of Moya is undertaken by a charming but unnamed juvenile actress.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme here this week includes the Eight Sarnthalers, characteristic and original national singers and dancers; Houser, comedy clay modeller; Wat Tyler, an effective character-vocalist; Adams and Rouss, witty and clever dancers and comedy artists; George Young, the blind collier boy, in a pleasing musical act; George Gulliver, smart entertainer and ventriloquist; the Richards, in a gymnastic speciality act; Tom Kelso and company, who present their comic sketch, *The Silly Servant*; and Ionia, "Sure Shot," in a clever shooting act.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —A version of *The Sorrows of Satan* was staged here on Monday with success. A highly effective rendering of Prince Lucio is given by Mr. Hugh Carmichael; and Mr. Bartlett Garth presents an admirable impersonation of Geoffrey Tempest. As Lady Sybil, Miss Nelson Ramsey is good in movement and emotional delivery; and an accomplished piece of work is the Mavis Clare of Miss Frances Waring; one of the successes of the evening is the humorous depiction of William by Mr. Fred Wilberforce; while others who distinguish themselves are Miss Ethel Maguire as Diana Chesney, Mr. A. C. Bute as Amiel, and Miss Ethel Williams as Mrs. Grimes.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—This week the stage here is occupied by Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's No. 1 company in a stirring domestic drama, *A Queen of Villainy*. A very good performance is given, and the action is illustrated and enlivened by pleasing and effective scenery. Miss Edith Blande's impersonation of Cora Granville is fine; a capable delineation of Alec, the hero of the piece, is given by Mr. Ernest G. Batley; and the villainy of Stephen Faucit is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Edward Heanley. Miss Cecilia Desmond is well placed as Rose Delmayne; and Mr. P. Howard Sturgess adds to the entertainment as Timothy Kodac, the tourist.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Rhodes Parry.—George Gilbey, of "Spouty," the goalkeeper, fame, is to the front here this week, and creates no end of laughter with his funny patter; another excellent turn is that of Dan Crawley, a capital comedian, who makes a big hit with funny songs and eccentric dances; a novel turn is the introduction of Colossus, age 18 years, weight 35 stone, and Dwarf, age 25 years, weight 2 stone 6 lbs., a curious couple; Addie Donna smartly impersonates six characters in her duologue, entitled *How it was Done*; Rose Hamilton is a clever comedienne; and good turns are contributed by Bromley and Fontein, in mirth and music; the Two Neros, in acrobatic contortionist speciality; the Bensons, who do some neat dancing; Charles Banks and his clever dog; and Lilian Bishop, male impersonator. The Palace pictures are up to date and interesting.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An excellent programme here is headed by Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in the eccentric four-scene military pantomime, *The Skirmishers*, which is a laugh from start to finish. The Cole de Leese duo, who share the principal honours, give a wonderful performance on the slack wire; Flem and Brok, the aerial pugilists, are well received; Johnny Gilmore, the Australian comedian, is lively and acceptable; Chas. Austin, comedian, makes a big success by his versatile humour; Barney Vox contributes a smart ventriloquial turn; Nelly Young is a pleasing dancer; Corri and Dereve's company presents a very nice little sentimental playlet, called *Heart-Strings*; and a pretty turn is added by the Stella Troupe of eight girl singers and dancers. The Bioscope depicts "The Pirate Ship." On Monday night an extra turn was given with huge success by Russell Wallett, from the Hippodrome programme. On Wednesday night the programme was enlarged considerably by the addition of many turns from other places of entertainment, to commemorate the occasion of the second anniversary of this popular house, which was crowded in all parts at both shows, with the most gratifying results to all concerned.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The bill is topped here this week by the Three Olympians, who pose successfully in an excellent series of artistic studies from the classics. The Dandies are refined and talented society entertainers, and are well received. Baker and Balfe play some delightful selections on the xylophone; Russell Wallett, as the "Lady in Black" presents a novel turn; Harwood's Juveniles in a pretty scena dance and sing well; and Josh Dixon is an amusing comedian with good patter. The Folkestones have some capital buiness, and are first-rate sand and clog dancers; the Lowenwirth Brothers are Hebrew comedians who are successful smile-raisers; and the great motor races for the Grand Prix, France, are depicted on the Bioscope. Miss Marsland, assisted by the choir, sings "Daddy" nicely; and Sullivan's part song, "The Long Day

Thorn, the squire's son. A clever representative of Rosa is found in Miss Ethel Halle, and Miss Ada Champion is good as Dolly Peachblossom. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is successful as Leslie Thorn; and Mr. Ivan Gore does well as John Merchant. The other rôles are ably sustained and the scenery and costumes are excellent.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembyes.—An old Middlesbrough favourite is appearing here this week in the person of Walter King, a droll comedian, who creates roars of laughter; Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedienne, also achieves considerable success; and the Selbinis give a really wonderful exhibition of trick cycling. The Labakans provide an excellent acrobatic turn; and Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, is good; Marie Jones and George Monroe are clever in their quick change act; and Dolly and Madge McCalla sing and dance well. Other turns are provided by Stave, the comedy artist, and the Bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—A particularly enjoyable programme is submitted here this week and good houses are the rule. Neil Kenyon, the famous Scotch comedian, is the star turn, and his songs and funny stories delight the audiences; Jack Pleasants is also here another week with new selections, and once more scores a big success; Maxford and O'Neil create roars of laughter with their patter; and Lilian Lowe sings well. Other turns are provided by Eric Graham, comedian; Marie and Julieta; Marjutti, lady contortionist; the Howards; and Millie Harris.

NEW BRIGHTON.—GRAND TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—A good programme this week includes Miss Cissie Loveday, popular ballad vocalist; Miss Hettie Hall, versatile instrumentalist; Eddie Clay, American comedy musician; Sandy and Carl, speciality comedians; the Bodina Trio, speciality artists in a clever musical melange; Percy Victor's troupe of intelligent dog minstrels; and the latest animated pictures by the Towerscope.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. John Power's company in the drama *Man's Enemy* is proving a popular attraction here this week. The rôle of Harry Stanton allows Mr. Francis Everard ample scope to display his undoubted talent, and he is in every way successful; Mr. John Power's conception of Tom Drake is forcible and at all times interesting; Iky Barnett as played by Mr. J. Newton Cowling is an amusing Hebrew; Mr. George Beresford as Bill Sanders presents a clever character study of a loafer. Miss Marie Lyons in the heavy part of Sarah Drake is seen to advantage; Miss Edith Leslie is a sweet and womanly Grace Lisle; Miss Clara Reid is amusing as Polly Harris; and Miss Florrie Sorsby as Nellie Saunders is a juvenile actress of promise.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Lingfield Carson's drama, entitled *Defending His Honour*, occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Fred Granville's company, which is responsible for the production, is one of all-round excellence, and includes Mr. Fred W. Goddard, Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh, Mr. A. Balfour Mackay, Mr. Willie Black, and the Misses Chrissie Dunbar, Amy Manfree, Dorothy Vaughan, and Agnes Morton.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Cinquevalli tops an attractive programme here this week, and his juggling is still characterised by that neatness and precision which have made his act famous. Two pantomime favourites in Rachael Lowe, in novelty songs, and George Formby, "the Wigan Nightingale," are both quaint in the extreme. The Russian Imperial Troupe of Singers and Dancers provide a novel and lively sort of entertainment; Marie Weston, a dainty comedienne and dancer, meets with appreciation; the Norman-Leonard Trio submit an acceptable sketch entitled *The Itinerant*; Barton and Ashley are immensely popular with their duologue *Canal Boat Sal*; Ross and Grayson, comedy artists, are as excellent as ever; Brown and Robinson, comedy musicians, furnish a good turn; and the Bioscope, with pictures of the recent Royal visit to Newcastle, completes the bill.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—So successful was the engagement last week of Servais Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, that the management have retained their services for another week, and their mystifying act still creates the utmost bewilderment. Lawrence Barclay sings his "Bull and Bush" parody, and acknowledges the applause in his ludicrous and mirth-provoking style; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Bright, of musical comedy fame, appear with much success in a trifle entitled *Cockie*; as acrobatic cyclists the Cumberland Troupe meet with unstinted approbation; Rex Fox's performance on the slack wire is as clever as it is daring; Lottie de Abbey, impersonator; the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; Ada and August, comedy artists; and Hill and Fane, are all distinctly good in their respective lines. The Barrascope shows a beautiful picture of the Royal visit to this city.

NEWPORT. — EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Florrie Gallimore, with catchy songs, is quite a favourite here. Rose Naynon, assisted by Clyde Phillips, presents a marvellous collection of performing birds, and Alex. Lukos sings of famous men of the past; the Four Figaros give a series of international dances; Pit and Cute, smart acrobats, are responsible for a really laughable turn; Will Cornish entertains with his music from silver chimes and hand bells; Nancy St. John, Margaret Ashton, and Flo D'Orville all do well; while the Bioscope shows a series of pretty pictures.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This theatre was reopened after the vacation on Monday evening with Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Heart of a Hero*. Jem Resdale is taken by Mr. Charles Draycott, who plays the part with great vigour; Miss Hettie Senior, as Mary Ryder, the heroine, shows much force in the prison scene; the comic element is well supported by Timothy Heighno (Mr. Arthur Byron); Mr. Ernest J. Fare is accorded manifest recognition of his excellent impersonation of Wilfred Marl; Miss Laurie A. Pardy plays Nell Resdale with success; Mr. J. D. Clyde appears as Mark Marl; Mr. Sidney C. Cranston does exceedingly well as Jack Collinson; as does also Mr. Morley Carroll as Dave Pritchard, the detective. *The Ticket of Leave Man* and *The Octooroon* are in the week's bill.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—An enjoyable bill of fare has attracted large audiences here this week. Messrs. Abel and Welsh, grotesque eccentrics, are very smart; Mr. Jack Crawley, comedian, is well received; and Mons. Vosper, mimic, is clever. The Henres, in their juggling and Indian club manipulating act, display much skill, and Mr. King Roy, a popular baritone, Miss Gracie Bard, juvenile coon artist, Wee Civere, speciality dancer, and the Bioscope, all meet with favour.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrots Co.—Another good array of talent has been provided this week. Miss Hilda de Grey, soprano vocalist, sings with much pathos and feeling. Lillian and Francis present a laughable turn. Mr. Frank Royle receives a hearty welcome. Harry Barclay does well with his comic songs. Denby and Dent are capital dancers and cause much merriment in their sketch *The Barber*; and Mr. Glanmore Jones is always to the fore with some new and taking song.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr Councillor F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is presented this week. Heading the bill is Martin Conway, whose amusing songs and patter win much appreciation; Lillie Soutter, comedienne, is quite a favourite; Ethel Dove, comedienne and dancer, is also successful; the vocal abilities of the Columbia Trio, comedy artists, are heartily acknowledged; Pueblo and Cropp, American creole artists, in their singing and dancing, prove an excellent turn; Kavado introduces some clever juggling tricks; the Three Sisters Urma are graceful trapezists and win applause; Brady and Johnson are very funny in their sketch, *Turning the Tables*; whilst the Hippo Bio, with entertaining pictures, completes the programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The management still retain the Royal Animated Picture Company, with an ever-changing series of films, and the large audiences prove the popularity of this form of entertainment.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The principal attraction here this week is provided by George Lashwood, whose debonair manner and smart songs are enhancing his already high reputation. The Abdullah Arabs exhibit extraordinary skill in their remarkable whirling sensations, and the turn is received with enthusiastic applause. A typical Yorkshire comedian in the person of Jack Lane causes lots of amusement, and Will Musgrave is another comedian who provokes a great deal of mirth. Flo Esdaile is the possessor of a remarkably good soprano voice, which she uses to great advantage; while Irene Rose dances and sings herself into favour. The Clarkes excel as banjo players; Toledo and Price have an act unique in the contortionist line, and which deserves the high commendation it receives. The programme is completed by Madge Osmond and Sanford and Lyons, the latter a clever pair of comedians and simultaneous dancers.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—A capital programme is provided this week. The Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats head the bill, and they are well received; the Villions, acrobatic cyclists, in their latest comedy act, are another good turn; Ernest Rees, the droll comedian, causes roars of laughter; and the Meymotts (Ada and Harry), in their comic sketch, provide much fun; Ruby Dahl and her "Merry Mannikins" are well received; Yetta, in a clever wire act; Burley and Burley, a pair of funny comedians; Wee Jessie, song and dance artist; and Toney, whistler, also appear

PENTRE. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth.—This theatre, which has been closed for the past few weeks, reopened on Monday evening, when Mr. Chas. W. Poole's grand combination provided the attraction. In an interesting tour round the world, accompanied by surprising myrioramic effects, Messrs. Wm. Stewart and Alfred Leonard proved themselves good elocutionists and instructive guides. Little Doretta, in a capital Dutch song and dance, earned the loud applause of the audience; Kitty Woodford was seen and heard to advantage in up-to-date songs; the Avondale Quartette scored, their vocal abilities being of a high order; Leonard and Mac caused roars of laughter by their droll eccentricities; Kitty Woodford's canine circus, and Daisy Graham with her trained birds and dog Nap, were also well received. Mr. Harry Stewart, who is manager for Mr. C. W. Poole, is an excellent quick-change artist; and the orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. A. S. Morrell.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Owners, County Theatres and Hotels, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jack Field. A varied and entertaining programme is submitted here this week. The Montramos have the leading position on the bill, and their patter and comedy business bear the hall-mark of genuine wit; a sketch, entitled *The Battle of the Belles*, also wins popular favour; the Marlo and Dunham trio present a gymnastic item of exceptional daring; Charles Collette, an old favourite, has a fresh bevy of smart sayings; and Chas. Bignell does well. Others contributing are May Fallowfield, Alma Burton, Blanchard Beatty, and Vernon's pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee. — The stock company give a highly creditable representation of *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Edward Lloyd creates a Fagan as bad as Dickens could have wished; Mr. Cecil A. Collins makes an admirable Bill Sykes, and the humorous element is well supplied by Mr. Green Taylor as Charlie Bates, the Artful Dodger. Miss Ethel Kay is a pathetic Oliver Twist.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—A couple of hours' good entertainment is supplied by the Leslie Concert Company. Mr. Sammy Shields, whose sayings are flavoured with a broad Scotch accent, scores immensely; Miss Mabelle Ashton deservedly earns encores at each performance for some clever dancing; the Misses Nellie Gallapert and May Farrell have cultured soprano voices, and Mr. Chas. North is a powerful baritone.

METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Mr. Carlton's stock company presents *Our British Empire* to appreciative audiences. The company includes Messrs. Leonard Aardale, Douglas Phelps, Geo. King, Miss Pattie Hastings, Beatrice Vane, and L. Davies.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company, with the highly successful musical comedy, *The Gay Parisienne*, is occupying the boards here this week. The acting and singing are good, and the Imperial Glee Singers, who contribute in the second act, meet with hearty applause. Miss Nellie Hodson's portrayal of the irrepressible Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon is full of life and vim; Ebenezer Honeycombe is cleverly depicted by Mr. Will Harman; M. Pompier is admirably personated by Mr. Clifford Seyler; Major Fossdyke and Tom Everleigh are well placed in the hands of Messrs. T. Gideon Warren and Neville Kershaw; Mrs. Honeycombe is capitally impersonated by Miss Halford Beringer; Ruth is well presented by Miss Madge Souttar, and Miss Nellie Beryl is successful as Norah.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The romantic and powerful drama, *A Warning to Women*, was presented here for the first time in Portsmouth on Monday evening to a well-filled and sympathetic house by Mr. C. Watson Mill and company. Mr. Mill personates Dr. Marcus Dread, a designing scoundrel, with effective skill and judgement; Maria Kennion, the much-persecuted heroine, is played by Miss Rosalind Tait with great success; Mr. Henry Lonsdale makes the most of the capital part of Shaun, a wandering minstrel; and Mr. W. Palliser Acock and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter as Ferdinand de Joules and Lord Eversleigh are responible for capable renderings of their respective parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The bill here is a bright and varied one, and in spite of the tropical heat the attendance has been very large. Arthur Reece, the ever-popular vocal comedian, has had an exceedingly flattering welcome; Fraser and Haley, duettists and dancers, are capital exponents of the light fantastic; Talberto and Douglas, a clever and amusing pair of knockabout and balancing artists, meet with much approval. Arhtur Albert, actor-vocalist, has an excellent voice, and knows how to use it to the best advantage; Edie Gray, with her harmonising white coons, gives a capable and pleasing turn; Three Sisters Kilner, vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are energetic, and have had a good reception on their first visit; Cissie Dryden, male impersonator, creates a favourable impression; Amy Sullivan, a charming comedienne; Vandyke Troupe, with a laughable pantomimic act, *Sensations*, and Payne's pictures complete the programme.

PRESTON.—ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, and Managers, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill this week are the Frantz Family of speciality artists, whose pantomimic act, *Happy School Times*, evokes much laughter and applause. Howard Ward and Louie Davis present a very amusing musical comedy duologue, *Wanted a Typist*; Phedona supplies a pleasing musical act with special electric illuminations; the Four Albertos give a wonderfully clever equilibristic performance; the Harc Trio display great skill in a daring ladder act; Rita Bell's pretty dances please the audience; Blarney and Kennard create a lot of fun in their comedy act; the songs of Bernard Katz, Hebrew bass vocalist, are greeted with hearty applause; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing boxmakers, score a great success. Humorous bioscope pictures complete a most enjoyable entertainment.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—The talented troupe of entertainers known as the Gazekas have made a reappearance here this week. Mr. Wellesley Lynn's comjuring and clever patter add a distinct element of attractiveness to the programme. Miss Evelyn Fowler plays violin solos with marked success; Miss Frances Kapstowne contributes humorous sketches; and excellent turns are also supplied by Mr. Tom Arnold (vocalist), Mr. F. Taylor (song and speciality sand dance artist), Mr. J. Vincent (edeophone soloist), and Miss Bessie Graves (vocalist). Excellent living pictures are shown by means of Jury's Imperial Bioscope.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Miss Constance Moxon is here with a capital company of variety artists. La Petite Carlina is a charming little costume dancer; Miss Beattie Lyndon's song and dance are well received; Harry Lawson is nightly encored for his clever comic songs; and E. Will Capper also meets with a fair measure of success in a similar direction; the Mujscal Keiths are seen to great advantage in their clever and versatile performance; Tom Craven and company in the *Lady in Red* have caused great laughter; Miss Constance Moxon has appeared in a monologue, entitled *A Toff for Ten Minutes*, which gives the lady opportunities of displaying her versatility, and she has gained well-deserved applause. The programme concludes with some fine films shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. E. Oswald Brooks and company are here this week with *The Trail of the Serpent*, a sensational drama. Mr. Harry P. Kenn is highly successful in the emotional part of Sir Gerald Kingston; and Mr. A. Campbell Kelly gives a clever portrayal of the rôle of Gerald Kingston. Mr. Wilford Cheetham scores as Ralph Hammond; and Mr. Vincent Kelway is amusing and smart as William Higgins. Mr. Booth Conway as Gipsy Jake and Mr. George Harris as Ben Chucks are deserving of mention. Miss Marie Barrett as Ethel Maynard gives a pleasing embodiment of a difficult rôle; and Miss Nana Cameron is seen to advantage as Rachel. Miss Gladys Newcombe is sprightly as Rose Wilson.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Mother's Love* met with a good reception by a crowded house on Monday. Mr. Arthur Mervyn makes a good parson as Paul Wingate, and his wife Winnie is cleverly played by Miss Rosa Mervyn; the villain Geoffrey Mannering, is successfully presented by Mr. George Child; Mr. Fred L. Connyngham keeps the audience in roars as Mat Ruddock, a ne'er-do-well; Mr. Robt. W. Lynn as Joe Jackson; and Miss Dorothy Monkhouse as Mary Smart also furnish acceptable comedy; Miss Marjorie Murray is a charming Ellaine Marvin; Miss Bertha Christobel, as the child, Marjorie Wingate, shows ability in her work.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. Matt Wilkinson and his company in their funny act, *That French Woman*, keep the house amused; Cordite and Buffalo do some clever lasso throwing and Mexican rope spinning; Monte Carlo Girls give some smart acrobatic dances; Lack and Ford are amusing comedy acrobats. Other turns include Ivy Gallard, comedienne; E. W. Selman, comedian and dancer; Barney Armstrong, comedian; the Charnleys, duettists and dancers; and Flo Banks, comedienne. The pictures on the Bioscope are very amusing.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Wyndham and Waters, as the professor and the pupil, sing well, and are very comical; Stanley's Urchins, including Little Tich Bourne, do some clever singing and dancing; the Davenports (Lewis and Marie), are smart with their magic act; Dutch pastimes, dancing, and singing are indulged in by the Netherlands; Victoria Dagmar is very smart in her horizontal bar performance; Mlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano; Trick and Trixie, in the vocal instrumental and acrobatic act; Lady Zilla, a smart ventriloquist; Carson Hicks, vocalist and dancer; and J. C. Scatter, comedian and eccentric dancer, also make successful appearances.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Whitehead; Business Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—On the 13th and 14th inst., Mr. George Stephenson's company presented here *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Leslie Holland as Crosbie played with marked success. Mr. George Stephenson gave a powerful representation of Frank Frayne; Mr. Fred Rolph as Flambert portrayed the part in a clever manner; Mr. Allen Cunard was a capital Sir Charles Hampshire; Mr. Ernest Cresfan was remarkably good as Alderman Hargen and Mr. Bogle; Miss Evelyn Howard, in the rôle of Lady Hampshire, deserves credit for a refined piece of acting; as Paulina, Miss Vera Vere plays admirably; and Miss Eve Erskine as Gipsy Vandeller handled the part well.

VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tibby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Large and delighted audiences continue to appreciate the liberal and ever-varying programme that is nightly presented here. Miss Beattie Witham is as popular as ever; Miss Ramsdale's songs are well rendered, and a clog dance with Little Midge is well executed; the latter also sings several songs nicely. Mr. Skidmore has firmly established himself as a popular favourite, and renders his humorous songs in an up-to-date style; Mr. Ben Barnes is heard to advantage in "Malabar"; Mr. William Dyar contributes a violin solo; and Miss Sylvia Mortlake (pianist) deserves special mention.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr James Welch and his company are providing a capital bill of fare here with *The Lady Burglar*, *Punctured*, *The Man in the Street*, and *Judged by Appearance*. Mr. Welch's characters have the merit of being life-like and real, and he is particularly good in *The Man in the Street*. Miss Audrey Ford and Miss Estelle Winwood greatly add to the attractiveness of the contributions, and Mr. G. F. Tully, Mr. Leonard Buttress, and Mr. Charles Entwistle gave capital renderings of their respective parts.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Cliff Bridge Company; Manager, Mr. Francis Goodricke.—"The Gems" are the attraction here this week. They include Mr. Edgar Stevens (baritone), Miss Oliver Mortimer (contralto), Mr. Kenna Lawson (humorist), Miss Elsie Jones (soprano), and Miss Olive Mortimer and Mr. Harold Scott (accompanists). Mr. Wallace Kennedy received a well-deserved encore for "Angels guard thee," Mr. Harold Scott was twice recalled for his pianoforte interpretation of Liszt's "Venezia e Napoli," Miss Elsie Jones and Mr. Kenna Lawson were both funny in "Doodle, Doodle," Miss Olive Mortimer showed her abilities when she sang "Out on the Rocks," and Mr. Edgar Stevens had a most rousing reception when he submitted "The Maid of Singapore" in his highly-polished style.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva.—Signor B. Volpi's Royal Italian Circus finish a three weeks' visit here this week, during which time they have received excellent patronage, and the character of the entertainment has been of a first-class order.

PIER PAVILION, North Sands.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—What remained of the North Pier after the disastrous storm last year has now been converted by Mr. Morgan into a picturesque pavilion capable of seating an audience of 500 people, and on Monday Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers opened it for the season. Miss Ona Ashton, with a well-cultured soprano voice, is heard with considerable pleasure in the valse song from "Carmena"; Miss Alice Singleton scores with her songs, which have many bright and livey features; Mr. Ernest Edmondson is well up to his work; Mr. Harker Holt sings in admirable style. The humorist of the party is Mr. C. D. Reekie, whose imitations are exceedingly funny. Mr. Ernest Lord is the accompanist.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's *Two Little Drummer Boys* company is performing here. Mr. F. G. Kimberley plays the part of Quiney O'Quirke with great success, and the company, a very capable one, is attracting appreciative audiences.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Mr. J. E. Walmsley is the vocalist this week, and his singing is much admired. The Howards are remarkable thought readers; Salida and Vone are catchy dancers; Lily Andrews sings up-to-date coon songs, and is a great favourite; the Four Grovinis are adepts in the art of tumbling and twisting; Renson and Waite give a nice little up-to-date show; The Wiltons create excellent impressions by their clever performance on the triple bar; Zenova receives applause for his hand-jumping; Princess Leah is quite at home on the silver thread; and Ariello, hypnotist, is mystifying.

SHEFFIELD.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's dramatic company opened on Monday to a good house in the dramatic and sensational drama *When a Man Hates*. Some good scenery was provided, and Miss Leila Zielwood and Mr. Arthur Hinton distinguished themselves by their acting in leading parts. The original version, with the thrilling yacht scenes, of Marie Corelli's *Sorrows of Satan* was announced for Friday, with Miss Leila Zielwood as Lady Sybil Elton, Mr. Travis Green as Geoffrey Tempest, and Mr. Arthur Hinton as Prince Lucio.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—There was a crowded and enthusiastic audience on Monday, and the generous programme gave abundant pleasure. Mr. Mike S. Whallen, who "tops" the bill, is always sure of a hearty reception from lovers of quaint fun; Miss Marie Kendall, the clever delineator of the East-End "Donna," and singer of pretty ballads, is a great favourite here; those popular comedians, the Bros. Harrison, in pantomime and in their own diverting business, are adepts in the honourable trade of dispelling evil humours by creating hearty laughter; the Seddons appear in a good act, introducing juggling and comicalities; Nelson's Newsboys are smart; and other commendable "turns" are Messrs. Alexandre and Hughes, musical entertainers; Salbrig's wonderful "Automatos"; Mr. Steve McCarthy, descriptive vocalist; the American Bioscope; and Miss Helen Forde, vocalist.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Miss Carlotta de Yonson, the favourite dramatic artist, and her company, are appearing here this week in a sketch; and others engaged are Mr. Harry Carmen, a comedian whose evident talent should procure him a place some day in the front rank of burlesque artists; Daley and Collins; the Lindons; the Three Cheers; and Miss Daisy Lane. In addition, there is Pallister's Biograph.

CENTRAL HALL. — Variety artists and animated pictures consitute the attractions at this hall.

SOUTHAMPTON. — PALACE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—This week's company is headed by a successful novelty, *Casey's Court*, played by the Midget Mimes, 30 in number; Bob King is droll as Mrs. Casey, and the youngsters sing excellently; Juno Salmo is a wonderful contortionist, and Marguerite Broadfoote sings several songs in good style. The other turns include Johnny Holland and Co. in *Our Betsy*; Marie Neilson, a dainty comedienne; Unity Vezzey and her musical poodles; and Molly Doon, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Fred Russell tops the bill, and scores a great success with his ventriloquial act; Alice Holländer, the popular Australian contralto, sings admirably; and Athas and Collins entertain with their successful creation *The Italian Girl and the Monkey*; Harry Rogerson is funny, and wins enthusiastic applause; Rosie Lloyd sings in captivating style, and others who prosper well are the Elgars and the Sulaine-Darrell trio of gymnasts.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Messrs. Henry Herbert and Bernard Limpus' company has returned here with Shakespearean plays. Monday witnessed the performance of *Hamlet*. Mr. Alfred A. Harris in the rôle of Claudius was in his element, his portrayal gaining praise; Hamlet was taken by Mr. Henry Herbert, who impersonated the important character with considerable talent and success, his efforts being rapturously applauded; Messrs. Arthur Fayne and A. Begbie were good exponents of Polonius and Horatio respectively; whilst Laertes was well acted by Mr. Frank Darch. Miss Dorothy Green gave an effective impersonation of Gertrude, and Miss Gladys Vanderzee as Ophelia was decidedly good. The other plays for the week include *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Othello*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Owners, Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—The attraction this week is the play, entitled *The Marriage of Kitty*, presented by Mr. Thomas Sidney and company in pleasing and successful manner. Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart., finds in Mr. Edgar Kent a capable exponent; and as John Travers Mr. Thomas Sidney gives an excellent portrayal that merits praise; Messrs. Christmas Grose and H. A. Samson play the rôles of Norbury and Hampton respectively in good style. Miss Mary Thorne is well suited as Miss Katherine Silverton ("Kitty"), whilst Miss Kathleen Russell portrays Mme. de Semiano with ability; Rosalie is well embodied by Miss Josephine Rae. The dramatic sketch, entitled *Twenty Years Ago*, which precedes, is capitally rendered.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—This new place of entertainment is proving very popular, and capital programmes are submitted. Last week's artists are retained, and the Bijou Orchestra is evidently gaining favour. Mr. H. Syme is the director, who has every reason to be proud of his endeavours to provide good shows.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—This popular place of entertainment still draws large crowds, extra seating accommodation being found necessary. Record business is being done, excellent programmes being presented three times daily. In addition to the already strong company of artists, the new comers are Mr. Arthur T. Mills, the living lilliputian and ventriloquist, and Mr. Victor Marmond, solo pianist.

SOUTHPORT.—ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz—The popularity of this place of amusement was evidenced by the crowded audience which patronised the performance on Monday evening, when a programme of all-round merit was presented. The principal items were provided by Nellie Coleman, who submitted some typical male impersonations very cleverly, and was loudly applauded; the Delevines, in their original comedy, *Flipp and Flopp*, presented a highly diverting sketch, which caused continual merriment; Radford and Valentine, the Jolly Jesters, were exceedingly humorous. Other turns included the Three Sisters Slater, banjoists and dancers; Dome, the original clay modeller; the Three Whirligigs, in their original act *Fun in a Kitchen*; Arthur Stacey, comedian and top-boot dancer; Kathleen Moore, soprano; and the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Company; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—On Monday evening a packed audience greeted the capital combination of variety artists who form the attraction here this week. The bill is headed by N. T. Kioto, the wonderful Japanese equilibrist, who gives a marvellously clever performance; the programme includes the Three Great Seabornes, acrobatic wonders; H. O. Wills, the new star comedian; Lilian Payne, the Yorkshire contralto; Ford Williams, Welsh basso; Hughes and Eliot, duettists and dancers; Fred Bronte, descriptive vocalist; Lil Esplin, comedienne; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Sydney Dench's company is drawing excellent houses here in the drama, *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Dench achieves success in the arduous part of Spider Jack; Miss Dora Dench creditably sustains the heroine, May Braithwaite, her performance being charming; Miss Molly Hackett adds greatly to the comedy element with a clever and funny portrayal of Polly Philpot; Mr. J. Templar Ellis, who contributes a neat character-study, is advantageously placed as Grabbam; Messrs. Edward Avinal, Graham Arthurs, and Arthur Jarvis appear successfully in their respective parts of Mark Stanley, Dr. Morton, and Gussy Lamb. Miss Ethel Denville (Seadrift) and Master Bert Dench (Dixie) also had their admirers.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Bob Hutt and his pantomime sketch company in *Welcome Home* provide an enjoyable and laughable entertainment; Starr and Leslie, comedy artists, are also in great demand; J. A. Wilson, black comedian, with his clever dog, Towser, are as successful as ever; and Ike Scott and Son, with excellent songs, make a big hit as the Officious Officer and Raw Recruit; Vernando, the ventriloquial barber, is pleasing; popular Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, has been retained another week; Marie Reeves, charming comedienne and clever dancer, and the American Bioscope complete the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. H. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—Alf Sanger, comedy artist, is popular, both his patter and dancing being of a high order; Maggie Dilston renders her numbers in a charming style, and Almon appears to advantage in a smart athletic turn; an excellent series of new films are depicted by the Bioscope. A "go-as-you-please" competition, open to all local amateurs, is arousing interest.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Variety reigns here this week, and an attractive bill is provided, headed by Mlle. Florence, who gives a highly-entertaining and clever performance on the rolling globe and bottles.; Alex presents a good turn as a strong man; Dale and D'Argan, acrobatic conjurers, cause much amusement in their novelty act, "La Café Magique; George Raper is a capital character comedian; and Polly Adula acquits herself with credit.

ST. HELENS. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—At the head of the bill here this week we have Mr. Arnold Bell's clever company in the startling sketch *The Blind Witness*, which is capitally rendered. The Brothers Mellot, blind vocal duettists, are well received. Mr. Edwin Lambert and Miss Emmie Hands in vocal scenes and high-class duets are scoring heavily. Mr. H. O. Borie is a comedy juggler of high merit. Miss Edie Endon is a very clever comedienne and expert dancer. Mr. George Grogie is a laughter-provoking character-comedian; and Weisker's Bioscope is still showing.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company has given excellent representations here of *The Luck of Life*. A powerful impersonation of Michael Bazilovitz is presented by Mr. Roland Yorke, and Mr. Leonard Thackeray acts with skill as Count Petroff. Mr. Joseph Millaine as George Stanhope gives an able portrayal of the part, and Mr. Fred Danvers is most amusing as Simon Stanley. Miss Mary Dawson fills the character of Rene Bazilovitz with admirable effect; and Miss Dora Huggett is pleasing as Laura North; whilst Countess Viame is ably presented by Miss Gertie Bonser.

EMPIRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The management here is displaying marked enterprise in its catering for the tastes of its patrons, a distinct hit being achieved this week by the engagement of the Regal Operatic Quartette in selections from *Maritana*. Another excellent attraction is the Tom Davies Trio in their motor cycle act, "Whirling the Whirl," a performance which is daring and clever. The pleasing dialect comedienne, Madge Grey is again included in the programme, and a local comedian, Jim Alston, is a great success. Martinengo, 'cellist and baritone, is entertaining in his scena, *The Unemployed Musician*; Flori St. Roy sings pleasingly, and Lilian Hodge is a charming ballad vocalist; Amy Elcock, comedienne and dancer; Florence Schuberth, burlesque artiste; and Albert German, baritone vocalist, complete a capital programme.

THE HAPPY VALLEY.—Manager, Mr. Charles Osborne—The artistes engaged here this week are Mr. F. S. Harris, Miss Beatrice Varley, Mr. Harry Rose, Mr. Charles Wood, Mr. Bert Dansie, Mr. Charles Osborne, and Mr. Owen Clark. On Wednesday Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, Miss Fanny Wentworth, and Mr. Joe Archer assisted in a special matinée in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent and Music Hall Home Funds.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, July 16,
the Drama, by Mark Melford, entitled
"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

Mr. Mark Melford's melodrama, *Flying From Justice*, is being presented here this week, and is meeting with a cordial reception from large audiences. The piece long since became a favourite with the playgoers who have a taste for melodrama, for it is a strongly-written play, with many excellent lines and thrilling situations, that of the Coiners' Den being a decidedly exciting scene, which never fails to draw applause. A capital company is headed by that well-known actor Mr. J. C. Aubrey, who gives one of his usual strong impersonations as J. Haldane Gully, the head of the gang. It is a really clever piece of acting, and, despite the evil nature of the character, one is almost bound to admire the resolute and calm manner with which he faces danger. A striking feature of Mr. Melford's work lies in the fact that his characters are naturally drawn, and that of Winnie Bradley is an excellent example. Miss Mary Raby plays the part effectively, and earns the utmost interest of the audience. Miss Jessie Winter is especially good as Mildred Parkes, and secures full sympathy by her quiet but determined manner. Mr. Fred Morgan plays John Lacarsey in a capital style, his disguise when searching for the murderer of his father being cleverly done; Mr. Young Melford makes an excellent Charles Bearing; and Major Parkes is well impersonated by Mr. E. Major Jones. Mr. Tom Allen creates a decided impression in the short scene in which he appears as Jim Kimber; Mr. W. H. Morgan is seen to advantage as Pearly Tanner; and Mr. Jackson Willcox is successful as Woodruff. Miss Blanche Stanley plays Mrs. Bearing in a very earnest manner, and in the scene when Mrs. Bearing visits "the gang" to inquire for her son she was natural and convincing.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 16,
The Drama, in Four Acts, by Lingford Carson, entitled
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

Notwithstanding the fact that drama has filled the bill here for some weeks past, crowded houses have been the rule at each performance this week, and the manifest enthusiasm of the audiences testifies to the excellence alike of the play and its presentation by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. The piece is staged with a completeness that excites general admiration, and the elaborate setting of Act III. in particular draws forth rounds of applause. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton scores a genuine hit in his thoroughly sound representation of the unhappy husband Harry Beech. His clever acting, especially in the drunken scene, makes a deep impression, and at the fall of the curtain he is accorded an ovation. Miss Kate Hallam plays cleverly in the exacting part of the unfortunate Sylvia Beech, and acquits herself with distinct success. The part is one which calls for highly emotional acting, and Miss Hallam throughout has the utmost interest and sympathy of the audience. A finished performance of the villainous Walter Beech is given by Mr. J. Hooker, who quite realises the vindictiveness of the character, and acts with an earnestness that carries conviction. An excellent study of the old lodging-house keeper Betty Black is given by Miss Nellie Birchenough, who looks and acts the part to perfection. As Sir Dobson Wilde, the harmless aristocrat who aspires to become a famous detective, Mr. Harwood Roberts is a host in himself, and in a part that allows him full scope for his humorous antics contrives to keep the audience in continuous merriment. Mr. Sidney Fiennes as Dave Crane makes excellent use of his limited opportunities; and Mr. H. Maxwell Payne gives an admirable delineation of Jack Lawton. Mr. Horace Booth is well placed as Richard Brenton, a detective; and Mr. Edward Van Biene's impersonation of Count de Foi, a French adventurer, leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Florence French as Lady Jane Wilde deserves praise for her excellent portraiture; and little Elsie May displays talent in the rôle of Master Robert Beech, her distinct utterance enabling her to bring out with the utmost force the effective lines which fall to her. The minor parts are all in safe hands and adequately sustained. Mr. Edward Van Biene is general manager for Mr. Lingford Carson.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, July 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Wilkie Collins, entitled
"THE NEW MAGDALEN."

Mr. Davey, the managing-director of the Royal County Theatre, brings his summer season to a close this week with *The New Magdalen*, which has been commanding a fair measure of public patronage. The play abounds in strong dramatic interest, and secures a most flattering reception The company, which is captained by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, is a thoroughly capable one all round. Miss B. Doyle appears as Mercy Merrick, and scores a disinct success; Miss G. Hastings-Walton makes a creditable appearance as Grace Rosebery; and Miss Mildred Gilbert acquits herself well as Lady Jane Roy. Mr. Alderson himself plays Julian Gray, and invests the part with a strong sympathetic interest; and Mr. H. K. Ayliffe makes a successful appearance as Horace Holmcroft. Other parts are ably filled by Messrs. Harry F. Wright, Richard Cameron, Thos. Kirkwood, T. Weymons. and H. Richards. The drama is preceded by the farce *Bamboozling*, in which the parts are sustained as follows: Captain Bamboozle, Mr. H. K. Ayliffe; Sir Marmaduke Meadows, Mr. Harry F. Wright; Frank Tiverton, Mr. Richard Cameron; Dolley, Mr. Thos. Kirkwood; Lady Meadows. Miss Mildred Gilbert; Lucy Weston. Miss G. Hastings-Walton; and Emily, Miss Moya Mannering.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, July 16,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Weedon Grossmith, entitled
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."

Mr. Cecil Paget, the popular manager, presents his patrons with a great attraction in the sparkling farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*. Mr. George Stephenson's clever company gives a first-class rendering of the exhilarating play, and the whole entertainment is one eminently calculated to dispel a fit of the blues. Mr. Leslie Holland submits a capital impersonation of the rôle of the cool, imperturbable valet and champion liar, Crosbie, the part originally created by Mr. Weedon Grossmith, and each successive "terminological inexactitude" is greeted with roars of laughter. Mr. George Stephenson tenders a polished and gentlemanly reading of the fashionable lady killer, Mr. Frank Frayne, and his accomplished acting in a difficult rôle is of the greatest value to the success of the piece. Miss Eva Erskine plays very cleverly the part of the brazen adventuress, Gipsy Vandeleur, scoring well throughout the play, and Mr. Fred Rolph is a great success in the part of the conscientious and pompous butler, Mr. Flambert. Mr. Allen Cunard is an appropriately calm and dignified Sir Charles Hampshire, and Mr. Ernest Cresfan is good as Alderman Hargen. Miss Vera Vere is vivacious and pleasing as Crosbie's sweetheart, Pauline, and Mr. George Sade does full justice to the part of Roundle, the Cockney footman. Miss Evelyn Howard plays with dignity and charm as Lady Hampshire. Mr. H. V. Surrey is amusing as Boyle. The remaining characters are well rendered by Mr. Conningsby Brierley, Charles Wilson, William Consett, Patrick and Samuel Phinge, and Misses Maisee Jones, and Hilda Saroo. The amusing scene of the servants' supper party in the first act, with its diverting sequel, is capitally given. The play is produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Weedon Grossmith.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 16,
The Drama, by James Willard, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

A cordial reception is being given to Mr. James Willard's company at the Lyric this week, the play *In the Shadow of Night* being at once exciting and spectacular, and the various characters well rendered. Mr. Austin Mortimer is excellent as Gordon Allington, the hero of the drama. The villainous Clifford Yorks is portrayed in a masterly manner by Mr. George R. Montford; while Mr. Fred Norburn as his partner in crime, Jake Grudgewell, is very successful. A part which has pleased Lyric audiences is that of Mollie Woodstock; and Miss Nellie Sheffield, who is responsible for this character, certainly deserves the rounds of applause she nightly receives. A clever bit of acting is given by Mr. Fred G. Evison, who in the rôle of Joe Jackson, a rural postman, deserves great praise. Miss Phyllis Dailley is a graceful Violet Kingston, and plays the part with conspicuous ability; Miss Phyllis French makes a plucky Bob, a young waif; Mr. Harry Emmerson as James Woodstock causes plenty of amusement, his study of the farmer of a former generation being wonderfully life-like; nor can we speak too highly of the excellent work of Mr. George Harvey, whose acting in the trying rôle of Jack Allington is much appreciated.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, July 16,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by George R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"MASTER AND MAN."

For the last week of the present season Mr. Robert Arthur has put up the exciting melodrama *Master and Man*, which bears the mark of the practised dramatists' able pens on every scene. Excitement is sustained throughout the piece, and a very sensational moment is reached in the scene of the Ironworks when one of the characters is thrust into the blazing furnace. The play is admirably presented by a well-chosen company, foremost among whom is Mr. Roy Redgrave, an actor who attained great poularity as leading man at the Britannia and elsewhere, and has since won laurels in a far distant land. He plays the part of the young engineer, Jack Walton, in a striking fashion, and the honourable attributes which attach to the character are vividly brought out. His young wife, Hester, is admirably played by Miss Lucy Sibley, who alternates the sweetness of sorrow and passionate fervour in a way that completely gains the hearts of the audience. Mr. Jo Monkhouse, the bearer of an honoured name, gives an impressive performance of Humpy Logan, laying great stress on the spite ond vindictiveness of the part, and the more cultured characteristics of villainy are effectively delineated by Mr. Alec Bradley as Robert Carlton, the scheming owner of the works. Mr. Trueman Towers revels in the mirth-making propensities of Tom Honeywood; and Mr. Templeton's giggle and mincing manner as the effeminate Crispin St. Jones are irresistible. A forcible exposition of the outraged forgeman, Jim Burleigh, is given by Mr. George Barran, whose declamatory powers are utilised effectively in the strong lines which fall to him. The lively Letty Lightfoot is briskly and merrily played by Miss Tiz Maddocks; and Keziah Honeywood is made a character of great importance by Miss Sophy Shenton, whose long experience enables her to emphasise every point in the part. A natural impersonation of Hester's little boy, Johnny, is given by Miss Hetty Melville; and two children are also played by Misses Minnie Glaunder and Gladys Ellis. Levano, the acrobat, and his pal Jim are effectively impersonated by Mr. F. Arnold and Mr. G. Marlow respectively; and the other parts of a long cast are creditably sustained.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, July 16,
the Operetta, in Four Acts, by J. Lateiner, entitled
"KORAH'S TREASURES."

The operetta by J. Lateiner, entitled *Korah's Treasures*, was the attraction offered by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, at the Pavilion on Monday, and was enthusiastically received by a large audience. The play has evidently been suggested by Goethe's *Faust*, and has the advantage of some well written music, while the stage effects, notably the assembly of devils in the first act, and the picturesque appearance of angels in the second act, are admirably managed. Madame Zwiebel was both vocally and histrionically a great success as Yechved and Zipare, her fine voice, which is of great range and power, being heard with splendid effect in the many numbers allotted to her care; while Gabriel found a very capable exponent in Madame F. Waxman. A striking impersonation was the Ekivo of Mr. Isaacowitz, a characterisation of great artistic excellence from every point of view. Mr. Schilling played Yene with many amusing touches of humour, and Miss Bryh rendered commendable support as Rochle. Mr. Schapira is entitled to the highest praise for his delineation of Zamri, his assumption of curiosity combined with fear, when tempted by Maman in the opening scene, being well expressed; while Maman, or Mephistopheles, was portrayed with ability and the necessary versatility by Mr. Streng. Miss Geschpass was a praiseworthy Youth, and Madame Goldstein a satisfactory Old Age; Mr. Zeidel appeared as the Captain of the Guard. Successful performances during the week have been given of *Judith and Alphernas*, *Ben Hador*, *Princess as Beggar*, *The Bielostock Massacre*, and *Sulamith*.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE POWER OF GOLD."

Plenty of excitement is contained in this interesting play, with the result that the West Londoners this week accorded it a very favourable reception. As the butcher-boy Sammy Smudge Mr. Frank Ayrton has a part in which he simply revels. There is never a dull moment while he is on the stage, his twinkling feet being everywhere, and his success is most pronounced. Mr. Charles Whitlock is effectively made up as Hadji Zambra; Mr. Richard Oliver is convincingly energetic as Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton is persevering as Mark Harley; Mr. Frank Holyoake is commendable as Dr. Saunders; and Mr. W. Victor finds a congenial task as Peter Maguire. The important rôle of Lady Brandon is sustained in an able manner by Miss Lilla Wilde, who quickly gets a grip on the house, which she maintains to the end. Miss Georgina V. France enacts Meg Judson with plenty of reserved force and passion, her well-modulated voice and excellent elocution being most acceptable; Little Prudence is decidedly clever as Paddy Blake; and Miss Madge Seymour makes the fun fast and furious by reason of her bright and sparkling methods as Norah Donnelly.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, July 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. R. Clarke and H. R. Silva, entitled
"HONOUR THY FATHER."

Mr. Morton Powell has a strong drama in *Honour Thy Father*, and it is ably presented by his excellent company appearing this week at Poplar. Mr. Walter M. Cameron as Gabriel Garth presents a fine picture of the sturdy British yeoman farmer, and his performance is excellent throughout; Mr. Douglas B. Watson as Jack Halyard, captain in the merchant service, acts in a bright and hearty fashion, and looks an ideal sailor. As Duncan Bly Mr. Clavering Craig makes an amiable and polished villain; he fills the rôle with true dramatic instinct. Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick is exceedingly amusing as the servant of the Garths, and later their friend in adversity. Mr. Sinclair Holden as Mike Copplestone is a pleasing sort of rogue, who carries out his nefarious doings with drollery, and aids Duncan Bly in his rascally business. Mr. Claude Merton doubles the parts of Job Merry and George Bloggs in a very satisfactory manner; and Mr. Philip Armstrong as Seizem, a bailiff, could not be bettered in his impersonation. Mrs. Clavering Craig as Gertrude Garth plays the part of the faithful wife with touching pathos; and as Lilian Garth Miss Mabel Coleman quickly wins the favour of her audience by her effective and natural acting. Miss Lizzie Morley gives a pleasant rendering of Poppy Cornleigh, and shows at the same time a clever piece of character acting. Miss Maude Grey as Violet Wilfred is well placed; and Miss Winnie Donovan gives a bright and animated performance as Mercy Merry.

THE STAGE AS EMPIRE INSTRUCTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Ignorance of the principal races under the ægis of the Union Jack is regrettable, while counterfeit representations on the stage of their manners, music, customs, costumes, worship, etc., are nothing short of scandalous. Even the vital essentials of national life, religion and the homesteads, are invariably metamorphosed to ludicrous ends for financial gain. Staged by well-known managers, such shows, with gorgeous Eastern surroundings, strange to observe, are hall-marked as genuine reproductions or representations. England's greatest dependency, India, is very poorly represented on the stage, and if anything at all is put on the boards, that, without a doubt, is faked up to such uncompromising limits as to leave in the minds of the public a very doubtful, garbled, hazy conception of the India of to-day under King Edward.

The religious worship of the Hindoos has often been ridiculed by the introduction of meaningless rituals and inconsistent actions, thus reversing their sacred asset into a weird farce. Such entertainments at missionary meetings may serve to swell the coffers for the conversion of the heathen "who bow down to wood and stone." Imagine a company of Hindoos mimicking in India the religious worship of Anglo-Catholics or Quakers or even Salvationists; what else would it be, but a mockery, an insult?

Absolute ignorance is betrayed when Indian music is imitated. A weird, monotonous music is not Aryan. The music of my country is simple melody in variations. If managers mean to do justice to India and its music, their orchestras should be instructed to interpret Indian music in proper Oriental *tempo*. The music of my native land defies European notation, and execution is only achieved by systematic mental instruction. Remini himself admits that no amount of musical knowledge could enhance the divine interpretation of India's rhythmic music.

Indian dancing varies according to localities. Unlike the recognised steps for European dances, different parts of India have distinct and characteristic steps, both fascinating and charming. The Nautch dance, rope dance, fire dance, cymbal dance, stick dance, Nagasarpa dance, etc., etc., etc., well known in India, have each different music in different districts. Therefore, it is unfair that Indian terpsichorean art should be belittled by disjointed movements of the body by a dancer or a company of dancers.

The costumes of Hindoos are grossly misrepresented, cruelly exaggerated, and ludicrously worn. A blend of Turkish, Egyptian, and Indian does not make up the costume of a Hindoo. It is like seeing the son of Gascon in kilts, a Chinese mandarin in the garb of a Red Indian.

I feel bound to observe that in this country and America, imagination plays an active part in the presentation of anything Oriental. True that Eastern themes should be so staged to suit Western minds, but what is most objectionable is that imagination and guesswork are utilised instead of a practical, or even a sound theoretical knowledge, which latter, more than anything else, will materially assist in instructing the public of the East of to-day, and not the East of fairyland, dreamland, bogeyland, and a land of low pantomime.

I appeal to managers and actor-managers to give to the British public the true interpretation of the manners and music, customs, art, costumes, worship, etc., of the people or peoples they wish represented, and thus can they forge more links in the interminable chain of instructors in the vastness, greatness, and solidarity of the British Empire.

RAJAH RHAM SINGH,
The Belle of India Company.
American Exchange, Trafalgar Buildings, W.C.,
July 18, 1906.

THE directors of the Cardiff Theatre Royal Company, Limited, having realised the necessity of effecting improvements in the present building, Mr. Matcham, the well-known architect for numerous Empires, was called in to make a general inspection, and expressed the opinion that the only solution of the difficulty was the acquisition of adjoining property. The directors have accordingly taken over neighbouring premises, which will enable them to provide a spacious foyer, and also to effect such other improvements as will ensure a good view of the stage from all parts of the house.

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN was present at the performance of *Faust* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on the 13th inst.; and on the following evening the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Court Theatre and witnessed the performance of *You Never Can Tell*.

CROWN THEATRE OUTING.

The stage and permanent staff of the Crown Theatre, Peckham, accompanied by the respected Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Brett, held their eighth annual outing at Arundel on Sunday. Amongst the visitors present were:—Mr. Jack Mellish, of the "Red Cow," Mr. Tom Carter, of the "Crown," Mr. Jas. Armour, of the "King's Head," and Mr. Geo. Scott, of the "Adam and Eve" hotels, Peckham, Messrs. John T. and D. Sheridan, of the Waldorf Theatre, Mr. J. White, of the "Farrier's Arms," Rotherhithe, and Messrs. Jack Chappell and Frank Ficker, of the Pavilion Theatre. Assembling at London Bridge and Peckham Rye stations at 7.45 and 8 o'clock a.m. respectively, the party, numbering 44, were soon merrily spinning along per L.B. and S.C. Railway in a specially reserved coach towards that beautiful spot in Sussex, where is situated the magnificent castle and park of His Grace, the Duke of Norfolk.

After a very pleasant journey, thanks to the excellent arrangements and catering of the honorary secretary, Mr. Philip Sheridan (The Crown electrician) and the stewards, Messrs. Matt Buck (scenery department), Thos. Morgan (electrical department), and Fred Chappell (property master), the party arrived at Arundel at 10 o'clock, whence they proceeded in open carriages for a five-mile drive to Littlehampton. There a number of the party indulged in the delights of sea-bathing as far as was practicable. The party then returned to Arundel, where dinner was eaten at the "Black Rabbit" Hotel.

Mr. Harry J. Brett, the well-known variety comedian, occupied the seat of honour in lieu of Mr. Cecil Paget (the Crown's popular manager), who was unavoidably absent. Mr. Jack Mellish occupied the vice-chair.

After Mr. Pip Sheridan's request in Latin—"Fiat justitia, ruat cœlum" (Let justice be done, though the heavens should fall), printed at the foot of the menu card, had been conscientiously complied with, Mr. Brett submitted the toast of "The King and Queen," which was cordially honoured. Mr. Brett then said: "Mr. Vice-Chairmen and Gentlemen,—Before touching on anything else I must first of all convey to you the sincere apologies and regret expressed by our manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, at his inability to attend at this, the eighth of the Crown staff's annual excursions, occasions to which he has always looked forward with great pleasurable anticipation, and he directed me very particularly to wish you, one and all, on his behalf a thoroughly happy and good time. Before proceeding any further I will ask you to replenish your glasses and to drink to the health and prosperity of our absent chairman, Mr. Cecil Paget, and also to "Our directors.'"

The toast being enthusiastically honoured, Mr. Brett proceeded: "I am indeed delighted to be here with you all to-day, and I trust that I may have the honour and pleasure of coming with the Crown staff, which I may say all the touring

Photo by Blake, Camberwell.

CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM, S.E. EIGHTH ANNUAL OUTING OF THE STAGE AND PERMANENT STAFF, ARUNDEL, July 15, 1906.

managers term as being 'of the best to be found,' on many more of these festive occasions. I am pleased too, to see that there are such a goodly number present, the largest gathering, I believe, in the annals of Crown outings, though not the largest I should think that ever will attend, judging by the many jovial visitors I see around me to-day, and whom, I am sure, we all welcome most heartily. I must say a few words of praise about the organisers of this outing, and more especially so of your honorary secretary, Mr. Phil Sheridan, who has worked and is still working like a very Trojan to make everything a huge success, and I think you will agree with me, gentlemen, that he has made it a success with the valuable assistance of your vice-president, Mr. 'Teddy' Wade, and the stewards, Messrs. Morgan, Buck, and Chappell. Gentlemen, I thank you one and all for the honour you have conferred on me by appointing me as your chairman in Mr. Paget's place, and I trust that on many more of these enjoyable outings I shall have the pleasure of being with you."

The vice-chairman thanked the chairman and the Crown "boys" for their kindness in inviting him, and he hoped that he, too, would have the pleasure of accompanying them on many future outings. He said: "I was once asked would I make a little speech at a social gathering like this, and I consulted a very wise friend as to the best thing to do. His advice was terse and to the point—it was 'Stand up, speak up, and shut up,' and I think I will now do the latter, as I expect you are all anxious to get out into the open again, a glorious day like this."

Mr. George Scott remarked that he was only once behind the scenes, and he would never forget that occasion, for he was "commandeered" on to a scratch tug-of-war team to pull against the Crown team, who were in training for the theatrical sports, and they made him work harder than ever he had worked in his life before. He also said that it would astonish the audience in front of the curtain if they could only see the amount of work that had to be carried on noiselessly and expeditiously behind.

Mr. Tom Carter, after repeated calls, stood up and said: "Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Gentlemen, and 'Brother Bungs,'—I thank you most heartily for your kindness in allowing me to occupy a seat at your table on this auspicious occasion, and I hope to again have the pleasure. It is my first time, but I must try and always be one of you."

Mr. James Armour said: "Gentlemen all,—I thank you very much for my presence here to-day. Last year I was the only 'bung,' as my friend Mr. Carter puts it, with you, and I am very glad indeed to see so many of my confrères with us this year; it shows that they are all coming to the same opinion that I hold, that the Crown 'boys' are all a jolly good lot of fellows."

Mr. Philip Sheridan, the honorary secretary, hoped next year to see them all together again with many more pals, and on behalf of the Crown staff he thanked Mr. Brett and Mr. Mellish and all the "bungs" for honouring them with their company at this, their eighth annual. He asked the boys to give three hearty cheers for the friends present.

A vote of thanks having been passed to Mr Lee and his assistants for the excellent repast they had provided, the party were taken in charge by Mr. F. Blake, of Camberwell Road, who, after a little trouble with Mr. Sam Ewart's fringe, obtained a capital photograph of the group.

During the afternoon the party dispersed into groups, some going boating on the beautiful Arun, others for a drive through the magnificent park. Amongst the former were Mr. Harry Brett and Mr. Phil Sheridan, between whom there was an exciting sculling match for about a mile, Mr. Sheridan eventually beating his opponent by a couple of lengths and thereby winning the Crown Championship "Cup," which is a fairly valuable trophy, consisting as it does of a large bottle of Dunville's special Irish.

There was also a good fishing competition between Mr. Wade and Mr. J. R. Price, both well-known Peckham Piscatorials, the former winning by weight, his catch being two small gudgeon and an old boot, against a bunch of floating weeds to the latter.

After tea the party were conveyed back to the station, and the home journey commenced all too early at 6.30.

The Crown staff wish to convey their cordial thanks to the various tradespeople, local and otherwise, also to Miss Claire Romaine, Mr. Edwin Boyde, and the rest of the *Dick Whittington* pantomime company, and to the management of the Crown Theatre, who all so kindly contributed to the outing fund and thereby helped to make the eighth annual the success it was.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

A fine performance of *Aida* was given on Saturday last at Covent Garden, Mlle. Destinn making her first appearance this season as Aida and Signor Battistini as Amonasro. Mlle. Destinn, as might be expected, gave due importance to the dramatic side in the character of the unhappy slave girl, while the part seemed vocally to suit this fine artist, the result being an intense rendering of the music in the duets with Radames and Amonasro in the Nile scene. The great tenor, Signor Caruso, also gave most impassioned singing in the music allotted to Radames; and Mme. Kirkby Lunn again repeated her fine performance of the Princess Amneris. Signor Battistini's Amonasro was full of dignity and restraint, befitting an Eastern monarch even in captivity. The part of the High Priest was taken by M. Journet; and M. Marcen made an imposing figure of the King. Signor Campanini conducted, and with the principal artists was called to the front after the second act.

Although late in the season, the production of Mozart's great work *Don Giovanni* on Tuesday night was very welcome. There was a fine cast, and an excellent performance was given in the presence of a large audience. Signor Battistini gave a most able interpretation of the wicked Don, looking and acting the part to perfection. Vocally also Signor Battistini proved a great success; in the famous serenade the audience insisted on an encore. Seldom nowadays is so fine a singer as Signor Caruso heard in the part of Don Ottavio, and it is needless to state that the airs "Dalla sua pace" and "Il mio tesoro" were beautifully sung; an encore, though earnestly demanded, was not granted. M. Journet made a lively and amusing Leporello; and M. Gilibert an excellent Mazelto; while Mlle. Destinn added another success by her embodiment of Donna Anna. A charming Zerlina was found in Mlle. Donalda; and Mme. Agnes Nicholls deserved praise for her clever singing in the part of Donna Elvira; and M. Marcoux made a dignified Il Commendatore. Chorus and orchestra, under M. Messager's care, were above reproach.

In Puccini's lurid music-drama *La Tosca*, given on Wednesday night, Mme. Giachetti appeared as the heroine and M. Fazzini as the hapless painter Cavaradossi. Mme. Giachetti's Tosca, a fine dramatic study, is familiar to operagoers, as in the last autumn season given by the San Carlo Company she made a great impression by her clever and intense impersonation of this tragic character. Mme. Giachetti was associated with a newcomer, M. Fazzini, whose Cavaradossi on Wednesday night can hardly be considered a marked success, either in fervent singing or convincing dramatic action. Signor Rossi gave an able rendering of Angelotti's part, and Signor Zuchi deserved praise for his Spoletta; while M. Gilibert was delightfully humorous in the quaint part of the Sacristan, the only pleasing character in the tragic story. As on former occasions, Signor Scotti's Scarpia made its due impression by the artist's fine acting of this unpleasant part. Signor Campanini conducted with great ability and success, and, on the whole, a fine performance was given of this gloomy opera.

IN the deplorable motor omnibus accident at Handcross Hill it would appear that only one of the killed—Mr. Francis—was insured with the Railway Passengers Assurance Company. It is certainly strange that in an age when the daily papers are constantly reporting more or less serious accidents so few people take advantage of the liberal policies of the company insuring against accidents of all kinds. Mr. Gladstone recently stated in Parliament that 956 accidents in connection with motor vehicles occurred in May alone in the Metropolitan area, and this without including the tramcar accidents. It should be borne in mind that it is not merely the passengers who suffer; pedestrians also stand the chance of being killed or injured.

MR. LOUIS J. BEARD, the genial manager of the Grand Theatre, Luton, was accorded his first benefit on Saturday. Since Mr. Beard took up his position two years ago he has made himself popular with all classes of his patrons, who packed the house to its uttermost. During an interval Mr. Falcon came forward to make a presentation on behalf of the staff of a handsome silver-plated tea and coffee service and tray, suitably inscribed. The artists who helped toward the success of the event were the Lavender troupe of cyclists, the London Comedy Boys, Walter Levalee, H. Cardoe, Bert Chant, Harry Talbot, Sylvene, Miss Clarice Raynor, R.A.M. (lady baritone), Miss Lily Gaston, Miss Eva Clark, Messrs. James Fairey, Loo Delger, Fred Marchant. and F. E. Townsend.

A CONFERENCE of the Street Noise Abatement Committee, held on the 13th inst., at 2, Harrington-gardens, South Kensington, adopted the following resolution: "This meeting is of opinion that a new Act of Parliament is urgently required for the better regulation of all kinds of street music, which, in spite of the Metropolis Police Act of 1864, continues to be a serious annoyance to a very large number of the residents of London."

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"THE ILLUSTRIOUS STRANGER."

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts,
Libretto by Maurice Hardinge,
Music by Henry Norman,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Dover,
on Monday, July 16.

King Back ..... MR. COLIN FLEETWOOD
Timothy Tighe ..... MR. ROBERT DENBIGH CALEY
Prince Mourmahal ..... MR. PEDER J. J. NEILSON
Dr. Ali ..... MR. BOWLES
Grill ..... MR. PERCY FORMAN
Lord of the Executioners ..... MR. RAYMOND FELLS
Lord of the Gallows ..... MR. A. COULTHURST
An Officer ..... MR. HERBERT STACEY
A Priest ..... MR. EDWIN WILLIAMS
Lady Kishma ..... MISS EDITH MAY
Lady Rose in Bloom ..... MISS L. LESTER
Lady Dreamy Eyes ..... MISS LENA AVERY
Lady Sunny Waters ..... MISS F. LESLIE
Shadow of Sunshine ..... MISS ADELAIDE FAIRFAX
Summer Night ..... MISS MAY WOOD
Princess Bul-hul ..... MISS DORIS DEW

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The production of *The Illustrious Stranger*, in the form of a comic opera of that title, met with a most flattering reception. Quite an extensive levy has been made upon imaginative fairy lore, and the author has succeeded admirably in knitting together a story which is light and fantastic without descending to hackneyed methods for producing laughter. First and foremost to attract attention are the more than usually tuneful melodies which have been written by Mr. Henry W. Norman, who also conducts the augmented orchestra. The only weak point was that the orchestration was not on a par with either the book or the musical numbers.

It is truly said that some have greatness thrust upon them; and such a fate befalls the name-part of this play. Under the undignified cognomen of Timothy Tighe, a retail grocer, while on a holiday trip, is shipwrecked on the coast of Malabar. Apparently he is the sole survivor, and is quickly pounced on by Gill, chief torturer to King Back, and Dr. Ali, and invited to become the husband of Princess Bul-hul. The laws of the country are like the ways of the Heathen Chinee, peculiar. For instance, it is decreed that shipwrecked strangers must be treated with great kindliness and given a place of rank if they can be induced to stay on the isle. Again, the Princess's example must be followed by the ladies of the Court. When she weeps they must weep also; when she falls in love they do likewise; and this of course leads to amusing complications. The most important law is, however, that when husband or wife dies, the survivor must be buried alive with the corpse, and to this fate Timothy has a decided objection. Under threats of torture from the King he is at length induced to consent to marry the princess, in spite of his attachment to a lady named Sarah left in the great metropolis. The Princess looks on her prospective bridegroom with horror; but, in spite of her love being given to the gallant Prince Mourmahal, banished from the kingdom, she is compelled to submit to her father's wishes and marry the "illustrious stranger." Her lover returns to Malabar disguised as a messenger, but is too late to rescue the Princess, and her marriage with Timothy is celebrated with pomp and splendour.

In the second act we learn that Timothy has been made prince and given the two positions of Commander-in-Chief and Prime Minister—which serves as an introduction for some apt political allusions, received with laughter by the audience. In his new rank, therefore, he inspects the army in a very humorous scene, and sings a clever song about English girls and soldiers. Again Prince Mourmahal returns—in a different disguise this time—and has an interview with Grill, who, for personal reasons not unconnected with a girl named Kishma, is very anxious to bring the lovers together and get rid of the new Prince. They plot that Bul-hul shall feign to fall ill, that Mourmahal shall disguise himself as a Persian doctor and attend her, and that after a time the Princess shall pretend to die. Frantic with the non-success of his cure, the supposed physician shall offer himself as a substitute for the husband, and then the lovers, aided by Grill, can escape together. Bul-hul agrees to the plot, and it is carried through with success. Timothy strongly objects to be buried alive, and hails the substitute with joy. The disguised Prince enters the tomb where the supposed corpse is lying, and, throwing aside his beard, comes forth with the Princess in his arms alive and well. The King is overjoyed at seeing his daughter again, and apparently forgetful of his former animosity to the Prince, gives his consent to their nuptials. Evidently his majesty has the power of breaking as well as making marriages. Anyway, the little grocer is allowed to say farewell, and sets forth on his return journey to England, home—and Sarah.

It should be mentioned that nearly all the numerous cast consist of local artists, who, together with the chorus, have been rehearsed by Mr. Frederick Ross. The smoothness with which the production ran, the absence of waits, and the lack of prompting speak volumes for the energy and practical experience which Mr. Ross brought to bear on the production. The chorus, strong in numbers and in voice, formed a bevy of beauty, charmingly gowned. In fact, the costumes of the whole company were noticeable for their charm and variety, while the sets were pretty and formed an excellent background for effective groupings.

It was no easy task to play the rôle of the illiterate, ill-bred grocer, bewildered with the splendour of the Court, and forced into a position of rank and power, but Mr. Robert Denbigh Caley performed his task admirably. The humour was unforced and natural, the mannerisms amusing, and the few musical numbers all sung—or rather spoken through music—by Mr. Caley with much point and expression. Next in point of success was the impersonation of King Back by Mr. Colin Fleetwood. It was a performance which stood out distinctly by reason of sheer merit, and this gentleman must be complimented on his excellent make-up and effective byplay. Mr. Peder J. J. Neilson looked a gallant figure in his various costumes, and being the possessor of a tenor voice of fine quality and tone, sang his solos with much charm. Mr. Bowles was a crafty Dr. Ali; Mr. Percy Forman was humorous in a grim way as Grill, whose attachment to Lady Kishma forms a secondary love interest in the play; and Mr. Edwin Williams was duly impressive as the Priest. A delightful representation of the Princess was given by Miss Doris Dew. Her sweet and sympathetic voice has seldom been heard to such advantage as in the items allotted to the part, and the audience testified to their appreciation by hearty and prolonged applause. Miss Edith May played Kishma in a vivacious manner; while the other ladies in waiting had little to do but look nice and sing with expression. A word of praise is due to Miss May Wood for her musical contribution in the second act. This song is one of the prettiest numbers in the score, and is admirably suited to Miss Wood's rich, melodious voice.

MR GEORGE NEILSON, who is appearing with Mr. Victor Stevens in Jersey, is suffering from a bad attack of gout, but in spite of the fact that Monday, the opening night, proved wet, he, against his doctor's orders, declined to disappoint his public and duly made his appearance.

"SINS OF SOCIETY," a drama in a prologue and three acts, by Charles Darrell, was produced for copyright purposes at the Hounslow Hippodrome on Wednesday.

"LADY LUCKY."

A New Musical Comedy, in Three Acts,
Written by Frederick Jarman,
and Produced at the Opera House, Weymouth,
on Thursday, July 12.

Sir Stephen Knellor ..... MR. OSWALD CRAY
Dr. Wharton ..... MR. HENRY HARE
Hildago Weeks ..... MR. JOHNNY CHIPPENDALE
Joe Summers ..... MR. FREDERICK JARMAN
Binks ..... MR. FOWLER THATCHER
Harry Knellor ..... MR. MAYOR COOKE
Mr. St. John ..... MR. H. WALLACE
Willson ..... MR. GEORGE LE ROY
Johnson ..... MR. THOMAS BRUNTON
Pollie Weeks ..... MISS SOUSIE RAYMONDE
Susan Summers ..... MISS GRACIE VICAT
Hilda St. John ..... MISS ROSEMARY REGE
Mary Wilton ..... MISS KATE RANDOLPH
Pollie ..... MISS PATTIE GREEN
Mollie ..... MISS MINNIE LINSCOT
Lucky ..... MISS ELLA ROSE.

A most cordial reception was accorded this sparkling comedy on Thursday evening, July 12, when it was played for the first time by Mr. Frederick Jarman's own company at the Opera House, Weymouth. The scene of the first act is the Park and River at Broadlands-on-Thames. Sir Stephen Knellor informs his friend, Dr. Wharton, that he is in pecuniary difficulties, and that the estates of Broadlands belong to a child—a girl—at present in charge of a nurse, while he has the title and only £400 a year. Wharton suggests getting rid of the child. Sir Stephen at first objects; but, being in the hands of moneylenders, finally yields on the understanding that no harm shall come to her. Wharton gets possession of the child, but in a attempt to drown her in the river is disturbed. The helpless infant is found by Joe Summers, an actor, and is adopted and brought up by him and his wife as their own child. She eventually becomes a member of Joe's touring company, and attracts the notice and admiration of Harry Knellor, Sir Stephen's son.

The second act opens in the gardens at Broadlands, seventeen years after the adoption of the child by Joe Summers. Harry Knellor, taking advantage of Sir Stephen's absence in London, invites Joe's company to spend the day at Broadlands. Among the visitors is the charming young actress, who is known as "Lady Lucky," and Harry takes this opportunity of declaring his passion for the girl. Wharton also falls in love with her, and the two become rivals. Wharton makes her an offer, but is rejected; and to revenge himself he wires for Sir Stephen, who comes down to find the members of the company enjoying themselves at his house, and in angry and contemptuous words he orders them off the premises. Harry pleads to his father without success, and then Harry informs him that "Lucky" has consented to become his wife. An angry scene ensues, and Sir Stephen tells his son that if he persists in marrying the girl he will disinherit him. Harry, however, declines to yield, and is then told by his father that for the future he must go his own way.

The first scene of the third act is the stage of the Theatre Royal, where a rehearsal by Joe Summers's company is in progress. Joe is in difficulties, and Wharton is using the opportunity as the agent of Sir Stephen to break off the engagement between his son and "Lucky." On learning that she is the child he attempted to drown seventeen years ago, and thus being aware that she is the heiress of Broadlands, he makes a bold attempt to force her to become his wife, and finally succeeds in abducting her. What has happened soon comes to the ears of Harry, and he sets off in hot pursuit. He and his friends quickly arrive at the house in Soho whither Wharton has taken the girl. Everything has been arranged for the marriage, but in the temporary absence of Wharton, Harry, with the aid of a skilful disguise, cleverly impersonates Wharton and is married to "Lucky," thus defeating the villain's plans.

The interest of the audience was maintained throughout, and Mr. Jarman is to be congratulated on his interesting comedy. Mr. Oswald Cray played Sir Stephen with dignity throughout; and Mr. Henry Hare as Dr. Wharton gave a clever impersonation of the character. Mr. Johnny Chippendale was very amusing as Hildago Weeks; and the author, Mr. Jarman, as Joe Summers delighted the house. Mr. Mayor Cooke as Harry Knellor was thoroughly at home as the lover; and Mr. H. Wallace as Mr. St. John, Mr. George Le Roy as Willson, and Mr. Thomas Brunton were good in their respective parts. As "Lucky" Miss Ella Rose acted with a charm and grace which won the hearts of all. Miss Sousie Raymonde was capital as Pollie Weeks; and Miss Grace Vicat scored as Susan Summers. Miss Rosemary Rege made a favourable impression by the excellent way she sustained the part of Hilda St. John; Miss Kate Randolph as Mary Wilton, a nurse, also did well. Miss Pattie Green and Miss Minnie Linscot as Pollie and Mollie, actresses and dancers in Joe's company, contributed much to the success of the piece. The numerous musical items introduced were loudly applauded, and the music, under the direction of Mr. Richardson, was all that could be desired.

LADY BANCROFT AS ADJUDICATOR.

Honours were divided at the annual elocutionary examination at Birkbeck College on Saturday afternoon, when Lady Bancroft was present in the capacity of examiner. Applause greeted the famous actress as she entered the hall, holding in her hand a bouquet of roses, and accompanied by Sir Squire Bancroft.

There was but one prize, which Lady Bancroft divided between Miss Maud Hartley, who recited the Brutus and Portia duologue from *Julius Cæsar*, and Miss Effie Hepworth, whose selection was Longfellow's "Death of Minnehaha." First-class certificates were awarded to Miss Eve S. Tame, for Kingsley's "Loraine, Loraine, Loree," and to Mr. W. Francis Fenton for the speech of Brutus from *Julius Cæsar;* and second-class certificates to Miss Florence Reynolds for Tennyson's *Enoch Arden*, and Mr. E. Lister for the closet scene from *Hamlet*.

After making the awards, Lady Bancroft said: "I beg to offer my sincere congratulations to the winners of the prize and my sympathy with those who have failed, to a certain extent—in one way, but not in others. All of them are so promising that I feel sure they make take heart and courage to improve, and so be more fortunate next time. It has been a most interesting occasion to me, and I shall go away with very happy recollections."

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Lady Bancroft on the proposition of Mr. J. L. Ohlson, the elocution instructor, who has taught at the Birkbeck College for forty-five years.

In returning thanks for his wife Sir Squire Bancroft said he was entirely in accord with her far better judgment. He was glad she had had an opportunity of awarding the prize so justly to her own charming sex, and he hoped the ladies would not object to only getting half a cake. All the pupils did great credit to Mr. Ohlson, to whom the Academy of Dramatic Art (of which Sir Squire is President) was also indebted for coaching its younger students in elocution.

MR. EDITOR, SIR,—In your report of the Hippodrome, Douglas, your correspondent omitted to mention the names of the Five Saxonias and of, yours faithfully, Agnese and Arthur Lynch.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words:—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes:—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes:—"I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note:—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

Mr. Martin Harvey.—"I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £1 1s. for your admirable fund for the poor little lady."

Miss Louie Freear.—"Enclosed please find cheque for £1 for dear little Miss Stephens, with whom I most heartily sympathise. What a terrible accident, poor little girl!"

Mr. Weedon Grossmith.—"I enclose a cheque for £1 1s. for the little fund you are raising for the poor girl, Miss Dot Stephens. I only regret my cheque is obliged to be so small. It would have been larger, but there have been so many things one has had to contribute to recently, only not so deserving, that one has little left for the really sad cases."

Mr. H. B. Irving.—"I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for one guinea as a small contribution to the fund you are getting up for poor Miss Stephens."

Miss Nora Lancaster.—"I am so sorry to hear of the terrible accident that has fallen upon Miss Stephens. I enclose cheque for a guinea, and wish I could have made it more."

Miss Edith Wynne Matthison (Kennedy).—"Enclosed please find cheque for one guinea towards the subscription for Miss Stephens. It is an exceedingly sad case; and she has my deepest sympathies."

Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—"The case of Miss Dot Stephens is certainly a very distressing one, as you say. I enclose you herewith £2 2s. on her account. I hope you will get a substantial sum."

Photo by Russell and Sons.
MISS DOT STEPHENS.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on Saturday night, the 30th ult. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left on Saturday night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared this week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other. She was also found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stephens is a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

David James Fund (per Sir Squire Bancroft and Edward Terry)	£20	0	0
Edna May	10	0	0
Ellen Terry	5	5	0
George Dance	5	5	0
C. P. Levilly	5	5	0
Herbert Ralland	5	5	0
W. W. Kelly	5	5	0
Edith Cole	5	5	0
J. Bannister Howard	5	5	0
Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson	5	5	0
Mrs. Trepp	5	0	0
The Neilson Fund	5	0	0
Frank King	2	2	0
Stella Gastelle	2	2	0
Greet and Engelbach	2	2	0
Frederick Mouillot	2	2	0
Misses Elsie Minta and Edith Fenton	£2	2	0
Sheffields, Ltd.	2	2	0
Empsie Bowman	1	10	0
George Alexander	1	1	0
M. R. Morand	1	1	0
E. Lockwood	1	1	0
E. Graham Falcon	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Winnie Brown	1	1	0
A. M. Latham	1	1	0
Charles E. Machin	1	1	0
Lewis Waller	1	1	0
H. B. Irving	1	1	0
Clarence Sounes	1	1	0
Nora Lancaster	1	1	0
Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Maud Darling	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morton	1	1	0
Colin M. Johnston	1	1	0
T. E. Reid	1	1	0
John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren	1	1	0
Tom B. Davis	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
May Lewis	1	1	0
Luna Love	1	1	0
W. Yeoman	1	1	0
Miss Grace Chalmers	1	1	0
Annie Brophy	1	0	0
Miss Millard	1	0	0
Arthur Poole	1	0	0
Wilfred Esmond	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Spens	1	0	0
Toddie Lewis	0	10	6
Mickie Lewis	0	10	6
Rollo Balmain	0	10	6
W. H. B.	0	10	6
E. Dottridge	0	10	6
Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Arthur Howard	0	10	6
Otto C. Culling	0	10	6
Miss Wallis	0	10	6
A. Gifford Stacey	0	10	6
A. H.	0	10	0
E. Stanton Sharp	0	10	0
William Martin	0	10	0
Hettie Chattell	0	10	0
Charles Carey	0	5	0
Dallas Aderson	0	5	0
Percy L. Day	0	5	0
J. B. Young	0	5	0
Henry Swinerd	0	5	0
J. W. Cordinier	0	5	0
Percy Norman	0	5	0
Ethel Ingram	0	5	0
J. M., 1s., E. S., 1s., J. S., 1s., J. O. B., 1s., and A. K., 1s.	0	5	0
Miss Sophie Lingwood	0	5	0
Geoffrey Goodhart	0	1	0
Collected by Miss Queenie Leighton to date:—			
Arthur Collins	5	5	0
F. W. Wyndham	5	5	0
Harry Fragson	5	0	0
Ernest Wells	5	0	0
Queenie Leighton	2	2	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0
T. Birch	1	1	0
J. Glover	1	1	0
Harry Randall	1	1	0
Mabel Harding	0	10	6
Collected from the Yorick Lodge of Freemasonry	4	4	0
R. C. L.	5	5	0
H. Beerbohm Tree	2	2	0
John Nanson	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
Robert Macdonald	1	1	0
Mrs. Robert Macdonald	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
Robertha Erskine	1	1	0
Gaston Mayer	1	1	0
Louie Freear	1	0	0
Mrs. E. Morgan	1	0	0
G. Mackarness	0	10	6
Stanley Rogers	0	10	6
Marion F. Lind	0	10	6
D. Lewin Mannering	0	10	6
A. L. Mathews	0	10	6
A. Henfrey	0	10	6
W. Brookes Palmer	0	10	0
Cyril Cattley	0	5	0
James Rogers	0	2	6
S. C. Shaw	0	2	6
Fred Bowyer, collected from a few Savages	8	2	6

It is intended that the proceeds shall be devoted to the purchase of an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of the 7th inst. your notice of the recital to be given by Miss Wren and Mr. Sparrow states that Miss Wren's voice was trained by Mr. Chas. Santley. This is not quite correct. Mr. Santley advised as to the training, but the actual lessons have been, and are still being, given by Signor Tramezzani, the well-known master of, amongst others, Mme. Yvonne de St. André. Perhaps you will be kind enough to make this correction.—Yours faithfully,

T. ERNEST GAUNT.

Fairfield, 62, Streatham-hill, S.W., July 11.

THE Queen paid a visit to the Austrian Exhibition, Earl's Court, on Tuesday, and was delighted with all she saw, making numerous purchases. After signing the visitors' book the Royal cortège inspected the excellent collection of exhibits in the Queen's Palace, and in the "Tyrol Village" the singing and dancing of the Tyrolese men and women gave much amusement.

IN the Civil Court at Durham Assizes, Messrs. Hellewell, Ltd., claimed £141 10s. for work done and material provided in the building of the King's Theatre, Gateshead, Mr. James Johnson being the one sued. It was a question of liability, and his Lordship, being of opinion that the defendant was the real contractor, gave judgment for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, with costs.

THE theatrical charity carnival at Sunderland announced for Wednesday next bids fair to prove a record, the tickets meeting with a ready sale. Another attraction on the same evening will be the benefit to Mr. Chas. M. Daly at the Avenue Theatre in the Wearside town, when amongst other attractions, the prizes won at the above sports will be presented on the stage.

MME. MARCHESI was received at Buckingham Palace by the Queen on Sunday and was presented with the medal for music, art, and science. M. Saint-Saëns and Herr Hollman, who had the honour of playing before Her Majesty in the afternoon, received similar medals.

WE regretfully record that Miss Mollie Brown, an actress, died at Denver, Colorado, on the 12th inst., of ptomaine poisoning after eating canned beef.

MR. J. J. DALLAS IN AUSTRALIA.

The *Melbourne Argus* says:—"Mr. Dallas, who enacts the central figure, is a comedian of merit. He is very discreet in his work, and even in the whirlwind of a situation never oversteps the mark. Depending for very many of his effects on facial play, his expressive features and hands often tell a story without words. He is a master of variety and astonishment, and an adept at stage business. He never misses a point, and his voice, although not loud, has splendid carrying power. It is easy to imagine Mr. Dallas giving a thoroughly good account of himself in pure or even musical comedy as the snatches of songs he sings are given with good effect and value."

The *Age* says:—"Mr. J. J. Dallas, who heads the combination, is a low comedian with a natural aptitude for such rôles as that of the flighty uncle. He is a versatile actor, turning easily from one point to another of the variegated part. Alternately the unctuous Justice of the Peace and the roysterer, his manner and method are alike natural and easy. In addition, he 'has the eyes,' and his facial expression accentuated his speeches in an inimitable fashion. Five minutes was all that was necessary to place him high in favour. Henceforward his progress to popularity was unquestioned."

The *Sydney Herald* says:—"Mr. Dallas and Mr. George Giddens belong to the same school of unctuous and droll comedians, but Mr. Dallas is the more resourceful in the invention of business, while his energy is inexhaustible. He acts with his eyes, his face—a splendid stage face—with his hands, feet, and his whole body. Of Mr. Dallas's acting it may be said that between his entry and his exit he 'shovels' in business, and it is done with such ease and naturalness that the illusion of naturalness is rarely disturbed. The Cæsar Montague, J.P., belongs to the small gallery of vignette impersonations which contains the Hogenheimer by G. P. Huntley, &c."

The *Australasian* says:—"Mr. Dallas proved himself a perfect master of the task before him. The humour is broad, but it never descends to buffoonery. The comical expressions of his face and modulations of his voice leave not one dull moment."

The *Bendigo Advertiser* says:—"A hearty laugh is a good tonic, and a large number of playgoers must feel indebted to Mr. J. J. Dallas; in him the audience at once recognised a comedian of the highest rank. He has great facial control, and the expression of his features, his vacant stare, his amused look, with his shrugs and gestures often spoke more loudly than words. Mr. Dallas, after a merry evening, was simply immense."

The *Adelaide Register* says:—"Mr. Dallas is a low comedian, whenever he was on the stage he had the house in roars of laughter. His facial expression and his gestures are inimitable. Mr. Dallas has the reputation of being the best 'drunken man' on the English stage. Anyone who saw him will quite understand how he has achieved such a reputation. The great charm of Mr. Dallas's acting is that it is made absolutely convincing by its ease and naturalness. Mr. Dallas is a treat."

The *Sydney Bulletin* says:—"Mr. Dallas is real comedy materialised."

The *Brisbane Courier* says:—"Mr. J. J. Dallas is a first-rate comedian, and gets all his effects by means of spontaneous acting. He makes no effort to assert himself. He and the character of the J.P. will be remembered for a very long time."

The *Auckland Star* says:—"Mr. J. J. Dallas is undoubtedly the cleverest comedian seen in Auckland for many a day past. His power of extracting humour from the simplest dialogue, by colouring it with a ludicrous personality, besides the physical advantage of a most mobile and expressive face and a singular gift of appropriate gesture would maintain a very heavy claim by this most finished artist."

Punch says:—"Mr. J. J. Dallas is a comedian who thoroughly knows his business, and his facial expression lends humorous emphasis to every comical situation."

The *New Zealand Times* says:—"The play pointed most clearly to the fact that in Mr. Dallas we have a comedian who fairly takes rank with the best that England has sent us."

The *Tasmanian News* says:—"Mr. Dallas as the J.P. made his first appearance in Hobart, and his striking humour made him at once a prime favourite, and he must have established a record of mirth at the Theatre Royal, Hobart. He is eminently superior in his line, and he developed to the utmost the greatest possibility of the part."

"COPPER: THE LIFE OF A THEATRICAL DOG STAR," by Ella M. Burra, published by Thomas Burleigh, 155, Victoria-street, S.W., at 2s. 6d. net, comes appropriately in the "dog days," more especially as its perusal involves no intellectual exertion. It is the story of a little fox-terrier who becomes the pet of a touring actress, and "walks on" in various plays. Beyond that the life of "Copper," as the dog is called, is little different to that of the ordinary common or garden canine who indulges in the killing of cats, the slaughter of fowls, the wrecking of parlour furniture, and other favourite pursuits of the species. The humour of the tale is of a primitive kind, and is not sufficiently stimulating to appeal to the reader old enough to understand the references to episodes behind the scenes; but as a children's book, for which it is obviously intended, it well fulfils its purpose. The volume is beautifully printed, and the illustrations by G. M. Tucker are admirably executed.

WE learn with the greatest pleasure that the operation for appendicitis undergone by Mme. Clara Butt this week has proved eminently successful. Both Mr. Kennerley Rumford and his accomplished wife will have the warmest congratulations of their numerous admirers.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY has been staying for a week in the delightful neighbourhood of Lynton and Lynmouth. The popular actress must have had rare food for thought in the memory of the recent brilliant functions of which she was the principal figure, and in the contemplation of triumphs yet to come on her appearance at His Majesty's in *The Winter's Tale*, the play with which her first appearance was associated. *The Tatler* is responsible for the publication in facsimile of the following "letter of advice" from Miss Terry to the pupils of the Leeds College of Dramatic Art—"My dear young friends,—I have been asked to say a word to you. If I say one word it will be, 'Work.' If it were two words I should say, 'Be Patient,' and if it were three words, 'Don't be Vain.'"

WE were able last week to congratulate Mr. Cyril Maude on a happy issue out of his threatened litigation with the South-Eastern Railway Company, who had magnanimously decided to defray the cost of the rebuilding of the old Avenue Theatre. The statement was confirmed at the meeting of the company on Tuesday, when Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, the chairman, announced that the company had paid Mr. Maude the sum of £20,000. The directors, he said, fully anticipated that if the case had gone into the law courts the judge would have suggested that the parties should come to a compromise on the matter, and therefore it was thought better to pay the sum which had been agreed upon. This £20,000 would cover all the various interests involved in the accident.

THE architect of the new theatre is Mr. Detmar Blow, and building operations will be started as soon as the site is cleared. Referring to the new structure, Mr. Maude says:—"I think I may venture to say that the new playhouse will be even better than it was going to be. In the course of the building operations certain possible improvements were noted. These will all be made. It is, of course, impossible to say with any degree of finality when the theatre will be ready, but I have every reason to hope that the new year will not be far advanced before I shall be installed in my new home. We certainly anticipate opening there in the middle of February."

THE Duke of York's is the theatre selected by Mr. Charles Frohman for Mr. Maude's appearance early in September under his management, and *Tripplepatte* is the name of the piece. It is a comedy in four acts and five scenes, by MM. Tristan Bernard and Godfernaux, which was produced at the Athenée, Paris, last December, and has since been played there with undiminished success. The part which will bring Mr. Maude's brilliant comedy talents into play is that of a Vicomte, aged thirty, who, as the old song says, is "not a marrying man." He becomes engaged to a young lady, but on the wedding day fails to turn up at the appointed hour. The mother-in-law in prospective thereupon invades his apartments and carries off his clothes, so that no one else shall secure him, and the subsequent adventures of the hero are interesting and exciting. *Tripplepatte* will be preceded by a one-act pantomime, entitled *The Scapegrace*, the chief part in which will be played by Miss Paulina Chase.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT has at length reaped the reward of genius and obtained the cross of the Legion of Honour. The nomination of the celebrated actress for the coveted degree was announced on Thursday in a semi-official note from the Minister of Public Instruction and Fine Arts sent to the Paris *Temps*.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY will begin his autumn tour at Buxton on August 20, following on with the chief towns in the United Kingdom. In Dublin, where he is a special favourite, Mr. Harvey will remain three weeks. Among the several features of interest will be an elaborate revival of *The Corsican Brothers*, which will take place at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, September 19th. It is interesting to remember that at another Lyceum Irving produced Boucicault's version of *Les Frères Corses* on September 18th, 1880. Mr. Harvey's appearance as the twin-brothers will be anticipated with very considerable interest. Mr. Harvey's répertoire will also include *Hamlet*, *The Only Way*, *The Breed of the Treshams*, *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, and *Boy O'Carroll*.

MR. W. S. PENLEY will be welcome back to town, from which he has been so long absent. Probably induced by the dearth of effective plays, the popular stage-creator of Charley's Aunt has turned his own pen to the writing of a comedy, and he hopes to have it ready by the end of the year, when he contemplates producing it at his own theatre in Great Queen-street.

ACTORS and authors strove for supremacy in the national pastime at Lord's on Thursday, the result being a win for the penmen on the first innings by 34 runs. The Thespians were captained by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and Major Philip Trevor performed the same good offices for the authors. The captains on both sides were top scorers in the first innings, though Major Trevor's score was equalled by Mr. Arthur Anderson, while Mr. E. W. Hornung had the undistinguished honour of scoring the only "duck" for his side.

THE scores of the first innings were as follows:—Actors: V. O'Connor, c Prichard, b Pawling, 1; Gerald du Maurier, c Anderson, b Prichard, 12; H. E. Pearce, c Pawling, b Prichard, 11; Oscar Asche, run out, 1; C. Aubrey Smith, c Hornung, b Prichard, 28; R. Selby, b Pawling, 16; Robert Evett, c Headlam, b Pawling, 3; B. Egerton, c Headlam, b Pawling, 10; F. Blackman, b Pawling, 0; H. H. Ainley, c Anderson, b Prichard, 10; Rutland Barrington, b Pawling, 6; C. Hayden Coffin, not out, 1; extras, 7; total, 106. Authors: Arthur Anderson, c Pearce, b O'Connor, 24; E. B. Noel, c Blackman, b Smith, 14; H. D. Trevor, b Pearce, 13; C. Headlam, c Du Maurier, b Evett, 11; H. Bleachley, c O'Connor, b Evett, 8; Hesketh-Prichard, c Ainley, b Evett, 1; Major P. Trevor, run out, 24; A. D. Kinross, st Blackman, b Pearce, 18; P. G. Wodehouse, c Ainley, b Pearce, 14; S. S. Pawling, c Du Maurier, b Asche, 1; F. Stayton, not out, 8; E. W. Hornung, c Asche, b Pearce, 0; extras, 4; total, 140. The second innings of the actors yielded 122 for seven wickets, of which Mr. E. O'Connor made 45 not out and Mr. H. E. Pearce 31.

MR CHARLES MANNERS, the indefatigable caterer for opera in English at cheap prices and the famous basso, brings his renowned Moody-Manners principal company for a five weeks' season to the Lyric this evening, when he opens with *Lohengrin*. Next week will begin with *Tannhäuser*, followed in the order named by *Faust*, *Il Trovatore* (Wednesday matinée), *Eugene Onegin*, *The Huguenots*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *I Pagliacci*. Mr. Manners' first part of importance was that of Private Willis in *Iolanthe*, produced at the Savoy, in the November of 1882. He gave a most amusing rendering of the stolid sentry, and would no doubt have won laurels as a comedian had not the future reserved for him a brilliant career in grand opera.

THE "Missioners," the band of enthusiasts who are doing such invaluable work towards extending the scope of the Actors' Association, have been renamed, and will now be known as "Commissioners." Their cause is a most meritorious one, and has the hearty goodwill of all well-wishers to the profession at large.

MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH will repeat her remarkable performance of Jacinta in *Monsieur De Paris*, which is to be revived at the Garrick on Wednesday. The rest of the characters will be undertaken by Mr. Charles V. France, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, and Miss Madge Johnstone. In *Down Our Alley*, Mr. Arthur Bourchier's adaptation of Anatole France's play, *Crainquebille*, the cast, in addition to Mr. Bourchier, will consist of Messrs. Julian L'Estrange, Charles Goodhart, Charles V. France, Walter Pearce, George Trollope, Arthur Whitby, Lawson Butt, J. H. Brewer, Frank Lacy, Douglas Imbert, Harrison Carter, Alfred Bristowe, F. Cecil, Hugh Wakefield, Thomas Lipton, F. Neeri, Adams, Carlyle, Langley Bell, O'Brien, and Hilliard, and Misses Kate Phillips, Madge Johnstone, Celia Powis, Vivienne Whitaker, and Kate Harwood. "Poorer London" is the scene of the action.

IN order that Miss Vanbrugh may have a holiday before joining Mr. Bourchier on tour this autumn, *Monsieur de Paris* will only be played eleven times in all—ten evening and one matinée performance.

THE statements in several newspapers that Anatole France's play, *Crainquebille*, from which Mr. Bourchier has adapted his new play, does not contain a happy ending, and also that Crainquebille himself is not sent to prison are incorrect. With regard to the latter assertion, both in M. France's book and in the play the old costermonger is sentenced to pay a fine of fifty francs and go to prison for fifteen days. In order to obtain strict correctness, Mr. Bourchier has the authority of a well-known magistrate as to the utmost that could be imposed in an English police-court for the equivalent of the offence committed by the prisoner.

MISS DOT STEPHENS has received hundreds of letters of sympathy from brother and sister professionals and a very large number from all classes of people out of the profession. One or two very touching little letters, too, have come from girls who have also lost a foot or feet. Of course, it has been impossible for the sadly afflicted one to answer them, but she feels their kindness very deeply, and many a tear she and her mother have shed. It is good news to hear that Miss Stephens is making a wonderful recovery; in fact, the doctors look on it as marvellous and say that it is to a very great extent due to her wonderful spirits. She still suffers a great deal of pain principally at nights which prevents her sleeping, but has already once been carried on to the lawn. She is very weak, having been practically in a state of collapse from loss of blood; but they say she will soon pick up when she is able to get out.

REHEARSALS of *Asmaris*, the new Egyptian light opera by Frederick Fenn and Philip Michael Faraday, with which Mr. Louis Calvert will inaugurate his appearance in the ranks of London managers in August, are proceeding satisfactorily at the New Theatre. The action of the play, which possesses a strong dramatic interest, takes place at Memphis, and Miss Ruth Vincent has a sympathetic rôle as an Egyptian princess. Mr. Rutland Barrington's part will be that of Pharaoh. The dances are being arranged by Mr. John D'Auban, and the scenery painted by Mr. Clement Barnes, whose admirable brushwork in *The Shulamite* at the Savoy aroused so much admiration.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE, at present holiday-making in Paris, has just engaged Mr. Frank Mills to play the leading parts throughout her English and American tour, which begins at Manchester on Monday, September 10. It is said that one of the features of Miss Nethersole's next season is to be a dramatisation of Gertrude Atherton's novel, "A Daughter of the Vine."

MR. LEWIS WALLER brought his season at the Lyric to a close on Saturday with *Monsieur Beaucaire*, after a noteworthy series of artistic productions. Great enthusiasm was manifested throughout the evening, and the stirring adventures of the dashing Frenchman were more thrilling than ever. Autumn will see Mr. Waller back at the Lyric, where the new *Robin Hood* play by Henry Hamilton and William Devereux, with incidental music by Herbert Bunning, will be produced on Oct. 15.

WHEN David Garrick got married, in July, 1749, to "a young lady who to great elegance of form and many polite accomplishments joined the more amiable virtues of the mind," he had a fear that the literary wags might level some shafts of ridicule at him. Therefore, he resolved, as Thomas Davies tells us, "to anticipate all satirical wit by being merry with himself." To this end his friend, Mr. Edward More, was invited to write a diverting poem on his marriage, in which Mr. Garrick's character is reviewed by some gossiping ladies, and he is termed by one of them

A very Sir John Brute all day
And Fribble all the night.

A FEW weeks ago while carelessly turning over some old books that he had long used as stage "properties," Mr. E. S. Willard chanced upon a copy of the *London Magazine* for 1749, giving the original publication of the complete poem. One or two of the lines are not wholly suited to the modern taste in polite literature, but the poem is a sprightly one, and doubtless disarmed the satirists.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON and Mr. Percy Hutchison seem likely to surpass all their former enterprises in the coming season, during which they will direct many companies and "stars." Under this progressive management Miss Annie Hughes will start a tour at the Marlborough Theatre on August 13th, playing her original part in Arthur Law's fine play, *A Country Mouse;* and Miss Mabel Love will grace the title-rôle of one of the companies with *The Freedom of Suzanne*, which attained such popularity at the Criterion, visiting many of the seaside towns in August and September, and the suburban theatres later in the year. On Monday next at Blackpool Mr. George Giddens and Miss Hutchison commence the tour of *Public Opinion*, Mr. Giddens playing his original part in Mr. R. C. Carton's mirthful farce. Other plays that will be sent out into the provinces, and which are fully booked, are *Cousin Kate*, with Miss Earle in the title-rôle, *On the Love Path*, *A Country Mouse*, and *Saturday to Monday*. All the arrangements are in the busy hands of Mr. Percy Hutchison.

MR. F. DUDMAN BROMWICH has acquired the King's Theatre—better known as Harwood's Varieties—Hoxton. He is having the interior thoroughly cleaned and redecorated, and will reopen on August Bank Holiday with a first-class stock company, playing drama twice nightly. Mr. Bromwich's varied experience, both as an actor and manager, in theatre and in music hall, should stand him in good stead in this, his latest, enterprise, and his many friends will join in wishing him every success.

MR. EDWARD COMPTON, accompanied by his second daughter ("Katie"), leaves Southampton to-day by the Union-Castle ss. Kinfauns Castle, for a pleasure trip to Capetown and back. He will only remain in South Africa for a week, and will be back in England by September 7th.

MR. H. ATHOL FORDE has been engaged by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker to play the part of McComas in *You Never Can Tell* at the Court Theatre.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, on Wednesday last, went down to Margate to witness the performance of Mr. Malcolm Watson's new piece, which Mr. Bourchier had arranged to have produced for a trial week by the Répertoire Theatre Association. On his return to town he wired to Mr. Edward Michael the following gracefully-worded message: "Congratulate you on admirable production. Please convey warm congratulations to the company for their excellent work last night.—Arthur Bourchier, Garrick Theatre."

IN consequence of Mr. Frank Curzon having engaged Mr. Walter McEwan to proceed to New York to produce *The Little Stranger*, the production of the new light opera, *The Cornish Girl*, which Mr. McEwan had in hand, is postponed until after his return.

TO Mr. James Macready Chute, who reached his jubilee on July 10, many hearty congratulations have been sent by his fellow managers and actors. To many of his acquaintance his tale of years will be a surprise. They would sooner have guessed forty-five than fifty. That means, we hope, that he will be with us for another half-century, not tired of catering for our amusement and edification. No man among either London or provincial theatre proprietors stands higher in the regard of his friends and patrons than does Mr. Chute. His very name recalls some of the best traditions of the English stage, and he has not failed to live up to them. Many happy returns.

MISS EVA MOSS, who is playing Camille next week at the Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, will doubtless be as successful in this as in the similar part of Donna Roma in *The Eternal City*, in which case the local theatre-goers will have every cause for congratulation. Owing to a misunderstanding, provincial patrons will not have the opportunity of seeing her again as Hall Caine's heroine, the part, after being offered to her, having gone elsewhere.

"KENNEDY'S KOMIKS," the novel entertainment introduced into theatres for the summer months by Messrs. J. P. Moore and J. B. Kennedy, has been a greater success this year than last, and its season has been consequently prolonged for several weeks. Subsequently it will be toured in the form of a strong triple bill, which should prove a great attraction.

"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE" has been meeting with great success during the past week at the Lyceum, Edinburgh, the business steadily rising every night. On Monday, at the conclusion of the third act, loud calls of "Author" were made from all parts of the house, in response to which Mr. H. F. Maltby bowed his acknowledgments.

THE run of *The Man from Blankley's*, which was suspended last evening at the Haymarket, will be resumed on Wednesday, September 5, when Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Henry Kemble, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. Holman Clark, Mr. Arthur Playfair, and Mr. Weedon Grossmith will reappear. The principal piece will then be preceded by a one-act play by Kebel Howard, called *Compromising Martha*.

WE were glad to welcome home Mr. Dallas Anderson, who looked us up on his return from America. Mr. Anderson, who has been playing a round of Shakespearean juvenile leading parts, has been engaged by E. H. Sothern and Julia Marlowe to play Laertes in *Hamlet* and other parts in New York and London.

MISS LILIAN DUNDAS, who has just concluded a short London suburban tour as Lady Isabel with her own company, has unfortunately been obliged to refuse a lucrative engagement offered her for Australia on account of her presence being required this autumn in England on a legal matter in which she is much interested.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM commences his second autumn tour of *The Breed of the Treshams* on Saturday, Aug. 4. The company includes Messrs. H. Tripp Edgar, George Traill, Alec Flood, Oswald Lingard, William H. Greene, Charles Langton, Gerald Clarke, Wilfred Compton, and Mesdames Florence Tressillian, Miriam Holt, and Celestine Bertram.

A REMARKABLE instance of American theatrical energy was displayed by the manager of a San Francisco theatre, who, within six days of the recent great earthquake, sent to Miss Olga Nethersole her contracts to open there for a three weeks' season next Christmas. His theatre at the time was levelled to the ground, but he wrote assuring Miss Nethersole that it would be rebuilt and ready for her reception by the time named.

MR. HENRY BOWMAN has taken a lease of the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, from Lord George Sanger from Monday next. During the season he will present many first-class attractions.

RECENT competitions at the Royal Academy of Music have resulted as follows: The Frederick Westlake Memorial Prize (female pianists) was awarded to Myra Hess (a native of London). The adjudicators were: Messrs. C. Albanesi, T. B. Krott, Tobias Matthay, C. F. Peddie, and Oscar Beringer (chairman). The Walter Macfaren gold medals (pianists) was won by Christian Carpenter and Percy Wilson, the examiners being the same as above. The Hannah Mayer Fitzroy prize (male violinists) was awarded to Francis Joseph Thorns (a native of Weston-under-Lizard). The judges were: Messrs. Josef Bláha, Alfred Gibson, W. Frye Parker, Louis Zimmermann, and Hans Wessely (chairman).

IN the Charlotte Walters prizes (elocutionists), Dorothy Webb and James McNaughton Duncan were the successful competitors. The adjudicators were: Miss Annie M. Child, Miss Rosina Filippi, Mr. Ian Robertson, Miss Katie Thomas, and Mr. Henry Lesingham (chairman). The Parepa-Rosa gold medal (contraltos) was secured by Edith Kirk (a native of Leicester), Ethel H. H. Hantke being very highly commended, Gwladys Roberts and Constance Dugard being highly commended, and D'Auvergne Upcher commended. The examiners were: Mr. Thomas Meux, Miss Greta Williams, and Mme. Ada Crossley-Muecke (in the chair). The Julia Leney prize (harpists) was awarded to Elizabeth Bellaby (a native of Nottingham). The adjudicators were: Mr. F. Corder, Sir A. C. Mackenzie, and Mr. John Thomas (chairman). The Schloesser prize (accompanists) fell to Percy Wilson (a native of Grimsby), the awards being made by Prof. E. Prout and Mr. Adolf Schloesser (chairman).

MR. F. DOUGLAS WENTWORTH, one of the latest and most energetic additions to the ranks of travelling managers, commences his second tour of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's *The Bauble Shop* next week at the Theatre Royal, Hull. Mr. T. W. Rawson is still confined to his bed at Morecambe, but is making rapid progress towards recovery, and hopes to resume the part of Lord Clivebrook in a few weeks. In the meantime the part will be played by Mr. Frederick Annerley. The cast will also include Mr. H. Gomer May, Mr. J. W. Henson, Miss Dora Price, and Miss Lily Bertram.

MR. SIDNEY BELTRAM, finding that acting-managers are not in great request, is putting to the test another string which he has to his bow, namely, that of scene painting. He has been busily engaged at different towns since the closing of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, and is now repainting the "stock scenery" for the Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

MISS MAY PALFREY will shortly take on tour the new comedy *Three Blind Mice*, by Arthur Law—the author, by the way, of *The New Boy*, in which Miss Palfrey appeared to such decided advantage during its long run in London. The tour will begin at the Theatre Royal, Margate, at the end of this month. It may be an auspicious augury that it was at the Margate Theatre Royal that *The New Boy* was first put upon its trial. The cast will include Mr. Frederick Kerr, Miss Granville, Miss Annie Hill, Miss Mary Barton, Miss Edwards, Miss Brozelle, Mr. Compton Coutts, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Max Leeds, and Mr. Duncan Druce.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME," a new drama from the pen of Mr. John W. Pyman, was to have been produced at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on the 13th inst., but owing to the scenery, which is of a most elaborate character, not being ready, the presentation was postponed until Aug. 3, at the Queen's, Manchester. Mr. Pyman, better known as Mr. John Power, is a Liverpool man, and at present is successfully touring *Man's Enemy*.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON has been specially re-engaged for her old part of Florence Hastings in *An Actor's Romance* for the autumn by Miss Lillian Bezant.

MR. FRANK CURZON'S *The White Chrysanthemum* Company will commence a long autumn tour at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, opening on Monday. The strong combination will number amongst them some well known names—Misses Gwladys Elvey, Katie Vesey, and Daisy Le Hay; Messrs. W. H. Rawlins, Horace Mills, O. E. Lennon, F. Pope Stamper, and Harry Paulton, jun. The company will again be under the direction of Mr. George W. Lindsay.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON has been engaged to play Mr. Aubrey Smith's part in *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, the tour opening Aug. 6 at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MISS DOLLIE VARDEN has been engaged by Mr. Fred Paul to create the part of Millie Meredith in the forthcoming production of *The Lord of the Last*, and has also been engaged by Mr. Peter Davey for principal girl at Christmas.

MR. LOUIS COHN concluded a successful five weeks' stock season at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, on Saturday. Friday was set apart for the benefit of Mr. Cohn, when a crowded house testified to his popularity. In thanking the audience for their patronage, and the local management and staff for their assistance, he took the opportunity of presenting Mr. L. F. A. Rogers, the manager of the theatre, with a handsome case of silver-mounted pipes. Mr. Rogers suitably responded, and, addressing the audience, announced that owing to the great success of Mr. Cohn's company he had arranged with him to again run the stock season next year for nine weeks, commencing Whit Monday, May 20, 1907.

AT the conclusion of Mr. Cohn's season he was presented by the company with a handsome present, which was accompanied by a letter of thanks which read as follows: "We heartily thank you for a most pleasant stock season under your management, and wish you every success in any future enterprise. One of the best and most honourable of men should at least hold his own wherever he goes. Good luck, old chap, from all of us! The following signatures will conclude but a little of what might be embodied in the more pretentious speech.—Yours sincerely, George Steel, E. Bulwer Pitt, Chas. D. Pitt, John Ford, Clement Wakefield, Reginald Hargreaves, George R. Thorne, E. Turner Elliott, Gwendolen Thorpe, Doris Ford." Mr. Cohn suitably responded.

AT the reception given by Lady Gwendolen Ramsden on Thursday, the 12th, at Gerrard's Cross, a highly successful programme was sustained by Mr. Clifford (musical sketches), and scenes and monologues by Miss Addie Croker and Mr. Ivan Berlyn.

PARTICULARS of eleven scholarships and exhibitions, the competitions for which will take place towards the end of September next, have been received from the Royal Academy of Music. The first is that of the Stainer Exhibition for organ playing, which will be awarded to the best student at the entrance examination on September 20. Four of the Ada Lewis Scholarships—one for female vocalists, one for male vocalists, one for pianoforte, and one for viola or double bass—will be competed for on or about September 21.

THE Campbell Clarke Scholarship will be decided on or about September 21, and the same date has been allotted to the Wessely Exhibition for violin playing. The competitions for the Erard Centenary Harp Scholarship and the Erard Centenary Pianoforte Scholarship will take place at the Salle Erard on or about Monday, Oct. 1, and the same date has been selected for the Ross Scholarship for male vocalists. The Sir Michael Costa Scholarship for composition will be competed for on or about Thursday, Oct. 4.

MR. CAMPBELL RAE-BROWN, notwithstanding his many commissions for the variety stage consequent on the success of his well-received *Express Baby*, has not neglected his regular theatrical work. He has just completed a new three-act comedy for one of our foremost lady male impersonators—make a guess—and has given the play the fascinatingly mysterious title, *The Invisible She*. His dramatic version of his popular novel, *The Loveliest Woman in London*, is also near completion; it will be played by probably the smallest cast, as regards numbers, that has ever appeared in a piece of strong dramatic interest.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD, who appeared with so much success in all the leading rôles during Mr. Frank Lindo's stock season at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, was the recipient on Friday and Saturday last week of several handsome presents and floral tributes, accompanied by the good wishes of her many friends and admirers.

MR. T. ALLAN EDWARDES and family are spending the usual summer vacation in Switzerland, accompanied by their able Stoke manager, Mr. H. F. Miller. They will return in good time for the re-opening of all their theatres on August 6th, Bank Holiday.

MESSRS. DALLAS AND CARSON, who are producing the spectacular American melodrama *The Great Wilderness* at Fulham Theatre on August Bank Holiday, have a long tour booked, extending into May, 1907, with less than half-a-dozen vacant dates. The dresses used by the company are made of the genuine materials by the Pawnee and Sioux Indians upon their southern settlements in U.S.A., and will be on view to the public at every theatre visited. A strong company of artists is engaged, and everything points to a most successful tour.

MR. J. H. OAKDEN has just returned from his annual Continental holiday, and shortly resumes the management of the Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow, entering upon his eighth year of control at this pretty and popular house. Again selecting Switzerland for his holiday, Mr. Oakden, accompanied by his wife (Miss Lily Roselle), visited Montreux, Geneva, Vevey, Lausanne, and Territet, thence up among the mountains for a short stay at Villaos-sur-Ollon, followed by a sojourn in Chamonix, at the foot of Mont Blanc. The homeward journey was varied by a few days spent at Boulogne and Folkestone, thus agreeably concluding a tour of much pleasure and interest.

PROMINENT actors and actresses were once more to be seen at the Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park, on the last two days of last week, when a "Country Fair" was held in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League. The hat-trimming competitions by actors in one of the booths were a great success. These contests were held under the direction of the experienced bonnet-maker, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, and the competitors included Mr. Louis Bradfield, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. C. Hayden-Coffin, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Henry Lytton, Mr. T. W. Lovell, Mr. Akerman May, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Courtice Pounds, and Mr. Farren Soutar; while the ladies who graciously presided as judges were Mrs. Carl Rosa, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Vane Featherstone, Miss Kate Cutler, and Mrs. Cecil Raleigh.

PRESIDING at the refreshment and tea booths were Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Isabel Jay, Mrs C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Fanny Brough, and Miss Phyllis Broughton; while among those who assisted were Mrs. Akerman May, Mrs. Hans Andresen, Miss Esme Beringer, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Ada Davies, Miss Queenie Davis, Miss Camilla Dalberg, Mrs. Dennis Eadie, Miss Agnes Fraser, Miss Vane Featherstone, Mrs. J. T. Grein, Miss Winifred Hart Dyke, Miss Gracie Leigh, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Louie Pounds, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mrs. Carl Rosa, Miss Violet Rosa, Miss Marie Studholme, Mrs. Vedrenne, and Mrs. Huntley Wright. Miss Kate Cutler was also represented by her little dog "Puff," who collected money in the grounds.

MISS ZENA DARE agreeably enacted the rôle of a most charming "barmaid," and Miss Kate Santley, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Mark Melford, and Mr. Acton Bond performed goodly service in taking turns at organ-grinding, vending, money-taking, and attracting the guileless public to the waxworks show and the American freak museum, which were under the patronage of the United States Ambassador and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid. The programme of variety entertainments, under the direction of Mrs. Cleveland Greenway, included Miss Esme Beringer, Miss Camille Clifford, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Mildred Carrington, Miss Mabilia Daniell, Miss Ada Davis, Miss Georgina Delmar, Miss Florence Dawnay, Miss Teresa del Riego, Miss Vane Featherstone, Miss Nellie Ganthony, Miss Nancy Price, Miss Louie Pounds, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Irene St. Clair, Mrs. Sam Sothern, and Joska Szigeti, the young Hungarian violinist. In the museum La Milo, by the kind permission of Mr. Frank Glenister, gave performances. Other attractions were François Coppée's pastoral play *Le Passant*, in which Miss Aimee Lowther and Mlle. Rita Jolivet were greatly admired; the White Ladies' Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Lilian Berger; and the same lady and her company in *The Merry Gitanas*, assisted by Miss Nina Martini, who gave charming gipsy performances and dances; the Imperial Tombouritzas; and a pretty "flower gavotte" arranged by Miss Evelyn Cooke.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN has been re-engaged to play Hon. Richard Spinnaker in and to stage-manage *The Broken Melody*. This will be Mr. Selwyn's fourth re-engagement by M. Van Biene.

THE dramatic recital given by Miss E. Pauline Johnson and Mr. Walter McRaye on Monday evening, at Steinway Hall, was decidedly novel, for there was not a single hackneyed piece on the programme, and the costume of the lady was as striking as it was original. In buckskin and scarlet cloth, decorated with silver brooches hammered from coin by the native silversmiths of her tribe—the Mohawks—with a belt of wampum, or beadwork, and brown mocassins, Miss Johnson is unmistakably Indian, the "blanket" that completes her dress having been used in the ceremony of conferring the title of chief on the Duke of Connaught, when he visited Canada and was received into the Six Nations' Indians of Ontario. Both Miss Johnson and Mr. McRaye, whose speciality is "Habitant" poems of French Canada, have toured from end to end of the new world, playing in theatres, halls, barns, mining camps, churches—wherever it is possible to gather an audience together. They intend to remain in London for the present, their clever work having already attracted the attention and admiration of such well known Canadian authorities as Lord Strathcona, Sir Charles Tupper, and Sir Gilbert Parker.

WITH his usual generosity Mr. Sidney Cooper will devote the whole of the proceeds at his theatre next week to the local fund of the "Bath and West Show," to be held in Newport in June next. Mr. Eade Montefiore's company will produce *The Streets of London*, and local colouring will be given to the performance by the Newport Fire Brigade, which will give a grand display of "Saving Life from Fire" each evening. The performance is under distinguished patronage.

MR. AND MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES (Miss Minnie Rayner) have been engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona to play Lottie and Hamilton Travers in *Are you a Mason?* company.

MANAGERS are always on the look-out for fresh pantomime talent, and a real comedian is a rara avis. Mr. Bryden Phillips believes he has discovered one in Mr. Dan Whitley, whom he has engaged for next season upon the very strong recommendation of Mr. Geo. Conquest, who speaks most highly of this youthful fun-maker. Mr. Whitley has the vis comica, and is in appearance very like the late Dan Leno.

LEON BOSCO, of the famous Comedians de Mephisto Co., Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, had an amusing experience at Newcastle a few days ago. It will be remembered that rabbits take part in the entertainment proffered by "The World's Monarchs of Magic," and on the date in question it was suddenly discovered that more of these little animals were required. Accordingly, Bosco went forth in quest of them, and after some wanderings he discovered a vendor, but only one rabbit was available. This he immediately secured, and was then directed to an old Scotsman who resided in the locality.

ON arrival Bosco was told that two rabbits might be purchased at one shilling each, but his anxiety to obtain possession of them was so pronounced that the old man raised the price without more ado. However, Leon Bosco seized the rabbits and paid the demands; then, with his natural love of fun getting the better of him, he said, "Hey, Presto!" and no sooner were the words out of his mouth than the two rabbits were turned into three to the utter amazement of the old Scotsman. The latter stared aghast, but without a moment's hesitation, seized the three rabbits and insisted upon Bosco leaving the house. He declined to listen to any explanation, and stoutly maintained that the three rabbits must be his property. At the same time he emphatically declared that he would not have any uncanny people in his place as he was a respectable church-goer, etc. In the end Leon Bosco was compelled to give up his rabbit hunt for that day.

MR. W. J. ANDREWS, the manager of Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, is publishing an artistic magazine of prospective engagements, and will be glad to receive any interesting personal pars, also photo blocks of any of the principal artists who are visiting Huddersfield during the forthcoming season.

"THE PRINCE CHAP."

Play, in three acts, by Mr. E. W. Peple, Originally Produced in America, Played for the First Time in London at the Criterion Theatre, On Monday, July 16.

William Peyton .....MR. H. R. ROBERTS
Marcus Runion .....MR. GEORGE SHELTON
The Earl of Henningford .....MR. SAM SOTHERN
Ballington .....MR. A. E. GREENAWAY
Yadder .....MR. FRANK COLLINS
Fritz .....MR. GEORGE SCHAEFFER
Alice Travers .....MISS LILIAS WALDEGRAVE
Mrs. Harrington .....MISS EVELYN WEEDEN
Phœbe Puckers .....MISS HILDA TREVELYAN
Claudia, in Act I. .....BETTY GREEN
Claudia, in Act II. .....GERALDINE WILSON
Claudia, in Act III. .....MISS JANET ALEXANDER

That the sentiment of Dickens can find sympathetic audiences in our West-End theatres has recently been proved by the success of Mr. Tree's production of Mr. Comyn Carr's adaptation of "Oliver Twist" at His Majesty's; but when London playgoers are presented with something in the nature of Dickens watered down with theatrical devices that have done duty for half a century the case is entirely different; and we are afraid that the placid and unenthusiastic reception of Mr. E. W. Peple's play *The Prince Chap* at the Criterion on Monday evening is only a portent of failure. We shall therefore expect to see shortly in the New York papers a repetition of the charges that have been lately levelled against Britishers of possessing a hostility to American-made plays and American actors. As we all know, and as is admitted by the sensible and level-headed portion of the New York Press, a good substantial American piece which does not deal with some aspect of American life unknown to the Britisher is likely to meet with almost as much success in London as it attains on the other side. Audiences will not refuse to enjoy a good play simply because it is made in the United States. But *The Prince Chap* is not a good play: it bores one with its feeble humour and its mawkish sentiment. Certainly we have delightful moments with Claudia, represented by a couple of sweet little maidens in Acts I. and II., and we feel a great admiration for William Peyton, the tender-natured but poverty-stricken young sculptor; but we are tired by the tedium of detail before the play is half over.

Some years before the opening of the story William Peyton, a poor sculptor, had employed as model a beautiful girl, who married a worthless scamp. Neglected and unhappy, she falls on evil times, and when, soon after the curtain has gone up on the first act, she returns to Peyton's studio, it is as a consumptive whose life is fast ebbing away. The battle with poverty has been too much for her; she feels the hand of death upon her, and pleads with her benefactor that he will take care of her child—her little Claudia. William Peyton urges that what she asks is impossible; but the plea is strengthened by the terrible anxiety of a dying mother, and as he promises the unhappy one passes to her rest. The little five-year-old orphan girl then enters into Peyton's lonely life. He tells her of his own hopes, and fears, and anticipations under the guise of a fairy story, "The Prince Chap and Princess Alice," but the ending of the story is to come when the Princess arrives on the scene. She does so during the second act, and her name is Alice Travers. She upsets the eight-year-old Claudia by her unsympathetic attitude, and jilts her faithful William for a more wealthy admirer, returning the sculptor's letters and her engagement ring on the eve of Christmas—kept, by the way, quite as a festival at the studio by the brothers of the chisel, who include the Earl of Henningford, otherwise known as Uncle Jack Rodney. In the third act, the events of which happen ten years after Peyton's bitter disappointment, his grace proposes to the grown-up Claudia on her eighteenth birthday, when she discovers that she is in love with her guardian, who, in an interview with his now widowed Alice, has resisted that lady's appeal to take up the threads of their lives and reunite them.

The chief part in the play—that of William Peyton—brings to our notice an excellent actor, Mr. H. R. Roberts, who acts throughout with a quiet sincerity, a convincing earnestness, and a prepossessing style that go far to console one for the poor material of the play. The chagrin, the heart-ache of the man when he discovers at the end of the second act the cynical coldness of the woman he had so adored are realised with rare intensity and restraint, and the scenes with Claudia in her different stages are admirably treated. Claudia in the first act is Betty Green—an artless little maiden who says her prayers with a childish sincerity that touches the heart. In the second act the more grown-up Claudia is taken by Geraldine Wilson, who is quite delightful in the way she puts the argument against the reality of Santa Claus. In the third act Miss Janet Alexander depicts Claudia in her later teens, and it is a portrait full of delicacy and charm. Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Phœbe Puckers gives another of her clever slavey impersonations—in this instance one more edition of the Marchioness in "The Old Curiosity Shop." The smut-marked "general" swallows four sixpences, always falls downstairs when she is happy, and ends by becoming a circus "hartist" and marrying an aeronaut. Needless to say that Miss Trevelyan extracts every ounce of fun from the part, and in poor Phœbe's more tearful moments her words go straight to the heart. Miss Evelyn Weeden, in her one scene as the dying Mrs. Harrington, betrays considerable emotional power; Miss Lilias Waldegrave, by her elegance and charm, gives some justification for the infatuation of Peyton for Alice Travers; Mr. Sam Sothern plays in his own amusing and characteristic fashion the part of the Earl of Henningford; and the piece is lightened considerably by the humour of Mr. George Shelton as Marcus Runion, the faithful servant of Peyton. Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. A. E. Greenaway, and Mr. George Schaeffer present the minor parts of the "brothers in art and misfortune," and play them very well.

At the Pier Pavilion, Cromer, Ashton's Royal Italian Band is performing under the conductorship of Signor G. Calamani, and is earning golden opinions from large audiences. By no means the least of Cromer attractions is the "Middies and the Maids," a concert party whose performances on Rust's Lawn are becoming most popular. The arrangements made reflect great credit upon the management of Mr. L. Ashton-Jarry. Mr. Arthur Randell is the stage-manager, and is supported by Miss Lily Taner, Miss Doris Lind, Mr. Walter Ferder, the inimitable Mr. Bert Williams, and Mr. Walter Mervyn, the talented tenor.

FRENCH PLAYS AT ROYALTY.

M. Gaston Mayer's interesting summer campaign at the Royalty is fruitful of exhilarating programmes, and on Thursday, July 12, was produced the comedy, in three acts, by Maurice Vaucaire, entitled

"PETIT CHAGRIN."

Breteau .....M. LOUIS GAUTHIER
Daumesnil .....M. GASTON DUBOSC
La Bresse .....M. JEAN DAX
Le Maître d'Hotel .....M. PAULET
Un Buveur .....M. CRETOT
Un Garçon .....M. SCIPON
Mimi .....MLLE. MARTHE REGNIER
Lucie Renouard .....MLLE. GABRIELLE DORZIAT
Evelyne .....MLLE. VALENTINE PETIT
La Surveillante .....MLLE. HERVAL
Marthe Foy .....MLLE. JEANNE BERGE
Louise .....MLLE. FONTENAY
Jeanette .....MLLE. LANGE
Gertrude .....MME. DORLIA
Miss Mary .....MLLE. DUPARC

A divided affection is again the subject of M. Vaucaire's comedy, which is cleverly developed, contains much smart and amusing dialogue, and is brightened by one or two good character sketches. Breteau, who has just become engaged to Lucie Renouard, the bride chosen for him by his parents, has perforce to break off his liaison with Mimi, a little actress whose devotion to him is such that he finds it difficult to part from her, when at her request he arranges an interview with her at the spa, where he is staying with his fiancée. Mimi is very fascinating; he still finds that he loves her with no little devotion; and he therefore does not possess a whole-hearted desire to banish her from his side permanently The "last" interview leads to others, and carried away by her real love for him, Breteau determines at supper in a restaurant alone with Mimi that he will back out of his engagement with Lucie. He is saved this trouble, for two of his friends come in to announce that the indignant parents of his fiancée have seen him and Mimi on the balcony, and are determined to throw him over on their part. Breteau professes to be agreeably surprised at the turn events have taken, and returns to Mimi. The little woman, however, is not quite certain that he is sincere, and concocts a plan with one of his friends, Daumesnil, to discover the state of his affections. A letter is written to Breteau which puts the little actress in a compromising light. Does he become indignant? Not in the least, but fires up most unmistakably when Lucie is slightingly spoken of. The inconstancy of Breteau is therefore too palpable to be mistaken, and Mimi, with a sense of duty, heroic under the circumstances, surrenders him to Lucie, being satisfied that his happiness will be best secured by such a piece of self-sacrifice.

Mlle. Marthe Regnier, who joined the company for this production, was responsible for a delineation of the warm-hearted Mimi that evoked great sympathy, and gave passionate expression to the affection of the little actress, scoring also most unmistakably in the scene of sentiment in the third act. M. Louis Gauthier, as the vacillating Breteau—a person much too inferior to be worthy such devotion as Mimi's—struggled bravely with that unsympathetic character, making, however, the most of the lighter scenes with Mlle. Regnier. M. Dubosc played in a natural, easy style as Daumesnil. *Petit Chagrin* was preceded by *Chapeau*—a duologue by Marc Sonal of no particular merit—a mere domestic scene written round a dispute concerning a matinée hat between a husband and wife, parts sufficiently well played by M. Scipion and Mlle. Valentine Petit.

On Saturday evening was presented the comedy, in three acts, by M. Romain Coolus, entitled

"PETITE PESTE."

Chantelouve .....M. GASTON DUBOSC
Albert Chancelet .....M. GAUTHIER
Louis Chameron .....M. LUGUET
Rousson .....M PAULET
Lambret .....M. CRETOT
Marceline .....MLLE. MARTHE REGNIER
Paule .....MLLE. JEANNE BERGE
Georgette .....MLLE. LANGE

The heroine of this story, Marceline (*petite peste*) has no parental influence to guide her in the affairs of life. Her father, Lambret, a touring manager, can only find time to run in and see his daughter between his arrival by one train and his departure by the next. She lives with Louis Chameron and Paule, his wife, who look upon the girl as their adopted daughter. Paule, unfortunately for the domestic peace, is on the point of yielding to a foolish infatuation for Chancelet, their young neighbour. Marceline is well aware of the devotion of Chameron to his wife, and when she accidentally overhears her arranging a meeting with Chancelet at Havre, she determines to prevent it, even at the sacrifice of her own good name. She immediately enters into a serious flirtation with him, and succeeds so well in her blandishments that Chancelet stays to play a tennis match with Marceline even though Paule has gone to keep her appointment with him at Havre. On her return thence Paule hears that Marceline's coquetry is the cause of her disappointment, and immediately determines that the flirtation shall result in matrimony. Chancelet is nothing loth; but Marceline does not care for him, having given her heart to the more elderly Chantelouve, who boasts of having had no less than thirty-one liaisons.

The comedy on its first production at the Paris Vaudeville on Jan. 13, 1905, had the advantage of the services of Mlle. Marthe Regnier in the part of Marceline. That very clever and charming actress repeated her impersonation on Saturday at the Royalty to the manifest pleasure of the audience. The rôle is a very exacting one; but the hare-brained girl is presented with unflagging animation and unvarying truth of expression. She was ably supported by M. Gaston Dubosc in a remarkable impersonation of the elderly *viveur* Chantelouve, and by M. Luguet as Chameron, the latter suggesting with no little subtlety the husband with affection unrequited. Mlle. Jeanne Bergé was by no means a good substitute for Mlle. Jeanne Thomassin, the original representative of Paule.

On Monday a hilarious evening was spent with this lady and M. Galipaux, who were seen in the parts of Suzanne Borel, the postmistress, and M. le Vicomte in M. Alfred Capus's lightest of comedies, *La Petite Fonctionnaire*. The story has often been told how Suzanne, who has been given charge of the post-office at the slow, dead-and-alive little town of Pressigny-sur-Loire, plays havoc with the hearts of the men. The Vicomte is the hardest hit, perhaps, and he, after forming an ill-assorted union with a young and scheming widow, obtains a divorce, and lays his title at the feet of Suzanne, the fascinating "little official," whose origin is so humble. Suzanne's fascinations, too, have been too much also for the amatory disposition of Lebardin, even though that ardent Lovelace of the village bears the burden of forty-nine years; and a most amusing scene comes in the last act where he is surprised by Mme. Lebardin during a visit to Suzanne.

The second act is an admirable example of M. Capus's finesse in composing a scene, and M. Galipaux and Mlle. Thomassin played in it on Monday with remarkable brio and humour, the actress displaying considerable command of dignity and much charm. She suggested, too, with infinite tact, in Suzanne's interview with Hermance, the quiet triumph of the woman who can repay a former snub with interest. She was recalled with much enthusiasm on the final fall of the curtain. M. Galipaux shared in this triumph, acting with rare impulse and vivacity throughout. M. Paulet as Lebardin portrayed the middle-aged lover with humorous effect, suggesting, very grotesquely, the rejuvenating effect of love upon one who had nearly reached his half-century. Mme. Dorlia and Mlle. Nobert gave good support as Mme. Lebardin and Hermance, and the success of the piece, which was punctuated with constant laughter, was added to by M. Gabriel Frère's impersonation of Pagenel, in which the actor had but little scope.

The fleeting joys of a triple bill proved attractive to a cosmopolitan house on Monday. The first piece was the neat and wittily written little comedy, in one act, by G. A. de Caillavet and Robert de Flers, entitled

"LA CHANCE DU MARI."

Bobby Hanson .....M. FELIX GALIPAUX
Jacques d'Esteuil .....M. COOPER
Paul d'Arzac .....M. GABRIEL FRERE
Jean .....M. BATREAU
Suzanne d'Esteuil .....MLLE. JEANNE THOMASSIN

The husband, Jacques d'Esteuil, has learnt philosophy in his everyday experiences of life, and is, as you might say, quite *un homme du monde*, with a real understanding of human nature. His wife Suzanne, after a dispute with him concerning her extravagant taste in parasols, takes umbrage, and sends for her admirer, Paul d'Arzac, to whose pleadings she inclines a favourable ear. Not the least anxiety of mind afflicts monsieur le mari. He simply telephones to another admirer of madame's, and she, after an amusing scene, first with one and then with the other, is unable to choose either to go to dinner, and therefore decides to go with her husband, who explains to the baffled gallants how clever he has been. There is one curious circumstance about the comedietta which deserves a note here, and that is the curious resemblance (which is, of course, quite accidental) between the husband's final speech to his wife, in which he begs her pardon for all that *she* has done amiss, to that found in Mr. Pinero's *The Hobby Horse*. M. Jacques d'Esteuil's remarks almost exactly coincide with those of Mr. Spencer Jermyn—a very extraordinary coincidence. Mlle. Jeanne Thomassin acted with a mercurial lightness of touch the part of the feather-brained wife; the gentleman from the States was amusingly caricatured by M. Galipaux; and M. Cooper presented a capital sketch of the level-headed husband.

Following the farce came a short causerie by M. Maurice Lefèvre, who commented on the drawing-room songs of the thirties—the late Georgian and the early Victorian era. He pointed out that the Romantic movement was the normal outcome of the post-Napoleonic reaction, and that it was distinguished by high ideals, by the naïveté of youth, and by its passionate love of the simple life of the country. The simpering affectation of that age is reproduced in the most piquant fashion in sentimental ballads—very precious in the salons of the period. M. Lefèvre in his interesting talk had something to say of the history of the songs and their authors, and interspersed his remarks with a number of amusing anecdotes. He described as a typical song of the period "Jenny l'Ouvrière," delightfully rendered by Mlle. Thomassin, who also charmed by her interpretation of "Vingt Sous de Perinette." M. Cooper sang with most artistic effect the patriotic "Ma Normandie" and "Le Vieux Ruban," and the two artists were heard to advantage in "Colinette au bois," the duet that concluded the performance. The accompaniments were very delicately played on a harpischord.

The closing attraction, called a *macédoine*, in one act, by Felix Galipaux and Petit Margin, was entitled "Agence Dramatique."

Virgule .....M. FELIX GALIPAUX
Frambosini .....M. PAULET
Parisette .....MLLE. NOBERT

The dramatic importance of this trifle is *nil*; but it gave M. Galipaux opportunities to be diverting in song and dance, and gag, and that is a great deal to the admirers of this clever comedian, who displayed a wealth of broad comedy in the rôle of Virgule, a comic conjuror. The actor did a number of card tricks, and generally made fun of divers sorts of entertainers.

"IN THE ARENA."

A Duologue by Arthur Holmes-Gore, Produced for the first time on any stage at a Matinée, at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Thursday, July 19.

Mrs. "Millie" Faraday....MISS ELSIE CHESTER.
Fred Luton .....MR. ARTHUR HOLMES-GORE
A Servant .....MISS DOROTHY HOLMES-GORE

The scene of the duologue is the private office of Mr. Fred Luton, Lincoln's Inn. The servant is discovered tidying up the fireplace. Millie enters, expecting to see Mr. Luton at his writing-table; but not finding him there, she orders the servant to leave the room, and makes an inspection of the table and drawers, finding on the table the solicitor's diary, and in one of the drawers a French novel and the "Racing Calendar." This appears to somewhat surprise Millie, who evidently thought Mr. Luton was more seriously devoted to his profession. Mr. Luton enters, and is evidently much annoyed at the liberty taken with his private papers, etc. He informs Millie that such conduct is actionable, and poses on the dignity of his profession. Millie only laughs at him, and says that he ought to be as nice and amiable in his office as he always has been when boating on the river with her. After some interesting and amusing conversation, in which Mr. Luton tries to impress upon Millie the inadvisability of ladies, even wives, ever visiting their friends or husbands at his place of business, mainly for the reason that the cares and worries of the day always made them austere and unlovable, quite in contrast to their demeanour after business hours, Mr. Luton then goes on to compare his office to "an arena" in which gladiators fought for existence, and enlarges considerably on the importance of his professional work. Millie, however, does not believe a word of it, and, after flinging his papers about, consents to become Mrs. Luton on the understanding that she can visit the office whenever she thinks fit. Mr. Luton then caves in as to the importance, pecuniary and otherwise, of his professional practice, and informs Millie that he is a rich man from private sources.

Miss Elsie Chester was charmingly vivacious as Millie, giving full expression to the many witty remarks allotted to her rôle. Mr. Holmes-Gore was capital as Mr. Luton, and his efforts to maintain a stern and dignified bearing caused much merriment. Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore made her first appearance on any stage at this matinée, and hit off successfully a sluttish looking juvenile slavey, speaking the few lines allotted to the part with distinctness and effect.

After the customary cleaning, the St. Helens Theatre Royal will be reopened on Bank Holiday, 6th August, with *Home, Sweet Home*, by Mr. Frank Lindo. The prices of admission to dress circle and stalls are to be reduced, so that henceforth the prices will range from 4d. to 2s., with extra fees for booking or early doors. These prices will not, however, apply to the Carl Rosa week.

The Kennington Theatre, which closes to-day for the usual summer renovations, will reopen on 6th August with the production of a drama by Vane A. Shirley, entitled *The Spider and the Fly*, which will be presented by Messrs. Sydney Cooper and E. Carpenter's company.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The fourth bi-monthly meeting of the members was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., when there were present Messrs. Cecil Barth, F. G. Bayly, C. B. Bedells, Pascoe Bioletti, Acton Bond, Edwin Coates, John R. Collins, Percy Crawford, F. Cremlin, Clive Currie, Herbert Dickeson, A. E. Drinkwater, Lawrence Grove, Monckton Hoffe, P. L. Julian, Quinton McPherson, Walter Pemberton, Langford Reed, F. Clive Ross, J. E. Savery, A. M. Seaton, Adnam Sprange, Douglas Vigors, McIntyre Wicksteed, and George Wyley; and Misses Lucy Beaumont, Marian J. Bird, Marie E. Ellis, Gladys Ffolliott, Eleanor Gilbart, Armine Grace, Georgina Hamilton, Sydney Keith, Vera Leslie, Amy Lloyd-Desmond, Rose Mathews, Kate Maynard, Rosetta McLaren, Helen Mosley, Katharine Parry, Minnie Rayner, Lucy Sibley, and Blanka Stewart.

Mr. Acton Bond was elected chairman upon the proposition of Mr. Cecil Barth, seconded by Miss Gladys Ffolliott. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Miss Vera Leslie proposed the following scheme: "To reduce the present subscription of 15s. by a gradually decreasing scale until an annual subscription of 5s. be financially possible, and thus to bring the advantages of the Association within the means of all members of the theatrical profession." It is proposed: 1 (present members)—That any member introducing a new member shall be entitled to have his own subscription for the following year reduced, if 15s., to 10s.; if 10s., to 7s. 6d.; or if 7s. 6d., to 5s. 2 (new members)—That all new members thus introduced be admitted at the reduced rate of 10s. for the first year, and, if introducing a new member during that year, be entitled to have their own subscription for the following year reduced to 7s. 6d., and so on, as above. Entrance fee of 5s. in all cases. The benefits to be thus derived are shown in the following tables:—

Original Sub., 1906, 15s. (reduced to 10s.)	Reduced Sub., 1907, with New Members, £1.	(5s. gain.)
Original Sub., 1907, 10s. (reduced to 7s. 6d.)	Reduced Sub., 1908, with New Members, 17s. 6d.	(7s. 6d. gain.)
Original Sub., 1908, 7s. 6d. (reduced to 5s.)	Reduced Sub., 1909, with New Members, 15s.	(7s. 6d. gain.)

Each new member implies a gain of either 5s. or 7s. 6d., besides entrance fee. Assuming the membership for 1906 to be 1500, and that by the proposed scheme 500 new members are added yearly, the income of the Association will be added to as under:—

Number of Members.		Sub. s. d.	Year.	Income. £ s. d.
	1,500	15 0	1906	1,125 0 0
1,000 / 1,000	2,000	15 0 / 10 0	1907	1,230 0 0
1,000 / 1,000 / 500	2,500	15 0 / 10 0 / 7 6	1908	1,437 10 0
1,000 / 1,000 / 500	3,000	15 0 / 10 0 / 5 0	1909	1,625 0 0

Increase since 1906, £500.
Entrance fees of 1,500 new members, £375.
Total increase, £875.

When a membership of 4500 is reached the income derived from a universal 5s. subscription will be the same as now (with 1500 members at 15s.)—that is, £1125; but as the working expenses with such a large increase of members will be necessarily greater, it is proposed to meet this in two ways: First, by a "volunteer" fund, established by members who are willing to subscribe 10s. instead of 5s. Many of the present members—probably at least a third—would be quite willing to do this, as they do not consider the present rate of 15s. excessive. Such members would be free at any time to reduce their subscription to 5s. should they be desirous of so doing. Secondly, by special performances, at which members of the Association only would appear and would give their services. This might also be made the means of giving provincial actors a much-desired and at present generally unattainable opportunity of making a London appearance.

Mesdames Georgina Hamilton, Helen Mosley, and Lucy Sibley and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Frank G. Bayly, Pascoe Bioletti, F. Cremlin, A. E. Drinkwater, Quinton McPherson, Clive Ross, and Douglas Vigors having spoken upon the motion, which was seconded by Mr. George Wyley, it was put to the meeting and declared to be lost.

Arbitrations.—Miss Gladys Ffolliott having given notice that she wished to speak on "arbitration," asked that the matter might stand over until the next bi-monthly meeting. This was agreed to.

Mr. Cecil Barth then read his paper, "What the Members Want," a full report of which appeared in our last issue.

Three out of the four resolutions proposed by Mr. Barth were carried. The remaining motion was that an experiment should be tried next summer of running a company of members of the Association who may happen to be disengaged on commonwealth lines.

This was seconded by Mr. Adnam Sprange, and after some observations by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. Quinton McPherson, and Mr. Clive Ross it was agreed that the further consideration of the question be deferred till the bi-monthly meeting in November next.

The names of Pascoe Bioletti, Marian J. Bird, Herbert Dickeson, Eleanor Gilbart, Minnie Rayner, Langford Reed, F. Clive Ross, Lucy Sibley, and Adnam Sprange were submitted, and the meeting referred the question of their election as "missioners" to the council.

Mr. Pascoe Bioletti proposed and Miss Gladys Ffolliott seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Cecil Barth for his paper.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Acton Bond for presiding as chairman concluded the proceedings.

The body appointed to control the operations of the Missioners of the Actors' Association held a special meeting on Monday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Quinton McPherson. There were present—Mesdames Georgina Hamilton and Blanche Stanley, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Leslie Carter, S. Major Jones, A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman of the Council), and C. B. Rivington (representing the secretary).

The question as to changing the name of the "Missioners" was again under discussion, and ultimately it was unanimously agreed that this body should in future be known under the title of "Commissioners."

The form to be used by the Commissioners for their monthly report of work done was approved of after some slight alterations had been made.

The further set of reasons for joining the Association, drawn up by the secretary, were under consideration, and after some discussion a new set of seven was compiled from these, and it was agreed that the matter should be placed on the agenda for the meeting on Monday next, the 23rd inst.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday. There were present—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Algernon Syms, Fredk. Volpe, Hubert Willis, and C. B. Rivington (representing the secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters, and stated that they had advised members on points submitted.

A case of alleged bogus management was under consideration, and the secretary was instructed to file the same for future reference. The scheme affecting the agency brought forward by Mr. Cecil Barth at the last bi-monthly meeting, and referred to the Council, was under consideration, and it was agreed that the decision of the Council should be postponed until an opportunity occurred of consulting the entire body of members.

Another proposition to form a committee for the reading of new plays was approved of generally by the Council, but it was decided that the matter should stand over until Mr. Barth could report more fully on the subject.

Rosalie Dupré, George Lyttleton, jun., and Henry Howard were nominated for election to the Association.

The report of the representative body of the Commissioners was given, and Mesdames Marian J. Bird, Eleanor Gilbart, Minnie Rayner, Lucy Sibley, and Messrs. Pascoe Bioletti, Herbert Dickeson, Langford Reed, F. Clive Ross, and Adnam Sprange were elected to that body.

The report of the Actors' Day Committee was received. The Suggestion Book was considered and an entry made.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last. There were present—Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), A. E. Drinkwater, C. Aubrey Smith, Hubert Willis, and C. B. Rivington (for secretary).

Several matters of routine were discussed, and the secretary received instructions.

"HANDSOME JIM."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Malcolm Watson, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday, July 16.

The Right Hon. Douglas Ashbourne .....MR. A. E. ANSON
Matthew Strode, M.P. .....MR. CLARENCE BLAKISTON
"Jim" Bretton .....MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Arthur Onslow .....MR. H. G. MASON
Jerry Mayne .....MR. EDMUND BAKER
Percy Dollingford .....MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
John Raikes .....MR. E. F. SAXON
Bob Keary .....MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Old Dick .....MR. A. AUSTIN-LEIGH
Mr. Dewlake .....MR. EDWARD MERVYN
Chesham .....MR. S. T. FIELD
Sutton .....MR. M. EDWARDS
Sam .....MR. GEORGE FRYE
Mr. Raeburn .....MR. STALLINGER
Mr. Grayson .....MR. GERALD FOX
Lady Franklyn .....MRS. CULLING
Hilda Strode .....MISS EVELYN D'ALROY
Polly .....MISS HELENA MILLAIS

With a view to an early appearance in London, Mr. Arthur Bourchier's special company appeared in this new production, which received the stamp of approval from a fairly numerous audience. The play has an interesting plot, which is sustained throughout, the time being the present, and the action taking place in London. In Act I. Lady Franklyn is giving an "At Home" at her town residence, among the invited guests being Douglas Ashbourne, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Strained relations evidently exist between the Chancellor and Matthew Strode, M.P., the leader of the Labour Party, and in order to give the two Parliamentarians an opportunity of arriving at a better understanding Mr. Strode, with his daughter Hilda, is also invited to the reception, when Ashbourne gathers from Strode that the price of his support and that of his party is a seat in the Cabinet. Whilst this discussion is proceeding, Arthur Onslow, one of Hilda's admirers, who arrives late, imparts the news that the cabman who drove him to the house is no other than Jim Bretton, formerly a member of the Home Office staff, who had magnanimously taken upon his own shoulders the crime of another and thus lost his post and disappeared. Having received a sovereign instead of his fare of a shilling, Jim sends it in to the donor, and is sent for, and sneered at by Onslow. Jim used to be Hilda's lover and a great favourite with Lady Franklyn who, in Act II., traces him, by the aid of his badge number, to old John Raikes' mews. Jim has been the making of a declining business, and is the idol of Raikes, his daughter Polly, and Old Dick, a stable help. The arrival of the two ladies leads to a tender scene between Hilda and Jim, and Strode, seeing in which direction the wind is blowing, offers Jim a post as general overseer of a mine in Mexico. The offer is declined, but that of Ashbourne, who places at his disposal the position of private secretary to the Minister, is accepted.

Act III. finds Jim installed at Downing-street, where he receives a visit from Bob Keary, his erstwhile stable companion, Polly Raikes, and her father. From them he learns that Strode has been at the mews trying to find out what he could to Jim's disadvantage, and that, in paying over a "fiver," he dropped a paper, which they have brought for Jim's inspection. Jim hands it to his chief, and when Strode arrives he is faced with the agreement on his part to sell his party to the Opposition for a seat in the Cabinet. Finding himself trapped Strode sends off a message as a counter-move, in response to which his daughter comes, and learns of her father's duplicity. There is an affecting scene between Jim and Hilda, who wants him to destroy the paper, but the secretary's duty to his chief prevents him playing the traitor. Ashbourne, who has overheard the conversation, disdains to use the information, and hands Jim the document to send to Hilda. Hilda is delighted to get the paper back, and the fact that Jim's downfall was due to no fault of his own, but that he went into voluntary exile to shield his brother, only serves to heighten her admiration for him. Strode, who has followed his daughter, bids her return with him. "I will go with you," Hilda says, "but there is a stronger claim even than a father's"; and turning to her lover, says, "When you bid me come, Jim, I will come to you whatever the cost and in spite of all opposition."

The new piece, which was produced under the direction of the author and Mr. Austin-Leigh, was remarkably well played. Mr. A. E. Anson played with quiet dignity and convincing force as the Rt. Hon. Douglas Ashbourne. In the encounters with Strode there was a dignity about his acting that made the character intensely real. Matthew Strode found a capable exponent in Mr. Clarence Blakiston. Deceit and cunning and the craving for power were displayed in all his actions, but it was a part that was in no way overdone. Jim Bretton was happily represented by Mr. O. P. Heggie. The scene with his sweetheart when he was besought to destroy the evidence of her father's duplicity was finely acted, and in the other scenes he was equally effective. Lady Franklyn was a delightful presentment at the hands of Mrs. Culling. Her love scene with Ashbourne was a pretty piece of unaffected acting, and throughout she rendered yeoman service in the production, the success of which was in no small degree due to her efforts. Hilda Strode, as played by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, was a charming and altogether lovable character admirably played. Old Dick was in the capable hands of Mr. Austin-Leigh, who portrayed the garrulous, philosophical old stable help to perfection. John Raikes was quietly portrayed by Mr. E. F. Saxon; Bob Keary was in good hands with Mr. Arthur Eldred; and Polly Raikes found an admirable exponent in Miss Helena Millais, a young actress who shows promise of excellent work in the near future. As Mr. Dewlake, Mr. Edward Mervyn was good; and the other characters in the cast all performed their allotted tasks creditably.

Her Majesty the Queen (Messrs. A. and C. Black inform us) has graciously accepted a copy of Mr. Earl Hodgson's book on salmon fishing, just published.

ACTORS' CRICKET MATCH.

LONDON v. PROVINCIAL.

At Kennington Oval on Friday, the 13th inst., London actors tried their skill on the cricket field against some of their provincial brethren, the match being held in the cause of charity, with the view of increasing the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage Fund. The attendance was exceedingly poor. Practically visitors were only to be seen in the grand stand, and this was but sparsely filled, the few seats that were taken up being occupied by relatives and personal friends of the players. In fact, it could not be said that the public was represented at all. Among those present were Mr. Henry Lytton, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. J. D. Beveridge, Mr. Horton Cooper, Mr. J. J. Dallas, Mr. J. M. Crawford, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. Arthur Anderson, Mr. Philip Cunningham, Mr. Ralph Kimpton, Mr. and Mrs. Akerman May, Miss Lily Brayton, Mrs. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Dora Barton, Mrs. Aubrey Smith, and Mrs. Nye-Chart. During part of the afternoon a number of selections were rendered in fine style by the Imperial Bijou orchestra.

The London actors showed infinitely better "form" than the provincials, although the best single innings, which resulted in a score of 60, is to be set to the account of a country actor, Mr. W. H. Morgan. Mr. Oscar Asche came next with 60, his vigorous hitting being followed by vociferous cheers from his admirers. The provincials, who were decidedly unlucky in not having Reeve Denbigh and the two Homewoods available, won the toss, and had the advantage of batting first on a capital wicket, but did so badly that five wickets were down for 39. Then Messrs. W. H. Morgan, J. P. Wilson, Horace Mills, and P. Knight rendered valuable assistance, and the innings realised 183. The London actors easily topped this, Mr. Oscar Asche playing excellent cricket for his sixty runs. Starting somewhat slowly, he gradually livened up till well set, when boundaries followed each other in quick succession and his thunderous voice bellowed its loudest. Mr. V. O'Connor was also responsible for a praiseworthy bit of work; and, in fact, all of the London actors played exceedingly well. Although included in the team, Mr. Gerald du Maurier had not the opportunity of batting, which was a pity, as imagination rendered him particularly interesting on account of his impersonation of "Raffles, the cricketer and criminal," at the Comedy. It was unfortunate that E. D. Burnaby, the fast bowler for the Provincials, and P. F. Knox, their wicket-keeper, got hurt, and had to retire from the game. Ultimately the London actors triumphed by three wickets and 50 runs, their score being 233 as against the 183 of their opponents. Of the bowlers Mr. B. Egerton came out with the best average, as he dismissed five of the provincial batters for 34, Mr. Aubrey Smith coming next with four wickets for 49. Much was expected of Mr. Smith, remembering his cricketing past, and the cheers which greeted each wicket he captured no doubt brought memories of more strenuous days, when the sobriquet of "Round the Corner Smith" followed his achievements as captain of Cambridge and Sussex. Like Oscar Asche, he has become a familiar figure at these events. Later in the afternoon rain fell heavily and intermittently, but as all the onlookers were under cover weather considerations did not affect their enjoyment to any great extent, although of course it interfered with the comfort of those upon the field. The details and scores are as follow:—

PROVINCIAL ACTORS.

P. F. Knox, b Egerton	8
G. Hannan Clarke, b Smith	0
E. D. Burnaby, b Egerton	18
W. H. Morgan, b Selby	80
D. Alington, b Smith	0
J. P. Wilson, c Blackman, b O'Connor	19
Horace Mills, c Egerton, b Smith	17
S. Livesey, b Egerton	1
P. Knight, c Asche, b Egerton	17
Leslie Holland, not out	8
A. W. Metcalfe, lbw, b Egerton	0
O. E. Lennon, b Smith	0
Byes 9, l-b 4, w 2	15
Total	183

LONDON ACTORS.

F. Blackman, c Livesey, b Metcalfe	6
R. Selby, b Alington	24
V. O. Connor, c sub., b Holland	37
C. A. Smith, st Knox, b Holland	22
O. Asche, c Livesey, b Clarke	60
H. B. Warner, not out	3
R. Evett, c Metcalfe, b Alington	26
F. Stayton, c Livesey, b Wilson	24
B. Egerton, c Morgan, b Holland	10
Byes, 16, l-b 5	21
Total (8 wkts.)	233

G. Du Maurier, H. Nye-Chart, and H. Lane did not bat.

ANALYSIS OF THE BOWLING.

PROVINCIAL ACTORS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Egerton	17	8	34	5
Smith	16.5	2	49	4
Asche	6	0	21	0
O'Connor	6	1	19	1
Lane	4	0	13	0
Evett	1	0	11	0
Selby	3	1	21	1

Egerton and Asche each bowled one wide.

LONDON ACTORS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Knight	12	1	33	0
Metcalfe	16	1	58	1
Alington	8	0	55	2
Holland	11	1	43	3
Wilson	3	0	22	1
Clarke	1	0	1	1

"PUT IT IN BLACK AND WHITE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It does not seem to be generally known that a form of contract between managers and artists has been drawn up and approved by the Touring Managers' Association and the Actors' Association; and if this were generally adopted it would do away with a lot of misunderstanding and ultimate litigation. One important clause in this contract is to the effect that in the event of any dispute arising it should be referred to the joint Board of Arbitration established by the two Associations. I think, with some slight modification, this same form of contract could be made to apply to engagements at London theatres.—Yours faithfully,

July 11, 1906. CECIL BARTH.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford has been appointed a corresponding member of the Maatschaapij tot Bevoodering der Toonkunst, the premier musical society of the Netherlands, which has done much good work in reviving interest in the music of early Dutch musicians.

Keeps the Skin Cool and Refreshed during the Summer.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, heat, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentleman will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

COUNCIL ENTERTAINMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I see that our excellent and experienced confrère Mr. Wm. Bailey, of the Royal West London Theatre, has warned the London County Council that they are "venturing upon a dangerous undertaking. . . . They would be rushing on to enormous cost." This is in regard to the recent suggestion to provide full entertainments in the parks during the summer months and in town halls, &c., during the winter.

Oh, the poor ratepayers! What next will they be "commanded" to bear, and how long are they going to sit meekly silent and tolerate this reckless trading. It really seems reasonable to suppose that the rates will some day reach 19s. 11½d. in the £ if our kind and considerate Councillors and others are to have their own sweet way in everything. I overheard a man say the other day: "We have a lot of faddists on the Council time after time. Each individual comes along with some fresh scheme. One chap desires to place a finger-post at each street-corner pointing to the shop that retails sherbert. Another wiseacre wishes to close up the Strand and Regent-street because women with naughty winks do sometimes assemble therein. Another enthusiast intends to prevent the slaughter of sheep, oxen, &c., because it is barbarous and out of date, and because he thinks that turnips and mangold wurzels contain all the nourishment necessary to sustain jaded humanity, who—as individuals—should be able to exist on twopence a day." And so on, *ad infinitum*.

We in the entertainment professions are faced with the outrageous suggestion that the commercial enterprise displayed by places of entertainment should be for ever doomed. All the money so carefully invested shall be lost, and every manager shall be made to feel that the disciples of crankyism on the County Council not only know far more than the said managers, but fully intend to put their ideas into practice, take up the onerous responsibilities of ministering to public requirements, and—starving the managers. Truly a pretty picture!

In your last issue you say that "thousands of hard-working citizens have invested" money in public entertainment concerns, and I take the liberty of setting out hereunder the undertakings worked under limited liability conditions, and the approximate amount of capital, debentures, &c., sunk in each concern. It is well to state that this list represents but a modicum of the amount of capital supporting entertainment ventures, as it will be well within your knowledge that many are worked on private enterprise or by small private syndicates:—

THEATRES.

	£
Adelphi	85,000
Bolton	55,000
Crown	65,000
Gaiety	60,000
Grand Opera Syndicate	160,000
Hanley	80,000
Howard and Wyndham	165,000
Newcastle and Gateshead	55,000
Pavilion Theatre	55,000
Robert Arthur	180,000
Southport	80,000
Leeds Opera House	75,000
Birmingham Theatre Royal	60,000
Manchester Theatre Royal	65,000
Drury Lane	145,000
United Theatres	100,000
Waldorf	65,000

VARIETY THEATRES.

	£
Alhambra	120,000
Gaiety, Birmingham	70,000
Camberwell Palace	90,000
Canterbury and Paragon	80,000
Empire Palace	50,000
Empire, Middlesbrough	35,000
Empress, Brixton	100,000
Granville, Walham Green	32,000
Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empires	120,000
Holborn Empire	86,000
Leicester Palace	55,000
London Coliseum	360,000
London Music Hall	100,000
London Pavilion	200,000
Lyceum (1903)	320,000
Manchester Hippo. and Ardwick Emp.	111,000
Manchester Palace	111,000
Metropolitan	120,000
Moss' Empires	1,500,000
New Tivoli	185,000
Oxford	160,000
Palace and Derby Castle (I. of M.)	130,000
Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue	100,000
Pavilion, Newcastle	55,000
Royal York Palace, Southampton	50,000
Tivoli, Manchester	60,000
Variety Theatres Consolidated	350,000

GENERAL.

	£
Barnum and Bailey	400,000
Blackpool (various companies)	1,000,000
Crystal Palace	670,000
Great Yarmouth, Britannia Pier	100,000
Hastings Pier	42,000
Herne Bay Pier	100,000
Morecambe Companies	170,000
New Spa and Gardens, Bridlington	30,000
Plymouth Pier	50,000
Royal Agricultural Hall	145,000
Ryde Pier	110,000
Southport Pier	80,000

Glancing at the above list, we observe that most of the companies are sound concerns, backed by men of experience in their line of business, and it would seem to be inexplicable that a certain gentleman who recently bequeathed £250,000 for the cause of temperance should have had the harmless entertainment so much to heart that one of his provisions reads:—

> "In providing not more than £500 per annum towards the cost of opposing in any part of England the grant of licences to public houses, theatres, music halls, and other places of entertainment."

Many philosophers aver that one of the most extraordinary elements of civilisation is the interfering spirit ever hovering around us. Now, entertainment managers are not only faced and harassed by unfair municipal and council competition which really ought to be made unlawful in a free country, but Tom, Dick, and Harry now intend to make wills in which they will bequeath money in trust to fight down the freedom of the masses. Think of the effect of an unlimited continuance of such an idea! Let us, by all means, fight our respective battles man to man in life; but when it comes to leaving wolves backed by money to snarl and growl at customs, then it would appear time to shut down the brakes.

What with the old tale of the subsidised theatres, the County Council Grand Opera House, the County Council Minstrel Troupe or Pierrot Crowd, and the bequests of gentlemen against the amusements of the people, it does not seem unreasonable to dream that we—even in this generation—may have to creep about in fear and trembling in case an extra deep-drawn sigh may be considered a direct contravention of the law.

In conclusion, it would not be out of place to iterate the fact that "A School to Promote Broad-mindedness among the Ambitious" would be very welcome at the moment, and the London County Council—by encouraging such an institution—would be benefiting their own dominions, and give an excellent cue to every municipal body throughout the world. Many of us in the entertainment professions would hail with delight such a school!—Yours faithfully,

London, July 16, WAT W. ESSPEA.

ACTORS' DAY.

The roll of actors and actresses favourable to the establishment of Actors' Day is growing daily, and the letters which the committee receive give unmistakable proof of the warmth with which the scheme is welcomed by all concerned. The following, in addition to those whose names have already been published, have promised their support:—Adale, Florence; Anderson, Millar; Antley, George; Averill, Harry; Aynesworth, Allan; Barratt, W. Burgess; Beardsley, Mabel; Bedford, Nora; Bellingham, Isa; Bishop, Gwendolen; Black, Jessica; Black, Kenneth; Black, Kenneth, jun.; Blande, Brereton Edith; Bowyer, Arthur; Bowyer, Maud; Brandon, Louise; Bromwich, F. Dudman; Brooke, J. Clifford; Brough, Fanny; Burnett, Gertrude; Burton, Alice; Cane, Harry; Cane, Mrs. H.; Caravoglia, Charles; Carington, Dorothy; Cellier, Marguerite; Chamberlain, John S.; Chambers, Lizzie; Champion, Ada; Chown, Herbert; Clavering, Marie; Clutterbuck, Cicely; Collins, Cecil A.; Colville, Betty; Cordiner, J. W.; Cumming, Malcolm J.; Cunningham, Roland; Dale, Welton; Davis, Mrs. Alfred; Davis, Zoe; Davison, Jeanette; Deas, Mary Rollo; Defoe, Alice; Delamere, Dorothy; Dobell, Wm.; Douglas, Ernest A.; Drummond, Dolores; Durrant, Mabel; Earle, Clara; Edwin, Grace; Edwin, Lucy; Esdale, Chas.; Fane, Wentworth; Favill, W. R.; Fenton, Caroline; Ferrar, Beatrice; Field, Ben.; Forbes, Alec; Freeman, Frederick W.; Garbois, W. H.; Gardiner, William; Garvey, Willie; Goldsmid, Carmel; Gore, Ivan; Gower, Ada; Grand, Archie Carlaw; Graydon, Arthur; Greenlaw, Nora; Greet, Claire; Gribbon, Harry A.; Haigh, Richard; Halle, Ethel; Halling, Daisy; Hansen, Laura; Hardinge, Mabel; Hargreaves, W. Henry; Harker, Frederick; Hawley, Francis; Haydon, Florence; Hodgson, Henry; Hodson, Janet; Holmes, Marion, Holt, Emilie; Howard, George; Humphries, John; Jones, Grace; Jones, Kitty; King, Claude; Lang, Matheson; Leslie, Phyllis; Leyston, Arthur; Lilliput, Frank; Lisle, Julia; Litchfield, Frank, Maddick, Dr. E. Distin; Maltby, Mrs. Charles; Maltby, Mara; Malvern, Gerald; Mannering, Mabel; Marsdene, Beatrice; Mather, Anna; Matt, Edith; Mellor, Mabel; Merton, Claude; Methven, Bryce; Moreton, Williams G; Morrison, Graham; Mortimer, Geo.; Neville, Katie; Nicholls, Harry, Noble, Ernest; Oakley, Ada; Odlum, Drelincourt; Owttrim, Ernest; Paull, H. M.; Paxton, Sydney, Pearl, Marie; Pennington-Gush, F.; Pimm, William; Playfair, Nigel; Podmore, Cissie; Ramsdale, Alice; Raymonde, Helen; Richards, Fred., Robson, Marie; Ross, Charles; Rous, Helen, Rowell, Dorothy N.; Russell, Harriet Ellis, Shelley, Evelyn; Sims, Violet; Snape, Topsy Colville; Soames, Arthur; Sorley, Edward; Sprange, Adnam; Stanton-Sharp, E.; Steuart, Char'es, Steward, Frank; Stewart, Hilda; Stewart, Stanley, Taylor, J. Milne; Tearle, Godfrey; Tearle, Mrs Godfrey; Tempest, Marie; Thompson, Wylie A.; Townsend, Maud; Venne, Lottie; Walford, Franklyn; Weaver, Wyn; Webster, Ben; Wetherall, Frances; Weyburn, Ethel; Whitney, Beatrice; Woods, Graham; Woolcote-Waters, Bertha; Wrighton, Norman; York, Nancy.

As it is, unfortunately impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal, and forms for signature, will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN AS COUNT HANNIBAL.

Count Hannibal himself, one is almost inclined to dub one of the very best of Mr. Norman's creations. Most admirably does the actor seem to have caught the novelist's conception of what is, as already hinted, a profoundly enigmatic character—a mixture of aristocratic pride, strong will and inflexible purpose on the one hand, and cold, cynical, pitiless yet bantering, mocking brutality on the other, with more than a soupcon of diplomatic cunning, finesse, and intellectual adroitness thrown in. In the midst of a brilliant crowd of silken doubletted cavaliers and brocaded, richly jewelled ladies of high degree at the French Court, the men with their glittering steely eyes, vandyke beards, and upward pointing moustaches, reminding one of pictures by the Old Masters—Mr. Norman stands most prominently forth, a handsome, commanding figure in vivid scarlet cavalier suit and trappings, and endows this fiery Benedick-cum-Othello-cum-Machiavelli, with all the external authority and dominion of the impulsive, yet quick-witted tactician that he is. He's distinctly a man of action—but he wraps his purpose to some extent in an air of mystery that harmonises fitly with the subtle riddle of his character as a whole. In any case from a dramatic point of view, Mr. Norman's study is powerful, engrossing, and distinguished enough to command unstinted admiration.—The *Brighton Standard*, May 25, 1906.

An amusing interlude was provided in the House of Commons in the small hours of Tuesday morning when the Musical Copyright Bill issued triumphantly through the turbulent times of its committee stage. Mr. O'Hare, the member for North Monaghan, had moved an amendment, and after it had been discussed a division was called. At this point Mr. O'Hare was understood to intimate that he desired to raise a point of order. According to the rules of the House, he could only do so—the question having been put—sitting and wearing his hat. As Mr. O'Hare had no hat, an hon. member folded up his order paper into the shape of a cocked hat and offered it to his brother in distress, by whom it was rejected. Another hon. member meanwhile crossed the house with an ordinary silk hat, which he placed at the hon. member's service. It was several sizes too large for Mr. O'Hare, but he put it on, and amid such merriment, submitted his "point of order," which turned out to be merely a request to be allowed to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Lingford Carson's mascot play, *The Drama of Life*, is having a most successful suburban tour. On Monday at the Shakespeare, Clapham, M. Auguste van Biene was an enthusiastic spectator, and after the performance, warmly complimented the manager of the company (Mr. Edward van Biene) on the excellence of the show. Mr. T. E. Dunville, the famous comedian, occupied a box on Tuesday, and on Wednesday Mr. Samuel James (on the look-out for a big attraction for his circuit) was in the stage-box

Mr. F. M. Paget, we regret to hear, has been very seriously ill through shock to the entire system, caused by leaping from an omnibus when going at full speed. Inflammation of one of the legs and blood poisoning supervened. For some days the patient was in a critical condition, but on Monday there was a change for the better, and there is now gradual improvement, but it will be some time before Mr. Paget can be out and about again.

Doggett's Coat and Badge, the legacy of the well-known eighteenth century actor, Mr. Thomas Doggett, will be decided on Friday, Aug. 3, at 12 noon. Eight young scullers have entered for the contest, the trial heats of which are to be rowed on Wednesday next.

DEATH OF MISS GAYNOR ROWLANDS.

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Miss Gaynor Rowlands, who passed away on Wednesday. An operation was successfully performed on the 12th inst., but owing to Miss Rowlands' weakened condition her system was unable to stand the strain, and she finally succumbed to heart failure. Miss Rowlands had been connected with the stage for many years, and always displayed the greatest enthusiasm for her vocation. She made a lengthened tour of India during 1901-2, and afterwards scored a distinct success as Hester in *My Lady Molly*, the popular comedy opera by Sidney Jones, written by G. H. Jessop, and produced at Terry's Theatre on March 14, 1903. She then joined Mr. George Edwardes' Gaiety company, where she speedily became a great favourite both before and behind the curtain. She appeared in many pieces, notably *The Orchid*, *La Poupée*, and *The Spring Chicken*. Combining as she did with her great personal attractions talents of no mean order, both of singing and dancing, her loss will create a lasting void both among the public and her many friends. The funeral will take place on Monday, the cortège leaving 13, Cavendish-road, St. John's Wood, at 2.30 p.m., for Finchley Cemetery.

PLAYGOERS AT THE BOTANIC.

The picturesque pleasaunces of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, were thronged on Tuesday evening with a crowd of playgoers and their friends. The weather was perfect, and the magnificent foliage of spreading acacias, stately beeches, and graceful limes, and other beautiful specimens of arboriculture, glowed with the glint of thousands of fairy lamps, lending a softened splendour to the calm, warm summer night. Cavaliers, dames, and demoiselles—the women folk in the daintiest and lightest of fabrics—flitted about the greenest of swards bordering each side of the grand walk, where long bamboo rods holding lighted Japanese and Chinese lanterns bent over so as to form a long illuminated archway of subdued incandescence. Here in close proximity to the band of His Majesty's Royal Horse Guards (Blue) one could enjoy a cooling drink, and listen meanwhile to Rossini's fine illustrative music in the overture *William Tell*, to that march of light-hearted gaiety—so typically Parisian—"La Matichiche," or to the more tender strains of "Love, could I only tell thee?" which must have had a romantic significance for scores of happy couples. Inside the spacious conservatory an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was provided under the direction of Mr. Seymour Dicker, and among the artists who won special recognition were Miss Olga Antoni, who sang with delightful finish and charm old English ditties, and the brothers Tscherniavsky, three juvenile executants of exceptional promise, who were heard to considerable advantage in Sulzer's "Summernight" and Pauper's "Spinnlied"; Mr. David Evans, an excellent bass baritone, who sang W. H. Squire's song, "Like Stars Above"; Mr. Walter Hyde, Miss Annie Bartle, and Miss Ivy Ancove, a violinist who chose a Hungarian piece for one of her solos, and Miss Frances Reeve. A natural amphitheatre was found for an *al fresco* entertainment in the vicinity of a grassy knoll, and "under the greenwood tree" we heard Mr. Alfred Capper whistle as he only can "Les Papillons," the well-known polka by Waldteufel, a most difficult selection that was rendered with perfect finish. Unfortunately, the piano—an excellent Steinway—was not in tune with Mr. R. B. Hopkins's bells, and therefore his artistic efforts as a campanologist in a pretty but rather cloying ballad were not so successful as they deserved to be. He found an excellent accompanist in Mr. Charles E. Johnson. Mr. Will Ballard heartily amused his audience by his rendering of Miss Vesta Tilley's song, "The Seaside Sultan," and gave as an encore a well-written and quaint parody of "Navahoe." Miss Aimee Bebb was quite successful in "My Toreador." There were compliments in plenty for the dancing of the Davis trio of smart and attractive girls; and Mr. Southey's banjo solo was most acceptable. Much entertainment was found in the scientific readings of Professor Hubert, phrenologist and palmist, and of Madame Beatrice, who also read the lines of the hand. Additional fun was derived from the awarding of the prizes for ladies, each lady having a numbered ticket presented to her on entering the gardens, a "draw" deciding the prize-winners. Mr. and Mrs. W. Sparkes "received" the members and their guests.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

An orchestral and choral concert was given at the Royal College on Thursday evening, July 19, the concert opening with R. Strauss's Symphonic Poem "Don Juan." The young students in the orchestra simply revelled in the clashing chords and violent contrasts of this remarkable work; but judiciously controlled by their conductor, Sir Charles V. Stanford, the orchestra, on the whole, gave a fairly artistic performance. In his violoncello solo of Max Bruch's lovely "Canzona," Mr. F. G. Parkington played like an artist, evidently realising the many beauties of this fine work, being at the close rewarded by loud and long continued applause. Miss Maria Yelland was hardly well advised in attempting so difficult an air as "Ah! mon fils!" from Meyerbeer's *Le Prophète*, although the young lady has a fine vibrant contralto voice; but for such an air she really requires operatic experience. The novelty of Thursday's concert was a work by G. von Holst, entitled "Songs without words for Orchestra," which was "recommended for performance by the Committee of the Patron's Fund, as it was held over from the concert given on July 3." Mr. Holst's two songs were entitled "Country Song," very suggestive of country life and dances on the village green, the other and most important composition, a "Marching Song," did the composer great credit, both in its stirring melody and the clever and suggestive tramp, tramp of a marching regiment. At the close the young composer was called to the front amidst a perfect storm of applause. The concluding item was of somewhat serious a character, being no less than Schumann's "Scenes from Goethe's *Faust*, Part III." It proved less interesting than the other work done at this concert. Although the soloists bravely attacked their difficult task, the most satisfactory portions of this fine work was the clever and harmonious singing of the chorus and concerted music. The work was sung in German in a manner that did credit to the training the young students have received. The orchestral parts were also skilfully performed. Sir C. V. Stanford conducted all compositions with the exception of G. von Holst's two works, which were conducted by the composer.

Miss Carlotta De Yonson and company produced two new sketches at the Grand Theatre, Sheffield, on Monday. The first one, entitled *Love and Hate*, by Mr. J. F. Austin, is a strong dramatic story of a young farmer who is temporarily convinced of his wife's faithlessness by the passing off of a girl who bears a strong resemblance to her. The other sketch, entitled *His Little Hobby*, by Mr. Claude Agnew, tells the story of a young couple who decide to marry against parental wishes, pretend to be hypnotised by the old gentleman, and refuse to be brought back to their normal state until they gain his consent.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

Walsall.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Remington troupe of lady acrobats top the bill here this week, and are received with marked success; Fred Lincoln, comic singer, is good; Odeyne Spark is a delightful comedienne and dancer; the Maies contribute an acceptable comedy turn; the Henri Taylor trio, Mexican jugglers and equilibrists, give a capital performance; Marvelle's birds furnish a remarkably interesting entertainment; Abdy's canine circus, presented by a troupe of wonderful dogs, is greatly appreciated. A series of pictures on the American Bioscope concludes the programme.

Warrington.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here this week in the comedy, *Facing the Music*. Despite the fact that it has been seen several times here, the amusing episodes associated with the career of John Smith are as diverting as ever, and Mr. Windermere scores a big success; Mr. Norris Matthews, as the Rev. John Smith, imparts the requisite clerical reserve to ensure success; Mr. Wentworth Fane is good as Dick Desmond; and Mr. Graham Morrison is a typical Colonel; Mr. Henry Nelson does well as Sergeant Duffell; Miss Clare Mansfield acts charmingly as Mabel, a remark which applies to Miss Zoe Davies as Norah; Miss Phyllis Leslie is a chic Miss Fotheringay; and a portly Mrs. Ponting is Miss Evelyn Shelley. A pretty curtain-raiser, *The Bookworm*, is well acted by Mr. Windermere as David Holmes and Miss Clare Mansfield as Kate.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Good business is the order here this week, and a capital lot of turns is billed. Cline and Clark are a couple of diverting black and white artists, and Miss Florence Yayman is one of the most accomplished coon burlesque exponents seen here for some time; Henriette and Selina win approval with a refined vocal and instrumental entertainment, and Lillie Le Breton is a clever trapeze artist; Ford Williams, Celtic vocalist, sings several songs in fine style, and J. W. Barrett again scores; Henri Cazman is rightly styled the "one man music hall"; and the Bioscope pictures are all good.

West Bromwich.—Hippodrome and Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Kennedy's Komiks still maintain their popularity and are playing to crowded houses nightly. Charlie Bayham has become quite a favourite in the town. The Incemores give a smart display of singing and dancing, and a return visit of the Sisters Dudley, who get repeated encores for their clever vocalism, is welcomed. An eminently successful item is that submitted by Mr. Frank Lyndon, who displays talent as musician on strange instruments. The Four Sisters Godfrey are well received. The Sisters Verne show great skill in their skipping-rope dance and well deserve the applause given. Little Hatch is still to the fore with his comic songs and funny antics; and the show is brought to a close by an animated picture of the Warwick Pageant.

West Hartlepool.—Palace.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The programme submitted here includes some good turns. Keen and Waller exhibit exceptional dexterity in a comedy acrobatic performance, and well deserve their encore; the mimicry of Herbert Clifton, who successfully imitates some well-known stars, gains for him a flattering reception; the Jalvans, Oriental jugglers and top-spinners, are remarkably good in their particular line; a big hit is made by Colby and May, "the ventriloquist and the dancing doll"; Tiny Arnold, the dainty little comedienne and dancer; and Maisie Calder, pleasing in song and dance, are adding to their popularity; and the remainder of the programme is made acceptable by the efforts of Joe Dale, comedian, and Raymond's Bio-tableaux, which are up to the usual standard of excellence.

Weston-super-Mare.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. Ernest R. Abbott and F. C. Berridge's company is appearing here this week in *Sapho* and *Trilby*. On Monday the former was presented. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott gave a masterly interpretation of Jean Gaussin; excellent, too, was Mr. F. C. Berridge's impersonation of Henri Dechelette; Mr. Ernest Hartington's Flamant was a sound performance; Mr. George C. Doughty was an excellent Uncle Cessaire; Mr. John Lester's Caoudal deserves eulogy; so, too, does the Hettema of Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown. Mr. Fred C. Roper made the most of La Gouvernerie; old Legrand found an able exponent in Mr. Weedon Ross; Miss Ada Abbott gave an intensely dramatic representation of Fanny Legrand; Miss Mary Douglas's La Pipotte was commendable; Lucy was ably portrayed by Miss Phyllis Atherleigh; whilst Miss Marjorie Tennent was extremely good as Madam Hettema. A word of praise must be given Miss Louis Gilmore for her Aunt Divonne.

Grand Pier Pavilion.—The Vagabonds commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. Miss Merita Leclair gained loud applause for her singing of "Sally's Courtship"; Miss Belle Green's imitation of a little child reciting fairly convulsed the audience with laughter; Mr. Ernest Devereux was deservedly encored for his rendering of "When the boys go marching by"; Mr. Percival Mackenzie is an expert banjo player, and also excels as a lightning cartoonist; Mr. Harold Montague made the hit of the evening with his extremely humorous songs; the pictures shown by Mr. Frank Lens on the Bioscope are received with prolonged applause; Herr Julian Kindt's Austrian Blue Band has become very popular.

Weymouth.—Royal Opera House.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—The St. Louis Picture Company opened on Monday for the week, and attracted large audiences. The items include talking and singing pictures, introducing the swinging scene from *Veronique*, the Destruction of San Francisco, the Royal Wedding in Madrid, and many other interesting as well as humorous exhibits. The coloured films were much admired, and the management are to be congratulated on a really good show, which is under the control of their courteous business-manager, Mr. Walter W Hook.

Wigan.—The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The drama, *Her Luck in London*, is the attraction here this week. The Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor, the young Irish nobleman, is admirably impersonated by Mr. Charles A. Leicester; and the part of Richard Lenowen is played with marked subtlety by Mr. Alfred D. Adams. The Rev. Lionel Strong has an excellent representative in Mr. Douglas Tremayne; and Mr. J. Telby Dillsen is a great success as Jerry Gotobed. Miss Mary Davis takes the part of Lilian Harborne, the nun, in admirable style; and Miss Ada Roscoe scores as Mme. Gabrielle. Miss Mary Neil as Nellie Harborne is the life and soul of the piece, and plays the part with much vivacity and abandon

Worthing.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Hilton Frances and company opened here on Monday with *The Medical Student*. The farcical comedy went with a rare swing, and caused roars of laughter from start to finish. Mr. J. W. Hooper as Tom Burton works unsparingly, and is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Harold West is also successful as Dick de Feetum; Mr. Hilton Frances, as Mr. Ambrose Burton, enacts the character of an irate parent; Mr. Arthur Rodney and Mr. Archie Bradshaw, as Sir Giles de Feetum and Professor Boski respectively, put in good work; Miss Ellen Snow is highly capable as Sophie; Miss D. A. Barrington is well placed as Alice; Miss Cecila Gordon, as the servant Sarah, is thoroughly amusing; while Miss Constance Groves gives an admirable impersonation of Mrs. Burton. On Thursday, Mr. Ellerslie Pyne and company appeared in the drama *The Sleigh Bells*.

Wrexham.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—The great attraction this week has been Mlle. Lucretia, a charming burlesque actress and speciality dancer. Haverley and Homer, refined comedians and dancers; Bert Boon, comedian; Les Eldines, duettists and sketch artists; Miss Minnie Rose, comedienne; and the pictures also contribute to the bill.

York.—Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—Dou-Ban is astonishing all this week, and is being well received; the Ringling trio of acrobats are clever in their business; and Spencer and Marks are also smart in their peculiar line; a really neat show is that of Fred Elton, who scores a huge success; the Brown and Kelly combination is an amusing item; Dan Conroy tells some funny stories; and charming Lil O'Gorman makes many friends. Yorkshire Tom, Blanche Holt, Meier and Mora, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FRAULEIN W.—The School for Scandal *was adapted into German by Rudolf Genée under the title of* Schleischer und Genossen, *and produced at the Royal Schausspielhaus, Berlin, in September, 1869.*

AN OLD LYCEUMITE.—*Yes; Sir Henry Irving gave recitals in October, 1869, while he was acting at Drury Lane, and during that month appeared at the Westbourne Hall with the late H. J. Montague.*

ARISTARCHOS.—*It is dangerous to use the actual dialogue of a copyright novel. See the judgment in Warne v. Seebohm set out on p. 23 of "Law of Copyright," by A. A. Strong, published at this office.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*The cast of* The Lancashire Witches *produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on October 20, 1879, was as follows:—Sir Ralph Ashton, Mr. Furneaux Cook; Richard Ashton, Mr. H. Hallam; Hopkins, Mr. J. Leitch; King James, Mr. R. Temple; Alizon, Miss Edith St. John; Chattox, Miss Bella Cuthbert; Dame Nutter, Miss Alice Cook; Mother Demdyke, Mrs. R. Power.*

G. T. P.—*It is against our rule to give the ages of members of the profession.*

AUTO.—*The Licenser of Plays, Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace. The fee is a guinea for a one-act piece; two guineas for pieces of more than one act.*

MRS. C.—(1) The Dragon of Wantley; or Old Mother Shipton, *a pantomime by E. L. Blanchard, was produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Dec. 26, 1870.* (2) *The date of the death by drowning of Miss Bessie Edwards was July 22, 1878.*

THE BARON.—*On the original production of* Jim the Penman *at the Haymarket, on the afternoon of March 25, 1886, the play contained a French character named Baron Hauteville, played by M. Marius. When the piece was put into the evening bill on April 3, same year, this part was Germanised into Baron Hartfeld, and was played by Mr. Beerbohm Tree.*

G. E. C.—The Little Squire, *adapted by Mrs. William Greet and Horace Sedger from a novel by Mrs. De La Pasture, was produced at the Lyric, April 5, 1894. The principal parts were played by Messrs. Charles Sugden, Seymour and W. S. Laidlaw, Mrs. Edmund Phelps, and Misses Dorothy Hanbury, Mary Rorke, Rose Leclercq, Isa and Empsie Bowman, and Fanny Brough.*

A. D.—*Miss Dolores Drummond was the original Hortense in* Jo, *when that play was produced at the Globe Theatre in 1876.*

BRIXTON.—*A play by H. G. Donnelly, entitled* Fashions, *has been performed in America.*

J. K.—*Edwin Forrest, the American actor, died at Boston, U.S.A., on March 12, 1872. Consult "Edwin Forrest," by Laurence Barrett. Henry Irving played the part of Compton Kerr when Formosa, by Dion Boucicault, was produced at Drury Lane on August 5, 1869.*

NERO.—*Will reply next week.*

BRITANNIA.—*Write to Mr. Edgar Bateman (Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing Cross-road, who will probably be able to give you the required information.*

E. A.—*As far as we know, the title has not been used.*

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

J. Warwick Moore—Saturday, July 21.
C. Aubrey Smith—Saturday, July 21.
Little Tich—Saturday, July 21.
Frank A. Wood—Saturday, July 21.
Lucy Rushton—Saturday, July 21.
Walter M. Cameron—Saturday, July 21
Flo Elvin—Saturday, July 21.
J. P. Lallen—Saturday, July 21.
Freddie Bentley—Saturday, July 21.
Emily Fowler—Sunday, July 22.
Gus Elen—Sunday, July 22.
Frederic Robinson—Sunday, July 22.
Haldane Crichton—Sunday, July 22.
M. Gordon Ebbutt—Sunday, July 22.
Robb Gilmore—Sunday, July 22.
H. Evan Gibbon—Sunday, July 22.
Leoni Clarke—Sunday, July 22.
Florence Marston—Sunday, July 22.
Marie Scharning—Sunday, July 22.
Wallie Kaufman—Sunday, July 22.
Odeyne Spark—Monday, July 23.
Richard Cass—Monday, July 23.
William Mackintosh—Monday, July 23.
Chas. Fulton—Monday, July 23.
Joan Burnett—Monday, July 23.
Margaret Story-Gofton—Monday, July 23.
Anna De Grey—Monday, July 23.
William Gillette—Tuesday, July 24.
Fergus Hume—Tuesday, July 24.
Martin Adeson—Tuesday, July 24.
Barney Vox—Tuesday, July 24.
Kate E. Leslie—Wednesday, July 25.
Nat C. Goodwin—Wednesday, July 25.
Arthur Rigby—Wednesday, July 25.
Nat Travers—Wednesday, July 25.
Johnny Hanson—Wednesday, July 25.
Winifred Wood—Wednesday, July 25.
Roy Cochrane—Thursday, July 26.
Frank Tyars—Thursday, July 26.
Augustine Knight—Thursday, July 26.
Frank Lester—Thursday, July 26.
Gus Garrick—Thursday, July 26.
Hal Croueste—Thursday, July 26.
Tom Craven—Thursday, July 26.
Charles Collette—Friday, July 27.

ON THE ROAD, JULY 23.

CONSCRIPT, THE.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Palace Pier, Brighton.
DISHONOURED.—Alexandra T., Hull.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
FACING THE MUSIC.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Croydon.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—West London Theatre.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
HOW MONEY'S MADE.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Prince's T., Bradford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Brampton, and Haltwhistle.
LA POUPEE (LEVILLY).—Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
MR. HOPKINSON.—Hastings.
PLUCKY NIPPER.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
POOR MUST LIVE.—Theatre Royal, York.
POWER OF GOLD.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
PUBLIC OPINION (N.).—Blackpool.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Queen's T., Manchester.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Junction Theatre, Manchester.
TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS.—G. T., Edinburgh.
UNDER THE CZAR.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
WALLS OF JERICHO.—Opera House, Southport.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM.—Grand T., Blackpool.
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

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The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DAYTON.—On Thursday, July 19, 1906, at 40, Lisle-street, W.C., the wife of Mr. O. Maus Dayton, Director of the Dayton Family, of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

YATES—BOLAND.—On July 16, at West Derby Registrar's Office, Liverpool, Godfrey A. Yates to Emma Boland, both of this city. At home, Aug. 13. 99, Belmont-road, Liverpool.

DEATHS.

LOHSE.—July 13, at Cologne, Frau Lohse, operatic vocalist, aged 30.

PROCTOR.—Maria, widow of the late Robert Proctor, circus proprietor, aged 69. Interred in Derby Cemetery, Friday, July 20.

ROWLANDS.—July 18, at 13, Cavendish-road, St. John's Wood, Gaynor Rowlands, musical comedy actress, of heart failure, subsequent to operation.

WALFORD.—July 19, of consumption, Marie Henry Walford (Mystic Marie), sister of Dr. Walford Bodie.

WALLACE.—Tom Wallace, on July 8, after a long illness, at 18, Norman-road, Birkby, Huddersfield. Deeply mourned by his wife and relatives. May he rest in peace.

IN MEMORIAM.

BARRETT.—In loving memory of Wilson Barrett, who fell asleep on July 22, 1904. At rest and peace.

BESSON.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Georges Besson, who passed away July 20, 1905. R.I.P.—VIOLET FULTON (BESSON).

BLANDE.—In memory of my mother, Mrs. S. A. Blande, who died July 15, 1901.—EDITH.

CLIVE.—In loving memory of Wybert Clive, actor and dramatist, who died July 16, 1892, who will ever be remembered by his wife and sons (Fred and Vic).

HOLLISTER.—In loving memory of Walter Hollister, of Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, who died July 17, 1905. Deeply regretted by his wife and family.

LLOYD.—In memoriam of our dear father, the late Arthur Lloyd, who fell to sleep July 21, 1904. His memory for ever cherished by his children.

THE King, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Sparta, visited the Comedy Theatre on Monday night and witnessed the performance of *Raffles;* and on the same evening Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll and the Duke of Argyll were present at the performance of *Armide* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1906.

A GILBERT AND SULLIVAN REVIVAL.

When a proposition is made for the revival of a "stage classic" one is apt to pause and wonder what the "best friends" of the author really ought to desire. It is Lear's "best friend" who remarks, *àpropos* to the old king's death, "He hates him that would upon the rack of this tough world stretch him out longer." A "great success" is a combination, which may almost be deemed fortuitous, of author and actors. It is not fortuitous, but the result of the selective ability of author or manager. Yet it is wonderful how, in some magical manner, the man comes when the hour comes; and the woman, too, for that matter. How were the exact individuals for the original cast of *H.M.S. Pinafore* evolved in the persons of Mr. GEORGE GROSSMITH, Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON, Mr. RICHARD TEMPLE, Miss ALICE BARNETT, and Miss ROSINA BRANDRAM? They seemed to have been born to play the parts they sustained. One could imagine—and can imagine—nothing better.

This is one of the great difficulties of a revival: even if you collect the "old guard" from the four quarters of the theatrical earth, they are necessarily many years older. Some of them have probably departed from the earth altogether. And there is a curious tendency in the old actor, when replaced in a character in which he has once shone, to exaggerate, just as an ancient beauty overdoes the rouge and powder. The revival, it may be said with certainty, is never exactly the same thing as the original production. It may even be superior in certain respects; but it is different. To the palate of the old playgoing epicure there will always seem to be an inferiority.

And it is not only in the cast of a GILBERT and SULLIVAN revival that there would be a difference. Times change, and the public changes with them. When *Pinafore* and *Patience* were produced the country was positively pot-bellied with prosperity. People "did not know what to do with their money," and offered it, open-handed, to whoever would invent them a new pleasure. It was not by a mere coincidence that the Savoy Hotel, with its wonderfully delightful and splendidly expensive dinners, was practically contemporaneous with the Savoy Theatre. The whole spirit of the GILBERT and SULLIVAN opera was one of after-dinner Philistinism. It was not exactly cynicism; it was the easy-going, not too deep, indifferentism of the well-to-do Briton of the period as he lighted a cigar after an excellent repast. When the Captain's daughter in *H.M.S. Pinafore* drew a contrast between papa's luxurious home, with its Venetian mirrors, and everything that wasn't old from GILLOW'S, and her probable life as a sailor's wife, with one cracked looking-glass to view her face in, and dinner served up in a pudding-basin, she touched a note which echoed in the breast of her audience collectively. When the Bo'sun in *Pinafore* rolled out the admirably worded verses of "He is an Englishman," with its pungent sneer at patriotism, everyone felt that the question of the absurdity or excellence of that quality was settled for ever. One smiled at the eccentricity of those who in those distant days found fault with the War Office, and felt more than ever inclined to support economy in our arrangements for attack and defence.

A good deal of water has run beneath the bridges since then; and there have been a good deal of blood and many tears mingled with the stream. Mr. GILBERT, who, one fancies, as NAPOLEON said of DUROC, "never shed a tear," is hardly in tune with a generation impoverished by a vindication of "national honour," and rendered serious in spite of itself by its not-yet forgotten losses and bereavements. The GILBERT and SULLIVAN opera asked its hearers to think—just a little. Its wildest extravagances had their foundation in an ethical argument. *Patience* is a curious essay on the egotism of sexual love; and here and there throughout the other operas bits of quaint cynical philosophy crop up in the oddest manner, considering the nature of the entertainment. For Mr. GILBERT was far too practical an author to write, "all through," over the heads of his audience. He won the intelligent part of his patrons by his intelligence, and the foolish majority by his whimsical folly—the wise, half-melancholy folly of the jester who despises his master's guests, and takes their measure exactly, while himself no "jolly fellow" at all. Mr. GILBERT could at times be as "cheap" as popularity requires; witness the points of the non-seagoing First Lord of the Admiralty, the "fat woman" hits, the across-the-footlights appeal (against the old-fashioned rule in theatres) to a head fireman in a private box; and many others. And so he pleased all parties—of that period.

The present period is not exactly the same. In the early GILBERT and SULLIVAN time there yet lingered amongst lovers of light musical entertainments a certain demand for plan, coherence, and—strange to say—literature. Even the admiration for the old burlesques, with their elaborate puns, was based on cleverness in the management of words. All the best LECOCQ and OFFENBACH operas had "stories" and characters. We have "changed all that." As a rule, the modern musical play is as proper as the French pieces were—Frenchified; it is also as superior to the trammels of form as Mr. BERNARD SHAW himself, and as non-literary as a newspaper. And the musical play undoubtedly represents the ideal of "up-to-date" playgoers who form the majority.

We must not write, however, as if the GILBERT and SULLIVAN operas were all Gilbertianism. Several of them, such as *Iolanthe* and *The Pirates of Penzance*, were purely fantastic in idea, and not in the least philosophic. And they had the advantage of not being "worked to death," as the more popular operas were. Probably they might stand reviving. Somehow or other, nevertheless, when one thinks of a GILBERT and SULLIVAN revival in London one always sees difficulties—not for oneself, but for the capitalist who "runs the show." The imperative necessity is that, if a revival takes place, it shall be done not pretty well, but remarkably, strikingly well. For our own part, we would rather see a pretty good GILBERT and SULLIVAN, or even OFFENBACH-ian, revival than many modern musical plays; but we are not the general public. One has a feeling that the best chance of such a revival would be a series of matinées on the répertoire principle; but then there is the difficulty of the scenery. The trouble is that, if you do the revival superbly you risk a lot of money on an off-chance, and if you don't do it superbly, with something in the way of a new prima donna or extra good scenery as "spice," there is little chance of your getting your money back at all. The matter, however, may well be left to the judgment and decision of Mrs. D'OYLY CARTE, who is such a keen woman of business that she is not likely to be carried away by any dreams or hopes, and is capable of adding up the arguments *pro* and *con* a GILBERT and SULLIVAN revival much better than we have been able to do within the limits of a leading article.

MR. O'CONNOR'S BILL.

The following is the text of the Musical Copyright Bill, as passed in Committee and reported to the House:—

Clause 1.—Every person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any printed copies of any musical work, or has in his possession any plates for the purpose of printing or reproducing pirated copies of any musical work, shall (unless he proves that he acted innocently) be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, and on a second or subsequent conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding two months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds. Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who in any street or public place sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any such copies as aforesaid.

2.—(1) If a court of summary jurisdiction is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed on any premises, the Court may grant a search-warrant authorising the constable named therein to enter the premises between the hours of six of the clock in the morning and nine of the clock in the evening, and, if necessary, to use force for making such entry, whether by breaking open doors or otherwise, and to seize any copies of any musical work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed.

(2) All copies of any musical work and plates seized under this section shall be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, and if proved to be pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the printing or reproduction of pirated copies shall be forfeited and destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the court think fit.

(3) In this Act the expression "pirated copies" means any copies of any musical work written, printed, or otherwise reproduced without the consent lawfully given by the owner of the copyright in such musical work; and the expression "plates" includes any stereotype or other plates, stones, matrices, transfers, or negatives used, or intended to be used, for printing or reproducing copies of any musical work; provided also that the expressions "pirated copies" and "plates" shall not, for the purpose of this Act, be deemed to include perforated music rolls used for playing mechanical instruments, or records used for the reproduction of sound waves, or the matrices or other appliances by which such rolls or records respectively are made.

Mr. BILLY MCCLAIN is making a gratifying success with his coloured sextet, including Mme. Cordelia, in their sketch *The Hottest Coon in Dixie*, at the Palace, Blackburn, this week. No less than seven recalls were insisted upon on Monday night. Mr. McClain was compelled to make a speech before the applause would subside.

DEBATE ON THE PIRACY BILL.

The House went into Committee on Monday to resume the consideration of the Musical Copyright Bill, promoted by Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

On Clause 1 ("Penalty for being in possession of pirated music"),

Mr. BYLES moved an amendment providing that there must be knowledge that the music was pirated before the person selling, exposing, offering, or having in his possession for sale any pirated music should be guilty of an offence.

Mr. HARWOOD said no Bill had carried this clause before No stringency against the hawker would stop the production of pirated music. He was against a departure of this kind being made without good cause being shown.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL thought the objection taken was one of form rather than substance. The Act was exceptional, but the circumstances were also exceptional. Pirated music had no name of printer or publisher upon it, and, therefore, it might be seen at once that it had no authorised or legitimate origin. There were many cases in which Parliament had definitely thrown the onus upon the defendant in criminal cases. A person found in possession of stolen goods was presumed to be a guilty person unless and until he offered a good explanation of how he became possessed of such goods. There was ample precedent for this clause, and it was based on the recommendation of the Committee on Musical copyright, which was supported by two magistrates and also by Sir Harry Poland.

Mr. LUPTON saw no reason why the sale of pirated music should be made the subject of a criminal prosecution instead of a civil action. He objected to the onus of proof being put upon the hawker to make out his innocence. He had bought that day for twopence a beautiful piece of music entitled "Kathleen Mavourneen," which was not copyright. It had no publisher's name upon it, and he objected to any man being run in for selling it.

Mr. LLOYD MORGAN said the Bill as it stood was class legislation to which he had always taken the strongest objection. He insisted that with music, as with other things, the prosecution should be called upon to prove their case, and that it was not right that the onus of proving his innocence should be placed upon the prisoner. This was bad legislation. If the right of appeal to quarter sessions was taken away, as it was in this Bill, it was more essential that the onus of proving their case should be thrown upon the prosecution.

Mr. CREAN and Mr. DUNDAS WHITE supported the amendment.

Mr. A. C. MORTON wanted to know from the head of the Government whether he was going to advise the passing of exceptional legislation, whereby in future a Britisher would have to prove that he was innocent, or otherwise he would be taken to be guilty.

Mr. KEIR HARDIE, though his name was on the back of the Bill, said he sympathised with the amendment. He appealed to the Home Secretary to amend the clause so as to restrict its punitive operation to the producers of pirated music.

Mr. GLADSTONE said he could not accept the suggestion. If the hawker was exempt the difficulty would be enormously increased. The selling of pirated music was a regular business which had grown up in recent years. It was confined to a certain class who well knew that the music was pirated. As soon as a change in the law was made as proposed in the Bill the evil would be removed.

After further debate,

The Committee divided, and there voted:—

For the amendment	71
Against	213
Majority against	142

Mr. LUPTON moved to amend the clause by inserting a provision that the prosecution must be instituted by an authorised prosecutor.

Mr. GLADSTONE said this amendment was wholly unnecessary.

The amendment was negatived.

Mr. GLADSTONE moved to omit the penalty of imprisonment for a first offence, so that as the clause then stood the defendant would only be liable to a fine of £5.

This amendment was agreed to.

Mr. LUPTON moved an amendment with the object of reducing the penalties provided in Clause 1.

Mr. GLADSTONE declined to accept the amendment.

The amendment was negatived without a division.

Mr. EVANS moved to omit from the clause the words "Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated music."

Mr. J. D. WHITE supported the amendment.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that without this power of arrest it would be impossible to give effect to the Bill. In 1903 5,000 summonses were issued in respect of the sale of pirated music, and it was found possible to serve less than 300. A constable had powers of arrest under various Acts of Parliament, and this clause did not increase to any appreciable extent those powers.

On the question being put from the Chair that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the clause,

The CHAIRMAN declared that the "Ayes" had it.

Mr. EVANS stated that the "Noes" distinctly challenged the question.

The CHAIRMAN said he was exceedingly sorry if that were so, but he listened for the challenge and did not hear.

Major SEELY corroborated the statement of Mr. Evans.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not dispute in any way the statement of the hon. member for Glamorgan. All he had said was that he did not hear the challenge of the "Noes," and had declared that the "Ayes" had it. He was very sorry there should have been any misunderstanding, but he could not allow the division now.

Mr. CREAN: Then I beg to move to report progress.

Mr. GLADSTONE resisted the motion.

The Committee divided, when the numbers were—

For the motion	45
Against	191
Majority against	146

Mr. GLADSTONE moved an amendment providing that the sale of the pirated music must be "in any street or public place."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. EVANS moved an amendment providing that the seller must have knowledge that the music was pirated.

The Committee divided, when the numbers were—

For the amendment	40
Against	190
Majority against	150

A drafting amendment having been agreed to,

On the question that Clause I as amended stand part of the Bill,

The Committee divided, and there voted—

For the clause	205
Against	22
Majority	183

On Clause 2 ("Right of entry by police for execution of Act"),

Mr. GLADSTONE said, in the opinion of the Government the clause was too drastic. He proposed a series of amendments with the object of providing that a constable should not be allowed to enter premises by force without a warrant properly granted.

The amendments were agreed to

On a subsequent amendment of Mr. Gladstone's, to provide that the constable should have power to seize any copies of any musical work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed, and that all copies of any musical work and plates seized under this section should be brought before a Court of summary jurisdiction, and if proved to be pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the printing or reproduction of pirated copies should be forfeited and destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the Court thought fit,

The Committee divided, and there voted—

For the amendment	216
Against	3
Majority	213

The announcement of the figures was received with loud laughter.

The clause as amended was then agreed to.

On Clause 3 ("Definition"),

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR moved an amendment providing that gramophone and similar records should not be included in the expressions "pirated copies" or "plates."

The amendment was agreed to, and the clause as amended was added to the Bill.

On Clause 4 ("Short title and extent"),

Mr. O'HARE moved that the Act should not extend to Ireland.

Mr. J. REDMOND said the motion was opposed to the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the Irish party.

Mr. CREAN supported the amendment.

A division was challenged, but was not persisted in, and the clause was agreed to.

Mr. O'HARE moved the following new clause:—"This Act shall not apply to any musical copyright which is not registered in terms of the Copyright Act, 1842, and no proceedings shall be competent in respect of any offence committed prior to such registration."

Mr. LUPTON supported the new clause.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL resisted it. Copyright could be held without registration, and the Government, having considered the question involved in this clause, had come to the conclusion that it would be unwise and unnecessary to cast upon the owners of this species of copyright the burden of registering.

The proposed clause was negatived.

The Bill as amended was then reported to the House.

The House adjourned at 5 minutes past 3 o'clock.

The consideration of the amended Bill was begun by the House of Commons on Thursday.

Mr. BYLES moved the omission of the clause which made a dealer in pirated music a guilty person until he had proved himself innocent.

Mr. LUPTON supported the amendment.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that the amendment was unnecessary, and he hoped his hon. friend would not press it.

Mr. CREAN supported the amendment. He held that the man who was most guilty was the man who knowingly pirated music. If there were no purchasers there would be no printers or publishers.

Mr. MORTON denounced this attempt to introduce into the law the new and dangerous principle that a man was to be held guilty unless he could prove himself innocent.

Mr. BERTRAM supported the Bill as a composer whose works had never been pirated.

Mr. T. M. HEALY described the proceedings as a prostitution of the powers of the House. Even the Attorney-General might be prosecuted if he bought a pirated copy of "Dolly Gray" at Charing-cross and an intelligent constable thought that he was going to sell it.

Mr. HARWOOD complained that Mr. T. P. O'Connor, while expressing his willingness to accept amendments, declined to do so because the people behind him would not let him.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR: I repudiate in the strongest language the insinuation of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. HARWOOD thought that an ordinary policeman ought not to be the judge of whether music was pirated and whether its possessor meant to sell it. Music registration was in a chaotic state. One had only to register a title, "Love me, my darling," or something like it, and that was all. The whole trade was in the hands of a syndicate. The assertion that at present the only remedy against musical piracy was by civil proceedings was disproved by the fact that the "king of pirates" was undergoing a sentence of nine months' imprisonment.

Sir J. LAWSON WALTON said the procedure contemplated under the clause constituted no substantial departure from the ordinary law.

The House divided, and the amendment was defeated by 176 votes to 69—majority 107.

Mr LUPTON moved an amendment that a constable should only arrest a hawker of pirated music if instructed in writing by the owner of the copyright or his agent.

Mr. HEALY said the Government had been hoodwinked in regard to this Bill. All that was asked by the amendment was that every prosecution under the measure should be authorised by some responsible person, against whom there would be a remedy in case of false imprisonment.

Mr. GLADSTONE declared that the adoption of the amendment would make the Bill almost farcical. The 400 owners of copyright would have to write 16,000 letters to the constables in London in order that those officers might be enabled to arrest persons found selling pirated music.

Mr. SHACKLETON contended that the owner of the copyright, as the aggrieved person, should be associated with a charge under the Bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL defended the clause as it stood.

The House divided, and the amendment was rejected by 172 to 44—majority 128.

Mr. P. A. LENNON, who commenced his management of the Camberwell Palace on May 14, started his professional career as a chorister at the Haymarket Theatre under Mrs. Scott-Siddons. Afterwards he was with Mr. Wilson Barrett at the Princess's during the run of *The Silver King*, with Mrs. Langtry at the Imperial, Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum during a Shakespearean season, Miss Mary Anderson, Mr. Charles Warner at the Adelphi, three seasons of the Italian Opera at Covent Garden, two seasons of English and one season of German Opera at Drury-lane; other engagements being at the Vaudeville, Olympic, Gaiety, Prince of Wales's, Alhambra, Oxford, Canterbury, and Paragon.

Mr. LENNON is one of those men who can shake hands with themselves—for the reason that they have risen from nothing to a position of importance and responsibility through their own honest endeavours. Starting as call-boy at the Empire, Leicester-square, when it was a theatre, Mr. Lennon was promoted to the assistant stage-managership. Subsequently he was stage-manager for Mr. George Edwardes at the Palace, Manchester, where he reproduced the Empire ballets, *Cleopatra*, *Dolly*, *Cecile*, *Paris*, &c. Then, in 1893, he returned to the London Empire as stage-manager for twelve months, leaving it to go to the Birmingham Empire for Sir Edward Moss, and a couple of years later opening for the same gentleman the Sheffield Empire, his appointment at which establishment he relinquished to take up the management of the Croydon Palace. He was re-engaged by Mr. Moss to open the Leeds Empire in 1898, since which time he has been at the Bradford Empire and the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Richmond.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DURBAN, JUNE 23.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager for Mr. Leonard Rayne, Mr. Grant Fallowes.—Mr. Rayne, with his talented company, has been presenting a series of one-night plays at the Theatre Royal during the week. On Monday night *A Royal Divorce* was staged. Mr. Rayne as Napoleon powerfully portrayed the "man of destiny" throughout the play. The principal lady part, the Empress Josephine, was taken by Miss Gertrude F. Godart, and well sustained. Mr. Frank Beresford as the treacherous Marquis de Beaumont submitted a good delineation of the villain. The acting of Miss Freda Godfrey as Stephanie de Beauharnais was a special feature of the play; and Miss Adah Barton portrayed the part of the Empress Marie Louise admirably. *A Message From Mars* was presented by the company on Thursday night, when Mr. Rayne as the selfish Horace Parker made the part exceedingly realistic, his acting being of a very high standard. Miss Freda Godfrey as Minnie again scored a distinct success; and the Messenger of Mr. Charles Howitt was very ably performed. All the minor parts were performed in a capable manner. The other plays during the week with which Mr. Rayne concluded his present Durban season were *The Christian*, *The Money-Makers*, *Caste*, and *The Harbour Lights*.

A THRILLING experience of ballooning is related by Miss Granville, the well-known actress, who made an ascent on the 12th inst. with Mr. C. F. Pollock and another gentleman in the balloon Vivienne III. "It was a most contrary day," said Miss Granville. "Our progress was very slow, and after our balloon had lost much gas we came down into a cold cloud that made the silk shrink and made us shiver. Near Streatham Common Mr. Pollock decided to land, but found that the escape valve would not work, and the ripping cord had to be used. We came down like a runaway lift, while we hung on to the ropes with our feet raised so as to minimise the effect of the bumps. I did not like the look of an acre or two of glass ahead, but there was nothing for it but to hold tight, and when we did come to a standstill further on we found we had escaped with a few bruises."

PAGEANTRY seems likely to grow and flourish all over the country. There is to be a spectacular display at Romsey next year to commemorate the millenary of the foundation of Romsey Abbey. The pageant, which is fixed for June 19, 20, and 21, will take place at Broadlands, the seat of the Right Hon. Evelyn M. Ashley. At Winchester also the Lord-Lieutenant (the Marquess of Winchester), the mayor, the dean, and the headmaster of the college are taking the initial steps towards a proposed pageant there in 1908.

WE regret to record the death at an early age of Frau Lohse, a well-known operatic vocalist, who passed away at Cologne on the 13th inst. Frau Lohse was born in Vienna on February 1, 1876, and made her *début* in opera at the Stadt Theatre of Strassburg in 1896 in the part of Mignon. There she met her husband, Herr Otto Lohse, and with him she continued her studies. For a few seasons she appeared at Covent Garden, where she sang with considerable success the parts of Elizabeth in *Tannhäuser*, Elsa in *Lohengrin*, Eva in *Die Meistersinger*, and other rôles. In 1904, when her husband took up the post of conductor at the Cologne Opera House, Frau Lohse accepted an engagement there, and sang with great success until she had a nervous breakdown.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, before Mr. Registrar Linklater, Mr. E. G. Saunders, who was called to be publicly examined upon his affairs, applied for an adjournment on the ground that the examination would prejudice the realisation of part of his estate. The application was refused, and he was asked to take the oath. This the debtor declined to do, and Mr. Registrar Linklater directed the Official Receiver to report the case as contempt of court to Mr. Justice Bigham when next sitting as bankruptcy judge. The debtor returns liabilities £12,415, and assets of sufficient value to yield a surplus of £20,545, the latter consisting of shares in the Waldorf Theatre and hotel syndicates.

"HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WAYSIDE," figured in the Court of Chancery on the 13th inst., when an injunction was claimed on behalf of Mr. Greet to restrain the defendants, Burnett and another, from passing off a drama at Dartford, as *The Sign of the Cross*, of which Mr. Greet, as executor of the late Wilson Barrett, claims to hold the copyright. It was stated that the defendants were respectively manager and lessee of a travelling theatre, their répertoire including "blood-curdling plays and variety entertainments." Amongst the plays billed were *The Sign of the Cross*. Counsel submitted that there was no infringement of copyright. As a matter of fact, the defendants made 15s. out of the "blood-curdling dramas," which the people evidently did not like, preferring the variety entertainments. Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady granted an injunction with costs, adding that the parties might agree if they liked when before the Registrar to treat this as the trial of the action.

A COMPETITION took place at the Academy of Dramatic Art on the 12th inst. between two teams of picked students from the final classes held by Mr. J. Fisher White and Mr. E. Lyall Swete, for a joint prize presented by their instructors. The subject chosen was Browning's *In a Balcony*, and the performances took place on the model stage in the largest room of the house in Gower-street. The cast in the first instance consisted of Constance, Miss Mary Barton; the Queen, Miss Kehr; and Norbert, Mr. Reginald Owen. In the second performance the cast was Constance, Miss Beatrice Smith; the Queen, Miss Estelle Kaufmann; Norbert, Mr. Bertram Forsyth. Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Bourchier, and Captain Marshall were the judges, and unanimously awarded the prize to the second cast. Among those present were Sir Squire Bancroft and Mr. John Hare, both members of the council of leading managers and dramatic authors, under whose control the academy is conducted.

PRINCESS LOUISE-AUGUSTA OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, who was present at the special meeting in the Garrick Theatre, has become a patroness of the British Empire Shakespeare Society.

MR. JOSEPH POMÉ, the well-known ballet master and producer, has been engaged by Mons. P. Ruez, of the Folies-Bergeres, Paris, to invent and produce dances and spectacular displays for the forthcoming revue at that theatre. Mr. Pomé takes with him his own troupe of 24 English dancers. When he returns to London in September, he will be associated with a big West End production.

THE members of the Eccentric Club have presented a testimonial to the hon. secretary, Mr. J. H. Harrison, on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday, in recognition of his services to the club during a period of sixteen years. More than 500gs. was subscribed.

ON Wednesday evening last, during a severe thunderstorm that passed over Bedford, a Mrs. Fox, wife of Tom Fox, known as "The Miniature Hercules," was struck by lightning and killed whilst crossing Russell Park with two of her children, who, happily, were unhurt. Much sympathy will be extended to Mr. Fox in his sad bereavement. Miss Rosie Kearns (Mrs. A. H. Hook), well-known in the dramatic profession, is a sister of deceased.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

It has come at last! Justice to the men and women who flood the world with melody, who lighten hearts with the rhythm of mirth, who gladden homes with simple song is within sight. The gallant fight of Mr. T. P. O'Connor against the kerbstone dealers who have for years carried on a nefarious traffic, which has robbed the composer of any reward for his genius which he would receive by royalties, has been crowned with success. The popular Parliamentarian's earnest and warm partisanship of the cause of song-writers and publishers, and the moderation and tact that he displayed in the introduction and pressing forward of his Musical Copyright Bill have had their effect upon the Government, who at length showed their sense of the importance of the subject by making the Bill a Government measure.

The Bill passed through the critical Committee stage early on Tuesday morning, and an account of the debate will be found in another column as well as the text of the Bill as now amended. We had the courage of our convictions, when in our issue of January 27 last, we said: "Whatever may be one's politics, it is a satisfaction to think that the recent election makes the passing of a Musical Piracy Bill a little more probable. Our congratulations are due to the music publishers for the plucky way in which they fought and are fighting their battle with the pirates. We feel sure that in the end they will win that battle. We feel confident that the Government will take up the musical copyright question, and that a Musical Copyright Bill will be on the Statute Book before many months have passed away."

The prophecy is, practically speaking, fulfilled; victory is within the grasp of the publishers and song-writers who have been so cruelly harassed, and the bitter cry of the makers of the people's songs has sunk deep in the hearts of the men of all parties in the first Parliament of the world. The crusade has been long and costly, the fight strenuous and severe, and in the thick of it, encouraging depressed supporters, and carrying war into the enemy's camp, has been Mr. David Day, who may at length be congratulated on a long-deferred victory that has been largely due to his tireless energy and undaunted pluck.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, in the course of a speech he made at the National Liberal Club, recently turned the tables very neatly on an interrupter. Mr. O'Connor was referring to the tendency of a man to become accustomed to the atmosphere in which he lives, unless he is a crank. "No, no!" shouted someone. "Am I interrupted by a crank?" asked Mr. O'Connor. "If so, I have lately become used to it, as cranks have been lately interrupting me in introducing one of the most important private Bills of the Session"—an allusion, of course, to the objectors to his Musical Copyright Bill.

The question of the reconstruction of the London Coliseum (Limited) occupied the attention of the liquidators and the Committee of Inspection at a meeting at the Cardiff Empire on Saturday night. Several schemes were discussed, that finding most favour being a proposition that a heavy sum in new capital should be put on the market, subscribers to which should receive a preferential security on the assets of the company. The scheme of reconstruction will be published at an early date.

Mr. Paul Martinetti and company will be on Monday at the Palace Theatre, where they will play a speechless version of "taming a shrew"—not in any way connected with the cantankerous Katharina of Padua, but of a much more modern origin. The lady's haughtiness and temper in the Martinetti production are subdued after marriage, for it is called *My Wife*, which has already been seen at the Metropolitan and Canterbury. Other new attractions in Mr. Alfred Butt's programme will include Mooney and Holbein, grotesque dancers from America, and Miss Jose Collins, daughter of Miss Lottie Collins, herself a great favourite at this house.

Mr. Tom Costello had to give up work at Chatham last week, where he was fulfilling an engagement. He struggled on, although not fit, and at last collapsed and had to be taken home to his residence at Brixton Hill, where he now lies seriously ill. His illness is the result of ptomaine poisoning through eating a pork pie on the journey from Liverpool to London some weeks ago.

The secretary of the Music-Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £9 from Messrs. Donald Currie and Co., being the proceeds of a concert organised on board their s.s. Briton. The president and committee of the fund beg to publicly thank Mr. Tom McNaughton, who recently sent a cheque for £7 17s. 6d. for the charity. Messrs. Donald Currie and Co., Miss Claire Romaine, Meier and Mora, Miss Cora Corina, Mr. Frank Wheeler, and Mr. Mountford, and Miss Walsh for their united efforts on behalf of the fund, which is sadly in need of immediate help.

Mr. Charles Relf, who has carried on the Royal Albert, Canning-town, as a music hall for a number of years—who, in fact, developed it on the lines of a modern variety house—has sold it, and terminates his proprietorship on Saturday next, July 28. He will say "farewell" to his numerous friends on Thursday evening next, when a special entertainment will be presented by a company largely augmented for the occasion. Mr. Relf long since proved himself the friend of the toiler in the teeming neighbourhood, to the amusement of which he ministered for so many years.

The Royal Albert came to be popularly known as the Dockers' Theatre, for its proprietor was ever in the van of any movement that had for its object the relief of their distress or the improvement of their status. His establishment, which he twice enlarged, was the scene of much charitable effort on behalf of the neighbouring Poplar Hospital, whose work is cosmopolitan, and whose needs therefore are great. Municipal duties have also occupied much of Mr. Relf's limited leisure, and he has certainly earned the rest that he will now take, and which he feels to be imperative since the lamented death last year of his son Robert. Mr. Relf will take with him in his retirement the respect and esteem of his fellow proprietors, the profession, and a large section of the public.

Mr. Walter Leaver, who has presided at the chairman's table at the Royal Albert ever since it started on its variety career, is the last of the music hall chairmen, and is one of the most entertaining of men. He was acquainted with Arthur Orton, of Wapping, and when that notorious personage came to dockerland as the Tichborne claimant, Mr. Leaver was bold enough to tell him he was a fraud. The veteran official's seat of office is a finely modelled chair in hammered iron of most artistic workmanship made by himself. We trust that Mr. Leaver's kindly and genial sway will not be abolished. He would be much missed by frequenters who have both veneration and affection for the worthy white-haired gentleman who announces the turns.

The purchaser of the Royal Albert is Mr. Arthur G. Hunt (late of the Empire, Dover), who takes possession on July 30. He will close the hall for necessary alterations, and due notice will be given of the reopening. We are given to understand that no outstanding contracts will be taken over.

Mr. G. Rhodes Parry, acting-manager at the Palace, Manchester, has accepted a London appointment, and leaves Manchester at the end of this month. A benefit performance to Mr. Parry has been arranged for Thursday next.

Mr. P. D. Elsourne, the young and highly-respected resident-manager of the Birmingham Hippodrome, was married at Holy Trinity Church, Birchfields, Birmingham, on Tuesday last, to Miss Nelly H. Manson. Presents and good wishes galore have befallen the happy pair, who are spending the honeymoon at Filey, Yorkshire.

The Maidstone Hippodrome, which has been carried on successfully by the Maidstone Hippodrome Company for the last two years, has been leased to Mr. Stanley Baskerville, who will reopen the building on August Bank Holiday with a strong and attractive bill.

Mr. Sydney Paxton, resident-manager of the Grand Theatre, Southampton, and district-manager of the Hippodrome, who has been spending a short holiday in Germany, arrived home on Tuesday, looking very fit and feeling greatly benefited by the change.

Mr. Sharplin (of the Paragon Trio) was well enough to be discharged from the Royal Halifax Infirmary on Friday, July 13, For three weeks he had been an inmate of that institution, where his progress throughout was remarkable. He will now take a short holiday, in order to regain strength. Everyone will join with us in congratulating him on his convalescence.

The twelfth annual staff outing of the Regent Theatre of Varieties, Salford, took place on Sunday at Morecambe, whither the manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond, conveyed his party of fifty, per London and North-Western, in special saloon carriages. Dinner was served at the Clarendon Hotel, Morecambe, followed by a drive to Bolton-le-Sands, where sports, &c., were indulged in. The party returned at 8-30, after a thoroughly enjoyable day.

We regret to learn that Mr. Thomas Stanley Chappell (chairman of Messrs. Chappell and Co., Ltd., the eminent publishing house) was badly injured on the 13th inst., through a motor-car colliding with the hansom cab in which he was riding with a friend. Both gentlemen were thrown out into the road. The chauffeur was committed for trial for manslaughter, a man who was riding with him being killed.

In consequence of the success of the first production of Mr. H. Bernhardt's new comedy, *Peggy* by Atholie Robertson at the Palace Pier, Brighton, recently, the management have arranged with him to reproduce it on Bank Holiday (Brighton Race week), for which an interesting engagement has been made with Miss Billie Burke in the title-rôle. Miss Billie Burke is charmed and delighted with her new part "My Peggy," and the play is being revised and re-written, with a view to its early production in London, under the stage direction of Mr. Chris. Walker.

Through the kindness of Mr. Frank Macnaghten a grand matinée took place at the Palace, Southampton, on the 12th inst., in aid of the Staff Outing Fund. The building was crowded, the fair sex being particularly in evidence, and the Outing Fund will benefit considerably. An excellent programme was presented, the full Palace company appearing, in addition to "extras." Amongst the extra turns were George Mozart, Susie Protti, several members of the orchestra from the Hippodrome, the Fantastics from the Royal Pier, who gave an admirable turn, Miss Dolly Harmon, the comedienne, winning golden opinions.

The "star" turn was however the first and last appearance of the Southampton Nondescripts, billed as the worst minstrel troupe the world has ever witnessed. Who was the ethiopian who sang (?) "Down the Vale"? No wonder the audience cried out, "You are Brown." But the fun waxed fast and furious when the combined troupe attempted to play *Black Justice*, with the irrepressible R. Judd Green as the Judge—and a good judge too. Johnny Holland was the mountainous policeman, and he was assisted by several prisoners well known to the police. This tabloid burlesque with musical numbers was a fitting finale to a palatial gathering, over which Mr. William Trussell presided with his customary courtesy.

Nearly 400 of the inmates of Brighton Workhouse were allowed out on Wednesday afternoon in order to attend a performance at the Hippodrome, to which they had been invited by Mrs. Barrasford.

Messrs. Harrington and Tate have specially written Miss Daisy Harcourt a new comedy song on the burning Suffragette question, which this talented Australian artist will produce on Monday next at the Palace Theatre. They have also written her a "*chic*" number, entitled "Did you ever know a girl who wouldn't?" which she will produce at an early date.

Miss Rose Tilley has been engaged by Mr. Lingford Carson to appear as principal boy in his pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Queen's Theatre, Keighley. Mr. Oliver Conroy will also appear in the same production.

Mr. Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, wishes all proprietors, agents, managers, &c., to know that he has placed his business in the hands of George Barclay.

Those cosmopolitan song-writers, Harrington and Tate, have this week supplied that clever American raconteur, Mr. Fred Niblo, with a whole budget of new and original songs for his wife, specially written for American consumption.

Miss Constance Moxon produced, at the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, on Monday, with great success, her new musical monologue *A Toff for Ten Minutes*.

The success of Miss Mary Glenn's new scena *My Texas Queen*, is fulfilling her most sanguine anticipations, and is proving a sure success on her tour.

We regret to report that the condition of Mr. J. L. Toole is still very grave. There was no improvement yesterday in the condition of the veteran comedian. Among the recent visitors has been Mr. Harry B. Irving.

His Majesty the King, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Sparta, and Prince Louis of Battenberg were present at the performance of *La Traviata* at the Royal Opera Covent Garden on Thursday.

"All Mixed," a new sketch by E. C. Matthews, was produced by Miss Judith Dene at the Surrey this week. There are three people in the cast, which included Miss Bertha Cadman in a Lancashire comedy part.

Caicedo, the well-known "king of the wire," who has recently completed a prosperous tour of the United States and Cuba, opens on Monday at the Empire, Glasgow.

In spite of this being the "dull" season for music publishers generally, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company are the daily recipients of multifarious orders for their big seaside "winner," by Lawrance and Mellor, "Bamboo Bungalow"; while two other publications of the same firm, "Widow Doolin" and "Zing Ta-ra-ra Band," are also going very strong with pierrots just now.

The Camberwell Palace will, on and after the 30th inst., be run upon the two-houses-a-night principle, under the joint control of the Camberwell Palace, Ltd., and Moss' Empires and Stoll Companies.

Mr. J. J. Fruin has received the sum of £7 17s. 6d. for the Music Hall Home Fund, being the amount collected by Mr. Tom Macnaughton for this charity. A similar sum was forwarded by Mr. Macnaughton to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. Mr. Fruin has also been handed a cheque for £9 from the R.M.S. Briton, per Captain R. E. H. Bishop.

Miss Fanny Wentworth is paying a return visit to the Tivoli, where her work has always been popular. Perhaps the best song in her large repertoire, called "Isn't that like a man?" is included in her present turn. She has composed a great many of her most successful songs, having had the advantage of a thorough musical training, and appeared, during her first years on the stage, in every branch of dramatic work.

The current issue of that well-known monthly organ of the music trade in New York, *The Dominant*, gives prominence to a eulogistic article on the advent, rise, and progress of the American branch of the firm of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter in that city. After a concise résumé of the history of the house in London, and a reference to the gigantic success of Miss Vesta Victoria's song "Waiting at the church" ("the most remarkable and rapid hit that perhaps New York has ever witnessed"), the article concludes with the following words:—"The courteous treatment all visitors receive at the hands of the firm, added to its pushfulness and legitimate go-a-headitiveness, have combined to make Francis, Day, and Hunter's perhaps the most popular house in the city."

Mr. Reginald A. Allan, the well-known composer and arranger, is about to become a Benedict, the lady being Miss Kathleen Marguerite Riley. The happy event takes place in September. Mr. Allan for many years has been on Messrs. Day's staff, and has done much orchestration for all sorts and conditions of composers.

Mr. George Lashwood had acquired two new numbers of the "swell" order from the writers who supplied him with his celebrated song, "My Latchkey"—Messrs. Ernèe Woodville and Harry Adams. Mr. Whit Cunliffe and Mr. Woolmer Young have also in study ditties by the same pens, the one entitled "Quite sufficient, thank you," and the other "Come along, boys!"

"The Romany King" is the name of a picturesque and romantic operatic sketch to be produced at the Holborn Empire on July 30 by Messrs. J. C. Piddock and Lempriere Pringle. The libretto is from the pen of Mr. E. C. Matthews, and the music is composed by Clement Locknane. Mr. Piddock will be remembered by by his work in *The Lady Slavey*. He has just returned from Australia, where he has been fulfilling a successful engagement with Mr. Musgrove.

Mr. Willie Edouin, who has recently made his début on the variety stage, has passed his fiftieth theatrical year. According to the records of Old Drury, he appeared at that theatre in pantomime as a child about 1854, while in a burlesque of *Belphegor* at the Strand Theatre in September, 1856, he was billed as Master Edouin.

The charity matinée given on Wednesday by Mr. George Chirgwin at his pitch, the Happy Valley, Southend, was a great success, and a goodly sum will be divided between the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home. The attractions of the entertainment were augmented by Miss Fanny Wentworth and Mr. Joe Archer, who gave their services, and travelled from London to entertain. Mr. Chirgwin, as a matter of course, also appeared, and gave of his very best, meeting with the heartiest of receptions.

Arrangements have just been completed by which the sole rights of Campbell Rae-Brown's smart sketch, *The Express Baby*, in which Miss Edith Evelyn and company have scored such an emphatic success, have been secured by the lady named. Mr. Rae-Brown's next important contribution to the variety stage will be his sketch version, in three scenes and some musical numbers, of his famous "Kissing Cup's Race." This, the author informs us, is the only version authorised by himself. It goes into rehearsal immediately.

That eminent authority on music, Mr. J. Spencer Curwen, writes thusly apropos of vocal music in the parks:—"To intersperse the band pieces with songs, &c., is a small matter that touches no principle. I wonder that legislation is necessary to secure it. I must say, however, that outdoor singing is usually ineffective. Any soloist, any conductor of a choir will tell you this. Indoor municipal concerts in winter want watching. There is such a run upon them by people who can afford to pay, and the class they are meant for is, alas, indifferent to them. If they are given they should either (1) be self-supporting, or (2) be given in congested tenement districts only. In running choral societies as an offshoot of their evening classes, the London County Council has gone beyond anything I have met with in France or Germany, where a strict line is drawn between musical instruction, which is undertaken by the municipality, and musical recreation, which is left to voluntary associations."

The Chelsea Palace staff had their annual outing last Sunday. A most enjoyable day was spent, and over 40 turned out. In the absence of Mr. Edward Swanborough, his able colleague, Mr. J. Norman Berlin took the chair. Speeches at the dinner at the Red Lion Hotel, Betchworth, Surrey, were made by Mr. Angelo Asher (the musical director, Mr. Leon Zeitlin, of the Metropolitan, and Mr. Ross, of the Conservative Club. After dinner, drives through the uplands of Surrey were enjoyed, the party returning for tea. A very happy day was spent.

We regret to learn the sad news of the death of Mrs. Dalmane, the beloved mother of Mrs. Barrasford, which happened at 6-30 on Wednesday morning. The proprietress of the Dyke Estate, who is so popular in Brighton, will have much sympathy in her bereavement.

The romantic tragic episode of *The Monk*, by Robert Overton, will be played at the Bedford on Monday by Miss Helène Forest and company. Miss Forest will appear in the part of Pearle Vallette and Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox in the title-rôle.

The working staff of the Palace Theatre had an enjoyable outing at breezy Brighton on Sunday, and thoroughly appreciated the admirable arrangements made by Mr. Alfred Butt. The party mustered 120, and left Victoria terminus at 10.5 a.m. On arriving by the sunny shore they dined *à la carte* at Mellison's Grand Concert Hall Restaurant. The chair at the dinner was occupied by Mr. Alfred Butt, faced by Mr. Fitzroy Gardner. Among the company were Messrs. Herbert Finck, Frank Damer, and Thomas Miller (members of the committee), John Cummings, H. J. Kilgallin, T. Lowe, W. Mountam, W. F. Hughes, C. Percival, E. Tremearne, and W. Turner. After a brief visit to Mrs. Barrasford's hotel at the Devil's Dyke the company returned to the restaurant, where tea was served at six. The party started for Victoria at a quarter to nine, highly delighted with their visit to the Queen of Watering Places.

Miss Lily Burnand is an enthusiastic coachiste. Her second coaching party to Box Hill leaves her charming residence, 21, Loughboro'-road, at ten o'clock sharp, on Sunday morning.

Miss Kellermann, the lady Channel swimmer, has returned from Paris to her Channel training quarters at Broadstairs. She was engaged by the *L'Auto* newspaper to swim through Paris, on the clear understanding that her swim should be more in the nature of an exhibition, but only the day before she left for Paris she heard that two other ladies had been entered for some weeks before. Miss Kellerman, whose whole existence appears to be taken up in swimming the Channel, had been steadily training for that purpose, found herself suddenly in for a sprint of some eight miles against the fastest men and lady swimmers in the world. She is therefore more than satisfied with her achievement.

She was greatly touched by the enthusiastic ovations she received from the thousands of Parisians as she passed each bridge, always some five to ten yards ahead of the Austrian lady, until after the last bridge, when a boat most palpably got in front of her which nearly gave her opponent the race. It has been the luck of but few foreigners to become from the first so great a favourite with the French and to retain this popularity through twelve months of absence. Miss Kellermann expects to make her attempt at swimming the Channel during the first week of August.

At the 472nd meeting of the Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. on Tuesday Mr. Harry Blake was in the chair, and there were also present—Messrs. Chas. Gardiner, George Preston, Chas. Coborn, G. A. Booker, George Gray, A. Carlton, W. H. Clemart, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed, and cases of refunds considered. The addition of fifty-six new members was announced. The weekly financial account was submitted, and the hon. treasurer's report showed that a total of £987 stood to the credit of the Association. It was agreed to transfer £100 from the current account to the deposit account, making a total of £500 on deposit.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman had an enthusiastic send-off at Waterloo Station on Saturday, "Rats," "Terriers," members of the V.A.F. and I.A.L. all combining in a hearty expression of good wishes for the success and safe return of the popular comedian. Mr. O'Gorman is accompanied on his trip to South Africa by Miss Jessica Grace, the Bros. O'Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas, and Robins and Collier. Among those who congregated on the platform were Messrs. Charles Coborn, Will Oliver, Tom Holmes, Bob Leonard, Michael Nolan, Wal Pink, Fred Karno, Jeff Vendome, Harry Gray, Lydia Dreams, W. H. McCarthy, Arthur Rigby, Frank Leon, George Preston, Frank Gerald, Harry Blake, W. H. Clemart, Regan and Ryan, Walter Norman, Atlas and Vulcana, Will Johnson, Harry Griff, Geo. A. Booker, C. C. Bartram, Dave O'Toole, H. E. High, C. Douglas Stuart, Harry Bancroft, Jack Collinson, Frank Halter, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh O'Sullivan, little Miss Nora O'Gorman, the Misses Sarah, Polly, and Lil O'Gorman, Miss Dolly Golden, Mr. James Allison, Miss Selina Seaforth, and Messrs. Chas. Dillon, Albert Christian, Harry Conlin, Alfred Martinetti, and Kyoto.

The taste for varieties in the suburbs is to be ministered to in the districts of Willesden and Tooting, where the list of outlying music halls is to be added to by an Empire at the former place and a hippodrome at the latter. Both houses are to be constructed and controlled by Mr. Walter Gibbons, whose operations in Holborn and elsewhere have been highly successful. It is hoped that the Willesden Empire, which will be situated on the High-road, will be ready for visitors at Christmas, and that the good people of Tooting will find entertainment awaiting them at the local Hippodrome—at the junction of the Broadway and Mitcham-road—by Easter. Mr. Matcham is responsible for the architecture.

Mr. "Johnnie" Wood, brother of Miss Marie Lloyd, who has taken the Loughborough Hotel, Loughborough road, Brixton, in conjunction with Mr W. J. Grimes, has definitely fixed the "change" celebrations for Tuesday next, when he hopes to be favoured by the attendance of a goodly company.

Mr. Frank H. France and Miss Edith Stewart having toured for some months with the successful American racing sketch *The 100 to 1 Chance* have now acquired all rights therein for the United Kingdom. They are prepared to book a further tour; their dates extend into next year.

Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith dispatched on Thursday morning from Denmark-street a trifling matter of fifty thousand copies of the publications which have given him the sobriquet by which he is now so well known. The carriers of this order were Messrs. Pitt and Scott, and it came from Messrs. W. J. Pater and Co., of Melbourne, per Mr. Stanley Mullen, a gentleman now representing Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter in Australia, and till lately a terror to music pirates in London.

Mr. Sammy Shields, the swell Scotch comedian, will shortly produce a new song, entitled "Jane McKie," written and composed by Terry Wynne, of Welda and Wynne. Mr. Arthur Gilbert has secured a song, entitled "Bill Smiff's Air-Ship," from the same writer.

"Urbanora" asserted itself effectively at the Alhambra on Wednesday afternoon, when the latest examples of animated photography, obtained by the sacrifice of enormous trouble and expense, were displayed by the Charles Urban Trading Company (Limited) before the Agents-General of Australia, colonial visitors, and others interested in the development of our dependencies. The Australasian scenes included a panorama of Sydney water front, a log-chopping competition at Tasmania, herds of cattle, the breaking in of wild horses, and many other interesting films: "Sights in New Zealand" which were specially taken under the auspices of the New Zealand Government and the Tourist and Health Departments, included a view of the steaming hills of Rotomahana, a volcanic range at the base of which a large expanse of water boils furiously. Maoris cooking and washing in the hot springs, dancing, canoe hurdle-racing, and playing other games unknown in this country, were all marvellously realistic.

A series of views illustrating the frozen meat industry of New Zealand was afterwards presented, followed by a South American cattle ranch, with illustrations of lassooing and branding calves, a cowboys' festival, and a Gauchos' dance and barbacue. "Life in a Burmah Teak Forest," showing a number of big elephants pushing their way through the thick undergrowth of the jungle, displayed the wonderful sagacity and strength of the animals. Upwards of 30 scenes connected with North Borneo, depicting its progress from savagery to industrial development, and including a railway trip through the Penotal Gorge, were striking features of the exhibition, which was brought to a close by a representation of "Logging in a Canadian Forest" and a few "Phases of British Railway Industry." The pictures serve the best purposes of the art of the cinematograph, and, while being at times diverting, are an unrivalled means of imparting instruction. They were enthusiastically applauded, and their inclusion in the programme at the Alhambra should prove irresistibly attractive.

The promoters of the "Dangerous Performances" Bill would doubtless be surprised to hear that Madame Ella Zuila, who has long been known as one of the most daring high-wire walkers in the show world, is a highly strung, even nervous, little woman. She feels, however, absolutely safe and always cool and collected during her perilous turn, and says that while a sudden noise would "make her jump" if she happened to be standing on the ground, it would not affect her in the least when she was on the wire.

Miss Clarice Mayne, who has come to the front with a bound, certainly accomplished an unprecedented feat at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, last Monday night, when she not only produced for the first time on any stage three new and orginal songs by Messrs. Harrington and Tate, but united the methods of Mesdames Marie Lloyd, Connie Ediss, and Vesta Victoria in the renderings thereof. Evidence of the genuine "hit" made by this talented lady is afforded by the fact that she is singing no less than four songs nightly at the Palace—not imitations, but all original.

That delightful song "That's your Cactus over there," by H. K. Hamilton Field, which Miss Lil Hawthorne so charmingly renders on the "halls," has been eagerly snapped up for pierrot exploitation, and is already quite popular at many seaside resorts. "My Pyramid Girl," by the same composer, is also a pronounced success with alfresco entertainers. Both numbers are published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who has this week been appearing at the Empire, Newport, has met with a very cordial reception from South Welsh audiences. The charming American soprano will next week visit Liverpool, and on the conclusion of her provincial engagements, will appear at some of the West-End halls, prior to the fulfilment of her continental tour, which will occupy her until February, 1907.

"Coming from Kildare" is the taking title of an Irish sketch of considerable interest which has been produced this week with complete success by Mr. George English and Miss Florrie Penley. Mr. English, a versatile actor, plays in vigorous and earnest fashion the part of a sergeant of Irish Dragoons, in which he recites some of Rudyard Kipling's "Barrack Room Ballads," being particularly successful in "A Shilling a Day." It will be remembered that it was Mr. George English who first popularised George R. Sims's poems on the boards of the halls. He will no doubt familiarise variety audiences with the virile and picturesque stanzas of Tommy Atkins's favourite poet. In the sketch mentioned Miss Florrie Penley displays her charm and piquancy in no fewer than three characters.

Miss Adele de Frece, after a three months' tour on the Continent, opens on Monday next at the Palace, Hammersmith, with a new song-scena, *The Maid and the Sphinx*.

On Sunday last the staff of the Empire took their annual outing, and for the first time the stage employees and the front of the house staff joined forces, the result being highly satisfactory. The trip was to Clacton-on-Sea, the headquarters being the Brunswick Hotel, with a fifteen-mile drive in brakes through Weeley Woods. Mr. H. J. Hitchins was unavoidably absent, but among those present were Mr. Arthur Aldin (the acting-manager), Mr. Cuthbert Clarke (the musical-director), and Mr. Spencer Barry (the stage-director). The successful affair reflects the greatest credit on Mr. A. J. Reynolds, the secretary, who arranged every detail.

Miss Daisy Dormer will shortly produce a pretty new number by Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford, entitled *My Rickshaw Queen*. It has been secured by the Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Publishing Co., and will be introduced into Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's pantomimes.

Mr. Michael Nolan has had specially reserved for him for use on the music-halls Mills and Scott's fine song, "My Boy in the Irish Guards," which Mr. David Day has published. Mr. Day is also issuing a very pretty number, by Percy Edgar and Henry E. Pether, entitled "Seashell."

"Her Last Dance," a dramatic episode written by Roland Oliver, with special music by Louis La Rondelle, was produced on Tuesday evening at the Empire, New Cross, and was enthusiastically received by a crowded house. The characters were exceedingly well rendered respectively by Miss Grace Jones and Mr. H. Naylor Grimson.

George Foster has just returned from a pleasure trip to Ostend, looking the picture of health. The fates have been propitious to him, for in three days he has relieved the cosmopolitan trippers on the plage of 1,100 francs.

Miss Fanny Robina has been specially engaged by Mr. Samuel James to play Sinbad in pantomime at Christmas. We can congratulate Mr. James on his judgment in securing this clever and talented artist.

Miss Nora Moore deputised on Monday night for Mr. J. W. Rowley at the Palace, Glasgow, and her success was so pronounced that, although Mr. Rowley's return was hoped for on Thursday, her services were retained for the remainder of the week. Miss Moore had therefore to work both the Pavilion and the Palace in the Glaswegian city.

Mr. Fred Karno's volatile company of *Dandy Thieves* open at Cissie Lawson's Hippodrome at Ilfracombe on Aug. 13. Mrs. Lawson, we regret to learn, is still very ill.

Miss Ada Norman collected the sum of £2 3s. 6d. while Walter Norman's nigger troupe was performing during the afternoon at the Music Hall Sports.

Madame Fougere attended at the Newington Sessions on the 13th inst., and entered into bail to appear on the 24th inst., when it is understood the legal points will be decided.

No better title could be bestowed upon Mr. Leoni Clarke than the "Cat King." Frequent performances are given by him daily in the Chinese Court at the Crystal Palace. He must be a wonderfully patient and industrious man. To make cats perform as he does is absolutely astounding. Felines are not easy to train, and he deserves the highest possible praise for his success. He seems to have been equally fortunate with a couple of hundred other animals, including monkeys, rabbits, rats, mice, and birds. To see these smaller creatures standing on a pole while the cats walk over them, showing great care in not treading on them, astonishes those who are used to the everyday sort of cat. How pussy refrains from taking a tasty bite out of some of the appetising little morsels shows that cats must have a lot of self-control. Cleverer monkeys it would be hard to find. Mr. Clarke conducts the entertainment with so much energy and dash that no one wearies for a moment. To hear the shouts of delight of an audience chiefly composed of school children as the clever monkeys romp about and the cats plunge through fiery hoops and the rabbits jump over hurdles is as good as a tonic. The culminating feat, when a cat climbs a rope to the roof of the centre transept and descends by parachute right into Mr. Clarke's arms, brings to an end an entertainment which everyone should see.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

The hot weather does not seem to affect to the extent that one might anticipate the number of visitors to the Oxford. At any rate, on the evening of our call the house was comfortably filled, the allurement being, of course, an attractive programme. There is, for instance, Miss Carlotta Levey, whose refined songs are a distinct acquisition to any high-class music hall bill. She appeals to the sentiments of her hearers with some verses, the moral of which is, "Do a good turn whenever you can." And that is what Miss Levey herself does every time she appears before the footlights. The coldheartedness of a selfish world forms the theme of her second number. "Ain't it funny," she asks, "that when you look for money all you get is sympathy?" No, Miss Levey, it isn't a bit funny—it's most exasperating. But what does that matter? The song, like its predecessor, is sung in such delightful strain that one forgets all about the irony of fate which it laments in the happiness one derives from the lady's vocalism. Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. George Abel make for merriment with absurd "situations" in the sketch, *The Lady and the Parson*. Miss Arden as an ardent sportswoman, and Mr. George Abel as an innocent, bland, and childlike curate, contrive between them to interpret an amusing contretemps.

Mr. E. Rousby's electrical review, "Paris in London," brings to our notice many beautiful dissolving views. Thus, to begin with, the Place de la Concorde, and then a magnificent view from the Louvre in daybreak, tempest, sunset, and moonrise. These phases of the Solar system are most artistically depicted; and although the representations may not confirm or refute the Nebular Hypothesis, yet they are most interesting and attractive by reason of their vivid naturalness. The production of melodies by ingenious electrically-worked appliances in "The Palace of Illusions" is indeed a triumph of inventive genius, and the summer-night festival on the Champs de Mars, showing a neat model of the Eiffel Tower, is another electrical marvel. Pierce and Maizee command one's attention with their varied singing and dancing entertainment; and the Sisters Edwardes prove most engaging with their vocalism, dancing, and "drumming." Mr. James Fawn gives us a little of the history of the Hen-Pecked Jossers' Club, a praiseworthy institution the members of which rid themselves of domestic worries and drown recollections of a nagging wife in the big tankard. Mr. Fawn's references to the club are extremely comical, and the facial expression which accompanies each anecdote enhances its humour. A quartet of athletic, skilful, and nimble aerial artists are the Eugene Family, many of whose feats are distinguished for daring and orginality and the smartness with which they are performed. Miss Vesta Victoria, as usual, treats the house to a host of absurd notions. Her distinctive style of acting and singing seems to become more and more popular, and this week at the Oxford she is securing a rare ovation nightly.

Miss Lily Burnand, twirling a lorgnette and adopting a saucy attitude somewhat reminiscent of Marie Lloyd, sings about a ballet lady named Sally, around whom is woven a delicate romance. It was a case of love at first sight—"his lordship saw her photo—wrote her—now she drives his motor." What could be nicer in the way of a modern fairy tale than that? And could anything exceed the vivacity and spiritedness of Miss Burnand's performance of this song, a remark that may also be said to apply to her "Stowaway?" A doddering, yet cheery, old gentleman, attired in the kind of dress that veteran swells used to affect thirty years ago, hobbles along the stage with the aid of his stick, and in a cacophanous voice tenders advice to a young and unsophisticated generation. Years ago, he tells us, he was a great boy himself for a bit of fun. Well, he is still very funny—or, rather, Mr. George Bastow is. Later we see him as a gallant major, "a gay old stager," as he describes himself, still open for a lark, still with half an eye on the women! Really "age cannot wither"—never mind the rest; George Bastow is a skilful eccentric character impersonator. Miss Gracie Grahame is a dainty comedienne who wins golden opinions for her agreeable singing and darcing, and Mr. Joe Archer excels no less in his particular line of comedy.

The name of Miss Victoria Monks is nowadays one to conjure with. She seems, albeit unconsciously, to have dipped deep into the well of psychological influence, and immediately she glances at an audience she has that audience in her grip. To be in the grip of such a lady is not at all an unpleasant experience, and when she is so complimentary as to sing, quite pleadingly, "Take me back to London town," what indescribable joy takes possession of the Cockney heart! And whether or not you believe her statement that she—an American artist, too!—likes London better than New York, you will, at any rate, admit that the sentiment is interpreted in a most enchanting manner. "Ain't you gwine to say adoo?" is her succeeding item, and before the lady herself says "adoo" to the footlights we get her quaintly melodious rendering—and what an exquisite touch there is in it!—of "If you want to have a row." You might waltz round the world till you were dead and not find another such quartet of whimsical wights as they who style themselves the Harmony Four. They are exceedingly generous with their comical absurdities, which keep one in a state of much risible perturbation. Then there are an intelligent doggie called Rosie attached to one Dandy George; some talented vocalists and dancers in the Six Lancashire Lassies; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the wonderful trick cyclists; and Jury's Bioscope, with a series of amusing pictures descriptive of Coney Island sports and pastimes.

THE ROYAL ALBERT.

Mr. Charles Relf, who has disposed of the popular hall in Canning-town which he has so successfully governed for many years, has provided a really first-class programme for the last week, but one of his management. The place of the sensational playlet, which is usually such a favourite item in the bill, is this week taken by a sketch of a lighter nature—the farcical trifle *Barmaids*, which is one hearty laugh from beginning to end. Mainly responsible for this hilarity is the predicament in which a Mr. Teague places himself by his own foolishness. Wishing to prove to his friends what a gay dog he is, he, in the absence from home of his wife, proposes marriage to three barmaids. One after the other they all visit him, and the perplexed Teague persuades his butler, Dixon, to pose as his brother, and interview them, whilst he takes refuge behind a screen. The climax is reached when the wife unexpectedly comes on the scene, but happiness is restored when the "barmaids" declare they are all married women, and only intended to play a joke on Teague. The playlet is full of witty lines and humorous situations, and is admirably enacted by Miss Holo Hodgson, Mr. Harry Lowther, and the company supporting them, especially droll being the representative for the butler, Dixon.

Another mirth-provoking item is the duologue *Dare I Marry; or, the Painter and the Pro*, presented by Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque. An artist has fallen in love with a music hall "star," but hesitates to propose marriage to her, as he will inherit a large sum of money on condition he weds a certain lady named in a will at once. The fascinations of the variety artist are, however, so great that he decides to forego the fortune; and when it transpires that she is the lady his relative wished him to marry, the happiness of the young couple is complete. Miss Duncan, in the rôle of the music hall artist, sang with much archness a humorous song, "Little Widow Brown," and as the painter who is so smitten with her charms, Mr. Brasque acted with earnestness and finish, the happily-associated pair causing much amusement in the funny love-making scene. The bright and merry little duologue was accorded a flattering reception.

An especially dainty and pleasing interlude was that given by Vivian's Arcadians. The talented youngsters appeared as a couple of charming shepherdesses and an attendant swain in a pretty pastoral scene, their entertainment including some vocalism and dancing of a really high order of merit. The comedian of the quartette was responsible for an eccentric dance and some laughable fooling, and the entire show proved most acceptable. Indeed, such a refined and dainty little turn is seldom seen in the halls, and the youngsters and those responsible for their training are to be congratulated. The dance music by Mr. Edward German is given by kind permission of Mr. H. B. Irving.

Early in the programme Mr. Bert Sharp secured applause for his comic rendering of humorous ditties, and much wonderment was created by the "black art" of Mustapha, an illusionist who produced tables, chairs, rabbits, a couple of geese, &c., in a most remarkable manner. The Sisters Melba, a couple of attractive vocalists with voices of excellent quality, were loudly acclaimed for their rendering of three tuneful duets; and Mr. Sid Bandon, a character comedian of decided ability, scored equally with a serious ditty, "Dear Old Pals," and a really funny number, "Sez I to myself, sez I," also arousing merriment with his other comic ditty, "To cut a long story short." Other entertaining turns were supplied by Lomas, in his clever "monkey" act; Ellis and Watts, comedians, patterers, and dancers; the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe in their funny pantomime, *On Tour in the Tyrol;* and Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. Mr. Walter Leaver, who has been connected with the hall for some twenty-seven years, occupies the chair with his usual geniality and tactfulness.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Under the capable management of Mr. P. A. Lennon, who has been here a little over two months, affairs at the Camberwell Palace are forging ahead very nicely. This week there are twenty different items on the programme with which the local public are being amused. Mr. Chas. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum take up a fair amount of time with their trifle, *The Cuckoo*, but the time allowed them is well spent. Mr. Kitts as a fickle, love-making officer, and Miss Windrum as the "cuckoo" make for merriment on a liberal scale. Both characters are well played, and with fine appreciation of the humorous possibilities of what they call "a military contretemps." Mr. Chas. Lilburn is extremely whimsical in his song, "They met in the pale moonlight"; and Miss Dolly Denton is a talented and pleasing comedienne. Vandequotti shows us how smartly he can juggle; and Sibb and Sibb gain applause for their neatly-executed trapeze acts. Miss Nellie Adams is the fortunate possessor of a highly-trained voice, and her rendering of "The Swanee River" and "Trips" evidence tunefulness and a good vocal range. Woodhouse and Wells keep the audience in a continual state of amusement with their entertaining patter and cross-talk. Their conversation about "The Jungle" is particularly diverting, and they perpetrate some really first-class jokes and puns. A vocalist whose singing is full of feeling, expression, and character is Mr. Wolmer Young. The Allisons have an interesting duet on the subject of hats. The lady takes up the defence of the confections worn by her own sex and her companion defends masculine headgear. The result is laughter-compelling, to say the least, and the same remark may be said to apply to the animadversions which each later on casts upon the other. The Allisons also introduce a speciality dance, which is smartly executed.

Mr. Fred Storey, supported by a company of capable actors and actresses, revives an old favourite in *Rip Van Winkle*. The production is praiseworthy from every point of view. The acting is good, and the piece is excellently mounted and staged. Mr. Storey himself, of course, again brings before us the character of the careless, drunken ne'er-do-well, and he seems to grow better in the part the oftener he plays it. *Rip Van Winkle* will keep the boards for a long time yet, and the commendable manner in which Mr. Storey puts the piece on the music-hall stage should ensure him a run with it for many years to come. The Du Gros Trio appear in an extremely original gymnastic exhibition. One member of the little troupe is a lively comedian, and he jests and indulges in all kinds of antics in connection with his associates to the intense merriment of the house. Some of the feats of the Du Gros Trio are exceptionally daring, notably the somersault in mid-air of one man and his being caught up by the other two seated in their trapezes, while much amusement is created by the continual upward movements of the jester on the springing table. A versatile couple are the Sisters Bartholomew, whose business proves highly popular, and that without the fictitious aid of words which lack refinement. Their whole turn is pleasing from beginning to end. In their first song, "The pet of the regiment," one of the ladies looks extremely soldier like and well-groomed in Hussar uniform, while the other assumes the more natural office of a fascinating sweetheart. "She's such a dainty way" is the theme of their succeeding number, and it is sung with a vivaciousness and "go" that make the melody so infectious that the hearer wants to join in with the ladies. Ben Hur, the strong man, explains what it is to be strong—how easy it is to exercise with a 150lb. barbell, how easy, too, to support seven men and a heavy platform upon one's chest and knees! These demonstrations, as well as the poses, are attractive.

Miss Cissie Scofield is a young comedienne who wins great favour with her pretty singing of a lyric, "Will you be my Esquimaux?" which is, we suppose, a relative of another popular ditty. Anyhow, the lady's work is of the most agreeable order, and she dances gracefully withal. A comedian who combines in himself two or three of the arts and sciences associated with the variety stage is Mr. Sidney Dolf. Mr. Dolf can interpret the lines of a funny song to the best advantage, and he at the same time shows remarkable skill at juggling and balancing. His turn is an attempt to represent the different branches of "business" before the variety footlights. The Thurbani Trio excel in the direction of the playing of musical instruments. They are quite experts with the drum, the mandoline, and the cornet, their interpretation of "My Irish Molly" and a number of other popular melodies winning golden opinions. The trio dance in sprightly fashion, and altogether are jolly good company. Miss Hulo Hodgson, Mr. Harry Lowther, and company tickle one's fancy with humorous sayings and doings in the farcical comedietta, *Barmaids*. The Cranks are seen in a capital cycle act; and Vernon's Bioscope concludes with an admirable set of pictures, and the whole cannot but be described as little less than a monster programme.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

A better bill than that presented this week by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay could not be desired, even by the most exacting patron of the halls. The programme is peculiarly diversified, no two turns having anything in common. The star turn is Tom Leamore, who sings two or three songs, including his park keeper ditty. His droll manner and eccentric make up are, as usual, much ap-

(*Continued on Column 4.*)

DEATH OF MISS MARIE WALFORD.

We regret to announce the death of Miss Marie Henry Walford, professionally known as "Mystic Marie," sister of Dr. Walford Bodie, famous throughout the country as the "Electric Wizard" and "Bloodless Surgeon." Miss Walford fell a victim to that fatal disease consumption, from which she had for a long time been a patient sufferer, and she passed peacefully away on Thursday morning, to the great grief of her relatives and friends. Assuming the title of "Mystic Marie," the deceased entered upon a stage career under the direction of her distinguished brother, and as "the girl with the magnetic brain," or "the hypnotised

MISS MARIE WALFORD.

pianist, painter, dancer, and singer," she appeared at his performances all over the country until her health broke down, and she was compelled to seek retirement and rest. The malady had, however, taken too firm a hold; and her all too early death has come as a great shock to her family and friends, for whom the deepest sympathy will be felt in their sad bereavement.

A STRONG RESEMBLANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to your admirably-written and considerate criticism of a sketch produced last week at the London Pavilion entitled *Nell of the Music Halls*, I must, in justice to myself, point out that my dramatic episode, *Lulu; or, the Heart of an Actress*, was produced at the Cambridge Music Hall last March by Miss Sylvia Cavalho, has since been played continuously by that lady in the London and suburban halls, and is booked many months ahead.

There is a very strong and suspicious resemblance between the plots of this new (?) sketch and my own, but there all similarity certainly ceases.

Thanking you in anticipation, I am, yours faithfully,

CHARLES DARRELL.

18A, New Kent-road, S.E., July 17.

OPEN LETTER TO MANAGERS AND PROPRIETORS.

Gents,—

George Barclay and Co., of 221, Brixton-hill, now act as my Sole Agents.

Yours entertainingly,

ALBERT WHELAN,
The Australian Entertainer,

London Pavilion.

MARCO ENRICO BOSSI'S version of "Paradise Lost," which was produced at Augsburg in December, 1903, has been translated into English for the London Choral Society's performance by Miss Florence Hoare. The work consists of a prologue and three sections, Hell, Paradise, Earth. Two baritone and soprano, contralto and bass soloists are employed, and the voices of God the Father and of God the Son are given respectively to the chorus and to the tenors of the chorus. The composer of *Il Paradiso Perduto* is a native of Salo, near Brescia. He was a professor in the Neapolitan Conservatorio, and subsequently director of the famous Liceo Benedetto Marcello at Venice, where he remained till he was appointed head of the Liceo Musicale at Bologna.

preciated. A greater contrast to Tom Leamore than Messrs. Albert Wyndham and Company in *The Roman Father* it would be difficult to imagine. The piece is based on the well-known story dramatised by Sheridan Knowles, "Virginius," and the title-part was at one time a favourite of Macready's. Since his day the piece has rarely been played, the most recent performance being by John McCulloch, the American actor, at Drury Lane, when to the surprise of most people who knew him the late Sir Augustus Harris essayed the leading juvenile part of Icilius. In the condensed version presented by Mr. Wyndham the piece was played in four scenes, and while the main features of the plot are retained, the dialogue is much reduced. Mr. Wyndham makes a fine Virginius, acting with vigour, and speaking his lines with intelligence and force. Mr S. Edwards is especially good as Caius Claudius. Mr. Charles Whitley is sufficiently villainous as the licentious Appius Claudius. Mr. Roy Herbert acts well as Memitorious, and Miss St. John plays Virginia with maidenlike simplicity. This production is the best thing Mr. Wyndham has yet given us.

In *Lulu*, played by Sylvia Cavalho and company, we have again a complete change. The scene is a dressing-room at a London theatre, where the manager is awaiting the arrival of a new leading actress who is to take the place of Lulu, who has been playing the part in the provinces. Lulu, however, turns up, and after upbraiding the manager, with whom, it is evident, she is on terms of close intimacy, she consents to take the part, as the new actress has been injured in a motor smash. She scores a success in the first scene, and, returning to her dressing-room, learns that her lover, the manager, has a wife and child. The scene between the wife and the mistress, and the subsequent interview between Lulu and her lover, were played by Miss Cavalho with tragic intensity, and the curtain fell to prolonged plaudits. Mr. Clifford Pembroke, as the manager; Mr. Richard Purdon, as the acting-manager; and Miss Emma Chambers, as Lulu's foster-mother, were all excellent in every respect.

Miss Grace Grahame gave her much discussed "Fishing" song and another, and was accorded a hearty greeting. Harry Conlin was as funny as ever in his dame song. The Sisters Morgan sang sweetly and danced with grace. King and Benson gave a much appreciated turn, somewhat out of the regular run. Tray and Rich were, as usual, very amusing in their patter, and their dancing was exceptionally smart. The dog smugglers on Ruffell's Bioscope was a very interesting and particularly clear and distinct film. The overture "Eclipse" was well played by the band, under Mr. H. Peterson, and the stage sets did credit to the ability of Mr. John Grant, stage manager.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

A decidedly interesting event in the variety world was the appearance of Mr. Willie Edouin at the New Cross Empire on Monday evening. A comedian possessing a true sense of humour, Mr. Edouin has for a good many years stood high in the estimation of playgoers, and his record of successful impersonations in popular pieces is quite a long one. His Nathaniel Glover in *Our Flat*, his Hilarius in *La Poupée*, and his Hoggenheimer in *The Girl from Kay's* need only be mentioned to revive recollections of pleasant evenings spent at the theatre, and there are a score or more of other character sketches which have exercised the artistic ability of Mr. Edouin with the happiest results. In making his appearance on the variety stage, under engagement to the Moss' Empires, the popular comedian will undoubtedly add largely to the number of his admirers. He opened on Monday with a specially written monologue, in which he represented various people who pay a visit to a medical man, making up for the characters impersonated in full sight of the audience. He appeared first as the gentleman who, desirous of obtaining an insurance on his life, has to undergo a medical examination, and it is the peculiar methods of the doctor that Mr. Edouin so comically and cleverly makes fun of. His second character was that of a rough-and-ready kind of individual—one Bill Hawkins—who wishes to insure for £200, and persists in entering into details respecting his domestic affairs. After portraying a dude in evening dress who has not been discreet in his potations, and cannot therefore comply with the requirements of the examining doctor, he appeared lastly as Mrs. Wadlow, the keeper of a boarding-house, who has a strong objection to stating her age, but is not disinclined to carry on a mild flirtation with the medico. She gushes about her husband, "Dear Herbert," and finally walks out of the doctor's consulting room after a very unladylike display of temper. The fussy middle-aged lady was the most amusing of the character sketches. On Monday Mr. Edouin was, so to speak, feeling his way with the audience; and his performance will be still funnier when he has become more accustomed to his new surroundings. As it was, Mr. Edouin had an extremely cordial reception at both houses.

[*Photo by Charles and Russell.*

TED COWAN, WINNER OF THE ONE MILE BUCHANAN CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE.

A HARD-FOUGHT contest was that for the Buchanan Cup in the one mile cycle race. The cup, which is to be won three times in succession for undisturbed possession, was held before by Mr. Gent Lotto, and is now in the safe keeping of Mr. Ted Cowan, who is to be congratulated on a very determined "scorch." Unfortunately, Mr. Cowan and Mr. Lotto collided at the winning line, but Mr. Cowan's claim was confirmed by the judges.

One of the most successful turns in the current programme is that of Simms and Simms, whose mixture of gag and melody can be strongly recommended. Their duets on the mandoline and banjo are excellently rendered. One of them is made up as a darkey, and his always interrupted attempts to play the trombone and his catch phrase, "You are not mad, are you?" cause much merriment. Mr. Herbert Lloyd, the "Diamond King," gives a performance which is as original as it is funny. He arrives in a motor-car of curious design, and takes off an overcoat and hat both sparkling with brilliants. It would not be an easy task to describe in detail the "Diamond King's" many devices for exciting the laughter of the audience, but they are all ingenious and effective. He makes his exit in another curious looking car, bearing the inscription, amongst others, "To Hanwell." Miss Edie King appears in the character of Cinderella, representing that favourite heroine of the nursery in the Kitchen scene. She sings a song and laments her loneliness, being, indeed, moved to tears when she pictures the delightful ball to which her sisters have just departed in high glee. A quick-change, and Miss King, in a pretty dress, gives a charming dance that is received with much applause. Techow's cats prove that feline intelligence is much more developed than many people suppose. These animals, under the direction of their owner and trainer, accomplish some exceedingly clever tricks, their performance on the rope being specially worthy of note. Spot, "the enchanted coon," in his amusing travesty, "The Cake Walk Craze," meets with deserved success; the graceful couple, Helene and Emilon, are applauded for their gymnastic exercises on the trapeze; Bernar's Fantoches are extremely amusing; Mr. E. J. Sheldon, comedian; Brown and Le Clerq, in the old sketch, *Black Justice*, with a set of new cases for trial; and the well-known Glenroy Troupe of International Dancers are also in the bill. Mr. Ernest Bridgen is the efficient acting manager here, and Mr. Louis La Rondelle is the able musical director.

"THE HOUSE-BOAT."

A new Sketch, in Two Scenes, by John Leopold and Wilfred Vaughan, performed at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, on Monday, July 16.

Col. Scorcher ..... MR. WATSON HUME
Lively ..... MR. WILLIE LEOPOLD
Horatio Binks ..... MR. JOHN LEOPOLD, JUN.
Augustus Scarem ..... MR. ERNEST LEOPOLD
Police-Constable Smith ..... MR. TOM LEOPOLD
Police-Constable Jones .... MR. CHARLES GOUGH
Blobbs ..... MR. WILFRED VAUGHAN
Tipit ..... MR. BARRY LUPINO
Tomkins ..... MR. WILLIAM HOWARTH
Jenkins ..... MR. HARRY OATES
Dolly Damper ..... MISS AMY HALL
Daisy Damper ..... MISS QUEENIE BRONTE
Maria ..... MISS GERTIE WINTER
Susan ..... MISS MAY GORDON
A Guest ..... MISS ZILLAH FAIR
Mrs. Scorcher ..... MISS KATHLEEN CAVANAGH

The married man who, galled by the chains of matrimony, seeks to renew some of the delights of his single life, is a familiar character in countless farcical plays, many of them having a Palais Royal origin. In *The House Boat*, which is one of the leading attractions at the Empress, Brixton, this week, the "gay dog" who breaks loose from matrimonial moorings is called Col. Scorcher—no doubt as an index to his character. The middle-aged military man happens to know a music-hall artist, Dolly Damper, who has a lively sister named Daisy. They have a houseboat up the river in a very quiet nook, and they invite the Colonel to lunch with them, asking him to bring a friend with him. Scorcher is not the man to resist such a temptation, and to his wife he makes the usual excuse of being called away on urgent business. However, at the last moment he receives a message from his friend Howard that he is unable to join the party; but the Colonel overcomes the difficulty by getting his manservant, Lively, to play the part. Indeed, he is to be introduced to the young ladies as "a real live lord," and in order to do justice to the assumed character his master hands him a bundle of bank notes. The Colonel carelessly drops the letter of invitation, and it is of course picked up by Mrs. Scorcher, who, greatly upset when she has mastered its contents, confides in the maid-servant, Maria, Lively's sweetheart. At her suggestion it is decided that mistress and maid shall also go up the river in search of the house-boat, which is stationed opposite the Jolly Anglers' Inn. The Colonel and his supposed aristocratic friend duly meet the Damper girls, and Lively, in response to their inquiries, finds a difficulty in locating his country house. Mrs. Scorcher and Maria meanwhile watch the "goings on" from a balcony at the riverside inn, Lively's sweetheart seizing the opportunity of dropping a tray on her young man's head. When the party adjourn to the house-boat the fun becomes fast and furious, as two exceedingly active gentlemen, known as Horatio Binks and Augustus Scarem, contrive to abstract most of the eatables, to the mystification and mortification of the hungry guests. In this scene a good deal of pantomime and knockabout business is introduced, with the most laughable results. Mrs. Scorcher, disguised as a fortune-teller, interviews her husband, and after some uncomplimentary remarks from him concerning the wife he thinks he has gulled, she reveals herself, to his utter consternation and dismay. Maria "goes for" Lively, and the sketch concludes in merry fashion.

Mr. Willie Leopold contributes largely to the fun and frolic, as Lively; and Mr. John Leopold, jun., and Mr. Ernest Leopold are exceedingly active and energetic as Binks and Scarem. Mr. Tom Leopold also scores as Police-Constable Smith, Mr. Barry Lupino makes excellent use of his opportunities as Tipit, a waiter; and Mr. Wilfred Vaughan renders good service as the bluff innkeeper Blobbs. Miss Amy Hall as Dolly Damper and Miss Queenie Bronte as Daisy are bright and appropriately vivacious representatives of these characters. Miss Gertie Winter works hard and successfully in the part of Maria; Miss May Gordon is a pert waitress; and Miss Kathleen Cavanagh is well suited as the middle-aged Mrs. Scorcher. Mr. Watson Hume plays the part of Col. Scorcher with spirit; and other minor characters have satisfactory exponents in Mr. Charles Gough, Mr. William Howarth, Mr. Harry Oates, and Miss Zillah Fair. The merry little piece is adequately staged, and on making its first appearance in London has met with a highly favourable reception.

FRED LOCKE APPEAL.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow.

The condition of Mr. Locke shows no improvement, and the paralytic shocks have made him so weak that he requires constant nursing and attention.

	£	s.	d.
Harry McKelvie, Palace Theatre, Glasgow	2	2	0
Walter Melville	1	1	0
T. Y. Paterson (3rd Subscription)	1	1	0
Pantomime Rehearsal Company, per Fred Park	0	15	6
John McLean's Employees (Girls)	0	15	0
Fred Griffiths (of Bros. Griffiths)	0	10	6
Stanley Rogers	0	10	6
Howard and St. Clair	0	5	0
William Shanks	0	2	6
Andy Thomson	0	2	6
"Faith, Hope, and Charity," Southampton	0	2	5

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

We often wonder if the great majority of our showmen readers understand the usefulness of the organisation that ceaselessly watches over their interests. Of this we are reluctantly compelled to have serious doubts, when we see the tardy recognition that the work of the Showmen's Guild receives from the rank and file of the great body of people engaged in the fairground industry.

We draw attention to the remarkable contrast between the work of Showmen Trade Defence as it exists to-day and to the tremendous efforts involving an agitation extending over the whole of the United Kingdom in the early days of the life of the Van-dwellers' Association.

Last week as much effective work was done in a two hours' conference between the executive officials of the Guild in blocking and eventually stopping for the present session of Parliament a Bill (which in some of its particulars was even more obnoxious than the historic Movable Dwellings Bill of 1888) as was formerly accomplished in twelve months.

When that Bill was introduced by educational faddists in 1888, the showmen were utterly without organisation, and but for kindly sympathisers and friends who warned the showmen of their danger, it would have passed into law. To defeat George Smith of Coalville's Bill, the showmen had to be roused from one end of the kingdom to the other, and large sums of money generously subscribed in face of the urgent need had to be spent before the voice of the organised showmen could be heard in Parliament, and a threatened danger averted by the blocking and final disappearance of the Bill.

Only a fortnight ago the Parliamentary agent of the Showmen's Guild acquainted the executive with the danger threatening the show business and the domestic life of showpeople from a proposed measure introduced by a private member to deal with the education of vagrant children. Now notice the difference. Instead of an agitation involving the expenditure of hundreds of pounds to defeat this dangerous Bill, all that was necessary and all that was done was a conference between the Honorary Chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, and Mr. F. Millar, the Guild Parliamentary Agent, and the friends of the showmen in the House of Commons, who were told how the Bill would interfere with the showmen's work and home life. On its second reading the Bill was blocked, and now, owing to the heavy pressure of Government work for the remainder of the session, the promoter of the Bill will have no further chance of introducing it; in other words, the educational faddists will have to begin their work all over again in the next session of Parliament, and they will find again the same alert and strenuous opposition that has defeated their purpose for the present.

We have spoken at considerable length upon this question in order to rally all showmen to the support of the trade organisation that looks after their interests with such ability and success. We have repeatedly stated that one of the most valuable assets of the show business is the organisation of trade defence built up by some of the best minds engaged in the business, and no less by those whose genuine interest for the well-being of the travelling showman has led them to co-operate with and extend the work done by showmen proper. We ask careful attention to this wonderful contrast between the early days of showman organisation and the present day, in which the power and influence of the Showmen's Guild is recognised in the high places of the land.

A very interesting proof of this recognition of the Showmen's Guild is evidenced in the success of the petition against the abolition of Mitcham Fair. The Home Secretary refused to abolish the fair, although the local authorities at Mitcham were backing up the influential group of residents who were agitating to do away with the people's pleasure fair. He was not satisfied with the reasons given for abolition, but was duly impressed with the reasons against abolition set out in the showmen's petition for the retention of the fair.

Whilst we rejoice at the success of the Guild's work, we wish to emphasise the importance of maintaining it in unimpaired vigour, for if the Guild did nothing else but Parliamentary defence work, it would still remain an incalculable boon to the whole of the showman world. Parliamentary work is but one branch of its usefulness, even if we include with that opposition by petition to the abolition of fairs.

There is another important work engaging more and more the time and ability of its executive officials, and that is journeying to towns where fairs are threatened with opposition and possible extinction, and endeavouring, by interviewing the town authorities or those who threaten the continuance of the fair, to bring about amicable arrangements. Examples of this kind of work are recorded from time to time in our columns, but many of these arrangements are of that confidential and private character that they cannot be made public.

In connection with work of this kind at the request of showmen, the Honorary Chaplain has made a number of visits this season, and in most instances success has rewarded his efforts. There are at the present moment four fairs threatened by powerful local minorities of inhabitants, and each one of these is engaging the time and attention of the Honorary Chaplain.

The most important of these fairs has reached a stage when no advantage can be gained by further conciliatory action—we refer to the old Charter Fair of Horsham. The opposition to this fair is the work of one man, and is carried on regardless of expense by this individual, in spite of the fact that the whole of Horsham is opposed to his autocratic action.

Briefly stated, the facts of the case are these: The pleasure fair has been held for many years past upon a piece of land known as "The Jew's Meadow," on the outskirts of the town, and admirably situated for its purpose. The nearest house of any pretension to the fair ground has been taken within the last few months by a gentleman who, without waiting to see what the fair is really like, has sent a lawyer's letter to the showman lessee of the ground, threatening him with an injunction if he perseveres with the fair. The lessee acquainted Mr. Horne with the difficulties of the situation, and every effort was made to propitiate this one objector to the fair, but unfortunately without success.

Having exhausted all the possibilities of conciliation, the lessee of the ground determined to risk the injunction and to hold the fair, and we shall watch with considerable interest the results. We very much doubt that the people of Horsham will permit one man, and he, comparatively speaking, a stranger within their gates, to impose his will upon the town. We do not remember, even in our very wide experience of cranks and faddists and their opposition to the pleasures and amusements of the people, a more flagrant case of wrongheadedness than this individual resident of Horsham, who fancies he will be annoyed before the annoyance (if it be one) has come within his purview, and remarkable as it is to say, was told by the owner of the house that the fair would be held within sight and hearing of his very door at the time that he took the house.

Trouble is threatened also with regard to the Whitsuntide Fair at Weston Green, near Knighton, in Surrey. A showman correspondent has put us in possession of the fact that a number of the residents are moving with a view to stop the fair. This, of course, is the legitimate work for the Showmen's Guild to undertake, and the matter will receive immediate attention, for if the fair is a statute one the usual procedure under the Abolition of Fairs Act will have to take place, and that gives a full opportunity for the showmen to petition the Home Office, but if it is a fair held by permission of the Lord of the Manor its continuance will largely rest with him.

A local showman writes to us concerning Gloucester Green Fair, Oxford, to say that the continuance of the fair is threatened by a section of the members of the City Council, and gives us the alarming news that if this agitation to abolish the small fair succeeds the same people will attempt the abolition of the great fair of St. Giles. Of course, entirely apart from the menace to the greater fair, the Showmen's Guild will endeavour to save the smaller one from threatened extinction.

Then there is another example of a threatened fair near Chelmsford; it is the town of Writtle. We have an interesting letter from Mr. W. Castledine, veterinary surgeon of that town, telling us that a petition has been sent to the Home Office for the abolition of the fair, but that he and a great number of the parishioners wish it to be continued, and have drawn up a petition which has been extensively signed, and intend forwarding it to the Home Secretary. It would greatly assist the Executive of the Showmen's Guild if the showmen and stall-holders taking Writtle Fair would send in their names and addresses to the Guild Secretary, care of *The Era*.

In connection with the extremely important question raised by Mr. P. Collins in his open letter to the showman world generally, and in particular to a numerous body of his tenants on the fair-grounds he controls, we have an equally important letter from Mr. Wm. Murphy, lessee of some of the principal fairs and feasts in Yorkshire, Durham, Cumberland, and the border counties:—

"SHOWMEN'S WELFARE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I quite agree with the contents of Mr. P. Collins's letter, appearing in your issue of July 7. The showman's calling must not be allowed to lapse into anything approaching degradation. Our business transactions have developed with rapid strides during the past twenty years, and it becomes every traveller to retain the position we have reached to-day in the eyes of the great British public, who are keen observers, and it behoves us to establish firmly our calling as a perfectly legitimate one.

These objects can only be reached by the co-operation of the rank and file collectively. The integrity of our commercial transactions must be unshaken. Our homes must always be model homes, able to compare with others. Our language must be pure and free from offence; and further, the most important point which every labour-employing showman must insist on, is to see that the public who may be customers to a roundabout, show, or stall are treated with in a civil tongue, whether they purchase or not, by their employees.

Personally, so far as I am directly concerned on my show-grounds (which extend from the Humber to the Tweed), my tenants know that what I have stated above is a mutual cause of interest. The general body of the showmen of to-day, I know, do comply with these conditions, so essential to our well-being and success; but in our business, as in other callings, there are isolated cases of wrong-doing, and it is to these cases that my remarks are directed.

On my grounds all straw, &c., must be cleared from booths, &c., and on Sunday I look for every showman to observe Sunday as Sunday-in so far that work not a necessity is concerned; and I have given my agents instructions to report to me any violations of these rules.

I sincerely hope all will pull together, and thereby reflect credit on our calling, obtain welcome acceptance by the public, and always provide healthy and innocent amusement to the nation.—Believe me, yours fraternally,

WM. MURPHY.

Show Ground, Skipton, Yorkshire, July 10.

Following up his vigorous crusade in defence of showmen in the West of England, Mr. Norton has sent the following letter to the *Cornishman*, and we doubt not that it will fulfil its necessary and eminently useful purpose:—

A PLEA FOR THE TRAVELLING SHOWMAN.

Sir,—You have been so uniformly fair in your notices and criticisms of the showman's life and business that the enclosed notes from to-day's issue of *The Era* will, I feel sure, interest you.

I am responsible for the remarks therein on the recent actions of the Penzance Corporation and the Devon County Council.

To force showmen to leave a fair-field by 6 a.m. on Sunday, and to shut the gates at three minutes past that hour in the faces of those ready and willing to leave, as was done here, is surely unnecessary and vexatious as well as undoubtedly illegal.

I was then, and am now, at a loss to discover the *raison d'être* of this cruel regulation. If it was intended to prevent a supposed violation of the sanctity of the Sunday in question it defeated its own ends, for the showmen were working all night pulling down.

On the other hand, if the rule was made to prevent the feelings of early church-goers being outraged by the spectacle of a living wagon or show-wagon passing through the streets, then I can only remind those responsible for such a rule that religion without humanity is worse than useless. Possessing, as I do, a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the members of the showman's profession, I can assure you that I have never known a case where a showman has willingly disturbed the susceptibilities of church or chapel-goers by passing through a town during the hours of Divine service.

Where such a thing has happened it has occurred through inadvertence or necessity. The exigencies of his profession unfortunately impel the showman, as well as the more fortunate members of the theatrical profession, to be on the road most Sundays, and this to his regret, as well as that of other people's. So I devoutly trust that the Penzance Corporation will not needlessly impose such an illegal and vexatious restriction another year.

Take the manifesto of Mr. Pat Collins in to-day's *Era* to his tenants on the various fair-grounds. This is a fair example of what showmen are doing among themselves, and reveals something of the justifiable pride they feel in their profession. The Showmen's Guild, to which I have the honour to belong, also exerts its powerful influence in the same direction.

My only excuse for writing to you on a subject which is probably by now forgotten must be that I have been requested by some of my showmen friends to take some notice of the Sunday regulation at Penzance.

I trust that, with a fuller knowledge of what show people really are, Corporations and County Councils will abstain from further pin-pricks, and treat their entertainers, who are welcomed by the show-loving public and the ratepayers, for different and other reasons, with a little more courtesy and humanity.

Geoffrey W. A. Norton.

Beachfield Hotel, Penzance, July 7, 1906.

Alexander's Circus paid a visit to Hastings on Tuesday, and gave two performances in the Central Cricket Ground. A word of praise is due to Mr. Denton and his capable little string orchestra for their rendering of the musical numbers. Heading the list of performers is Kurio, the enigma; Leonora submits a lightning jockey act which pleases her audience greatly; the Three Stebbings are agile and clever triple somersaultists; the Kamara Japanese troupe of acrobats afford much pleasure; Alfonso, equilibrist, and Wilfred, flexible marvel, delight the audience; clever riding is done by David Burns; Texas Frank, George Knight, and Mlle. Bellina; and much merriment is caused by the troupe of funny clowns.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Boulton opened at Kinksholm Athletic Ground, Gloucester, on Monday, in a large marquee pavilion specially erected, with their Al Fresco company, which included the Boultons, speciality artists; Mr. Sam Johns, quaint comedian; Miss Lambert, soprano; Mr. R. B. Ward, comedian; Miss Connie Irwin, pianist and mandolinist; Mr. John Lambert, baritone vocalist; Miss Ivy Boulton, song and dance artist; Fred Boulton, comedian; and the Lamberts, duettists. A sketch entitled *The Insurance Office* was also given. The opening performances were well attended, and the troupe should prove a great attraction during the summer months.

Proctor's Circus is at Horwich this week, and proves a great attraction, the fairground being crowded at every performance. The company is a very smart, all-round one, and the jockey act by the Proctor Family, Miss Marian Proctor on the tight-wire, the fiery donkeys, and the band carriage parade are highly appreciated.

Mr. Harry Marvello has a large number of attractions on his ground, the Harbour Green, Promenade, Portobello. Amongst others, are Sam Stott, with fancy goods and rick, Codona's dolls, cocoanut sheets, &c., Pickle's cup-breaker, Black's fancy goods, White's shooters and other games, also a few auctioneers. During the current week Glasgow holiday-makers have well patronised the various attractions. The Geisha entertainers, Harbour Green Pavilion, are completely packed at every performance. Chester and Lee's marionettes are proving a great draw, record business being done.

At the Fleece Field, Evesham, Mr. Jacob Studt's electric motor-cars and grand bioscope exhibition, Matthew's juvenile switchback, Freeman's bowling saloon, E. Clarke's shooting saloons, Professor Gal Hague's boxing saloon, Warwick's fine art exhibition have done good business, the grounds being visited by thousands of people.

Headless Cross Cherry Wakes were maintained by Clarke's motor-cars, Chipperfield's cinematograph exhibition and hall of laughter, Clarke's shooting saloon, swing boats, cokernut sheet, and striker, Wilson's bottle shooter, Kemp's toy stalls and fisheries, ring-boards, and other amusements by Messrs. Wilson, Chipperfield, Kemp, and Taylor.

Scott's amusements have been visiting Crowle and Hanbury, Ayer's aggregation has been to Alcester and Bidford, and Herberts' to Ashwood Bank, Cookhill, and Bishampton.

Pleasure Fairs during October will include King's Norton, on the 1st; Alvechurch, on the 3rd; Evesham, on the 5th; Alcester, on the 9th; and Stratford-on-Avon, on the 12th.

Messrs. Turnbull and Tofts's hobby-horses, swing boats, and shooting saloons are doing good business at Limerick, and visitors are enjoying their constant spin on these inanimate sprinters. Mr. J. F. Calverto has also many other attractions, including the novel helter-skelter, aerial railway, and electric punching-ball, so much appreciated by the lovers of the noble art.

Ringwood Fair was maintained by the local showman, Haynes, who provided steam horses, park swings, and shooting concerns, and with him was associated Messrs. Birchall and D. Smith with minor novelties.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Bramley Feast, Cheddingley, Glemsford, Epsom, Hockswold, Reading, Alresford, Cley-next-the-Sea, Melsham, Bollington, Compstall, Falmouth, King's Nympton, Mossley, Olney, Shirland, Stretton, Unsworth, Heyford, Keighley Feast, Saltaire Feast, Sandford, Shipley Feast, and Windhill Feast. In Scotland: Stirling, Edinburgh, Kilmarnock, Kirkcudbright, and Leith.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

List of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Charles J. Childs	0	10	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
C. Douglas Stuart	0	5	0
G. A. Rampling	0	2	6
Per Harry Lester.			
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Douglas White	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	0	10	6
Harry Gage	0	10	6
Tom Norman	0	10	6
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
Mark Ringham	0	5	0
Bros. Obos	0	5	0
Forest and King	0	5	0
Sam Stockton	0	5	0
Griff	0	5	0
Harry Mountford	0	5	0
Bert Olrac	0	5	0
George Nyman	0	3	0
Charlie Jerome	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Fred Greville	0	2	6
Ben Whiteley	0	2	6
Fred Ryan	0	2	0
T. C. Callaghan	0	2	0
Rudolph Whiteley	0	2	0
L. A. Smith	0	1	0
Total	£31	10	6

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

SIDE-SHOWS AT THE AUSTRIAN EXHIBITION.

Before passing to the detailed story of the side-shows at Earl's Court it is only right that a tribute of appreciation should be paid to the Austrian Exhibition as a whole. The characteristic of the show from end to end is completeness: there are no unfinished or unoccupied places in the Exhibition. As a picture, wherever we may travel within the vast space of the Earl's Court enclosure the eye is satisfied; and, vast as the dimensions of the Exhibition are, the sky pictures are so marvellous in their artistic beauty as to impel the illusion of still greater space of mountain, upland, and valley. It is in very truth gems of Austrian scenery, and set pictures of the polyglot empire in miniature.

And now to our more particular task—the shows at Earl's Court. Two of the side-shows must be put upon the highest plane of up-to-date achievement. We refer to "The Tyrol Village" and "The Cavern of the Syrens." The vast space of the Empress Hall is entirely occupied with the first, and the subterranean waterways, interminable almost in their lengthy and winding courses, have been utilised for the eerie sensation of the "Cavern of the Syrens."

In the Tyrol village we have examples of the village industries of the Austrian Alps transplanted in all their native completeness, and we see the actual workers engaged in their artistic cottage industries. The communal life of the Tyrolese workers is further illustrated by the native songs, melodies, and dances given by two excellent companies of Tyrolese singers. This mammoth side-show is one of the most complete stage pictures we have ever witnessed.

"The Cavern of the Syrens" is a most original and weird conception. The strong current maintained by the gigantic water-wheel drives the boat-loads of passengers along the eerie maze of its many channels, passing under rocky cavern roofs studded with stalactites and quaintly and cunningly illuminated, and then at last the startling picture of the syrens enticing their victims by their fatal beauty. This show alone, with the Tyrol village, is novelty enough to draw the whole of London to Earl's Court.

In the beautiful Western Gardens there are a number of splendid side-shows, conspicuous amongst these being the salt mines, a perfect working illustration of a typical Austrian industry.

Then there is the magnificent panorama of the Battle of Isel, giving to the visitor a splendid picture of the historic victory of the brave mountaineers over their French and Bavarian enemies.

Deftly hidden for part of the way by the mountains we have the inevitable switchback, still, as ever, a source of unfailing attraction. As you looked at the mountains, almost convinced of their reality, you heard the joyous ring of happy laughter, and then in a bend of the mountain range you would get a glimpse of real life in the happy switchback voyagers.

A very up-to-date exhibition in the Western Gardens is the electrophone, where the visitor may have the music and words of the leading London productions 'phoned direct from the theatres and music halls.

To complete the list in this part of the grounds we must mention the ever-popular distorting mirrors in the Hall of Laughter, the clever exhibition of ants and bees, Tyrolese shooting ranges, and autophotoscope machines.

Now for all the fun of the fair. In the Prater all the showmen are busy calling—ever calling—their patrons to enter the shows.

The biggest of these is the Summer Theatre, where "Vienna by Night" is illustrated with song, dance, and music by artists from the Austrian capital.

Professor Otto, the wonder man, with performing cats and birds, gives frequent exhibitions in the Bijou Theatre.

The bicycle circus, the Tyrol shooting range, a capital stereorama, the Trieste flying fish, the Prater Wurstel man, and the aerial flight form a continuous line of novelties.

Willard's marionette show, the merry mannikins from the Prater, Vienna, perform to delighted audiences.

Maskelyne and Cook's invention, "The Temple of One Thousand Eyes," is an exhibition of great novelty and attractiveness.

The extreme end of the open fair-ground of the Prater is occupied by the gigantic wheel and its modern rival the helter-skelter lighthouse.

On the occasion of our visit we walked the Prater—or, rather, were carried along by the rapidly-increasing crowd visiting the fair after the lights were lit. We need hardly say that the illumination of the grounds with innumerable coloured lamps is one of the features of an Earl's Court show that ought not to be missed.

Passing from the Prater through the vast range of buildings filled with exhibits of the trades and manufactures of the Austrian Empire, we found in the Queen's Court, high above the pleasure lake, that most marvellous of modern roundabouts—Sir Hiram Maxim's captive airship.

Here, too, was the giant water chute, and a number of small but very attractive novelties.

Of the delightful music, both instrumental and vocal, we can say but a passing word. The air was filled with pleasant sounds, and wherever we went our first impression was more than confirmed by the manifest enjoyment of the vast throng of visitors that found in the open air of Earl's Court the ideal amusement for a summer's evening.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. A. Burton (Derby).—We have searched the available obituary notices, but cannot find the date of Van Hare's death.

H. B. Pratt (Oxford).—Yes, the Showmen's Guild will deal with the matter. Very glad of your co-operation.

W. Taylor (Hounslow).—We will carefully watch the proceedings at Weston Green, and will communicate with you further.

F. Richardson (Newcastle-on-Tyne). — Many thanks for your kind offer of assistance, shall be glad to hear from you.

G. C. (Ealing).—We advise you to make your wants known through our advertising columns.

The Rev. T. Horne is making arrangements to hold a meeting of the Showmen's Guild at Longsight Wakes, Manchester, on Sunday, July 29. This meeting has been for many years an annual event. The vicar of the parish, the Rev. H. Norburn, is an hon. chaplain of the Guild, and provides a school for the children of the Wakes ground and a special service for the show people on the Wakes Sunday.

Nantwich, near Crewe, has a capital fair beginning on July 14 and lasting three days. The shows at this fair were Manders' star menagerie, the Hutins, second sight experts, Wright's fine art academy, and Johnson's novelty booth. The machines included three large sets provided by John Collins, gondolas, galloping horses, and steam yachts. The minor novelties were Johnson's big boats, Wright's Winchester range, Dobson's shooting gallery, Claughton's bottle battery, and throwing games by Deeke, Mercer, Johnson, and Claughton.

Subscriptions to the Showmen's Guild:—Per Mr. John Whiting, William Greenhough, Esq. (Rochdale), 10s. 6d.; per Mr. Shuttleworth, A. Hutchinson, 5s.; William Scott, 5s.; S. A. Heeson, 5s.; per Guild Secretary, Professor Ruby, 5s.

The Alexandra Hippodrome visited Hastings on Tuesday, and both performances were well patronised.

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES BILL.

MEETING OF PROTEST.

A mass meeting of lady music-hall artists was held at the Hotel Provence on Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of protesting against the Bill now before Parliament for the prevention of dangerous performances by women and children. The meeting was convened by the International Artists' Lodge and the Variety Artists' Federation. Miss Ethel Peck, the lady secretary of the former institution, presided, and an interest amounting to enthusiasm was evinced by the many lady gymnasts and acrobats present. The ladies realised that they were there in the cause of their very means of livelihood, and it is to be hoped that those performers concerned with the athletic branch of the profession who were unable to attend will make their voices heard and their influence felt to get the Bill framed in such a manner that it will not injure a legitimate and honest calling, which is proved not to be prejudicial to health or offers extraordinary risks in the way of personal accidents. Let every member of the gymnastic profession join in this agitation, and we cannot too strongly urge that the battle against the Bill must be carried on by the acrobatic members of the profession themselves. If they hope to secure serious and sympathetic consideration from Imperial Parliament they must plead their own cause. We think they should, as the next step, strive at once to get an inquiry conducted by a Committee of the House of Commons into the safety or otherwise of stage acts. Then many of them would be able to give evidence of such a character as would enable the Commissioners to come to some kind of decision as to what was or was not a hazardous performance. Mr. C. C. Bartram, the secretary of the International Artists' Lodge, and Mr. Frank Gerald, the secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation, are both working hard in the interests of the profession in respect of the Dangerous Performances Bill. We have not the slightest doubt that if Mr. Herbert Samuel and Mr Herbert Gladstone (the Home Secretary), who are both reasonable-minded men, are approached in a proper manner, and by members of the profession instead of by outside agitators, justice will be done to all parties.

The chairwoman opened the proceedings by reading the draft of the proposed Dangerous Performances Bill submitted by Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., and also read to the meeting extracts from that gentleman's letter which appeared in the last issue of *The Era*. Continuing, she remarked that this letter was intended to allay alarm, but did not succeed in doing so. The Bill itself was loosely worded. It meant the abolition of thousands of acrobatic and gymnastic acts. Then, who was to judge whether or not a performance was dangerous—the police or the magistrates? What would happen if they took women out of the acts? It would mean the ruin of the acts certainly for a time. Then there would be difficulty with managers in regard to contracts. If this Bill were passed no manager would be certain whether or not he was to be deprived of the services of a lady artist. If he wished, on the other hand, to find an excuse for getting rid of her, this Bill would furnish him with one. The various music-hall societies had all come to the conclusion that the Bill was unnecessary, especially as the extension of the Workmen's Compensation Act rendered it of questionable value. The speaker hoped that the meeting would express its opinion strongly, and suggest further steps to be adopted. It had been rumoured in Parliament that this movement to oppose the Bill was a managers' movement; but this could be refuted, for the London Entertainments Protection Association had been written to for their support, and had replied as follows: "I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 3rd inst., enclosing a copy of a resolution passed at an extraordinary meeting of your executive committee as to the Dangerous Performances Bill, 1906, and to inform you that your suggestion that a deputation should be sent to those concerned in the conduct of the Bill meets with the approval of this Association. It is considered that such independent action on your part would be most effective. My Association will be glad to hear the result of any action on your part as they will be glad to further your opposition should it, in their opinion, be considered advisable.—Yours faithfully, J. L. Graydon, Hon. Sec." The Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association replied: "I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, which I will bring before my committee at their next meeting," and nothing more had been heard from them. The granddaughter of Lord George Sanger had written to say that there was no more danger in acrobatic performances than in riding on electric tramcars. She had never had a serious accident, and had never broken a limb. The training made one strong. If the Bill were passed it would mean starvation for hundreds. Marta and Julietta sent a note to say that the Bill meant the taking away of bread from hundreds of artists; and a lady member of the Trapnell Family stated that she had been in the business for twenty years, the family consisting of two brothers, two sisters, and herself, and they had been doing acrobatics without injury to themselves. The Franz Family also wrote in similar strain, as well as Mme. Borelli. Another artist wrote: "Unjust and unreasonable law. What would the show business amount to if the novel and beautiful acrobatic acts were taken away?" Similar communications were received from other well-known performers.

Miss Vulcana, of Atlas and Vulcana, called upon to make a speech, said she strongly opposed the Bill at every point.

Miss Kitty Marion proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting of women variety artists protests strongly against the so-called Dangerous Performances Bill. Facts prove that the performances in question are not dangerous, only two serious accidents having occurred to women in 7,800,000 performances. They therefore appeal to the Government not to abolish the gymnastic profession, as this Bill will undoubtedly do, in a moment of panic, and thus deprive thousands of their means of making their livelihood in a highly-skilled and hard-working profession."

The resolution was seconded by Miss Atora and carried unanimously.

Miss Merrilees proposed and Miss Kaufmann seconded a resolution as follows: "This meeting of lady performers of the profession consider it advisable that a deputation be nominated to attend on Mr. Herbert Samuel and the Home Secretary for the purpose of putting before them the objections against the passing of the Dangerous Performances Bill." Carried.

Frau Goltz, who spoke in German, remarked that she and her husband had for years performed without meeting with a serious accident. On the other hand, their children, who had not been trained at all, had had limbs broken in school exercises.

Miss Kitty Marion proposed and Miss Vulcana seconded the following resolution: "That it be left to the various music-hall societies which have already combined to elect a deputation and decide what further steps should be taken; and that the societies be advised to have as many gymnasts and acrobats on the committee as possible." Carried.

Mr. C. C. Bartram pointed out that it must be borne in mind that the business of the variety gymnast and acrobat was a profession and not a trade, and it was therefore desirable that the meetings should not partake too much of the nature of a labour meeting. He thought that the music-hall profession might take a large theatre and organise a gathering there.

Mr. Charles Coborn complimented the lady artists who had attended the meeting. He had been connected with the profession for twenty years, and he considered that the present movement was for the good of their calling.

Mr. Frank Gerald, the secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation, deprecated the idea of a Hyde Park meeting suggested by one of the speakers.

A vote of thanks to Miss Ethel Peck for presiding so charmingly, proposed by Mrs. Coborn and seconded by Miss Marion, brought the deliberations to a close.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Mr. Herbert Samuel's letter, published in your last issue, is anything but reassuring to performers who would be affected by the operations of the proposed Dangerous Performances Act. In his claim that this law does no more than repeat the Dangerous Performances Acts of 1879 and 1897 he does not enlighten your readers as to the effect those laws have had. The result of the two Acts, together with the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act (1904), which prohibits the training of children for acrobatic and gymnastic performances, has been to virtually abolish children acrobats.

Mr. Samuel tells us that the projected Act merely means to extend the provisions of these laws to women, which, of course, means to abolish the women acrobats and gymnasts. If Mr. Samuel will have a little patience, he will find there is no necessity for legislation to abolish women performers. The very fact that the law prevents children being trained for this calling, both here and in other countries, will soon result in an end of either female or male acrobats and gymnasts. There surely the Government must see the injustice of depriving those already trained of their means of support.

Mr. Samuel further says: "The method of determining what is or is not dangerous to which the performers' profession has long been accustomed will be the method employed under the Bill." Terrible thought! An extension to women acts of the annoyance we have been submitted to under the old Acts by the no-two-alike decisions of Merrie England's magistrates. Then what manager would engage a gymnastic turn, knowing full well that by the caprice of some police officer or magistrate he might find himself at a moment's notice deprived of the services of that artist?

It is, indeed, a "panic" legislation galloping toward Utopia so fast that it mercilessly crushes whole classes of the people at every bound. Does Mr. Samuel know that his Act would make it illegal to perform 50 per cent. of the "dumb shows" at present appearing in music hall or circuses? For who is to judge what is dangerous when even we, the performers, do not agree to the comparative danger of any one trick.

If Mr. Samuel does not, as he claims, intend to place restrictions on those music hall and circus gymnastic and acrobatic shows which only the grossly ignorant could call "dangerous," but only wishes to restrict avowedly hazardous feats as parachute jumps, looping the loop, etc., why does he not state so much, without including and making illegal the work of a reputable calling outnumbering the other by 1000 to 1.

C. C. BARTRAM.

MLLE. GHITA CORRI, fresh from her triumphs in Yorkshire, has been winning golden opinions this week with her fine song-scena, *Waiting*, at the Canterbury and the Paragon, getting repeated and enthusiastic calls every night at both houses. Mlle. Corri's phenomenal and unbroken range of three octaves and five notes—from E in alt to the bass G, or five notes lower than any contralto has ever been known to take—is for the first time set forth in the programmes, and is, we believe, unique not only in our day, but also in the vocal records of past *prime donne*.

ON Monday, in the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Barton, in the matter of the Belfast Empire Theatre of Varieties and the Companies Act, Mr. Blood, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. William Findlater & Co.), applied under the 15th section of the Companies Act of 1900, for an order granting the directors liberty to register 500 debentures of £10 which by inadvertence had not been registered previously. After the company was started the debentures in question were issued, and were repayable in ten years, which term had expired in 1904. The secretary had approached the debenture holders with the object of getting the time for repayment extended for another ten years. The debenture holders had consented, and it would be, therefore, necessary to have the debentures, which had become practically new debentures, re-registered. This in no way would prejudice any outside creditors. Mr. Justice Barton made an order for the re-registration of the debentures, to be repayable at £11 in ten years from 1904.

MESSRS. KARR AND KOONEY, who are with Burton's Bohemians at South Shields, are making a huge success with Delmar and Burton's latest comedy song, "Seaside Louise," published by Feldman and Co. This song is a capital al fresco number, and will be in great demand for pantomimes.

THE wrestling match between Hackenschmidt, the world's champion, and M'Inerney, the Irish champion, for £50 offered by the Theatre Royal, Dublin, and £25 aside staked with the Dublin *Evening Mail*, was decided on Wednesday afternoon in the theatre mentioned. Ten minutes passed without a fall, but at the end of thirteen minutes the Irishman was in difficulties, and was thrown in 13min. 5secs. After a two minutes' interval the match was resumed, and a furious struggle ensued, the Irishman being "downed" at the end of 23min. 24secs. He was at once seen to be injured, and his opponent lent him a hand to rise. He immediately stumbled to the wings, and a scene of great excitement followed. After some minutes Mr. Morgan, Hackenschmidt's manager, returned and announced that M'Inerney was unable to continue the match, his shoulder being injured.

MR. CARL HERTZ has made a great success in New York with his novelty, "Belchazzar's Blackboard," in which the famous illusionist seems to have surpassed himself. The trick is performed with an ordinary blackboard, crossed with lines that form squares. Mr. Hertz hangs a square of cardboard in front of the board and then goes into the auditorium, requesting people to write questions. When he has gathered a sufficient number he returns to the stage and reads the questions one by one, upon which the answers appear separately on the board, written in chalk. It is one of the most puzzling illusions ever shown in the city, great pains being taken to show that there is no apparent connection between the board and its surroundings. Mr. Hertz opened at Proctor's 23rd Street Theatre, and his success was so great that he was offered forty weeks' engagement in America from September, but as he is all booked up in England, commencing in August, he has had to refuse the glowing salaries offered.

ON Saturday last Wm. Symonds' roundabouts and amusements visited Mitcheldean, where good business was done.

NEWENT Foresters' Fête was held on Monday. Symonds' roundabouts, Biddall's bioscope, and numerous other shows were in attendance, and proved, as usual, a great attraction. The weather was beautifully fine, and the attendance good.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

MR. R. MADGE, who some time ago met with an accident while employed as a scene-shifter at the New Theatre, and brought an action for compensation for injuries sustained, has accepted an offer to settle his claim for the sum of £35, including costs.

The Era Tug-of-War Shield, for which a special case has been made, has been despatched to Dublin for the holders, the Empire Team. Mr. P. Sheridan, electrician at the Crown Theatre, who has just returned from his native city, Dublin, reports that he was asked to inform the Sports Committee that if the Shield was not despatched forthwith, the team would come over and collect it.

AT the committee meeting of the general staff branch of the National Association of Theatrical Employés, held on Wednesday, the quarterly financial statement to June 30th, with the auditors' report, was submitted and accepted. The accounts show that the death claims paid during the quarter totalled £20, the sick claims paid were £7 15s., and benevolent grant £3 7s., leaving a gross balance of £1,121 14s. 11d.

THE stage staff of the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, should be complimented on the way the theatre was decorated during the recent visit of the King to that city, the King drawing the attention of Queen Alexandra to the effect produced.

THE Amalgamated Musicians' Union are bringing to fruition their long-considered scheme of a club for their members in London. The society has secured commodious premises in the vicinity of Leicester-square, and will provide the usual advantages of a social club, billiard tables, reading rooms, dining rooms, and offices for the business of the society. It is expected that the club will be ready for opening in September.

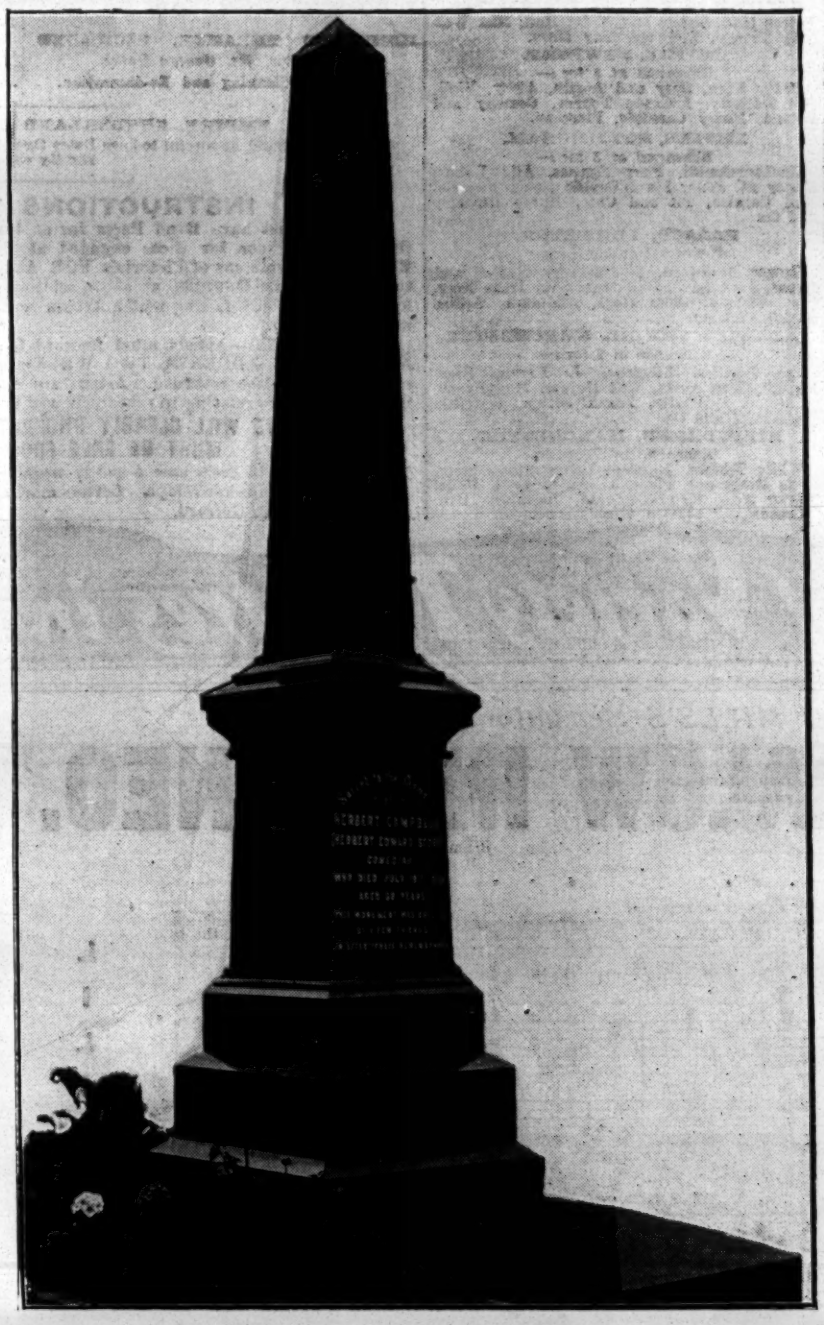
THE third annual staff outing of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, was held at Bidford-on-Avon last Sunday, when the efforts and arrangements of the popular chief and proprietor, Mr. Lester Collingwood, for the behoof of his employees and friends evoked praise and gratitude all around. Starting at 9 a.m. from Snow Hill in special saloons, well and thoughtfully provided with refreshments, the party was taken as far as Stratford, after which brakes were requitioned to complete the journey to Bidford by road, which proved most enjoyable. At the dinner, which was served promptly and most satisfactorily by Host Butler, at the White Lion, the health of the chairman, Mr. Lester Collingwood, was drunk with real acclamation, and his response to the sensible and cogent remarks made in his honour showed a deep appreciation of the same.

The weather was gloriously fine, and the beauty of the surrounding country, and the rare facilities for boating, made an ideal day. Moreover, a fishing contest added to the interest, and here, Mr. Fred Bernardo was the lucky winner of a handsome Vienna clock, Mr. Taylor coming in second for a pretty pair of vases. The party was duly photographed and afterwards regaled with a substantial tea, returning by road to Stratford in good time to stroll round and admire, reaching Birmingham at 9.30 in the evening. The party numbered nearly sixty friends and employees, including Mr. Albert Bushell, Mr. H. Wallis, Mr. H. Calver, Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, Miss Mary Brammer, Miss Helen Holmes, Miss L. Jephcott, Mr. R. J. Montgomery ("Monty") W. Gay, J. Sharp, J. Clamp, etc.

MR. PHILIP SHERIDAN, the electrician of the Crown Theatre, Peckham, has just returned after a fortnight's holiday in Ireland, of which he is a native. One dark night, in Kilkenny, he, with Mrs. Sheridan and her sister, lost their way whilst taking a "short cut" with their bicycles across the fields. Without knowing it, they had a narrow escape, having been in a field which contained a ferocious bull, owned by Mrs. Sheridan's uncle, for over an hour.

THE Torquay Theatre staff, accompanied by Mr. W. H. Mortimer, managing-director, had their annual outing on Saturday. Reaching Moretonhampstead by train, the party drove across the Moor to Princetown, partaking of luncheon on the way at the Warren. From Princetown, Plymouth was reached by rail, and there dinner was served, Mr. Mortimer presiding. At the call of Mr. A. Pearce, secretary, "The Managing-Director" was heartily drunk. Leaving Plymouth, home was reached by train at about 10.30, the day having been a most enjoyable one.

THE annual outing of the St. James's staff is reported as being most successful. The Empire staff outing, also, was most successful.



HERBERT CAMPBELL OBELISK.

The above is an illustration of the monument erected to the memory of the late Herbert Campbell. The handsome obelisk is the work of Messrs. Winters and Sons, of Abney-park. It is in red polished granite, and on the face has the following cut in clear gold letters:—

Sacred to the Memory of
HERBERT CAMPBELL
(Herbert Edward Story),
Comedian,
Who departed this life on July 19, 1904.
This monument was erected to his memory by a
few friends, in affectionate remembrance.

The memorial is erected very close to the entrance to the cemetery, from Stoke Newington-road, near to Stoke Newington Station on the G.E.R. and Alexandra Theatre.

The grave is very near to that of Nelly Power, George Leybourne, and Walter Laburnum.

MISS ANNETTE KELLERMANN.

Lady Channel Swimmer.

Miss Kellermann, the Australian lady swimmer who has gained so great a reputation for pluck, endurance, and skill by her attempts to swim the Channel, her exhibition at hundreds of natatoriums in the country, at the Hippodromes (aquatic) of the Moss Empires Company, at London, Liverpool, and Manchester, will shortly appear in a new rôle. She has always evinced the fact that she possesses largely the ready resource of her Australian compatriots, which rendered them so invaluable during the South African war, and owing to many proposals of a highly lucrative nature for addresses on her favourite subject, not feeling quite sure of such an undertaking, carefully thought out a scheme by which she can herself present the Channel swimming, Channel feeding, different styles of swimming. To this end the Urban Trading Company's best experts have been secured to work out this wonderful set of pictures, which go from sublime to ridiculous. Miss Kellermann will present her new turn for the first time at Margate on Monday next.

MR. DAVID DAY has just published a capital song, sung by Miss Florry Cooper, entitled "The Blind Boy and the Thrush," which pierrots should certainly not miss.

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Mr. George Scott (Manager), Alhambra, W.C., writes: "Many thanks for the little book to hand, which will prove of valuable assistance to me."
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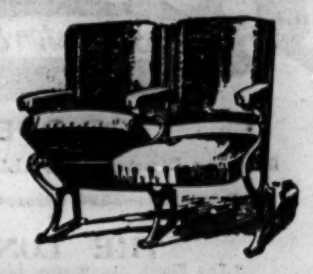

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JULY 23, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Flood," Automatos, Lios Alfas, Albertus and Millar, Jurgens Trio, Jas. H. Jee, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle. Olive, Jack Theo Trio, Kaufman Troupe, Iles, Antonio, Three Microcephalos, Bioscope, Lavater Lee, Lloyd Langdon.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Paul Cinquevalli, Two Madges, Conn and Conrad, Ruth Lytton, Lee and Bentley, Harry Freeman, Ike Scott and Son, George Formby, Vernando, J. A. Wilson, Peggy Pryde, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
John Lawson and Co. in "The Monkey's Paw," Bioscope, Cooke and Rothert, Lilian Lea, Beatrice Willey, Brett and Orford, Five Bogannys, Jack Pleasants, Goldini Trio, Caicedo.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Bessie Butt, Alfred Hurley, Three Romas, Brilliant and Brilliant, British Quartette, Duncan and Godfrey, Three Merrills, Dick Williams.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Hal Godfrey and Co., Mabel Sinclair, The Craggs, Bioscope, Millie Payne, Starr and Leslie, Casino Comedy Four, Harwood's Juveniles, Checkaboards, Inaudi.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Raku, Die Ober Steirers, Marie Reeve, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Dot Hardy, Harrigan and Holt, Edith Courtney, Georgina Leonard, Hermann Melot, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Tate, Mark Merry, Ross and Grayson, Frank Darwin, Nelson's Newsboys, Gertrude Bradshaw, Les Bastiens, Will Poluski, jun., E. J. Sheldon, Alexandre and Hughes.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
G. H. Elliott, Francis and Melli, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Harriett Vernon, Bioscope, O. K. Sato, Annie Abbott, Rezene and Robini, Ten Genis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
McNaughtons, Harry Weldon, Clown Barker, Nellie Martell, Alice Lloyd, Mignonette Kokin, Galetti's Monkeys, Althoffs, Maud Mortimer, Barowsky Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ernest Shand, Jagos, Binns and Binns, Tom Woottwell, Esta Stella, Pilu, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Will English, Mackweys, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Skirmishers," Maud Courtney, Johnny Gilmore, New York Nippers, Sutcliffe Troupe, Bioscope, Warsaw Bros., McConnells, Eily Adair, Nellie Coleman.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Rosie Archer, Howard and Collinson, Guy Ryder, Bioscope. Toledo and Price, The Raies, Johnson and Bert.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Orange Girl," Margaret Ashton, Deane Tribune Trio, Bioscope, Three Phydoras, Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, American Four, Maud Ross, Will Mitcham, Claire Beasy's Cats, Lockhart's Elephants.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moses and Son," Bioscope, Kathleen Cogan, Max York's Dogs, Cruikshank, Ludwig Amann.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
F. Ginnett and Co. in "Dick Turpin," Billy Tucker, Hanvaar and Lee, Stelling and Revell, Ernie Mayne, Bertha Palliser, Three Albions, Bros. Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Colby and May.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Arthur Lennard, Lizzie Fletcher, Spry and Monti, Bisera Troupe, Harris and Worth, Harry Grey, Cabaret's Dogs, Bioscope, Melody Makers.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Nipper Lane, Fox and Melville, Chas. Pastor, Peppo's Monkeys, Billy Hobbs, Talbot and Pierce, Bioscope, Queen and Le Brun.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
T. E. Dunville, Bernar's Fantoches, Glenroy Troupe, Techow's Cats, Edie King, Herbert Lloyd, Spot, Simms and Simms, Harry Ford, Helene and Emilon.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Fred Lincoln, Durant Bros., Barnard's Marionettes, Margaret Broadfoote, Carlton, George Reeves, Olive Trio, O'Gust, Therese Bros., Josef Adelmann.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Casey's Court," Elsie Robey, Rich and Rich, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Drew and Alders, Minnie Cunningham, Goltz Trio, Zanettos, Winifred Hare.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Griffiths Bros., Tally Ho Trio, The Tupps, Tatten Hall, Sisters Iris, J. W. Hall, Max Wesselly Troupe, Bioscope, May Mars.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Hetty King, Spry and Austin, Atroy, Violi, Pat Rafferty, Ambrose Thorne, Conway and Leland, Harry Carsdale, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Hackenschmidt, Four Figaros, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Flo D'Orville, Rosa Naynon, Will Cornish, Pit and Cute, Harry Roxbury and Co.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
George Lashwood, Flo Esdaile, Sanford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Remingtons, Abdullah Arabs, Madge Osmond.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ten Loonies, Bioscope, J. Heron, Brcs. Horne, Amba Austa, Will Haines, May Evans, Classicum Quartette, Frank Seeley, Harrison Brockbank and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Willie Edouin, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Belle Davis and Pices, James Stewart, Henri Taylor Trio, Sisters Oswald, Hamilton Hill, "Concordia," Gordon Highlanders.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

CLOSED FOR SUMMER VACATION.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Boissets, Chas. Craston, Pictures, J. P. Ling, Maggie Rimmer, Harry Thurston, Callie and Walker, Will Fredo, Howard Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Bransby Williams, Caselli Sisters, Rorellis, Fred Poplar, Howard and St. Clair, Kitty Wager, Felina and Grattan, Ina Lorrimer.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Poluski Bros., Lottie Govell, Brown and Robinson, Andy Fagan, Sisters Klos, Pictures, Vi Raynor, Norman and Leonard Trio.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Closed for Cleaning and Re-decoration.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Tina, Clementa, Bioscope, Lillian, J. W. Rickaby, Kashmar Bros., Myra Stansfield, Bros. Harrison, Florrie Gallimore.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Marie San Toi and Co., Johnny Dwyer, Bert Byrne, Will Toole, Dora Martini, Dolly Denton, Nellie Adams, Cissie Schofield, Sisters Mayo, Baker and Balfe, Olympian Quartette, Victor Travers, New Macs, Hale-Davis Combination, Doody and Wright, Les Henris, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Arthur Croxon, Fred Keeton, Chas. Williams, J. C. Kurry, Carlotta Levey, Flo Challis, Fatma Diard, Daisy Reed, Three Sisters May, Coon and Morris, Kelly and Gillette, Four Jumels, Curtis and Vanity, F. S. Peake and Co., Joe and Louis Love, Four Burnells, Marie San Toi and Co., Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"GOOD-BYE, MY LITTLE LONDON GIRL."

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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MR. ALAN W. YOUNG,
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EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, AND DISTRICT.
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MR. W. LEA,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, Alice Ormonde, R. W. Raby, Nash and Noel, Frank Wood, Dent and Dent, Five Olracs, Edgar Budden, Pauline Zaro, Pictures, Fred Earle.

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George Gilbey, Chas. Denton, Rose Harvey, Harry Claff, Marie Wilton, Rosina Casselli, C. Heney and Co., Sisters Tinsley, Prince Kuroki, Pictures, Haley's Juveniles.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, July 23, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp for
The Wakeman Quartette, Stave, Florence Schuberth, Tom E. Cliffe, Wyndham and Waters, Bert Woodward, Martine and Son, Miss Alice Blanford, Heeley and Meely.

PAVILION, GREENOCK.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
The Wyffs, Sisters Hall, J. H. Garland, P. T. Donald, The Pavoscope, Frances Haskoll.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled.
By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

PALACE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
CALL for Monday, July 23, 1906.
De Biere, Tom Dunmore, Hayman and Franklin, George Collins, Sisters Wingrove, Lily Morris, Bros. Lowenworth, Brown and Nevarro.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

The Firm of Waldon and Barrasford, the Proprietors of the Palace Theatre, Glasgow, has been dissolved of mutual consent as on March 31, 1906, by the retiral therefrom of the subscriber, Thomas Barrasford.

Rich. Waldon, the remaining Partner, continues to carry on the Palace Theatre alone as Sole Proprietor and Manager, and will receive payment of the debts due to, and will pay the debts due by, the dissolved Firm.

All Contracts with Artists made by Thomas Barrasford on behalf of the Palace Theatre, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and not yet completed, will be carried out by Rich. Waldon.

(Signed) RICH. WALDON.
(Signed) THOMAS BARRASFORD.
Glasgow,
June 5, 1906.

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Leslie Reed, Ernest D'Almaine.
Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt.

SYD BECKETT, Pianist and Accompanist.
HARRY BARKER, Acting-Manager.
HARRY BARTLETT, Stage Manager.

THE CLACTON PALACE BY THE SEA.
All Artists holding contracts for the above, bearing the signature of me, the undersigned, Harry Reymond Nathan, will please note that such contracts were signed by me under or by virtue of an agreement dated the 12th June last and made between Henry Ford of the one part and myself of the other part, whereby I was appointed Manager of the above for the term of three years from the 9th June last with full power to book and engage all artists on behalf of the said Henry Ford. Dated this 19th day of July, 1906.
H. R. NATHAN.

PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, CLACTON.

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CALLS

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 23, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Dora Lyric, Billy French, Daisy Lane, Diana Hope and Co., Daley and Collins, Harry Carmen, Pallister's Bioscope. Matinée Thursday.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Closed. Re-opening Aug. 6.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Percy Curry, Jessie Watson, Carlotta de Yonson and Co., Frank Cumminger, Sisters Daventry, Harry Royde, Pallister's Bioscope. Matinée Monday.

PALACE, BATH.
Closed. Re-opening Aug. 6.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Douglas and Ford, Sam Veld, the Jalvans, Millie Denham, Edie Gray and Coons, the Arleys Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, T. Francis O'Flynn. Matinée Thursday.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
McDonald and Huntingdon, Gertie Moore, Rozel, Leah Arden, the Donatos, Herbert Rule, Helm and Cozens, Dick Cruickshank and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. Matinées Thursday and Saturday.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Billy McClain, Mdme. Cordelia and Co., Ena Latonne, Downes and Langford, Fields and Lewis, Hyram Travers, Troupe La Faille, Herbert Clifton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. Matinée Thursday.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Adams and Ward, Lily Gaston, E. O. Fitzgerald, Leo. Lester's Dogs, Fyne and Hurley, Osborn and Brookes, Belrose and De Velin, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Kate Carney and Co., Cissie Dryden, Arthur Slater, Leslie Bell and Lily Pearl Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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PALACE, BOW.
Miss Josephine Colona presents a Dramatic episode, in three scenes, "Ye Ladye Godiva," produced under the personal direction of Mr. Frederic Baugh, Fanny Humber, A. E. Clifford, Little Ada Merry, Ada Parker, Dave O'Toole, "A Faithless Wife," by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Milsted and Bell, Vera Mayne, Sisters Melba, Will Johnson, Vay's Juveniles. Telephone, 417 East. Matinée every Monday.

THE BRITANNIA.
Geo. M. Marriott's Company, in the Sensational Irish Sketch, "A True Irish Girl," Chas. Lilburn, Barrington, Jack and May McKenzie, Conway and Garland, Gus. Garrick, the Grand Prix Motor Races, 1906, by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bert Bowden, Ivy Lozelle, Harry Tate's "Motoring." Telephone, 7285 Central. Matinée Monday.

FORESTERS.
Messrs. Armadale and Warren's Co., in the Sensational Sketch, "The Face at the Window," Hans and Lux, Ellis and Watts, Rose Stanley, Eva Hope, Jack Wayho and Co., in Scenes from the works of the late Chas. Dickens, Mabel Le Roy, Adeline Yohle, "Dolly's Doll," by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Jenny Belmore, King Leo, the Rushforths, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden present James Willard and Company, in an entirely original Music Hall Sketch, "Did He Deserve It?" Telephone, 5954 Avenue. Matinées Monday and Thursday.

SADLER'S WELLS.
The Vaudeville, Dramatic, and Comedy Co. (Business and Stage-Manager, Mr. Ernest Wingfield), in a new Sensational Mystic Sketch, "The Travellers from the Tomb," Bros. Risto, Lidden and Hayward, Sisters Varley, Playfair and Nickola, Moon and Morris, "Adventures of Captain Mashem," by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Edwards and Dacre, the Almos, Sam Ives, Davis and Gledhill Trio, in their latest Cycle and Motor-paced Sensation, Grand Mile Riding Competition, first prize £1 10s., second £1, third prize 10s.; final on Friday, second house. Telephone, 5890 Central. Matinée every Monday.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.

Important First Production of the Great Pantomime Sketch, entitled "A Celebrated Case," Mr. Frank Lister as Tom, supported by Miss Cissy Farrell, Mr. J. C. Aubrey, Mr. Ernest Owttrim; Burnetti, Mona McDonald, Gilbert Girls, Lillie Lassah, Harry Anderson, "Rich for One Day," by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Flo. Wood, Fred Erick, Marlo, Fred Moule and E. D. Nichols' Co., in a new Laugho-Mello-Dramette, entitled "That Dreadful Detective." Telephone, 1460 Hop. Matinée every Monday.

Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.
All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield."

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A doctor and assistant are carefully making up pills. The assistant, though working hard while his master is present, shows himself not over eager for work on his departure. A boy who comes into the room by way of the window enters into conversation with the assistant, which seems to afford them much pleasure. While the doctor's "right hand" is gazing out of the window, the boy with evident delight goes to a cupboard, and taking out a very large bottle, which apparently is pretty full, doses well all the pills recently made. The good doctor is standing at his shop door, where he has advertised in a prominent manner his drops, &c., for invigorating and giving energy to all. A buxom lady going hastily into the shop makes a purchase of pills, and goes quickly and excitedly home. Upon arriving there she discloses herself as a cook, and after getting dinner ready brings out her recent purchase for a little "stimulant" before serving. Unfortunately, holding the box over the soup, in her agitation she spills the whole contents, and they quickly dissolve.

A special dinner party is taking place, and with healthy appetites the diners sit round the table eager for a good meal. The butler innocently brings in the soup, of which they all partake pretty freely. The effect on them is soon seen to be quite true to the worthy doctor's description, for it certainly does invigorate and excite them tremendously.

The pillmaker is once more seen standing at the shop door, and is approached by our friends who have lately dined, and with more than necessary violence they illustrate that his goods in their case have been much too effective.

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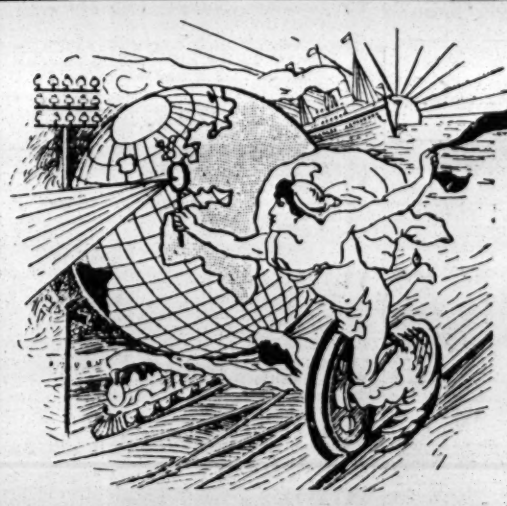

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, Feb. 4, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 10, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, 19, 26, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Aug. 27, Dec. 17, April 1, 22, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Feb. 25, March 18, April 1, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1, 15, 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 8, onwards.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS
WANTED, Dramas and Musical Companies, Aug. 6 (?), Sept. 24, Dec. 3. HERBERT VERE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 13, 20. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. L. CARSON, Keighley.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
Aug. 13, 20,
Sept. 3 (?), 10,
Oct. 29, and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Big Attractions for Christmas and New Year's weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, Big Attraction,
Aug. 20, Flower Show Week.
Managers requiring a profitable week, try this one.
Only vacant dates, Aug. 20 Dec. 3, 17.
Booking, '07. Big Attractions New to Blyth audiences, please apply.
A. C. MOODY, Lessee and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Aug. 20, for any High-class Attraction.
WM. MORTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Aug. 20, Dec. 10, Vacant through Transfer.
Only Open Dates this Year.
Address, Mr. HARRY YORKE, T. Royal, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 13 (six nights), Aug. 20 (three), Aug. 27 (four), Sept. 3 (six ?), Sept. 13 (three), Sept. 17 (three), April 24 (three).
Address, EDWARD MICHAEL, T. R., Canterbury.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 13 (3 nights), Sept. 17 (6 nights), and Sept. 27 (3 nights). Apply at once, Mr. F. C. DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating with "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 3; good terms to good companies. T. C. RAWES, as above.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, STOURBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1 (3 nights), various onward. ALHAMBRA DUDLEY PORT, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 22, on. Address, PHELPS, Stourbridge.

GRAND THEATRES,
CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 13, 20, Oct. 29, Grand, Chorley; also Autumn, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, for a few Remaining Autumn Dates. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, Sterling Attraction for Oct. 8, owing to transfer, to oblige Mr. Dance; also Nov. 26, Cattle Show week. SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

WANTED, Company, Monday, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, through breaking up of Company.
W. W. BRIERLEY, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Preston, First-class Attraction, for Aug. 20.
Address, STEPHEN PRITT.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Aug. 27 (3 nights), Sept. 24, Oct. 4 (3 nights), Nov. 12 (3 nights), Nov. 19, and Dec. 3. Apply, STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, Good Co.'s, of every Description, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, onwards, for Treherbert and Maesteg, three or six nights each. Trade good. POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, first-class companies, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, 15, and 22. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Feb. 11, 25.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Dec. 17, March 25.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant July 16, 23, 30.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 20, 27 (last three nights of week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20, Oct. 8.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 24.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 8.

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 17, 24.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, No. 1 Musical Comedies, for the only two Vacant Dates this year, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, through obliging. A few Spring and Autumn Dates, 1907, left.
Bookings include:—"Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl" No. 1, "Veronique," "Trip to the Highlands," "The Bauble Shop," "La Poupee," "Amorelle," "The Night of the Party," "Breed of the Treshams," Moody-Manners No. 1 Co., "The Orchid," "Claudian," "The Little Michus," "Harlequin King," "Sign of the Cross," "Prince of Pilsen," "Sherlock Holmes," "Peggy Machree," F. R. Benson's Repertoire Co., F. R. Benson's "Midsummer Night's Dream," J. F. Elliston's Pantomime "Dick Whittington," "Bluebell in Fairyland," &c., &c.
All communications to
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Lessee, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical preferred, Sept. 3, 4, 5, Dec. 10, 11, 12.
Only Vacant Dates this Season.
Address, WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-st., Strand.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 13, 20, and 27.

Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, S.W.

NEW COURT THEATRE, BACUP.
WANTED, Dramatic, Musical, or Star Variety, Aug. 13, 20, 27. Nothing too big; terms proportionate. Electrical supply in theatre if required. Bookings now include companies never yet secured in the Rossendale Valley. The premier theatre.—Vide Press. Under a personal management. Wire, write, DENMAN WOOD.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
An Elegant and Successful Theatre.
WANTED, High-class Companies for September; also Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 5, 26.
Good Pantomime for January, 1907.
Address, J. P. MOORE, Theatre, West Bromwich.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 5, 19, and 26, Only Vacant Dates this Season.
Address, WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

EASTBOURNE PIER.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 27, 28, and 29 (through Cancellation of Tour), Oct. 29, Nov. 19, and various dates, onwards. Please address, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Shows, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov. 12, 19.
Address, JAMES BELL.

LYCEUM THEATRE,
STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 13, and on. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, September onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24. Managers please note these are the only dates I have vacant this year. Fast filling up 1907. Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for the Opening Date, after Extensive Alterations, Aug. 13, 14, 15. Apply, DAVID WILLIAMS.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
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THEATRES WANTED.

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"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
TOM TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, onwards. A magnificent Production. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Crown Theatre, Peckham (Return).

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
A Big Success. The Entire Production Carried.
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, onwards. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Palace Pier, Brighton.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 30, Sept. 3 17, Oct. 15. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vac. Sept. 3, 24, Nov. 5, and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, onwards, with exceptions,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Entirely New and Elaborate Production of "IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
By Arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright.
First-class Company. Everything Carried.
Notice.
Legal proceedings will be immediately instituted against any person performing this piece without licence from Mr. Samuel James.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

A Startling Novelty at Last.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24, and 1907.
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Spectacular Production of "AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Autumn Bookings:—
Grand, Islington; Alex., Hull; T. R., Sheffield; Palace, Newcastle; Rotunda, Liverpool; Junction and Osborne, Manchester; Princess's and Lyceum, Glasgow; Aston (pencil), Smethwick (pencil).
Every Scene and Property Carried. Two Suites of Furniture, Two Carpets, all Borders, &c.
The most Complete Production ever Toured.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, September 17 and October 15.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play produced during the year 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only, Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S COMPANY,
in
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Aug. 16 (three nights, between Ramsgate and Brighton), Sept. 24 (North),
Oct. 8 (between London and Plymouth),
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY,
22, Charing Cross, S.W.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15.
New scenery, new dresses, and uniforms.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Junction Theatre, Manchester (return).

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Aug. 16, 17, 18, to follow Aberystwith; also Aug. 27. Enthusiatic reception of new production. Band for parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Royal, Scarboro'; next, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Nov. 26 and Dec. 24, only vacant dates this year.
EUGENE BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Aug. 13 (North or Midlands), Sept. 3 (Midlands or South).
H. HOLLISTER, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
The Greatest Dramatic Success of the Times.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 4, Oct. 1.
Address, Mr. WALTER J. BAYLISS, 29, Winifred-grove, Clapham Common, London General-Manager for Mr. Harry Yorke.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Aug. 13 (3 nights), Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 12.
Address,
Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 22, 29.
"FLORODORA."
"OLIVER TWIST."
Aug. 20, Sept. 13 and 17 (three nights each).
Also Various Spring Dates Vacant.
"ETERNAL CITY," Nov. 12.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.'S.
"A LIFE'S STORY" and "A MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE." By arrangement with Mr. Fred Benton. Exceptionally strong cast including Rubie Maude, Susie Beavan, Augusta Tullock, Stanley Carlton, Edward Fryer, Wilton Marsh, J. Brunelle Harvey, R. Henry Hendon, Fred Richards, &c., &c. Fourteen recognised artists, all carefully selected for their parts. Magnificent plant of Pictorials by Messrs. Culliford and Sons, Ltd., 15 Posters, 6 D.C. Lithos, all specially cut. Special Scenery by E. Egerton, of Bradford. Bank Holiday Muncaster, Bootle.
WANTED, Theatres, for Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15 (?), to precede Dundee, on, with exceptions. Christmas and few Spring dates. 12, Brook-road, Bootle.

MISS MARY NEIL'S and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston) and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby), must be First-Class Theatres and give equitable terms.
GEO. KIRK, this, Hippo., Wigan;
next, Rotunda, Liverpool.

MISS KATIE JOHNSON and MR. FRANK G. BAYLY'S CO.
"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 6 (3), Sept. 10. This week, T. R., Yarmouth; next, Town Hall, Cromer, Opera House, Buxton.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 15. Wire for Aug 6. Wire. Wire. Wire.
EDWARD SURREY, to-day, T. R., Leicester;
next, King's, Cardiff.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Sept. 10, 17, 24.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 20 and 27, and Feb. 4, for the above record pantomime.
HARRY FISCHER, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

THEATRES WANTED.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of fifteen experienced Artists, headed by MR. HARRY CULLENFORD as KARL.
MISS VIOLET CARLYLE as NADIA.
Bookings include:
DERBY,
ST. HELENS,
SHEFFIELD (ROYAL),
BRADFORD (PRINCE'S),
SCARBOROUGH (ROYAL),
SWINDON, JARROW,
DEWSBURY,
BARROW, MEXBOROUGH,
LIVERPOOL (QUEEN'S), HULL (ALEX.),
ROTHERHAM, SWANSEA (STAR),
LINCOLN, LUTON, SALFORD, ABERDARE,
YARMOUTH, BURNLEY, BARNSLEY,
OLDHAM, CASTLEFORD, KIDDERMINSTER,
WALSALL, MANCHESTER, &c.
New Scenic Effects specially painted for this production by Egerton, Bradford.
Unrivalled Plant of Pictorials and Catchy Letterpress (twenty-five varieties).
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 24, only vacant dates this year.
Refer M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens.
Refer J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury.
Refer T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby.
Refer J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield.
Who say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"THE CONSCRIPT" specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Address all coms., this, Q. T., Liverpool;
next, P. O. W. T., Salford.

WANTED, for Aug. 6, 7, and 8, Good Theatres between London and Llandudno, for Mr. FREDERICK KERR, Miss GRANVILLE, Mr. COMPTON COUTTS, and Miss MAY PALFREY,
supported by a Powerful London Co., in a new Light Comedy, by Arthur Law (author of "The New Boy," "A Country Mouse," &c., &c.).
Managers booking this Attraction are not taking a scratch company for a summer Tour, but the identical company that returns to open in the West-End early in September.
Also Wanted, Aug. 20 and 27.

Wire immediately,
RICHARD MAYNARD,
15, Bury Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, and 27.
Suitable to every class of Theatre.
Played at O. H., Harrogate, July 12, 13, and 14, to close on £100 gross. Refer Mr. Peacock.
Superb Cast. Elegantly Costumed.
Crowded with Mystic Effects.
Also, "THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
Booked and re-booked at the best Dramatic Houses. Refer Mr. Cullen, Thornley; Mr. Percival, Dundee.
Fourth Visit with both Plays to both Theatres.
Wire, LOIE ESMOND, Empire, Dundee,
To-day, and next (holiday) week, July 23.

Mr. THOMAS McKENZIE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, from Sept. 17, onwards, for the celebrated Comedy,
"MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE,"
by Hubert Henry Davies.
London West-end Company.
All communications addressed to 11, Jermyn-street, London, W. Telegrams, "Stirpes, London." Telephone, 6534 Gerrard.

MR. GILBERT HERON'S COMPANY.
"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER,"
From the Waldorf Theatre, London, by Arrangement with the Messrs. Shubert and Mr. Cyril Maude.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, from July 30, onward.
All communications to
Mr. THOMAS J. PHILLIPS, General Business-Manager, 8A, Cato-road, High-road, Clapham, S.W.

"TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."
WANTED, Sept. 24, only Vacant Date; must be North. HARRY FISCHER, Grand T., Edinburgh.

The New Romantic Servian Drama,
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
WANTED, Aug. 13 (to follow Crewe), through obliging Frank Macnaghten, Esq., Oct. 1 and 8. JAMES HARE, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3 and 17 (L. and Y. preferred), Musical Versions of above Plays. Powerful Co. Special Scenery and Pictorials. HERBERT BARRS, Queen's T., Fleetwood.

E. H. KNIGHT AND GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 15, Xmas Week. GEORGE DENHAM,
7, The Crescent, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, High-Class Theatres for Mr. H. F. Maltby and Co., "The Youngest of Three," Aug. 13 and 27, Sept. 3 (?), Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 19, also Spring. WYN WEAVER, King's T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 6, for "His Excellency the Governor," preceded by "A Waste of Time." Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Marsh Allen, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. Charles Brown, &c. Address, BERTRAM, "Killarney," Lewisham, London, S.E.

WANTED, through Transfer, to Oblige, for "THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH,"
Aug. 20, Oct. 1, April 8, May 6, 13, 20.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

Mr. E. Graham-Falcon thanks the following managers for offers of dates:—Messrs. John Hart, G. T. Minshull, Milton Bode, C. Machin, J. R. Huddlestone, Robert Arthur, P. Davey, W. H. Westwood, F. Warden, Mrs. Gunn, Hugh Robertson, J. H. Saville, John Horgan, &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Autumn entirely filled except Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 26. All dates till Easter booked, except Feb. 4, 11, March 4 (north, or between Sunderland and Glasgow). Can arrange special two or four weeks at Christmas.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-eighth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., 1907.
WANTED, Aug. 20. Wire for Aug. 20. Sept, 3, in or near London.
Oct. 22 (though obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Aug 6, on, for this Success.
New printing.
Excellent cast.
STUART CLEVELAND, Grand Theatre, Newcastle.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 15, Xmas (?).
Address, during vacation,
JOHN B. SHINTON, Elm Dene, Tuebrook, Liverpool.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, onward.
DICKIE CLARE,
Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SERVAIS LE ROY'S TOUR.
WANTED, Theatres for
A modern Mystical Play (a three hours' show), supported by
LE ROY, TALMA, and BOSCO,
and First-class Company.
Oct. 29 (six nights), probably vacant, through misunderstanding.
Offers invited
for
the Season's Novelty.
All coms. to W. SCOTT PHIPP
(Manager for Servais Le Roy),
2, Loraine-mansions, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Theatres, Piers, Music Halls, &c., for the U.S.A. and Western Canadian Animated Picture Co. Terrific success, nine weeks, Circus, Hull, and crowded houses nightly, Circus, Carlisle. Address, PAYNE, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Tour, on a most elaborate scale, commences August B.H., West London Theatre.
Aug. 27, Sept. 10, 24, various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
This, Queen's, Manchester; next, Court, Warrington, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15, various, on.
"SAINTS AND SINNERS" and
"MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"A ROYAL REVENGE,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 3, various, on.
"JEANNIE DEANS" and "ROB ROY."
(John Clyde and Special Cast),
Feb. 11, 18, various, on.
"THE KING'S SECRET,"
Oct. 1, onwards.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

FRED PAUL'S CO.
"THE LORD OF THE LAST."
By Arrangement with Hardie and Von Leer.
WANTED, through Misunderstanding.
First-class Theatre,
Aug. 27.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Tele., "Vagancy, London." Tel. No. 7504 Gerrard.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, on. Wire, CHAS. BERESFORD, 53, Greyfriars-rd., Reading.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Dramatic and Variety Artists, all Lines, for Autumn Tours, and Panto. Send Permanent Address, Full Particulars. Dramas and Sketches, by C. A. Clarke to Let. Tours Booked. All Branches of Dramatic and Variety Business Negotiated. RICHARD CASS's Agency, 30, Maiden-lane Strand. 300 Chorus Ladies Required.

WANTED, for London Suburban Theatre, Aug. 6, Principals, for "Uncle Tom's Cabin," coloured artists, with own songs, glees, duets, dances, &c., good troupe preferred, large trained dogs to take the seize. Lowest terms, no fancy prices, to Box 3,491, "The Era."

GRAND OPERA "BIJOU" COMPANY, LTD.
WANTED, Principals, Chorus, and Orchestra, for Tour of the above Company, commencing next September. All applications to be addressed, BIJOU OPERA, Second Floor, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies for Musical Comedies and Pantos. Also Dancers. Photos. and terms to F. WELCH, Poste Restante, Folkestone.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Experienced Leading Man, Heavy Man, also Smart Comedian and Chambermaid, both able to sing. Stock season. Send full particulars, lowest summer terms, and photos.,
WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Young, Sympathetic Juvenile Lady, to rehearse July 30. Photo., lowest terms, latest references, C. M. JULIAN, till Sunday, R. T., Morecambe; after, Prince's, Bradford.

Mr. THOMAS McKENZIE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, for Xmas and Spring Tour, First-class Singing Soubrette, with London and Provincial Name, for New Musical Comedy; also a well-known Comedian. Fullest particulars by letter only to Mr. A. BINGHAM (Manager for Mr. Thomas McKenzie), 11, Jermyn-street, London.

WANTED, Known, Exceptional Opportunity offers for refined, well dressed amateur lady, in autumn tour of West-end success; small premium required, but salary from commencement; must be seen personally. Apply, first instance, X., Box 3,487, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, a Leading Lady or Gentleman by a well-known London Manager, who would be willing to invest £300 in the Provincial Rights of a Big London Success. Exceptional opportunity. Address, Box 3,490, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies for Dramas, Clever Child for Boy, Principal Boys and Girls. Photos. and terms to F. WELCH, Poste Restante, Folkestone.

WANTED, a Good Leading Lady, to Play in Sketches; must be young and experienced. Send lowest terms, St. Martin's Hall, Plymouth.

E. H. KNIGHT AND GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Tall Young Actor for De Coucou, Powerful Juvenile Man, Good Emotional Actress, tall handsome Heavy Lady. Apply, full particulars, photos., GEORGE DENHAM, 7, The Crescent, Barnes.

KING'S THEATRE, HOXTON.
WANTED, Young Powerful Leading Man; must be good, quick study, for Stock Season at above. Open Bank Holiday. Address, F. DUDMAN BROMWICH, Eton Hotel, Adelaide-road, N.W. Letters only, marked "Lead."

"A LONDON ACTRESS" CO.
WANTED, Smart Juvenile Gentleman, Special Fortnight, Rehearse, Newcastle, July 25, Autumn Engagement if Suitable, Lowest Terms, Photo, and Full Particulars to STUART CLEVELAND, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, to open Aug. 6, First-class Heavy Man (tall); must dress part thoroughly well. Age, height, references, and terms to H. HOLLISTER, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

WANTED, Character Actors, for Luke Ramsden and Beppo (touring); also Comedian for London. Full particulars,
W. E. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, a Smart Young Actor, capable of playing straight female characters and a juvenile lead, in a music hall sketch. Apply by letter, stating full particulars, DENE, 66, Doddington-grove, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Gentleman, to play responsibles and character, also small parts. Full particulars, HOWARD ASHLEY, 18, Welford-st., Barry, Cardiff.

KING'S THEATRE, HOXTON.
WANTED, young, clever Comedian, good study, for Stock at above. Open Aug. Holiday. Address, F. DUDMAN BROMWICH, Eton Hotel, Adelaide-road, N.W.

WANTED, Dashing Light Comedian, for Fred Granville's Enterprises, with speciality, for Dolly, "For Better or Worse," C. CALDCLEUGH, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Good Heavy Gentleman; also Baggage Man. Send last two references, lowest terms, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Good Responsible and Light Comedy Gents., sketch, one week, probably longer, open Bolton. Lowest terms, photos., ANDRE, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, "Life's Sweetest Sins," Gentleman, small juvenile part, long tour. Photos., refs., with addresses, T. ARTHUR JONES, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs in well-established Dramatic Company for Amateur Gentleman to play Light Comedy Part and learn duties Acting-Management; small salary commencement. Particulars, Box 3,464, "The Era."

WANTED, Clever Child Actress, Small; must sing. Lowest terms, references, photos., HENRY L. OSMOND, Prince's T., Blackburn.

WANTED, Immediately, by West-

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Girls, with Good Voices, for Good Suburban Tour, Must be Young, and Attractive; also Good Tenors and Basses. Apply Personally Immediately, FRED DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand (opposite Tivoli).

WANTED, to Open at Once, Young, Powerful Contralto Vocalist. State age, photo., list of songs, lowest terms for ten months' tour; must join on receipt of wire. Fare arranged; all stage dresses found. LEON VINT, 29, Bedford-road, St. Ives, Cornwall.

WANTED, at Once, Smart International Lady Dancers. Apply, EDWARD CRANSTON, Percy Hall, Percy-st., Tottenham Court-rd., Wed. next, 3 to 4.

WANTED, immediately, for Paris, Young Clever Acrobatic Dancers. Call (practice dress), Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11 till 1. POME, The Ship, Kennington-road.

WANTED, a Few First-class Lady Dancers, immediate work for suitable dancers. SIDNEY DOOLEY, 55A, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Youth (15), train for sketches and dramas; board, residence, free; small premium. Letters, photos., TUTOR, Box 3,472, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, the Pier Pavilion, Ryde. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, the J. V. Musical Party, for concerts, bazaars, drawing-rooms, &c. The refined and up-to-date entertainers, in humorous quartettes, duets, solos, and sketches. All communications, 25, Broomfield-avenue, Palmer's Green.

WANTED, Known, Pianist and Humorist at Liberty. World's Record-holder for Piano-playing, gold medallist. Wire, MAC, Post Office, Abergele, N. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Good Bass would like to join good concert party; fine voice, has studied with well-known masters. Apply, Box 3,473, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, experienced, very large Répertoire; can play piano. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-street, Hendon, N.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, First-class Principal Boy and Girl, Second Ditto (double turn), Demon, Fairy, and good double-turn Comedians. Write, E. EDMUNDS, 127, Camberwell-road, S.E.

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN WALTER'S PANTO. TOUR. WANTED, for Autumn and Winter Tour, Comedians for Baron and Dame; must be experienced; rehearse Aug. 20. Tour commences Aug. 27, 30 weeks' engagement. Also Smart Juveniles, Girls, age from 14 to 18. J. WALTERS, 78, Warley-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, the following, for Pantomime:—A First-class Stage-Manager, to produce; Principal Boy, Principal Girl, Chorus Ladies, Comedians for Abanazar and Will Atkins.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Principals, Specialities, Chorus, &c. Send full particulars, height, photos., &c., to JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians, Liberty for panto. Last Xmas, Smith's "Aladdin." Any character, ruffians preferred. Address, ASTLEY'S CADETS, Fleetwood.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts, for High-class, Effective Scenery, at lowest prices. CARLYLE SCENIC STUDIO, W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, concluding special engagement, Palace, Grimsby, at Liberty for August. Address, 23, Eleanor-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c., experienced, quick, moderate charges. W. HENRY, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Resident Acting-Manager; must be thoroughly up in bars and advertising. Will all applicants please accept silence a polite negative? Address, with references and terms, MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager, also Musical Conductor, for Provinces. Apply, stating age, salary required, and giving names and addresses for references, to OSWALD STOLL, Cranbourn-mansions, W.C.

PALACE, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, First-class Working Stage-Manager; permanency if suitable.
State age, salary, and references.
WALTER GILBERT, Manager.

WANTED, Acting-Manager, for Small Theatre (North). Lowest terms and refs., STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-rd., Carlisle. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour of "The Silver King," thoroughly competent and experienced Business-Manager. Full particulars, references, &c., WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand. Letters only.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.
WANTED, a First-class Caterer who can cater for large number of visitors at reasonable price. Hippodrome and gardens open 11 till 11. To start immediately. ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Caterer."

WANTED, Electrician, for Lyceum T., Govan, Glasgow, commence early in August, young, steady, reliable, conscientious man required, fully qualified in stage electric work, with knowledge of oxygen tanks. Write, stating age, references, experience, and lowest terms, to J. H. OAKDEN, c/o Palace T., Glasgow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Pier Manager. State full particulars of qualification, salary required, &c., to Box 3,494, "The Era."

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Practical Theatre Electrician, to open July 30; a permanency to sober, reliable man. Terms and latest references, C. DENLEY, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, First-class Electrician, for the Coventry Hippodrome, can commence immediately. Apply by wire, stating lowest terms, to T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, First-class Stage Carpenter, for Autumn Season.
Apply, with terms and references,
MILTON BODE,
County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, a thoroughly Experienced Stage Carpenter; must have own tools, and know how to use them, willing to make himself useful, assist billing, &c. Latest references, age, terms, &c., apply, MARK H. LINDON, New Theatre, Royal, Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, a Good Stage Carpenter, for Tour, "Trip to the Highlands"; also Resident Property Master, who can model. Lowest terms, refs., &c., HARRY FISCHER, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, sober, useful Man, Carpenter, Electrician, and can paint a little, three weeks, Ilfracombe. Open at once.
Wire,
CISSIE LAWSON, Hippodrome, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter, Permanency to Sober, Steady Man, non-unionist, London Suburban Theatre. Box 3,474, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Reliable Carpenter, or Property Man. Address, with lowest terms and latest references, JULIAN MALVERN, Royalty, Morecambe.

BILLPOSTERS.
WANTED, at Once, a few Competent Roundsmen; if suitable, will be permanent.
Apply, with references, to
DAVID ALLEN and SONS, Billposting, Ltd.,
22, William-street South, Belfast.

WANTED, Bill Inspector; must be smart and hardworking, willing to assist at night. Apply, with full particulars, references, and lowest terms for permanency, to ALBERT C. DUNCAN, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, Billposters, Three Smart Young Men who understand their Business, and capable of taking charge of Branches.
Apply,
with full particulars,
SHEFFIELD'S, LIMITED, Birmingham.

WANTED, Billposter; permanent to good all-round man. Apply, stating wages, refs., age, TYNE AND WEAR BILLPOSTING Co., LTD., 95, High-street West, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Billposter. Good references indispensable.
Apply, ROCKLEY'S, LTD., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Experienced Picture Workers and Assistant Window Billers, to commence Aug. 6. POOLE, 9, Reform-street, Peterboro'.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, commencing Aug. 6, Picture Workers, good appearance, steady, obliging, and wear uniform. References. Address, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Immediately, Wardrobe Mistress, or Capable Dressmaker, for a few days. Apply, Miss GEORGINA HAMILTON, 23, Vincent-square, Westminster.

WANTED, Known, W. Harrold, Stage-Manager, Poster-Writer, and Advertising-Manager, Disengaged. Address, 18, Sandringham-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, by Fred Lewis the Management of Theatre, Music Hall, &c., long London and provincial experience in all departments; first vacancy in nineteen years. Could invest in genuine concern. Liberty now or Autumn. Address, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Producer, to combine stage-management, and play character or juvenile; experienced. 47, Kellett-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Jim Morgan, carpenter, bench hand, own tools, age 30, just finished 40 weeks W. Armour, Esq., termination tour. 6, New-street, Mapplewell, Barnsley.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Carpenter, resident, now or autumn; tools, abstainer. Good refs. H. LEEDING, 11, Little Titchfield-st., London, W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by F. Dudley, as Carpenter, theatres or fit-ups, age 26, height 5ft. 8in., good refs. Address, 10, Moor-place, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Bill Inspector or Billposter; late P. Theatre, Glasgow; Pavilion, Edinburgh, sixteen years; touring and residential; abstainer; 32. LEONARD EMBERSON, 59, Grange-rd., Ilford, E.

WANTED, by Billposter, Young Man, Situation in Country; five years' experience; good refs. S. PERRALL, 97, Park-end, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, Situation, by Practical Experienced Leading Hand Billposter, age 28; good ladderman, good references. GREENWOOD, 42, Albert street, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Wardrobe Mistress seeks re-engagement, now or panto., references, cut, make; middle-age. Mrs. LACY, Bedford House, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, in Theatre or Music Hall, Town, as attendant, or for programmes. M. H., 24, Linden-grove, Peckham.

WANTED, by Young Widow (30), Engagement, as attendant, or for programme or dresser. F., 88, Kennington Park-road, London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, Good Pianist (resident), Library Modern Music, open Aug. 4. Terms, age, references, DENMAN-WOOD, Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Leader and Rép., also 'Cello, start Monday, Pav., Greenock. Wire lowest terms to HOWARD GALPIN, Musical-Director. Sobriety indispensable.

WANTED, for Empire, Ashton, Repetiteur and Viola, to open on Aug. 6. Apply, PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Shortly, First-class Musical-Director; must be experienced in variety business. References, terms, &c., to
E. DOTTRIDGE, Royal Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, at Once, for Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's Theatres, Glasgow,
Three First Violins, Viola, First Flute, Two Solo Cornets, Double Drummer (tympani found); none but first-rate, smart, and steady men need apply, to ALFRED CARPENTER,
Musical Director, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First Violin, to open Aug. 6, used to Varieties; evening dress. Lowest terms, references, LACY LYNE, Palace, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader), with good tone, from July 29. Address, MICHAEL CONNELLY, Musical-Director, Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Experienced First Violin, Viola, Flute, open Monday, July 30, for season. Lowest terms, &c., J. GARDNER, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Second Violin, to combine Brass, Flute and Piccolo, Euphonium, for Circus Business. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Violinist, Experienced Leader, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. Terms to WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, First Violin, Open July 30, for season.
GEO. ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, open Aug. 6, First Violin and Double Bass; and to open Sept. 3, 'Cello and Second Violin, to combine Piano. Lowest terms and references to W. J. ANDREWS, T. R., Huddersfield.

WANTED, Baker's Circus, Cornets, Horn, Trombone, Bombardon, used to Fair Business preferred. No fares advanced for long journeys. Those wrote before, write again. Ogmore Vale, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, at Once, for Ramsgate Town Band, Good Solo Clarionet, Bombardon, and Horn. Shares. Saw-grinders save stamps. HARRY YATES, Ship Inn.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, Trombone, or Double Bass; must be steady. Monday, Portumna; Tuesday, Borrisokane, Co. Galway, Ireland.

WANTED, Trombone, till end of September.
Send references and terms to conductor, Military Band, Penzance.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURNE, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Euphonium Player or Pianist preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
at the Asylum.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Oboe and Cor Anglais Player, for Season to Sept. 30, two performances daily, commence at once. Applications with particulars of experience, references, and salary required, to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Good Viola Player, for eight weeks; used to Musical Comedy. Lowest terms, references, to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

WANTED, Harpist, to Deputise, for Eight or Ten Weeks, Grand Opera Tour, commencing Aug. 20. LEES, 4, West-street, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Harpist, to Deputise, at West-end Theatre, for a fortnight, from Aug. 4.
Address, F. R., Box 3,476, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist, Powerful Baritone Voice, good repertoire songs, wishes join Masked Al Fresco. High-class only. Shares. MUS. BAC., Oxon., 75, Sutherland-avenue, W.

WANTED, expert young Pianist, perhaps wife also (Vocalists preferred); good reader, transposer, accompanist. Photos., &c., to Mr. HARRY LISTON, P. O., Stockport.

WANTED, experienced Pianist, for Music Hall Sketch; must be capable of producing Vocal Harmony and arranging Voice Parts. Long engagement suitable person. Box 3,479, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist, Single, to Travel with Auction Tent, permanent to steady, suitable man, make himself useful. MARSHALL'S Auction, Oswaldtwistle, Accrington.

WANTED, Immediately, for Bert Coote's Children's Concert Party, smart young pianist, who can play ragtime music, and act in sketches if necessary, also give entertainment at piano, to open at the Spa, Whitby, Aug. 9. Call, BERT COOTE, 150, Oxford-street, W

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, at Once, Good D. Drummer and Tympani, full effects, till Sept. 29, variety. Lowest terms, inclusive, A. PARKER, Musical Director.

KING'S THEATRE, HOXTON.
WANTED, Band of Six or Seven, for Dramatic Season; long engagement. Write full particulars, instruments, &c., to F. DUDMAN BROMWICH, Eton Hotel, Adelaide-road, N.W. Marked "Band."

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.
WANTED, Musicians, or Band complete in itself. Full particulars, ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Band."

WANTED, Bandsmen (Orchestral and Military) for short commission, H.M.S. Jupiter, must be competent performers, pensioners eligible, Band extra pay in addition to Service pay, uniform, and instruments supplied. Rail fare refunded after joining. Apply, 596, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Musicians; must be Experienced in Variety Work, to open July 30, Aug. 6, and later dates. Apply, with terms and recent references, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Musical Director for the Circuit, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, for Tour, commence Sept., Lady Instrumentalists, used to Variety. Age, photos., &c., JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Early in Sept., Orchestra (five instrumentalists), for café, in the Midlands. Offers, stating terms, &c., to Box 3,475, "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 6, for Season, Musicians, to complete band, for the Palace Variety Theatre, Gloucester, two houses nightly, and a matinée. Lowest terms to C. W. POOLE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, Theatre or Variety; excellent refs.; also Good Second Violin. At Lib. Aug. 6. Offers. L. MCMAHON.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Smart and Reliable Conductor (violin), of great experience, first-class hall or theatre, good library. References, &c., Box 3,478, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical-Director, Violin, Engagement, Variety preferred; thoroughly experienced; five years last engagement; good refs. THOS. RICHARDSON, 13, Roberts-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Good Leader or First Violin, at Lib., stock of up-to-date music, any line of business. CARPENTER, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin, thoroughly experienced in theatre and varieties, first-class refs. STRANK, 42, Rutland-st., Pimlico.

WANTED, Engagements, as Leader (First Vio.), and Repetiteur or Second Vio., any bus., together or singly. W. and G. VERNON, Elgar House, Down's-road, Walmer.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Conductor, Pianist, experienced, excellent refs. and testimonials. COLLINGS, Van Tromp Hotel, St, Helens.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin, soloist and orchestral performer, hotel, café, or good theatre required, London preferred. A. PARISI, 106, Kenbury-st., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Good Second Orchestral Violinist; steady and reliable; good references. GEO. A. FARNHILL, Wesley-street, Ossett, Yorks.

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Engagement as Leader, experienced all Lines. Disengaged Aug. 4. VIOLINIST, 46, Ravenstone-road, Hendon, N.

WANTED, by Violinist, Young, Immediate Engagement, for two weeks; would deputise. Wire, Box 3,485, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, Good Violinist, desires to join orchestra; can do solo work if required. Box 3,483, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Experienced, position as violin or viola, in high-class ladies' orchestra. Write, Box 3,482, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, can combine clarionet. Good refs. W. SMITH, 20, Methley-street, Kennington Cross, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin; last employment at Shepherd's Bush Empire. G., 10, Brady-street-dwellings, Mile End.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, good sight reader, been at Music Hall, Nottingham, 7 years, open at once. Excellent refs. SAMUEL BRIGGS, 19, St. Ann's Well-rd., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Cornet, Orchestral or Military; steady, abstainer, age 21. Open at once. ELLIOTT, Cornet, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Cornet, Orchestra or Military, young, total abstainer. Address, H. RUSSELL, JUN., Cornet, 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, any Business; can join when required. Address, ROBT. HORROCKS, 6, Nut-street, Halliwell, Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet Player, Orchestral or Military, experienced, steady. JAMES WHITFIELD, South Cottage, Lansdowne-road, Worcester.

WANTED, by Experienced Variety Cornet Player, permanent engagement, or deputising, in or near London. Write, care of COLE, Orchestra, Empire, Holborn.

WANTED, Known.—Solo Cornet-player will give £5 to anyone finding Situation as above in Good Theatre. Box 3,480, "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet, First or Second, for seaside, or anywhere, age 22 years. MCNAMARA, 2, Moreland-street, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any Business; abstainer. CLARIONET, 106 Turncroft-lane, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, through disappointment, as First Clarionet; well up in the journals. Apply, Box 3,484, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Experienced, finished season, Leamington, July 21, Refs. Private address, F. ONSLOW, 10, Luther-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, any business, variety preferred, good reference, at Liberty July 30. A. BREWSTER, 27, Margaret-st., Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Clarionet, wishes to join any band, 16 years' solo experience in Army. BURKE, Regent-st., Shanklin, I. of W.

WANTED, Good Seaside Engagement, by thoroughly experienced string bass and bombardon player. Highest refs. BASSO, 76, Paulet-rd., Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, thoroughly experienced theatres and varieties, reliable, good refs. BASSIST, 48, Lincoln-rd., Ponder's End, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Double Bass, thoroughly experienced. First-class references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass Player, any business, sober and reliable, permanency preferred. Address, W. CARL, 12, Arnold-rd., Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, Experienced and Steady. GEORGE, 54, Albert-street, Shieldfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged June 30, Open to Engagement, Double Bass, and E flat Bombardon, late Staff Band. NORRIS, 35, Bellefields-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Saturday, 21st, Seaside Town or Tour. Splendid refs. AMOS, 92, High-st., Thornton Heath, late 2nd Life Guards.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Good Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall, young, sober, and reliable, good refs. J. A. MATTHEWS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, First and Second 'Cellos; or would provide Small Band. Disengaged July 30 to Sept. 15. Press opinion and references, TROWELL, 11, Lancaster-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Lady 'Cellist and Vocalist, can accompany, for seaside, August, concert party or ladies' band. B., 78, Bedford-rd., Ilford.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Viola, at Liberty September. Excellent references. W. H. WHITE, 6, Shaftesbury-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, by Experienced Oboeist, Engagement. Good references. Address, T. WADSWORTH, 34, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19. All letters 7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, Disengaged from Aug. 6, London or Suburbs preferred. LA TREMOLO, 45, Beaumont-st., Portland-place, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, through closing, varieties, London, any business, terminating 12 years' engagement, age 38. 14, Beacon-road, Lewisham, Kent.

WANTED, by Accompanist and Leader, Immediate Engagement for few weeks, Seaside preferred; 25 years' experience. G. L., Bank-chambers, Station-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Brilliant Soloist, Accompanist, Organist, Composer, Pupil of Hambourg's, seeks opening. PHILLIPS, Stanlake House, Blomfeld-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, combine Second Violin or Viola, experienced, variety or drama, Lib. July 30. MANTON, c/o Morland, 38, Leoville-st., Springfield-rd., Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by S. and G. Lucas, piano, violin, cornet; G. Coslett, violin. References, apply, LUCAS, 67, Ball's Pond-road, Kingsland.

WANTED, Engagements, Double Drums, and effects, for concerts, oratorios, conversaziones, &c.; abstainer. Good refs. CAVER, 34, Myrtle-place, Bingley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Drums, good references, at liberty, any business, or would deputise. A. PAMMENT, 54, Havelock-road, Hackney.

WANTED, Engagement, through Disappointment, Drums and Effects, any business, sober, reliable, now at liberty. Wire, HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Bandsmen, for one of His Majesty's Staff Bands,
Bass Drummer, must be experienced, good reader; also First Cornet, First Clarionet, Flute, and Piccolo Player.
Apply to
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WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to December; Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Engagements, for Small Orchestra, any number; smart uniform, good up-to-date répertoire. LOUIS METZ, 52, Wellington-road, Charlton, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9627 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE,
GLASGOW.
WANTED, the Biggest and Best Attractions, for the Winter Season.

All must be of the Highest Possible Class.

Quote absolute lowest, and say when and where in Glasgow before.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
The Hippodrome,
Scarborough.

Telephone 288. Telegrams Zalva, Scarborough.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Tenting, Ireland, Artists, in all Lines, those doing more than one act preferred; also good, smart Ringmaster, one that can perform horses preferred, to open at once.
Wire, Saturday, Skerries;
Tuesday, Athy, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

WANTED, Gymnasts, for Gala, Aug. 6, 40 miles from London, Double Trapeze and Rings, Two Acts. Lowest terms to LE MERE, 14, Astbury-road, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED, Wire-walkers and Acrobats, &c., for Aug. 6 and onwards. WILL TEMPLE, Amusement Contractor, Meadows, Nottingham.

WANTED, Comedy Ring Performer, Knock-about or Tumble a little, near Manchester preferred. Particulars, salary, &c., AROL, 16, Boardman-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, a Smart Youth, as Tumbler, live in, comfortable home, liberal pocket-money. Full particulars to R. FRANTZ, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Smart Youth, as Page, for Comedy Acrobatic Sketch; must tumble well. Particulars to SKETCH, 6, Nelson-terrace, Daybrook, Nottingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, Mlle. Montero, with her World-famed Troupe of Performing Dogs and Ponies, &c., including wonderful football dog, riding dogs, somersault dogs, skipping-rope dog, and great dog-cart ride; also a first-class Haute-Ecole and Liberty Act, with her beautiful thorough-bred horse Baby; at Liberty July 23, for home or abroad. An act suitable for circus, stage, fêtes, or galas. For particulars, ROSA MONTERO, 110, High-st., Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Lion Show, Aug. 13 (between Accrington and Southampton) and Oct. 29 (between Exeter and Norwich). Com., week July 23, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, that the Advance Bookings for this American Versatile Novelty Number are arranged by FRED NEIMAN. Zampo and Clown, Humorists and Somersault Specialists, in a Bar, Canvas, Lifting Act. Lord John Sanger, Ltd., Tour.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, the Holmars, acrobatic boxing clowns; Alex and Jolly, comic 3-bar act. 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Athletes, Liberty 23rd, 30th. Wire for Monday. 126, Porter-street, Hull. The Two Nuts.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., the Great Comedy Triple Bar Act, vacant July 30 and Aug. 20, onwards. All coms., 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol. Next week, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Society Acrobats and Equilibrists, on tour, at Liberty Oct. Communications, 130, Magdalen-rd., Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Rizareli, Trapeze Act; also the Recars, Acrobatic Act; Vac., for galas, halls, &c. 3, Bowdon-st., Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for Fêtes and Galas. Enormous success. 121, Khyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, the Lloyds, the only Double Cable Experts in the World, entire act without balance poles. Liberty Dec., also for panto. Address, 49, Station-road, King's Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, July 23, 30, Aug. 6. Wire, King-street, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday, by the Arizona Troupe, Acrobatic Tumblers, Jugglers, and Foot Equilibrist; also Will Percival, Dancer. Wire, T. R., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, World's Greatest Human Knot and Marvellous Barrel Expert, Liberty Tenting, home or abroad, with two First-class Acts. 39, West-street, Harwich.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement in Troupe of Acrobats, good Catcher and Bearer, can catch Pirouettes and any kind of Somersaults, also Tumble a little; last situation 7 years. Apply, BERT MILLS, 158, Bloxwich-road, Walsall.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

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HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists, Big Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Comedy Acts,
Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.
Send list of bookings, lithos., and terms,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Aug. 6, London Suburban Hall, Variety Artists, with Specialities, any novelty, nothing too big; also Coloured Combination, for "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; must be first-class singers and dancers, large dogs, trained to seize. Lowest terms to Box 3,492, "The Era."

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 23, and onwards.
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, July 30, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Lowest combination terms, or shares.
DALE, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich, for Aug. 6, 13, and onwards, Variety Artists of Every Description, all the Biggest Stars and Novelties Please Write Direct, with Actual Lowest Terms, to T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Artists, Wanted, Artists, for
Sheffield and Leicester,
Trial Weeks,
on
Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.
Successful Artists can be Guaranteed the Tour.

J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety, Dramatic, and Pantomime Agent,
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WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 17.
CHARLES A. JAMES,
Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.
Freaks and Novelties write.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, Al Fresco Artists, in all Lines, for Burnham and Litchfield. Shares. Wire, GUSTAVE, P. O., Litchfield.

WANTED, for Monday next, Refined Al Fresco Artists and Specialities. Wire lowest, for two weeks or season, HARRY LEVAINE, Pleasure Gardens, Withernsea.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, People's Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, Lady Artists, all Lines, Acrobatic (à la Arizona Troupe), Comedians, Dancers, Musicians, &c., to do Single Turns and Play in Sketch, "Comical Cleaners."
Full particulars, qualifications, lowest terms,
LEO DRYDEN,
T. R., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Cheap Gala Artists, Aug. 6, for Yorkshire. Write, with full particulars and lowest terms,
DALTON'S Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue,
West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, July 23, on. Send lowest terms and bookings, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

GLASGOW CONCERTS.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Good Comedians write. Send perm., SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, including Pianist, and Specialities, with odd weeks out. State absolute lowest to ELTON HAYES, Cadets, Maldon, Essex.

WANTED, First-class Artists, Aug. 6, '06, onward, for Queen's Theatre, Glasgow. Artists known to me send full list of bookings, lowest terms, &c.,
BARNEY ARMSTRONG, Tivoli, Glasgow.
Pantomime Artist required.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.

WANTED, First-class Artists, all Lines, for Aug. 6, on. Absolute lowest terms, where can be seen, and vacant dates, S. BASKERVILLE.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, must be good and cheap, to support Ella's Lions. Aug. 13; also Stars, on shares, and good Combinations, Aug. 20, Sept. 3. GEO. SAPHRINI, Lessee and Manager, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Refined Artists, Capable of Performing as Pierrots afternoons, and doing single or double turns or specialities in the evening. Address terms and particulars, to MANAGER, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Attractive Artists,
July 30 and Aug. 6 (North).

Kindly consider three days' silence a polite negative.

G. and F. PEEL, Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, July 23, 30, and Aug. 6, onwards. Send full particulars, lowest terms, bookings, &c., to JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

PAVILION, NORTHWICH.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, refined; also combinations, to follow Lindon, Wyatt and Co., Bert Delmars Comets, The Merrions, &c. Full particulars, SIDNEY DOOLEY, 55A, Booth-st. East, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known.
Notice to Artists, Agents, and all whom it may concern.—I, Arthur G. H. Hunt (late Empire, Dover), have purchased the Royal Albert, Canning Town, and take possession of same July 30. The hall will then be closed for necessary alterations, &c., and due notice will be given of the re-opening. No outstanding contracts will be taken over, and Artists seeking Renewals of Engagements communicate to the Proprietor;
or Mr. JOE HAYNES,
Duke of Argyle, Gt. Windmill-street, W.

Holiday Engagement.
GUERNSEY AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB.
WANTED, Known, the above require One or More Artists for Gala Night, Aug. 3. Candie Grounds (open-air). Apply, SECRETARY, Guernsey.

THE CLACTON PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.
WANTED, Known, all Artists Holding Contracts for the above, bearing the signature of me, the undersigned, Harry Raymond Nathan, will please note that such contracts were signed by me under or by virtue of an agreement dated June 12 last, and made between Henry Ford of the one part and myself of the other part, whereby I was appointed manager of the above for the term of three years from June 9 last, with full power to book and engage all artists on behalf of the said Henry Ford.—Dated this 19th day of July, 1906, H. R. NATHAN.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Sheerness, closed Saturday, June 30, for alterations and redecorations Due notice will be given of re-opening. REYMOND.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Star Turns.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Known, all Artists Holding Contracts for the above, kindly send in for confirmation at once, and bill matter two weeks before opening, to S. BASKERVILLE, Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Known, Fred E. Weisker, having taken a lease of the Westminster Music Hall, Liverpool, gives notice that all Contracts made by Mr. Montgomery hold good.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars, Bank Holiday Week; also Best of Talent, for Australia. Full particulars, bookings, lowest. A few Star Turns July 30 (provinces), write. "LORD" GEORGE AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London."
'Phone, 1,949 Hop.
Provincial Representative, Frank Lynne.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HIPPODROME,
DARLINGTON.

WANTED, Big Stars and Specialities, for immediate Dates, July 30, Aug. 6, 13. Terms and particulars to JAMES BELL,

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Turns, in all Lines, for August 6 and onward; also for Pantomime, first-class Principal Boy, Comedians for Ugly Sisters for "Cinderella," an exceptionally good Comedian for Idle Jack, a really funny Page, and a petite Cinderella. All must be first class.
Fullest particulars, terms, &c.; also state where can be seen working next few weeks. There will be no humbug. Contracts await the right people. SIDNEY DOOLEY, 55A, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, Dumb Show preferred, suitable for stage, fête, Reading, Aug. Bank Holiday. GEO. BAKER, Elm-st., Southampton.

WANTED, Good Turns, all Descriptions, Aug. 6, and onwards. Send full bookings. DUNNING 8, 21, St. Ann's-road, Brixton, S.W.

THE SCOTTISH VAUDEVILLE AGENCY.
WANTED, Good Turns, Suitable for Picture Shows, and Strong Middle of Bills. Terms must not be fancy. M. MACKENZIE, 16, Chalmers-st., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Best of Talent. Few more Open Dates for Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, London, and other towns, July 30, Aug. 6, and on. DREW BAILEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

YARMOUTH AND LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES,

GILBERT'S CIRCUS, EXETER,

SCARBOROUGH HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, and on.
Quote Absolute Lowest,
and send for particulars,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
Hippodrome,
Scarborough.
Telephone 288.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, Comedians, &c.; Drawing Cards paid accordingly only the absolute lowest must be given in first instance.

HARRY BURNS'S Agency.
(Established 1895.)
Head Office, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

The Leading Provincial Agents.

WANTED, Good Variety Acts, Juggling Vents., Conjuring, Double and Single Turns (Ladies, Gents.). State lowest terms and when vacant. MANAGER, Empire Concert Party, Porthcawl, S. Wales.

C. W. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, for Tour, 1906-7, Refined Speciality Acts, children preferred. Lowest terms and where performing, J. R. POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Good Ground Act, Dogs, or Comic Act, to work shares, for two weeks. BUER, 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines. Send full list of bookings and lowest terms, MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, First-class Comedy Acts, Comedians, and Comediennes for July 30, onwards. Write or Wire, V. NEWMAN, Hippo., Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Immediately, Specialities, Comedians, Cinématograph, or anything suitable for al fresco, summer season. Full particulars and terms, BENSON, Bandstand, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Good Funny Specialities for Kirn Gardens, Aug. 6 onwards; precede or follow Glasgow preferred. Write, GRAHAM COURTNEY, Pleasure Gardens, Kirn.

WANTED, for Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co. (estab. 1888), Tour commence Sept., Really Good Speciality. Particulars, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, a Speciality for Aug. Bank Holiday, Al-fresco, Bangor, N. Wales. Terms,
WILL SUMMERSON, Teignmouth.

WANTED, July 30 Week, Good Specialities (two acts), new to Ramsgate. G. EGERTON BURNETT, Royal Assembly Rooms, Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, First-class Refined Specialities, for Saturday Evening only, Aug. 4, one house nightly. Hippodrome, Dartford. London 2s. 6d. return fare.

WANTED, Good Speciality, to work Beach with Ventriloquist, fourth season; beginner not objected to, but must be good worker. Full particulars to WINN, Ventriloquist, Scarborough.

TEMPERANCE HALL, MERTHYR.
Manager, Mr. ISRAEL PRICE.
WANTED, Specialities, Novelties, Artists in all Lines, for now and future dates.

HIPPODROME, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers,
Dr. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.
WANTED, First-class Combinations, on sharing terms. Vacant Aug. 6, 20, and on. Reply, with list of turns, to ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes "Combinations."

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Sound Tops, July 23, on. Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. T. B. Fayme, Mike Cray, Oliver Conroy, and Tom Moore communicate.

WANTED, Aug. 20, onwards, Top, Bottom, Centre, Bill, all Lines, near Bristol. I can book you. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for London, Something Great, in an open-air attraction, essential that it must be a novelty, large space available.
Address,
"AMUSEMENTS," c/o Spiers and Pond, Ltd., Advertising Agents, 35, New Bridge-street, E.C.

WANTED, immediately, Pierrot Troupes, Concert Parties, and Others, on sharing terms, for Ramsgate Promenade Pier. Address, with full particulars, to CHARLES A. WILKES, 150, Strand.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Known, a Well-known very High-class Costume Concert Party has a Vacancy for a young and very refined Comedienne and Dancer, who is willing to give her services for experience during the summer. Write, in first instance, to GEORGE AVON, Southbank, Lyall-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Chic Comedienne and Dancer, also Sisters, doing singles; hall small. Wire for July 16 and on.
LESLIE STEWART, Drill Hall, Newhaven.

WANTED, for Music Hall Sketch, Lady, 18 to 20, medium height, slight knowledge of Business, and a really good voice, otherwise useless. Letters only, D., 90, Vassall-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Smart, Natural Comedian, for a big music hall troupe; must have good facial expression, and able to whistle. State where can be seen working. Ross, 66, Doddington-grove, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Al-fresco, First-class Refined Comedian; must be good Comic Singer, with Powerful Voice, for East Cliff, Herne Bay. Photo and terms to ARTHUR VERNON, Herne Bay, Kent.

WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Comedians, also Specialities, all Lines, for Ayr, Kilmarnock, Saltcoats, and Dunoon. Full particulars, LEE and ARDEN, Arcadia, Dunoon, Scotland.

WANTED, Two Young Acrobatic Comedians, play Animals in Music Hall Sketch; must dance a little. Full particulars, CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to open July 30, High-class Comedian and Dancer.
Send full particulars, age, height, répertoire, &c., to Catlin's Pierrots, Scarborough.
Full particulars must accompany first application.

WANTED, Actor-Vocalist that can Sing Good Soldier Songs (Baritone); preference given man that can ride on horseback. Address, C. GINNETT, JUN., 59, Nichols-square, Hackney-road.

WANTED, for High-class Al-fresco, Tenor or Baritone, and Soprano or Contralto (joint preferred); three shows daily; other Artists write. Absolute lowest, REUBEN MORE, Pier, Hastings.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, good Comedians and Speciality Artists, for Monday next, onwards; evening dress. Wire, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Smart Boy Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, Actors, &c.; must be small, and over 14. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Male Vocalist, for Illustrated Songs; must be steady and willing; all-year-round shop. Lowest terms to E. LAWRENCE, Feast Ground, Cresswell, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Youth that can do Front Bending, and Tumble a little. State age and tricks. Letters only, Box 3,458, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Young Man, as Assistant for Wire Act;
must be able to fix apparatus and do a little Comedy. Apply to
J. H. JEE, London Hippodrome.

WANTED, at Once, a First-class Operator, for Cinématograph; must understand all currents of electricity and limelight; none but competent man need apply; long engagement, from one to four weeks in a town. Lowest terms, SILVESTER, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine and Films, as partner, for tour, commencing Sept. 3. SINCLAIR, 7, Crawford-st., Camberwell.

WANTED, Smart Operators; must be thoroughly competent, electric or lime. JURY'S Bioscopes, 142, Long-acre, London, W.

WANTED, Artists. Those in want of Good Songs. The best stuff at the smallest price. BOB GRAHAM, Raleigh, Salford-rd., Streatham Hill.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

GEORGE GRAY,
GEORGE GRAY,
"THE FIGHTING PARSON" COMPANY.
"THE FIGHTING PARSON" COMPANY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
August Bank Holiday Week.

Address,
Empire Theatre,
Stratford, E.

WANTED, Miss Pinder, the Novel Bare-back Equestrienne, Liberty August Bank Holiday, with her stage circus turn, introducing her highly-trained horse, riding dog, and flight of pigeons; also John Irvin, foot equilibrist. For terms, address, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, La Tosca, the only Beautiful and Symmetrically Perfect Artist's Model Touring, returning to Continent Sept. No vacancies. Muscularly developed lady athletes cannot compare with beauty and figure. C/o "Era."

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, by Violet Irving, Orchestral Instrument Imitator and Piano Entertainer. 38, Pembridge-road, London, W.

WANTED, July 23, on, by Babs Lloyd, star artist; also Nellie Van, comedy artist. Wire, B., 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Fred W. Millis,
Fred W. Millis,
Fred W. Millis,
the Well-Known
Ventriloquist
and
Humourist.
and
Mlle. Yasiho,
Mlle. Yasiho,
Mlle. Yasiho,
Mlle. Yasiho,
with Own Copyright
Illustrated Songs.
Open for Engagement.

Share or Certainty.
Apply,
Wattle Bloom,
Broomwater West, Teddington.

Telephone, 318 P.O., Kingston.

WANTED, Known, Paganini Redivivus, the old veteran Violinist, aged 70, is at Liberty to accept Engagements for Theatres, Circuses, Music Halls, Ballets, Pantomimes, &c. Notice.—Paganini Redivivus uses his new invention, which he has named "The Chin Lever," which greatly reduces the difficulty of violin playing. The act he appears in will awaken enthusiasm, as Paganini Redivivus seemingly turns young again in presence of the audience while playing the splendid overture to "William Tell," a musical tour de force considered quite unequalled by all violinists. Please address Paganini Villa, 3, Kimberley-rd., East Southsea, Hants.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Europe's Funniest Single-handed Musical Comedian, Liberty July 30, Aug. 6. Address, Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed.

WANTED, Eight Weeks, with Troupe or Party, by Walter Howard, versatile instrumentalist and humorist, comedy or concerted, &c. 2, St. George's-terrace, Kemp Town, Brighton. Write or wire.

WANTED, by Tom E. Roma, American Eccentric, original and up-to-date, July 23, and on, through disappointment. Press notices and references, 52, Clarence-square, Brighton.

WANTED, Aug. 13, 20, and 27, by Geo. W. Kenway, the Mimic. Address all coms., Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, Versatile Comedian and Ventriloquist, July 30, on. This and next, owing to success, Aquarium Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Joe Oliver, the Singing Coon, open for immediate and future dates, just finished six weeks in London, big success. Sole agent, STEBBINGS, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also July 30, Aug. 6, only Dates this Year. Soros, the Mystery, Top of Bill Turn; also best Animated Pictures. Percentage or Salary. 36, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Young Comedian, at Liberty (vocal and instrumental), for sketch; would join petite lady in good music hall sketch or act; small investment if necessary. Box 3,471, "The Era."

WANTED, July, Aug., Dutch Act, Original Gags, Song, Grotesque Dance, Concertinacalities. Wire, DUTCHY, Charles House, Netherton-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, by Li Chang Hi, and Charming Assistant, in Chinese Magic and Mirth, Vacant Monday, Aug. 6, 13, and 27, also Sept. 10, onwards. Address, The Canterbury, S.W.

WANTED, onward Dates, by Geo. Gulliver, the Superb Ventriloquial Entertainer. Big success this week, Metropole, Manchester. Monday next, Broadhead's Hulme Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Sept. 24, onward. Address, Pier, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 27, by the Original Kyoto, Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box. A clever Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer, &c. Miss May Geraldine, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Monday, Theatre Royal, Woolwich. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, the Mintos, Lady and Gentleman, refined musical eccentrics and vocalists, second distinct turn if required. Wire, Pavilion, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, novel equilibrist and lady juggler, Vacant Monday next. Wire, Britannia Pier, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, July 30, by Alice Townend, charming descriptive vocalist; and Fred Burnard, original vocal actor, and double if required. Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Monday next, also July 30, by the Fordyces, singers and dancers extraordinary, doing six songs nightly. Wire, Palace Varieties, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Trick and Trixie, Instrumental and Comedy Artists, an act which pleases any audience, conclude Hippo., Salford, 23rd, City Varieties, Leeds, Vacant Aug. 13, on. Success everywhere. Communications, FRED TRICK.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Sivanes, in their original singing and dancing comedy act. 48, Boundary-st. East, Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, the World's Greatest Musical Clowns, July 23, 30, Aug. 6. Add., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold,
Meeting with Great Success.
at Budapest, Hungary.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, Ewart and Bryan, Hebrew Comedy Artists. Wire, c/o COWAN, 106, Renfrew-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, on, by Lead and Lead, comedy duettists, "The Up-to-date School Girl." Wire, T. R., Matlock Bridge.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 6, Turle and Turle, gymnastic comedians, two rollicking acts. Wire, 5, Wood-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, the Lashmars, Acrobatic Table and Chair Act, Hand and Head Balancing, Funny Patterers, Song and Dance Artists. 18, Holton-road, Barry.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free July, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Revell Troupe, Vacant Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 6 and 7, for fêtes, galas, &c., two acts. Coms., Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, by the Arizona Troupe, acrobatic tumblers, jugglers, and top spinners. Wire, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED Known the Albano Troupe wishes to Thank Fred Baugh, Esq., Messrs. Rosen and Bliss for Batch of Contracts. The Aberdeen Bon-Accord says:—The most interesting turn this week is that given by the Albano Troupe, whose musical performances on harps, concertinas, banjos, and sleigh-bells, are the best of their kind that can been seen. Mr. Henri Albano takes rank as possibly the finest concertina player of the world, and his delightful manipulation is, indeed, marvellous. The young ladies are perfect artists, and help by winsome expression to convey the spirit of the music they are interpreting. Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, Frederick Maxwell, Lois Du Cane, and Co., "Dick Dare, M.P.," "Lord Harkaway," the sensational London success, Vacant July 30. Wire, this week, Surrey Theatre, London; next week, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, Aug. 6, for Screaming Sketch, "Her House in Disorder," produced at Lyceum, London. HERCAT and FAIRFAX, care "The Era."

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 13, for Matt. Wilkinson's Laughing Success, "The Registry Office"; also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, for "Comical Cleaner" Co. (20 artists), Funniest Show on the Road. All coms., LEO DRYDEN, T. R., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Week, Sept. 24 (between Ryde and Blackpool), salary or share, Mr. Harry Liston's Concert Party, St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED.—Pauletti, Cycle Leaping Acrobat, in Comical and Clever Feats. This Wilder's Galas. Per., 106, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dog Circus, Par Excellence, and Premier Troupe of Leaping Hounds. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Orchard-st., Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Pygmies, from Central Africa, just back from Berlin, have open dates for engagements during Sept. and Oct., for farewell visits. Apply, JAMES HARRISON, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates, for Le Clair, with Urban Bioscope; also Troupe of Dogs; one or both. Seventy weeks' success, Pavilion, Southend.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Preliminary Announcement.
WANTED, Showmen to Note that Mr. Tom Norman (Silver King) has received instructions from the Proprietors of the Crystal Palace Circus to offer by Private Treaty all that complete Tenting Circus Plant lately performing at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, namely, a First-class Up-to-date Concern including everything connected with the business except Horses, and all in first-class condition and ready for the road, viz.:—Large Circus Tent, complete, with seating for 2,500 persons, Carpets, Damask for reserved seats, Round Dressing Tents, Lamps, Pulley Blocks, Ropes, &c., Front Door Pay Carriage, Band Carriages, Tableaux, Living Carriages, a number of Luggage Wagons, 24 Sets of Harness, Large Quantity of Lamps, &c., &c., all of which have been removed from the Crystal Palace to Circus Ground, Collingwood-road, Sutton, Surrey, for convenience of Sale, where the whole of the Plant can be seen, erected, and inspected, the whole of which will be disposed of as a going concern at a very low price to an immediate purchaser. N.B.—If the above concern is not disposed of by Private Treaty before Wednesday, Aug. 1, next, it will be then offered by Public Auction on that date in one lot as a going concern; then, if not sold, it will be put up in lots and sold separately, a full description of which will be advertised in the "Stage" of 26th inst. and "Era" of Saturday, July 28th. For full particulars, catalogues, &c., with card to view, apply to TOM NORMAN, Auction Offices, Manor Farm, Dallington, Surrey.
The Auctioneer desires to call the attention of persons having any Lot or Lots they may desire to include in the above Sale, as they will find it a splendid Medium to effect a speedy Sale at Good Prices as Showmen, Travellers, and Private Buyers are expected from all parts of the United Kingdom. Further entries are respectfully solicited. Apply Auction Office, Manor Farm, Dallington, Sussex.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.

WANTED, Showmen to Note,
Meeting,
at
Longsight Wakes,
Sunday, July 29,
at 8 p.m.

Speakers, the Rev. H. Norburn, Hon. Local Chaplain, and the Rev. T. Horne.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine.
Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLICHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Notice.
WANTED, Known, write to the Internationale Cinématographen und Lichteffekt Gesellschaft, Berlin, Markgrafenstr. 91, for Bioscopes, Films, and particulars of prize competition.
Dealers have dozens of our Cinématographs.
We are in touch with scientific authorities, and performed before Emperor.

WANTED, Steam Circus and Amusements, for Fête and Gala at Harrow, Aug. Bank Holiday. Wire or write immediately to Professor FLEET, Aeronaut, Harrow.

WANTED, Steam Circus, Shows, &c., for Big Fête, Sittingbourne, Aug. 6, can follow Sheerness Regatta, 8th, and other coast towns. BOWES, Athletic Ground, Sittingbourne, Kent.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
TRADE EXHIBITION,
Oct. 20 to Dec. 8, 1906.

WANTED, Good Side-shows and Novelties.

W. A. COWIE,
43, Grainger-street,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers, DR. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN.
WANTED, to Open at Once, all Classes of Side-Shows, Physical Culture Exhibitions, Lightning Crayon Artists, Palmists, Working World's Ventriloquist, Magician, Trained Animals, Automatic Machines, Bicycle Race Track, High Divers, Cocoanut Shies, Punch and Judy, Shooting Gallery, Marionettes, Thought Readers, Gramophones, Phrenologist, Electric Exhibition, Tank Performers, Photographers, Aerial Acts, Acrobats, Aeronauts, Contortionists, Shooting Gallery, Roundabout, Portable Switchback, Toboggan, in fact, all and every kind of show. Free Admission to Grounds, which are situated on the Parade. Liberal Terms to good Showmen. Reply, in first instance, to ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes, "Side-Shows."

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply,
OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, and Tattooer, for 151, Trongate,
late McLeod's Waxworks, Glasgow.

WANTED First-class Novelties and Freaks, three months' run, in Scotland, on salary. 273, Argyll-st., Glasgow. F. BURNETTI, Proprietor.

WANTED, for Alexandra Palace Fair Ground, Saturday, and onwards, with paintings, second sight, or any quick-showing novelty. Terms, shares. SALVA, 1, Buckingham-rd., Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, at Once, for John Proctor's New Show, Two Young Ladies, for Dancing, age from 18 to 20, with or without own dresses. State terms in first letter. Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

WANTED, Two Young Ladies who can Parade on Front of Cinematograph Show; also a young lady Pedestal Clog Dancer. Six weeks' engagements at Southport. WILDEN'S Exhibition, Shore, Southport.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Good Lady Delineator, for Burnette's Waxwork and Mechanical Wonders, 273, Argyll-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Conjurer, with few Good Tricks, for pitching, to lecture, on first-class side show. Salary and commission. ELLIOTT, 13, Queen's-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, at Once, smart Doorsman, one that knows his business. BARRON, Sea View Exhibition, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, at Once, Smart Young Man, Knockabout Comedian, and to assist on the show; good shop all year round to suitable person.
TAYLOR'S Electric Coliseum, Rothwell, Northamptonshire.

WANTED, Auctioneer,
FARR,
Central Sale Rooms, Promenade, Blackpool,

WANTED, at Once, for John Proctor's New Show, a Good Organ Man; also five or six men, for building up and pulling down. Address, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, and Toby, still on the earth; few dates open for galas. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Money-taking Novelty, three-leg girl mummy, with painting, in 6ft. case. H. HUPFELD, 7, Belmont-ter., Stapleton-rd., Bristol.

WANTED, to Let, Ground as Usual, for
Galloping Horses,
Switchback, Shows, &c.,
August Bank Holiday,
Nothing Barred,
Upper Harp, Hendon,
Commencing Aug. 4, and following Week.
Apply,
HASTINGS and WHAYMAN,
Exhibition, Castle Ground, Brentford,
Middlesex.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., for Winter Season, from October, in First-class Exhibition, for Minni Letta's High-class Side Show, the only one of its kind in the world. Can be seen working daily in the Bijou Kursaal (Aquarium-terrace), Brighton. Please note.—The Bijou Kursaal will be for sale end of season, price £150; composed of corrugated iron, built in sections (bolted together), stage opening 28ft., dressing-rooms, and stage-door entrance. Address, A. LETTA, 65, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let.—Spaces on Blackpool Sands for Shows of every Description. Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 81, Central-beach, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Let, the old Feast Ground, Wyke, First Week in August. Address at once,
TOM HODGSON,
Robin Hood Hotel, Wyke, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, Suitable for Diving Pictures, Cinématograph, Mirrors, Midgets, or any other novelty show; also space for stickybacks. Terms, either share or rental; if rental, please bring cash with you. PIPER, No. 2 Position, Strand-road, Tramore, Co. Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Evesham Sports, August Bank Holiday, Ground to Let, for gondolas, switchbacks, galloping horses, &c. BYRD, Fleece Inn, Evesham.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, Portobello Season, Stalls (all kinds), Stickybacks, or any good Novelties; best position, promenade. Rents moderate. Apply, MANAGER, Miniature Golf Links, Promenade, Portobello.

HIPPODROME AND PLEASURE GARDENS, LLANDUDNO.
Lessees and Managers, DR. CARL HERMANN and ALFRED SELWYN,
WANTED, to Let, Positions, for Fancy Stalls, Candy Stalls, Pen Stalls, Sporting Goods, Post-cards, Wire Worker, Jewellery, and any class of goods. Liberal Terms. Open at once. ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Mark envelopes, "Stalls."

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for all Kinds of Novelties, for Fête and Gala, Aug. 6, for Mottingham, Kent. Address, MACKEEY, Star and Garter, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, to Let, Rooms and Ground, for Side Shows, &c., Clough Hall, Staffs., Aug. Bank Holiday, and during the week, fêtes each day. Apply, WYATT, Proprietor.

WANTED, to Let, Spacious Premises, Main Street, Bedminster, Bristol, recently used as auction mart.
Apply,
CLEVERDON and SON,
Bedminster.

WANTED, to Let, Good Shop, for Novelties, Main Street, Rhyl, season commencing. Apply, ENTERTAINER, 50, Vernon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Waggon, containing room and kitchen, 4 years old, go by road or rail. Cheap. TODD, Vinegar Hill, Glasgow.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

June 1. *L'Abbé Constantin*, adapted by Hector Crémieux and Pierre Decourcelle from the novel by Ludovic Halévy (produced on Nov. 4, 1887, at the Paris Gymnase). M. Coquelin aîné's season—Royalty.

„ 1. *L'Anglais Tel qu'on Parle*, farce by Tristan Bernard (M. Coquelin aîné's season)—Royalty.

„ 4. *L'Arlésienne*, drama, in three acts, by Alphonse Daudet (Anglicised version of this play by Jocelyn Brandon, produced on Jan. 27, 1888, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and reproduced at the Princess's on Nov. 26 of the same year; originally produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, Paris, Oct. 1, 1872, the play being taken by the author from a story published in his work, "Lettres du Moulin"), M. Coquelin aîné's season—Royalty.

„ 7. *Atalanta in Calydon*, play, in verse, by Algernon Charles Swinburne, with incidental music by Muriel Elliott—Crystal Palace School of Art.

„ 11. *Anthony Dean's Double*, comedietta, in three scenes, adapted by Paul Sylvester from the story by Walter S. Grogan—Haymarket.

„ 12. *An Exile From Home*, musical farce, in one act, written by Malcolm Watson, music by Percy E. Fletcher and E. Hess—The Savoy.

„ 15. *Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame*, opera, in three acts, in French, libretto by Maurice Lena, music by Jules Massenet—Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

„ 17. *The Invention of Dr. Metzler*, play, in one act, by John Pollock (the Stage Society)—Scala Theatre.

„ 17. *The Inspector-General*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Nikolai V. Gogol, based on a translation by Arthur A. Sykes (the Stage Society)—Scala Theatre.

„ 18. *Le Retour de Jérusalem*, drama, in four acts, by Maurice Donnay (originally produced at the Paris Gymnase on Dec. 3, 1903) Mme. Jane Hading's season—Coronet.

„ 18. *She Stands Alone*, drama, in four acts, by William Hibbert—Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

„ 18. *Suzeraine*, play, in four acts, adapted by Dario Nicodemi from the late Henry Harland's novel, "The Lady Paramount" (Mme. Réjane's season)—Royalty.

„ 19. *The Macleans of Bairness*, play, in four acts, by Edith Lyttelton (Mrs. Patrick Campbell's season)—Criterion.

„ 20. *See-See*, Chinese comic opera, in two acts, the book by Charles H. E. Brookfield, the lyrics by Adrian Ross, music by Sidney Jones, with additional numbers by Frank Tours—Prince of Wales's.

„ 21. *Les Deux Pigeons*, ballet, founded on one of La Fontaine's fables, music by André Messager—Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

„ 25. *A Gambler's Daughter*, Anglo-American play, in four acts, by Clarence Burnette (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Blyth, under the title of *A Drunkard's Daughter*, on July 26, 1905)—West London.

„ 25. *Gran'father Coquesne*, play, in one act, by Cosmo Hamilton—Garrick.

„ 28. *La Piste*, comedy, by Victorien Sardou (originally produced at the Paris Théâtre des Variétés)—Mme. Réjane's season—Royalty

REVIVALS.

June 6. *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, Molière's comedy (M. Coquelin aîné's season)—Royalty.

„ 7. *Madame de la Seiglière*, comedy, in four acts, by Jules Sandeau (M. Coquelin aîné's season)—Royalty.

„ 8. *L'Aventurière*, comedy, by Emile Augier, produced in Paris in 1848 (played in the original French at the Prince of Wales's Theatre (Tottenham-street), 1880, by a cast consisting mostly of English actors and actresses), M. Coquelin aîné's season—Royalty.

„ 9. *The Marriage of Kitty*, adaptation, in three acts, by Cosmo Gordon-Lennox, of *La Passerelle*, by Mme. Fred Grésac and M. Francis de Croiset (English version originally produced at Duke of York's Theatre, Aug. 19, 1902—original piece Vaudeville, Paris, Jan. 31, 1902)—Duke of York's.

„ 9. *Pantaloon*, piece, in one act, by J. M. Barrie (originally produced at the Duke of York's April 5, 1905)—Duke of York's.

„ 11. *Le Demi-Monde*, comedy, in five acts, by Alexandre Dumas fils (Mme. Jane Hading's season)—Coronet.

„ 12. *Cyrano de Bergerac*, piece, in five acts, by Edmond Rostand (originally produced at the Porte St. Martin, Paris, on Dec. 28, 1897), M. Coquelin aîné's season—Royalty.

„ 13. *Le Maître de Forges*, play, by Georges Ohnet (Mme. Jane Hading's season)—Coronet.

„ 13. *La Châtelaine*, comedy, in four acts, by Alfred Capus (adapted into English by Mr. Comyns Carr under the title of *My Lady of Rosedale* — New Theatre, Feb. 13, 1904), Mme. Jane Hading's season)—Royalty.

„ 18. *The Geisha*, Japanese musical play, in two acts, libretto by Owen Hall, lyrics by the late Harry Greenbank, music by Sidney Jones and Lionel Monckton (originally produced at Daly's Theatre April 25, 1896)—Daly's.

„ 20. *Sapho*, drama, by Alphonse Daudet (Mme. Jane Hading's season)—Coronet.

„ 21. *Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie*, comedy, by Edouard Pailleron (originally produced at the Comédie-Française on April 25, 1881; translated by J. T. Grein into an English three-act version, and produced at a matinée at Terry's, Feb. 12, 1901, with the French title, placed in the evening bill as *The Lion Hunters* on April 10 of the same year), Mme. Réjane's season—Royalty.

„ 22. *La Princesse Georges*, by Alexandre Dumas fils (Mme. Jane Hading's season)—Coronet.

„ 26. *La Rafale*, play, by Henri Bernstein, originally produced on Oct. 20, 1905, at the Paris Gymnase; reproduced Jan. 12, 1906, at the Royalty Theatre; adapted by Harry Melvill as *The Whirlwind*—Criterion Theatre, May 23, 1906), Mme. Réjane's season—Royalty.

„ 27. *La Souris*, comedy, in three acts, by Edouard Pailleron (Mme. Réjane's season)—Royalty.

„ 27. *Frou-Frou*, drama, in five acts, by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halevy (originally produced at the Paris Gymnase in October, 1869), Mme. Jane Hading's season—Coronet.

„ 28. *Monsieur Beaucaire*, comedy, in four acts, by Booth Tarkington (originally produced at the Shakespeare Theatre Liverpool, Oct. 6, 1902; Comedy Theatre London, Oct. 25, 1902), Mr. Lewis Waller's season—Lyric.

PROVINCES.

June 4. *The Renegade*, Irish drama, in four acts, by F. J. O'Hare—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

„ 4. *The Marriage Trap*, drama, in four acts, by Myles Wallerton—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

„ 4. *A Prince of the People*, drama, in five acts, by Elwyn Barron—Empire Theatre, Oldham.

„ 4. *The Major's Double*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by J. W. MacCabe—Theatre Royal, Belfast.

„ 4. *The Gamester*, miniature opera, in one act, written by Walter Grogan, composed by Aiulf Hjovard—Theatre Royal, Belfast.

„ 13. *Entertaining the Dowager*, comedietta, by G. Colmore.—Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

„ 18. *The Fatal Stockings*, trifle, in one act, by Arthur Holmes-Gore—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

„ 18. *In Holy Orders*, drama, in four acts, by Wyn Weaver—Theatre Royal, Dover.

„ 18. *The Princess of Pain*, episode, by E. Nolan O'Connor—New Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

„ 18. *Alice, Where art Thou?* domestic drama, in four acts, by Louie Neville Banwell—Empire Theatre, Oxford.

„ 20. *The Ranchman's Romance*, romantic play, in three acts, by Constance Bromley—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

„ 21. *Where is William?* farcical comedy, by Charles Windermere—Theatre Royal, Worthing.

„ 25. *John Drayton, Millionaire*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by H. M. Walbrooke—Theatre Royal, Dover.

„ 25. *The Gorilla's Revenge*, sketch, in two acts, by Charles M. Daly—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

„ 25. *Peggy*, comedy, in four acts, by Miss Atholie Robertson—New Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

BERLIN.

June 6. *Die Teufelskirche*, three-act comedy by Adolf Pauli (Meinhard-Bernauer season)—Lessing.

„ 9. *Heiratslustig*, farce, in three acts, by M. Champagne—Schiller O.

„ 14. *Mitzi-Mutzi*, bluette, in one act, by Rideamus (Meinhard-Bernauer season)—Lessing.

„ 14. *Der Traum*, one-act tragi-comedy, by Rideamus—Lessing.

„ 14. *Die Tuskaroras*, one-act burlesque, by Rideamus—Lessing.

„ 21. *Sundige Liebe*, play, in four acts, by H. Rolf—Carl Weiss.

PARIS.

JUNE 6. *Le Clos*, opera-comique, in four acts, by Michel Carré and Ch. Silver—Opera-Comique.

„ 14. *La Mioche dorée*, drama, in five acts, by A. Lemonnier and L. Péricaud—Gaîté.

„ 28. *Strasbourg*, historical drama, in five acts and ten tableaux, by M. Champagne—Porte-Saint-Martin.

MILK-FOOD IN THE MAKING.

Fame and the feeding-bottle are apparently more closely associated than one would at first suppose, for it is by the furnishing of that important article of domestic use that the firm of Allen and Hanburys, the pharmaceutical chemists, have won renown. By their preparation of infants' foods they claim to have stemmed the tide of infantile mortality, the records of which show that every year 120,000 die in England and Wales before they have attained their first birthday, and to have provided a form of nourishment by which the babies of the land may be preserved and turned into citizens of light and leading. Few may remember with certainty the period of their first months of existence, when all things are viewed by the light of a ravenous appetite, nor is it easy to estimate how many of our leading players owe their histrionic triumphs to an early acquaintance with the "Allenburys" bottle; but its virtues are none the less apparent, especially in the case of those mothers whose profession prevents them nourishing their offspring by natural means.

Ocular demonstration of the perfection which be attained in the manufacture of milk-food was given on the 17th inst., when a train-load of Pressmen invaded the little town of Ware, in Hertfordshire, where the works of the noted firm are situated, and inspected the machinery and appliances in operation. The factories stand on the outskirts of the old and picturesque town in the heart of the country, the estate on which they are built covering an area of seventeen acres; and on every side are meadows which provide pasturage for herds that supply milk to the factory. The portion devoted to the preparation of the foods is situated on an island some six acres in extent in the centre of the river, so that all danger of contamination is avoided. The buildings are designed on hygienic principles, and are admirably ventilated. The walls are of glazed brick, and the motive power is largely electricity, several of the dynamos being driven by the water of the River Lea, which runs its course through the town.

The milk is dealt with immediately it is obtained, and the fluid, after cooling, is conveyed to the factory and treated before any acid reaction has had time to occur. Thousands of gallons of this milk are delivered every morning at the factory by the contractors, each man's supply being tested by a trained chemist. The milk is first passed through separators, and the cream temporary removed. The excess of casein is then extracted, and the deficiencies of fat and milk-sugar made good. The process of reducing the milk to a powder consists of evaporating it in vacuo. By removing the pressure of the air the milk boils furiously at little more than half the usual temperature, so that one may look through the small glass window on the top of the pans and see the boiling milk below, and yet be able to place one's hand with impunity on the copper surface. A perfectly pure, dry powder is finally obtained, guaranteed free from all contamination with germs, and, when mixed with the right amount of water, resembling as closely as possible natural human milk.

Many and ingenious are the mechanical devices adopted for the weighing, packing, and sealing of the tins in which the foods are supplied to the public. One of the machines hermetically seals up the tins without the application of solder, thus avoiding any possibility of affecting the contents by excessive heat. Another is the filling-machine, which automatically cuts off the supply of powder as soon as the proper weight has been deposited in the tins. Other portions of the factory devoted to the manufacture of jujubes and soaps, the grinding of drugs, and the distilling of oils, &c., are kept entirely separate from that part in which the foods are produced.

The firm of Allen and Hanburys dates back to the early days of the eighteenth century, when Silvanus Bevan settled in Plough-court, in the City of London, as an apothecary, and took his brother into partnership. The modern headquarters of the business in Plough-court stands upon the site of the house where Alexander Pope was born. Mr. Cornelius Hanburys, who presided on Tuesday at the luncheon subsequently given in an immense tent in an adjoining field, replied to the toast of the firm of Allen and Hanburys, remarking that their predecessors had laid the foundations of an honest and good business, and that the application of modern methods had brought it to its present perfection.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Edward Tearle and company entered on the last week of their present season with the production of *The Black Flag*. Mr. Tearle plays the part of Harry Glyndon in an attractive breezy manner; Miss Esther Tearle is excellent as the boy Ned; and Miss Mary Campbell is well suited to the rôle of Naomi Blandford. Mr. Bernhardt Turner makes the most of a new part; and all the other members of the company act capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Dr. Walford Bodie's popularity continues unabated, the house being crowded in all parts every night. His marvellous exhibition is punctuated throughout with unstinted applause. The cures are undoubtedly speedy and effective. Mr. Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice are also enthusiastically received; the Great Halma is as successful as last week; Glennie's Royal Marionettes prove, as usual, a delightful item; Signor Bandoni's one-man band performance is equally enjoyable, and Dainty Little Dolly is clever alike as a singer and dancer. Other excellent turns are those of the Brothers Robson, comedians and dancers; and Mr. Norman Mills, actor-vocalist.

ALDERSHOT.—THE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. E. Williams.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is presenting *Lady Lucky*, a new play of the musical comedy type. Vocal items galore are contributed by the various artists with capital results, and several dancing novelties are given—especially those by Miss Susie Raymonde—in a highly effective manner. Mr. Fred Jarman is responsible for an amusing exposition of Joe, and he is ably seconded by Miss Gracie Vicat as Susan. Mr. Mayor Cooke sings and acts well as Harry, and as "Lucky" Miss Ella Rose proves to be a charming little actress. Messrs. Oswald Grey (Sir Stephen) and Henry Hare (Dr. Wharton) are clever in heavier rôles; and Johnny Chippendale (Binks) is amusing; whilst Misses Susie Raymonde (Pollie) and Minnie Everett (Mary) are good.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—*The Luck of Life* is being presented here this week. It is a favourite melodrama, and has much in it of a stirring and exciting character. The company is a capable one. From the standpoint of effectiveness the parts sustained by Mr. Roland Yorke as the villain; Mr. Jos. Millaine as the courageous solicitor; Mr. Polson Turner as Bahadur, the Hindoo; Mr. Leonard Thackeray and Mr. Albert Cuthbertson as Nihilists; Miss Gertrude Bonser as the Countess; Miss Mary Dawson as Rene, the much-abused wife; Miss Adelaide Clare as Vivienne; and Miss Kate Peronne as Mlle. de Beaudyn are undoubtedly well and intelligently interpreted. In the domain of humour Mr. Fred Danvers and Miss Dora Huggett are supreme.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme at the Hippodrome this week is a strikingly successful one, the bulk of the artists being exceptionally well received. Jessie Jukes is a pleasing juvenile comedienne, and her top-boot dancing evokes loud applause; Master Joe Conway, "the pocket comedian," is a precocious youngster, who gives three distinct turns with pronounced success; Miss May Cordite (from Buffalo Bill's Show), assisted by a male Mexican, introduces a pleasing variety in rope spinning and lassoing, which is graceful, clever, and novel; Mlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano, possesses a voice of excellent quality; Graham and Graham are a witty couple, with smart patter; J. C. Scatter as a burlesque soldier is humorous; Stanley's Urchins are popular; and the Tokios share with the Westwoods the honour of furnishing the most sensational items seen for some time in Ashton.

AYR.—PIERROT CONCERT PARTY.—Mr. Ernest Hampson and his refined concert party are still attracting large audiences on the Low Green. Frank H. Dundas renders some pleasing songs, and is a favourite; whilst Messrs. Kent and Giddings are entertaining in their various duets and eccentricities. Mr. Chas. Champney sings a budget of catchy songs; John J. Mannix renders his popular ballads with conspicuous success; Harry Hayes and Joe McCulloch score with their respective ditties; whilst "Ernie" Hampson is popular with his quaint songs and patter. Mr. Arthur Sherwin is the efficient pianist, and does some clever trick playing as an interlude. On Thursday evening they gave a special concert in the town hall.

LEE AND ARDEN'S ENTERTAINERS.—At the Newton Public Park Pavilion these entertainers are drawing great crowds, and deservedly so, for they change the programme often and introduce novelties and variety. The company is under the management of Mr. J. W. Forrest, who is familiarly known as "Sunny Jim." Mack Dennison, with his comicalities and all-round jollity contributes to the enjoyment. Mr. Leonard Charles sings tenor songs in a pleasing and finished manner; Retta and Rex dance neatly; Professor Milne, the well-known ventriloquist, gives a clever turn; and Cambo, the musical monkey, plays on all sorts of quaint musical instruments and creates great amusement. There is a cinematograph turn which adds to the variety; whilst Messrs. Lee and Arden, society entertainers, divide their attention amongst the various companies they have running, and appear on occasional nights in Ayr. Mr. Rawson Buckley is the musical director.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—The Russian play, *A Beautiful Fiend*, is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. Montague Baudyn, as Ivan Paulovitch, wins admiration; Mr. Tom Robertson, as the villainous Count, does full justice to an exacting character; Miss Irene Munroe gives a very sympathetic rendering of the heroine, Nadine Karateff; and Miss V. St. Lawrence, in the name part, submits a highly artistic portrayal of a difficult rôle.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The British Empire Photo Company is here for another week, and the fine entertainments are much appreciated. Some beautiful illustrated vocal numbers are given during the evening by Miss La Clair and Little Doris.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Gustave Fasola, Oriental wonder-worker, tops the bill here this week in a bewildering and clever entertainment; Mezzetti and Mora, in their special triple bar act, give a particularly smart performance; Mlle. de Roze has a capital reception; Tony Ivesson's mimicry is first class; Mr. G. H. Hawtree renders some enjoyable songs; and David Pool's ventriloquial entertainment is excellent.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—A great attraction is provided here by Mr. Arthur Roberts, who with an admirable company is presenting *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Mr. Luis Hardt, "the Mighty Atom," creates quite a sensation with his feats of strength; and De Marce, aptly described as "the famous animal trainer," introduces several animals whose feats are quite amazing. Miss Miniature Marie is a delightful comedienne and capital mimic; and others appearing include that droll comedian Little Barney, Miss Annie Laurie, and the Calcotts.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Walker.—Mr. Bransby Williams, the clever impersonator, heads the bill, and has been most successful with his realistic character impersonations. His impersonation of the showman playing Hamlet is remarkably clever. The Sisters Casselli are dashing comedians and fine dancers; and nothing but praise must be accorded the Borellis in their unique musical and vocal selections. Mr. Fred Poplar is a funny comique; and Miss Ina Lorrimer, a clever comedienne, creates quite a furore with her dancing. The comedy act of Felina and Gratton forms a decided attraction; and the same may be said of the act presented by Howard and St. Clair. Miss Kitty Wager, comedienne, completes the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week Mr. Downs furnishes a capital attraction with the sterling piece *The Fatal Hour*, presented by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Mr. John Burton acquits himself with much credit as Squire Henderson; and Mr. Cyril Grier is an effective Richard Blair. Miss Nina Blake-Adams exhibits much emotional feeling in her interpretation of the heroine Amy Henderson; and the villainies of Arthur Henderson are realistically portrayed by Mr. Herbert Cecil, a clever actor. Olga Meredith is cleverly portrayed by Miss Lena Nazeby, who speaks her lines with fine dramatic effect; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as Maurice Isaacs acts skilfully; and the humour of the piece is capitally sustained by Miss Effie Macintosh as Eulalie St. Jones, Mr. W. G. Wesley as Walter Wallop and Mr. H. Arnold Allen as Bertie Lamb. Mr. Wm. Mailing and Mr. J. F. Pearce complete the cast.

BIRKENHEAD.—ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Ferguson and Mack, eccentric comedians of the first order, are a prominent success; as also is Mr. Whit Cunliffe, a highly popular and clever comedian; Mlle. Zelda is an expert and entertaining instrumentalist, and a capital combination includes Spencer and Marks, versatile and amusing comedians, who are well received; the Brothers Adderley, duettists and mimics of ability; Miss Maude Wilton, an accomplished coon vocalist; and Miss Lil Gorman, a charming vocalist. Brown's Royal Bioscope adds variety to the programme.

BIRMINGHAM.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood. Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Sins of a City*, the strong, moral play by Nita Rae, has been represented here by Miss Winifred Maude and company, under the able direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane. Miss Maude undertakes the rôle of Seaweed, the heroine, in which she creates a very favourable impression; while Mr. Du Cane is seen as the irrepressible Levi, a part he enacts with many sly touches of humour. Mr. W. E. Simpson as Donald McIvor wins much admiration with his rugged and powerful acting; Mr. William Vane as the brave and true-hearted Sandy McDonald leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. James Stevenson, junior, plays the villain's rôle, Ralph Blackwater, with all the zest it requires; and Mr. Maurice Drew is successful both as Joe and Jasper Woodleigh. Miss Ethel Tinsley acts in a well-fitting manner as Lesbia; and the rest of the company, including Miss Jenny Hakett as Midge, do excellently well.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks continue their varied attractions, among these being Little Hatch, the wonderful long-boot comedian and dancer; T. W. Lenner and Florrie Wright, the clever comedy couple; Harry Plowden, a droll comedian; Lalla Vincent, the contralto gem; J. W. Levey and Ella Marston, the entertaining couple; the popular Ingemores, and that special favourite, Freddie Marston, are retained in the company; and the Electric Animated Pictures, which include the Warwick Pageant, are also on view.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A Wrecker of Men* is staged here by Mr. C. Watson Mill's capable company. Miss Amy Ellam displays all the fascination and power requisite for the titular rôle, Risca Mollison; Mr. Eric Campbell deals most successfully with the rôle of the slogger, Jim Murley; Mr. Milner Noble as the Wanderer, Pharosophus, deserves the highest praise; Mr. Alfred Maurice gives an interesting and artistic portrayal of the silent witness, Railton; Mr. Matthew Bolton presents many engaging and manly qualities as Guise Strange; Mr. Thompson Carruthers obtains a ready meed of sympathy as Eric Melville; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy acts as the Jew, Isaacs, and also as the mummy, Karnaphus, with good results; and Mr. Lancelot Usher as Reggie Verincourt, and Miss Kittie Melville as the nondescript, Slopper, are to the fore with some welcome comic relief; while Miss Cissie Podmore as Doris Melville proves herself sympathetic and clever.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—*The Skirmishers*, one of the most amusing of Herbert Darnley's sketches, is attracting packed houses here. Nellie Coleman gives a clever impersonation of the eccentric comedian; the sweet singing of Maude Courtney is highly appreciated; the Sutcliffe Family are loudly applauded for their bag pipe, sword dancing, and acrobatic display; the New York Nippers are on a return visit; the Warsaw Brothers appear in a good comedy act; Eily Adair is an attractive comedienne; the McConnell Trio, in their musical sketch; and Jonny Gilmore, comedian, are applauded.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Gelbinis are presenting their smart and up-to-date cycling act to good houses; C. Emlyn Jones introduces his quartette of ladies, who give a concert turn of a high order; May Henderson, in her coon songs and dances, is popular; Warren, Reed, and company have an amusing sketch, *Married or Photographed*; Harry Meir is an expert juggler. Other popular turns are Rose Elliott, Roy and Terris, and Charles Somers, who are all well applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—One of the most mysterious illusion turns we have seen is that of Le Roy, Talma, and Boscoe; Fred Earle, comedian, is always sure of applause here; and Nash and Noel also come in for a good share of the honours. Fanny and Harry Dent have a duologue, *Mary and the Squire*, which is well received; the Five Olracs have a clever acrobatic display; Frank A. Wood renders his tenor songs with effect.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster—The Casey Circus is proving a big attraction here; Toledo and Prince are clever contortionists; the Howard and Collinson Combination in *The Porter and the Parcel*, and Johnson and Bert in their sketch *A Queer Customer*, are amusing; Reins, an expert dancer, Guy Ryder, a smart whistler, Rosie Archer, and the Bioscope, are in the programme.

BLACKBURN.—NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company in *The Master Criminal* is appearing here this week. The play is in the hands of an excellent company, and good work is done by Miss Chalmers in the part of Cecile; while Mr. Henry L. Oswood gives a powerful delineation of the title-rôle.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A capital entertainment here includes turns by Rozel, sensational gymnast; Herbert Rule, comedian; Helm and Cozens in a sketch, *The Doctor and the Patient*; Leah Arden, ballad vocalist; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats; McDonald and Huntington, American singers and dancers; Gertie Moore, illustrated songstress; Dick Cruickshank and company in the humorous absurdity *Bridgett's Idea*; and Raymond's animated pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Public Opinion; or Pansy's Breach of Promise Case*, is finding high favour here this week, and Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison have selected an admirable company to present the same. The Horace Wibsey of Mr. George Gid dens is, of course, a masterpiece, and affords the highest amusement; Mr. Charles Harley creditably assumes the rôle of Spencer Traughton; and Mr. Fred Lewis does well as Mr. Justice Mulley; Mr. Douglas Hamilton, as Sir Babington Mulley; and Mr. Douglas Greet, as Viscount Poffley, likewise give every satisfaction. An attractive Pansy Bligh is furnished by Miss Nancy Beresford; Phyllis Dagenham is well sustained by Miss Connie Dene; Lady Caldershaw is carefully impersonated by Miss Moyra Crugan; and Miss Violet Harley deserves praise for her Charlotte. *The Stratagem* makes a good curtain raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. F. Sergenson.—A capital house gave a good reception to the sparkling musical play *The White Chrysanthemum* on Monday. Mr. Frank Curzon's capital company gave a delightful performance of this pretty piece. Miss Gwladys Elvey is charming and wins favour by her sweet singing; she makes the most of her part of Sybil Cunningham (known as O. San, the white Chrysanthemum); Miss Daisy le Hay, as Betty Kenyon, the young widow, acts and sings in a delightful manner; and Miss Katie Vesey is a smart Cornelia Vanderdecken, her dancing being particularly clever and sprightly; Mr. F. Pepe-Shamper makes a typical hero as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is as good as ever as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; and the fun is kept going by Mr. Horace Mills as Lieut. "Chippy" Belmont; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Private Perks; and Mr. O. E. Lennon, as Sir Chong, the Chinaman.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Waller.—"House full" is the notice displayed here nightly this week, and the reason for same is not far to seek. Vesta Tilley is simply adored by the Blackpudlians, and she makes her first appearance since her recent return from America; she sings five or six songs nightly, and the audience clamours for more. The rest of the programme is also good, and amongst the contributors are Carr and Rose, in a humorous sketch, *A Domestic Episode*; Charlie Williams, comedian and dancer; the Trapnell Family, acrobats; My Fancy, the clever terpsichorean artist, who is always welcomed here; Charlene and Charlene, the drawing-room entertainers, who are now in the third week here; the Howards, in comedy and melody; Terry and Bentley, comedians; and the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—A good holiday programme is provided for the patrons of this house. It includes Mr. and Mrs. Parker's Children's Party, in a novel spectacular divertissement; Florence and Lillian, in their artistic musical act; Fanny Robina, actress and vocalist; Miss Lily Flexmore, a dancer and dainty singer; Marie Weston, vocalist and dancer; Sam Redfern, the "Black Boss of the Benighted Bohemians"; Shang Hia, Chinese juggler; Florrie Cooper, vocalist; Ford and Hanson, American musical millionaires; the Bros. Obo, patter comedians; Frank Leslie, vocal comedian; and the Royal Bioscope.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The new spectacular ballet extravaganza, *In Sunny Spain*, to which we have previously referred in very favourable terms, is now being given to crowded houses twice daily. The variety programme, which is also given in addition, remains unchanged. Horace Goldin, who is the principal star, performs the most astonishing tricks, whilst Dr. Jules Angelo's Tableaux Vivants evokes rounds of applause.

TOWER CIRCUS.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—Mr. Harrop has provided another admirable show at the Circus this week. A capital programme is made up of: The Kellinos, acrobats and Risley performers; the Lecussons, in an excellent exhibition of horsmanship; Marasso, the new American jockey; Duncan's troupe of talented dogs; the Musical Johnstone; Paul Conchas, in his "Military Pastimes" act; Willie Hole, globe expert and hoop manipulator; the Klein Family, acrobatic and musical cyclists; August and September, comedy boys; the Novellos, in their equilibristic act; and the Finneys, champion swimmers.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A return to "variety" is made here this week, the principal attraction being the Seven Savonas, musical marvels, who appear in their latest creation *The Palace of Orpheus*; they are also billed as the Six Cycling Elliotts, performing some really clever feats of cycling. Other turns are Bishop and Vale, knockabout comedians and dancers; Rita Bell, Dutch comedienne; Miss Florence, vocalist, in illustrated songs; Stan Aubrey, eccentric comedian; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers; a dramatic sketch *The Sacred Trust*; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Monillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—The Australian contralto, Miss Alice Hollander, is this week delighting well-filled houses with her powerful voice; a very funny turn is contributed by the Mannon Troupe in *A Motor 'Bus Outing*; Walter King's whimsicalities make him a great favourite; Elton and Elma are seen to advantage in a clever triple-bar act; the Bartholomew Girls sing and dance daintily; and other turns include the Elgars and the wonderfully smart Lulaine-Darrell Trio. The ever-popular Hippodrome pictures conclude the programme.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, George Saphrini.—Mlle. Florence's vaudeville company is supplying the entertainment here. The chief position is occupied by Abex, the miniature Hercules; Mlle. Florence, the famous London to Brighton globe-walker, gives a fine exhibition of her prowess on the rolling globe, concluding with the sensational feat of descending a staircase 15ft. high; Dale and D'Argan prove a great success in their comedy acrobatic sketch; and Alvar, gymnast; Pearce and Ward, comedy couple; the Dana Girls, duettists and dancers; the Bros. Arnold, in a remarkable cabinet mystery; Fred Tenby, comedian; and the Bendons, speciality artists, complete the programme.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—A return visit of Mr. Julian Malvern's company with the stirring drama, *I Defy the World*, presents a strong attraction here. Mr. Percy Ballard wins frequent and hearty marks of appreciation as the adventurous hero, Leon Darville, Miss Violet Crawford supporting him finely in the character of the much injured wife. Mr. Charles Wilton gives an effective performance of the Count de Beaulieu, the other parts being in capable hands.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The clever Barowsky Trio head a fine programme here this week, and elicit hearty applause for an exceptionally skilful acrobatic performance; Harry Weldon's comedy is a source of much merriment; Clown Barker, assisted by Miss Rozsika, introduces a number of cleverly trained dogs into his enjoyable equestrian entertainment; the McNaughtons, now on a return visit, elicit roars of laughter; the Althoffs, novel entertainers, combine good instrumental work with their comedy; Maude Mortimer has a fine stage presence, and her songs are pleasing; Alice Lloyd is "chic," and charmingly renders her catchy songs; Nellie Martell, who submits an acceptable song, dances finely; Mignonette Kokin is a charming American comedienne, whose dancing is novel and clever; and Galetti's wonderfully trained monkeys are a distinct source of merriment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—Sam Veld, on a number of strings and wind instruments, contributes an interesting item; Millie Denham, comedienne, submits some acceptable songs; a smart singing and dancing turn by Douglas and Ford wins favour; the Jalvans are wonderfully expert Oriental top spinners and equilibrists; as a "banjo virtuoso," Francis O'Flynn is exceptionally clever; a gymnastic pot-pourri by the Arley's Combination, introduce some wonderfully trained dogs; Edie Gray and White Coons, on a return visit, win appreciation; Cullen and Carthy (with little Cluley) are diverting comedians; and some amusing films are exhibited by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—The Alskarno Trio of comedy Risley acrobats are the latest addition to the company here.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Scarlet Mr. E's have drawn large audiences to their capital entertainments in the Grand Pavilion. The Jester (Mr. Walter Dowling) gives some capital songs and smart patter; Mr. Vivian-Vivian's character sketches from Dickens's novels are cleverly played; "Bawing's" female impersonations and well-rendered songs are excellent, and the concerted numbers of the company are applauded. Mr. Emmerson's new series of animated pictures are a big draw. On Thursday Mischa Elman gave one of his violin recitals. The vocalist at the Promenade Concerts in the Floral Pavilion this week is Miss Lenora Sparkes, who possesses a fine voice, and pleases greatly with her songs.

THE SPA.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Wurm's fine programmes at the Promenade Concerts are greatly enjoyed by large audiences. Miss Emilie Martin is the vocalist this week, and her fine soprano voice and finished style secure for her constant recalls. The Strolling Players continue their amusing entertainments, and never

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday with *The Woman Who Gambles*. Miss Gertrude Hunt as the gambling Countess Natalie Steinbach displayed admirable and powerful acting; Mr. Edward E. Ashby was also highly successful as Count Otto Steinbach; Mr. Horatio Sinclair gave a forcible enactment of Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox's Lieutenant Carl Ctzarteryski and Miss Florence Halton's Cora Gouldhart were capitally played; while the light comedy element was ably sustained by Mr. Fred Prior as Peter Peterhoff, Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Bray, and Miss Florrie Hall as Mlle. Zila Zeyelda. The play was finely dressed and staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Carl Mysto, described as "The World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prince of Prison-breakers," submits a clever and interesting turn, in which he is assisted by Miss Noemi; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams sing and dance themselves into great favour; the Donnas Trio are well received in their equilibristic and ladder trapeze act; the Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake) are entertaining in their comedy scena *The Man in the Moon*; Rosie Lloyd is very effective in her latest successes; Clive Watts is a capital comedian and expert dancer; Driscoll and Beattie make a decided hit in *McFee, M.P.*; Ada Martine is a dainty comedienne; Charles Clark is a good character comedian; and the Alhambrascope pictures are very amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is presented here this week. Harry Rogerson, "The Tired Comedian," is very amusing; Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre is a diverting novelty with a clever marionette entertainment; Tom Lloyd is an eccentric comedian; Ernest Montefiore and company appear with great success in the musical and dramatic scena, *The Little Colonel;* Lina Verdi's impersonations of well-known musical-hall artists are good; Arthur Rigby wins hearty applause for his humorous songs and delightful patter; Gladys Mavius, the Canadian girl, sings and dances admirably; the Brothers Egbert, "The Happy Dustmen," are amusing and clever tumblers; Baroux and Bion are eccentric acrobats; the Ellimans are refined musical entertainers; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Alfred B. Tapping and company are here this week with *Masks and Faces*. Mr. Tapping gives an admirable impersonation of Triplet; Miss Alice Farleigh makes a charming Peg Woffington; Mr. Baliol Holloway's Sir Charles Pomander and Mr. Hubert Harben's Ernest Vane are well played; and Miss Clarissa Selwynne achieves great success as Mabel Vane. Mrs. Lloyd Townrow is a pleasing Mrs. Triplet; and able support is given by Miss Violet Agnew (Kitty Clive), Mr. George Cecil Murray (Colley Cibber), Mr. Lloyd Townrow (Snarl), and Mr. J. Bouchier (Burdock).

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company is here this week with *Dare Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmond, in the title-rôle, acts and sings in pleasing style; Mr. Walter Ashley as Captain Fielding also displays expressive vocalisation; Mr. Edward Kipling makes an amusing Silas Crump; Miss Nellie Harcourt is a vivacious Judith; the Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake contribute some clever dancing; and Mr. Henry C. Warde, Mr. Deane Cliff, and Miss Marie Vere render effective support.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Kardoc, the handcuff king and jail-breaker, is still here, and other favurites of last week are also retained in Harry Keeble and Leo Kelso, comedians; Gipsy Ann and her fortune-telling dog, Rosie; Hoozee, ventriloquist; and Madame Rosini with her toy menagerie. A new variety turn is given by the Melroses(Lalla and Mat), continental burlesque artistes and lightning sand dancers.

THE DEVIL'S DYKE.—Proprietress, Mrs. M. Barrasford.—A singing competition in the Café Chantant on Tuesday afternoon proved very enjoyable. The awards were made as follow :—Ladies : 1st, Miss A. Taylor; 2nd, Miss Daisy Wisden; 3rd, Miss Lesca. Gentlemen : 1st, Mr. George Hide; 2nd, Mr. John Tree; 3rd, Mr. A. G. Rogue. Both the first prize winners will have the opportunity of taking a week's salaried engagement in London, while the others, through the generosity of Mrs. Barrasford, will receive handsome prizes. The judges were Mr. W. H. Brown, Mr. H. Parker, and Mr. S. Beirnsteine; Mr. Harry Clark officiated as stage manager; and Mr. Arthur W. Briggs carried out the duties of accompanist.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here with the new drama, *Darkness*. It is mounted effectively, and it is very carefully played. Miss Laura Walker acts well as Gertrude Hunt; Mr. Ernest Griffin displays power as Constantine Schwabe; the Rev. Basil Gorte is excellently taken by Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee; Mr. Henry Heller makes a typical country vicar of the Rev. Mr. Byars; Mrs. Morton Powell scores in the light comedy part of Helena Byars; Mr. Edward Valentine acts with much distinction as Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Louis Lingard is effective as Harold Spence; and the comic parts of the Honourable Charlie Gayfly and Gracie Goldeye are capitally taken by Mr. Miller Wilson and Miss Nellie Freeland.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—There were two well-attended entertainments here on Thursday, the 19th inst., the theatre having been kindly lent and the performances arranged by Mr. Chute for the benefit of the St. Augustine's National Schools. Both the matinée and evening performances were under distinguished patronage, and all the reserved seats were booked in advance. The programme at each performance was of a varied character. At the matinée Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore and Miss Lilian Rogers successfully appeared in *The Fatal Stockings*, and pleasing variety turns were given by Miss May Marton, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Albert Le Fre, comedian and speciality dancer; Miss Helen Mar, American storyteller; Miss Evie Hamilton, comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Fred Vallance, conjurer, &c. After the interval the new duologue, *The Arena*, by Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, was performed for the first time on any stage, of which a notice duly appeared in our last issue; and the performance concluded with variety turns by Miss Fanny Dango, Mr. Albert Le Fre, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Evie Hamilton, Miss Gertie Gitana, Miss May Marton, and Mr. Fred Vallance. At the evening performance *Chatterton* was well played by Mr. Cuthbert Hicks, Mr. R. W. Audean, Mr. Alfred Harvey, Mrs. Gent-Wood, and Miss Lallie Hodder. *The Fatal Stocking* was again performed, and acceptable turns were provided by the Bristol Gleemen, conducted by Mr. Walter J. Kidner. Miss Helen Mar, Miss Fanny Dango, Miss Elsie Chester, and Mr. Fred Vallance.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Wilbur Hill and Willette Whittaker head the programme with a clever and much appreciated novelty in music and song. Claude Feldman's Juveniles present an excellent turn, being equally successful in solo singing, concerted music, and song and dance acts; D. W. Watson, cornetists and coach horn artist, obtains applause; Marie Neilson pleases as a comedienne and dancer; Frank Lynne, comedian, has some amusing songs; Alice May and company score with their protean sketch, *Tranquillity;* Nelson and Thomas amuse with a duologue, *On the Ra Ta;* and the performance concludes with "The Adventures of Raffles and his pal Bunny," depicted by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Daisy Dormer, comedienne, heads the programme with a very attractive turn of song and dance, which is well applauded by all parts of the house. Atlas and Vulcana, and Gwen and Maud Atlas present excellent strong acts, and Vulcana also presents some admirable classic poses on a raised stage with a background draped in black. Sid Bandon, character comedian, amuses with his songs; Florence Deighton is a pleasing double-voiced vocalist; Sonny Moss, comedian, has a quaint style; Russell Wallet scores with his clever scena, *The Lady in Black;* the Knick-Knacks do a smart song and dance act; and Ida Brophy obtains appreciation for a pretty song and dance. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures by the Empire Bioscope.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The name of Mr. Harold V. Neilson (who was here the other week) is sufficient to entice a good audience in spite of the sultry weather to witness *The Money Spinner*. Mr. Neilson ably represents the kind-hearted, absent-minded Lord Kengussie; Millicent Boycott is played by Miss Dorothy Milne with a fine conception of the character; Mr. Bellender Clarke forcibly portrays Harold Boycott; Mr. John Detliv as Baron Croodle is very droll; and Miss Frances Waring as Dorinda Croodle, with Miss Hettie Webster as Margot, also provide comedy. Jules Faubert, in the hands of Mr. Ulick Burke, is a good study of a French detective. *Dream Faces*, a one-act play, is an excellent curtain raiser, with Mr. Harold V. Neilson and Miss Dorothy Milne in principal parts.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Homer.—During the vacation this theatre has been redecorated and extensive alterations have been made in the construction of the stage and dressing rooms, and on Monday opened to crowded houses with an excellent bill. A most artistic and delightful musical turn is that of the Jackson Family. Some clever marksmanship is exhibited by Miss Lilian and Mme. Vera, for which they are loudly applauded; the Three Seabornes, on a return visit, thoroughly maintain the high standard of acrobatic skill they have already attained; the Padiham Apollo Quartette certainly deserve high praise for their able singing; the Seddons, the lady juggler and funny waiter, cause much laughter, and Kendrick and Laura are a smart dancing turn; the Bros. Onda are very funny on the triple bar; and the Motor Maniac, a performance introducing a cinematograph film, is much appreciated.

BURY (LANCS.).—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme here includes the Musical Palmers in their act, entitled *Officers at Play;* the Frantz Family of Acrobats; Whimsical Walker and company in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.;* Wat Tyler, character vocalist; Barnard Katz, a Hebrew bass singer; Daisy Palmer, song and dance artist; Adams and Rouse, comedians; and Iona, who is a fine shot. There are also the usual Bioscope pictures.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—*Sunday* has been heartily welcomed here on a return visit. Mr. Leonard Pagden is admirably placed as Colonel Brinthorpe; and Mr. G. Wallace Johnston plays the part of Arthur Brinthorpe capitally. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas has made Tom Oxley a very pleasing personage; Mr. William Lockhart as Towser is excellent; and Mr. Sidney Rennef's Davy is a finished character sketch. Mr. P. Norman Walter repeats his clever assumption of the lovable old man Lively; and Mr. Arthur Vegin plays exceedingly well as Jacky. Miss M. Aimee Murray is an acceptable Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Muriel Pope speaks her lines nicely as the Nun. Miss Emélie Polini's Sunday is delightful, being fresh, natural and sympathetic. *Billy's Little Love Affair* was announced for the last three days of the week.

CAMBRIDGE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Askham.—The Hippodrome opened its doors to the public once more on Monday evening. Under the proprietorship of Mr. T. Askham, the Hippodrome commenced a new lease of life with a programme presented by Capt. Ben Harris, who was assisted by vaudeville artists from the London and provincial halls. A prominent item was the sketch *A Promising Pupil*, performed in a creditable manner by Capt. Harris and his "nippers." Harry Rogers, a mimic of no mean ability, contributed excellent impersonations of music-hall stars. The three turns by Miss Rosa Neilson were greatly enjoyed, and her dancing fully deserved the unstinted approbation accorded. Another good dancing turn was contributed by Miss Lillie Leoville; while Miss Gertie Graham, comedienne and dancer, cleverly presented various characters from the well-known pantomime *Dick Whittington*. Veno, with the assistance of his comedy cadets, provided a considerable amount of genuine fun, which was also a feature of the turn contributed by Harry Leroy. The Royal Raynors gave a clever contortionist performance. The programme concluded with the Bioscope, on which a number of the latest films were shown.

CARDIFF. — KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, King's Theatre, Cardiff, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—This week we have presented here by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company the sensational comedy drama *The Plucky Nipper*. The piece abounds with tragic and exciting incidents, and the interest of the audience is held from start to finish. As Bill Burgess, a ne'er-do-well, Mr. Edward Surrey is capital; Mr. Fred Rivers, in the rôle of Richard Vanbrugh, the villain, gives a capital piece of acting; Miss Bonwin Carlton, in the title-rôle, is exceedingly good, her comedy with Mr. Douglas Campbell as Tommy Atkins keeping the house in roars of laughter; Miss Kitty Maynard plays the part of Daisy Paget, the blind girl, in a pathetic manner; as the Colonel's daughter, Ina Frederick, Miss Evelyn Derwent scores considerably; and special mention should be made of the fine songs rendered by Mr. Edward Stream as Captain Frank Leslie. Mr. Douglas Campbell's songs and dances also deserve praise.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. M. Dring.—Miss Winifred Hare is decidedly the star here, and the audiences on Monday were delighted with her performance. Her rich soprano voice was heard to great advantage in the song entitled "There's one little star up there." The sketch *Casey's Court*, given by the "Midget Mimes," is very amusing as a street urchin's idea of producing a variety entertainment. Bob King, the director-in-chief, otherwise Mrs. Casey, is conspicuous, and the appreciation shown is abundant recompense for his hard work. The fun is fast and furious all through. Miss Minnie Cunningham is an Irish comedienne of the best type, and her sweet songs are well received. Her first song, "That is where a little fib scores," was given for the first time on Monday, and the result was distinctly successful. Drew and Alders are a couple of good eccentric comedians, and their bill-posting turn is highly amusing; the Zanettos, jugglers, are the finest we have seen in Cardiff for some time, their knife-throwing skill being marvellous; the Goltz Trio give an exceptionally clever equilibristic turn; and Rich and Rich are funny comedians. The Leonards, comedy duettists; Miss Elsie Roby, "the slavey at the piano"; and the Sisters Pine, duettists, complete a fine programme.

CARLISLE.—THE PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Tom Foy and company are making a first appearance here with *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, which creates roars of laughter. They also provide an entertainment entitled *The Excursion Depôt*, which is not a whit less amusing. "Whirling the whiri" is a thrilling act brimful of excitement submitted by the Tom Davies Trio; a delightful turn is contributed by Miss Maidie Scott, a dainty and charming comedienne with a capital voice and a graceful and refined style; Miss Katie Butter's droll rendering of songs brings down the house; Meier and Mora are particularly smart and entertaining; Walter Ray sings "Mona" with artistic effect; and the Pepiscope completes an enjoyable entertainment.

CHATHAM.—THE GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Marion Hall opens the ball here with a couple of songs; and Syd Godfrey follows with a medley and imitations of various music-hall celebrities; then come the Brooklands, a dainty pair of serios in coon songs and dances; and some capital pictures by the Edisonograph. During the interval the Gaiety orchestra, under Harry Clements, contribute "Le Chevalier Breton," after which Mlle. Lucretia gains plenty of well-merited applause for her skilful dancing. James Prior, the big comedian, sings three songs; and Mlle. De Dio creates considerable enthusiasm by her spectacular dance, "Terpsichore's Dream."

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Neil Kenyon tops the bill here, and is scoring a big success; the Madcaps are a quartette of lively dancers; Woodhouse and Wells patter and dance to everyone's delight; Myra Love is a popular comedienne; Grey and Parry give their latest creation, *Acrobats, Past and Present;* and others appearing are Linda Wasey, comedienne; and Morley and Percival in a duologue; while Lacey's Erascope projects some capital pictures.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. Hy. Ford; Manager, Mr. Edgar Curtis.—Another good show here is nightly attracting big audiences. Varieties are submitted by Chas. Russell, comedian; the Sisters Valli, banjo, mandoline, and zylophone players; and Zasma, an exceptionally clever gymnast. Michael Braham, with a highly-trained bull terrier; the Cotton Blossoms Quartette are distinctly clever and amusing; and Miss Dolly Golden is a young dancer of great ability. Mr. Antonio Medcalf's company of operatic singers, comprising Mr. Hy. Beaumont, Miss Alice Boaden, and Miss Fanny Emmerson, have this week been giving the Garden Scene from Gounod's *Faust* in a manner which has left little to be desired. The Palace Pierrots and the fine band, under Mr. G. S. Thomas's able directorship, continue to attract large crowds.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS. — Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bently, who are really their own star artists, and the principal attraction here, have been assisted this week by Kit Kern, coloured comedian; Miss Winifred Siddons, who is well liked in Clacton; Mr. Harry Barratt, a good bass; and Mr. Wilfrid Alderton, silver handbell soloist.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. C. Macdona; Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—McLaren's variety artists have submitted a capital show here this week. Will T. Burgess and company, in the dramatic episode *Found Faithful*, earn well-deserved applause; the Votos and company are seen to advantage in the laughable farce *Good-Night;* Mint and Mart, in a paper-tearing act, are clever and interesting; and Great Wambo, the tramp cyclist; Alec Alexander, actor-vocalist; Cissey Grodon, soprano; Chas. Grin, comedian; Gertrude Ena, comedienne, are all accorded a favourable reception. Alf Berg, in a novel weight-lifting act; and Charlie Grein, English champion heavy-weight wrestler, are also here.

PIER PAVILION. — Messrs. Ashton have a good variety entertainment this week. The Misses Winifred Saunders and Margaret Lewys are both refined vocalists; and Mr. Fred Frampton is a clever comedian. Mr. Henry Moore and his dog Learto give an interesting turn; and the Walturdaw pictures bring to a conclusion an enjoyable entertainment.

MR. SAINTON'S fine orchestra continues to attract great numbers round the Council's bandstand, and Mr. Fred McLeod, the Council's business-manager, is a prime favourite here for his unfailing tact and consideration towards his many patrons. By permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll the Coliseum Glee Singers are here this week, and have been giving some excellent part-songs; Messrs. Cyril Thomson, baritone, and Frank A. Wood, tenor, have been singing duets.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Chung Ling Soo's exhibition of magic holds audiences spellbound here, and amply verifies the reports which had preceded his advent to the town; Frank Keegan and company, in their absurdity, entitled *Everyday Cyclists*, afford an immensity of genuine fun; whilst another very humorous item is the sketch by the Forrest Combination. The Five Royal Zerbinis, who are making their second appearance in the locality within a year, are greeted with every manifestation of genuine delight in a particularly attractive musical show under the designation of *Fairyland*. Dean Bros., a couple of dancing experts of a most refined order, are loudly applauded; Austin and Cowen quickly make themselves popular by reason of their smart and original songs; Cissie Curlette, the lady mimic, is versatile; Sam Dalton is funny; and Lillian Trevelli shines as a vocalist.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A great attraction is provided this week by a visit of Mr. Carr Loates's company in a musical comedy drama, entitled *At the World's Mercy*, in four acts. In Act II. some capital songs, dances, and specialities are given. The part of the hero, Captain Frank Manley, is in the capable hands of Mr. G. Irving; Miss Isabel Singleton reflects credit on herself as Alice Lloyd; Mr. A. L. Read does well as Jabez Barber; Mr. Carr Loates acts with good effect as Morris Goldstein, a Jew; and Mr. H. Evan Gibson performs creditably as Charlie Smart, a music-hall artist.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Two good houses on Monday night appreciated the excellent programme provided. The chief item on the bill was Miss Nellie Wallace, who rendered some capital songs, and had to respond to a number of well-deserved encores. Clarke and Glenny are clever comedy artists; the Delornes, duettists and dancers, give a good speciality act, entitled *The Phantom Clogs;* E. W. Selman is a capital comedian and dancer; Weldea and Wynne are well received; Miss Ivor Collard is a capable comedienne and dancer; and Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright appear in a duologue entitled *Cockie*. The usual animated pictures conclude the performance.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The boards here are occupied by Miss Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's well-selected company in the interesting drama *A Gambler's Daughter*. Miss Harriet Loydall is careful as Auntie Zeb; Miss Sanders does well as Carita; and Miss Adria Hill acts the rôles of Mildred and Miriam Grant with all the skill of an accomplished actress. Mr. Robert Ayrton is quite satisfactory as Desmond Dare; Mr. Alfred Sanders is excellent in the part of Solomon Solomons; Mr. Richard Pitt is reliable as John Grant; Mr. Victor Millard is good as Jack Grant; Mr. Vincent Carlyle is praiseworthy as Ralph Gillman; Mr. Harry Barham is well placed as Dick; Mr. Lincalt deserves a word of praise as Stephen Brand; Mr. George Vinning is adequate as Tom Brand; and minor parts are commendably acted by Misses Lizzie Gordon and K. Dempsey. Mr. Charles Herrick is a popular and courteous manager.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—A pleasing programme at this popular house includes Wilson and Waring, bright and versatile comedy duo artists; Hector and Paulus are neat and clever in a speciality acrobatic act; Musical Silvo, inventor of musical novelties, is remarkably good; Nat Watkins is a smart comedian; the Jees, in the instrumental sketch *The Musical Smithy*, deserve unstinted praise; Victoria Monks, in her song-scena *Moving Day*, is warmly applauded; and interesting items are given by Sidney Dolf, vocalist, mimic, and juggler; Elsie Clare, ballad vocalist; and Kittie Bell, comedienne. A coloured picture on the bioscope, entitled "A Phantom Motor Ride from Nice to Monte Carlo," is worth seeing. Mr. Archie Hully handles his large orchestra in a masterly manner.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The bill here includes Miss Gertie Gitano, who is refreshingly vivacious and energetic in her vocal work, and she also dances cleverly; the Three Royal Temples, including Mme. Louie Gilbert, render operatic and other selections in brilliant style; Allan McAskell amuses his audience, and at the same time mystifies them by his clever "fake" conjuring; the Yorkshire Tykes, Messrs. O'Connor and Brady, prove themselves the drollest of the droll; Mlle. Fontaine's Marionette Palace deserves mention, the puppets being very cleverly manipulated. Other artists appearing are Oakley and James, who are funny in a mélange of song and duologue; Wisper, comedy juggler; and Beattie Bloom, a smart comedienne.

DONCASTER. — THE PAVILION, Hexthorpe Flatts; Lessee, Mr. Baker.—The programme at this popular resort provided by the munificence of the Doncaster Corporation is an exceptionally generous one, and bears the names of artists of reputation. Mr. Harry Barclay, comedian, is responsible for some very popular songs; Madame Nanoni contributes vocal numbers in a highly cultured voice; Harry Morgan cleverly asserts his claim to the title of eccentric comedian; Nellie Forrest is a dainty comedienne; and Dan Armstrong appears in the triple rôle of comedian, vocalist, and dancer; Oswald Battyre, legerdemain artist, is extremely mystifying; and Leopold and Lorna, refined speciality artists, give a pleasing turn.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—The Grand Theatre has been crowded during the current week, the attraction being the musical comedy, *Floradora*. The members of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company are very clever artists, and their efforts have been cordially applauded. Miss Josephine Sullivan invests Dolores with a delightful charm, and she renders the music with verve; the Angela Gilfain of Miss Florence Hersee is refined and dainty, she adds distinction to the performance; Miss Kate Leicester displays an appreciation of subtle comedy as Lady Holyrood; the Antony Tweedlepunch of Mr. Daly Cooper possesses the ripe unctuous humour, without which such a character lacks its proper value; Mr. Stanley White works hard as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. Allen Morris looks nice and sings with real taste as Frank Abercord; and Mr. Herbert St. John is well suited in the pleasant rôle of Captain Arthur Donegal. The singing of the chorus is tuneful and the dresses are bright.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*Amorelle* has all the charm of the earlier comic operas, those operas which Offenbach and Hervi made famous. Mr. C. P. Levilly's specially organised company make the most of all their chances. Miss Stella Gastelle lets herself go as the heroine; she acts with an abandon essentially Parisian, and yet is always refined. The music she renders with exquisite taste, and she dances delightfully. Mr. W. H. Powell has an eccentric character in Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crowe, and exacts every ounce of fun out of it. To the traditional business of its original creator, Mr. Willie Edouin, he adds his own perception of opportunities. As the noble old friend, the "*gentilhomme* of the *ancien régime*," Mr. Arthur Dennis is truly admirable; Mr. J. Manfred Russell is romantic as Jules; Miss Kitty Cavendish looks as pretty as a picture in the rôle of Lesbia. The other characters are all well played.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Mr. R. A. Roberts is again the bright particular star at the Palace, and is showing wondering thousands what he can do as a protean actor. On Monday and Tuesday he once more submitted his tragic playlet, *Dick Turpin*, which was received with enormous enthusiasm. The High Toby man miniature drama will be succeeded by *Ringing the Changes*, and *Lucinda's Elopement*. Mr. R. A. Roberts is a great draw. The programme at the Palace this week is crammed full of popular turns, in addition to Mr. R. A. Roberts. Mr. G. R. Whittle is a quaint and amusing fun-maker; Ernesto is an equilibrist and juggler who does his really clever work with neat dexterity; Messrs. Frank and Jen Latona present a musical interlude that suits all and sundry; the Sisters Showell are bright vocalists; the Mascots give a refined entertainment; Mr. Tom Edwards is a ventriloquist who could give the hero of Henry Cockerton's once-famous novel "Valentine Vox" points. Then at the Palace there is Vernon's Bioscope and Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra. During the day, at intervals in the grounds, are al-fresco entertainments, given by the Mascot Pierrots.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—An absolute change of programme at this, the people's pleasure palace, has resulted in crowded assemblies. Miss Millie Hylton tops the bill, and she sings the songs suited to her idiosyncrasies with artistic effect. Miss Hylton is accompanied by Miss Decima Brook, a young and clever actress, who made a hit at the London Coliseum quite recently, and who in concerted numbers with Miss Hylton is highly effective. Mr. Fred Sinclair is an actor of the Palais Royal calibre; Miss Gracie Whiteford is a smart soubrette. Their playlet, *Getting Even*, is chic, and their turn at Derby Castle evokes applause. The Anartos are always up to date; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, cyclists, give a performance which has a fascination for all who admire dexterous work; the Lavelle Brothers have a vogue as comedy acrobats; the Castle Bioscope presents up-to-date films; Mr. Alf Gibson is a droll comedian. Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra provides music which invites the tripper to dance, and the floor at Derby Castle for this purpose is in fine condition. In addition the side-shows at Derby Castle present many attractions.

THE HIPPODROME. — Sole Manager and Director, Mr. F. J. Connor; Ring-Master, Mr. Albino.—An entire change of programme has been made here, and the constellation which flames brightly this week is a combination of stars. The Marconis, who do wonderful things by the medium of electricity; Mezzetto is a wonderful juggler; Du Calion gives a fine performance on the ladder; the Brothers Leotard postulate that the thing appreciated by our sires in circuses has not lost its charm; Mons. Eugene Foote and Mdlle. Lizzie Rowland give the equestrian entertainment, which if deleted from the bill would be as Hamlet with the melancholy Dane omitted. The Towerograph has the *dernier cri* in animated pictures. The Cecilias submit a pleasing musical scena; Captain Maximilian Gruber continues his previous successful record with his elephant, horse, and pony; Mr. W. Tudor's equestrian goat and performing ponies are prime favourites; so are the Dillons.

NEW EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Elderton; General-Manager, Mr. Elwyn Walter.—Mr. Elderton presents just the right form of entertainment for his patrons. Garden's Royal Quintette of vocalists, pipers, and dancers, come at the psychical moment. This is Scotch fair week in Hall Caine Land. The Sisters Lyle are well-voiced singers and graceful dancers, their efforts are appreciated; Mr. Joe Humphreys is a smart comedian; another star turn submitted is the Three Coopers, in their pathetic song scenas, "Descendants of Eve," "Blind Engineer," and "The Two Orphans." Mr. Harry Wallatts, a singer of the George Leyburne school, is much applauded; Miss Katie Cosper, a clever juvenile actress, gets there; and so does Mr. Alf. Bishop, a quaint fun-maker; Miss Sheila McNeil, described as the female Harry Lauder, does well.

BUXTON'S PIERROTS AND SEA VILLAGE. — Mr. Frederick Buxton's new large Pavilion has this week been crowded three times daily. His Pierrot Troupe work very hard, and give the public a clean and wholesome show. Their songs are new and tuneful, and the concerted music is rendered with intention.

The additional attraction at Buxton's is Saccho, the fasting man, who has created much interest.

Mr. Charles Dare's Minstrels, on the Head, cause many thousands to frequent that delightful spot, and listen to their pleasing burnt-cork comicalities.

Mr. Benson's Pierrots, on the Grand Stand, are not at all a negligible quantity. They have patrons who disdain all other forms of entertainment, and these artists work hard for the applause they gain.

The Toreador Orchestra and Concert Party, on Onchan Head have beaten all records known in Douglas. Crowds of two and three thousand people flock to their entertainments, which are given three times daily.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A new version of *Sapho*, presented by Messrs. Ernest R. Abbott and F. C. Berridge, supported by a capable company, has attracted large audiences nightly. Miss Ada Abbott plays cleverly in the exacting part of Fanny Legrand; an excellent portrayal of Mme. Hettema is given by Miss Marjorie Tennant; Miss Mary Douglas makes a vivacious La Pipotte and furnishes a strong contrast to the sweetness and sincerity of Lucy, played by Miss Phyllis Atherleigh. Mr. Abbott as Jean Gaussin portrays the varying emotions of that character with skill; Mr. F. C. Berridge is responsible for a meritorious impersonation of Henri Dechelette; a noteworthy performance of Flamant comes from Mr. Ernest Hartington; Mr. George C. Doughty introduces a clever touch of humour in the rôle of Uncle Césaire; Mr. W. H. David is also amusing as Hettema; and Mr. Weedon Ross as Father Legrand also contributes to the mirth.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—A really clever and interesting turn is given here by Mlle. Rita and Fred Roma, who deserve the prolonged applause which greets their efforts; the Brothers Brooks, patter comedians, have a quaint and original act; Cissie Wren sings and dances well; some smart conjuring is contributed by Henri Bekker; and other items on the programme are submitted by Fred Arnol, the Sisters Brand, Raynor and Reece, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux Pictures.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The Excelsiors, who hold the board this week, submit a bright and interesting programme; Miss Marie Maffert is responsible for artistically rendered 'cello solos; Mr. W. H. Webb has a fine basso; Mr. McCall Chambers is amusing; Miss Ethel Branston is a fine contralto; Mr. Wilson Bamber a pleasing tenor; and Miss Grace Swinburn an attractive comedienne.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The chief attraction here is that great Dublin favourite, the one and only Marie Loftus, a queen of comedy, whose doings are as varied, as interesting, and as full of brightness and charm as ever they were. Needless to say, she meets with a most flattering reception. The New York Comedy Four delight all with their vocalism and comedy; Arthur Kenny is deservedly applauded in a sensational act; Alexandra Edwin, soprano, sings with much pathos; Michael Nolan is an Irish comedian of great merit; Herr Grais' Baboons provide an exceedingly clever and interesting turn; Dale and O'Malley are up-to-date comedians; the songs and dances of the Eight Sunrays are repeatedly encored; Frederic Neiman appears to advantage as a ventriloquist; and Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers, and the Royal Pictures complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday in the military drama *A Soldier of France*. Mr. Arthur Hinton submits a masterly rendering of Father Jean; Miss Leila Zillwood achieves success as Pauline Lorraine; Mr. Gerald Byrne is highly effective in the dual rôle of Captain Louis Lorraine and Lieutenant Louis; and the part of Zippa is excellently portrayed by Miss Phœbe Watson; Judas Delara is admirably sustained by Mr. Travis Green; Miss Florrie Zillwood makes an acceptable Margot; Mr. Frank Brunell is well placed as Pollyput Jollyboy; and Miss Olliver as Quassia and Miss Lydia Andre as Rita are both good in their respective parts.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Bacon.—At this pleasant resort an attractive programme is presented by Mr. Walter Curtis's Merriment company. The songs, sketches, and instrumental music submitted are of a high order, and the artists who contribute successfully include Miss Joan Deering, Master Cecil Bernard, Miss Lilian Payne, Mr. Fenton Cross, Miss Laura Spencer, and Mr. Walter Curtis.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The Boissetts, who again head the bill here this week, are causing a furore nightly with the pantomimic sketch *The Evening Party*. The Howard Brothers, who justly style themselves the Banjo Wizards, are decidedly clever, and Maggie Rimner, coon comedienne and dancer, is a dainty and winsome artist. Harry Thurston's impersonations of music-hall stars merit warm praise; Will Fredo is a smart comedian and dancer; Calile and Walker enhance their reputation as comedy artists; and J. P. Ling scores successfully as a mimic. Charles Craston, eccentric comedian, sings amusing songs; and the Empire Pictures are entertaining.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Here we have a return visit of W. J. Churchill, whose amusing songs and patter win much appreciation; the Brothers Babusio, staircase performers, meet with unstinted approbation; Mabel La Blanche sings in a pleasing manner; as club jugglers the Geraldos score successfully; as does also Fred Durran, comedian. Other excellent turns are provided by the Vekeys, banjoists; May Fallowfield, an attractive soubrette; Jack Ross, vocalist; Menva, magician; and the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. T. A. James.—The artists engaged here include Van Gelder, conjurer; Little Dandy, character comedian; Little Hustler, serio and dancer; and Will Bell, Ir

Stella Darbyshire. Miss Ethel Verne as Lady Staunton and Miss Eva Lonsdale as Mabel Seabrook contribute pleasing studies. The drama, which is prettily staged, is preceded by the comedietta *Mrs. Hilary Regrets*, brightly played by Mr. Beaumont as Dr. Power and Miss Ralland as Mrs. Hilary.

THE GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The Scottish musical play, *A Trip to the Highlands*, continues its successful career at this house. The entire production reflects the greatest credit upon Mr. Harry Fischer, under whose direction the present revival has been produced. The dresses are fresh and tasteful, and the new numbers by Mr. W. Scott-Phipp and Mr. J. G. Aitken are not without merit. The members of the company play with an infectious gaiety that thoroughly exhilarates the audience, and conspicuous success attended the dainty acting and charming singing of Miss Maisie Ellinger as Miss Araminta Brown Windsor, Miss Millie Engler as Winnie, and Miss Nellie Burdette as Fanny Flounce. Miss Engler is rightly recalled for her delightful rendering of "Fishing" and "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you." Mr. Joseph B. Montague plays with his old humour as Timmins; Mr. Arthur Poole makes a hit as the detective; Mr. Wellesley Smith is a dignified Viscount Lackington; and Mr. Frank Barclay—vocally and artistically—is a dashing Frederick; while Mr. Wal Croft scores as the McMutchin.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—An attractive holiday programme is provided this week for visitors to this popular house. Cinquevalli heads the bill with his incomparable juggling feats; Conn and Conrad introduce both originality and humour into their clever acrobatic turn; and Vernando, the ventriloquial barber, imparts some freshness to a familiar form of entertainment. Peggy Pryde's lively comedienne turn is well received; the Scottish songs of Ruth Lytton are thoroughly appreciated; and J. A. Wilson, with his dog Towser, provides considerable amusement. Strong and well-contrasted turns are given by Harry Freeman and George Formby, the former marked by a refreshing breeziness of style, and the latter excelling in a peculiar quaintness and humour, which are exceedingly entertaining. The Two Madges, juvenile artists, are very effective in their rendering of a pathetic little scena; Lee and Bentley present a smart sketch, entitled *Mabel B.*, with much success; Ike Scott and Son are happy as the Navvy and the Fiddler; and a good selection of pictures is shown by the American Bioscope.

FLEETWOOD. — QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. Herbert Barrs and company appeared in the comedy-drama, *Life*. Mr. Barrs played the part of Jack Lockhart, the hero, and Mr. R. Graham that of Sir Horace Lester, the villain, and both did full justice to their parts. Zac Krabbe was ably represented by Mr. E. Cheetham, and Joe Pippet was carefully acted by Mr. H. Ashton. Mr. W. Collins, as Detective Blake, Mr. A. Wilson as Israel Jacobs, and Mr. L. Ernest as Sam Sykes were also good. Miss M. Vincent as Jess is clever, and gave some acceptable songs, and Miss D. Oswald as Ruth Thorpe and Miss A. Collier as Beatrice Farrars sustained their respective parts very well. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the same company was seen in Mr. H. Barrs' special musical version of *East Lynne*.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—During the earlier part of the week Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company, in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, was the attraction. Mr. Yorke Stephens made a good impression as Captain Mowbray; Mr. Maitland Dicker as Colonel Jardine was all that could be desired; Mr. W. Briscoe Owen submitted an able impersonation of Lieut. David Cairn; Miss Frances Vine sustained with ability the rôle of Mrs. Gorringe; Miss Mary Webb and Miss Mabel Melba were exceedingly good as the daughters of Mrs. Jardine; Miss Isabel Fladgate as Miss Potts was well placed; Mr. Reginald Walter scored a success as the detective; and Miss Marie Illington in her original rôle of Mrs. Jardine was charming. For the latter end of the week Mr. Charles Macdona's company was billed in *Mr. Hopkinson*.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—The Sabots are paying a return visit here this week, and are as good as ever; Miss Dorothy Payne is greeted with rounds of applause for her clever reciting and singing. On Wednesday afternoon and evening Mr. George Mozart paid a special visit, his turn being hugely appreciated; the Victoria Minstrels, under the direction of Mr. H. Romer, are still going strong.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Setter.—Miss Mildred Jones, contralto, is a talented vocalist; Mr. Gurney Russell acquits himself well as a comedian; the Ladies' Blue Salon Band is immensely popular; and the pictures are up to the usual standard.

BATHING ESTABLISHMENT GROUNDS.—Mr. Charles Cardow's Cadets are doing good business here. The company includes Mr. Tom Mellor, of "Wooden hut" fame; Mr. E. S. James, an old favourite, who is heard to advantage; Mr. George Ellis, a capital entertainer; and, on special nights, Miss Cecilia Gold, who renders able assistance.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Heading the bill here this week is Harry Tate's company in *Fishing*, a farce which keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment. The most popular item, however, is Sid Cotterell and company's excellent sketch entitled *The Substitute*. Exponents, par excellence, of the burlesque comedy art are found in the persons of The Sivronis, who receive much applause. John Lloyd's glee singers, a quartette which includes Miss Helen Bourne, the well-known lady tenor, sing delightfully; Will Souls, described as a "laughing comedian," is a big favourite; the Brothers Pasquali, head and hand balancers, are clever; Diana and Natalia are graceful gymnasts; and Miss Florrie St. Roy, comedienne, and Miss Amy Elcock, a smart dancer, complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Mnager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—"Starring" here is Charles Matthews, who claims to be the champion jumper of the world. W. H. Morgan, comedian and vocalist, obtains well-merited applause; Carl Rovinelli's company presents a capital little sketch entitled *A Burglar's Romance*; Marie Gibson, a vocalist of considerable ability, makes a hit; the Sisters Lunelle are a clever pair of comediennes and dancers; Lottie Lonsdale, a local child comedienne, is a huge favourite; and the "show" concludes with an amusing series of pictures shown by Downey's Bioscope.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Appearing here this week with considerable success is Miss Grace Warner, who, assisted by a good company, is presenting *The Scarlet Clue* and *East Lynne*. In the former play, Miss Warner is seen to great advantage as Scarlet Sal; Mr. George Gordon depicts with much force the part of Michael Stanton; Mr. J. Leighton Leigh, in the dual rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond, is highly successful; Miss Kathleen Cranston submits a clever portrayal of Mother Scrooge. In *East Lynne*, Miss Warner achieves a triumph as Lady Isabel, and capital support is forthcoming from Messrs. George Gordon (Sir Francis Levison), J. Leighton Leigh (Archibald Carlyle), J. O. Tomlinson (Richard Hare), A. Richards (Mr. Dill), and Misses Ada Romer (Joyce), and Kathleen Cranston (Cornelia Carlyle).

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—A pleasant atmosphere pervades the King's this week, where Mr. H. F. Maltby is appearing in his own play, *The Youngest of Three*. Supported by an able company, Mr. Maltby receives a hearty welcome, and his acting as the dogged old Squire Wendover is clever and convincing. Miss Beatrice Marsdene makes a charming and naive heroine as Lucy Dulley, and her scenes with the masterful young lover, Gerald Wendover, are both pretty and dramatic. Miss Janet Hodson and Miss Mara Maltby as the two elder sisters of Lucy act well and in due contrast to the girlish impetuosity of their youthful protégée. Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver submits a clever portrait of Philip Radford; and a well-played character part is the Samuel Johns of Mr. Ralph Hutton. Mr. Ernest Noble gives clever effect to two parts, the landlord of the "Bowl of Punch" and the stupid country lout Paul. Mr. Maltby's tragic little play, *Hounslow Heath*, is given in front, and is very effectively staged and played.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Frank Lindo's domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*, is on a return visit here. The character of Stephen Armitage is played by Mr. Lindo himself. He gives a robust and manly interpretation of a sympathetic part. Some equally good acting by Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan is also enjoyed. A charming child-actress is Miss Daisy Rochefort, with a promising future, her Dora being surprisingly good. Mr. J. W. Henson, as the villain, Lyle, bears himself well; and the Duke of Captain Gerald Gambier is a praiseworthy rendering. As David Armitage and Dick Redmayne, Mr. D. Laurence Doyle and Mr. George Overs make the most of two exacting rôles, and all the vivacity required in the rôle of Sybil Fay is displayed by Miss Hetty Webster.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—The principal item in this week's programme is that powerful if gruesome little play, *The Monkey's Paw*, of which Mr. John Lawson and his company give a good account, Mr. Lawson as the old father being specially well placed. The Bogannys as the "lunatic bakers" give an entertaining acrobatic and risley performance. Don Caicedo, the King of the Wire, returns here to show his marvellous dexterity and daring; Brett and Orford repeat their clever comedy and musical duologue; Cooke and Miss Rothert give an entertaining American comedy act; Lilian Lea sings several songs sweetly; Jack Pleasants makes a hit as an immobile comedian; the Four Goldinis give a smart display in their speciality act; Beatrice Willey sings well; and the American Bioscope, with pictures of life on a training ship, completes a really first-rate programme.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Good houses are the order here this week, the prime attraction being Eugene Stratton, whose artistic scenas and beautiful melodies have such a hold on the public; he is well supported by the Merrills, a trio of clever knockabout cyclists; Duncan and Godfrey, in the pleasing coster sketch, *Me and 'Er*; and the striking gladiatorial act of the three Romas. The banjo solos of Dick Williams are received with well-merited applause; Alfred Hurley's refined vocal imitations also obtain due recognition; other popular features of an attractive programme being the expert xylophone playing of Brilliant and Brilliant, the songs and dances of Bessie Butt, and the part singing of the British Quartette.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—The Wakeman Quartette sing several songs in good style; Heeley and Meeley, in their clever comedy scena, are as amusing as ever; Wyndham and Waters score in their comedy act, *The Professor and his Pupil*; Alice Blanford's singing meets with much success; the vocal abilities of Martine and Son please the audience. Other good turns are Bert Woodward, the "Coon on Wheels"; Zo E. Cliffe, comedian; Florence Schuberth, burlesque artist; and Stave, comedy artist.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—The Craggs, in their condensed sketch, embodying the saloon scenes from *Laughter Land*, cause roars of laughter at their quaint eccentricities, and evoke admiration for their clever acrobatic work. Hal Godfrey and company do extremely well in their lively comedietta, *A very Bad Boy*; Jacques Inandi, the wonder worker with figures, astonishes the audience with the facility with which he works out mentally the most intricate arithmetical problems; Starr and Leslie are clever in their comedy turn; the Casino Comedy Four are good singers and amusing comedians; Harwood's Juveniles contribute a pretty scena entitled *The Children's Christmas Eve*; Mabel Sinclair is a clever ventriloquist; the Checkaboards, white and coloured vocalists and dancers, give a varied and attractive turn; Millie Payne's low comedy proves popular; and the Bioscope, with new films, completes varied programme.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—The programme here includes De Biece, illusionist, who is allotted the premier position; Hayman and Franklin, humorists and vocalists, have also made a good impression; Miss Lily Morris, comedienne, has a fair share of the honours; and other notable turns include George Collins, a quaint comedian; Tom Dunmore, eccentric comedian; Wyndham and Waters, duettists; the Sisters Wingrove, comediennes and dancers; Bros. Lowenworth, Hebrew comedians; and the Bioscope, with a capital series of pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company, giving an excellent interpretation of *Sergeant Brue*, forms the attraction here for the week. In the title-rôle Mr. Arthur Reynolds is successful as the not very brave policeman of the C Division; Mr. H. Goldsworthy sings well and acts naturally as Michael Brue; Miss Mary Hay is charming as Aurora; Daisy is smartly and vivaciously depicted by Miss Marion Hargrave; and Mabel Widget is daintily acted by Miss Mabel Keith. Mr. Cecil Burt gives a quaint character study as Mr. Crank; and Crookie Scrubbs finds a clever exponent in Mr. Charles McLagan, whose make-up and mannerisms cause roars of laughter. Miss Hebe Bliss is admirable as Lady Bickenhall, and her effective singing wins many encores.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Thomas Thorne and répertoire company occupy the boards here this week. On Monday *Our Boys* was played, and the old comedy seemed to have lost none of its attractiveness. Sir Geoffrey Champneys and his son Talbot were capitally represented by Mr. Norman Clark and Mr. Keith Fraser; Mr. Thomas Thorne as Perkin Middlewick was extremely funny without descending to buffoonery; Mr. Arthur Bawtree was good as Charles; Violet Melrose, Mary Melrose, and Clarissa Champneys were effectively depicted by Miss Ruby Loncrain, Miss Elsie Howard-Ross, and Miss Rachel de Travis; Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda, the lodging-house slavey, was exceedingly quaint and funny. Other pieces presented during the week were *The Guv'nor* and *Confusion*.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Espinosa and Neilson, in a pot pourri of international dances, are topping the bill here this week, their act being received with great applause; Ryde and Beeman, grotesque acrobats, give an excellent performance; Witty Wattv Walton has established himself a firm favourite, and is at home both in comedy and pathos; Miss Rosa Loader, the merry musical mimic, scores a distinct success; Miss Ruby Bijou, dainty national and barefooted dancer; Mr. Edward Davies, tenor vocalist; and Miss Gertrude Cameron also achieve success. Adler and Sutton's troupe of pierrots have quickly made themselves popular; Alex Kendal, eccentric comedian; Mena Brae, the little duchess; Tom Perry, boy comedian; John Green, baritone; Harry Herbert, patterist and dancer; and J. A. Tunbridge, solo pianist, all work with good effect.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The well-known company of comedians known as the Follies are drawing full houses this week. The entertainment, devised and arranged by Mr. H. G. Pellisier, is varied, artistic, and amusing. The Misses Marjorie Napier, Gwennie Mars, and Ethel Allandale and Mr. Dan Everard contribute effectively-sung songs, duets, and trios; Mr. Lewis Sydney, "wrestling with the piano," and inventing some personal experiences, is ludicrous in the extreme; Mr. H. G. Polissier, in topical songs and burlesque, is a host in himself, and keeps the house in perpetual laughter. The Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra contribute some enjoyable music, and up-to-date pictures are shown on the bioscope.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The great attraction for the week is the "Walrus Hunt," arranged by Mr. Durrell, of log-rolling fame. Mr. Durell, with real walrus head and skin, goes through various evolutions and defies capture, playing havoc with various excursion parties on the water and causing endless fun. Unthan, the armless wonder, does a capital turn; the Carr Bros. provide a musical comedy act; Algy and Handy Andy contribute a juggling entertainment; a Japanese acrobat, Tamamoto, gives an extraordinary exhibition on a tight rope stretched perpendicularly from floor to ceiling; Salmo contributes a clever horizontal bar and trapeze turn; the six King's College Boys give an enjoyable musical programme; and Ullmann's Ladies' Orchestra, consisting of male members of Mr. Gilbert's company, are responsible for a screamingly funny performance.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERT COMPANY.—A capital programme is provided, the artists appearing including the Bros. Hannaway, cross-talkers and dancers; Ada Victor, vocalist and dancer; Harry Mansfield, character vocalist; Clyo and Rochelle, comedian and soubrette; Harry Barker, versatile artist; Amy Allnutt, comedienne; the Nettas, harmony duo; J. H. Crew, the jovial eccentric; Abel and Welsh, comedy acrobats; Bernard and Weston, the argumentative gents; Fred Dice, descriptive vocalist; the Sisters Hula, vocalists and expert dancers; Leslie Reed, comedian and extempore vocalist; Will Netta, baritone vocalist; the Camerons, comedy artists; Ernest d'Almaine, tenor vocalist; and Minnie Leverentz, ballad vocalist and actress.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. Tolfree.—Mr. Charles Carte, the well-known character-actor, and a strong company have presented the attractive drama *A Noble Brother* here this week with considerable success. Mr. Carte has admirably sustained the title-rôle, a part in which he has appeared over 2,000 nights, and his efforts have been ably seconded by Miss Doris Brookes as Nana Leigh. Mr. Howard Thorne has given a dignified rendering of Col. Leigh, while Mr. A. Tomlin as Jack Elsworth and Mr. F. Lyndon as Henry Travers have also done well. Miss Rosie Conroy as Rosie Rapid and Mr. Michael Madden as Larry O'Brien have provided some excellent comedy, their singing and dancing being quite a feature of the play. Other parts are ably sustained by Miss Alice Ballard, Mr. Payne Reynolds, and Mr. Ronald Douglas. The play has been followed each evening by a funny Oriental musical comedy, entitled *In Happy Land*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes.—A capital bill has been headed here this week by the Martelloni Troupe of lady acrobats, who have presented an act quite as daring as any seen here before. Charles Gardener, the popular comedian, and an old favourite locally, has scored with his extremely funny songs and patter, his eccentric make-up also contributing not a little to his success. Bugler Car has performed some exceedingly smart balancing feats with military weapons; Kloof and Ramsey have presented a bright musical act; the Two Zampahs, duettists and dancers, have also contributed; while others who have appeared are Matt Wilkinson and Co. in their amusing sketch *The Registry Office*; Bros. Lilian, gymnasts on the silver chains; and Violet Beatrice, a clever impersonator.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter White.—Marie Elsie, the popular comedienne, has again appeared at the top of the programme here this week. Miss Elsie possesses an exceedingly dainty style peculiarly her own, and never fails to win many admirers. Little Don, a comedian who claims a resemblance to Little Tich, has also been a prominent contributor, and his eccentric style together with some excellent comedy business has made him very popular. Captain Devereux's dogs have proved themselves to be possessed of almost human intelligence; Rodin, the tramp cyclist, has presented a series of cycling tricks, and the Greys have sung operatic solos and duets with much success. Other artists contributing have been Viviana, a smart dancer; Andre and Bronton, in a funny sketch, entitled *A Woman's Curiosity*, and Magna in her artistic poses.

PIER PAVILION, CLEETHORPES.—Manager, Mr. W. T. Bollard.—The principal artists here this week have been Miss Margaret Cooper, in a new répertoire of songs at the piano; Mr. Wm. Wild, tenor; Mr. Foden Williams, humorist; Mr. Cyrus Dare, mimic, and Mr. D. Milner, banjoist.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—On July 20th Mr. Fred J. Little and Mr. Fred Darcy's company appeared here in the operatic extravaganza, *Mr. A. Baba; or, The Thieves of Bagdad*. Mr. Marie Adair was the all-important and dashing Captain; Miss Nellie Moore made a lively and captivating Ganem; Miss Flora Buxton sang well as Morgiana; Mr. A. E. Mann caused much merriment as Cogia Baba; and Messrs. Bass and Guinness were always funny. The Sydney Girls did some good work, and the Marvellous Ladderites caused quite a sensation.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—This week Harry Radford and his charming wife Miss Millie Valentine are here, and their smart ditties and juggling feats are just to the public taste; Stewart and Morgan bring down the house by their delightful singing of selection from "Dear Owld Ireland"; the ventriloquial items presented by Bert Williams are smart. An item that stands out with prominence is *The Galley Slave*, a powerful little playlet from the pen of Mr. Arthur Shirley. Mr. George Leicester and Mr. George Bellamy assume the chief rôles skilfully, and are distinctly successful, as are the other members of a strong cast. D'Arc's marionettes surpass all anticipations; the cleverness of Charles Banks' dog and the genial style of its master and trainer keep the audience well amused; Gallando is successful as a clay modeller, his models being neat and clever. A capital single-handed musical turn is Orpheus, whose selections on the oboe and horn are rendered with a skill which wins for him prolonged applause.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Billy McClain, Mme. Cordelia and company are appearing here in a unique sketch, entitled *The Hottest Coon in Dixie*, in which native darkies are seen to great advantage. The dancing throughout is spirited, and the by-play and dialogue exceptionally smart. Downes and Langford are old favourites here. Others in a good vaudeville bill are the troupe La Faille; Henry Clifton, impersonator; Gladys Whitton; Edna Latonne; and Fields and Lewis.

HANLEY.—GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes. Coram is a ventriloquist of much ability, and his turn is much appreciated here; the Bros. Wartemburg are wonderful foot equilibrists, accomplishing some difficult feats; Francis and Alfred are comedy jugglers of considerable merit; Charles Chard is a capital comedian with good songs; and Annie Casey sings most successfully; the Sisters St. Julian also sing and dance cleverly. The pictures are, as usual, quite a feature of the programme.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—The first three nights of the week the stage at this popular house was occupied by Mr. Leigh Lovel's company in Sydney Grundy's play *Sowing the Wind*. Mr. Lovel depicted Mr. Brabazon very well; and Mr. Henry Osman appeared as Mr. Watkin; Mr. F. Pennington Gush was excellent as Ned Annesley; Mr. Willson was good as Sir Richard Cursitor; and Mr. Arthur McCullogh gave a clever study of Lord Petworth. Miss Octavia Kenmore as Rosamund submitted a capital reading of the part. For the remainder of the week Mr. Louis Calvert presented *Sunday*, with Miss Polini in the title-rôle.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The amusing farce, *Mr. Hopkinson*, was played here the first half of the week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. The acting all round reached a high plane of excellence, but undoubtedly Mr. Frank Stanmore in the title-rôle was the chief favourite. Happy results were attained by Mr. Shirley Lea as the Earl, and a good performance as the Duke was supplied by Mr. Arnold Lucy. The exacting rôle of the Duchess was well filled by Miss Alison Alexander, and much amusement was caused by Miss Katherine M. Romsey, who played Eliza Dibbs. A much-appreciated visit was paid the second half of the week by Mr. Lionel Rignold, Miss Ada Blanche and company in *What the Butler Saw*.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — An interesting programme is opened by the attractive comedienne and dancer, Miss Maudie Ford. The up-to-date films of the Hippodrome Bioscope are a special feature; the Jackley Trio go through a series of remarkably clever acrobatic feats; as a characteristic comedienne, Miss Rosie Revall excels; Tom Parker wins much approbation by his comic ditties and dancing; Johnny Johnston is an accomplished all-round performer, either as patterer or dancer; Miss Mabel Thorne, whose welcome re-appearance gains popular recognition, sings in her usual excellent form; Mr. J. W. Winton is an expert Australian ventriloquist.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—The entertainment of mirth, music, and mimicry provided by Wallis Arthur's company continues an attractive feature to the many holiday visitors now here, whose enjoyment of doubtless heightened by the novelty of their environment.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.— Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The popular farcical comedy, *Betsy*, is holding the boards here this week, by Mr. J. D. Hunter and his large company. The piece is bright and highly amusing, and is interpreted with no little skill. Mr. Philip Gordon well represents the part of Mr. Birkett; the important rôle of Adolphus, his son, is well sustained by Mr. George Mudie, jun.; Mr. Charles Hawker plays the part of Dick Talbot with constant vitality; Mr. Maule Cole as Capt. McManus acquits himself admirably; as the tutor, Mr. J. D. Hunter quite distinguishes himself, and his diversities of humour are as true to life as they are diverting; Miss Cherrie Wardroper in the small part of Madame Polenta does excellent work; a bright and interesting performance by Miss Helen Anderson of Mrs. McManus is much applauded; Miss Eva Bayley plays the rôle of Mrs. Birkett with exquisite grace and finish; in the title-part Miss Blanche Bayley shows all the piquancy which the character demands; Nellie Bassett and Clara Peyton are respectively taken by Miss Marjorie Cassina and Miss Vera Dudley, and considerably add to the success of the piece.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION. — Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Roland Bottomley's bright little play, *The Impertinence of Nancy*, is occupying the stage at this well-appointed theatre. A better all-round company could not be desired. Mr. Roland Bottomley as Brabazon gives a capital realisation of the part; as Ned Wynton, Mr. Reginald Eyre displays good acting; Mr. Tom Shelford, as the Curate gives a clearly drawn sketch; Miss Marjorie Christmas evinces true dramatic talent in the part of Nancy; with equal success Miss Edith Bottomley depicts the character of Sylvia Wynton; Miss Mary Stuart supplies a natural touch to the part of the widow, Mrs. Armstrong.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Every turn in this week's bill is really excellent. At the top are Barton and Ashley in a rollicking sketch, *Canal Boat Sal*. Then come Florizel, a clever lady gymnast; Miss Lilian Rigby, a dainty little lady with a smart musical show; Albertus and Bartrum, a couple of club jugglers with a keen sense of humour, combined with great skill; the Villions, in their daring cycling act; Johnny Fuller, in his clever impersonation of a cat; Miss Constance Mori, comedienne and smart dancer; and Max Waldon, a refined female impersonator.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Henry Arthur Jones's fine play, *The Bauble Shop*, is being presented here after a lapse of years. Mr. Douglas Wentworth has gathered round him a good company. Mr. Fredk. Annerley in the rôle of Viscount Clive Brook has a good style, and does well; Miss Lily Bertram is effective in the delicate and difficult rôle of Jessie Keber; as an exponent of the Nonconformist conscience, Mr. H. Gomer May reveals many fine touches as Mr. Stoach; Matthew Keber's bibulous ways are well illustrated by Mr. Percy H. Vernon.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—A welcome return visit is being paid this week by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in the *Two Little Drummers*. There is a healthy tone pervading the play. The Molly Meadows of Miss Edie Macklin is much appreciated; the two boys find good exponents in Miss Margaret Hazel and Miss English; Mr. Ed. Bikker fills the rôle of General Kingsley, V.C., with considerable effect; and the Frank Carsdale of Mr. Beresford Lovett gains sympathy.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Harry Tate is here with his humorous absurdity "Fishing"; Alexandre and Hughes are also well received. Other popular artists include the Bastiens, Will Poluski, jun., Ross and Grayson, Nelson's Newsboys, Gertrude Bradshaw, Mark Merry, and E. J. Sheldon.

THE NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Bloomsbury Burglars have made a welcome appearance here; Cline and Clark, speciality singers and dancers, are prime favourites; Frank Cass, a popular versatile vocalist, gains much applause; Margutta is a clever young lady contortionist; and Marti and Julietta, Rose Tilley, and Lade Henderson complete the bill.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* and *One Woman's Wickedness* have been played here this week by Messrs. Phelps and Tilbury's Co. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was performed on Monday night, when Mr. A. Geo. Fry gave a very good reading of Robert Brierley; and Miss Belle Tilbury won favour as May Edwards; Mr. Bernard Webb was seen to advantage as Mr. Gibson; and Mr. Harry Tilbury was smart as Hawkshaw. As the talkative Mrs. Willoughby, Miss M. Dorris was well suited; and as Sam Willoughy Miss U. T. George was deserving of praise; Mr. Chas H. Phelps did well as Jem Dalton; and in Mr. E. Bulwer-Pitt, as Melter Moss, had an apt assistant.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The programe for the current week here includes some novel and attractive turns. Martin Conway, comedian, sings humorous songs; the Sisters Urma contribute graceful feats on the swinging bar; Kavados in his juggling act is clever; Pueblo and Cropp are applauded for a pleasing dance; Brady and Johnson in a sketch, entitled *A Chapter of Blunders*, provoke mirth; and other turns include Lillie Soutter, a vivacious comedienne; Ethel Dove, a clever dancer; and the Columbio Trio.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—This week Mr. John Power's company is here with the drama entitled *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Francis Everard gives a manly portrayal of Harry Stanton; Mr. H. Payne does justice to the character of General Sir Arthur Stanton; Mr. A. D. Mead is quite at home as Fred Lisle; Mr. B. Dunstan is an effective Isaac Barnett; Mr. John Power submits a powerful rendering of Tom Drake; Miss Marie Lyons plays Sarah Drake forcibly; Miss Clara Reid makes a capable Polly Harris; Miss Edith Leslie does well as Grace Lisle; Mr. E. W. Bretton causes amusement as Bill Sanders; and Mr. C. Clifford is excellent as Count Lanski.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. Fred J. Little and Fred D'Arcy's company is this week presenting Mr. Frank Ayton's burlesque, *Crusoe, the Cruiser*. Dainty Miss Nellie Moore is delightful as Polly; Miss Louie Adair ably fills the name-part; Miss Flora Buxton, the dusky belle, receives several encores nightly for her fine singing; Mr. A. E. Mann is funny as Mrs. Crusoe; and is ably supported by Messrs. Bass and Guinness, as the twins; Mr. George Rapley appears as a pirate; and Mr. Fred Dobito as a cannibal king; whilst Mr. Syd T. Russell undertakes the indispensable rôle of Friday. In the last scene, the Zara Troupe appear, their exhibition of gymnastics and feats of strength being enthusiastically applauded. The scenery and dresses are particularly good.

SPRINGFIELD GROUNDS.—Mr. Victor Stevens and his pierrot troupe continue to draw good audiences.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The Gaieties conclude a most successful engagement here this week. Mr. Charlie Rogers' banjo playing is much appreciated; and Mr. Charles Conyers is a great draw. The troupe is under the direction of Mr. Wilson James.

LEAMINGTON. — JEPHSON GARDENS.—Corporation summer music season.—In connection with the Leamington summer music season, Mr. Patrick Kirwan and his idyllic players paid a visit to the town on Tuesday, when they presented a series of pastoral plays afternoon and evening in the Jephson Gardens. At the afternoon performance the players gave a very admirable interpretation of *The King's Orchard*, adapted from *Gringore* by Patrick Kirwan. This was followed by an amusing comedietta, entitled *The Duchess of Bayswater*, which caused endless amusement. In the evening the company gave a very fine performance of "Ferdinand and Miranda," adapted from *The Tempest*, Mr. Patrick Kirwan appearing with great success as Prospero. The incidental dance of nymphs and reapers was most gracefully executed by members of Messrs. Bellew and Stock's Academy. Other pastorals given included *The Enchantment of Titania*, and "The Jewel Scene" from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Both performances were well attended and highly appreciated.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Arnold Bell and company are interesting big audiences this week in the powerful piece *Lost in London*. The cast is an excellent one, and includes that sterling actor, Mr. Cuthbert Imrie, in a strong part. Mr. Frank Carlisle and Miss Frances Campbell are also particularly successful in the presentation of leading characters.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—*How Money's Made* is a new drama full of striking and sensational incidents, and its presentation at this popular theatre during this week has been well received. The leading parts are well and faithfully portrayed by Mr. John Cecil, Mr. Frank Strickland, Mr. Henri Gerald, and Miss Minnie Leslie amongst others. The humorous element is well looked after by Mr. Elton Morgan and Miss Flo Norman.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—The popular coon vocalist, G. H. Elliott, is at the head of a good programme here, and enhances a big local reputation with an acceptable new song scena. Harriett Vernon returns with her lilac-girl speciality, and is accorded a good reception, as also is that clever comedienne, Marie Kendall. Annie Abbott gives a remarkable exhibition of magnetic power in a novel entertainment. The Ten Genis are a troupe of clever risley acrobats. Rezene and Robini are vastly amusing in burlesque eccentricities. Steve McCarthy contributes a smart song and dance turn, and the audience is further entertained by Francis and Melli, O. K. Sato, and an interesting series of animated pictures.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The Sisters Marion are a strong lead here, their admirers being numerous and lavish of demonstrative appreciation. Versatile Herbert Shelley again displays histrionic and vocal ability; H. O. Wills dispenses comedy in clever style; Trick and Trixie are pleasing in their novel speciality; and Helen Charles is also an entertaining contributor to the programme.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—*The Power of Gold*, played by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company, is here. That gentleman as Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly are extremely popular; Miss Lilla Wilde as Lady Brandon displays much histrionic power; Miss Georgina V. France makes an excellent impression as Meg Judson; and Little Mabel is good as Paddy Blake. Mr. Charles Whitlock as Hadji Zambra is to be complimented on a clever performance; Mr. Richard Oliver as Paul Judson is also a success; and Mr. Albert Sefton as Mark Harley, Mr. Frank Holyoake as Dr. Saunders, and Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire may also be praised.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton W

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Dora Lyric is the principal attraction here. Others who contribute to the programme are Diana Hope's company in the sketches *The Doctor* and *The Grasshopper*; Harry Carmen; Billy French, coon singer and dancer; Daisy Lane, comedienne; Daley and Collins, comedians; and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The following excellent company is delighting patrons here this week:—Arthur Bearle, society jester; Bert and Dora, comedy duettists; Dan Lyndon, comedian; Frances O'Reilly, a charming vocalist; Dorothy Baddeley, a clever soubrette; Herbert Simister, comedian; and Walter Chapman, pianist and musical director. On Thursday Dan Lyndon, who has become a warm favourite, took a benefit, when the programme was augmented by the appearance of the following artists:—Bert Wallace, comedian; Leo Storer, actor vocalist; Miss Dolly Burton, soubrette; Miss Edith May; Miss Lilly Hurst; Ben Blow, comedian; Harry Braisby, comedian; Will Lawson, comedian; Thos. Day, tenor; Fred Cooke, baritone; and others.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—The attractive drama, *Her Luck in London*, has held the stage here during the week. Miss Mary Neil again played Nellie Harborne with all her former sweetness; Mr. Charles A. Leicester, an able actor, was the Honourable O'Connor; Miss Frances Bruce made the most of Lilian Harborne, handling the part with care and discretion; Mr. Alfred D. Adams was an excellent Richard Lenowen; credit is due to Mr. Douglas Tremayne for his portrait of the curate, Strong; Mr. Tyrone Power proved effective as Stephen Harborne; and much humour was provided by Mr. Bruce Clapham as Algie and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Shovepenny. The drama was well presented.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmott; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The most interesting and entertaining item in this week's programme is the Regal Operatic Quartette in selections from *Maritana*. The various numbers are loudly applauded, particularly Madame Marie Burnett's "Alas! those chimes." Mr. Edward Wynn suits the part of Cæsar de Bazan admirably, and sings in a masterly manner; Mr. Albert German's King is well acted, and his songs have artistic finish; Mlle. Adele Prescott is a pleasing Maritana; Baroni and Kemp give an exhibition of quick changes; Les Marsumas are responsible for most of the fun; and a pleasing and greatly enjoyed turn is that of George Martinengo as "The Unemployed Musician," his 'cello playing being loudly applauded. Other turns billed are Arthur Elvy, George Grogie, Carlotta Lunn, Harry Bent, Tennis and Laune, and Lily Le Bretton.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*True to the Core* has been given here by Mr. H. J. Snelson's company. Miss Elsie Marriott Watson very creditably undertook the rôle of Mabel Gratton; Mr. Bert Albert handled the part of Noel Meadows satisfactorily; Mr. Scott Leighton was a manly Captain Meadows; Mr. Harry J. Snelson as Stephen Dudley worked hard; Mr. J. Carl Lyle caused a deal of amusement with his Joe Lamb; and Mrs. H. J. Snelson carefully portrayed the dual rôle of Mrs. Gratton and Old Sal.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A well-presented drama entitled *The Romany's Revenge* has been witnessed here by large audiences. The company brought by Messrs. E. A'Dell and F. Chabot is an all-round good one, while the scenery is particularly picturesque. Miss Ethel Ashleigh, as Zamet, played with dramatic effect; a capital John Hope came from Mr. Edward Louis; Mr. Harry C. Robinson was powerful as David Renard; Miss Fanny Wallace as Polly Pluck maintained the fun, giving also some excellent clog dancing; Mr. David Hamilton in the rôle of Bobbie Bloom held his audience in the grip of laughter, his comic convict being an admirable piece of fooling; and Miss Eva Elwes distinguished herself in the double part of Lilian Hope and Elspie.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Principal here this week are Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company with *The Orange Girl*, an episode in the life of King Charles II., which has proved very enjoyable. Miss A. Schrier as Lady Castlemaine deserves special mention. Margaret Ashton has a capital song scena, "The Winter Girl"; Dan Crawley is as funny as ever; the Deane Tribune Trio present an amusing sketch, *Applicants;* Lockhart's elephants go through an interesting exhibition; the American Comedy Four are exceedingly funny; Miss Lilian Bishop proves herself a clever male impersonator; and others in the list are Miss Maud Ross, comedienne; the Three Phydoras, Will Mitcham, and Claire Beasley's cats.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A particularly strong bill is offered at this popular resort this week. Foremost is Little Tich, who has, as usual, proved an immense draw. A neat and clever entertainment was provided by the Four Athos, ball manipulators and novelty acrobats; Dusty Rhodes had a long list of funny things· a bright little sketch, *In the Studio*, came from Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam; Will Godwin rendered in excellent style, "If those lips could only speak"; Emma Don and Co. offered an enjoyable musical mélange, *The Prodigal Son;* Kitty Clover and Co., supported by Mr. R. Courtney, presented a smart comedy sketch; and others on the programme were Tom E. Hughes, character comedian; Sylvesto, with a speciality act; and Lily Lena, comedienne.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W Smith. — Bioscope pictures, interspersed with variety turns, are yet on the bill here.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock company is this week presenting here *A Father's Revenge*, a well-written eight-tableaux sketch, by Sydney Spencer. As usual, Mr. Percy Boucher has most of the comedy work, his Pedro creating great laughter. Mr. Cecil Ravenswood as Antonio, Duke of Milan, plays with much dramatic effect; Miss Florence Palmer is telling as the daughter, Princess Miranda; a capital Fidelia is offered by Miss Beryl Ravenswood; Mr. Harry Tresham ably undertakes Andrea; Marco is in the good hands of Mr. Sydney Grant; and Mr. E. D. Allen affords the utmost satisfaction as Stefano. Some attractive cinematograph pictures are also shown.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A series of Bioscope pictures occupies the principal part of the programme here this week. Variety turns are given by the Amphlett duettists, with an interesting vocal scena, *A Domestic Mistake;* some excellent songs are rendered by Clarence L. Winston, coloured tenor vocalist; and a powerful dramatic sketch entitled *The Gambler of Liverpool* is well given by Messrs. J. Marks and E. Gordon, Mrs. J. Marks, Miss Florence St. Clair, and Miss Connie.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A fresh series of moving pictures are here this week, with variety turns by Jack Harris, vocal comedian; Mollie Doon, comedienne; and the Three Seymours, equilibrists and jugglers.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The bioscope remains here another week, and, in addition, some excellent variety artists appear.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W Young.—Visitors to this beautiful building find the sliding roof a pleasant innovation during the hot weather. Good business has been done during the week with Karno's laughable creation, *Moses and Sons*, which tops the bill; Ludwig Amann charms everybody with his remarkable impersonations; Cruikshank brings some new songs, jests, and stories, which are delightful to listen to; Max York's dogs show a high degree of training; and Kathleen Cogan is a pleasing comedienne.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE.—Responsible Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Ian Maclaren's dramatised version of *Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush* is being presented here. In the part of Lachlan Campbell Mr. William Mollison is excellent, and gives a perfect portrayal of a difficult part. Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Archibald McKittick ("Wee Posty") causes roars of laughter; Mr. John Clyde as John Maclure is effective; and the same may be said of Miss Evelyn McNay in the rôle of Flora Campbell. Mr. Kendal Chalmers (Tammas Mitchell), Mr. D. Lyall (the Earl of Kilspindle), Mr. Archie W. Chappell (Lord Hay), Mr. Durward Lely (Rev. John Carmichael), Miss Josephine Woodward (Margaret Howe), Miss Edith Blair-Staples (Annie), Miss Martha Stewart (Geordie), and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald (Jeannie) all do well.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin; Musical Director, Mr. Jess Holroyd.—A variety entertainment has been given here for three nights, the bill being headed by a tabloid farcical comedy, entitled *The Collar Stud*, in which Mr. Bartlett, Mr. W. Stone, Mr. James Black, and Miss Muir appeared, the house being convulsed with mirth. *The Lady and the Lunatic*, in which Miss Muir and Mr. Bartlett sustained the two rôles, caused endless amusement. Other turns were the Sisters Granville, comediennes and dancers; Arthur Wallis, reciter; the Dereneys, in a pot-pourri act; and Joe Redmond, comedian and dancer. *The New Barmaid* was played on Thursday.

HIPPODROME.—This place of amusement opened for the season on July 23, the principal attraction being the Jamacian Choir, brought to this country by Sir Alfred Jones, of shipping renown.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—With its sparkling music, clever dancing, and smart acting *The Dandy Doctor* is paying a welcome return visit, and Mr. E. Marris's company is to be warmly commended on its success. The mounting and dressing all call for special mention, several very pretty stage pictures being introduced. Mr. Edward Marris is thoroughly at home as Brown, a millionaire, and keeps the fun going merrily. Equally praiseworthy is Miss Florence Smithers as Jane. This lady is particularly clever. Mr. Herbert Pearce is well placed as Col. Pendred; and Messrs. E. H. Bertram (Arthur Vandyke) and Leslie Martin (Bertie) are happily cast. Miss Elfie Vincent as Ivy Pendred gives a pleasing performance; and equally smart is Miss Rosie Chandler. The specialists include the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Sorrows of Satan*, transferred from the Grand Junction Theatre, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Hugh Carmichael and Miss Nelson Ramsey head the company.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A big turn here this week is Major and Thurgate's *Mystery Fair*, an elaborate comedy illusion very well staged and highly successful. Herr Addison's troupe of Royal Fox Terriers also provide an admirable show. Other clever and entertaining turns are Jordison's Eight Dancing Dotts; Victoria Dagmar (and clown) in a smart bar act; the Three Mushams, in a comic sketch, *A Day at Hampstead Heath;* Cavalli, expert ventriloquist; Merton and Rydon, in a lively musical comedy act; the Loveladies, illustrated song artists; and Ormonde Penstone and his lady assistant in a series of illusions.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here again in their interesting and exciting play, *A Traitor Prince*, which was presented to a fairly good house on Monday. A very fine performance of the title-part is given by Mr. G. M. Montanini, and his efforts are rivalled by Miss Nesta Sandford in the important rôle of Vashti, the snake charmer. Mr. Ernest A. Duval makes a good Frank Derrick; Mr. Victor Rae, in the part of Cara, the half-caste, is seen to great advantage; Miss Rose Routledge is very natural as the heroine, Lola Vane; plenty of fun is forthcoming from Mr. Edmond O'Grady as Billy Bright; and among others who are well placed Mr. A. W. Norman and Miss Kitty Thomas deserve commendation.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—An old favourite, *A Royal Divorce*, is the attraction here this week, presented by a company under the direction of Mr. W. W. Kelly. A better performance could not possibly be wished for. Miss Edith Cole's Josephine has long been a popular and memorable impersonation; and those who have seen Mr. Frederick Victor in the part of Napoleon know that his realisation of the Emperor of the French could not be surpassed as a convincing, restrained, and dramatic piece of work. The large cast also is worthy of its principals, among the best being Mr. St. George Frere as General Angereau; Mr. Arthur Preston as Murat; Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise; and Miss Clara Russell as Stephanie du Beauharnais. The general staging and effects are extremely good.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Harry Lauder, the favourite Scotch comedian, is the attraction here this week, and crowded houses are the rule. The Holloway Trio are exceptionally clever acrobatic wire performers, and are well received; Shawlene, the well-known whistler, meets with a deserved good reception; and Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, proves very popular. Harry Rochez's circus includes a troupe of cleverly trained ponies and dogs; considerable amusement is caused by the Pender troupe of pantomimists, and the Continental stilt-walkers, in a novelty speciality act; Harry Brown is a capital coloured comedian, who "gets there"; and the Sisters McNulty are neat comediennes and dancers. As usual, the Palace pictures are very good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A very fine turn here this week is that of the Ten Loonies, in *Dotty*, a long and elaborate musical sketch, which includes much fun and music, the latter chiefly eccentric, but sometimes beautiful in character and rendering. Of a different character, but vocally very good, is Harrison Brockbank's *The Freebooter*, which retains its popularity. The Brothers Horne give their smart boxing sketch with great success; Frank Seeley, comedian, is popular; a pretty and well-sung scena is given by the Classicum Quartet of Venetian singers; and other pleasing turns are Will Haines, light comedian; May Evans, comedienne; Amber Austa, quaint singer and dancer; and James Heron, illustrated song vocalist. The pictures are entertaining.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A great treat in the way of refined comedy character-acting is provided here this week by Willie Edouin, who gives three distinct impersonations during the course of an amusing monologue, entitled *Are You Insured?* A fine turn also, beautifully staged, is Percy Honri's musical fantasy *Concordia*. Belle Davis and her Pick-Chicks, three merry nigger boys, who dance extremely well, are loudly applauded; the Sisters Oswald, comediennes, sing and dance agreeably; a clever equilibristic act is offered by the Henri-Taylor Trio of Mexican artists; a smart and amusing turn is that of James Stewart, the tramp at the piano; two songs are admirably sung by Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone; and a brisk and effective exhibition of military drill is given by Capt. Bevan's Gordon Highlanders. In addition to these, two vocal items are tastefully and melodiously rendered by the choir; and a funny series of pictures, "The Terrible Kids," are presented on the bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The star attractions here this week are Austin Rudd, the breezy comedian, and Rachel Lowe, comedienne, both of whom meet with a good reception. Les Frasettis play several selections on the violin, 'cello, harp, and xylophone in a most delightful manner; and Nellie Moore recites "The Women of Mumbles Head" in an effective and refined way. Others who contribute good turns are Maude Roma, mimic and comedienne; the Itrams, in their novel perch pot-pourri act; J. W. North, comedian; Harry Cook, comedian; and the Dewars, comedians and patterers. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are excellent.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Poor Must Live* is being played here twice nightly by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's capable company, headed by Mr. Shaun Glenville as Hooker Holdsnitch and Miss Carmichael as the Vengeance. Miss Margaret Thorne is conspicuous as Sal Darling; Miss Violet Hammersley is pleasing as Dorothy Murdoch; and Miss Alice Buckland as Moya is charming. Other principal parts are in the safe hands of Messrs. Charles O'Connor, H. C. Macartney, W. Spinner, Arthur Trail, and Frank H. Dale. The whole performance is much above the average.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A good programme is presented here this week, the chief attraction being Le Diabelo, whose feat of "Looping the Devil's Wheel" is highly sensational. Ward and Davis are vastly amusing in a musical duologue, entitled *Wanted, a Typist;* George Young, the blind musician, is well received; Ranji Singi and Valeria contribute a smart magical entertainment; and the Three Panamas are artistic tumblers. Lady Zilla is a capital ventriloquist; Houser, the comedy clay modeller, is very good; Dolly Denver dances daintily; and Blarney and Kennard are smart comedians, with a waltzing dog.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Richards, a trio of exceedingly smart acrobats, head the bill here this week, and give a most successful turn. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the singing box-makers, are pleasing vocalists, and are much appreciated; *Dutch Pastimes* is a scena in which four lady artists sing and dance in a characteristic and capable manner; George Gulliver, a ventriloquist of ability, contributes a laughable turn; G. W. Kenway, society entertainer, is very good in imitations of leading comedians; and Lorne and Rene, in their Lancashire scena, *Capital and Labour*, sing well, and patter amusingly. Other good turns are those of Kiaro, a clever hand-balancer; C. H. Charlton, conjurer; and Harley and Harden, knockabouts and eccentric dancers. On Monday night an extra turn was given by an unnamed gentleman artist, "How to become an acrobat," in which he displayed much skill and humour.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North. — A strong attraction here this week, and one which has drawn good houses, is Mr. D'Arcy Clayton's talented combination, "The Gypsies and their Jester," in a novel scena, *A Gypsy Camp*.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Miss Madge McIntosh and Mr. Lumsden Hare's company opened here on Monday, and for the two following evenings, with Alfred Sutro's play, *Mollentrave on Women*. The company was an exceptionally good one, including, as the cast did, Mr. Lumsden Hare, as Sir Joseph Balsted, K.C., M.P., and Miss Maud McIntosh, as Lady Claude Derenham, both of whom did remarkably well in their respective rôles. Mr. Michael Sherbrooke was admirable as the far-seeing Mr. Mollentrave, who has made such a close study of the perplexing problem "woman." Miss Gwladys Wynne was pleasing as Margaret Messilent, who, much to the discomfiture of her guardian, Sir Joseph, falls in love with him. Miss Ada King was well placed as Mrs. Martelli, the housekeeper in the Balsted household, and Miss Alice Arden was particularly good as Mrs. Treable. Mr. Murray Carrington deserves a word of recognition for his Everard Swenboys, Miss Messilent's boyish lover, and Mr. Arthur Somers was seen to advantage as Mr. Dexter. Mr. Stockall Ward played the part of Lord Contareen well, and the other parts were all capitally sustained. The play was preceded each evening by the little curtain-raiser, *A Savage Encounter*, in which Miss McIntosh and Mr. Lumsden Hare appeared with success. For the remainder of the week the comedy, *The Duke of Killicrankie* was in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Miss Annette Kellerman, the lady swimmer, who has once essayed, and who is again in training for another attempt, to swim the Channel, made her appearance here this week with a series of biograph pictures of herself in the water, illustrating her various modes of progression and method of feeding in the sea. One of the prettiest items on the programme, which is again a pleasingly varied one, is A Ba Be's living picture postcard album, a really excellent turn. F. V. St. Clair has, of course, up to date references to Chicago in his topical songs, and other contributors include the Sisters Poole, society entertainers; Massona, juggler; Lily Black, comedienne and dancer; Ernest Rees, comedian; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; and the Biograph Pictures.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—An all-round good programme is placed before the patrons of this place of entertainment. Ferris and Farnley, eccentric patter comedians, prove amusing; the Snow Family, expert and grotesque skaters, in their absurdity *A Spree on the Ice*, are mirth provoking; and Wragg and Wragg, in their feats of swordmanship, are fulfilling a second week's engagement; Nellie Farrell, an Irish singer of Irish songs, has a pleasant vivacious way of rendering her contributions, and dances expertly; the Quaint Korries, in their musical mixture, are entertaining; Ossi Souplessi is good as the flying serpent on the rings; and George French's troupe of cyclists are decidedly clever. The ball each evening proves an additional attraction.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Animated pictures, both interesting and varied, provide much of the evening's entertainment here. Variety turns are submitted by Max Merlin, the human crocodile; Daisy Davenport, a smart comedienne and dancer; Jimmy Shields, in songs and dances; and R. C. Note in acceptable songs.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. K. W. Chatto.—An interesting performance of *Shadows of a Great City* is being given here by a stock company this week. Mr. Frederick Freeman is good as Tom Cooper, and for the part of Biddy Roonan a clever representative is found in Miss Marion Holmes. Mr. Godfrey Tearle does justice to the rôle of George Benson, and Abe Nathan has an excellent representative in Mr. Fred Richards. Mr. Bryce Methven is clever as Arkwright, a detective; and Miss Molly Malone does well as Nellie Standish.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. B. Rembges.—One of the most interesting turns in a capital programme here this week is that of Terry and Lambert in a series of American character sketches. Mark Melford and company cause roars of laughter in their sketch, *Only a Wedding;* the Three Donals give a remarkable display of feats of strength; Howe and Ardie evoke laughter by their grotesque performance; and Cora Caselli is an excellent dancer. Alberto, Francis Manners, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—An excellent programme is being submitted here this week. Harry Pleon delights with his latest burlesque sketch; G. W. Hunter causes laughter by his songs and sayings; Alf Holt distinguishes himself in some remarkable mimicry; Tiny Arnold is highly accomplished, and Bessie Willows sings well; the Henreys provide a clever juggling and club swinging turn, and Mystery Gauze and the Bioscope also add to the attractiveness of the programme.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Charles Windermere has been playing to good business with Darnley's farcical comedy, *Facing the Music*. His really clever acting as the other Mr. Smith is one of the funniest things imaginable, and the audience lavish upon this excellent comedian a full measure of applause. Miss Clare Manifield makes a charming Mabel, and delights the audience; Mr. Norris Mathews is the curate of St. Andrew's, and plays the part admirably; Mr. Wentworth Fane acts with the requisite go as Dick Desmond, and Mr. Graham Morrison succeeds as the uncle, Col. Smith. Other parts are commendably sustained by Messrs. Zoe Davis, Phyllis Leslie, and Evelyn Shelley. The original comedietta, *Clause No. Six*, by Chas. Windermere, is played as a curtain-raiser, the two characters in the trifle being sustained by Mr. Wentworth Fane and Miss Clare Manifield.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The palm this week must be given to Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, with whom is Albert Mason, in the sketch, *The Would-be Actors*, an excruciatingly funny skit on the amateur aspirant to the stage. Bennett and Martell are good in their absurdity, *The Shipwrecks*, and A. J. Rebla will take a lot of beating as a comic juggler. The Falcons are clever people, their balancing and comedy work with the park seats being remarkable. Flo Warner is a dainty singer with a trim figure, and little Maidie Berker has the makings of a society entertainer. The Athlones pose in classic style, and Earle and Melville sing, dance, and patter acceptably; McCann's Irish terriers are cleverly trained. Will Letters has met with his customary success in song and story.

ALHAMBRA PALACE. — General-Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—The Pichel family of acrobats are new to Morecambe audiences, but they are a remarkably good turn. Another big item in the programme is the Daunton Shaw Troupe of Australian trick cyclists, whose dresses are very captivating; Ruby Dahl has a capital mannikin show, and sings pleasantly. Sibbon's Circus is always good, and the animals are well trained, especially the black cat. Little Tim is the comedian this week, and Jack Rae is a most amusing tramp gymnast. Sandy and Carl are old and deserved favourites at this house. The Brontes are to be congratulated upon a really smart sketch, *Saucy Maud*.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. Emilius Hill.—The Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats have created a most favourable impression here, and their work is certainly excellent. The Five Cumberlands have an up-to-date trick and acrobatic cycle act, which is loudly applauded. The Sisters Brooke are good singers and nice dancers, and Elsie Rubina does some good work on the wire. Ariel and Astarte have an effective pot-pourri in the gymnastic line, and Bonnetti and Corrie are smart eccentric jugglers. Harry Evans has a good tenor voice and Ben Holdsworth mimics merrily. The Wedburns have proved a popular turn with joke and music.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. John Baslow.—Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band are retained here for the season, and delight large audiences daily. During the week Miss Nellie Ganthony has entertained in her inimitable way, and Capt. Slingsby has been doing excellent ventriloquial business. The principal vocalists have been Mme. Ambler and Mr. Fowler Burton. Last night (Friday) Mischa Elman, the wonderful young Russian violinist, made a first appearance in Morecambe, and the vocalists were Miss May Peters and Mr. Burton.

NEW BRIGHTON.—TOWER VARIETY THEATRE.—An attractive programme includes Miss Florence Hill, vocalist and dancer; Clem Lisbon, a clever and original comedian; Miss Bertha Duckett, juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Miltons, a skilful and amusing pair of Canadian skaters; the Sisters Bronson, duettists and dancers; Charles Vandyke and company, comedians and pantomimists, in their screaming absurdity *Nicodemus;* and the latest animated pictures by the Towerscope.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—The engagement of Mr. Charles March and company in the drama, entitled *The Gamester of Metz* has proved a popular attraction here this week. As Paul Baldot, Mr. March proves his canabilities in no half-hearted manner, and his quick-change business, a la Biondi, is deserving of every praise; Mr. John B. Murray realises to a nicety the part of Captain Badaire; Mr. Fred Aldworth is satisfactorily placed as General de Monparasse; and both Mr. George Paget as Lieut. Hevre and Mr. W. G. Dudeney as Louis Badaire, create favourable impressions. Miss Una Lane looks particularly charming as Lucie Baldot, and delivers her lines with rare expression. Miss Eva Lyndhurst assumes the small part of Countess Baldot with success, and the comedy element is in the hands of Miss Cissy Haighton as Gwendoline Pearson and Mr. Montagu Corri as Goliarth Gron.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Miss Emma Litchfield and company are appearing here this week in the drama, entitled *A London Actress*. As Hilda Mannering, an adventuress, Miss Litchfield does excellent work; Mr. Smart Cleveland gives an able rendition as Clive Crawford; and Mr. Richard Vane effectively portrays the rôle of Lieut. Kingstone. Two jovial comedians—Mr. George H. Doyle as Moses and Mr. Charles A. Preece as Pat Maloney—keep the fun going merrily. Miss Maud Steeples presents with much charm the part of Phyllis Crawford.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—We had expected Mr. Wilkie Bard here this week, but the popular comedian is not on the programme. However, a capital bill is being submitted, headed by a new-comer, one Raku, whose exhibition as a ju-jitsu wrestler is about the cleverest and most instructive we have yet seen. Carrie Laurie's kindergarten is always a pleasing sort of entertainment, and the various youngsters disport themselves with credit; Herman Melot has lost none of his deftness in the art of conjuring; Marie Reeve, dainty and charming as ever, warbles a plaintive rag-time melody, and concludes with a neatly-executed dance. As a ballad vocalist, Ada Courtney pleases immensely; the Die Obersteirers (12 in number) blend their voices harmoniously in a number of Tyrolean songs; Harrigan and Holt, a merry couple, receive a goodly share of applause; Dot Hardy, in a character song, creates plenty of merriment; and Georgina Leonard is a favourite burlesque actress. The pictures on the Bioscope are of all-round excellence.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—George Gilbey is the shining star in this week's programme, and his songs and patter create much hilarity. A carnival scena is presented by Haley's Prize Juveniles, their act being greatly appreciated; Prince Kuroki, magician, is highly effective with some clever conjuring; Clarisse Henry and company submit a sketch of much excellence, entitled *Counsel's Opinion;* Rose Harvey returns with good songs; the Sisters Tinsley hit the popular taste in song and dance; Marie Wilton is a capable dancer; and a trio of clever artists are Harry Claff, baritone vocalist; Billy Williams, comedian; and Charles Denton, eccentric vocal comedian. A good picture, entitled "The Smuggler's Dogs," is depicted by the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—The proceeds of the week's performances here are being generously given by Mr. Cooper in aid of the funds of the Bath and West Show, to be held in Newport in June next. Mr. Eade Montefiore's company in *The Streets of London* provides the *pièce de résistance*. The local Fire Brigade, under Lieut. Lyne, gives an interesting display of saving life from fire in the principal scene. Mr. Wm. Rokeby makes quite an interesting character-study of the part of Badger; the villainy of Gideon Bloodgood is well portrayed by Mr. Riddell Robinson; Mr. John Richter is dignified in his treatment of Mark Livingstone; as Paul Fairweather, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie does well; there is a breeziness about the humour of Mr. Clifford Bower as Mr. Jonas Puppy; and the comedy element is assisted by Miss Violet Vivian, who makes a matronly Mrs. Puppy. Miss Marion Armitage is a lively Dan Puppy; Miss E. Goodall evokes sympathy as Lucy Fairweather; and Miss M. Kynnersley in the part of Alida Bloodgood is most effective.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empire, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Miss Hettie King is the principal turn here this week. Pat Rafferty, with his Irish songs; Conway and Leland, intensely amusing one-legged artists; Harry Carsdale, farmyard mimic; Spry and Austin, who receive hearty applause; Atroy, with manipulation of the hoops and a juggling performance; Violi, lady instrumentalist; Ambrose Thorne, with a couple of good songs; and the Bioscope are other attractions.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Herald Comedy Four, vocalists and dancers, are the principal attraction here this week, and have come in for a hearty reception; Messrs. Hess and Lisbon, in their grotesque speciality act, are greatly liked; and Messrs. Horton and Linder, in their Chinese comedy three bar act, are clever; Mr. T. W. Royal, comedian and clog dancer, is loyally applauded; Miss Kitty Lavigne is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; the Two Crawlies, the comedy couple, are funny; and the Biophotoscope is still a prominent feature.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Jefferson.—U.S.A. and Greater Britain's Animated Photo Company is located here this week, and the enjoyable entertainment provided has attracted appreciative audiences.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Company.—Mr. Bert H. Delmar's "Comets" have been providing the programme this week. Miss Florence Elliott, the possessor of a rich-toned soprano voice, sings in a cultured style; Miss Madge Jerome is a clever dancer; and other items on the programme are given by Mr. Charles Cardle, coon singer; Mr. Arthur Stafford, pianist; and Mr. Delmar, with songs and stories.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—On Monday and Tuesday evenings a company of well-known amateurs, led by the Hon. Mrs. Ailwyn Fellowes, gave an excellent representation of Mr. Leo Trevor's clever comedy *Brother Officers*, for the benefit of the Norfolk County Cricket Association.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Some good items appear in the bill this week, the chief being Ben Hur, who displays immense muscular powers; May Edouin and Fred Edwards give their charming sketch, entitled *The Bachelor's Dream;* Mary Glen receives a hearty welcome as a vocalist; whilst Maud Vera, vocalist and coon artist, is much appreciated; Henderson, the blind musician, gives a clever musical turn; and Vasey and Ramsay, eccentric comedy dancers, are very successful; Harold Hughman, American mimic, is a good turn; and Ernest French is a favourite comedian. The Hippo Bio show some interesting pictures of the tour of the Prince and Princess of Wales in India.

NOTTINGHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Crowded houses here intently watch and applaud the invincible Hackenschmidt in his various wrestling bouts; a musical comedy, entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, is amusingly played by Harry Roxbury and company to the delight of audiences; Rose Nayon's large troupe of tropical birds forms a pretty picture on the stage; Alix Lukos calls for high praise in his interesting scena *Pictures in the Fire;* and the musical item on silver handbells by Will Cornish evokes well-deserved recognition; novel acrobatic feats by Pit and Cute add to the merriment; and the Four Figaros dance and sing with animation. Nancy St. John gives an acceptable song, and a volatile singer is heard in Flo D'Orville.

OLDHAM.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Dou Ban, "The Mechanical Head," tops the bill this week, and provides a wonderful turn. Mlle. Von Etta, "an indescribable mystery," here for the first time, gives an excellent performance in the Palace of Electricity; the Kyasyas, with their teeth and hirsute novelty, also take well; the Three Whirligigs, in *Fun in a Kitchen*, provide good singing and dancing; Nina Gordon is a capital mimic; and Minnie Fenton is a good vocalist. Charles E. Ernest is a capital instrumental mimic, creating roars of laughter; and George Edney, character vocalist, has a good reception.

PLYMOUTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Jock Field.—The principal item, the Globe of Life, is a turn of a daring and highly sensational nature, the artists, Irene Stone and Wizard Stone, riding cycles at break-neck speed at all-angles round a huge iron cage, and culminating with looping-the-loop; Josh Dixon has a fine reception and well deserves a front place in the low comedy business; the Two Neros furnish some weird contortionist business, which is now comparatively rare; Onda and Artell have an acceptable acrobatic act; and Frank Bertram and Co. raise hearty laughter in the sketch *The Chaperon*, which recalls memories of *Charley's Aunt*. Others contributing are Fred Maxwell and company in a melodramatic act, Crissie Cross, Fred Collins, and Vernon's pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—In the present state of Russian affairs *Siberia* naturally forms a strong attraction at the Grand. Mr. Edward Lloyd appears able to adapt himself to any rôle, and distinguished himself as Nicholai Neigoff; Mr. Henry Compton as the Governor General acted with becoming martial bearing; while Zara, the heroine, could have had no better exponent than Miss Ethel Kay.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The Æolian Concert Party, which formed a great draw last season, have lost none of their attractiveness. Mr.

that the management have retained her services for another week. Zetta Grey and company appear in their original comedy act, *A Lancashire Lass*. Smiler Lee, comedian; Ada B. Kingsley, coloured coon impersonator; H. Vowson, illusionist; and G. W. Nicholson, comedian, all contribute good turns.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—The popularity of this place of amusement was evidenced by the crowded audience which patronised the performance on Monday evening. Barney Stuart is a great favourite; his comic songs and patter, and his appearance among the audience as a Woman Suffragette, cause much fun. Kennedy Allen's amusing songs and stories win appreciation; Little Jennie Hartley evokes great enthusiasm by the delightful manner in which she renders her songs; Clifford Morgan's rich baritone voice is heard to advantage in Leslie Stuart's "Rip Van Winkle"; Jack Macdermott has established himself as a popular favourite; and Forshaw Kershaw, pianist, and a clever elocutionist, completes the bill.

E. H. WILLIAMS'S MERRIE MEN.—The weather has been most favourable for outdoor amusements, and the performances on the beach have in consequence been largely attended. New songs and sketches are constantly introduced.

ROCHDALE.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Wild, Willie, and West top the bill here with a clever and laughable acrobatic scene, *The Bounding Boys;* the Three Rubys are graceful and pleasing lady acrobats; Mollie Woolstenhulme submits some well-rendered songs; Angeline is a clever lady juggler, dancing and juggling at the same time; Harry Zetter and Percy Johnson are amusing comedians; the Empire Bioscope completes a capital programme with some up-to-date pictures.

ROCK FERRY.—OLYMPIAN GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton.—The popularity of the pierrot entertainments provided by the Adeler-Sutton management continues unabated, and the audiences are large and appreciative. This week, Wee Mona, the clever child actress and vocalist, is at the top of the bill; Mr. Marriott Edgar, who comes of an old and talented histrionic family, as his name suggests, has all the ability to ensure success; Mr. Maynard Dakin unites the rôle of manager to that of humorist, and is eminently successful in both characters; Mr. Austin Mahony's sweet tenor voice in popular numbers, and Miss Emily Tait, an established favourite, are among the principal turns of this week's programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Managing-Director, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Ethel Griffies and company are here with *Lady Godiva*. Miss Griffies gives a highly-finished portrayal of the title-rôle; Miss Katherine Brook is pleasing as Lady Aldyth; and Elfrida is a sprightly part in the hands of Miss Edith Loraine. Mr. W. Howard Barlow gives a careful rendering of Leofric; Mr. James Duncan is deserving of approbation in the part of Algar; and he is ably seconded by Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf Unwolfson. Mr. Bob Anderson is amusing as Robin Shakleton; and Mr. Leslie Lingham deserves commendation as Edgar. Tom of Coventry is well portrayed by Mr. F. B. Woulfe.

RYDE.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—The three-day visit of that popular handcuff manipulator, Wishart, has been productive of an interesting entertainment. Large audiences were pleasantly mystified by his varied achievements, among which his double-trunk act met with gratifying success. The Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra have performed twice daily on the pier in conjunction with the Pavilion management.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden. — *The Conscript* with its many exciting incidents is forming an excellent attraction. Mr. Harry Cullenford is a fine hero, Karl Truevitch; and another manly fellow is Ivan Manloff, in the capable hands of Mr. W. Steele; Miss Violet Carlyle makes an excellent Nadia Truevitch; Count Paul Hardiski is a good representative of Russian officialdom as portrayed by Mr. Charles E. Johnson; Mr. Tom Breen as Tretch Trotoff, and Miss Connie Meadows as Wanda, give much pleasure by their singing and dancing; Doggervitch and Maxim Fedka are two good character sketches well played respectively by Mr. E. Lowrie and Mr. F. H. Bellwood.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Mike S. Whallen keeps the house in roars with his smart tales and sayings, and also his extempore songs; some clever mimicry of well-known comedians obtains for Violet Morgan much applause. The other turns, which are all of excellent quality, include Queenie West, vocal comedienne; Johnny Walker, comedian; the Solari Duo, vocalists and instrumentals; Goodfellow and Gregson, smart patterers, duettists, and dancers; W. Salmon, trick cyclist; Fred Cullane's Comedy Trio, in the *Ladies' School;* and Johnson and Pelham (Kidd and Marie), in their "Golf Match."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Schiavoni's Troupe of clever acrobats head the bill and have a good reception. A most amusing picture of country courtship in Scotland is well presented by Lambert and Robertson (Florence and Robert); Dezmonti and Mora give a very smart triple bar performance; some excellent items are also provided by the Errolls, in their clever tumbling act; Tom Kelso and Co., in their comedy sketch, *The Silly Servant;* Lily Vane, comedienne; Hector and Sultan (Chas. and Will), in their comic acrobatic performance; and Wallace Muirhead, tenor vocalist.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Whitehead; Business Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—On the 20th and 21st *His Excellency the Governor* was presented here by a good company. Mr. Malcolm Cherry gave a fine impersonation of His Excellency; as John Baverstock, Mr. Lionel Mackinder deserves special praise for the delightful manner in which he handled the part; Mr. H. Marsh Allen was a smart and dashing Capt. Charles Carew; as Henry Carlton, Mr. D. J. Williams was very good; Miss Jean Aylwyn as Stella de Gex won general commendation; Miss Isabel Grey did justice to the part of Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke; Miss Valerie Salberg was a pretty Ethel Carlton, and played the part in an easy and refined manner. The play was preceded by an amusing one-act piece, *A Waste of Time*.

VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tibby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Several changes have this week been made in the programme, which is well received nightly by large audiences; Miss Beattie Witham in a budget of new songs, &c., still maintains her popularity; Miss Ramsdale's bright manner in singing and dancing is very pleasing; Mr. Skidmore keeps the ball rolling merrily with his jokes and comic songs; Mr. William Dyar's songs are also highly appreciated; Miss Sylva Mortlake, at the piano, contributes several pleasing solos. This week a good selection of animated pictures concludes the programme.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This house was re-opened for the season on Monday, after being thoroughly cleaned and painted. *Defending his Honour* was presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Douglas Bryce is manfully played by Mr. Fred W. Goddard; the villainy of Stephen Graid is vividly shown by Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh (the General-Manager of the company); Mr. Haughton Macaulay does well as Dick Verison; the Irish part of Jack Damish is cleverly drawn by Mr. Evan Roland; Ethel Bryce is delightfully played by Miss Chrissie Dunbar, as Mrs. Verison; Miss Amy Wood is diverting; a vivacious Trixie is found in Miss Ida Mackay; Miss Sybil Haughton is a satisfactory Nurse Sinclair; and as Harry, Miss Amy Manfree does well.

SHEFFIELD.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Clean and bright after its annual "doing-up," and well filled with a delighted audience, the spacious interior of the Alexandra presented an exhilarating picture on Monday, when Mr. James Stillwell and his company opened in *The King's Secret*. Mr. Stillwell submitted a faithful portrait of a modern type of the British naval officer as Captain Fairbairn; Mr. Herbert Bentone's Count von Bernstein was an interesting impersonation; and Arab Hassam was well depicted by Mr. Edward Fryer. Miss Zana St. George made a picturesque and dramatic representative of the beautiful Zanona; Miss Katherine Burnett was a pleasing Lelia; and good comic relief was afforded by the doings of Mr. Paul E. Teulon as the jovial sailor Jack Deadeye; Mr. Robert Earl as Jonathan Newark; and Miss Lattridge as Birdie. The drama was effectively staged. On Thursday the thrilling drama of intrigue, plot, and passion, *The Branded Woman*, was played.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—As usual, two big audiences gave a cordial greeting on Monday to the following talented and popular artists: Mr. Ernest Shand, the favourite comedian, who kept his many admirers thoroughly amused by his smart patter, mimicry, and comic vocalism; Mr. Will English, in well-rendered coon ditties; the Mackweys, in a mirth-provoking wire act; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, droll American entertainers, in a diverting comedy act; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in a mirthful, and agile display; Miss Esta Stella, an artist full of vim, grace, and refined vivacity; Binns and Binns, two artists who combine instrumentalism with clean buffoonery; "Pilu," the extraordinary canine thought-reader; and that old favourite, Mr. Tom Wootlwell, the successful burlesque actor, dancer, and inventor of funny gags.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Miss Carlotta de Yonson and her company are appearing this week in *The Russian Spy;* and also engaged are the Sisters Daventry, duettists; Mr. Frank Cumminger, the expert sand-dancer; Mr. Harry Royde, comedian; Miss Jessie Watson, serio comic vocalist; and Mr. Percy Curry, Yorkshire comedian.

CENTRAL HALL.—In addition to the animated pictures, the programme is contributed to by Miss Rosa Graham, Mr. Tom Moore, and Mr. Horace Morton.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Owners, Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*Leah Kleschna* is being presented here by Mr. Thomas Sidney. Mr. Paul Rhodes cleverly depicts Paul Sylvaine; as Kleschna Mr. Thomas Sidney gives a really clever impersonation, being well supported by Mr. Christmas Grose as Schram; Mr. Gerald H. Hiller is good as General Berton, and Raoul is well taken by Mr. Edgar Kent. Mr. H. Allistoun Samson and Miss Dorothy Sidney are pleasing as Valentine Favre and Sophie Chaponniere respectively; Miss Aimee de Burgh, who looks exceedingly nice in her costly and beautiful dresses, is a noteworthy and capable exponent of Leah, winning golden opinions.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The most popular item in the theatre here is perhaps the one given by the Four Watsons, their comedy and musical act being excellent; the Mayvilles, who have been retained, please wonderfully with their marionettes; Godfrey Carnell is good in his dramatic monologues; Iris Rae, a pretty dancer, also sings well; Johnny Thompson is an eccentric comedian and dancer; the Two Carrs are delightful in their act, entitled *My Beat of Love;* and to Jenny Venton, American soubrette and dancer, a good reception is given. The Bioscope has a complete change of interesting pictures. The Kursaal Koncert Kompany gives excellent entertainments in the Café Chantant, and Lorenzo's Miniature Circus performs successfully in the Hippodrome.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A first-class entertainment is being given here this week in the production of the famous comedy, *Our Boys*. The well-known and popular comedian, Mr. Charles Otley, in his interpretation of Perkyn Middlewick, creates hearty laughter; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is quite successful as Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Messrs. Arthur Eldred and Herbert Robinson as Talbot Champneys and Charles Middlewick respectively are decidedly good; Miss Olive Palmer as Violet Melrose, Miss Edith Heron Brown as Mary Melrose, and Miss Phyllis Manners as Clarissa Champneys, in their respective parts, give excellent portrayals. Miss Marie Jonquil is responsible for a humorous interpretation of Belinda.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—This new place of amusement provides capital programmes, drawing immense crowds at intervals during the day. The Bijou Orchestra, led by Mr. H. Lyme, is an attraction in itself, and Mr. Charles Ellis, an old local favourite, has been engaged for the remainder of the season. Professor Vincent, the well-known illusionist, has charge of these entertainments.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Mr. Ballard Brown is to be congratulated on the all-round excellence of the entertainments that he presents three times daily, when vast crowds are not lacking in their appreciation.

"THE HAPPY VALLEY."—Chirgwin's Concert Party is attracting huge crowds to this ideal "pitch" both afternoons and evenings, and latterly seats have been at a premium. The "stock company," Miss Beatrice Varley, Messrs. Charles Wood, Harry Rose, Bert Dansie, Charles Osborne, and Frank Harris, are all strong favourites, and "I'll meet you at the valley" has become a popular catchword in the town. Mr. Chirgwin may be congratulated on a big success at a charming "pitch" with a brilliant company, under the able management of Charlie Osborne.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—After being closed for the summer vacation since the 11th ultimo, the Opera House was re-opened for the season on Monday, when Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux presented Mr. Arthur Bourchier's capable company in *The Walls of Jerico*. The principal rôle of Jack Frobisher was impersonated by Mr. Herbert Brunston with a vigour and manliness eminently suited to the character, the impassioned denunciation of the "Smart Set" being given with power and effect; Miss Florence Jackson was very successful in the rôle of Lady Alethea, playing with charming abandon and pathos; Lady Lucy Derenham had a vivacious and clever representative in Miss Molly Carton; Mr. Cyril Baleine submitted a capital study of the fussy aristocrat, the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Lydia Busch effectively portrayed the character of the sympathetic Lady Westerby; Mr. George Brandram was sufficiently brusque as the Queensland gold-digger, Hankey Bannister; Mr. Sydney Hamilton did justice to the part of Harry Dallas; and the remaining characters were ably represented.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Meritz.—One of the principal items in the attractive variety programme presented here this week is supplied by the Seener-Fredkin troupe of Imperial Russian dancers, with a remarkably clever performance; another prominent turn is contributed by Mr. Jack Lorimer, the Scotch comedian and dancer; and other turns include Mamie Iris, comedienne and dancer; Gravetta and Parr, in their Pot-Pourri act; the Bohemians, musical and comedy act; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians; Fancourt and Ruby, sketch artists; Fred Russell, ventriloquial humourist; and a Bioscopic representation of the Spanish Royal wedding, followed by a graphic scene of a Spanish bull fight.

PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—The bill here is headed this week by James De Voye's educated horse "Billy," with some extraordinary tricks. Other turns include Lottie D'Abbey, soprano vocalist; Vardon, ventriloquist; Mack Ollive, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry, in his original whistling scena, entitled *The Candy Store;* the Sisters Eileen and Maynie, instrumentalists and expert dancers; Will Daniels, eccentric comedian; Harry Marlow and May Manton, in their amusing sketch, entitled *Other People's Babies*"; Conan and Doyle, patter comedians; and the Bio-tableaux.

HIPPODROME, LORD-STREET. — Notwithstanding the counter attractions and adverse climatic conditions, the Royal Italian Circus, which comes direct from Hengler's Cirque, London, opened here on Monday evening to a packed house. The amazing and unique performance of the various highly-trained animals was witnessed with keen interest and pleasure, whilst the humour and merriment of the entertainment had capital representatives in Nip and Wee Wullie, Piccolo, and Fiori.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—*The Days of Cromwell* is drawing good houses here. Mr. Henry Belding as Ironhand makes the part stand out by his easy, natural, and forceful acting. Mr. George Milser as the Protector gives a creditable portrayal; the comedy element is supplied by Miss Annie Clunn, Mr. Harry C. Mourber, Mr. John Melton, and Mr. Arthur Mewburn. Miss Gertrude Gilman enacts Ruby Avondale in a charming manner, and Miss Cecilia Crawford is good as Mistress Judith Shadwell.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The place of honour here is occupied by the Poluski Bros., whose never-failing humour meets with well merited applause. The Norman Leonard trio in *The Itinerant Musician* render a capital musical entertainment; Les Valdos, comedy acrobats, extract fun from their turn; and the whistling of Fred Mason is creditable; the singing of Vi Raynor, comedienne and dancer, is greatly appreciated; and other welcome turns are Brown and Robinson, harmonious vocalists; Lottie Govell, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope with interesting films.

TIVOLI. — Lessees and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—An ovation is accorded to Mons. Persov, who proves to be an exceptionally clever mimic and necromancer; Gipsy Bard, coon artist and dancer, is a strong favourite; Maggie Dilston, ballad vocalist, sings well; the universal living pictures are still a draw, and the popular "Go-as-you-please" competition is retained another week.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Dunford Oswald.—This place was re-opened on Saturday evening, having been cleaned and renovated during the recess. A capital company of variety artists is entertaining. Prince Fee Lung, assisted by Wha Sing Ging and Lee Chung, gives an astonishing Chinese illusory performance; the Sisters Belmore are dainty comedy artists and dancers; Aldro Lukos is good on the swinging perch; Fred Alberto is a quaint patterer and dancer; the Berlin Belles, a trio of burlesque artists, are clever; the Paulo Bros. in their acrobatics introduce a speciality act, "A Scotchman's Dilemma in Hyde Park"; and Miss Janet Swinburne, the lady baritone; Daisy Pearl, vocalist; the Coopers, musical specialists; and Rosie Stuart, soprano, add their share to the attractions of a good programme.

ST. HELENS. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Wilmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—A programme of unusual excellence is being submitted here this week. The premier position in the bill is occupied by the Three Schaffers, aptly described as "Herculean Gladiatorial wonders." Smith and Johnson, the society coloured duo, are clever, as are Winona and King in a speciality act; Will Llytton, swell comedian, and Frank Coyle, comedian, both tickle the audiences immensely with their comicalities; Henriette and Selina are well received as vocal and instrumental entertainers, and Mr. Percy M. Stevenson and company are seen to advantage in the dramatic sketch *A False Friend*. The Bioscope with new pictures is enjoyable.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill. The periodical visits here of Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale and his capable company are invariably a source of much pleasure to the numerous habitués of Mr. Revill's theatre. Throughout the week a most gratifying reception has been accorded the distinguished actor, who in a repertoire of plays has in each portrayed the chief character in admirable style. On Tuesday night *David Garrick* formed the attraction, Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale appearing in the title-rôle, his efforts being heartily appreciated; Mr. Arthur Rose gave an effective impersonation of Squire Overdon, and Joshua Bedford had a capable exponent in Mr. David Beattie; Mr. T. G. Westland as Mr. Hoskins, Mr. Cotton Holmes as Mr. Gamphire, and Mr. Fred Wilberforce as Mr. Peterkin gave excellent support, and as Laura Bedford Miss Georgina Wynter's impersonation was delightfully charming and graceful. On Wednesday *The Vicar of Wakefield* was given, preceded, for the first time on any stage, by a romantic episode in one act, entitled *The Curse of the Cards*, a notice of which appears in another column. On Thursday *David Garrick* was repeated, and on Friday *The Lady of Lyons* occupied the boards.

EMPIRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The Marvellous acrobatic feats of the Avolos, who head the bill this week, have been greeted with genuine applause by large audiences. Among others included in a varied programme are Luigo's Serenadas in a scena *Venice by Night*, their vocalism being pleasingly received; the Sisters Terry, duettists; Nellie Navette, comedienne, and Dorothy L. Clarke, comedienne, are successful; Mlle. Collard, with her burlesque animal-act, causes abundant amusement; Ziggins and Murlone are coloured American enteratiners of ability; Charles F. Best in his comedy-act; MacBunker, the mountebank, has made a hit, and Railus displays marked cleverness as a ball juggler.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The well-known humourist Harry Liston opened here on Monday night, assisted by Miss Lord Lumley in highly amusing comedy duets.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.— GRAND. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The attractive programme presented here this week includes Grant and Grant, American octoroon artists, and Chas. Fisher's Pocket Opera Co. in *Maritana*. A success is scored by the blind pianist and vocalist, Mons. Slippere, assisted by Miss Ramsay. Gintaro, Japanese juggler and top spinner, gives a clever show; and Harry Bancroft, the Labakans, and Emmie Ames are included in a good programme.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE. — Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The eight weeks' successful stock season finishes here to-night. For the concluding week the bill has included *The Octoroon*, *Caste*, *Our Boys*, and *East Lynne*, and a grand benefit was given on Wednesday to the stage-manager, Mr. Chas. M. Daly, who arranged a big variety programme, containing no fewer than forty-two turns. The artists included W. S. Hutchinson, ventriloquist; G. P. Lester, in a dramatic episode; Douglas Ettrick, solo pianist; Lawson A. Charles, comedian; Albert Sember, in *The Progress of Madness;* Dora Hilstrom, song and dance artist; Yardeni, local handcuff and box expert; Phil Falk, vocalist; Mabel Ettrick, solo mandolinist; the stock company in the one-act play, *The Fairy of the Glen;* Maurice Eyre, sleight of hand expert; Elton Bros., comedians; Bert Ferrell, Dutch and Swiss vocalist; Jack Cranston, comedian; Bros. Chelsea, sketch artists; and, from the Palace, Sunderland, Chas. Bignell, Alema Burton, Lilian Lowe, Albani, Joe Mac, and Keen and Waller. During an interval the prizes won on the Carnival Field on Wednesday afternoon were presented to the successful competitors.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. Fred Jarman's *Under the Czar* company has proved acceptable fare for the habitues of this popular house. Mr. Jack Fortescue, as Nicholas Yeroslaff, the hero, plays with ability; Mr. W. H. Riley scores as Zakhar Kovesky, the unscrupulous Major; Mr. Lawrence Brien acts the rôle of Alexio Petroff; and Mr. R. Tarrant is responsible for that of Victor Kleff; Miss Francesca Strickland excites the sympathies of the audience by her pleasing and effective rendition of Tonia Gregorovitch; Mr. Gerald Smythe is successful as Capt. Johnson; as is also Mr. C. P. Amalia, as Count Yesseldorf.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting Managers, Messrs. Browne and Syd Stringer.—The chief position on the bill is this week held by Staley's Novelty Combination, in their quick-change from the forge to the drawing-room. Others appearing include Myra Yorman, contralto vocalist; Jack Mills, Scotch comedian; the Albano Troupe, in their high-class musical act; Alma Burton, comedienne and dancer; Joe Mac, comedian; Keen and Waller, acrobatic comedians; Charles Bignell, comedian; and Lilian Lowe, vocalist; concluding with the Bioscope pictures.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth.—A sterling attraction is provided here this week by Mr. W. J. Miller and company in *The Throne of Terror*. As the incorruptible Robespierre Mr. Miller is excellent; Capt. Eugène de Lisle is ably undertaken by Mr. Roy Milton; Mr. Frank Fuller is well placed as the Comte de Roquefort; and Miss Katherine Maude Davies as Marguerite de Roquefort submits an admirable study.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth.—Messrs. Poole's Myriorama is here for the week, and proves as strong an attraction as ever. The variety turns interspersed are exceedingly good.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Dandies are engaged here this week, and opened on Monday to an appreciative audience. Mr. Henry J. Corner, with a well-cultured voice, is heard to advantage in popular numbers; Miss Lucie Caine scores with lively songs, and Miss Queenie Essex introduces some clever step-dancing. Mr. Harry Russon, the humorist of the party, is well received, and Miss K. Augusta Davies is an efficient accompanist.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The season here is now at its height, and exceptionally strong programmes are being submitted. The feature of this week's bill is Addie Dorina in her successful sketch, *How It Was Done*, in which some remarkably quick changes are made, and valuable assistance is rendered by Pat Waddock as Mr. Rich Greenlove. Carl Lynn creates quite a furore with his clever life-like animal mimicry. The Strads' musical sketch is clever as well as amusing. Helen Martin is a popular vocalist that is greatly in favour. The Grand Casino Orchestra still remains a feature. The Ringling Trio comedy and the Bioscope complete a well diversified entertainment.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Miss Elias, with her well-trained troupe of performing lions, contributes a thrilling performance; Zavan, "the man on the lamp-post," is clever; the Carvers are a couple of smart top-boot dancers; Marie de Paso, lightning clay-modeller, proves popular; Salida and Vone, ragtime dancers, do well; La Belle Lily and Albert appear in a clever gymnastic act; the Two Wambas, in a musical comedy act, and Tom Melrose complete the programme.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Tina Clementa, with her horse and greyhounds, heads the list this week; Miss Florrie Gallimore sings in vivacious style several popular songs; J. W. Rickaby wins favour as a comedian; Lilian, the lady trick cyclist, is decidedly smart; the Bros. Harrison evoke mirth; Myra Stanfield is attractive as a burlesque artist; and the Kashma Brothers also add to the strength of the bill.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—The six Bros. Luck form the main attraction at Walthamstow, where they are always sure of a cordial greeting. They appeared on this visit in *The Hotel Grande*, and kept the audience in high good humour. The Florodora Girls are three charming damsels, whose voices harmonise sweetly and who dance delightfully; W. H. Clemart is a ventriloquist much above the average, and he contrives to introduce a good deal of acceptable novelty; Sam Mayo's dry humour seemed to be quite to the liking of the audience; Lucy Weston, comedienne; the Gillette Trio, equilibrists; and Gladys Huxley, comedienne, all come in for a due share of recognition; Ruffell's Bioscope shows a very amusing film, depicting the mischief wrought by two boys and a dog. Despite the heat wave, the audiences seem to agree with Mr. A. J. Barclay that the Palace is about the coolest place in the town.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred J. Reece.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is here this week in the dramatic drama, *A Queen of Villainy*. In the title-rôle Miss Edith Blande shows all the remorseless nature associated with such a character as Cora Grenville; Stephen Faucit, her partner in crime, is well acted by Mr. Edward Heanley; a dignified impersonation of Sir John Desborough is furnished by Mr. Gordon Carnegie; Mr. Ernest C. Batley is a manly Alec; a clever sketch of Kit, a waif, is submitted by Mr. Laurence Stevenson; and two good character-sketches are those of Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Reuben and Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Sally Chimes. Mr. P. Howard Sturgess is very amusing as Timothy Kodac, being ably assisted by Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie Maggs. Mr. Charles Stirling is well placed as Dick Leinster, and Miss Cecilia Desmond as Rose Delmayne acts charmingly.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Alberto Troupe head the bill here this week, and their entertainment as head and hand balancers and wire equilibrists is one of the smartest seen here. Roden and Bell are talented duettists, and Edie Fodin is a charming comedienne; Ernie Myers is up to date with his patters songs, and Lambert and Hands win approval with their duets. Lily Lonsdale has a good soprano voice, and the Bioscope pictures make up a good programme.

WEST BROMWICH.—HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—This is the seventh week of continued success of the Kennedy's Komiks at this house. The programme includes Mr. Charles Bayham, known as "Charlie," who had a well-earned benefit on Friday; a welcome return is given by Sands and Vincent, who improve on acquaintance; a good turn is submitted by Ellis and Liston, and the same may be said of the Vervains, Vincent and Verney, and Kino and Kirby.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — PALACE. — Director General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The excellent array of talent presented here is resulting in well-filled houses. Belrose and De Velin, speciality duettists and soloists, have visited many times, but upon no occasion has their reception been more flattering than now; the acrobatic comedy act by Adams and Ward provokes mirth and admiration, as also does the canine pantomime by Leo Lester's dogs. A pleasing entertainment is provided by Osborn and Brooks, the musical comedy duo; Fyne and Hurley, in a sketch *The Coster and the Dude*, keep the audience in one continual roar of laughter. The dancing of Lily Gaston is excellent; and illustrated songs by E. O. Fitzgerald have a good reception. Some amusing films are shown on Raymond's Bioscope.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Mr. John Ridding's opera company is paying its fourth visit here this week, and on Monday delighted an exceptionally large and enthusiastic audience by presenting Balfe's evergreen opera, *The Bohemian Girl*. The interpretation of Count Arnheim proved Mr. John Ridding to be an artist to the finger-tips. Mr. Fred Clendon made quite a hit as Devilshoof; Thaddeus provide Mr. Charles le Sueur with plenty of scope for the use of his rich tenor voice; and Mr. Arthur Fisher made an excellent Captain of the Guard. Miss Kitty Brownless gave an impersonation of Arline that was replete with artistic touches; and Miss Knightley's Queen of the Gipsies was entitled to the highest eulogy. *Faust, Maritana, Old Knockles*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* were staged during the week.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company are doing good business here with *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Chas. Fawcett is excellent as Jack Barrington, as is Mr. Reddick Anderson as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. P. Williams typically enacts the part of Dr. Clayton. Too much praise cannot possibly be given to Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, the Butler, who is the life and soul of the piece. Miss Ada Blanche is exceptionally excellent as Mrs. Barrington. On Thursday Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company appeared in *Her One Great Sin*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week a good company is entertaining the patrons here. Mr. Oliver Conroy, eccentric, provides a good turn; Mr. Charles Coll, vocal comedian, is good; Poole and Poole, comedy couple, are most attractive; Miss Florrie Brooklyn is smart in singing and dancing, and Mr. James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman, is a further attraction. The pictures continue to be well selected.

MR. FRANK E. BURDETT'S company is paying a return visit to the Hippodrome, Wigan, in the military play *The Indian Mutiny*, which is well staged. Mr. Geo. Steele sustains the part of Lieutenant Manley with dignity; Mr. Cyril Harrison impersonates Captain Manley; and the rôle of Major Ingleby is capably presented by Mr. J. Davidson. Terry O'Brien has a humorous exponent in Mr. George Cully, and Miss Lillie Grey ably plays the parts of Mrs. Major Ingleby and Kate Ingleby, mother and daughter. The chief Hindoo characters are impersonated by Mr. Villiers Stanley (as the leader of the rebels), Mr. Chas. Boult (Ra Goonga, a Brahmin), and Miss F. Melrose Millett (as Ghuz-hah, a Brahmin priestess).

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, JUNE 19, 1906.—*The Little Michus*, presented by Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company at Her Majesty's, is attracting full houses. A leading member of the company, Miss Margaret Thomas, who, coming here as the contralto of the Parkinson concerts, was "discovered" by Mr. Williamson, is about to marry Mr. Alexander Gordon, a King's Counsel.

MR. BLAND HOLT continues to do well with excellent representations of *For England*. A strong company, which includes the evergreen actor-manager and his winsome wife, gains favour amid surroundings where every possible attention is paid to detail.

"THE MAN FROM MEXICO" will cease to make folks laugh at the Criterion after to-morrow night, when Messrs. Willoughby and Ward close their present season. This was the theatre which the late Premier of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Richard Seddon, attended the night before his sudden death. After the performance, he invited Miss Grace Palotta, Mr. Hugh J. Ward, and Mr. George Willoughby to supper with him and Mrs. Seddon at Paris House, so that these artists were the last to see him before he went on board the steamer. He was then, apparently, in good health and spirits.

THE TIVOLI has an important accession in a boy comedian, Little Cliff. His kettle-drumming is excellent, and altogether he took the Tivoli patrons accustomed to "good things," quite by surprise. Another excellent "turn" is that of Miss Lillieth Leyton and Mr. Harry Kendal, whose sketch, *The Order of the Bath*, is daintily amusing.

MELBOURNE, JUNE 18.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE (under the direction of Herbert Flemming).—Barrie's charming comedy, *Little Mary*, was repeated on Saturday evening, and, despite unfavourable weather, the theatre was well filled in all parts. *Little Mary* will only be played for one more night, *The Village Priest* being billed for to-morrow evening, while Wednesday and Thursday (the last nights of the season) will see a revival of the charming play, *Quality Street*. The Brough-Flemming season has been a most successful one, and Melbourne playgoers will be sorry to say good-bye to the popular and clever combination. Next Saturday evening the Ward-Willoughby company will produce the farce-comedy, *The Man from Mexico*, which has recently concluded a successful season in Sydney.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—After a successful run, *The Dictator* was withdrawn on Friday evening in favour of *On the Quiet*, which was produced for the first time on Saturday evening. The piece scored an instantaneous success, and bids fair to run to the end of the season. Mr. William Collier as Robert Ridgway was the life of the play, while Miss Mabel Taliaferro lent him able support in the character of Agnes Colt. As the Duke of Carbondale Mr. Grant Stewart became a prime favourite at once. Mr. Barrymore was excellent as Hyde Oglolls, and Mr. Wallace McCutcheon deserves a word of praise for his clever impersonation of the negro servant, the little bits of by play with his master being admirably done

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

MY MISSIS, Opéra Comique, Oct. 8, 1886.
MY MOTHER, Toole's, May 20, 1890.
MY MOTHER'S MAID, Haymarket, Nov. 18, 1858.
MY NADINE, Folkestone, May 20, 1880.
MY NAME IS JONES, Amphitheatre, Leeds, Oct. 28, 1872.
MY NAME IS NORVAL, St. James's, Jan. 18, 1860.
MY NATIVE LAND, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, Oct. 29, 1891.
MY NEW MAID, St. George's, June 22, 1878.
MYNHEER JAN, Grand, Birmingham, Feb. 7, 1887.
MY NIECE AND MY MONKEY, Folly, June 10, 1876.
MY OFFICIAL WIFE, Lyric, Nov. 10, 1892.
MY PARTNER, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, March 17, 1884.
MY PAYING GUEST, Queen's Hall, Feb. 25, 1895.
MY PLAYMATE, Seaham Harbour, Nov. 5, 1838.
MY PRECIOUS BETSY, Adelphi, Feb. 18, 1850.
MY PRESERVER, Strand, March 2, 1863.
MY PRETTY LITTLE COZ, St. George's Hall, Feb. 5, 1900.
MY QUEEN, Gaiety, March 20, 1884.
MY QUEENIE, Vaudeville, April 9, 1889.
MYRA, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Sept. 27, 1880.
MYRTLE, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, April 8, 1889.
MY SIN, Spennymoor, Jan. 2, 1888.
MY SISTER AND I, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Nov. 29, 1897.
MY SOLDIER BOY, Fulham, July 11, 1898.
MY SON AND I, Steinway Hall, May 25, 1894.
MY SON DIANA, Haymarket, May 25, 1857.
MY SON'S A DAUGHTER, Strand, Sept. 15, 1862.
MYSTERIES OF AUDLEY COURT, Astley's, Aug. 11, 1866.
MYSTERIES OF CALLOW ABBEY, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 15, 1876.
MYSTERIES OF PRINCE'S TOWER, Theatre Royal, Jersey, June 9, 1879.
MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE, Norwich, May 11, 1869.
MYSTERIOUS HOUSE OF CHELSEA, Marylebone, Sept. 30, 1876.
MYSTERIOUS LADY, Lyceum, Oct. 18, 1852.
MYSTERIOUS MR. BUGLE, Strand, May 29, 1900.
MYSTERIOUS MUSICIAN, Terry's, June 27, 1899.
MYSTERIOUS WIDOW, Neville Dramatic Studio, July 26, 1897.
MYSTERY OF A GLADSTONE BAG, Pavilion, June 24, 1889.
MYSTERY OF A HANSOM CAB, Princess's, Feb. 23, 1888.
MYSTERY OF DESBOROUGH, Bootle, Jan. 22, 1900.
MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD, Surrey, Nov. 4, 1871.
MYSTERY OF THE SEVEN SISTERS, Surrey, Oct. 27, 1890.
MYSTERY; OR, GREED FOR GOLD, Olympic, April 5, 1873.
MYSTERY, THE, Surrey, Sept. 19, 1863.
MYSTICAL MISS, Comedy, Dec. 13, 1899.
MYSTIC MAHATMA, St. George's Hall, Jan. 5, 1892.
MYSTIC RING, Birkenhead, March 17, 1893.
MY SWEETHEART, Princess's, Glasgow, June 4, 1883.
MYTHOLOGY RUN MAD, Westminster, May 17, 1893.
MY TURN NEXT, New Holborn, Dec. 17, 1866.
MY UNCLE, Theatre Royal, Torquay, May 28, 1883.
MY UNCLE'S CARD, Surrey, Jan. 26, 1873.
MY VERY LAST PROPOSAL, Theatre Royal, Belfast, March 30, 1874.
MY VILLA IN ITALY, Charing Cross, Aug. 14, 1871.
MY WIFE, Gaiety, Burnley, April 6, 1885.
MY WIFE'S BABY, Royalty, Sept. 7, 1872.
MY WIFE'S BONNET, New Olympic, Nov. 2, 1864.
MY WIFE'S DAUGHTER, Olympic, Oct. 14, 1850.
MY WIFE'S MAID, Adelphi, Aug. 8, 1864.
MY WIFE'S PARTY, St. George's Hall, May 23, 1892.
MY WIFE'S RELATIONS, Olympic, Dec. 1, 1862.
MY WIFE'S STEP-HUSBAND, Tenby, Sept. 14, 1897.
NABOB'S FORTUNE, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, July 16, 1881.
NADEL, Theatre Royal, Coventry, March 11, 1886.
NADESHDA, Drury Lane, April 16, 1885.
NADGY, Prince of Wales's, Greenwich, Oct. 19, 1837.
NADIA, Lyric, May 3, 1892.
NADINE, Vaudeville, March 5, 1885.
NADJEZDA, Haymarket, Jan. 2, 1886.
NAIAD QUEEN, Princess's, Manchester, Aug. 27, 1883.
NAMESAKES, Toole's, Feb. 24, 1883.
NANA SAHIB, Victoria, Nov. 2, 1863.
NANCE, Pavilion, Nov. 13, 1893.
NANCE OLDFIELD, Lyceum, May 12, 1891.
NANCY AND CO., Strand, July 7, 1886.
NANCY SIKES, Olympic, July 9, 1878.
NANNETTE, Standard, Aug. 24, 1868.
NANNIE, Opéra Comique, Nov. 16, 1895.
NANON, Grand, Birmingham, Sept. 16, 1889.
NAOMI'S SIN, Alexandra, Sheffield, May 7, 1879.
NAOMI THE GIPSY GIRL, Britannia, Aug. 19, 1872.
NAP; OR, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S SCREAM, Elephant and Castle, July 21, 1890.
NAP, Theatre Royal, Blyth, April 5, 1890.
NAPOLEON; OR, STORY OF A FLAG, Britannia, April 14, 1873.
NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, Dudley, June 19, 1899.
NARCISSE, Lyceum, Feb. 17, 1868.
NARCISSE THE VAGRANT, Vaudeville, July 3, 1883.
NARROW ESCAPE, , March 20, 1888.
NATALIE, Glasgow, April 28, 1892.
NATHAN DER WEISE, Comedy, Nov. 9, 1900.
NATIONALIST, Queen's, Dublin, April 21, 1891.
NATIONAL QUESTION, Globe, March 16, 1878.
NATURALIST, St. George's Hall, April 11, 1887.
NATURE AND PHILOSOPHY, Lyceum, April
NATURE'S NOBLEMAN, Gaiety, Dublin, July , 1882.
NAUGHTY BOYS, Sheffield, July 16, 1894.
NAUGHTY FORTY THIEVES, Grand, Dec. 26, 1892.
NAUGHTY MEN, THE, Gaiety, Dublin, June 1, 1885.
NAUGHTY ROSINA, Brixton, Aug. 15, 1898.
NAUGHTY TITANIA, Aston, Aug. 7, 1893.
NAULAHKA, THE, Opéra Comique, Oct. 26, 1891.
NAUTCH GIRL, Savoy, June 30, 1891.
NAVAL CADETS, Globe, March 27, 1880.
NEALE O'NEAL, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, July 20, 1874.
NEARLY LOST, City of London, Aug. 5, 1867.
NEARLY SEVEN, Haymarket, Oct. 7, 1882.
NEARLY SEVERED, Comedy, Manchester, Aug. 31, 1885.
NEAR SHAVE, Court, May 6, 1895.
NECK OR NOTHING, Grecian, Aug. 3, 1876. 18, 1876.
NED KNOWLES, Opéra Comique, Feb. 5, 1887.
NED'S CHUM, Globe, Aug. 27, 1891.
NEEDFUL, THE, St. James's, Jan. 1, 1868.
NEEDLES AND PINS, Crystal Palace, Aug. 12, 1884.
NE'ER-DO-WEEL, Olympic, Feb. 25, 1878.
NE'ER-DO-WELL, THE, Strand, May 22, 1894.
NEIGHBOURS, Strand, Nov. 10, 1866.
NELL GWYNNE, Royalty, June 12, 1871.
NELLIE'S FLIGHT, Crystal Palace, July 30, 1886.
NELLIE'S TRIALS, Strand, Jan. 8, 1866.
NELL; OR, THE CURIOSITY SHOP, Olympic, Nov. 19, 1870.
NELL SNOOKS, West London, April 3, 1899.
NELSON ENCHANTRESS, Avenue, Feb. 11, 1897.
NEMESIS, Strand, April 17, 1873.
NERO'S NIECE, Theatre Royal, Worthing, June 26, 1899.
NERVES, Comedy, June 7, 1890.
NETTLE, THE, Court, Oct. 13, 1886.
NEUTRAL GROUND, Princess's, Aug. 7, 1875.
NEVER AGAIN, Prince's, Coatbridge, Dec. 1, 1873.
NEVER DESPAIR, Grecian, Dec. 7, 1871.
NEVER DESPAIR, FOR OUT OF EVIL COMETH GOOD, Victoria, Aug. 3, 1869.
NEVER RECKON YOUR CHICKENS, &c., Olympic, Dec. 26, 1871.
NEVER TO KNOW, Reading, May 15, 1899.
NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN, Greenwich, Nov. 14, 1874.
NEW ACTRESS, July 24, 1888.
NEW ADAM, Southend, May 27, 1897.
NEW AGENT, Novelty, April 6, 1896.
NEW APOLLO, Everton, June 10, 1889.
NEW BABY, Royalty, Jan. 8, 1896.
NEW BABYLON, Queen's, Manchester, June 10, 1878.
NEW BARMAID, Opera House, Southport, July 1, 1895.
NEW BOY, Theatre Royal, Margate, May 29, 1893.
NEW BRIGHTON SANDS, Rotunda, Liverpool, June 27, 1881.
NEW BROOMS, Gaiety, Dublin, July 18, 1831.
NEW CINDERELLA, Royalty, June 1, 1879.
NEW CORSICAN BROTHERS, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Nov. 11, 1889.
NEW DEAN, Cambridge, June 11, 1897.
NEW DON QUIXOTE, Royalty, Feb. 19, 1896.
NEW EAST LYNNE, Birkenhead, June 6, 1893.
NEW EDITION OF THE CORSICAN BROTHERS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, July 18, 1870.
NEW ENDYMION, Perth, Nov. 1, 1882.
NEWEST WOMAN, Avenue, April 4, 1895.
NEW GROOM, Chester, Oct. 13, 1899.
NEW HOUSEKEEPER, Islington, Feb. 15, 1895.
NEW HUSBAND, Haymarket, Dec. 6, 1895.
NEWINGTON BUTTS, St. James's, Nov. 2, 1866.
NEW KING RICHARD THE THIRD, Britannia, April 1, 1878.
NEW LAMPS FOR OLD, Terry's, Feb. 8, 1890.
NEW LEAF, Royalty, Nov. 30, 1897.
NEW LIFE, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, March 3, 1884.
NEW LODGER, Theatre Royal, Dumbarton, Nov. 22, 1894.
NEW MAGDALEN, Olympic, May 19, 1873.
NEW MAN, Ladbroke Hall, Dec. 20, 1895.
NEWMARKET, Manchester, June 22, 1896.
NEWMARKET: A TALE OF THE TURF, Holborn, Oct. 17, 1874.
NEW MAZEPPA, Theatre Royal, Croydon, March 10, 1890.
NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES, Haymarket, Oct. 25, 1869.
NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES; OR, MANAGING MAMMA, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Aug. 20, 1869.
NEW MEPHISTO, Brixton, Oct. 4, 1897.
NEW MEPHISTOPHELES, Leeds, March 29, 1897.
NEW MOON, Savoy Hotel, Feb. 6, 1893.
NEW SERVANT, Theatre Royal, Colchester, April 29, 1889.
NEW SUB, Court, April 27, 1892.
NEW TRIAL, Prince of Wales's, Dec. 18, 1880.
NEW WING, Strand, May 27, 1890.
NEW WOMAN, Comedy, Sept. 1, 1894.
NEW WORLD, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Sept. 27, 1880.
NEW YEAR'S CHIMES, Theatre Royal, Bradford, Jan. 30, 1891.
NEW YEAR'S EVE, Grosvenor Club, July 12, 1894.
NEW YEAR'S MORNING, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Jan. 1, 1900.
NEW YORK DIVORCE, Strand, Aug. 19, 1895.
NEW YORK POLITICS, Theatre Royal, Brentford, Aug. 28, 1890.
NEXT OF KIN, Lyceum, April 9, 1860.
NIBELUNGEN RING, Her Majesty's, May 5, 6, 8, 9, 1882.
NICANDRA, Cambridge, June 2, 1898.
NICE BOY, JIM, Bayswater, Nov. 16, 1893.
NICE FIRM, Lyceum, Nov. 17, 1853.
NICE GIRL, Gaiety, Feb. 8, 1873.
NICETTE, Royalty, June 2, 1879.
NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, Adelphi, March 20, 1875.
NICHOLSON'S NIECE, Terry's, May 30, 1892.
NICK OF TIME, Chelsea Barracks, March 23, 1896.
NICOLETE, Criterion, Jan. 3, 1899.
NICOLI DE LAPI, Her Majesty's, May 7, 1863.
NIGHT AND DAY, Pavilion, Oct. 3, 1868.
NIGHT AND MORN, Drury Lane, Jan. 7, 1864.
NIGHT AND MORNING, Prince's, Manchester, Sept. 7, 1871.
NIGHT AT NOTTING HILL, Adelphi, Jan. 5, 1857.
NIGHT AT THE BAL MASQUE, Surrey, March 10, 1866.
NIGHT BIRDS, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Feb. 24, 1881.
NIGHT BIRDS OF LONDON, New Cross, Aug. 6, 1900.
NIGHT COMETH, Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 31, 1895.
NIGHT EXPRESS, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, Oct. 10, 1890.
NIGHT GUARD, Britannia, Sept. 23, 1868.
NIGHT IN ARMOUR, Surrey, July 5, 1897.
NIGHTINGALE, Standard, Aug. 25, 1884.
NIGHTINGALE'S WOOING, Philharmonic, April 10, 1871.
NIGHTINGALE, THE, Adelphi, Jan. 15, 1870.
NIGHT IN PARIS, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, Oct. 3, 1889.
NIGHT IN TOWN, Strand, April 21, 1891.
NIGHT IN WALES, St. George's Hall, June 1, 1885.
NIGHT OFF, Strand, May 27, 1886.
NIGHT OF TERROR, Folly, Dec. 22, 1877.
NIGHT; OR, PERILS OF THE ALPS, Pavilion, Jan. 26, 1863.
NIGHT OUT, Vaudeville, April 29, 1896.
NIGHT SESSION, Globe, Nov. 1, 1897.
NIGHT'S FROLIC, Strand, June 1, 1891.
NIGHTSHADE, Prince's, Coatbridge, July 12, 1873.
NIHILIST, Abertillery, Feb. 25, 1897.
NIMBLE SHILLING, Elephant and Castle, June 11, 1877.
NINA, Theatre Royal, Wigan, April 13, 1885.
NINE DAYS QUEEN, Gaiety, Dec. 22, 1880.
NINE DAYS' WONDER, Court, June 12, 1875.
NINE POINTS OF THE LAW, Olympic, April 11, 1859.
1990, Islington, Oct. 16, 1895.
NINETEENTH CENTURY, Chester, May 12, 1894.
NINETY-NINE, Standard, Oct. 5, 1891.
NINICHE, Gaiety, June 6, 1883.
NINON, Adelphi, Feb. 7, 1880.
NINTH WALTZ, Garrick, Dec. 11, 1900.
NIOBE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Sept. 1, 1890.
NIPPED IN THE BUD, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, March 15, 1883.
NITA'S FIRST, Theatre Royal, Oxford, Dec. 14, 1883.
NITOCRIS, Drury Lane, Nov. 2, 1887.
NITOUCHE, Opéra Comique, May 12, 1884.
NIXIE, Terry's, April 7, 1890.
No, Horns, Kennington, Jan. 25, 1881.
NO ACTRESS, Surrey, June 6, 1898.
NOAH'S ARK, Theatre Royal, Bath, May 30, 1885.
NO APPEAL, Brighton, Dec. 6, 1897.
NO ASSETS, St. Albans, May 17, 1898.
NOBLE ART, Theatre Royal, York, April 11, 1892.
NOBLE ATONEMENT, Opéra Comique, Jan. 21, 1892.
NOBLE BROTHER, Liverpool, Oct. 28, 1889.
NOBLE COWARD, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, Feb. 23, 1891.
NOBLE FALSEHOOD, St. George's Hall, June 2, 1894.
NOBLE LIE, Theatre Royal, Jersey, July 23, 1890.
NOBLE LORD, Criterion, Oct. 18, 1900.
NOBLE LOVE, Theatre Royal, Goole, Jan. 27, 1890.
NOBLE SAVAGE, Aquarium, Brighton, Oct. 3, 1835.
NOBLESSE OBLIGE, Theatre Royal, Exeter, Oct. 4, 1878.
NOBLE VAGABOND, Princess's, Dec. 22, 1886.
NOBLY WON, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, June 22, 1885.
NOBODY IN LONDON, Drury Lane, Sept. 30, 1873.
NOBODY'S CHILD, Surrey, Sept. 14, 1867.
NOBODY'S CHILD, Burlesque, Cremorne, Aug. 10, 1868.
NOBODY'S CLAIM, Theatre Royal, Greenock, July 31, 1886.
NOBODY'S FAULT, St. George's Hall, June 5, 1882.
NOBODY'S FORTUNE, Surrey, Feb. 5, 1872.
NOBODY'S SON, Effingham, Feb. 12, 1866.
NO CARDS, Adelphi, Nov. 30, 1872.
NO CORONET, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, Sept. 5, 1883.
NO CREDIT, Strand, April 11, 1892.
NO CROSS, NO CROWN, Sheffield, July 26, 1897.
NOEL AINSLIE, V.C., Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 26, 1897.
NOEMIE, Grecian, April 26, 1852.
NO ESCAPE, Theatre Royal, Preston, July 2, 1888.
NO EVIDENCE, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Jan. 15, 1886.
NO IRISH NEED APPLY, Strand, Feb. 19, 1854.
NO MAN'S LAND, Theatre Royal, Leicester, Nov. 21, 1890.
NO MERCY, Theatre Royal, Dundee, Aug. 31, 1883.
NOMINATION DAY, Theatre Royal, Greenock, Feb. 28, 1873.
NOMISSES, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Aug. 25, 1873.
NO NAME, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, Oct. 26, 1877.
NONE BUT THE BRAVE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 12, 1898.
NONE BUT THE BRAVE DESERVE THE FAIR, Haymarket, June 8, 1850.
NONSUITED, Tooting, April 7, 1891.
NOODLEDOM, Walworth, Jan. 10, 1877.
NO PAIN, NO GAIN, Britannia, July 8, 1872.
NO QUARTER, Brentwood, March 3, 1900.
NORA, Opéra Comique, Nov. 7, 1894.
NORAH, Dramatic School, Argyle Street, March 25, 1885.
NORAH O'NEAL, East London, Dec. 22, 1876.
NORAH'S VOWS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, July 6, 1878.
NORDISA, Court, Liverpool, Jan. 26, 1887.
NORMA, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Feb. 5, 1875.
NORMA, Burlesque, Jersey, March 5, 1875.
NORMANDY PIPPINS, Criterion, April 18, 1874.
NORMAN INVASION, St. George's Hall, Oct. 26, 1870.
NO ROSE WITHOUT A THORN, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Aug. 2, 1886.
NORTH AND SOUTH, Tyne, Newcastle, Sept. 24, 1877.
NOT A BAD JUDGE, Royalty, July 23, 1894.
NOT ALL SMOKE, Bayswater, May 12, 1898.
NOT ALONE, Grand, Birmingham, Oct. 12, 1885.
NOT AT ALL JEALOUS, Court, May 29, 1871.
NOT AT HOME, Grosvenor Hall, June 1, 1886.
NOT A WORD, Avenue, April 28, 1884.
NOT DEAD; OR, SAVED FROM THE SEA, Theatre Royal, Bolton, March 16, 1874.
NOTE OF HAND, Vaudeville, Jan. 13, 1891.
NOTES AND GOLD, Pullan's, Bradford, Aug. 31, 1885.
NOT FALSE, BUT FICKLE, Opera House, Sheffield, March 22, 1878.
NOT FOUND, East London, Feb. 7, 1870.
NOT GUILTY, Queen's, Feb. 13, 1869.
NOT GUILTY; OR, WRONG MADE RIGHT, Prince of Wales's, Warrington, May 18, 1875.
NOTHING TO NURSE, Strand, Sept. 13, 1858.
NOTHING VENTURE, NOTHING WIN, Strand, April 5, 1858.
NO THOROUGHFARE, Adelphi, Dec. 26, 1867.
NO THOROUGHFARE, Burlesque, Victoria, March 22, 1869.
NO THOROUGHFARE BEYOND HIGHBURY, Alexandra, April 13, 1868.
NOTICE TO QUIT, Grecian, April 20, 1878.
NOT IF I KNOW IT, Haymarket, June 17, 1871.
NOT IN SOCIETY, Bayswater, Dec. 2, 1889.
NOT IN VAIN, Grecian, Oct. 5, 1871.
NOTORIOUS MRS. EBBSMITH, Garrick, March 13, 1895.
NOT PEACE, BUT A SWORD, Bishop Auckland, June 4, 1900.
NOT PROVEN, Theatre Royal, Leeds, March 15, 1880.
NOTRE DAME, Adelphi, April 10, 1871.
NOT REGISTERED, Royalty, April 10, 1882.
NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL, Charing Cross, Jan. 8, 1870.
NOT SO BAD AS WE SEEM, Haymarket, Feb. 12, 1853.
NOT SO MAD AS HE LOOKS, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 20, 1872.
NOT SUCH A FOOL AS HE LOOKS, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Dec. 4, 1868.
NOTTINGHAM CASTLE, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Sept. 22, 1873.
NOT TO BE DONE, Strand, May 6, 1850.
NOT WHOLLY BAD, Torquay, April 13, 1893.
NOT WISELY, BUT TOO WELL, Glasgow, April 1, 1898.
NOT YET, Theatre Royal, Croydon, March 19, 1886.
NOUGHTOLOGY OR NOTHING, St. George's Hall, Nov. 5, 1889.
NOVEL READER, Globe, Sept. 28, 1882.
NOWADAYS, Theatre Royal, Croydon, March 2, 1882.
NOWADAYS: A TALE OF THE TURF, Princess's, Feb. 28, 1889.
No. 50: A TALE OF THE COMMUNE, Gaiety, Glasgow, Sept. 21, 1876.
NUMBER FIFTY-ONE, Liverpool, Aug. 30, 1880.
NUMBER FORTY-NINE, St. James's, March 5, 1860.
NUMBER NINETY-NINE, Gaiety, Glasgow, March 16, 1882.
NUMBER NIP, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1866.
No. 72, Theatre Royal, Bath, Dec. 11, 1893.
NUMBER SIX, DUKE STREET, Drury Lane, Sept. 23, 1871.
No. 12, Novelty, July 31, 1886.
NUMBER TWENTY, Princess's, Nov. 30, 1878.
NUMBER TWO, Vaudeville, March 24, 1890.
NUNKEY, Shepherd's Bush, April 4, 1892.
NUPTIAL NOOSE, Gaiety, Feb. 20, 1884.
NURSE, Globe, March 17, 1900.
NYDIA THE BLIND GIRL OF POMPEII, Queen's, Dublin, Oct. 18, 1869.
NYMPH OF THE DANUBE, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, July 31, 1882.
OAKDELL MYSTERY, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, Aug. 25, 1884.
OAKWOOD HALL, Theatre Royal, Worcester, May 1, 1871.
OATH, THE, Queen's Manchester, April 4, 1887.
OBED SNOW'S PHILANTHROPY, Prince of Wales's, July 11, 1887.
OBERON, Her Majesty's, July 14, 1863.
OBLIGING A FRIEND, Grecian, Nov. 11, 1867.
OBSERVATIONS AND FLIRTATIONS, Strand, July 26, 1860.
OCEAN WAIF, Wrexham, May 16, 1893.
OCTOROON, Adelphi, Nov. 18, 1861.
OCULIST, THE, N. Camberwell, Aug. 25, 1894.
ODD LOT, New Royalty, March 30, 1864.
ODD MAN OUT, Nottingham, April 19, 1897.
ODD PAIR, St. George's Hall, July 10, 1893.
ODDS ARE EVEN, Theatre Royal, Northampton, June 22, 1893.
ODDS—WHAT THEY WERE, WHO WON AND WHO LOST THEM, Holborn, Oct. 1, 1870.
ODD, TO SAY THE LEAST OF IT, Novelty, Nov. 6, 1886.
ODD TRICK, Theatre Royal, Bradford, May 27, 1895.
ODETTE, Haymarket, April 25, 1882.
O'DONNELL ABOO, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, Feb. 3, 1875.
O'DONOGHUE'S WARNING, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Oct. 28, 1878.
O'DORA, THE, Toole's, July 13, 1885.
O'DOWD, THE, Adelphi, Oct. 21, 1880.
ŒDIPE ROI, Drury Lane, June 29, 1893.
O'ER LAND AND SEA, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Sept. 30, 1899.
OFF DUTY, Toole's, Sept. 9, 1884.
OFFER OF MARRIAGE, Wyndham's, June 26, 1900.
OFFICER OF FORTUNE, Tyne, Newcastle, April 19, 1875.
OFF THE LINE, Gaiety, April 1, 1871.
OGRE AND THE WITCH, Islington, Dec. 21. 1897.
OH! LIZA, Crystal Palace, Nov. 22, 1899.
OH! MISS, Woolwich, July 2, 1900.
OH! MY HEAD, Alhambra, April 24, 1871.
OH, MY WIFE! Ealing, Aug. 30, 1897.
O'HOOLIGAN'S HOLIDAY, West Stanley, Feb. 12, 1894.
OH! SOCIETY, Liverpool, May 23, 1900.
OH! SUSANNAH, Brighton, Sept. 6, 1897.
OH! THESE WIDOWS, Terry's, May 1, 1889.
OH! THOSE BABES, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, June 18, 1888.
OH! THOSE GIRLS, Gaiety, March 4, 1882.
OH! WHAT A NIGHT, Opera House, Wakefield, Jan. 15, 1898.
OH, WOMAN! Balham, March 20, 1895.
OIL AND VINEGAR, Gaiety, Nov. 4, 1874.
O'JUPITER, Burlesque, Philharmonic, Oct. 2, 1880.
OLD ADMIRER, Avenue, Sept. 23, 1899.
OLD BACHELOR'S BIRTHDAY, Theatre Royal, Preston, March 7, 1873.
OLD BISHOPGATE, City of London, Aug. 25, 1851.
OLD BOGEY OF THE SEA, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1891.
OLD BOYS AND THE NEW, Twickenham, May 14, 1893.
OLD BUREAU, St. George's Hall, Nov. 18, 1891.
OLD CHATEAU, Haymarket, July 24, 1854.
OLD CHERRY TREE, Britannia, Oct. 3, 1866.
OLD CHUMS, Opéra Comique, Dec. 16, 1877.
OLD CHURCH WALL, Marylebone, Nov. 29, 1852.
OLD CLAY PIPE, Shoreham, Sept. 30, 1878.
OLD CLO', Birkenhead, Dec. 7, 1894.
OLD CRONIES, St. James's, March 6, 1880.
OLD CURIOSITY SHOP, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Feb. 6, 1871.
OLDEST INHABITANT, Olympic, Sept. 16, 1850.
OLD FATHER TIME, Nuneaton, Nov. 7, 1889.
OLD FLAME, AN, Gaiety, Sept. 16, 1882.
OLD FLAMES, Opéra Comique, Feb. 26, 1834.
OLD FOLKS, Strand, Sept. 16, 1867.
OLD FORGE, Gaiety, June 22, 1872.
OLD FOX INN, Britannia, Aug. 2, 1875.
OLD FRIENDS, St. James's, June 26, 1890.
OLD GARDEN, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 14, 1895.
OLD GOOSEBERRY, Olympic, Oct. 9, 1869.
OLD GRIMEY, Grecian, Sept. 23, 1872.
OLD GUARD, Grand, Birmingham, Oct. 10, 1887.
OLD HOME, Vaudeville, June 19, 1889.
OLD HUSBANDS AND YOUNG WIVES, Cavendish Rooms, July 7, 1868.
OLD JEW, AN, Garrick, Jan. 6, 1894.

FUSSY LEGISLATION.

The foundation of all organised life is the family. The old materialistic economists taught the appalling fallacy that the true unit of society was the individual. For this heresy society is suffering almost irrecoverable loss. Some of the most beneficent movements for the betterment of the national life are tinged, and in many cases spoilt by the recrudescence of this old economic fallacy—the *individualistic*, as against the *familistic* theory of life. On all sides we begin to see a truer grasp of human relations and a higher conception of national responsibility, as evidenced in the growing care for the sacredness of family ties. It is no longer the individual who occupies the stage as the central object in the national drama, but the family. This consideration has been brought home to us very closely by certain problems that still embarrass and perplex educational experts; in fact, the greater the effort to make education a national care and charge, the more perplexing and complicated the problems become. Nearly all the greatest living educationists agree that it is beyond the power of man to carry out a uniform scheme of education that shall be with justice applicable to all the children in the land.

The very crux of the matter is to foster and develop parental responsibility and to meet its difficulties whenever they arise, with such State assistance as shall not, whilst it helps the child, destroy the parent's supreme responsibility. Of the urgency of this wide-reaching problem we have had in the past few years many striking illustrations, and we have seen how special or class legislation, whilst endeavouring to benefit the child, has only succeeded in inflicting loss and injury, and at the same time destroying the dignity and duty of the parents. We have had the sad exhibition of learned magistrates straining their powers to prevent the children of parents engaged in all branches of theatrical, variety, and show life pursuing the technical education so necessary for their avocation in life, and we have heard parents held up to opprobrium at the very time when they were doing their utmost to promote the best interests of their children.

We gave last week the full text of a new elementary education Bill brought before Parliament by a private member, and backed by some half-dozen well-known members of the House of Commons. The Bill proposes to secure the better protection of vagrant children.

It would be better termed a Bill to deprive children of their parents and to turn the State into a double-headed monstrosity, to father and mother the hapless children of the land. A more inept or impossible proposal it would be difficult to imagine. For the one admittedly grave social wrong—the condition of the criminal and tramp child it aimed at remedying—it created a dozen greater evils, and wrecked the very stability of domestic life by the destruction of parental responsibility. The Bill proposes to create an utterly new offnce, to make it criminal for a family to journey from town to town, and subjects to imprisonment parents so doing.

Consider how this new crime would stigmatise the travelling showmen and itinerant entertainers. Not only these, but the numerous class of traders and travelling craftsmen who earn an honest livelihood and bring up their families as creditably, to say the least, as the settled workers in town or country. It may be all very well to eliminate the wastrel, the criminal, and the confirmed tramp; but whilst you deal drastically with such decadent elements of our complex social life do not make a law that will prove a scourge to honest and God-fearing people who wish to do their duty to the dear little one committed to their charge. It is most unjust to stigmatise as vagrants the large and industrious body of people who follow the fair, and monstrous to assume that children at home with their parents need the protection of special legislation that they may obtain the blessing of elementary education. It is a gratuitous and insulting assumption that the children of van dwellers and travelling entertainers need special legislation.

We repudiate with all the vigour we possess the insinuation of neglect that lies at the root of all special legislation to compel the showman to surrender a parent's highest privilege to the State—the care and education of his children. All that the showman wants, or ever did want, is full access to the schools of the State, the full rights of citizenship, and a share in the educational advantages common to all.

The showman needs at times special facilities, and these are being more and abundantly provided by alterations in the education code; and he demands the inalienable right of citizenship, the protection of the law in the pursuit of an industry as old as the life of the nation.

We are glad to know that the Bill was blocked by friends of the travelling showmen in the House of Commons, and that its introduction again is impossible in the present session. We earnestly hope that its friends will recast it before it is again introduced, and that if it is the criminal and the tramp its author means to penalise, let it be clearly stated as such. The Bill has one definition of vagrancy, moving from place to place. It is absolutely all-embracing. No class in the community is free from its menace. If you travel you are within its possible powers. We have no hesitation in stigmatising the purpose and powers of the Bill as being the greatest invasion of the rights of parents ever attempted, and were such proposals to become the law of the land the children of the fair-ground would suffer the most terrible injury—separated from their parents, deprived, for no fault of their own, of the means of livelihood, driven by a cruel State foster-parent to forsake the freedom and the simple life of their forefathers, and condemned to swell the already overcrowded ranks of the sweated workers or the "out-of-works" in the towns.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A certain evening contemporary stated in its columns the other day that the Royal College of Music was opened by his present Majesty the King (who was then Prince of Wales) on May 7, 1884. That is an entire error, as the opening of this famous institution took place on May 7, 1883. Perhaps I may be permitted to add that I have been connected with the Royal College of Music ever since the beginning of the year 1885, as one of the teachers of the pianoforte. Possibly I may resign my post in four years' time, when I shall have taught at the Royal College for a quarter of a century.—Believe me, very faithfully yours,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, N.W., July 22.

"THE COUNTRY FAIR."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Many thanks for your kind notice of the Country Fair at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, in which you kindly mentioned "the White Ladies' Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Lilian Berger, and the same lady and her company in *The Merry Gitanas*, assisted by Miss Nina Martini, who gave charming gipsy performances and dances."

Miss Lilian Behrens is the head of the company *The Merry Gitanas* and Miss Nina Brentani is the name of the dancer.—Yours faithfully,

NINA BRENTANI.

30, Upper Baker-street, W.

IS MUSICAL COMEDY LEGITIMATE?

CHAT WITH MR. EDWARD LAURI.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"Australia is a splendid country for an actor to go to and learn his business."

That is the opinion of Mr. Edward Lauri, the well-known musical comedy eccentric character comedian, who has just returned to this country after a five years' active experience of Australasian theatrical affairs. "In this country," argues Mr. Lauri, "a man plays a certain kind of part—say an Arthur Roberts part. He gets known by playing that part, and is not afforded an opportunity of distinguishing himself in another style of business. Now in Australia the actor plays everything, and on the ground of acquiring versatility the training there is admirable."

"The Australian women," continues Mr. Lauri, "possess marvellous natural talent."

The writer recollected that several people he had interviewed recently had had something to say about Australia, and that colony had received a wonderful advertisement. So to a different theme.

"May I lead your thoughts into another groove, Mr. Lauri, by inquiring if you consider musical comedy is legitimate comedy?"

"Well," replies the interviewee, "the common talk of the 'legitimate' on our side of art is generally common claptrap. Drama and comedy are not fixed in style or intention, but change constantly to meet the changing requirements of the new generation that is with us every day. There are not several sorts of comedy. Comedy is one and indivisible. There are, I admit, quite a number of standard forms or manifestations of the comic spirit, but comedy is the thing common to the lot, the vivifying essence of them all. Anything that evolves naturally from antecedent forms is legitimate; and, viewed in the proper light, *The Skirt Dancer*, in so far as it is good and human, is as legitimate as *Twelfth Night*."

This objection to certain things in modern comedy as illegitimate is the commonest caw of every little crow that pecks at hard-working playwrights. and we agree with much of what Mr. Lauri says in this respect. It is not real reproach to musical comedy to say that at moments it approaches nearly to burlesque. Can it be said that in the most deliciously comic scene in Shakespeare Dogberry and Verges are not burlesque, and in another play is not the admirable Bottom as broad a burlesque of humanity as you shall find in all literature? Possibly it may be urged that the musical comedy of to-day is artistically defective in that it is disproportionately gay, too lavishly compact of laughter. To this we should

[*Photo by Talma.*

MR. EDWARD LAURI.

be inclined to reply that, in plain fact, we moderns seem to be reverting to the old ideals; and, as pilgrims at the shrine, we kneel with Aristophanes, who has been some long time lonely.

If we were to dissert generally upon comedy, we might say that in the Elizabethan and Restoration comedies the truly comic element was slender. Of course, it has to be admitted that Marlowe's quips at times are artificial and even brutal. Nor, probably, could any man not criminally insane laugh at the bloody jests of Massinger or the fierce humour of Ford. As to Webster and Tourneur—well, imagine any clean human creature laughing at the deliberately comic graveyard scene between Snuffe and Soquette in *The Atheist's Tragedy!* Then in Jonsonian comedy, most notably in *Volpone*, the master's laughter rings terribly sardonic. Such plays are not in any sense truly comic, for satire is not always fun, and wit is not of necessity humour. In all our dramatic literature there is nothing else of its kind to equal the scintillating wit of Congreve, but *Love For Love* is scarcely funnier than *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*.

"What do you intend doing over here, Mr. Lauri?"

"I am anxious to get some first-class attractions to take to Australia and New Zealand on my own account and on behalf of a syndicate. You see, one must be careful about producing plays in that colony. So far they have had the best of the pieces from Daly's and the Gaiety, and they expect West-end successes. The pieces are staged in quite as good a manner as in London, and they get a much superior and fuller chorus. In my opinion, the Princess's Theatre, Melbourne, is the finest in the world, and yet the highest price for stall seats is five shillings. As to the managers, there are Mr. J. C. Williamson and Mr. George Musgrove, who look after the musical comedy and operatic side. I consider Mr. Musgrove the best manager I ever worked under. His productions are most artistic, and equal to anything to be seen in the West-End. People over here would be astonished to witness the magnificent Australian production of *Veronique*, in which the chorus, compared with the Apollo company, was of double strength and volume. Messrs. Bland Holt and Anderson attend to the dramatic branch of the profession, and Mr. Harry Rickards to the vaudeville. Mr. Rickards is very plucky indeed. He takes out the finest talent procurable, and pays any amount of money."

Mr. Lauri left London some five years ago with Mr. George Edwardes' Gaiety Company, bound for India, where they successfully presented musical comedies. After a few months in our Eastern dependency, Mr. Lauri accepted an engagement for Australia offered by Mr. Musgrove, with whom he remained eighteen months, being then commissioned to return home and bring out a fresh company with *The Skirt Dancer*, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, *Bill Adams*, and *Rose of the Riviera*. Since then he has travelled through Australia and New Zealand. Some of Mr. Lauri's more recent parts are the dancing master in *The Fortune Teller*, the Duke in *The Serenade*, Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, Li in *San Toy*, Pompey in *The Gay Parisienne*, Sammy Gigg in *The Toreador*, Biggs in *The Circus Girl*, Pumpernickel in *Daughter of the Regiment*, and Giacomo in *Fra Diavolo*.

MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

In the House of Commons the Musical Copyright Bill, like the wounded snake you have heard of, has dragged its slow length along. The Government tardily promised to assist it, but it has not assisted it much, and a good many of the members seemed to be anxious only that it should not give too much protection to those who were entitled to protection, and should not interfere too much with the pernicious practices of the pirates. The pirates' advocates met with a big defeat when they attempted to carry an amendment to Clause 1 to the effect that there should be no conviction unless the accused sold music which he knew to be pirated. Later in the week all the remaining clauses were agreed to, and the Bill passed through Committee with cheers. So now "Pirates Beware!" as Charles Reade used to say in all his play advertisements.—The *Referee*, July 22 ("Caradoc").

HORATIUS T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P.
(MUSIC AND MACAULAY.)

"Lie there!" he cried, "fell Pirate!
No more, aghast and pale
From Ostia's walls the crowd shall mark
The track of thy destroying bark,
No more Campania's herds shall fly
To woods and caverns when they spy
Thy thrice accursed *sale*."
—The *Referee*, July 22 ("Dagonet").

At last the Musical Copyright Bill may be regarded as out of danger. If it is not yet safe in port, it is heading directly for the mouth of the harbour with a favouring breeze behind it. In future it is to be "starred" as a Government measure and proceeded with in Government time. Mr. T. P. O'Connor need therefore no longer fear the opposition of the handful of Members whose blocking tactics have lately vexed his soul. Such tactics cease to be effective when directed against a Bill that has the full strength of the Government behind it, especially when that Government has secured the whole time of the House and is not hampered by the ordinary rules as to finishing debate at a fixed hour.—*Morning Post*.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., mentioned by way of an illustrative "aside" at the National Liberal Club function to the Lord Chancellor the other night that his Musical Copyright Bill, which he has been nursing with a patience that is marvellous, has so far been the victim of cranks. That has been so, but lately the "blocking" has been done by Mr. Eugene Crean, the Member for South-East Cork, and one of Mr. O'Connor's own colleagues. Perhaps if it were pointed out to Mr. Crean that such patriotic Irish singers as Mr. Frank Foley and Mr. Alfred Percival Graves, and such a capable Irish composer as Mrs. Alicia Adelaide Needham—all of London—are as liable to the depredations of the pirate as any Saxons, he might repent his obstruction.—*Sheffield Independent*.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who has worked in the interests of the Musical Copyright Bill as though it were his sole concern in life, is naturally in high feather at its adoption as a Government measure. The suspension of the twelve o'clock rule makes it possible that the Bill will get through its Committee stage on Monday night.—*Yorkshire Daily Observer*.

A word of thanks is due to Mr. T. P. O'Connor for the able manner in which he piloted the Bill through its initial stages. I am afraid the measure suffered in the last Parliament through the injudicious zeal of some of its supporters. Mr. O'Connor relied on tact and discretion, and although he could not conquer the prejudices of a few honourable members, he carefully refrained from strengthening their opposition by exciting their personal ire.—*Morning Advertiser*, July 21 (Mr. B. W. Findon).

By the persistent efforts of Mr. David Day and Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., the Government has at last been induced to take up the Musical Copyright Bill, which has passed the committee stage, and will now, in the ordinary course of things, become law very shortly.

No more shall the flag of sable hue,
Strike fear to the author's heart,
No more shall the sneaking pirate crew
Sell pilfered goods in the mart.
So let us hail the cheerful Day
Who has driven the night away;
And we'll sing a song and drink a toast—
To him and the brave Tay Pay.
—*The Encore*, July 26.

THEATRICAL SPORTS AT SUNDERLAND.

In connection with Mr. Charles M. Daly's benefit at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, the proprietor, Mr. Charles E. Machin, along with Mr. Daly, inaugurated a theatrical carnival gala and sports in aid of the various charities in the Wearside borough. These took place on Wednesday last, and commenced at two o'clock with a monster bicycle procession, which started from the Avenue Theatre, and wound, or, rather, wheeled its way through the principal streets of the town, towards the Rovers' Football Field in Hendon-road, where the sports took place. Most of the ladies engaged in the town took part in the procession, and assisted in no small degree to swell the funds by the free use of collection boxes.

The results of the sports were as follows:—100 Yards Flat Race Handicap, 1st, Mr. G. B. Lester, of the Avenue Stock Company. Tug-of-War (confined to members of Avenue and Royal Theatres), 1st, Avenue. Tug-of-War (open to all places of amusement), 1st, Avenue; 2nd, Palace. Tug-of-War, Police v. Band, 1st, Band. One Hundred Yards Ladies' Flat Race, 1st, Miss Dora Hilstrom (Avenue). Egg and Spoon Race, 1st, Mrs. Riley (Royal, *Under the Czar* company). Backwards Race, Costume Race, Baby Competition, 1st, Mrs. Engel.

SHAKESPEARE'S birthplace is, as usual at this time of the year, thronged with eager Americans bent upon showing their reverence for the poet. According to a gentleman connected with the Trust, "the latest type of American visitor is a vast improvement on the old. For the most part they are cultured people, who suffer no delusions as to the possibilities of the 'almighty dollar' purchasing national relics. It is years since an American was caught red-handed carving a chip from a door in Shakespeare's cottage. There are still some who display emotion and kiss the furniture, but the type of visitor represented by the dear old American lady who, finding it impossible to buy a relic of Shakespeare's, rubbed her black kid gloves on the floor of the room where the poet was born, saying: 'At least I will take this dust with me,' seems to exist no longer."

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Monday, in the case of Mr. E. G. Saunders, it was reported that the debtor had refused to be sworn on the occasion of his public examination, which was appointed for the 17th inst. It appeared that the trustee was selling some of the estate, and desired an adjournment, as a report of the public examination would prejudice the sale, but as this seemed to the registrar to be an attempt to conceal something from the proposed purchaser he declined to adjourn the examination. The Official Receiver now applied for debtor's committal. Mr. Justice Bigham made the order of committal, but directed it to lie in the office for fourteen days, and said that it would not be enforced if in the meantime the debtor paid the necessary fees, together with the costs now incurred, and applied for a further appointment to proceed with his public examination.

CHAT WITH MR. PERCY NORMAN.

"I consider that the actors in the provinces do not sufficiently look forward to the future in order to try and pick themselves up."

These are the exact words of Mr. Percy Norman, himself a provincial actor and touring manager.

"They get into a certain groove," he goes on, "content with £2 10s. a week, and forty weeks of the year out of fifty-two, and, of course, they spend it all and never have anything saved. More than that, they have not the necessary 'push' to demand another 5s. a week."

"Perhaps if some of them were to fall out there'd be plenty more to take their place, even at a lower salary than £2 10s.?"

"I admit that England is overcrowded with actors and actresses. There is far more scope abroad for their services, especially in America and Australasia; and there are many opportunities for good players in South Africa and India. And let me tell you this, that if they worked as hard abroad as they are compelled to do in this country they would make two or three times the money."

"Do you suggest that the provincial actor in the United Kingdom is overworked?"

"A great deal is expected of him; and I can also say that the provincial actor works under much more difficult conditions than the London actor. There are so many companies on the road now who cannot all go to the better-class theatres that the country actor and actress have to put up with all manner of inconveniences and annoyances in respect of bad dressing-rooms, poor travelling, &c. I am complaining, of course, on behalf of the lesser lights in the dramatic profession. They seem to me to be permitted little chance of improving the conditions of their calling."

"In my opinion," continued Mr. Norman, "there are as good actors in the provinces as in the West End of London. An idea I intend carrying out myself is to try and push the provincial actor forward, and to make him as well known and as popular as our celebrated West End men. Hitherto the provincial actor does not appear to have been possessed of the requisite nerve to push himself."

"Then, I take it, you have some definite scheme in mind?"

"I contemplate taking the Princess's Theatre, provided the solicitors acting on behalf of that establishment will meet me in regard to terms. If suitable arrangements can be made I shall produce a big American drama at the Oxford-street playhouse, after which I shall probably run my present show, *What Men Dare*, and subsequently take it for a long tour of the States. I play heavy lead myself, and my company includes Miss Maud Buchanan, Miss Eileen Devonport, Miss Ida Mackay, Miss May Douglas, Mr. Edward Standish,

[*Photo by Hana.*

MR. PERCY NORMAN.

Mr. A. Balfour Mackay, Mr. Alfred Burrows, and Mr. Theo E. May. I intend, if possible, to bring the entire company as it stands with me to the Princess's Theatre, so as to introduce to the London public a number of provincial actors and actresses whom I consider as good a company as there is on the road. Only one of them, viz., Mr. Edward Standish, has so far appeared in the West End."

Mr. Norman commences his tour of *What Men Dare*, the five-act drama by Messrs. C. Rann Kennedy and Michael Sherbrooke, on August 6, at the Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood. Mr. Zerbini, the director of the orchestra at the Cambridge Music Hall, has composed some pretty musical numbers specially for Mr. Norman's production of the play, and scenery has been painted by Mr. R. C. Durant. *What Men Dare* contains an exceedingly interesting—indeed, thrilling—story, and the piece wherever it has so far been presented has met with an enthusiastic reception. The play was produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on August 7 last year.

The part in which Mr. Norman considers he made his best effort was that of Dido in the *Two Little Vagabonds*. Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer, through Mr. Cliff, their general manager, have, Mr. Norman informs us, asked him to resume the characterisation on more than one occasion. "I was advertising with *Black Mask*, the play by Mr. Marriott Watson," continues Mr. Norman, "as well as in the melodrama entitled *A Daughter's Crime*, Mr. Garrett Todd's company. I think I have played every class of part in various sketches and plays. Previous to a short stock season, my last enterprise of any note was a share and the part of Adolf in *Man's Enemy*."

Theo E. May, who is Mr. Norman's manager, informs us that he has risen from chorus and small parts to principal parts and management. "I was," he says, "with Miss Lilian Rossell and Mr. George Edwardes in the States, Mr. Edwardes's piece being *His Excellency the Governor*. I practically reproduced *The Greek Slave* for Messrs. Morell and Mouillot, in addition to stage-managing the show and playing the part of a Roman noble. Then I had a small part in *The School Girl* with Mr. George Edwardes and Mr. Charles Frohman, was also in *The Country Girl*, and appeared in the rôle of Yan-Haw in *San Toy* for a couple of years. My last enterprise was a share and an acting part in *Man's Enemy* with Mr. John Power, leaving that for a stock season."

"LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT," a play in a prologue and four acts, by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn, was produced for copyright purposes at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, on Thursday.

THE Bayreuth Festival opened for the fifteenth occasion on Sunday afternoon with a fine performance of *Tristan and Isolde*. Mme. Wagner, Siegfried Wagner, and her two daughters, and the composer, Humperdinck, were among the distinguished audience. Herr Felix Mottl ably conducted, and a feature of the performance, as ever, was the beautiful lighting and artistic scenery of Herr Ernst Braunschweig, the stage-manager. Herr Bary and Mme. Marie Wittich appeared in the principal parts.

"AUDREY THE ACTRESS."

By HORACE WYNDHAM. London. E. Grant-Richards.

In "Audrey the Actress" Mr. Horace Wyndham relates the stage career of a girl who joins the theatrical profession with illusions which are quickly dissipated by the hard experience gained by two provincial tours. When Audrey Standish's rich maiden aunt heard that her niece had finally decided to become a play actress, she disinherited her, but at the same time sent the young lady a £5 note and a tract bearing the title, "Footlights and Folly," which dealt with a damsel who resigned her post as a missionary in China in order to become an Empire ballet girl. Mr. Wyndham's novel may also be regarded as a warning to young ladies who, to use a common phrase, are "mad to go upon the stage." The hardships, the disappointments, the uncertainty, and other disagreeable phases of theatrical life are described with quite a wealth of detail. It is, in fact, Aunt Elizabeth's tract over again in the form of a novel. With a few exceptions, the stage people we are introduced to in these pages are not a nice set. The libertine actor-manager and the wicked theatrical agent loom darkly in the background, and the petty jealousies of the women folk are mercilessly exposed. That Mr. Wyndham has not considerable knowledge of certain phases of the actor's life we do not deny, but the picture he paints is, generally speaking, overcoloured and exaggerated for the purposes of securing a cheap effect. Nor does Mr. Wyndham spare the dramatic critics. Under a thinly-veiled cognomen he drags in a once famous critic, and thereby displays a lamentable want of good taste and good feeling. Another theatrical journalist that he introduces is a caricature—his Vaughan Jackson has no existence, except in the brain of an imaginative novelist.

When we first meet Audrey Standish, she is living at home, which, however, she is eager to leave, for her father is a selfish and hypocritical individual, her mother a nonentity, and her two sisters are quite unsympathetic and uninteresting. She informs her friend, Eliot Archdale, a theatrical manager, of her intention to go on the stage, but he discourages the idea. However, the girl makes the acquaintance of Harcourt Revell, a popular actor-manager, and eventually becomes a member of his touring company. She is given a small part in *A Man of the World*; the leading character being, of course, played by Revell, who is described as "a tall, clean shaven man, with grey hair, that contrasted curiously with his youthful features." Audrey was surprised at her success. "The most she had expected had been a word or two of encouragement, and perhaps a promise of assistance at some future time. Now, however, that she was actually a member of a company of repute, and her foot was firmly planted on the ladder, she felt that her troubles were over. Yet, at the back of her mind she had an uneasy sensation that Harcourt Revell had not given her an engagement solely on her merits. For one thing, he did not know what these might be. Even if she possessed the talents of a Mrs. Siddons he could have no real knowledge of them. It was something else in her, then, than histrionic genius that had appealed to him. Eliot's cynical observation, 'On the stage a pretty face in a woman counts for more than any amount of talent,' recurred to her with disquieting persistency. She tried to dismiss it with the reflection that Harcourt Revell had only seen her twice, but the effort was not entirely successful. His eyes had said too plainly what his tongue had only hinted at."

Audrey encounters a curious kind of theatrical journalist who, although connected with an important journal, drops his h's and whose appearance "suggested a blend between a pawnbroker's assistant who was airing the stock and an overdressed shop-walker in the enjoyment of a half-holiday." She snubs the "Planet" man and makes him her enemy. Audrey's first experience of theatrical apartments are startling enough, and she leaves them for an hotel. The young actress's debut at the provincial theatre where the tour starts is thus described:—

"A sudden tap at the door made her jump up with a start. The critical moment had come.

"'Your call, miss,' exclaimed a warning voice.

"She left the room, her heart beating furiously, and walked on to the stage. Through the curtain came the muffled sound of the orchestra. Then Tyler signalled to some one in the flies and, in response to a shrill whistle, the sheltering screen of canvas rolled slowly up above the proscenium. The music stopped with a final crash, and a blaze of light was suddenly focused on the spot where she stood.

"For a moment the strong glare dazzled her. She raised her eyes furtively and glanced appealingly at the auditorium. A great sea of faces eddied and swam in the stalls and pit. There was a look of strained expectancy on all of them. She felt as though she were a mouse being watched by a thousand hungry cats. The spectacle completely unnerved her. She tried to speak, but her throat had suddenly grown dry and her tongue refused to utter a sound. Turning aside she saw Bernard Marlowe standing in the wings a few feet away. His stimulating nod had the effect of a tonic. She faced the audience boldly, and, fixing her glance on the big man in the pit who had greeted Revell so effusively, delivered the opening line.

"'Speak oop la-ss—aw canna hear thee,' he shouted back in reply. As he did so a titter ran through the occupants of the stalls. Audrey heard it and for a moment thought she would break down. Her face flamed, and she clutched desperately at the arm of a chair, wishing devoutly that the stage would suddenly open and swallow her up.

"'Take your time,' whispered Marlowe encouragingly.

"The sound of his voice sent confidence back to her. With her self-control completely restored, she raised her voice slightly and finished the sentence. The victory was gained. During the remainder of the act she was untroubled by the slightest trace of nervousness."

One night Revell reveals himself in his true character, and there is an exciting, unrehearsed scene in his private room at a provincial hotel.

After this disagreeable experience and the loss of her engagement Audrey has a bad time of it. In search of work she calls upon a theatrical agent, who grossly insults her; but she gives him cause to repent his caddish conduct. After undergoing sundry trying experiences as the leading lady in a third-rate company that is on tour with a lurid, sensational drama called *The Lady Convict*, Audrey eventually promises to become the wife of the man she loves—Eliot Archdale—and at the same time expresses her resolve to leave the stage for ever.

Mr. Wyndham has, possibly, had some personal experience of the seamy side of the actor's life. He is particularly hard on the theatrical landlady, who, as depicted in these pages, is a very terrible person. Whether she is quite so bad as she is painted we must leave those of our readers who have had experience of her to decide.

PRESENTATION.—Luigi Quaglieni's son Salvino presented his father on his birthday with a case containing two violins—a Francesco Ruggeri (1664), and a Strad (1690). The instruments, which are valued at £500, are intended to be used in a musical sketch which is about to be produced in this country.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, July 23,
for the first time in London,
a Drama in Four Acts,
by G. Carlton Wallace, entitled
"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."

Squire Abingdon ..... MR. CHARLES HERBERT
Richard Abingdon ..... MR. ALFRED GRENVILLE
Philip Carnaby ..... MR. FRED LLOYD
Dr. Brandreth ..... MR. GILSON BROOKE
Rev. Arnold Cathorne ..... MR. HUGH WALLACE
Frank Hardy ..... MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE
Adam Frere ..... MR. CHARLES FRANKLIN
Amos Gibson ..... MR. E. MORRIS
Dennis O'Rourke ..... MR. JOHN HIGHNETT
P.C. Sowerberry ..... MR. J. W. WILKINSON
Sammy Hogg ..... MR. WILL DAULTON
Postman ..... MR. JAMES HEATH
Miguel ..... MR. BERT BUTLER
Pedrillo ..... MR. S. BALE
Aranjo ..... MR. STEPHEN WALLACE
Sybil Thornburn ..... MISS LALLA STANHOPE
Madge Abingdon ..... MISS ALICE N. LIVESEY
Pattie Swift ..... MISS HELEN RICHMOND
Molly ..... MISS VIOLET HAYE
Mariquinha ..... MISS N. GRIFFITHS
Maggie ..... MISS VIOLET LESLIE

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's drama was produced at Leigh (Lancs.) on July 24, 1905, and has since that date had a successful tour in the provinces. The author has invented an interesting love romance, such as cannot fail to make a direct appeal to an ordinary audience; the characters are well drawn, and the dialogue is crisp and natural.

The play opens in a hayfield. The last load is carried, and after dancing and other rustic revels, the Squire invites all to Alton Manor to give "welcome home" to his son Richard. Sybil Thorburn is an heiress, though the knowledge of this fact has been kept from her, and under the guardianship of Squire Abingdon, who desires her to marry his son Richard. Sybil, however, rejects his offer of marriage, and seeks the assistance of Philip Carnaby, a good-hearted young farmer, who has become bondsman for a loan of £2,000, borrowed from the Squire by Adam Frere, an old friend of Philip's father. That evening the news is brought that Adam Frere has committed suicide. The Squire, incensed at Sybil's rejection of Richard, resolves to foreclose on the bond, and thus turn Philip out of his farm. Philip repels insinuations made against him, and the angry Squire orders his servants to drive him from the Manor. Sybil protects Philip from their violence, and openly avows her love. Thenceforth she is kept a close prisoner in the house. However, Dennis and Pattie, a couple of sympathetic servants, contrive a meeting between the lovers. A charming love scene follows, during which Philip and Sybil plight their troth. The Abingdons resolve to separate the young couple by means of a trick. Madge Abingdon persuades Sybil into writing a letter to Richard, in which she declares that she can never love him. This letter is delivered to Philip instead of Richard, and the former, seeing a notice in the newspapers to the effect that Richard and Sybil have become engaged, is disgusted at the girl's supposed unfaithfulness, and accepts an offer made by a tramp named Frank Hardy to exploit diamond beds in Brazil.

The scene changes to a lonely camp on the Rio Branco. Philip, Hardy, and Dennis are seen at work finding diamonds. When the miners retire for the night an Indian enters with Richard and a gang of desperadoes, who try to kill the sleeping men. During the struggle Philip and Dennis are wounded, and all are overpowered, but are assisted to escape by an Indian maiden, who directs Philip and his friends through the forest. Dennis's wound commences to bleed afresh. His companions tear the linen off his coat for bandages, when a note falls out, which proves to be a letter given to Dennis by Sybil explaining all. Philip, overjoyed, resolves to return with the greatest possible speed to England.

In the meantime, Richard has returned and declared that Philip is dead. Sybil has been so ill that her mind is unhinged. She does not believe in the reputed death of Philip, and the Abingdons resolve to get Richard to take his place at the altar. They thereupon get the banns of marriage published between Richard and Sybil, unknown to the latter. On Philip's return he learns from the doctor attending Sybil of her mental infirmity, and, procuring a special licence, he arrives at the church door just in time to take his true place as bridegroom and so defeat the wicked schemes of the Abingdon family. There are one or two strong subsidiary themes and an abundance of comic relief in the drama, which has been well received at the Islington house.

Mr. Fred Lloyd plays with admirable firmness and sincerity the part of the hero, Philip Carnaby. The author of the drama appears as Frank Hardy, an adventurer, and makes good use of his opportunities. Mr. Charles Herbert is well placed as Squire Abingdon, and Mr. Alfred Grenville does justice to the rôle of the despicable Richard Grenville. Miss Lalla Stanhope, in the important rôle of Sybil Thornburn, plays in a manner that meets with the entire approval of the audience, and her efforts receive due recognition. Miss Alice N. Livesey acts well as Madge Abingdon. Mr. John Highnett as Dennis O'Rourke, and Miss Helen Richmond as Pattie Swift, portray comic parts with undoubted success. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Sowerberry also contributes his share to the humorous scenes, and Mr. Gilson Brooke (Dr. Brandreth), and Mr. E. Wallace (Rev. Arnold Cathorne), and Mr. E. Morris (Amos Gibson) give adequate support. The scenery, which has been specially painted for this production by Mr. Francis E. Bull, is excellent, notably the sets representing the Terrace, Alton Manor, the Virgin Forest, and the Camp on the Rio Branco. Mr. W. T. Gliddon's incidental and entr'acte music also deserves favourable mention.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, July 23,
for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Dr. Marcus Dread ..... MR. C. WATSON MILL
Shaun ..... MR. HENRY LONSDALE
Fergus M'Naughton .. MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE
Lord Eversleigh .... MR. N. CARTER SLAUGHTER
Squire Kennion ..... MR. HENRY RUTLAND
Rev. Emanuel Wallace, MR. NORMAN B. CANNON
Mike McQuade ..... MR. GEORGE SCULLY
Ferdinand de Joules.. MR. W. PALLISER, ACOCK
P.C. Marlin ..... MR. GEORGE AVERY
Konty Currah ..... MR. H. STIFFORD
John Forgie ..... MR. STANLEY WOOD
John Colley ..... MR. PERCY GOODWIN
Lord Derwent ..... MR. B. W. DAVIES
Sir John Harkaway .... MR. JOHN WILLERTON
Sir Thomas Rining ..... MR. ARTHUR HALLEY
Myles O'More ..... MISS EDITH RUTLAND
Sheila Kennion ..... MISS EMMIE BARTON
Molly O'More ..... MISS ELLEN BEVERLEY
Hildred ..... MISS IDA FANE
Lady Colner ..... MISS PHYLLIS BROOK
Salome Sheldon ..... MISS DOLLY HOPE
Balrice ..... MISS DAISY BEAUMONT
Helena ..... MISS SADIE HILTON
Moira Kennion ..... MISS ROSALIND TATE

Mr. C. Watson Mill's latest drama, originally produced at the Lyceum Theatre, Eccles, on May 28, is an excellent specimen of the play that pleases a popular audience, containing as it does an abundance of sensation and plenty of comedy relief, and its reception on Monday at the Stratford Theatre Royal was decidedly favourable. A prominent character in the play is a diabolical doctor, Marcus Dread, whose advent at Castle Manor, Ireland, so quickly brings sorrow to the genial Squire Kennion and his daughter Moira. Moira is to be married almost immediately to young Fergus M'Naughton, but the doctor discovers the perforation of a hypodermic syringe on her arm, accuses her of drug-taking, and loses no time in telling her that her mother was a dipsomaniac, and died raving mad, her father, when taxed, having to admit the truth of the statement. The doctor sees in Moira a likely victim for his villainy, and endeavours to persuade her to leave her village home for the gaieties of the city, promising to cure her of her drug-taking habits if she will place herself in his care. The weak-willed and distracted girl reluctantly consents, but the appearance of her lover decides her to marry, in spite of the taint that is in her blood. Moira has taken a phial containing vitriol from the doctor's chest, and when he taunts her she turns on him with the intention of throwing it in his face, but Fergus, coming in the room, receives the blinding fluid instead, and is at once rendered sightless. In the next scene Moira is staying at the cottage of Molly O'More, the wise woman of the village, whose little crippled son Myles the doctor has promised to cure. Moira's father comes to plead with her to return home, and her blind lover also begs her to go back with him; but the doctor's influence is too great, and she tells them that she has caused quite enough misery, and is better away. Ere she departs she goes to have a last look at the old home, and Shaun, a wandering minstrel, promises to be always near her should assistance be needed. In the first scene of the third act we see her in Dr. Dread's rooms at a London hotel. Instead of curing her, the doctor has encouraged her in her drinking and drug-taking habits, and Moira, who longed for the gaieties of the city would welcome once more the solitude of her old home. Dread has tired of her, and tells her she is no better than his own mother—a wanton. She learns she is not his wife as she imagined, and again seeks oblivion in the brandy bottle. Dread's last scheme is a truly diabolical one. He gives Moira something to inject into her arm which he afterwards explains is a plague virus. She shall contaminate the whole of London, and the doctor—who owes society in general a grudge for treatment received in his struggling days?will be avenged. Ere the curtain falls on the third act the unnatural son accidentally discovers his mother—a drunken hag—and his interview with her ends with her throwing herself in the Thames, such is the bitterness of his tongue. Moira would do likewise, but her father and the minstrel Shaun find her, and she gladly consents to return to Erin. Shaun has forced an antidote from Dread, so Moira escapes the plague—and London is saved! In the last act Dread is killed by Shaun, Moira dies, and Fergus M'Naughton, recovering his sight, marries Sheila Kennion, Moira's half-sister.

The drama was admirably presented by Mr. Watson Mill's company, the important rôle of the satanic Dread being most impressively enacted by the head of the combination. Elocution and facial play were alike excellent, and Mr. Mill is to be congratulated on his convincing portrayal of such a difficult part. Another arduous rôle was that of Moira Kennion, a character undertaken by Miss Rosalind Tate in a most meritorious manner. Especially good was the actress in the scene with Dread in the third act, and throughout she succeeded in suggesting the craving for drink and drugs the unhappy woman has without making the character repulsive. A manly and sincere rendering of the faithful Shaun was given by Mr. Henry Lonsdale; and Mr. Wingold Lawrence won sympathy for Fergus M'Naughton, being admirable throughout. Mr. Henry Rutland is to be commended for a sound and natural embodiment of the sorely-tried Squire, very pathetic being the scene where the father begs his daughter to return home. Sheila Kennion, the Squire's younger daughter, had a charming representative in Miss Emmie Barton; Molly O'More was satisfactorily enacted by Miss Ellen Beverley; Miss Ida Fane sufficiently suggested the hopelessness and depravity of Hildred (Dread's mother); and an especially clever and natural bit of acting was the cripple boy Myles of Miss Edith Rutland, the gratitude of the youngster to Dr. Dread (whose one humane action is the curing of the lame lad) being very feelingly depicted. Many merry moments there are in the play to relieve the morbidness of the principal theme, and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter as Lord Eversleigh, a sprig of the nobility, is responsible for a goodly number of them. His portrayal of the "Johnnie" is funny without being overdone, and his many amusing lines and absurd bits of business were heartily welcome. Another very funny impersonation was the Ferdinand de Joules of Mr. W. Palliser Acock, his interview with Dread being particularly mirth-provoking. Mr. George Scully also contributed to the success of the production by his admirable impersonation of Mike McQuade; and the other characters in the long cast were all capably undertaken. The many stage-pictures shown were much admired, a very pretty scene being the exterior of Castle Manor; and the piece went very smoothly for a first production.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, July 23,
the Domestic Play, in Four Acts, by Lingford Carson, entitled
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

Wholesome melodrama flourishes at this handsome theatre, and the efforts of Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Company in *The Drama of Life* are received with much appreciation. As Harry Beech, the rich banker, Mr. Edward M. Hamilton provides a clever bit of acting of a man who is tortured with remorse because he thinks he is the cause of another man's death. This, together with the loss of his wife, drives him to drink, and Mr. Hamilton's impersonation of the character is vivid and powerful. As Walter Beech, the scheming villain, Mr. J. Hooker makes a handsome desperado, and acts the part naturally; Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde causes much merriment by his portrayal of a poor henpecked husband; and Mr. H. Maxwell Payne and Mr. Sydney Fiennes as Jack Lawton and Dave Crane respectively, both do good work. Mr. Horace Booth as Richard Brenton makes an ideal detective; and Mr. Edward Van Biene has the necessary Gallic touch to make his representation of the Count de Foi effective. As Sylvia Beech, Miss Kate Hallam is intensely dramatic, and her scene in Act I. when leaving her home is pathetic and touching. As the bride of Sir Dobson Wilde of the "strong woman" variety, Miss Florence French is clever, and greatly aids in providing the necessary humour of the play; Miss Nellie Birchenough as the old virago Bessie Black is very good; and Miss Elsie May as Robert Beech, the little son of the hero and heroine, acts very cleverly. All the smaller parts are well played, and the production is admirably staged.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, July 23,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Sydney Spenser, entitled
"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."

The breezes of the briny are wafted agreeably into the West London this week by means of the drama above-named, which teems with exciting situations on board ship and is filled with the gallant deeds of sailors. The fact that one of the bluejackets is impersonated by a lady makes no difference to the thrilling nature of the piece, and deafening cheers greet the plucky heroine when, emulating historic precedent, she nails the colours to the mast in the thick of the fight. The lady who performs the intrepid feat is Mabel Forrester, a youthful widow, who is charged with the murder of her husband, and takes refuge on H.M.S Defender, where she adopts the rig-out of a sailor. The adventures that befall her are throughout of the most exciting kind, and well is the interest maintained by Miss Lizzie Hall, whose long association with the character of Dick in *Two Little Vagabonds* enables her to enact a boyish part *par excellence*. She is tender and sympathetic as the sorely tried wife of the first act, and her appearance later as the bold sailor lad makes her a popular personage. The author has created a thorough-paced villain in Paul Mansfield, whose vile schemes gives impetus to the action, and Mr. Spenser, whose company is responsible for the performance, embodies him with all the malevolence possible. The part of Jack Lawrence, who is credited with "a light, free heart," is acted with appropriate buoyancy by Mr. William Heilbronn, whose prepossessing appearance and vigorous utterance make him an ideal sailor-man. The evil wrought in the piece is partly borne by Ruth Clifford, the discarded wife of the villain, acted with passionate vehemence by Miss Roma Tremayne, who does not hesitate to distort her fair features to the proper degree of malignancy. The besotted Stephen Clifford is made very repulsive at the hands of Mr. G. F. Royd, and Captain Hilliard is finely played by Mr. Alfred Goddard, whose dramatic skill and practised elocution bring the part into pleasing prominence. A plentiful supply of comic relief is forthcoming at the hands of Mr. Sydney Benson, who plays Johnny Truckle, first a farm labourer and then a jolly Jack Tar, with unfailing humour. He also breaks forth into song, giving a lively rendering of "Good-night, Mr. Brown," with a skilful dance, which might well have been encored. Some neat stepping is also done by Miss Amy Maitland, who as Jenny Stubbs acts vivaciously, and sings "The Owl's Love Song" in good style. Mr. Lionel Thompson plays the unfortunate Mark Forrester with striking intensity, Mr. Unwin Crafton as Blue Jake acts an "unwilling accomplice" realistically, and Messrs. Wilton Hardcastle, Edward Allardyce, J. Porter, and Edwin Addison complete a cast of undeniable excellence. New scenery and effects serve to heighten the interest of the piece, which is received throughout with delight. Mr. James Sinclair is Mr. Bailey's courteous manager at the West London, which closes to-night for a short vacation, reopening on August Bank Holiday.

THE STANFORD QUARTETTE.

The Stanford Quartette (under the direction of Mr. Lloyd Stanford) are now on their summer tour of seaside resorts, and are giving charming concerts, their programmes consisting of all the latest and most popular ballads, duets, &c. They make a speciality of unaccompanied quartette singing, also of ballads specially arranged for themselves, and sung as quartettes. Audiences everywhere show keen appreciation of these musical selections. The voices of the party blend so harmoniously that it is a delightful experience to listen to these well-trained vocalists. Mr. Stanford himself has an excellent baritone voice. Indeed, each member of the quartette is a capable soloist, and included in their répertoire are a number of humorous duets and trios, some of these selections being from comic opera, musical comedy, &c. The quartette, whose services can be secured for every kind of social function, are able to give a varied programme, lasting from fifteen minutes to two hours, according to requirements.

Their tour started at Whitsuntide at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, and extends until Sept. 30 next, when they finish a fortnight's engagement with Mr. Payne Seddon at the Spa, Whitby. The places visited on tour include appearances at Eastbourne, Dover, Herne Bay, Bexhill-on-Sea, Bognor, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor, Minehead, Tunbridge Wells, Teignmouth, Torquay, Cleethorpes, Skegness, and Whitby. Such an excellent, refined, musical entertainment has everywhere been received with the most flattering demonstrations of appreciation and delight, double encores being no uncommon occurrence.

Mr. Lloyd Stanford has been approached by a well-known syndicate, with a proposal for an engagement of his quartette on the music hall stage for the autumn season.

THE STANFORD QUARTETTE. [*Photo. by Hana.*

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 23,
the Drama in Five Acts, entitled
"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."

Messrs. Joseph Jefferson and R. L. Sewell's successful drama, *Shadows of a Great City*, is the attraction at the Shakespeare Theatre this week, and is meeting with great success. The play is excellently interpreted by a capable company, and the whole performance from start to finish is thoroughly enjoyable. Mr. Horace Hunter, as Tom Cooper, is manly and straightforward, and contributes an earnest performance. Mr. E. H. Brooke is seen to advantage as the villainous Geo. Benson, and Mr. George Ross is well placed as Jim Farren. Mr. Willie Scott is successful in his portrayal of Abe Nathan, and in the rôle of Mr. Arkwright, a detective, Mr. George Claremont is thoroughly satisfactory. The two warders Hammond and Doroney are capably acted by Mr. Martin Brocklebank and Mr. Felix Coates respectively. Miss Daisy Marsh in a dual rôle first gives a natural representation of the sorely tried Annie Standish, and afterwards makes an attractive appearance as Nellie Standish, acting both parts with marked success. Miss Blanche Stanley is to be congratulated on a sterling impersonation of the good-hearted Biddy Roonan, and her Irish witticisms evoke much laughter. The minor parts are capably acted, and the scenery and general effects leave nothing to be desired.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JULY 19.—It cannot be said that *Le Prétexte*, the two-act comedy by M. Daniel Riche, produced at the Comédie-Française, is a satisfactory work. In fact, it is surprising that M. Claretie should have deemed it worthy of the House of Molière. The slender plot is as follows: M. and Mme. de Terney, having spent the first years of their married life quarrelling with one another, are divorced. But they have a daughter, Jeanne, brought up by her mother, who has done all she could to make the girl detest her father. As to the latter, he has returned the compliment; and has made every effort to poison his child's mind against her mother. It is this action on the parents' part that surprises us. Being separated, and not having wronged one another in any way, their attitude toward Jeanne is perfectly incomprehensible. When Jeanne is eighteen, her mother wants her to marry Laperche, a grotesque, bashful individual whom the mother thinks she will be able to manage. But Jeanne loves André Le Brizard, and is allowed to marry him. Fresh trouble, however, now arises. M. de Terney and his ex-wife do not leave the young couple a minute to themselves. Le Brizard finally loses patience, and wants to forbid his parents-in-law to enter his house. Jeanne, of course, takes her parents' part, and we do not know how things would have ended if Le Brizard's old aunt had not given him good advice. Without a moment's notice he takes his wife away with him to Italy. The parents are upset. They have lost the child who was the cause, or the "pretext"—which explains the title of the piece—of their incessant quarrels. In their common grief they are inclined to seek consolation from one another; and we foresee the moment that these two people will be brought again together. The piece was fairly well acted.

WHEN Mme. Sarah Bernhardt becomes enthusiastic she does not do things by halves. Unfortunately, these fits of enthusiasm are sometimes rather expensive. To accept an author's play and not produce it within the stipulated time costs exactly 10,000 francs (£400). Not a penny more, not a penny less. The last time Mme. Sarah grew excited over a piece happened not very long ago. It was by a well-known Belgian writer. But the great actress grew tired of it, like she often does, and she was condemned to pay the above sum. This time it is M. Réné Fraudet, a young unknown author, who has been fortunate enough to have found favour with Mme. Bernhardt. She has not only accepted his play, *La Nuit perverse*; she has done more. She insisted on his impersonating one of the characters in the play, and at once signed his engagement. This is not the first time that an author will have appeared in one of his own works. In 1883, when M. Jean Richepin's *Nana Sahib* was produced at the Porte-Saint-Martin, Mme. Bernhardt insisted on M. Richepin accepting a rôle therein. M. Richepin, proud to appear with the great actress, consented to the arrangement.

"LA COURTISANE," five acts, in verse, by M. André Arnyvelde, will be the first novelty brought out at the Comédie-Française. It will see the footlights very likely in the beginning of October next.

M. ALPHONSE FRANCK, manager of the Gymnase, has accepted *L'Irrégulière*, a comedy in four acts, by M. Edmond Sée. It will be the third new work to be produced at that theatre.

MLLE. NINA CAVALETTI, the young, pretty actress whom we had occasion to applaud at the Folies-Dramatiques, has just been engaged by M. Deval to make her début at the Athénée.

THE Théâtre Antique de la Nature at Champigny has brought out a very interesting play by M. Charles Méré. It is called *L'Hydre*, the name the author gives to the mob, which devours those who furnish them with arms. The story is somewhat similar to the plot of Lorenzaccio. Hiéronyme, the cruel youth who reigns over Sicily, has entered into an alliance with Carthage. Hartémidore, the Carthaginian General, has become the lover of Massala, Hiéronyme's sister, and she prevails upon her lover to assassinate the young tyrant. But the General, unwilling to kill a boy, entrusts this task to a stranger. The latter performs the deed. Whilst the Carthaginians are discussing the new form of government they will select a cry of alarm is raised. The Romans are marching upon the city; the stranger makes an eloquent appeal to the mob, and he is nominated dictator. But the wicked Massala is in league with the Romans. She prevails upon the Dictator and Hartémidore to abandon their posts; and the Romans make themselves masters of the city. The Dictator is tied by the infuriated mob to a stake, and will be slowly put to death. Massala, however, has had an interview with him. She has discovered that she loves him, and, to save him from a horrible death, stabs him. The Romans, grateful for the services she has rendered them, proclaim her Queen; but it is with a sad heart that she accepts this honour. Were it not for the sonorous speeches that abound in it, the work would be of a high order. But the long-winded declamations cause the action to drag. It was beautifully acted. M. Paul Mounet, from the Comédie-Française, was most impressive as the Dictator; Mlle. Jeanne impersonated the perfidious Massala with much power; M. Alexandre imparted much colour to the rôle of Hartémidore; and, as the youthful tyrant Hiéronyme, M. Maurice Roger was really admirable. The work met with an excellent and well-deserved reception.

THIS week's theatrical lawsuit has been an action in which M. Perel, from the Vaudeville, sought to recover £400 from M. Gémier, of the Théâtre Antoine, because the latter had violated his agreement. M. Gémier argued that he had been within his rights, inasmuch as he had been engaged to fill one of the leading rôles in *La Marche Nuptiale*, whilst M. Perel had sought to impose upon him an insignificant part in which he declined to appear. As usual, the tribunal asked a week for reflection.

PARIS, THURSDAY, July 26.—During the dogdays, when everybody here seeks shelter from the heat either in the country or at the seaside, the tired and over-worked dramatic critic has to remain in town to devote his attention to the "Concours," the Conservatoire competition, which in the theatrical world is one of the most important functions of the year. The old concert-room in the Rue Faubourg Poissonnière having proved too small the competition is held now in Opéra Comique hall. But no place in the universe, be it ever so large, will ever accommodate the number of those clamouring for seats. Strange as it may seem, people flock back from their country residences and seaside villas to stew in a stifling atmosphere, not so much to have a look at the young rising stars, but to see the audience, which, it must be owned, presents a curious spectacle. All prominent men and women are there; and then come the mammas of the pupils. Each mamma has an exalted idea of her own offspring's talent, and, consequently, holds the other girls in contempt. And as each expresses her opinion very freely, both in private and in public, the result is that, with few exceptions, the mammas hold no intercourse with one another. A blood-curdling pun has even been made on one of these matrons, nicknamed "'La mer Caspienne' parcequ'elle ne communique pas avec une autre mer." These peppermint-drop-sucking mammas are the terror of professors and pupils, and even the members of the jury quail before them. Many society women also find their way into this furnace—all lace and muslins—whose tasteful toilettes offer a curious contrast with the antiquated finery of the mammas. Finally, discreet in the background, we notice several gentlemen, well-known men about town, the "friends" of some of the pupils. These "friends" are rarely young, but invariably rich; "and this," the mammas will tell you, "is the principal thing."

The psychological moment at the Conservatoire competition arrives when the names of the prize-winners are read out. It is then that storms break loose—storms that would startle the law-abiding English citizen, taught from his early youth to respect the "chair." The noise is made by the opposition jury in the hall, who have settled among themselves to whom a prize should be awarded, and as it invariably happens that their prognostics prove wrong, they raise their language to a high temperature, and overwhelm the gentlemen of the jury with reproaches. I remember two years ago seeing a stout lady mount a chair and, in a stentorian voice, announce to the world that, as regards lady pupils, "good looks take precedence over talent," and that an ill-favoured girl stands no chance with those "reprobates" on the platform. "This is not a beauty show," shouted the irate lady, and, gathering up the train of her moire antique dress, she strutted out of the room.

This year again we have had a few amusing incidents. The first occurred at the competition of the Opéra Comique class. M. Francell, a youth with a fine but somewhat uncertain voice, had to sing Des Brieux's air in the second act of *Manon*. Mlle. Martyl, who last year obtained a first prize, had promised to give him his cue; but someone came forward and announced that this young lady had fallen ill and could not, to her regret, appear. A shrill voice then called out: "She's all right, but is gone motoring," a statement that was received with loud cries of "Shame! Don't speak ill of a sick person." In the meanwhile, M. Francell stood on the stage waiting for a good angel to help him out of the difficulty. And the good angel appeared in the person of Mme. Marguerite Carré, the well-known singer, the wife of M. Albert Carré, manager of the Opéra Comique. She had only a few bars to sing, but she sang them so admirably and was such a delightful Manon that M. Francell became electrified, and, possibly thanks to that lady, secured the first prize. The audience cheered and shouted, but Mme. Carré, an ex-Conservatoire pupil, knowing the rules of the "house," refused to answer the call.

Incident number two happened the same afternoon. Mlle. Lamare and Mlle. Lassalle—who secured a second prize last year—were awarded the first prize. Mlle. Delimoges came in for a second one. Then came the turn of the "honourable mentions," and the name of Mlle. Comès was called. There was no response. Another call; and then the young lady slowly, very slowly, came on to the stage. She had expected at least a second prize. She was in a rage, and she showed it. With her arms akimbo, she assumed a defiant attitude, and stood motionless whilst her sentence was read, contempt and anger expressed in every line of her face. Suddenly her lips parted—but we shall never know what she might have said, for a friendly hand dragged her away, although not before she had made an ironical bow before the jury. Mlle. Comès had many sympathisers in the hall. In her delivery of a song in *Carmen*, and especially in her unrehearsed scene with the jury, she showed plenty of temperament. Her voice, too, is good, and, I must confess, I considered that lady's disappointment somewhat justified.

M. JULES CLARETIE has accepted a new comedy by MM. Gustave Guiche and Gheusi. It is called *Chacun sa vie*, and will probably be produced at the Comédie Française in the course of next year.

IF M. Claretie does not secure for the Comédie Française M. Rollan, a young man, barely eighteen, who won the first prize in comedy this year, M. Antoine is sure to engage him for the Odéon. In that case M. Antoine intends to revive Alfred de Vigny's masterpiece, *Chatterton*, of which M. Rollan recited a scene at the recent competition.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 23,
the Drama entitled
"SIBERIA."

At this critical time in the history of Russia a play of Siberian life is specially interesting, and the patrons of the Lyric are fortunate in having the opportunity of witnessing so powerful a drama as *Siberia*. Mr. Lewis Gilbert is an actor who is always appreciated by Hammersmith theatre-goers, and in the part of Nicholai, the gallant Russian who willingly journeys to Siberia to save his sweetheart, he scores a decided hit. Miss Nellie Fletcher appears as Sara, the unfortunate girl who is sentenced to life-long exile for defending her sister, and she proves that she is a really capable actress. The Ivan of Mr. Leonard Lawrence is a clever study of a true son of Russia. Miss Minnie Grey as Marie gains a distinct success; her acting throughout is characterised by a quiet grace that is very pleasing. Mr. Fred May makes a capital Tolsky, and, assisted by Miss Ella Leton as Vera, causes much hearty laughter. Mr. Fred Morgan is well-placed as Jarakoff, and Mr. J. E. Manning is quietly successful as Count Stanislaw. A word of commendation should also be given to Mr. Geo. K. Ashby as the Governor-General, while Mr. Beresford Whitcomb as Sparta deserves special mention. Others to whom praise is due are Messrs. Bert Morley, E. Tresoner, J. Booth, Blygh, and C. J. Thompson and Miss Florence Lovell.

OWING to the large increase in their business, the Hackney Furnishing Company, Limited, have just commenced building a warehouse and showrooms. When completed, this will be the largest and highest building of its kind in the North-East of London, and will, together with their other premises, go still further towards making them the "Maples of the North-East."

IRVING—PEN AND PENCIL.

"HENRY IRVING." By MORTIMER MENPES, R.I. R.E. London: Adam and Charles Black.

Mr. Mortimer Menpes' recollections of Sir Henry Irving will be read with deep interest by all admirers of the great actor; and the twelve colour-drawings by the author which embellish the little volume are all clever portrait studies of the late leader of the theatrical profession in this country. The anecdotes related of Irving present him in no new light. They only tend to increase one's admiration for the character of the man who did so much to raise the drama in the estimation of the public. His generosity, his genial humour, his thoughtful tact, and his unfailing kindness to every one with whom he was in any way associated have already received full recognition from those who have written of Henry Irving, and the stories scattered throughout this little book only confirm the general estimate of a rare character, with a remarkable gift of personal magnetism which added to the number of his friends wherever he went.

The first time that Mr. Menpes had the privilege of sketching Sir Henry was just before one of the actor's visits to America, when he gave the artist several sittings. "My immediate impression as he entered the studio was of a lithe, graceful figure, in a rough pepper-and-salt tweed dress, loosely fitting, quite two sizes too large, yet falling in noble folds about the slim body. Sir Henry seemed by the greatness of his individuality to walk his very clothing into character. One felt immediately one saw him the generous soul of the man. Irving's was not a character that held itself aloof. The first act was to put himself in touch with you—to turn you over, to make his sympathies your sympathies, his cause yours or yours his."

The artist did not find the actor a very good model. He says:

"During the first sitting Sir Henry scarcely moved his body at all; but his face was alive with movement. The expression in the eyes! I have never seen anything like it. I have never seen a face change so much: not for more than a moment did it retain the same expression. Now and then he would turn round and look piercingly to see if I had caught the joke. When he was telling a story I could almost follow it by watching the movements of his face, with its changing brows, now up, now down. Then, that wonderful mouth—how expressive the curves of it were; how sweet the smile! At the beginning of the sitting I felt hopeless. To be sure, there was the restful, graceful figure, and there were the hands. I could have drawn them; but it was the head I wanted, and that was never at rest."

It was at the first sitting, too, that "Sir Henry spoke of his old friend Toole. His face lit up as he spoke. He told us how shocked he was at Toole's state of health; the dear old chap could scarcely speak. Toole longed to talk; but his voice was muffled and he could scarcely articulate. Irving said that the last time he saw Toole he took him to a specialist physician, with whom Toole stayed for some little time by the sea; but instead of getting better he became worse. Irving brought his friend back to the hotel. Just near there was an undertaker's shop with "Johnson, monumental sculptor,' written up. Toole paused, and, with his thumb pointing back to the shop, shrugged his shoulders hopelessly. Nothing more was said. Irving little thought that he would be the first to die."

The tale illustrative of Irving's kindness of heart and concerning a dear old lady who was in pecuniary difficulties, has been related before, but will bear repetition. Irving telephoned to his business-manager inquiring if there was any employment at the theatre that could be found for her. The business-manager answered, "Absolutely nothing—nothing at all." Irving suggested that she might look after the cats. The manager telephoned back that there were already three women looking after the cats. "Well," said Irving, "you must find her something. Let her look after the three women that are looking after the cats."

But there was at least one occasion when Irving's generosity was ill-rewarded.

"There was an old actress for whom he had arranged a benefit. She wanted him to be at the performance as a 'draw,' and reserved a box for him. At the last moment Irving found himself unable to be present, and gave his box to friends. The benefit was a great success. When Irving began to talk over with the old actress the amount of money that had been collected, and was about to hand her a cheque, she said, 'But in that account I do not think you have included your box.' Irving was nonplussed for the moment; but he quickly grasped her meaning, and said, with that deferential courtesy so characteristic of him, 'O, of course,—how thoughtless of me! I forgot to add the price of the box'; and with that he corrected the cheque."

The second chapter is devoted to Miss Ellen Terry's impressions of Irving. Curious to know which of the great actor's different impersonations had created the greatest impression on Miss Terry, Mr. Menpes asked her which she considered to be Irving's biggest success.

"She answered without hesitation: 'His rehearsal of *The Merchant of Venice* and his reading of *Hamlet* at the Birkbeck Institution. I came to the rehearsal with ideas, with my own conception of the part as it ought to be played; but the moment Irving began I was hypnotised. I couldn't budge. I was enthralled. His conception of the part and the way in which he unfolded the plot were so extraordinary that all those who had the privilege of hearing the rehearsal and the reading must agree that never before or afterwards did Irving do such fine work.'"

Miss Terry told Mr. Menpes a story that showed the boyish side of Irving's nature.

"Seeing a child's paint-box and brush on a table, he took from a bowl in the room a white flower, and tore off one of the petals, making it quite a different shape, and striped the leaves with colour. He was holding the flower in his hand and looking at it, when there arrived a friend who prided himself on his botanical knowledge. Irving handed the flower to him, and said, 'What do you think of this specimen?' The friend turned it about between his finger and thumb, and said that he had for the moment forgotten the Latin name, but that it was a most unusual blossom, very rare, and he would like to take it away with him. Irving was greatly delighted at having 'taken in' his learned friend so completely."

In the chapter headed "Off Duty" Mr. Menpes remarks: "To see him at his best one had to be with Irving when he himself was host. Attached to the Lyceum Theatre there was a set of rooms in which he was wont to entertain, now and then, after the play. Behold, then, twelve or fifteen persons sitting down to a banquet at midnight. 'Supper' Irving called it; but it was really a dinner of the most stately kind. Food, wine, fruit, flowers, plate—everything in the spacious old hall was choice and abundant; the servants were as perfectly trained as the stewards on a man-o'-war. The place seemed to be the banqueting hall of a king. There sat Irving in the middle of the long table—tall, impressive, a very king to look at. On his right hand would be someone eminent in some other walk of life. On the occasion specially in mind, this chief guest was Lord Goschen. Let it not be thought that the strange quietude of the company was due to the presence of such a distinguished man. What kept the guests so decorous was that they were in the presence of Irving. He radiated some subtle force before which all men became modest and even reverential."

The volume, which is dedicated to Miss Ellen Terry, concludes with a facsimile of a letter addressed by Sir Henry Irving to Mr. Menpes, dated from Grafton-street, Dec. 15, 1898, acknowledging the gift of a picture.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

A large audience assembled at Queen's Hall on Friday afternoon, July 20th, in honour of the "Prize Day" of the Royal Academy of Music. This year the institution has been specially honoured, for His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, the president of the school, had kindly consented to give the numerous prizes and awards to the successful students. The order of the proceedings were: The reception of His Royal Highness by members of the governing body, a short selection of music by the students, an address by the principal, the presentation of awards and prizes, and a vote of thanks to His Royal Highness. The concert began with Sir Alexander Mackenzie's harmonious *Benedictus* and Paganini's well-known *Moto Perpetuo*, both of which were admirably played by the thirty-five young violinists, who gave a most spirited performance of Paganini's work, the accompanists being Mr. B. J. Dale and Miss Mary Burgess, Mr. Hans Wessely conducting. Following this came Mr. Hubert Bath's sea-picture *Orpheus and the Sirens*, sung by the female choir with string, harp, organ, and pianoforte accompaniment, the soloist being Mr. John Bardsley, Sir A. C. Mackenzie conducting. Great applause was awarded to the singing of this by the choir, and Mr. John Bardsley, who took the solo part of Orpheus; the composer, who may rightly be considered one of the Academy's foremost pupils, being called to the front and warmly greeted. After the concert the Principal gave his annual address. In the course of Sir A. C. Mackenzie's humorous and eloquent speech, he remarked on the rapid advance music is making in this country, and "that amazing technique which is one of the distinctive qualities of the younger generation of musicians. It was reassuring to know that this astonishing new development does not, by any means, move entirely in the direction of mere mechanical dexterity. I say reassuring, because this fact dispels the rather grisly idea that the musician of the future may become a mere automaton, and that we are helping to produce a race of human pianolas. Nothing of the kind. None are so competent to take note of the present early ripeness of the talent for musical composition as those who live among our young musicians. The eighty-four years old school has helped to bring this about." The Principal remarked that tranquillity and prosperity have attended the Academy throughout the year, and found cause for congratulation that Mr. Thomas Threlfall, to whom the Academy owes much, now filled the office of director and chairman of committee. Sir Alexander also spoke of the useful and flourishing opera class which has lately given proof of its vigour by performances of *Orpheus*, *Martha*, and *Carmen*, and the greater part of Verdi's difficult *Falstaff*, and those students who have elected to seek their fortune on the dramatic stage had ample opportunity, under Miss Filippi's able direction. Speaking of the awards which His Royal Highness would shortly bestow, Sir Alexander specially mentioned the Dove prize, given to that student who shall have most distinguished him or herself in general excellence, assiduity, and industry during the past year. Amidst great applause Mr. Rousby Woof was announced as the winner of this prize. Miss Vera Cockburn, of the dramatic class, and Mr. Bertram O'Donnell, violinist, took the two medals given by the Society for the Encouragement of Fine Arts for vocal or dramatic excellence, or excellence in instrumental music. The Anne E. Lloyed exhibition for Elements of Music and Singing was won by Miss Ethel Hedwig Hantke, whom the Principal spoke of as a singer who has already been marked outside our walls. Finally, Sir Alexander mentioned Miss Constance M. Dugard, who secured the Ridley Prentice Prize, to the sub-professor who had obtained the best results in teaching during the year. The Principal concluded his address by announcing, amid hearty cheers, the gift by Mr. Ridley Bax of a hundred guineas to the school in recognition of the benefits his son had received from it as a pupil, and the bequest to the Students' Aid Fund of a hundred pounds under the will of the late Walter Macfarren. The Duke of Connaught, after the distribution of prizes to the successful students, received a vote of thanks, which was moved by Lord Kilmorey, and seconded by Mr. Threlfall. In replying to this His Royal Highness, in a few well-chosen words, expressed, as President of the Royal Academy, his great satisfaction with the tale of prosperity unfolded by the Principal; he also spoke of the pleasure in which he had listened to the "charming music" of the students. The Duke of Connaught then mentioned Mr. Bath, whose composition he found full of melody and light and shade. "I have always thought," he said, "there was plenty of music latent in the English character, and that it only needed chances of being cultivated and perfected. There was nothing in this world more humanising than music, and therefore the more we English women and men did to encourage the art, the better it would be for the nation at large." The Duke's little speech was heartily cheered, and with the singing of the National Anthem the proceedings closed.

MME. CELLINI'S MUSICAL MATINEE.

Under the patronage of her Majesty the Queen, and in the presence of a large and stylish audience, Mme. Cellini gave a musical and dramatic matinée at the New Theatre on Friday afternoon, July 20. Several distinguished lady amateurs who are pupils of Mme. Cellini appeared, among them being the Countess of Huntingdon, the Countess of Arran, Mrs. Naper of Loughcrew, also many well-known professionals. The small orchestra under Signor Scoma also did good service. In the first part of the programme the Countess of Arran was first heard in Carl Bohm's song "Still wie die Nacht," which was encored. Mr. Charles Magrath, from the Moody-Manners Company, was well received in Prince Gremin's song "In every age sweet love is master" from Tschaikowsky's *Eugène Onégin*; and Mme. Newbold Thorpe, a pupil of Mme. Cellini, made a favourable impression by her singing of "Ah! Rendimi quel cor" from Rossi's *Mitrane*, 1608. Mme. Rosetti, from the Opera Comique, Paris, gave Gluck's classical song, "Paris et Hélène," and in the second part of the programme an air from Massenet's *Manon*, which was most effective. Mr. Charles Magrath was also at his best in his second song, "Molly Bawn." Herr Claus, from the Royal Italian Opera, Rome, gained a hearty recall for his rendering of "O Star of Eve" from *Tannhäuser*, the 'cello obbligato being cleverly played by Herr Eugène de Kerpely. Mme. Margaret Izat sang Gounod's "Le Printemps," and Mrs. Naper of Loughcrew gained an encore for "The Jewel Song" from *Faust*. The Countess of Huntingdon received much applause for the ballad "My Rosary," and the audience insisted on an encore in Mme. Newbold Thorpe's second song "The night has a thousand eyes," to which she responded with Sullivan's familiar "Let me dream again." Relief was given to musical items in a recitation of "The lesson of the fan" by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, who, being encored, gave the popular "In the usual way" and a pretty tableau of "Then and Now" in two pictures, "Then" and "Now" contrasting the past and present, greatly pleased the audience. The conductors were Lady Willshire, Mme. Cellini, and Herr Conraed Von Bos.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE has been elected president of the English section of the International Musical Society, the vice-president being Mr. Otto Goldschmidt.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words:—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes:—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes:—"I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note:—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

Mr. Martin Harvey.—"I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £1 1s. for your admirable fund for the poor little lady."

Miss Louie Freear.—"Enclosed please find cheque for £1 for dear little Miss Stephens, with whom I most heartily sympathise. What a terrible accident, poor little girl!"

Mr. Weedon Grossmith.—"I enclose a cheque for £1 1s. for the little fund you are raising for the poor girl, Miss Dot Stephens. I only regret my cheque is obliged to be so small. It would have been larger, but there have been so many things one has had to contribute to recently, only not so deserving, that one has little left for the really sad cases."

Mr. H. B. Irving.—"I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for one guinea as a small contribution to the fund you are getting up for poor Miss Stephens."

Miss Nora Lancaster.—"I am so sorry to hear of the terrible accident that has fallen upon Miss Stephens. I enclose cheque for a guinea, and wish I could have made it more."

Miss Edith Wynne Matthison (Kennedy).—"Enclosed please find cheque for one guinea towards the subscription for Miss Stephens. It is an exceedingly sad case; and she has my deepest sympathies."

Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—"The case of Miss Dot Stephens is certainly a very distressing one, as you say. I enclose you herewith £2 2s. on her account. I hope you will get a substantial sum."

Photo by Russell and Sons.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

Mrs. J. Warden (widow of the late J. F. Warden).—"I send cheque as a trifle towards the fund you have opened for Dot Stephens. Poor girl, such a sad fate for her to be suddenly put aside in the days of her youth and strength. It is a sad ending to her bright dreams and hopes she had for the future. My heart's deep sympathy is with her and her mother in this their dark hours of sorrow."

Mr. T. Allan Edwardes (of Derby), writing from Interlaken, says: "I enclose you cheque for £2 2s. towards the fund for poor little Dot Stephens. Among the thousands of her brother and sister artists, it should be an easy matter to purchase her an annuity of at least £50 per annum. If all the sympathisers with her in her dreadful accident would send their mite this would be easily accomplished."

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on Saturday night, the 30th ult. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left on Saturday night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared this week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other. She was also found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stephens is a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Subscriptions already announced	£198	14	0
Collected by Miss Edna May, at the Vaudeville Theatre:—			
Miss Edna May	£5	0	0
Mr. D. Sassoon	5	0	0
Mr. Lewisohn	5	0	0
Miss Hilda Hammerton, Miss Kitty Harold, Miss Dora Glennie, Miss May Hobson, Miss Kitty Dale, Miss Florence Randle, Miss Gladys Cooper, Miss Helen Colville	3	0	0
Mr. Arthur Williams	2	2	0
Mr. Courtice Pounds	2	2	0
Messrs. A. and S. Gatti	2	0	0
Mr. Charles Frohman	2	0	0
Mr. Warsawman	2	0	0
Mr. M. and N. (per Miss May)	2	0	0
Miss Dorothy Monkman, Miss Marjorie Villis, Miss Dorothy Brunt, Miss Phyllis Monkman, Miss Phyllis Gibbons, Miss Winifred Hall, Miss Stella de Marney	1	13	6
Miss Walker, Miss Munro Ross, Miss Cox, Miss Anderson, Miss Magnier, Miss Denton, Miss Goddard, Miss Chreighton, Miss Manton, Miss Long, Miss Marchand	1	12	6
Gentlemen of Orchestra	1	10	0
Mr. Herbert Clark	1	1	0
Miss Louie Pounds	1	1	0
Miss Maud Boyd	1	1	0
Miss Ruby Ray	1	1	0
Miss Jane May	1	1	0
Mr. Farren Soutar	1	1	0
Mr. Wm. Caine	1	1	0
Mr. W. Pringle	1	0	0
Mr. Edward Jones	1	0	0
Mr. Mervyn Dene	1	0	0
Mr. Herbert Cottesmore	1	0	0
Stage Staff	1	0	0
Miss Lillian Digges	0	10	6
Miss Irene Desmond	0	10	6
Mr. Charles Angelo	0	10	6
Mr. George Fielder	0	10	6
Messrs. Westoby and Co.	0	10	6
Miss Ethel Newman	0	10	0
Mr. Chas. Troode	0	10	0
Mr. Sam Walsh	0	10	0
Mr. T. A. Shale	0	10	0
Mr. Sheffield	0	10	0
Mrs. Sheffield	0	10	0
The Misses Lugg	0	10	0
Mr. Mendy Wigley, Mr. Cecil Tresilian, Mr. Michael Henry, Mr. J. Martin, Mr. Pearce Robinson, Mr. H. Wescombe Penney, Mr. Blair Headsworth	0	7	0
Miss Connie Ross	0	5	0
Mr. C. A. Cameron	0	5	0
Mrs. Hillier	0	5	0
Mrs. Bailey	0	5	0
Mr. H.	0	5	0
Mr. G. F. C.	0	5	0
Mr. Leslie Stiles	0	5	0
Mr. Murri Montcrieff	0	2	6
Miss Vivien Vowles	0	2	6
Miss Leigh	0	2	6
Mr. E. Crampton Bryant	0	2	6
Mr. Harry Phydora	0	2	6
Autograph (per Miss May)	0	2	6
Master Grata	0	2	0
Total	£56	8	6

Subscription for Miss Dot Stephens, per Lilford Arthur and C. St. John Denton:—			
Collected by M. W. and W. W. at the Haymarket Theatre	3	16	0
C. St. John Denton	0	10	6
Miss De Loriere	0	10	0
Musketry Tilson	0	10	0
D. D.	0	5	0
Wentworth Hog	0	5	0
Lilford Arthur	0	5	0
May Yetman	0	5	0
Arthur C.	0	2	6
Arthur	0	2	6
T. W.	0	2	6
Coxey	0	2	6
J. Nathan	0	2	6
Hia Pal	0	2	6
W. Mace	0	2	6
America	0	2	6
S. P., Southampton	0	2	6
F. Mills	0	2	6
Romanos	0	2	6
H.	0	2	6
David	0	2	6
Olive Leman	0	2	6
America	0	2	6
E. Earnshaw	0	2	6
R. Whyte, jun.	0	2	0
F. Treear	0	2	6
D. Moul	0	2	6
S. Jougiffe	0	2	0
The Whip	0	2	0
Dormy Cottage	0	2	0
Criterion	0	2	0
Australia	0	2	0
Col. Warden	0	2	0
Targa	0	2	0
G. Moore	0	2	0
Southie	0	2	0
R. Elliott	0	2	0
J. Richardson	0	2	6
G. R.	0	2	0
O. Cromwell	0	2	0
W. B.	0	2	0
Mac Vi	0	2	0
C. Mason	0	2	0
Brenda Guyder	0	2	0
Jericho	0	2	0
Harry	0	1	0
England	0	1	0
J. M.	0	1	0
D. Yates	0	1	0
R. Buckley	0	1	0
A. Wilkie	0	1	0
J. East	0	1	0
Mr. Kirkby	0	1	0
H. Kilburn	0	1	0
K. Musgrove	0	1	0
W. Calvert	0	1	0
A. Stigant	0	1	0
A. Wakely	0	1	0
H. Wilde	0	1	0
F. Griffiths	0	1	0
J. Caburn	0	1	0
E. Beresford	0	1	0
F. Harris	0	1	0
F. Lennard	0	1	0
Nellie Day	0	1	0
W. T. R.	0	1	0
T. Magintey	0	1	0
Tom Mowbrey	0	1	0
G. K. A.	0	1	0
R. F.	0	1	0
H. Bute	0	1	0
T. S.	0	1	0
Author	0	1	0
Collins	0	1	0
Lewis	0	1	0
Mancini	0	1	0
Mr. Author	0	1	0
Berry	0	1	0
Pierrot	0	1	0
Dumfries	0	1	0
Seymour	0	1	0
Inglis	0	1	0
Neville	0	1	0
Collingham	0	1	0
Chris.	0	1	0
Kitty Grey	0	1	0
Kitty Kerr	0	1	0
Richmond	0	1	0
O. K.	0	1	0
The Dongalist	0	1	0
Bab	0	1	0

Lying Fisherman	£0	1	0
Elma	0	1	0
Ba	0	1	0
Noffie	0	1	0
Hustler	0	1	0
Jimmy	0	1	0
Jack	0	1	0
Meino	0	1	0
Waxworthy	0	1	0
The Oarsman	0	1	0
The Cueist	0	1	0
Madge	0	1	0
Rup	0	1	0
Viz.	0	2	0
Nigger	0	1	0
Writ	0	1	0
Sports	0	1	0
Framfort	0	1	0
Viola	0	1	0
The Khedive	0	1	0
Swindon	0	1	0
Ring Breaker	0	1	0
No Name	1	0	0
Burton Ales	0	1	0
Halfaya	0	1	0
Total	£15	1	0
W. S. Gilbert	5	5	0
N. G. Rigden	5	0	0
L. S. and E. V. K.	2	2	0
T. Allan Edwardes	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis	2	2	0
Collected by Signor and Mme. Borelli	1	10	0
George Strachey	1	1	0
Mrs. Ernest Palmer	1	1	0
B. N. Graham	1	1	0
Frederick Fredericks	1	1	0
John F. McArdle	1	1	0
Bertram Forsyth	1	1	0
Charles Macdona	1	1	0
Kate Rivers	1	1	0
A True Sympathiser	1	1	0
Edward Lauri	1	1	0
Jenny Warden	1	1	0
Nettie Ware	1	1	0
Alexandra Dagmar	1	1	0
"Z"	1	0	0
Lilian Digges	1	0	0
Steve Cooke and Geo. Nil, collected in pennies at Southend	1	0	0
Collected by C. Mussett:—			
Peggy Pryde	0	5	0
John Lawson	0	5	0
Griffin and Dubois	0	2	0
Will H. Jevan	0	2	0
Mount and Corelli	0	2	0
Total	£0	16	0
Frank Dyball	0	10	6
J. F. Preston	0	10	6
E. Vivian Reynolds	0	10	6
Miss F. Hurley	0	10	6
Miss Sevening	0	10	6
J. R. La Fane	0	10	6
Erica Odling	0	10	0
Percy Hutchison	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
A Lincoln Sympathiser	0	7	7
Frank Cross	0	5	0
M. B.	0	5	0
F. Thorne	0	5	0
Miss Dip	0	5	0
G. A. Offley	0	5	0
Mrs. Phelps	0	2	6
G. C. L. A.	0	2	6
B. M.	0	2	6

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I am very glad to be able to say I am progressing as well as could be expected, and hope to be able to leave the hospital in a few weeks now.

I cannot express my thanks to everyone for the way they have come forward to help me in my affliction, and for all the sympathy they have shown, it is indeed very, very good of them, and I only wish I could express my feelings of gratitude as I would and feel.

Every one here in Wolverhampton have been very good to me, and to Mr. Lennon, of the Empire Theatre, I cannot express my feelings of thanks. He has not only got up a cricket match on my behalf, but also gave me a matinée benefit at his theatre, and to him and the many ladies who so kindly assisted and worked very hard in my interests I owe a deep debt of thanks. Again, with the best thanks to everybody, more thanks than I can express now.—Yours sincerely,

DOT STEPHENS.

The General Hospital, Wolverhampton.

It is intended that the proceeds shall be devoted to the purchase of an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

STEINWAY HALL.

Miss Dorothy Wren and Mr. Charles Sparrow, assisted by Miss Myrtle Meggy, gave a dramatic and musical recital at Steinway Hall on Thursday evening, July 19, before a large audience. Miss Wren, who has a pleasing and well-trained light soprano voice, was first heard in Recit and Aria, "The Jewel Song" from Gounod's *Faust*. Miss Wren was also heard in two new songs by Signor Achille Tramezzani, "La jeune fille et la rose" and "Love me again," the latter being encored, but the concert-givers' most effective efforts were in Sullivan's "Dearest heart" and Handel's "Angels ever bright and fair." Mr. Charles Sparrow's first recitation was Shakespeare's "All the World's a Stage," which was followed by "The Statue of Saint George," taken from a Scottish Annual. The recitation describes how the statue on view in the artist's studio is visited by all artistic Florence, including no less a personage than Michael Angelo, then a young student of the sculptor. Mr. Sparrow has a good presence on the platform, and shows dramatic ability. He may also be commended for his pathetic "Death of Little Joe," from Dickens' *Bleak House*, and his humorous rendering of "The Bishop and the Caterpillar." Other and more serious work done by Mr. Sparrow was Tennyson's "Break, break, break," "Little Boy Blue," and "Tragedy in Five Acts," with clever incidental music, composed and admirably played by Mr. G. Lardelli, F.R.C.O. This being encored, Mr. Sparrow recited "The Lesson of the Watermill," with musical accompaniment by Mr. Lardelli. Miss Myrtle Meggy played several piano solos, being well received in "Les Sylvains" and "Valse," by Chaminade, Chopin's "Etude in A flat," and "Intermezzo in Octaves" by Leschetitzky. Signor Achille Tramezzani presided at the piano. The concert was given under the direction of the British and Foreign Concert Bureau, Titchfield-terrace, Regent's Park.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, the Duke of Sparta, and Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck were present at the performance of *La Bohème* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on Saturday night.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE rebuilding of the Avenue Theatre, which Mr. Cyril Maude is to rechristen the Playhouse, is now in progress, the débris which covered the site since the accident at Charing Cross last December having now been cleared away. The theatre will have to be almost entirely rebuilt externally, all the walls having been more or less damaged. There will be a new iron roof of modern construction, and the colour scheme of the interior will be brown and gold. The stage will be found to be somewhat enlarged, and the seating accommodation slightly altered. Originally the cost was to have been £17,000, but now the work will amount to over £20,000.

THE first term of the Academy of Dramatic Art under its new government by a Council comprising Sir Squire Bancroft (the president), Mr. John Hare, Mr. Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Pinero, and Mr. J. M. Barrie has ended very successfully. There have been over eighty students, with the practical result that many professional engagements have been secured. In addition to those given by the regular staff of instructors special rehearsals in the "Final School" have been held by Mr. John Hare, Mr. George Alexander, and Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft. The usual rehearsal classes, both for junior and senior students, have been conducted by Mr. Lyall Swete and Mr. Fisher White, who have been appointed by the Council to the teaching staff of the Academy, and an additional class in the "Final School" has been instructed by Mr. James Fernandez. There has been added to the curriculum a course of introductory lectures upon "The History of the English Theatre," delivered by Mr. Harold Child. The Council have appointed Mr. George Bancroft administrator of the Academy, the next term of which will begin on September 29.

MR. WALTER EMDEN, J.P., late Mayor of Westminster, the well-known theatrical and hotel architect, is retiring after nearly forty years' practice as an architect. He is presenting the business to his manager, Mr. S. H. Egan, and his nephew, Mr. W. S. Emden, and the firm will be known as Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co.

MR. STEPHEN PHILLIPS, one of the most distinguished of the many old Bensonians who have done such good work in connection with the stage, celebrates his birthday to-day. Born in Oxfordshire, the author of *Nero* was educated for the Civil Service, became an Army tutor at one period of his career, and published his first book, "Marpessa," fifteen years ago.

A NEW volume of essays by Mr. H. B. Irving, entitled "Occasional Papers, Dramatic and Historical," will be published early in September by Messrs. Bickers and Son. The essays will contain, among others, "The Art and Status of the Actor," and one read before the Royal Institution on "The English Stage in the Eighteenth Century." Other papers are of a criminological character, as a student of which Mr. Irving is well known, his earlier books on "Judge Jeffreys" and "French Criminals" having enjoyed much popularity.

MR. J. L. TOOLE'S strength has been gradually diminishing during the past fortnight, and his inability to take more than the slightest amount of nourishment makes his state extremely critical. Fortunately, he is in no pain, but a cough has proved troublesome during the last few days. After a quiet night he passed a fairly restful day on Thursday, but his health showed no improvement.

ENGLISH playgoers who have visited Paris will remember that excellent actor M. Raimond, whose death at the age of sixty-two, after a long and painful illness is chronicled. He was the last of the famous Palais-Royal cast that included celebrities like Lassouche, Geoffrey, Lhéritier, Milher, Saint-Germain, Mme. Céline Chaumont, Mme. Alice Lavigne, &c. When as a young man he joined the Palais-Royal company he had to encounter many difficulties. The members of that house did not like newcomers, and poor Raimond was very badly treated by them. Kept in the background, his salary was so small that he tried to increase his revenue by trading in lamps. But, as he often used to remark in after years, he never sold as many as he bought.

RAIMOND used to be fond of relating a story of M. Perrin, manager of the Comédie-Fraçaise, who to his surprise and joy one day sent for him. "Perrin," he said, "made me wait over an hour downstairs; and when, at last, I was admitted to his sanctum, he said he was happy to have seen me, and sent me about my business. But it was a clever trick of Perrin to ask actors from other theatres to call on him. He did the same thing to Dupuis, and to others. He made them wait downstairs, where the artists of the house could see them; and by so doing managed to keep his somewhat unruly flock in hand."

IT was not until M. Mussay—the husband of Mme. Céline Chaumont—took over the Palais-Royal that Raimond's position became good. Instead of playing insignificant rôles he was made a star; and his name is intimately connected with all the successes of that once so popular house. When M. Mussay retired from the management and the Palais-Royal's good fortune began to desert it, Raimond, despite the tempting offers from other managers, refused to leave the house where he made a great name for himself. Known by many, respected by all, this kind-hearted gentleman's death is a great loss to the theatrical world in Paris.

MR. W. S. GILBERT had his little joke at the Edgware Petty Sessions this week, when two men were convicted of trespassing on land in search of conies. The police evidence showed that the defendants, who were beating a hedge, were accompanied by a dog. Upon being searched, a ferret and nets were found in their possession. Defendants denied that the dog was theirs, and said it had followed them into the field. "Did the ferret follow you?" inquired Mr. Gilbert, with twinkling eye.

MR. LEWIS WALLER, who will appear at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, in *Brigadier Gerard*, has been extensively advertised in the local press, and his first visit to the island is looked forward to with interest. There is a circumstance, however, connected with Manxland, as with other popular resorts, that few advance agents apparently grasp. The people who flock to Douglas seldom stay more than a week, and the early puff preliminary has small utility. The people who had Saturday's papers usually depart on Monday. The first to be caught are the shoals who arrive on the last day of the week, and, after glancing at Monday's issues, determine their plans.

MR. HALL CAINE, the popular novelist and playwright, is spending laborious days and nights in his study at Gruba preparing his theatre-version of his earlier novel, "The Bondman," for Drury Lane stage. A real farmyard, with veritable cows and haystacks, will be represented in *The Bondman*, and the properties will also consist of a genuine Sardinian donkey scarcely bigger than a dog. Mr. Caine and Mr. Arthur Collins have braved many perils in their search after local colour, fearlessly standing on the brink of the crater in order to secure the correct impression of a volcano in motion.

MR. H. B. IRVING will make *Paolo and Francesca* the opening attraction of his tour, which starts at the Prince's, Manchester, on Aug. 6. Stephen Phillips's poetical play will be replaced on Friday by a double bill, composed of *Markheim* and *Mauricette*, Saturday being reserved for a revival of *The Lyons Mail*, in which Mr. Irving is to appear as Dubosc and Lesurques. On Sept. 19 Mr. Irving sets sail for New York, where he will start operations at the New Amsterdam Theatre in *Paolo and Francesca* about Oct. 6. In addition to Miss Dorothea Baird the company includes Miss Maud Milton, Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. Frank Tyars, and others of the late Sir Henry's company.

"LOUIS XI.," and possibly *The Bells* and *Charles I.*, will be included in the répertoire, and with these reminders of the late actor's most notable productions it may be imagined that the warm-hearted Americans will give a royal greeting to the worthy son of an illustrious sire.

MR. W. H. C. NATION is the latest tenant of Terry's Theatre, having obtained from Mr. James Welch a six months' lease, starting from September 29. A play is now being written for the new lessee, but the actual character of the entertainment has not yet been definitely decided upon. Mr. Nation has an extensive and varied experience of Metropolitan amusements. He is the author of innumerable songs which have been heard on the London stages. In 1871 he was the manager of the Royalty, where he produced a comedy entitled *Lamed for Life*, by Westland Marston, in which Miss Ada Cavendish appeared, together with a musical extravangaza, entitled *Nell Gwynne; or the King and the Actress*, Mr. Nation himself being responsible for the various songs. Mr. Nation has also been connected, in a managerial capacity, with Sadler's Wells, Astley's, the Holborn, and the Charing Cross theatres, the latter of which subsequently became Toole's.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY takes much pardonable pride in the requests for performances of *Hamlet*, which have emanated from all part of the country. Attention has before been drawn to Mr. Harvey's marked success as the Prince of Denmark in many towns, but the requests for the maintenance of the tragedy in his repertoire show that the impression created was one not easily removed. Mr. Harvey has been delighted to accede to the numerous requests, with the result that *Hamlet* will be played in all the more important centres. As we have already stated *The Corsican Brothers* will be Mr. Harvey's autumn tour novelty.

MR. C. W. ERCOLE, the Parisian impresario, has just concluded all arrangements for producing *Cinderella*, the gorgeous Drury Lane pantomime, at the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin, Paris. This is the first instance of such a vast transcontinental undertaking. Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. J. Glover, and Mr. Bruce Smith are leaving for Paris to superintend the rehearsals. This is a real example of the "entente cordiale."

MRS. LANGTRY obtained a success on the Turf on Wednesday, when "Mr. Jersey's" five-year-old Vergia won the Grasmere High Handicap at Liverpool. Minor honours have been secured by Mr. George Edwardes, whose three-year-old Marie Blanche took second place in the Forest Selling Handicap, while Red Heart's Pride, another from the enterprising manager's stable, ran up to the winner of the Thursday Selling Plate at Windsor.

MANY will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Charles Wybert, of Liverpool, a well-known actor and agent. For some time Mr. Wybert had been an inmate of the Royal Infirmary in that city, and died on Saturday from cancer of the stomach. The deceased, who had reached the age of 60 years, had spent the whole of his life in the profession, having, in former times, travelled his own company in all part of the United Kingdom. For some years, however, he devoted his energies towards "dressing" theatrical ventures and conducting an agency. He was a delightful teller of stories, and some of his adventures were most interesting. Included in his experience was a slight acquaintance with Charles Dickens, with whom he played in amateur work, and to whom he bore a remarkable facial resemblance. Mr. Wybert had many excellent qualities, and was very popular. His numerous friends will hear with genuine grief of his demise at an age when all his faculties were undiminished.

MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW is about to embark on a managerial enterprise, and will produce two plays, both by F. Kinsey Peile, at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday next. The first is a one-act piece called *The Mummer's Wife*, suggested by Catulle Mendès' *Femme de Tabarin*; and the second is a comedy-drama in three acts, entitled *The Adventurer*, the original production of which took place at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on July 10, 1905. Mr. Robertshaw himself will be in a cast of exceptional strength, which will also include Messrs. E. M. Robson, Harvey Long, and Percival Stevens, and Miss Marie Löhr. The following Monday the company will be at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, and London playgoers will have an opportunity of enjoying the interesting performance at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on Aug. 13.

"THE ADVENTURER," it may be well to state, already figures in theatrical annals as the name of a play founded on a story of Eugene Sue, and produced at Drury-lane just upon half a century ago. The play, in which no less a celebrity than Mr. Barry Sullivan appeared, deals with the alleged escape of the Duke of Monmouth, the illegitimate son of Charles II., while the period of Mr. Peile's comedy-drama is laid in 1830. A change of title would, however, seem expedient.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN, who, with Miss Beatrice Wilson and his full company, has been playing a special week at Lowestoft, has succeeded in crowding the local theatre, in spite of the heat, each evening. This is Mr. Norman's first visit to Lowestoft for some years.

A FLORAL fairy play, entitled *The Garden of Roses*, will be produced at a fancy fair to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday next at Buckhurst, Wokingham, by permission of Mrs. Murdoch, in aid of the League of Mercy and the County Hospitals.

MDLLE. DONALDA, the Canadian soprano, and M. Seveilhac, the French tenor, were married on Monday in the Registry Office of St. Giles, close by New Oxford-street. Both artists are members of the Covent Garden Opera Company, and in the evening Mme. Seveilhac appeared in *Don Giovanni*.

MR. JAMES CAREW is to be Miss Ellen Terry's leading man during her American tour. He was the Captain Kearney of the Court revival of *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, but in America he will play the title-rôle.

MISS MADGE CRICHTON has been engaged by Messrs. Shubert to appear as Lady Madcap in New York this season, and leaves on the Oceanic next Wednesday.

MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER has been engaged by Mr. Mark Blow for an autumn tour of the popular drama *Under Two Flags*, commencing August Bank Holiday at Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

AFTER a successful run of five weeks, "Kennedy's Komiks" terminated their engagement at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton, last week. The house is now closed till August Bank Holiday, re-opening with *When London Sleeps*.

MISS LENA ASHWELL is about to go on tour with *The Shulamite*, in which she will play her original part, under the management of Mr. William Greet, beginning on August 20th at Plymouth. Miss Ashwell will tour in this country for a month, after which she sails for New York to fulfil a twenty weeks' engagement with the Messrs. Shubert, who have acquired the American rights in Messrs. Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch's drama. Deborah will then be taken up by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy. Mr. Charles Weir, Mr. T. W. Lovell, Mr. Reynolds Denniston, and Miss Mary Griffiths will also be in the company.

MISS VALERIE SALBERG, who took up the part of Ethel Carlton in the little "Commonwealth" company travelling *His Excellency the Governor*, when Miss Janet Alexander relinquished it to go to the Criterion, has had a varied and extensive experience, to which her evident youth hardly lends credence. Since leaving His Majesty's Theatre she has played ingénues and children for Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Peter Davey, and Mr. Ben Greet, and was with Sir Charles Wyndham's company throughout his last season. Miss Salberg's accomplishments include that of acting in German, for which purpose she was engaged by Mr. Hans Andresen, and she has also figured with success as one of the Pierrettes in *Prunella* at the Court Theatre, where she understudied Miss Dorothy Minto.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE HOWARD have been re-engaged by Mr. Edward Terry for his autumn tour. This is the fifth year Mr. and Mrs. Howard have been associated with the eminent actor, having accompanied him on his recent tours to South Africa, America, and Canada.

ARCHITECT and contractors are agreed that in the ordinary course of events the new Hicks' Theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue will be finished early in December, and can be opened the week before Christmas, when a second edition of *The Beauty of Bath*, now running at the Aldwych, will form the attraction. In addition to the *Beauty* for the evening programme, Mr. Seymour Hicks proposes to revive at afternoon performances daily *Alice in Wonderland*, himself taking the part of the Mad Hatter, and Miss Barbara Deane, whose singing of "All the world's a stage" has been such a success at the Aldwych, appearing as Alice. Nearly all the other parts will be played by children, the version of Lewis Carroll's charming story being that of the late Savile Clarke, with additional lyrics by Mr. H. Chance Newton, and the music by Walter Slaughter.

MR. TEMPLER POWELL, who will be remembered for his performance of Romeo in the London suburbs a little while back, is concluding this week his engagement in *Cousin Kate*. He is engaged to play the leading part, supporting Miss Mabel Love, in the autumn tour of *The Freedom of Suzanne*, commencing Aug. 13.

THE Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, after being closed for several weeks, during which the building "fore and aft" has been cleansed and redecorated, will be re-opened on Monday by the local Amateur Society, as has been the custom for several years past, and on August Bank Holiday the regular season will be inaugurated. *Three Little Maids* pay only a return visit. December will bring the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mr. Taylor's opening of the theatre and continuous management since. The veteran is contemplating a benefit on one of the Christmas week nights, when it is expected many who have visited the Lyceum in the past will appear for a short time once before the curtain.

MISS GRACE LESTER is re-engaged by Mr. James Willard to star in his forthcoming tour of *A Woman's Pluck*, commencing Aug. 6, at Worcester. Miss Lester recently concluded a twenty-four weeks' tour with the same management, playing the leading part in *The Midnight Mail*, this autumn tour making her third engagement with Mr. Willard.

M. COQUELIN, the famous French comedian, is the founder of Actors' Almshouses in France, and an open-air theatre in connection with the institution was opened on Wednesday at Pont-aux-Dames.

WE understand that Mr. Henry George, so long associated with the Drury Lane and Adelphi dramas, has been engaged by Mr. Arthur Collins as stage-manager for his forthcoming tour of *The Prodigal Son*.

LIEUT. JULIAN MALVERN, the lessee of the Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, appeared in *A Wife's Peril* on the evening of the 19th inst., and gave a capital interpretation of the Hon. Gus Cholmondley, a part he has sustained in the course of his career no fewer than 600 times. There was a capital house, and Mr. Malvern's reappearance behind the footlights "for one night only" was made the occasion of a popular demonstration.

MR. FREDERICK FORREST, stage-manager of *The Squawman* company, under the management of Messrs. Liebler and Co., the well-known New York theatrical firm, was in London this week. Mr. Forrest is enthusiastic in his praise of *The Squawman*, which he considers to be one of the greatest plays of its class.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN, who is playing Col. Brinthorpe in *Sunday*, took a complimentary benefit at the West Pier, Brighton, on the 19th inst., the occasion of his 350th appearance there in a little over six years. The house was packed in every part, and Mr. Pagden received an enthusiastic reception.

MR. LESLIE FABER has been engaged by Mr. Chas. Frohman to play the leading juvenile part in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones' new play *The Hypocrites*, which is to be produced in the early autumn at the Hudson Theatre, New York. The company also includes Miss Millward, the popular Adelphi heroine, who recently reappeared in London in *A School for Husbands* after her long stay in America.

MR. LOUIS CALVERT has fixed upon Thursday, August 9, for the opening of his season at the New Theatre with *Amasis*. The central figure in Mr. Fenn's play is an Egyptian Princess unknown to history, on whom a masculine name is bestowed by a parent who had hoped for a son. The traditional Amasis was the son of a poor captain who was put on the throne by the army, with whom he was very popular. In addition to Miss Ruth Vincent, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Norman Salmond, Mr. Roland Cunningham, and Mr. Whitworth Mitton, the cast includes that clever comedian, Mr. Herbert Ross, and Miss Madge Vincent.

MANY habitués of the new Opera House, Doncaster, will regret to learn of the decease of Mr. John Martin Chapman, the father of the popular managing-director of the theatre. He had been ill only a week, but complications arose, and he passed away on Saturday at the age of seventy years, death being due to leucocythæmia and abnormal increase in the corpuscles of the blood. Mr. Chapman, sen., was invariably to be seen about the theatre, and was deservedly held in the highest esteem by his fellow-townsmen, and also by the members of the various companies who have visited Doncaster. The founder of the Doncaster Billposting Company, he began in a small way about eighteen years ago, and, after working up a colossal business, handed it over to his son, Mr. J. W. Chapman. The funeral took place at the Doncaster Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon amid every manifestation of sympathy and respect.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS is reaping a rich reward for his enterprise in running an operatic season at the slackest period of the year. Brilliant and enthusiastic audiences have been attracted to the Lyric Theatre, and the efforts of the cultured artists, together with those of the superb chorus, have resulted in the bestowal of lavish tokens of approval. The programme for next week will be as follows:—Monday, *Eugene Onegin*; Tuesday, *Lohengrin*; Wednesday matinée, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*; Wednesday evening, *Tannhäuser*; Thursday, *Lucia di Lammermoor*; Friday, *The Huguenots*; Saturday matinée, *Faust*, and evening, *The Bohemian Girl*.

MR. MARK H. LINDON, the managing director of the Theatre Royal Co., Ltd., Stanley, took a benefit on Monday, when a full house assembled. The programme included the fine old drama, *The Flowers of the Forest*, in which Mr. Lindon played Ishmael, and gave a striking performance. Mrs. Lindon was a charming Starlight Bess, and other prominent parts were played by Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Miss Minnie Holmes, Mrs. McGoldrick, Mr. George Clark, Mr. John McGoldrick, Mr. Frank Rock, Mr. James Gates, Mr. R. D. Grundy, and Mr. James Fairley. A miscellaneous entertainment was contributed to by the Sisters McIntyre, Miss Lily Lindon, the Albion Glee Singers, and little Lily Robertshaw.

TOWARDS the close of the performance Mr. Lindon came forward and said it was most gratifying to one like himself, who had catered for the public in Stanley for thirteen years, to see how they had turned out on the occasion of his annual benefit. He could never forget their appreciation and kindness, and he only hoped that they would have many more such annual gatherings, the friendly character of which was of far higher value than any monetary residue left after the heavy expenses had been paid. He thanked the artists who had taken part in the performance, which he thought they would agree with him had been exceedingly creditable, and showed that they had talent in Stanley and the district and amongst their friends. He also thanked the gentlemen of the orchestra for the beautiful music and its admirable rendering. Once more, in Shakespearean phrase, he would say, "I'm e'en poor in thanks, yet I thank you."

THE ways and means of autograph hunters are varied and comprehensive, but we have lately come across one whose ideas and methods are delightfully simple and refreshing. The victim, in this case was Miss Millie Legarde, the charming actress, who is about to tour the suburban theatres shortly with *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, and we are indebted to her for permission to use the following epistles:—

"Dear Miss Legarde,—I beg to enclose herewith half a dozen photos of yourself, and to ask if you will very kindly do me the favour of signing them for me, on the mount below the pictures, whenever you have a minute to spare. I ask you to sign on the mount specially because I am told that the ink is detrimental to the film of the photographic paper, and I do not wish this, and I shall esteem it a further favour if you will do this for me. I send in addition a stamped addressed envelope, in which the photos may be returned, and thanking you in anticipation, believe me to remain, Truly, Mr. H—— H. H——."

"To Miss Millie Legarde, the Prince of Wales's Theatre, W. Mr. H—— H. H—— has received the note containing a request for half a crown. He regrets to state that he does not see his way to contribute to this society in return for the signature of Miss Legarde, which he requested in his letter of yesterday's date. He does not think the same worth it, and will, therefore, be obliged by an immediate return of his pictures, when they will be destroyed, as Mr. H—— does not collect unautographed photos."

THE report stage of the Musical Copyright Bill was concluded on the 20th inst., when Mr. Crean moved an amendment providing that a man could be arrested only if he had been previously convicted of selling pirated music. Mr. Healy supported the amendment, which was rejected by 151 to 50.

ON Monday Mr. J. D. White asked the Prime Minister whether, seeing that the Musical Copyright Bill was introduced as a private member's Bill, and in view of the character of its provisions, he would leave the decision on the third reading an open question, and not put on the Government tellers. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman replied that the Bill had been thoroughly discussed since its adoption by the Government, and he saw no reason for taking the course suggested.

THE new Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, opens on Monday evening with *The Youngest of Three*, the author, Mr. H. F. Maltby, taking an important part in the piece. Mr. R. C. Buchanan, the managing-director, has secured many fine companies for the ensuing season.

MANAGERS evidently know a good thing when it comes their way. The anouncements of W. Scott Phipp that Servais Le Roy would shortly tour Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the World's Monarchs of Magic, in an entirely new mystical play, has been followed by innumerable offers of dates for the novelty.

THE matinée at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, on July 14, in aid of the fund being raised on behalf of Miss Dot Stephens, who met with such a terrible accident five weeks ago, drew an immense house. The programme of thirty-nine turns was contributed to by M. Van Biene, who was heartily greeted in his one-act play, *The Master Musician*. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden gave their droll sketch *Two to One*. Miss Mabel Sinclair was responsible for a clever ventriloquial performance, and among other talented turns were those of Mr. Mike Whallen, whose patter was greatly effective, and Mr. George Adams, who sang a stirring Colonial song.

MR. GEORGE MUSGROVE'S *Prince of Pilsen* company has been secured by Mr. Cecil Beryl as a special attraction for next week at the Theatre Royal, Brighton. This will mark the inauguration of the third tour of this popular transatlantic musical comedy. To fittingly celebrate the occasion, several numbers of a novel nature have been interpolated, and elaborate new scenery and dresses have been provided. With the exception of Mr. Martin Adeson, the popular comedian, who will enact the brewer from Cincinnati, and Mr. J. B. Fox, who plays the title-rôle, Miss Isa Bowman as Nellie, and Miss Adele Roze, the Vassar girl, the cast remains unchanged. Miss Millicent Marsden will resume her original part of Mrs. Crocker. Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge is musical director, Charles A. Wenman, stage-manager; Hugh Fleming, advance-director, and the general management of the company is once more in the hands of Mr. Charles Thorburn.

SIGNOR PUCCINI, the eminent composer, who paid a flying visit to London this week, found in an unexpected quarter a libretto, which he has already started to set to music. "I received a mysterious parcel one morning," he says, "and found it to be a typewritten manuscript of a scenario. I carefully read it, and was so enchanted with its plot that I communicated with the author, and for the last few weeks we have been hard at work in arranging details. The story is of a Spanish nature, but in no way related to the adventures of Carmen, the heroine of Bizet's great opera. I hope to have this opera completed before next June, and I trust I shall have the honour of giving London musicians the opportunity of hearing it before it is produced elsewhere."

THE body appointed to control the operations of the Commissioners of the Actors' Association held a special meeting on Monday last, when the chair was taken by Mr. S. Major Jones. There were present Miss Georgina Hamilton, Messrs. Cecil Barth and Leslie Carter, and C. B. Rivington representing the secretary. The new set of seven reasons for joining the Association were again under discussion, and the further consideration of the matters was referred to the next meeting of this body to be held on Monday, the 30th inst. It was agreed that a special whip should be sent to the members of the Organising Committee, requesting them to attend the next meeting to consider a circular to be sent to all commissioners, pointing out the various duties they have undertaken and the best way of carrying them out.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present—Mr. Burton Cooke (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Kate Bishop and Saba Raleigh, Messrs. Cecil Barth, J. Cooke Beresford, Acton Bond, Thalberg Corbett, F. Cremlin, M. R. Morand, Spencer Trevor, and C. B. Rivington (for secretary).

THE hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters, and also that they had advised members on points submitted. They were requested to write letters on behalf of several members' claims, and, if necessary, to enforce payment. A framed picture of the late Mr. William Terriss, presented to the Association by Mr. Frank Melrose, was accepted by the Council. A letter was read from a member, who, after tendering his resignation and had been written to by a commissioner, in which he expressed his willingness to continue his membership. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. Marion Beresford and Rose Hélène were nominated for election to the Association.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last. There were present—Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, and Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, M. R. Morand, and C. B. Rivington (for secretary). Several matters were under discussion, and the secretary received instructions.

MISS FLORRIE GROVES desires to thank her friends for the many kind inquiries during her recent illness. She is now favourably recovering, and hopes to resume her part in the course of a few days.

MR. JOHN GERANT began yet another tour with that popular military play *At Duty's Call* on Monday last, at the Theatre Royal, Scarborough, with every sign of continued success. The piece has now been before the public under Mr. Gerant's management for more than eight years, and its popularity shows no sign of diminishing. For the present tour several old members of the company have been re-engaged, among whom are Messrs. Harry Scott, Harry Ugar, Ernest St. John, and Ivan Mavis; while the new-comers include Misses Lillie Crammonde, Beatrice Western, Eva Belle, and Mr. Julian Bainbridge.

MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK began the second tour of their successful drama *Her Luck in London* at the Hippodrome, Wigan, on the 16th inst. A packed house greeted the opening performance, and the continuous rounds of applause testified the audiences' keen appreciation of this remarkable play. The Mayor (Mr. Hugh Ross) was present on the Thursday night, and expressed himself in glowing terms in regard to the play, which he declared to be a capital one, "beautifully acted, and teaching a lesson to the rising generation with as great an effect as the most powerful sermon."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER was honoured by Royalty at the first night of *Down Our Alley* at the Garrick on Wednesday, when Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll was present. The proceeds of the performance are devoted to the funds of Charing Cross Hospital.

MR. HARRY EMERIC has been engaged for the part of Pip in Mr. Frederick Paul's forthcoming production of *The Lord of the Last*.—Mr. Alfred Martin, who recently concluded his second engagement with Mr. Cyril Maude's *Beauty and the Barge* company, has been specially engaged as advance director by Baron H. Harriss for his principal company of *The Prince of Pilsen*.—Miss Polly Marsh has been re-engaged for the autumn by Mr. Walter Melville for her original character of Elizabeth Burke in *Her Second Time on Earth*, a part she has played 900 nights.

Two novelties are promised during the autumn season at Covent-garden, under the direction of Messrs. Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth. One is Alfredo Catalani's *Loreley*, which was played in Turin in 1890, and is a revised version of his opera *Elda*, brought out in the same city in 1880. The other new work is Umberto Giordano's *Fédora*, a setting of Sardou's great drama, which was composed in 1898, two years after the produciton of his *André Chenier*, at Milan.

LATAINER'S successful historical opera *The Hero of Jerusalem* was repeated at the Pavilion Theatre on Monday evening by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, which again gave a very fine performance of this interesting play. Special mention must be made of Mesdames Zwiebel, Kayzer, Bruh, Messrs. J. Fineberg, Schapira, Schilling, Gusofsky, J. Scherman, Zeidel, and Isaacowitz. During the week *The Bielostock Massacre*, *Blimele*, *The House of David*, and *Hannah, the Finisher*, have been produced.

THE French play season at the Royalty terminates this evening with a performance of *L'Honneur*, in which M. Antoine will make his farewell appearance in London as an actor. According to present arrangements, Mr. Gaston Mayer will not begin his next season of French plays until January, when he hopes to include M. Guitry among his attractions. M. Mayer has provided Londoners with a dazzling array of Parisian celebrities, and his enterprise well deserved the brilliant patronage which attended it.

MR. PAUL RUBENS' visit to Holland has given him a wealth of ideas for his new musical play, *Miss Hook of Holland*, which is to be produced in London in December. "I shall set my piece," he says, "near the Zuyder Zee. I shall show you the Market Place as I saw it—with the Customs officials all in different coloured helmets; the cheese-carriers, all with different-coloured trays; the maidens and widows of the place, each class with ribbons of distinctive colours. I shall reproduce the amazing politeness of everybody. You raise your hat to the man who carries your trunk, to the waiter who hands you a light. Then the Polder country is a huge flower-bed of tulips and hyacinths. Everyone cultivates his garden in Holland, and in the evening the family foregather in the garden and take their rest." A very inspiriting prospect is thus held out by the talented author.

M. POREL, manager of the Paris Vaudeville, has lost the action in which he sought to recover £400 from M. Gémier, of the Théâtre Antoine, because the latter had violated his agreement. M. Gémier argued that he had been within his rights, inasmuch as he had been engaged to fill one of the leading rôles in *La Marche Nuptiale*, whilst M. Porel had sought to impose upon him an insignificant part in which he declined to appear. The Court held that M. Gémier was justified in the breach of contract, as his engagement was for principal rôles only.

"DOWN OUR ALLEY."

A Coster Story, in Three Scenes, adapted by Arthur Bourchier from Anatole France's play, *Crainquebille*, and produced at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday, July 25.

Joe Parrot ..... MR. BOURCHIER
Lambert Lane ..... MR. JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Robert Farrow ..... MR. CHARLES GOODHART
Mr. Fiddler ..... MR. CHARLES V. FRANCE
The Rat ..... MR. WALTER PEARCE
Herbert Freak ..... MR. GEORGE TROLLOPE
Dr. Matthews ..... MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Richard Pepper ..... MR. LAWSON BUTT
Usher ..... MR. J. H. BREWER
Bill Radford ..... MR. FRANK LACY
Inspector of Police ..... MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
Timothy Wilson ..... MR. HARRISON CARTER
Alfred Stubbs ..... MR. ALFRED BRISTOWE
A Deaf Mute ..... MR. F. CECIL
A Newspaper Boy ..MASTER HUGH WAKEFIELD
Henry Wilson ..... MASTER THOMAS LIPTON
An Acrobat ..... MR. F. NERRI
A Costermonger ..... MR. ADAMS
A Boy ..... MASTER CARLYLE
A Torf ..... MR. LANGLEY BILL
A Policeman ..... MR. O'BRIEN
A Parson ..... MR. HILLIARD
Pauline Bollet ..... MISS KATE PHILLIPS
Mrs. Radford ..... MISS MADGE JOHNSTONE
Sailor Sal ..... MISS CELIA POWIS
'Arriet ..... MISS VIVIENNE WHITAKER
'Liza ..... MISS KATE HARWOOD

In such a production as *Down Our Alley* success is mainly dependent on three points—clever character-drawing, a nice sense of proportion, and a truthful realisation of environment. These essentials have been supplied by Mr. Bourchier, who having chosen as the foundation of his play M. Anatole France's story of *Crainquebille*, shows throughout this most interesting production that he possesses the invaluable quality of sympathy with his subject. In his little drama he tells the simple annals of the dosser, the wastrel, and the street vendor with the convincing force of the accurate, unbiassed observer, and interests one thoroughly in the lower deeps of London life in which the tragic, the serious, and the mirthful elements are so inextricably mixed.

The story of *Down Our Alley* opens in the squalid neighbourhood of Titchmarsh-street—a mean thoroughfare that may be recognised as one of the purlieus of St. Giles's. Here we get some thumb-nail sketches of street life in the doings of a cheap-jack, a kerbstone conjurer, and the newspaper boy. There are the flotsam and jetsam of London—to be found everywhere in its meaner streets—the gutter kiddies, whose cheeriness is invincible, and rises superior to their sordid surroundings; the coster with coat and kicksies "impearled," the befeathered donahs, the sneak thief, the sharper, the sailor and his lass (a light o' love), and the old vegetable vendor with his barrow. This is Joe Parrot, who has apparently many regular customers from the neighbouring alleys. Poor old Joe has been forty years getting his living in the street, and has never in the slightest degree obstructed the police in the performance of their duty; but strange ill-luck overtakes him now. Mrs. Pauline Bollet, a regular customer, after haggling with him over the price of a cabbage and a bunch of leeks, goes to fetch the money to pay for them. While waiting he is asked to move on several times by Police-constable Richard Pepper, who, becoming enraged at being struck on the helmet with a bunch of greens, arrests the old man and charges him with riotous conduct, and with shouting, "Down with the police, the swine!" Notwithstanding the manly protest of a kind-hearted medical man, Dr. Matthews, the malevolent "rozzer"—the slum name for a policeman—runs in poor old Parrot, who is brought before the magistrate, Mr. Fiddler, at a metropolitan police-court, to which the action is transferred in Scene II. Mr. Fiddler's administration of justice leaves much to be desired, and would cause numberless questions in the House and no little heckling of the Home Secretary if he were a real personage, which, fortunately for the prestige of British justice, he is not. It is a theatrical convention, perhaps, that there should be a spice of farce in a police-court scene on the stage, and it must be confessed that reports of humorous dialogues in our courts of summary jurisdiction often afford the public lively reading. For Mr. Fiddler's treatment of poor Joe Parrot, however, we hope there is no precedent in real life. The good-hearted doctor pays a barrister to defend him, but the stipendiary, with unlimited faith in the police evidence, sentences the inoffensive old coster to fourteen days' imprisonment.

In the third scene—the mean street at night—we find the old man broken down and deserted by his former pals, who jib at the taint of gaol-bird. Even Sailor Sal, the unfortunate, refuses to recognise him. Joe, starving and reckless, endeavours to get himself locked up by repeating "Down with the police, the swine!" but the good-natured "bobby" refuses to run him in, and in despair he seeks the river. A better fate than suicide is in store for him; for the Rat—an old pal who sells newspapers—has kept his barrow, and has the necessary cash to stock it, so that we take leave of poor old Joe, who at last rejoices in the prospect of peace and contentment.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's sketch of Joe Parrot has a Meissonnier finish that leaves us wondering at the versatility of the gifted actor-manager. In the police-court scene especially Mr. Bourchier was particularly admirable. The bewilderment of the old man, his artlessness, and his pathetic appeals to the magistrate all sound the true note, and proclaim Mr. Bourchier to be one of the first character-actors of the English stage. His portrait of the old coster, indeed, will rank with his Dr. Johnson, and will go to prove his remarkable versatility. In the lengthy cast there are but few parts of any importance. In the scheme of melodramatic beneficence Mr. Walter Pearce takes a prominent position as the Rat, a poor street newsvendor with a heart of gold, and agreeably impresses one by his alertness and command of the volapük of the gutter. Mr. Charles V. France is amusing as Mr. Fiddler, with his mild attempts at jocularity; Mr. Arthur Whitby is decidedly good in the genial rôle of Dr. Matthews; Mr. Lawson Butt suggests with just sufficient obviousness the methods adopted by the worst sort of policemen in the overcolouring of their evidence; Mr. Julian L'Estrange gives the barrister's address with an air of profound conviction in the complete justice of his plea; Mr. J. H. Brewer is amusing as the somewhat obtrusive Usher; Mr. Frank Lacy makes a droll Bill Radford; the experienced Miss Madge Johnstone presents a whimsical portrait of the elderly Mrs. Radford, giving evidence against her husband of assault; and the proceedings at the police-court are also enlivened by the acting of Miss Kate Phillips as Pauline Bollet, Master Thomas Lipton, a promising youthful actor, as Henry Wilson, Mr. Harrison Carter as Timothy Wilson, and Mr. George Trollope as Herbert Freak. Miss Cecilia Powis may be praised for her artistic restraint in her delineation of Sailor Sal; and Miss Vivienne Whitaker, Miss Kate Harwood, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Charles Goodhart, and Mr. Douglas Imbert may be singled out for their good work in parts of small opportunity. The realisation of a mean street in the poorer part of London is excellent.

As a preface to the new piece, Mr. Bourchier revived the play, in one act, by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova, entitled

"MONSIEUR DE PARIS."

Georges Delpit ..... MR. CHARLES V. FRANCE
Henri le Febvre ..... MR. JULIAN L'ESTRANGE
Mere Lisette ..... MISS MADGE JOHNSTONE
Jacinta ..... MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH

This powerful little piece again held the attention of a West-End audience, and repeated the triumph that it secured on its original production. Miss Violet Vanbrugh, as Jacinta, the daughter of the executioner, is again responsible for a moving and impressive impersonation of the girl to whom fate is so relentless. The actress displays a command of deep feeling in her expressions of joy at the love that has come into Jacinta's life, and makes us understand the fury of disappointment that prompts her to kill her lover.

Mr. Julian L'Estrange is a warm and impassioned lover; Mr. Charles V. France makes a sinister and weird figure of the Executioner; and Miss Madge Johnstone is a motherly and sympathetic Lisette.

"THE BIELOSTOCK MASSACRE."

A Tragedy in Five Acts, in Yiddish, written by John Jackson, with music by F. Staub, produced at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Friday, July 19, for the first time.

Abraham Sheingold ..... MR. SCHAPIRA
Sarah ..... MME. GOLDSTEIN
David ..... MR. M. D. WAXMAN
Dinah ..... MME. F. WAXMAN
Rose and Bluma ..... MISSES LUBRITZKY
Rebecca ..... MME. ROSE WAXMAN
Mariana ..... MME. KAYZER
Rev. Altman ..... MR. STRENG
Seremeteff ..... MR. FINEBERG
Ivan ..... MR. ZAIDEL
Governor-General ..... MR. ISAACOWITCH
Petroff ..... MR. J. SCHERMAN

Although it seems that from time immemorial to the present day we have been destined to hear of massacres of the Jews, yet it must be a source of wonder, to say the least of it, why such a state of affairs should exist; for with the soberest of peoples—those not given to rabid anti-Semiticism, no just cause can be found for such outbreaks of savagery as we too often hear of in Russia. It is upon one of the most recent events in that country that Mr. John Jackson has based his latest effort, *The Bielostock Massacre*, which was produced on Friday evening at the Pavilion Theatre, with unqualified success.

Seremeteff, Chief of Police, having conceived a passion for Dinah Sheingold, and also intensely hating the Jews, has arranged with his agents for a pogrom to take place on June 14. In the meantime he calls upon Abraham Sheingold, and demands one hundred thousand roubles, as the price of his friendship towards the Jews in Bielostock, which amount must be forthcoming by the following morning. Meanwhile David Sheingold, who is a Nihilist, is away organising a Committee of Defence in case of the pogrom taking place, and returns home in time to see his sister Dinah arrested on a false charge of Nihilism, brought about by a bundle of incriminating papers having been secretly placed in her room by a police officer. In the second act Seremeteff offers Dinah freedom at the price of her honour, which she indignantly and scornfully repels, and is then ordered to be lashed for her refusal. At this moment Rebecca Löewinthal, the affianced of David, enters and pleads for the release of her friend, but Seremeteff, with an eye always to beauty, decides to keep her also under restraint. Just at this time there comes David, who, having disguised himself as a general, now demands Dinah, in the name of the Governor-General of Grodno, but Petroff, having purposely misunderstood, produces both the women, who depart with the pseudo general, completing the discomfiture of Seremeteff, who vents his wrath on Petroff. Dinah and Rebecca are now being brought back to the house of Sheingold, and David having revealed his disguise, they all proceed to the synagogue, where the Jews are exhorted to arm themselves and prepare for action.

The fourth act deals only with the actual massacre, a highly sensational scene, and represented with such graphic detail as to be painfully realistic. The principal personages having now been killed or wounded in the pogrom, the last scene of the tragedy must of necessity be one of despair, the play terminating with the pathetic appeal of the dying Abraham to Christian Europe for protection to the defenceless Jews.

Although Mr. John Jackson has indeed scored a very great triumph in his latest contribution to the Yiddish stage, yet it will be seen that the play is entirely episodic, with an absence of love interest and a very slight element of humour. For the acting we have nothing but the highest praise, Mr. M. D. Waxman making a handsome David, and using his fine, resonant voice with great effect, his elocution being especially good in his declamatory speech in the synagogue. Mr. Schapira was the wealthy Abraham Sheingold to the life, his acting in the last scene being marked by great power. Seremeteff, the Chief of Police, was capitally portrayed by Mr. J. Fineberg, who had the most difficult character to perform in the piece. The execrations which this talented artist evoked from the enraged audience were ample tribute to the great efficiency with which he rendered this repellant part. Mr. Fineberg must be congratulated upon a very successful impersonation. Mr. J. Scherman was a very happy Petroff, his "business" in the second scene with Seremeteff bringing down the house. Mr. Streng looked a venerable Rabbi, and made the most of his opportunities. Madame F. Waxman was pleasing as Dinah, and roused the audience to enthusiasm, and Madame Rose Waxman as Rebecca was seen to great advantage. Madame J. Kayzer was a satisfactory Mariana, her song and dance with Petroff being vociferously encored. The Rose and Bluma of the Misses Lubritzky were played with charm and naïvete; Mr. Isaacowitz was a stern and forbidding Governor-General; and Ivan was suitably enacted by Mr. Zaidel. As is usual with this management, the mounting, scenery, dresses, and accessories were of the best possible description, the stage management being also beyond reproach. The special music written for the production by Mr. F. Staub, was full of local colouring and added to the success.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the Royal College of Music on Wednesday night a very long programme of Chamber music was given by the students. Owing to the extreme length of the programme, consisting of fifteen items, it is impossible to do full justice to all the clever performers. The concert commenced with an organ solo, "Intermezzo and Fugue" (from Sonata in E flat), by Rheinberger, ably performed by Mr. Eric Gritton. Miss Minnie Arnold sang two songs by A. Somervell, "O that 'twere possible" and "A voice by the cedar-tree," with capital intonation; and Miss J. Bertha Dawe did full justice to Marcello's "Quella fiamma," being rewarded by hearty applause. She has a fine and most expressive voice. In the Sonata for 'cello and piano, in F, Op. 99, by Brahms, Miss Beatrice Jones and Miss Agnes Stevens greatly distinguished themselves. Miss Majorie Beer was also eminently successful in her violin solo of Guiraud's "Caprice," being at the close recalled many times; and Miss Jane Robinson was well received for her song, "Les Oiselets" (Massenet). A youthful and clever student, Miss Ellen Edwards, was most enthusiastically recalled several times for her able rendering of Brahms' "Variations" (Paganini), first set. Other clever performers were Miss Grace Trautz, Miss Geraldine B. Wilson, Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans, Miss Lucy Polgreen, Miss Florence S. Taylor, Mr. Edmund Weeks, and Mr. Robert Chignell. The accompanists were Miss Alice Cotton, Miss Margaret Hulme, Miss Ellen Tuckfield, and Mr. Harold Samuel.

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.

At the Lyric Theatre on Saturday night last, the Moody-Manners Opera Company opened their five weeks' season of opera in English before a large and enthusiastic audience with a performance of *Lohengrin*—a most happy choice, as Wagner's earlier opera, for some reason, has not been heard this season at Covent Garden, and the story is a familiar one to all opera-goers. It was a bold stroke giving an opera season in midsummer, but Mr. Charles Manners, that staunch advocate of English opera, has the courage of his convictions, and as London even in the dog-days is never empty, no doubt there will be numbers who will gladly welcome the chance of hearing grand opera done—and well done, too—at most moderate prices; and if we may judge from the large numbers who flocked to the Lyric on Saturday night there is every prospect of a most successful season. Although there was no restriction in the matter of costume, the majority came in full evening dress, and the house presented a brilliant appearance when the curtain rose on *Lohengrin*. Mme. Fanny Moody made a most charming and sympathetic Elsa, while her acting and singing and the delightful purity of her intonation deserve the warmest praise. Miss Toni Seiter, although her vocal powers were hardly equal to the demands of the part, gave a fine dramatic rendering of the intriguing Ortrud, being most ably supported by Mr. Lewys James, who displayed a fine voice and great histrionic ability in the character of Telramund, the duet especially in the second act between Ortrud and Terlamund going remarkably well. Mr. Wilson Pembroke's pleasing voice and fine commanding figure made an imposing Lohengrin, while his artistic restraint and dignified acting in the part may be warmly commended. Mr. Charles Manners made a most regal King, the music giving ample opportunity for the display of his fine sonorous voice and capital enunciation. Mr. Marshall Vincent gave due importance to the character of the Herald, and the chorus, always a strong point with the Moody-Manners Company, showed great animation and intelligence, thereby adding greatly to the interest of the opening scenes. All the principal artists were enthusiastically applauded at the close of each act. The orchestra, under Herr Richard Eckhold, were, on the whole, satisfactory, and will no doubt do still better when more accustomed to their surroundings, as it was evident they were somewhat cramped for space, two side boxes being brought into service for the extra members of the band. The costumes were new and handsome. Mr. Manners appeared every inch a King in his fine gold armour, while the picturesque mediæval array of Telramund evidently showed that he came prepared for the worst and determined to run no risks in case a champion did arrive for Elsa. The dress also of Ortrud was a perfect feast of colours, making a fine contrast to the virgin simplicity of Elsa's costume. The dresses also in the bridal scene were both handsome and varied, in particular Elsa's bridal robes and the pages' costumes. Mr. Pembroke's silver armour in the first act also made a dazzling appearance in the limelight.

The Lyric Theatre proved well adapted for operatic purposes, and Mr. Manners, who warmly deserves the support of the musical public, should have a most successful season.

On Monday the performance of *Tannhäuser* attracted a very large audience to the Lyric Theatre, and really it would seem that at last success will attend the present season of opera in English. Mr. Manners has that one quality which always commands respect even in these degenerate days, namely, courage—that dogged determination never to be beaten which is so characteristic of the English, winning them renown in all parts of the world. Another reason that gives promise of a good season is the fact that even in the short time that has elapsed since the Moody-Manners Company were last with us, the public have advanced in musical knowledge and good taste, and like to take their English opera seriously and in strict accordance with the traditions of Covent Garden. The rapt attention paid by the large audience on Monday night to the fine performance given of *Tannhäuser* showed that we are indebted to the Germans for other things besides fine music—they have given us hints how to behave in the presence of Art. It was only after the curtain fell on each act that the audience broke into loud and long-continued applause, and called the principal artists to the front. The cast of *Tannhäuser* was excellent. Mr. Joseph O'Mara admirably sang the music of the hero, and although some slight exception might have been taken to his acting, it was quite in keeping with the character of the weak-minded knight, swayed with every passing emotion, and, as before said, it was a pleasure for once to hear the part sung and not declaimed. Mme. de Vere made a womanly and effective Elizabeth, her fine high top notes being skilfully employed, especially in the invocation to the hall of song in the second act. She shared the honours with Mr. Joseph O'Mara in their fine rendering of the duet in the same scene; her acting also deserves praise. Mr. William Dever as Wolfram sang and acted with grace and distinction; and Mr. Charles Magrath's fine voice and dignified bearing made an imposing figure of Hermann, recalling pleasing memories of that great artist M. Plançon. Miss Toni Seiter proved quite equal to her task in the character of Venus. The other parts of Henrich, Reinmar, Walter, and a young shepherd were well filled by Mr. Tattersall, Mr. H. Brindle, Mr. R. Brookes, and Miss M. Wilcocks. A word of hearty praise also ought to be awarded to the fine and animated chorus and to the clever stage management for the effective arrangement and grouping in the Hall of Song scene. The orchestra, under the able control of Herr Eckhold, even in the short time since the opening night, have greatly improved. The fine house and abundant applause evidently stimulated all in their efforts on Monday night. *Tannhäuser* should prove quite a trump card in the Moody-Manners' present season.

Gounod's *Faust* was performed at the Lyric on Tuesday evening, a large audience being present. Mr. Wilson Pembroke appeared as the hero. Although Mr. Pembroke's voice is not powerful, it is sweet and pure in quality, and he sang the lovely "Salve dimora" like a true artist. His acting also is convincing and natural, showing Faust, as Gounod intended, as a young and impulsive lover rather than a hardened roué, and showing impatience at times of the restraint exercised over him by Mephistopheles, rather than making a bon comrade of the evil one both seeking the ruin of a fair maiden. Mr. Charles Manners's Mephistopheles has always been considered one of his finest creations, both vocally and histrionically, his clever business in the part, and the sardonic contempt shown throughout the opera for anything pure or holy are the gifts of a true artist; his costume in the orthodox scarlet was strikingly picturesque. Madame Fanny Moody made a most charming and girlish Marguerite, her greatest achievements being, of course, made in the garden scene, with its delightful *King of Thule* air and the famous "Jewel Song," the latter being sung in the most brilliant manner. It seems a pity that Gounod's and Verdi's operas could not be treated with the same respect shown to Wagner's works, namely, leaving all applause till the fall of the curtain, a method that so greatly enhances the artistic effect; but this is not the rule at either Covent Garden or elsewhere when the older operas are given. Mr. Lewys James proved an excellent Valentine, singing his solo, "O loving smile of sister kind" (the *dio possente* of the Italian version) with much charm and artistic feeling. Miss Mildred Baker made a most effective Siebel, and Miss Arnold's Martha may be commended. The part of Wagner was skilfully undertaken by Mr. G. King. The opera was handsomely mounted, and the life and bustle of the Kermasse scene, which owes so much to the splendid chorus Mr. Manners has at his command, came in for its share of the abundant applause bestowed during the evening. The ensemble generally was excellent, and the famous old opera went smoothly under the conductorship of Signor Romualdo Sapio.

At the matinée performance on Wednesday afternoon at the Lyric Theatre, Verdi's *Il Trovatore* was given, and, to judge by the frequent applause, it would seem that even in these days of advanced musical culture, melody still retains its hold over a large number of the public. The performance of the old opera, affectionately styled in past days "good old Trovatore," by the English Opera Company on Wednesday was an excellent one. Madame Blanche Marchesi gave a most dramatic reading of Leonora's part, besides rendering the many florid passages with which the music abounds in the most brilliant manner. It was mainly due to her efforts, and those of Mr. Joseph O'Mara, whose Manrico was excellent, that the *Miserere* scene was repeated. Mr. William Dever acquitted himself well in the character of Count de Luna, and Miss Toni Seiter gave ample proof of her versatile abilities as the witch Azucena. Ferrando was skilfully undertaken by Mr. Marshall Vincent. The chorus, as usual, was excellent, and the orchestra, under Signor Sapio, performed admirably.

Tschaikowsky's much-discussed opera, *Eugene Onegin*, was given on Wednesday evening, proving far more attractive by reason of the smaller stage than when produced at Covent Garden, and the performance of the opera by the Moody-Manners Company was certainly a fine one. The cast was the same as when recently given at the Coronet Theatre, Madame Moody making a delightful Tatiana, her singing of the latter song in the second scene being one of the most charming incidents of the opera. Mr. Manners was the Prince Gremin, his fine singing of the air in praise of love being one of the many successes of the evening. Mr. Lewys James made an excellent Eugene Onegin, and the part of Lenski, his friend, lost nothing in the hands of Mr. Wilson Pembroke, who acted with skill and dignity. All the smaller parts of Gilliot, Saretzki, a Colonel, and Larina were well filled, and a word of praise must also be given to Mr. V. Brodo for his capital Triquet. Miss Mildred Baker as Olga greatly distinguished herself. The opera was well mounted, the dainty dresses and charming orchestration of the ballroom scene at Larina's house doing great credit to this clever company, while the realistic manner in which the duel scene was performed also deserves acknowledgment. The orchestra, under Herr Richard Eckhold, gave a good account of Tschaikowsky's delicate score, and Mr. T. C. Fairbairn is to be commended for his able stage management of the various scenes.

PRIZES AT THE GUILDHALL.

The following students have passed the highest grade examination set by the school, and are duly elected Associates for the year 1906. The first three in the order of merit are awarded the school medals, as below:—Gold medallist, Dorothy Cummings (singing); silver medallist, Lillie E. Selden (mandoline); bronze medallist, Fanny L. Cuthbert (singing); Winifred Johnson, violin; Nan Stewart, elocution; Gordon D. Hodge, singing; Vera E. Wise, pianoforte; Margery E. Hope, theory; Edith L. Hieber, singing; Mildred W. Percy, pianoforte.

Special prize winners consist of the following:—The Lord Mayor's prize, a purse of £5 5s., for soprano vocalists, won by Beatrice Jefferys; the Lady Mayoress's prize, a purse of £5 5s., for pianoforte students, won by M. Gordon Burgess; the Sheriff's prize (Alderman and Sheriff, Sir Henry G. Smallman), a purse of £5 5s. for mezzo-soprano vocalists, divided, won by Ethelmay Barwell-Holbrook and Maude Willby; the Sheriff's prize (Sheriff, Sir Thomas V. Bowater), a purse of £5 5s., for contralto vocalists, divided, won by Dorothy Crompton and Alice Stroud; the Chairman's prize, a purse of £5 5s. for tenor vocalists (presented by Mr. James Roll, C.C.), divided, won by Wallis Anderson and Leonard Gowings; a special prize of £2 2s. for organ students (presented by Mr. James Rolls, C.C.), won by Joseph H. Lee; the Knill Challenge Cup, with silver medal, for an eminently deserving student (presented by the late Alderman Sir Stuart Knill, Bart., LL.D.), awarded to Jenny Hyman; the Davies gold medal, for a deserving student, male or female (presented by Mr. Richard Davies, J.P., C.C.), awarded to Frederick J. Daff; the Tillie gold medal, for a distinguished lady violin student (presented by Mr. Alexander Tillie, C.C.), awarded to Hilda Lett; the Summers prize, a purse of £5 5s., for contralto vocalists (presented by Mr. H. A. Summers, C.C.), won by Ada Eshelby-Phillips; the Brinsmead prize, a pianoforte value 60 guineas, open to all students, won by Ethel Harman; the Knight prize, a purse of £5 5s., for bass vocalists (presented by Lady Knight), won by D'Arcy Woollven; highly commended, C. Freeman Chadfield and Bevington Rosse; the Lady Jenkinson prize, a purse of £5, for pianoforte students (presented by Mrs. Sartoris), won by Jenny Hyman; commended, Miss Mabel Rutland; the Alexander prize, a book of poems, for elocution students (presented by Mr. George Alexander), won by Enid Rose; the Tubbs prize, a gold-mounted violin bow of the value of £10, for violin students (presented by Messrs. Tubbs and Son), won by Doris Cloud; the Hart prize, a violin bow and case, value 30 guineas (presented by Messrs. Hart and Son), won by Anton Tschaikov; the Max Hecht scholarship, £10 per annum, for British vocalists studying German classic songs, won by Edith Romea; the Libotton Memorial prize (founded by public subscription), a violoncello bow (with inscription) and bronze memorial plaque, won by George R. Watt.

The school prizes were awarded as follows:—Pianoforte, Metia Levin; soprano, Dora Palmer; contralto, Ella Kay; tenor, Frederick Blamey; baritone or bass, D'Arcy Woollven; violin, Audrey Richardson; violoncello, divided, Violet E. Doughty and George Watt; elocution (ladies), Nellie Lake; sight singing, Elizabeth Tarttelin; harp, Agnes Comyns Tucker; flute, Amelia Heiser; accompanying, Evelyn R. Harrison.

Principal scholarships for 1906-7 were secured by the following:—Knoop scholarship, value £75 per annum (given by Baron Johann von Knoop), Mr. Eric Leftwich (violoncello); the Mercers Company scholarship, 50 guineas per annum, Miss Ethelmay Barwell-Holbrook (soprano); the Merchant Taylors scholarships, £40 per annum, Miss Audrey Richardson (violinist); the Andrew Carnegie scholarships, Misses Elizabeth Tarttelin and Ethel Harman (vocalist and pianist respectively); the Palmer scholarships, Mr. R. J. Stannard and Muriel Herbert; the Corporation scholarships, £50 per annum, Stuart Welch and Dadine Sutherland.

The judges in the various competitions were Mesdames Louisa Sobrino, Fanny Davies, and Miriam Timothy, and Messrs Lloyd Chandos, E. Jackson, Herbert Waring, John Saunders, Percy Such, and H. Warner Hollis.

PRESENTATION.—On the occasion of the benefit to Mr. C. M. Daly at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on Wednesday night, the beneficiare was the recipient of a fine case of silver-mounted briar pipes from the members of the Royal Order of Buffaloes in the town. The Avenue Stock Company also presented their stage-manager and producer with a gold-mounted umbrella.

"THE CURSE OF THE CARDS."

A Romantic Episode in One Act, by Messrs. E. Hoggan-Armadale and A. Shelton, produced for the first time on any stage at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Stockport, on Wednesday, July 25.

Lady Christie ..... MISS VIOLET MACAREE
Sir Philip Christie ..... MR. ARTHUR ROSE
Lord D'Arcy ..... MR. COTTON HOLMES
Tresham ..... MR. JAMES FOX

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Gambling at cards has often been a theme for exemplification on the stage, displaying the ruin and disgrace that invariably follow in its train. The present little play similarly and admirably illustrates the evils of card-playing for money, and offers, to those who will accept them, a few commendable lessons.

The opening of the act shows Sir Philip Christie and his two friends, Lord D'Arcy and Tresham, seated at a table playing cards. With a remark, as he throws down his last card, that "he thought he would have won that trick," Sir Philip rises and commences to read a letter which purports to be from one Lord Denbigh, stating his intention of paying him a visit. His lordship, wearing a mask over his eyes, enters, and is invited by Sir Philip to have a game of cards, and suggests a hundred-guinea stake, which is agreed to. Sir Philip loses, and with the true gambler's spirit, presses for another game, and at his desire the stake this time is for five hundred guineas. During the play Lord Denbigh—whom we may as well at once say is Lady Christie in disguise—annoys Sir Philip by inquiring sarcastically about his charming wife. Sir Philip again loses, and producing a bunch of bank notes, representing twelve hundred guineas, pays over his losses and offers to play for the remaining six hundred guineas.

Whilst Sir Philip is intently studying his hand, Lord Denbigh manages to drop a card on the floor, and then draws Sir Philip's attention to it, saying he (Sir Philip) had dropped it, and whilst Sir Philip is in the act of picking the card up, Lord Denbigh takes up another trump card from the table, which enables him to win again. Lord Denbigh taunts Sir Philip on his losses, and reminds him that he has property and estates which, however, Sir Philip acknowledges are mortgaged; but he remembers that he has the estate his wife brought him on his marriage three years ago, which he makes himself believe is his legally, and he agrees to wager this, but suggests hazarding with the dice. This is not acceptable to Lord Denbigh, and Sir Philip gives way, and they continue to play at cards, Lord Denbigh again resorting to the card dropping and changing, and as a result becomes the possessor of the estate. Sir Philip assigns the property over, and then Lord Denbigh offers to stake his winnings against the favours of Sir Philip's charming wife. This insult is hotly resented by Sir Philip, who calls him a cheat, saying only a cheat could have such luck, and an arrangement of a duel is the outcome.

As Lord Denbigh is departing, he removes the mask from his eyes, and says, "My work is done." Sir Philip, struck with remorse at his ruined state, contemplates suicide, and whilst deliberating with himself, his wife, Lady Christie, enters, and she is informed of his having gambled away her estate. She does not reproach him, but pleads with him against taking his own life, and says she has something to give him, at the same time placing in his hands the bank notes and the assignment of the estate, saying, "I would stop at nothing to save you." Sir Philip, concluding that Lord Denbigh has bought his wife—"the price of my darling's shame"—and frenzied at the thought, is about to shoot himself, when Lady Christie rushes to him and in a brief struggle the pistol goes off, but no one is hurt. Lady Christie explains that it was she who impersonated Lord Denbigh, and extracts a solemn promise from Sir Philip never to play cards again. Thus all ends happily.

Beyond signing the assignment, Lord D'Arcy (Mr. Cotton Holmes) and Tresham (Mr. James Fox) have very little to do, but Mr. Arthur Rose gave a remarkable display of talent in his portrayal of the character of Sir Philip Christie, and Miss Violet Macaree acquitted herself most creditably as Lady Christie. The excellence of the acting assisted largely to maintain the interest until the end.

MISS ELSIE FOGERTY'S PUPILS.

Examination by Mr. F. R. Benson.

It was an attractive little programme that was presented on Thursday afternoon by Miss Elsie Fogerty's pupils at the theatre in the Royal Albert Hall. A special interest was imparted to the proceedings by reason of the presence of Mr. F. R. Benson, who attended for the purpose of examining the young ladies taking part in the different scenes. There were some fifteen or sixteen students who for the time being could claim to be leading actresses, though amateurs. Most of the youthful aspirants to histrionic honours gave evidence of careful training and dramatic ability, and Miss Fogerty is to be congratulated upon the results of her system of education in elocution. The tests in which the various competitors engaged were by no means the easiest that could have been devised, speeches and conversations being taken from *King John*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, "Nicholas Nickleby," the works of Mr. Austin Dobson, and the one-act play, *In Honour Bound*, which was presented in capital style.

Mr. Benson, in addressing the audience at the conclusion of the performances, stated that Miss Fogerty had laid special stress on the examination being chiefly of an elocutionary character. A point which should never be lost sight of in an actor's early education was audibility of utterance. Whatever talent a student otherwise possessed, if he or she did not attend to the important principles of voice production, it was an absolute waste of time to continue the training. The awards he was making were, therefore, based upon virtues of elocution. He could not too strongly urge upon young people whose ambition was centred around a stage career that their every syllable should be distinctly audible to members of the audience in all parts of the theatre. It was also extremely necessary than an actor should throw himself into a part, even to the sacrifice of a little correctness.

In mentioning the name of each successful candidate, Mr. Benson proffered many kindly and useful hints, which were much appreciated by the students to whom they were addressed. The unsuccessful pupils, too, received good words of advice; and it was admitted on all hands that Mr. Benson had conducted the examination in a masterful and impartial manner. He handed first-class certificates to Miss I. English, Miss B. Jeffreys, and Miss S. Dawson; second-class to Miss W. Baily, Miss Bradgate, and Miss Marzetti; and third-class to Miss C. Oppenheim, Miss Calaminus, Miss P. Ledward, and Miss Goodchild.

THE promenade concerts start on Aug. 18 at Queen's Hall. The list of novelties issued by Mr. Robert Newman includes new works by Messrs. Joseph Holbrooke, George Halford, Granville Bantock, Norman O'Neil (an overture "In Springtime"), and R. Vaughan Williams. A number of works by foreign composers will also be introduced.

M. ANDRE MESSAGER has written the music to a new opera founded by Messrs. Robert de Flers and Gaston de Caillavet on Alfred de Musset's *Le Chandelier*, which will be produced at the Paris Opéra-Comique during the forthcoming season.

GUY DE MAUPASSANT.

It does not require a very profound acquaintance with English life to know that the horror expressed in many quarters at the sound of the syllables "Guy de Maupassant" is the result not of mere convention, but of a monstrous moral and emotional obtuseness which blinds many otherwise well-meaning people as closely as though a hand were placed before their eyes. The average Englishman looks as askance and ashamed when this great Norman's name is mentioned as his ancestors did at the mention of the name of William the Conqueror.

There is no reformation, no conversion more desirable in the mind of the British Public than one which would imply an entire change of attitude towards "The History of Pantagruel," "The Droll Tales," and "Madame Tellier's Establishment."

There are no doubt many people in this country who read these books simply because they think they ought not to read them, and one cannot help feeling a certain pity for these poor obsessed ones when, thirsty for forbidden Priapian apples, anxiously anticipating an uninterrupted banquet of Lampsacene delights, they discover instead the same old obstinate cosmic wine-jar they have long grown too listless to enjoy, engraved with the same old cosmic hieroglyphs they have long lost the power of translating. There is something almost heroic about the perverted perseverance of these poor dilapidated ones. It must be really dreadfully disconcerting to them, poor old Satyrs, when one after another of the flying wood-nymphs, brought thus to bay, pulls off the mask and discovers, always the same, the wrinkled adamantine features of the oldest of the Fates!

But is it not a strange thing that the British Public should have left these Sybilline books, these master-realists, to the furtive hands of such poor forlorn madmen? Well, this present article is an appeal to the great sane, normal, well-balanced, respectable, moral, self-controlled, cautious, far-sighted gentlemen of this town, whose pure spirits are usually buoyed up by such innocuous imbibings as some of the present-day journalism presents. It is really most important that these good people should purchase at once, in Charing Cross-road, or wherever else they can, as many translations of the short stories of Guy de Maupassant as they have money to buy or leisure to read. It will be an antidote to so much. It will explain so many things. It will be such a humanising influence. It will make their eyes open so wide that even Clapham Common will seem bounded and the horizons of West Kensington no more co-extensive with the world. Well, what are the discoveries we shall make when we enter at last upon this daring voyage? First of all we shall come to the conclusion that there is only one writer of short stories. Kipling would come, we may still suppose, second; but the superior dignity of de Maupassant's style, combined with the superior largeness of his scope, makes the gulf between the Englishman and the Frenchman as wide as between an aristocratic and a bourgeois manner of expression.

De Maupassant has the last and supreme endowment of the great writer—he knows what not to say. His short stories are masterpieces in the daring and difficult art of leaving out. It is not that he works by suggestion or by allusion. He does not leave it to *our* imagination to fill up details. All that has to be done *he* does. Nothing is left vague; all is clear of mist and blurrings; all is opaque, tangible, visualised; to be seen and felt, one might say, *in the round*.

Like Dean Swift, this unscrupulous Norman does not beat about the bush. He runs his quarry straight down and knocks it on the head, heedless of game-preserving laws. Nor does he deal in subtle phrases glimmering with opalescent interpretations. No exquisite archaisms, no recondite preciosities, no rich spoils of Arabia or Saba adorn his outspoken narrative. It is rather by the arrangement of the words, by the rhythm of words as the very body of thought, that he arrives at the impression he desires. How wonderfully he marches over every obstacle to the appropriate end, not bringing out the full meaning of it all until the very last sentence. Colloquialisms, too, and the rough, quaintly-expressive dialects of the people, how admirably he uses these—fusing them in with the rest, and yet holding himself detached from them!—not a slave (like Thackeray), but a master of the vulgarity and commonplace atmospheres in which he chooses to breathe. It has been said by one who might himself be regarded as a descendant in the direct line of this unequalled ancestry that Rabelais, Balzac, and Guy de Maupassant are related to another in the relation of grandfather, father, and son. This certainly expresses one aspect, at least, of the short stories. They inherit the traditions of the old Gallic gaiety.

This is an element that might easily be overlooked in de Maupassant's work, what is stark and austere and tragic and ferocious being more obviously prominent; but it is nevertheless a noticeable part. What, then, is this Gallic secret that links the author of "Mme. Tellier's Establishment" to the creator of "Panurge"? It may perhaps be said to consist in a sort of elemental earth-humour by which the most gross and material things—the débris and drift and flotsam and refuse and scum of the visible world—are transfigured and transformed until, not by elimination, but by exaggeration of their grossness, they come to be, for those who have had the right initiation and a "good lantern" to lead them, steps and approaches to he very Beatific Vision itself. "To communicate ecstasy," to raise the emotion best described as "cosmic," such is the process and working of the Gallic secret, and it is one which well justifies its existence. To be reconciled to the Universe, to apprehend the great subterannean tides and occult rivers flowing—flowing ever from the unknown mother's breast—such is the gift of the Gallic gaiety. Carlyle grumbled at what he called the grotesque phallic worship of these writers; but it would have been with a somewhat alien eye that this Scotch prophet would have regarded the Eleusinian mysteries themselves, and we know what profound wisdom lurked under *those* symbols—stranger still, perhaps, to the profane!

There are many among the short stories of de Maupassant that are Rabelaisian in this sense, and it is here as much as anywhere that the English public requires what he can offer, for *our* grossness is so dreadfully unredeemed, so lamentably wanting in "ecstasy" or "gaiety."

It must be admitted that the spirit of such stories as "The Mother Superior," "The Rabbit," "Margot's Tapers," "Kind Girls," "My Uncle Sosthenes," "The Little Cask," "A Cock Crowed," "That Pig of a Morin," "A Family Affair," "Christmas Eve," "Madame Tellier's Establishment," "Epiphany," "The Marquis de Fumerol," is not as deep or world-wide as any chapter or interlude from "The Pantagruel." The humour is tougher, more stringy, not so redolent of the wine-cask—less abandoned; but there is the same earthiness and the same frankness. Guy de Maupassant is a true Norman. His country stories have the veritable smack of the soil—the farmyards with their manure-heaps open to the sky and their cocks crowing; the desolate marshes full of strange birds; the lonely villages; the long white roads between the cornfields—all these are described in such telling strokes that the scenery becomes, as in the case of Mr. Hardy's books, the most important character in the story. Yes; Guy de Maupassant's rural tales are his best, and the tragic-comic humours of these avaricious, lustful, shrewd, unscrupulous, revengeful peasants is a well-deserved rebuke to the fanciful arcadias of many a poetic visionary.

But I have not yet mentioned the quality which, as far as I am myself concerned, gives me most satisfaction in reading this great writer. This I call the "humanism" of Guy de Maupassant. I mean by "humanism" that profound sympathy with flesh and blood as such, that overrides all distinctions, whether of country, respectability, or merit, and goes straight and single-eyed to the mark. This "humanism" is one of the rarest and most valuable qualities in literature. Chaucer has it, and Shakespeare and Cervantes and Sterne and Charles Lamb; but no one can have it in its completeness without something of that outspoken, friendly earthiness which is usually, for want of a more exact epithet, entitled Rabelaisianism. This Rabelaisian humanism has far too much sympathy to be sentimental. It realises that sometimes even pity is an insult. And it is this mood—a little embittered, perhaps, and saddened by an overpowering sense of the hopeless issues of human life—that de Maupassant displays. It is in this mood, in a sympathy that has become perhaps a little savage, that he tells the story of the countless victims of oppression who file along the dreary high-road of our existence or fall exhausted and worn-out by the wayside. He has observed, with his irresistible Norman eye, how stupidity and cruelty are nearly always found together. He has observed the tragedy of weak and sensitive people given up to the mercy of the strong and the obtuse. He has observed also the tyranny of good people, of respectable people—how remorseless they are, how hard! How pitilessly they treat, especially the women among them, the old, the unmarried, the unfortunate, the vagrant. But it is above all the profound, relentless cruelty of stupidity that de Maupassant finds responsible for so many tragedies. In stories like "Boitelle," where a poor despairing fellow becomes a specialist in clearing out cesspools because his parents found the little exotic girl his soul desired "too black"; in "The Blind Man," where a poor beggar is driven to death by the savagery of his friends; in "A Vagabond," where the real cause of the criminality of the submerged tenth is indicated firmly enough; in "A Night in Whitechapel," where the grim forlornness, too grotesque to be merely pathetic and too tragic to be merely grotesque, of the nightly encounters of a London slum, are hit off with an eye that shirks nothing. In stories like these he shows, this reckless de Maupassant, a rough, coarse, profound pity—such a pity as we wish in vain might belong to Nature herself—for the crippled, inarticulate animal offscouring of civilisation. It is not de Maupassant who could draw back from any poor wretch, however sunk in the abyss, with such words as "What a degraded criminal!" "What an abnormal monster!" He fixes his searching eye upon each waif, upon each wounded one, and if he does not "pour in" actual oil and wine, he carries him into that house of the future which is called the pity of the just and leaves him there for posterity. Whether he has acquired this admirable point of view from the Catholicism he renounces, or whether it is in his blood as an inalienable and inexplicable inheritance, who can say? There it is, and it finds him a place near that old Manhattan poet who remains, in these modern times, the king of those who reject nothing on account of anything.

One class of luckless people this great amorous artist holds in special respect—a class not often celebrated by novelists—I mean old maids. Some of his most pathetic stories have to do with these patient victims of monogamy, and no writer has treated them more sympathetically. Take, for instance, the story called "Miss Harriet," about the poor English lady who loved the artist. "What secrets of sufferings and of despair were sealed up in that disagreeable body, in that spent, tarnished body—tarnished during the whole of its existence—that impenetrable envelope which had driven her far away from all affection, from all love? How many unhappy beings there are! I felt that there weighed upon that human creature the eternal injustice of implacable Nature! It was all over with her, without her ever having experienced that which sustains the miserablest outcasts—the hope of being loved once!" "Mademoiselle Perle" is another instance of the same sort; but more pathetic, in a certain way, than either of these is the story about poor Aunt Lison, called "A Night in Spring." "The young people never went up to her room to kiss her. The maid-servant was the only person who entered the apartment. She went to fetch Aunt Lison whenever they wanted to talk to her. It seemed as if they did no know where this room was situated. They paid little attention to her. She was one of those retiring creatures who remain strangers even to their kinsfolk, as if they belonged to an unexplored region of humanity, whose death would cause no gap. She always went about with short, quick steps, rarely opening her lips, never causing the least disturbance or giving annoyance to anyone; and it seemed as if she communicated to inanimate objects the quality of making no sound. Her hands appeared to be made of some species of cotton-wool, so lightly and delicately did they handle whatever they touched. When they pronounced the two words 'Aunt Lison' it might be said that the name awakened no thought in anyone's mind. It was as if one had mentioned the 'coffee-pot' or the 'sugar-basin.'" One night this old maid was left up alone to watch until the two lovers came in. "When they reached the parlour Jacques said to Jeanne: 'Don't you feel your dear little feet cold?' And all of a sudden the aunt's fingers began to shake so much that her work slipped out of them; the ball of woollen thread rolled down on the floor, and abruptly covering her face with her hands, the old maid began to weep with great convulsive sobs. 'What's the matter with you, Aunt Lison?' Then the poor old maid, in a faltering voice broken by her sobs, and with her face shrivelled by grief, answered: It was—it was when he asked you, "Don't you feel cold—in—your dear little feet?" Nobody ever said that to me—never—never—never!'"

Guy de Maupassant has also a feeling of sympathy for the primitive lives of creatures nearer the earth than we are. Not that he has any objection to what is called "sport." Indeed, some of the stories which display his peculiar power to its best advantage are stories about shooting and fishing. But even with gun or rod in his hand this Norman Conqueror has a broad, earthy, tragic-comic understanding of the creatures he slays. He is certainly much nearer to them than many sentimentalists. He and they are of the same blood. He has the hunter's sympathy for the hunted, which is often a deeper and subtler thing than the idealistic onlooker realises. But, to sum up, what we would emphasise as the chief merit of Guy de Maupassant is that by the enchantment of his style he has compelled us to become acquainted with the essential sacredness of the earth as earth, with the essential honourableness and pathos of flesh and blood as flesh and blood, with the essential naïveté of instinct as instinct, shared equally by philosopher and wastrel. All this he has achieved easily, magnificently, largely, in his invincible Norman manner, so that those who read him get no sense of effort or laborious self-consciousness, and art becomes what it ought always to become, the inner reality of the real and the inner truth of the true.

In reading books like these short stories, and associating them with Rabelais and with Balzac and with Walt Whitman, who does not come to feel that there is a sort of catholicity in literature, a catholicity at present but dimly adumbrated forth in the circle of the churches of this world? Who does not come to feel that here, at any rate, here, in the presence of these great earth-intoxicated ones, there is a sanctuary and a refuge, from the steps of the altars of which none can drive us away, whatever we have done, whatever we are?

It is this catholicity of de Maupassant's mental horizon that really necessitated his direct ploughshare style. For one who had so profound, so humorous a respect for every individual, how insolent an impertinence would any ready-made "explanation" of their actions be! He is too great a dramatist to be "a psychologist." He accepts the mysteries and limitations of our existence. He describes and does not explain; and it is by description and not by explanation that art creates that sympathy which perhaps may turn out to be the greatest interpretation of all! And for the rest—for the world beyond the world? Ah! there a silence falls upon him, as it fell upon Angel Clare among the shadows of Stonehenge. Like some massive ironclad vessel, raking the harbours of the earth with his formidable searchlight and discovering strange orgies in the narrow lanes, he coasts our shores for a little while and then sheers off, with a tragic groaning from all those invincible engines, hull down and a long train of black smoke behind him, into the darkness of the unknown sea.

J. C. POWYS

A PLEA FOR STOCK COMPANIES.

CHAT WITH ERNEST E. NORRIS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"My opinion is that the stock seasons have got to come back to us."

The gentleman who advances this opinion is Mr. Ernest E. Norris, well-known for his work in connection with the management of and the production of plays at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. And Mr. Norris, who has had twenty-seven years' active experience of stage matters, should be in a position to speak on this subject. He claims to have played more parts than any other actor of his age. Certainly his life has been a busy one. Last autumn he produced fourteen plays at the Elephant, played a leading part in each of them, involving in nearly every case a fresh study, wrote a couple of pantomimes, engaged the artists for them, and produced them at Christmas, and also booked and managed a provincial tour of *Tommy Atkins*. That is a good record for a few months.

To return to the stock argument. "The thin end of the wedge," says Mr. Norris, "has already made itself apparent. This summer Mr. John Hart is running his own companies, and Mr. Robert Arthur has done so for some time. But it is not the summer alone that is going to bring back the stock system. Managers nowadays complain that stock does not pay them. The reason is that they do not give it a fair chance. They get a scratch company together for one week—that week generally the worst in the whole year, and at a time when they could

Photo by Chapman.
MR. ERNEST E. NORRIS.

not book a travelling company—and then they are surprised that the enterprise does not pay. If they acted upon the principle which I carried out at the Elephant and Castle and reserved their best weeks for a properly augmented stock company, keeping the same people and allowing the audiences to get familiar with them, and not forgetting the important matter of the adequate mounting of the plays, they would then find that stock would not only pay, but show a big profit."

"Tell me the lines on which you would run a modern stock company."

"I would take the best of the up-to-date comedies and dramas, in addition to reviving the old favourites of the Adelphi, Drury Lane, and Princess's theatres. A new generation want to see the plays their fathers admired so much in their youth. Then, don't forget that in a stock company your principal actors and actresses must be people who are likely to become favourites with the audience. Many members of my regular Elephant company gained immense popularity with the patrons. I had Mrs. Bennet there as my leading lady, and she was supported by an all-round sound company. But I must admit that I experienced difficulty in securing people who were used to the work or at all adapted to it. Of course, I found any number of people who were willing to acquire the experience, and I was simply bombarded by artists who had played big parts, but had not been trained in the ground work so necessary to the development of a stock actor. If provincial and surburban managers, instead of giving their best dates to travelling companies, who want 60 and 65 per cent. of the takings, were to venture into stock they would make infinitely more money."

"Do you give that as a reason for what some people call the theatrical slump?"

"Unquestionably there is a slump in theatrical affairs, and it is attributable to various causes. First of all, I am afraid that the managers themselves are in a great measure to blame. Their motto is, 'Cut down expenses.' On the other hand, the music hall manager does all he can to increase his expenses, and thereby his receipts are increased. Then there cannot be the slightest doubt that our standard of acting has deteriorated considerably. Go round now and see some of the pieces, and compare the actors of to-day with those of twenty years ago. The leading men in the provinces a couple of decades since were Henry George, William Sutherland, and George Harker, who all got double-figure salaries. Where are the men who get those salaries now? There is only one that I can think of."

"Do you think that people fight shy of entering the theatrical profession nowadays? Or, having once joined it and found that there was a good deal of arduous work and uncertainty of success behind the gilt and the glitter, do they the more readily than was wont to be the case relinquish the calling?"

"The same idea just struck me. Only a few years ago one recollects seeing a number of names on programmes and playbills, and now they seem to have vanished completely. There can be no question that a lot of actors and actresses do drop out of the profession altogether every year. At the same time, while there is not at the present moment an overwhelming rush of applicants for histrionic honours, we are never without a crowd desiring enrolment within our ranks. But the curious thing is that nowadays you can be a leading man in two years and a few months after that never be heard of again. I had to play small parts for six years before I dared to assume many lines of business."

The plays in the authorship of which Mr. Norris has collaborated are *A Gentleman of England*, a romantic play; *Fighting Her Fate*, a strong drama; *Like Father, Like Son*, also a drama; and a version of *The Three Musketeers*. As to acting, he prefers romantic drama and old English comedy. He underwent his first stage experience at Saddler's Wells as a boy in 1879. He has been leading man at nearly every theatre in London where a stock company has been instituted. Only on one occasion has he disappointed the public, and that occurred when he smashed his ankle at the Surrey Theatre while playing the detective hero in *Hue and Cry*. He is a quick and accurate "study," and during his season at the Elephant most of his parts had to be learned on a Sunday. "Charles Surface, in *The School for Scandal*, is, I suppose," he remarks, "my pet part; but I delighted in the characters I played in Miss Fortescue's repertoire, such as Sir Horace Welby in *Forget-Me-Not*, Dr. Thornton in *Peril*, Correze Zuroff in *Moths*, Young Marlowe in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Orlando in *As You Like It*, Count Tristram in *King Rene's Daughter*, and Pygmalian. I have also appeared in many of the better-class dramas and romantic pieces, having taken the title-rôle in *Jim the Penman*, Gil de Berault in *Under the Red Robe*, and D'Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers*."

Mr. Norris, who no longer is connected with the Elephant and Castle Theatre, tells us that although he is extremely fond of management, he would not like to give up acting altogether.

A WELL-REGULATED THEATRE.

The following quaint and precise review of the functions of a well-regulated theatre certainly shows a breadth of view on the part of the writer—a German—regarding the stage that was none too common at the time of publication in an ancient magazine, dated 1807. The sentiments are worthy of the late Sir Henry Irving or Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

"Sulzer observes, in his Theory of the Fine Arts and Sciences, that an universal and irresistible inclination to novel and extraordinary scenes, a desire of feeling ourselves in a state of mental commotion, has given rise to dramatic exhibitions. Being exhausted by a too strenuous exertion of the mental faculties, enfeebled by the sameness and pressure of his professional occupations, and satiated by sensuality, man could not but feel a vacancy in his soul totally repugnant to the unremitting impulse to activity inherent in human nature. Our nature, equally incapable of enduring for any length of time a state of mere animal existence, as of continuing the exertions of the higher faculties without intermission, panted after an intermediate state, uniting these two opposite extremes, relaxing the mind from a too intense bent of its powers, and facilitating the alternate transition from one state to the other. This advantage is invariably produced by a susceptibility of the impressions of beauty. But as a wise legislator should exert himself, above all things, to select from two effects that which is most efficacious, he will not be satisfied with having only disarmed the inclinations of his people, but, if possible, render them instrumental to the accomplishment of noble designs, and endeavour to convert them into sources of happiness. Actuated by these motives, legislators gave the preference to the stage, which opens a spacious field to a mind eager for exertion, affords nourishment to all the faculties of the soul, without overstraining any one of them, and unites the refinement of the understanding and the heart with the most innocent kind of amusement.

"The person who first observed that religion is the strongest pillar of the state, and that it alone renders the laws effectual, has by this assertion, perhaps without intending or being sensible of it, defended the stage in the strongest manner. That very insufficiency and instability of positive laws, which render religion indispensably necessary for the State, determines also the whole influence the stage can produce. The laws confine themselves merely to negative duties, whereas religion extends its precepts to real actions. The laws counteract only those effects that dissolve the social bonds by which mankind is united, whilst religion prescribes such actions as render these bonds stronger. The laws decide only upon the visible effects of the will; deeds alone are subject to their exertion, whilst religion extends its jurisdiction to the inmost recesses of the heart, pursuing the thoughts of man to their primary sources. The laws are pliant and as changeable as the humours and passions of man, whereas the bonds of religion are strong and eternal. Suppose that religion did actually exercise this powerful sway over every human heart, will and can it complete the entire refinement of man? Religion (which I distinguish here between its political and divine part)—religion, in the aggregate, operates chiefly upon the sensual part of the people; but its efficacy would be lost were we to purify it entirely from whatever strikes the senses. And what else is it that renders the stage efficacious? Religion ceases to operate upon the majority of the human race, if we divest it of its awful pictures and problems, of heaven and hell, which operate alone by the influence they exercise over the imagination. What addition of strength must religion and the laws acquire by a close alliance with the stage, where all is intuition, where vice and virtue, happiness and misery, folly and wisdom, are represented to man in a variety of comprehensive and faithful pictures; where Providence unfolds its riddles and solves the mysterious knots of fate before our eyes; where the human heart, stretched on the rack of passion, confesses its inmost emotions; where all masks are stripped off, every gloss is wiped away, and incorruptible truth is awfully sitting in judgment.

"The jurisdiction of the stage begins where the dominion of the civil law terminates. When justice is blinded by the charms of gold, and riots in the pay of vice, when the crimes of those that are in power laugh at its impotence, and fear of man fetters the arm of the magistrates, then the stage takes up the sword and balance of justice, and drags vice before its dread tribunal. The spacious regions of fancy and history, the times past and future, are obedient to its nod. Daring criminals, long mouldered in dust, are now summoned by the omnipotent voice of poetry, and repeat an ignominious life for the awful instruction of posterity. Wretches, once the terror of their contemporaries, pass before our eyes, impotent like the phantoms produced by a magic mirror, and we curse their memory with a voluptuous horror. Though morality should be taught no longer, religion lose all credit, and the power of the law be dissolved, yet man would continue to be seized with awful dread on seeing Medea stagger down the steps of her palace, and be agitated with powerful emotions when the murder of her children is accomplished. A salutory tremor will seize the beholder, and he will rejoice at having preserved his conscience pure, when Lady Macbeth, a dreadful night-walker, washes her hands, and calls in vain for all the perfumes of Arabia to dispel the odious scent of murder? It is no exaggeration if we maintain that these pictures, exhibited on the stage, finally incorporate themselves with the morals of the multitude, and in individual cases influence their sentiments. The impressions, produced by such exhibitions, are indelible, and the slightest touch is sufficient to resuscitate, as it were, the whole terrifying picture in the heart of man. Certain as it is that intuitive representation operates more powerfully than dead letters and cold recitation, it is equally certain that the stage produces a more powerful and lasting effect than all systems of morality and the written law.

"But the stage in this does not merely aid the law—it has a much more spacious field to act upon. Thousands of vices, suffered by the law to remain unpunished, are chastised without mercy on the stage; and numerous virtues, of which the legislature is silent, are recommended from the stage. In this it faithfully follows the directions of wisdom and religion. It derives its principles and examples from this pure source, and enrobes rigorous duty with a charming and enticing garment. How noble are the sentiments, resolutions, and passions, with which it swells our soul, how heavenly the ideas which it exhibits for imitation. When the benevolent Augustus, great as a god, offers his hand to the perfidious Cinna, who imagines to read the sentence of death on his lips, and utters the generous request, "Cinna, let us be friends!" who among the spectators would in that moment not be inclined to shake his mortal enemy kindly by the hand, in order to resemble the great Roman? When Francis Sickingen, going to chastise an oppressive prince, and to defend the rights of a fellow-man, on the road chances to look round, and descries the smoke of his burning castle, where he left his wife and child unprotected, and proceeds on his road, in order to be faithful to his word, how great must man appear in such a moment, and how contemptible the dread of invincible fate!

"Useful as the stage proves itself by representing virtue in the most amiable manner, it produces effects no less salutary by exhibiting the deformity of vice in its dreadful mirror. When the helpless and childish Lear, in a nocturnal tempest, knocks in vain at the house of his daughters, scattering his white locks into the air, and tells the furious elements how unnatural his reign had been; when he at last vents his furious pangs in the dreadful words, 'I gave you all I had to give!' how abominable then must ingratitude appear to us, and how solemnly do we vow to love and to revere our parents!

"But the effects which the stage can produce extend still farther. It is active for our improvement, when religion and the law deem it beneath their dignity to bestow their fostering care upon human sentiments. Social happiness is as much annoyed by folly as by crimes and vices. Experience teaches us that, in the texture of human affairs, the greatest weights are frequently suspended by the smallest and most tender threads, and that we, on tracing human actions to their primary sources, must smile ten times before we are once struck with horror. The more I advance in years, the smaller grows my catalogue of villains, whilst my register of fools grows more complete and numerous. If all the mortal transactions of one sex arise from one source, if all the enormous extremes of vice, which ever have branded individuals, are only altered forms, only higher degrees of one quality, which we at last unanimously behold with a smile of pity, why should nature not have led the other sex the same road? I know but one secret of preserving man from depravity, and that is this—to guard his heart against weakness.

"The stage is highly capable of performing a great part of this momentous task. It presents the mirror of truth to the numerous classes of fools, and with salutary ridicule lashes folly under whatever form it may appear. It effects in such instances by means of satire what in others it performs by exciting tender emotions or terror. If we were to attempt to estimate the respective value of tragedy and comedy by the measure of the effects which they produce, experience would perhaps adjudge the preference to the latter. Ridicule and contempt wound the pride of man more severely than indignation tortures his conscience. Our cowardice flies from the dread of horrors, but this very cowardice betrays us to the stings of satire. The laws and our conscience preserve us frequently from crimes and vices, whilst the perception of our follies requires a more refined sense which we can sharpen nowhere more effectually than at the theatre. We may, without much reluctance, empower a friend to attack our morals and our heart, but we find it more difficult to forgive him a single laugh at our expense. Our transgressions admit of an observer and censor, but our follies scarcely can bear a witness. The stage alone is permitted freely to lash our weakness, because it spares our peevishness, and does not desire to know the guilty fool. We see in its mirror, without blushing, our follies drop their mask, and in general are thankful for the gentle reprimand.

"The effects produced by the stage do not, however, terminate here. The theatre is in a higher degree than any other public institution a school of practical wisdom, a guide through civil life, an unerring key to the most secret recesses of the human soul. I will not deny that infatuation and callousness of conscience frequently destroy its best effects; that these barriers to truth enable numerous vices to stand undaunted before its mirror, and that thousands of generous sentiments recommended from the stage make no impression upon the icy heart of the spectator; and I am inclined to believe that Molière's Harpagon may not have reformed one usurer, and that the suicide Beverley has reclaimed but a few of his brethren from the dreadful vice of gambling; but though we should admit this to be the case in most instances, or even be so unjust to maintain that the stage contributes nothing at all to restrain the progress of vice, we cannot deny that its salutary influence is very great in many other respects.

"The stage presents to our view a variegated scene of human sufferings. It involves us artfully in foreign distresses, and rewards us for momentary pangs with voluptuous tears and a most valuable acquisition of courage and experience.

"Thus extensive is the influence of the stage upon moral refinement; but its merits, in illuminating the human mind, are no less important and obvious; and it is in this higher region where a great genius and zealous patriot turns it to the best advantage. He casts a scrutinising look at the whole human race, compares nations with nations centuries with centuries, and observes how slavishly the great mass of the people bend their neck beneath the yoke of prejudice and opinion, which continually counteract their happiness—observes that the purer rays of truth enlighten only a few solitary individuals, who purchase the small gain, perhaps, at the expense of a whole life. By what means can a wise legislator make a whole nation partake of the salutary light emanating from these purer rays of truth?

"The stage is the common channel by which the light of truth emanates from the more enlightened part of a nation, and diffuses its gentle rays through the whole state. Notions more correct, principles more refined, and purer sentiments, flow from her through all the veins of the great bulk of the nation; the mephitic mist of barbarism, the Egyptian darkness of superstition disappears, the night gives way to conquering light.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. E.—*When* The Times *was produced at Terry's Theatre on October 24, 1891, Mr. W. G. Elliot appeared in the part of Montagu Trimble.*

LULU.—*The London Music Hall, Shoreditch, was opened on December 26, 1893.*

E. A. M.—*The Stage Society (secretary, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater), 9, Arundel-street, Strand, or the Pioneers (general manager, Mr. Herbert Swears), 1, Trafalgar-buildings, Northumberland-avenue, W.C., from whom all information can be obtained.*

D. ELSWORTHY.—*The Theatre Royal, Woolwich, was reopened as a variety house by Mr. Sam Barnard on November 20, 1893.*

NERO.—*All the information we can give you is that Charles Godfrey opened at the Tivoli, Sydney, on May 9, 1896, and returned to London on August 20, 1897. After a brief stay at Leamington he appeared at the Oxford on August 27.*

E. E.—*Chang, the Chinese giant, died November 6, 1893.*

DELHI.—*Mr. Chippendale's farewell benefit at the Lyceum Theatre took place on February 25, 1879.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*Firefly, played at the Surrey Theatre, on May 17, 1869. Cast:—Leonard Grantley and Maurice Legarde, Mr. Shepherd; Harry Grantley, Mr. Allbrook; Colonel Durand, Mr. E. F. Edgar; Lord Castleford, Mr. Edmund Phelps; Mordecai and Aldarim, Mr. Vollaire; Rock, Mr. Mat Robson; Firefly, Miss Edith Sandford; Duchess Di Rhona, Miss Georgina Pauncefort.* Fettered Freedom *produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, September 28, 1887. Cast:—Dr. Sidney Templeton, Mr. Yorke Stephens; Captain Evered, Mr. Bassett Roe; Richard Merrit, Mr. W. E. Blatchley; Mark Moon, Mr. C. H. Stephenson; Septimus Potter, Mr. Forbes Dawson; Charles, Mr. E. M. Robson; Summers, Miss Kate James; Agnes Hutton, Miss Fanny Brough; Mrs. Templeton, Miss Mary Rorke; Norah Lovel, Miss Helen Leyton.*

MORRIS DRAYTON.—*George Leybourne died September, 15, 1884.*

OLD PRO.—*The Mile Championship race in the Music Hall Sports was won in 1889 by A. Ashton. H. C. Lupino was second, and A. Payne third. Ashton won by 8 yards in 5 mins. 14 secs.*

J. V.—*At Drury Lane in 1875.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DECAR.—On July 23, at 66, Upper Sutton-street, Aston, Birmingham, the wife of Jack Decar (née Kissie Warwick), of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

MORAN.—On Monday, July 23, at 115, Camberwell road, S.E., Rosie Moran, wife of Billie Moran, of a daughter. Both doing well. Fred Karno's Co's.

MORAND.—On July 17, at 43, Digby-mansions, The Bridge, Hammersmith, the wife of M. R. Morand (Lena Leibrandt), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

NERREY—DICKER.—July 25, 1889, at Llanarmon, Oswestry, Terence Nerrey to Marie Louise, youngest daughter of Philip Dicker, M.D., of Oswestry and Liverpool.

THOMAS—STAURENGHI.—First anniversary of the marriage of Towyn Thomas to Miss Sylvia Staurenghi, at Stapleford Parish Church, Notts., July 18, 1905 Thanks for numerous congratulations.

DEATHS.

CHAPMAN.—July 21, at his residence at Doncaster, of leucocythæmia and abnormal increase in the corpuscles of the blood, John Martin Chapman, father of the managing-director of the New Theatre and Opera House, Doncaster, aged 70.

DALMAINE.—July 25, Mrs. Dalmaine, mother of Mr. Thomas Barrasford.

HUGHES.—July 23, at 21, Well-street, Glasgow, Beaumont Hughes, tragedian, aged 76.

SCOTT.—July 24, of heart failure, Nellie Scott, the beloved wife of Mr. John Scott, proprietor Scott's Royal British Circus, age 47.—R.I.P.

WYBERT—July 21, at Liverpool, from cancer of the stomach, Charles Wybert, actor and theatrical agent, aged 60.

IN MEMORIAM.

ESSMANN.—In loving memory of our dear father, who died July 24, 1905. Never forgotten by his son and daughter, George and Jessie.

HAWLEY.—In tender and unfading memory of Emma C. Hawley, died July 22, 1898; and of Frederick Hawley ("Haywell"), died March 13 1889, Librarian of Shakespeare Memorial, Stratford-on-Avon.

Till through the storm and tempest
Safely anchored, just on the other side,
I find my darlings waiting,
Not changed, but glorified.

WAKEFIELD.—In loving memory of our dear brother J. H. Wakefield, comedian, who died July 3, 1900 Gone, but not forgotten.

WALFORD (MYSTIC MARIE).—In loving memory of Miss Marie Henry Walford, the dearly beloved sister of Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie, who died at the Manor House, Macduff, July 19, 1906, at the early age of 21 years. Sadly and deeply mourned by all her friends and relations.

The heavens so bright, all nature gay,
The day our Marie passed away.
A pleasing smile when death was nigh,
She passed away without a sigh.
Oh, death, oh, death, where is thy sting,
When untild peace you always bring?
If what I saw, no death I fear,
I know our Marie's always near.
We did our best to ease her pain,
She thanked us o'er and o'er again;
The signs she gave made us so sad,
But in our hearts we all were glad.
We knew our darling was at rest,
And God had done it for the best.
All agony and pain was o'er,
Her soul had fled to yonder shore.
A gifted girl in every way,
From virtue's path she ne'er did stray;
A noble life she always lead,
Of trials and troubles was ne'er afraid.
A ministering angel she has been,
Appeared with me in many a scene;
My many patients will sadly miss her,
For was she not to them a sister?
Although appearing on the stage,
And her performance all the rage,
She was so humble 'midst it all,
And now has answered her last call.
Oh, God above, we hope to see,
And trust her peace is made with Thee;
Her place on earth can ne'er be filled,
To take her from us so you willed.
It is so hard to part, we know,
But soon or late we all must go.
We hope to meet her once again,
In Heaven, where she shall surely reign.

WALFORD BODIE.

July 19, 1906.

ZEDORA, ADELE.—In loving memory of my dear wife, who departed this life July 30, 1902.

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BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mary Anderson—Saturday, July 28
Lillian Russell—Saturday, July 28.
Kate Phillips—Saturday, July 28.
Barton McGuckin—Saturday, July 28.
Will Poluski—Saturday, July 28.
Hettie Fritz—Saturday, July 28.
Charles Collette—Sunday, July 29.
Leonard Williams—Sunday, July 29.
Richard Cowell—Sunday July 29.
Agnes Imlay—Sunday, July 29.
May Smart—Sunday, July 29.
Harry Freeman—Sunday, July 29.
Charles Maynard—Monday, July 30.
Janet Marsden—Monday, July 30.
Clare Manifield—Monday, July 30.
Horace E. Herbert—Monday, July 30.
(Miss) Sydney Fairbrother—Tuesday, July 31.
Marie Thornton—Tuesday, July 31.
Marion Fitzgerald—Tuesday, July 31.
Flora Hastings—Tuesday, July 31.
E. Story-Gofton—Tuesday, July 31.
Wilson Howard—Tuesday, July 31.
Winifred Emery—Wednesday, August 1.
Sarah Brooke—Wednesday, August 1.
Frank R. Robertson—Wednesday, August 1.
Alfred F. Robbins—Wednesday, August 1.
Sydney Brough—Thursday, August 2.
Algernon Syms—Friday, August 3.

"I'M the only man in the world who can sing a song standing on my head in a bucket of water," said James Collier, a miner, of Bury, who appeared at Grimsby Police Court on Tuesday. "We won't trouble you for an exhibition," said the mayor.

AT the Smethwick Police-court on the 18th inst., Mr. T. Pritchard made an application for a music licence in respect of a temporary building in Windmill-lane, Smethwick. The applicant stated that if the experiment was a success he was prepared to spend £5,000 or £6,000 on the erection of a permanent music hall. The entertainment, he said, consisted of "high-class singing and a few jokes," and had been going on since Monday. He charged nothing for admission, but people were expected to buy a programme. So far the results had justified him in thinking of going in for a permanent building. The application was opposed on behalf of a resident and the manager of the Theatre Royal in the locality. Ultimately the Bench refused the application.

MR. CHARLES BERTRAM, the well-known prestidigitateur, has been engaged by the Crystal Palace Company to give an entertainment in the Palace Theatre, starting on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

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SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1906.

A BISHOP ON SHAKESPEARE.

"One of the most beautiful sermons I ever heard in my life," was Miss ELLEN TERRY'S eulogy on the fine lecture of the Bishop of RIPON at the meeting of the recent British Empire Shakespeare Society. And, indeed, so excellent an oration on a noble subject has not been delivered for a long time. And the speech was much needed. SHAKESPEARE'S eminence has been so long acknowledged in England that it is virtually a truism; and, like all truisms, has become almost disrespected. Yet a truth does not cease to be a truth because it has been often repeated. As the Bishop remarked, the very cheapness of the editions of the bard's works tended to reduce respect for them; and there is another reason. BYRON said that he was made so familiar with HORACE at school that he never could appreciate him in later life; and we are, too often, introduced to SHAKESPEARE before we are old enough to appreciate the vastness of his inspiration. His insight will always remain inexplicable to the most ardent student of his works. We do not altogether like the word "student." It suggests an examination rather than an appreciation of SHAKESPEARE'S glories. His reader should receive him with elation and delight, rather than criticism. The young and inexperienced can only vouch for the beauty of some parts of his plays, and for the energy and spirit of others. It takes a ripe statesman, or consummate man of the world, to realise the absolute truth of his pictures of mature men and women and their actions.

The Bishop limited his lecture to the consideration of SHAKESPEARE as a teacher of the art of living. Here SHAKESPEARE is supreme. What he shows us is life itself, not a picture of life seen through the personality of the author. Indeed, nothing about SHAKESPEARE is more astonishing than the way in which he stands aloof from his work, than his absolute impartiality, and his detachment from his subject. And he never descends to the mere realistic photographer of facts. He is always a moralist. He opens *Antony and Cleopatra* with a moral, and he makes Hamlet define his own weakness. He, specially, by a definite prologue, guarded against the German heresy, which was invented centuries after, as to the "intention" of *Romeo and Juliet*. He had his opinion about life. (He had his little weaknesses. He was a Conservative, with a deficiency of sympathy for the masses, whom he always represents as "mobs.") He did not, as modern realists do, take a lump of observed fact and throw it down before the reader to make him miserable. He held the balance fairly between optimism and pessimism. To our thinking, the best bit of the Bishop's speech was the passage—we cannot resist the temptation of quoting it—in which he said:

"Shakespeare was no friend of those who said 'Life is too hard' and blamed circumstances. He would not tell Youth to be prepared for perpetual disillusions; he would say: 'Take all the joy God gives you, and be thankful to rejoice in it, but never part with your self-possession. The art of life consists not in a sort of aloofness from the life in which you are plunged, for to feel is to sympathise and grow in character—for we grow by emotions, not by thought—but the emotion must be within your judgment. Then will it minister to you; you must not let yourself go, for that way lie madness and tragedy.' As a poet has said:

"Unless above himself he can erect himself
How small a thing is man."

The moral is that every man should have a sanctuary in the ideal life, in the Divine affection, in something more enduring than the passing joys and sorrows of this world, in the realisation of that Kingdom of God which is larger than earth's little kingdom and embraces more than this little time, and which is within us."

It must always be remembered, however, that SHAKESPEARE wrote when his country was on the ascending wave. Whatever may have been the faults of the age of ELIZABETH, it was a hopeful period. People were sanguine about everything—sanguine as to the future prosperity of the country, sanguine about solving the question of pauperism, sanguine about discoveries and inventions. Prosperity had not degenerated into luxury, or distress developed into Socialism. The land had only begun to be collected into the hands of the great sheep-farmers; there was a large agricultural population; and the habits of the nation were manly, hardy, and simple. Men and women being the same in all ages, SHAKESPEARE was in a position to take an absolutely fair view of them, their passions, and their ways of thought and behaviour.

For our own part, we have never been able to come to any distinct imagination of the individual SHAKESPEARE. We are very sceptical of the value of traditions personal to the Bard. We cannot come to any conclusion as to the "second-best bedstead" in the will, the "cabbaging" of the common lands, or the supposed parentage of WILLIAM DAVENANT. We sometimes meet with great artists so absolutely inspired that they have no real existence outside their work. Their wives are merely hand-maidens or convenient models. They take their meals under protest, and in a dream. Except their work, nothing matters. Unless someone manages their monetary affairs they would be shortly bankrupt; unless someone "looked after them" their health would give way. They really have neither vices nor virtues, individuality or personal character. They are simply great artists. But in SHAKESPEARE we have the astonishing spectacle of a supremely great artist—a dreamer of the finest dreams—who was also a practical dramatist and *constructor* of plays, an excellent man of business, the manager of a provincial company, a respectable actor, and a good citizen. It is not as if, like DANTE, he had been an unskilful politician, or, like MILTON, had had serious troubles with his wife. No; this extraordinary man seems to have gone quietly on, producing masterpieces, saving money, buying houses and lands, and enduring an apparently uncongenial spouse and a rather troublesome family with typical bourgeois patience and wisdom. There was no mock modesty about him; he knew very well the value of his inspiration. And yet he took life as prosaically as if he had been an ordinary individual. It is a phenomenon unequalled in the history of genius.

The Bishop's lecture was greatly needed. There is a fashion nowadays, amongst the professors of mushroom literature, to ridicule and depreciate SHAKESPEARE. It is a cheap and easy method of self-advertisement, and, if cleverly done, is very effective. It is like squirting water against the base of a monument: it does not in the least diminish its stability. But there is a danger lest worthy and well-meaning persons should be led to take these detractors seriously, and to be discouraged from the perusal of SHAKESPEARE. To such as these, the splendid speech of the Bishop is a trumpet-note recalling them to their standard, and strengthening their allegiance. Indeed, the measure taken of SHAKESPEARE supplies a measure of the critic. BEN JONSON and SAMUEL JOHNSON disclosed their limitations by their criticisms; and our modern Lilliputians estimate the dimensions of the Bard of Avon in quite the Lilliputian way.

MESSRS. BANNISTER HOWARD, LTD., the lessees of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, are opening the season on Bank Holiday with a strong company in *The Eternal City*, which will be presented during the first half of the week. During the latter half the King's Lynn and Hunstanton Amateur Operatic Society will give repeat performances of *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

BANK HOLIDAY will witness at King's Lynn a gigantic Foresters' Fête and Gala, and the committee have secured the services of Mr. W. G. Sylvester, who will superintend the programme of varieties. Messrs. Pain and Son are announced to give a display of fireworks in the evening.

A NEW work of humour, entitled "The Dogs of War," by Mr. Walter Emanuel, author of "Dog Days" (now in its 35th thousand), has been acquired by Messrs. Bradbury, Agnew, and Co., Ltd., the proprietors of *Punch*, in which journal its serial publication will shortly commence. It will be illustrated by Mr. Cecil Aldin.

VERDI, on his death, bequeathed small pensions to fifty poor peasant families of his native town of Roncole, and a few weeks ago a procession was formed of representatives of these families, led by the parish priest, to the tiny and rather disreputable-looking house in which the celebrated composer was born. Arrived there, all knelt at a signal from the priest, who, after offering a prayer for the repose of the soul of their benefactor, unveiled a tablet affixed to the house, on which their gratitude was recorded.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—We note in your notice for Devonport Theatre last week you allude to *Her Nameless Child* as a sketch by Mrs. Madge Duckworth. We should be very glad if you will correct this. *Her Nameless Child* is a drama in four acts, by yours faithfully, MADGE DUCKWORTH and RIDGEWOOD BARRIE. July 16, 1906.

SIGNOR CLEOFONTE CAMPANINI, before going to New York to conduct Mr. Hammerstein's opera season, has arranged to visit his native town, Parma (where he was born in 1860), to direct three concerts devoted to the compositions of Beethoven and Richard Strauss. Signor Campanini confesses that he is a great admirer of Herr Strauss's orchestral works, and prefers them to his operas. The Covent Garden management have re-engaged Signor Campanini for the next season.

MR. WALTER BENTLEY, the well-known agent is enjoying a two weeks' motor tour through Leeds, Hull, Newcastle, Manchester, Sheffield, and Leicester.

THE Exhibition Theatre at Limerick is doing good business again this week, and the "Star Domino" troupe, under the management of Mr. Harry Benet, are creating by their impersonations and coon songs no end of laughter. The Mather Orchestra continue to draw crowded and appreciative audiences by their beautiful répertoire of classic and operatic melodies. The Irish Animated Picture Company give universal satisfaction nightly, and the Laughing Salon, under Mr. Freear, is a most amusing item.

THE Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife were present at the performance of *Madama Butterfly* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on Wednesday.

ON the 20th inst., Mr. Councillor William L. Ashton, the proprietor of the West View Hotel, Morecambe, entertained a number of theatrical gentleman in the town to dinner. The chair was occupied by Lieut. Julian Malvern, the worthy host being in the vice, and the company included Messrs. F. Douglas-Wentworth, R. Douglas-Wentworth, Chas. M. Julian, Percy Ballard, Charles Conway, P. Armour. A. Shaw, C. Bosher, &c. It is unnecessary to say that an enjoyable time was spent.

FRENCH PLAYS AT ROYALTY.

Mr. Gaston Mayer has earned the thanks, not only of the French colony in London, but of the English students of the French stage, by bringing to the Royalty all that is representative of the Parisian theatre of the present-day, and this week he is providing a brilliant wind-up to the season by the engagement of M. Antoine and his company. M. Antoine looms largely in the world of the theatre as a reformer of the most pronounced ideas. As we all know, he established the Théâtre Libre in Paris, astonishing therein both the critics and the public by his daring in the selection of plays, the perfection of detail that he brought to bear on their mounting, and the studious care that he devoted to their acting. He it was who did so much for the cult of Ibsen, and so warmly encouraged the younger school of realists among the writers for the theatres in the *ville lumière*. He is an apostle of unconventionality in its most intellectual phase, and the work he has already accomplished constitutes an important chapter in the history of the French stage. We may therefore expect to see some startling developments when he takes over the directorship of the Odéon, a playhouse second only in tradition and importance to the House of Molière. It is understood that he has some intention of producing *Julius Cæsar*, in the representation of which he will endeavour to rival the fine performances given by the Meiningen company and by Mr. Tree at His Majesty's. M. Antoine had the warmest of welcomes on Monday when he appeared in that acutely painful but powerful piece in two acts, written by George Henriot and entitled

"L'ENQUETE."

Le Juge d'Instruction	M. ANTOINE
L'Avocat	M. SIGNORET
L'Inculpé	M. DESFONTAINES
Le Procureur	M. DEGEORGE
Le Médecin Légiste	M. BERNARD
Le Greffier	M. D'INES
La Femme de l'Inculpé	MLLE. GRUMBACH

M. Henriot's piece reminds one strongly of M. Brieux's *La Robe Rouge*, adapted into English under the title of *The Arm of the Law* for Mr. Arthur Bourchier. A *juge d'instruction* inquires into the death of a high legal official who has been assassinated. Keen and remorseless, and actuated solely by the morbid satisfaction of probing consciences to inflict mental torture, the judge in his investigation into the circumstances of the tragedy, which is evidently one of revenge, elicits the fact that the murdered man had carried on a *liaison* with the wife of the merchant who is strongly suspected of the crime. He is known to be a jealous husband, and among the victim's papers is found the portrait of the wife of *l'inculpé*. The judge was probably the last to see the victim alive, and according to the medical evidence the corpse shows signs of an infuriated attack, though the diagnosis goes to prove that death was caused by one blow given suddenly and without warning. The crime, suggests the prosecution, may have been the work of an epileptic, who might even be quite ignorant of the existence of his disease. After a painful inquisition into the circumstances and much brow-beating of the accused and the woman whose frailty has been so ruthlessly and needlessly exposed, it appears that the *juge d'instruction* is himself the actual culprit, having committed the homicide during an epileptic seizure. He had been unaware of his tendency to this terrible disease, but at the end of the inquiry he gives the final proof of the theory of the prosecution by falling down in a fit.

M. Antoine had not quite gauged the capacity of the house, and his natural methods exhibited in his cross-examination and heckling of the accused and his wife were therefore not so effective as they should have been. He, however, exhibited all the tact needed to save the final situation from becoming intolerably painful, and the judge's keenness as an investigator remorselessly seeking to involve in guilt a perfectly innocent man was very powerfully expressed, but in a way that did not o'erstep the modesty of nature. Loud and enthusiastic cheers followed the fall of the curtain. M. Antoine had excellent support from M. Desfontaines, M. Signoret, Mlle. Grumbach, and especially from M. Degeorge, an admirable Procureur.

L'Enquête was followed by the droll piece, in two acts, by Georges Courteline, entitled

"BOUBOUROCHE."

Un Vieux Monsieur	M. ANTOINE
Boubouroche	M. DEGEORGE
André	M. SIGNORET
Adèle	MLLE. JEANNE LION

Boubouroche, when it was originally produced at the Menus-Plaisirs (Théâtre Libre), Paris, rescued that house for the time-being from the somewhat serious—not to say melancholy—productions for which it had obtained so pronounced a reputation. In fact, up to the date of the *première* of M. Courteline's merry vaudeville on 27th April, 1893, mirthful pieces had been eschewed by M. Antoine, and it was suggested that *Boubouroche*, a bouncing farce of the old-fashioned commonplace order, written by a young wag whose only pretension was to amuse his fellow mortals, would sound the death knell of the "new drama." The first act passes in an unfashionable café, where Boubouroche spends much of his time, and in an unguarded moment—after several "bocks"—he lets out to his partner in play the secret of a love affair. Adèle is the joy of his life. He first met her when she was a widow, and she had been attached to him for eight years without a cloud ever darkening their mutual happiness. An elderly gentleman reading a newspaper at the other end of the café, who has been paying close attention to Boubouroche's conversation, politely informs him in the most categorical manner that his confidence in Adèle is misplaced. She has another admirer who takes the place of Boubouroche immediately the coast is clear.

The second act brings us to Adèle's apartments. That paragon of perfection is seated at her worktable mending a petticoat, and on a sofa opposite lies André, "the other fellow," who hides in a large and convenient wardrobe when there is the slightest cause for alarm. A ring of the bell cuts short their colloquy, and Boubouroche bounds into the room like one demented. He had seen from the street two shadows on the muslin window curtains, and rushes about in every direction in search of the intruder. Adèle takes things impassively, telling him he must be mad to kick up such a row. She conceal a man indeed! And, shrugging her shoulders contemptuously at such a ridiculous idea, she gives him all the keys, places the lamp in his hand, and insists on his examination of every hole and corner. Nay, she carries her audacity so far as to point to the wardrobe, saying he will find a man inside. An accident gives the clue to Adèle's deceit. The lamp is extinguished, and in the sudden darkness the light in the wardrobe appears through its chinks. Adèle is struck motionless, Boubouroche can scarcely believe his eyes, but after an instant's hesitation he flings open the doors of the wardrobe, from which André steps forth calm and collected with any amount of dignified impudence. "I told you we should be caught," he observes to Adèle, and then turning to Boubouroche he says: "Monsieur, je suis à vos ordres!" Not until he has obtained Boubouroche's promise not to harm the lady does André consent to withdraw and leave them together. Adèle is at no loss for a plausible defence, which the gullible Boubouroche easily swallows. He even seeks her forgiveness, and soundly belabours the old gentleman who has been the cause of all the pother.

The piece has the spice of Parisian naughtiness, and the wonderfully droll situations appealed irresistibly to Monday's audience, hearty laughter resounding through the auditorium. M. Courteline is a genuine humourist, and is the author of a very amusing book, entitled "Le Train de 8 heures 47," which contains some wonderful pictures of barrack life. *Boubouroche* was capitally played. M. Degeorge, who reminds one strongly of the lamented W. J. Hill in the rôle of old Cattermole, in *The Private Secretary*, was clownishly droll not to say grotesque, as the fatuous Boubouroche, and his behaviour in the second act sent the audience into fits of laughter. M. Antoine contented himself with his original part, that of "le vieux Monsieur," and the serious dignity with which he played offered a genuine contrast to the generally frivolous tone of the *conte drôlatique*. M. Signoret was always amusingly impudent and unabashed as André, and Mlle. Jeanne Lion supplied an attractive portrait of that deceitful minx Adèle.

The opening piece was a farce, entitled *Une Vieille Renommée*, by M. A. Athys. The place of "old renown" is a restaurant which has fallen from its prosperous state, and now not a soul comes near it. A sudden access of business, however, severely taxes the attenuated resources of the establishment, which scarcely suffice to provide a meal for a family party, who have barely sat down to their modest repast when a second batch of visitors arrive, headed by the man to whom the proprietor hopes to sell the business. The ludicrous devices he has to employ and the shifts to which he is put supply plenty of material for laughter, and the pleasant conspiracy of fun was capitally aided by MM. Signoret and Saverne.

Another triple bill was presented on Wednesday, two amusing one-act pieces, by M. Max Maurey, forming the first and last items of the programme. The first is entitled

"DEPUIS SIX MOIS."

Floche	M. ANTOINE
Bringue	M. BERNARD
Madame Floche	MLLE. JEANNE LION
Gertrude	MLLE. MARLEY

This is a whimsical little piece possessing a quaintness of conception that argues considerable dramatic gifts on the part of its author, who evidently possesses the histrionic instinct and has mastered the technique of the theatre. *Depuis Six Mois* is simple and unambitious, but M. Maurey's treatment of a somewhat trite subject bears the impress of novelty. For six months the domestic horizon of Madame Floche has been disturbed by a continual change of servants, each of them giving notice after a stay in the house of only twenty-four hours. Gertrude, so Madame fears, will follow the example of the rest. With the arrival of M. Floche we learn that he considers it well for a wife to have a whirl of occupation, and that he has therefore been bribing all her servants to leave on the morrow of their arrival. Gertrude, more artful and diplomatic than her predecessors, insists on staying, and threatens Monsieur with exposure if he insists on forcing her from the house. M. Antoine was decidedly droll in the part of the husband; Mdlle. Marley was particularly good as the clumsy servant, and Mlle. Jean Lion gave an excellent representation of the wife.

The second contribution to the programme, from the pen of M. Max Maurey, was the comedy, in one act, entitled

"ASILE DE NUIT."

Le Directeur	M. ANTOINE
Haps	M. SIGNORET
Ma Soupe	M. DESFONTAINES

This little piece has been translated by Mr. Edward Knoblauch, under the title of *The Pertikler Pet*, which, originally produced at Brighton in December, formed the curtain-raiser for Mr. Cyril Maude's opening bill at the Waldorf when he commenced his season there on January 17, after the destruction of the Avenue Theatre. The clou of the episode is the mistake made by the director of a night refuge regarding Haps, an applicant for a night's lodging, who is looked upon as a newspaper man seeking information for a series of sensational articles, and is treated with much consideration accordingly, being offered a cigarette, a suit of clothes, and loaded with other courtesies and presents. Haps and Ma Soupe (who has lived for months at the refuge) exchange confidences, and the latter confesses that he gets soup in the morning instead of bread only, because he saves the director trouble by instructing the casuals in the rules. The part of the director gives M. Antoine another opportunity of showing the extraordinary versatility of his gifts; and M. Signoret and M. Desfontaines were responsible for excellent impersonations of Haps and Ma Soupe.

The most important production of the evening was the piece, in two acts, by Franz von Conring, translated from the German by Jean Thorl, and entitled

"DISCIPLINE."

Le Commandant de Besser	M. ANTOINE
Le Colonel de Rusch	M. SIGNORET
Le Commandant de Marck	M. DESFONTAINES
Le Commandant de Glocke	M. SAVERNE
Le Lieutenant Wart	M. VARGAS
Le Lieutenant Raster	M. BERNARD
Le Lieutenant Bosen	M. D'INES
Le Lieutenant Krone	M. TOURNEUR
Bauer, Uhlan	M. VILLE FILS
Shroeder, Uhlan	M. LANDOUZY

This is a somewhat dreary military problem play, and its whole atmosphere is foreign to English ideas. Militarism is its theme, and it is written to argue the question of absolute or comparative obedience to the commanding officer. Colonel de Rusch has been put out of action in the manœuvres by the clever strategy of Commandant Besser. The former, animated by petty jealousy, tries to get Besser to write a report on the conduct of a young lieutenant that is contrary to his convictions. An opportunity for revenge soon occurs, for war breaks out, and Besser, who has endured twenty-five years of parades and exercises, is in despair when he is ordered to look after the garrison. The commandant loses his temper, insults the colonel, and after confessing that he has set a bad example of insubordination, finds a way out of the *impassé* by shooting himself. M. Antoine was somewhat too restrained in his exhibition of the emotion of De Besser; and M. Signoret again did well as the Colonel.

A GREAT COMIC ACTRESS.

Born the year of Garrick's death, Mrs. Glover, wrote the late Mr. Dutton Cook in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, lived through the palmiest days of the Kembles, and witnessed the rising and setting now of George Frederick Cooke and now of Edmund Kean. When W. C. Macready made his first appearance in London, he found, something to his dismay, that in support of his Orestes "a special engagement had been made with Mrs. Glover, the best comic actress then upon the stage, to appear as the weeping widowed Andromache." She had first essayed the part of the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* in 1822, when her daughter Phillis made "her first attempt on any stage" in the character of Juliet to the Romeo of Edmund Kean.

Hazlitt, reviewing Kean's Richard, found occasion to mention the Queen of Mrs. Glover as too turbulent and vociferous; he noted at another time the "very agreeable frowns" of her Lady Allworth, and especially admired her Lady Amaranth, in *Wild Oats*, as "an inimitable piece of quiet acting." He adds: "The demureness of the character, which takes away all temptation to be boisterous, leaves the justness of her conception in full force; and the simplicity of her Quaker dress is most agreeably relieved by the *embonpoint* of her person." Of her Mrs. Oakley, in *The Jealous Wife*, he writes less favourably: "She represented the passions of the woman, but not the manner of the fine lady"; she was apt to "deluge the theatre with her voice"; her style of acting "amounted to the formidable"; and "her expression of passion was too hysterical, and habitually reminded one of hartshorn and water." In the course of Leigh Hunt's dramatic criticisms, notes of Mrs. Glover's performances frequently occur.

The lady had a quick wit of her own, however, and could say her tart things. Mr. Vandenhoff, in his "Dramatic Reminiscences," describes her as "hearty mannered," but "quick-tempered, and not unfrequently indulging in strokes of sarcastic bitterness," with an air of "large, autocratic, oracular," and "smacking of her profession." The same authority relates a conversation between Mrs. Glover and her contemporaries, Mrs. Orger and Mrs. Humby, touching the marriage of Madame Vestris and Charles Matthews. "They say," remarked Mrs. Humby, with a quaint air of assumed simplicity, "that before accepting him Vestris made a full confession of all the indiscretions of her life. What touching confidence!" "What needless trouble!" said Mrs. Orger. "What a wonderful memory!" exclaimed Mrs. Glover, concluding the discussion triumphantly. She is said to have been an admirable reader and reciter of Shakespeare; she had at one time projected the establishment of a school for youthful players, purposing to preside herself over certain of the classes.

My own recollections of Mrs. Glover date from her performances at the Haymarket Theatre, under Mr. Webster's management, about the year 1845, and during subsequent seasons. I had opportunities of witnessing certain of her more famous impersonations, and though I may not pretend to estimate these critically, for I was but a juvenile playgoer, I may yet claim to remember them very distinctly. One's earlier impressions of theatrical exhibitions are perhaps the more ineffaceable; it is the first play much rather than the fiftieth, or the five hundredth, that retains its place in the mind. Youthful memory has no doubt a tendency to exaggerate and over-value; but I do not think my retrospect suffers appreciably on this account, for my view of Mrs. Glover was much the view of the accepted critics of the time. As I remember the actress then, she was "more than common tall," large of person, but to no unwieldy extent, with some remains of beauty in regard to brightness of eye and mobility of expression, animated of movement, and without the slightest evidence of the infirmities of age. She had abundant energy at command, and her voice was strong, clear, and resonant. Her histrionic method, remarkable for its force and breadth, was yet curiously subtle; while theatrically most effective, it never forfeited its exceeding naturalness. She seemed always admirably unconscious of the presence of her audience, and a special air of spontaneity distinguished her manner upon the stage. She never for a moment relaxed her hold of the characters she assumed; when silent her looks and movements, her persistent attention to the scene, greatly aided the representation; and when speech was required of her, the ringing distinctness of her tones, her prompt and voluble utterance, her vivacity of action, told irresistibly upon the house. It was difficult to believe that she was simply repeating words she had beforehand learnt by heart; her speeches were delivered in so life-like a manner, that they seemed invariably the natural and original locutions of a ready-witted and sharp-tongued woman. She was especially happy in the enunciation of those "asides" of the stage which admit the audience into the confidence of the actors. She imparted an epigrammatic point to her every sentence. Altogether, acting more vividly quaint and humorous, or more convincing in its verisimilitude, I have never seen. The time had passed for her attempting scenes of pathos or of serious emotion; she appeared only in comedy. But there was no lack of variety about her impersonations. Now she presented herself as old Lady Lambert—the Madame Pernelle of Molière — the most simple-minded, sanctified of gentlewomen, white-haired, black-mittened, rich in lace lappets and edgings, silken skirts and scarfs of sober hues, pearl, or dove, or lilac, settling herself comfortably in her chair beneath the shadow of Mawworm's screen to listen like the devoutest of Little Bethelites to the absurdest of canting sermons. Now she was seen as the seemingly genuine Mrs. Candour, patched and powdered, hooped and sacqued and furbelowed, rustling at every step, a breathless gossip alert for tattle, all starts and surprises and affected sympathy, with a malicious subacid tincturing her discourse and lending pungency to her innuendoes. And then as the old weather-beaten "she-dragon" Mrs. Malaprop, with her aspersed parts of speech, black-browed, fiercely-rouged, formidable of presence, peremptory of gesture, glaring of dress, the personification of coarse vanity, vulgar ignorance, and tyrannical disposition, yet highly diverting withal.

In 1849 Mrs. Glover accepted an engagement to appear upon the small stage of the Strand Theatre, of which establishment her old playfellow Farren had become lessee and director, and to sustain for the last time all the more important characters in her repertory. It is clear that her health was now seriously failing her; but, excellent actress, that she was, she contrived successfully to conceal her weakened state from the audience. She seemed as alert and energetic, as bright and humorous as ever, and by turns her Mrs. Heidelberg, Dame Ashfield, and Widow Green, her Mrs. Temperance in *The Country Squire*, her Mrs. Candour, Mrs. Malaprop, and the rest received from crowded houses the familiar tribute of hearty laughter and loudest applause. Without doubt, however, her exertions cost her dearly. She appeared for the last time at the Strand Theatre on June 8, 1850. A contemporary critic wrote of her closing performances: "The manner in which she has lately, under the infirmities of age, supported her professional position, has frequently been quoted as a marvel, so perfect and complete has been the continued possession of her extraordinary powers." Her farewell benefit took place at Drury Lane Theatre on the following July 12, under the express patronage of the Queen. It was understood that protracted care for her family had drained the resources of the actress; that, in spite of her long and seemingly prosperous career, she retired upon very limited means. Every effort was made, therefore, that her benefit should really prove "a bumper at parting." The play was *The Rivals*. Poor Mrs. Glover had been for a fortnight confined to her bed, painfully ill; but she stirred herself to appear upon an occasion so memorable, and her strong will triumphing for a while over her physical weakness, she repaired to the theatre and duly trod the stage once more, and for the very last time, in her famous character of Mrs. Malaprop. She was received with the utmost enthusiasm; but her debility increased distressingly as the play proceeded, and though she completed her performance, it became but too evident that she was unequal to the task of addressing to the public the few sad, fond words of farewell she had designed to utter. The speech was dispensed with, therefore; and, the comedy concluded, the curtain rose again, to discover Mrs. Glover seated on a chair, environed by her professional friends and associates. She bowed to the house in grateful acknowledgment of its sympathy and applause; the rest was silence. The end was, indeed, very near. She was carried home to die. One short week after her farewell to the stage the remains of the famous Mrs. Glover were interred in the churchyard of St. George's, Bloomsbury.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

It is now practically certain that the Dangerous Performances Bill, which was to be discussed in the House of Commons on Wednesday, has been dropped by the Government. In response to an application to the Home Office from Variety Associations for a further interview, Mr. Herbert Samuel on Tuesday replied that it was not intended to bring the Bill before the House as early as was anticipated. The Bill had been "put off," and, therefore, there was no reason for any deputation to visit the Home Office. When such an occasion did arise he would notify the artists' representatives concerned. In the meantime nothing would be done.

From the balance sheet of the Tivoli, just issued, we gather that the net profit for the twelve months ended June 30 last (after providing for £5700 interest on the mortgage and debentures) amounts, with the balance brought forward, to the sum of £14,151 4s. 3d.

In January last an interim dividend of £4 per cent. (less income-tax) was paid. The directors now recommend the payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent. (less income-tax) for the half-year ended 30th June, 1906; and having regard to the reduced dividend of last year, due to exceptional circumstances, the directors now recommend in addition to the above dividend a special bonus of 4s. per share (less income-tax) equal to £14 per cent. for the year.

After payment of this dividend and bonus, the directors propose to deal with the surplus by applying £3000 to the general reserve fund, making £10,000 to the credit thereof, and carrying forward the sum of £1351 4s. 3d. to the current year's accounts. Mr. H. H. Wells is the retiring director, and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The auditor of the company, Mr. Robert Lindsey, also retires, and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The fifteenth annual meeting will be held on Tuesday next, at the Tivoli, at 2.30.

Mr. Carl Hertz is leaving for these shores today, and will voyage across the Atlantic in the American liner the City of New York. He has just fulfilled a most successful season in the Empire City, and returns with very pleasant recollections of his triumphs therein.

Count Max Hollender, of 44, Hamilton-terrace, St. John's-wood, chairman of the Palace Theatre, and of Messrs. Hollender and Cremetti, the Hanover Gallery, New Bond-street, whose death took place on June 11, left an estate valued at £92,710 gross and £90,769 net.

The London Pavilion management will present a new Oriental up-to-date song-scena, tentatively entitled *Never In Japan*, specially written by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate. The scene is laid in a Japanese tea-garden (now being specially and realistically painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley), in which Mr. Hal Forde, supported by numerous male and female auxiliaries, including the Eight Pavilion Girls, will appear. Mr. Hartley Milburn is arranging the special dances, groupings, &c. This production, which is now in active rehearsal, will form one of the popular Pavilion's principal attractions on August Bank Holiday and onwards.

The Metropole, Camberwell, is announced to reopen early in September under the management of Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the late manager of the Palace opposite, who has rechristened the house the Camberwell Empire. Builders and decorators are in possession, and there is every appearance that the stage and auditorium are undergoing an extensive process of renovation.

So popular have the "Sixpenny Successes" series of songs of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company become in South Africa that the *Cape Times*, Limited, of Cape Town, have accepted the exclusive South African agency for these publications, and the colossal advertisements anent this series, which are appearing weekly in the pages of our Cape Town contemporary, have resulted in a demand for many thousands of copies of the go-ahead Berners-street firm's popular songs from the South African music-loving public.

Mr. Harry Lester, the Terriers' Secretary, was on Saturday the surprised recipient of a massive silver matchbox, with initials, sent in a registered letter by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Douglas White.

A new farcical sketch by George Unwin, entitled *Touched Up*, will be produced on Monday by The Players. In it will appear Miss Violet Ellicott (late Duke of York's Theatre), Miss Rose Temple (late of Terry's Theatre), Mr. Herbert Ford (late of the Strand Theatre), and Mr. George Unwin (late of the Scala). The sketch will be presented each evening during the week at the Cambridge at 8.30 and the Standard at 10.30.

Mr. Harry Tate, who opens at the Oxford on August Bank Holiday, sails for New York in October for a six weeks' season of *Fishing*. His *Motoring* company, which returned last month from a long tour of the States, returns to New York in a fortnight for a fifty-six weeks' tour. Mr. Tate also has companies playing *Motoring*, *Fishing*, and *Golfing* in the provinces, so that he has his hands pretty full.

Mdlle. von Etta, the lady illusionist, is meeting with genuine success everywhere with her unique entertainment of art and mystery. The turn has been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll for the London Hippodrome, and the Moss and Stoll tour.

Miss Evelyn Taylor is due to open on Monday at the Holborn Empire, Euston, and Paragon with a budget of new songs, after a provincial tour of forty-four weeks.

Lillie Seldon (pupil of Mme. Waldahoff) has just gained the silver medal as associate, with honours, of the Guildhall School of Music. We believe this is a record for a child mandolinist.

Mr. Joe Haynes, the old-time comic and music-hall proprietor, who is now proprietor of the Duke of Argyle, Great Windmill-street, W., desires to say that he has not yet purchased the Empire, Battersea (late the Washington), but that negotiations are proceeding.

The directors of Hackney and Shepherd's-bush Empire Palaces have resolved to pay an interim dividend on the ordinary shares for the half-year to June 30 at the rate of ten per cent. per annum.

Hercat and Fairfax take their new sketch, "Her House in Disorder," produced at the Lyceum last month, to the Crystal Palace next week.

Leo Fritz, the well-known variety agent, has just entered into an agreement for the sole bookings of four first-class variety theatres, which will be duly announced in these columns.

The death of Mrs. Jessie Violet Crawford (more generally known as Violet Friend) occurred at The Forest, Kinver, on Tuesday, July 3, after a lingering illness, at the early age of thirty-two years. The deceased lady will be remembered as a favourite on the variety stage, having toured the principal cities and towns of Europe and America, and having achieved success at the Tivoli and the Oxford.

The West Bromwich Hippodrome and Theatre Royal is undergoing elaborate alterations and decorations. It is also being re-seated and re-upholstered by the well-known firm of A. R. Dean & Co., of Birmingham, while Messrs. John Malling & Co., of West Bromwich, are responsible for the plastic work. These preparations are being completed for the opening of this house under the twice nightly system of the De Frece Circuit.

The Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire directors, after providing £3,489 for depreciation on leasehold and furnishings, paying £4499 in interim dividend, and writing off balance of preliminary expenses £3615, recommend a dividend for the second half of the year at the rate of ten per cent. per annum.

Mr. Maynard Dakin, who has been associated with the Adeler and Sutton Syndicate tours for the last four years as one of their principal and refined humorists, is making a host of friends at the Olympian Gardens, Rock Ferry, at which place of entertainment he has been installed as manager, a position he is eminently qualified to fill by his ability, tact, and courtesy.

Mr. R. H. Davy, of the New Brighton Tower and Recreation Company, Limited, has added the position of manager of the Tower Grounds to his other duties. The patrons of the "Tower" are loud in their praise of his urbanity and courtesy in the fulfilment of his onerous engagements.

During the recess Mr. W. C. Horner, the lessee and manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Burnley, has had the place elaborately decorated throughout, and extensive alterations have been made in the structure of the stage and dressing-rooms. The former has been lowered nine inches, the line of sight thus obtained being a great advantage to patrons of the stalls. The whole of the old dressing-room accommodation has been replaced by comfortable and commodious apartments, thoroughly ventilated and lighted. The body of the hall has been also entirely reseated with new tip-up chairs and benches, and no expense has been spared.

Mr. A. Staughton is leaving the Empire, New Cross, after having been employed there for nearly three years as stage-manager. He opens at the Empire, Hackney, on Monday, in a similar position.

Messrs. Porter and Ferguson, who recently purchased the Palatine Hall, Lancaster, have made extensive alterations, and intend opening on Monday next. The hall will be known as the Hippodrome and Opera House. The interior has undergone complete metamorphosis. The raised floor has been made into a gradual and easy slope. Fluted pillars, elaborately decorated and gilded, support the proscenium, over which is a cleverly drawn group of figures representative of music and art, artistic scroll-work filling the wall spaces on each side. The full size of the stage is 44ft. by 26ft., with an opening to the auditorium 23ft. wide and 26ft. high.

The circle retains its original form, but has a greatly improved rake. The seating throughout is by means of tip-up chairs. The new Hippodrome is to be open for inspection this Saturday afternoon, and for the formal opening next week Messrs. Porter and Ferguson have provided an exceptionally attractive bill of fare.

At a sitting of the Dean of Guild Court on Wednesday morning, Mr. Dugald D. Dickie, writer, appeared and made application to the Court for a special sitting to consider plans to be submitted by Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Zoo, Glasgow, for the erection of a large and commodious hippodrome within the show grounds at Smithhills, recently occupied by Mr. M'Indoe. The Court, after hearing explanations and reasons for a special sitting, granted Wednesday next as the day for consideration of the plan.

"Ring down the curtain," shouted Mr. Fred Edwards in the Norwich Hippodrome on Monday when, owing to unseemly interruptions from the gallery, he and Miss May Edouin found it impossible to continue their performance in the second house. The order was instantly obeyed, and then Mr. F. W. Fitt, the manager, came to the footlights, and said it was only natural that such well-known artists should resent the interruptions. However, he would appeal to Mr. Edwards to continue his performance, whilst promising that the gallery audience would behave themselves. The curtain was then rung up, and Mr. Fitt introduced Mr. Fred Edwards to the audience. Mr. Edwards then brought forward Miss May Edouin, and the entertainment proceeded, amidst hearty applause.

The annual outing held in connection with the Birmingham Gaiety took place last Sunday, when the good endeavours of Mr. and Mrs. Bushell for the day's enjoyment met with success beyond all expectation. Cheered by the—as it proved—favourable weather, the party, which numbered a hundred and twenty-five employees and friends, trained to Worcester, well fortified by refreshments, and took the boat in good time for Tewkesbury (Lower Lode), where an ample dinner was provided, after which the party repaired to a fishing contest, which had been arranged for members of the staff. This was won by Mr. Fred Camp, the musical director, who thus became the popular possessor of a handsome marble clock with bronzes to match, while Messrs. Overton and French were second and third respectively, winning a set of vases each. An egg and spoon race for the ladies produced a little flutter and much blushing, and was won by Mrs. Arter (1st, a walnut clock), Miss Bushell (2nd, a brass kettle and stand), and Miss Morgan (3rd, a set of vases). A visit to the famous old Abbey was followed by tea, and then the party returned to Worcester by boat, reaching Birmingham at 10.30.

Machnow, the Russian giant, has just been fined £1 by a New York magistrate for giving an exhibition in a park without an official permit from the park-keepers.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Leicester Pavilion staff, favoured by delightful weather, had their annual outing on Sunday. The place selected was Skegness, the nearest seaside resort to Leicester. The merry party, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lapworth, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lawrence, Mr. Fred Gough, Miss Harris, Miss James, and Miss Frost, assembled at the Great Northern Station at 8.15, and reached their destination about 11 o'clock. Dinner and tea were served at the Pier Hotel, and during the day driving, boating, &c., were indulged in. The toast list at the dinner was commendably short. Mr. Walter Lapworth, the acting-manager, proposed the health of Mr. Frank Macnaghten, which was heartily received. A word of commendation should be given to Mr. Lawrence for the excellent way in which he catered for the party.

Mr. Sid Cotterell, who is this week starring at the King's, Gateshead, was presented on Wednesday with a complete set of razors and outfit, by Mr. Thomas Ridley, a well-known Gateshead gentleman. Mr. Cotterell is still going strong with that great success *The Substitute*.

Mr. Harry Nation will hold a grand illuminated confetti carnival on Thursday next, August 2, at his Alfresco Grounds in Herne Bay. The special attractions which have been engaged include the band of the 7th Princess Royal Dragoon Guards—very popular in the Bay.

The New Cross Empire, which is under the capable managership of Mr. Ernest Bridgen, celebrates its seventh anniversary on Wednesday evening next. Since its opening this house has enjoyed uninterrupted success, and is a typical example of the rise of the modern "music hall." Seven years ago patrons of the New Cross Empire could not understand why they should not be allowed into the house without coats, a fact that seems very peculiar in view of the fashionable audiences now attracted to the place.

Prior to her departure from London, last week, on a motor run to Blackpool, where she is now appearing nightly, Miss Vesta Tilley accepted, for immediate production, no less than four new songs from the prolific pens of Messrs. Harrington and Tate, entitled, respectively, "Come along home, papa," "The Dandy River Boy," "Only One London," and "Leave the piano for me." The two first-named numbers, both of which Miss Tilley purposes producing on Monday next, have been accepted for immediate inclusion in the fast-growing "Sixpenny Successes" series of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, while the other two songs will doubtless share the same fate at no very distant date.

Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager of the Paragon, has arranged a launch party for to-morrow week, Aug. 5. The train leaves Waterloo at 10.10 a.m., arriving at Hampton Court forty minutes later. The party will then board the launch Balmoral Castle, which will start at eleven o'clock from Molesley for Windsor, reaching the Royal borough about half-past two. Tickets for the outing, obtainable from Mr. Beecham at the Paragon, and from Mr. Worland S. Wheeler, the secretary, are 10s. 6d. each, which includes everything except wine

The wedding of Mr. Rudolph Whiteley, of the Five Whiteleys, and Miss Florrie Cleveland, of the Five Clevehands, took place on Sunday at St. Mark's Church, Kennington Gate, before a large number of professionals, friends, and relatives on both sides. The bridesmaids were Miss Sidonia Whiteley and Miss Lily Cleveland, and the brother, Mr. Henry Whiteley, officiated as best man. Among those present were:—Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland, father and mother of the bride; Mr. Ben Whiteley, brother; Mrs. Henry Whiteley, sister-in-law; Mr. John Delevanti, grandfather of the bridegroom; Mrs. Holloway, the aunt of the bride; Masters Henry and Benjamin Whiteley, nephews; Misses Ellen and Henrietta Delbosq, and a large contingent of Terriers, including the Secretary, Mr. Harry Lester representing the fraternity.

The presents, numerous and costly, included two diamond hoop rings and diamond and emerald ring from the bridegroom to the bride; diamond pendant from Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland to their daughter; diamond and ruby pin from Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland to the bridegroom; a silver-fitted dressing case from Mrs. Ellen Whiteley (bridegroom's mother) to her son; a leather travelling bag from Mrs. Ellen Whiteley to the bride; a case silver dessert knives, and a case of silver salt cellars, from Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whiteley; a massive gold lever watch and a lady's travelling clock from Mr. Ben Whiteley; a lady's travelling hat box from F. Cleveland, jun.; a lady's jewel case from Miss Lily Cleveland; salad bowl from Mr. Joseph; a massive silver hand mirror from the Terriers' Association; six handkerchiefs and a long lace tie from Miss Peggy Fame; a set of gold waistcoat buttons from Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright; embroidered handkerchief from Miss Sidonia Whiteley; a silver hatpin stand and gold brooch from the Sisters Spray; shaving set and embroidery, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gray; a tea cosy from Mr. Delbosq; and a silver plated butter knife from Mrs. Edgerley.

A large number of telegrams and congratulations were received from the following:—Les Henris Mr. and Mrs. Selbo, Mrs. Delevanti and family, Mrs. Annie Matthews, Harry and Rose Clyo, Mr. and Mrs. Will Johnson, Forest and King, the Sisters Urma, Ian Colquhoun, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rocher, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright, Miss Peggy Fame, Winnie and Lottie Govell, Mrs. Neal, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gregory, Mr. Alfred Delbosq, sen., and Mr. Ernest De Vere, with lots of contracts. The wedding breakfast was given at 29, Brixton-road, about forty sitting down. The toasts were numerous and complimentary.

The third annual outing of the staff of the Walthamstow Palace took place on Sunday last, when a party of over fifty journeyed from Hoe Street Station, Walthamstow, to Clacton-on-Sea. Amongst those forming the party were Mr. A. J. Barclay, manager, and Mrs. Barclay, Mr. G. F. Slatter, acting-manager, and Mrs. Slatter, Mr. J. Grant, stage-manager, and Mrs. Grant, Mr. C. Woolard, refreshment department, and Mrs. Woolard, Mr. Albert E. Hill, box-office, and, with hardly an exception, every member of the working staff, male and female, both before and behind the curtain.

The party caught the nine o'clock train from Liverpool Street to Clacton-on-Sea, which was reached a little before eleven. After dinner, which was served at Rigg's, Mr. G. F. Slatter proposed the health of the directors, management, and staff of the Walthamstow Palace. The Chairman, Mr. A. J. Barclay, in response, expressed his thanks to all present for the support they had accorded him, without which it would have been impossible to have made the Palace a success. After dinner the members of the party separated to enjoy themselves as they pleased by boating, driving, etc., and the company entrained for Liverpool Street, which was reached at 10.30 after a most enjoyable day.

Ballet will remain the leading feature of the Bank Holiday programme at the Empire. In addition to Delibes' delightful *Coppelia*, in which Mlle. Genee appears nightly, by general request the Watteau divertissement in Wilhelm's *Cinderella* will on that day be added to the attractions of the premier variety house. It will be presented with many new features of interest alike in music, character, and incident, affording a fuller illustration of the Fêtes Galantes of Louis XV.'s reign, as depicted for all time by Watteau and Lancret. La Camargo, the most celebrated dancer of the period, will figure in the scene, which will also be graced by La Pompadour and her train of courtiers. Additional music will be selected from contemporary sources, and the arrangement of the dances will be confided to Mr. Fred Farren, who will himself figure as a Maître de Ballet. Mr. Wilhelm will, as before, be responsible for the production.

The Arizona Troupe and Will Percival sails from Southampton on Aug. 4 by the s.s. St. Paul. They are engaged for Mr. Phil Sheridan's *Sports Girl* for a tour of forty-two weeks through the United States and Canada.

The Kilburn Empire opens on August 6, under the management of Mr. Brien McCullough. The theatre has been overhauled and renovated throughout, and the bars made very attractive. The Bold Brien—for he is indeed bold—is starting with a tremendous production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The scenery is by Francis H. Bull, and for the Plantation Scene Brien has engaged the Yankee Doodle Coons, who will make their first appearance in England. There are several excellent variety turns, and the latest pictures by the New Bioscope. The place will be run on the twice a night system at popular prices.

Miss Maria Loftus, after three years' absence, has been delighting the Dublin folk at the Hippodrome with her versatility, her bonhomie, and her humour. She won the proud title of Queen of Burlesque years ago; and she is still as fresh, as unconventional, as up-to-date, and as charming as ever. Her admirers in the Irish capital may be numbered by thousands, and without stint they have poured out the incense of their admiration at Marie's feet during her triumphant engagement. In her entertainment, *Singers, Past and Present*, the "Glesca lassie" shows her wonderful powers of travestie, under which one may discover the truthful observation of the born mimic and comedienne. Marie Loftus possesses the infinite variety that is not stated by custom, and her entertainment is as exhilarating as ever.

The open-air matinée organised on the 18th inst. by Chirgwin at the Happy Valley, Southend, was a great success, and has yielded £20. The White-eyed Kaffir has sent this sum to Mr. Pedgrift, vice-president of the Music Hall Home, to divide equally between that charity and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and cheques value £10 each have been forwarded to each institution. If every well-known artist took the same interest in the charities of the profession there would be no complaint of lack of cash. The attractions of the entertainment were augmented by Miss Fanny Wentworth and Mr. Joe Archer, who travelled specially from London to entertain.

Miss Ada Reeve, who has every reason to be proud of her artistic triumphs on the Rand, is due at Southampton on August 4th, and after a short holiday she will appear on the 20th at the Tivoli, an engagement wholly in accord with the excellent traditions of that house under the enterprising management of Mr. Joseph Wilson. Miss Reeve brings with her several songs, new, at any rate, to London, among them being "If the World were Ruled by Girls" and "Auntie sent Me Marketing." She may also introduce "Trixie, of Upper Tooting."

Mr. Charles O'Connor, who recently filled the position of Presshustler at the Lyceum, has been appointed by Mr. Alfred Butt to a similar position at the Palace.

Mr. Frank Weeks, we are sincerely sorry to learn, is still seriously indisposed, and in consequence of his continued illness the South London outing has been postponed.

Mr. Joe Peterman will shortly put on a revised edition of *The King of Sahara*, the musical comedy sketch, recently produced at the Oxford. Mr. Forbes Dawson, who is a prolific playwright, will be responsible for the new "book." It is much needed.

The Water Rats will have their annual outing on the upper reaches of the beautiful Thames on Sunday, August 19. The crowd will leave Waterloo at 9.45 a.m. for Windsor, proceeding thence by steam launch to Marlow, coming down the river later to Windsor, and reaching Waterloo at ten o'clock. Lunch, dinner, and tea will be served on board.

Mr. George Adney Payne and Mr Emanuel Warner (of Somers and Warner), have returned home after a most enjoyable and health-giving time at Marienbad.

Mr. Will Bishop, who was so popular at the Empire before he became ballet master at the Coliseum, will on Monday appear with a company at the Ardwick Empire, there to produce his celebrated original scena *My Golliwog*, of which he made a feature at the Coliseum. Mr. Bishop is engaged for the Moss and Stoll tour.

Miss Syria Lamonte, the charming Australian soubrette and soprano, is leaving to-day (Saturday), by the s.s. Philadelphia for New York. She is fully booked this year by her sole representative, Mr. David Hart.

Miss Maree Kean, the attractive soubrette, whose training on the regular stage stands her in good stead, is winning golden opinions for her sketch of a *Suffragette*. The song accompanying this clever impersonation is the joint work of Harry Leighton and George Everard, and has been produced most successfully by Miss Kean both at the Paragon and Ealing Hippodrome.

Miss Rachel Lowe, who is scoring her usual success at the Tivoli, Manchester, has added to her répertore of novelty songs a decided original number, entitled "The Progressive Woman," the joint efforts of Messrs. Tom Wicks and Charles Warren. The "Woman Up to Date" has been treated in a very novel manner, and Miss Lowe receives roars of laughter and shouts of applause for her humorous rendition of this song, which will be heard in London in the near future.

Miss Josie Collins, the clever daughter of the celebrated Lottie Collins, appeared at the Palace on Monday last, and made a distinct success with her songs "Americana" and "Rosa Anna."

Miss Marie Weston, who has been appearing with success in the Moss tour, has an excellent vehicle for the display of her ability in a charming song, entitled "Pansy." This is another "Witmarkian" success, and will doubtless be in great demand for pantomime.

On Sunday, 22nd July, the staff of the front of the house at the Alhambra and their friends had their annual outing at Guildford, and after an excellent lunch, provided by Miss Beddington, the hostess of the Lion Hotel, the party went for a drive over the famous Surrey Hills, returning shortly after six to tea, at the conclusion of which their manager, Mr. George Scott, very thoughtfully proposed a little subscription on behalf of Pearson's Fresh Air Fund. This appeal was at once responded to, £5 5s. being immediately given. The return journey was made by the 8.48 train.

A very excellent turn at the Chelsea Palace last week was that of Messrs. Keith and Kent. Judging by the number of calls they received, these artists would find great favour in the West End, for their performance is distinctly smart.

At the comfortable Queen's, Poplar, where the ever courteous manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, is so ably directing big business, there was produced on Monday, by Mr. Harry Bristow and his specially selected company, including Mr. Edgar Coyne, Mr. Austin Lonton, Miss Kate Neville, and Miss Louise Brandon, a new and original dramatic sketch written by Mr. Harry Bristow, entitled *In a Man's Grip*, in which the author distinguished himself by a capital delineation of the heavy part of Richard Morgan.

Mr. Horace Marriott, the Secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, acknowledges with many thanks a cheque for £10, half of the proceeds of a matinée given by Mr. G. H. Chirgwin at the Happy Valley, Southend.

Mr. J. T. Frohn, Secretary of the Music Hall Home Fund, acknowledges with many thanks a cheque for £10, half of the proceeds of a matinée given by Mr. G. H. Chirgwin at the Happy Valley, Southend.

The Licensing Committee of the London County Council proposes to sit for the licensing of music halls at Newington on Nov. 5 and 6, and at Clerkenwell on Nov. 12 and 13. After report to the Council, the final Session will be held on Nov. 30.

The conviction of Mme. Eugénie Fougère, the Parisian comedienne, and her husband, Albert Girod, at the Clerkenwell Sessions, several weeks ago, was quashed on Saturday by the Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved. She was formally discharged at the North London Sessions on Tuesday.

The following is a special list of the names of members of the Variety Artists' Federation who advertise in *The Era*, and for whom voting papers have been sent to this office. Will the members please apply for these papers? The list was too long to admit to our Letter Box list.—Mr. Alfred L. Artois, Mr. J. Artois, Mr. John Bandoni, Mr. Harry Baroni, Mr. George Brooks, Mr. John E. Coyle, Mr. J. J. Elmo, Mr. James Elvo, Mr. Roy Fortescue, Lady Fauntleroy, Mr. Edward Ind, Mr. J. H. Kavanagh, Mr. T. Kioto, Mr. Hyam Long, Mr. Fred Lloyd, Mr. Fred Leslie (Leslie Brothers), Miss Lall Melrose, Professor McCann, Mr. H. La Martime, Miss Ada Mack, Mr. Ben Obo, Mr. Jim Obo, Miss Lola Patey, Mr. William Percival, Mr. William Perkins, Miss Myra Stansfield, Mr. Arthur Stratton, Mr. Harry Taft, Mr. David Tait, Mlle. Thelma, Miss Ada Terry, Mlle. Tunmiere, Mr. Walter Wadd.

The debenture-holders of Arnold *v.* the Lyceum (1903) (Limited) came on as a motion for judgment in default of defence on Saturday. Mr. Younger, K.C., for the plaintiffs, stated that his clients held the whole of the first series of £120,000 debentures, and their principal had become due owing to the default of the company in the payment of interest due in January. The property owned by the company was freehold, and was very valuable. Mr. Justice Joyce made an order in the form usual in a debenture-holder's action, and gave liberty to the plaintiffs to bid at the sale of the property. The conditions of the sale, he said, would be settled by the Master in Chambers.

Mr. Harry Tate's No. 1 Company sailed yesterday (27th), per the Orient Liner Ortona, for a lengthy tour in Australia, and will produce there the ever popular variety sketches, *Motoring*, *Fishing*, and *Golfing*, under the management of Mr. Harry Rickards. Mr. Tate is sending out full scenery and effects and a competent company, and is determined that no effort shall be spared to give the Australians a treat.

Mr. Thomas Prichard, late of the Empire, Dudley, recently at Smethwick made an application to the magistrates for a temporary licence for music and singing at a ground in Windmill Lane, near the Cape. The application, which was opposed by Mr. Hewitson, manager of the Theatre Royal, was refused.

Sam L. Bury's Agency has been appointed as English representative for the Casino de Paris. The firm is also doing a lot of booking at Rouen, Marseilles, Nice, Bordeaux, Lyons, and other towns in France.

The eleventh regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons was held in the beautiful rooms of the Town Hall, King's-road, S.W., on Friday, the 20th inst. Mr. Albert Le Fre, W.M., was in the chair, and among those present were Mr. James W. Matthews, I.P.M., Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer, acting as S.W. (in the absence of Serpentello, who is in America), Mr. H. Baroni, J.W. (who had travelled overnight from Accrington to be present), Mr. W. H. Hitch, S.D., Valazzi, acting J.D., and Mr. L. G. Sharp, acting I.G.

A good attendance of the brethren included Dr. J. J. Orr, P.M., Earls Court Lodge; Herbert Chinnery, P.M., Knightsbridge Lodge; A. Ward, Asaph Lodge; T. W. Rumble, Caledonian Lodge; and G. W. Peachy, Fulham Lodge. Mr. Le Fre vacated the chair in favour of Mr. J. W. Matthews, who initiated the Rev. Herbert Heriot Hill into Freemasonry with a view to his being appointed chaplain to the Lodge. Upon Mr. Le Fre resuming his position, he initiated Mr. Leo Tell, and subsequently passed Mr. J. B. Helm to the second degree and raised Messrs. F. H. Pedgrift, Frank Hardy, George Graham, Henry Mason (Mason and Burt), and Albert Christian. The secretary was instructed to send letters of sympathy to Messrs. Edward Swanborough and Fred Clay, the latter having broken his arm. After a very heavy afternoon's work, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, when opportunity was taken to drink the health of Mr. J. W. Matthews and wish him a pleasant voyage to Russia, to which country he was sailing that night to spend a portion of his vacation.

Mr. Charles Deutrich's Vaudeville Bureau has been removed to 31, Islington, Liverpool.

The staff of the Euston will have their annual outing to-morrow, when a merry party will journey to Hampton Court, afterwards proceeding up the river to Windsor.

The 473rd meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Charles Coborn (in the chair), Jack Collinson, Frank Gerald, George Gray, Fred Herbert, Walter Munroe, George Preston, Albert Voyce, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising therefrom discussed. Cases of refunds and insurances were considered, and correspondence dealt with. A letter was read from a member advocating that efforts should be made to obtain the concessions for single members, as in France, Spain, and Italy, and that sixpence be charged for stamping the single cards, the proceeds of which should be devoted to railway charities. The secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter.

Mr. C. W. Poole, of the Palace, Gloucester, and Mr. Frank Mundill, of the Grand, Stalybridge, were appointed agents for the Association in each town. Mr. G. W. Gerald, the agent in Paris, stated in a letter that negotiations for concessions on journeys to England were proceeding, but that it would be imperative for artists in France to produce their contract before the reduction would be granted. The secretary presented his financial statement for the week ending July 21, by which it appeared that 17 new members had joined, and that the receipts were £28 10s., and the expenditure £22 13s. 9½d., less £5 on account of furniture in hand.

Mr. Voyce alluded to the inconvenience caused by railway clerks being sometimes unfamiliar with the rules under which concessions were granted, and gave an instance at one particular station in London, to which the secretary promised to give attention. Mr. Gray moved that a vote of thanks be given to the Rev. Stewart Headlam and the Women's Trade Council, through whose instrumentality the Dangerous Performances Bill had been withdrawn, and the following resolution was adopted: "That a vote of thanks be given to the Rev. Stewart Headlam, on behalf of the members of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, many of whom have to earn their livelihood as acrobats, both on the music hall stage and in the circus arena."

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

The current programme at the Palace is more than usually cosmopolitan in its character, the entertainers therein being gathered from all quarters of the globe—from America, Australia, France, and Germany. Mr. James Mooney and Ida Holbein, from America, make their first appearance in this country in what in the parlance of the profession is called a vaudeville intermezzo. Miss Holbein is continually interrupted in her apparent desire to give a monologue entertainment by Mr. Mooney, who is a very neat acorbat, and does wild, whirling, and unexpected things in the way of acrobatics. He revels in practical topsy-turveydom; but the entertainment given by the talented pair is "right side up," and really funny in an unpretentious way—which is the right way.

Audiences at the Palace have a warm welcome for Miss José Collins, the daughter of a famous mother, who won considerable favour at the palatial house in Shaftesbury-avenue some years ago, after she had astonished the two hemispheres with her wonderful energy and abandon in "Ta-ra-ra- Boom-de-ay," which had an extraordinary vogue some fifteen years since. Miss Collins is pretty and graceful, and is gifted with a sweet voice, which she displays to advantage in two well-written and melodious songs. She has hereditary talent as a comedienne, and should certainly do well if refinement and artistic impulse count for anything on the variety stage, which they certainly do at the present day. It is Miss Ray Wallace's special mission to mimic the stars, which she does while accompanying herself at the pinao. To be included in her répertoire has become in consequence an undoubted distinction. Miss Victoria Monks is Miss Wallace's latest subject, and is therefore hall-marked as a variety constellation—a distinction that of course only grows out of public favour.

Mr. Paul Martinetti and his American pantomime company are producing for the first time at the Palace *My Wife*, in which is portrayed the domestic storm and its remedy in the house of Mr. and Mrs. Parsent. The lady treats her husband with contumely and most unwarrantable unkindness on her birthday, when he, with kindly forethought, brings her presents. She actually smacks his face. Justly enraged, at the conduct of his valet, Parsent takes the law into his own hands, and makes Madame ultimately dance to the crack of a formidable-looking whip. Mr. Paul Martinetti portrays the feelings of the outraged husband in most eloquent fashion, his gesture play being very fine indeed. Mr. Alfred Martinetti presents a complete study of the arrogance and impertinence of Jeames, of the servants' hall; and Miss Clara Martinetti, perfectly dressed, depicts the haughty but eventually submissive wife with excellent results. A word of praise is deserved, too, by Mr. Emile Josset as Mr. Rosenier, by Mr. John Heard as Mr. Giler, and by Miss Clarie Vernon as Camille.

A very welcome return to the Palace is made by Chanti, who is described as the electrical mechanical protean artist, with novel and original effects. In his various impersonations Herr Georg Chanti—to give him his full title—endeavours to secure what may be termed "atmosphere," and he does so by some very ingeniously arranged trick scenery, which is lit up in novel fashion by electricity. He presents the Heidelberg student in the pursuit of pleasure and indulging in a polka. The Heathen Chinee is less hilarious, but just as nimble on his feet. With the introduction of the Spanish bull-fighter we are treated to some scenery representing a vast arena, and the comic note is played by the plunging of a short sword up to the hilt into the carcase of a cardboard bullock, who gazes more in sorrow than in anger at a bottle of bovril at his feet. In his Neapolitan scene Chanti tinkles the mandoline, choosing the well-known "Intermezzo" from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and winds up with a capital impersonation of a Scotchman, who is quite equal to a reel or a strathspey, which he accompanies on the bagpipes. A most artistic and cleverly devised turn of which the variety is decidedly charming.

In the earlier portion of the programme is seen that clever and graceful artist Miss Gwennie Hasto, who has lifted sensational dancing to the dignity of a fine art, and astonishes by the difficulty of the various terpsichorean feats that she accomplishes. Miss Daisy Harcourt, the girl from the Colonies, shows decided quaintness in her first song, wherein she describes the manner in which Macdougall sang, and its consequences. Dressed in a short blue dress, which shows off her *petite* figure to perfection, Miss Daisy reminds us of our own Marie Lloyd by her piquancy in the song, "Try that again." "It's the same old girl" is, frankly speaking, a chorus song, but very good of its kind. It affords, however, no chance to Miss Harcourt to make us acquainted with her powers of character-drawing, in which description of stage work we feel sure she possesses considerable ability. Of the entertainments submitted by Evan Evans, the Welsh comedian; Selbo, the club juggler; Fred Niblo, the American raconteur; and Mlle. Berthe Bordeverry we have already spoken; and it only remains therefore to note the return of Miss May Belfort, in welcome songs; the Bioscope, showing the world's events day by day; the songs of Lucette de Verley; and the fine rendering by Mr. Herman Finck's superb orchestra of Messager's "Suite de Ballet," *Les Deux Pigeons*, played for the first time in London outside of the Royal Opera House, Covent-garden

THE MIDDLESEX.

A singularly gifted mimic who is not so well known in this part of the world is Takio, who hails from the land of the chrysanthemum. If we are to judge by his performances at the Middlesex this week, Takio will, in a comparatively short time, become a popular artist in this country. Perhaps his most wonderful imitation is that of a swallow, the notes being whistled with really remarkable clearness and birdlike tunefulness. Takio also gives vocal representations of the noises caused by knife-grinding, the planing of wood, the roaring of a lion, a cat and dog fight, and the music of the saxophone and the gramophone. Mr. George Prince is an eccentric comedian of much merit, and those of his verses which end with the line "And that was Parker-street's reply," find great favour with the galleryites, for praise of local people is not to be lightly regarded. A couple of smart and exceedingly entertaining American duettists and dancers are found in Woodward and Walton, whose terpsichorean efforts are particularly commendable. Gascoigne submits a variety of neat juggling tricks, and the Sprees appear in the attractive scene, *Twickenham Ferry*. Mr. Johnny Holland and company have something extremely laughable in their latest irresponsible trifle, *Our Betsy*. Mr. Holland in the rôle of the man who masquerades as a woman is absurdly comical, and the little sketch is fruitful in its merry-making qualities. Mr. Andy Fagan is as droll as ever with his characteristic Irish songs. We get some true Hibernianisms both in his story about one Michael McCann and in his second number, in which, attired in feminine garb, he poses as the unhappy spouse of a drunken husband. What he has to relate in the latter rôle is extremely pitiful from one point of view—that is, if you take the statements seriously—while from the other point of view it is irresistibly diverting.

The Carina Sisters furnish evidence of remarkably versatile talents in the musical line. They seem capable of playing on almost any instrument in existence. We get popular airs on the piano, violin, cornet, French horn, and one or two other melody-producing contrivances of a novel make. This musical Melange is artistic and enchanting in the extreme. *The Little Charwoman* is a comedy sketch in which Miss Nannie Goldman demonstrates her cleverness in a variety of characterisations. A story has been written around an accident which prevents a star actress from playing her part on a certain night when Royalty is expected at the theatre. One of the theatre cleaners asks the manager to give her a trial, and he tests her abilities. The result is most gratifying, for the "little charwoman" assumes in turn the rôles of a flower-seller in a pathetic scene, a ragged newspaper boy, a Dutch woman, and a "swell" lady. Miss Goldman deserves praise for her admirable impersonations, and in the bestowal of compliments we must not forget Mr. William Holles, whose acting in the part of the manager is distinctly good. Moon and Morris tickle one's fancy immensely with their amusing anecdotes and jokes, and they distinguish themselves in the direction of dancing. Mr. James A. Reilley wins golden opinions for his work as a raconteur and comedian, and the Bertos gain a full meed of appreciation for their comedy act. There is something uncanny in the professional pursuit of Mahatma, a lady whose powers of divination strike the average human being as supernatural. A member of the audience comes upon the stage and writes certain figures upon a blackboard. Mahatma having previously been blindfolded. Then, without being told any of the numbers, she "tots" up each column and gives the total. Not content with this, the mysterious lady, still blindfolded, advises two players in a game of nap how to dispose of their cards. Truly, "there are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy!"

For a wild and exciting dance we can recommend Mr. Herbert la Martine, who is also an expert in the baton manipulating line. It is with wonderful precision and rapidity that he whirls his silver rod round and round with his nimble fingers. His rendering of "Way down in my heart I have got a feeling for you" is sung with all the spirit and "go" that a coon song should be sung. Messrs. Bishop and Hanlon, who during the latter half of the week, are deputising for Mr. James A. Reilley, owing to the latter suffering from a sudden attack of sunstroke, treat the house to some excellent fooling with their merry burlesque business, and a coloured gentleman who on Wednesday evening appeared as an extra turn, delighted everyone with his expressive vocalism as applied to the "Laughing Song" and "Dreams." He quite secured the favour of the audience with his refined verses and acting. The Bioscope commands one's attention with its interesting and instructive pictures dealing with the life of a cowboy in South America. The views of the race by the white sons of the soil after a band of marauding Red Indians are thrilling and vivid in their picturesque realism. Mr. Frank Hardie, supported by a capable company, present the dramatic episode, *Pedlar Sam; or, A Diamond in the Rough*, in which the elements of both comedy and tragedy are well represented. The sketch is cleverly written, and the breezy Americanisms to which Mr. Frank Hardie, as Samuel Jefferson, gives expression are characteristic in phrase and twang. In short, it is a highly creditable performance that we get from Mr. Hardie of the character of the rough-cut, plain-spoken, generous-hearted pedlar. The piece is exceedingly well mounted and staged.

THE BEDFORD.

Manager A. F. Lovesy, who has made himself a most popular personage at the Bedford Palace, has a highly attractive programme to offer his patrons this week. One of the longest items is a tragic episode, entitled *The Monk*, presented by Miss Helene Forest and Co. The story is centred round the youthful indiscretion of a priest in his relation wtih a girl who afterwards becomes a famous music hall performer. Apparently the not uncommon divergence from the path of rectitude referred to disturbs the conscience of the monk a great deal more than it would the majority of men, and even years after the unhappy incident the holy father's mind is obsessed with depressing regret and melancholy penitence. Years after, too, the celebrated stage favourite, Pearl Vallette visits him, and taunts him with having dishonoured her in the long ago. That act, she tells him, was the beginning of her moral ruin, for, once having crossed the Rubicon which marked the line of chastity, she rushed headlong into a career of debauchery and gambling and all their sister sins. She had spared no effort to bring about the downfall of wealthy young men. And for all these things the monk was to blame for forcing her to take the initial step which led into evil paths. Now she wishes him to embrace her once more. He refuses. She demands that he quaff a winecupful of poison which she offers. After a while, he obeys her; in a few seconds he falls dead, and in another second the curtain falls on the woman's triumph. The part of the monk and Pearl Vallette were played with dramatic forcefulness and emotion by Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox and Miss Helene Forest respectively.

Germaine, "the American Wizard," is a person whose mysterious doings fairly startle one, and he is unquestionably a wonderfully artful magician. One marvelled at the way in which, in his hands and at his word of command, colours were changed and handkerchief's appeared and disappeared with supernatural rapidity and invisibility. Then a tiny plant was put into a flower-pot, the conjurer waved his fan, and, lo and behold, a "mango tree" blossomed out in all its glory, getting bigger and bigger and bigger! One felt curious to know by what magical means the tree rose to such a height and to such fulness of flower and foliage! Madame Eugenie Fougere sings characteristic French chansons and American coon ditties. In her "Flower Song" she is the very spirit of gaiety and laughter, so much so, indeed, that her mirthfulness becomes infectious, and everybody laughs in unison with the clever artiste. Mme. Fougere's imitation of an American comedienne singing a coon song is distinctly amusing, and altogether she is as bright and lively and light-hearted as ever Oberon expected his mischievous fairies to be! Miss Florence Inman is a descriptive vocalist of considerable talent. There is a tender sentiment in her songs. "One Touch of Nature Makes the Whole World Kin" and "It's the Poor that Help the Poor," and both receive an adequately sympathetic rendering.

Mr. George Prince is not much out of it when he describes himself as "a crazy comic." His craziness is of the delightfully humorous kind. His lugubrious appearance as he tells the story of how "it's the sun that brings them out" is in itself something to laugh at. Then we have Mr. Charles Fanning, whose peculiar style of business proves highly successful, and adds to our store of pleasure. It is extremely diverting to hear him chatter in an assumed tongue-tied kind of speech about his friendly relations with Mr. Chamberlain, and he is recalled again and again amid uproarious applause. Miss Jane Temple, the American coon shouter, entertains the audience with her song, "Is that You, Mr. Brown?" and her whole turn is commendable. Bishop and Hanlon indulge in a number of absurd antics and absurd sayings. Their burlesque dramatic acting and speeches provoke intense merriment. The Four Hearnes are remarkably agile acrobats, who impart to their doings the relish of humour. From the Imperial Bioscope we get an attractive series of pictures.

A NOVEL cricket match was played on Monday at Southend on the Maplin Sands, between teams selected by Mr. George Conquest and Mr. Oswald Trigg. The game resulted in a tie, each side scoring 91 runs.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR

AS JEMIMA IN "SNOOKS."

Miss Louie Freear, of whom London has, of late, seen all too little, is now appearing on the Moss and Stoll tour in one more—the last so far—but decidedly not the least—of her famous character studies of the quick-witted, audacious, and unconsciously humorous London slavey. The sketch in which the character Jemima disports herself in true Freear irresponsibility is called *Snooks*, but its title need hardly be considered when discussing the performance. As a matter of fact, it is simply and frankly an ingeniously devised and smartly-written vehicle, designed to exploit the bizarre genius of the little actress who ran the *Chinese Honeymoon* into a three years' period of delight—surely the longest and happiest honeymoon on record.

The "plot" of *Snooks* centres round the love affairs of a fatuous swell, intent upon the hand of one Amelia Stiggins, who, in her turn, is attached to a Corporal Pepper, of the Grenadier Guards. When we say that a private Joshua Smith, in love with Jemima, the slavey (Miss Louie Freear), has thought fit to desert from the same regiment, and has taken refuge in the maison Stiggins in order to obtain the assistance of that much-worried little domestic, we have said enough to hint at the developments. Jemima, after a painful period of jealousy, and after much burlesque indignation, finds a way out of the imbroglio by purchasing Joshua's discharge from the service, the amorous Snooks takes the match-making mamma to wife, and all ends happily.

In *The Gay Parisienne, Oh, Susannah*, and *The Chinese Honeymoon* Miss Freear habituated playgoers to some expectation of a droll and artistic embodiment—an expectation always followed by realisation—but we doubt whether in either of the three above well-known successes the miniature comedienne so thoroughly revelled in her "part," or so completely ran up and down the gamut of comic resource. The utter absence of self-consciousness—the almost wild extravagance of

Photo by Lafayette.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR.

"business," joined to an apparent seriousness and calm assurance of doing precisely the right thing—make Jemima a gem of pure acting such as is seldom seen. If Miss Freear tried to be comic, who knows what the result would be? But she does not try; all is spontaneous, droll, and, quite conceivably, lifelike—that is to say, lifelike as far as pure comedy might be expected to behave under given conditions. Altogether, Jemima may take an equal stand with her sisters, Ruth, Susannah, and Fi-Fi, if even she does not take precedence. They are near relations, of course—they have the same eerie voice, the same alertness, the same fertility of invention, but Jemima, the younger sister, is packed into a small parcel of half an hour's breadth, and yet yields no single point to either of the other impersonations.

It will be remembered that some little time ago Miss Freear appeared in a most artistic and cleverly mounted excerpt from Dickens, entitled *The Little Marchioness*. In this piece the actress played with great success and remarkable power the freakish character of the "Marchioness." This glimpse at Dickens was written by Mr. B. Soane Roby, and emboldened by the well-merited commendations his little play evoked, Mr. Roby has again acted autorially in the above-named *Snooks*. It is obvious to us, and obvious to the closely-packed audiences which watched the performances of both productions, that Mr. Soane Roby possesses the knowledge and the power of projecting a suitable environment for Miss Louie Freear. To satisfactorily fit any well-known artist is, perhaps, mainly a matter of knack, combined with a minute understanding of the powers and possibilities of the actor or actress concerned. No star can be seen to shine if obscured by clouds, and no "star" can shine to the best advantage if his or her individual talent is obscured by a "misfit" piece. There are hardly any performers of individual personality who have not at some time or other suffered from a piece ill calculated to display that personality to the best advantage. There are hardly any performers of genius who have not been grateful for a well-considered chance of exercising their great ability. In the latter connection Mr. Soane Roby may congratulate himself. He has evidently studied the methods of Miss Freear's stage work, and is always capable of "fitting her like a glove" with a "fat part." Of this faculty *Snooks* is the latest and best proof.

THE new character-comedy sketch *Cauliflower Joe*, the full particulars of which appeared in our issue of the 14th inst., will be presented by Mr. Walter Purvis and company next week at the Empress, Brixton. It has also been booked for the Moss-Stoll Empires.

THE playgoers of Paris and America have recently been mystified by the appearance of a young and beautiful dancer who seemed particularly careful not to disclose her identity. As to her ability to dance there was no doubt, but what people really wanted to know is summed up in the question, "Who is she?" The Press of America, usually quick in these things, have been completely baffled by the little lady, whose face is masked by a coroneted domino of red. It is said she is the daughter of a prominent English politician, who only gave his consent on the condition she did not disclose her identity. Hence the somewhat novel plan referred to—a plan that was followed by a lady lion-tamer, the Countess X., at the now defunct Aquarium, Westminster—and there is no doubt the idea caught the American and Parisian fancy. In the street or on the stage, the dancer prefers to be known as "The Domino Rouge," and her appearance at the Palace Theatre will possibly cause great interest.

THE CANTERBURY.

Amongst the stories of the sea none is more thrilling than the tale of the wreck of the "Birkenhead." The captain and the crew stuck to their posts and met their deaths like the heroes they were; and it is only fitting that the memory of their gallantry and devotion should be kept green. We are, therefore, indebted to Mr. George Leyton, the popular actor-vocalist, for reviving the recollection of this tragic event, and of the courage in the face of death displayed by the British sailors who formed the crew of the ill-fated vessel. The story of the wreck is supposed to be told by a survivor, and Mr. J. P. Harrington has written some spirited verses, to which appropriate music has been wedded by Mr. James Tate. "'Tis a tale that will never die" is the burden of the song, and Mr. Leyton, wearing the uniform of a naval officer, sings it in vigorous and effective style, the chorus being joined in by three supernumeraries and a lad dressed as a midshipman. The last scene realises the well-known picture of the wreck with sailors clinging to the rigging of the doomed vessel, while others are on the deck below bravely awaiting the inevitable end. Prominent in the foreground is the drummer who has obeyed the orders of the captain for the last time. In a few minutes the "Birkenhead" will have disappeared for ever from mortal sight, and her gallant captain and crew will be struggling in the hungry, treacherous sea. The scene of the wreck has been admirably painted by Mr. G. Hemsley; and the new production has met with quite an enthusiastic reception at the Canterbury every evening this week. Mr. Leyton also delights the audience by his robust rendering of a song entitled "The Best of Friends must Part."

The Five Whiteleys, in their acrobatic wire-walking and musical pot-pourri, give a perfórmance that deservedly meets with much favour. Much ability is shown by these artists, who not only accomplish wonders on the wire, but also distinguish themselves as acrobats. One of the party jumps over three chairs—one at a time—placed on the wire, a few feet separating each, and then takes a flying leap over five chairs placed close together. In balancing and other feats requiring strength, agility, and nerve the Whiteleys are equally expert. Moreover, two members of the company are excellent xylophone players, and one acts the clown in a manner that causes much merriment. It is sometimes asserted that a refined comedienne is not appreciated at her proper value at a music-hall which caters for a middle-class audience. Miss Millie Lindon's unquestionable success at the Canterbury proves the contrary. This popular artist is the essence of refinement, and she is recalled again and again at the hall in the Westminster Bridge Road. "Mary, the Dairy Maid," is given with delightful expression, and her truly artistic rendering of "The Angel of My Dreams" is greeted with loud applause from all parts of the house. Miss Dolly Harmer is another pleasing comedienne, whose success is beyond doubt; she treats the audience to some well-chosen songs. The Sisters Silcott give a good rendering of "Kiss Me, Good-bye, Sweetheart," and then appear as three little Japs, characters which the sisters impersonate with considerable spirit. The Six Lancashire Lasses are youthful vocalists and dancers who open with a smartly executed clog dance. In their second contribution their performance is rendered much more effective by the assistance of the gentleman who sits up aloft and has the control of the lighting arrangements. Mr. Ben Albert, comedian, scores with his funny songs, "A Little Bit Here and There" being a special favourite. Mr. Harry Marte is again delighting the patrons of the Canterbury by his wonderful dancing, which must be seen to be properly appreciated. The musical sketch, *Casey's Court*, is fully dealt with in our notice of the Islington Empire programme; King and Benson do well in their comedy duologue, *Just for Fun*; Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, are well received, and so, too, are the Northern Troupe of International dancers. The pictures shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope include "Elephants at work in the Burmese teak forests" and "Invisible Men." During the interval a selection from Gounod's *Faust* is excellently played by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Archie Howells. Mr. Fred Miller, the general manager, had the pleasant task of cordially welcoming the Surrey and Yorkshire cricket teams, who, by invitation, paid a visit to the Canterbury on Thursday evening.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A new overture entitled "Islingtonia," composed by Mr. Alf. Petersen, the leader of the orchestra, forms a capital prelude to the entertainment given twice nightly at this popular hall. The leading attraction this week is the musical sketch called *Casey's Court*, in which some thirty young people take part. They represent the youthful denizens of a crowded court inhabited mainly by natives of the Emerald Isle. The boys and girls are dressed in weird costumes—many of them only fit for the rag-shop—but the presence of grim poverty has evidently no bad effect upon the spirits of these light-hearted sons and daughters of Erin. They are all as merry as crickets, and show but little respect for the authority of the stout Irish dame who appears to be the ruling power in Casey's Court. A youngster who presents the appearance of a "looney," but is as mischievous as a monkey, occupies a good deal of the dame's attention, but the intrusion of an Eton youth into this rowdy crowd seems somewhat incongruous. However, he adds to the "fun of the fair," being ultimately deposited in a hip-bath, labelled "private box." From this lowly position he is able to watch the performance which follows. A ventriloquist introduces two figures, an old man and a woman, but this show proves to be a fraud, the supposed dolls being very much alive and walking off amid the laughter of the merry crowd of onlookers. A conjurer also makes his appearance, does a few tricks, and then vanishes. A young girl sings a song and gives a dance, in which she is joined by other members of the company. Finally, the lights being lowered, "The Anvil Chorus" from *Il Trovatore* is given with the usual musical accompaniments. The entertainment is certainly not lacking in variety, and led by the capable comedian who plays the part of the dame, the young performers work hard to please, and quite succeed in their purpose.

The single turns engaged here this week include Celeste, who does a wonderful performance on the wire. This artist is an expert in the science of equipoise. To maintain one's equilibrium on a swaying wire is a feat that can of course only be acquired as the result of much practice and the exercise of no little patience. Celeste's wire act is well worth witnessing. Grant and Allen are burlesque comedians who make their entrance upon dummy steeds of quaint aspect. They represent a couple of mounted soldiers, and career around the stage as they sing an appropriate ditty. They next appear as West-End "toffs" in evening dress, who have evidently been enjoying themselves at their club, and have partaken freely of the cup that not only cheers, but inebriates. In the background is a pillar-box, and this is mistaken by the festive young men for a fellow roysterer. A gigantic cigar is placed by one of them in the opening, and curiously enough smoke is puffed forth, proving that the pillar-box has a human occupant. Grant and Allen meet with a good reception, and the same remark applies to Mr. Chris Richards, an eccentric comedian, who is known as "The Man with the Hat." This title has evidently been bestowed, because Mr. Richards plays various tricks with his headgear, while at the same time he gives a lively song and dance with successful results. Another comedian, Mr. Ted Young, has a ditty which deals in humorous fashion with "the all-night car." He also scores with "Fifteen on a Motor-car." The Carina Sisters deserve every credit for their well-rendered and artistic musical melange. These young ladies are clever instrumentalists, and give a pleasing display of their skill, concluding with a selection on the posthorn. Baker and Balfe play operatic and other selections on the xylophone in a manner that evokes loud applause. The gentleman also contributes a smart dance. Miss Ada Twibell, comedienne, is also in the bill, and the Bioscope depicts "The Smugglers' Dogs." Mr. George L. Wilson is the manager at this hall and Mr. Harry Blight holds the position of acting-manager.

THE SURREY.

On Monday, July 23, was produced here a dramatic Pantomimical Sketch, entitled

"A CELEBRATED CASE."

Mrs. Wilton ..... Miss Blanche Stannard
Mary ..... Miss Cissy Farrell
Edward Wilton ..... Mr. J. C. Aubrey
Eric Palmerston ..... Mr. Ernest Outrim
Usher ..... Mr. George Villiers
Judge Xden ..... Mr. Thomas Bloom
Tom, the Mute ..... Mr. Frank Lister

In this new sketch all the interest and sympathy of the audience are centred in the mute Tom. In the first scene we find the gaily-decked villagers welcoming home Edward Wilton and his pretty young wife Mary. Her brother Tom, although a mute, conveys by his actions alone the love and affection the villagers have for his sweet sister Mary, and presents her with a handsome wedding present on their behalf. In like manner he tells his sister there is an old man by the wayside, and asks his aunt Mrs. Wilton if he may ask the poor old fellow to join their festivities. She readily consents, and Tom introduces the wayfarer to the company. We soon find, however, that the new arrival is really Mary's reprobate cousin Eric Palmerston disguised, whom Mary had married years ago, and who, after deserting her, was reported dead. Eric overhears Mrs. Wilton telling Mary that she has made a will leaving all she has to her, which she intends signing before retiring for the night. The disguised villain leaves with the villagers, and Mary and her aunt are left alone. The supposed old man soon reappears, and, throwing off his disguise, discloses Eric, who intends to prevent his aunt from signing the will, so that he can claim her estate as the next of kin. Mrs. Wilton is in the act of signing the will when the villain, again disguised, creeps in and stabs her. Tom is just in time to witness the deed, and grapples with the murderer, and a terrific and exciting struggle ensues for the possession of the knife. Tom eventually makes the villain drop it by fixing his teeth in his hand, and Eric rushes to a heavy garden chair, and, striking Tom senseless with it, escapes. On recovering, Tom reels to the house-bell, and rings it furiously. This brings in the villagers and police, who find Mrs. Wilton just expiring, and, on being questioned as to who committed the deed, with her last breath denounces Tom, whose bloodstained scarf is discovered around the dead woman's neck. In dumb show he protests his innocence, but is arrested and brought to trial for the crime.

In the final scene Tom is on his trial, and all the chief *dramatis personæ* are in the Court House. Edward Wilton, as his counsel, makes an earnest and stirring appeal for Tom's life, and the accused is permitted to give a pantomimic description of the tragedy. Tom, in dumb show, goes through the scene of the tragedy, and, scanning the features of all in Court, stops at that of the villain Eric, who is holding his right hand in a sling. Tom offers to shake hands with Eric, but Eric refuses for some time, and eventually proffers Tom his left hand. Tom seizes his right, and tearing off the villain's glove, displays to the astonished Court his teeth-marks on Eric's hand. Eric confesses his crime, and exclaiming "By this hand that murdered my aunt I now take mine own," and before he can be prevented, shoots himself, and falls dead on the floor of the Court. The excitement restores Tom's speech as he falls on his knees and thanks God for his deliverance.

Mr. Frank Lister as the mute Tom is the central figure throughout, and never for a moment does he falter in his powerful delineation, while his dramatic pantomimic description of the tragedy in the Court, interspersed with his inarticulate sobs, holds the rapt attention of his audience at a high tension. Miss Cissy Farrell as Mary is womanly, sweet, and tender; Mr. J. C. Aubrey as Edward Wilton deserves warm praise for his forensic powers. As the villain Eric, Mr. Ernest Outrim brings into prominence a brutal force and callousness that thrills his hearers. Other well-defined characters are those of Mr. George Villiers as the Usher; Miss Blanche Stannard as the ill-fated Mrs. Wilton; and Mr. Thomas Bloom as Judge Xden. This miniature drama was in every way well staged.

In direct contrast to the above is Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company of comedians in their laugho-mello-dramette, entitled *That Dreadful Detective*. As the detective, Mr. E. D. Nicholls is the life and soul of this merry burlesque drama, and keeps the house in a roar of merriment whenever he is on the stage. His efforts are liberally supported by Miss Ada Frank as the Louie Freear type of a wild, reckless, smut-faced slavey. Mr. Courtney Robinson as the hunted Dennis works hard to keep the ball of fun rolling. As Rose, Miss Ada Lucelle makes a charming high-spirited heroine; Mr. Francis Castleton as Captain Paul is distinctly good, and imbues his villainy with a humour that is highly acceptable; Mr. W. G. Gorick as a police-officer has little to do, but does that little well.

Burnetti, the quick-changing character musician, gives an entertainment that is a happy combination of musical genius and comedy, for in quick succession he assumes life-like impersonations of Van Biene, Cleono, Belleni, Chirgwin, and Dutch Daly, each with their respective mannerisms. Flo Wood, in her medley of Irish songs, wins high favour; jovial Harry Anderson has two jolly chorus songs, "Something missing" and "She's a jolly good fellow," the chorus of both hitting the taste of the audience, who voice it with gusto and give the artist an ovation; the Three Gilbert Girls in their song ask members of the audience "How would you like to spoon with me?" which invitation is readily responded to all over the house; the acrobatic dancing of this merry trio is startling in its daring and tireless activity. Marlo can evidently hold his own in the art of jugglery, and gives an exhibition of skill that adds to the evening's enjoyment; Lillie Lassah is a smart little comedienne, her tuneful song "Jenny Mine" is well sung, while her ragtime dancing brings down the house; Mona McDonald is chic and merry in her song "I'll always think of you"; Fred Erick is very droll with his Harry Ford methods in his interrogating ditty "I can't make it out, can you?" Raymond's Bio-Tableaux animated picture illustrating an unemployed find, which makes him "Rich for one day," is highly amusing. The warm weather has not affected the continued prosperity of this popular vaudeville, and Mr. Charles Craig, the acting-manager, has, with pardonable pride, been able to register "splendid business." This notice would not be complete without a word of praise to the admirable work of the Surrey orchestra, under the skilful baton of Mr. W. Hinkinson, which must win the appreciation of the artist and the admiration of the audience.

MR. RICHARD WARNER is away at Kissengen, taking the waters. He has already greatly benefited by the cure.

THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

ANNUAL MEETING.

A gratifying record of charitable endeavour was revealed at the annual general meeting of the Music Hall Home, which took place on the stage of the Camberwell Palace on Wednesday afternoon. The balance in hand, which two years ago stood at £60, has now passed the total up to date of £350, an achievement highly creditable to the administrators of the fund and to those who have worked so hard in its interests. Never was the aid of charity invoked in a more noble cause, and the success of the movement by which the veterans of the variety profession, instead of lagging superfluous on the stage, are given the means of peaceful retirement in frugal comfort in their old age, is one of which everybody concerned may be properly proud. It is impossible adequately to gauge the effect of such philanthropic work on the public at large, but it is certain that the efforts of the Music Hall Home and kindred societies must have taken a large share in placing the variety profession in its present high position in public estimation. Every effort is being made to extend the scope of the association, and scanty as was the attendance on Tuesday, there was complete evidence that the work would be prosecuted with undiminished ardour.

In the absence of the president, Mr. Thomas Barrasford, who was out of town, Mr. Harry Barnard was elected to the chair. Among those present were:—Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, C. Douglas Stuart and Joe Lawrence (vice-presidents), Douglas White (treasurer), Barney Armstrong, W. S. Bassett, C. C. Cornish, W. Johnson, C. Mannering, Harry Mountford, Walter Norman, George Smythson, and J. J. Fruin (secretary).

The minutes of the preceding annual meeting, held last August, having been passed, the Chairman read the following report and balance sheet, the various items of which were received with cheers.

THE MUSIC HALL HOME
(31, Wilson-road, Camberwell),
ANNUAL REPORT
from 1st May, 1905, to 30th April, 1906.

It is with great pleasure that the committee have such a splendid balance sheet to place before the subscribers and those ladies and gentlemen who have kindly taken so much interest in the welfare of the Home during the past year. As will be seen by the balance sheet, we are now in a far better financial position even than last year, although we have maintained a larger number of inmates.

The committee tender their most sincere thanks to those who have helped them so materially to give so satisfactory a report.

I must especially mention the names of Mr. F. H. Pedgrift of *The Era* for his assistance with the New Year Fund, also Mr. Harry Blake (the Two Bees) for the splendid result by sale of his Hiawatha postcards, the M.H.A.R.A. for their handsome donation, the organisers of the gala at Liverpool, Mr. F. W. Warden, of Belfast, and also the organisers of the Birmingham sports.

HARRY BARNARD (Chairman).

July 16th, 1906.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS from May 1st, 1905, to April 30th, 1906.

Dr.			£ s. d.
To Cash in hand, April 30th, 1905			271 4 2
„ *The Era* Shilling Fund			135 4 6
„ Sundry Receipts as per separate detailed lists:—			
Box Collections	132 6 4		
The McNaughtons (*The Era* Fund, 1905)	3 10 0		
Mr. Harry Blake by Sale of Postcards	27 4 0		
M.H.A.R.A.	40 10 0		
Birmingham Sports	7 10 0		
Mr. Thomas Barrasford (*Era* Fund, 1905)	15 15 0		
Mr. F. W. Warden, £20 (this amount is included in *The Era* Fund above)			
Donations	13 13 0		
			240 8 4
			646 17 0

Cr.			
By Housekeeping and Secretary			272 15 0
„ Advertising	9 12 0		
„ Printing and Stationery	5 0 0		
„ Postage	4 2 6		
„ Travelling & Miscellaneous Expenses	7 6 6		
„ Collecting Boxes	0 15 0		
„ Funeral Expenses	5 5 6		
„ Blankets, &c.	2 6 8		
„ Auditor's Fee (1905)	1 1 0		
			35 9 2
„ Balance at Bank	190 2 7		
„ Cash on hand	148 10 3		
			338 12 10
			646 17 0

I have examined the above statement of receipts and payments for the year ending 30th April, 1906, and have compared same with books and vouchers produced, and hereby certify same to be correct, and to show a true position of the fund at that date.

SIDNEY H. KENT, A.S.A.A.,
Incorporated Accountant.
65a, Cannon-street, E.C., July 7th, 1906.

In answer to Mr. Norman, the Secretary said the average number of inmates was seven—eight at the present moment.

Mr. Mountford said he had a few words to say for the benefit of those who did not subscribe to the funds. They had heard from the secretary that the average number of inmates was seven. Housekeeping and secretary cost them £272, and miscellaneous expenses £35 9s. 2d., so that by a simple process of arithmetic it would be found that seven members of the profession could be maintained for less than £6 per week. If that fact were to be disseminated among the profession, their receipts ought to be increased tenfold.

On the proposition of Mr. Sparrow, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the adoption of the report and balance-sheet was carried.

Mr. Lawrence took the opportunity to state that Mr. Horace Ebden, of the Tankard, Kennington-road, had subscribed a guinea.

The Secretary said he regretted to say that since their last meeting they had lost two valuable members in Mr. Tasker and Mr. J. D. Humphrys.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers, and Mr. Mountford proposed the re-election of Mr. Thos. Barrasford as president. Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. Sparrow, who paid a tribute to the president's efforts on behalf of the Fund.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Norman proposed that the same vice-presidents be retained, and the election of Messrs. Harry Barnard, Jesse Sparrow, C. Douglas Stuart, Walter Hassan, C. J. Bartleet Perry, Chas. Weldon, Fred Neiman, Joe Lawrence, Jas. E. Dunedin, and F. H. Pedgrift, who would be ex-officio members of the committee, was approved.

Mr. Lawrence proposed that Mr. Harry Mountford be added to the list. He was a very useful man, not only of their society, but of every other with which he had been connected.

The proposition was agreed to, as was also the motion proposed by Mr. Norman and seconded by Mr. Sparrow, that the name of Mr. Leon A. Bassett be added to the vice-presidents.

Mr. Sparrow announced that he had asked Mr. Burgess to become an hon. solicitor, and that that gentleman had consented, with pleasure, to act in that capacity. Mr. Sparrow's proposal, which was seconded by Mr. Lawrence was agreed to, the Chairman adding that it was a very fine thing for the Association.

Mr. Lawrence proposed the re-election of Mr. Douglas White as treasurer.

Mr. White thanked them very much, but he thought it would be more advisable for them to appoint some other gentleman to the position. He was now living in Chelsea, which was a long way off and would preclude his attendance to the duties. If he belonged to anything, he liked to attend as much as possible. He would prefer them to get some other gentleman in the immediate neighbourhood and in close touch with the Secretary.

The Chairman begged Mr. White not to ask the meeting to accept his refusal. It could not possibly be done. He had stuck to them while the ship was sinking, and they could not afford to lose him now that they had got into smooth water.

Mr. Sparrow urged Mr. White to try and continue the position for a few months and consent to fill the place at least for the present.

Mr. White said that after the remarks made, he would consent to continue the duties of treasurer as long as he could. He would do his best, but if he failed they were not to blame him.

Mr. White's election to the office was then confirmed.

The Secretary announced that Mr. Ben Woodger had telephoned that he was unable to attend, but would be pleased to continue in office. Mr. F. W. Millis had also sent his best wishes.

The election of committee was then taken, and it was decided to return the following members of the old executive:—B. Broadbridge, C. C. Cornish, Joe Lavender, W. S. Bassett, Walter Norman, Bob Hutt, C. Mannering, Geo. H. Smythson, Ben Woodger, Fred Shelley, H. Cory Woodrow, Will Johnson, Edward Johnson, R. P. Burnham, Fred Baugh, and Horace Wheatley.

The following gentlemen, duly proposed and seconded, were added to the list:—Messrs. F. W. Millis, H. Griff, "Spot," and Arthur Symons.

The Chairman thought that a chairman of committee should be elected, and suggested the name of Mr. Mountford.

Mr. Sparrow said that that was the province of the committee; otherwise he would have much pleasure in supporting Mr. Mountford.

Mr. Norman proposed the re-election of the Secretary, and the proposition, which was seconded by Mr. Sparrow, was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Fruin thanked the meeting very much indeed for the expression of their confidence in re-electing him secretary.

Mr. Sparrow proposed a vote of thanks to the Press, who he was pleased to see took such an interest in them as to give them a notice, because the more publicity they received the more subscriptions they would get, and when they took their present financial position into consideration, he thought they had done wonders.

Mr. Mountford proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman. He looked upon that small meeting as a very good sign that all was right with the home. Directly they got all the subscribers up to a meeting of any institution—immediately the shareholders of a company gathered round and wanted to know things—they knew there was something rotten in the state of Denmark, but when only a small number of members attended, they might be sure that everything was proceeding satisfactorily. The thanks of the meeting were due to Mr. Barnard, not only for that occasion, but for his invaluable work during the past year.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, wished he was a better speaker, but he was, unfortunately, no orator. He would, however, always do his best for the home, and would be pleased to give his cheque for three guineas.

Mr. Norman proposed a vote of thanks to the directors for the loan of the hall for the meeting, and also for the room upstairs for the purposes of committee.

The proposition, seconded by Mr. Mannering, was passed unanimously and the meeting ended.

"THE LAST SHOT."

Sketch, in One Scene, produced at the Standard Music Hall, Pimlico, on Monday, July 23.

Captain Gordon ..... Mr. Charles Ommanney
Lieut. Henry Valney .... Mr. Richard Norton
Private Pierpont ..... Mr. Arthur Vere
Mona Carlisle ..... Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne

The stirring times of the American Civil War furnishes the period of an attractive little sketch which has been produced at the Standard Music Hall this week. The piece is dramatic and pithy, and possesses an appealing story of love and self-sacrifice. It takes the spectator to the camp of the forces of the Southern States, under whose protection the youthful Mona Carlisle dwells with her invalid mother. She is beloved by Captain Gordon, of the Southern Army, who, however, hesitates to declare his affection. Mona, in truth, is affianced to Lieut. Valney, a young officer of the Northerners, who has just succeeded in escaping from the clutches of the enemy, who have declared him a spy, and condemned him to be shot outright. The fugitive risks a visit to his sweetheart, and is caught by his rival, who overhears the tender words which pass between the betrothed pair, and realises that his own love his hopeless. He has the escaped prisoner in his power, but decides to spare him and allow himself to be taken in his stead. He bids his rival change his ragged attire for his Captain's uniform, but both the Lieutenant and his sweetheart refuse to permit such a sacrifice. At this moment the sound of heavy firing is heard, and Gordon learns that it is the Federal forces arrived on the scene. He draws his sword preparatory to taking his place in the field, but as he reaches the door he receives a bullet in his breast and falls mortally wounded.

Mr. Charles Ommanney, to whose company the performance is entrusted, makes a gallant figure of the chivalrous Captain, acting with earnestness throughout, and depicting his death scene with unforced pathos. Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne displays agreeable elocutionary skill and acts with sympathetic grace in the part of Mona; and her lover, Lieut. Valney, is impersonated with affecting intensity by Mr. Richard Norton. The episode exacted the constant attention of the audience, who recalled the principals enthusiastically at the close.

PYGMIES AND PERCENTAGE.

Sir,—On July 14 you inserted under the above misleading heading a County-court case in which Mr. Filippo sued and won £35 9s. from Mr. Sallmayer, of the Brighton Aquarium, for wrongful dismissal and non-payment of an agreed on percentage.

I wish to state that I and the Pygmies had nothing whatever to do with the case, and, in fact, have a dispute with Mr. Sallmayer as to our earnings during the same period, and now pending a settlement by arbitration.—Yours truly,

JAMES J. HARRISON.

Brandesburton Hall, Hull, July 25, 1906.

"Gardening" is the latest comic production, and has been played by George Ascot for copyright purposes. We are promised something very original and funny in this novelty.

Miss Dolly Denton has secured a charming song, the work of Harry Adams (of "On Guard" notoriety) and Ernée Woodville, entitled "Little Michus."

"YE LADYE GODIVA."

A Dramatic Episode, in Three Scenes, written by Miss Josephine Colona, and produced at the Palace, Bow, on Monday, July 23.

Leofric ..... Mr. W. H. Sams
Tom o' Coventry ..... Mr. F. H. Neville
Bibeau ..... Mr. C. Bowen
Lady Rowena ..... Miss Madge Morley
Lady Angela ..... Miss Mab Clinton
Editha ..... Miss Florence Spencer
Dame Ulrica ..... Mrs. Edgar Colona
Lady Godiva ..... Miss Josephine Colona

The above sketch was produced under the personal direction of Mr. Frederic Baugh on Monday at the Palace, Bow, with new and original music by Mr. Vernon C. Carlyle, and additional numbers by Mr. Carl Hamlin. The scenery, made by Mr. Davis and painted by Mr. Baker at the Surrey Theatre, is pretty and correct, and the dresses are costly and effective. The story is clearly told in blank verse by Miss Colona, and opens in the Market-square at Coventry. A bright little scene briskly played by Miss Florence Spencer as Editha, and Mr. C. Bowen as Bibeau, serves as an effective introduction to the serious interest. Lady Rowena, originally betrothed to the Earl Leofric, is jealous of Godiva, who has been preferred to her, and determines to separate the heroine from her husband. To this end she conspires with Tom, who has been dismissed in disgrace from Court for making overtures to Godiva, who is induced by pity to beg Leofric to reinstate him. On his return to favour Tom's first act is to secrete a jewelled cross dropped by Godiva, which he hands to Rowena, who persuades Leofric that it was given by his wife to Tom as a token of love. Leofric is threatened with an attack by Cedric, a neighbouring chief, and to meet the expenses of defence he resolves to levy another tax on his already overburdened people. Godiva pleads with him, and he offers to forego his demand is she will ride naked through the streets of Coventry. Godiva consents, and the first scene ends with her oath to save the people. The second scene finds Leofric repenting his harshness, but at this time Rowena produces the cross, and tells her story about it. Leofric then determines that Godiva shall keep her oath or he will enforce the tax. In the third and last scene, the Market-square, the people of Coventry are discovered to be in great distress, through Leofric's demand. Godiva appears, and promises to keep her word. She implores all to keep their doors and shutters closed, and to remain within their homes until her ride has been accomplished. All promise willingly except Tom, who appears and looks after Lady Godiva as she rides through the streets. He is instantly stricken with blindness, and, filled with terror and remorse, he confesses to Leofric the plot between Rowena and himself. Leofric banishes both from his domain and begs forgiveness of Godiva.

Miss Josephine Colona, who looks very handsome on her well-trained horse, plays throughout powerfully and sympathetically; Miss Madge Morley presents a clever and finished portrait of the revengeful Lady Rowena, and adds greatly to the success of the performance. Mr. W. H. Sams exactly realises the character of Earl Leofric, and conveys admirably the conflicting emotions of the jealous loving husband. Mr. Neville is a picturesque and interesting Tom O'Coventry, and holds the interest throughout. The entire production is an unqualified success.

MARIE LOFTUS

REAPPEARS IN DUBLIN, AFTER AN ABSENCE OF THREE YEARS, AN ABSOLUTELY UNPARALLELED SUCCESS.

The *Dublin Mail* says:

There is one turn at the Hippodrome this week that will bring all the old stagers flocking to the theatre. Those who remember Marie Loftus ten or fifteen years back have keen and delighted recollections of her liveliness and vim. She always was full of "go," and for her very liveliness much was forgiven her. Her songs, it must be admitted, have not always been of a drawing-room nature, but it is difficult to find fault with anything Marie says or does, for she brightens up the dullest audience and diffuses her own liveliness of spirit throughout the house. Last night's audience being largely a theatre one, did not know much of the history of the famous music hall star, but they did not appreciate her the less. Her first song was her only mediocre effort, and her second, in which she portrayed a country girl in London, and delivered a telling shot at the low-necked dresses of society ladies, was a work of art. Her imitations of the old-time singers, in which she introduced the crinoline, were extraordinarily amusing, and we are quite sure Miss Loftus has killed any hankering after the crinoline on the part of Dublin ladies—or gentlemen either, for that part. The pantomime burlesque, in which she took the dual parts of a man and a woman at once, was one of the most ingenious and original things we have seen. We had indeed begun to think that originality was dead in music hall comedy, but while the "Queen of Burlesque" is alive there is no fear of that. The Red Indian scene at the finish of her hard evening's work was very picturesque, and though it did not make so much demand on her skill as the previous one, it showed that Marie Loftus is still bang up to date. Taking Hackenschmidt and Arthur Roberts, and all the crowd of star turns together, Marie Loftus excels them all in giving genuine entertainment, and if she is a little naughty—well, she's nice.

The *Daily Express* says:

The principal attraction this week is, of course, to be found in the appearance of Marie Loftus, an artist whose great popularity has long made her name a byword amongst playgoers in all quarters. The numerous selections which she gave last evening from her extensive répertoire, in her own inimitable style, were received with the greatest enthusiasm. Amongst the many pleasing items for which she was responsible were a clever skit on the modern Christmas pantomime, and her latest success, a sketch entitled *Singers, Past and Present*, which affords ample scope for her abilities. Needless to say, she was vociferously encored.

The *Irish Times* (Wednesday, the 25th), says:

Last night was no exception, and every part of the house was filled. The programme included some well-known variety entertainers, but pride of place was given to Marie Loftus. She has been styled "The Queen of Burlesque," and certainly no one better deserves the title. Her performance last evening was characterised with her usual vivacity and sprightliness, and she invested her songs with that charm and piquancy which are always present in her singing. A cordial reception was given to her selections, some of which were new to the Dublin public. Her latest success, *Singers, Past and Present*, was loudly applauded, especially her impersonation of the early Victorian lady in crinoline. The skit on the modern sketch, in which she was dressed half-man and half-woman fashion, was very clever. The prairie scene, introducing an Indian song and dance, was effectively done.

The holiday season has set in with some severity amongst the members of Mr. David Day's staff. Mr. Arthur Francis, the chief of the printing department, has been staying at Scarborough, for which well-known resort Mr. Henry E. Pether, the musical editor, departs to-day for a fortnight's sojourn. Mr. Day's representative at London halls has also departed for a like period to the place he wrote about in a song for Miss Marie Lloyd a year or two since, entitled "Folkestone for the Day."

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES.

The following letter has been addressed by Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., to the secretary of the International Artists' Lodge on the subject of the Dangerous Performances Bill:—

Home Office, Whitehall, July 25, 1906.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 23, written on behalf of the joint committees of the Variety Artists' Federation and the International Artists' Lodge, with reference to the Dangerous Performances Bill. The scope of this Bill, I venture to think, has been misconceived by those on whose behalf you write. It has not been the intention of the Government to ask Parliament to legislate against the ordinary acrobatic performances in which so many persons are engaged for the entertainment of the public and to their own profit. Nor would this be the effect of the measure. A discretion, indeed, is proposed to be left to the magistrates to determine, in the event of a prosecution taking place, whether a particular performance is dangerous or not.

To leave such a discretion is unavoidable, for it is impossible to define closely in the terms of an Act of Parliament, or to list in a schedule, those among the constantly changing performances offered to the public which the law should properly prohibit. But it must be remembered that no case can be brought into court unless the chief of police of the district authorises a prosecution, or unless an accident has actually occurred; and it is difficult to believe that chief constables and magistrates would combine to prosecute and to convict performers engaged in giving entertainments which involve little risk or none.

Two statutes have been in force for many years framed in precisely the same words as this Bill, except that their application is limited to girls under 18 years of age and boys under 16; no such results as are now apprehended have ever followed from their operation. It is clear, however, that this Bill has now taken in the House of Commons a controversial aspect. In view of the many measures of far wider importance to which the time of Parliament is pledged, the Government do not propose, therefore, to proceed with the Bill this year. You will no doubt agree that under these circumstances the deputation which you invite me to receive is no longer necessary.—Yours sincerely (signed) Herbert Samuel.

A demonstration against the Dangerous Performances Bill was made in Hyde Park on Sunday, when several hundred persons assembled in protest under the presidency of the Rev. Stewart Headlam.

"It would be dangerous," said Mr. Headlam, in the course of his introductory speech, "for Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Herbert Samuel to attempt a double somersault, but for these ladies it is not. They have been brought up to it. Puritanism is trying to get hold of Parliament and interfere with the pleasure of the public."

The following resolution was moved by Miss Gore Booth, secretary of the Women's Trade Council, and passed by acclamation:—"That this meeting protests against the so-called Dangerous Performances Bill. Facts prove that the performances in question are not dangerous, only two serious accidents having occurred to women in 7,800,000 performances. They, therefore, appeal to the Government not to abolish the gymnastic profession, as this Bill would undoubtedly do, in a moment of panic, and thus deprive thousands of their means of livelihood in a highly skilled profession."

Miss Booth complained that the Bill would place it in the power of any magistrate to say whether or not a performance was dangerous. He might be an estimable gentleman, but he was not a specialist on dangers, and could not possibly tell whether a performance was dangerous. It was to the interest of the performers to make it seem dangerous, because the public liked exciting spectacles, just as they liked to read sensational stories. Many more accidents happened to women in factories than befel acrobatic performers. All experience taught that there was no danger in their performances. It was, in fact, one of the safest callings in which they could engage. The only danger acrobatic performers were in was the danger of being thrown out of work through this Bill. It was "awfully wicked" to propose to take away from performers their "skilled, honest, and paying profession," and turn them loose on the world.

Miss King May seconded the resolution, and pointed out that the Bill was unjust because it legislated against women and children only, and left out men. It was so vague a Bill that she feared it might operate to check even the teaching of gymnastics.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As the figures of 10,000 in reference to the number of performers who would be directly affected by the passing of the proposed Dangerous Performances Bill have been challenged, I hope you will grant me space to explain how I arrived at these figures.

An inspection of the programmes of variety entertainments published in various music hall papers throughout the world giving the total number of men and women employed in what might be termed "dangerous performances" by police officers or a magistrate will show that this estimate of 10,000 is a very conservative one.

Truly, this 10,000 is not always in England. The programmes of the music halls are constantly changing, and therefore while perhaps only 2,000 of these people are in England at the present time, they are constantly being replaced by others of the 10,000, all of whom perform in England and leave again within the twelve months.

To thoroughly understand this it must be remembered that performers are a nation in themselves, whose field of work knows no earthly boundaries, and, above all, whose very breath of life is free trade. They go unhampered by class legislation to any country where they may be able to secure employment. This they have always looked on as their inalienable right, and up to now no Government has disputed this right. They are a class drawn from all nations and not less from the British than from other nations, but rather more. This is clearly proved by the fact that English is the predominant language among them.

If performers were to be deprived, as the Bill would deprive them, of this most important market, it would, especially at this present time, fall very hard on them. Just now Russia, which is usually a fairly good market, is closed. South Africa not yet having recovered from the recent war offers limited opportunity for employment; and California, which, while not very extensive, though important because of the high prices ruling there, cannot be reckoned on until the varieties destroyed by the recent catastrophe are rebuilt.

Should England pass this law restricting the number of acrobatic and gymnastic performances in England it would naturally cause many other countries, especially Germany, which follows a retaliatory policy, to raise a wall of legislation that would exclude the English contingent of performers from those countries.

This short-sighted legislation would make it a misdemeanour for a lady acrobat to perform in England, the land from which lady acrobats first sprang. This would not alone deprive women performers of their livelihood, but the men who perform with them as well. For such performances require years of practice to perfect, and even to substitute one person for another of the troupe requires many months. And these women who are turned out—what is to become of them? It is well known that performers, unaccustomed to commercial pursuits, are the most helpless class imaginable when thrown on the industrial market. This is apart from the injustice of depriving these women of the benefits they are entitled to derive from the years of patient study and practice in which they have been encouraged by the amusement-seeking public to undertake.

Besides this there would be the indirect effect of lessening the interest in the music halls by depriving them of the very items which add the greatest variety to the entertainment. This again would not have a beneficial effect on the twelve million pounds invested in them by the proprietors of such places of amusement.

The Home Office gives us no medical, statistical, or scientific reason for the Bill, and we have given them many reasons against it.

An inspection of the following figures will show that the Home Office seems to have been busying itself about one accident in a profession the proportion of whose accidents is indeed small, and to be neglecting an important class of accidents which occur on a wholesale scale. I might quote the fact that there were ten motor-'bus accidents in one day recently, and I might refer to the reports of the accidents in factories and workshops, which show 100,609 accidents in 1905, an increase of 8.2 on those of the previous year.

Fatal accidents to female performers within the last five years have amounted to one in 3,120,000 performances. Crippling accidents to the same number of performances within the last five years have amounted to one.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

C. C. BARTRAM, Secretary,
The International Artists' Lodge.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you allow me a small space in your valuable paper to express my opinion on the so-called Dangerous Performances Bill. As a performer of very long experience, brought up in the circus profession, I have travelled all countries, and during my years as rider, wire-walker, acrobat, &c., I have seen more danger here in Dublin this last few weeks and in England. There have been two tram accidents, and almost every day you will hear of accidents of some kind through bicycles, motor cars, &c., where you may not hear of one accident on the circus or music hall in five years. So, as a member of the profession, I just wish to point out there are more dangers in trams, railways, motor cars, workshops, than in gymnastic or acrobatic exhibitions which are governed by skill, grace, and fearlessness.—Yours respectfully, P. J. DURNEY
(Australian Rolling Globe Walker).

Dublin, July 23.

THE CAMBRIDGE.

At the Cambridge last week the leading feature of the programme was an exhibition of pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, remarkable all of them, both by reason of the variety of the subjects selected for illustration, and the clearness and steadiness of the films. Starting with a railway trip from Nice to Monte Carlo, the picturesque scenery through which the passengers are conveyed elicited warm admiration. To this succeeded a comical subject, "Those Boys Again." An elderly gentleman is the victim of a practical joke. Some mischievous lads, as the outcome of a conspiracy, slily pin a piece of paper on the back of the old man bearing the words: "My name is Brown. Please kick me and shake hands." The result is that the invitation to commit personal violence is accepted by various persons he encounters, and the poor old gentleman has a very bad time of it until somebody is good enough to remove the paper. "The Gaieties of Divorce" illustrated the domestic life of a quarrelsome couple, and the active interference of an exceedingly robust and mischief-making mother-in-law. The pair are reconciled, and the lady's mamma is muzzled! Curtain. "Spearmint winning the Grand Prix" was of special interest to those who follow racing events. "The Wolf Trap" which followed may be termed a serio-comic drama. A countryman sets a trap, but instead of the wolf, a gentleman on a shooting expedition with his little boy is captured. The lad runs for assistance, while his father in vain endeavours to free himself from the iron grip; but the naughty boy is tempted to indulge in leap-frog and other games, and the prisoner is at length liberated by the man who set the trap. He returns home and the thoughtless boy receives a severe castigation from his justly irate parent. "The Life of an American Policeman" reveals some tragic incidents, including a hot chase after a thief who uses his revolver with deadly effect, and is only taken prisoner after a desperate struggle in a cellar. A woman bent on suicide is also seen to throw herself into the river, and the plucky policeman dives in after her. With his assistance she is brought ashore and artificial means of respiration are tried, but unsuccessfully.

After an interval a second series of pictures was shown. "This Side Up" was of a humorous character, and in "The Hand of the Artist" some novel and interesting experiments in photography were exhibited with comical effect. "Snow Sports in Switzerland" illustrated very vividly the exhilarating amusements which are popular in that country, the sledge being largely used in these health-giving diversions. The tragic note was again struck in "A Life for a Life," a drama in which figure an impecunious working-man and his wife and child. The woman is lying dangerously ill, when men arrive to remove the furniture which is on the hire system, the payments being in arrears. The woman dies, and the widower proceeds to take a deadly revenge upon the man he regards as her murderer. Considerable interest centred in "Elephants at Work in a Burmese Teak Forest," a series of pictures which affords evidence of the remarkable intelligence, docility, and great strength of these useful animals. Graphic illustrations of incidents connected with the recent Coronation of the King and Queen of Norway brought the series to a conclusion.

The variety company engaged included the Sisters Dorrell (Jessie and Rose), duettists and speciality dancers, and the New Macs (MacNally and MacNally), whose patter, singing, and neat dancing won them the favour of the audience. The Five Casino Girls played selections on brass instruments and were applauded, and Mr. Andy Fagan, Irish comedian and dancer, had a good reception. The duties of manager at this hall are efficiently carried out by Mr. Thos. G. Richards.

THE HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your account of the memorial to the late Herbert Campbell at Abney Park, you refer to that cemetery as the last resting-place of many prominent professionals—Nelly Power, Walter Laburnum, and others. Allow me to add the name of my ever-lamented mother, Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin, to your list.—Yours faithfully,

CLARA CHIRGWIN.

St. Mary's Lodge, Albion-road, N., July 26.

THE "FRED LOCKE" FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow:—

Miss Frances Letty	£1 1 0
Samuel Gething, district-manager, Moss Empires, Ltd.	0 10 6
Harrigan and Holt	0 10 0
R. J. Best	0 5 0
Lachie Thomson	0 2 6
J. G. Paterson (178)	0 2 0

MR. C. RELF'S FAREWELL.

BENEFIT AT ROYAL ALBERT.

The accommodation at the Royal Albert Music Hall, Canning Town, was taxed to straining point on Thursday evening, when Mr. C. Relf, for the past twenty-eight years proprietor and manager of this establishment, took a farewell benefit. As already announced, Mr. Arthur Hunt takes possession of the Royal Albert almost immediately, and after to-night's performance the house will be closed for a couple of months for repairs, redecoration, and improvements generally. It is understood that Mr. Walter Leaver, who has wielded the bâton at Canning Town for twenty-seven years, and who has a record of forty-three years' chairmanship to his credit, also severs his association with the hall. On Thursday Mr. Leaver, Mr. Fred Baugh, and Mr. Bob Vam presided in turn, the stage being under the direction of Mr. J. W. Johnson and Mr. J. James, other well-known gentlemen present being Mr. Harry Lyons, Mr. Michael Abrahams, Mr. James McCarthy, Mr. Edgar Granville, Mr. Arthur Day, Mr. Jack Woolf, Mr. Sam Hart, Mr. Fred Durham, Mr. Jack Johnson, and Mr. Harry Kitson.

During an interval, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Relf, Mr. Walter Leaver, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hunt, and others appeared on the stage. Mr. Leaver, speaking under emotion, said that Saturday night would be the last time he would appear before them, and he took this opportunity of thanking them very much for past kindnesses. He then presented, on behalf of Mr. Snellin, a travelling bag to Mr. Relf and an umbrella from the staff and himself, and a gold-mounted purse for Mrs. Relf.

Mr. Charles Relf, replying, said I have to thank my old friend, Mr. Walter Leaver, for the presentation of this very nice kit-bag and umbrella. There is no man in this world I respect more than Mr. Snellin, from whom the bag comes as a present in commemoration of my farewell; and I am delighted with Mr. Leaver for his gift of an umbrella. It is not the value but the feeling. I have not got to kick off, and I shall kick off with my old lady (bringing Mrs. Relf forward). Me and my old dear have been kicking off and kicking on together for many years past. This being the very last time I shall have the opportunity of addressing you in my present position as proprietor of this establishment, and I have now for twenty-seven years had the pleasure of appearing before you, I thank you very sincerely for your support. I have to thank all those people who have interested themselves in giving me this very kind house, and I have also to thank all the artists who have so kindly come forward to assist. I may say that one particular person from whom I have received great kindness is Mr. Fred Baugh, and I wish to thank that gentleman for all he has done for me. Then I have to express my gratitude to all concerned in bringing about this nice entertainment for my benefit. Well, Saturday night will be the last opportunity I shall have of catering for you—and I have done my best. That is the change that will take place on Saturday night. But I am not going to say that I shall never see you again, because the thought of the old Royal Albert will always be foremost in my mind, and I shall come here as often as I can. I think it is only right as I am giving up the reins of government of this establishment that I should introduce to you your new proprietor and proprietress, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hunt. They are young people, and have got a good many years to work before they get to our age. They have all the energy that young people should require, and it will be their own fault if they do not increase the success of the hall. They will bring the place more up to date than I have done. I want you to give our newcomers all the support you can. I feel sure that Mr. Maddams, my landlord, whom I have known for over fifty years, will do his best for the incoming tenant.

Mr. Smith, of the Seamen's Hospital, stated that as that would be the last occasion on which he would be able to address Mr. Relf in public, he now desired to thank that gentleman for the great assistance he had given to the Seamen's Hospital. For the past fifteen years Mr. Relf had promoted an annual benefit, and the total amount realised by those performances was £2,400. Mr. Relf had also helped the Poplar Hospital for twenty-five years. He (the speaker) experienced a feeling of deep regret at the severance of Mr. Relf's association with the Royal Albert Music Hall.

Mr. Arthur Hunt, the new proprietor, said he felt that he could hardly find words adequate to express his thanks to Mr. Relf for his kindness in introducing him that night. In regard to charities, he would be only too pleased to do his best for the local hospitals or any other deserving cause. He concluded by asking three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Relf, and these were given vociferously, and followed by the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

The programme was, as may be imagined, one of great dimensions. Miss Lottie Lennox and Mr. Harry Ford were among the principal "extra turns" who had kindly proffered their services. Miss Lennox charmed the audience with her rendering of "The good old chorus song," and "Don't keep them waiting any longer." Mr. Fred Baugh brought his eldest daughter, who is practically blind, before the footlights, and she sang in pretty girlish tones "The dream of love" and "Last night." The artists who had been appearing in the ordinary way during the week, and who also, of course, took part in the benefit performance, were Will Hicks, eccentric comedian and dancer; Louie Hurman, burlesque artist; Jack Foley, eccentric comedian; George M. Marriott and company in sensational dramatic sketch, *Plotting Scoundrels;* the Gilbert Girls, in song, "How'd you like to spoon with us?"; Cribb and Cribb, comedians and patterers; Duncan and Brasque, in an episode, entitled *A Dressing-room Romance;* George Dare, the boy actor, in his impersonations; Hessey Soloists, flute and 'cello soloists, and piccolo duettists; Madge Morley and company, in comedietta, *After the Races;* and Walter Payne's Bio-photoscope. Other artists who had kindly consented to appear were—Vay's Juveniles, Dave O'Toole, Ada Parker, Will Johnson, Vera Mayne, Mabel Leroy, Lillie Lassah, Daisy Silcott, Jack Heath, A. Gaston, Birt Sharp, Reine Ring, Alf Tait, Two Jays, Sisters Melba, Ada Parker, Will Burton, Madiline Yohle, The Vivians, Lily Leaver, and Lottie Bell.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE has just closed a most successful engagement at the Derby Castle, Douglas. All her songs, especially "My Cosy Caravan," "Lucy Loo," and "Don't Cry, Little Girl," are being sung and whistled all over the island. Miss Hawthorne was to have appeared at the London Coliseum, July 30th, for eight weeks, but owing to its being closed she will remain in Douglas for a few days' holiday.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE'S latest success, "Old Calabar," by Harrington and Tate, which this charming singer is confident will in the course of time even out-rival her famous song, "Remember me to mother dear," in popularity, has this week been issued for pierrot use by the publishers, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, who are also supplying al fresco artists with a new vocal gem, "Waterfall," by Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford, an idyllic and tuneful number, which is predestined to become one of the greatest of this season's pantomime "hits," in the opinion of several prominent producers of Christmas "annuals."

FORESTERS'.

Dickens impersonations are invariably watched with keen interest by all classes of audiences. Folk in the East-End have a sort of affection for Fagin, Bill Sikes, Poor Jo, and Nancy, and this week the representations given by Miss Eva Hope and Mr. Jack Wayho are being attended with hearty appreciation. The scenes in which Miss Hope and Mr. Wayho appear are the murder of Nancy by Bill Sikes (*Oliver Twist*), the meeting of the Marchioness and Dick Swiveller (*The Old Curiosity Shop*), and the death of Poor Jo (*Bleak House*). Particularly pathetic is Miss Hope's portrayal of Jo, and during her acting in the death scene many of the audience were visibly affected. Mr. Wayho is vigorous, sturdy, and brutal as Sikes, and all the other characterisations presented by these artists are praiseworthy. Ellis and Watts are capable "swell comedians," who give evidence of versatility. A particularly pleasing effort of theirs is the song, "Boys who stand alone," and the chorus "Mary Green." Their artistic dancing and humorous patter are also to be commended. Miss Rose Stanley renders in agreeable fashion, "Rose of my heart"; and Hans and Lux excel as eccentric comedy entertainers. Miss Adeline Yohle is a vocalist of some ability, and is an agreeable interpreter of sentimental themes. She wins golden opinions with "Sing me to sleep" and "By the deep blue sea."

A lady with an attractive personality and high vocal attainments is Miss Mabel le Roy, to whose performances we have on previous occasions alluded in eulogistic terms. In everything she does she is graceful and refined, and she is to be congratulated upon a very delightful delivery of her latest numbers, "Keep on the sunny side" and "I've got no right to love you, but I do." In the former she is a pretty and engaging girl in a pink dress, while her second appearance is as a smart and debonnair boy in a green knickerbocker suit. Miss le Roy should certainly be heard of a good deal in the future. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden are "presenting" Mr. James Willard and company in the sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* the story of which is now pretty well known. Mr. Willard acts with remarkable naturalness in the part of the man; while Miss Lillie Hart treats us to an amusing picture of an Amazon in her rôle of the woman. The girl is pathetically portrayed by Miss Violet Carr, the boy amusingly by Mr. Willie Atom; and the champion mastiff "Tiger" fulfils the duties of his office in a thorough and convincing manner. Miss Jenny Belmore excels in the direction of male impersonations, and her vocal items, "The future" and "The Royal Family," find much favour with the house.

Messrs. Armadale and Warren have a thing that thrills in the playlet, *The Face at the Window.* Sensationalism is not lacking in the terrible doings of the murderer Delgado, a part played in best Charley Peace style by Mr. Lionel D'Arragon. Mr. T. E. Dunscombe as Gouffet, Mr. Alfred Warre as De Brisson, Mr. Allan Hineson as the mad doctor, Mr. Gilbert Hall as Lucien Cortier, and Miss Gwynne Warren as Marie, work hard in their respective rôles and to excellent effect. King Leo distinguishes himself in the ventriloquial line, his dummy's vocalisation of "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" being a notable feature of the turn. The business of the Rushworths comprises the singing of serious songs illustrated by coloured photograph slides. Thus, a lady with a contralto voice sings about "a true-hearted Irish lad," while the pictures show his adventures in a foreign country. "Heroes who have never been to war" is the subject which the Rushworths also deal with, and the various representations of life in this set are particularly attractive. The Rushworths, by the way, write and compose their own songs. The work of Raymond's Bio-Tableaux is seen to advantage in the cinematograph story, "Dolly's Doll." A little girl wishes to raise money for poverty-stricken parents by pawning her doll, and a sympathetic gentleman, hearing of her story, gives her five pounds.

A DISTINGUISHED Frenchman who has been for the last month staying in London, and visiting various places of amusement, regretted a few nights since that he could not see a sight he had heard so much of even in his own country, and that was the interior of Drury Lane Theatre on a boxing night. The journalist who had acted as the foreigner's guide, philosopher, and friend, though regretting his inability to oblige, offered to show his charge the nearest thing in London to what he wanted to see, and straightaway conveyed him to the second house at the Holborn Empire. Though the hottest night of the year, the beautiful house was packed to the very doors, and one of Mr. Gibbons's "stalwarts" perspiringly, but good humouredly, informed the twain that sufficient people to fill the house twice more again had had to go away disappointed. *Moses and Son* and Miss Daisy Dormer were in the bill.

MISS GWENNIE HASTO, who is paying her fourth visit to the Palace Theatre, took to the halls about twelve years ago, making her début at the Middlesex, and as the audience at once took to her, she has remained on the variety stage ever since. Given a pleasing voice, a talent for the style of dancing that is surprising, to say the least of it—Miss Hasto turns a cartwheel without turning a hair—a very pretty face, and no end of dainty frocks, it is no wonder that her turn is always welcome. Just now she is wearing a novel, highly successful combination of colours, for her chiffon and silk frock is composed of all shades of purple, from pale lilac to deep pansy, with touches of cerise ribbon and a cerise butterfly in her hair.

SHE is a Yorkshire girl, and was carried across the stage of the Theatre Royal, Scarborough, as a baby, and although she has no recollection of this "thinking" part, the incidents of her next engagement, while she was still a tiny child, live in her memory as freshly as her first visit to London, when she played at the old Opera Comique in Mr. John Donald's company. Miss Hasto can almost be said to have created a new part in the old pantomime of *Cinderella*, having played the Princess for the last four years. Next Christmas she goes to Edinburgh, and will be seen the following year at a West-end theatre. Her many tours include a trip to the Continent—to be repeated shortly—and a visit to South Africa, where she had a benefit in Johannesburg, in 1899, on the eve of the declaration of war. Miss Hasto is entirely self-taught, plays the piano and banjo, and is one of the dancers who believes in dancing in long skirts. She is always accompanied by her mother, who designs and makes all her stage dresses.

SOME provincials were lately outside the Tivoli looking at the glass case containing the diminutive fish caught by Harry Tate, which is always on view when *Fishing* is being played, when a bystander furnished the party with some interesting particulars of the capture. He assured them that Mr. Tate caught the fish at Dundalk whilst angling with Josef Collins, the song-writer; that it weighed at the time, 16lb. 4oz.; and was sent to London to be "set up"; but the borax preservative in which it should have been packed was missing, and alum was substituted by accident, causing the fish to shrink to its present smallness. The truth of the statement, the informant averred, was vouched for by such well-known fishermen as Gus Elen, Ernest Strand, and Wal Pink. The listeners looked after the teller of this veracious story with respectful admiration as he departed in the direction of Messrs. Francis, Day, & Hunter's establishment.

FUNERAL OF MARIE WALFORD.

(Mystic Marie.)

The funeral of Miss Marie Walford, sister of Dr. Walford Bodie, took place on Monday last from the Manor, Macduff, to the Macduff Churchyard. There was a very large attendance of friends and relatives, and amongst those who came to pay a last token of respect to the deceased lady were the ex-Provost George, Provost West, and the Magistrates and Town Council of Macduff. The funeral service, which was most impressive, was conducted by the Rev. J. G. Duncan. The coffin of polished oak, with heavy brass mountings, bore the following inscription:—"Miss Marie Henry Walford (Mystic Marie), died July 19th, 1906, aged 21 years." The chief mourners were:—Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie, Councillor and Mrs. Saunders (Insch), Miss Bella Henry Skene, Misses Annie, Katie, and Louie, Mr. David and Mr. William Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Mills, Albert and Sam Walford Bodie, Miss Jeannie Bodie, and Master Edward Henry, jun., Lordon. Beautiful wreaths were sent by many friends, including Colonel and Mrs. J. J. George, Lieutenant Crossley Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. David Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Mills, Bella Skene, Misses Annie, Louie, and Katie, sisters of the deceased; Master Albert and Sam Walford Bodie, Mr. William Henry, Miss Jeannie Bodie, Master Edward Henry, Mrs. Dixon (Banff), Mrs. Hoffman and Family, Mr. and Mrs. Robson, Mr. Henry J. Sims, Mr. Douglas Bodie, Mr. Charles McPherson, Miss Hana Milne, Miss Maggie Milne, Miss Tina Manors, the Misses Hunter, Councillor and Mrs. Saunders, the Doctor's Boys, the Doctor's Staff, Diamond and Beatrice, Mr. and Mrs. Carson (Bandoni), Master Jack Ross, Miss Beby Mackay, Miss Annie Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Murphy, Mr. John Laird, &c., &c.; also a beautiful wreath from Mrs. Bodie, with a card attached, on which were the touching words:—

"To my Darling Sister Marie,
from her broken-hearted Sister Jean.
Oh, teach us from our hearts to say,
Thy will be done."

A beautiful wreath, representing a lyre with a broken string, came from Dr. Walford Bodie, bearing the following:—"To my dearly-beloved sister Marie, from her grief-stricken brother, Walford Bodie."

"The curtain has rung down,
You have answered your last call;
Your next appearance shall be in Heaven,
Where you hope to meet us all."

"You were too good for this world."

The funeral was one of the largest ever seen in Macduff, and out of respect for the deceased all

MISS MARIE WALFORD.

along the route to the cemetery the shops were closed and the blinds of the houses drawn. Miss Walford, who was better known as "Mystic Marie," the real Trilby, was assistant and medium to Dr. Walford Bodie, her first appearance as Mystic Marie in London being at the Britannia Theatre. The deceased young lady was very popular with music hall audiences in all parts of the country, and her death will be regretted by thousands who have witnessed her clever performances. Miss Marie went on the stage at a very early age, and when only 15 years old she led Dr. Bodie's orchestra at the large Free Trade Hall, Manchester, the great Ulster Hall, Belfast, and appeared in this capacity with great success at several of the large cities in England. Her most popular performances were in "Mental Telepathy," in which she displayed wonderful powers. She was a gifted painter and musician, and had written several clever pieces. At the Olympia, Newcastle, the Sheriff of Newcastle presented her with a beautiful gold pendant, suitably inscribed, and in making the presentation the Sheriff said it was one of the most pleasing duties he had to perform since he came into office, so delighted was he with her demonstration of mental telepathy. Dr. Bodie has devoted a long and interesting chapter in his latest work, "The Bodie Book," on the wonders of Miss Marie's extraordinary gifts. She was under contract for a tour of the United States with the Doctor at the time of her death.

THE Spanish Goldinis, in their carpet spinning, juggling, and balancing act, with electric dance, &c., have had a most successful week at the Empire, Glasgow, the inhabitants of St. Mungo appreciating the decided novelty, which is presented in a gorgeous nickel electrically illuminated stage set.

MR. LEON A. BASSETT, the talented leader of the orchestra at the Camberwell Palace, has just returned from a holiday trip greatly invigorated. He brought back with him, as a present for his brother William, half a dozen silk ties of a hue and design which are best described as original.

MR. JOHN JACKSON, whose tragedy, *The Bielostock Massacre*, has just been produced at the Pavilion Theatre, is well known as an author of popular sketches on the variety stage, among the most successful of them being *The Worst Man in London, The Adventuress, Judgment, Sally's Birthday,* and *A Great Blunder.*

MR. TOM FANCOURT and MISS JENNIE RUBIE will, for the first time in London, appear in a novel entertainment, *Nursery Pets,* at the Hammersmith Palace, commencing on Monday next. Special scenery and electric effects have been prepared for this production.

MISS ALMA OBREY and Mr. Bob Baxter are enjoying a holiday at Brussels with their friends, the Leslie Brothers, who highly appreciate their engagement at the Palais d'Eté, where they have only one performance nightly and no matinées.

THE ACTOR'S ART.

With all its extravagances, Mr. John Davidson's drama, *The Theatrocrat,* is one of the most remarkable works of the day; and it is the only attempt which we remember to poetise instead of caricaturing the art of acting. The book may not perhaps come under the notice of many of our readers, and we need not apologise for the following extracts. The scene of the first act is the study of Sir Tristram Sumner, a great London manager. To him enters his wife, Lady Sumner, an actress. They are on the verge of bankruptcy, and only the success of a grand revival of *Troilus and Cressida* can save them. They converse:—

Sir T.: Martha! You've come to trouble me; your eyes
Are lustreless and evil. Will it end
At all? Will you give over urging death?
Lady S.: A visitor.
Sir T.: Who is it?
Lady S.: Warwick Groom.
Sir T.: Impossible: at any time impossible.
I hate him, Martha.
Lady S.: Hate? Hate Warwick Groom!
I thought you hated no one.
Sir T.: So did I!
But him I hate; because he was my friend.
Lady S.: And would be still.
Sir T.: Therefore I hate him more!
But that's not true: hate fathoms hate, and answers
Index-like, the searching current of its thought,
Down through the earth, or round it in the nerveless
Air. Deep he hates me; by my hate I know.
I tell you, Martha, were Warwick Groom and I
Alone together for an hour, the death
Of either or of both would testify
Our rooted rancour.
Lady S.: I cannot understand!
True, he is wild, this Warwick Groom of ours,
And doors are shut against him; but a braver
Artist starves not anywhere.
Sir T.: Starves? Let him starve.
Lady S.: This is so new, so sudden, Tristram!
Sir T.: No;
Nothing is sudden that the heart brings forth.
The mushroom spawn of passing loves and hates
By thunder-showers and puddles quickly bred,
To rot as quickly, in sequestered nooks,
Or by the trodden highways, are nothing—nothing
But rashes on the skin.
. . . . . .
Had fortune not divided us I know
Both had gone mad. He hates the thought of me,
As I the thought of him—the natural end
Of every intimacy pushed outside
The limit. . . . . .
This is a righteous hate in him and me.
Lady S.: It desolates my heart to think it true!
What shall I say to him?
Sir T.: Give him some food,
Some drink, some money.
Lady S.: But he comes with news!
Oh, I forgot; you moved me so! Your Troilus,
It seems, is ill.
Sir T.: Ah; so. He looked consumptive.
The under-study is letter-perfect.
Lady S.: Yes;
But think: the first of such a play—so harsh,
So questionable.
Sir T.: Interest follows Troilus:
This is a blow; but not a deadly one.
Lady S.: And fortune's blows may prove caresses. Warwick
Can play the part.
Sir T.: Groom? In my theatre? Martha!
Lady S.: I once had leave to counsel you, though now
You shun me, Tristram——
Sir T.: Martha!
Lady S.: Yes, you do;
And take the mind of everyone but me.
Tristram, you know my heart. Is it unclean
Like Warwick Groom's? You loved me once: has love
Fermented, like your friendship, into hate?
. . . . . .
There's terror in your mind: terror for me,
And terror for yourself!—But this is vain.—
I think that help has come: I yet may live.
The play, the play! No question, Warwick Groom
Is Troilus to the accent. Have you lost
Your love of art along with other loves?
Sir T.: Martha!
Lady S.: Forgive me that.—Europa Troop:
It's not for love, the world and I know well,
You tossed her Cressida. The wanton salt
Of her, so loathsome to a passionate mind,
Is admirable here; and art demands
This sacrifice besides, since it may be—
That you should give the hated Warwick Groom
A part predicting him, so like a glove
It fits him.
Sir T.: Let me think; and you—think you:
Will *Troilus and Cressida* succeed?
Lady S.: I think it will; if you salute what chance
Provides, a perfect Troilus.
. . . . . .
(Finally, Groom is engaged to play the part.)
Sir T.: You have brought
Mercy to us, boy—a Troilus unmatched
From swift Scamander to the lordly Thames.
Groom: Then am I happy. Tristram, Martha, years
How many have I wasted; ten, a dozen,
Despairing up and down the railways, caught
And imprisoned, like some adventurer
Forlorn, in dreary tunnels, stations, inns,
Provincial companies and theatres,
The dismallest labyrinth where every step
Stumbles at skeletons of dead ambitions
And dying reputations; as close to London
As the suburbs are; further away, that is,
Than hell from heaven, and bitterer than hell.
Be hung upon the fringe of paradise,
Stewing in brimstone with the spicy scent
Of asphodel to lave the sulphurous air,
And envy Tantalus his pleasant lines
For ever and a day!
Sir T.: You keep your zest
Of talk, your thunder and lightning.
Groom: Let me talk——
A minute! It's a dozen lifetimes since
We met. The luck of some! the luck! Old gag,
The luck! It seems but yesterday that I
Beheld the Parthenon, one towering wave
Of wild delight from stalls to gallery, break
At my feet, the vanguard of a tide
Of triumph, governed by the moon of hearts,
The world's applause, that should have borne me on
To the trade winds and harbours of success.
One season—only one in London town!
Two failures after, and with finer parts
Than that that seemed to place me, cast me out
Provincial and suburban derelict.
Nightly to play upon the blood and brain
Of London!—Tristram! Martha!—On the best,
Most beautiful and bravest folk on earth!—
Ah, let them sneer that fail! I never fail
Although I seem to, for I love the world,
And all that's in it, and what's best I love
The best!—To play on London's sense and heart
With passion and emotion, tears, and flame,
Laughter and anguish, terror, splendour, might—
As you do, Tristram, and as I could do:
Is there vocation, mission, martyrdom
That equals it? Oh, every night to act
A part of power, and feel a thousand hearts
Beat stroke for stroke with yours, in heaven, in hell,
In London—nowhere else!—in London town,
The core of the world: ten years of that—three—one,
Then any death in rags and hospitals,
Garrets and dens and drunkenness, disgraced,
Forgotten, but my inmost will achieved!

CRICKET.

MOSES AND SON CO. V. NOTTINGHAM GUARDIAN OFFICE.

Played on the Notts Forest Ground on July 5th.

Guardian Office.—First Innings.—W. England, c Powell, b Buxton, 1; H. Best, c Myers, b Buxton, 3; H. Green, b Gordon, 0; T. Barthes, b Gordon, 0; R. Wells, b Gordon, 0; S. Wood, c O. Rourke, b Buxton, 6; V. Broadburn, b Gordon, 1; C. Brown, b Gordon, 1; B. Watson, b Buxton, 3; Hemingway, not out, 5; F. Hawkins, run out, 5; extras, 10; total, 35. Second Innings.—W. England, b Buxton, 7; H. Best, not out, 0; H. Green, c Gordon, b Buxton, 9; T. Barthes, c Myers, b Buxton, 7; R. Wells, b Gordon, 0; S. Wood, b Gordon, 8; V. Broadburn, b Gordon, 5; C. Brown, b Buxton, 1; B. Watson, b Buxton, 3; Hemingway, b Buxton, 0; F. Hawkins, run out, 6; extras, 7; total, 53.

Moses and Son—T. Buxton, c Broadburn, b England, 7; D. Powell, c Broadburn, b England, 1; J. Helm, b England, 2; R. Gordon, not out, 57; E. Carl, c Broadburn, b Best, 7; N. Lewis, c Broadburn, b England, 0; P. Sinclair, c Hemingway, b England, 6; J. Hart, b Best 1; D. Birne, b Hemingway, 4; T. O'Rourke, c and b Best, 0; H. Myers, c and b Hemingway, 0; extras, 17; total, 102.

MOSES AND SON CO. V. SOUTHERN DIVISION CONSERVATIVE CLUB.

Played on the Notts Meadows Ground, July 6th.

S.D.C.C.—E. Gee, b Gordon, 8; J. Dean, lbw Buxton, 1; F. T. Kiddier, b Gordon, 0; T. Prescott, b Buxton, 15; F. Clarke, b Buxton, 0; E. W. Baker, b Gordon, 11; A. T. Atkin, c and b Buxton, 8; P. A. Goudie, not out, 1; P. Hoyles, c Helm, b Gordon, 3; B. Plummer, c Buxton, b Gordon, 0; A. Barsby, c Buxton, b Gordon, 0; extras, 3; total, 50.

Moses and Son.—E. Carl, run out, 1; T. Buxton, b Kiddier, 16; A. Gordon, not out, 46; J. Helm, run out, 1; N. Lewis, run out, 3; F. Kitchen, c Prescott, b Gee, 0; D. Birne, c and b Kiddier, 0; P. Sinclair, c Goudie, b Kiddier, 0; F. O'Rourke, b Gee, 7; J. Hart, c Clarke, b Dean, 4; F. Lester, c and b Dean, 2; extras, 1; total, 80.

LIKE other parts of the country, Liverpool has felt the effects of a bad year in both theatrical and variety business, for at the present time it has more places of amusement with closed doors than was ever known before. Further evidence of the state of trade is shown by the fact that no less than four music halls are getting through the summer season by means of the bioscope. These are the Westminster, Haymarket, Parthenon, and Park Palace, at each of which only two or three variety turns are given in addition to the moving pictures. What the coming season will bring forth it is difficult to imagine, for several projects and changes that are in the air will, very probably, make the struggle keener than hitherto.

MR. FRED WILLMOT, who, among other enterprises in Liverpool, has successfully conducted the Haymarket, publicly announces that he is unable to obtain a renewal of his lease, which expires in a few weeks. Accordingly, on Bank Holiday, he will transfer his interests to the Roscommon (formerly the King's), in Roscommon-street, which is within a stone's throw of the house he is relinquishing. He has taken it upon a long lease, and should do well, although the place has been untenanted for some time. To what uses the Haymarket will be put is not yet known.

ANOTHER new venture will be the opening, some time in August, of the Paddington Palace (now closed for alterations and decorations), by Mr. M. Montgomery, jun., of the Rotunda Theatre. That gentleman intends to abandon the variety style, and have a two-hours' dramatic sketch on lines now followed at the Royal, in Breck-road, where much success has resulted since the altered style of entertainment several years ago. Mr. Montgomery will, in future, work these stock companies in conjunction with Belfast, Glasgow, &c.

THEN again, the conversion of the Empire (Moss' Empires, Ltd.) into a two-shows per night will take place on Bank Holiday. When application was made for a change in the licence, the reason given for throwing over the one performance each evening was that the proprietors "had to move with the times." Already a number of men are engaged in cleaning the front of the theatre, while spacious waiting-rooms adjoining have been constructed out of some old buildings owned by the company, owing to the magisterial intimation that people would not be allowed to loiter on the footpath waiting for the second performance. These rooms will accommodate about 700 persons. Another condition attached to the change is that the excise licence must be given up.

MEANWHILE the new Tivoli, erected on the site of St. James's Hall, in Lime-street, is rapidly nearing completion, and will be opened about the last week in September. This venture is owned by The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd., of which Mr. Walter De Frece is managing-director. The Tivoli ought to bring joy to the hearts of the promoters. Situated in perhaps the principal "Bohemian" quarter of Liverpool, it is the nearest place of amusement to the south and south-east ends of the city, where there is a population of perhaps 200,000, uncatered for in their own neighbourhood. The electric tramcars feeding these vast areas pass the Tivoli door, while just around the corner is the Midland railway, which runs through the south-end, and is connected with the opposite side of the river by means of the Mersey tunnel.

OTHER schemes are also spoken of, and altogether the city on the Mersey will shortly be well provided with places of amusement. In the opinion of some managers, the number will be in excess of the demand. This should not happen if good catering is provided, for Liverpool has nearly three-quarters of a million inhabitants, without reckoning Bootle, along with Birkenhead, New Brighton, and other places across the short reach of water that separates her from the Cheshire shore.

MR. T. E. DUNVILLE, who appears at the Hackney Empire next week, is a Midland man. He was born at Coventry, went to the local bluecoat school, and subsequently became a clerk in an office in the city of cycles. The desire for the stage was, however, very strong within him, and he and another kindred spirit eventually joined a travelling pantomime, at the salary, as he says, of "£1 a week and clean the pony." Next he entered a comic opera company, and in 1889 made his first appearance on the halls, giving an "extra turn" at Bolton. He sang seven songs without leaving the stage, and promptly found himself booked ahead for six months. Now his bookings extend until goodness knows when.

OLYMPIA has just been leased by a syndicate of British and American showmen for the production at Christmas of a great international fair and carnival, the principal features of which will be an old English fair, French festivals, and a miniature reproduction of the pleasure-grounds of Coney Island. For twelve solid hours the visitor will be permitted to enjoy every kind of amusement, from a Christmas pantomime to the novel spectacle of San Francisco in its early mining days and before and after the recent earthquake.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR AUGUST.

ENGLAND.

Aug. 1. Boston.
Aug. 1. Burnham.
Aug. 2. Dartford.
Aug. 2. Kingston - on - Thames.
Aug. 2. Ludford.
Aug. 3. Castleacre.
Aug. 3. Hanley.
Aug. 4. Baslow.
Aug. 4. Calow.
Aug. 4. Calver.
Aug. 4. Curbar.
Aug. 4. Froggatt.
Aug. 4. Greenhill.
Aug. 4. Heywood.
Aug. 4. Marple.
Aug. 4. Milnsbridge.
Aug. 4. Milnrow.
Aug. 4. Redditch.
Aug. 4. Royton.
Aug. 4. Swadlincote
Aug. 4. Whitefield.
Aug. 4. Wombwell Fair.
Aug. 6. Accrington.
Aug. 6. Ricester.
Aug. 6. Bilston.
Aug. 6. Birkenhead.
Aug. 6. Blackheath.
Aug. 6. Brigg.
Aug. 6. Calvericy Feast
Aug. 6. Cheltenham.
Aug. 6. Chertsey.
Aug. 6. Clevedon.
Aug. 6. Doncaster.
Aug. 6. Evesham
Aug. 6. Fleetwood.
Aug. 6. Hampstead Heath.
Aug 6. Haslingden.
Aug. 6. Hunslet Feast.
Aug. 6. Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Aug. 6. Kenilworth.
Aug. 6. Malvern.
Aug. 6. Manningham Feast.
Aug. 6. Morecambe.
Aug. 6. New Brighton.
Aug. 6. Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Aug. 6. Northampton.
Aug. 6. Northwich
Aug. 6. Otley Feast.
Aug. 6. Reigate.
Aug. 6. Richmond (Surrey).
Aug. 6. Ripon.
Aug. 6. Rodley Feast.
Aug. 6. Rushden.
Aug. 6. Salford (Trinity Market).
Aug. 6. Seaham Harbour
Aug. 6. Southport.
Aug. 6. South Shields.
Aug. 6. Stafford.
Aug. 6. Stanningley Feast.
Aug. 6. Tanhill.
Aug. 6. Taunton.
Aug. 6. Tewkesbury.
Aug. 6. Thornaby.
Aug. 6. Tunbridge Wells.
Aug. 6. Wanstead Flats.
Aug. 6. Wormwood Scrubs.
Aug. 6. Wyke Feast.
Aug. 7. Stoke-on-Trent.
Aug. 8. Astwood Bank.
Aug. 8. Crabb's Cross.
Aug. 8. Lindfield.
Aug. 9. Brighouse Feast.
Aug. 9. Padiham.
Aug. 9. Portsmouth
Aug. 9. Ryde (I. of W.)
Aug. 10. Cowes.
Aug. 10. Denholm.
Aug. 11. Barlow.
Aug. 11. Bolsover.
Aug. 11. Cheetham Hill.
Aug. 11. Clay Cross.
Aug. 11. Cowhill Wakes.
Aug. 11. Culthorpe.
Aug. 11. Denton.
Aug. 11. Earlestown.
Aug. 11. Hazel Grove.
Aug. 11. Hyde Wakes.
Aug. 11. Littleboro'.
Aug. 11. Mitcham.
Aug. 11. Sowerby Bridge.
Aug. 11. Stockport.
Aug. 11. Haxel or Whalley Bridge.
Aug. 11. Wessington.
Aug. 11. Whitewell.
Aug. 11. Williamsthorpe.
Aug. 11. York Fair.
Aug. 12. Bowling Feast.
Aug. 12. Drypool (Hull).
Aug. 12. Eccleshill Feast.
Aug. 12. Highworth.
Aug. 12. Horncastle.
Aug. 12. Kirkstall Feast.
Aug. 12. Lowmoor Feast.
Aug. 12. Rawdon Feast.
Aug. 12. Silsden Feast.
Aug. 15. Lelant.
Aug. 16. Gildersome Feast.
Aug. 16. Queensberry Feast.
Aug. 18. Ashbourne.
Aug. 18. Ashton - under Lyne.
Aug. 18. Barnsley Feast.
Aug. 18. Droylesden.
Aug. 18. Middleton.
Aug. 18. Mottram.
Aug. 18. Newton Heath.
Aug. 18. Rochdale.
Aug. 18. Shaw.
Aug. 20. Guiseley Feast.
Aug. 20. Horsforth Feast.
Aug. 20. Morley Feast.
Aug. 20. Yeadon Feast.
Aug. 21. Appleby.
Aug. 21. Ashford (Kent).
Aug. 21. Great Harwood.
Aug. 21. Hartlepool.
Aug. 21. Stonehouse.
Aug. 22. Birstall Feast.
Aug. 22. Bracknell.
Aug. 22. Crediton.
Aug. 22. Ipswich.
Aug. 23. Skipton Fair.
Aug. 24. First Lee Fair.
Aug. 24. Skegness.
Aug. 24. St. John's Chapel.
Aug. 25. Bakewell.
Aug. 25. Darlaston.
Aug. 25. Darley.
Aug. 25. Eccles.
Aug. 25. Eyam.
Aug. 25. Hinckley.
Aug. 25. Hooley Hill.
Aug. 25. Irlams-o'-th'-Height.
Aug. 25. Long Eaton.
Aug. 25. Oldham.
Aug. 25. Poynton.
Aug. 25. Prestwich.
Aug. 25. Saddleworth.
Aug 25. Shaftesbury.
Aug. 25. Strood.
Aug. 25. West Houghton.
Aug. 25. Whittington.
Aug. 27. Beeston Feast.
Aug. 27. Bingley Feast.
Aug. 27. Pudsey Feast.
Aug. 27. Romsey.
Aug. 27. Watchet.
Aug. 28. Bradford-on-Avon.
Aug. 29. Ilminster.
Aug. 30. Clockheaton Feast.

SCOTLAND.

Aug. 2. Kirkcaldy.
Aug. 4. Kelso.
Aug. 6. Alyth.
Aug. 8. Alloa.
Aug. 9. Paisley.
Aug. 11. Hawick.
Aug. 15. Irvine.

WALES.

Aug. 4. Cardiff.
Aug. 6. Merthyr Tydfil
Aug. 6. Mold.
Aug. 6. Newport (Mon.).
Aug. 7. Swansea.
Aug. 16. Malpas.

THE Dundee holidays at Carnoustie opened on Saturday, when the carnival was crowded with spectators. Good business was done by Geo. White's capital aggregation of attractions, including the electric motor-cars, No. 1 star cinematograph, and variety pavilion. The descriptive lecturer is Dr. Oliver, the illusionist. The varieties this week include the Freemans (Cissy and Charles), Will Weaver, Fanny Newsome, Ted Lewis, and Minnie Leslie. Mlle. Jeanetta and Mme. Herculine do well with their athletic company and other novelties. The Graceo-Roman wrestling by the above ladies is a clever act.

FAULKNER'S cinematograph, steam swings, and other attractions are located for the Dundee holidays at the Green Market, Dundee, where good business is always done.

GEORGE WHITE'S tunnel railway and various side attractions have opened at Fraserborough.

JAMES WHITE'S gondolas and George White's No. 2 cinematograph are still at Wick, doing fair business.

MR. AND MRS. PAYNE'S white coon entertainers are doing fine business on the Links at Carnoustie. The company is a good all-round one. The above clever couple also are doing good business at Broughty Ferry with another company.

MR. JACOB STUDT'S first visit to Evesham was a great success. Thousands took delight in Mr. Studt's real electric motor-cars and bioscope exhibition, Matthew's juvenile motors, Freeman's bowling saloon, and other attractions.

AT Badsey, Evesham, were Mr. T. Scott, with his new steam set of galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, and others.

HONEYBOURNE FEAST, near Evesham, was maintained by Mr. H. Ayer's steam roundabouts, horses, and cockerels, combined park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, &c., and Turner's ringboards and varieties.

AT Bishampton Feast, Pershore, were Herbert's roundabouts, swing boats, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, stalls, &c.

AT the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, are Collins and Son, with their grand cinematograph exhibition and variety company. Redditch Fair will be held on the Recreation Ground, Saturday, Aug. 4, to Wednesday, the 8th.

MESSRS. TURNBULL AND TOFT'S hobby-horses meet all the outside requirements at Limerick, gentle and simple partaking of their evening "spin." The shooting saloon and swing boats and other side-shows are greatly patronised, and Calverto's aerial railway and "helter-skelter" are two novel forms of amusement which are well appreciated.

WHAT a splendid site for a fair the "Jews' Meadow" really is, for numerous as the shows and other novelties were, there was ample room to fully set out and display them. Biddall Brothers' grand cinematograph and theatre of varieties occupied the premier position. Ridley's celebrated circus, and Professor B. T. Burnett's battery, military tournament, and sword and lance experts were admirable in their individual lines. The smaller booths and shows included Knighton's fine art academy, Wilson's picture gallery, Elliott's school of boxers, and Professor Gillem's fistiana saloon.

WE hear that the redoubtable Mr. Thunder, of Horsham, did indeed keep his word, and sought an injunction to restrain the showman lessee of the fair from holding the annual pleasure fair. He sought to stop the fair, but the judge refused without further hearing, on a day fixed for this week, a week after the fair. The fair has been held without let or hindrance. The High Court refused to grant the terrors of the law in addition to the thunder at the gates of the fair. Never has there been a better or bigger fair than the present one, and Mr. Thunder's fulminations have only served to rouse the good people to defend their ancient fair rights and privileges. Again has the old truth been justified, "Threatened institutions die hard." Horsham fair is secured in the heart of the people, and when the newcomer has become really acquainted with his neighbours and fellow-townsmen he will moderate his views and try and understand the wants of others. Why should a whole town and district be deprived of its necessary relaxation and amusement because of the hyper-sensitive views of one man?

QUITE a notable machine list included Hastings and Whayman's gorgeous gondolas, "Venice at the Fair," Wilson's motor-car track, Baker's steam yachts, and park swings and highfliers by Andrews and Mayne.

THE excellent shooting concerns were those of Hastings and Whayman, Andrews, Gillem, and Davies. All the fun of the fair—coker shies, throwing, and other games—were provided by Messrs. Knighton, Freeman, Davies, Andrews, and others.

BURNLEY, a thriving cotton manufacturing town, begins its annual holiday at the fair. Despite the fact that tens of thousands of its busy workers go to the seaside, there always remain vast crowds of people to throng the well-ordered fair-ground.

THE capable and courteous market superintendent, Mr. J. K. Gaukrodger, set the concerns in excellent array. These were Captain Tom Payne, with up-to-date Bioscope and varieties; Prof. Alf Haydon, second-sight marvels and temple of magic; Prof. Wm. Gibson, with spiritualistic séance, exposé, and occult mysticism; Ling's fine art gallery, and Shaw's similar show. There were two sets of motor-cars by Messrs. P. Collins and Peter Makins; steam horses and Japanese junks by John Collins, Wm. Mitchell, jun., and Mrs. Holden; steam yachts and swings by Messrs. Wm. Mitchell, sen., Walter Shaw, and Mrs. Holden; and manual swings by John Sharpe. Amongst the minor novelties were Winchester ranges and rifle saloons by Messrs. Sharpe, Burrows, Williams, Starkie, Humphries, Mrs. Jewell, and Mrs. John Cornwell; throwing games, ring and dart boards, and variety stalls by Messrs. Forshaw, Jennings, Shorrocks, Taylor, T. Forshaw, Ingham, Wright, W. Ingham, Cottam, and Street.

STIRCHLEY, near Birmingham, has for its attractions Clarke's motor-cars, park swings, shooting saloons, etc., Chipperfield's cinematograph exhibition, Wilson's shooting saloons, and Chipperfield and Taylor's varieties.

FRED M. BARBER'S auction pavilion is at Ten Acres, near Birmingham.

MR. SAMUEL SHEPHERD'S galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, etc., were at Selly Oak.

AT Blairgowrie fair, held on the Wellmeadow this week, are Wilmot's grand racing motor-cars, Biddall's ghost illusion, Leo's cinematograph exhibition, Chapman's performing birds and hares, Gould's Egyptian mystery, "The Flying Lady." Moore's assault-at-arms, Biddall's novelty exhibition, shooting saloons, park swings, cokernut sheets, and other attractions.

HOLLINWOOD is one of the rapidly growing villages between Manchester and Oldham. Time was, and that, too, not many years ago, when it was quite a country pilgrimage to reach Hollinwood from Manchester. Now, with the tremendous growth of engineering works and spinning mills on the main road to Oldham, and the necessary settlement of the workers, it is one long town between the Borough of Oldham and the City of Manchester. In the making of this industrial boulevard between the two towns a number of villages have been swallowed up. Miles Platting, Failsworth, and Hollinwood are the most notable examples. Over one hundred thousand people live along this busy Manchester and Oldham thoroughfare. Hollinwood Wake is the first of local fairs along this line of life.

A MUCH larger fair-ground than previous years, and on a better site, attracted a bigger crowd of shows and showmen, and in fact a record wake has been the result, crowds of people coming to the wakes from Oldham and the adjacent towns within rail or road access. President George H. Kemp, with his Anglo-American combine, the Coliseum of Varieties and Animated Photography, was the centre of attraction, and drew enormous audiences. Mr. John Mander's waxworks and cinematograph, George Proctor's London circus, Dyer's theatre of varieties, White's dime museum, and Ling's two ground booths, the fine art gallery and the distorting mirrors, contributed their own special charm and novelty to the fair.

IN the centre of the vast fair-ground were eight first-class roundabout concerns; the lessees (Messrs. John Whiting and Wm. Mitchell) with a set each; Whiting's new Japanese motor-cars, and Mitchell's shops in the air; John Collins with two machines, whirling the whirl (the great draw of the wakes) and the motor-car track; Hibbert and Sons with farmyard roosters; Geoghegan with steam horses and motor-cars; Richards with steam yachts; Lieske with big wheel, and Mrs. John Whiting with juvenile horses and motor-cars. The shooting ranges and rifle saloons were by Humphries, Delaney, Jewell and Henshaw; photo booth by Gunthorpe; refreshment booths by Bowser and Butterworth; ice cream stalls by Passagno and Pannum; stalls by Newall and Mulhearne. Amongst the attendant throng of caterers with variety stalls, doll, dart, and ring frames, cokers, and throwing games were Messrs. Whatmore, Richmond, Harrington, Mills, C. Horton, Black, J. Harrington, Blenkhorn, White, E. Horton, and others.

FROM Hollinwood the crowd of concerns divide, and one part takes Longsight, and the other goes to Hillrirk-street, Beswick, Manchester. Kemp's magnificent show remains at Hollingwood for private business all this week and Monday next, when it removes to Accrington for the fair. Wm. Mitchell takes a short season on Tommyfield with his yachts this week-end, and J. H. Geoghegan goes to Royton.

AMONGST the principal shows at Stalybridge wakes were Colonel Wm. Clark's Coliseum, Captain Tom Payne's Bioscope, Haydon's second-sight show, John Collins's twin ships in the air and four-a-breast horses.

THE Rev. T. Horne is making a series of visits to the Lancashire fair-grounds during the coming week, and hopes to meet a great number of the members of the Guild at Longsight on Sunday next.

A CAPITAL assortment of amusements assembled last week for Hollinwood wakes on the Corporation ground. Pride of place was taken by President Kemp with his unique show "Dreamland." Amongst others were J. Collins's wheely-whirly and motors, Whiting's motor-cars, Hibbert's horses, Dyer's bioscope, Mander's cinematograph, Proctor's circus, cocoanut sheets, football shooting, fancy stalls, and a host of attractions. Good business was done

WHYTE'S Oriental Pavilion, with cinematograph and varieties, is providing popular amusement at Methil. Clarke's shooting galleries and swingboats are also here.

THE death is announced at Salem, Oregon, U.S.A., of George Lippert, one of the many human curiosities exhibited by the late Barnum. Lippert had two hearts and three legs, and it is stated that the heart situated on the right side had ceased to beat a fortnight ago. The certified cause of death was consumption.

THE fair at Overton, in Hampshire, one of the oldest in England, was held last week. Sir William Portal presided at the luncheon which was held in celebration of the event, and amongst those who were present were the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Northbrook, and Sir Richard Rycroft.

MR. ROBERT W. PAUL, of cinematograph fame, entertained his numerous staff on Saturday last at his country retreat. The party was taken down in large brakes, and after a look round the estate and lovely gardens, sat down to an open-air repast. After the meal, the visitors were photographed, and an adjournment was then made to the cricket field, where a hearty game was indulged in. Others went in for quoits, fishing, and boating, until the failing light brought the whole party once more together, when an al-fresco concert was begun, with piano, violin, &c. The singing was creditable, and all joined in the choruses for the general amusement. The return to dreary London had to be commenced all too early, but everyone will remember the most enjoyable outing, to which Mrs. Paul's kindly attention largely contributed. Amongst the visitors the following well-known members of the various departments were present:—Messrs. J. H. Martin, M. L. Taylor, H. Harris, G. Scott, G. Simpson, and J. W. Smith.

MANY of the terms used in the advertisements in *The Era* provide all sorts of humorous meanings to those outside the profession. The following, which appeared in last Saturday's *Star*, is an instance:—

THE "SAW-GRINDER'S EXIT."

The following interesting advertisement appears in *The Era*:—

WANTED, at once, for Ramsgate Town Band, Good Solo Clarionet, Bombardon, and Horn. Shares. Saw-grinders save stamps.

Our artist's sketch indicates the fate of the saw-grinder who doesn't save his stamps.

Reprinted by kind permission of *The Star*, July 21, 1906.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

ON THE ROAD, JULY 30.

ARE YOU A MASON?—Worthing.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—Grand T., Glasgow.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Queen's Theatre, Keighley.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—T. R., Bournemouth.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
DAYS OF CROMWELL.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
FACING THE MUSIC.—Cromer.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (N.).—Grand T., Llandudno
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (S.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
FRENCH SPY.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Boro' Theatre, Stratford.
HERO OF THE FLAG.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
HOW MONEY'S MADE.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Penrith and Ambleside.
LA POUPEE (LEVILLY).—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Lyceum T., Newport.
MR. HOPKINSON.—Tunbridge Wells.
OLIVER TWIST.—Theatre Royal, Ryde .
POOR MUST LIVE.—Metropole T., Manchester.
POWER OF GOLD.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.).—Yarmouth.
THRONE OF TERROR.—Met. Theatre, Devonport.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
TRAITOR, THE.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS.—Royalty T., Newcastle.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Scarborough.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Grand T., Newcastle.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM.—Coronet Theatre, W.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
YOUNGEST OF THE THREE.—O. H., Cork.
£1000 REWARD.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Grand T., Newcastle.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

AN interesting leaflet issued by the "Theatrical Mechanical Association" of America and Canada, to hand, gives some interesting particulars of that association. It states that the association is formed ". . .To unite fraternally all white men of sound health and good moral character, who are socially acceptable, and who have been employed in the theatrical profession at least six months, and who are over twenty-one years of age. For the promotion of principles of true benevolence by associating its members together for the purpose of mutual relief, and alleviating the difficulties attendant upon sickness, distress, and death, so far as they may be mitigated by sympathy and pecuniary assistance." The death benefits range from £10 to £30 on the death of a member, and smaller sums on the death of a member's wife. The sick pay ranges from £1 per week to £2 per week. The society is divided into "lodges," and is conducted with the ritual and formality of a Masonic character. It has a membership of 3,291, and has paid out in benefits the sum of $27,385,94. This society is independent of the International Alliance of Stage Employees.

THE Sports Committee are issuing the following circular letter to all subscribers to the Prize Fund, and to donors of prizes, with a statement of subscriptions to the Prize Fund and the Sports acccunts.

29, Wellington-street, Strand,
London, W.C., July 21.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—We beg to send you herewith an audited copy of the statement of accounts, including full particulars of the donations to the Prize Fund and prizes presented for the sports, which took place on June 5.

In sending this statement to each subscriber to the Prize Fund, with our most grateful thanks for the assistance so generously rendered, we beg to give particulars of the purpose for which these sports were given.

As announced in the programme, the balance available will be set aside to form the nucleus of a National Benevolent Fund to assist theatrical employees, male or female, in need, whose case is recommended by a subscriber to the Prize Fund, or donor of a prize; or by any theatrical or music-hall association unable, by reasons of restrictions imposed by their rules, to assist such cases.

The National Association of Theatrical Employees, representing the stage working staff, provide through its various branches sick, funeral, and benevolent funds for the benefit of its members and their dependents; but, in view of the fact that there are a large number of theatrical employees, men and women, who are not eligible to join that society, and many of whom by reason of their small remuneration and irregular employment cannot provide against misfortune or other adverse circumstance—sickness, death, and unemployment—the Sports Committee decided, with the approval of the society, to utilise the Sports Fund as an "open" fund, available as indicated above. The National Committee of the Association, which is a thoroughly representative body, and of which Mr. James Cullen is the president, will administer this fund without any charge whatever (for the rent of office or services) except such as is unavoidable for postage and printing in connection with the fund.

The Committee regret the smallness of the balance available, but they hope that as the purpose of the Sports and this Benevolent Fund become more generally known a better result may be secured.

The Committee have also to thank those who assisted by helping to sell tickets, and the many stewards and officials who gave their services on the day.—Yours sincerely,

THE SPORTS COMMITTEE.

Lionel Belmore, H. R. Kimpton, St. James's; A. Palmer, M.C., Comedy; T. Sheridan, E., Waldorf; A. E. Wood, G. W. Wilton, P.M., Vaudeville; T. Morgan, P.M., Comedy; P. Sheridan, E., Crown; H. Porter, Wyldham's; H. Mather, Duke of York's; P. Thomas, Alhambra; R. Ward, W. G. Farrell, Terry's; C. Thorogood, J. Reed, G. H. Dyball, hon. treasurer; Mr. James Cullen, M.C., St. James's, chairman; Wm. Johnson, hon. secretary.

AT the Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, on Saturday, Mr. J. E. Kennedy, formerly resident stage-manager and carpenter, who is leaving Chesterfield, was presented with a silver jug by Mr. and Mrs. Ralli, a gold-mounted umbrella by the stage staff, a silver teapot by the members of the orchestra, silver teaspoons by the staff in front, and silver teaspoons from the members of *The Romany's Revenge* company.

SIR,—In your columns of "Stage Staff Gossip" in last week's *Era*, you state that I accepted £35 in my action for injuries at New Theatre. Would you kindly allow me to say that I accepted £15 from Mr. Johnson, the secretary of theUnion, who told me the lawyer's costs were £20.—Yours faithfully,

R. MADGE.

11, Wellington-place, Blackfriar's-road, S.W.,
July 25, 1906.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged descriptions are specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55/56, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the patenting of inventions.

4963. Displaying. Patentee S. R. R. Matthews, 13, St. Mary's Road, Peckham, London, S.E. This invention relates to an apparatus for automatically displaying and illuminating advertisement cards, pictures, or the like. The cards or pictures are inserted from the top into grooved frames pivoted between discs secured to a drum or axle adapted to be rotated in a case by clockwork or the like. The frames are connected by springs to the discs. It then springs past the stop over a lug on a spring lever secured to the case and engages a stop on the lever. It is held stationary by this stop so as to display its other face until the next frame depresses the lever. Electric or other lights arranged above mirrors throw light on the cards etc.

MR. FRED GINNETT produced last Monday, at the Hackney Empire, the popular romantic equestrian spectacle *Turpin's Ride to York*. Mr. Ginnett appeared as the famous highwayman, and there are ten other characters in the cast. All the familiar incidents of the well-known story of the ride to York were faithfully depicted, concluding with the death of Black Bess, the mare being carried shoulder high to her last resting-place by Luke Rookwood's gipsies. A Black Bess that dances, nods her head when asked questions, pretends to have fallen lame, and finally kisses her master as she lies dying on the road, is beyond doubt a most accomplished equine performer. Mr. Fred Ginnett has informed an interviewer that she is the best mare he ever had. She is half-sister to Hackler's Pride.

ANOTHER interesting point in last Monday's production was the fact that the old flint-lock pistol used by Mr. Ginnett was, we are assured, the identical weapon with which the real Dick Turpin shot the real Tom King in 1737. It was recently discovered by a workman employed in pulling down the "Old Plough" at Little Ealing, a noted haunt and hiding-place of Turpin's, which was kept by his grandparents. The pistol is stamped "D. T." and 1737, and has two notches on the butt, which possibly indicate two victims of Dick's skill as a marksman.

ONE of Mr. Tom Green's latest pictures, "A Touch of Human Nature," issued by the Walturdaw Company, is admitted to be one of the most genuine pieces of acting seen for some time; and the fact that competing firms have bought copies speaks well for Tom Green's productions.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

List of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
T. E. Reid	1	1	0
Charles J. Childs	0	10	0
J. R. Philpotte	0	5	0
C. Douglas Stuart	0	5	0
G. A. Rampling	0	2	6
Per Harry Lester.			
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Douglas White	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	0	10	6
Harry Gage	0	10	6
Tom Norman	0	10	6
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
Mark Ringham	0	5	0
Bros. Obos	0	5	0
Forest and King	0	5	0
Sam Stockton	0	5	0
Griff	0	5	0
Harry Mountford	0	5	0
Bert Olrac	0	5	0
Johnny Alexander	0	5	0
Will Johnson	0	5	0
George Nyman	0	3	0
Charlie Jerome	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Fred Greville	0	2	6
Ben Whiteley	0	2	6
Harry Gray	0	2	0
Fred Ryan	0	2	0
T. C. Callaghan	0	2	0
Rudolph Whiteley	0	2	0
L. A. Smith	0	1	0
Total	£33	3	6

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

THE latest quotations for Music Hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. pd.), 1⅛; do. (10s. pd.), 1; London Pav. O., 4; do. Pref., 5; Lon. Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empire, 4⅜; do. Pref., 3⅛; Oxford, 6⅛; Palace, 11s.; Tivoli, 6½; Var. Cons. Theas., 13s.

CARLTON, the curious comical card, has been going strong at Shepherd's Bush Empire this week. In September he returns to the Palace Theatre for the eleventh time, followed by pantomime at Bristol, and a tour to Australia next March. In the quaint costume and make-up that adds to his unusual height—he is considerably over six feet even without the egg-shaped "dome of thought" he wears on the stage—the young conjurer owes not a little of his success to his good-natured trick of turning the laugh against himself. On Saturday night he gravely informed the audience that he had just been engaged for the Christmas season at the local theatre. "I hope the production will be *Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp*, he added, "as I feel sure I should be cast and expected to shine as the wick!"

MR. CARLTON tells an amusing yarn of how he became a comical conjurer. He had always been a conjurer, but the comical part of the business was an accident. Being engaged to give a turn at the Crystal Palace, he determined to avoid the usual custom of turning up his sleeves during his card tricks by wearing a black, skin-tight costume—after the style of Chirgwin—adding a short orange-coloured jacket with long tails to brighten it up. This made him look so tall and thin that his appearance was greeted, to his great surprise, with a burst of laughter. He therefore began his performance handicapped by nervousness, and every time he walked round the stage the laughter was renewed. "Do they think I'm very bad?" he asked, on making his exit. "No!" was the emphatic answer. "They think you're funny."

So he wisely made up his mind to go on being funny. Mr. Carlton has invented a great many clever illusions, his latest, to be produced shortly, being a novel, greatly-improved form of the vanishing lady trick. A big wooden cross will be placed on the stage, to which a girl will be firmly lashed with strong ropes, placed in a light cabinet and hidden from the audience by thin curtains. A pistol will then be fired, the curtains re-opened, and a man discovered bound to the cross. The illusion is made more puzzling by the fact that a couple of people from the audience will be asked to hold the ends of the rope, passed through holes in the curtain, with which the girl is tied to the cross.

MR. PAUL MARTINETTI, who opened at the Palace Theatre on Monday night, is in excellent form after a long holiday. The popular pantomimist has been living at his pretty house on the river, going in for hard work in the form of play, for he sculls, walks, or attends to his garden with untiring energy and as much earnestness as he throws into his professional work. Mr. Martinetti—who, by the way, is now celebrating his thirtieth year in England, having made his London début in 1876—attends to every detail in his clever productions. The ladies in his company are beautifully dressed, perhaps the prettiest frock on the stage being entirely composed of lace over chiffon, with a bright cherry-coloured satin sash. Another noticeably pretty but less effective dress is of pale amber silk, the dainty blonde who wears it having placed a big pink rose in her hair as a finishing touch.

IT is proposed to build a Hippodrome at Willesden at the corner of the Station-road and Acton-lane, area 125 feet by 120. Three shops also will be erected. The place will be advantageously situated, as Willesden Junction Station will be close by, and trams pass the site. The plans have been passed by the Middlesex and Borough Councils, and the place is to seat 2000. The architect is Mr. W. L. Griffiths. There will be no drink licence asked for, and it is proposed to give two performances nightly. The so-called opposition by the church opposite has been overcome and withdrawn.

Price 2s. 6d., Svo., Cloth. By Post, 2s. 9d.

SECOND EDITION.
Now Ready.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW,

Being a Digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing Chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c.
With an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the Regulations of the London County Council and Lord Chamberlain.

By A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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„ conduct of party applying must be fair and honest	40	Theatres Act, 1843 ..49,	57
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Infants	31	„ Unlicensed 4,	55
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Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George.....	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William.....	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.....	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
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Bessie, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John.....	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria ..	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906
Burton, Mr. John.....	March 10, 1906.
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Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite ..	May 26, 1905.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1905.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul.....	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri.....	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal.....	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Conquest, Mr. Fred.....	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert.....	June 16, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid.....	July 14, 1906.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred....	March 17, 1906.
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Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
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De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
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Kenney, Miss Rosa	July 1, 1905.
Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
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Kinnaird, Miss Helen.....	March 3, 1906.
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Lang, Mr. Matheson	September 23, 1905.
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Lazarus, Mr. A.....	May 5, 1906.
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Mervyn, Mr. Edward	April 15, 1905.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy .	March 10, 1906.
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Raynor, Miss Alice	July 23, 1905.
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Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Sinden, Miss Topsy	Aug. 19, 1905.
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"The Flood," Buddha's Blackboard, Kaufman Troupe, Automatos, Albertus and Millar, Jas. H. Jee, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle. Olive, Lios Alfasios, Jack Theo Trio, Iles, Antonio, Three Microcophalos, Harmony Four, Lavater Lee, Lloyd Langdon, Bioscope, Louis de Rougemont.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
"Moses and Sons," Marie Reeve, Norman and Leonard Trio, Bioscope, Die Ober Steirers, Brown and Robinson, Starr and Leslie, Imperial Russian Troupe.

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Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Willie Edouin, Bioscope, Vernando, "In Dreamland," George Formby, Johnny Gilmore, Bros. Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Classicum Quartette, Paul Cinquevalli.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Dolly Elsworthy and Co. in "The Orange Girl," Bioscope, Beatrice Edwards, Brett and Orford, Harry Freeman, O'Brien Bros., Lee and Bentley, Barton and Ashley, Jacques Inaudi, Conan and Doyle.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Three Olympiers, Bioscope, J. A. Wilson, Conn and Conrad, Ike Scott and Son, Bros. Horne, May Evans, "Concordia," Bessie Butt, James Toner.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Casey's Court," Helen Ford, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Bioscope, Althoffs, Esta Stella, Seddons, Rezene and Robini, Ina Lorrimer, Corrie and Dereve's "Heartstrings" Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Tate, E. J. Sheldon, Binns and Binns, Mark Merry, Rachael Lowe, Maud Mortimer, Grisse Bros., Ross and Grayson, Abdullah Arabs, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Louie Freear and Co., Bioscope, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Galletti's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, Will Poluski, jun., Sisters Terry, Barowsky Trio, Neil Kenyon.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
"The Road to Ruin," Florrie Gallimore, Four Figaros, Margaret Ashton, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Rosa Naynon, Will Cornish, Tribune Trio.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
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9.0 p.m. Performance :—Wal Pink and Co. in "Repairs." Odeyne Sparke, Florence Schuberth, Society Quartette, Eldee's Poses Plastique, Bert Byrne, Aerial and Astarte, Baker and Balfe, Bioscope, The Delevines.

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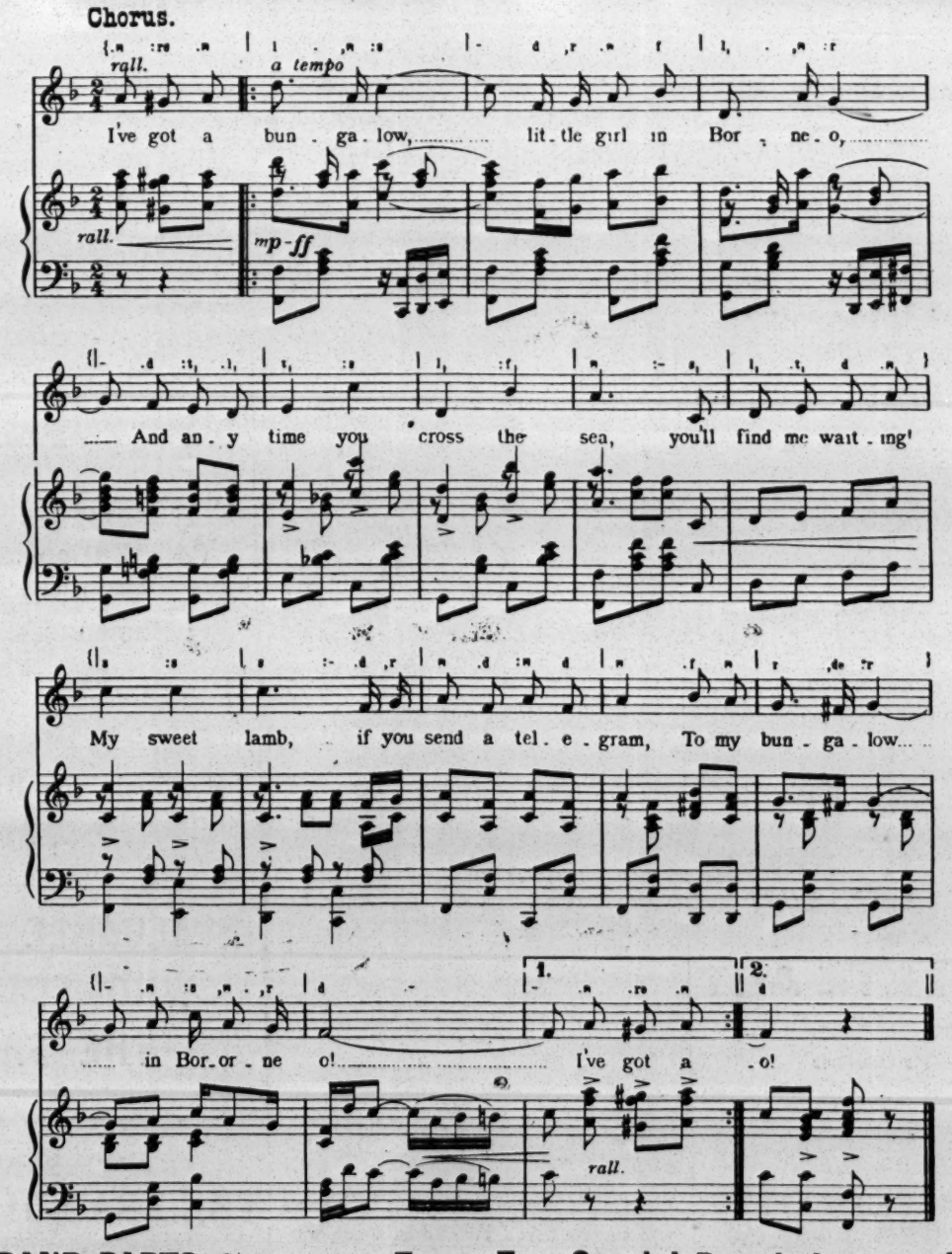

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Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, JULY 30, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

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Little Tich, Cyril Carle, Tod Lowen, Venie Clements, T. E. Finglass, Albert Wyndham and Co., Emma Don and Co., Maud Prenton, Pictures, Stewart and Morgan.

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Bob Hutt and Co., Hill and Lane, Chas. Denton, Rex Fox, Ada and August, Martin Conway, Rebla, Nash and Noel, Pictures, Tom Grave.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.

Vesta Victoria, Herbert Madden, Will Lytton, Rae Walters, Harry Rogerson, Dusty Rhodes, Katie Marsh, Will Driscoll, Pictures, Four Athos.

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CALL for Monday July 30, 1906. 7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Harry Ford, Annie Casey, Charles Chard, The Three Rainats, Sammy Shields, the Herald Comedy Four, Lilian Rigby, Miss Florrie Forde.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Peggy Pryde, Stave, Crown Trio, the Pavoscope, Bob Sloan.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Call for Monday, July 30, 1906. George Gilbey, Gena Manon, Harry Claff, Rose Harvey, Frank Cass, The Bensons, Martine and Son, Breton Troupe, Earle and Melville, Zarmo.
Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, CLACTON.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—No Contract for above place is good unless bearing the signature of the Proprietor, H. FORD.

NOTICE is hereby given that Arthur Righini, of No. 56, Chapel-street, Salford, near Manchester, is no longer in the service of Charles Marenghi and Co., of Paris. All persons indebted to the said Charles Marenghi and Co. are requested to remit any sums due from them to such firm to Mr. J. Wentworth, of 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, the sole representative in England of the said firm of Charles Marenghi and Co.
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Sole Proprietor, Mr. JAMES CHAPPELL.

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Leslie Reed, Ernest D'Almaine.
Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Tate,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt,
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SYD BECKETT, Pianist and Accompanist.
HARRY BARKER, Acting-Manager.
HARRY BARTLETT, Stage Manager.

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Members of the "Span of Life" Company rehearse August 30, Theatre Royal, North Shields.
Members of the "In Sight of St. Paul's" rehearse, Theatre Royal, Worcester, August 30, at 11 o'clock. Will members of the company kindly send addresses immediately. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal Worcester.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 30, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls,
Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

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Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Harry Royde, Nellie Dunbar, Hall Chapter, Rene and Smith, Jessie Watson, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.

Closed. Re-opening Aug. 6.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.

Dick Cruikshank and Co., Zasma, Florence Leonard, Billy French, Gladys Witton, Harry Morgan, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.

Closed. Re-opening Aug. 6.

PALACE, BRADFORD.

Will H. Sloan and Co., E. O. Fitzgerald, Lily Gaston, Sisters Brenton, Gus Harris, Arthur Slater, Frank Cumminger, Gallagher and Hild, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday at 12 o'clock.

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Matinée every Monday.
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THE BRITANNIA.

Matinée Monday.
Johnny Holland Combination, Marlo, Fred Erick, Vay's Juveniles, Sam Ives, Davis and Gledhill, Sisters Melba, Vera Mayne, Dick Jones, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, J. Elvin and Co.

FORESTERS.

Matinées Monday and Thursday
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SADLER'S WELLS.

Matinée every Monday.
Little Ada Merry, Jack and May McKenzie, Harry Zetter, Eva Hope and J. Wayhoe, Jenny Belmore, Josephine Colona Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Maudie Francis, Rozelle, Collinson Combination, The Rushforths, King Leo.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
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Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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No. 1101. **THE SQUATTER'S DAUGHTER.**

The Squatter lives in a wooden shanty in a clearing of the backwoods. He is about to start for a ride to a neighbouring settlement; he bids good-bye to his daughter and gallops off. The next scene shows a horde of Red Indians on the war-path. One of them fires a shot, and they all spring on their feet and rush off to the attack. In the meantime the Squatter's daughter had taken the alarm. Running to the door she peers anxiously out, and then rushes in and warns the other inhabitants of the shanty. She takes a rifle herself, and kneeling on the balcony awaits the arrival of the Indians. Meanwhile, the two men who are with her hastily bolt and secure the windows, and then with their rifles run out to the stockade in front of the cabin. But the three guns cannot stop the rush of the Indians, who quickly hack down the stockade with their hatchets and storm the wooden shanty. Inside, the girl and the two men are making one last stand; coolly and collectively they fire their rifles as fast as they can load them, while flying splinters and falling doors and windows testify to the fury of the onslaught of the Red Indians outside. Soon an entrance is gained, and in a short hand to hand fight against overwhelming odds, the girl's two defenders are killed and the girl is carried away captive.

The scene now changes to the Indians' encampment. The Chief's two Squaws are sitting outside his wig-wam, peacefully smoking. The Indians troop in, and last comes the Chief with the girl. The Chief bids her enter his tent with the other Squaws, but she indignantly refuses. Thrice she is given the alternative of obedience or death, while an ugly looking spear is held at her throat; and thrice she chooses death. Then, in a fury, the Chief orders that she shall be taken to the stake and burned. The warriors execute a weird dance around the stake, which is piled high with faggots, and the girl is rapidly tied to it while the two Squaws set fire to the dry sticks.

The scene now goes back to the lonely squatter, who is riding through the woods. Suddenly he hears shots and reins in his horse to listen. One moment convinces him, and digging spurs into his horse gallops back as fast as it can carry him. When he arrives at his desolated home and finds its defenders dead and the girl missing, he is almost frantic with despair. The bodies of several Red Indians testify to the gallant stand made by the trio before they were overcome. One of the Indians is only wounded, and the squatter extracts from him some information of the direction which the others have taken. He is on his horse again, and flies off to the Indian encampment. Here he comes upon the wild orgy when it is just at its height. Firing his revolver rapidly he kills several of the Indians and put the others to flight.. Then he rushes to the girl, who is almost fainting, cuts the bonds which hold her to the stake, lifts her quickly into the saddle, and gallops off to safety before the Indians have time to rally.

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"THE PROSPECTORS." A Drama of the Western Goldfields.

No. 1851. *Copyright 1906 by the Vitagraph Company of America.*

DESCRIPTION.

Two men are seen approaching a miner's shanty; they are in appearance typical Western "bad men." Halting their pack horses they summon the occupant of the shanty, a young prospector who has recently located a rich vein of metal and needs experienced men to work it. He kisses his wife and children and mounting his horse starts out on the quest for wealth.

Under the direction of their young leader the miners are seen toiling in the excavation. Suddenly a shout of triumph and exultation marks the discovery of a rich metal-bearing lode—they have made "a lucky strike." The claim is staked out and they commence mining operations. Already the two confederates are beginning to plot treachery.

After weeks of arduous toil the three miners are just about to break camp and the gold is shared equally among them. They stretch out around the fire and go to sleep, each with a bag of precious gold in his belt. The two conspirators only feign sleep, and robbing their comrade of his gold dust are just making their escape, when their theft is discovered and they mortally wound their victim.

The young prospector regains consciousness and staggering to his horse manages to reach his cottage. An affecting scene follows, and after telling his wife of the treachery of his partners, he breathes his last in her arms. She takes his gun from the holster and swears to be revenged on his murderers.

The two guilty miners are seen gambling in a lonely hut. One of them, a card sharp, as well as robber and murderer, has won all his partner's gold and now offers to play for his "gun." This being agreed the sharper again wins, but is this time detected cheating. A furious "gun fight" follows and the one who lost is killed. His partner goes off with the gold.

Two Years Later - Vengeance.—The prospector's young wife has opened a Western saloon to support herself and children. She rules the roystering cowboys that frequent her place with a rod of iron, and when one refuses to pay he finds a .44-calibre "shooting iron" pointing at his head and is very glad to "cough up."

A tenderfoot visits the saloon and the boys have lots of fun with him. He is glad to escape with his life. The saloon is now empty—a blear-eyed and unkempt looking miner staggers in, and after several drinks falls into a drunken doze. The young woman watches him like a cat watches a mouse; stealthily she draws near, and lifting the broad brim of his hat recognizes the murderer of her husband.

He awakes to find himself held up, and the determined woman tells him his moments are numbered. By a subterfuge he wrests the revolver from her. Just at this moment the little boy enters, and seeing his mother in danger picks up a bottle, and, with one blow fells the miner. As he staggers to his feet again and endeavours to pull his gun the young widow shoots him down, thus revenging her husband's death.

It is a Brot Harte novel in moving pictures, breathing the wild spirit and free atmosphere of the Western mining regions.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Sept. 17, Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Oct. 29, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Sept. 10, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, 12, 19, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton, Sept. 10 Chester, Sept. 17 Reading. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Dec. 17, April 22, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
April 22, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;

GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1, 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, on.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 20 and Sept. 3, Six Nights Each.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Companies, Dec. 3, on; also Panto., Jan. 2, Feb. and March. H. VERE.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 3 (to oblige J. F. Preston, Esq.), also 17. E. H. PAGE.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-class Attraction, Dec. 10, Vacant through Transfer.
Only Open Date this Year.
Address, Mr. HARRY YORKE, T. Royal, Blackburn.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 13, 20,
Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 29,
and Intermediate Dates onwards.
Required, Big Attractions for Christmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Week, a First-class Attraction, Owing to Transfer of Date.
Address,
MR. LAWSON LAMBERT,
Grand Theatre, Croydon.

AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
WANTED, Known, All Dates Filled this Season.
Bookings include "The Earl and the Girl," "The White Chrysanthemum," "The Freedom of Suzanne," "The Blue Moon," "Sergeant Brue," "The Duchess of Dantzic," and all the Recognised Touring Attractions.
Address,
HENRY BOWMAN, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessees, Brooks and Woodbridge.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 20, through obliging Ian Maclaren, Sept. 24, through obliging Miss Emily Sheridan, and Dec. 10. No other dates in 1906. Wire instanter, E. OSWALD, BROOKS, Resident-Partner.

GRAND THEATRE,
CHORLEY.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Aug. 13. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 13 and on, Only a few Autumn Dates Vacant.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 20, Halifax.
Address (no wires), OTTO C. CULLING, T. R., Bury.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Sept. 3, commencement of autumn season; also Vacant Sept. 17. Address, GERALD HARDING, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Attraction, Aug. 20, Three Nights. Apply,
SHERWOOD AND CO., Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for three nights, Aug. 6 and 27, only vacancies. No dramas. Best appointed theatre and connection.
HENRY HAGUE, General-Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Aug. 27, Oct. 1, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 17. Add., E. B. GOULDEN.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 3; good terms to good companies. T. C. RAWES, as above.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates September onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

PUBLIC HALL, MINEHEAD,
SOMERSET.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 1 to 8 (height of season).
Apply, Secretary.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Feb. 11, 25.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Dec. 17, March 25.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant July 16, 23, 30.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 20, 27 (last three nights of week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20, Oct. 8.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 24.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 8.

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 17, 24.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

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WANTED, Attractions for Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 19. Dec. 10.
Albert Theatre, Brighouse, Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 29, Nov. 8, 9, 10, Nov. 12, 13, 14, Nov. 26.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

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WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions for Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 15 and 22.

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WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies for few remaining Dates.

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R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

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WANTED, High-class Companies only.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
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PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE, FOLKESTONE.
Oct. 4 (3 nights) 22 (3 or 6 nights), 29 (3 nights, in conjunction with Hastings), Nov. 12, Dec. 31.
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QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Nov. 12, and Dec. 17. E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
An Elegant and Successful Theatre.
WANTED, High-class Companies for September; also Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 5, 26.
Good Pantomime for January, 1907.
Address, J. P. MOORE, Theatre, West Bromwich.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Aug. 13,
Wire, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, ALTRINCHAM.
Brick building. Stage capable of working 16ft. flats.
First-class Dramas or Musical Shows preferred.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, and on. Good terms for Good Shows.
Wire, COOMER and DRURY.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24. Managers please note these are the only dates I have vacant this year. Fast filling up 1907. Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

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WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22.
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By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, Dec. 3.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 22.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
TOM TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
22, Upper Hagley-road, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
156th Week of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15.
New scenery, new dresses, and uniforms.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow (Return).

THEATRES WANTED.

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WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

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"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 15. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vac. Sept. 3, Nov. 5, and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

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WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, onwards, with exceptions,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Entirely New and Elaborate Production of
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
By Arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright.
First-class Company. Everything Carried.
Notice.
Legal proceedings will be immediately instituted against any person performing this piece without licence from Mr. Samuel James.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

A Startling Novelty at Last.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24, and 1907.
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Spectacular Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Autumn Bookings:—
Grand, Islington; Alex., Hull; T. R., Sheffield; Palace, Newcastle; Rotunda, Liverpool; Junction and Osborne, Manchester; Princess's and Lyceum, Glasgow; Aston (pencil), Smethwick (pencil).
Every Scene and Property Carried. Two Suites of Furniture, Two Carpets, all Borders, &c.
The most Complete Production ever Toured.
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Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN,"
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, onwards. A magnificent Production. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Lyric Theatre, Bromley.

"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
A Big Success. The Entire Production Carried.
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, onwards. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Lyric Theatre, Bromley.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play produced during the year 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO.
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston), and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby). Also Vacant Christmas Week through Cancelling T. R., Sunderland, must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms. GEORGE KIRK, Rotunda, Liverpool; next, Prince's, Bradford.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Nov. 12.
J. W. CORDINER,
Royalty Theatre,
Barrow.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

WANTED August Bank Holiday, between Southampton and Birmingham, for "His Excellency the Governor," preceded by "A Waste of Time." Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Marsh Allen, and Star Cast. BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 22, 29 and Nov. 12.
Address,
Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3 (follow Lincoln, Return) Oct. 15 (precede Bootle, Return), 29 (follow Rugby, Return).
HERBERT BARRS, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Wanted, Aug. 6, "Mollentrave on Women," by Alfred Sutro (Author of "Walls of Jericho"), from St. James's Theatre. Cast includes Madge McIntosh and Lumsden Hare. Special Scenery, Attractive Printing Wire, to-day, HARE, Cromer; next week, Royal, Hull. Refer Boughton, Portsmouth; Hayes, Eastbourne; Michael, Margate.

"HER LOST SELF,"
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Xmas, Dec. 31. DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-rd., Whitstable.

WANTED, First-class theatre for "Mason," Aug. 20, Oct. 8; "Mr. Hopkinson," Oct. 1 and 8. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
Supported by Miss Ini Cameron and Mr. G. Alexander Marsh.
WANTED, Theatres. Only Vacant Dates, Oct. 22 and 29, Nov. 26, and Dec. 3.
Now Booking Spring. WILKIE, 7, Bondicar-terrace, Blyth

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 19,
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow), and April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"HELD APART."
A. Clifton Alderson's First-class Company.
Magnificent Production, and Splendid Printing.
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, 26. The Beach, Heacham, Norfolk.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 22.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Xmas, for Walter Howard's New "Man and Wife," beautiful production. Add., WARD, Grand Theatre, Islington.

WANTED, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 (North), Oct. 29 (precede Cambridge), for Mrs. Alice Chapin's London Company, in the Celebrated Musical Comedy, "A Pantomime Rehearsal," and the New Comic Opera, "A Knight Errant." Apply to MRS. ALICE CHAPIN, Court Theatre, Warrington.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Aug. 20 (follow Osborne, Manchester), 27, Sept. 10, various, on. Thanks A. Carlton, Esq., return, Devonport, at increased terms. MILLER, Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, Sept. 3, between Stockton and Manchester, Sept. 24, for Stanley Carlton's Co.'s, "A Life's Story." "A Marriage of Vengeance," Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for this Money Mascot, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct., onwards. HENRY L. OSMOND, Prince's, Blackburn; next, Grand, Blackburn.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15, various, on.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"A ROYAL REVENGE,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 3, various, on.
"JEANNIE DEANS" and "ROB ROY."
(John Clyde and Special Cast),
Feb. 11, 18, various, on.
"THE KING'S SECRET,"
Oct. 1, onwards.
Note New Address:—2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of Fifteen experienced Artists, headed by Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia.
Bookings include:—
Derby,
St. Helens,
Sheffield (Royal),
Bradford (Prince's),
Scarborough (Royal),
Newcastle (Grand),
Hull (Alex),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Dewsbury, Mexborough, Luton, Rotherham, Leeds, Lincoln, Barrow, Walsall, Castleford, Oldham, Barnsley, Yarmouth, Swansea, Burnley, Salford, &c.
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Striking Pictorials by McCaw.
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Sept. 10 (Lancs. or Yorks.), to follow Scarborough, Sept. 17 (to precede Lincoln), Oct. 22 (Wales), Nov. 5, 26.
Refer the following managers for opinion:—
J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury;
M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens;
T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby;
J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield;
F. Laidler, Esq., Bradford;
L. Carson, Esq., Liverpool;
Who will say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast, and does good business.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"The Conscript," specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Entirely revised with important changes.
Address all communications,
This, P. O. W., Salford; next, Alex., Hull.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
Managers booking these attractions can confidently rely upon thoroughly well-acted, elaborately-mounted productions. Address MORTON POWELL, 53, Sarsfeld-rd, Balham, S.W.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
"FLORODORA."
Sept. 24, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 26.
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Aug. 20, Sept. 13, 17, and Nov. 1 (Three Nights each), also Various Spring Dates.

"THE ETERNAL CITY,"
Nov. 12.

WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL'S COMPANY.
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE,"
By
Charles Klein.
From the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13 (?), Sept. 17.
Address,
WALTER MAXWELL,
Vaudeville Theatre, London.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Aug. 16, 17, 18, also Aug. 27, for this Great Attraction, Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugle for Parade. Refer Alexandra, Hull, this week. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8.
London or near preferred.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, care of "The Era."

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
Address,
C. M. JULIAN, P. O. W., Grimsby, Return.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this Brilliant Play.
Enthusiastic reception at Brighton.
Best opening since October (except Panto. and holidays). A mammoth attraction. Nothing finer touring. Week after week the receipts with this play have gone up nightly.
Refer Newcastle, Aldershot, Southend, Poplar, &c.
Vacant Sept. 10, 17, October 8, 15, 29.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
The Great Domestic Drama.
By Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8 and 22, Oct. 8 and 22. Address (to-day), Metropole, Glasgow. Next week, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Christmas week.

GEORGE DENHAM, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept 10, 17, 24.
No Greater Attraction Touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Sept. 10, 17, 24.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, 27, and Sept. 10.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
CHAS. BERESFORD, T. R., Macclesfield.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Aug. 9 (three nights), Good Theatre, South; also Aug. 27, Sept. 6 (three nights), and Sept. 10. Address, FRANK G. BAYLY, this, Opera House, Buxton; next, Palace Pier, Brighton.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
The Greatest Dramatic Success of the Times.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Sept. 24, Oct. 1,
Address, Mr. HARRY YORKE, Theatre R., Blackburn.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-ninth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., '07.
WANTED, Sept. 3. Wire for Sept. 3, Sept. 3 (in or near London), Oct. 22 (through obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, Star Theatre, Swansea.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 15 (?), 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, New Year. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN. Next, Alex., Sheffield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, Dates, for this Magnetic Attraction, Playing to enormous business everywhere.
Usual Brilliant Success at Bristol.
The Magpie says:—To those who would acquire the beauty of a great thought, "Darkness" will supply it. The stupendous piece made to live and move and have its being upon the stage of the old Royal this week holds intact its record of popularity, and has in no wise impaired the traditions of its supreme conception, and one has only to witness it to be convinced that Mr. Morton Powell, who has been the sponsor of many prodigy plays, realised to the hilt the herculean task before him, and allowed to the fullest extent the great necessity to capture and use all the great discrimination of which he is master. The company got together do ample justice to the scope for their talents at their disposal. The scenery is of the best. The tense situations are neither slurred or falsified, and the whole thing cannot but compel success, and make such an impression upon those who see it that will never be forgotten.
"Darkness" is a play in ten thousand.—Prove it.
The Bristol Times says:—It was received with marked enthusiasm by a large audience. . . . It is extremely emotional, and the sentiment of the whole work is calculated to appeal to the feelings of all.
The Western Daily Press:—Appeals with intensity to all sections of the community. . . . An absorbing theme for stage effect. The boldness of his scheme appeals with irresistible force to the emotions.
Daily Mercury:—A powerful human play. . . . Its conception is clever and strikingly original, and the experience is a tense revelation in the dramatic art. It is essentially a play with a moral.
The Evening Times:—It is to be whole-heartedly commended. It is a play that is bound to make one think. It has a wonderful depth, a wonderful hold upon the audience, and it was set forth at the Theatre Royal last night with such a completeness and vividness of colouring that whilst at times it was weird it at others inspired awe. . . . The acting and mounting reaches a standard which has never been excelled and rarely equalled at the Theatre Royal, for many years at any rate. . . . The exceptionally large audience was genuinely enthusiastic. Go and see "Darkness."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
No greater play than this has ever been staged.
Press, Public, Managers agree a Great Play, with a fortune in it. Vacant Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. Only first-class money-holding houses booked.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MISS BESSIE ELMA'S TOURS.
WANTED, for "Sins of Society," by Charles Darrell, Xmas, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, Jan. 21, March 18 (?).
Communications to 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 8, and 15.
DICKIE CLARE, Palace, Newcastle.

KELLINO'S FETE IN VENICE
And Star Vaudeville Company.
WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8. Only Vacant Dates this Year. First-class Theatres or Hippodromes.
All communications to
Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 10 and 17, for the most successful variety combination on the road. Refer Mr. E. Dottridge, Oldham; Refer Mr. Otto C. Culling; Refer Mr. T. H. Asquith; Refer Mr. J. W. Chapman, Doncaster. Wire, till Saturday night,
ONDA, Empire, Burnley,
where money turned away here every night;
after, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Theatres, Hippodromes, or any place that will hold money, for Payne's Animated Pictures and Variety Co., nine weeks, Circus, Hull; two weeks, Hip., Carlisle. Apply, Carlisle, till Sunday; Mon., 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Good Theatres or Halls, for the Ten Star Turn Variety Co., Aug. 6, onwards. H. WILLIAMS, 34, Chatham-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Small Theatre or Hall, with or without option of lease or purchase. Particulars, HILL, 140, Rochdale-road, Oldham.

ELLIMAN'S STAR VARIETY CO'S.
WANTED, Good Theatres and Halls, Shares or Cert., immediate dates. Address, ELLIMAN'S Agency, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, GLASGOW.
PADDINGTON PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
THEATRE ROYAL, LIVERPOOL.
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.
STOCK COMPANIES.
WANTED, to Complete the above Companies, First-class Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Heavy ditto, Experienced Actor for old men, ditto Character, well-known Comedian, Experienced and Refined Leading Lady, Tall Heavy Lady, Bright Chambermaid, Carpenter able to make, reliable Scenic Artist, all to rehearse Aug. 6. Photos., references, and lowest terms, M. MONTGOMERY, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Envelopes to be marked "Stock."

WANTED, First-class Artists for the following Vacancies:—
Heavy Lady (Agatha), must have first-class wardrobe. Young Juvenile Lady (height about 5ft. 5in.), first act only. Young and Dashing Chambermaid, slight build, height 5ft. 2in, wear inflated dress. Heavy Man (Marais). Robust Character, Gent. (Sir Noel). Short and Slight Comedian (Ben), height about 5ft. 2in., to combine A.S.M. All must have First-class wardrobes, give 10 days' rehearsal, commencing Wed., Aug. 22, Grand, Chorley.
State age, height, 2 last references, photos., stamped envelope for return (no paper and string), 2 weeks. Lowest terms for long tour, if suitable, SANTE, "Showman" Co., Grand Chorley.

MILTON RAY'S AUTUMN TOUR.
"CRUISE OF CALABAR."
"DON QUIXOTE."
WANTED, Good Baritone Vocalist, young, and able to play (Haydon Comin part). Low Comedian and Character Actor, young, sing and dance. Chorus ladies and gentlemen. Musical-Director.
Address, ARTHUR MILTON,
Court Theatre, Warrington.
Rehearse Aug. 4. Open Aug. 6, 1906.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Smart Young Actress for Jack Smith (Boyish Figure Essential). Photo, Lowest Terms, Actual Height, Rehearse Immediately. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Leading Lady and Ingénue for First-class Tour. For details see Partners Wanted, in this issue. Box 3500, "The Era."

EDWARD MARRIS'S TOURS.
WANTED, Smart, Breezy Juvenile, able to sing; also Heavy Man, and tall Acrobatic Dancer. Photos., &c., E. MARRIS, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, Gentlemen, Character, Responsible, One Week, Aug. 6, Rehearse London. State Terms, Height, References. BLOW, 11, St. Edmunds-terrace, London.

WANTED, a Good Comedian for Comedy, Old Man, Rehearse Edinburgh, Aug. 7.
DICKIE CLARE,
Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Two Sound, Reliable Actors, for Sketches. State absolute lowest terms. Open Wednesday. BEALE and HEATH, 30, Cross-st., Burton.

WANTED, Gentleman, to Play Old Men and Character Parts. Terms, references, &c., NORMAN V. NORMAN, 45, Lupus-st., Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Juvenile Gentleman and Juvenile Lady, Lieut. and Columbia, "Anarchist Terror" Tour, Rehearse Thursday next. Other Possible Vacancies. Lowest Terms, References, Actual Age, and Height, Photos. LOUIS ESMOND, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman can Introduce Talented Amateurs, all Lines, who are Willing to Pay Moderate Premium.
Replies must state Particulars of Tour, Premium Required, &c.

Box 3517, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, tall, able to Sing and Dance.
Apply immediately by letter,
stating age, height, experience, terms, and enclosing photograph.
JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Petite Chorus Ladies, Good Voices. Play Small Boys' Parts. Age, Height, References, Photos, Lowest Terms. E. G. FALCON, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers, for Troupes, dark preferred; also Dramatic Artists, in all lines. KIRKLEY'S Agency, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Dancers. Call Wednesday next, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, 3.30 to 4.30. E. CRANSTON.

WANTED, Young Ladies, Good Dancers, for the Continent. Apply,
SHERRK AND BRAFF, 10, Leicester-place, W.C.

WANTED, Good Baritone, Tenor, and other Versatile Artists, pianists preferred, to augment Ramsgate Pierrots, ninth season. Address, with lowest terms, photos., refs., and rép., to ARTHUR LOVELL, Ship Hotel, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Refined Lady Humorist and Good Contralto or Soprano Vocalist, for Six Months' Tour, with First-class Company of Repute. Full Particulars, Terms, Age, with Photo, to MANAGER, 3, Livingstone-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Refined Society Humourist and Entertainer, open at once. Lowest terms, with repertoire. CAMERON CONCERT PARTY, Central Hall, Hoylake.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

TO MANAGERS OF PIERS, SPAS, GARDENS, ETC.
THE STANFORD CONCERT PARTY
(Two Ladies, Three Gentlemen).
WANTED, Aug. 6 Week (through disappointment), to follow Southsea. Only Vacant Week this Summer.
Wire or Write, LLOYD STANFORD,
Town Hall, Ventnor.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, with Cardow's Cadets, at Southsea. For terms, and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, offers for Minster Quartet Party, for hotels, cafés, &c, both classical and popular programme; violin, viola, 'cello, and piano. Address, H. ALLEN, 208, High-street, Margate.

WANTED, Known, the I. V. Musical Party, for concerts, bazaars, drawing-rooms, &c. The refined and up-to-date entertainers, in humorous quartettes duets, solos, and sketches. All coms., 25, Broomfield-avenue, Palmer's Green.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, 40 Chorus Girls for Provincial Pantomimes, Height not less than 5ft. 6in.
Good Money for Same.
Apply, G. COOPER,
Empire, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Small Part and Chorus Ladies, Pantomime. Apply, Thursday next, 2 to 3. EDWARD CRANSTON, Second Floor, Rule's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Dame for Pantomime. Letters only, with Photograph, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-road.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, Concluding Special Engt., P., Grimsby, at Lib. for Engt. or Contract. Address, until Mon., 23, Eleanor-st., Grimsby; after, 20, Park-st., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address. 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.
EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
WANTED, to open July 30, two Smart Stage-Manager Bill Inspectors for the above; permanency to the right men; also two smart Window Billers; sober, not afraid of work. Fullest particulars, age, height, salary required, copies of references, F. H., ANDERSON, Northampton. N.B.—Mark envelopes Bill Inspector..

AGENT.
WANTED, Agent, to represent a well-known Manufacturer of all kinds of Costumes, Armours, Sketches, &c., required for Theatres Music Halls, and Reproductions of all Periods. Only well-known representatives connected with first-class theatres, &c., may apply, giving details of former and present engagements. D. A., Box 3502, "The Era."

WANTED, by a Cinematograph firm, a Departmental Manager, must be a skilled salesman. Apply, in first instance, by letter, Box 3503, "The Era," giving full particulars of present employment. Only those of highest qualifications need apply. Position an important one.

WANTED, Young Man as Advance Agent, one who has Knowledge of Working Institutions, &c. Address, BANVARD, Boher, County Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Smart, Energetic Young Man, used to book-keeping, shorthand, typing, also assist management. Full particulars, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Advance Agent. Lowest terms and references to MANAGER, Picture Co., Central Hall, Darlington.

WANTED, Electrician for the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, Commence Aug. 6, Young, Steady, Reliable, Conscientious Man Required. Fully Qualified in Stage Electric Work. Write at once, stating age, references, experience, and lowest terms, to REGINALD YORKE, Manager.

WANTED, Electrician, for Standard Theatre. State Terms, References. Full particulars, FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Stage Carpenter, Resident Suburban Theatre, must have own tools. Latest Ref., Lowest Terms, &c., Box 3512, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Billposters, for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, now Touring the Continent; must be able to use long-handled brushes, and have a first-class reference. Apply, JOHN MOORE LONDON, LTD., New Address, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, W., Sole Selling Agent for the Donaldson Litho. Co. Biggest assortment of circus, menagerie, agricultural, horse race, &c., &c., posters in the world.

Billposter.
WANTED, First-class Ladder Man,
Apply,
D. ADAMSON AND SON,
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WANTED, smart, reliable, and experienced Billposter, able to take charge; abstainer and married preferred; permanency to suitable man. References, wages required, &c., to PERCY FROWEN, Abertillery, Mon.

WANTED, Billposter, Permanency to Smart Young Man; must be experienced, and very steady, no high ladder work. Apply, stating age, experience, salary required, and enclose references, to ST. AUSTELL BILLPOSTING COMPANY, St. Austell.

WANTED, Known, Thomas Ferguson, Stage-Manager, Poster Writer, Bill Inspector, Disengaged. Hippodrome, Hull. Refs. from Alfred Graham, Proprietor. .

WANTED, Known, J. Arnold, Manager, open to Tour Sound Shows, introduce and boom New Variety Turns and Novelties. 20, Albert-street, Merthyr.

WANTED, the Management, or Acting ditto, of theatre, music hall, &c., experienced. MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Agent or Bill Inspector, a thorough worker. Highest Refs. Add., HARRY GREY, Gastons-rd., Malmesbury, Wilts.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement for Country Tour, to Assist Acting-Manager or otherwise, now engaged West End box office. Address, E. TIBBITS, 44, Elthorne Park-rd., Hanwell, W.

WANTED, an Engagement by a Thoroughly Qualified Electrician, well up in all branches of theatrical work. Good References. Box 3511, "The Era."

WANTED.—Bioscope Operator, Gas or Electric, joiner by trade, well up in conjuring, would like to combine carpenter and bioscope. MACK, 31, Paddington, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Electrician, Re-engagement, well up in theatre lighting and effects, engines, &c. Good refs. CORBETT, 76, Roman-rd., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady in Theatre or Music Hall, as Attendant or for Programmes. M. H., 24, Linden-grove, Peckham. (Town.)

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Palace, Cork, Musical Conductor (Pianist), must be experienced in Variety Business. References, Terms, to HENRY KEMBLE, 127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, at Once, competent Leader, to Conduct, also Solo Cornet; must understand variety. Age, refs., and lowest terms, CONDUCTOR, 5, Charlotte-square, Margate.

WANTED, for Chas. W. Poole's No. 1 Myriorama Tour commencing Sept. 3, Musical Director (Violin), must be able to compose and arrange incidental music, wear uniform. Age, Terms, and References, to J. R. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Experienced Leader (Violin), for Empire, Bradford, Open Aug. 6.
Apply,
with terms and references, to
T. GERALD MORTON, Empire, Bradford.

WANTED, Good First Violinist for New Royal, Stanley, Co. Durham, must be well up in all Branches of Theatrical Business, Sober and reliable. State Lowest Terms, Age, and Latest References. Address, MARK H. LINDON, 42, Cambridge-street, Victoria-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Good First Violin, First Cornet, Trombone, and Orchestral Pianist, to open Aug. 6, Terriss Theatre, S.E. Apply, letter only, ALEX. HUMPHREYS, 95, Cowley-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Young Violinist, to travel with Bazaar. Lowest terms to P. MAGUIRE, Bazaar, Castleblayney, co. Monaghan.

WANTED, Immediately, for Lynton Town Band, good first violin, viola, and double bass. Lowest terms, refs., to REANO, Lynton, N. Devon.

WANTED, at Once, Good First Violin, used to variety, permanent shop to right man. Address, SYDNEY DAVIES, Conductor, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

For Tour in France with Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, Salary 44s. Weekly; also Slide Trombone and Euphonium, salary 40s. Must be Reliable, Competent, and Sober Men. No Fares allowed, but this can be arranged.
Join at once, or before Aug. 5.
Apply FRANK BOSTOCK, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, St. Die, Dept. Vosges, France;
or Permanent Address, c/o Mr. C. DEVERE,
17, Rue Saulnier, Paris.

WANTED, First Cornet Player, for about eight weeks, experienced in comic opera and theatre work, commence Wednesday next. Wages, 33s. 6d. paid, for full week.
HAGUE, Spa Theatre Bridlington.
State reference.

WANTED, for Folkestone Town Band at once, E flat clarionet, solo clarionet, solo cornet, second cornet, E flat tenor, bass, Permanent. Terms, Shares. Apply, SECRETARY, 51, Tontine-st

WANTED, Clarionet, to open Aug. 6 till Sept. 16, two performances daily; Variety. References and lowest terms, FRANK BEARD, Alhambra Palace, Morecambe.

WANTED, Good Double Bass for Hippodrome, Douglas, Open Aug. 6, must be steady, reliable, and used to Variety Business. A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX.

WANTED, Double Bass Player for Standard Theatre. State Terms, References, Full Particulars, FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, to Commence Monday, Aug. 6, Good Solo Trombone, bass and treble clef. Terms, 30s. E. COOK, B.M., Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, Innerleithen, Scotland.

WANTED, Trombone, till End of September, Five Hours Daily.
Terms and References to
CONDUCTOR, Military Band, Penzance.

WANTED, First-class Trombonist, for Four Weeks, start Bank Holiday. Apply, A. W. CHAPMAN, 50, Thirsk-rd., Lavender Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Tenting, Ireland, Steady, Reliable Bombardon, to Open Aug. 6. Address, METCALFE, Leader, Mon., New Ross; Tues., Waterford, Ireland.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, 'Cello, Bass, and Drums, Aug. 6; Oboe, Bassoon, Sept. 3; permanency to capable musicians. State age, salary, latest refs., to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Viola, Twice Daily, commence Aug. 3. Terms, refs., season about nine weeks, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Palace, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, at once, Opera House Orchestra, Oboe and Smart Drummer, must be Good; also probably required to play afternoons (October to April) in Municipal Orchestra. Extra Salary. Send Terms (Opera House Engagement), References, and Age, to HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Municipal and Opera House Orchestras, Cheltenham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, at once, for Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's Theatres, Glasgow, Oboe, Bassoon, Trombone, Clarionet, must be First-rate, Smart, and Steady. Apply to
ALFRED CARPENTER, M.D., King's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Pianist, combine Second Violin, Engagement, Aug. 5, sobriety indispensable. Refs. MICHAEL CONNELLY, Musical Director, Victoria Theatre Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Good Orchestral Pianist, used to variety, open Aug. 6. Lowest terms and references, POOLE, Theatre, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Smart Pianist, for Al Fresco, to open at once. Terms, shares. Double-handed man preferred. Wire, GUSTAVE'S MERRY MASCOTS, Lichfield.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, Gentleman, good wages, permanency, to open Aug. 4. Full particulars to TRANSFIELD'S Hippo., Dartford.

WANTED, at once, Busking, Accompanist, Portable Found, Seaside, Shares, Single Preferred, Good Business Known. Write, WILSON, 19, Colebrooke-row, Islington.

WANTED, Good Pianiste, Sight Reader and Transpose, Combine Mezzo-Soprano, Open Monday, 30th. RONALD GARLAND, Ferncliff Gardens, Sandown, I. of W.

SOUTHPORT CORPORATION BAND.
WANTED, Experienced Bass Drummer. Address, with References, to
MESSRS. BARTLE AND RIMMER, Conductors.

WANTED, for Beaumaris Pier Concerts, a good Double Drummer and Tympanist, with effects, from Aug. 4 to Sept. 8. R. YEABSLEY, 3, Plas Coch-terrace, Beaumaris.

WANTED, Double Drummer to Open Aug. 3, for seven weeks. Wire, or write at once. Address, SHAW, Hippodrome, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Musicians, all Lines, Open Monday. Wire lowest terms to
ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Small Band, for Promenade Band Stand, 8 to 10 players, open Aug. 2, 4 weeks; must be very moderate. Apply, YOUNG, Assembly Rooms, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin, thoroughly experienced in theatre and varieties, first-class refs. STRANK, 42, Rutland-st., Pimlico.

WANTED, Engagement, tour abroad (S. Africa or India preferred), by three useful people respectively: Pianist conductor, quick arranger, large répertoire incidentals, concertеds, duets choruses, &c.; serio and contralto, good répertoire; and clever child actress. Liberty Sept. 24. A. B. CHALLIER, 128, Shrewsbury-road, Forest Gate, London.

WANTED, by Bachelor of Music, Oxford, Engagement, Thoroughly Experienced Musical Director, Conductor, Pianist, Voice Trainer. Highest Refs. 18, Warrington-crescent, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director (Violin), variety preferred, thoroughly experienced five years last engagement. THOS. RICHARDSON, 13, Roberts-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, Solo or Second Cornet, circus or menagerie, join at once. R. H. TAYLOR, 27, Newton-rd., Newton-le-Willows, Lewton, Lancs.

WANTED, by Reliable Leader and Brilliant Violinist, Engagement, variety or dramatic, stock of music, and experienced. CARPENTER, Gilpin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, also Repetiteur or Second Violin, any business, good rép., terms mod. Add., W. and G. VERNON, Elgar House, Down's-rd., Walmer, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, Slight Experience, requires engagement, permanently, or a short period; would go yachting. Terms arranged. LONG, 62, College-st., Putney.

WANTED, Engagement, as First, or Principal Second, Violin, theatre or hall, London or suburbs preferred. VIOLINIST, 22, Knowle-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, can Combine Clarionet. Good refs.
W. SMITH, 14, Clapham-road. London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violinist, capable of leader, thoroughly competent. J. FURNISS, 79, Victoria-rd., Saltaire, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement by Violin and Clarionet. Any Business, Open at Once. G. C. ARMOUR, 216, Fawcett-road, Southsea.

WANTED, by Violinist, engagement, any business; sight reader; seaside, East Coast preferred. VIOLINIST, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced First Violinist, seaside or café. At Liberty now. LENA CHALLEN, Stinchcombe, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violinist, theatre or hall, young, and reliable player. Good refs. Mr. J. P., 26, Nydd Vale-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, through Disappointment, Engagement as Second Violin, Good References, 8 years' Barrasford Hippodromes. C. DIBBERT, 5, South Garden-street, Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Violinist, thoroughly experienced. MISS L. C. MATTHEWS, 2, County-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin, last employment, Shepherd's Bush Empire, age 22. G., 10, Brady-st.-dwellings, Mile End.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet. Dis. Aug. 6, London Preferred. Present Engaged R.A.R.E. Beaumaris. PAGE, 43, Marshall street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Solo Cornet-player will give £5 to anyone finding Situation as above in Good Theatre. Box 3,480, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Solo Cornet, Thoroughly Experienced in Theatre and Concert. Address, Box 3505, "The Era."

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J. PURSGLOVE,
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London, N.

WANTED, by Band Corporal, Leaving Service, character very good, abstainer, permanent work, solo clarionet, or position of trust. Good references. Corpl, HANCOCK (Band), Marine Barracks, Plymouth.

WANTED, engagement by Clarionet, any business, Variety preferred; at Liberty at once. A. BREWSTER, 37, Margaret-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass, thoroughly experienced theatres and varieties, reliable, good refs. BASSIST, 48, Lincoln-rd., Ponder's End, London.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Experienced, Engagement, or deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Double bass; thoroughly experienced; excellent references; permanency preferred. LYND, 170, Drakefell-rd., Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass, theatre or music hall; experienced and reliable. GEORGE, 3, Midland-road, Royston, near Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass Player, any business, sober and reliable, permanency preferred. Address, W. CARL, 12, Arnold-rd., Northampton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Good Engagement, Variety or Theatre, Steady, Reliable, Excellent Refs. H., 109, Chatsworth-road, Clapton Park, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon, Orchestral or military, London district preferred. BASSOON, 15, Warwick-road, Hampton Wick.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombonist, any business, first-class theatre or music hall preferred. Box 3,514, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq,. King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class 'Cellist Address,
Box 3513, "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola and Violin (Male), Long or Short Engagement, any Business or District, would Deputise. ADVERTISER, 36, Malpas-road, Brockley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe, any business, Liberty Aug. 8.
J. WILSON, 2. South Cross-street, Gosport, Hants.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19. All letters 7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, Disengaged from Aug. 6, London or Suburbs preferred. LA TREMOLO, 45, Beaumont-st., Portland-place, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Flautist, First-class, Permanency, Long Experience in Opera, Musical Comedy, Varieties. Always Reliable. Address, FLAUTIST, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Misses H. Howard and D. Darrel at Liberty, Flute and Piccolo solos, trios for Flute, 'Cello, and Piano; also accompanist. Just concluded successful tour. C/o MRS. BUTLER, Thornton-le-Clay, near York.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo Soloist, any Business, Good Refs., at Liberty Aug. 6. Address, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement by J. Conolly, pianist, and E. Conolly, Violinist, Seaside Preferred. Sight Readers. Address, MESSRS. CONOLLY, 6, Danvers-road, Tonbridge, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Miss Marie Sheldon, Orchestral Pianiste and Vocalist, at Lib. Aug. 1 for Season or Tour. Add., 10, Sullivan's-quay, Cork.

WANTED, Known, Solo Pianist and Accompanist, Powerful Baritone Voice, wishes to Join High-class Concert Party. MUSBAC, 18, Warrington-crescent, W.

WANTED, by good smart Double Drummer, permanent Engagement; own tympani, &c. DRUMS, 113, Lynton-rd. Bermondsey.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, with Effects, Steady and Reliable, Good References. TED CALLCOTT, 16, Burlington-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement, London, as First-class Drums, own tymps., London experience. Box 3,510, "The Era."

WANTED, by the Blue Hungarian Band, Engagements.
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Promenade Concerts, &c.
Handsome Uniforms.
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WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Mr. T. E. Read, Lessee of the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, has arranged with Messrs. R. Fossett and Sons to supply a First-class Circus Company, with an Entire Change of Programme weekly, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Feb. 4. Star Artists in all Branches required. Male and Female Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, and Novelties of a First-class Character. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all Communications to R. FOSSETT AND SONS, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. (Please give time for re-direction of letters.)

WANTED, by Robert Fossett and Sons, for Circus Department, Royal Agricultural, Islington, London, N., First-class Circus Company, Star Artists in all Branches, Male and Female, Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, Scene Act Riders, Tumbling Clowns, Novelties of a First-class Character, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. FOSSETT and SON, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton, or Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Please give time for re-direction of letters.

WANTED, Wanted, for
FitzGerald's Circus,
Australia,
Troupe of Lady Acrobats,
First-class Clown,
Good "Star" Acts,
Novelties.
Twelve Months' Engagement. Passage paid out. No Fancy Salaries.
Send full particulars, and state when disengaged, to MR. F. C. MILNES, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Lady and Gentlemen Equestrians, manage, &c., with own horses, artists of all descriptions, for circus business, to open Aug. 4, at Llandudno, property men, &c. Address, H. GILES, Hay Mills, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Acts, with Ponies, Dogs, &c., for galas, Aug. 6, near Newcastle. S. SMALLEY, 19, Vauxhall Bridge-road, London.

WANTED, two Youths, used to Circus business, able to clown and do speciality (play comedy parts if required), and make themselves generally useful, long tour. State age, height, references; state speciality. Photos, lowest terms, SANTE, "Showman" Co., Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, Trapeze Performer and Handbalancer, for troupe. Terms, Box 3,518, "The Era."

WANTED, Middle Man and Catcher, one who can tumble preferred. Apply, FORD, 6, Glenelg-road, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Cirque Pinder, France, good Saddler, must be used to collar work; also good grooms, with their own boots and breeches. Address, Cirque Pinder, Rouen, France.

WANTED, Smart Groom, for Animal Show; must thoroughly understand grooming, own uniform if possible. Apply, MANAGERESS, Circus, Parade, New Brighton

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show wants to Thank all Managers and Agents for Kind Offers, but have no Vacancy till Oct. 29, after my Return from Spain. Offer for that Date and onwards, with exceptions, invited.
Coms., Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Danny D'Almer, just returning from South Africa, will shortly be at Liberty.
Bareback Equestrian,
Talking, Tumbling, Knockabout Clown and Agouste.
Permanent Address,
127, Aughton-road,
Southport.

WANTED, Miss Pinder, the Novel Bare-back Equestrienne, Liberty August Bank Holiday, with her stage circus turn, introducing her highly-trained horse, riding dog, and flight of pigeons; also John Irvin, foot equilibrist. For terms, address, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, that the Advance Bookings for this American Versatile Novelty number are in the able hands of Fred Neiman. Zampo and Clown, Bar, lifting canvas to Bar, Humorists and Somersault Specialists. Lord John Sanger, Ltd., Tour.

WANTED, Known, Algar and Radford, Juggling, Konjuring Klowns, Kantankerous (burlesque) Moke. Success fêtes, gardens, &c. 9, Cologne-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Aug. 6, West and Raynor, comical clowns and knockabout donkey, great attraction. Address, 88, Hurst-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Merchants, July 30, Pavilion, Southport, booked by Edgar Stebbings, Liberty Sept. 3, 10. Address, as above.

WANTED, Known, Kamari Trio, Comedy Triple Bars and Acrobats, two distinct turns, Vacant Aug. 6, onwards. Address, see Card.

WANTED, Known, the Flying Olympias, world's greatest lady and gentlemen trapeze and horizontal bar performers, vacant Monday, onwards, for galas or tenting. Wire, Hippo., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magde, the Gala Queen, in Her Daring and Sensational Aerial Trapeze and Spar Show, most sensational aerial show in England, 50ft. high, no net, Liberty Aug. 6, onwards. 77, Liverpool-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 6 and 13, the Lashmars, comedy artists, introducing hand and head balancing, songs, and acrobatic dance. Post Office, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Galas, by Mlle. Bartenelli, the Cleverest of all Aerial Contortionists. 22, St. Mary's-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Comedy Contortionist, Liberty August, for fêtes, galas, &c. 103, Church-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Lockhart, Speciality Globe and Tight Wire Artist, open Monday, 30th, Tower, New Brighton; Aug. 6 and 13, Fêtes; Liberty Aug. 20, also for Pantomime. Permanent, Hildathorpe, Hay Mills, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Anatomical Marvel and Barrel Expert, Liberty July 30, on, for galas, &c., two first-class acts. Wire, 39, West-st., Harwich.

WANTED, Known, De Cora Trio, Herculean Equilibrists, and Danvers Trio, Heavy Weight Manipulators, at Liberty Aug. 6, for galas. 94, Langdon-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, Sylverto, Up-to-date Juggler, Vacant Monday, on, for halls, al fresco, or galas. Offers, 16, Holly-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, by Mons. De Greine, Juggler, Liberty Galas. Bath Gala Aug. 15.
18, Portland-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Juggler (young), requires Engagement with a first-class man or troupe, capable of club juggling and comedy. Apply, PAUL COLE, 14, Boyne-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, by Mozzetto, an Artistic Juggler, Aug. 6. Terrific success here, second week, Hippodrome, Douglas. Aug. 13, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, July 30 and Aug. 6. Wire, King-street, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Max Merlin, Crocodile, Prettiest, Most Novel of its Kind, the Act that's making them talk. Scrap of Conversation (overheard): "Where are you going, Jones?" "Going to the Temperance Hall, man. Do you not know Max Merlin, crocodile, is there? Men in our pit say see him, his show's much prettier than when at Circus." This. Starred, Complimented, Merthyr. 30th Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Romanii, the World's Refined Athletes, success everywhere, want Mon., Aug. 6. Perm., 13, Smith-st., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, Acrobat, Bearer, and Gymnast, can join at once. Address, ACROBAT, 35, St. John's-road, Forest-road, Walthamstow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

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HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists, Big Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Comedy Acts,
Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is new and novel.
Send List of Bookings, Lithos, and Terms,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street., Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 6, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 6, on, London and Provinces. Particulars, SEAVEY AND Co., 23, Islington-green, London, N.

WANTED, Variety Artists to send Vacant Dates and Terms to ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Sisters, Doubles, doing Singles, good appearance, and wardrobe, Aug. 6, and onwards. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 17.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. A Room to Let, Palmistry excepted.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, in all Lines and Specialities, July 30, Aug. 6, onwards, Promenade, Hartlepool. Lowest Terms, ALLNUTT, 25, Middlegate-street, Hartlepool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, Wanted, Artists, for Sheffield and Leicester, Trial Weeks, on Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit. Successful Artists can be Guaranteed the Tour.

J. W. JOHNSON, Variety, Dramatic, and Pantomime Agent, 86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Immediately, Vocal and Instrumental Artists, Lady and Gents, for First-class Al Fresco Co., under Residential Management. Salary and Share. Also any Novelties. EXTRA, Minehead.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists in all lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

HIPPODROME, LANCASTER. Proprietors, F. Porter and W. J. Ferguson. WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, Artists, all Lines. Communications as above.

WANTED, Artists, Al Fresco, no Ladies, Specialties of Every Description, Monday, on Charles Bradford's Pavilion, Withernsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, July, on. Send lowest terms and bookings. FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Artists in all Lines for Constitutional Hill and Pier, Aberystwyth. Preference to People Playing Instruments. Terms, Shares. Apply, full particulars, PARRISH, Pier, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Palace, Oldbury, Aug. 6, 13, onwards. Open to treat with good combinations.

Write, PRICHARD, Palace Theatre, Oldbury. Also Artists for Pierrots.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, July 30 and Aug. 6, onwards. State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c., JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment," Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Please note.—Shortly removing to more commodious premises, of which due notice will be given.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME. Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD. WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.

T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager. G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, all Artists holding Contracts with the Empire Palace of Varieties, Dover, from this date are requested to forward bill matter direct to Chas. R. Standfield Empire, Dover, and not as stated on old contracts. CHAS. R. STANFIELD, Secretary, Empire, Dover, July 24, 1906.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Star Turns.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Sheerness, closed Saturday, June 30, for alterations and redecorations Due notice will be given of re-opening. REYMOND.

WANTED, Known, Re Artists Wanted. Specialities Writing in should always Quote Permanent Address for Future Reference, to MR. CHAS. EVANS, General-Manager, Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN. WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession, Acts New in Dublin, for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland, Direct or through Agents. All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Aug. 6, onwards. Terms, Bookings, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telephone 09,261.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE, SANDGATE. Lessee and Manager, Mr. HARRY BENET. WANTED, First-class Combinations, for Feb. 4, on, with exceptions; must have star top and bottom. Good terms to the right people. Bookings include Brown and Kelly's Company, Messrs. Barney Vox and Pat Carey's Company, Prof. Hocking's Company, Fred Southern's Company (all returns). Next week's Company, Marguerite Broadfoote (London's Greatest Burlesque Actress), Fred Arno, Daisy Rhyl, George Rapley, Rita and Roma, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Fred Southern's Dramatic Company. Remember, it's not the largest hall that lays the biggest egg. All coms. to HARRY BENET.

WANTED, the best of Talent, in all Lines, for Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, Greenock, London, immediate. Artists free Monday, write at once. DREW BAYLEY, Reliable Agent (Old Firm), 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

SAM L. BURY'S AGENCY. Sole English Representatives for the Casino de Paris, Paris. Telephones: Office, 8273 Gerrard; Residence, 65 Brixton. Continental Representative: G. W. Gerald, 19, Rue d'Enghien, Paris, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket, London. WANTED, First-class Attractions, for the Casino de Paris, Paris; must be big. Send lithos. and all particulars to the above address.

AGENCE ROUSSELOT, 4, Rue Lafferrière, Paris. WANTED, Attractions, of all Kinds, for a Tournée through France, Italy, and Spain, Russia, and South America.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Biggest Acts in the Profession, with odd weeks vacant, to Communicate, with full particulars. Vocalists, Instrumentalists, &c., for Sunday Night Concert, write, CAVILL'S Agency, 127, Clapham-road, London, S.W. Telegrams, "Dramatical."

LEO FRITZ'S Agency, 55, Haverstock-road, London, N.W. WANTED, the Greatest Acts in the Business, for Aug. 13, and onwards. Comedians, Comediennes, Double Turns, &c. Also a First-class thought-reading act for Oct. 22. Send full booking. Wire or write immediately to above.

WANTED, Big Comedy and Sensational Acts, Aug. 13, on. Lowest terms and list of bookings, E. C. JAZON, 11, St. Andrew-rd., Anfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class refined Speciality Act for Aug. 6 week, no conjurers or ventriloquists: stage 30ft. by 10ft. and 10ft. high, Al Fresco Pavilion. Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Speciality Acts Aug. 6 week. OTTO C. CULLING, Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Aug. 6, onward, Acts, in all Lines. MARTINO'S Agency. 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Comic Ground Acts, for Al Fresco, monkey Performance, to join Prof. Buer. 1, Waterloo-cres., Orchard-st., Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Big. Attractive Specialities, Aug. 6 and 13 (North). Three Days' Silence a Polite Negative. G. AND F. PEEL, Granville House, Arundel-st, Strand.

WANTED, Specialities, Aug. 13, on. Absolute lowest summer terms, or no notice taken. ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Tower, New Brighton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY, Residential Offices, The Hippodrome, Scarborough Sole Appointed Agent for the Yarmouth and Lowestoft Hippodromes, Hengler's, Glasgow, Geo. Gilbert's Enterprises. WANTED, Big Novelties in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates, for above and Various Towns. Quote Absolute Lowest, and Give Full Bookings.

Artists Engaged for Scarborough Please Note, Rehearsal Monday Next, at 11.30.

Ergotti and King Luis Wire Address. Correspondence Français and Deutsch. Telephone, No. 288. Telegraphic Address, "Zalva, Scarborough."

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. T. B. Fayme communicate.

THE PAGODA, Littlehampton. Original Promenade Concerts. WANTED, Good Specialities, August and September full. Particulars, terms, lithos, &c., to HARRY JOSEPH.

WANTED, Good Speciality, Monday next, and on, stage 24 by 14, finest al fresco pavilion in England; also Good Baritone. Particulars, BATTERSBY, Bilston.

WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, Top, Bottom, all kinds Speciality Variety Acts. I can book Oct. 22, thought-reading act. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for London, Something Great, in an open-air attraction, essential that it must be a novelty, large space available. Address, "AMUSEMENTS," c/o Spiers and Pond, Ltd., Advertising Agents, 35, New Bridge-street, E.C.

WANTED, First-class Concert Party, for Pier Pavilion, Dover, Aug. 27. Apply, F. C. DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, through Cancellation of Tour, a High-class Concert Party at Pier Pavilion, Dover, for week commencing Sept. 24. Full particulars, FRED DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Good Marionette or Dog Show, for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, to follow Leoni Clarke, 6 per cent. Apply to PAPA BROWN, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-rd., S.W. 'Phone, 887 Brixton. Tel., "Jibbers, London."

WANTED, Trick Cyclist, August Bank Holiday for Fete. JURY, 142, Long-acre, London, W.

WANTED, a Young Lady who plays Mandoline well, Dance, and Sing, for a good affair. Box 3496, "The Era." N.B.—Miss Maie Hoey send address.

WANTED, Big Star Comedians, also Big Drawing Numbers, immediate and onwards. HARRY BURNS'S Agency, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." Telephones, 0231 and 0231a.

WANTED, Extra Good Vocal Comedian, must have Good Voice, Up-to-date Répertoire; also Weekly Specialities, Stage 18 by 10. DAVIS, 2, Wellington-road, Whitby.

WANTED, Refined Light Comedian, Al Fresco, Dancer Preferred, to Open Aug. 6, Seven Weeks Certain. Terms and Particulars, WEST AND EUGENE, Dominoes, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Comedians and Specialities, July 30 and Aug. 6, onwards. Terms, Photos, Refs., to JACK COSGROVE, 17, Baliol-st., Barnard Castle, Durham.

WANTED, a Good Vocal Comedian. Lowest terms, age, and répertoire, in first letter. Six weeks certain; terms must be low. HASTINGS, Pier, Beaumaris, Anglesey.

WANTED, Light Comedian, used to Concerteds, Gags, Al Fresco. Lowest terms, répertoire, photo., particulars, first instance, PERCY AGUTTER, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Humorists (Chevalier Style), Comedians, Vocalists, also Specialities, open at once, covered-in show. Lowest terms and photos., BILLY MOORE, New Pavilion, Hoylake.

WANTED, Legmania Artist, Posturer, for Continent. Apply, from 9 a.m. to 10, LUCK, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road.

WANTED, Refined Light Comedian for Sketch, must be tall and slight. Call Monday, between 12 and 1. 34, Stockwell Park-rd., Clapham.

WANTED, Immediately, Several Knockabouts for Big Sketch, must tumble a little, used to playing rough parts. MAJOR AND THURGATE, Hip., Bury.

WANTED, Youth that can do Front Bending. State age and Tricks. Letters only, Box 3458, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Opportunity for Smart Young Man, to be Thoroughly Instructed in Handcuff Mysteries. TROWS, 10, Dale-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Cinematograph or Novelty for few days. Lowest terms, apply Box 3498, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope, Finest Al Fresco Pavilion in England, latest films, 20 minutes, electric, change weekly. Lowest terms, BATTERSBY, Bilston.

WANTED, for Palace, Porth, S. Wales, Graph Operator, used to lime and electric, assist. billing in daytime. Permanency to Good Man. Age and References to POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, from Aug. 6, Experienced Operator. State Age, Experience, References, and Salary Required. PLOTTEL AND CO., 20, Baker-st, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Operator, with own Machine, long engagement. Terms, particulars, MURRAY, 46, Reginald-road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Aug. 13 Vacant, Aug. 13 Vacant.

The Acme of Womanly Perfection. Mdlle. Von Etta. Mdlle. Von Etta.

The World's Only Lady Illusionist and Lightning Change Artiste. An Artistic Performance. Everything Beautifully Staged and Dressed. Grand Transformation Fit Up. "The Palace of Electricity," a scene of costly splendour and dazzling brilliancy. Managers wanting a successful Top of Bill secure this Act. Vacant August 13, between Southampton and Walsall. This Act has been booked for London Hippodrome and Moss and Stoll Tour.

Next week, Empire, Bristol, to where address. This week, Starring, T. R., Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, Liberty Aug. 6, on; also Nellie Van, Comedy Artist. Barrasford Tour and Panto. Booked. Thanks to Geo. Aytoun, Esq., for contracts for Moss' Empires. Wire, Hippodrome, Lancaster, July 30.

WANTED, Known, Miss Sadie Bush, Contralto Vocalist, at Liberty Aug. 6, onwards. Wire best offers, 8, Craile-lane, St. Andrew's, Scotland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 6 and 13, by Zelda, the Instrumental Lady, big act. Wire, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, are at Liberty Monday. Wire or Write, Drill Hall, Newhaven; after Sat. 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Paganini Redivivus, the old veteran Violinist, aged 70, is at Liberty to accept Engagements for Theatres, Circuses, Music Halls, Ballets, Pantomimes, &c. Notice.—Paganini Redivivus uses his new invention, which he has named "The Chin Lever," which greatly reduces the difficulty of violin playing. The act he appears in will awaken enthusiasm, as Paganini Redivivus seemingly turns young again in presence of the audience while playing the splendid overture to "William Tell," a musical tour de force considered quite unequalled by all violinists. Please address Paganini Villa, 3, Kimberley-rd., East Southsea, Hants.

WANTED, October on, Trippello, expert instrumentalist, introduces smartest tubular bell manipulation invented, burlesque bassoonist, and greatest saxophonist of the age; a new and clever musical act; challenge to all; a novel competition for local amateur bandsmen, and an inexpensive attraction. Splendid fit-up; attractive competition posters. Address, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Croxon, at Liberty Aug. 13, through Liverpool Tivoli not opening until Sept. Palace, Camberwell; next, Empire, Holborn.

WANTED, Engagements, after August, in Birmingham, Cheltenham, or Gloucestershire, Felix Bone, the drawing-room white coon, for concerts, bazaars, at-homes, &c. Highest refs.; refined répertoire. Apply, Box 3,507, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Chas. Bu-Val, Dutch Speciality, including concertinacalities, essence of refinement, vacant Monday, on, with exceptions. Wire, write, Empire, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, Johnny Fuller, the Great Little Cat on the Wire. Owing to Disappointment at Liberty Aug. 6, for Hall or Gala. This, Hip., Huddersfield; next, Hip., Wolverhampton

WANTED, Known, Indian Fakirs, with his Wonderful Stocks, Success Everywhere, Vacant Aug. 13. Apply, 164, High-st., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Soros, the Mystery, Big Star Act, Animated Pictures, Sketch, "Child of Darkness," Only Vacancy this Year. Wire, this, Coliseum, Aberystwyth; Mon., T. R., Worcester.

WANTED, Young Comedian Open for Good Portable, Small Répertoire at Present, Play Mandoline, 5ft. 5in, Small Stature. Box 3516, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next and Bank Holiday, the Mintos, Lady and Gentleman, Refined Musical Eccentrics and Vocalists. Second distinct turn if required. Wire quick, 16, Manor-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Warren, the Popular Pictorial Songstress, and the Mysterious Lilith, Liberty Aug. 6 and Sept. 3. Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, on and after July 23 Carr and Rose will be known as Wyze and Adna, presenting a new and original Operetta by Walter Gilbert, entitled "The Society Lady and the Cockney Swell. July 30, G., Clapham. All Coms., WALTER BENTLEY.

WANTED, Monday Next and Aug. 6, by T. W. Lenner, Versatile Comedian, and Florrie Wright, Sweet-voiced Vocalist. Carlton T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 6 and 13, by Zelda, musical act; also Wal Owen, silent comedy act. Wire, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by Agnese and Arthur Lynch, Song Illustrators, Aug. 6, 13, and 20, owing to P., Dundee, being closed. A sure success on any bill. This and next, P., Bridlington.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, by the Original Kyoto and May Geraldine, Comedienne. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-ter., London, S.E

WANTED, Monday next and Bank Holiday, by Mons. Savaro, Bird Imitator; also Mlle. Lillian and Clown Agouste, Comedy Contortionists. Wire, till Saturday, Casino, Bexhill-on-Sea; after, 65A, Ellen-street, E.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Speciality Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey; roars of laughter. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success. through Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians, at liberty for panto. Last Xmas, Smith's "Aladdin." Any character, ruffians preferred. Others to ASTLEY BROS., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Conversational and Comedy Triple Bar Act, Vacant Monday. Wire, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Spencer and Marks, Speciality Comedians, Monday next and Aug. 6. Wire, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Turle and Turle, Knockabout Gymnastic Comedians, two special acts, good for galas. 5, Wood-st. East, Manchester.

WANTED, by Tomps and Wells, Eccentric Musical Comedy Act, Aug. 6, and onwards. Letters, 357, Holloway-road. Wires, "Honri, London."

WANTED, by the Carls, Comedy Trampoline Act, Aug. 6 and 13, success guaranteed, splendid lithos., 40 somersaults in a swing. Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Aug. 6, by Scottie's Waifs and Strays, Big Act, 14 People on Stage, Entire Scenery and Effects; also "Whizzing the Whirl." ALEXANDER, 78, Gresham-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, the Continental Mayos, in their great Comedy Skateoreal Act, have a few open dates from Aug. 6 previous to their return on a Continental tour. Address for terms, &c., to 66, Brook-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free July, and Aug. 6, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Five Olracs, World's Greatest Acrobatic Comedians, Aug. 13 and 27. For Terms, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, by George Gulliver, polyphonic entertainer and ventriloquist. Huge success again, Hippodrome, Hulme (return). Thanks Messrs. Cavill and Co., Fortune and Granville, Dr. Carl Hermann, Percy Agutter, and Mr. Henry Kemble, for offers and contracts during the past week. Address, Monday, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, 30th, and Aug. 6, Gillin, Ventriloquist, with or without Edison Bioscope. Wire, until Sat. night, Empire, Edinburgh; after, GILLIN, Ventriloquist, Rotherham.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Welsh Vent. and Conj. Few vacant dates. Terrific success. This, Pavilion, Greenock. Agent, DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow, who found me. Look at last week's "Era," Dundee.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Season, or Special Weeks, Al Fresco, by Ventriloquial Society Entertainer, 2 splendid specialities. M., Hope Hotel, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, One Week, Aug. 6, by Lieut. Albini and His Mysterious Lady in Black, Wonder; also Miss Dot Irving, Smart Coon Singer and Expert Dancer. Address, 1, Gloucester-place, Littlehampton, Sussex.

WANTED, Week, Sept. 24 (between Ryde and Blackpool), salary or share, Mr. Harry Liston's Concert Party. St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Monday next, also Aug. 13, for Matt. Wilkinson's Laughing Success. "The Registry Office"; also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Wire, 63, Kent-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Dates, Dramatic Sketch, "A Woman's Adventure," produced Moss and Stoll's Hippodrome, Manchester. KATE BRUCE, 11, Sidney-st., All Saints, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

"THE RIGHT ROAD," Dramatic Duologue. "Married or Photographed?" Comedy Duologue. WANTED, for above, Aug. 6 and 13. Write or Wire, REED, 136, King's Hall-road, Beckenham, Kent.

WANTED, Aug. 6, for Screaming Sketch, "Her House in Disorder," produced at Lyceum London. Wire, HERCAT AND FAIRFAX, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, by the Strettons, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, on, in their comedy burlesque, "Disappointed." Wire, 31, Slyne-road, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Most Refined and Elaborately-Staged Animal Act Worked by a Lady, including the Great Football Team, including the Masterpiece, the Goalkeeper, through Barring and Closing, is Vacant Aug. 6 and few others, for first-class Halls, Fêtes, and Picture Entertainments. Thanks to R. Pringle for Dates. Add., 10, Wellington-place, Halifax. Specially engaged to appear at the Great Shrewsbury Fête.

WANTED, Bank Holiday Week (Unexpected'y Vacant), Kitty Woodford's Canine Circus and Orchestra, a Good Up-to-date Act, Well Staged, and Smartly Worked. Wire, Saturday, 4 Mount Pleasant, Ton-y-Pandy; next week, Poole's Myriorama, Blaenavon.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Funny Dog Show, the biggest novelty before the public, Liberty Monday, through mistake in date. Wire, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Galas for the Act that surprises the world, Aug 6, Clough Hall, Chard's Dog Circus. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED Known, Pauletti, Staircase Leaping Acrobatic Cyclist, in a comical and clever act. Thanks for offers. 106, Bigland-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Young Comedian, wishes to join Sketch or Act as Assistant, no premium. FRANK OGDEN, 113, Burlington, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement by Smart Continental Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator, age 22. Good References. G. M., 27, Rosamond-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, a Smart Young Lady requires engagement with Illusions. Box 3497, "The Era."

WANTED, Dates for Le Clair, with Urban Bioscope, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Troupe of Dogs, Seventy Weeks, Big Success, Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers. MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers. WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches. Auctioneers only supplied. Write to-day for particulars. C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the world, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. The most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. The GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

Notice. WANTED, Known, write to the Internationale Cinématographen and Lichteffekt Gesellschaft, Berlin, Markgrafenstr, 91, for Bioscopes, Films, and particulars of prize competition. Dealers have dozens of our Cinématographs. We are in touch with scientific authorities, and performed before Emperor.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, TRADE EXHIBITION, Oct. 20 to Dec. 8, 1906. WANTED, Good Side-shows and Novelties. W. A. COWIE, 43, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

To Showmen and others. WANTED, portable Helter-Skelter Aerial Flight, first-class Swings, and other attractions for Bank Holiday week on sharing terms at first-class seaside and amusement resort. Arrangements can be made for continuing the balance of the season. Apply, with particulars in writing, to A. A. G. A., 19, Buckingham-street, Strand, London.

NEW ATHLETIC GROUNDS, TREHARRIS, GLAM. WANTED, Great Attractions, Bank Holiday, Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 6 and 7, 1906. Application for Spaces for Shows, Stalls, &c., &c., &c., to be made to DAVIS, Auctioneer, Treharris, R.S.O.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, with Good Drawing Powers, for Monday, onwards. Shares or Salary. Address, HERR WILSON, 78, Castle-street, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Novelties and Freaks. Long Engagement. Terms, Salary, BURNETTE'S Waxworks and Mechanical Wonders, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, now and onward. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Useful Acts, for Fair Business. Musicians write. Open to purchase organ. J. Fuller write. GREY, Circus, Tow Law, Durham.

WANTED, two Young Clowns or Knockabouts, for Parade and do Turn in Show. Not afraid of work. Money small but sure. WILLIAMS, 2, Lascelles-view, Roundhay-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Four Young Ladies, to Assist and Parade for a Side Show at Alexandra Palace, with own short dresses or tights, for one week, commencing Aug. 4. Might be a permanency. Send Photo, Age, Height, and Lowest Terms to A. MARTINO, Town Hall, High Wycombe.

WANTED, for Wadbrook's Royal Electrograph, a First-class Young Lady Acrobatical Dancer, one used to the parade; can live in or out; comfortable shop for suitable person. Address, Show Ground, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, for Alexandra Palace Fair Ground, with Paintings, Second Sight or Electric Lady, or any Quick Show. Terms, Shares. SALVA, 1, Buckingham-road, Wood Green, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Lady Palmist for the Season, on Shares, must be well up in the business. Waxworks, 52, Queen-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Coloured Young Lady or Dark Lady, who is willing to work in side show. Address, PILLAY, 164, High-street, Edinburgh.

LECTURER. WANTED, Good Lecturer and Elocutionist. Good Salary to the right man. Send Photo, which will be returned. Address, Room 21, Oxford Buildings, 9, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, a Good Doorsman, Young, and Smart Appearance; must be thoroughly experienced; also Young Man, that understands electric plant, and make himself useful about show; also good, useful people, for parade. Only talent need apply. Fares arranged. Full particulars and lowest terms to WILLIAM BIDDALL, Electric Bioscope, Sat., Mon., Tues., Summerstown, Tooting, S.W.; remainder of week, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Good Doorsman; must be tall, and know his business. State age, height, and references, MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Picture Exhibition, Operator, Gentleman Pianist, Read Music First Sight; Traction Driver, used to Roundabout work. Good Wages and Long Engagement to Suitable People. References, where last Employed. Wire, Kingsbridge, Sat., Seaton Mon. and Tues., and Shaldon remainder of week.

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Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Chas. March's play, *The Gamester of Mets*, is presented this week. Mr. March himself takes the leading part, which he plays with remarkable resource and skill, being well supported by the members of the company.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The most interesting turn this week is that provided by Staley's Novelty Attraction Company. The performance is one of great originality, and the clever artists, Messrs. Cass and Andrew and Miss Ada, are applauded without stint. The Wakeman Quartette, which consists of Miss Nancy Bruce, contralto; and Messrs. George Windus, tenor; Herbert Watts, baritone; and Charles Wakeman, bass, are extremely popular; and other pleasing turns are those of Miss Maggie Binnie, in a repertory of illustrated songs; Miss Alice Blandford, a young New Zealand vocalist; Miss Amy Elcock, comedienne and dancer; Miss Florrie St. Kay, comedienne; Mr. Fred Bernand, vocal actor; and Claremont and Victor, acrobats.

ACCRINGTON. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—The bill this week is rather out of the ordinary, the greater part of the programme being made up of a very interesting series of pictures. George Georgie is a very smart comedian, and pleases his audience; Edie Endon is deserving of commendation; and the Albertos are particularly clever.

ALDERSHOT.—The Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Notwithstanding unfavourable climatic influences against theatre-going, large audiences are finding delight in the performances by Mr. Lingford Carson's company of *The Drama of Life*, which contains an interesting story, with many sensational and thrilling episodes. The play is excellently "put on," too, a feature which has its telling effect. The talented company has in its ranks Messrs. Edward M. Hamilton, J. Hooker, Harwood Roberts, Maxwell Payne, Sydney Fiennes, Horace Booth, Misses Kate Hallam, Nellie Birchenough, F. French, and Elsie May. Mr. Edward Van Biene is general manager of the company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The entertainments at the theatre for the current week are provided by a dramatic company, organised by Miss Moore, and managed by Mr. Percy Shaw, the well-known whistler and comedian. The piece is entitled *The Crimson Club*. The drama has some exciting scenes in it, especially the final one, where a death struggle takes place between the chief villain and an adventuress, and there is much smashing of crockery. Mr. Fred G. Kay ably sustains the part of Sir Philip Garside; as the persecuted hero, Mr. J. Clifford Wright gets the sympathy of the audience; and other members of the Crimson Club are capably sustained by Messrs. Sidney Bland, C. Nugent, J. Franklin-Heywood, Will Shaw, and others. The humorous element is admirably introduced by Mr. Percy Shaw, as a broken-down swell. His whistling solos are a clever and acceptable feature. As the adventuress, Miss Florence Delmar does some impressive work; Miss Sidney Barrasford as Muriel Lockwood makes an amiable and sympathetic heroine; and capital support is given by Misses Millie Hastings and Kitty Elliott in minor rôles.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here includes Lillian Hodge, an able sentimental vocalist; Blarney and Kennard, capable comedians and dancers, with a couple of waltzing dogs; the Devonports (Lewis and Marie), clever conjurers; the Eight Dancing Dotts; Jim Alston, comedian; Billy Burns, the "pit boy," who has a powerful tenor voice; Tom Kelso's sketch *The Silly Servant*; the popular Whimsical Walker, and the talented child actress, Frances Maddock, in the scena, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; Leoni Clarke, the "Cat King," whose trained animals give a very entertaining performance. The Bioscope is the concluding item.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—This comfortable and well-appointed little theatre opened for the season on Monday evening with Mr. H. F. Maltby's romantic play, *The Youngest of Three*. The theatre has been much brightened up during the recess. Mr. Harry W. Day is still acting-manager for the syndicate, which has as managing-director Mr. R. C. Buchanan. Mr. Maltby himself gives a fine rendering of George Windover; and Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves plays the part of the love-sick son admirably. As Phil Radford, Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver acts well; Mr. Ernest Noble, in the dual parts of the rustic Paul, and later as Joshua Pynne, the landlord of the Bowl of Punch, makes the most of these characters. Excellent is the acting of Miss Janet Hodson and Miss Mary Maltby, as the sisters Anne and Florence respectively; while the vivacious, charming Lucy of Miss Beatrice Marsdene deserves every commendation.

Pavilion, Newton Park.—Proprietors, Messrs. Lee and Arden; Manager, Mr. J. W. Forrest.—The following artists are appearing here this week; Gilroy, ventriloquist; Leonard Charles, tenor vocalist; popular Mack Dennison, eccentric humorist; Steve Buckingham, refined comedian; Harry Leyton, humorist; Jack Grant, versatile artist; Jim Forrest ("Sunny Jim"), comedian; and the Boston Bioscope.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey present the Anglo-Indian drama, *A Traitor Prince*, here this week. It is a strong play, with many sensational situations, and was very well received. Mr. Jas. Sherwin as Lieutenant Frank Derrick plays the rôle of a manly British sailor admirably; the Prince Rao Dalmirez of Mr. G. M. Montanini is a very strong character, displaying the villainous cunning of the native to perfection; Miss Rose Routledge renders the part of Lola Vane in a charming manner; Vashti, the Indian snake charmer, is enacted with much effect by Miss Nesta Sandford; Miss Kitty Thomas as Pansy Blossom, and Mr. Edward O'Grady as Bobby Bright are very funny, and add much to the go of the piece.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The top of the bill here this week is "Dou Ban," the mechanical brain, which is creating quite a sensation with its wondrous abilities; Florence and Lilian give an exceedingly clever and refined musical entertainment; Tom Moore has a capital voice, and sings his songs in good style; Selby and Myers, patter comedians and dancers, are very smart, and their dancing deserves special mention; Mack Ollive is very well received in his whistling scene, and he is ably assisted by Miss Daisy Baldrey; Helm and Cozens create a lot of laughter with their sketch *The Doctor and His Patient*.

BELFAST.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The chief attraction here is provided by Mr. John Leopold's company of comedians in the original burlesque, entitled *The Houseboat*, which is certainly most attractive and amusing. The Eight Sunrays, an octette of graceful young ladies, delight all with their charming Parisian creation, *La Maxixe*; and a fine performance has been submitted by Miss Sara de Groot, assisted by that clever actor, Mr. Arthur Holmes Gore, in their dramatic episode, *The Queen's Messenger*, which gives this talented duo fine scope for their admirable acting. The cycling feats by Mr. Arthur Kenney have created quite a sensation; and Mr. Fred Neiman, a smart ventriloquist; the Bros. Bright; Mr. Walter Wade; Miss Lil O'Gorman; and the Palace Pictures complete the programme.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The Boissetts top the bill, and, assisted by a capable company, are appearing in their well-known pantomime, *The Bricklayers*, with every element of success. Miss Millie Payne, a clever eccentric comedienne, was loudly encored on Monday; and Mr. Harry Thurston's mimicry of stars is most realistic. The Two Madges are charming duettists; and the new pictures exhibited by the bioscope are interesting. Also appearing are Mr. Andy Fagan, Irish comedian; Mr. Fred Burton, in a novel musical act; and Mr. Will Fred, comedian and dancer.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The success of the dramatic season continues unabated, and this week the attraction is *The Sins of the Fathers*, presented with great *éclat* by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Miss Nina Blake-Adams furnishes a clever impersonation of Ethel Harmsworth; and the villainies of Sir Reginald Moreland are realistically portrayed by Mr. Herbert Cecil. Mr. Cyril Grier is a manly George Armitage; and Mr. J. F. Pearce must be commended for his convincing impersonation of Deuteronomy Smith. The humour of the piece is in the capable hands of Mr. W. G. Wesley, as Justin Tyne and Miss Effie Macintosh as Polly Popplethwaite. Mr. H. Arnold Allen sustains the rôle of Matthew Harmsworth efficiently; and one of the best pieces of acting is that exhibited by Mr. John Burton as Jim Hewitt. Miss Evelyn Kington acts cleverly as Chippy; and Miss Lina Nazeby is all that can be desired as Camille le Blanc, Little Marjory as Lucy Hewitt and Messrs. Wm. Mailing and S. Mosselle complete the cast. Mr. Herbert Cecil is responsible for the admirable stage-management.

BIRKENHEAD.—Argyle Theatre of Varieties. —Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. G. W. Hunter and Miss Amice Desiree in their amusing and clever sketch, *Rival Wizards*, are a leading feature in a strong combination. The Haytors in *Cabby Knows His Fare* are also scoring heavily; and Mr. Ernie Myers, a versatile comedian, is on a welcome return visit; Miss Lily Lonsdale is a talented soprano vocalist; and Miss Frances Haskoll, in her electric illusory entertainment; Mr. Frank Harwood, actor-vocalist, and the Bodina Trio, musical speciality artists, also appear with distinction. Brown's Royal Bioscope exhibit some capital films.

BIRMINGHAM. — Alexandra Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood, Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Stowaway* is represented here by Miss Winifred Maude and company, who are thus enjoying a second week's well-merited success. Mr. Victor Du Cane, who is again responsible for the production, enacts the rôle of the stowaway, Dicky Dials, and sings several taking songs in a very acceptable style; Miss Winifred Maude, whose charming presence and tasteful manner as Althea Dale win everybody's favour; also sings a number of special songs, which fall on grateful ears. The excellent performance, which has run for upwards of one thousand nights, is enhanced by the well-considered acting of Mr. William Vane as Tom Inglis, Mr. Leonard Harrison as Paul Inglis, Mr. Jas. Stevenson, jun., as Charles Etherington, Mr. W. E. Simpson as Percy Ewart, Miss Ethel Tinsley as Florence Etherington, and Miss Jenny Hackett as Chucky, the London newsboy.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander. — Kennedy's Komics conclude an eminently successful eight weeks' season to-night, when, doubtless, a capital send-off will be the portion of each. The company this week includes Little Hatch, the midget marvel; Ellis and Liston, in mirth and melody; Sandes and Vincent, the funny couple; Kino and Kirby, the local favourites; and an entirely new set of animated pictures, &c.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Prodigal Parson*, played by Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company, is the attraction here. Mr. Garrod presents a striking performance of the title rôle that elicits admiration from all. Mr. Alfred Northway's acting as Enoch Jaggins is guileful and convincing, Mr. Frank Dallos as Ben Jaggins renders valuable aid, Mr. Walter Vincent shines as Ned Kettlepin, while the humour of the play is supplied by Mr. Percy Dawsone, who is specially engaged as Phil Drive. Miss Lydia Hart proves another incentive to mirth as Gretchen, and Miss Bertha Kingston is most acceptable as Fern Godley, the parson's wife; Miss Gladys Conover enacts with much simplicity and pathos the part of the blind child, Myrtle Godley.

Empire Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham. — Louie Freear is attracting crowded houses here with her sketch *Jemima, the Slavey*, in which she is most amusing. Neil Kenyon is an entertaining Scotch comedian; the Sisters Terry, Mignotte Kokin, and Maud Ross are pleasing, artistic, and win loud applause; the Barowsky Trio are clever acrobats; and Will Poluski, jun., and Will Mitcham are amusing. Plenty of fun is caused by Galetti's monkeys.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebury are presenting their sketch *Amateur Acting* here. It is cleverly acted; while Geoffreys and Benson have a sketch, *Spoofed*; and Urwin and Franklin are seen in *A Clerical Combination*; Montague Biggs is a clever female impersonator; the Bros. Artois are daring and eccentric in their bar act; Chummie La Mara is a charming comedienne, and is loudly applauded for her songs; as also is Elsie Clare. Barton and Franklin, Will Sergeant, Dan Thomas, and Muir and Bartlett are very popular.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria is paying us a return visit here. Her latest success, "Waiting at the church," has caught on immediately. The Four Athos, whose manipulation of tennis-balls is wonderful, are applauded; Katie Marsh has a sketch in which she shines; and Raie Walters sings sweetly. Other popular turns are supplied by Dusty Rhodes, Harry Rogerson. Herbert Madden, Will Driscoll, and Will Lytton, who are highly appreciated.

Bordesley Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The clever character quick-change artist Ludwig Amann is a big draw here this week. Cooke and Rothert do a smart American comedy turn; the Bastiens are responsible for a daring acrobatic display; Nellie Martell is a dainty comedienne; the Three Phydoras, musical comedians, and Tom Wootwell are amusing; and Clown Bartar and Miss Rozsika's dogs are decidedly interesting.

BLACKBURN.—New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is playing *A Wrecker of Men* to crowded houses. The drama is powerfully written, and well acted by the company, which includes Miss Mary Ellam, who does excellent work in the principal part.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Chief among a good company of artists is Mr. R. A. Roberte, the well-known Protean entertainer, in his clever quick-change sketch, *Dick Turpin*, in which he impersonates five different characters. Other good artists are Ada Parker, a dainty dancer; the three Scabornes, sensational acrobats; Douglas and Ford, American entertainers; T. B. Foyme, Yorkshire comedian; A. E. Clifford, versatile vocalist; and the Valvans, Oriental jugglers.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Lady Madcap* is paying her first visit here this week since she enlisted under the banner of Mr. George Dance. Oroya Brown is humorously played by Mr. Harold Parkes; Mr. Bay Russell does well as Stony Stratford; and Mr. James Graydon lends material assistance in the fun-making as Posh Jenkins; Mr. Julius Charmettes makes a good Count de St. Hubert and sings his numbers satisfactorily. Mr. George Willes is well placed as Corporal Ham; Mr. Ernest Oresfan looks the part of Major Blatherswaite; and Mr. Emlyn Davis appears as Colonel Layton. Miss Isabel Dillon plays the title-rôle with much spirit and ability; Miss Elsa Werner is a ladylike Gwenny Holden; and Miss Ethel Beech a vivacious Susan. The members of the chorus fulfil all requirements.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. F. Sergenson.—Mr. C. P. Levilly's company is here once again with *Amorelle* and with Miss Stella Gastelle in the title-rôle. As on former visits, she carries all before her, and merits the warmest encomiums nightly. A new but very able Dr. Crow is found in Mr. W. H. Powell, whilst Mr. Arthur Dennis contributes a creditable representation of the Count de Cideaux. Messrs. Manfred Russell and Frederick Hobbs sing and act well as Jules and François respectively, and Mr. Fred Seymour gives every satisfaction as Dodart. Miss Kitty Cavendish as Lesbia and Miss Avis Grahame as Marina are also well qualified for their respective tasks. The excellent chorus is under the direction of Mr. Harry Rushworth, and Mr. Herbert Ralland attends to the front of the house.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Old and new favourites supply a strong and varied programme here this week. The names of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco appear in very big type, which their wonderful feats of legerdemain amply justify. Blackpool has welcomed many conjurers, but this trio excel all previous comers. Other capital turns are given by Lily Lena, a very acceptable vocalist; the Howards, in comedy and melody; the Trapnell Family of acrobats; Vanola, the talented Mexican antipodeste; Frank and Jen Latona, in a clever musical act; Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl;

Rosina Caselli, a very old favourite, with her troupe of performing dogs; and Charlie Williams, the "Scotch coon." Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is always the last, but always one of the most popular items.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dingnan.—Mr. and Mrs. Will Parker's company of children, in the spectacular divertissement entitled *The Children's Party*, still tops the bill here. Nelly Farrell, a singer of Irish songs, is also a favourite turn. A capital pot-pourri entertainment is rendered by Dave Meier and Bella Mora; Collins and Rice are smart comedians; Viviana is a pleasing dancing girl; Tate and Tate score as comedy acrobats; George Adams is a tuneful baritone from New Zealand; Eva Richards sings and dances well; Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston provide a very amusing turn; and the Royal Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*In Sunny Spain* is still given here with undiminished success. Horace Goldin, the conjurer; the Belaguer Family of acrobats; the Castilian Serenaders; Dr. Jules Angelo's tableaux vivants; the Doretty Quartette, in their musical act; and the Scala Girls also remain in the bill, which attracts crowded houses twice daily.

TOWER CIRCUS. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—"House full" is a familiar notice outside this unique circus. The new-comers this week are the Four Holloways, acrobatic wire artists; Walter Bellonini, juggler; and Keen and Waller, novel eccentrics. Still included in the bill are the Kellinos, in their amazing acrobatic feats; Paul Conchas, in his military pastimes act; Willie Hale, hoop manipulator; Klein Family, acrobatic musical cyclists; August and September, comedians; the Novellos, with their trained horses and elephants; and the Famous Finneys, in a swimming act.

BOLTON.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The Seven Savonas, in their creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*, and the Six Cycling Elliotts, are filling in a second week here with an entire change of programme. They are supported by Fred Monckton and company (which includes Miss Lillie Monckton), who present a sketch, *What Railing Did*; Primavesi, a clever juggler; the Fimans, in their comedy sketch, *In the Fire Station*; J. C. Scatter, a North Country comedian; Queenie West, comedienne; Senorita Elvina, a graceful gymnast; Maud Howard and Madge Townsend, duettists; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Monillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—The Reed-Oetzman troupe of pantomimists are at the head of the bill here this week, in their absurdity, *On Tour in the Tyrol*. Will Godwin and Co. are cordially received for their pathetic song scena, *Repentance*. Will Johnson, the popular lively comedian, is giving his latest successes with the happiest results; Lily Morris was billed to appear, but was unavoidably absent on the evening of our visit. Her deputy, however, rendered songs in a sweet and dainty manner. Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer, is another favourite; Fred Collins, Scotch comedian; and W. H. Downs, coloured Australian vocalist, complete the programme.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—On Monday evening last, for the first time here, Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neill's company appeared in Mr. Charles Darrell's drama, *Her Luck in London*. Its reception at the hands of a large audience was very cordial. Miss Neill completely wins the sympathies of her audience for an admirable impersonation of the character of the heroine, Nellie Harborne. She has excellent support from Mr. Alfred Adams as the curate, Lionel Strong, and from Miss Frances Bruce in the part of Lilian (her sister); Farmer Harborne fits Mr. Tyrone Power well; Miss Ada Roscoe as his transgressing wife, Madame Gabrielle, is effective; as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor Mr. C. A. Leicester is distinctly good; and Mr. A. D. Adams as the villain of the story, Richard Lenowen, acts with force and skill. The humorous element is safe in the hands of Miss Nellie Graves and Mr. J. T. Dillson, and the play is admirably staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A great reception from a crowded house awaited Georges Hackenschmidt, the champion wrestler, on Monday night, and the "Chocolate-coloured Coon," by H. Elliott, was also a large sharer in the liberal applause the audience bestowed. Steve McCarthy, comedian, gave a clever exhibition in dancing, and much grace and power of muscle marked the athletic display by the Klos Sisters. Claire Beasy's cats were put through a wonderful performance, and Francis and Melli submitted an eccentric musical act. Marie Kendall sings good songs in her best style, and Eily Adair is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. There is good vocalism and quaint comedy in the turn by the New York Nippers, viz., *Bed-Time*; and the McConnell Trio of Vocalists score well in a musical comedy sketch.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The Sisters Brenton, capable comediennes and dancers, head a capital programme here, to which Arthur Slater contributes a capital turn as a whistler. Gus Harris, the Hebrew character delineator, scores a success in his dramatic sketch *The Synagogue*. Great applause greets Frank Cumminger for his clever sand dancing. In a droll sketch, *The Plumber*, Will H. Sloan is very quaint, and he has good support from the Misses Florence Gerald and Kitty Hamilton. Illustrated songs by E. O. Fitzgerald find favour, and Lily Gaston does some expert and clever top-boot dancing. There are some very diverting films exhibited by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, and Gallagher and Hild, comedy artists, complete the list.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. S. Carter.—The New Century Company is showing some fine animated pictures here again for a short season.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—Zellini, the clever juggler, is on a return visit here, contributing successfully to an entertaining programme.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Under the direction of Mr. W. Payne Seddon, Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale and an excellent company of artists commenced a week's engagement on Monday night with the comedy, *David Garrick*, in which Mr. Hoggan-Armadale gave a fine representation of the famous actor. On Tuesday the attraction was Mr. Chas. Hannan's version of Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield*. Mr. Hoggan-Armadale gave a finished performance of the part of Dr. Primrose, and had to appear four or five times after the final fall of the curtain. Miss Georgina Wynter as Olivia was quite equal to the demands made upon her in this trying part, and gained loud applause for her pathetic acting in the last scene; Mrs. C. E. Matthews was admirable as Mrs. Primrose; Miss Violet Macaree was a charming Sophia; Mr. T. G. Westland was amusing as Moses Primrose; Mr. Arthur Rose made a fine Squire Thornhill; and as Mr. Burchell, Mr. David Beattie gave full effect to the part. The other plays staged during the week are *The Lady of Lyons* and *The Sleigh Bells*, in which Mr. Hoggan-Armadale gives his impressive representation of Matthias.

SPA THEATRE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—The summer theatrical season was opened here by Mr. James Welch and company, who appeared in *Punctured*, *Judged by Appearances*, and *The Man in the Street*, in which Mr. Welch gave his polished performance of a London street musician with wonderfully realistic effect.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The Flockton-Foster combination continue their attractive programmes in the Grand Pavilion, and the Dominion Animated Picture Company, under Mr. Emmerson's direction, are showing a new series of pictures this week. Herr Sigmund Winternitz's fine orchestra render some first-class programmes; the vocalist this week being Mr. Anderson Nicol, who possesses a fine tenor voice of excellent compass, and his songs are delightfully rendered.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Sydney James's Strolling Players have an additional attraction this week, in the clever little child artist Miss Dot Arnold, whose clever dancing is delighting the visitors. The Marvellous Howards, in their clever mind-reading turn, are very mystifying. The vocalists this week at Herr S. Wurm's concerts under the Glass Dome are Mr. Harrison Brockbank, a pleasing baritone, and Mme. Conly, the Australian prima donna, whose fine vocalism has made her a great favourite with the Spa audiences.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—Charles Grantley, comedian; the Shamrocks, duettists and dancers; Dene and Dawson, comedy sketch artists; Miss Lillie Coleman, vocalist; and the Lynches, in illustrated songs, make up a good programme; and the animated pictures are always well received.

SUMMER GARDENS. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland. —The great attraction this week is a juvenile beauty show, and the pierrots are giving one of the old-fashioned Ethiopian entertainments, which takes remarkably well with the visitors to this popular resort.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. George Musgrove's company opened here on Monday with *The Prince of Pilsen*, which was admirably staged and dressed. Mr. J. B. Fox, as Carl Otto, displayed pleasing vocalisation; Miss Millicent Marsden, as Mrs. Madison Crocker, and Mr. G. Villiers Arnold, as Lieut. Tom Wagner, sang themselves into great favour; while dainty Miss Isa Bowman was distinctly effective as Nellie Wagner; Mr. Martin Adeson gave a very droll and clever impersonation of Hans Wagner; Miss Nell Emerald made a vivacious Sidonie; Mr. Lawrence Wensley, as the Earl of Shrimpton, was entertaining; and praiseworthy support was given by Miss Adele Roze and Mr. Alfred Selby. The choruses were well sung, the dancing proved very enjoyable; and the duties of conductor were in the hands of Mr. Thos. M. Tunbridge.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here this week with *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. Fred Lloyd submits a capital portrayal of Philip Carnaby; Mr. Charles Herberte is forcible and convincing as the villainous Squire Abingdon, whose son, Richard Abingdon, and daughter, Madge, are admirably enacted by Mr. Alfred Grenville and Miss Alice N. Livesey respectively; Mr. Hugh Wallace's Rev. Arthur Gathorne, and Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's Frank Hardy are well played; while much amusement is afforded by Mr. John Hignett as Denis O'Rourke, Miss Helen Richmond as Pattie Swift, and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Sowerby.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Clarke and Hamilton's American musical comedy team submit a delightful entertainment; Ella Retford is a charming comedienne and dancer; the Sisters Vincent are smart duettists and dancers; Marco, the youthful magician and illusionist, is well received; Claude Ginnett and his capable combination are very entertaining in *Rejected Remounts*; Daisy Mayer, the "Yankee girl," sings with great success; Lomas is clever in his aerial speciality on the rope and perch; and the Alhambrascope pictures are very interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is presented here this week. The Creo Brothers, comedy acrobats, are clever performers; Stewart and Morgan are very successful in their vocal speciality; Tod Lowen, "that funny fellow," contributes some humorous songs; Venie Clements gives a series of imitations in good style, her mimicry of a baby singing being decidedly effective; Cyril Carle, actor vocalist, is especially successful in the song-scena, *Dreams*; Albert Wyndham and company are warmly applauded for their Shakespearian episode, *Prince Arthur; or, the Days of King John*; Emma Don and company, in a musical mélange, *The Prodigal Son*; Maud Trenton, a pleasing comedienne, and T. E. Finglas, coon delineator, also merit praise; and the Barrascope pictures are very amusing. Little Tich, who was prevented by indisposition from appearing until Wednesday, is a powerful attraction, and wins enthusiastic applause for his amusing songs, humorous patter, and clever long boot dancing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and company are here this week with *The Duke of Killicrankie*. In the title rôle, Mr. F. Guy S. Cary is highly successful; Miss Octavia Kenmore makes a charming and winsome Lady Henrietta Addison; Mr. Lovel gives an admirable enactment of Mr. Henry Pitt Welby, M.P.; Miss Celia Gordon's Mrs. Mulholland, Miss Alice Heathcote's Countess of Pangbourne, and Mr. F. Stuart-Wilson's Alexander McBayne are effectively played.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Miss Katie Johnson, Mr. Frank G. Bayly and company opened here on Monday with *Billy's Little Love Affair*. Miss Katie Johnson gave a very delightful impersonation of Wilhelmina Marr ("Billy"); and Mr. Frank G. Bailey was completely successful as Jack Frere; Miss Clara Nicholls was a capital Mrs. Jim Greaves; Miss Gladys Bartle Frere made a pleasing Lady Duncan; while Mr. Orlando Barnett's Jim Greaves, and Mr. W. Lemmon Warde's Sir Harry Harmon were good protrayals.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—The Modoc Minstrels are here this week, and sustain their varied and interesting programme in good style. Humorous and sentimental songs are capitally rendered; and the military item, *The Modoc Brigade*, the absurdity, *The Pointsman; or, the Midnight Express*, and turns by Harry Fritz, Dorothy McLaughlin, George Duval, and the Caro Comedy Trio are warmly appreciated.

BRISTOL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—An attractive drama, *The Woman Who Gambles*, is well staged here, and it is effectively performed by Mr. Morton Powell's company. In the leading part of Countess Natalie Steinbach, Miss Gertrude Hunt has full scope for her talents in depicting the various and changing moods of the fascinating Countess, and the result is a very fine and powerful performance. Mr. James Duncan is earnest and expressive as Count Otto Steinbach; Miss Florrie Halton displays much ability as Cora Gouldhart; and the Misses Rhoda Clighton, Florrie Hall, and Brenda May do well as Stella Melaoff, Zila Zeyelda, and Zanette respectively. Mr. Horatio Sinclair works conscientiously in the unpopular part of Baron Cratzlaw; and Mr. Reginald Fox presents a fine and convincing exposition of Lieut. Karl Czarteryski. The cast is a fairly long one, all the parts of lesser importance being carefully taken.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Hal Godfrey, American comedian, heads the bill, with his comical sketch, *A Very Bad Boy*; the Three Prestons amuse with their absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*; Carl Lynn is a clever mimic of animals, &c.; the Albano Troupe give a pleasing musical performance; Carl Rosine excels in feats of legerdemain; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, are exceptionally smart; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, please with their novelty. "Dancing to Win"; and the Two Neros score with a comedy acrobatic act. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Peter Gotz, wrestler, occupies the leading position on the programme, and bouts are arranged for each performance, with local amateurs and others of the wrestling fraternity. Mlle. Von Etta presents a pretty and interesting turn, consisting of illusions, conjuring, dances, and impersonations, all being well done and much appreciated by all parts of the house; Linda Wasey, comedienne, has some good songs, her style being pleasing and refined; the Elvio Comedy Trio amuse with their absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Jenny Reeve, comedienne, does a successful turn; Grey and Parry, acrobats, obtain applause; and the same may be said of Mark Leslie, coon comedian and dancer. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Light That Failed*, founded on Rudyard Kipling's novel, was much enjoyed on Monday by a large house. Mr. Harold V. Neilson appearing as Dick Helmar and Miss Dorothy Milne as Maisie. This was followed by the farcical comedy *His Last Legs*, with Felix O'Callaghan most amusingly presented by Mr. Arthur Stirling. Miss Dorothy Milne is a charming Julia. Charles Rivers is well played by Mr. Bellender Clarke, and Mr. Rivers presents a good study by Mr. John Detliv. Miss M. Ramney as Mrs. Montague and Miss Winifred Clarke as Mrs. Berks also do well.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The New York Comedy Four are at the top of the bill here this week, and, as usual, their able singing interspersed with quaint humour, is received with much appreciation. Maidie Scott, comedienne, sings her songs in a charming manner; the Schiavonis Troupe are expert acrobats, and are well applauded for their smart tricks; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley are cordially received for their extravaganza *Married;* and The Falcons give a clever turn of hand balancing. Lade Henderson is an able vocalist, as also are Lambert and Hands, whose efforts are fully recognised. The Wedburns cause a great deal of laughter with their smart patter, and Wee Jessie, with song and dancer proves an acceptable turn.

BURY (LANCS.).—THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A number of good turns here include the Vere Brothers, gymnasts; George Young, a blind collier boy, who is a good musician; a sketch of "fair" life, entitled *Mystery Fair*; the Three Panamas, acrobats; Ranji Sinji and Valeria, magicians; George Edney, actor vocalist; May Zant and her juveniles; J. C. Bailey, comedian; and the usual bioscope pictures.

CARDIFF.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—The attractive drama, *The Curate*, is the *pièce de résistance* this week, capitally presented by Miss Hettie Jeffries' company. Miss Jeffries appears in the rôle of Dick, the trumpeter, and plays throughout with much vigour; Miss Winifred Stuart, as the Russian adventuress, gives an excellent portrayal, this charming lady's handsome and striking presence making her delineation a conspicuous success. Mr. Robert Gilbert, as the Rev. John Audley, is impressive; and Mr. Whitmore Ledger, in his interpretation of Gilbert Westwood, acquits himself creditably. Mr. Sydney Claydon, as Simon Muggs; Mr. Frank Stuart, as Sergeant Snipe; and Miss Agnes D'Aragon, as Mrs. Muggs, are valuable acquisitions to the cast; while Miss Mabel Durham, in her embodiment of Mabel Verner, proves herself to be a capable artist.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll. —The clever exponent of ju-jitsu, Raku, heads the bill here, and, with the assistance of Miss Moto, gives a most entertaining exhibition of the art. O'Gust, the master mimic, is as amusing as ever; Carlton, the quaint jester, gives his clever card manipulation with success, and creates much merriment; Joseph Adelmann is applauded in appreciation of his marvellous xylophone playing; and Prof. Therese's comedy hypnotism is a novel turn. Other contributors to the evening's amusement are Barnard's Mannikins; the Olive Trio, girl singers and dancers; Fred Lincoln, a smart comedian; the Bros. Durant, "the airship kings"; and the interesting Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Pino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The programme this week is quite up to the excellent average maintained by the enterprising managing-director, and crowded houses are the rule. Gustave Fasola, the Indian fakir and wonder-worker, who tops the bill, gives an entertainment which is as puzzling as it is marvellous; the Sisters Redfern are pleasing vocalists, dancers, and banjoists; Tony Iveson, who is making his first appearance here, is already a big draw as a humorist, vocalist, and pianist; Mezzetti and Mora give a surprising and clever exhibition of comedy bar work; and Mlle. De Rose, the possessor of a wonderful baritone voice, scores an immediate success. The Athlones, in classical poses are interesting, and distinctly original in their business; the Pepiscope, with new pctures, is as popular as ever.

CHATHAM.—THE GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Mlle. De Dio continues to score here, this week's leading item being entitled *The Birth of a Pearl;* the musical act given by the Carina Sisters is much above the average; Chas. Austin creates roars of laughter by his comicalities; Kitts and Windrum are again to the fore with *The Entr'acte;* while Belle Harcourt, comedienne; Pueblo and Cropp, in coon songs and sand dancing; and Rosie Reval, serio, also appear; and the Edisonograph exhibits fresh pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Coram, the ventriloquist; and Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, share the honours this week. Lacey's Erascope has some capital pictures; while the other variety turns include May Prichard, comedienne; Simosa San, in her juggling and balancing act; the Clarion Trio of comedy artists and dancers; Harry Luck, comedian; and the Sisters Selwyn, duettists and dancers.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The Imperial Picture Company are giving this week a fresh series of moving pictures, interspersed with solos by Baker E. Belphor.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. Hy. Ford; Manager, Mr. Edgar Curtis.—The bill is a purely variety one this week. Marguerite Lonsdale is a dainty comedienne; and Eugene and Willie, head and hand balancers, are extremely smart; Ferris and Farnley, cross-talk comedians, provide an amusing turn; Miss Dolly Golden, the clever young dancer, is greatly appreciated; the Bros. Egbert provide the principal turn of the evening with their mirth-provoking *Hurry Up, Walter* act; Harry Walters, comedian, sings a good song; and the Octoroons, Grant and Grant, give a capital show. Ruffell's Bioscope has some excellent films. The Palace Pierrotts, now consisting of Messrs. Edgar Curtis and Edgar Berte and Misses Daisy Kersey and Maud Willey, give a most enjoyable entertainment in the grounds every afternoon and evening.

WESTCLIFFE GARDENS. — Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley are this week assisted by Miss Alice Branstein, a great favourite here; Mr. Owen Clark, conjurer and entertainer; Mr. Walter Clyde, vocalist; and Mr. Wilfrid Alderton, silver handbell soloist.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. C. Macdona; Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—The first three days of the week Mr. Ch. Verney's company appeared in Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn's drama, *The Coal King*. Miss Olive Lloyd and Mr. Alec Alexander, in the juvenile leads, played their parts with power and sympathy; Mr. Robin Shields made a fine aristocratic old gentleman; and Mr. Angus Alexander, in the heavy part, showed to great advantage. Mr. Philip Beaufoy was good in the character of a religiously-inclined miner; and Mr. Tod Squires, in the comedy part, was clever. Miss Alice Myles, as chambermaid, acted well; and Messrs. A. J. Williams, H. Wellford, Percy Warren, Tom Beverley, F. Barnet, with Miss Florence Mitchell, all played their respective rôles with ability. On Thursday and Friday Mr. E. Lockwood's company was seen to advantage in *Sergeant Brue*.

PIER PAVILION.—Messrs. Ashton have a good company of variety artists here. Miss Ethelle Vibert, contralto; and Miss Stella Schumann, soprano, have both good voices, and sing their songs well. Mlle. Haydee, with her electric Mannikin Theatre, is highly entertaining; and Mr. John Elliott is a smart humorist; Mr. W. P. Dempsey is a clever comedian; and Miss Ruby Bijou an excellent dancer. Animated pictures bring to a conclusion a good show.

At the Council Bandstand concerts, Mr. Frank Crawford, the well-known humorist, has been drawing big crowds; Mr Vic Verney is an extremely clever whistler; and Miss Bessie Allayne sings charmingly.

Mr. Claude North's ventriloquial and conjuring show on the foreshore, and the Yorkshire Pierrots behind Riggs' Retreat, have been doing excellent business.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—This house opened on Thursday with the powerful drama, *The Coal King*.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece.—The Mannon Troupe, in *A Motor-Bus Outing*, head this week's bill; the Four Hearnes present a very clever and interesting acrobatic comedy act, for which they are much applauded; the Sisters Cora, well-known with touring pantomimes in Colchester, give their latest successes, and are well received; Walter Wallis, comedian; Fred Villers, vocalist; and Agnes Hanson, comedienne and dancer, complete the programme

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, who a fortnight ago produced *An Abandoned Woman* at the above house, is appearing again in the sensational piece entitled *Shadows of a Great City*. Tom Cooper was capitally portrayed by Mr. M. Minster, ably supported by Mrs. Harry Foxwell in the dual rôle of Annie Standish and her daughter Nellie Standish; Miss Georgette Thierry was seen to advantage as Biddy Roonan, an Irish girl. Other characters were suitably represented by Mrs. Will Bernard (George Benson), Mr. J. Abbott (Arkwright, a detective), Mr. D'Arcy Kelway (Jim Farren), Mr. Harry Foxwell (Abe Nathans), Mr. J. Haildin (Crouch), Mr. Pat Quinn (Warder), and Miss Nellie Gray (Mrs. Higgins).

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—This theatre was reopened on Monday by the Crewe Dramatic and Comedy Company, in *A Lion's Heart*, by Arthur Shirley. The local amateurs portrayed in excellent style the various rôles assigned to them.

CROMER. — TOWN HALL THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Manager, Mr. C. H. L. Locke.—The early part of the week saw the stage here occupied by Mr. Charles Windermere's company in *Facing the Music*. Mr. Windermere himself as John Smith is very clever, and he is supported by a strong cast, which includes Mr. Norris Matthews as the Rev. John Smith; Mr. Wentworth Fane as Dick Desmond; Mr. Graham Morrison as Col. Duncan; Mr. Henry Nelson as Sergt. Duffel; Miss Clare Manifield, Mabel, the curate's wife; Miss Joe Davis, Nora, the other Mr. Smith's wife; Miss Phyllis Leslie, Miss Fotheringay; and Miss Evelyn Shelly as Mrs. Ponting. The piece is well staged and well played.

THE PIER.—On Saturday evening a special entertainment was given in the Pier Pavilion by Mr. Barclay Gammon, and the reception accorded him proved the appreciation with which his clever humorous sketches and selections are received. The vocalist this week is Miss Margaret Cooper, who is earning golden opinions from the large audiences. Signor Calamani and the Royal Italian Band still continue to keep up the high standard they have always shown. On Wednesday evening the ever-popular Serenaders gave one of their unique entertainments.

RUST'S LAWN. — The Middies and Maids are steadily growing in popularity, and both their afternoon and evening concerts are crowded. Mr. Arthur Randal, who last week was suffering from a cold, has quite recovered, and is able once more to take the lead. Miss Nellie Taner and Miss Doris Lind, too, are greatly appreciated. The former takes the laurel, but the latter's charming manner never fails to captivate. Mr. Arthur Mervyn, the tenor, is never tiring; and Mr. Walter Forder's ability is clearly shown in his sketches and monologues. Mr. Bert Williams is the favourite undoubtedly, and is rarely allowed to retire without a treble encore; nor must Mr. Hadyn Parker, the accompanist, be forgotten, for he deserves a great deal of commendation.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Robert Perris's company in *A Fight for Millions*, is here this week. Mr. John C. Carlyle is excellent as Tom Manley; Mr. P. Geo. Beresford makes a favourable impression as Hudson Rivers; Mr. Robert Perris gives a fine impersonation of Richard Dudley; Mr. Harry Howe ably represents Millie Neverwork; Mr. Karl H. Edwards cleverly performs the part of Solomon Moses; Mr. Gus Harding is well placed as John Leveridge; Mr. Nicholas Conway is good as Harold Hobbs; and Mr. Geo. Hodges is particularly able in the rôle of Robert Mackenzie. Miss Eva Purcell as Pearl Rivers is commendable; Miss Audrey Manning is successful as Mrs. Hudson; Miss Elma C. Turner appears to advantage in her clever portrayal of Helen Dudley; Miss Audrey Herland is charming as Little Madge; and Miss Lottie Pearce as Betty displays talent.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—Will Evans is the centre of attraction here this week in the amusing spectacular act, *The Revival of the Ballet*. Mrs. Oscar Luck and company deserve praise; Rose Hamilton is well received; Harry Champion is a big success; the Stella Troupe are excellent dancers and vocalists; Ruby Emerson is a neat comedienne; C. Gordon's acrobatic dogs give a marvellous show; the Sisters Hall are clever vocalists; and the Manhattan Comedy Four are exceptionally humorous vocalists, and complete a good programme.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—James de Voye, with his educated horse Billy, is creating great interest here; the Lovelaces, American song illustrators, give a very refined performance; Florence Deighton, double-voiced vocalist, is excellent; Zavan, lamp-postman, is very funny; the Sivronis, burlesque comedy artists, are clever with their songs and dancing; and Marie de Paso does marvels of quick clay-modelling. The Bellograph concludes the entertainment with two good pictures, "Life of a New York Policeman" and "The Lost Eye-Glasses."

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—After having been closed for several weeks, the above house was reopened on Monday by Mr. George Stephenson's company in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith as Mr. Crosbie keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. E. Patrick is also funny as Lord Dalston's footman; Mr. Douglas Munro excels himself as Flambert; Mr. Ernest Rivarz's depiction of Mr. Bogie is very effective; Mr. Frank H. Denton is excellent in the part of Frank Frayne; the rôle of Lady Hampshire is in the capable hands of Miss Evelyn Howard; Pauline is portrayed by Miss Maud Linden, who suits the part admirably; Miss Gertrude Manners as Baby Hastings, Miss Stanley Ronalds as Gipsy Vandeller, and Miss Lena Graham as Mrs. Young, all help materially towards the undoubted success of the production.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—A variety company has supplied a satisfying programme here this week. Will T. Burgess and company present with excellent histrionic effect the dramatic episode, *Found Faithful*. Mr. W. T. Burgess plays with much powerful realism the part of Walter Lee, the exconvict; and other rôles are ably filled by Messrs. H. Shaw, W. F. Rogers, &c. Miss Cissy Gradon elicits warm commendation by her vocal work; amusement is plentifully forthcoming from Grin and Bearitt, described as "the quarrelsome couple," a title they do their utmost to sustain; the tasteful designs torn out of ordinary wallpaper by Mint and Mart whilst indulging in a running commentary of crosstalk, yield a meritorious performance which is novel; Arthur Saxon, the heavyweight lifter, displays his remarkable strength in various strenuous exploits; Alec Alexander, actor-vocalist, gives great satisfaction, his delineation of pathetic characters being most effective; Wambo proves as expert a trick cyclist as he is amusing in make-up as a tramp; and Romulus Bros. appear in an artistic statuary act.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company opened in *The White Chrysanthemum* at the Grand Theatre on Monday evening to a good house. The scenery and appointments were admirable, and the interpreters artistically excellent. Miss Gladys Elvey is charming as Sybyl Cunningham; she has a fine voice, and makes the most of it. Miss Kate Vesy, a cultivated dancer, makes Cornelia Vanderdecken particularly up to date; Mr. W. H. Rawlins displays a keen sense of humour as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, K.C.B.; Mr. F. Pope Stamper is a breezy naval boy as Lieutenant Reginald Armitage; Mr. Horace Mills' impersonation of Chippendale Bennett is surpassingly clever; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., excites uproarious laughter by his impersonation of Private Perks; the Chinaman of Mr. O. E. Lennon is an amusing study from nature.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—The production of *Leah Kleschna* by Mr. Harry Armitage's company has taken Douglas by storm, the Gaiety Theatre being filled with the most enthusiastic audiences. The curtain, at the end of the third act, was raised seven times on the first night. Miss Bessie Rignold's Leah is a revelation of fine dramatic power and artistic skill; Mr. Paul Belmore's Kleschna is a marvellous performance; Mr. Hamilton Deane as Raoul has a most ungrateful character to depict, but his success is unmistakable; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Schram also gave a remarkable impersonation. Other characters are well played by Mr. W. F. Grant, Miss Violet Thorold, Miss Ethel Russell, and Miss Helen Belgrave. The scenery and appointments were all that could be desired, and the Gaiety management have secured the hit of the Douglas season up to now.

THE PALACE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The Palace has been completely filled with enthusiastic audiences, delighted with the programme put before them. Mr. Tom Edwards is a ventriloquist who astonishes; Mr. Fred Sinclair is an agreeable light comedian; Miss Gracie Whiteford possesses comedy gifts of a high order, and their sketch, *Getting Even*, agrees with the taste of the public; Mr. Alf Gibson is a quaint comedian; and Misses Florence and Rose Showell, charming vocalists. The Four Juggling Giraldos present a graceful act; Lotto, Lillo, and Otto still give a performance which has an irresistible fascination; Vernon's Bioscope is up to date.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. C. Kelly.—Miss Vesta Tilley is at Derby Castle, and crowds are turned away nightly. The other turns, which include Mme. la Blanch, Carlos Minard, the Sisters Gerette, C. R. Whittle, the Les Cleos, and the Anartos, are all clever. Dancing is indulged in to the witching strains of Harry Wood's orchestra. In addition, the side shows are excellent.

THE HIPPODROME. — Sole Manager and Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The Hippodrome is crowded nightly, as the result of a most interesting programme. The Marconis do wonderful things by means of electricity; Mozzetto is a dexterous juggler who submits a clever interlude; Du Callion manipulates an ordinary ladder in a novel manner; Mons. Eugene Toote and Mlle. Lizzie Rowland give a charming equestrian interlude; the Cecilas submit a pleasing musical scene; Captain Maximilian Gruber continues his previous successful record with his performing goat and Shetlands; a new turn, the Sisters Gironde, makes a stir; and a pair of performing ponies, trained by Mr. W. Tudor, give a pleasing show; the Bouncing Dillons are first-rate comedy gymnasts, and in connection with this turn competitions are introduced which have become very popular.

MR. FREDERICK BUXTON'S PIERROTS AND TEA VILLAGE, on the Central Promenade, attract large audiences. Every member of his troupe is an artist of capacity. Their songs are well chosen, their sketches smart, and their concerted music well rendered.

MR. CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS, on the Head, cause many thousands to frequent that delightful spot and listen to their pleasing burnt-cork comicalities. Mr. Dare's company work hard, and give the public a clean, wholesome show.

MR. BENSON'S PIERROTS, on the Promenade Bandstand, have an enormous following. The artists know the requirements of their patrons, and satisfy them, and the great success they obtain is well deserved.

MR. CHARLES ELDERTON is doing remarkably well at the New Empire, with two houses nightly, and the Toreador Minstrels on Onchan Head have become one of the features of Douglas.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover

brisk and animated throughout. Halma, an accomplished juggler, goes through his remarkable feats with ease and grace; Dolly Robson, the remarkable child vocalist, completely brings down the house; the musical turn of Sig. Bandoni is very enjoyable; while the *Babes in the Wood* pantomime enacted by Prof. Glennie's marionettes is the cause of much laughter. Belford and Mars contribute a very enjoyable and novel vocal comedy act, and the Bros. Robson score in song and dance. The Sisters Poole, duettists and dancers; Bella Skene, a dashing burlesque actress; and Nellie Langtry, a very fine ballad vocalist, have many admirers.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The programme this week simply sparkles with humour, and on Monday evening two packed houses thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. Topping the bill is an amusing burlesque, in which a number of well-known local comedians take part; another very funny sketch, entitled *The Fortune Teller*, created much merriment; Marcus Boyle, character comedian, has some capital songs on tap, and has to oblige with an encore; G. W. Walker, a prime favourite here, is also well received; Cora Magda, in her daring gymnastic act, and Percy Mage, female impersonator, are retained from last week, and go well; Ada Whitton and Connie Pulsford contribute pleasing items, while the comicalities of Frank Whiteley are much enjoyed. The Bioscope, with all the latest films, completes a capital entertainment.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Century Photo Company are located here this week with an attractive and completely new series of animated pictures. In addition to the pictures, Maggie Stewart, Edward Neville, and Jack Wallace contribute pleasing "turns."

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen-Triggs.—Mr. Patrick Kirwan's company is appearing here for three performances in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The play is well dressed, and the bright and clever ladies are conspicuously successful. Miss Barbara Guthrie is a delightfully mischievous and charming Mrs. Ford; Miss Elizabeth Holt is a bright and interesting Mrs. Page; Miss Davies Webster is a very pleasing Dame Quickly; and good service is done by Miss Irene Arden as Anne Page. Mr. Patrick Kirwan, excellently made up, is a most amusing Falstaff; Mr. George P. Hawtrey gives a quietly effective and polished performance as Justice Shallow; Mr. Gerald Venning provokes many laughs as Slender; and Mr. Gerald Saffery is a distinct and capable Mr. Ford. Mr. Douglas Allington is a particularly appropriate Mr. Page; Dr. Caius is forcefully played by Mr. J. M. Napper; Pistol, Nym, and Bardolph are capitally enacted by Mr. Chris. Walker, Mr. V. T. Ranney, and Mr. John Cummings; and Miss Jessie Stanton is a picturesque Robin. Members of Messrs. Bellow and Stock's choir sing very prettily and effectively. For the last three evenings of the week the new comedy, *Three Blind Mice*, was announced.

THE PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Miss Ada Blanche and Mr. Lionel Rignold's company is appearing here in *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, the butler, has a part which suits him admirably, and he is quite the central figure as a laughter-maker. Mr. Reddick Anderson is a handsome and attractive Sir Charles Foden, Mr. Charles Fawcett a humorous Jack Barrington, Mr. George Ascott a vigorous General Dunlop, Mr. H. H. Rignold an excellent Abraham Weinstein, Mr. Roy Eyford a distinctive and capital Professor Shale, and Messrs. Frank Kingsley, Alec. Alves, and P. Williams give meritorious help. Miss Ada Blanche's bright and cheerful work is at once interesting and successful in the rôle of Mrs. Barrington; Miss Marie Daltra is an imposing and clever Miss Foden; and Miss Jenny Wigney is a restrained and effective Nora. During the latter part of the week Mr. Charles MacDona's company is billed to appear in *Mr. Hopkinson*. Twice daily the St. Louis animated pictures are being shown here.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—At the top of the bill is Mr. Arthur Rigby, who again keeps the house in roars of laughter with "Woman's Rights" and "The March of the Married Men." Miss Queenie Lawrence is soon in favour with the audience with her well-rendered selections. Mr. Johnny Danvers sings clever songs in his well-known funny way, and dances in a light and smart manner; Mr. Tom Parker is a successful comedian and nimble dancer; Mr. Milner Verren as a tenor vocalist contributes one of the very successful items; Mr. Paul Courtney and company appear in a cleverly-written sketch, *The Doctor*; Messrs. Stevens and Rennior are a couple of singers, patterers, and dancers who amuse the audience; and Miss Maudie Ford dances and sings with effect.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The annual visits of Mr. Edmund Tearle and his company have for many years been among the interesting events of the summer theatrical season. His repertory for the current week at the Lyceum Theatre includes the two evergreen dramas *Jeanie Deans* and *East Lynne*, and the popular *Three Musketeers*. The first-named was presented with marked success on Monday evening, Miss Kate Clinton appearing in her old rôle of Jeanie, which she plays with much pathos and emotional power, Mr. Tearle contenting himself with the part of counsel for the defence, whose speech he delivers in fine, impressive style. As Madge Wildfire Miss Esther Tearle displays undoubted ability; Miss Mary Campbell is a sympathetic Effie; and Miss Clare Armitage gives a good character sketch of old Margery Murdockson. The outstanding rôle of the Laird of Dumbiedykes is in the safe hands of Mr. J. T. Macmillan, who keeps the audience in good humour; and good acting distinguishes the rendering of the parts of the Duke of Argyle and David Deans by Mr. Ernest Lodge and Mr. J. Cook Hinton. The rest of the long cast is adequately filled, and the plays are mounted with care and completeness.

THE GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is appearing here this week in an adaptation of *East Lynne*. Mr. Alfred Beaumont is a manly representative of Archibald Carlyle, and the Francis Levison of Mr. Eric Mayne is a striking picture of a polished villain. Mr. C. C. Grattan acts in admirable comedy style as Justice Hare, and is loudly applauded; Mr. Alfred Tate keeps the audience in roars of laughter by his clever farcical business as Bullock, the constable; and an excellent and amusing study of Lawyer Dill is given by Mr. Cyril Hayward. Mr. Spencer Goodwin's aristocratic Lord Mountsevern and Mr. E. Massingham's quiet, effective portrayal of Richard are both good. Miss Julia Kennerd moves the sympathies of the audience by her powerful and touching rendering of the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine; Miss Ethel Saville is an attractive Barbara Hare; Miss Ethel Hardacre is distinctly entertaining as Miss Cornelia Carlyle; and Miss Jessie Bayes is an interesting, pretty Willie. Joyce and Suzanne are capably filled by Miss Ida Heron and Miss Emily Frith.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—A capital programme is provided here this week. The chief attraction is *Moses and Sons*, played by Mr. Fred Karno's company, which is received with deserved enthusiasm. The acting of Mr. Fred Kitchen is an outstanding feature of the piece. Miss Marie Reeve contributes several dainty songs and dances, which are greatly appreciated. The Norman Leonard Trio give an interesting musical act, *The Itinerant*. Starr and Leslie approve themselves to be excellent Indian club manipulators; Die Obersteiners supply a clever vocal, instrumental, and dancing turn; and the Russian Imperial troupe in their exhilarating native songs and dances; Brown and Robinson, admirable vocalists and the Bioscope complete the programme.

FALKIRK. — THE GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE reopens on Monday with Miss Alice Chapin's company in the musical farce *A Knight Errant*, followed by *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. During the holidays the theatre has been entirely repainted and decorated, and the electric light installation has been extended in the front of the house.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. E. Lockwood's and R. Crossman's company in *Sergeant Brue* is the attraction here this week. Mr. E. Russell, in the title rôle, plays in an easy and capable manner, and causes much laughter; Mr. E. Percy Rogers, as Michael Brue, is an old favourite; Miss Kitty Dale acts with vivacity and charm as Aurora Brue, and scores a success with her numerous songs; Miss Constance Berkeley is a clever Daisy; Miss Aileen Macdonald, as Mabel Widgett, makes the most of a rather small part; Mr. Arthur Stroud, as General Treherne, is all that could be desired; Mr. Crank is in the safe hands of Mr. Henry Chichester; too much praise cannot be bestowed on Mr. T. A. Shale for his admirable embodiment of Crookie Scrubbs; and Miss Lily Lingard, as Lady Bickenhall, is both smart and clever, her singing being especially admired.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.—The Sahots are engaged here for another week; Miss Stroud Wilson makes a welcome reappearance; Mr. Harry Ivimey meets with unstinted approbation; Miss Gwenllian Lewis renders her songs in brilliant style; the Misses Doris and Aileen Woods (the New Zealand Twins) are particularly smart; Mr. Harry Randall paid a flying visit on Wednesday; the Walturdaw Bioscope shows some good pictures; and Herr Franz Meisel's programmes at the concerts are greatly enjoyed by large audiences.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Marie Stiven's singing evokes loud applause; Mr. Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist, is a great favourite; the Blue Salon Band contribute some enjoyable music, and up-to-date pictures are shown.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Heading a powerful programme here this week are the Lowenwirth Bros., Hebrew comedians, who are certainly great laughter-makers. The Pender Troupe present a ludicrous farce bearing the title *Hands Up*; the troupe also present a stilt-walking exhibition which is appreciated. A sculptor of exceptional ability and marvellous dexterity is Gallando, who receives much well-merited applause; Clarke's Nippers, in their speciality act, which includes club-swinging, ball-punching, dancing, and boxing, are huge favourites; Fred Cullane's comedy trio are seen to much advantage in a comedietta named *The Lady's School*; Les Rallis have a clever acrobatic act, into which many funny items are introduced; the Willfords, herculean equilibrists, are extremely smart; Joe Mac, described as a comedian and eccentric dancer, and Elsie Earle, comedienne, complete the "bill."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—"Starring" here is J. H. Milburn, a vocal comedian, who is one of Gateshead's greatest favourites; John Higgins, another claimant to the title of "champion jumper of the world," receives much applause for his clever exhibition; Conway and Welsh are a pair of clever comedy artists; Wat Tyler, a descriptive vocalist of merit, makes a big hit; the Sisters Wingrove treat their hearers to some excellent singing and dancing; Miss Mary Ambrose, vocalist and violinist, wins applause; and a very amusing film shown by Downey's bioscope concludes the entertainment.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is here this week in *Defending His Honour*. The dominant figure in an exceptionally strong company is Miss Chrissie Dunbar, whose portrayal of the rôle of Ethel Bryce is excellent; Mr. Fred W. Goddard's depiction of Douglas Bryce is worthy of the highest praise; and the villainous Stephen Graid is capitally represented by Mr Carthage Caldcleugh. Mr. Evan Roland, in the comedy part of Jack Damish, is seen to distinct advantage; Mr. Naughton Macaulay as Dick Verison and Mr. Willie Black as Richard Verison do well in their respective parts. Miss Ida Mackay is a dainty Trixie Lucien; and other capable ladies in the cast are Misses Amy Manfree, Dorothy Vaughan, Amy Wood, and Norah Egerton.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Gerrard Grant-Allen's company is here in *The New Boy* and *The Borrowed Uncle*. Very successful is Mr. Leon M. Lion, whose impersonation of the alleged "boy" is very good indeed; he is cleverly supported by Mr. A. Corney Grain, who gives a highly characteristic portrayal of Dr. Candy, LL.D., and by Mr. Barrington Logan in his able study of Felix Roack; the Frenchman is well played by Mr. Harold Weston; as also is Bullock Major, by Mr. C. Robertson Gibbon; Miss Catherine Harrington makes the most of her part as Martha; Miss Margaret Fairleigh is a charming Nancy; and Miss Sybil Brook a smart Susan. In the one-act play, Mr. Leon M. Lion gives a realistic study of the convict Filby; and Mr. A. Corney Grain is a gentlemanly Wakefield; the other two parts being well sustained by Miss Margaret Fairleigh and Mr. Harold Weston.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—On Monday this theatre re-opened after the summer vacation, and a very large audience extended a hearty welcome to Fred Locke's clever musical comedy, *A Trip to the Highlands*. Mr. Wal Croft as the Macmutchkin is again the leading fun-maker, and his humorous songs and dialogue are received with continuous laughter; Mr. Gus Wheatman makes a first-rate Septimus Brown-Windsor, and ably keeps the fun going; Lord Lackington is played with excellent effect by Mr. Wellesley Smith; Miss Millie Engler makes a charming Winnie, singing and dancing with infectious gaiety; Miss Nellie Burdette makes a hit as Fanny Flounce, both in her own special items, and in the funny business with that quaint comedian, Mr. J. B. Montague, who is now the Timmins; Mr. Montague has a new topical song, called "Little bits of cheese to catch the mouse" and Miss Maisie Ellinger as Araminta is the possessor of a fine voice and a handsome appearance. As a dancer she is equally gifted, and made one of the most decided hits of the evening. Mr. Arthur Poole is again the detective, and his many disguises afford him many opportunities for clever characterisation; Miss Lillian Kevill Davies as Mrs. Macmutchkin ably hits off the peculiarities of that lady; and an attractive couple are the Charley and Lottie of Misses Kitty Clinton and Kathleen Naughton. A large and handsome chorus helps the general success, and the views of Scottish scenery shown between the acts are an enjoyable innovation.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Herbert Barrs and company, in *Life*. The play, which contains many stirring incidents, meets with numerous signs of approval. Mr. Herbert Barrs is a manly Jack Lockhart, his portrayal showing considerable dramatic ability; Miss Dorothy Oswald as Ruth Thorpe has a part which she fills with credit; Mr. A. Pringle as Sir Horace Lester earns the execrations of the gallery; and Zac Krabbe has a capital representative in Mr. Herbert Fuller; Mr. Willis Collins as Joe Pippet gives a splendid character-sketch, and sings some good songs; Miss Maudie Vincent is excellent as Jess, her playing of the part being most praiseworthy; the part of Beatrice Ferrars is well acted by Miss Agnes Collier; and other rôles are in good hands.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—The star turn here is Mr. Willie Edouin, so long and favourably known in musical comedy, who is giving graphic sketches of a number of odd individuals who present themselves for examination before an imaginary insurance doctor; Cinquevalli continues to astonish with his wonderful displays of ball juggling; the comedy of George Formby is irresistible, and the audience will hardly allow him to leave the stage. The voices of the Classicum Quartette are finely blended, and the operatic scena they supply is excellent. Gracie Moore's songs are pleasant; and the eye is pleased by the lantern pictures illustrating the songs. Bouverie Pleydell, comedienne, dances with charming grace; the Bros. Lang are an amusing pair; and Johnny Gilmore keeps one and all in fits of laughter. Vernando, ventriloquist, does an amusing turn. The Bioscope completes a first-rate performance.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors Moss' Empires, Limited, and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — A first-class variety programme is submitted here, an item of special interest being the engagement of Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company under the management of Adderley Howard, in *The Orange Girl*. The piece is beautifully staged, and special mention may be made of Miss Dolly Elsworthy as Nell Gwynne, and Messrs. G. H. Pitt and A. Howard as Charles II. and Dick Harraden. Barton and Ashley, in their famous act, *Canal Boat Sal*, fairly eclipse themselves; and the performance given by the Bros. O'Brien on the triple bars is decidedly clever. A smart entertainment is provided by Jacques Inaudi, the man of many figures, his calculations bordering on the marvellous. Other members of the company are Conan and Doyle, comedians; Brett and Orford, speciality artists; Beatrice Edwards, vocalist; Wm. Lee and Helen Bentley and company in comical sketch, *Mabel B*; Harry Freeman, comedian. Animated pictures are displayed by the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Harry Ford is here, provided with new songs, given in his own quiet style; and Florrie Forde is also well supplied, her best ditty being one about a nice young curate, which has a catchy melody, and is likely to be popular. Then we have that smart young Scotch comedian, Sammy Shields, whose description of a spectator at a football match is admirable; the Three Rainals give a trapeze performance which is both graceful and daring; Lilian Rigby gives a good musical turn and a lively big-boot dance; the Herald Comedy Four sing harmoniously in a sketch, *The Indians and the Sailor*; AnnieCasey is a clever comedienne; and Charles Chard scores well with his "Count of No Account" ditty.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—The Three Olympiers, in an entertainment entitled *Beauty in Bronze*, occupy the premier position here, their exhibition of classical figures being greatly appreciated. Another turn of interest is that provided by Percy Honri, in a vaudeville fantasy, *Concordia*. Other members of the company are Conn and Conrad, trapeze artists; James Toner, vocal impersonator; Bessie Butt, comedienne and dancer; J. A. Wilson, the popular negro comedian; Horne Bros., in their clever boxing act; May Evans, the smart character comedienne; and Ike Scott and Son, burlesque artists. The Bioscope shows a splendid series of pictures.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—George Gilbey creates a good impression here in patter and song, notably in his football character sketch, and his reception is very cordial; Rose Harvey, in captivating costume, sings her latest success "Is London Like it Used to Be?" a very tuneful ditty; and Harry Claff's song scena, "Her Beauty Defies my Skill," supplies him with an opportunity to display his robust tenor voice. In a few pleasing national airs, Gena Manon quite hits the taste of the audience, her light but very sweet and well-trained voice giving great pleasure. Martine and Son are great favourites at the Palace, and a change of picture songs is highly relished. The Breton troupe are very funny in the sketch, *A Tramp's Picnic*; and Zarino is an amusing and expert juggler; Frank Cass is a favourite comedian, and his songs are quite to the liking of his audience. Earle and Melville sing, patter, and dance well; and spirited business is done by The Bensons, vocal and comedy artists; their clever and eccentric dancing brings a sure recall.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD. — General Manager, Mr. David Hart. — The engagements here for the week include Anthony, the mysterious gentleman in white, who has scored heavily; James Prior, an old favourite with Gravesend audiences has proved himself as popular as ever; and Mlle. Lucretia, a sparkling burlesque artist and speciality dancer, has been voted capital; Syd Godfrey is a clever comedian and mimic; Marion Hall is a dainty comedienne; Adey Spencer, in her refined act, *The Girl from the Hat Shop*, is to be highly commended; and Kisby, in *The Call Boy*, has been highly successful with this speciality.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. William Greet's company in that merry, musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl* is paying a welcome return visit. Mr. William Cromwell, as Jim Cheese, depicts the droll little dog-trainer with marked success, his make-up and manner being exceptionally good; Dick Wargrave is well played by Mr. Robert Hyett, who sings the numbers allotted to him with much expressiveness; Mr. Stanley Harrison is excellent as the Hon. Crew Boodle; Mr. A. E. Coleby is sufficiently intense as the revengeful Bunker Bliss; Mr. Talk, Mr. Downham, and Mr. Hazell find able exponents in Mr. Arthur Cassidy, Mr. Frank Lane, and Mr. F. Patrick; Miss Gertrude Simpson is delightfully fresh and bright as Elphin Hage; Miss Florence Wix is amusing as Liza Shoddam; Miss Nellie Grant is energetic and emphatic as the strong lady; Miss Eva Berrington sings and acts well as Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Virginia Bliss finds a stately exponent in Miss Helen Langton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*Three Little Maids*, as played and staged under the direction of Mr. Charles Macdona, goes briskly from start to finish. The Maids, who are represented by Miss Mabel Kerridge, Miss Bessie Walters, and Miss Edith Colley, are irresistible; their rivals, the protégées of Lady St. Mallory, are attractively played by Miss Mollie Tremaine, Miss Blanche Lloyd, and Miss Daisy Goldsack; Miss May Wright makes a most engaging Gretchen; and Lady St. Mallory is admirably represented by Miss Kate Graham Beck; Lord Cheyne, Brian Molyneux, and M. de l'Orme are amusingly portrayed by Mr. J. Herbert Willis, Mr. Laurence Tessier, and Mr. Herbert Ransome; and Cupid is a humorous conception by Mr. Joseph Edwards. The songs and choruses are excellently rendered.

BRITANNIA PIER.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The versatile comedian, George Mozart, who is a native of Yarmouth, is proving a most successful draw; the Musical Keiths give an enjoyable entertainment; Grey and Welford contribute a comical boxing act; Mamie Iris wins favour as a comedienne and buck dancer; Anthy gives a clever exhibition on the telegraph wire; the Three Sisters Kilner dance and sing well; and Arthur Stacey pleases as a comedian and dancer; Madame H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Band contributes excellently played selections of music.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—A capital variety programme is provided here. Ernest Montefiore and company submit a well-played musical and dramatic scena entitled *The Little Colonel*; Oswald Williams is a clever magician and shadowgraphist; Kavados is an expert juggler; Amiet's pedestal performance is exceedingly good; Leo Stirling and Addie Love are amusing in their domestic musical squabble; song and dance find able exponents in Harry Maynard, May Marton, and Adele de Frece.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The great attraction for the week is the appearance of Harley's Prize Juveniles, who, in their spirited carnival scena, display evidence of much careful training in song and dance; the comic aquatic pantomime, *The Walrus Hunt*, still pleases vastly. Amongst other artists appearing are the Bros. Carr, musical comedians; Algie, Juggler; Mags and Hunter, musical entertainer; Bros. Huxter, acrobatic athletes; the Humels, equestrians; Miss Lilian, trick cyclist; and Little Rabbit and Handy Andy, clowns.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERT COMPANY.—The same artists are appearing again this week, and much satisfaction is expressed at the excellence of the programme provided.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—*I Defy the World*, a drama which includes many exciting situations, has been seen here this week. Mr. Percy Ballard has done excellent work as Leon Darville, a character which necessitates the assumption of quite a number of disguises. The two women, Blanche Darville and Pauline Delaporte, with whom Darville's fortunes are intimately associated, were suitably represented by Miss Violet Crauford and Miss Alice Mazzoni. The libertine, Count de Beaulieu, found an admirable exponent in Mr. Chas. E. Wilton; whilst as his accomplice, Laroche, Mr. Chas. Conway displayed good character acting. Others who may be mentioned are Mr. Arthur Chisholm as André, Mr. Reginald A. Hunt as Najack, Mr. Dalton J. Bosher as Bochon, Mr. Alfred Denning as General Delaporte, Mr. Chas. M. Julian as Samuel Wozzle, and Miss Maud Lillian as Marie Wozzle.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. Wm. Baker.—Dolly Harmer has not failed to maintain her reputation, and the audiences have been delighted with her quaint comedy songs. A capital musical turn is given by Ford and Hanson, whose skill extends over a wide range of instruments. As a juggler Francisco has met with approval; and a sketch, *Other People's Babies*, is another popular item. Cinizelli, although a silent performer, manages to cause much laughter, and scores a success; whilst the comedy of Harry Barclay is also appreciated. May Moodie has proved an expert piccolo soloist; and pretty dancing is accomplished by Gracie Logan.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Another excellent vaudeville programme is being presented here this week to capital houses. Hall and Francis are reiteratedly applauded for their magnificent globe-walking feats, which are backed up by very clever juggling. The Regal Operatic Quartet, under the direction of Mr. E. Gittens, all of the "Carl Rosa Opera" company, are making a great impression in a condensed representation of *Maritana*. A talented cast includes Mr. Edwin Wynn, Mr. Albert German; and Mme. Mary Burnett. The title-rôle receives artistic treatment at the hands of Mlle. Adele Prescott, who sings the various numbers allotted to her in a delightful, refreshing manner. A captivating musical entr'acte gives Charles and Lily Charlene adequate scope for their respective talents; a dancer of more than average abilities is Miss Constance Mori; Forest and King are adepts at the contortionist business; and Mr. Frank Crisp gives his wheezes in capital style; a good bill terminates with the Villions, cycle equilibrists.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—*Casey's Circus* is the main feature of the bill here this week, and the boisterous turn wins approbation; the Arleys, Belrose and De Velin, duettists, Ray Royal, and Osborn and Brookes are also appearing; and the pictures exhibited on the Bioscope are very interesting.

HANLEY. — GRAND. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Fred Earle heads the bill this week, and scores a huge success in several capital songs, including "Seaweed"; Major Charles contributes an exhibition of shooting, which proves interesting; the Scotch Meisters sing admirably; Burg, Hand, and Wise are seen in a laughable burlesque, entitled *Ye Brown Cow Inn*; Lola Patey is a comedienne with capital songs; the Vekeys are banjoists of much ability; Dora Martine is a skilful gymnast, whose turn is much appreciated; the pictures presented by Urbanora are always interesting.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. R. C. Carton's latest comedy, *Public Opinion*, was presented by the Hutchison company. Miss Lilias Earle (at short notice) gave an excellence performance as Lady Diana Caldershaw; Mr. Chas. Harley was amusing as Spencer Traughton, and Mr. Percy Marshall scored as Horace Wibsey, the solicitor. Miss Nancy Beresford was well placed as the music-hall artist Pansy Bligh. Mr. Douglas Greet gave a realistic portrayal of a silly young peer; Mr. Ashton Pearse was good as Lord Percy Kilgour, Mr. Fred Lewis as Mr. Justice Mulley, and Mr. Douglas Hamilton as Sir Babington Mulley submitted amusing renderings of their respective parts. *Public Opinion* was preceded by *The Stratagem*. On Thursday and Friday Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux presented *The Walls of Jericho*.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—This house was crowded on Monday night by audiences delighted with the change which the decorations of the house has undergone during the summer vacation, for which every credit is due to Mr. J. Leach, the Empress scenic artist. At the head of the bill is Taro Miyaki, champion jiu-jitsu wrestler of the world, whose exhibition on this, his first visit, arouses great interest; the Three Merrills give a capital exhibition of trick cycling, into which some side-splitting comedy is introduced; old favourites are represented in the Two Eltons, in a comedy bar act, who more than retain their reputation for humorous bar work; the Gondolier Glee Singers, including Miss Helen Bourne, have also gained a reputation locally; Miss Bourne, the lady tenor, is well received; Elsie Ackland also wins recognition for her excellent mimicry; Little Violette, "the juvenile marvel," charms everybody with her taking style and neat dancing; Pearce and Ward contribute greatly to the entertainment; and the bioscope shows some interesting films.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scott.—A season of musical comedy here was opened on Monday by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in *The Blue Moon*, which attracted a well-filled house. A very capable chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Carlton Mason, rendered the musical numbers and ensembles effectively. The scenery was especially commendable. Miss Clarice Lockstone filled the rôle of Chandra Nil very pleasingly. Oma was attractively played by Miss Louie Lochner. Mr. Alfred Beers provided some excellent fooling as Moolrag, a professed magician. The principal comedy element was supplied by Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charles Taylor and Miss Florence Imeson as Milicent Leroy. Both are very capable dancers, and their efforts had a warm reception. Some excellent singing was supplied by Mr. Alec Fraser as Captain Jack Ormsby. Another good rôle was that of Mr. Alfred Clark as Major Vivian Callabone; and very commendable was Mr. Thomas Holding in his presentment of the Prince of Kharikar. Miss Ethel Callanan was very pleasing as Evelyn Ormsby, and Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne was a gentlemanly Bobbie Scott.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — A well-varied programme is presented here this week. The descriptive vocalist Miss Florence Inman is much applauded; a comedy sketch, and also a powerful dramatic scene taken from the turbulent times of Charles I., are enacted in an admirable and finished manner by Fred S. Peake and company; a good comedian and singer is found in George Prince; another excellent turn is given by Gus Barra in a musical comedy act; Park's Eton Boys introduce a pleasing selection of vocal pieces and songs, singing with much sweetness and expression; the Hippodrome bioscope exhibits some interesting pictures; Miss Florrie Bray, comedienne, obtains a flattering reception; Mme. Raymond, who displays ability in her playing on various brass instruments, accompanies Kurkamp, who possesses a fine and well-cultivated tenor voice.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's capable concert party remain an undiminished attraction. The excellent songs by the comedians, with their rattling choruses, put the audience into good humour and encores are again and again demanded. Mr. George Swaine, besides proving an able accompanist, obtains much applause for his solo performances on the pianoforte.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Thomas Sidney and a smart company are appearing in the comedy farce entitled *The Mountain Climber*. In the title-rôle Mr. Thomas Sidney brings out all the numerous characteristics of Mr. Montague Sibsey; Miss Josephine Rae is a charming representative of Montague's wife, who is so proud of her husband's Alpine daring; Mr. Pat Alexander is very good as Samuel Midgham; Mr. Harry Hiller gives a skilful sketch of Dr. Charles Midgham; Mr. Edgar Kent gives an agreeable portrait of Arthur Lydbrook; and Mr. Arthur Beverly enacts the part of Sydney Ketton very cleverly. Alice and Betty could not be in better hands than those of Miss Calypso Jaletta and Miss Dorothy Sidney; a natural representation of Watson Frimley is given by Mr. Allistoun Samson; Miss Amy Clarke realises exactly the character of Lena; and Miss Millicent Temple is equally successful in the part of Mary.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Under Mr. Wm. Poel's direction an innovation is being made here by the production of the old-fashioned comedy *The Good-Natured Man*. The costumes are characteristic of the times, and the all-round excellence of the acting is quite in keeping with the days of Oliver Goldsmith. Mr. James Terry deals with the part of Sir William Honeywood in a hearty fashion; while Mr. Lewis Casson is very good as the good-natured man. His agent, Jarvis, is well taken by Mr. W. M. Mayne; Croaker is admirably represented by Mr. Shakespeare Stewart; an intelligent study of his son Leontine is presented by Mr. Edwin Coates, who shows true dramatic talent; Mr. W. M. Mayne and Mr Edwin H. Wynne are capital dignitaries of the law; Miss H. B. Potter makes a graceful and sprightly Olivia; an adequate interpretation of the part of Miss Richland is rendered by Miss Muriel Currey; Miss Clare Greet gives distinction to the character of Croaker's wife, her cheerfulness asserting itself conspicuously in contrast to her lachrymose and croaking husband. Good audiences are patronising the pavilion.

In the parks the performances by the corporation's string orchestra, directed by Mr. Thomas Hilton, prove increasingly attractive; and in the Band Kiosk on the Baths the Military Band, directed by Mr. W. Vince, draws very large audiences.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Another good variety combination is appearing here including D'Arc's clever marionette impersonations of variety stars; Charles Banks and his well-trained dog Woof in a novel act; Harrison Bros., comedians and dancers; Miss Belle Braham in her well-known illustrated song production; Atlas and Vulcana in their weight-lifting speciality; the Mezettis, a pair of accomplished horizontal-bar artists; Treck and Trixie in a humorous medley, and Drawel, Frisco and Hambo, speciality jugglers.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Lumsden Hare and Miss Madge Macintosh's company, in *Mollentrave on Women*, has been the attraction here. Exceedingly happy was Mr. Michael Sherbrooke as Mollentrave. Mr. Lumsden Hare hit off the worried K.C. with admirable skill, and yet not without displaying a very acute sense of humour; fascinating to a degree was Miss Madge Macintosh as the widow, and she helped much towards success; as the ward, whose misunderstanding of Mollentrave's action is the main pivot of the play, none could have been more winsome than Miss Gwladys Wynne; the housekeeper, who adds so much to Sir Joseph's troubles, was capitally portrayed by Miss Ada King. *The Great Silence*, a play in two scenes, precedes. With such an admirable all-round performance, needless to say good business has been recorded this week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Conscript*, which holds the boards this week, is a striking drama, from the pen of Mr. Wybert Olive. Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia, the hero's wife, has a rôle in which she displays powers of no mean order; the Conscript of Mr. Harry Cullinford is distinguished by its virility; Miss Connie Meadows proves herself to be a graceful danseuse.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Belle Davis and her "Pick Chicks" constitute a clever top turn; Daisy Dormer has some very clever songs, and is a most accomplished dancer; Bromely and Fontein, in a musical act, gain much applause; Tom Lloyd had to respond to an encore; Dave and O'Malley, Bessie Willow, Bert Brantford, and Will Letters are all acceptable turns.

IPSWICH. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief item in the bill this week is the droll sketch called *The Bachelor's Dream*, in which May Edouin and Fred Edwards appear with much success. Another attractive turn that may fairly be termed "strong" is that of Ben Hur, who performs some prodigious feats of strength which are greeted with unstinted applause. Other items include Vasey and Ramsey, clever dancers; Mark Henderson, a blind musical artist; Maud Vera, a pleasing singer and dancer; Guy Ryder, an accomplished siffleuse; Harold Hughman, a mimic of animals, &c.; and Ernest French, a droll vocalist.

ISLE OF WIGHT.—VENTNOR TOWN HALL.—The Lloyd-Stanford Quartette and Concert Party, comprising the Misses Eva Colton and Ivy Moore, Messrs. Ivor Warren, Lloyd-Stanford, and Harry Prenton, have been giving high-class conc

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The leading attraction here is Miss Carlotta de Yonson and her excellent company, who are presenting two well-written sketches by Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, entitled *Blue River Valley*, and the stirring dramatic episode *A Russian Spy*, in which the principal parts are sustained with the greatest success by Miss Carlotta de Yonson, Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, and Mr. Charles A. Carlile. The variety portion of the programme is contributed to by Rene and Smith, American comedy and speciality artists; Hal Chapter, quaint comedian; Nellie Dunbar, refined comedienne; Jessie Watson, burlesque artist; Harry Royde, comedian; and Walter H. Pallister's American bioscope, with the usual excellently selected pictures.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The following are contributing to an enjoyable and varied entertainment here this week: Fanny Adamson, vocalist; Dan Lyndon, comedian; Frances O'Reilly, vocalist; Bert Wallace, comedian; the Bohemian Glee Singers; and Will Chapman, pianist and musical director. Miss Frances O'Reilly, who has made herself most popular here, took a benefit on Thursday, when numerous additional attractions were provided.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—For the re-opening of this popular house after the summer recess Mr. R. A. P. Williams presents his specially selected company in a very happy revival of *Les Cloches de Corneville*. The production has all the benefits of beautiful new scenery and attractive costumes. Mr. Michael Kemble gives a powerful rendering of Gaspard, the miser; Mr. Piercy Watson is a manly and vigorous Marquis; Mr. G. Edward Hall and Mr. Richard Martin are excellent in the comic rôles of the Baillie and Gobo; and Mr. Percy Martin does good work as Grenicheux. Honours among the ladies are pretty equally divided between Miss Adele Harvey, who makes a bright and vivacious Serpolette, and Miss Kathleen Emmett, whose singing in the part of Germaine gains for her a full share of popular favour.

LIMERICK.—EXHIBITION THEATRE. — Crowded houses witness the clever turns of Miss Kate Gourlay, the Scottish lassie and buck dancer, who also sings well; the impersonations of Mr. Fred Howard are very good; and as ventriloquist Mr. Dudley Causton is excellent. The Sisters Mather, violinists, are a great attraction.

The chief outdoor pastimes are excellently catered for by Messrs. Turnbull and Toft, and Mr. J. F. Calverto is the experienced responsible manager for the Bijou Theatre and several other recreative departments.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Well-staged and mounted, the *Two Little Drummer Boys* has been a strong attraction here this week. The company responsible is brought by Mr. F. G. Kimberley, and includes several able artists. Mr. Beresford Lovett makes an excellent Captain Frank Carsdale; Mr. Edward Bikker handles the rôle of General Kingsley with distinction; Miss Mildred Eversleigh is a charming Alma Kingsley, playing with a pathetic touch; the drummer boys find in Miss Maggie English and Miss Margaret Hazel able exponents, receiving the cordial recognition of their audience; Miss Kathleen Magee is seen to advantage as Margaret Rivers; Miss Edie Macklin is full of life as the merry Molly Meadows; and a deal of amusement is evoked by Mr. Joseph McGrath as Quincey O'Quirke.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The bill this week is headed by George D'Albert and company in a dramatic item, *'Tis Never Too Late to Mend*, which is well played, and richly deserves the applause accorded. Very laughable is the sketch, *Smash and Dash*, as presented by Arnold Bell and company; Frank Coyle is also well to the fore in laughter-making; Rappo and Ella are daring acrobats and equilibrists; Mollie Doon is a favourite here; Chas. F. Best's turn is answerable for considerable amusement; Bella Leaburn is a pleasing comedienne; and Akbar gives a clever gymnastic display on the hand-rings.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—Full of scenes of circus and sporting life, *The Way of the World* has proved a draw here this week. Messrs. Beaudyn and Crowe's company has presented it in good style. Mr. Herbert Skardon as Cecil Montague plays with marked effect; a sufficiently villainous Captain Fred Slade comes from Mr. Victor Gordon; Miss Sidney Crowe acquits herself most creditably as Adela de la Roche; Miss Cissie Bellamy is a winsome Kate Montague; a deal of good comedy is provided by Mr. Augustus Hammond as Horatio Bluff, and Miss Marie Fontaine in the character of Polly Bell; and Mr. Clarence Temple gives every satisfaction as Matthew Malyon, the disgraced clergyman. The racehorses and ponies introduced into several scenes lend additional realism to the story.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—The stage here this week has been occupied by Mr. E. Oswald Brooks's company in *The Trail of the Serpent*, a drama full of sensationalism. Mr. Pan E. Draco is the Sir Gerald Kingston; Mr. Bradford Crosby acts well as Gerald Kingston; Mr. A. Campbell Kelly as Hammond is a powerful villain; much fun is the outcome of the efforts of Mr. Vincent Kelway as William Higging, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Rose Wilson; Miss Marie Barrett is a sweet Ethel Maynard; and Miss Nan Cameron efficiently undertakes the character of Rachael.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Herbert Darnley's company of comedians are at the top of the bill here this week with their merry sketch, *The Skirmishers*; the McNaughtons continue to cause hearty merriment; some admirable banjo playing is given by Howard Bros.; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts have a neat speciality, *The Cowboy, the Swell, and the Lady*; the Charles Fisher Pocket Opera Company have an entertaining trifle, *The Music Master*; T. P. Ling's mimetic monologue is an acceptable turn; Miss Alice Lloyd renders several catchy songs; and others in the list are Madge Osmund, Ruth Lytton, and Harwood's Juveniles.

ROYAL HIPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Another excellent all-round bill of fare has resulted in good business here this week. At the top is *Welcome Home*, a most amusing sketch, presented by Bob Hutt and company, which has delighted everyone; Tom Grave's cycle act inside a revolving wheel has been witnessed with breathless interest; Martin Conway, a favourite comedian in Liverpool, has some new business; Rex Fox's ventriloquial and musical act on the wire is a clever performance; done very neatly, the humorous juggling of Rebla is a choice tit-bit; Nash and Noel are a couple of smart comedians and dancers; Hill and Lane present a taking trifle of music and mirth, entitled *Home Lessons*; and the bill also contains the names of Charles Denton, comedian; and Ada and August, with comedy act.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W Smith.—The bioscope pictures here finish this week, after a successful stay of two months. Some excellent talent is booked for next week, when the usual variety season opens.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Here this week the "Royal" Stock company have been presenting *The Way Women Love*, from the pen of G. B. Nichols. Mr. Percy Boucher was the Dick Palmer, a humorous character; Mr. Harry Tresham handled well the part of Captain Howard Tremain; Mr. Sidney Grant gave force to the villainous character of Leslie Larmont; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood did credit to Robert Harcombe; and other well-presented rôles were Jose Alaros (Mr. E. D. Allen), Constable Dobbins (Mr. Leo Mortgomery), Lady Tremain (Miss Florence Palmer), and Verene Alabra (Miss Beryl Ravenswood).

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A new set of bioscope pictures are shown here this week, with some excellent variety turns by Harry Taft, a clever whistling comedian; Mora and Flora, comedy duettists, in a new scena, *Rich and Poor*; and Lilly Le Breton, a graceful trapeze artist, with a beautiful stage set.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—An attractive programme has been given here this week, the last which will find Mr. Willmot as lessee, he having transferred his interests to the Roscommon, which he opens on Bank Holiday. In consequence of the change, a complimentary benefit was given to his manager, Mr. David Miller, on Tuesday. Heading the bill is the dramatic sketch, *The Gambler of Liverpool*, by Mr. J. Marks's company; Harry Sims, a smart whistling comedian, has proved a good turn; the Bros. Mellot, blind vocalists, render several popular songs; Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists and expert dancers, acquit themselves creditably; and Clarence Winstone sings several tenor songs.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Foremost here this week are the Four Lecussons, with their remarkable acrobatic work on horseback; De Gracia's Assam elephants, with their peculiar tricks, have been a source of great interest; Leslie's dogs reveal a deal of careful training; and a fourth "arena turn" is given by Mr. Chris. Lecusson with some skilful horsemanship. As a male impersonator, Lilian Bishop is eminently satisfactory; Dan Crawley's songs and patter at all times evoke hearty laughter; the remarkable life-like antics of the ape Lady Julia are watched with wonder; Toledo and Price as contortionists are particularly expert; and the Casino Comedy Four prove themselves to be excellent vocal humorists.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company presented the musical comedy *Floradora* to large audiences here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. In the part of Anthony Tweedlepunch, Mr. Alf. E. Passmore was excellent, evoking much laughter at his witticisms and facial expressions; Mr. Stanley White as Cyprus W. Gilfain, Mr. Allen Morris as Frank Abercoed, Mr. Herbert St. John as Captain Arthur Donegal, and Mr. C. H. James as Leandro all acquited themselves in praiseworthy style; Miss Josephine Sullivan as Dolores and Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood are to be congratulated upon a thorough representation of difficult parts. On Thursday, *The Sign of the Cross* was staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin; Musical-Director, Mr. Jesse Holroyd.—For three nights Mr. George Robertson presented Brandon Thomas's company in *Charley's Aunt*. In the title rôle Mr. Edmund Baker was decidedly good, and the same remark applies to Mr. Wm. Allison (Stephen Spettigne), Mr. Frederick Tyrell (Col. Sir Francis Chesney), Mr. Sidney Lynn (Jack Chesney), and Mr. Basil Lynn (Charles Wykeham). Miss Katherine Vereker, as Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, was all that could be desired. On Thursday *The Dandy Doctor* was played.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees and Managers, Carl Hermann and Alfred Selwyn.—The principal attraction here is Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler, his skill being much admired. The Two Leslies, Rosie Lenard, The Leanders, Devoy, Hurst, and Fredericks, Minnie Dawn, George White, and The Wallys complete a good bill.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—A capital house gave a good reception on Monday evening to *The White Chrysanthemum*, played by Mr. Chas. Macdona's capable company. Miss Muriel George makes the most of her opportunities as Sybil Cunningham, and acts and sings throughout in a pleasing manner; Miss Emily Taylor also presents a delightful reading as Betty Kenyon, the young widow; and Miss Nellie Groves is particularly smart in the rôle of the American heiress, Cornelia Vanderdecken. Warm praise must be accorded Mr. Langdon Bruce (Lieut. Reginald Armitage) for his manly interpretation as the hero; Mr. Chas. Schmidt also performs creditably as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; and considerable amusement is afforded by Messrs. H. E. Garden (Lieut. Belmont), Richard Telford (Sin Chong), and James Dallas (Private Perks).

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The bill this week includes Cardow's Cadets; Sydney Lee, sleight-of-hand expert; Ernest Lethley, humorist and sketch artist; Arthur Hill, ventriloquist; Colin Clough, humorist; Bryan O'Sullivan, baritone; Kenneth Scot, comedian; J. T. Wilcox, Robt. Sedgwick, &c.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS AND SPARROW'S NEST PARK.—Mr. Paul Mill's clever company is still delighting large holiday crowds at these popular resorts. On Thursday evening Mr. Paul Mill gave his first illuminated fête of the season at the Sparrow's Nest Park, which attracted thousands of visitors and residents.

CLAREMONT PIER. — The concerts here are very popular. The artists at the daily concerts this week include Miss Margaret Lewys and Mr. Findlay Dunn.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS —Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gude.—The *al fresco* entertainments by the Maidenhead Cadets still form a strong attraction. On Monday evening a ticket benefit in aid of the funds of the local Working Boys' Club was given. The Cadets supplied a capital programme, to which were added single turns and the sketch *Turn Him Out*, by members of the Club. Bouquets were presented by the boys to the two ladies of the troupe, Miss Adelaide Twort and Miss Gertie Lovedale, and Captain Myers (president) publicly thanked Mr. Gude and the Cadets for their valuable assistance.

NORTHWICK HOUSE GROUNDS.—The White Coons continue their concerts. Mr. G. Leone has, however, left them, having been appointed musical director at the Theatre Royal, Windsor.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company are here this week in *Home, Sweet Home*. Miss Marion Wakeford plays Joan with grace, and succeeds in winning the complete sympathy of the audience; Mr. Frank Lindo as Stephen Armitage acts in a manly and breezy style; and in the opposite character of Lucas Lyle, Mr. F. Myles Hodgson does exceedingly well. Among the remainder of the cast Mr. George Overts gives a creditable rendering of Dick Redmayne; Capt. Gerald Gambier as the Duke of Ancaster is stately and effective; little Daisy Rochefort plays the child part of Dora very cleverly; and others worthy of note are Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as David Armitage, Miss May Rochefort as Sybil Fay, and Mr. Sidney Bryant as the Hon. Percy. The play as a whole is distinctly interesting and dramatic, and is staged with capital effect.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — An attractive play, entitled *The Dear Homeland*, was staged here on Monday by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton, whose company did full justice to its merits. The heroic parts are cleverly presented by Mr. Chas. O'Connor and Miss Violet Hammersley; Mr. Harold C. Macartney and Miss Stella Carmichael figure boldly in the opposite rôles; and considerable fun is provided, chiefly by Mr. Shaun Glenville as an adventurous Irishman.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Mr. Harold Reyner presents here this week Mr. Ian Maclaren's company, in *The Prince of Rogues*, a vigorous and exciting detective drama. Mr. Claude Haviland's depiction of the title part is a well-known and powerful piece of work; and he is admirably supported by Miss Gertrude Littlewood as Rita Congreave; Mr. Henry B. Lewis as Detective Kenry; Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Winnie Harwood; and Mr. Edward Vandor as Josh Buggins. All the remaining parts are well played, and the staging is good.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. John Power's company is here this week in the successful moral drama, *Man's Enemy*, a play of considerable merit. The story is admirably depicted by the various members of the cast, among whom Mr. John Power is conspicuous for a fine rendering of the central rôle of Tom Drake, and Miss Clara Reid acts with remarkable grace and judgment as Polly Harris; while Mr. Francis Everard and Miss Edith Leslie do full justice to the heroic side of events, and good fun is provided by Mr. Thos. A. Ellis, Mr. G. Porteous, and Mr. Fred Ross.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—At the top of the bill here this week is seen Florence St. John, the well-known comedy actress, in a very pleasing sketch, called *My Milliner's Bill*. Prominent also are Jack and Evelyn, a smart couple of entertainers, in a brisk and amusing act; the Cribb Trio are seen to advantage in their comedy act, *Idle Fellows*; Fred Horsfall, mimic, gives an acceptable turn; T. C. Callaghan, comedian, is amusing; Virginia's Piccaninnies sing and dance in characteristic style; Marriott Edgar, the man in red, sings well; a smart comedy acrobatic act is offered by the Three Missouris; and Mooney and Holbein shine as comedy acrobats. The pictures are good as usual.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An extremely good turn here this week is that of Alexandre and Hughes, who head the bill, and whose general business of gag and melody is well deserving of the honour. Lockhart's Elephants go through their marvellous show with the well-known accuracy; Will Musgrave, comedian, is good; a big success is scored by My Fancy, the queen of sand dancers; the Chockaboards, a combination of black and white artists, sing and dance in excellent style; Pit and Cute present some novel ideas in comedy acrobatics; and other good turns are given by Flo Esdaile, a spirited and excellent vocalist; the Clarkes, expert banjoists; and George Reeves, a clever comedian. The pictures are highly amusing this week.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A very enjoyable leading turn is given here this week by Ernest Shand, who is well described as the pink of comic smartness, and whose songs and patter are distinctly a huge success. Another remarkable turn is that of Will Bishop and company in *My Gollywog*. These good things are supplemented by Sanford and Lyons, a pair of comedians, who are also very good simultaneous dancers; Kathleen Cogan, accomplished comedienne; the Six Remingtons, evening-dress acrobats; Jack Lane, a characteristic Yorkshire rustic comedian; the American Comedy Four, eccentric vocalists; Irene Rose, a smart comedienne and dancer; and two choice items by the choir.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Lily Burnand, the charming burlesque artist, is to the front here this week in several capital songs, and meets with a good reception; Alice Hollander, Australian contralto, is also well received; and Harry Ray and Lillie Calden make a big hit in their original comedy act. Kate A. Traill scores in songs at the piano; Maggie Rimmer is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Passmore Brothers are amusing comedians, with eccentric business; whilst good turns are those of the Sisters Morgan, who dance and sing well; Alberton, Australia's "deceptionist", and Charles Craston, comedian. Raymond's Pictures are, as usual, very entertaining.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — *The Sorrows of Satan* is the attraction here this week, after a successful week at the Royal Osborne Theatre, with Mr. Hugh Carmichael and Miss Nelson Ramsay at the head.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —May and Eugenie are very successful here this week in a delightful quick-change singing novelty. The Pichel Troupe are wonderfully clever Risleyists, and gain great applause; the Cosmans are pleasing in their comedy act; the Four Rozaires give a good acrobatic display; and Wallace Muirhead is a capital tenor vocalist. Other successful turns include George Gulliver, ventriloquist; the Boleros, very funny on the bars; G. W. Gallaher, a smart eccentric comedian; and Lily Vane, a dainty comedienne. The Bioscope Pictures are greatly enjoyed.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Le Diablo, in a daring cycle act, "Looping the Devil's Wheel" is the top star attraction here this week, and his exhibition is a "thriller." An excellent turn is provided by Stanley's Urchins, who sing pleasingly and dance smartly, meeting with much approval; and the Five M.P.'s (Musical Palmers) contribute their usual delightful musical turn. Mlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano, is well received; some clever tumbling, with humorous business, is done by the Errolls; and a somewhat similar show is given by Lack and Ford, the "indiarubber man and the twister." Other turns are those of Johnson and Pelham, in pot-pourri act; George Hilton, comedian; and Daisy Almer, vocalist and dancer. Some enjoyable pictures complete.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North. — Crowded houses nightly testify to the popularity of this week's programme, all the artists being great favourites. Fred Field, a capital humorist, heads the bill, and is vastly entertaining; Jim Pullen, the always popular comedian, is well received; Ethelle Stapley is an excellent violinist; Mabelle Ashton, a charming comedienne, sings pleasing songs; Charles North, baritone, has a good voice; Guy Drury is a first-rate light comedian; and Arthur Rogerson is good at the piano.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietors, Mr. F. Mouillot and Mr. W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The programme is headed this week by Joe Elvin, who is supported by his company in the successful sketch *Obedient Billy*, which is responsible for a great deal of hearty laughter. The Lulaine-Darrell Trio, novelty gymnasts in their bar and rings act, are excellent, and Miss Clarice Mayne proves herself a pleasing comedienne and clever mimic. Elton and Elna, triple-bar performers; Rosie Bartlett, comedienne and dancer; and Walter King, the doleful comedian, go to make up a varied and an enjoyable entertainment.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Evans.—The artists appearing here in the spécialité programme, which is a feature of the weekly entertainments, are giving some capital turns. The Two Wiltons, refined dancers and duettists, are good; and the sensational cycle feats performed by Blanche and Diacoff must be seen to be fully appreciated. The Three Gilbert Girls are an especially vivacious trio, and George M. Schilling, by the aid of pictures, describes his tramp round the world. Onda and Leon are expert gymnasts, and George Bendon, white coon vocalist, and the Four Jumels, instrumentalists, prove a considerable attraction.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The following are appearing here this week: The Fordyces, duettists and dancers; the Two Clarkes, on the revolving globe; J. F. Sterling, clog dancer; Little Beano, who introduces his mechanical donkey; Sterling and Cashen, eccentric comedians and dancers; and the Biograph, with a capital series of new pictures.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Charles Stewart's company in the comedy *Our Flat* is here this week. The play puts the audiences in the best of spirits and provides an enjoyable evening which is not readily forgotten. Mr. Charles Stuart as Reginald is as amusing as ever, and a word of commendation is due to Mr. J. B. Gordon as Mr. McCullam; Mr. Wilfred Shine creates roars of laughter as Glover, the part fitting him to perfection. Mr. Kaye Brudell as Foreman acts in a way which leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Daisy Atherton as Margery imbues the part with all possible humour and charm; Miss Pollie Emery is successful as Bella; Miss Murtie Slade does well as Clara Pryout, and Miss Bertha Northan as Lucy McCullam is exceedingly pleasing and vivacious.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles B. Rembges.—There is a very entertaining programme here this week, all the items being of the best. Cruickshank, the clown, delights the audiences with his up-to-date songs and patter; the Gorgetti troupe of gymnasts provide a really wonderful display; the Sisters Albert, duettists, are well received and Mr. Young is an excellent vocalist. Terry and Bentley cause laughter in their sketch, *The Hunt*, as does Josh Dixon with his songs and sayings; Grais's baboons provide an excellent entertainment, in which Diavolino, the baby baboon, loops the loop. Other turns are provided by Leonie Dixon and the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—The farcical absurdity *The Bloomsbury Burglars* proves an attractive item here this week, and is heartily enjoyed by the usual big houses. Frank Seeley, the well-known comedian, scores a big success, and the Zaros give a clever acrobatic and tumbling act. Luigo Salino provides some excellent music, and Tom Hughes proves himself a capital comedian. The other artists are George Barron and Arthur Boyne.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. William Mollison has been paying a visit here with his company in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, and has achieved a notable success in the fine character of Lachlan Campbell, and Mr. Alec F. Thompson has been deservedly successful as Wee Posty, an amusing part. The Flora Campbell of Miss Evelyn McNay has been thoroughly sympathetic. Misses Alice Francis, Martha Stewart, and Jeannie Fitzgerald have been good, and the same remark applies to Messrs. Kendal Chalmers, D. Lyall, Durward Lely, and Archie W. Campbell.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The programme has included Mlle. Ella with her quartet of lions F. V. St. Clair, in the latest topical songs, not forgetting Chicago; the Selbinis, with their clever *pot-pourri* of cycling business; the Waldrons, in their original comedy act, *The Silly Burglar*; Harry Norris, a clever mimic, with some first-class stuff; Mlle. Lola, juggler; Bros. Ethairien, in an eccentric act which makes everyone laugh, and Keith and Merson, in their acrobatic hunting absurdity *The Meet*.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Ald. John Gardner. —The Six Brothers Luck are the principal attraction here with their clever and eccentric *Demon of the Cellar* sketch. Mlle. Kloet poses perfectly; the Seven Wulfrunas in *Fun in a Café* do some smart acrobatic work, and introduce pleasing comedy; Satsuma, the Japanese, juggles and mystifies; May Fallowfield is a pleasing soubrette; and H. O. Wills an acceptable comedian; the Bohemians are an effective musical turn, and the one-legged business of the Bros. Zampah is unique. Bert Woodward's cycle steeplechasing is neat indeed.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Joe Boganny's clever Risley performers in their sketch *The Lunatic Bakers* excite hearty laughter at each performance; and the Du Cane trio in their comedy gymnast act are really funny. Other turns are the Coalvilles, vocalists and dancers; Florence Hector, soprano; Denby and Dent, comedy act, and Zanfretta and Napio, the musical knife-grinders.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. John Bastow.—Herr Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band is still proving a great attraction. Last night those clever entertainers, the Follies, made a first appearance in Morecambe

NEW BRIGHTON.—GRAND TOWER THEATRE.—An excellent variety company this week includes Miss Florence Hill, vocalist and dancer; Miss Lockhart, in her marvellous tight and slack wire act; Walter Levalle, coster comedian; Mlle. Heleu, who gives some clever and beautiful serpentine dances on the rolling globe; the Three Cheers, in a Dick Whittington scena; Miss Nellie Belmore, comedienne; Charles Vandyke and company of comedians and pantomimists, in a new absurdity, *Sensations*; and the Towerscope.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—PALACE THEATRE. —Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—A welcome change from the usual run of drama is being provided here this week, by the engagement of Mr. Dickie Clare and Co., in the musical absurdity, *Lucky 'Liza*. As Silas Slim Mr. Clare is quite a host in himself, and keeps the fun going furiously; quite a jovial personage is Mr. Dan Ryan, as William Biffins, whose broad Irish humour is greatly appreciated; Mr. Leonard Maitland is irresistibly funny as Paul Pettitor, a dude; and Mr. James Chippendale as Peter Pettitor and Mr. A. W. Thompson as Barney Blatherwick do exceedingly well with somewhat scanty material; in the title-rôle Miss Madge Brownie is highly successful, her singing and dancing throughout being frequently encored; Miss Vesta Brownie is a charming Virginia; and the Astor Trio, lady vocalists and dancers, provide a speciality act.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.— Miss Grace Warner and Co. are appearing here this week, and have presented *The Scarlet Clue* and *East Lynne*. In the latter play Miss Warner undertakes with complete success, the rôle of Lady Isabel; Mr. George Gordon is thoroughly at home in the rôle of Sir Francis Levison; and Mr. J. Leighton Leigh's impersonation of Archibald Carlyle is throughout interesting. The remaining characters are in capable hands.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—The Poluski Brothers provide plenty of amusement here this week, their business being up-to-date, as usual. Mark Melford and Co. appear in a new sketch, entitled *Only a Wedding*, in which their efforts are entirely successful; Harriet Vernon, gorgeously begowned, submits her latest scena, "The Lilac Girl"; Unthan, the armless wonder, is indeed a marvel; Annie Abbott possesses wonderful power of resistance, and her act is indeed a mysterious one; Orpheus displays rare talent as a musician, his oboe solo, with gramophone accompaniment, of "The Broken Melody," being particularly fine. Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist, has a good voice; and Lottie Govell, a dainty comedienne and dancer. O. K. Sato, comic juggler, and Gertrude Bradshaw, a refined vocalist, complete the bill.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The popular magician, De Biere is back here once again, and his hands have lost none of their cunning. Gertie Gitana, a possessor of a fine voice, is accorded a good reception; an equestrian act of much cleverness is presented by F. de Marce; Hayman and Franklin create a good impression as comedy artists; Wallau proves as clever as ever in the art of juggling; and other notable turns are Nelson and Thomas, in a comedy act; Charles Faning, comedian; the Musical Schaffers; Adams and Ward, acrobats; W. B. Raby, quaint comedian; and the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Cooper.—Mrs. Walter Bentley's company, in *A Queen's Vengeance*, is appearing here this week. The piece is capitally mounted, and is creditably enacted by Messrs. A. Bertram Croucher, George Harvey, Clifforde Reynolds, Arthur Bell, J. B. Stewart, G. Mepstead, F. Moore, Geo. Roberts, Frank Fortescue, and M. White, Miss Lillian Deane, Miss Adela Harvey, and Mrs. Walter Bentley.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. O. Stoll.—A strong bill here includes the Griffiths Bros., who provide a fund of humour in their motor-car and the duel. J. W. Hall secured an encore with his popular songs; Tatten Hall is both interesting and amusing in his great success "Tired Man"; and some remarkable feats are given by Max Wessely's troupe of comic jugglers; the Tally-Ho Trio who introduce into their turn a good amount of humour are excellent singers; the Sisters Iris execute some clever dances; and a very amusing display is given by the Tupps, whose acrobatic performance is above the average. The Bioscope shows a series of pictures depicting "A Naval Nursery"; and Miss Jacobi, comedienne, deputised for Harry Leybourne, who was indisposed.

NORTHAMPTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Proprietors and Managers, Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General Manager, Reginald Taylor.—This theatre re-opened for the season on Monday, when Mr. John F. Preston presented his specially selected company in the historical play, *Lady Godiva*. Miss Ethel Griffies is a picturesque and pleasing heroine; Miss Katherine Brook is an excellent Lady Aldyth; and Miss Edith Lorraine, as Elfrida, is a lively serving maid; Mr. F. B. Woulfe gives a striking impersonation of Tom Coventry; Mr. Howard Barlow is good in the part of Leofric; Mr. James Duncan as Algar and Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf give forcible specimens of villainy; Mr. Leslie Lingham plays Edgar; and Mr. Bob Anderson is amusing in the part of Robin. *Nell Gwynne* is billed for Wednesday and Thursday, and *Jane Shore*, for Friday nights.

NORTH SHIELDS.—CENTRAL PALACE—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Four Louberts, sketch artists, top the bill here this week, and are warmly received; Silent Tait, eccentric wizard, comes in for a hearty reception; and the Musical Saxonias present an enjoyable act; Carlo Bianchi, equilibrist and balancer, performs some smart feats; Miss Beatie Kent, comedienne and dancer, is clever; Mr. Tom Collins, comedian, has made a hit; and the Bio-Photoscope is as popular as ever.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrots Co.—A welcome return visit has been paid us this week by that charmingly clever and versatile artist Miss Flo Holroyd, who sings her songs in her own inimitable style; Miss Barwick also renders some pretty numbers; Mr. James Wilson proves himself a clever bone soloist; Mr. Fred Esdale causes a good deal of merriment in his comic songs, and his duets with his brother enhance the quality of the programme; Mr. Glanmore Jones still continues to give much pleasure with his songs.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The chief attraction this week is Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders, whose quick and precise evolutions call forth much enthusiasm. Mr. Fred Elton, who is well-known in Norwich, is very entertaining in his vocal and musical speciality, "On an Ocean Liner"; Russell Carr is amusing as a ventriloquist; the Franko Midgets, the smallest conjurers in the world, have a cordial reception; Emma Milstead and Joe Bell, in a musical comedy scena, are a good turn; whilst Andie Burn pleases in singing and dancing. The Kashma Bros. are successful in their dancing acrobatic mélange; and Kendrick and Laura are applauded in their duet singing. The Hippo. Bioscope, with interesting pictures, completes an excellent programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller. — The Royal Animated Picture Company continues its excellent series of films, and the singing of Mr. Wensley Russell is thoroughly enjoyed.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.— The head of the bill is occupied by Arthur Roberts and company, with the screamingly funny absurdity, entitled *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*, in which the popular comedian keeps the audience in a continuous roar of laughter. Conway and Leland, the merry monopes, are exceedingly clever as well as amusing; and Pat Rafferty gains a welcome share of approbation; an energetic instrumentalist is seen in Violi; and a smart turn is supplied by Spry and Austin; the manipulation of a number of hoops by Atroy secures him an excellent reception; and Tina Clementa is to be congratulated on the cleverness of her troupe of horses and dogs. Farmyard imitations, by Harry Carsdale, prove highly entertaining; and the programme is further helped by Ambrose Thorne, comedian, and the American Bioscope.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—This place of entertainment was opened for the season on Monday by Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company. The following has been the bill for the week: *Lord Edward; or '98; Willy Reilly, Sarsfield, The Insurgent Chief, The Colleen Bawn*, and *The Irishman*. As Lord Edward Mr. Robert Faulkner acted in splendid style; Mr. Henry Forrest depicted Major Sirr in realistic fashion; Francis Higgins was skilfully handled by Mr. Ion Ireland; Mr. Dane Clark played powerfully the part of Francis Magan; capital impersonations were submitted by Mr. James Daly as Neilson and Mr. Henry Richardson as Tony; and Mr. James O'Brien was extremely clever and entertaining in his embodiment of Thady McGrath. Miss Cecilia Dare made a most convincing Pamela, acting with histrionic ability; Miss P. Marnard as Lady Louisa Connolly was altogether successful and sympathetic; the Miss Moore of Miss Madeline Hurst was an excellent impersonation; and Miss Monica Kelly was delightfully sweet and winsome in her rendering of Katey Malone. Many other characters, more or less of minor importance, were all ably and intelligently handled.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Leon Vint's Globe choir, sceneorama, and variety combination opened here for a week on Monday, and is proving a strong attraction. The programme of nearly three hours' duration is kept going without an interval, and is full of variety and interest. Madame Vint, in her clairvoyant séance, is undoubtedly the star turn, and her performance is the subject of much wonderment and comment. The vocal and instrumental numbers by various members of the company are exceptionally well rendered, and the combination is considerably strengthened by the versatility of a remarkably good comedian.

ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—The Lyndon Vaudevilles continue to supply the entert

Richeux.—Few finer performances have been witnessed in Ramsgate than that of *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, which has been staged at the Pavilion during the week. Mr. McKenzie's company, who present the play, do it most effectively. The cast includes Miss Mary Illington, who, in her original part of Mrs. Jardine, gives a brilliant performance; while Mr. Yorke Stephens sustains with artistic skill the rôle of Captain Mowbray. Miss Frances Vine gives a clever impersonation of Mrs. Gorringe; Mr. Maitland Dicker is capital as Colonel Jardine; Mr. Briscoe Owen plays a difficult part most creditably; and the minor characters are represented in first-rate style.

ROCHDALE.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves. — Mme. Collard's boarhounds, in a burlesque act, entitled *Robinson Crusoe*, top the bill here this week. The animals go through their performance with great intelligence. Charles J. Johnson, "the black diamond," is a popular artist; his dancing is specially attractive. Other capital turns included in the programme are J. H. Greener, the Salford singing pit lad; Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists; Raglus, lawn tennis ball manipulator; Silly Billy Elliott, comedian; Sisters Edwardes, vocalists, dancers, and drummers; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. H. F. Housden and company are here for the first time with *A Woman's Past*, a strong domestic drama. Mr. J. Myron-Howard is very effective as David Heath; and Mr. David Phillips is seen to advantage as Frank Delauney. Mr. H. F. Housden, the author, gives a thoughtful portrayal of the part of Clement Harper; and Mr. Clifton Earle does well as Uriah Craven. Miss Dorothy Wallace gives a pleasing rendition of the rôle of Bessie; and Miss Doris Cameron is an excellent Dorothy Heath. Miss Mabel Northam is a sprightly Kate; and Miss Irene Carrington as Clara Darrell is responsible for a clever representation.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. John Cecil, who represents Sir James Franklyn, the self-accused criminal judge, in *How Money's Made*, had a good reception from a full house on Monday, and he was supported by a capital all-round company. Mr. Frank Strickland is forceful, and acts with discretion as the coiner Eustace Dare; Leonard Murray is well presented by Mr. Henri Gerald; and the trying part of Ruth Franklyn is played by Miss M. Leslie with telling effect. The negro Glory is a clever piece of work, in which Mr. Elton Morgan keeps the house in excellent humour, being ably assisted by Miss Flo Norman as Phyllis. Bobbie Vane (Dare's accomplice) is in the capable hands of Mr. Owen Edwin.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The farcical episode *Barmaids*, presented by Hodgson (Miss Hulo), Lowther (Mr. Harry) and Comfy, is a most laughable turn. Duncan and Godfrey are also much applauded for their interesting coster romance, *Me and 'Er*. Bosanquet, with his Bosanquephone resembling the human voice, again delights with his violin solos. Clever turns are also given by the Sisters Valli, long-boot dancers and instrumentalists; Tom E. Cliffe, comedian; the Warsaw Bros., in their Australian comedy musical act; Annie Laurie, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and James Kurry, eccentric comedian; the bioscope pictures are especially amusing.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Westwoods (lady and gentleman) are much applauded for their daring cycle act; Herr Addison's troupe of fox terriers go through some clever and amusing performances; *Happy School Times* affords the Franz Family an opportunity of displaying some clever tumbling and dancing; and Howard Ward and Louie Davis, in *Wanted, a Typist*, do some amusing business. The Three Mushams, in their comical sketch *A Day on Hampstead Heath*; Bernard Katz, basso vocalist; Richards, comedy acrobats; Dolly Denver, comedienne and clog dancer; and Calile and Walker also appear.

SALISBURY. — VICTORIA PARK. — Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Glorious weather prevailing, these concerts are being patronised by large audiences nightly. As usual, Miss Beattie Witham is highly successful as a vocalist; and Miss Ramsdale also scores with her song, "The Apple Tree." Mr. Skidmore's comic songs win rounds of applause; Mr. William Dyar and Mr. Tom Walton contribute amusing numbers; Mr. George Conway's sketches at the piano are new this week. The bioscope, with a fresh set of pictures, concludes the evening's entertainment.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman Co. is paying a return visit with *Sergeant Brue*, Mr. Arthur Reynolds taking the part of the sergeant in an admirable manner. Mr. E. Percy Rogers as Michael Brue acquits himself well. As Aurora Brue Miss Mary Hay makes herself a warm favourite. Mr. Cecil Burt as Mr. Cranks shows every evidence of being conversant with police court life, especially when dealing with Crookie Scrubbs, a difficult part well undertaken by Mr. Charles McLazan, who causes much amusement. Miss Hebe Bliss very becomingly takes the part of Lady Bickenhall, and Mr. Cecil Hood admirably portrays the part of the police inspector.

THE HIPPODROME (Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva) has now opened with his season's programme, which includes Adella and Claude, equestrians; Starlight, the cake-walk horse; Little Albini, acrobatic clown; Luis Hardt, who shows enormous strength; the Three Ohmys, a show in themselves in the triple equestrian act; the Three Rubys, who please the audience immensely; Basusio Bros., acrobatic experts; Miss Lilly and her high school horse Lazeppi, which displays considerable intelligence; Claud Ohmy, a master in his equestrian act. The star turn is the Five Cumberlands, who seem to be able to do anything as acrobatic cyclists. The performance concludes with Wallace Selkirk's juvenile spectacle entitled *Bonnie Scotland*, in which over 100 local children take part; it is most effective and realistic.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred. P. Morgan.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith* is here this week. Mr. Sam Livesey taking the part of Longfellow's ideal with considerable ability and prominence. Capt. Leo has an able exponent in Mr. Joseph Carter, who receives his share of disapproval from the audience. The acting of Miss Bertha Hanbury is remarkable as Harry Strong, the child; Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong, the despised wife, acts a difficult part most admirably; and Mr. George V. Campbell as Billy Twigg causes much amusement. An interesting item in the play is the sensational and startling wrestling match between Captain Leo and the village blacksmith, which adds considerable interest to the play. Both of the contestants are evidently well versed in the intricate movements of wrestling.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Cliff Bridge Company; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—The attraction here is Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *Sunday*, with Miss Emélie Polini in the title-rôle. As Towzer Mr. Wm. Lockhart ably fits the rôle of a rough Westerner; Mr. Sidney Rennef as Davy delights everybody; as Lively, Mr. T. Norman Walter has a part that fits him exactly; Mr. Arthur Vezin as Jacky displays strong emotional powers; Miss Muriel Pope as a nun acts well; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley is all that could be desired; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston as Arthur Brinthorpe puts good work into his portrayal; and Miss Arnice Murray as Mrs. Naresby presents the character in a powerful manner.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Madame Marie Levante's Orchestra of Ladies is still a prime favourite with the holiday crowds visiting here. The vocalist for the week is Mr. Arthur Weber, who is principal bass at Liverpool Cathedral; Miss Ada Webb and troupe of lady swimmers give exhibitions daily in the bath; The Lizzettes are a very clever troupe of lady acrobats; Miss Molly Augarde sings delightfully; The Uniques do full justice in their ladder act; Elsie Rubina has mastered the art of balancing to a nicety; Jack Pleasants is an originally funny comedian; Lily Andrews can sing coon songs with pleasing effect; Kloof and Ramsay give animation to their musical turn; Mlle. Amedia, contortionist, is acceptable; Judge's cockatoos show careful training; whilst Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is as popular as ever; and Curtis Leo, magician, completes the long programme.

NORTH PIER PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Morgan; Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Charles Morritt with his mysteries is installed here for the season with a capable company of artists, and gives two performances daily, concluding with a farce entitled *The Spirit Circle*, which is very amusing and instructive.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE (Lessee, Mr. C. E. Pareato) has opened here with living pictures and a most capable company of vaudeville artists, including Parker's performing dogs, goats, and donkeys.

SOUTH FORESHORE.—Catlin's Pierrots are now in full swing, Mr. Catlin having two excellent companies, who are attracting large crowds of visitors daily.

GRAND HOTEL SKATING RINK.—Mr. Tom Carrick's troupe of pierrots have become very popular, and his artists are pleasing.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, is on a return visit to Seaham this week. The part of Sergt.-Major Clive Crawford is in the capable hands of Mr. Cleveland; Lieut. Kingston, R.N., finds a sterling exponent in Mr. Edward Derwent; Mr. John Worth is distinctly good as Captain Mannering, R.N.; Pat Maloney is humorously sketched by Mr. Chas. A. Preece; Mr. George H. Doyle greatly pleases as Moses. As Hilda Mannering, Miss Litchfield plays with rare skill; Phyllis is charmingly acted by Miss Maude Steeple.

SHEFFIELD.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The favourite actress, Miss V. St. Lawrence opened to a good house on Monday, supported by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's specially arranged company, in the thrilling drama dealing with life in St. Petersburg, entitled *A Beautiful Fiend*. The piece was carefully staged, and the acting all round was good. Miss V. St. Lawrence in the title-rôle played with her usual power and distinction, and she fully realised the character of the fascinating adventuress; Mr. Montague Beaudyn acted earnestly; and Miss Blanche Hill and Mr. Tom Robertson were also successful in important parts. The Alexandra, after an interval of twenty years, has reverted to its old custom, and the votaries of St. Nicotine who attend the theatre can offer up incense to their hearts' content.

EMPIRE PALACE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The marvellous conjuror Mr. Hermann Melot is once more delighting and astonishing large audiences with his extraordinary feats of sleight of hand; Terry and Lambert, two clever Transatlantic artists, appear in a sketch which is replete with humour; the popular comedian Mr. J. W. Rickaby is successful with his new comic songs and laughable impersonations. Other popular numbers on this week's programme are the Ten Genis; Miss Marie Weston, a graceful dancer; Pierce and Maizee, in a novel act; Miss Myra Stanfield, vocalist; the bioscope, with new films; Erik, and the talented Canary Troupe.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Engaged here this week are Mr. Dick Cruikshank and company in two sketches; Billy French, coon vocalist; Miss Gladys Wilton, comedienne; Mr. Harry Morgan, comic vocalist; Miss Florence Leonard, ballad vocalist; Zasma, a daring aerial performer; and Pallister's biograph, with up-to-date pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—A smart bill of fare is submitted here this week, comprising variety turns and animated pictures of events of the day.

SOUTHAMPTON. — PALACE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—Many favourites are appearing here, including Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arab acrobats, who are wonderfully clever. Frank Hardie and company successfully present a dramatic sketch, *For the Honour of the Regiment*; Percy Curry, the candy man; Hyram Travers, coster comedian; Fyne and Hurley, the coster and dude; Millie Denham, comedienne; and Gracie Grahame, comedienne of "Charley" fame, also contribute to the evening's entertainment.

PIER PAVILION.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Sait.—Madame Stockham's company of harpists and entertainers have been delighting large audiences with their artistic entertainments. A special feature has been the admirable singing of the Cantor Glee Singers, whose unaccompanied quartettes have won golden opinions.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton. — This popular playhouse re-opened its portals on Monday, looking very spick and span after the re-decoration and upholstering it has been subjected to during the close season. The attraction was the farcical romance, *His Excellency the Governor*, ably presented by a coterie of golfing actors, who score a great success. Mr. Malcolm Cherry acts with great energy in the name part; Mr. D. J. Williams is very funny as the politician, Henry Carlton, M.P.; Mr. H. Marsh Allen is well cast as Capt. Charles Carew, A.D.C.; Mr. Lionel Mackinder is very diverting as John Baverstock, private secretary to His Excellency; Miss Valerie Salberg, as the much-sought-after Ethel Carlton; Miss Isabel Grey, as Mrs. Wentworth Bolingbroke; and Miss Jean Aylwin, as Stella, are all equally successful, and other parts are capably played by Messrs. Charles Brown, Arthur Willoughby, Littledale Power, and R. H. Sherard. An irresponsible trifle, *A Waste of Time*, precedes the farce, and proves very attractive.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Topping the list here is George Bastow, the favourite comedian, who scores with "The Galloping Major" and the ever-popular "Farmer Giles." Fred Hallam is another clever comedian, and the Sisters Bartholomew excel as dancers and duettists. Highly popular are Johnson and Bert, comedy acrobats, and Lily Black, comedienne. A very successful matinée was given here on Wednesday in aid of the Lifeboat Fund.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—A capital week's attraction is provided here by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison, who are presenting in first-class style the comedy entitled *The Freedom of Suzanne*. The play is mounted in a tasteful and pleasing manner, which is greatly admired, some of the dresses being very costly and pretty. Mr. Percy Hutchison in the principal rôle of Charles Trevor, is decidedly good; Mr. F. G. Thurstans represents Fitzroy Harding well; and Mr. William Mallaleu is suited as Sir Horace Hatton. Mr. Patrick Quill portrays Lord Datchet most humorously; and Messrs. Frank Hill and Townshend Whitling, as Captain Harry Cecil and Tommy Keston respectively, give lively impersonations. Miss Annie Stalman is well adapted to the character of Lady Charlotte Trevor; Miss Charlotte Mead is noteworthy in her interpretation of Miss Fanny Minching; Miss Violet Ley is very successful as Lady Isabel Bury; and Miss Dorothy Lart gives a clever portrayal of Mrs. Tustail. Miss Mabel Love, who has a hearty reception, gives evidence of her remarkable ability in her impersonation of Suzanne Trevor. The remaining characters are well sustained by Mrs. F. Turner, Mr. J. E. Watson, and Mr. Bruce Franks. The episode, entitled *Two in a Trap*, precedes, when Mr. Whitling and Miss Violet Ley do credit to themselves.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Plenty of good fare is provided this week, and the theatre programme is received with satisfaction. Those contributing are Will Harmony, comedian and mimic; Florrie Farren, comedienne and a pretty dancer; the Bennetts, two remarkably clever gun and bâton swingers and dancers; Bernard Bransby, vocal and character comedian; Mitzka, in his mystery, who proves most entertaining; the Kimberley Boys, two eccentrics, who become great favourites; and Geo. Power's comedy company, who present *Matrimonial Bliss* in capital style. Lorenzo's Miniature Circus shows in the Hippodrome, and give excellent performances; and some good entertainments are also supplied in the Café Chantant. Many other attractions gain considerable support.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The management are to be congratulated in presenting such excellent plays for this week's attraction. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Messrs. Ernest R. Abbott and F. C. Berridge produced *Sapho* in commendable manner. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott was responsible for a clever impersonation of Jean Gaussin; whilst Mr. F. C. Berridge was equally successful in the rôle of Henri Dechelette. Flamant was well taken by Mr. Ernest Hartington; and as Uncle Cessaire, Mr. George C. Doughty was good. Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown interpreted Hettema with ability; and as Old Legrand, Mr. Weedon Ross proved a capable exponent. Mme. Hettema was well portrayed by Miss Marjorie Tennant; and Miss Mary Douglas well defined the character of La Pipotte. Miss Hetty Jones as the child Josaph deserves mention. Fanny Legrand, known as Sapho, had in Miss Ada Abbott a talented impersonator, who gave a thorough exposition that was greatly admired. For Thursday, Friday, and to-day (Saturday) *Trilby* was announced.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Professor Vincent has been given the management of this new and popular place of amusement, which continues to draw huge crowds daily. Excellent performances are given at intervals, and Mr. Charles Ellis and Miss Marie Lawrence, newcomers, add greatly to the already long programme. A novel feature is the Urban Bioscope, showing the latest pictures in the open. The Bijou Orchestra, with Mr. H. Lyme as director, is proving most popular.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless. — Mr. Ballard Brown, with his talented and capable company, has every reason to be proud of the support he gains by his high-class entertainments. The programme is more lengthy than ever, Mr. Tom Hawkins, comedian, and Mr. Percival Reed, humorist and raconteur, being both very successful.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—An unusual attraction is provided at the above house this week by the engagement of Mr. James Welch and company—four distinct pieces each evening, *i.e.*, *The Lady Burglar*, *Punctured*, *The Man in the Street*, and *Judged by Appearances*. The famous comedian who appeared in the three latter pieces, in the characters of Jim Crimp, Jabez Groves, and Arthur Dennison respectively, finds ample scope for his versatile comedy powers, with which the audience was delighted; Mr. Welch is very ably supported by Miss Audrey Ford, who depicted the parts of Eliza Biff and Helen Dennison with admirable effect; and the principals are well assisted by an excellent company.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The attractive combination of artists engaged at this popular variety hall is headed by Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and his quartette of ladies in an international vocal scena, who submit a capital all-round performance. Other principal turns are contributed by Howard and Collinson, in their original absurdity, *The Porter and the Parcel*; Wal Pink, comedian in the monologue *Cheap Jack*; Fred Cary, popular comedian; Alma Gray, comedienne and dancer; Hallam and Stanton, in their musical sketch entitled *A Broken Journey*; the Alskarno trio of acrobats; Marie Blythe, comedienne; and the Bioscope, with latest films.

PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—A good all-round programme was submitted to a large audience at this hall of varieties on Monday, the premier item being contributed by Cullen and Carthy, pantomime comedians, who present a highly diverting performance. The turns embrace C. F. Malburn, Anglo-American novelty instrumentalists; Linton, clever rope equilibrist; the Zampas, duettists and dancers; Charles Gardner, comedian; Maud Jerome, dainty comedienne; the Maros, comedy bar performers; Oliver Conroy, eccentric character comedian; and the Bio-Tableaux.

HIPPODROME, LORD STREET.—The Royal Italian Circus of performing animals opened the second week of their engagement here on Monday, when a large and appreciative audience patronised the performance. Several new features proved highly popular and diverting.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards are occupied this week by Garside and Knowles's company, in the drama entitled *The London Fireman*. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is an able exponent of the title-rôle, Hal Curtis; Mr. Oliver Birrell as Viscount Fleming is suitably placed; a good delineation of Ida Curtis is submitted by Miss Nellie Shirley; Miss Florence M. Daly is convincing as Grace Curtis; and the comedy element is amply supplied by Miss Nellie Garside as Pollie Bramble, and Mr. Harry C. Momber as Bill Stinger.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson. — An attractive programme, headed by Carrie Laurie's popular juveniles in kindergarten is responsible for large audiences; Edith Courtney, ballad vocalist, has gained many admirers; Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog Pilu give an unique turn; Georgina Leonard is much appreciated. Other good items include Harrigan and Holt, comedians and dancers; Dot Hardy, comedienne; Will English, popular coon; and the American Bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Lessees and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The Three Henriques, comedy acrobats, submit a fine acrobatic turn; Clara Victor, character vocalist, a local favourite, receives a warm welcome; Smith, the winner of last week's competition, appears successfully. Another competition, entitled "Coonology," is being held this week. The Universal living pictures still maintain their reputation.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The British Empire Talking Pictures and Variety Co. is here for the week. The pictures are exceptionally fine, and, together with the company, which includes Miss La Clair and Little Doris, constitutes a very fine entertainment.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—The two-house a night variety business continues to meet with favour, and this week an excellent programme has been arranged. Angeline is a dancing juggler, and performs some tricks very cleverly; Sill and Silcock, silent comedians, create much merriment in a funny skit, *Left Luggage*; Lillian Neville, operatic and ballad vocalist, sings very sweetly; and Percy Johnson renders some songs of his own composition. Minnie and Mabel Brooke are a couple of duettists and dancers; Rose Tilley is a dashing comedienne; W. Salmon gains much applause as a trick and musical cyclist; and Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam are successful in a capital sketch, *In the Studio*.

ST. HELENS. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic. Carnell.—Cline and Clarke head the bill here, and win enthusiastic applause with their smart dancing; Billy Williams, comedian, is a favourite; the Bros. Redmond, acrobatic comedians, are heartily applauded; and other good turns include Miss Marion Scott, comedienne; Los Rupertos, equilibrists; Sisters De Lacy, operatic duettists; Bugler J. Carr; and Weisker's bioscope.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Ample testimony to the popularity of *A Royal Divorce* has been given here this week by the large audiences which have assembled to witness this successful drama. The impressive acting of Miss Edith Cole as the Empress Josephine and the powerful and effective impersonation of Napoleon by Mr. Frederick Victor have commanded the most enthusiastic appreciation. As Talleyrand, Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell acted with marked ability; and Mr. Graham Wood as the Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. St. George Frere as General Augereau; and Mr. Arthur Preston as Marshal Murat filled their respective parts successfully. Mr. Wm. Robbins gave a pleasing representation of the Emperor's physician, Doctor Corvisart; and Mr. Dennis Bryan acted cleverly and amusingly as the innkeeper Grimaud. Marie Louise had a capable representative in Miss Agnes Imlay; and Stephanie was capitally played by Miss Clara Russell. Friday evening was a grand souvenir night and complimentary benefit to Miss Edith Cole.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The Daunton-Shaw troupe of Australian cyclists, who form the chief attraction here this week, have been remarkably successful. Messrs. Bowman and Garrett's military sketch, entitled *Medals and Gold*, was accorded a gratifying reception; Chas. Serra gave a neat and clever statuary equilibristic act; Harley and Hardin were entertaining as eccentric dancers and mandolinists; Ailsa Douglas, soprano vocalist, sang pleasingly; the Two Jagos are clever bâton manipulators, vocalists, and dancers; Jack Rae, tramp gymnast, was amusing; and the Brooklands are dainty comediennes.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—The entertainment here is headed by Bob Gardner, humorist and a capable Milanese piper and Tyrolean singer; and among others appearing successfully are Walter Sutton, the laughing comedian; Little May, a pleasing chi'd vocalist; Emma Halliday, descriptive vocalist; and Nellie Sylvester, coon vocalist and dancer.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.— GRAND. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The company here includes Mike S. Wallen, American comedian, whose humorous songs and capital patter are thoroughly enjoyed; clever comedy juggling is shown by Albertus and Bartrum; whilst smart performances are given by the Brothers Pasquali, acrobats and head-to-head balancers; and Diana and Natalia, aërial gymnasts. Other contributors include Arthur Elvy, "the up-to-date tipster"; Jack Crawley, mimic; and Dora Lyric, comedienne.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Managing-Director and General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—On Wednesday a grand orchestral concert was given in aid of the "Little Sisters of the Poor," the theatre being kindly lent by Mr. Machin. It has been closed during the remainder of the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—On Monday Mr. Fred Benton and a capable company commenced their provincial tour here with *The French Spy*, excellently staged and elaborately dressed. Mr. Richard Fulton submits a fine rendering to the part of Capt. Sommers; Mr. Max Coutts does full justice to the heavy rôle of Count Romanoff; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe makes a truly military Chief of the Russian Police; Mr. Chas. Digby is commendable as Alexis; Mr. Fred Benton scores well as Fritz. Good comedy is introduced by Mr. Seymour Perry in his rôle of Knipps; Mr. Claude Aymond is sufficient as Lord Aynsley; and Mr. Charles Mitchell enacts Carl Schwartz ably. As the Countess Andre Miss Gertrude Evans comes off with flying colours; Miss A. Harrison-Tate enacts Olga with genuine abandon; and Miss Margaret Seymour is admirable as Julie.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—The management was fortunate in securing for the re-opening of the theatre, after it has been handsomely renovated, such an attractive play as *Lucky Durham*, which was presented to a well-filled house by Mr. H. Armitage and Mr. Arthur Leigh's capable company on Monday night. In the name-part Mr. Edmund Kennedy played with great force, his restraint considerably heightening the effect of a very fine performance; Mr. Arthur Leigh as the Hon. Reginald Steighton soon worked himself into popular favour, and gave a capital rendering of the part; John Durham's mother was sympathetically represented by Miss Lilian Mason; and the Helen Ballerton of Miss Alice Esther Belmore was a naturally charming and captivating interpretation; Lord and Lady Mountfallon were respectively ably rendered by Mr. Robert Forsyth and Miss Frances Dolviston; Mr. A. E. Walker was well placed as Mr. Vallerton; and the minor characters were ably sustained, notably that of a moneylender, by Mr. W. F. Clitherow, and the butler, by Mr. Eric Wynne.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—A capital entertainment is being provided here this week by the Æolian Opera Singers, Mr. Charles Parker acting as director; Mr. Richardson Taylor is extremely popular as a ventriloquist, and his whistling solos receive well-merited applause; Miss Rose Alderman is possessed of a good soprano voice; and Mr. Vivian Munro is distinctly successful in some well-known items. Miss Jennie Johns is a fascinating soubrette; and Miss Florence Kay has a good soprano voice. The concerted numbers are also excellently rendered.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgwood Barrie.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's production of *The Streets of London* is here this week. As Badger, Mr. William Rokeby is excellent; Mr. Riddell Robinson scores heavily as Gideon Bloodgood; and Mr. T. Richter makes a good Mark Livingstone. The part of Lucy Fairweather is well filled by Miss Edith Goodall; Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie is successful as Paul Fairweather; and Mr. Clifford Brown as Jonas Puffy causes roars of laughter.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Business-Manager, Mr. L. Gunnell.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is appearing here this week in Mr. Carton's amusing farce, *Mr. Hopkinson*, and a new production, *The Adventurer*, of which a special notice appears in another column. *Mr. Hopkinson* has occupied the boards the first three nights of this week. Mr. Frank Stanmore gives a very amusing interpretation of the *nouveau riche* who wants to make an aristocratic marriage; Mr. Arnold Lucy undertakes the Duke, and Miss M. Alison Alexander the Duchess of Braceborough. As Lord Gawthorpe, Mr. Reginald Dane does well; Miss Gladys Jesson takes the part of Lady Tyra with great vivacity; while Miss Katherine Romsey gives a clever study of the maid to Lady Tyra. Mr. Shule Lea, as Lady Tyra's father, who is disgusted with his prospective son-in-law, added to the amusement of the audience; while Mr. Geo. McCloskie, as the family solicitor, made the most of his big scene in the third act; and other minor parts were well sustained by Mr. C. M. Heslop, Mr. Vincent Galley, and Mr. G. Lowther. The piece has been preceded each evening by *The Snowstorm*.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Dr. Carl Hermann, hypnotist, is paying a return visit here, and his wonderful performance is proving a great attraction. Horton and Lindon contribute a clever triple-bar act; the Three Bostonians, juvenile vocalists, are capital dancers; an interesting song-scena, entitled *The Shoeblack's Dream*, is ably presented by Mr. Fred Fuller's company; Miss Molly Woolstenhulme, ballad vocalist, sings well; the Carls contribute a smart acrobatic turn on a spring table.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A varied and entertaining programme is submitted here this week. Hetty King in her male impersonations proves a great attraction; Trik and Trixie appear in a vocal, instrumental, and acrobatic act; Flo D'Orville is an excellent comedienne; the Three Clements score as flying gymnasts; and the Spanish Goldinis in their carpet-swinging act prove themselves most popular; Hector Grant, Scotch comedian, and Nelson's Newsboys are very smart; and the Bioscope shows some good pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. J. Kingsley Royden presents Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company in *The Black Bishop*. It is an all-round good company, including Miss Jeannie Marquise.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—Donaldson Bros. and Ardel are the leading item on the bill of the Walthamstow Palace, and in *A Zoological Comedy* keep the audience in high good humour. Lilian Doreen sings charmingly "Beside the Bonny Brier Bush," and essays a new departure, accompanying herself in a humorous ditty, "The Boy Next Door." The experiment was eminently successful. Bijou Russell was recalled again and again for her clever sand dance; Henry Herne and company produced a condensed version of *The Colleen Bawn*, in which Mr. Herne played Myles and Miss Ida Millais Eily O'Connor. The final scene, in which is introduced a lake of real water, "brought the house down." The Sisters Lunelle sing and dance with wonderful vigour and go; and Whit Cunliffe and Fred Mason are both excellent comedians, though on very different lines. Ruffell's Bioscope completes a capital show.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mrs. Alice Chapin and company are here this week in a series of plays. On Monday night *Still Waters Run Deep* was staged, and Tom Taylor's famous comedy received able treatment. Mrs. Alice Chapin scored as Mrs. Sternhold, a remark which applies to Miss Paula Ferman as Mrs. Mildmay; Mr. Frederick Park acted with restraint as Mr. Potter; and Mr. Harold Chapin infused the requisite dramatic force into the character of Captain Hawksley. Mr. Harry Kelchman as John Mildmay was well placed; Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming as Dewbilk, Miss Florence Gay as Mrs. Langford, Miss Elaine Joine as Mrs. Markham, Mr. Wheeler as Gimlet, and Miss Elsie Chapin as Jessop completed a capital cast. On Tuesday, *Shame*, *The Lady Mesmerist*, and the musical comedy, *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, were staged.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Zeta Gray and company are delighting all here this week in their sketch, *A Lancashire Lass*, in which the charming comedienne has ample scope for displaying her versatility and vocal ability. Barrett and Knowles are a couple of champion patter purveyors and Joe Conway a comedian with quite a style of his own; Sisters Julian are capable duettists and J. P. Carroll quite an expert on the tambourine. The Carney Brothers as duettists score well, and the Royal Bioscope pictures are a choice assortment.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Troupe La Zaille, who are appearing for the first time at this house, give a marvellous display, their equilibristic act being novel and very smart; Edie Gray and White Coons sing themselves into great favour; Fields and Lewis, burlesque artists, are clever; and Leah Arden is an accomplished vocalist. Macdonald and Huntingdon, America's refined singing and dancing entertainers, are good in their musical efforts; Harry Bancroft, vocalist, sings taking songs; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux make up an excellent bill of fare.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Dagonets are well received by a large audience; Mr. Arthur Snelling gains loud applause for his singing of the "The Last Watch"; Mr. R. Mountfield's song "The Irish Walk," is humorously rendered; Mr. Joseph Blascheek delights his hearers with "My Juliet"; Mr. H. Stockwell sings "The Death of Nelson" in an artistic manner; Miss Lily Beaton gives a delightful rendering of "Kentucky Babe," and Miss Mildred Wrighton's "White Coon" is loudly encored.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. N. Payne.—Miss Dinah Morris's Variety company is here for the first three nights of the week; Mr. Henry Gole is an excellent eccentric comedian; Miss Bessie Coburn scores as a burlesque artist; a really good turn is that of the Franklin troupe of Russian dancers; the Australian Troubadours are a great attraction; the terpsichorean feats of Miss Lily Vanderbilt are well received; Miss Effie White is also a clever dancer; a sketch entitled *The Lost Coon* affords Miss Dinah Morris plenty of scope for her remarkable talents, and as the Pride of Lucanna she is an artistic treat; Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *Oliver Twist* is here for the remainder of the week.

WHITBY.—THE SPA THEATRE.—Less

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

OLD KING COLE AND GOOD QUEEN COLE, Royalty, Dec. 12, 1891.
OLD KNOCKLES, St. George's Hall, Nov. 24, 1884.
OLD LADY, Criterion, Nov. 19, 1892.
OLD LONDON, Queen's, Feb. 5, 1873.
OLD LONDON BRIDGE, Standard, March 12, 1894.
OLD LOVE AND NEW FORTUNE, Surrey, Feb. 18, 1850.
OLD LOVE AND THE NEW, Court, Dec. 15, 1879.
OLD LOVE, THE, Globe, May 31, 1900.
OLD MAID'S WOOING, St. George's Hall, Jan. 28, 1888.
OLD MAN, Duke's, March 25, 1876.
OLD MAN'S BLESSING, Gallery of Illustration, June 13, 1868.
OLD MAN'S DARLING, Grecian, Nov. 12, 1879.
OLD MAN'S DREAM, Ladbroke Hall, Sept. 27, 1889.
OLD MASTER, Princess's, Nov. 6, 1880.
OLD MILL STREAM, Britannia, June 14, 1875.
OLD MORTALITY, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 30, 1869.
OLD MOSS, Bayswater, May 24, 1894.
OLD, OLD STORY, Britannia, Oct. 7, 1868.
OLD PALS, Theatre Royal, South Shields, Aug. 7, 1884.
OLD PHIL'S BIRTHDAY, Strand, Jan. 20, 1862.
OLD PROMISE, AN, Ladbroke Hall, May 13, 1898.
OLD RAG SHOP, Victoria, Oct. 23, 1869.
OLD SAILORS, Strand, Oct. 19, 1874.
OLD SALT, Strand, Jan. 1, 1868.
OLD SARAH, Savoy, June 17, 1897.
OLD SARUM, Salisbury, Sept. 21, 1868.
OLD SCAPEGOAT, AN, Imperial, Nov. 22, 1884.
OLD SCORE, Gaiety, July 26, 1869.
OLD SINNERS, Gaiety, June 16, 1886.
OLD SOLDIERS, Strand, Jan. 25, 1873.
OLD SONG, Criterion, Dec. 10, 1896.
OLD SONG, AN, Tunbridge Wells, Aug. 2, 1894.
OLD SPOONS, Turnham Green, Feb. 2, 1899.
OLD SPORT, Folkestone, Nov. 27, 1893.
OLD STEADY, Pavilion, Sept. 3, 1881.
OLD STORY, Strand, April 29, 1861.
OLD TOLL HOUSE, Marylebone, Sept. 30, 1861.
OLD VIOLIN, Stratford, Jan. 19, 1900.
OLD VIRGINIA, Liverpool, March 25, 1891.
OLIVE BRANCH, Theatre Royal, Leicester, March 15, 1875.
OLIVER CROMWELL'S SOFA, Queen's, Dec. 3, 1877.
OLIVER GOLDSMITH, Theatre Royal, Limerick, June 24, 1892.
OLIVER GRUMBLE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 15, 1886.
OLIVER TWIST, Queen's, April 11, 1868.
OLIVER TWIST D., Surrey, May 18, 1868.
OLIVETTE, Strand, Sept. 18, 1880.
OLIVIA, Court, March 30, 1878.
OLIVIA'S LOVE, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 6, 1878.
OLYMPIC GAMES, Olympic, April 20, 1867.
OLYMPUS, Somerville Club, Feb. 21, 1893.
OLYMPUS IN A MUDDLE, Haymarket, Aug. 23, 1855.
OMADHAUN, THE, Queen's, Nov. 24, 1877.
ON ACTIVE HEIRESS, Surrey, Oct. 23, 1899.
ON AND OFF, Strand, June 3, 1861.
ON AN ISLAND, Theatre Royal, Bradford, March 8, 1879.
ON AN OLD HARPSICHORD, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 18, 1897.
ON BUSINESS, Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, Aug. 30, 1880.
ONCE AGAIN, Vaudeville, Jan. 25, 1879.
ONCE A WEEK, Theatre Royal, Rochester, May , 1881.
ONCE TOO OFTEN, Drury Lane, Jan. 20, 1862.
ONCE UPON A TIME, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, April 13, 1868.
ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WERE TWO KINGS, Lyceum, Jan. 2, 1854.
ON 'CHANGE, Strand, July 1, 1885.
ON CONDITION, Opéra Comique, Oct. 9, 1882.
ON DEMANDE DES DOMESTIQUES, St. George's Hall, June 30, 1885.
ON DISTANT SHORES, Theatre Royal, Aldershot, May 2, 1898.
ONE BLACK SPOT, Britannia, April 4, 1870.
ONE CHRISTMAS EVE, West London, Dec. 17, 1900.
ONE FALSE STEP, Theatre Royal, Guernsey, May 9, 1873.
ONE FAULT, "A HOME FAIRY," Theatre Royal, Wigan, Oct. 9, 1885.
ONE FOR HIS NOB, Britannia, Feb. 16, 1874.
ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER, Princess's, Nov. 10, 1862.
ONE HALF HOUR, Ladbroke Hall, July 11, 1892.
ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, Olympic, July 10, 1875.
ONE LAW FOR MAN, Criterion, Dec. 12, 1899.
ONE OF OUR GIRLS, Elephant and Castle, Nov. 4, 1885.
ONE OF THE BEST, Adelphi, Dec. 21, 1895.
ONE OF THE BOYS, Stonehouse, July 20, 1896.
ONE OF THE BRAVEST, Britannia, Dec. 2, 1895.
ONE OF THE FAMILY, Boscombe, April 9, 1898.
ONE OF THE GIRLS, Grand, Birmingham, March 9, 1896.
ONE OF THEM, Theatre Royal, Margate, Sept. 10, 1886.
ONE OF US, Com., Liverpool, June 20, 1884.
ONE SHADE DEEPER, Effingham, Feb. 16, 1863.
ONE SUMMER NIGHT, Comedy, Nov. 23, 1889.
ONE SUMMER'S DAY, Comedy, Sept. 16, 1897.
ONE SUMMER'S NIGHT, Theatre Royal, Worcester, March 20, 1882.
ONE TOO MANY, Princess's, April 29, 1872.
ONE TOO MANY FOR HIM, Surrey, Feb. 10, 1868.
ONE TREE HILL, Strand, April 17, 1865.
ONE TRUE HEART, Theatre Royal, Willington, Feb. 8, 1875.
ON GUARD, Court, Oct. 28, 1871.
ON GUY FAWKES DAY, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Nov. 29, 1897.
ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE, Sunderland, Nov. 20, 1891.
ON HIS OATH, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Jan. 18, 1887.
ONKEL BRASIG, St. George's Hall, Feb. 1, 1900.
ON LEAVE, Avenue, April 17, 1897.
ONLY A CLOD, Lyceum, May 26, 1851.
ONLY A DREAM, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, April 13, 1885.
ONLY A FARMER'S DAUGHTER, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Feb. 22, 1897.
ONLY A HALFPENNY, Haymarket, May 30, 1855.
ONLY A HEAD, Britannia, Nov. 20, 1880.
ONLY A MODEL, Vaudeville, Feb. 23, 1892.
ONLY AN ACTRESS, Bournemouth, Jan. 12, 1898.
ONLY A PLAYER, Princess's, March 1, 1873.
ONLY A QUAKER MAID, Fulham, July 19, 1898.
ONLY A SHILLING, Pavilion, April 22, 1872.
ONLY A WAIF, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, May 28, 1888.
ONLY A WOMAN, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 16, 1882.
ONLY A WOMAN'S HAIR, Theatre Royal, Warrington, Oct. 21, 1873.
ONLY FOR LIFE, Britannia, Aug. 6, 1877.
ONLY MY COUSIN, Britannia, April 19, 1880.
ONLY THE GOVERNESS, Holborn, March 30, 1872.
ONLY THREE YEARS AGO, Duke of York's, Nov. 10, 1898.
ONLY WAY, Lyceum, Feb. 16, 1899.
ON PARADE, Wolverhampton, April 8, 1895.
ON PROBATION, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 5, 1889.
ON RUIN'S BRINK, Theatre Royal, Leicester, Feb. 28, 1881.
ON SERVICE, Derby, Dec. 26, 1878.
ON SHANNON'S SHORE, Reading, Feb. 14, 1895.
ON SHORE FROM THE HERCULES, Theatre Royal, Greenock, Jan. 19, 1880.
ON STRIKE, Court, Oct. 14, 1873.
ON THE BENCH, Alexandra, Liverpool, Feb. 22, 1883.
ON THE BRINK, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Oct. 23, 1875.
ON THE CARDS, Gaiety, Dec. 21, 1868.
ON THE CONTINONG, Court, Liverpool, April 5, 1897.
ON THE FRONTIER, Liverpool, March 30, 1891.
ON THE INDIAN OCEAN, Alexandra, Liverpool, March 1, 1878.
ON THE JURY, Princess's, Dec. 16, 1871.
ON THE MARCH, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, May 18, 1896.
ON THE RANCH, St. George's Hall, Feb. 1, 1896.
ON THE RINK, Duke's, Feb. 26, 1876.
ON THE ROAD, Edmonton, May 15, 1894.
ON THE SANDS, Harwich, July 14, 1887.
ON THE THAMES, St. George's Hall, Sept. 22, 1883.
ON THE THRESHOLD, Bayswater, April 30, 1900.
ON THE TRACK, East London, Nov. 24, 1877.
ON THE VERGE, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, March 10, 1888.
ON THORNS, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Nov. 8, 1880.
ON TOAST, Avenue, July 16, 1888.
ON TOUR, Strand, March 30, 1886.
ONY-NA-POCAS, Theatre Royal, Limerick, Sept. 27, 1879.
ON ZEPHYR'S WINGS, Teddington, July 30, 1891.
OONAGH, Her Majesty's, Nov. 19, 1866.
OPAL RING, Court, Jan. 28, 1885.
OPEN GATE, Comedy, March 28, 1887.
OPEN HOUSE, Vaudeville, April 16, 1885.
OPEN SESAME, Standard, Dec. 26, 1876.
OPEN TO CORRECTION, Adelphi, Jan. 10, 1870.
OPERA CLOAK, Drury Lane, Sept. 8, 1883.
OPERA MAD, Theatre Royal, Dumfries, May 14, 1877.
OPIUM EATER, Ayr, Dec. 31, 1894.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported with regret that Mr. Walter B. Yates has been obliged to resign the chairmanship of the committee, in order to enable him to accept the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Committee. They had appointed their vice-chairman, Mr. H. J. Greenwood, to be their chairman, and Lord Monkswell to be their vice-chairman.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by Mr. A. Moul, showing the alterations proposed to be carried out at the Alhambra Palace, Charing Cross-road, with a view to complying with certain of the suggestions made by the Council in November, 1905, for the structural improvements of these premises. They recommended that Mr. A. Moul be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the seven drawings and five slip tracings submitted by him with regard to alterations proposed, provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with—that the proposed iron and glass addition to the existing refreshment bar in the grand circle shown on the drawings be not constructed without the previous sanction of the Council; that the door at the head of the pass staircase between the balcony and grand circle be hung to defend the opening and made to match in colour and decoration the wall in which it occurs; that the angles upon all staircases and in all landings, passages, &c., be defended by rails to the satisfaction of the Council; and that the open newel staircase be provided with a hand-rail upon its inner side, of sufficient height and strength to prevent persons being forced over it. Agreed to.

INSPECTION.

The expenditure incurred with regard to the inspection of places of public entertainment respecting the character of the performances, &c., during the quarter ended June 30, 1906, was reported to be £2 10s. 3d.

LONDON EXHIBITIONS.

The Committee had considered a drawing, submitted by Mr. A. O. Collard, showing the reconstruction of the existing wooden stairs and bridge over the railway between the Queen's Palace and the Central Hall at the London Exhibitions, Earl's Court, and recommended that Mr. Collard be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by him provided that certain stated conditions be complied with.
Agreed to.

PROPOSED BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

The Committee had considered drawings, submitted by Mr. E. White, on behalf of Mr. Imre Kiralfy, of certain buildings to be erected in connection with the British Empire Exhibition, which it is proposed to lay out on a site about 82 acres in extent, situated on the west side of Wood-lane, Hammersmith. The general scheme of the proposed arrangements has been conditionally approved by the Building Act Committee, and the Theatres Committee recommended that Mr. E. White be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the fifteen drawings submitted by him, provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with—that the stairs down from the first floor of the central hall be set back in order to improve the approaches thereto; that all parts of the premises to be used by the public, the exhibition staff or employees, be provided with means of escape in case of fire, to the satisfaction of the Council; that all doors available for exit be made to open outwards; that a sufficient number of fire hydrants connected up to an ample and constant water supply be installed, and that plans and particulars of the proposed scheme be submitted for the approval of the Council before the commencement of the work; that a flap be placed on the outlet of the drain from the buildings at the point of its connection with the Council's main sewer, and that a further flap be placed in the man-hole nearest to the place of connection; that the whole of the buildings be constructed and arranged in detail to the satisfaction of the Council as regards, lighting, heating, seating, fastenings, notices, handrails, small fire extinguishing appliances, &c.
Approved.

PROPOSED NEW CONCERT HALL.

The Committee had considered sketch plans submitted by Messrs. E. Runtz and Ford, on behalf of Mr. John Waring, of a new concert hall proposed to be erected to front on Oxford-street, Dering-street, and Tenterden-street. The site is considerably below the standard required under the Council's regulations, and the Committee recommended that Messrs. E. Runtz and Ford be informed that the arrangement shown on the six sketch plans submitted by them are, in the opinion of the Council, unsatisfactory.
Approved.

THE SURREY.

The Committee had considered drawings submitted by Messrs. Field and Sons showing certain alterations which have been carried out at the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Blackfriars-road. They recommended that Messrs. Field and Sons be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two drawings submitted by them provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with—that the ceiling over the entrance to the heating chamber be rendered satisfactorily fire-resisting; that the coke chute in the heating chamber be provided with a smoke-proof door; that the partitions enclosing the "quick change" dressing room on the stage be rendered satisfactorily fire-resisting; that the ceiling over the electrician's room be rendered satisfactorily fire-resisting, and that the existing door be replaced by a self-closing fire-resisting door and frame; and that the door of the cloakroom and lavatory, at the rear of the dress-circle, be hung flush with the external face of the wall, to close with the out-going stream of traffic, and be made self-closing.
Agreed to.

THE TIVOLI.

The Committee had considered drawings submitted by Mr. I. Ibbetson and Mr. H. Tozer showing the alterations proposed to be effected at the Tivoli Music Hall, Strand, with a view to complying with certain of the suggestions made by the Council for the structural improvement of the premises. They recommended that Mr. I. Ibbetson and Mr. H. Tozer be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two drawings submitted by them.
Carried.

"PARIS IN LONDON."

It was decided that the seal of the Council be affixed to the agreement, when ready, for a lease to the syndicate which has been formed for dealing with the central portion of the crescent site created in connection with the Holborn to Strand improvement.

At the conclusion of the business the Council adjourned for the usual long vacation.

"THE GREAT WILDERNESS," a melodrama of life in the far west of America, by W. Alexander Dallas, will form the holiday attraction at the Fulham Theatre, where it will be produced for the first time in London on Monday. It is claimed that the drama is founded on incidents of which the author was an eye-witness, and the scenery is painted from sketches of the places where the principal events occurred.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, staff sports and outing took place on Saturday at Shotley Spa, when a very fine day favoured the company. The genial manager of the theatre, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe, was present with Mrs. Sutcliffe, who kindly distributed the prizes to the successful competitors. Great credit is due to the secretary, Mr. E. Knight, master electrician, and Mr. Sutcliffe thanked Mr. Knight and the committee for the manner in which everything had been carried out. The other members of the committee were Messrs. S. Hawkes (treasurer), E. Thompson, Jas. Preston, Robt. Nicholson, J. W. Younger, and W. Dixon. The sports referees were Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe, Mr. W. Boardman (Manager, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne), and Mr. Wardhalf.

A TUG OF WAR was arranged between Mr. W. Boardman's team and Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe's team, which was won by the former. The following events were also decided:—150 Yards Race (Men): Codlin, 1; Gosling, 2; Spence, 3. 80 Yards Ladies' Race: Miss Sutcliffe, 1; Mrs. Crow, 2; Miss Terry, 3. Half-Mile Walking Handicap: Norton, 1; Collins, 2; Chance, 3. 80 Yards Egg and Spoon Race (Ladies): Miss Storey, 1; Miss Stephens, 2; Miss Fender, 3. 80 Yards Egg and Spoon Race (Men): Collins, 1; Nicholson, 2; Spence, 3. Quarter Mile Ladies' Walking Race: Miss Stephens, 1; Miss Snow, 2; Miss Storey, 3. 100 Yards Men's Race: Codling, 1; Gosling, 2; Kelso, 3. Ladies' Skipping: Miss Storey, 104 turns, 1; Miss Thompson, 90 turns, 2. Ladies' Veterans' Race: Mrs. Crow, 1; Miss Liversedge, 2. 50 Yards Men's Sack Race: Spence, 1; McGuinness, 2; Collins, 3. 100 Yards Men's Boots and Sack Race: Gosling, 1; Collins, 2; McGuinness, 3. Men's Veterans' Race: Murray, 1; Hood, 2; Denton, 3.

THE annual outing of the staff of the Grand Theatre, Islington, took place on Sunday at Arundel, which was reached at 9.45. A pleasant trip was made to the Black Rabbit, and afterwards dinner was served at the General Abercrombie. Mr. Bunn occupied the chair, and gave the toast of Mr. Samuel James, the managing director, and Mr. Newman Maurice, the manager of the theatre. He also praised the efforts of the stewards, Messrs. E. S. Eastmond and Geo. Wilson, who both suitably responded. After dinner a brake ride to Littlehampton was greatly enjoyed, and on the return to the hotel tea was partaken of. The journey home was shortly after begun, everyone agreeing that they had never had a more pleasant day's outing.

MR. R. H. PRESLAND, the electrician at the Leicester Palace Theatre, terminates his engagement this week, to go to the Grand Theatre, Woolwich. Mr. Presland has had a long and pleasant engagement with Mr. Stoll, and leaves with the best wishes of the staff, with whom he has made himself popular.

THE Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company will add to the sterling attractions of their répertoire next season by the revival of Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor* and Verdi's *Otello*.

AT the conclusion of the Midsummer term of the Royal College of Music on Saturday the following awards were made by the director and board of professors:—Council exhibitions—Singing, Gladys M. E. Honey, £12; Elsie Williams, £8; H. Dilys Jones, £7 10s.; Maggie Kirkbride, £7 10s. Violin, Arthur Armstrong-Dash, £7 10s. 'Cello, Anna M. Izard, £7 10s. The London Musical Society's prize for singing, value £3 3s., was awarded to Bessie Bowness (scholar). A competition for the Whitcombe-Portsmouth Scholarship took place, and, subject to confirmation by the council, was awarded to Eleanor A. McCarthy (violin), the proxime being Phyllis Weston (piano) and Mary P. Taylor (violin).

MR. HY. WILKINSON, proprietor of the Athenæum, Lancaster, has this week leased the theatre to Mr. Stanley Rogers. Mr. Rogers is also lessee of the Opera House, Workington, and Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

"THE ADVENTURER."

By Mr. F. Kinsey Peile,
Produced at the Tunbridge Well Opera House
(Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey),
August 2, 1906.

Michel le Grand ..... MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
Peter Nugent ..... MR. HARRY ASHFORD
Harold Nugent ..... MR. L. RACE DUNROBIN
William Percival ..... MR. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Richard Percival .... MR. R. HENDERSON BLAND
Tobias ..... MR. E. M. ROBSON
Samuel Stein ..... MR. HARVEY LONG
François ..... MR. W. A. HAINES
Charles ..... MR. A. J. MAY
Savage ..... MR. JAMES STARKEY
Henry ..... MR. GOODWIN NOCK
Sir Edward Villiers..... MR. CHARLES TERRY
Mr. Howard ..... MR. HENRY SEMON
Miss Howard ..... MISS KITTY MAY
Mrs. Blake ..... MISS MARION STERLING
Miss Blake ..... MISS NORAH CATTLEY
Maria Nugent ..... MISS NAOMI NEILSON
Lillian Nugent ..... MISS MARIE LOHR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Adventurer had a cordial "send off" from an appreciative audience at the Tunbridge Wells Opera House on Thursday. The scenes are laid in the closing periods of George IV.'s reign. "The Adventurer" is a fashionable gambler, Michel le Grand; and the plot traces his salvation by ennobling love for the heroine, Lilian Nugent, a typical English girl. The hero passes lightly through various escapades, but, thanks to his love for Lilian, rises superior to the temptation of the gaming tables. There is some excellent comedy in the piece, particularly in the scene with the Jewish moneylender, and also in the last act, when le Grand, with his fortunes apparently at their lowest ebb, gives a grand reception. The dresses faithfully reproduced from the Georgian period, add to the effectiveness of this scene, which is full of life and movement.

Mr. Gerald Robertshaw as the hero of the play, Michel le Grand, gave a very clever character sketch. He was well supported by Miss Marie Löhr, who was charming as Lilian Nugent. Miss Löhr infused much grace and feeling into her sympathetic rendering of the rôle. Mr. E. M. Robson's interpretation of le Grand's secretary was truly comical, and the moneylender was realistically impersonated by Mr. Harvey Long, by whom the audience was kept in continual amusement. Mr. Harry Ashford made a typical country squire as the father of Lilian, and as member of the beau monde. Mr. L. R. Dunrobin, Mr. R. Henderson Bland, and Mr. Percival Stevens all gave careful and effective studies, and contributed materially to the general success. Miss Naomi Neilson supplied an agreeable rendering of the part of Lilian's sister. The valets, the Bow-street runners, and the minor characters were full of comedy. Messrs. W. A. Haines and A. J. May, as the valet and the footman, made the most of their opportunities. At the fall of the curtain all the performers were recalled enthusiastically.

"THE MUMMER'S WIFE."
Play in One Act,
by F. Kinsey Peile.

Raymond ..... MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
Theodor ..... MR L. RACE DUNROBIN
Quelch ..... MR. W. A. HAINES
Lord Delaporte ..... MR. R. HENDERSON BLAND
Capt. Hugh Tollemache .... MR. GOODWIN NOCK
John ..... MR. A. J. MAY
Sarah ..... MISS MARION STERLING
Lady Delaporte ..... MISS NAOMI NEILSON
Lady Kitty Trevor ..... MISS NORAH CATTLEY
Bianca ..... MISS PHYLLIS RELPH

This one-act play by the same author was produced on the same evening, and was also cordially received. The author acknowledges his indebtedness for the suggestion of his plot to *La Femme de Tabarin*, of Catulle Mendès, and develops the plot in bright, picturesque dialogue. The burden of the acting falls on Miss Phyllis Relph in the title-rôle and Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw as the strolling player; but everyone works hard in what proved a very effective "curtain-raiser."

THE GOLFING ACTORS
AT
THE ROYAL EASTBOURNE GOLF CLUB.

Reading from Left to Right:
MR. LIONEL MACKINDER. MR. H. MARSH ALLEN. MR. JAMES BLAKELEY. MR. ARTHUR BERTRAM.

EVERY seat at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, was occupied on Wednesday last, on the occasion of a complimentary benefit to Mr. Percy Dunsford, the popular acting-manager of the theatre, who has made a host of friends during the time he has held that position. An excellent programme had been arranged, the chief attraction being Mr. Russell Wallett, who is an old pantomime favourite at Exeter. Mr. Wallett gave a couple of turns, in the first of which he sang some of his old successes, while later in the evening he appeared in his well-known monologue *The Lady in Black*. Mrs. Russell Wallett, who has also won popularity in pantomime here, contributed very charmingly a couple of vocal items, and was presented with a beautiful bouquet. Mr. John A. Thomson's company presented in a most enjoyable manner the comedy *Our Boys*. Mr. Thomson played Perkyn Middlewick, and other principal rôles were sustained by Mr. Edward Sorley, Mr. Frank Medhurst, Mr. J. Darford Geddes, Miss Yvonne Orchardson, and Miss Edith Carew.

So great has been the success of *The Youngest of Three* during the past week at the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, that Mr. H. F. Maltby was invited by Mrs. Coats, of Belleisle House, to organise a party to entertain her guests on Wednesday afternoon. The piece selected was the little one-act musical comedy *Fannikin* (Maltby and Barry), and the company who took part included, besides the author, Mr. Wyn Weaver, Mr. Ernest Noble, Miss Mara Maltby, and Miss Beatrice Marsdene, at the piano. The audience fully appreciated the smart lines and pretty music of the little piece. Further entertainment was afforded by Mr. Wyn Weaver (two songs) and Mr. Ernest Noble, who told some amusing stories illustrated by his own sketches.

"TOM JONES," about which many conflicting statements have appeared, is not to be seen until Easter. No theatre, we are assured, has yet been definitely decided upon for its début.

AN UNNAMED PLAY.

In Four Acts, written by Harry Tilbury, produced at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, on Monday, July 30.

Frank Lindon ..... MR. CHAS. H. PHELPS
Neil Locksley ..... MR. FRANK HARVEY
Lord Devant ..... MR. ALF GEO. FRY
Tom Redman ..... MR. BERNARD WEBB
Geoffrey Harvey ..... MR. RUPERT WOODS
Arthur Cooper ..... MR. ARTHUR TINN
Bobby Peel ..... MR. GEORGE RUFUS
Mickey Doolan ..... MR. HARRY TILBURY
Walter Lindon ..... MISS VERA PETTITT
Mabel Lindon ..... MISS ARLINE T. GEORGE / MISS MABEL HALL
Alice Harvey ..... MISS AMY DALBY
Araminta ..... MISS MILLIE DORIS
Florence Lindon ..... MISS BELLE TILBURY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene of the first act is Frank Lindon's forge. Alice Harvey is offered marriage by Tom Redman, which she declines, and as a result threats are thrown out that a writ will be served on her father for a debt owing to Lord Devant. Geoffrey Harvey obtains money from Frank Lindon to settle Lord Devant's claim, and during his absence an attempt is made by Lord Devant and Tom Redman to take Alice away by force, but in Mickey Doolan she finds a staunch friend who defeats the scheme. Frank Lindon's wife, Florence, meets Lord Devant, who makes a proposal that she shall leave her husband and go away with him. A conversation takes place between Lindon and Neil Locksley (a detective) concerning a robbery for which Lindon has been sentenced on the evidence of Tom Redman, and is now out on a ticket-of-leave. Frank protests his innocence, and the detective promises to inquire into the matter. By the timely appearance of Mabel, Florence's child, the wiles of Lord Devant are upset. On leaving Frank Lindon's forge with the money to pay Lord Devant, Geoffrey Harvey is murdered by Redman, an act which Lord Devant witnesses, but between them they make it appear that Frank Lindon committed the crime. The usual coroner's inquest follows, and Lord Devant on promising to abstain from giving evidence against Lindon at length prevails upon Florence Lindon to come under his protection. The murder is not brought home to Lindon, and when he hears of his wife's unfaithfulness he becomes insane, and has to be taken to an asylum, from which in time he escapes. On his return home he, accompanied by his children, wanders near the mansion of Lord Devant. His little girl asks for food, and Florence recognises her. Lord Devant seeks the aid of the police to have them removed, which Neil Locksley prevents, the upshot being Florence leaves Lord Devant and returns with her children and husband to Locksley's house. Tom Redman figures as a housebreaker at Locksley's, and has a struggle with Lindon which restores Frank's reason and memory. To avoid her husband's reproaches, Florence leaves the shelter of Neil Locksley's house and leads a wandering life. Ten years pass by, and then Locksley by a stratagem gets Lord Devant to his office, and with the help of Mickey Doolan forces from him a written confession that Tom Redman was the murderer of Geoffrey Harvey. Redman demands remuneration for his assistance with the forged cheques drawn by Lord Devant as manager of the Franklin Gold Mine Co.; on the other hand Lord Devant urges Redman to flee as the truth is known respecting the murder of Geoffrey Harvey. Florence Lindon returns when her daughter Mabel is married to Arthur Cooper. Redman makes a full confession of his crimes and the part that Lord Devant took in them, and both are arrested, the sequel being a complete reconciliation between Frank Lindon and his wife.

The company is provided by the author and Mr. Chas. H. Phelps. Mr. Phelps was highly praiseworthy in the rôle of Frank Lindon, the hero. The same remark is applicable to Miss Belle Tilbury as Florence Lindon. Miss Mabel Hall as Mabel Lindon is a juvenile actress of much promise. As the detective Neil Locksley, Mr. Frank Harvey left nothing to be desired; and Miss Amy Dalby as Alice Harvey was greatly admired. The comic element was in the experienced hands of Mr. Harry Tilbury as Mickey Doolan and Miss Millie Doris as Araminta. The parts of the villains of the piece were safely entrusted to Mr. Alf. Geo. Fry as Lord Devant and Mr. Bernard Webb as Tom Redman. The play went without a hitch, and bids fair to be a success.

A notice appeared on the programme offering a money prize to anyone who during the week suggests the most appropriate title for the new piece.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, July 30,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Sydney Spenser, entitled
"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."

This breezy and exciting nautical drama is played with every possible effect by Mr. Sydney Spenser's clever company, and meets with a deservedly warm reception. Miss Lizzie Hall undertakes the arduous rôle of the heroine, Mabel Forrester, with great success, and is loudly applauded in the stirring scene in the third act on board the deck of H.M.S. Defender, when she fixes the Union Jack to the masthead. Both as the loving wife and as the brave sailor-lad Miss Hall is admirable. Mr. William Heilbroon thoroughly realises the part of the light-hearted young lieutenant, Jack Lawrence, and Mr. Sydney Spenser gives a most consistent reading of the rôle of the villain, Paul Mansfield. Mr. Sydney Benson proves himself a capital low comedian as Johnny Truckle, and sings a couple of amusing songs, also dancing well. Miss Roma Tremayne gives a powerful presentment of the discarded wife, Ruth Clifford; and Miss Amy Maitland is bright and amusing as Jenny Stubbs. Stephen Clifford in the skilful hands of Mr. G. F. Royd becomes an excellent character-sketch, and Mr. Henry Sinclair is a manly Captain Hilliard. Mr. L. Thompson is good as Mark Forrester, and Mr. Unwin Crafton makes the most of his opportunities as the "unwilling accomplice," Blue Jake. The scenery and effects are quite adequate.

PRESENTATION.—On behalf of the management and staff of the King's, Gateshead, a smoker's cabinet was presented on the 26th ult. to Mr. W. Harrold, who has relinquished the position of stage-manager.

THE Theatre Royal, Bath, after being thoroughly cleansed and renovated will reopen for the Bank Holiday week with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. After this engagement the theatre will again be closed until August 27th, when the autumn season will begin with the ever-popular *Two Little Vagabonds*. At Christmas Mr. Peter Davey, who in 1904 produced *Goody Two Shoes*, will again be responsible for the pantomime.

THE Theatre Royal, Belfast, reopens on Monday with the Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne*. During the recess the ground floor has been rearranged, and now consists of stalls, pit stalls, and pit, instead of parterre as formerly.

MR. MATTHEW MONTGOMERY, of Grey-road, Walton, Liverpool, lessee of the Rotunda Theatre and other places of amusement, who died on July 1st, has left estate valued at £1,962 9s. 7d. gross and £1,871 5s. 2d. net.

MR. FRED L. ARTHUR, a popular Liverpool manager, will take his first annual benefit at the Queen's Theatre on August 16th. Elaborate preparations are being made for the event, and already all the stalls and boxes are booked.

"THE LAST HOUR."

A Dramatic Episode in One Act, by Herbert Darnley, produced at the Theatre Royal, Dover, on Monday, July 30.

William Sept ..... Mr. R. HARLEY WEST
Tim Roper ..... MR. JAMES DANVERS
Mrs. Roper ..... MISS NELLIE PARKER DENT
Lucy ..... MISS BETTY SEYMOUR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This pathetic but somewhat morbid little episode, interesting and exceptionally well written, forms an excellent contrast to the brightness and fun of *The 'Varsity Belle*, which it precedes. The story is striking in its simplicity and the merit of the play depends almost entirely on its natural and unforced dialogue, the cleverly drawn character-sketches, and the skilful way in which they were played.

The plot relates to the fortunes—or, rather, misfortunes—of one William Sept, an unsuccessful playwright. On the rising of the curtain the audience learn that owing to the non-acceptance of his work, the young author has gradually sunk lower and lower in the social scale until he is deeply in debt and on the verge of starvation. With a mistaken sense of duty, the landlady, Mrs. Roper, informs Sept's sweetheart Lucy (who brings him flowers and fruit) that he has lately had visits from a beautiful and wealthy woman. She has overheard part of the conversation between them relating to a plan which will be beneficial to Sept, and jumps to the conclusion that it is a matrimonial engagement and that he intends to break the already existing one with Lucy. The girl, however, is hard to convince that her lover is false, and on his return questions him. Believing she knows the real reason of the lady's visits, he admits that they have come to an arrangement, and Lucy leaves him under the impression that he is untrue and unworthy of her love. The lady who is the innocent cause of the misunderstanding is a wealthy society woman, who, hearing of the striking ability shown in the young author's work and being anxious for fame, proposes to buy his plays with the stipulation that they are to be produced as her own. Reckless and penniless he agrees, and it is to this arrangement he thinks Lucy refers. The post brings a bundle of returned MSS., a short letter from Lucy breaking the engagement, and also a foreign letter with a small sealed enclosure. The latter is from an old friend of Sept's—one he has not seen for many years. He writes that after a life of bitter disappointments and unsatisfied ambition, he has come to the conclusion that the world has no further charm for him, and that by the time the note reaches Sept he will be dead. The letter also states that if Sept at any time feels inclined to end his life, half the enclosed powder will bring death quickly and painlessly. In a depressed and morbid state of mind, and maddened by the loss of his sweetheart and with nothing but starvation to look forward to, Sept determines to follow his friend's example. Quickly dividing the poison he swallows half as Mrs. Roper enters with a registered letter, which has been mis-addressed and consequently delayed. He opens it to find notes to the value of £100, and a communication to the effect that a play of his has been accepted and produced. The bitter cry of "Too late" comes from his lips as he realises the fatal consequence of his act of a moment ago, and he falls dead as the curtain descends.

The rôle of William Sept is a difficult and arduous one, and Mr. Reginald Harley West is to be congratulated on his convincing portrayal. The weak, irresolute character is suggested in a masterly manner, and the death scene in particular is powerfully acted. To Miss Nellie Parker Dent must be given much praise for her amusing impersonation of Mrs. Roper. It is funny without being overdone, and in the more serious lines sincerity is not wanting. A humorous study of the non-working, hen-pecked husband, Tim Roper, is contributed by Mr. James Danvers, who thoroughly deserved the hearty applause his efforts evoked; and Miss Betty Seymour as Lucy portrays with much skill the sadness and despair of the heart-broken girl.

The play was produced by the author, Mr. Herbert Darnley, and had a most gratifying reception at the hands of an appreciative audience.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, July 30th,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett, entitled
THE GOLDEN LADDER.

Good sound drama like the *Golden Ladder* is always a great attraction at this theatre, and an excellent company has greatly added to the success of this fine play. Rev. Frank Thornhill, as acted by Mr. William Clayton, is an interesting athletic clergyman. He has a fine stage presence, and his acting throughout is exceedingly good. Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Samuel Peckaby causes a great deal of amusement, and wins golden opinions. Mr. J. Milne Taylor as Michael Severn is well fitted with a part, and fully earns the applause his efforts win him. Mr. E. Vivian Edmond as Peranza is very good, and the same remark applies to Mr. Fred Acton's portrayal of Jim Dixon. Mr. W. F. Parkes gives a careful rendering of the rôle of John Grant the banker, and Mr. Thomas Vale as Noah Learoyd submits an excellent bit of character acting. Miss Mary Austin as Lilian Grant quickly wins the sympathies of her audience by her dainty rendering of her part, and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby gives an admirable representation of the good-hearted friend of Lilian. As Mrs. Dixon Miss Teresa Haynes could not be bettered, and Miss Winifred Acton as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby is responsible for much of the humour. Miss Mabel Lamont is good as Lily, and Miss Violet Haughton ably acts the rôle of Matron of the Prison.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, July 30,
the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Benjamin Landeck, entitled
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

The emotional drama, *Saved from the Sea*, is drawing large audiences to the Lyric this week in spite of the oppressive weather. Mr. Stanley Bedwell, who takes the difficult part of Dan Ellington, the young fisherman, is, in a style all his own, quietly successful, and shares the principal honours with Miss Minnie Grey, who as Nancy is admirable. Mr. Bert Morley as Jim Weaver, Dan's mad partner, is excellent in a well-studied part, his acting in the boat scene being particularly clever. As Richard Fenton and Peter Scalcher Messrs. Fred Morgan and Raymond Wood are suitably placed, ably portraying their respective characters. The necessary comic element is supplied by Mr. Geo. K. Ashley and Mr. A. Day, who as Jenkins and Billy Snooks keep the audience in roars of laughter; while Miss Beatrice Wilson as Polly is also most amusing. In the rôle of Mrs. Blake Miss Nell Gilmore is to be congratulated on a clever character-study. Others who deserve a word of praise are Miss Bertha Baker as Jack Ellington, and Messrs. J. E. Manning, Ashton Winslow, J. Whiteway, J. F. Brandon, and J. A. McArthy. The play has been produced by Mr. Beresford Whitcomb.

THE Grand Theatre, Doncaster, which reopens for the season on Monday, will in future be known as the Grand Theatre and Empire. The managing-director will still be Mr. J. W. Chapman.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words:—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes:—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes:—"I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note:—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

Mr. Martin Harvey.—"I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £1 1s. for your admirable fund for the poor little lady."

Miss Louie Freear.—"Enclosed please find cheque for £1 for dear little Miss Stephens, with whom I most heartily sympathise. What a terrible accident, poor little girl!"

Mr. Weedon Grossmith.—"I enclose a cheque for £1 1s. for the little fund you are raising for the poor girl, Miss Dot Stephens. I only regret my cheque is obliged to be so small. It would have

Photo by Russell and Sons.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

been larger, but there have been so many things one has had to contribute to recently, only not so deserving, that one has little left for the really sad cases."

Mr. H. B. Irving.—"I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for one guinea as a small contribution to the fund you are getting up for poor Miss Stephens."

Miss Nora Lancaster.—"I am so sorry to hear of the terrible accident that has fallen upon Miss Stephens. I enclose cheque for a guinea, and wish I could have made it more."

Miss Edith Wynne Matthison (Kennedy).—"Enclosed please find cheque for one guinea towards the subscription for Miss Stephens. It is an exceedingly sad case; and she has my deepest sympathies."

Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—"The case of Miss Dot Stephens is certainly a very distressing one, as you say. I enclose you herewith £2 2s. on her account. I hope you will get a substantial sum."

Mrs. J. Warden (widow of the late J. F. Warden).—"I send cheque as a trifle towards the fund you have opened for Dot Stephens. Poor girl, such a sad fate for her to be suddenly put aside in the days of her youth and strength. It is a sad ending to her bright dreams and hopes she had for the future. My heart's deep sympathy is with her and her mother in this their dark hours of sorrow."

Mr. T. Allan Edwardes (of Derby), writing from Interlaken, says: "I enclose you cheque for £2 2s. towards the fund for poor little Dot Stephens. Among the thousands of her brother and sister artists, it should be an easy matter to purchase her an annuity of at least £50 per annum. If all the sympathisers with her in her dreadful accident would send their mite this would be easily accomplished."

C. Crabtree writes:—"I have pleasure in sending you a remittance for the 'Dot Stephens Fund,' which I have collected from the orchestra here, including myself as conductor. She appeared at the Pier Pavilion here about March, this year, and we all remember her quite well, and we all felt that we should like to send her something. We all very much regret that she should be so afflicted, and we all express great sympathy for her and her mother during their trouble. She was an exceptionally nice and pleasant girl. I think a lot of money could be collected for her if boxes were used in various theatres and music halls. My orchestra is only seven players, and we are not in a position to give much, but our little will help to swell the fund, and I hope she will be able to have an annuity from it."

Queenie Leighton:—"You will receive from me this week another list of contributions I have gathered together from friends for poor little Dot Stephens. I am only sorry that, owing to the pressure of rehearsals, I have not been able to do more, as I have the greatest sympathy with Miss Stephens in her terrible affliction, and I sincerely hope that the efforts which are being made in her behalf will result in the collection of a sufficient sum to prevent her worrying about the future."

J. D. Beveridge writes:—"Herewith I enclose cheque for two guineas (£2 2s.). I quite agree with the statement in *The Era* 'that so sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession,' and I trust your efforts on behalf of Miss Stephens will be of so substantial a nature that the poor dear young lady, who under such sad conditions writes in such a cheery, grateful way, may not have any fear for her future in a pecuniary sense. With deepest sympathy for Miss Stephens, and with hearty good wishes for a big subscription list."

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left on Saturday night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared this week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other. She was also found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stevens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Subscriptions already announced	£198	14	0
Collected by Miss Edna May, at the Vaudeville Theatre	56	8	6
Subscription for Miss Dot Stephens, per Lilford Arthur and C. St. John Denton	15	1	0
W. S. Gilbert	5	5	0
N. G. Rigden	5	0	0
L. S. and E. V. K.	2	2	0
T. Allan Edwardes	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis	2	2	0
Two Sympathisers	2	0	0
Audrey (Folkestone)	2	0	0
Collected by Signor and Mme. Borelli	1	10	0
George Strachey	1	1	0
Mrs. Ernest Palmer	1	1	0
B. N. Graham	1	1	0
Frederick Fredericks	1	1	0
John F. McArdle	1	1	0
Bertram Forsyth	1	1	0
Charles Macdona	1	1	0
Kate Rivers	1	1	0
A True Sympathiser	1	1	0
Edward Lauri	1	1	0
Jenny Warden	1	1	0
Nettie Ware	1	1	0
Alexandra Dagmar	1	1	0
T. G. Hales	1	1	0
Milton Bode	1	1	0
"Z"	1	0	0
Lilian Digges	1	0	0
Steve Cooke and Geo. Nie, collected in pennies at Southend	1	0	0
Mrs. Henry Partridge	1	0	0
Collected by C. Mussett	0	16	0
Frank Dyball	0	10	6
J. F. Preston	0	10	6
E. Vivian Reynolds	0	10	6
Miss F. Hurley	0	10	6
Miss Sevening	0	10	6
J. R. La Fane	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
Erica Odling	0	10	0
Percy Hutchison	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Southport Pavilion Orchestra, per C. Crabtree	0	10	0
A Lincoln Sympathiser	0	7	7
Chas. Danby	0	5	0
Lily Saville	0	5	0
Frank Cross	0	5	0
M. B.	0	5	0
F. Thorne	0	5	0
Miss Dip	0	5	0
G. A. Offley	0	5	0
Mrs. Phelps	0	2	6
G. C. L. A.	0	2	6
B. M.	0	2	6
Collected by Mrs. Harry Rickards:—			
Harry Rickards	1	1	0
Mrs. Harry Rickards	1	1	0
George Robey	1	1	0
Jay W. Winton	0	10	6
Tom Pacey	0	10	6
Joseph Larkin	0	5	0
Collected by Mr. Fred Bowyer, from a few Savages and Friends	£5	17	6
Collected in the Huddersfield Club	7	5	6
Mr. R. Hirst	1	0	0
A. C.A.T.	1	0	0
Mr. B. Cumming	1	0	0
Mr. Stoner Crowther	1	0	0
Mr. H. H. Sykes	1	0	0
Mr. J. Lumb	1	0	0
Mr. J. Marsden	0	10	6
Mr. T. Dyson	0	10	0
Mr. E. D. Shaw	0	10	0
Mr. T. Ramsden	0	10	0
Mr. Ernest Learoyd	0	10	0
Mr. W. Rayner	0	10	0
Mrs. A. P. Crosland	0	10	0
F. W.	0	10	0
Mr. C. Crosland	0	10	0
Mrs. T. J. Dyson	0	10	0
Mr. A. E. J. Smith	0	10	0
Mr. Walter Sykes	0	10	0
Mr. A. E. Nield	0	5	0
Mr. Brooke Turner	0	5	0
A. H. S.	0	5	0
Mr. Prestley	0	5	0
Mr. H. Ramsden	0	5	0
Mr. A. P. Crosland	0	5	0
Mr. E. Lowenthal	0	5	0
Mr. P. Bregg	0	5	0
Mr. A. Sykes	0	5	0
Mr. A. Hopkinson	0	5	0
Dr. G. W. K. Crossland	0	5	0
Mr. F. Sykes	0	5	0
Mr. T. P. Crosland	0	5	0
Mr. J. Wheatley	0	5	0
Mr. S. Learoyd	0	5	0
Mr. A. Mallinson	0	5	0
Dr. McGreggor	0	5	0
Mr. J. Haigh	0	5	0
Colonel Freeman	0	5	0
Mr. Keighley	0	5	0
Mr. Wm. Ramsden	0	5	0
A Friend	0	5	0
A. F.	0	5	0
Mr. T. A. Brooke	0	5	0
Mr. G. Norton	0	5	0
Mr. Eastwood	0	5	0
E. and D.	0	5	0
Mr. A. L. Tinker	0	5	0
Mr. F. W. Stott	0	5	0
Mr. T. Watkinson	0	5	0
Mr. G. Crosland	0	2	6
Mr. Pitt	0	2	6
Mr. H. Shaw	0	2	6
Mr. Rigby	0	2	0
An odd bob	0	1	0
Total	£20	1	0
Collected by Miss Winnie Brown	2	17	0
E. L.	1	1	0
Homer Herring	0	10	6
T. F. L.	0	5	0
A. D. M.	0	5	0
G. M. R.	0	2	6
Nurse Watkins	0	1	0
Nurse Sutton	0	1	0
Miss Coldclough	0	1	0
Miss Lee	0	1	0
Miss Adams	0	1	0
Miss Annie	0	1	0
Mrs Jacobs	0	1	0
Mrs. Sutton	0	1	0
Mrs. Covernack	0	1	0
Mrs. Pearce	0	1	0
Babsie Pearce	0	1	0
Australia No. 1	0	1	0
Australia No. 2	0	1	0
G. G. Millar	20	0	0
Further list collected by Miss Queenie Leighton	15	0	0
Robert Courtneidge	5	5	0
Per W. Sparks	3	0	0
Per Mabel Harding	2	11	0
Vesta Tilley	2	2	0
R. Crawford	2	2	0
Bert Coote	2	2	0
Walter Passmore	1	1	0
Sidney Smith	1	1	0
Harry Wilson	1	1	0
A Friend	1	1	0
A Friend	1	1	0
George Hughes	1	1	0
J. Westbrooke Poole	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Meymott	1	0	0
E. S. and D. S.	1	0	0
Collected by Miss Laura Walker	0	14	6
Collected by C. Mussett	0	14	0
W. F. Jury	0	10	6
Rev. F. W. Parish	0	10	0
Collected by Mrs. Phillips	0	9	0
H. R. May	0	5	0
Miss Laura Walker	0	5	0
Cissy Wade	0	5	0
Robert Milstead	0	5	0
Edwin Brett	0	2	6
Joe Boganny	0	2	6
Jack Pleasants	0	2	0
Mr. Powell	0	2	6
Beatrice Willey	0	2	0
Coke and Rothet	0	2	0
J. A. Caicedo	0	2	0
Goldmiss	0	1	0
C. A. L.	0	1	0
Mr. Valentine	0	1	0
Mr. Griffin	0	1	0
Mr. Heller	0	1	0
Mr. Etheridge	0	1	0
Mr. Lingard	0	1	0
Mr. Wilson	0	1	0
Anonymous	0	1	0

It is intended that the proceeds shall be devoted to the purchase of an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

MR. MAX BEERBOHM VERSUS THE ENGLISH STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—By an odd coincidence Messrs. Bickers and Son are publishing my friend Mr. H. B. Irving's essay on "The Art and Status of the Actor," at a time when Mr. Max Beerbohm has thought fit to write an impertinent attack upon English actors and actresses in the columns of the *Saturday Review*.

At the risk of giving Mr. Max Beerbohm an undeserved advertisement, I cannot refrain from taking up the cudgels on behalf of the members of my own profession, many of whom are away on their holidays—a circumstance which I have often noticed is a safe cue for the belittling of our craft by its opponents.

The only sentence calling for serious comment is:—"The average level of acting is admittedly lower in England than in France, or Germany, or Italy."

It is always a puzzle to me—and I dare say to many other persons—why the man who praises foreign people and foreign things should think that he must at the same time belittle English people and English things. Yet there are some men in this country—I will not call them Englishmen, for they do not deserve the name—who seem to regard it as unmanly, commonplace, and smacking too much of an absurd respectability to be fond of England, and who neglect their nation that they may flirt with others. Everything good comes from abroad; the English are a race of boors, have no art, and so on, and so on. Happily for the credit of the literature of our own country, these Little Englanders and mimes of criticism are few and far between.

The famous artist Mr. Whistler, when he was under cross-examination during a celebrated case, in reply to the judge, who asked him whether he objected to criticism, said that he courted the criticism of those who knew their subject thoroughly, and always valued the opinion of an admitted master of his own craft. I am not aware that Mr. Max Beerbohm is master of any branch of the difficult art of acting.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
August 2.

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ROYAL OPERA SEASON, COVENT GARDEN.

The season which has lately ended at Covent Garden has proved remarkable, not only for the large attendance of opera-goers and the completeness and artistic rendering of the older operas, but for the success which has attended the production of new and important works. First place must be given to Gluck's *Armide*, a work of much beauty, and, mounted with unsurpassed magnificence, it proved a great attraction; the fine ballet from Brussels no doubt added additional interest to the revival. Other successes were Massenet's charming and pathetic *Jongleur de Notre Dame*, Poldini's *The Princess and the Vagabond*, and Cornelius's quaint and humorous *The Barber of Bagdad*, although these operas would be seen to greater advantage on a smaller stage than Covent Garden. The absence of a dramatic plot prevented Tschaikowsky's *Eugene Onegin* being the success anticipated; but the revival of *The Flying Dutchman* was very welcome, also M. Andre Messager's pretty ballet *Les Deux Pigeons*. The two composers, however, who have attracted the largest audiences were Wagner and Puccini. In the first weeks of the season excellent performances were given of *Tristan*, *The Ring*, *Tannhäuser*, *Meistersinger*, and *Der Fliegende Holländer*, under the fine conductorship of Dr. Richter, in which such distinguised artists as Frau Wittich, Frau Reinl, Frau Gadsky, and Fräulein Ternina appeared. Mlle. Destinn also had a great success as Senta in *Der Fliegende Holländer*, and Herr Van Rooy proved of utmost service as Wotan and Hans Sachs, although the want of a great German tenor was severely felt this season. In the French and Italian section it may be mentioned that Verdi's *Aïda*, alike in performance and mounting, made a record. Among the artists, Mme. Melba's beautiful singing has been as much admired as in former years; and Signor Caruso rendered, by the aid of his fine voice, yeoman service in the cause of art. Mlle. Donalda has also greatly advanced her position, as well as that fine artist Mme. Kirkby Lunn. In the parts of Aïda, Madama Butterfly, and Nedda memorable performances have been given by Mlle. Destinn; and Mme. Giachetti has increased her reputation by her acting in *La Tosca*. The baritones, Signor Scotti, Signor Sammarco, Signor Battistini, and M. Seveilhac, have all won renown, and in the bass parts M. Journet has rendered great service. Mention must also be made of the clever artist M. Gilibert, Frau Von Mildenburg, and Mlle. Boni and Legrand, from Brussels, who appeared in the ballet both of *Armide* and *Les Deux Pigeons*. The conductors of the French and Italian operas were Signor Campanini and M. Messager, who both acquitted themselves with distinction; and more than a word of praise ought to be given to the admirable stage-management and the fine orchestra. Coming to figures, it may be mentioned that *Madama Butterfly* and *La Bohème* were given nine times each; *Faust* six times; *Armide*, *Rigoletto*, and *Tristan* four times; *Eugene Onegin*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *Pagliacci*, *Tannhäuser*, *La Tosca*, *Walküre*, *Le Jongleur*, and *Les Deux Pigeons*, three times; *Aïda*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Die Meistersinger*, *La Traviata*, *Das Rheingold*, *Siegfried*, and *Götterdämmerung*, twice; *The Barber of Bagdad*, *Der Vagabond und die Princesse*, and *Romeo et Juliette*, once.

REOPENING OF THE OLDHAM EMPIRE.

The Empire, Oldham, reopened its doors on Monday evening after undergoing a process of thorough renovation and redecoration. Mr. Ernest Dottridge has quite fulfilled the promise he made that the improvements should be of such a complete character that the Empire would be put on a par with the best and most modern variety houses in the kingdom. Monday night's audience was delighted with the appearance of the house; in fact, its interior was scarcely to be recognised, so extensive were the improvements which had been effected by the contractors.

The decorations have been carried out in shades of Rose du Barri and electric blue, the woodwork and walls being a rich red so as to gain a proper degree of harmony. The whole of the decorations are in the French style, the ceiling being ideal for a house of entertainment. The electric chandelier in the centre has been lowered about 3ft., so as to get better lighting results, while the circle, formed by raised masonry, is very richly and artistically treated. The figures of numerous Cupids are painted with a high degree of artistic tastes, attendant on a central figure, surrounded by scrolls of flowers on a background of electric blue. Around the panels is a rich border, in which are placed a number of small scrolls inscribed with celebrated musicians. All the figures are models of art, and viewed from the circle or pit cannot fail to excite admiration. The most important part of the work has been the treatment of the facings on either side of the stage and of the cove directly over the footlights. The four pictures just over the stage, and facing the centre circle, have been entirely re-designed, and the taste with which they have been executed displays the best qualities of the painter's art. The facings on either side have likewise been dealt with, the panels being re-modelled and redecorated on a lavish scale. On either side there are allegorical figures of Music and the Fine Arts, portrayed with charming effect. Other panels are enriched with a scroll-work of flowers, while the sides and the bottom, juts over the dado, have been set off to advantage with what is technically termed "strap work." The walls round the circle, and the front of the circle, as well as a large band round the ceiling, have been beautified with gold painting and flower designs, and the boxes are now decorated to a degree of gorgeousness. They are panelled with groups of roses and other flowers, richly tinted in gold, and the domes are finished off with electric blue. The walls of the pit are freshly painted with a sanitary composition, the woodwork being treated to harmonise. The bars and ante-rooms have all come in for an equal share of attention, while the stage lights have been so arranged as to get much better results than were ever previously obtainable. The footlights have been especially improved by being lowered, and the aid of mirrors makes them much more effective, while the possibility of their interrupting the view of those in the pit-stalls has been obviated. The scenery is also being repainted by a well-known stage artist, so that everything in connection with the building has come in for embellishment. The cushions and all the other seating arrangements have been thoroughly cleaned, and where necessary renewed, the cleaning being done by the vacuum system. There can be little doubt that the people of Oldham will, by their generous patronage, show their appreciation of the enterprise of Mr. Ernest Dottridge in incurring so heavy an outlay in providing for their enjoyment and comfort.

Monday night's programme was a specially attractive one, being headed by Mr. Fred Karno's troupe of comedians in a series of their popular pantomime sketches. Needless to say, each production kept the audience in roars of laughter. In addition, Laura Lorne and Nell Rene presented a capital Lancashire scena, entitled, *Capital and Labour*, which was highly appreciated; Gilbert Gerard, mimic, won well-merited applause; and the Jackson Family presented a refined musical treat. Robb Gilmore caused much amusement by his quaint songs and dances; Arthur Reece, actor-vocalist, was a good turn, Fred Dunstone had some funny songs and patter, and Max Merlin, the Human Crocodile, was very clever.

A PLEA FOR ENGLISH OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr. Charles Manners' letter in your issue of 23rd June ought to make every self-respecting Briton exert himself to the utmost to remove the horrible and unfair stigma now on English opera. The dog was given a bad name in 1762, and so the unthinking public still deems it a bad dog, and think it has been hanged. Even granted that it was hanged, ought we not to get a new creeping puppy and teach it to walk?

It is utter nonsense to say that good opera cannot be produced by Englishmen. The reason our best men do not put their efforts into this direction is that they know there will be no support.

English is our language, the language of Shakespeare, Shelley, Dryden, Henley, Tennyson, Browning. We have the finest literature in the world as a legacy, and yet it is not to be allowed to be properly emphasised by music. What can an Englishman learn from the "Flower Song" of *Carmen*, the "Grail Song" of *Lohengrin*, "Elizabeth's Prayer" of *Tannhäuser*, and the Cavatina of *Faust* when sung in words which to him have no meaning? If there be any value in this, then the sooner the *Messiah*, *Dream of Gerontius*, and our Church hymns are sung in the best possible language—German, French, or Italian—the better it will be for all. The old people of this country would not like it, but, then, "one could educate the children up to it, you know."

London must bestir itself, and take the lead in giving to England (1) opera in English and (2) English opera. We in the provinces—I speak for hundreds myself—are bestirring ourselves to this end, so the metropolis will be left behind unless it moves quickly. As an example of what can be done by English people with support not half worthy of their deserts, take the Moody-Manners Opera Company. If you get this company in town and they bill Messrs. Manners, Pembroke, and James in *Faust*, you may take it that the Church scene—especially the trio—will be rendered in a way that cannot be surpassed. I will mention no more names; but you can hear a Lohengrin, Tannhäuser, Don José, Escamillo, Wolfram, Manrico, Elizabeth, Leonora, and Carmen who know and study their work, and render it to the public conscientiously.

I did not intend this letter to end in praise of Mr. Manners and his associates, but it followed naturally on a plea for English opera. We need some school under the leadership of such a man, and if given fair support opera in English, and then English opera, would soon take their proper places amongst the foreign works.—Yours faithfully,

LANCASTRIAN.

Bolton, July 24, 1906.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

Sir,—One is glad to note that the season which the Moody-Manners company have begun at the Lyric Theatre has been so far crowned with success—a success which all will agree is well deserved. Mr. Manners's letter, which appeared in your issue of June 23, makes very interesting reading. It is true that we have been long enough in a state of vassalage to the Continent, but it is to be hoped that the day is now dawning when there will be no dearth of good artists trained and employed in this country in opera.

Mr. Manners is a firm believer in opera in English, and this it is which most deserves encouragement, for only by it can we hope to reach the great masses of the people, to whom foreign tongues are unintelligible. The purist and the æsthetician will put forward the objection that there is a great loss in divorcing the original words from the music; but, on the other hand, there is a corresponding gain in the greater acquaintance which opera in English is bound to give the general public with many works, for it makes sure that the meaning of each phrase of the music goes home and that every bar is well understood.

As for our own composers, it is impossible for them to produce works equal in everything to those of the French, Germans, and Italians, whose styles have been moulded by long contact with the theatre, and who could invariably count upon an opera being heard fully and fairly by their fellow-countrymen.

I must endorse what Mr. Manners says about translations of the words of operas, and if sufficient encouragement was forthcoming it is impossible to believe that really good translations would not be made by men competent to perform a task demanding such delicate and artistic treatment.—Yours faithfully,

D. C. PARKER.

Glasgow, July 30.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, July 30th,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Mark Melford,
entitled
"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

A crowded house assembled at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday evening to witness the presentation of Mr. Mark Melford's thrilling drama, *Flying from Justice*. The piece, excellently acted throughout, was followed with close interest by the audience, who testified, by enthusiastic applause at each fall of the curtain, their entire satisfaction with play and players. Mr. Roy Redgrave as John Lecarsey gave a manly rendering of the part, and scored heavily throughout. In the rôle of Haldane Gulley Mr. James C. Aubrey has a part which suits him admirably, and which he played with great skill and force. A delightfully refreshing representation of the young student Charles Bearing was given by Mr. A. N. Melford, who acted throughout with marked ability. The part of Major Parkes was capitally played by Mr. E. Major Jones, who contributed an earnest performance, and Mr. W. Bland was thoroughly satisfactory as Pearly Tanner. Mr. J. Monkhouse made the most of his opportunities as Woodruff, a coiner, and Mr. Tom Allen did well as the poacher Jim Kimber. Miss Jessie Winter as Mildred Parkes had a thorough grip of the character, and was seen to great advantage. An excellent exponent of the adventuress Winnie Bradley was found in Miss Mary Raby, who gained much applause for her spirited acting. Another good performance was that of Miss Shelton, who acted the rôle of Mrs. Bearing with great success. The minor parts were all in safe hands, and the scenery and general effects very good. Mr. J. C. Aubrey is stage-manager for Mr. Green.

The directors of the Theatre Royal and the Grand Theatre, Halifax, both of which are under the same management, have decided on reversing the character of the programme at these establishments, and from Monday next the Grand will be run as a first-class playhouse and the Royal as a variety theatre. The drama's new home in Halifax is one of the prettiest and best-modelled theatres in Yorkshire. Since closing its doors some eight weeks ago the building has been renovated, and the dress and side circles have been made into one. Crimson and gold are the prevailing colours, and the effect of the decorations is enhanced by some very pretty oval-shaped electric lights projecting round the circles. The theatre will be occupied during the coming week by Van Biene and company in *The Broken Melody*. Mr. S. Winks will again take up the reins of management.

H.R.H. Princess Victoria, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Sparta, visited the Aldwych Theatre on Saturday last, and witnessed the performance of *The Beauty of Bath*.

TALES ABOUT TOOLE.

Toole and Irving were two of the most ingenious and ingenuous of jesters as well as most persistent practical jokers. It was at Carlisle. They were staying at one of the oldest hotels, which had a nice garden off their private sitting-room where all their meals were served. The waiter was a solemn old fellow who did nothing but boast to the two players that he hadn't taken a drop of anything stronger than milk for years. Toole was determined to have some fun at old Robert's expense. It was their last night. Their baggage had gone off to the railway station. Dinner was over and the two friends sat chatting over their coffee.

Presently the old waiter was to bring in their bills. Suddenly Toole suggested to clear everything off the table—silver, china, cloth, flowers, glasses, and all, turn out the gas, and drop out of the low window into the garden. Irving said "All right," although he didn't see the point just then, but anythow the feat didn't take a minute. Toole made Irving grab two corners of the tablecloth, while he secured the others, and so netted everything in it, leaving the bare polished mahogany. Then they turned out every light in the chandelier, dropped the cloth and contents out of the window, and clambered out after it, closed the window softly, and awaited developments.

In a few moments they heard the waiter knock at the room door, but receiving no reply he went in. The two "boys" outside could hear him mutter things, and then strike a light. The man's face when he saw the bare table and no one about was a study in expression which the tragedian must have envied.

In utter bewilderment the old fellow left the room. Like a flash Toole raised the window and climbed back into the room, Irving handing in the precious bundle. With deft fingers and excellent taste they re-arranged the table, and lit the chandelier. Then crossing their legs cosily, and lighting cigars, they rang the bell as though nothing had happened. The poor old fellow came flying in, and at the sight of the brilliantly lighted room and elaborately set table, not to mention the two jovial-looking diners, he gaped until it was an effort positively superhuman for them to refrain from loud laughter. They merely ordered some more coffee, and resumed conversation. But the moment he was out of the room, they cleared the table and turned out the lights as before, and crept out of the window.

When Robert returned and found the place quite dark and deserted he gave one howl, dropped the tray, and fled shrieking for the landlord.

Like two monkeys Irving and his friend got back again and went through the same swift performance. Presently they heard a terrible commotion. There was a great crash at the door, and the excited waiter, now almost hysterical, burst in with his worried master, several men and maids, and three policemen.

Toole and Irving rose in fury.

"What is the meaning of this intrusion, sir?" they both demanded in tones of thunder.

There was a pause.

"Milk you was raised on?" roared the landlord, witheringly, to the dumbfounded old waiter. "Goramighty, man, it must ha' taken wood-alcohol and rum to ha' things like them!"

A funny incident is told about the long-fingered gloves that so often played an important part in Toole's "stage business." One night in Dublin he was set down in the bill to play Spicer Rumford in Burnand's amusing adaptation, *Artful Cards*. In the second act Spicer Rumford sets out for an evening party, and dons white gloves—regular full dress gloves, warranted not to split. But, of course, they do split and burst, and it was over this mishap that Toole made such fun. He usually kept a dozen pairs ready for the piece, as he had to split them before going on. When this particular day arrived, his dresser told him at the morning rehearsal that he had no more gloves in his bag. Toole said it would be all right at night, that he would bring some with him. But on his way to the theatre in the evening he suddenly recollected he had forgotten them.

It was a dreadfully wet night, and on his way through Great Brunswick-street he told the cabman to stop at the first haberdasher's shop he saw open. He came to a halt at a dingy-looking shop with braces and neckties hanging in the window. The proprietress was just about to close for the night, and seemed half asleep. Toole saw at once that the elderly lady was in anything but good humour. He did not improve her temper by making his request very earnestly, and in a low tone, accompanied by gibberish which she could not understand. She looked hard at him and muttered to herself, "What does he mean? The man's a fool." When, suddenly, as she showed signs of calling someone out from an inner dark passage, Toole said, as distinctly as possible. "Have you got any white kid gloves?" She did not know whether she had, but she would see. So she began to grope about in a silly, aimless fashion, opening boxes of handkerchiefs, neckties, socks, garters, and everything but gloves, until at last, when she was red with the exertion, she found a forgotten box of white gloves. They were uncommonly dusty, and had evidently been the original stock of her grandmother's shop. Toole picked out a pair, and she went through the stupid old formula of doubling them across his knuckles.

"I think these will do," she said. "Oh, they will," said Toole, "then give me a pair of scissors."

"They are untied; you don't want any scissors."

"Yes, I do," said Toole, and he deliberately cut the gloves in five or six places. The old woman positively shuddered, and said, "Oh, don't!" It seemed to affect her, and the more she shuddered, the more he cut away.

"But I could have got you a larger pair without that," she whined, as if she were in pain.

"They are quite large enough, my dear madam," he replied, hacking away; "but I like plenty of ventilation." "Give me another pair," said Toole fiercely, as if he were thirsting for destruction; "and give me larger scissors." He then cut away at two or three pair as eagerly as a child cutting up paper.

"There, that will do," said he, throwing down the money and pocketing the gloves. "Will I put them in paper for your? Oh, dear me!" she sighed, as if the scissors had been ripping her open, and she was recovering from the shock.

"No, indeed, not I. Belinda shall be revenged!" Toole groaned through his teeth. "Thus will I destroy my hated rival."

The poor frightened woman backed away from him as he waved the scissors in the air; she evidently came to the conclusion that her peculiar customer was stark, staring mad. As Toole turned to leave the shop he looked out and said, "It's a lovely morning, isn't it?" It was seven o'clock in the evening, and raining in torrents. We tell these stories as related in the *Weekly Irish Times*.

The "discovery" of J. L. Toole is thus related by the late E. L. Blanchard:—"I was travelling through Shorne (near Gravesend) towards the close of an autumnal day in the year 1838. I had been exploring the green lanes about the neighbourhood, and fortuitously witnessed the following scene: A little boy, scarcely six years of age, was the centre of an admiring group of urchins, who seemed in a most exuberant state of delight at each fresh comicality of the entertainment, which seemed to consist of an imitation of the sounds of a farmyard, with a few dexterous voices thrown in. It was over before I could discover the reason for the merry peals of childish laughter which reached me, but in a few moments the extremely juvenile monologist recommenced his performance without being aware of another person being added to his audience.

"A dexterous arrangement of his pinafore, a twist of his child's cap, and a small stick snatched from the hedge, and there was the miniature figure of an old man tottering rather than toddling about the little garden, the few words uttered in simulated tones helping to identify a resemblance which evidently kept the diminutive spectators in no doubt as to the fidelity of the likeness. Then came a change of face, another readjustment of the pinafore, and an altered tone, with a word and a whistle by turns. This was quickly accepted as the faithful portraiture of a comic countryman well-known to the highly appreciative little assembly, and tiny hands were clapped gleefully as the voice of the rustic, simulated in childish treble, was heard to proclaim the necessity of giving to an old grey man. On my nearer approach, the festive company, entertainer and all, subsided into bashfulness. On making inquiry as to the name of the precocious young gentleman, I was told by a giggling little damsel that it was only John Toole, a little London boy down for his health."

A droll account of Toole and Irving as sitters-up is given by Mr. H. Chance Newton in the *Tribune*. "It was a year or so ago," says Mr. Newton, "that, calling on Toole in Brighton, I found him in a much poorer state of health than he had been for some time. 'How's Harry?' said Toole; 'when you go up, give him my love and tell him how queer I've been.' On reaching town I at once went to Irving's dressing-room. 'How's Johnny?' said Irving. 'Have you seen him?' I told him I had, and I gave him Johnny's message. 'I am very sorry,' said Irving, 'that he is so unwell. A dear, good fellow, best friend in the world. But, really, between ourselves, I am not surprised that his state of health is worse. For see what dreadful hours the man has always kept.'

"I pointed out that I thought from what I had long known of Irving's late-at-night habits, he was the last one who ought to complain of Toole in this regard. 'Yes,' said Irving, 'I do sit up a bit myself, I know, but Johnny—Ah, shocking! shocking!'

"Two days later Toole chanced to be a little better, and he came to London, and I happened to notice him in a box at the Tivoli. On going round to see him, I found he had only just arrived, and had not yet had an opportunity of seeing Irving. Of course, he started by asking after 'Harry,' and inquired if I had given him his message. I said I had. 'What did he say?' said Toole. 'He told me he was very sorry,' I replied, 'but was not surprised seeing what dreadful hours you keep.'

"'Did he say *that*, the scoundrel!' exclaimed Toole. 'He's a pretty beauty to talk. Why, Harry Irving has never been to bed in his life!'

"The next day or so I had occasion to see Irving again. Of course the same questions passed, and I told him what Toole had said about him and his hours.

"'Never been to bed in my life?' said Irving. 'Did the old libertine say that? Ah, well, well,' he added musingly; 'how true, how true!'

"As a matter of fact both Irving and Toole were awful people for sitting up at nights. Often I have known them to start for their respective homes between six and seven in the morning after telling a few stories to each other at the Garrick Club or elsewhere."

Toole's encounter with an Edinburgh prude resulted in a victory for common-sense. The comedian had received a letter, written in a canting style, advising him to retire from the stage and lead a proper life. A man of Toole's intelligence, the writer held, ought to do something better. Toole did not reply, but, instead, called on the writer on a Sunday afternoon. He found his preceptor lived in a fine house in the suburbs, and was rather taken aback to find the blinds all down. The writer of the letter proved to be a solemn-looking man, dressed in black. "I am anxious," said Toole, after the first greetings, "to know what you propose to do with my wife and family?" He pointed out that the stage was his living, and thought his friend might have some idea of an annuity.

After beating about the bush for a bit, the man admitted that he liked Toole very much, and "laughed awfu'" at him when he saw him play "The Dodger."

"Then, what do you mean?" asked Toole.

"Eh, mon, it's the wife that's serious."

"Oh. And that's the reason why all the blinds are down, is it?"

"The blinds are down because it's the Sawbath, ye ken."

"And do you think, then," replied Toole, "you are serving God by shutting out the beautiful fields and flowers that He has given you?"

Thoroughly ashamed of himself, the "unco guid" gentleman admitted that he had never "thocht" of it in that light. "Finally," added Toole, "he would insist upon introducing me to his wife, who invited me to tea. She was very severe and starchy at first, but we got on pleasantly at tea-time, and they have since invited me on several occasions to visit them."

AN ENGLISH OPERA UNION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The general public are more or less aware that Grand Opera is very seldom presented, and that opportunities of seeing opera of any kind are regarded as a luxury of the idle and wealthy. The drama in general, and the plays of Shakespeare in particular, are a living and vital force in our national life, and every thoughtful man and woman must regret exceedingly that opera does not hold a similar position.

Here and there a few enthusiasts have for the past few years been loudly lamenting this undesirable state of affairs; their number and importance increase every day, and to them particularly, as well, perhaps, as to a wider public, the following facts may be of interest:—

Over 350 companies perform in Italy almost continuously. In Germany and France there are hundreds of opera houses; indeed, in the former country *no town of any importance is without at least one*. In this country, with the exception of the short annual season at Covent Garden, there are only four opera companies in existence, that is the Carl Rosa Opera Company, Mr. J. W. Turner's Company, and the two companies which I have at present on tour. Until these are reinforced, it is obvious that everything to do with English opera is at a standstill; indeed, one is afraid that it is a case of general deadlock. The fashionable and moneyed classes will have none of it, and the middle and lower classes never having seen opera in its proper form, and at reasonable prices, know practically nothing at all about it. The few impresarios who have tried to bridge over the gulf have abandoned the effort as futile. I have repeatedly, and now again offer to prove to any interested that it is possible to give opera in London far better than has ever been yet accomplished, at prices from 6d. to 6s., and in the provinces better and at lower prices than any town or city of like size on the Continent, *and all this without one farthing on the rates or taxes*.

It has occurred to me that many of our most valuable and beneficial national institutions have come into existence as the result of combined effort. I refer to the volunteer movement, the Y.M.C.A., and to the recent inception by Lord Roberts of a scheme to promote national rifle shooting. Now, why should not lovers of music in this country combine, and in some such manner make a vigorous and definite effort to try and establish National English opera, and opera in English? I here outline very briefly and roughly a few suggestions which might possibly eventually become the groundwork of a proper and workable scheme towards this end.

I suggest first of all a union, to be called The "NATIONAL ENGLISH OPERA UNION." Objects:—

1. To promote in every possible way the love of English Opera by the utmost endeavour of the society as a whole, and by the exertions of its individual members.

2. Subject to the approval of the majority of the members, the Council of the society shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, secretary, and executive committee, who will be elected by ballot from time to time.

3. When the membership has reached, say 10,000, a general meeting of the society will be held to consider the election of the above.

4. In the meantime there will be no expense or subscription of any kind, as, until otherwise ordained by a duly elected committee, all expense will be borne by the Moody-Manners Opera Company.

5. Until the Council shall decide as to the wishes of the members in the matter, Mr. Manners will gladly place an office at the disposal of the society at the Moody-Manners' Stores, The Hyde, Hendon, London, N.W., where all communications may be addressed pro tem.

6. On no account must the powers of this union be at any time used to advance the cause of any private enterprise in opera.

7. Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners will be at all times most willing to give their services to in any way advance the cause of the union, if so desired by the Council.

8. It is, of course, understood that these suggestions are merely tentative, and are subject to alteration and modification.

I am aware that this, or indeed any scheme of this kind, is open to objections. However, as, in the meantime, I am only appealing to those who are intensely interested in this branch of art, I will beg them to suspend judgment and criticism.

To all who live in the hope that improved conditions will one day obtain, I appeal for practical sympathy and a kindly tolerance until we can meet together and carefully, helpfully, and sympathetically discuss the whole matter from every standpoint. Should it be found necessary to hold a meeting of those interested during my London season, I will gladly place the Lyric Theatre at their disposal for this purpose.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES MANNERS.

Lyric Theatre, W.

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DARTRY CLEANING PROCESS.

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MEM. FOR MANAGERS.

We make a Speciality of prompt service in treating Stage Carpets and Drapery.

Booklet on this Process, post free, from the DARTRY DYEWORKS (Dept. 17), DUBLIN.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS GRACE LESTER.

MISS GRACE LESTER began her professional career under the management of the late R. D'Oyly Carte with a year's tour of the principal continental cities in *The Mikado*, *Patience*, and *Pinafore* operas. She then joined Mr. Richard Mansell to play Rosina Moore, in *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab* on tour. After a long tour with the late A. E. Percival's *Shadows of a Great City*, in which she played her first leading parts, Annie and Nellie Standish, she joined J. Pitt Hardacre's *Right's Right* company and played Mary Mayne for six months. Then followed an engagement with J. Bannister Howard to play for the first time Lady Isabel, in *East Lynne*; Marita, in *Barnes of New York*; Pauline, in *Called Back*; Georgina, in *The Golden Band*, and Sal Rawlins, in *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*. Miss Lester also played under Mr. Howard's management Hortense, in *Poor Joe*, Mary, in *Our Boys*, Bessie, in *The Unknown*, and other parts. She was next engaged to play Hester Thornbury, in Robert Pateman's *Master and Man* company; a tour of *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, and a year's tour with Wynn Miller's *Birds of Prey*, Miss Lester playing the part of Mrs. Fane, followed. In 1893 she joined Mr. Henry Dundas to play Nellie Temple, in his *Human Nature* company, and remained with this combination three years. Next came a reproduction and tour of *A Run of Luck*, and two years with *The Derby Winner*, Miss Lester playing Vivien Darville; and the leading part for a special engagement with *Thou Shalt Not Kill*; and, last, another tour with *Human Nature*. In the spring of 1901 Miss Lester toured with Walter Sealby's company in *The Blind Witness*, playing the part of Rachel Howlett. During the summer she was engaged for a stock season at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, playing all the leading parts. In the following October she joined M. Auguste Van Biene's *Broken Melody* company to play the Duchesse De Vervier, fulfilling four successful engagements under his management, including a delightful tour in South Africa. Upon returning to England in January, 1904, Miss Lester was engaged by Mr. Morton Powell to create the leading part in his production of *Bigamy*. She played this part on three tours. A special re-engagement with Mr. Rich. Waldon, at Glasgow, to star as Lady Isabel and Jeanie Deans was followed by a long tour with F. B. Woulfe, Miss Lester playing Nell Gwynne, Jane Shore, and Miss Sternhold in *Still Waters Run Deep*. In the spring of 1905 she played Lady Holland in the suburban tour of *His Majesty's Servant*, from the Imperial Theatre, winning golden opinions for her performance. In the autumn of last year Miss Lester had a starring engagement as Grace Daremont in Mr. James Willard's clever play, *A Woman's Pluck*. Miss Lester has just concluded a successful tour with *The Midnight Maid*, and is re-engaged for the autumn to star in *A Woman's Pluck*, commencing at Worcester on Monday.

MISS SYBIL RUSKIN.

Miss Sybil Ruskin, who scored a success at Terry's Theatre as Marton in *A Marriage of Convenience*, produced at a matinée on Nov. 4, 1905, portrayed Ophelia the same evening in Mr. Henry J. Twyford's Dramatic Reading of *Hamlet*. She played Phyllis in a new duologue, entitled *The Dedication*, from the pen of Mr. John N. Raphael ("Percival") at the Animal Lovers' Bazaar at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on the afternoons of Nov. 28 and 29, 1905. Miss Ruskin is a wonderful linguist, and having acted both in French and German (the latter with the German players here) makes quite a speciality of foreign parts, though Shakespeare is what she loves best of all. Writing is her chief hobby, and a series of articles entitled "Leaves from a Bohémienne's Notebook," which she has written for "Woman," was made a feature in that paper. An article of hers on some different conceptions of "Lady Macbeth," and on the excellent results achieved by the British Empire Shakespeare Society, has also appeared in the "Boudoir."

THE DRAMA VERSUS VAUDEVILLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—At the present moment there appears to be a considerable amount of rather vague discussion going on by people directly and indirectly connected with the dramatic stage, accusing the directorate of the vaudeville houses of taking the dramatic following away from the theatre. May I venture to lift the curtain upon this fallacy, and give you my reasons for refuting the whole assertion. Having served ten of my best years in first-class theatres, and four in the vaudeville houses, perhaps I may be forgiven in mounting the forum on the subject. In the first place, I have signally failed to discover any semblance of the theatre clientèle amongst a vaudeville audience. The two are as distinctive as oil and water, and as difficult of mixture, the one preferring the unabridged edition of nature and thought, the other the lighter side of life. Before holding the finger up to either or levelling accusations as to poaching, let us consider which is the most difficult to manage—the vaudeville house or the theatre? I make so bold as to say the theatre is twice as difficult to manage than the average vaudeville house, and yet the former, in many cases, is conducted in a far less commercial spirit than the latter; in fact, to use a wood's and forest's anomaly, they are cutting down and selling the old trees without planting fresh ones. Let us go to the rock bottom of the dramatic depreciation in consequence of this, and we will soon arrive at the real reason of full houses in the one and thin houses in the other. The vaudeville directorate chase no shadows; their capital is easily forthcoming; they are unable to offer engagements to well-known artists far in advance, and on the whole give an entertainment all the year round of fairly good attractiveness, at any rate sufficiently interesting to warrant the continued patronage of their particular public. With the exception of two they have returned an interest to the shareholders of from 4 to 12 per cent. this year. Let me be fair in my argument, and show why it is easier for a vaudeville house to maintain his drawing power over the theatre. Each turn is cut and dried; should one fail, the next will score. Now we will jump to the theatre. Opening night piece does not catch on; result, bad business for the rest of the week. How can a theatre manager arm himself against this state of things? My humble suggestion is: Don't put all your eggs in one basket, but do as your more prosperous brother manager does—have something to fall back upon, namely, a second established success. Each company that goes into the provinces should, on finding their piece has not caught on on the Monday, be prepared to substitute another on the Tuesday. I don't think you will find the touring managers who produce a répertoire complaining quite so much as the man who pins his faith to one piece. I don't wish this letter to refer to the largest theatres, because they can book a sufficient number of London stars to warrant a fairly good season, but to the majority I venture to suggest a second piece would often be the means of saving a week's business. I am old-fashioned enough to believe that if our managers went back forty years, gave a longer entertainment, more diversified, and did away with the insufferable waits between the acts, the public would be better pleased, and come in greater numbers.—Yours faithfully,

Leeds, July 25, 1906. HERBERT SHELLEY.

"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

A robust survival of the season's novelties is to be found in *The Girl behind the Counter*, which reached its 100th performance at Wyndham's on Monday. A formidable array of authors are associated in Mr. Frank Curzon's popular production, and the story and lyrics of Leedham Bantock and Arthur Anderson, the music of Howard Talbot, the additional lyrics of Percy Greenbank, and the supplementary numbers by J. St. A. Johnson and Augustus Barratt, form a combination of wholesome fun, tunefulness, and variety which, together with the scenic splendour of the piece, makes it of surpassing excellence. The presence in the cast of favourites of the highest popularity renders its attractive powers complete, and a brighter entertainment of its class could not be found in the metropolis. A crowded house on Monday marked its first century with enthusiastic cheers, and hearty laughter followed the progress of the comedy, which has been embellished with new features of interest.

An outstanding figure of the cast is Mr. Hayden Coffin, who is creating at Wyndham's a similarly loyal "following" to that which he has obtained elsewhere in the West-End. Mr. Coffin is the ideal of the chivalrous lover as Charlie Chetwynd, the successful gold-digger. No hero of romance was ever more gallant, no light comedian more buoyant or graceful, while the inestimable advantage of a melodious voice and a style that forces conviction makes the performance irresistible. The sentiment of "The land where the best man wins," is true and hearty, and there is absolute emotion in the fine voice as it rings out the noble phrases of the song. Later in the piece, when Mr. Coffin puts on a becoming costume at the carnival, he has a song about the "Four Mile Radius" devoted to the praise of the "London girl," in whom the most affecting interest is manifested.

Miss Isabel Jay, whose freshness and comeliness enrapture all, is a bright star of the evening. Her glorious voice is heard with delight in the refrain "I mean to marry a man," her perfect intonation giving all possible value to the effective melody. The delicacy and grace of Miss Jay's singing in the part of Winnie Willoughby are fully apparent in the new "language of flowers" duet with Mr. Coffin, which on Monday had to be encored. Similar recognition of Miss Jay's artistic excellence was given in a ballad involving a vocal obbligato, in which the finest qualities of her vocal attainments were revealed.

The artless witchery and piquancy of Miss Marie Dainton prevail upon all parts of the house, who are warm in admiration of Ninette, the head of the millinery department. She sings and dances daintily, and is capable of some high-kicking, which is exercised on the high hats of the visitors to the carnival. Miss Dainton's brunette beauty and her charm of manner are especially effective as the vivacious Parisienne, a rôle, it may be recalled, with which the earlier successes of her career were associated.

A stately manageress of the Maison Duval is supplied in Miss Violet Englefield, whose powerful and flexible voice is heard with the greatest pleasure. There is, nevertheless, plenty of comedy in the impersonation of Millie Mostyn, and numerous recalls follow her song of "The Vicar's Eldest Daughter," which is rendered with tantalising modesty and charm. Miss Kathleen Courtney has succeeded to the part of Susie the cashier at the Maison Duval, and, besides acting with agreeable archness, gives evidence of vocal cultivation of a rare order.

Drollery of the richest and ripest and comedians adequately to exploit it are to be found in the piece. Mr. J. F. McArdle's comic vitality as the elderly but resourceful General Sir Wilkie Willoughby is wonderful. The shouts of laughter become almost monotonous in their regularity, and no word or action misses its object. His oddities are throughout of the most mirth-compelling character, the highest point of which is reached in his song of Sir Walter Raleigh, of which numberless encores are exacted. Effective aid is also rendered by the sour-visaged waiter, whose identity is not revealed.

Mr. George Barrett brings the benefit of a lifetime's experience as a comedian to the representation of the part of the head-waiter at the carnival, and no finer exhibition of comicality could be desired. He has a warm reception on his first appearance, and his acting throughout is accompanied by peals of mirth.

A fop of the first water is made of Viscount Gushington by Mr. G. Davy Burnaby, who follows Mr. Laurence Grossmith in the rôle. He bears his part admirably in the burlesque love-making duet with Miss Englefield, in which much assistance is derived from Mr. Barrett. The eccentricities of Adolphus Dudd are presented in comic fashion by Mr. Lionel Victor, whose make-up as Boy Blue is a picture. The duet about the Greenaways, sung in conjunction with Miss Courtney, is admirably done, and wins loud applause.

The splendid Rudolph is sustained in a properly magnificent manner by Mr. Akerman May, who looks, acts, and talks grandly as the Commissionaire. Mr. Fred Allandale is a sprightly and effective Monsieur Duval, typically French, but with many added comicalities which manifestly owe their origin to this side of the Channel. He creates considerable laughter, and his smartness is generally admired. Miss Violet Crossley puts on the aristocratic airs of Lady Willoughby effectively, and makes a creditable contribution to the success of the performance. Superb dresses set off the beauties of the entertainment, which are added to by the excellent work of the ladies and gentlemen of the chorus.

A RECORD attendance may well be expected on Monday at the Crystal Palace, where the August Bank Holiday always brings enormous crowds. The beautiful grounds at this time of the year are seen at their best, and the management, in addition to the outside attractions, are careful to supply a splendid indoor entertainment. The engagement of Mr. Charles Bertram, the well-known prestidigitateur, in the theatre should prove an irresistible draw, and large numbers should visit the Tibetan Court, where Prince Colibri, the smallest man on earth, and Henri Cot, the French giant, are on exhibition. There are also Rochez's monkeys, Mr. Bannister Howard's café chantant, organ recitals by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, bands of the Coldstream Guards (conductor, Lieut. J. Mackenzie Rogan), Seaforth Highlanders, 4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment, Upper Norwood Prize Band, and the Crystal Palace Military Band. The events will also include a balloon ascent by Mr. Spencer and a great cycling and athletic meeting; while the water chute, rapids, helter-skelter, flying machine, topsy-turvy railway, switchbacks, swings, and roundabouts will help to make up a host of amusements. The grand illumination of the park and gardens and the magnificent display of fireworks by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. at night complete a programme of marvellous dimensions.

SIR ALFRED JONES has arranged for the native choir from Jamaica, owing to their great success, to extend their stay in England for another three months, and they will therefore not sail for home by the Port Royal until Dec. 15, instead of leaving on Sept. 22, as previously arranged. Their engagements have so far taken them to over thirty different towns, where their reception has been of the heartiest kind; and Messrs. Jones and Douglass, managers of the choir, are now arranging dates for their extended stay. A farewell concert will be given in Liverpool early in December.

"TOMKINS' VENUS."

A new Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts,
by Roland Bottomley.
produced for the first time at a matinée
performance in the Pavilion Theatre,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, on Friday, July 27.

Richard Tomkins ..... MR. ROBERT MAULE
Inspector Sharpeye ..... MR. TOM SHELFORD
Titus Jenkins ..... MR. REGINALD EYRE
Reginald Panse ..... MR. ROLAND BOTTOMLEY
Mrs. Jenkins ..... MISS MARY STUART
Matilda ..... MISS BLANCHE WILMOT
Cissie ..... MISS MARJORIE CHRISTMAS
Mary Ann Twiddles .... MISS EDITH BOTTOMLEY
Aphrodite ..... MISS CECILY STUCKEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Bottomley has introduced some very diverting incidents in his new comedy, and while reminiscent of *Niobe*, is worked out on the theosophical view of re-incarnation, with original results. Dick and Reggie are betrothed respectively to Matilda and Cissie Jenkins. Reggie calls at Dick's house late one night, and finding him out dismisses Mary Ann, the servant, to bed, stating that he will wait for Dick's return. Hearing a noise he seizes a supposed burglar entering by the window, and finds it is Dick, who relates that he had been to the Crystal Palace and placed a ring of Matilda's on the finger of the statue of Aphrodite, and was terrified by the suspicion the statue had thereupon moved and was following him home. Reggie, supposing Dick to have had too much to drink, leaves him, to return in the morning. A heavy tread is heard on the stairs, and a voice demanding admission on pain of wrecking the house precedes the entry of the statue, who upbraids Dick for his perfidy of 5,000 years ago, and demands restitution of conjugal rights. On his expostulating Aphrodite has resort to an electric shock, and he admits that she is his wife. The inspector then makes his appearance, questions Dick, and is ultimately "squared" to keep silence after having been introduced to Dick's "wife." Aphrodite's presence leads to many amusing difficulties with Mary Ann, Matilda, and Mrs. Jenkins. When Titus Jenkins appears on the scene he is also claimed as a husband of the past, and the fun gets fast and furious as each of the three endeavour to shake off Aphrodite's attentions, and ultimately they agree to appeal to Jupiter to solve the difficulty, and each taking Aphrodite's hands she raises her voice in solemn invocation when, to the accompaniment of a thunder crash, she utters a wailing cry and Reginald discovers the ring has come off her finger in his handclasp. Explanations follow, and peace is at once restored, and the inspector reappears to report that the statue had been recovered.

Miss Cecily Stuckey was in turn pathetic, tragic, and comic in her endeavours to win the affection she sought from Dick, and she cut an odd figure when arrayed in Mary Ann's finery of hat and blouse over her own classic costume in the hope of pleasing his eye. Mr. Robert Maule very ably sustained the rôle enforced upon him by his act of imprudence; Mr. Tom Shelford provided much amusement by his embodiment of the venal inspector, and Mr. Roland Bottomley and Mr. Reginald Eyre gave good support. Miss Edith Bottomley put in some excellent work as Tomkins's servant, and her indignation aroused by Aphrodite's actions was hugely entertaining. Miss Blanche Wilmot and Miss Marjorie Christmas were both graceful as the sisters Jenkins. Miss Mary Stuart made a terror-inspiring prospective mother-in-law as Mrs. Jenkins. The piece was received by the favoured few assembled to witness the production at a dress rehearsal with enthusiastic approval.

MISS LEGARDE'S AUTOGRAPH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of July 28, a reproduction of two letters of mine, under my initials H—— H. H——, having reference to an application to Miss Millie Legarde to autograph six photographs which I submitted.

The application in question was made considerably over a year ago, and at the time, I really did not consider that Miss Millie Legarde's autograph was worth to me the 2s. 6d. asked for it, and, whilst admitting the justice of your comments on my letters, for fear that they should convey a wrong impression to your readers, perhaps you will very kindly allow me a little space in your valuable journal in which to reply?

One would gather that it is my custom to refuse to subscribe to any theatrical charity in return for autographs, but that such is not the case I can very readily prove by the production of receipts from the Actors' Benevolent Fund for various sums donated towards that excellent and deserving institution in return for certain popular players' autographs. When I mention that my collection comprises very nearly three thousand signed pictures of the majority of the greatest operatic, concert, musical, theatrical, and music hall artists who have appeared before the public in England during the past ten years, you will, I am sure, admit that in the course of acquiring this almost unique collection I must have necessarily paid away to various theatrical charities not great sums individually, perhaps, but amounts which in the aggregate total up to a large sum, in return for some of the signatures in the collection. I would like it to be understood that I am, perhaps, "not *quite* so black as I'm painted" in the paragraph in your issue of the 28th ult., nor am I, I submit, to be classed in the category of an ordinary "autograph hunter."

May I trespass further upon your valuable space to state, in justice to the theatrical profession at large, that I have (with one or two exceptions) always received the utmost courtesy at their hands in reply to my applications for their autographs—the most amiable amongst this notoriously generous profession being, perhaps, the late Sir Henry Irving, who, the day before his lamented death, was kind enough to append his autograph to six pictures I sent him at the time, which pictures, I need hardly say, I treasure far above any others in the collection. Indeed, I have always been, and always shall be, most grateful to those who are kind enough to accede to my requests for their autographs. It is, most certainly, with regret that I notice Miss Legarde should have so far taken exception to my letters as to allow them to be published.

Allow me to add, in conclusion, that both myself and other members of my family are enthusiastic playgoers, and must, in the course of a year contribute no little towards the revenue of the theatres, one way and another, outside of the money involved in my applications for autographs.—Yours faithfully,

HERBERT HUGH HARVEY.

41, High-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.,
August 1, 1906.

MR. LEOLYN HART, the eminent scenic artist, has just completed an admirable act-drop for Lord George Sanger, which will be on view at the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, next week. The design is of terra-cotta and white satin, looped and lined with amber, the centre being enriched with a pretty "Watteau" subject. In expressing his approval of the work, Lord George Sanger states that this latest drop is still another proof of the great abilities of the artist. Mr. Hart probably holds the record for painting act-drops, as at the present time over thirty are in use at various theatres throughout the country. The three handsome sets which Mr. Walter Maxwell is using for his tour of *The Lion and the Mouse* have been provided by Messrs. Leolyn Hart, Ltd.

"THREE BLIND MICE."

A Light Comedy, in Three Acts,
by Arthur Law.
Produced for the first time at the
Theatre Royal, Margate,
on Monday, July 30.

Julian Shuckburgh ..... MR. FREDERICK KERR
Andrew Lavender ..... MR. COMPTON COUTTS
Rawson Guest ..... MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Peter Ricketts ..... MR. MAX LEEDS
Footman ..... MR. DUNCAN BRUCE
Lady Richard Marrable ..... MISS GRANVILLE
Lady Clarisforde ..... MISS MARY BARTON
Miss Tippings ..... MISS ANNIE HILL
Jessop ..... MISS DOROTHY EDWARDS
Mrs. Joliffe ..... MISS FLORENCE HARWOOD
Polly ..... MISS SHEBA BROZEL
Marjorie Lovel ..... MISS MAY PALFREY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The title of this latest light comedy, by the author of *The New Boy*, *A Country Mouse*, and other witty and bright productions, is a particularly appropriate one, the piece being written round three men who are in love with one girl, and who are so blind, so conceited, and so self-satisfied with their own individual attractions that they fail to see there is a fourth in the field, and one who, in the end, carries off the prize from under their very noses. The delightful Marjorie Lovel, "Little Miss Muffet" as she is called, when she first comes into the plot is accompanied by Peter Ricketts, who is working up for an Army examination, and who sees halcyon days before them when married. Poor Marjorie is in a quandary with such a surfeit of lovers. She cannot give Peter an answer, because Mr. Guest is also in the field; the two cannot toss up for her, because there is Mr. Lavender to reckon with. The idea of Marjorie being really in love causes a good deal of merriment to Julian Shuckburgh, her godfather, and Lady Marrable, when they are discussing the amusing, but at the same time somewhat embarrassing, situation, and Lady Marrable endeavours to wheedle back into the good graces of Julian, who, it appears, she slighted some time before, but her appeal for forgiveness does not have much effect, for the reason that he has a very tender spot in his heart for Marjorie. When Marjorie temporarily disposes of Ricketts, she is assailed by Guest, who pleads for an answer, and then Lavender, the widower with three children, puts his fortune to the test, and the humorous situation is intensified by the endeavours made by each to get rid of the other.

In the second act, presumably because Marjorie is tired of being pestered by so many suitors, or more possibly in a spirit of pure mischief, she tells Lavender that she will marry him if he wishes it, and he goes into ecstasies over his engagement, which Marjorie announces with solemn impressiveness to Lady Clarisforde, her invalid aunt, who showers congratulations upon her, and in this little scene the opening is given for some very broad comedy, which is fully taken advantage of. The third act relates to the following afternoon, and amusing situations follow in rapid succession. Julian thinks it time he showed his feelings and makes love in a manly way to Marjorie. Letters of refusal are sent to Ricketts and Guest, but complications arise when Lady Marrable, who is endeavouring to get Julian into her net, kisses him and is seen by Marjorie. All comes right in the end, matters being simplified when the terrible Miss Tippings, governess to Mr. Lavender's children, comes upon the scene, and puts Lavender out of the running, and Marjorie and Julian come to an understanding.

The piece was produced by Mr. Frederick Kerr, who will be taking it to London after some of the principal provincial towns have been visited. Mr. Kerr plays the part of Julian Shuckburgh with good taste and judgment. He is the quiet, unassuming, yet determined, lover, past the age of early youth, but free from the vanity and self-conceit of the irrepressible Lavender. Marjorie was charmingly played by Miss May Palfrey. Her acting was natural and easy, and there was a fund of humour rippling throughout her performance. Both the leading artists received very cordial appreciation for their efforts. As Lady Richard Marrable, the scheming society woman, Miss Granville was everything that could be desired, whilst Miss Mary Barton was seen to advantage as the listless Lady Clarisforde. A good character study was presented by Mr. Compton Coutts as Andrew Lavender; Mr. Frederick Lloyd did well as Rawson Guest; and Mr. Max Leeds as Peter Ricketts was very well placed. The terrible Miss Tippings found a capable impersonation at the hands of Miss Annie Hill, and the other characters were all excellently cast.

ACTORS' DAY.

In addition to those whose names have already been published, the following have promised their support on Actors' Day:—

Allandale, Fred; Arden, Alice; Armor, Ellen; Arundale, Sybil; Austin, George; Barraclough, Sydney; Barrett, George; Beaufort, Leslie; Beaumont, Evelyn; Benson, Sydney; Booth, Horace; Bourchier, Sybil; Bradshaw, Archie; Bristow, Alfred; Carlisle, Sybil; Carson, J. Harold; Carter, G. Harrison; Chandler, W. Aubrey; Chandler, Charlotte A.; Chester, Sybil; Collier, Isabel M. Field; Collingham, Alf; Collingham, Dorothy; Cornwall, Harry; Dainton, Marie; Dennis, Will; Dillson, Telly; Edwards, Ernest C.; Ellis, Carrie; Englefield, Violet; Forsyth, Bertram; Fawcett, Marion; Gastelle, Stella; Glynn, Olivia; Grace, Armine; Grove, Emily; Hall, Augustus A.; Harper, Ethel; Hastings, Henry; Herne, Henry; Hilliard, Stafford; Hoffman, Maud; Imbert, Douglas; Keand, Arthur; Knight, Geo. D.; Lando, Barnett; Langford, Walter; Leighton, Frances; Lewis, Henry B.; Lincoln, Percy; McArdle, John F.; Macowan, Norman; Malcolm, Jeanie; Mathey, L. Alsace; May, Akerman; Mills, Horace; Mills, Lily; Moberley, Tom; Munro, A. W.; Nicholls, Gus; Neville, Dorothy; Neville, Noel; Palgrave, Louis; Parson, Jack; Power, Bella; Robberds, M.; Robson, Evelyn; Sampson, Eva; Sennett, Ella; Shine, Wilfrid E.; Stanhope, Butler; Sterne, Violet; Stevenson, W. S.; Stewart, Blanka; Stewart, Gwenn; Tremayne, Roma; Vaughan, Edward; Wenmoth, Bessie; Western, Maud; Western, Beatrice; Whittaker, Vivienne; Wynter, Maud.

As it is, unfortunately, impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal and forms for signature will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THE Chancery Lane Safe Deposit Company have made special arrangements to meet the convenience of their clientèle for the safe custody of plate, jewellery, and other valuable property during the summer holidays and long vacation.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Thanks for your correspondent's kind remarks *re* my performance last week at the Shakespeare Theatre in *The Shadows of a Great City*. At the same time I should like to draw your attention to the mis-spelling of my name, which should have read, yours faithfully,
DAISY MURCH, 3, Coram-street, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, August 2.—I am sorry to have to chronicle the death of M. Alexandre Luigini, for many years musical conductor at the Opéra Comique. Luigini, an excellent musician, belonged to a family of artists. He was born in Lyons, where his father, Joseph, became, after Hainl, the musical conductor at the Grand Théâtre. His uncle, too, after whom he was named, was a well-known musician. Luigini, a pupil of the Paris Consevatoire, secured the first prize at the violin competition, after which his father gave him the place of soloist in opera orchestra in Lyons. After his father's death he replaced him at the conductor's desk, and wrote several ballets and symphonic pieces that were produced with much success all over France. In 1894 M. Carvalho brought him to the Opéra Comique, and M. Albert Carré, when he took over the managership, renewed his engagement, M. André Messager then being first conductor. When the latter gentleman left the Opéra Comique, M. Luigini was nominated in his stead. The last work brought out there under M. Luigini's direction was *Aphrodite*, which he also directed a few weeks before his death. M. Luigini's death is a great loss to the profession, where he had innumerable friends.

In all countries strikes are considered legal, and any agreement obtained through a strike has always been supposed binding. The manager of the Cirque Métropole here, however, takes a different view. A little while ago his orchestra, composed of twenty-eight musicians, insisted on their engagement holding good for the winter season as well. The manager refused to accept this condition, but when the twenty-eight gentlemen threatened to strike in a body he acceded to their request. A week later the manager abruptly dismissed them, and the musicians are now claiming £1,200 damages for breach of contract. The case came on in our third civil court, and the manager's defence is that he made this contract with the knife to his throat, under a threat of an immediate strike, and that, therefore, it is not binding. The case was adjourned for a week. One of the musicians I saw on the matter said that if the tribunal decided against them the words "honesty" and "good faith" might as well be erased from the dictionary as being non-existent. The manager, on the other hand, contends that he is not legally bound by a contract secured by illegal means. The case is exciting intense interest.

M. Louis Hervé, the son of M. Gardel Hervé, has in a moment of insanity committed suicide under rather dramatic conditions. To English playgoers of the past generation the name of Hervé will be very familiar. The unfortunate young man who put an end to his life was the grandson of the famous composer of *L'Œil Crevé*, *Chilpéric*, and *Le Petit Faust*, which had a long run in England when given by the French company with the beautiful Blanche D'Antigny, and afterwards by an excellent English company. Young Hervé, like his father and grandfather, was an excellent musician and a talented actor. Much sympathy is felt here for M. Gardel Hervé at his son's tragic death.

Strangers often marvel that of all cities in the world Paris should be the only one that does not possess a concert hall. We certainly have the Trocadero, but it is an abyss for sound, and absolutely useless for musical performances. And, were it not for the Salle Erard, the Salle Pleyel, and *tutti quanti*, all of them private undertakings, artists would have a poor show to produce themselves in public. This anomalous state of things will now come to an end, for the Paris Municipality have granted M. Astruc, the well-known impresario, a fifty years' lease to build, on the spot where the old Cirque des Champs-Élysées used to stand, a concert hall that will bear the name Le Palais Philharmonique. The "Palais" will contain a huge hall to hold 2,200 persons, and also two smaller ones, one with 1,200 and the other with 700 seats. In the first theatrical performances can be given, whilst the other two will exclusively be reserved for music. M. Astruc and his committee, however, do not intend to exploit the new hall by giving concerts there. They will only let it; and M. Camille Chevillard, the conductor of the Lamoureux concerts, will be the first to take possession of the place. The new building will be ready in January, 1907.

The Nouveautés and the Athénée have tried to defy the heat, and kept their houses open; but 77deg. in the shade proved too much for them, and they also have closed their doors. The Ambigu, however, seems to be heat-proof. Despite the tropical temperature, country people flock there every night to cry their eyes out over *Roule-Ta-Bosse*. Their tears apparently keep the place cool.

With the exception of Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who never wanted to re-enter the Comédie Française, nearly all the ladies who left the House of Molière—generally in a fit of temper—are anxious to be admitted again. This time it is Mlle. Marthe Brandès who knocks at the door and wants to come in. M. Claretie, of a forgiving nature, is not averse to showing mercy to the young truant. But there are the other members of the company, who also have a say in the matter, and several of them are very hard on those who treat the "House" with disrespect. At the request of the Minister of Public Instruction the tribunal met in solemn conclave. There were MM. Mounet-Sully, Coquelin cadet, Silvain, Le Bargy, De Féraudy, Berr, Raphael Dufles, Leitner, Delaunay, Jacques Fenoux, and Mmes. Dudlay, Lara, Du Minil, Segond-Weber, and Kolb—fifteen in all. Ten of them voted against Mlle. Brandès's readmission, whilst five were willing to open the door to her under certain conditions. The result was rather disappointing. But our Minister of Public Instruction—who also attends to the Fine Arts department—is an obstinate man. He made up his mind that Mme. Sarah Bernhardt is to receive the Legion of Honour; and receive it she will, despite all opposition. As to Mlle. Brandès, it is only a question of time, and before a twelvemonth we will again see her name on the bills of the Comédie Française.

July, as a rule, is the month when many theatrical engagements are made, because after the Conservatoire competition everybody is anxious to secure those who showed most talent. Thus M. Rollan, the eighteen-year-old prize-winner, was at once snapped up by M. Antoine. M. Albert Carré, of the Opéra Comique, engaged M. Francell, Mlle. Lamare, and Mlle. Martyl, who, as I informed you last week, won first prizes. M. Gémier, the new manager of the Théâtre Antoine, also added two new members to his company—Mlle. Pouzzols-Saint-Phar, and Mlle. Flore Bergeys, both of whom, however, have already appeared in public.

A few years ago a London periodical brought an interesting notice on "Superstition on the Stage." The writer in his article never alluded to the Comédie Française, probably in the belief that this house is above such failing. They are as superstitious there as everywhere else, except that they do not make a boast of it. A few days ago M. Paul Adam's play *Les Victimes* was read to the artists who will appear in it. It was M. Raphael Dufles who read out the manuscript, and the traditional glass of water was placed in front of him. But the tumbler was the identical one out of which Alexandre Dumas fils used to drink, and which is kept in the "House" like a relic. This tumbler is supposed to bring luck, although others will have it that it works in the opposite direction. This is rather a pity, for no matter whether the piece proves a success or a failure somebody will be sure to say: "I told you so!"

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Musical Copyright Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons late on Tuesday night, when Mr. Gladstone intimated that the amendments which had been proposed had been considered, and the result was that the Government had decided to make concessions, among which would be that no action would be taken without the authorisation of the holder of the right, and that, in the case of a hawker, if it was doubtful whether he knew that he was selling pirated music, he would be convicted, but without penalty. The Bill was then taken to the House of Lords and read a first time, and on Wednesday it received its second reading, which was formally moved by Earl Beauchamp. The Bill was considered in committee early yesterday morning, when Earl Beauchamp moved a series of amendments en bloc, which, he said, if agreed to, would remove all opposition to the Bill in the other House. The amendments were agreed to, and the Bill was read a third time.

The refusal of the local magistrates to renew the licence of the Oxford Empire has created universal indignation, both in Oxford and in the profession generally. Mr. Albany Ward, who has held a licence for the Oxford Empire for six years, is making an *ex parte* application to the High Court for a rule for a mandamus. This, or a rule to show cause under 11 and 12 Vict., C. 44, s. 2., appears to be the only course in the nature of an appeal against the decision of local justices to refuse to renew a licence. Mr. Ward has our best wishes in his spirited struggle to obtain justice.

"His House in Order" attained its 200th performance at the St. James's on Wednesday, when an access of enthusiasm on the part of a crowded audience marked the event. All the original artists have now returned to the cast. Mr. George Alexander, who received an especially hearty welcome, won admiration again by the superb finish of his acting as Hilary Jesson, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh fascinated all with the charm and earnestness of her rendering of the heroine. Mr. Herbert Waring once more delighted with the dramatic excellences of his performance, and the other principal parts were again perfectly presented at the hands of Miss Iris Hawkins, Miss Beryl Faber, Mr. E. Lyall Swete, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Miss Bella Pateman, and Mdlle. Marcelle Chevalier.

The Princess Christian, president of the Rehearsal Club, very kindly invited a number of the members to Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, on the 23rd ult. Her Royal Highness personally received her guests, who were shown round the house and grounds, tea being afterwards served in the garden. Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander were present, and the former thanked her Royal Highness on behalf of the members of the Rehearsal Club for her gracious hospitality. The party returned to London in time to fulfil their various engagements, after spending a delightful afternoon in Windsor Park.

"Toddles" is the title of the English version of MM. Tristan Bernard and Godfernaux' comedy *Tripplepatte*, in which Mr. Cyril Maude will begin his season under Mr. Charles Frohman at the Duke of York's on Saturday, Sept. 1. The cast will also include Miss Nancy Price, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Miss Alice Crawford, and Mr. Kenneth Douglas. Progress has already been made with rehearsals of the new piece, which will be preceded by a wordless play, entitled *The Scapegrace*, arranged by Mr. Albert Chevalier, with music by Mr. Edward Jones, with Miss Pauline Chase in the title-rôle.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool has received an intimation from Mr. Charles Manners, of the Moody-Manners Opera Company, that the proposed performance of Wagner's "Ring" in ten provincial towns has been postponed for a year. In April last, when visiting Liverpool, Mr. Manners succeeded in getting the Lord Mayor to preside over a meeting of citizens, when the project was warmly approved and preparations made to raise the necessary £2,000, a similar sum to be contributed by nine other places. Difficulties, however, arose in some parts of the provinces, and Mr. Henry E. Rensburg, chairman of the Liverpool Committee, expressed regret "that a project for which they found the elements of success at hand in Liverpool" must be abandoned.

Mr. Edward Terry commences his annual provincial tour on Monday at the Prince's Theatre, Llandudno. His répertoire includes *Liberty Hall*, *The Magistrate*, *Sweet Lavender*, and many of his well-tried successes, which will be supplemented by a new play by Julian Rochefort, entitled *The Good Old Firm*. The company supporting Mr. Terry comprises Miss F. Glossop-Harris, Miss Fyfe Alexander, Miss Gertrude Tate, Miss Agnes Knights, Miss Eugenie Vernie, Miss Clara Earle, Miss Ella Dixon, and Messrs. Allan Pollock, Frank Cellier, jun., George Howard, E. W. Thomas, William Dexter, and C. E. Wallis. Mr. Montague Wigan is stage-manager, and the business management is in the hands of Mr. Arthur Græme.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier concluded his season at the Garrick Theatre last evening, the closure being applied in order that Mr. Bourchier and his company might take a brief holiday before starting on their provincial tour. In the eminent actor's own case the holiday will be brief indeed, as he is putting into immediate rehearsal a play to occupy the Garrick Theatre while he and Miss Violet Vanbrugh are on tour. The new piece is entitled *The Morals of Marcus*, and is a dramatic version by Mr. W. J. Lockie of his novel "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne. *Down our Alley* will be played by Mr. Bourchier on tour in a compressed form, so as to allow of its being given in the same programme with one of the larger plays of his répertoire.

Mr. Martin Harvey has now completed all arrangements for his autumn tour, which, as we have already announced, commences at the Opera House, Buxton, on the 20th inst. The company includes Messrs. Charles Glenney, Frederick Wright, sen., Albert Rayner, Charles Cameron, L. Craske, Cooke, Vincent Sternroyd, and Leslie Palmer, and Misses Amy Coleridge, Bessie Elder, and Mary Rorke. Miss N. de Silva, who will render Mr. Harvey chief support, will not appear in *The Corsican Brothers*, but on the evenings when that play is presented will sustain a novel rôle in an exceedingly interesting one-act play. An elaborate setting is being prepared for the revival.

A quaint poster advertises the new comic opera, *Amasis, or an Egyptian Princess*, by Frederick Fenn and P. M. Faraday, which is to be produced by Mr. Louis Calvert at the New Theatre on Thursday. It consists of a colourable imitation of Cleopatra's Needle, at the base of which the "sacred cat" sits gleefully trilling, while from an aperture above a swarthy native complacently drops a brick on the feline head.

The principals of the cast will comprise Miss Ruth Vincent, and Messrs. Rutland Barrington, Roland Cunningham, Whitworth Mitton, Norman Salmond, Herbert Ross, Lauri de Frece, Frank Perfitt, G. Mackarness, Leonard Calvert, and F. Aubrey Millward, and Misses Madge Vincent, Emmie Santer, and M. Stather. On the first night every member of the audience will be presented with a tastefully bound copy of the book of words.

The end has at length come to the suffering of J. L. Toole, and the estimable comedian has passed away after a protracted illness nobly borne. Unlike his life-long friend, who breathed his last within an hour of leaving the stage, Mr. Toole lingered on a bed of sickness, his strength slowly ebbing away, until his existence terminated peacefully. The deceased comedian never took a definite farwell of the stage, and regret will be acutely felt by all who remember his contributions to the gaiety of the nation and by those who were familiar with his genial and hearty personality.

The alarming nature of Mr. Toole's last illness manifested itself some two months ago, when the serious symptom of cerebral congestion appeared. His strength gradually weakened, and though slight improvements in his health were occasionally noted, the course of the malady could not be arrested, and after a period of the utmost anxiety the final sad moment came at ten minutes before midnight on Monday.

Numerous inquiries by telegraph and post showed the interest with which Mr. Toole's closing days were followed, and the bulletins exhibited every morning and evening at the door of the patient's residence were eagerly scanned by a constant stream of sympathisers. Among those who showed most anxiety to hear the latest news of the patient were the cabmen, hand-chairmen, and flower girls—a significant indication of the estimation in which the deceased comedian was held by all classes of the community.

The later years of the eminent comedian's life were clouded by poignant bereavements. In 1879 he lost his only son Frank, an amiable and promising young fellow, only twenty-three years of age, who died from the effects of a surgical operation. In 1888 his only daughter, Florence, died of a fever caught while staying at Edinburgh, and a few months afterwards her mother followed. Toole was thus left childless and a widower to face long years of illness. He was noted for his benevolence, and many a kindly action will be long cherished by the numberless recipients of his bounty.

Mr. Toole's last presence on a public platform was made at the Brighton Pavilion a few years ago, when Sir Henry Irving unveiled the memorial bust of Miss Amy Sedgwick, now in the Corporation Art Gallery. The news of Irving's death must have drawn nearer the last hours of his old friend. Touching proof of the affection he bore towards his comrade was given by the fact that he just managed to summon up strength to attend the funeral service in Westminster Abbey. That was Toole's last public appearance in London.

Toole's admiration for the art of Irving is best expressed in his own words. "What I admire about Irving," he said to his biographer, "is the calm, steady way in which he has marched to the front, and the gentle, gracious, unostentatious way in which he has kept there. He was always a very studious and careful actor, always made remarkable and complete studies of his characters. There was nothing conventional about what he did. He seemed, so to speak, always to have got inside the part he played, and to have learned something new about it; not new in the sense of being simply new, but something belonging to the part that other actors had not found out."

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, immediately on learning of the decease of Mr. Toole, sent from Marienbad the following appreciation:—"He whose death is recorded to-day died ten years ago. He was a rare man, a brilliant brain, and a golden heart. As a friend, he is more missed by the large circle of which he formed a link than any man of our time, for around him his gentle and glowing nature shed an atmosphere of good-fellowship which reduced the differences and jealousies of his associates to their proper proportions. There were many to whom his appeal as actor was not great; there were countless thousands who loved him on the stage, as his intimates loved him off. He was in a true sense nature's gentleman. His manner was unconsciously the same to a cabman as to a duke; his courtesy was not regulated; his interests, his manners, were governed by a rare tact—the tact of a good heart. His sense of humour was prodigious; his common sense and tolerance were no less. For ten years he has left a gap in Bohemia; but those who were privileged to meet him will ever cherish the memory of that gentle spirit and that infectious humour, which endeared him to all, leaving him not an enemy in the world."

Mr. Lionel Brough, one of Mr. Toole's oldest and dearest friends, was with him on the day he died. The two veteran comedians had often played together in bygone days, notably in *Dearer than Life*, at the Queen's Theatre, the cast of which included Henry Irving and Charles Wyndham.

During the run of the piece Toole and Lionel Brough had been photographed as the broken-down brothers in the garret scene, and Toole suggested a walk through the West-End in their disreputable make-up. They knocked at the door of a wealthy parvenu who was notoriously ashamed of his less prosperous relatives. The door was opened by a magnificent flunkey. "Master in?" said Toole. "No, he isn't," said the footman, contemptuously looking at the seedy callers. "Not in," said Toole, with an air of disappointment. "Well, young man, when he comes in, tell him that his two brothers from the workhouse called."

"Lal" Brough was also his associate in a comic episode of a later period. The two players were going down Fleet-street early in the evening, just after the opening of the new premises of the *Daily Telegraph*, and Toole, seeing the flood of light from the great arc lamps, nudged Brough to follow, and went in. He went over to the advertisement counter, and, lolling on one elbow, said in an offhand way to the clerk who attended, "Bring me two brandy-and-sodas!" Then he went on talking to his friend. The clerk tried to explain, but he would not attend to his words; he and Brough were conversing with too much animation to attend to anyone. The situation was only relieved when the young clerk brought one of the managers of the department, who at once recognised the two actors, and understood the joke.

Lord Rosebery was among the deceased comedian's warmest admirers. The famous politician, when his brilliant Parliamentary career was yet before him, presided at a banquet given to Mr. Toole prior to his departure for America in 1874. Lord Rosebery paid a glowing tribute to the guest's excellent qualities and his talents as an actor, describing his humour with perfect truth as "humour that is always genial, always pure, and a household delight."

Mr. Thomas Thorne, who will commence his autumn tour under the direction of M. Russell Rosse, at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on August 20, was one of the last of the old friends who had converse with "Johnny" Toole. Whilst at Brighton a week or two ago playing in *Our Boys*, Mr Thorne, by express permission of the doctor, was allowed to have an interview, or rather a farewell greeting with his old friend and associate, who was quite conscious of his visitor. His words, and perhaps the last recorded were: "Well Tom, old boy, we have had some good times together, haven't we?"

Miss Edna May, who is looking forward to her part in the new musical play, in which she is to "star" under Mr. Frohman's management at the Vaudeville next season, is taking a month's holiday, and during her absence her part in *The Belle of Mayfair* is being played by Miss Ethel Newman. While Miss May was motoring through Harlow to Cromer with a party of friends on Sunday, the car broke down. The popular actress, however, ordered a special train, and at a cost of £32 reached her destination.

The School of Music and Dramatic Art, 77, New Oxford-street, of which Mr. Cairns James and Mr. Ernest D'Auban are the principals, has just completed its summer term, and is now closed for the long vacation. Between seventy and eighty students have been under instruction during the last three months. Classes have been held in which plays from Shakespeare, modern comedy and farce, and excerpts from light operas have been rehearsed. The curriculum also comprises instruction in elocution, stage dancing, gesture, and deportment, fencing, singing, and choral class. In the course of two years' work over sixty students have succeeded in obtaining engagements on the regular stage, both in London and on tour. The next George Edwardes' Open Scholarship will be competed for on September 20, the school reopening on September 24. Full particulars are obtainable of the secretary.

The "Intestate Amusement Company" is the name of a new and important theatrical combine, in the composition of which many names notable in American as well as English management are included. The object of the company is to acquire an unlimited number of plays and operas in England and the principal Continental cities, with a view of reproducing them in America. The amount of capital subscribed reaches three-quarters of a million pounds, and among the promoters of the enterprise are Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. Harris (of Rich and Harris), Mr. Daniel Frohman, Mr. Al. Hayman, Mr. Henry W. Savage, Mr. Samuel F. Nixon (of Nixon and Zimmerman), under whose direction Mr. H. B. Irving is about to tour, Mr. W. A. Brady, Mr. Charles E. Ford, Mr. W. H. Rapley, and Mr. Harry J. Powers. The company's representative in this country is to be Mr. G. B. McLellan, who has been actively associated with the Messrs. Shubert in the management of the Waldorf Theatre.

Miss Maudie Mandrell, a popular member of Mr. George Edwardes's companies, was married at St. Bride's Church, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, to Mr. Wellwood Anderson, jun., of Dumfries, N.B., a nephew of the late Sir James Anderson. The bride was given away by her father, and Mr. C. Stewart Phyn, of Dumfries, acted as best man. The vicar, the Rev. W. C. Heaton, officiated. Bridal and wedding music from *Lohengrin* and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" were played on the organ by Dr. E. H. Turpin. At the subsequent reception and breakfast, held at Anderton's Hotel, amongst the many members of the theatrical profession present were Mr. Norman McKinnel and Miss Lottie Llewellyn. The happy couple left later for Cornwall to spend their honeymoon. The presents were handsome and numerous.

The Waldorf Theatre, it is agreeable to learn, will soon be again on the active list, and will be reopened by the Messrs. Shubert in about a month's time. The attraction then to be presented will be a three-act farcical comedy by Frank Wyatt and William Morris, entitled *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*.

"The Good-Natured Man" will be given in the New Theatre, Cambridge, before the students of the Summer Meeting on Friday evening and the afternoon of the following day, and not, as was previously announced, on the afternoon of the 10th and the evening of the 11th. The cast will include Messrs. Lewis Casson, Edwin Coates, Ben Field, R. O'Malley, W. M. Mayne, Henry Doughty, Shakespeare Stewart, and E. H. Wynne, and Misses Muriel Currey, Clare Greet, A. B. Potter, and Helen Vicary. The performance is under the direction of Mr. Wm. Poel.

Miss Olga Nethersole will tour the English provinces during the autumn with her stage version of *Carmen*. The popular actress saw tremendous emotional possibilities in the title-rôle, and her performances of the part in the United States created something of a sensation.

Mr. Henry Ludlow, who has lately concluded a long engagement with Mr. W. W. Kelly, playing the Marquis de Beaumont in *A Royal Divorce*, has been re-engaged by M. Aug. Van Biene for his old part General Ivanoff in *The Broken Melody*. Mr. Ludlow has just completed a society comedy, entitled *Lady Bathurst at Home*, which will be produced shortly.

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's *Freedom of Suzanne* autumn tour opens at Southend-on-Sea on Monday. Miss Mabel Love will appear in the title-rôle, and the part of Trevor will be played by Mr. Percy Hutchison himself for the first few weeks of the tour. The company is in all respects an exceptionally strong one. Mr. Sandon Perkins is the business-manager.

Mr. Walter Maxwell has secured from Mr. Charles Frohman the entire provincial rights of *The Lion and the Mouse*, and begins his autumn tour at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, on Monday. Mr. Maxwell has slightly altered the play, having transferred the scenes hitherto laid in America to England, and turned John Burkett Ryder into an unscrupulous financier of the type which has occasionally figured in our criminal records. Miss Christine Silver is the Shirley Rossmore—the Mouse—Mr. Leslie Carter, John Ryder—the Lion—and Mr. Stephen Wentworth, the millionaire's son, Jefferson Ryder. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Maude Townsend, Miss Dorrie Roberts, Miss Ethel Gordon, Miss Marjorie Murray, and Messrs. J. W. Mackie, Richard Norton, Arthur B. Murray, John Wheatman, George Lyttleton and Herbert Chown are also engaged, and Mr. William Postance will produce the play for Mr. Maxwell. Several suburban houses have been booked, the first to be visited being the King's, Hammersmith, for the week commencing August 27.

"The Bielostock Massacre," the tragedy by John Jackson, was again repeated at the Pavilion on Monday evening by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company to a crowded audience. During the week *The Destruction of Jerusalem*, *The House of David*, and *Ahasuerus* have also been played. During next week the American Yiddish actor, Mr. Jacob Adler, will appear in a new play.

After two and a half years of almost continuous touring with the celebrated Princess's drama *The Still Alarm*, Messrs. Glenville and Osmond concluded their third tour at Folkestone on July 21. This remarkable third tour has been, if possible, even more successful than any of the preceding ones, the play never having once failed during the whole fifty weeks' tour in drawing record houses in the towns visited, a fact attributable to the excellent quality of the production. At the present moment Messrs. Glenville and Osmond are taking a brief, well-earned rest—Mr. Glenville in his native Ireland, and Mr. Osmond and his charming wife (Miss Hettie Zillwood) in the quiet little town of Deal. On August Bank Holiday they will reassemble their company at the New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, and there commence their fourth tour. This is arranged to extend well over Whitsuntide, 1907, the autumn season of that year being already nearly fully booked.

A season of German opera is to be given at Covent Garden in January, and will extend over a period of four weeks, at prices ranging from a 10s. 6d. stall downwards. The works mounted will include Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Weber's *Freyschutz*, and Smetana's *Bartered Bride*, and will be rendered by artists of the highest class, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Van Dyck.

Mr. Philip Leslie, after nearly eighteen months with the Brough-Flemming Comedy Company, in Australia, has been engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson for the leading light comedy part in *The Squawman*, which is to be produced at His Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne. Since the first performance of *Dr. Wake's Patient*, Mr. Leslie has been scoring fast in the part of Duff Wynterden, the Australian Press and the "Matinee Girls" all being eulogistic over his performance.

Mr. and Mrs. Alec Romer (Miss Margaret Radcliffe) were among those who received invitations to Mr. Henry Neville's river party on Sunday. Recently they were the guests of Sir Edward and Lady Letchworth at a reception held at the latter's beautiful town house in Cornwall Gardens, when over 200 were present, Mrs. Alec Romer looking a picture in a pearl-grey confection.

A second company of *The Prince of Pilsen* starts touring next Monday at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and is headed by Miss Sophie Harriss, supported by Mr. Jack Crimp (from the Savoy Theatre) as the Prince, Mr. Harry Kilburn, and a chorus of thirty-six voices. The whole production, including scenery and properties, is new, the dresses having been made under the personal supervision of Miss Harriss by the leading English and Continental houses. Mr. Charles Thorburn has booked the tour, which extends into 1908, and Mr. Charles Wenman has rehearsed the play. Under the management of Mr. Richard Elliott, the venture starts thoroughly equipped for a long and successful run.

At the Prince of Wales's Theatre one day last week Miss Denise Orme was unfortunately unable to appear as See-See, and at very short notice Miss Jessie Rill took up the part, and did exceedingly well, rendering all the songs most successfully. This is only the second production in which Miss Rill has taken part, but she has a fine voice which should soon bring her to the front.

A new romantic play, entitled *A Beggar on Horseback*, by Edward Ferris and B. P. Mathews, will be produced on Monday at the County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames. Messrs. Frank Cooper, Cooper Cliffe, Ernest Leicester, and Edward Ferris, and Miss Maud Hoffman and Miss May Chevalier will be included in the powerful cast.

After being closed for about three months, the Brixton Theatre will reopen on Monday with Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company in *The Manxman*. The principal musical comedies and dramatic companies now touring will be presented by Mr. Ernest Stevens in the course of the season.

"The King's Mistress," a new romantic play in four acts, by Maud Williamson, the author of many successful plays, will introduce two new artists to English audiences. Miss Marie de Campi, said to be one of the most beautiful women on the dramatic stage, comes from America with an established reputation in such rôles as Sweet Nell, Cleopatra, Portia, and Camille. She recently concluded in Philadelphia her sixth consecutive starring tour of the United States and Canada. In *The King's Mistress* Miss de Campi will appear in one of her most successful creations.

Mr. Alfred Woods, the other newcomer, who was starring as Pete Quilliam in Hall Caine's *Manxman* at the Grand Opera House, San Francisco (the first theatre destroyed by the earthquake) just before the calamity occurred, hails from Australia, where he has long held the reputation of being among the finest romantic actors that country has produced. Some of his chief successes have been Wilfred Denver, John Storm, Julian Gray, and Denis Mallory in *The Garden of Lies*, a version of which was produced at the St. James's by Mr. Alexander. More recently he created the Dean in Mrs. Humphry Ward's *Marriage of William Ashe* at the Garrick Theatre, New York. On the tour of *The King's Mistress*, which commences in September, probably at Southampton, Miss De Campi will be supported by a company which includes many well-known London artists.

Messrs. G. M. Polini and Lauderdale Maitland commence their third tour of *The Coal King* on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Stratford. The drama has met with considerable success in all the principal provincial towns. A notable incident in connection with this extraordinary drama is the way the authors have seemed to foresee events which have made history, for since its first production every sensational scene in the piece has had its replica in real life, even to within a few weeks of the present day.

Messrs Polini and Melford will start their autumn tour of Henry Arthur Jones's celebrated play *The Silver King* at the Broadway Theatre, Deptford, and the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, respectively on Monday. Mr. Austin Melford, who is engaged for the autumn production at Drury Lane, has obtained Mr. Arthur Collins's permission to play the title-rôle both at Deptford and at the Borough Theatre, Stratford. The utmost care has been devoted by Mr. Melford to the selection of the two companies, which consist of well-known artists of the best talent. It is now nearly twenty-four years since the first production of *The Silver King*, and it has since been continually before the public—truly a record in the way of drama.

The King's Theatre, Sunderland, was registered on July 17, with a capital of £28,000. The object is to acquire a theatre and other premises at Sunderland, and to adopt an agreement with the Gordon Trust and Investment Company, Limited. There is no initial public issue. The first directors are E. Stevens, R. C. Buchanan, J. Walther, F. Karno, S. F. Davidson, and R. C. Nelson.

Mr. Leonard Williams will on Monday next enact the leading part of Royal Keene in Messrs. Dallas and Carson's new American drama, *The Great Wilderness*, at the Grand Theatre, Fulham.

Mr. John F. Sheridan, the well-known comedian, has been absent seven years from England. He is now in Australia, and will produce *The Earl and the Girl* on Sept. 22nd at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, to be followed by George Rollit's sporting farcical comedy, *The Money Makers*. Weathersby's Agency received a cable dated July 20th, from Brisbane, Queensland, announcing the instantaneous success of *The Money Makers* in the Antipodes. Both these plays, as also Charles Darrell's latest drama, *Her Luck in London*, have been negotiated by this agency.

Mr. Norman Macowan will start his autumn tour at the Theatre Royal, Preston, to-night, when Mr. Macowan will attain his 472nd performance of Monsieur Beaucaire. The popular actor does not hold the record in his own company, however, as his wife, Miss Violet Sterne, has played the part of Lady Mary Carlisle on over 500 occasions, and Mr. Coneybeare Gough, another member of the combination, has enacted Rakell nearly 600 times.

Master Tonge has been engaged by Mr. Tree for the part of Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's Theatre, the rôle in which Miss Ellen Terry made her first appearance on the stage.

Mr. Halliwell Hobbes has been engaged by Mr. Forbes Robertson to support him on his forthcoming English and American tour. When Mr. Robertson produces *The Merchant of Venice* and *Hamlet* in Manchester he will make the ninth Shylock and the eighth Hamlet with whom Mr. Hobbes has been associated. Mr. Hobbes also played Guiderius in *Cymbeline* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, last winter, on a hundred and one occasions. With such a notable record of Shakespearean work it is fitting that Mr. Hobbes should be a native of Stratford-on-Avon, at which historic town he is now spending a short holiday.

Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, who is taking a well-deserved holiday up the river, will shortly appear as Rosalind in *As You Like It*, under the direction of M. Russell Rosse. Miss Turner has all in her favour for the portrayal of Shakespeare's most lovable heroine, being undoubtedly fair and more than common tall.

At Bow-street Police-court on Friday, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, Mrs. Chambers was charged with obtaining money from the Actors' Benevolent Fund in the name of Muriel Brendon, upon the recommendation of Mr. Milton Bode, and was remanded to Wednesday.

Mr. Clarence Sounes has arranged excellent holiday attractions at the various houses under his control. At his Grand Theatre, Woolwich, Mr. Lewis Waller's company will open the autumn season with *Brigadier Gerard*, the Prince's Theatre, Poplar, will have a powerful attraction in *The Still Alarm*, and at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, *The New Barmaid* will constitute the programme Mr. Sounes' bookings at each of his theatres are varied and good, embracing the latest London successes, together with a number of tried favourites. He will produce two pantomimes this Christmas, one at Poplar, and the other at Woolwich, relying on musical comedy for the festive season at Aldershot.

Mr. J. Bannister-Howard has secured Miss Edith Housley for his suburban tour of *Florodora*. Miss Housley was understudy to Miss Ada Reeve at the Lyric Theatre, where she frequently played the part of Lady Holyrood during Miss Reeve's absence. She was afterwards retained by Mr. Tom B. Davis for his productions of the *Silver Slipper* and *The Medal and the Maid*.

Miss Winifred Emery, having no part in *Tripplepatte*, will embark on a provincial tour during the autumn with W. G. Wills' *Olivia*. The tour will start at Manchester on October 1, and will last for ten weeks. Miss Emery will be supported by Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Eille Norwood, Mr. Harvey Ashford, and Miss May Chevalier.

Mr. George Musgrove's *Prince of Pilsen* company started its third tour at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday, before an audience which crowded Mr. Beryl's handsome house from floor to ceiling, amply justifying the popular lessee's selection of this merriest of musical comedies for his Goodwood attraction. The enthusiasm which prevailed throughout the evening, culminated in a veritable storm of applause at the close, when the curtain had to be raised no less than eleven times, while bouquets and bon-bons were literally showered upon the fair members of the company.

Mr. J. Bannister-Howard has added to his extensive list of enterprises by taking over the Castle Theatre, Richmond, thus exploiting a theatrical field which has for some time lain fallow. There is at present no house devoted to the drama in the district, the new Richmond Theatre being now given over to variety. Mr. Howard, who has a fine selection of the best companies at his disposal, has already got together a strong list of bookings. The theatre will open on August 30 with *Sergeant Brue*, by arrangement with Mr. Frank Curzon, and will be open during the season on every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, on which day a matinée will be given. The house will be lighted throughout by electricity, and a special feature will be made of the ladies' lounge, where tea, coffee, ices, and light refreshments will be served. Among the forthcoming attractions will be *A Country Mouse*, with Miss Annie Hughes in the title-rôle, *The Earl and the Girl*, *The Silver King*, *Public Opinion*, *The Belle of New York*, *Bluebell in Fairyland*, *Oliver Twist* and *The Eternal City* (by arrangement with Mr. Tree), Hall Caine's play *The Christian*, *Florodora*, *Charley's Aunt*, and many other first-class companies.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has secured the rights of a romantic comedy on the subject of the Old Pretender, and intends to produce it on the first opportunity. The author is the Rev. Canon Langbridge, part author of *The Only Way*, *After All*, and *Count Hannibal*, the historical drama that has been so successful with Mr. Norman.

The body appointed to control the operations of the Commissioners of the Actors' Association held a special meeting on Monday last when the chair was occupied by Mr. S. Major-Jones. There were present Messrs. Cecil Barth and Leslie Carter, Messrs. Acton Bond and A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman) of the Council, and C. B. Rivington (representing the secretary). The proposed circular letter to be sent to commissioners was again under consideration, and suggestions were received from three members of the committee. Eventually a letter was compiled embodying the same. The new set of seven reasons for joining the Association was also under discussion, and a revised set was formed.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Kate Phillips, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, William Devereux, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, and Hubert Willis, and C. B. Rivington (for the secretary). The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters, and stated that they had advised members on points submitted. The secretary reported that Mr. Frank Melrose, one of the members of the Association, had presented the A.A. with a fine coloured engraving of Mrs. Siddons, which the Council were pleased to accept. The circular letter prepared by the Commissioners Committee and the seven reasons for joining the Association were approved of by the Council.

The question of the Irving memorial was again before the Council, and it was decided to write to the president, the vice-presidents, and the rest of the Council to arrange a meeting at an early date after the vacation to take further steps in this matter. It was agreed that a letter of condolence from the Council should be written to the relatives of the late Mr. J. L. Toole.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. Mesdames Mildred Surrey and Muriel Barrington were nominated as candidates for election to the Association. Two former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday. There were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, M. R. Morand, and Hubert Willis, and C. B. Rivington (for the secretary). The letter to be sent to the president and vice-presidents regarding the Irving memorial and referred by the Council for this committee to frame was agreed upon.

DEATH OF MR. J. L. TOOLE.

The frequent bulletins that have been issued during the past few weeks have prepared our readers for the sad news of the death of Mr. J. L. Toole, who passed peacefully away on Monday night at his residence at Brighton. On the stage his work had been finished for some years, but the memory of his genial presence, his hearty English comedy, his unaffected, manly pathos, will always be precious to the playgoer. He had been an invalid for a long time, and yet he outlived his dear friend Irving, whose death deeply affected him. The affection between the two men was beautiful and touching, and the loving kindness and unswerving loyalty that each showed the other are among the things that enrich the annals of the British stage.

John Lawrence Toole was born in St. Mary Axe, in the City of London, on March 12th, 1830. His father was the City Toast Master, a position his son, when he was a boy, used to think equal in importance to that of the Lord Mayor himself. He spent all his pocket-money in playgoing, and nearly all the time he could command in imitating his favourite actors. He divided his attention pretty equally between the City of London, the Pavilion, and the Garrick theatres. Before he joined the profession, young Toole played in public, appearing at the Sussex Hall, Leadenhall Street. He belonged to the City Histrionic Club. The members paid for the hall, and gave a performance once a quarter. The audience was large—there was nothing to pay. On his first appearance the programme opened with the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*. They had all agreed that none of them should appear in costume; evening dress was to be *de rigueur*. But their Shylock deceived them. He turned up in the Jewish gaberdine, and with a regular make-up. It was too late, or probably his indignant fellow-members would have cut him out of the part. As Antonio, young Toole was extra bitter on him when he gradually got the Merchant into trouble, and perhaps the breach of agreement after all did no harm, though it must have made the gentlemen in dress-clothes look a little out of it. In a scene from *Boots at the Swan*, Toole was Jacob Earwig. He also gave a recitation and played in *Sylvester Daggerwood*, giving something like five-and-twenty imitations of popular actors.

On a certain memorable benefit night at the Pavilion, Toole—still a boy—was taken behind the scenes. On this occasion a member of the company who used to give imitations of well-known actors failed to turn up; and Toole was induced to take his place. He went on after an explanation, and gave one after the other, most of the imitations he had been in the habit of giving at the City Histrionic Club gatherings. He was successful beyond his expectations, and was naturally delighted at the result.

At this time young Toole was a clerk in a wine merchant's office. A day or two after his appearance at the Pavilion some busybody came into the counting-house and said he had seen him on the stage. Challenged by one of the firm, he was in such a fright that he denied it, but in a weak kind of way. After that first taste of the real footlights he began to dream of becoming an actor in earnest. The first time he played to a regular audience in a regular way was at Ipswich in 1852, and it was under the name of John Laver. One of his fellow clerks at the wine merchant's had gone on the stage and was at Ipswich. It was at his suggestion that Toole appeared at the leading man's benefit. He played the part of Sylvester Daggerwood, which gave him an opportunity of introducing some of his imitations. His Ipswich experience was very satisfactory. He received the compliments and congratulations of the leading man, a heavy and impressive tragedian; and he returned to London more than ever determined to give up his clerkship in the wine merchant's office.

After his Ipswich adventure he played with amateurs at the Walworth Institute. One night Charles Dickens came, and was very complimentary. John Forster mentions the incident in his "Life" of the great novelist. While taking a holiday at Dublin, Charles Dillon, who had heard of Toole in connection with the Walworth Institute, invited him to play at the Queen's Theatre; and he made an immediate hit as Simmons in *The Spitalfields Weaver*. Emboldened by this success he sent word to his London employers that he was not coming back. He then accepted an engagement at £2 a week, and remained in Dublin for the season. It was at this time he made the acquaintance of Robson, the famous comedian. He stayed two seasons at Dublin, where Mr. Robert Wyndham, of the Edinburgh Theatre, saw him, and offered him an engagement at £3 a week, which he accepted. On the 9th July, 1853, he made his first appearance on the Edinburgh stage as Hector Timid in the play of *The Dead Shot*. He had travelled from Dublin, put up at Milne's Hotel, and after a rehearsal went to bed, fairly worn out. He left instructions with the landlady to call him, but she forgot all about it, and he was still sleeping soundly when a messenger arrived from the theatre to inquire for him. To quote his own words: "I sprang out of bed, dressed, rushed to the theatre, and was just in time to scramble upon the stage and take up my cue. In entering, I stumbled over a mat and almost fell, and this so worried and upset me that throughout the whole piece I was nervous and wretched. Next day, however, I was agreeably surprised to find the critics unanimous in their praise of my acting, specially pointing out how appropriate to the character of 'Hector Timid' was the uneasy manner and faltering gait of the young comedian. Everything had happened for the best, even the carelessness of my landlady, my accident, my nervousness, and all my disasters."

The young actor gained considerable experience in Edinburgh, not only through the constant change of bill, but from acting with the stars who visited the Scotch capital. Amongst these was Miss Helen Faucit, with whom he played Touchstone in *As You Like It*, Cloten in *Cymbeline*, and Glavis in *The Lady of Lyons*. Phelps also came to Edinburgh on a starring tour, and young Toole played many parts with him, and also with Charles Mathews. He appeared in as many as eighteen different parts in a week during his early experiences as a stock actor, some of them new studies entirely. Those were the days when an actor had to work like the proverbial nigger; it made things easier for him later in his career, of course, but it was very hard work.

After about eighteen months of this severe practical training, Mr. Toole was offered and accepted an engagement at the St. James's Theatre, London, opening there on October 2, 1854, as Pepys in Tom Taylor and Charles Reade's play of *The King's Rival*. The piece was not a success, nor was Toole's part one in which there was much to be done. He also played the same evening the leading character in the farce of *My Friend the Major*. He afterwards acted Pierre in a piece called *Honour before Titles* at the St. James's, and later filled in a season with Miss Lydia Thompson in *The Spanish Dancers*. However, not being quite satisfied with his first experiences in town, and though he had several offers to remain, he went back to Edinburgh to rejoin Mr. Wyndham's stock company in his former position. This meant plenty of hard work, but, on the other hand, he had opportunities of acting with the stars of the profession, and of making new appearances in parts that he liked. A year passed and the young actor was once more tempted back to the metropolis, this time by a flattering offer from Mr. Dillon to join his company as low comedian. He accepted it; and at the end of the season at Edinburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Wyndham organised for him a farewell benefit. It was on this occasion that Mr. Toole made his first appearance as Paul Pry, and he also played Bottom in a scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. His farewell speech was quite an ordeal, so large and enthusiastic was the audience; and he was in no mood to introduce any funny allusions on that memorable occasion.

Mr. Toole opened at the Lyceum Theatre in September, 1856, as Fanfaronade to Dillon's Belphegor, and the occasion was a memorable one, inasmuch as Miss Marie Wilton (the present Lady Bancroft) then made her first appearance in London. This "clever merry little actress," as Toole described her, represented the boy Henri, afterwards appearing as Perdita in William Brough's burlesque of *The Winter's Tale*, entitled *Radita, or the Royal Milkmaid*. Mr. Toole was two seasons with Dillon, and between whiles, when the vacations came, used to go starring, more particularly to Edinburgh, with a small company of his own.

It was here that Mr. Toole first formed the acquaintance of the late Henry Irving about the year 1857, but did not see much of him at that time. He met him later at Manchester, where the friendship which was to prove so strong and lasting commenced. When Irving was a lad he recited at Crosby Hall, and Toole used to recite at Sussex Hall, and the comedian was often heard to express the wish that he had known Irving then.

At the close of Dillon's management at the Lyceum, Mr. Toole went on another starring engagement in the provinces; and on his return to town, being recommended by Charles Dickens, Mr. Benjamin Webster engaged him for the Adelphi as successor to Edward Wright. He made his first appearance at that theatre in *Good for Nothing*, and an opening sketch by Edmund Yates in 1858. In January, 1859, he appeared in the burlesque of *Asmodeus*, and the following May he played for the first time Spriggins in *Ici on Parle Français*, the famous farce which he was destined to act thousands of times. His next part of any importance was Augustus de Rosherville in *The Willow Copse*, a character previously played by Wright. Webster was unmistakably pleased with the work of the latest addition to his company, and they got on together exceedingly well. Mr. Toole entertained a great respect and admiration for his new chief; for Benjamin Webster was liberal in business, and his instincts were thoroughly artistic.

When *Paper Wings*, by Watts Phillips, was produced at the Adelphi in 1860, Toole played William Kite; and by permission of Mr. Webster he was cast for Enoch Flicker in the same author's drama, called *A Story of '45*, and produced at Drury Lane. It was a part in which the actor had a chance of combining humour with pathos, and he was complimented by the author on his interpretation of the character. A new version of *The Cricket on the Hearth*, by Boucicault, was staged in April, 1862, and Toole's Caleb Plummer was considered by leading critics to have been an advance upon anything he had then done above the range of burlesque and farce.

The Area Belle, the famous farce by William Brough and Andrew Halliday, was produced in 1864, Paul Bedford appearing as the soldier, and Toole as the policeman. It was in this farce that he first sang "A 'Norrible Tale," written by E. L. Blanchard, who contributed for many years articles to the pages of this journal. During the same year Toole played the title rôle of Stephen Digges, a serio-comic piece adapted by John Oxenford from Balzac's novel of "Le Père Goriot. This production was the special attraction which he put up for his annual benefit. Between this and other new plays there were many revivals of favourite Adelphi dramas, among them being *The Green Bushes*. It was full of gags which had originated with Wright and Paul Bedford. There was a pot-boy at an adjacent tavern who used to serve the theatre with its ale and stout, and who had all these gags by heart, and whenever the piece was revived Wright would send for this boy and rehearse the gags with him. The boy not only remembered them, but every bit of business belonging to them.

Among the Adelphi revivals was *Janet Pride*, and Toole followed his old friend Robert Keeley in the part of the clockmaker's boy. In January, 1865, he appeared as Fathom in a revival of *The Hunchback*, Miss Bateman being the Julia; and in the summer of the same year he played Joe Bright in *Through Fire and Water*, by Walter Gordon. In May of the following year he was cast for the part of Prudent in the *Fast Family*, adapted from Sardou's *La Famille Benoiton*, and this ended his record at the Adelphi so far as original pieces were concerned.

In January, 1868, Mr. Toole accepted an engagement at the Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wigan, the company including Henry Irving, Charles Wyndham, John Clayton, Lionel Brough, Miss Nellie Moore, and Miss Henrietta Hodson, John Ryder being the stage-manager, and Liston acting-manager. The first production was H. J. Byron's play, *Dearer than Life*, in which Toole made a hit as Michael Garner. The production was made specially memorable by Charles Dickens's prediction that there was an actor playing Bob Gassit at the Queen's who would be heard of again—no other than Henry Irving.

Leaving the Queen's Toole starred at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, for six or seven weeks, and also at the Crystal Palace, Irving accompanying him. A year later Toole returned to the Queen's for a short season, and played Jack Snipe in Watts Phillips's *Not Guilty*. In the same year he commenced a long engagement at the Gaiety, opening in a new domestic comedy written for him by Byron, *Uncle Dick's Darling*, a piece that remained popular with his audiences until the end of his stage career. His Uncle Dick was one of his favourite parts; and Henry Irving was the original Chevenix. His early associations with Irving in the part were so pleasant that, according to his own admission, he subsequently always felt a kind of blank when playing in the piece.

At the Gaiety he produced a round of old and new pieces, having the valuable assistance of that clever comedienne, Miss Nellie Farren. These included Byron's comedy, *Tottles*, *Wait and Hope*, *Paul Pry*, and *Our Clerks*, *Aladdin the Second*, *Artful Cards*, by Burnand, the same author's *Babes in the Wood*, the burlesques of *The Forty Thieves* and *Don Giovanni*, *Bib and Tucker*, *Thespis*, Gilbert and Sullivan's first effort in the way of comic English opera, *Shilly-Shally*, by Trollope and Reade, and *Much Too Clever*, by Hatton and Oxenford.

During the engagement of Phelps and Charles Mathews at the Gaiety, Mr. Toole played with these two great actors—Bob Acres in *The Rivals*, Mawworm in *The Hypocrite*, and Bulgruddery in *John Bull*. He then gave farewell performances prior to his visit to America, taking the Globe Theatre for the purpose, and producing there for the first time James Albery's comedy, *Wig and Gown*, and H. J. Byron's very successful play, *A Fool and his Money*. His season lasted ten weeks, and the business was excellent.

On the eve of Mr. Toole's departure for America a banquet was given in his honour at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of Lord Rosebery. This took place on the 24th June, 1874, and proved a brilliant success. A farewell dinner to Mr. Toole was also given at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, the late Mr. George Dawson presiding.

Mr. Toole's American tour, which lasted over a year, was in every way successful, and in many ways extremely pleasant. *Off the Line*, *Dearer than Life*, *Oliver Twist*, *Paul Pry*, and *Dot* were the pieces that pleased the Americans most; and the leading New York papers were unanimous in their complimentary notices. He received many kindly tributes from both actors and playgoers, was frequently interviewed, had many pleasant dinners given him, and was accorded a most kindly reception at the Lotos Club. He travelled right through the States with varying fortune, but nowhere without receiving much kindness and being greeted by enthusiastic audiences. He gave several entertainments at public institutions in America, including two at the famous Pittsburg Lunatic Asylum at Dick's Pound.

When Mr. Toole returned from his American trip in August, 1875, he, after a successful provincial tour, became the lessee of the Folly Theatre, once known as the Charing Cross Theatre, and opened there in *A Fool and His Money*, followed by *Ici on Parle Français*. During an illness that followed, and a sad domestic affliction—the death of his son—H. J. Byron appeared in a revival of *Not Such a Fool as He Looks*, and other of his own comedies. Mr. Toole returned the first week in February, and on March 31, 1880, he produced *The Upper Crust*, by Byron, appearing himself as Barnaby Doublechick. In the summer season a pretty little comedy by A. W. Pinero, called *Hester's Mystery*, was added to the programme. Mr. Pinero, who was then a member of the Lyceum company, was introduced to Mr. Toole as a dramatist by his friend, Henry Irving. In the autumn a few matinées were given, Mr. Toole reviving *Dot*, and introducing later Byron's farcical piece *The Light Fantastic*, which went so well that it was transferred to the evening bill. Mr. Toole played the part of Professor Slithery, a dancing master. Another revival was Robert Reece's *Wizard of the Wilderness*, originally produced at the Gaiety in March 1873, Mr. Toole's part being that of Didymus Dexter, a chemist, who performs conjuring tricks. To obtain proficiency in a few sleight-of-hand tricks he took lessons of a professional magician.

The Upper Crust had a run of over four hundred nights; and in June, 1881, was revived Mr. Burnand's *Artful Cards*, which ran during alternate nights with *The Upper Crust*, following it by a comedy by Mrs. Fairbairn, called *Waiting Consent*. In the middle of July, Mr. Toole gave two farewell performances prior to closing his first season of management, taking a rest and arranging for his provincial tour. His farewell programme included *The Hunchback*, with Ellen Terry as Helen and Henry Irving as Modus.

The theatre was then reconstructed at a cost of upwards of £10,000, and under the title of Toole's Theatre was reopened on the 16th February, 1882, the bill consisting of *Paul Pry* and *Domestic Economy*. The house had been considerably enlarged, was very prettily decorated, and a handsome hall, saloon staircase, and *foyer* were much admired.

The most notable event of the first season at the newly-named house in King William Street was the production of a three-act play by Byron, entitled *Austie*. Unfortunately, a portion of the scenery caught fire in the first act. There was a scare for a few minutes, but the principals quickly reassured the audience, and the interrupted performance proceeded.

At the close of the season Mr. Toole made another provincial tour, and returning in October reopened with *The Upper Crust* and *Guffin's Elopement*, by Arthur Law and George Grossmith, in which he made a great hit in the well-written comic song "The Speaker's Eye," and produced Pinero's comedy, *Boys and Girls*. In the spring he revived *Uncle Dick's Darling*, with Billington as Chevenix, and Miss Florence West, afterwards Mrs. Lewis Waller, made a promising first appearance on the regular stage as Mary Belton.

On the 27th May he produced Burnand's burlesque of *Fedora*, in which Miss Marie Linden gave her successful imitation of Sarah Bernhardt. Early in 1884 the same author followed up his success with *Fedora* by a clever travesty of Wilson Barrett's successful production of *Claudian*. The piece was called *Paw Clawdian*. Other successful productions of those days included *Going It*, by the veteran playwright, Maddison Morton, a burlesque of the Lyceum *Faust*, by Burnand, *The Butler*, by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale, and *The Don*, by the same authors. The last-mentioned two plays took a foremost place amongst Mr. Toole's most successful pieces.

The loss of his wife and daughter leaving him alone in the world, a widower and childless, Mr. Toole closed his theatre, and went abroad for a time. On his reappearance he was welcomed back to King William Street and in the provinces with touching warmth.

Then came an offer to visit Australia, which he accepted. Farewell breakfasts, dinners, and suppers galore followed, every kind of complimentary mark of love and esteem being shown. All the good wishes with which Mr. Toole started for the Antipodes were fulfilled. Lord Carrington invited him to Government House, the clubs vied to do him honour, and the people crowded the theatres in which he played.

On Mr. Toole's return to London, the public going to greet him on his reappearance in *The Don* found the hall and *foyer* of his theatre converted into a veritable museum of Antipodean trophies.

Having revived several of his most familiar plays, Mr. Toole made a successful provincial tour during which he accepted a new piece from the pen of Mr. J. M. Barrie, who up to that time had been known only as a successful novelist. On his return to town, Mr. Toole produced, on Feb. 25, 1892, the new play under the title of *Walker, London*. It proved a great success and had a long run.

Homburg, a sketch in one act by Joseph Hatton, was staged on May 3, 1893, when the comedian appeared as J. L. Toole himself, also representing two other characters, John Duncan Campbell and Mark Loftus. His last production at Toole's Theatre was the farcical comedy by Ralph R. Lumley, entitled *Thoroughbred*. This was produced on Feb. 13, 1895, with Mr. Toole as John Rimple, but ill-health and an attack of nervousness prevented him doing justice to the part at the first performance.

When Mr. Toole relinquished the heavy responsibilities of managing a London theatre he confined himself to suburban and provincial tours, with a répertoire consisting of his most popular plays. He made his last appearance on the stage at the Theatre Royal, Rochdale, on Saturday, Dec. 19, 1896, having appeared the first three days of that week at the Theatre Royal, Bury, in three plays, *The Serious Family*, *Paul Pry*, and *Dot*. The following year ill-health compelled Mr. Toole to seek retirement, and Margate and Brighton became his favourite resorts. Of late years he resided at the last mentioned town, and in his bath chair, in charge of an attendant, was a familiar figure on the front.

For most of the facts contained in the above record of Mr. Toole's career we are indebted to Mr. Joseph Hatton's volume of reminiscences, published a few years ago.

To "*The Era* Almanack" for 1901, Mr. John Billington contributed some interesting recollections entitled "With J. L. Toole in Australia." He points out that his life-long friend "Johnny" had the happiest faculty in the story-telling line he ever knew. On the outward voyage Toole joined the ship and his company at Brindisi, "when the fun became fast and furious, especially as the calm weather soon enabled him to get his 'sea legs,' and when not on deck he was generally found in the beautiful saloon, surrounded by crowds of attentive listeners, to whom he would be relating his funny stories, while he proudly displayed for admiration his social trophies and presents from his admirers, and, in particular, the famous gold and jewelled snuff-box from 'my dear friend Henry Irving.'"

In "*The Era* Annual" for 1904 appeared a portrait of Mr. Toole, who also sent the following amusing story:—

I was once playing in *Dearer than Life* with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr. Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a reputation as a judge of ages.

"Well, how old," said some one, "would you take Mr. Toole to be?"

"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."

"Do you know him?" I asked.

"Oh, yes; know him very well indeed."

"Ah! and how old should you take *me* to be?"

"I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."

Irving asked Mr. Jones if he didn't think Mr. Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By-and-by, when our cab arrived, we said good-night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr. Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said, "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, and walked away.

"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr. Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.

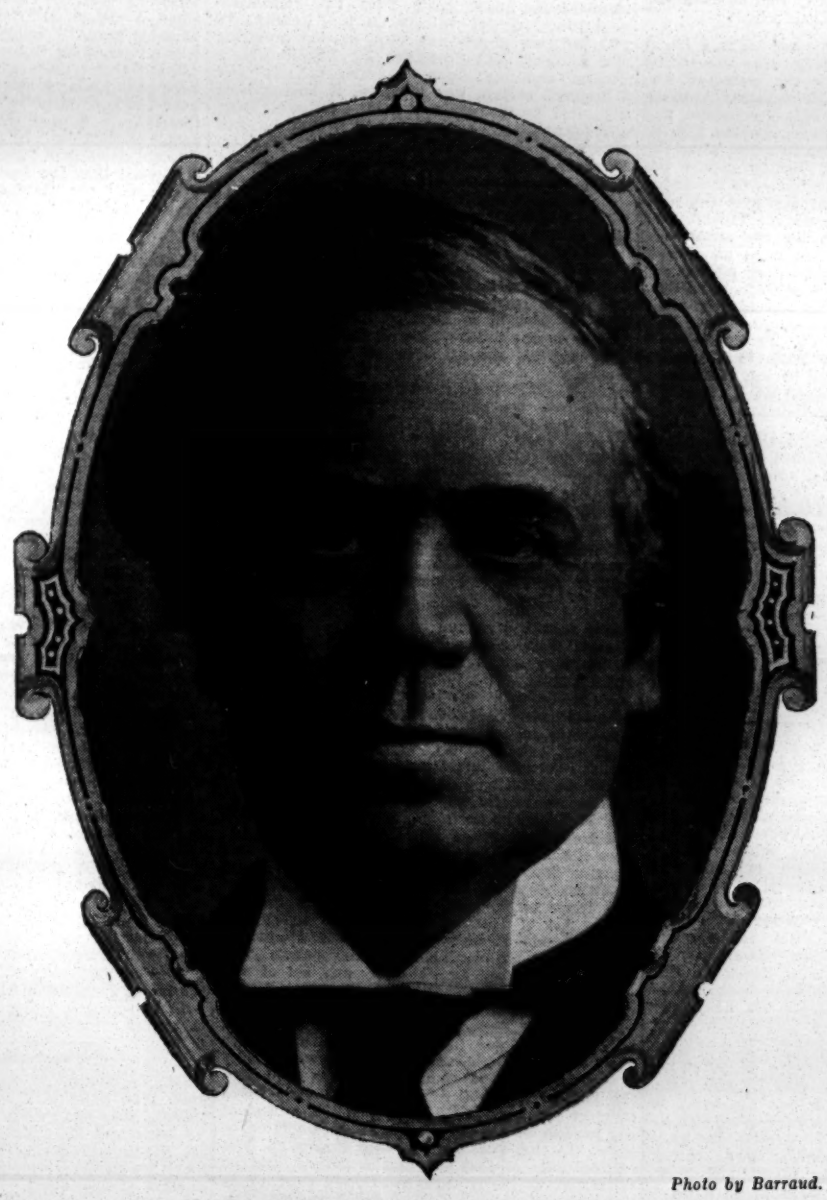

Photo by Barraud.

THE LATE MR. J. L. TOOLE.

An account of Mr. Toole's funeral will be found on the next page.

FUNERAL OF J. L. TOOLE.

In spite of the fact that the late Mr. Toole's stage work was not so well known to the younger generation as to their fathers, an immense concourse of people assembled along the line of route yesterday afternoon, long before the hour announced for the funeral cortége to start on its sad journey. Wreaths and floral tributes of all kinds and designs kept arriving until well after the carriages had left for the cemetery. Mr. F. J. Arlton, a cousin of the deceased and a trusted companion for eighteen years, had been busy for several days arranging the conduct of the funeral and attending to the wreaths and other matters incidental to the death of a famous man. While the public showed great interest in the obsequies of Mr. Toole, there was not a great number of theatrical folk present owing to the theatres being closed, and many of our well-known actors and actresses being too far away—on the Continent or elsewhere—to be able to travel to London for the special purpose of attending the ceremony.

The apartment in Mr Toole's residence which had been set apart as a reception-chamber for the flowers looked like a beautiful garden. In the centre was the plain, pale oak coffin, with its massive brass fittings and its simple inscription plate, which read:

John Lawrence
Toole,
Died 30th July, 1906,
Aged 76 years.

The sweet odour of the flowers and their delicate loveliness made one think that, after all, there was daintiness in death. The art of the florist seemed to have been exercised to the utmost to make the combinations prettier than anything which had been previously attempted in that direction; and all the messages which they bore spoke of love, of faithful friendship, and of deep respect. "How should not such as thou fare well, Though we fare ill that love thee and that live." This was the sweet sentiment which accompanied a floral tribute sent by Joseph and Bessie Hatton. Mr. Laurence Irving's wreath carried a card bearing the words, "In loving memory, from his godson Laurence." Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving forwarded a wreath "in loving remembrance," and Mr. Arthur Bourchier's wreath was a particularly fine one, consisting of arum lilies, azalia, stephanotis, and lilies of the valley.

It was to be regretted that Mrs. Young, the aged sister of the deceased, was not well enough to accompany the mourners. The cortége started from the house shortly after one o'clock. In the first mourning coach there were Mr. Fred Toole (nephew), Mr. C. L. Young (nephew), Mr. C. Hammond (nephew), and the Rev. A. P. Spelman. The second coach contained Mr. and Mrs. Williams (nephew and niece), Mrs. Ashwell (niece), and Mr. T. K. H. Cole; the third, Mr. F. J. Arlton (cousin), Mr. Langton, Mr. Bram Stoker, and Mr. Colvin; the fourth, Mr. Lyell, Mr. Lowne, sen., Mr. Macready, and Mr. Dubois; the fifth, Mr. John Hare, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. George Alexander, and Sir Edward Clarke; the sixth, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Shelton, Mr. C. M. Lowne (representing Green Room Club and himself), and Mr. H. Westland; seventh, Mr. Laurence Irving, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, and Mr. Derlacher; eighth, Nurse Selway, Mrs. Herbert (housekeeper), and Mr. Brunton. Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Henry Dickens, K.C., and Mr. Harry Nicholls. Mr. C. J. Davies (representing the Royal General Theatrical Fund), and Mr. C. I. Coltson (Actors' Benevolent Fund), and Mr. Arthur Weston, also followed.

Kensal Green Cemetery was reached at a quarter to two, and the service, both in the chapel and at the graveside, was conducted by the Rev. A. P. Spelman, the curate of St. Nicholas Church, Brighton. A large concourse of people assembled around the vault, where the late Mr. Toole's wife and two children were already buried.

Mrs. Mary Ann Young, the only sister of the deceased, sent a beautiful wreath of white flowers "In ever loving remembrance of my dear brother"; other family wreaths were from Mr. Fred Toole (nephew), Mr. C. L. Young (nephew), Mr. Frank Arlton (cousin), Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hammond (niece), Mrs. Ashwell (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Williams (niece), and Mrs. Carlton and Miss Rosa Carlton (cousins).

The names of those who sent wreaths, in the order of their arrival, is as follow:—Mr. G. Lee (Manchester), "With grateful remembrance of seven years' comradeship"; Mrs. E. and Miss Routledge, Mr. and Mrs. Lepard (Brighton Alhambra), Colonel and Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. Carey, Mr. and Mrs. Gosling, Miss Vera Braidwood, An Ardent Admirer of the late Sir Henry Irving, Edinburgh Pen and Pencil Club, "To My Hero" (bunch of flowers), Irene and Dion Boucicault, Mr. Andrew Macfarlane, Mr. Wm. Pink, Mrs. Wm. Black, son, and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Bransby Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Mrs. Joseph Fell and daughters, Mrs. H. T. Craven and son, Mr. P. S. King, Mr. Gillie Farquhar, the Baroness and Mr. Burdett-Coutts, Mr. George Shelton, Mrs. Clementson, Miss Helen Ferrars, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving, Miss Fortescue, Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez, Miss Pollie Brough, Mr. and Mrs. Paxton, Mr. and Mrs. John Drew, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Howard, Joseph and Bessie Hatton, "In memory of many happy hours at Toole's Theatre," Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. Pullar and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dickens, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Mrs. Ralph Lumley and children, Mr. Leonard Hunt, Mr. Laurence Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, the Playgoers' Club, Mr. George Grossmith, the O. P. Club, Mr. Allan Ainsworth, "Barbara, Jennie Jessie, and George" (relatives), Mr. John Hare, Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. Pinero, Mr. Bram Stoker, the Rev. A. P. and Mrs. Spellman, the maids at West Pier Mansions, Brighton, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Beryll, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Mr. David Bispham, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. E. V. Hopewell, Mr. Peter Wall and family, Mrs. George Loveday, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, Charlotte McCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rumney, the Worshipful Master and brethren of the Royal Clarence Lodge, Brighton, the chairman and directors of the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, Mr. U. S. Hill, the president, vice-president, committee, and members of the John Carpenter Club, Miss Blanche Wolsey, Mr. J. D. Langton, Mr. and Mrs. Monillot, members of the Green-room Club, Miss Lydia Rachel, Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. Fred W. Millis, Mrs. T. H. Chance and Ida Chance, Mrs. Lloyd Rayner, the Savage Club, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Yates (Miss Lilian Chevalier), Mr. and Mrs. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Fredk. Carr, Mrs. Clarke Travers, Mr. C. H. Price, Mr. George Savage (Sunderland), E. Y. Lowne and Jane Lowne, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Sir Francis and Lady Burnand and family, Miss Hogarth, Mr. H. B. Lewis, Mr. Gorham Bacon, Mr. Henry Wortland, Mrs. Alfred Moul, Dr. Herbert Langton, Mr. Jay Cee, Mr. and Master George Perrin, Mr. S. Heilbut, Mrs. Griffin, Mr. Cecil Barth, Touring Managers' Association, Mrs. Bacon and family (Brighton), Miss Edie Bacon, Mr. B. B. Bacon, Mr. Tom Thorne, Misses Constance and Jessie Young, Mrs. J. B. Howard (Edinburgh), Mr. and Mrs. Nathon, Miss Rosie Illington, Mr. W. B. Walker, Mrs. Farjeon, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, Nurse Selway, Mr. and Mrs. H. Loveday, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. and Mrs. Dubois, Mr. and Mrs. Wyndham (Edinburgh), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Terry, the trustees and directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, Actors' Benevolent Fund, Actors' Association, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Law, Miss Elaine Terris and Mr. Seymour Hicks.

TO THE MEMORY OF JOHN L. TOOLE.

Now is it dark! the flickering light is gone,
That brightly on the drama's altar shone!
Gay Folly mourns, her eyes cast on her lap,
Where idly lie some well-worn bells and cap.

And he who proudly wore them, had, alas!
At last into the far-off bourne to pass.
A motley jester, who for many years,
With cap and bells swayed both our smiles and tears!

Proud Thalia, too, her aspect worn and wan,
Mourns where to find just such another Man!
To use that cap and bells, which lie there thrown,
The bells a sceptre, and the cap a crown!

And while she mourns, there pass before her eyes,
The forms of many who to fame shall rise!
And still she scans, and murmurs in regret:
"Not one among them all! at least, not yet!"

Oswald Brand

IRVING AND TOOLE.

Again they're joined; two golden hearts
That sought on earth life's highest goal:
To brighten Art with all their best,
And give it, as to Heaven, their soul.

Matthew Brodie.

August 2, 1906.

A volume might be filled with anecdotes of the late J. L. Toole. One of the earliest is in connection with Sothern, whom Toole had arranged to meet at a restaurant. The latter arrived first, and thinking he recognised an elderly man sitting with his back to him, banged the gentleman on the back, and asked him heartily how he was. The man was a stranger and elderly and choleric, and it took Toole some time to calm his anger. Soon after Sothern arrived. Toole pointed out the stranger, and offered to bet a sovereign that Sothern would not go up to him, bang him on the back, and pretend that he knew him. Sothern promptly accepted the bet, and banged away in his turn, with a result that may well be imagined.

Another good story of Toole relates to a fright he gave a certain eminent judge who was sitting in assize at Liverpool while the comedian was playing at one of the theatres there. A cause celèbre was creating a great deal of attention, and the judge sent a note to Toole inviting him to come to supper at the judge's lodgings after the performance at the theatre. During supper the case was a subject of conversation, and the judge remarked that he would next day give the man fifteen years, and he deserved it. "Oh!" said Toole on leaving, and with all the seriousness he could command, "would you mind me calling at the different morning newspaper offices and telling them about the fifteen years? It will be a tip for them, and do me no end of good with the press. Exclusive information, you know, and so on." "Great heavens, no, sir!" thundered the judge, and walked with Toole to his hotel, tucked him up, and waited till he was fast asleep and safe from temptation.

The gentle art of practical joking of which Toole was a master is exemplified in the following whimsical anecdote. The actor was giving a dinner party, and one of the guests was very late. All the other men were seated at the table and the meal had begun when his knock was heard at the door. "All get under the table," said the host, "and let him think he is the first," and one by one, with many nudges anticipatory of coming humour, the men got on the floor. The late man entered. "I beg your pardon for being so late," he began, and then looking round the room, "but I see I'm the first, after all." "Oh, no, you're not," was the reply. "All the other fellows are here, but for some extraordinary reason they are lying on the floor."

The never-failing wit and presence of mind of the comedian stood him in admirable stead once at Dublin, where he was playing *Uncle Dick's Darling*. All went well until a piece of scenery stuck. It was a "scene rise and sink," and the top went up. The other portion would not budge, however, and Toole was obliged to step over the bit of scenery that would not sink. The "gods" expressed their disapproval in the time-honoured way. "At the close," said Toole, in telling the story, "when they called me, I went forward and said, "A little mishap has occurred, but you ought not to blame us. We were only two or three minutes trying to sink that bit of scenery, and you have been two or three weeks trying to raise a ship 'in Kingstown Harbour.'"

An excellent appreciation of the value of advertisement was always manifested by Mr. Toole. Whenever he was touring, it was his habit to visit the best-known hostelries in a town and reveal his identity. Knowing his custom, the wags of his company once left London by an earlier train, made the round of the hotels, and introduced one of their number—a tall, heavily-built man—as "Mr. Toole." Quite casually they let it be known that there was "a member of our company, a little fellow who gives us a lot of trouble. He will insist on telling strangers that he is Mr. Toole. You know what to do with him if he comes in here." When the comedian duly arrived on his errand he got a welcome which puzzled and perturbed him

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 27th ult., before Mr. Registrar Giffard, a sitting was held for the public examination of Mr. Clifford Rean, The accounts showed unsecured liabilities £956, and no available assets. In answer to the Official Receiver, debtor said that he had been connected with the stage since 1893. In January, 1899, he inherited a sum of £868, and commenced a theatrical tour with various plays, which proved unsuccessful. Since July, 1901, he had lost £611 on the tour of *A Woman of Pleasure*, and his present position was due to that and similar losses. The examination was concluded.

Whilst playing in Liverpool twenty-nine years ago the late Mr. J. L. Toole heard that a figure of himself had been added to the fine collection in Reynolds's wax works in Lime-street. On visiting the exhibition he was surprised at the likeness, and remarked that it reflected him in the character of Paul Pry with almost the accuracy of a mirror. Mr. Charles Reynolds, who still shows the figure enclosed in a special glass case, has among his treasures an autograph letter, dated October, 1877, from the dead actor, complimenting him upon the splendid waxen cast.

Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, who has been starring as Paul Gouffet, the Detective, in *The Face at the Window*, for some time past, has been re-engaged by Messrs. Armadale and Warren for autumn, and will make his 638th appearance in the part on Monday at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE EMPIRE, OXFORD.

LICENCE REFUSED.

It will be remembered that on June 5 last, at the Oxford City Court, before the Mayor and Aldermen, application was made by Mr. Hugh Sturges on behalf of Mr. Albany Ward, for the renewal of the licence of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, for the ensuing year.

Mr. Sturges said the theatre was situated in the east of Oxford, and was frequented principally by tradespeople and the class who lived in that part, and also a great number who came in from the neighbouring villages. He understood the licence had been granted from year to year for sixteen years. During that time no complaint of any sort or description had been made excepting a complaint in 1903 brought before the Bench, drawing attention to the fact that the theatre was structurally unsuitable for the purposes to which it was put. The matter was gone into at considerable length, and a distinguished architect made a report, which was submitted to the Bench, and they renewed the licence subject to the alterations suggested in that report being carried out. In 1904, in consequence of a fire at one of the theatres, the Bench expressed a wish that a fireproof curtain should be put in, and it was immediately done. In 1905 they obeyed the wish of the Bench by ceasing to carry on a cinematograph.

Mr. F. Gray, who appeared on behalf of the East Oxford Constitutional Hall Company, said the company had expended a considerable sum in 1903 to meet the requirements of the Bench. They were a public limited company, having to meet the expenditure out of income, and they were only now beginning to feel the benefit of the expenditure they made at the suggestion of the Bench in 1903. He submitted that, at that stage, the licence ought not to be refused. His friend and himself had a number of persons present who were prepared to speak as to the requirements of the district for a place of entertainment of this class.

Mr. Albany Ward, the licensee of the "Empire," stated that a large number of people who attended the place came from the immediate neighbourhood and villages in the locality. In 1903 the sum of £90 was spent on the premises, and a report was drawn up by Mr. Buckle, a London architect, upon the structure. In 1904 a fireproof curtain was provided, it having been suggested by the justices. In the following year a cinematograph film caught fire, and he had ceased having such things in the place since. There had been no complaint as to the conduct of the house since he had had it.

Mr. C. F. Talbot, secretary of the Constitutional Hall Company, said that the sum of £86 was paid in 1903 for repairs on the premises, to meet the requirements of the justices.

Mr. Sturges submitted that after the expense that Mr. Ward had been put to it would be an injustice to deprive him of his licence, for he had done his best to preserve order and proper behaviour in the theatre. He also pointed out that there was no opposition to the renewal of the licence.

The magistrates retired to consult, and on their return in a few minutes,

The Mayor said the Bench were quite unanimous in coming to the decision that the application for the renewal of the licence should be refused.

Mr. Sturges then applied that a temporary licence should be granted from the present time, pending an appeal at the Quarter Sessions.

The Magistrates granted a temporary licence, as asked for, to date from June 9, and to extend to the date of holding the Quarter Sessions.

The appeal came on for hearing at the adjourned Quarter Sessions of the City of Oxford on Saturday last, before the Recorder (Mr. R. B. Dyke Acland, K.C.).

A preliminary objection to the appeal was lodged by Mr. T. M. Snagge, who represented the respondent justices. The appeal arose under the Theatres Act, 1843, the regulation of theatres giving *inter alia* jurisdiction to the justices with regard to granting licences, and the only section which provided for appeal was Section 20, which said it "shall be lawful for any person who shall feel himself aggrieved by any order of such justices of the peace to appeal therefrom to the next Quarter Sessions of the Peace." Counsel's point was that no order had been made in this case. The terms of the section differed from the Ale House Act of 1828, which in regard to appeals from refusals to renew the licences of public-houses, said in Section 27, "Any person who shall think himself aggrieved by any act of any justice may appeal against any such act." But in the Theatre Act it was limited to order. The word "order" had come under the consideration of the Courts, and in cases arising under the Summary Jurisdiction Act the terms were, "any conviction or order," but it had been held that the justices of the licensing meeting were not a court of summary jurisdiction, and the refusal of the justices of a licence was not a conviction or order. In this case no order was drawn up. The justices only refused to grant a licence, and he submitted, as his friend was entirely confined to the terms of the Act, there being no order no appeal could lie. Further than this, the section must be taken in its relation to the preceding and following sections. Both of those related to penalties, and he contended that this section only related to appeals against penalties.

Mr. Hugh Sturges, who appeared for the appellant, argued that the Act of 6 and 7 Victoria gave to the Lord Chamberlain or to the justices power to grant licences in respect of theatres, and made it unlawful to keep houses of public resort without such authority. His contention was that once a house had been licensed with the authority of the justices there was no necessity of any sort or description to apply for its renewal. But it was reserved to the judges (Section 9), in the case of any riot or breach of any rules, that they might "order" the house to be closed for such time as the said justices shall see fit, and while such order shall be in force the theatre so ordered to be closed shall be deemed an unlicensed house." If his contention was correct, a house once having been licensed, unless there had been some breach of the rules, there was no power in the justices to order the house to be closed. It was admitted that the licence was obtained in 1900, and from time to time in this particular case orders were given that certain things should be done. All the wishes of the justices had been carried out. Section 9 of the Act gave powers to the justices to make rules for ensuring order and decency, a copy of such rules to be affixed to the licence. He contended that in the case of a breach of the rules the magistrates could order the theatre to be closed, and that in this case an order was made. A theatre once licensed was always licensed until there was an order closing it, and before the justices had jurisdiction they had to have the sworn testimony of two persons that there had been a riot or breach of the rules. He submitted that an order had been made in this case, that it was the only order the magistrates could make, and that it was an order closing the house.

Once a license, continued counsel, always a license. The magistrate must have made an order when they refused to allow performances to continue, and if they had not done something on that day the theatre would have gone on as before. The whole point of the section was to give the aggrieved person the right to appeal to Quarter Sessions. The Act ought to be construed as broadly as possible, and he asked the Recorder to say, that being the meaning of the Act, this appeal stood.

The Recorder said the appeal must fail. From 1900 onwards Mr. Albany Ward had applied annually to the magistrates for a license, and had received, he supposed, in each year a license in the form he held before him, authorising him "to have and to keep open a certain building called the Empire Theatre . . . as a place for the public performance of stage plays . . . for the space of one year, from June 9, 1905." When he applied this year for a new license or a renewal, so called, of this license, the magistrate simply declined to make any order at all. It seemed to him quite clear that their refusal to do anything did not amount to an order within the meaning of Section 20, and his view was borne out very strongly by the provision of Section 20. He saw no provision in the Act which enabled the aggrieved person to appeal against the refusal of the magistrates to grant a license. That being so, the appeal to this Court was entirely misconceived, and must fail. Of course it was desired to take this further he would state a case.

Mr. Sturgess asked: Would the Recorder allow the theatre to remain open pending the decision whether a case should be asked for?

The Recorder said he would not give judgment for three weeks. He then formally adjourned the Court.

Mr. Albert Strong, the well-known authority on Dramatic Law, writes:—"The recent refusal of the Justices at Oxford to renew the licence for the Empire Theatre, Oxford, to Mr. Albany Ward, raises a question of the very greatest importance to theatre owners. Mr. Albany Ward has had the licence of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, renewed to him for six years, without any question. Oxford, of course, is a 'Varsity town, and everyone connected with either Oxford or Cambridge knows that the undergraduates are apt occasionally to be a bit lively, but Mr. Ward's theatre has had nothing whatever during all these years suggested against it. In June, however, without any opposition whatever being made to the renewal, the Justices, without any reasons, refused to renew the licence. The consequence is that Mr. Ward finds his theatre, on which he has spent large sums of money, and for which he has created a valuable goodwill, suddenly taken away from him without anything being alleged against him and without any reasons given therefor. If the Justices have power to do this in one case they will have power to do it in another, and the question therefore is a very serious one for theatrical people to consider. In the case of Ex-parte Harrington, decided in 1888, it was held by the Court of Appeal that the Justices had power to refuse a licence for a theatre. In that case it was argued on behalf of the applicant that the Justices had no power to refuse a licence. The Court of Appeal said they had a discretion to grant or refuse a licence. But after that case came the celebrated case of Sharpe v. Wakefield, where the Lord Chancellor laid down very clearly the sort of discretion which has to be exercised by Justices. He says:—'And "discretion" means, when it is said that something is to be done within the discretion of the authority, that that something is to be done according to the rules of reason and justice, not according to private opinion, according to law, and not according to humour. It is to be, not arbitrary, vague, and fanciful, but legal and regular, and it must be exercised within the limit to which an honest man competent to the discharge of his office ought to confine himself.'

"This decision was on the question of the discretion of Justices to refuse to grant an excise licence to a public-house, but the judicial interpretation of the word 'discretion' will surely equally apply to theatrical licences. Indeed, in 1896, in the case of the Queen v. County Council of West Riding of Yorkshire, this definition was discussed and expressly applied to the case of Justices granting a licence with a condition attached that no intoxicants should be sold. But apparently no case has been decided, apart from Ex-parte Harrington, as to the rights of a licensee of a theatre who has a renewal refused him. No doubt if the Justices had good reason for it they can lawfully refuse to renew, but it is contended that their reasons must be 'not arbitrary, vague, and fanciful, but legal and regular.' The immense importance of this case is obvious. Many thousands of pounds are invested in theatres throughout the country, and if the law is in accordance with the views of the Justices of Oxford the security of theatre owners is of the very slightest. Their theatres are at the mercy of any Puritan faction in the town which for the time being has the upper hand. The case is essentially one for the Theatrical Propretors' Association, and it is to be hoped they will take it up. In any case, the future development of this case will be watched with the keenest interest by all connected with theatrical enterprise throughout the country."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In connection with the above, may I ask your kind permission to state a few facts for those of your readers whom the case may interest?

I have held the license of the Empire now for six years, and during the whole of that time there has been no complaint against me as to my conduct of the house.

In 1903 the Justices asked for structural alterations, and I called in Mr. Buckell, the eminent architect, who made a report that some of the "improvements" suggested by the Bench would have been a source of danger to the public. The Bench accepted Mr. Buckell's report, and with many of my own suggestions the alterations were carried out, at a considerable cost to myself and the owners of the building.

In 1904 the Bench requested a fire-proof curtain, and this I at once put in. I think from this it will be seen that I have at every and all times obeyed, and more than obeyed, the wishes of the Justices.

On the 6th of June of the present year I applied for the renewal of my license in due course, but hearing from confidential information received some two days previously, I gleaned that there was likely to be some opposition My solicitor, Mr. E. T. Hatt, of Oxford, suggested I should brief counsel, and Mr. Hugh Sturges was accordingly retained.

Having been informed that the Watch Committee had made a report to the Justices, my counsel asked that all interested persons should leave the Bench, but this was taken no notice of, and at least three of the same committee, who had made the report sat on the Bench to decide the application.

Counsel asked whether there was any opposition, and the Justices' Clerk publicly asked if there were any one to oppose the license. No opposition was offered, and the Bench then heard the application, at which, in no way, shape, or form, was there any legal opposition. The Magistrates' Clerk cross-examined myself and my manager, as to an incident of potato throwing by an Undergraduate, in which, by the way, he did not hesitate to ask leading questions.

The Bench retired, and almost immediately returned and the Mayor announced that they had unanimously decided to refuse the license. My counsel then gave notice of appeal to Quarter Sessions, which the Bench granted.

On July 16 the Quarter Sessions were held, and after being kept all day waiting, with some thirty witnesses, we were told that the appeal could not be heard that sessions, but the Recorder would appoint a later date to suit all parties. Ultimately, although protested against by my counsel, Saturday, July 28, was fixed, a day on which it was almost impossible for me to get my witnesses.

However, we again appeared, with what witnesses could be obtained, to be faced with the argument by the Justices' counsel, that we had no right of appeal whatever, as the Justices had made no order. This was upheld by the learned recorder, and so the law stands that Justices may, without giving any reason whatever, refuse a license, and the unfortunate licensee is at the mercy of every "honest tradesmen" however unlearned in law or prejudiced, either by self-interest or possible religious opinions that may happen to hold the right to sign himself "J.P.," and have no appeal whatever.

That this sometimes leads to injustice being done may be gathered from the following:—Knowing the uncertainty of the law, I opened a pierrot show in a field, situate some five hundred yards from the nearest house, and sank some amount of capital, to make it worthy of the city.

Now, by an old Act, of which I was unaware, the Mayor has the right to refuse or grant permission for any entertainment, not strictly theatrical, in the City of Oxford. Immediately following on the decision as to the appeal, I received a letter from the Chief Constable, saying that "He did not wish to seem to be persecuting me," but I must obtain permission from the Mayor for my pierrot entertainment. I called on the Mayor, who received me courteously enough, but granted me permission for two days, and assured me that he thought it would be all right, but that he would like to consult the magistrates. It was pointed out to him that it was nothing to do with the Bench, but was his sole prerogative. He, however, adhered to his decision to consult his brother magistrates, with the result that on the following evening I received, through the police, an intimation that this was also refused, and summarily "shut down."

Now, can "Dogberryism" go any further, and does it not show the necessity for a strict revision of the Law of Licensing, as under the present state of things it is possible for a Bench to ruin any man, and drive him from a town.

In conclusion, it may be of interest to state, that the Vice-chairman of the Watch Committee is also the managing director of the opposition theatre, whilst another of the "J.P.'s" is the owner of a site whereon it is proposed to erect another theatre, almost opposite my own, of which he has, I believe, prepared the plans.—Yours faithfully,

Albany Ward.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 6.

An Actor's Romance.—Star T., Liverpool.
Are You a Mason?—Torquay.
As Midnight Chimes.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
Breed of the Treshams.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Blackpool.
Charley's Aunt.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Chinese Honeymoon.—Bexhill and Seaford.
Christian, The.—Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
Cingalee (S.).—Bournemouth.
Coal King.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Convict's Daughter.—O. H., Coventry.
Country Girl.—Clacton-on-Sea.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
Days of Cromwell.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Destroyer of Men.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
Duchess of Dantzig.—Lowestoft.
Earl and the Girl.—Scarborough
Earl and the Girl (No. 2).—Ramsgate and Margate
Eternal City (Howard).—New T., King's Lynn.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Merthyr.
Facing the Music.—Southend.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—Royalty, Morecambe.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Theatre R., Chatham.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Brighton.
French Spy.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
Gay Parisienne.—Tunbridge Wells and Dover.
Geisha, The.—Southampton.
Girl on the Stage.—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Golden Ladder.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Great Awakening.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Great Wilderness.—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Her Lost Self.—Theatre Royal, Edmonton.
Her Luck in London.—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
Her One Great Sin.—Theatre R., Rochdale.
Honour Thy Father.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
How Money's Made.—Pavilion, Altrincham.
I Defy the World.—Theatre R., Lincoln.
Indian Mutiny.—Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.
Kitty Grey.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Ambleside and Keswick.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Cardiff.
Little Breadwinner.—Doncaster.
Little Michus (Edwardes').—T. R., Portsmouth.
Little Michus.—Harrogate.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Love That Women Desire.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, W. Stanley.
Midnight Wedding.—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Theatre R., Preston.
Mr. Hopkinson.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Mr. Popple.—Buxton and Llandudno.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—O. H., Cheltenham.
Poor Must Live.—Longsight, Manchester.
Power of Gold.—Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Prince of Pilsen.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Prodigal Parson.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Peterborough.
Public Opinion (N.).—Spa Theatre, Scarboro'.
Queen of Villainy.—Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
Royal Divorce.—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
See-Saw of Life.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Sign of the Cross.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
Silver King (N.).—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Silver King (S).—Broadway Theatre, Deptford.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R. Bath.
Spring Chicken (S).—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
Still Alarm.—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.
Temptress, The.—O. H., Northampton.
Terry, Edward.—Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.
Three Little Maids (N.).—Llandudno.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Colchester.
Throne of Terror.—Maesteg and Treherbert.
Torreador.—Norwich.
Traitor Prince.—O. H., Workington.
Traitor, The.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
Trip to the Highlands.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Veronique (S.).—Hastings and Harrogate.
Village Blacksmith.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Walls of Jericho.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Prince's Theatre, Glasgow
Warning to Women.—P. O. W., Salford.
What the Butler Saw.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
When Woman Hates.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
White Chrysanthemum.—Eastbourne and Ramsgate.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Southport.
Wrecker of Men.—Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.
£1000 Reward.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
10.30 Down Express.—Grand Theatre, Newcastle,

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. W. Adams.—*He is very much alive, and was playing quite recently.*

Jones, Jun.—*The late David James played Blueskin to the Jonathan Wild of the late Fred Leslie in* Little Jack Sheppard *at the Gaiety from Boxing Night, 1886, till the end of the run.*

M. C.—*Sam Vale, the comedian, died March 21, 1848.*

C. W. L.—The Beggar Student *was first produced in its English form at the Alhambra, April 12, 1884.*

Millie.—*The Coronet was opened by Mr. E. G. Saunders on Nov. 28, 1898, with a performance of* The Geisha *by Messrs. Morell and Mouillot's company.*

Harry Lewis.—*Apply to Mr. W. Hogg, managing director of C. Fox's, Ltd., Wellington-street, W.C.*

Hart.—*We have searched, but can find no record of the production at the Adelphi of a pantomime entitled,* Rats of Rats Castle.

J. Gray.—*Apply to Vert's Musical Agency, Cork-street, W.*

Tom Owen.—*For replies to your first four questions, write to the Clerk to the London County Council, Spring-gardens. In country towns the bye-laws of the borough council apply.*

C. T. Williams (Clapham).—1. *We believe not. Write to Mr. J. de Frece, 178, Charing Cross-road.* (2) *Mr. Charles Godfrey died March 28, 1900.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Connor.—At Douglas, Isle of Man, July 31, the wife of F. J. Connor, Hippodrome, of a fine daughter. Both well.

Warburton.—On July 20, the wife of Edward A. Warburton, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

D'Auban—Tilley.—On Aug. 1, in the Parish of Clerkenwell, Ernest Henry, son of Frederick John D'Auban, to Mabel Mitchell, second daughter of Henry Arthur Tilley, Esq., of Acton Hill, W.

Whiteley—Zetina.—On July 22, at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, Rudolph Whiteley, of the Five Whiteleys, to Florence Agnes Zetina, eldest daughter of F. Zetina, father of the Cleveland Troupe.

DEATHS.

Howard.—On July 29th, at Richmond, Surrey, the beloved mother of Walter Howard (Dramatic Author).

James.—July 28, at Broadstairs, drowned while bathing, John Albert James, minstrel comedian, aged 33.

Weeks.—On July 29, Mr. Frank Weeks, manager South London Palace, aged 56 years. Dear heart, at rest.

In Memoriam.

Cross.—In loving memory of Henry Hugh Cross ("Harry"), late Opera Comique, Wolverhampton, and Paisley Theatres, died July 25, 1899. Still missed by his loving wife and daughters (Nellie and Winnie). Until the day dawns.

Howard.—In loving memory of Walter Howard, the famous Minstrel, who died Aug. 9, 1905. Never forgotten by his ever-loving daughter, Lilian (Mrs. Ernest Rees).

Sandell.—In loving memory of Henry Joseph Sandell, known as Harry Conway, who departed this life Aug. 3, 1905.

In loving memory of darling little Masa Sada Ogino, daughter of Little All Right, Andos Japanese troupe. Died Aug. 6, 1905. Gone, but never forgotten. Loved by all. Loving mother and grandma.

In Memoriam—Miss Marie Walford.*
Obit July 20, 1906—Ætatis 20.

"Is it well with the child? . . . It is well!"
II. Kings, iv., 26.

Dear Loving Heart, in sweet surprise
On Earth you held a myriad eyes;
You charmed, amazed, bewitched, enthralled,
Enraptured, dazzled, and appalled!
Such talents as to you were sent
Filled all the world with wonderment.
As spell-bound they would speak your praise,
And marvel at your mystic ways!
And now your soul is called Above
To Mansions of Eternal Love;
Why should we sorrow? You were good,
A type of perfect womanhood!
And though we all your loss deplore,
For you awaits the Open Door:
For you the Realms beyond the Skies—
For you a home in Paradise!

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D
Sunday, July 22, 1906.
*Widely known as "Mystic Marie."

For Sympathy
The Late Marie Walford.

Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie wish to tender their sincere thanks to the hundreds of friends and relations who so kindly sent letters and telegrams of condolence on the death of their dearly-beloved sister, Miss Marie Walford (Mystic Marie).

Mrs. Weeks, South London Palace, desires to thank all friends for kind enquiries, wires, and letters of condolence during her husband's severe illness; also to thank all friends who have sent such lovely wreaths. Many, many thanks for the same. Such kindness will never be forgotten by his wife, Melvina Weeks.

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Wynne, Mr. Alf.
Zedna, Miss Maude

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Ida Millais—Saturday, August 4.
Charles Coborn—Saturday, August 4
Vi Carlyle—Saturday, August 4.
H. B. Irving—Sunday, August 5.
Richard Nightingale—Sunday, August 5.
Marie Illington—Sunday, August 5.
Minnie Bell—Monday, August 6.
Harry Tindall—Monday, August 6.
Miss Indiana Smythson—Monday, August 6.
Frederick Wright, sen.—Monday, August 6.
Ivy Floradora—Monday, August 6.
Huntley Wright—Tuesday, August 7.
W. Lovel Hart—Tuesday, August 7.
T. W. Ford—Tuesday, August 7.
Wallace Erskine—Wednesday, August 8.
Mrs. Cecil Raleigh—Wednesday, August 8.
Helena Head—Wednesday, August 8.
Louis Karpe—Wednesday, August 8.
Geo. H. Smythson—Thursday, August 9.
M. A. Victor—Thursday, August 9.
Sydney Barraclough—Thursday, August 9.
Otho Stuart—Thursday, August 9.
Bella Bashall—Thursday, August 9.
Brenda T. Gibson—Thursday, August 9.
Richard Vane—Friday, August 10.
F. Booth Conway—Friday, August 10.
Melville Beckford—Friday, August 10.

At the Tynemouth Palace-by-the-Sea, Stanley's giant fairy fountain is interesting everyone, and some charming effects are given by the aid of coloured lenses under the strong electric rays. Elliston Webb contributes some pleasing tenor songs; Helen Charles shows versatility in a neat drawing-room sketch; Dillon Shallard is a fine baritone vocalist; Merton and Rydon submit some excellent comedy; and the Grand Casino orchestra, under the bâton of Henry Sprake, meet with hearty appreciation.

The statement that Mr. Oliver Conroy would appear in Mr. Lingford Carson's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* was erroneous.

On Wednesday, on the application of Mr. Helmsley, manager of St. James's Theatre, Mr. Denman renewed the licence permitting Iris Hawkins, the charming girl-actress, to play in *His House in Order*.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1906.

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

The Musical Copyright Bill, which was read for the third time in the House of Commons on Tuesday night, passed on Thursday night through all stages in the House of Lords, and by the time these lines appear will probably have received the Royal Assent. The justice of the measure is, indeed, and always has been, so obvious to the unprejudiced understanding that to those unacquainted with the practical working of Parliamentary pressure it may seem strange that so much delay should have been incurred in obtaining necessary protection for a body of honest men against the "daylight robbery" of rogues. The Bill itself contains only three clauses, as follows:

Clause 1.—Every person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any printed copies of any musical work, or has in his possession any plates for the purpose of printing or reproducing pirated copies of any musical work, shall (unless he proves that he acted innocently) be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, and on a second or subsequent conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding two months or to a fine not exceeding ten pounds. Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who in any street or public place sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any such copies as aforesaid.

2.—(1) If a court of summary jurisdiction is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed on any premises, the Court may grant a search-warrant authorising the constable named therein to enter the premises between the hours of six of the clock in the morning and nine of the clock in the evening, and, if necessary, to use force for making such entry, whether by breaking open doors or otherwise, and to seize any copies of any musical work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed.

(2) All copies of any musical work and plates seized under this section shall be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, and if proved to be pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the printing or reproduction of pirated copies shall be forfeited and destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the court think fit.

(3) In this Act the expression "pirated copies" means any copies of any musical work written, printed, or otherwise reproduced without the consent lawfully given by the owner of the copyright in such musical work; and the expression "plates" includes any stereotype or other plates, stones, matrices, transfers, or negatives used, or intended to be used, for printing or reproducing copies of any musical work; provided also that the expressions "pirated copies" and "plates" shall not, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to include perforated music rolls used for playing mechanical instruments, or records used for the reproduction of sound waves, or the matrices or other appliances by which such rolls or records respectively are made.

With a view to meeting the objections of some of the opponents of the Bill, amendments were introduced of precautions against illegal or wanton arrest. These are the principal of those amendments:

Provided that a person convicted of an offence under this Act who has not previously been convicted of such an offence, and who proves that the copies of the musical work in respect of which the offence was committed had printed on the title page thereof a name and address purporting to be that of the printer or publisher, shall not be liable to any penalty under this Act unless it is proved that the copies were to his knowledge pirated copies.

Pirated copies of any such musical work as may be specified in any general written authority addressed to the chief officer of police, and signed by the apparent owner of the copyright in such work or his agent thereto authorised in writing, requesting the arrest, at the risk of such owner, of all persons found committing offences under this section in respect to such work, or who offers for sale any pirated copies of any such specified musical work by personal canvass or by personally delivering advertisements or circulars.

A copy of every written authority addressed to a chief officer of police under this section shall be open to inspection at all reasonable hours by any person without payment of any fee, and any person may take copies of or make extracts from any such authority.

Any person aggrieved by a summary conviction under this section may in England or Ireland appeal to a court of Quarter Sessions, and in Scotland under and in terms of the Summary Prosecutions Appeals (Scotland) Act, 1875.

It may be interesting to compare this admirably drawn Bill with that which was read for the first time in the House of Commons on July 11 last year, and subsequently "came to grief."

OFFENCES.

1.—(1) If any person sells or offers for sale or has in his possession for the purposes of sale copies of any musical work, which he knows to be pirated, or has in his possession any plate for the purpose of printing or reproducing pirated copies of any musical work, he shall be liable, on conviction under the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, to forfeit all such copies and plates in his possession, and also to a fine not exceeding one shilling for each copy, and five pounds for each plate in respect of which the offence was committed, so, however, that the total amount of the fines inflicted on one offender for one offence in respect of the same musical work shall not exceed twenty pounds.

(2) The expression "plates" includes any stereotype or other plates, stones, or matrices, or negatives used or intended to be used for printing or reproducing copies of any musical work.

SEARCH WARRANTS AND SEIZURES.

2.—(1) If a court of summary jurisdiction is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed on any premises, the court may grant a search warrant authorising the constable named therein to enter the premises, if need be by force, at any time between nine o'clock in the morning and six o'clock in the afternoon, and to seize any copies of any musical work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting that an offence under this Act is being committed.

(2) All copies of any musical work and plates seized under this section shall be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, and if proved to be pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the printing or reproduction of pirated copies, shall be forfeited, and destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the court may think fit.

(3) In case of seizure under this Act or the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act, 1902, the court, if satisfied that the owner is unknown or cannot be found, may, without summons, but after such public advertisement as the court thinks fit, make such order as by this Act or the said Act it is authorised to make.

This Act may be cited as the Musical Copyright Act, 1905, and shall come into operation on the first day of October nineteen hundred and five, and expressions used in this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meanings as in the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act, 1902, and that Act and this Act may be cited together as the Musical Copyright Acts, 1902 and 1905.

This Bill had an unfortunate fate. Readers will easily remember the relentless opposition which it received, with the result that it was withdrawn in August, 1905, in spite of the energetic efforts of the leading music-publishers and of Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR, who, supported by the leading members of the Liberal party, worked with unceasing energy to induce the opponents of the Bill to come to some reasonable compromise. By activity and perseverance the hearty co-operation of about a hundred Members of Parliament was secured, and the Government was at last induced to bring in a short Bill themselves. This, however, was not done until very late in the session, as the Government would not introduce the measure unless it was to be non-contentious; and thus a great deal of time was wasted in efforts, which unfortunately proved vain, to meet the views of the opponents of the Bill. Once again the Government left the property of a large body of taxpayers unprotected and at the mercy of the rascals who were making large profits by their dealings in pirated music. The legitimate trade grew worse and worse, as any trade naturally would if its main support were taken away from it. As an instance of the inadequacy of the law to protect the music-publishers' interests, about this time 300,000 copies of pirated music were seized in one heap; and for this the absurdly inadequate sum of ten guineas costs was ordered against the owners—to be paid if they could be found. To such a condition had the music-publishing trade been brought that a notice was issued by the leading houses to the effect that the issuing of new works would have to be discontinued until the law was amended, as the costs of purchase and the expense of publication were borne by the publishers, while the sole benefit of such publications as turned out successful would necessarily be again reaped by the pirates.

Undaunted by this defeat, Mr. O'CONNOR again returned to the charge, and drafted the Bill which we print at the commencement of this article. On the 16th of last month the House of Commons went into Committee to resume the consideration of the Bill; and by the scrupulous examination which its clauses received—a full report of which appeared in our pages—it may be truly said that never were the interests of liberty more carefully looked after. It would be a weary work to take our readers through the maze of amendments, some of which, however, such as Mr. GLADSTONE'S regarding the constable's power to seize copies of any musical work or plates and bring them before a court of summary jurisdiction, were judicious and valuable. However, nobody wishes, even in the interests of honesty, that the liberty of the subject shall be encroached upon; and perhaps it is just as well that the Bill has weathered the storm of criticisms and objections in the Commons before passing into the calmer water of the House of Lords.

We regard the third reading of Mr. O'CONNOR'S Musical Copyright Bill as a great triumph. It has been the result of long and persistent effort, of persuasion applied in many directions and extending over a considerable period, and of the hearty co-operation of honest men in united action against a body of bold and active thieves. Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR'S deep interest in all that is connected with the theatrical and musical professions has made his labour in this matter a labour of love; and the wearisome and discouraging opposition which he has had to encounter did but increase his earnestness and strengthen his resolve to achieve ultimate victory in so good a cause.

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.

Meyerbeer's *The Huguenots* was given on the night of the 26th ult. before a large audience, and the Moody-Manners company are again to be congratulated on the happy choice of an important work that has not been heard at Covent Garden this season. *The Huguenots*, though in some portions somewhat mechanical in its effects, has many happy moments and a host of charming melodies. The cast on the night to which we are now referring was on the whole excellent. Mr. Joseph O'Mara imparted great vocal interest and fine dramatic feeling to the part of Raoul, and Mme. De Vere did not spare herself in the exacting rôle of Valentine. Miss Lucy Lever impersonated Marguerite of Valois with ability, but it was evident the lady was not in her best voice, and the difficult florid music of the part somewhat severely taxed her resources. Mr. Manners was capital as the rugged old soldier Marcelle, and the famous "Piff-paff" solo was given with splendid energy; his fine, rich, deep notes also gave great effect to the old Lutheran hymn. Mr. Charles Magrath proved of great service in the character of Count San Bris; and Mr. William Dever made an excellent Count de Nevers. Miss E. Alvord gave a sprightly performance of the page Urbano, being particularly effective in her rendering of "Nobil Signor." The costumes were picturesque and handsome, and the dramatic action of the chorus in the third scene deserves great praise, also the charming ballet, with its delightful orchestration so characteristic of Meyerbeer. It was a pity, however, in this scene, that the river at the back was not shown instead of a street. All worked hard, the minor parts being well filled; and the orchestra, under Herr Eckhold, performed the familiar music admirably.

On Friday, July 27, before a crowded house, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, two examples of the modern Italian school, were given. In the first opera Mme. Blanche Marchesi enacted the part of Santuzza in a most powerful manner; Mr. Wilson Pembroke appeared as Turrida, and, inspired by Mme. Marchesi's fine acting, imparted more passion and fervour to his singing than he has hitherto shown. Mr. Marshall Vincent displayed ample energy in the character of Alfio, Miss Ethel Cadman making a pleasing Lola, Miss Arnold showing ability in the small part of Lucia. The chorus sang with great expression and capital intonation, being rewarded in the "Hymn" with an encore; the orchestra also played the popular intermezzo so finely that a repetition was demanded. In *Pagliacci* Mr. Charles Carter proved entirely in his element as Canio, acting well, and singing the dramatic "On with the motley" solo with much intensity. Miss Ethel Cadman made a charming Nedda, using her bright and telling soprano with good effect, and revealing no small ability as an actress. Mr. William Dever was the Tonio, and the famous prologue lost nothing of its interest by his clever singing. Mr. Lewys James appeared as Silvio. An excellent performance of Leoncavallo's opera was given, and the humour displayed by several of the company hugely delighted the large audience. Signor Sapio admirably conducted both operas.

Saturday last the Moody-Manners company repeated Gounod's *Faust* in the evening, another large and enthusiastic audience being present. Mme. De Vere enacted the rôle of Marguerite in a thoroughly artistic style, Mr. Wilson Pembroke taking the character of Faust, and Mr. Charles Manners again giving his admirable interpretation of Mephistopheles. Miss Mildred Bryan, who has recently joined the company, proved her talent by her skilful impersonation of Siebel. The part of Martha was carefully undertaken by Miss Arnold. Signor Sapio conducted.

In the second performance of *Eugene Onegin*, given by the Moody-Manners Company on Monday evening, there was a slight change in the cast, Miss Mildred Bryan taking the character of Olga. Miss Bryan has a charming voice, a pure mezzo-soprano, and acts with much vivacity; her fine stage presence also makes an important feature of Olga, greatly adding to the attractions of the delightful ball-room scene. As on the first night, Mr. Lewys James imparted great interest to the part of Eugene Onegin, his friend Lenski being again performed in a most skilful manner by Mr. Wilson Pembroke; while, as before, Madame Moody was a most charming Tatiana. The other characters were undertaken by the same artists as on the first occasion, Mr. Manners making a capital Prince Gremin, giving his pleasing solo, "In every age sweet love is master," with admirable expression; and the smaller parts were most adequately filled. The opera seems to gain by repetition, the delicate music making its own appeal to the cultured musician, and even if the plot is weak, the opera, as performed by the Moody-Manners Company, ought to be heard, if only for the charming letter song in the first act and the delightful ball-room scenes.

Wagner's opera, *Lohengrin*, was performed on Tuesday evening for the second time this season, with some changes in the cast. An excellent representation of the opera was given before a large audience. On this evening Madame de Vere was the Elsa, and acquitted herself admirably, being most ably supported by Mr. Joseph O'Mara in the character of Lohengrin, the music of which part, it need not be said, being beautifully rendered by the accomplished tenor. Mr. William Dever made a stalwart Telramund, and his powerful singing and acting deserve praise. Miss Toni Seiter was again an excellent Ortrud, and Mr. Charles Manners imparted great dignity to the part of the King. Mr. Marshall Vincent, as before, made a successful Herald, and the orchestra and chorus did good work under the baton of Herr Richard Eckhold. It is to be hoped that this clever company will, at no distant date, give us Bezet's popular masterpiece, *Carmen*, which would be a most welcome revival.

MR. H. CHANCE NEWTON tells in the *Tribune* of the mutual devotion which existed between Irving and Toole:—"Some few years before Irving was knighted, he chanced to have to pay a visit to an official very high in Royal circles. This official pointed out that, as Irving had done so much at the Lyceum for the rehabilitation of the British stage, it was felt by certain friends in these Royal circles that Irving should be presented to the Queen, meaning, of course, the late beloved Victoria. Irving expressed his delight at the great honour proposed to him, and requested his kind friend to let him know a date convenient to her Majesty. Irving was about to leave when the official called him back, and requested, somewhat mysteriously, that Irving "should not mention this matter outside, lest other actors, such as Mr. Toole, &c., might also think that they should be presented, too."

"'I beg your pardon,' said Irving to the official friend. 'You have just mentioned, somewhat slightingly, certain popular stage players, among them my dear old friend Toole. Now, let me tell you, sir,' added Irving, 'that Mr. Toole is not only a deservedly-renowned comedian, he is also a diligent ratepayer and taxpayer, and a man of boundless charity. In short, a truly Christian gentleman. And, besides all this,' added the actor, 'dear Johnny Toole often saved me from adversity, perhaps from starvation, at a time when I needed help as a young beginner, and if John L. Toole is not worthy to be presented to her Most Gracious Majesty, neither is Henry Irving. I wish you good-day, sir.'"

MR. EDWARD TERRY has arranged with Mr. George Leitch to represent him at Terry's Theatre during his provincial tour.

"THE DAIRYMAIDS" AT THE APOLLO.

Refreshment of a most exhilarating character is to be obtained at the Apollo, where *The Dairymaids*, which has just passed its hundredth night, brings the scent of the hayfield agreeably over the footlights. No uncertain note was sounded in the chorus of praise which arose on its production on April 14th last, and the continuity of its success throughout the year is assured by the invariably crowded state of the beautiful house. No changes of importance in the cast are apparent.

Mr. Walter Passmore overflows with high spirits as the irrepressible Sam Brudenell, his humour asserting itself at every opportunity. In singing and dancing his efforts are characterised by the finish and smartness of a practised artist. His topical song, "In Dover Street," has to be supplemented by many extra verses concerning up-to-date politics, and similar honours attend the "Song of a Sea-Serpent," the "effects" of which are secured by a number of fair ladies in green, who trail round the stage in imitation of the fabled monster.

Blythe and bonnie dairymaids are presented in the dainty persons of Miss Carrie Moore and Miss Agnes Fraser. Joyousness is the prevailing characteristic of Peggy, who is impersonated by Miss Moore with unflagging vivacity. A merry interlude is supplied in her scene of "Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor," in the merry revels of which representatives of various industries join with ludicrous results. Miss Moore is especially delightful as "The Sandow Girl," and her accomplishments are warmly admired. No less winsome is the Winifred of Miss Fraser, whose roguish rendering of "Hello, little stranger!" in which topical references are also made, is so effective that many encores are demanded. The matinée hat is severely satirised in the song, in which a quartet of juveniles lend commendable aid.

A rapid passage to fame has been secured by Mr. Dan Rolyat, whose recent success on the music halls was preceded by effective work in a touring melodrama of which his merry antics were an outstanding feature. Transplanted to musical comedy, his talents have ripened and his success as a laughter-creator has been sealed. Mr. Rolyat's effects are gained by humour of the quietest yet most pronounced description, and the mock seriousness of the seafaring Joe Mivens, his verbal perversions, and his nimble eccentricities are a distinct departure from conventional comicality, and sharpen the appetite of the most jaded playgoer. Mr. Rolyat takes his share ably of the "Poaching" duet, sung in company with Mr. Passmore, in which everything becomes fair game, and from the beginning of his struggle with the motor-car to the end of his flight with the punching-ball laughter is incessant.

Miss Florence Smythson appeals successfully to all by her maidenly modesty and girlish innocence as Hélène. Her vocal gifts are of rare quality and are utilised agreeably in "The Wild Rose," the tuneful cadences of which are rendered in a voice of such purity and sweetness that there is little wonder that the ballad has to be repeated.

A pillar of strength to the cast is found in Miss Phyllis Broughton, who plays one of her most favoured parts in that of the fair Lady Brudenell. In her scene with the incorrigible Joe Mivens the light comedy powers of this fine actress are brought agreeably into play, and in other parts of the piece her brightness and vivacity are invaluable. A clever caricature of a prim old maid is that supplied by Miss Carlotta Zerbini as Miss Penelope Pyechase. It is a real character-study, on which the experienced actress can be heartily congratulated, and contributes not a little to the thoroughness of the success attained. Another character creation is that of Miss Gracie Leigh, whose country "slavey" gives quite a new view of the maid-servant. "Mary of the Dairy" is rendered with subtle drollery, and her "Grumbles" are so pointedly enunciated that encore verses are innumerable.

Mr. Ambrose Manning is pleasingly conspicuous in the part of Captain O'Byrne, the bonhomie of the Irish naval officer never languishing. Only once does his good-fellowship appear to desert him, and that is in the "bull-milking" episode, which is very cleverly managed. Mr. Horace Lane cuts a dashing figure as Frank Brudenell, and acts with buoyancy and agility, making also a droll appearance in female habiliments. Little is left to Mr. Frank Green as Captain Fred Leverton, except to act the lover to Hélène, which he does with conspicuous gallantry. His song "Dear little girl in dreamland" is one of the prettiest numbers of the piece, and Mr. Green's cultured voice gives it every effect.

The fun and melody of the work, so admirably written by Messrs. A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, in which the musical art of Paul A. Rubens and Frank E. Tours and the lyrical attainments of Mr. Rubens and Mr. Arthur Wimperis are well displayed, is appreciated by crowded houses, who surrender themselves completely to the fascination of *The Dairymaids*, the production of which owes much to the superintendence of Mr. Courtneidge.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN, of the King's Theatre, Cardiff, sends us a copy of a letter he received this week from a stage aspirant, in which a certain amount of pathos is combined with the comedy. The letter reads as follows:—"July 30 19006 Dear Sir I write this letter asking you Sir if you could find Me a place on the Stage as a Chorris Gril Dear Sir I ham Staying in —— —— I am Staying in Lodgins whits a freind Sir Dear Sir I send you these few lines asked you Sir that I cant get in privite service I have been a barmaid Sir of corce Sir I dont want to go in to Service Sir again if could help it because I thought of getting more money SIR Dear Sir My Name is Miss —— of —— Street, —— Dear Sir I am a good singer and a fine girl of my age of 18 I throught Sir you would give a trail Sir I have not a Mother nor father because I throught of earning more money Dear Sir I am only poor girl and I throught You wolud me a trail Sir on the Stage Sir could you by next Wenday this week Let me now this at once this week. Please Sir write Back by return at once this week before Wenday."

ACTRESSES were alluded to as works of art in the Court of Chancery this week, an action was brought against a Bradford photographer for an injunction to restrain him from selling certain picture postcards. Counsel stated that plaintiff had arranged with the defendant to take photographs of Miss Godwynne Earle, Miss Daisy Jerome, and Miss Mabel Lait for the purpose of picture postcards, and ordered a number of negatives to be supplied him. Defendant retained for his own use various other negatives of the ladies, and that, counsel argued, was a breach of the implied agreement with plaintiff. The ladies were brought to defendant's studio to be photographed as works of art, and it was claimed that he took photographs for himself during his agency for the plaintiff. Both Miss Jerome and Miss Earle gave evidence, but none was called for the defence, and his lordship gave judgment for defendant, with costs, stating that he could find no implied contract on his part not to take photographs other than those ordered.

THE RED ROSE ORCHESTRA (Manton-Myatt Family) broke their tour with the Southern Syndicate last month, and in high appreciation of their services, Mme. Manton-Myatt was presented by the management with a handsome gold watch, suitably inscribed, and by the staff with an elegant long gold chain. Needless to say, the presentation was most gratifying to the members of the family, who are now filling their usual summer hotel season, and start on a continental engagement in October.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

In another column will be found a report of the action brought by Mr. Glinseretti against Mr. Harry Rickards, the well-known Australian music hall proprietor, to recover damages for an alleged breach of contract. The case was tried on Monday and Tuesday before Mr. Justice Phillimore and a jury, and a verdict in favour of the plaintiff was returned, the damages being assessed at £500. The judge left it to the jury to decide whether the troupe of acrobats which the plaintiff proposed to take to Australia were the same from a business point of view as the troupe with regard to which a contract was entered into. The case is one of extreme importance both to music hall proprietors and artists; and Mr. Rickards has decided to appeal against the decision. The result will be watched with interest. No doubt in future stricter attention will be paid to the wording of contracts with troupes of performers who are booked to appear at a distant date.

Many leading members of the variety profession have vivid recollections of the late J. L. Toole, and sincerely mourn his death. Mr. Bransby Williams, whose mimicry of leading actors is so admirable, has often related how, whenever he went to Brighton, and met Toole being wheeled along the front in a bath chair, he would delight the old actor by giving a faithful imitation of Irving's tone and manner in saying, "Well, Johnnie, how are you?" "That's Harry," Toole would exclaim with a chuckle, his face lighting up with pleasure at the familiar greeting.

The latest recruit to the variety profession is Mr. Harry Nicholls, the well-known actor, whose first London engagement was at the Surrey Theatre as second comedian. In 1876 he went to the Grecian, sharing first low comedian with the late George Conquest the elder. Four years later he was secured by Augustus Harris for Drury Lane pantomime, in which he played for fourteen years. He also took part in the autumn dramas. Later he fulfilled a four years' engagement at the Adelphi. Mr. Nicholls is about to appear at the halls in a new vaudeville sketch, in which he will play a farcical character.

On the occasion of his fourth annual benefit concert on the 27th ult., in the Town Hall, Portrush, Mr. Rowland Hill was presented by Mr. Billy Verne with a handsome silver-mounted russia leather gentleman's dressing-case.

In the attractive holiday programme at the Empire the ballet will remain the principal feature. In addition to Delibes' charming *Coppelia*, in which Mlle. Genée appears nightly, the Watteau divertissement in Wilhelm's *Cinderella* will be added to the attractions.

The annual staff outing of the Sheffield Empire Palace took place on Sunday. Accompanied by Mr. Alan D. Dunbar, the acting-manager, the party, 76 in number, left the Empire at 8 a.m. in a drag and nine carriages. On reaching Bastow the party were duly photographed. After a pleasant drive through Chatsworth Park, for which special permission was given, Matlock Bath was reached at one o'clock. A capital dinner was served at the George Hotel, after which "Success to Moss' Empires" and the health of Mr. Dunbar were drunk with acclamation, and duly responded to by Mr. Dunbar. The party left Matlock at six o'clock, after a most enjoyable day's outing, reaching Sheffield after a four hours' drive.

A new writing illusion called "Buddha's Blackboard" has been introduced at the Hippodrome. An ordinary red-ruled school blackboard is placed in a frame on a stand, and over this is locked a piece of plain wood. The introducer then calls upon the spirit of Buddha to say if he is at his service. The wooden sheet is at once removed, and the word "yes" is seen in chalk on the blackboard. In similar fashion the mysterious agency writes a number or the name of any celebrity selected by the audience. Answers to questions of a purely personal character written upon pads by members of the audience are also answered, some of the replies being exceedingly apt. The novelty has been introduced by Messrs. Auger and Bauer.

A musical sketch written by Cayley Calvert, with music by Denham Harrison, entitled *Nici, or the Belle of the Orient*, will be produced at the Cambridge on Bank Holiday by Mr. J. M. Jones, the well-known pantomime producer, who will supply a speciality of six dancers. There are thirty characters and chorus, and Mr. Johnnie Danvers, the well-known comedian, has been specially engaged to play the part of a shipwrecked sailor, a character similar to that of the Cockney hero, Billy Bowbell in the old play of *The Illustrious Stranger*. The scenery is by Messrs. W. T. Helmsley and Sons. The new production has been booked by Mr. T. G. Richards for a suburban tour.

Miss Ada Reeve, the well-known comedienne, is expected to arrive at Southampton from South Africa by the Union Castle liner Carisbrooke Castle to-day. Miss Reeve has had an enormously successful season at Johannesburg and Cape Town, where she appeared exclusively at Messrs. Hyman's two theatres, and for her nine weeks' work she received the record fee of £5000, which is the largest amount ever pair to a variety artist for an engagement for a short season as a single turn. After a brief rest at her seaside home in Dorsetshire, Miss Reeve will make her reappearance in London in a few weeks' time at the Tivoli, for which she has been exclusively engaged.

On Monday La Milo will present, at the London Pavilion, a new and striking series of classical contrasts. On account of its enthusiastic reception, her representation of the Velasquez Venus will remain in the programme. Cruikshank will add a number of familiar faces to his already large répertoire. Hal Forde, assisted by the Pavilion Girls and chorus, will appear in a new and original Oriental episode, entitled *They Never Do That in Japan*, written by John P. Harrington, composed by James W. Tate.

Mr. Will Dalton is appearing with great success at the Oxford in two very funny songs, "What a Nose" and "I must do it with the Old Man's Hat on." The hit he has made is quite exceptional. Neither of the songs will be published, and Mr. Will Dalton expects to make as big a success in the provinces shortly, where he is a great favourite.

Harry Fragson, whose clever songs at the piano have so caught on at the Tivoli, has been re-engaged, and will continue at that hall until the beginning of the Drury Lane pantomime season. Mr. Fragson has also signed a contract for three years to appear exclusively at the Tivoli.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, manager of the Walthamstow Palace, is holiday-making at Herne Bay. In his absence the direction of affairs is in the hands of Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, acting-manager.

Although hardly changing in the composition of artists, the Palace Theatre's holiday programme will undergo a complete revision. Miss Courtney, one of the newcomers, has brought some fresh ideas from America, which country is also represented in the person of Mr. Fred Niblo, whose dry style of humour has caught London's fancy. Mr. Paul Martinetti and company will revive their famous sketch *A Terrible Night*, and on the bioscope will be seen pictures quite fresh to the Metropolis.

Plans for a proposed theatre of varieties on the west side of Cheapside, Reading, have been submitted to the Drainage and Buildings Committee of the Reading Corporation by Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, architect, of Criterion Chambers, Jermyn-street, S.W., acting on behalf of Messrs. Stanhope and Co. The plans show a building designed to accommodate a total number of 1460 persons. The building has an elevation to Cheapside of about 70ft. in width with the main entrance set back behind the frontage line. There is an open private way 10ft. wide on the southern and western sides of the building, and on which the stage and scenery entrances and extra exit doors from the stage and the fauteuils abut. There are other extra exits provided for the dress circle, pit, and gallery. The materials to be used in the building are stone, brick, and concrete. The auditorium is shown to be separated from the stage by an asbestos curtain on a steel frame. The other openings next the stage will be fitted with fire-resisting doors. A hydrant installation, with fittings of similar gauge to that of the Corporation Fire Brigade, will be provided; and ventilation is proposed to be obtained by exhausts and fresh-air inlets.

The plans were referred back for amendment as several of the details contravene various sections of the Corporation Act and by-laws, and the architect was required to furnish further details as to the construction of girders and cantilevers to the circle, gallery, and roofs.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Jones (Ada Mansfield) produced last week at The Gaiety, Dundee, *The Prodigal's Return*, a new vocal scena by Albert Voyce. The reception accorded it during the week proves that Mr. Theodore Jones has secured another big success in addition to his *Jack Sheppard* production, and their many Dundee admirers are looking forward with pleasure to the return visit of the popular Welsh actor-vocalist and his wife.

The Palace Theatre, Bath, reopens on Monday next for the regular autumn season. Two houses nightly will be adhered to, and Mr. Charles Schubert will continue to act as general-manager for Mr. Frank Macnaghten. The success attending this charming little house, under the spirited management of the Macnaghten regime, has been most marked, and the coming campaign is eagerly looked forward to.

Dr. Walford Bodie has again been playing to record business at the Palace, Aberdeen, and Dundee. Despite the fact of it being his 19th annual visit, his success has been greater than ever. At both towns he has been playing to holding capacity, the large buildings being packed nightly at early door prices. The Doctor will finish his Scotch tour at Dundee on Saturday night, and will take a well-earned rest of two weeks at his beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, reopening for a long season with Mr. Oswald Stoll at the Stratford Empire, etc., all the syndicate halls to follow. He desires us to thank the hundreds of friends who have written letters of sympathy on the death of his sister, Miss Marie Walford ("Mystic Marie.")

On Friday, the 27th ult., Dr. and Mrs. Walford Bodie gave a treat to over 700 newsboys, matchboys, waifs and strays of Aberdeen at the Palace Theatre. The boys of the Oakbank Industrial School were also present, and selections were given by their pipe and brass bands. Dr. Bodie and the whole of his company appeared. The Doctor had a rousing reception. At the close of the performance Mrs. Bodie presented each child with an envelope containing a silver coin. This is the fifth annual treat given by Dr. Bodie to the poor children of his native city.

The usual monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next, at two o'clock.

On Wednesday Mr. Harry Randall was the attraction at the Victoria Pier, Folkestone, and so great was the rush of visitors—some even coming specially from Dover—to hear the comedian that Mr. J. Fenton Walsh, Messrs. Keith Prowse's courteous manager, had his hands full both afternoon and evening to accommodate patrons. Mr. Randall sang at the latter performance no fewer than five songs, viz., "At 9½d. an Hour," "Husbands (by One who has had Four)," "Cursory Rhymes," "The Boarding-House Keeper," and "Wicked Mr. Tootle." On Thursday the singer repeated his triumphs at Hastings, before returning to Margate. Future engagements at the Folkestone Pier include Miss Madge Lessing, Miss Evie Greene, and Mrs. Langtry.

Mr. George Essayan presided at the annual meeting of shareholders of the Manchester Palace of Varieties. In the directors' report it was stated that there was a net profit for the year (after deducting £750 depreciation on furniture and plant) of £8116, to which was added a balance of £473 brought forward. The directors had written off the balance of the alteration and decorations suspense account, amounting to £3000, and they recommended a dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum, free of income tax, absorbing £3500. This left a balance of £2090 to carry forward.

The Chairman, who moved the adoption of the report and accounts, said that, in spite of severe competition, the results of the year's working were such as entitled the shareholders to congratulation. The directors hoped for even further improvement in the future. While improving and considerably increasing the accommodation of the theatre, they had done the work out of revenue. Mr. A. White seconded the motion, and it was adopted. The dividend as recommended having been declared, Mr. Walter de Frece was re-elected a director. Mr. Withecomb said it was due to Mr. de Frece sending such good artists to Manchester that much of the success of the concern was due.

Mr. Bransby Williams completes his present tour in three weeks' time, and after a brief holiday will sail for America per s.s. Caronia on on Tuesday, the 28th inst. Mr. Williams will return to England to fulfil his pantomime engagement at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

One of the most novel and elaborate acts of the present time is this week being presented at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, by the Spanish Goldinis. Their nickel electric stage act is most gorgeous, and they are without doubt one of the most attractive items of the programme. The act includes carpet spinning, balancing, juggling, electric dances, &c. They will appear in the West End halls very shortly. Their agents are Cavill and Co.

The Haverleys, American song illustrators, after a successful London season, commence a seventeen weeks' tour on Monday next at the Regent Theatre, Salford, and it is strong evidence of their success that this is their fifth return visit to this comfortable theatre, where they are sure of a hearty welcome.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who has this week been singing with great success at the Palace, Leicester, her new song "If a girl like you loved a boy like me," has in preparation a new dramatic song-scena, which she will shortly produce, with special scenic effects, at one of the West End halls. The popular American soprano appears next week at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester. Her charming song-scena *Winter* has been very generally admired in the provinces.

A new light comedy sketch by George Unwin, entitled *Touched Up*, was produced by the Players at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday evening. The scene is the studio of Bob Hardup, an artist, who, as his name suggests, has not found his profession a remunerative one, He has, however, obtained a commission to paint a portrait of Lady Swearer to whose charming niece Dolly he is engaged. Sir Augustus, without any real cause, is jealous of his wife, and her frequent visits to the artist's studio excite his suspicions. Bob amuses himself by going through a mock proposal scene with a lay figure, and Sir Augustus, who is on the watch, is under the mistaken impression that the artist is making love to his wife. The matter is, however, soon cleared up to the satisfaction of the suspicious husband, who, hearing his wife approach, and not wishing to be discovered in the character of a Paul Pry, agrees to give his permission to Hardup's marriage with Dolly on condition that the artist assists him to evade Lady Swearer. There is only one thing to be done—dress Sir Augustus up as a model. This is duly carried out, and Lady Swearer and Dolly being in the secret, Hardup proceeds to make ardent love to the elder of the two ladies. In the end the artist obtains his object, consent being given to his marriage with Dolly, and Sir Augustus is cured of his foolish jealousy.

The author of the sketch, Mr. George Unwin, is an amusing representative of Sir Augustus; Mr. Herbert Ford is well placed as Bob Hardup; Miss Violet Ellicott is good as Lady Swearer, and Miss Rose Temple scores as Dolly. *Touched Up* has also been played at the Cambridge.

"You may shake, you may lose our dear Vesta Till—
Eh, but the work of the Press Agent will follow her still."

This charming bit of verse was, according to an American journal, scrawled by Justice Blanchard on his pad in the Special Term of the Supreme Court, New York, as he listened to the heated arguments of lawyers to show why the "Vesta Tilley" hat should be fully and completely protected by the trademarks issued by the United States Government. The firm of Kursman & Sons, who have been making hats named after the trousers-wearing vaudeville singer since 1894, kept right on making hats until they learned with rage and chagrin that the S. R. Riemer firm had been putting a "Vesta Tilly" hat on the market for months. Then there was rage and litigation in the millinery camps.

The Kursmans haled the Riemers to court, producing affidavits and certificates from the Interior Department at Washington to show that in 1894 Vesta Tilley gave permission to the Kursmans to name a hat after her, and that thereupon they obtained a trademark upon the name as applied to a hat so that even Vesta Tilley could not call a hat a "Vesta Tilley" hat without infringing a trademark. They admit that the Riemers call their product the "Vesta Tilly" hat, omitting the "e" in the name Tilley, but the Kursmans insist that this is no defence. Never was there a Tilly important enough to have a hat named for her, they insist, and therefore ask that the Riemers be restrained by injunction from selling any more Vesta Tilly hats. Justice Blanchard, after looking over the millinery exhibit, granted the injunction.

The Oxford announces a long and attractive array of leading variety stars for its Bank Holiday programme including Little Tich, Harry Tate in a new sketch by Wal Pink entitled *Gardening, Wilkie Bard* with new songs, the Karnos in *The Early Birds*, Will Evans, Katie Butler, Clark and Hamilton, Harry Ford, Nellie Wallace, Gus Elen, G. H. Elliott, Bros. Horne, Leslie Bros., and Nina Martino Jury's Bioscope is re-engaged with the famous Bisley pictures, and Victoria Monks remains in the bill.

The August Bank Holiday programme at the Tivoli is a highly attractive one. The popular Scotch comedian, Harry Lauder, returns to town, and makes his reappearance on the scene of former triumphs after a long absence. He promises new songs as well as some of the old ones. Harry Fragson remains to delight the audience, who nightly receive him "Most Politely." Annie Purcell, the dainty comedienne, Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, Russell Wallett (the lady in black), Nellie Wallace, Alexandra Dagmar, Lena Verdi, Sam Mayo, Athas and Collins, &c., complete the strong holiday bill of fare provided by Mr. Joseph Wilson.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's Mysteries will reopen at St. George's Hall on Bank Holiday.

Mr. Barney Armstrong has purchased the sole singing rights of a song, entitled "Your eyes are not so bright," written and composed by Will Letters. It will be sung by Miss Lena Brunton at the Richmond Theatre on the 20th inst.

The Three Rubys, after a very successful forty-two weeks' continuous tour in their Pot Pourri act, return to town for four weeks with Mr. McNaghten and one week at Richmond. They are rebooked for pantomime with Mr. Lester Collingwood, and a full Moss and Stoll tour by Mr. Geo. Aytoun.

The People's Palace, Tottenham, and the Hippodrome, Hounslow, re-open on Monday, after undergoing extensive alterations and improvements.

Mr. Lloyd Townrow will shortly produce a new farcical comedy sketch, entitled *Cleopatra's Needle; or, the Judge in a Fix*. Mr. Jesse Sparrow, to whom the sketch has been read, has expressed a highly favourable opinion of its merits.

Miss Louisa Peach will be at the Richmond Theatre next week with her clever comedy sketch, *Taming a Husband*. She will be supported by Mr. Walter Graham and Mr. Conrad Clarke.

Mr. David Day has added to the "Sixpenny Pops" Alf. J. Lawrance and H. Gifford's pretty song, "Firefly," and Miss Lil Hawthorne's great success, "My Cosy Caravan," written by the aforementioned writers in conjunction with Tom Mellor.

There has been a change in the management of the Oxford, the direction of affairs being at present in the hands of Mr. C. Blyth Pratt, who has for some years filled the position of assistant manager under Mr. Albert Gilmer.

The new spectacle at the Hippodrome will be presented by Mr. Frank Parker in September.

Mr. Brian McCullough, the well-known sketch author and actor, will re-open the Kilburn Empire on Monday with a production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and an excellent variety company. The elaborate scenery is by Mr. F. H. Bull. There will be two performances nightly at popular prices.

The Stavordale Quintette are booked to open at the Empire on the 13th inst., through the agency of Messrs. Ashton and Co., who will in future act as sole agents for this unique act.

Mr. Harry B. Wincote, in consequence of the death of Mr. Frank Weeks, the late manager of the South London, has taken on the duties of acting-manager pro tem. Mr. Wincote, who, by the way, has been associated with the place of amusement mentioned for six years, was married on the 8th ult. to Miss Florence Sarah, the honeymoon being spent at Shanklin. The happy couple received many presents, including one from Mr. and Mrs. Weeks and the staff of the hall.

Mr. Tom Hearn, "the laziest juggler on earth," writes to us from New York, enclosing a marked programme for the week beginning July 23, of the entertainment at Hammerstein's Paradise Roof Garden and Victoria Theatre of Varieties, "to show you how England is represented over here." Of the ten turns, five are marked as English. Mr. Hearn, who was engaged for one week and stayed six, adds:—The Cuttys are also English, but have been over here so many years that they are known as an American act; all their family are over here. They are considered the best musical act in the business, the salary being $750 weekly. I sail on the Minnehaha on July 28th, and expect to arrive home on August 6th. I am not booked for one week in my own country. I open at Paris on August 16th at Olympia for one month and a half. We are having plenty of English acts coming over here on spec, many of which I have never heard of, others with very small names in England. This type of act is running a big risk; they usually open at the wrong place, but then the trip is a nice one."

The Promenade Concerts under the management of Mr. Robert Forsyth at Bognor are a great acquisition to this popular seaside resort, and Mr. Forsyth is to be congratulated on repeating the success he made at Clacton.

La Tosca, the artist's model, is making a big hit with her celebrated tinted living statuary representing "Popular Paintings by Popular Painters."

Mr. John P. Harrington, the well-known song writer, is on a cycling tour from Bedford to Great Yarmouth, taking in Cambridge, Ely, King's Lynn, Hunstanton, Cromer, Norwich, etc., *en route*. He is staying a few days at each of the towns mentioned. His partner, Mr. Jas. W. Tate, is also away holiday-making.

Mr. George C. Doughty will commence on Monday at the Ardwick Empire a tour of the Moss-Stoll halls with his smart comedy sketch *Captain Cupid*. Mr. Doughty will be supported by Miss Phyllis Atherleigh.

Mr. Alf. J. Lawrance, the well-known author and composer, fishing from a pier on the Kentish coast on Tuesday, hooked and landed a splendidly marked wrasse of one and three-quarter pounds.

Mr. Charles Wilmott, the well-known lyrist and librettist, and private secretary to Mr. David Day, is enjoying a well-earned holiday at Boscombe.

Mr. B. G. Maclachlan, who since Christmas has held the position of manager of the Glasgow Coliseum, has just been appointed by Mr. Stoll to the managership of the Shepherd's Bush Empire, in place of Mr. Dobson. Mr. Maclachlan was for many years Mr. Macdona's principal manager, and possibly in that capacity has witnessed more performances of the *Geisha* than any man living. Mr. H. Burdette, who was assistant to Mr. Maclachlan at the Glasgow Coliseum, has been appointed manager of that house, an appointment which has given universal satisfaction.

On Sunday last the employees of the Glasgow Pavilion had their first annual outing. The party numbered seventy-four in all, and included Mr. Samuel Lloyd (general-manager), Mme. Lloyd, Mr. Howard W. Galpin (musical director), Councillor Caldwell, and *The Era* correspondent for Glasgow. The route selected was via Dumbarton to Balloch, where the company sat down to dinner in a marquee picturesquely situated in the grounds of Balloch Hotel.

At the conclusion of the dinner a short toast list was gone through, the company, with enthusiasm, pledging the toasts of "The King," "The Pavilion Directors," "The Visitors," "The General-Manager," and "The Musical Conductor and Orchestra." These latter having been responded to in short but pithy speeches, the entire party embarked in rowing boats on the River Leven, and pulled up to Loch Lomond, where two steam launches were in waiting to convey the company on a cruise round the loch and the many picturesque islands which render it so charming.

The weather conditions were absolutely perfect all day, and the trip was an enthusiastic success. The return to Balloch Hotel was made about six o'clock, and after tea, the time was filled in with boating, walking, and the taking of snap-shot photos of the company by Mr. Howard W. Galpin. About 8 p.m. a start was made for Glasgow, which was reached shortly before eleven, and the opinion was generally expressed that it had been, in the words of Burns, "a ne'er-to-be-forgotten day."

Mr. Frank Coyle was wired for by Mr. Wilmot to open at the Lyric, Liverpool, on Monday, and having repeated the great success he achieved in St Helens last week, has been booked the full tour.

The Tivoli, Leeds, reopens next Monday under the same management, but renamed the New Hippodrome. The building has undergone, during the recess, extensive renovation and decoration, and presents a charming appearance.

Marie Santoi, who is the original producer of Japanese scenas in the variety halls, is leaving town for a four months' provincial tour, returning on November 19.

The Smythsons are leaving town for fourteen weeks' tour of Moss and Stoll Empires, opening at Sheffield on Monday next.

Mr. S. Smalley having joined partnership with Mr. Thomas Mattinson, a well-known local business man, will reopen the Hippodrome, Castleford, for the season, commencing Monday, the 20th inst.

Miss Florrie Bray, the dashing comedienne, appeared at the Hippodrome, Hastings, this week in place of Miss Rosie Lloyd, who was unable to fulfil her engagement through indisposition. After singing three songs Miss Bray had to bow her acknowledgments many times, the audience demanding more. She has some excellent songs, together with a good voice and appearance.

Chirgwin has this week met with a most enthusiastic and flattering reception at the Palace, Plymouth. He has been devoting his spare time to fishing and swimming, and in a brief note addressed to us there is an obscure allusion to "junket and cream twice a day."

Mr. Charles Matthews, who appeared at the Queen's Theatre, Gateshead, last week, and John Higgins, who is fulfilling an engagement at the same house this week, have been matched to jump for £100 and the world's championship. The contest was announced to take place at the Metropole, Gateshead, last night.

The staff of the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, held their first annual outing on Sunday last. Previous to starting they were photographed, after which they left in char-a-bancs for a drive to Cunning Corner, by way of Blackstone Edge. After tea had been partaken of, a vote of thanks was given to the management for their kindness in giving the treat, and this was suitably responded to by Mr. W. Howgate, assistant-manager. The party arrived home shortly after ten o'clock, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The 474th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Chas. Coborn (in the chair), J. Alexander, Peter Bijou, H. Griff, Fred Herbert, Walter Munroe, Albert Voyce, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them discussed. Cases of refunds and insurances were considered, and instructions given. The opinion was expressed that if all artists would attend at the various agents' offices between 12.30 and 1 o'clock on Saturdays it would greatly facilitate the arrangements and save the committee a deal of time and trouble afterwards in adjusting disputes which might thus be avoided.

A letter was read from Miss Gore-Booth acknowledging the committee's vote of thanks, adding that she would be always very glad if she could be of any assistance in future to the ladies of the profession when any political attacks were made upon them. Similar sentiments were expressed in a letter from Miss Hester Roper. The Rev. Stewart D. Headlam also acknowledged the vote of thanks, and said he was glad to do something for the gymnasts and acrobats. It would be necessary for them to be on their guard for next year. What was wanted was that the clause in the 1904 Act which provides for the training of the young should be repealed; and legislation, if necessary at all, should be directed against foolhardy amateurs. The real influence behind the Bill, he thought, was a Puritan one. Whenever the fight was renewed Mr. Headlam assured them that they would not be without helpers.

The hon. treasurer presented his financial statement, by which it appeared that £100 had been duly paid to the deposit account. The secretary's statement for the week ending July 28 showed the addition of twenty-six new members, the receipts being £26 and the expenditure £11 7s. 11½d. Attention was called to the unsuitability of a certain provincial agency, and the secretary was instructed to take steps with a view to changing it.

The New Cross Empire celebrated its seventh birthday on Wednesday night last. Despite tropical weather, five minutes after the doors opened at 5.30 the house was packed from floor to ceiling. Mr. Ernest Bridgen has now been manager seven months, and his great popularity is evident if only by the fact that 271 telegrams of good wishes were received by him from all parts of London and the country. Mr. Bertie Shelton (one of Mr. Beerbohm Tree's late managers) and Mr. Will Collins were the hon. stage managers, and the following artists contributed to a six hours' programme:—Cabaret's Dogs, Lizzie Fletcher, the Bisera Troupe, Harris and Worth, Spry and Monti, Colbitt, Johnnie and Charlie, Phil Ray, John Donald, the Melody Makers, Leonard Fletcher, Datas, Victoria Monks, Newell and Niblo, Arthur Lennard, Bella and Bijou, Lily Esplin, Ben Nathan, Florence Schubert, Griff, Nipper Lupino Lane, Billy Hobbs, the Darktown Entertainers, T. E. Dunville, the Glenroys, Herbert Lloyd, Edie King, the Harvey Boys, Ella Shields, the Gothams, Elsie Bernard, Brilliant and Brilliant, the Carlyles, Miniature Marie, George Robey, Harry Grey, the Blossom Quartette, R. H. Douglass, and the Sakers.

Rumour again associates the Coliseum with the Covent Garden syndicate, another offer having, it is said, been made to take over the theatre with the view of opening the building next season as an opera house. The proposal was first suggested many months ago, when the Westminster site for the home of opera was discussed.

Owing to the great success of the Terriers' Annual River Outing, and the many requests for a repetition, the executive committee have arranged for another trip on Sunday, the 26th inst., from Hampton Court to Old Windsor and back. Early application to the secretary, Harry Lester, is necessary, as the number is limited.

As successor to Mr. Charles Wilson, the directors of the Alhambra have appointed Mr. A. G. Forde stage manager at that house. Mr. Forde, trained in the traditions of grand ballet, and well accustomed to the hard tasks imposed by its preparation, has already been identified with many of the Alhambra's greatest successes, he having produced at that establishment, *Aladdin*, *Ali Baba*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Sir Arthur Sullivan's *Victoria and Merrie England*.

Mr. Bannister-Howard has had an excellent company of entertainers during the week at the café chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace. The afternoon and evening shows at this delightfully situated place of amusement are every day becoming more popular. The Great Hercat has been the chief attraction. His wonderful feats of magic and conjuring and his clever ventriloquial and comic sketches are a whole entertainment in themselves. Tomps and Wells, the eccentric musical comedians, who have now been a fortnight at the Palace, thoroughly deserve the popularity they have gained. It is somewhat refreshing to find two men who can be so quietly funny, and their entertainment is absolutely free from vulgarity. The other artists include Miss Florrie Fairfax, vocalist and mimic, and Miss Clarice Rayner, the lady baritone.

Harry Marlow and May Manton, who are playing their clever skit on a day nursery, entitled *Other People's Babies*, have been very successful with provincial audiences since its production in February. Leaving London with only one week booked, they were immediately secured by several managers, who have kept them busy ever since. Their engagements extend into 1908, and this novel act will be seen in London the first week in September.

The following are the names of artists leaving per the Kildonan Castle from Southampton to-day for South Africa to fulfil engagements at the Empire Palace, Johannesburg—Les Trombetta, the Bros. Maningo, Nowel and Niblo, the Sisters Crystal, Miss Cissie Paris. Amongst artists arriving home from South Africa on the same day are Fred Land, Kitty Timms, Bounding Pattersons, Stuart, De Witt, Burns and Torrance, and Miss Ada Reeve.

Ernie Myers and Lily Lonsdale have been engaged by Mr. Fred Karno to play principal parts in his Christmas production at the Palace, Manchester.

Chevalier T. H. Crowther, champion skater and swordsman, after two and a half years' idleness through an attack of rheumatism, made a distinct success at a large garden party on Monday last, and has booked several Continental dates.

Owing to the success achieved on the special weeks that variety has been the attraction at the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole have decided to run this old-established place of amusement as a variety theatre on the two-houses-a-night principle. Country visitors, and especially those on market days, have been hitherto unable to stay to see the whole of the plays (except on certain nights), but will now be able to attend the first house and have ample time to catch their trains and arrive home at a reasonable hour. The opening takes place on August Bank Holiday, when a very strong bill will be placed before the patrons. Topping the bill are Lotto, Lilo and Otto; Ada Cerito is in the middle, whilst Kitty and Wyndham are at the bottom. The other turns announced are Jimmy Shields, Sisters Stratton, the Eugenes, and several others.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EUSTON.

Messrs. Leonard Mortimer and company are appearing here this week in what is correctly described as "a weird and sensational sketch" entitled *Spectres*. Mr. Mortimer is the author of the piece, which purports to be "the true story of a West End haunted house," and plays the leading male character, one Leyland Nyte, "a man of mystery." The house is appropriately called "The Shadows," and here is kept a prisoner, under the excuse that she is insane, Linda, the wife of Leyland Nyte. She is in charge of an old man named Ainslie, who is in the power of her husband, inasmuch as he has committed forgery and is in fear of being denounced by Nyte should he set that scoundrel at defiance. We also learn that Nyte's object is to compel his unhappy wife to sign certain papers handing over her property to him; and this explains her imprisonment. Her sister, Lelia Romain, a famous actress, visits the haunted mansion in search of Linda, who has been missing; and other visitors are Ainslie's son Mark, a rackety young fellow, and his friend Douglas Lane, a barrister, who is in love with Lelia. Finding the front door open, they resolve to explore the mysterious house. While Lane is making a voyage of discovery in another part of the premises Mark, hearing a cry for help, is about to break open the door of an adjoining room, when Nyte appears and fires a shot at him, also disabling him by means of a secretly-delivered electric shock. A series of sensational scenes follow. The young barrister's suspicions are aroused when he discovers that Lelia is in the house; and she demands of Nyte the release of her sister. She threatens him with a knife, and there is an exciting struggle between the two; but eventually the young men come to the rescue, and the sisters are reunited. Mr. Leonard Mortimer is consistently impressive as the villain Leyland Nyte, Mr. Leonard Robson is a manly Douglas Lane, and Mr. Reginald Weighill introduces some much-needed humorous relief as Mark Ainslie, his comic terror at being left alone in a room in the haunted house causing considerable merriment. Mr. W. S. Hartford renders valuable assistance as the guardian of "The Shadows," Miss Edith Lewis is a good representative of Lelia, and Miss Ida Clifford successfully appears as Linda.

Mr. Ryder Stone takes high rank as a clever comedian, and his embodiment of that familiar stage character a policeman, who boasts that he can drink more beer than any other "Bobbie" in the force, is exceedingly funny. His encounter with a spectacled lad who crosses the stage eating an apple and reading a book causes hearty laughter. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finder appear in their duologue entitled *A Desperate Remedy*, which relates to the quarrels of a married couple. The lady produces a large bottle labelled "Poison—prussic acid," and pours some of the contents into a glass, at the same time threatening to commit suicide. Unknown to her, the husband substitutes Scotch whisky, vows he will live no longer, and gulps down the liquid, to the horror of his wife. His pretended agonies are most amusing; indeed, the little piece is capitally played all through. Professor Dunning continues to score with his ventriloquial performance, and appearing later as an illusionist under the name of Kahn performs very neatly tricks with billiard balls, coloured handkerchiefs, &c., concluding with the production and display of a number of national flags. Foreman and Lannan, who delight to address each other as "Percy" and "Harold," are old favourites, and their funny patter is very welcome. Mr. James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, also meets with his usual success; Miss Evelyn Taylor sings a couple of songs in acceptable style; and the graceful, supple young lady known as Nadji gives a remarkable performance in which she shows how it is possible to travel up and down stairs on one's hands, and holding on to a piece of leather by the teeth to become for the time being a human teetotum. Mr. Fred McAvoy is the courteous manager at this hall, assisted by Mr. Chas. E. Wellman as acting-manager and Mr. Opferman as the efficient musical director.

CHELSEA PALACE.

We are pleased to be able to state that, although Mr. Edward Swanborough is still confined to his house through illness, his condition has undergone an improvement. Next week he goes to Hove for a period of convalescence, and we hope that when he returns to Chelsea the veteran manager will be completely restored to health. During his absence Mr. J. Norman Berlin is attending in a capable manner to the requirements of the house. This week capital audiences have assembled to partake of the enjoyments furnished by a programme containing clever items. Mr. Reginald Leyland would upset the gravity of a misanthrope with his burlesque scena, *A Visit to the Royal Italian Opera*. In his introductory remarks he is unblushingly candid. "Fancy goes a long way," he says, and on that hypothesis he leaves himself in the hands of his audience, after telling them that he will make up the opera as he goes on. The task would seem to the average man a very burdensome one, but Mr. Leyland is quite cheerful about it. And very soon his cheerfulness is shared by his hearers. Seated at the piano, he accompanies himself to the singing of such difficult classical operatic masterpieces as "Italiano, Ice-creamo"! We need say no more to indicate the character of the "musical passages" to which we are treated, and which furnish abundant reason for laughter. Miss Dollie Denton is a dainty comedienne who sings coon songs in an enchanting way, and dances most gracefully. Miss Flo Penley and Mr. George English have an extremely entertaining and bright little sketch, the title being *In Ould Kildare*. In their Irish comedy characterisations the two clever artists contrive to be exceedingly amusing.

There is a new production this week at the Chelsea Palace in

"UNDER THE SEAL."

Father David (a Priest)..MR. HERBERT HARDEN
Isaac Fogdale .....MR. MORRIS SEATON
P.C. 147 .....MR. E. J. WOOLLEY
Bet .....MISS MARGARET PARKER

The story is dramatic in the extreme, and, on the whole, is well told. The brother of a priest, Father David, has been murdered by a ruffian in revenge for his victim's action in getting him sentenced to a long "stretch" for wife murder. Fogdale, the murderer, tells Father David under the privileges of the secret Confessional of his crime, and then proceeds to taunt the priest that the latter's lips are sealed by the laws of the Church to which he belongs. Fogdale leaves, promising to return later. Bet, seemingly a servant of the priest, enters the room, and quickly realises that Father David is more than usually perturbed in mind. Before long, with the aid of the instinctive curiosity of her sex, she has a shrewd idea of what is troubling the thoughts of the holy man, and decides to enact the rôle of an eavesdropper when Fogdale pays his next visit. The latter turns up in due course to continue his persecution of Father David, but this time the priest sternly informs him that their interview is a conversation between man and man, and that his repetition of the admission of guilt cannot now be concealed from the authorities as if it had been uttered, as on the previous occasion, in the confessional box. Bet, who has heard all, sends for the police, but before the representatives of law and order arrive, there is a desperate struggle, during which Fogdale, while attempting to stab the priest, inflicts mortal injury upon the faithful little servant girl. Miss Margaret Parker in the rôle of the latter shows that she is equally at home in low comedy as in tragedy, and her characterisation is a most praiseworthy one. Her death scene is particularly pathetic and affecting. Mr. Herbert Harden seems to be well fitted for the rôle of the priest. His dignified, thoughtful, and scholarly representation is adequate in every respect. Mr. Morris Seaton is thoroughly convincing as the ruffian, and his Fogdale is an admirable study of a certain type of criminal.

Mr. Ben Albert indulges in absurdly comical discourses on the relative merits and demerits of the sexes, and his quaint epigrams keep the house in a state of uproarious merriment. The humour of his lines is accentuated by his really funny facial expressions. The Sisters Desmond, in a lively "part song," join issue against each other on the question of motors v. horse-drawn carriages. The lady who urges the advantages of the more old-fashioned vehicle seems to get most support from the audience, but as the argument is only intended to amuse, what matters it if a trap is safer than a motor-car, or if a motor-car travels more quickly than a pony? Of one thing the charming sisters do convnce us—that they are character duettists of much ability. The Three Laurels jump and spring and turn somersaults on and from a spring ping-pong table with amazing agility and rapidity, and Edie Veno is a chic and sprightly comedienne and dancer, whose verses ending with the query, "Is it you, Mr. Brown?" gain her no small favour. Mr Tom Leamore, as a County Council park-keeper, cuts a ludicrous figure, and his jokes concerning the experiences of such officials tickle one's fancy immensely. He is excruciatingly whimsical both in this and in his succeeding song. Hilarity is once more to the fore when the Folkstones come upon the stage and tell us all about "swimming the Channel." A world of droll notions are laid open to us in their bathing scene, and nothing could exceed the energetic fashion in which they engage in a variety of sportive antics.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Mr. J. C. Coe's programme at the Hammersmith Palace this week is largely composed of turns that make for laughter, and a humorous offering that found decided favour on Monday was the new and original farcical comedy act, *Nursery Pets*, submitted by Mr. Tom Fancourt and Miss Jennie Ruble. The "nursery pets" are a couple of exceptionally precocious youngsters, Reggie and Sissie, who decide to emulate their elders, and go in for theatricals. After some amusing introductory business they give a brief exhibition of their ability as descriptive vocalists, and cause much hilarity by some burlesque acting, in which Reggie impersonates a bold, bad pirate, and his sister the helpless maiden. One of the cleverest things in the trifle is a duet which we may call "Park-lane, Petticoat-lane, and Drury-lane," in which the couple, especially Mr. Fancourt, do some particularly smart quick changes, each character represented being excellent. Another very successful impersonation of Mr. Fancourt's is that of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the speech which he delivers being punctuated with laughter. The versatile and hard-working couple also introduce a capitally worked fire rescue scene, and the playlet, which is admirably staged, also included many other entertaining items.

No Parson Required, the new Scottish farcelet which concludes the programme, is also of a most amusing nature. A quartette of lovers, Kitty and Charlie and Bill and Emma, are holiday-making in Scotland. It is the last day of their rustication when the curtain rises, and the merry party have just come across an ideal spot in which to picnic at the foot of the Cheviot Hills. In the midst of their meal they are disturbed by the appearance of a dour Scotchman, who informs them that they must clear off, as his master, a highly moral man, objects to the presence of "lovers" on his land. Married folk, however, can stay there as long as they like, and as the picnickers are so comfortable they declare they were only joking, and are united in wedlock. They are, of course, unaware that, according to the law of Scotland, if after twenty-one days' residence a man and woman declare themselves husband and wife before two witnesses it constitutes an irregular but legal Scottish marriage; but the grim Highlander soon informs them, and as each maid has somehow become attached to the wrong man the situation is decidedly awkward. In the end it is discovered that they have been in Scotland just an hour short of the required time, and they quickly decamp over the border; but not before the wily Scotchman has emptied the whisky bottle and accepted all the bawbees the distracted lovers have in their possession. The farce, which contains many witty lines, is capitally acted by Mr. Roy Cochrane and the company supporting him, and compels laughter from beginning to end.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden present their screaming absurdity *Two to One*, Mr. Finden cleverly doubling the characters of the stuttering husband and the gentleman whom his wife mistakes for him, the funny dialogue and situations evoking much merriment; and there is much that is amusing in the boxing act of the Brothers Curran, a smart exhibition of the "noble art" concluding a well-worked and entertaining interlude. Miss Flo Cecil sings of the charms of "Carrie from Camden Town," a damsel who apparently knows her way about; and also has a pleasing number in the "Bamboo Bungalow," the dainty step dance which accompanies it being especially appreciated. Some of the heartiest applause heard during the evening was accorded Mr. John M'Culay for his artistic singing, in character, of "The Vagabond" and "There's magic in the Drum"; Mr. Ted Cowan created mirth by his droll rendering of "Dearie, Oh Dearie Me," and another nonsense song; and the programme also included Mlle. Eugénie Fougère, in French songs and imitations, and the Parisian dance, "La Mattchiche," and a particularly varied and interesting series of animated pictures, produced under the supervision of the management, especially appreciated being Raid on a Gambling Den, The Smugglers, Dolly Varden, Japanese and English Sports, Rescued in Mid Air (a very ingenious and funny film), and the Night of the Party.

SADLER'S WELLS.

It seems questionable whether people will ever get tired of witnessing Dickens impersonations, and certainly their interest should not easily fade while they are presented in the capable manner which marks the representations of Miss Eva Hope and Mr. Jack Wayho at Sadler's Wells this week. These two artists appear in three different scenes, namely, those between Nancy and Bill Sykes, the Little Marchioness and Dick Swiveller, and the death of Poor Jo. There is a sufficiently strong contrast between these selections from the great author's works to admit of Miss Hope and Mr. Wayho showing how versatile they can be when the opportunity offers, and in each of the characterisations referred to these clever artists act intelligently and with sound dramatic appreciation of the different types of individuals they portray. Miss Jenny Belmore is an acceptable male impersonator. In fact, when she first comes on, and before we hear her speak, it is difficult to come to a decision as to her sex, so deceptive is her make-up. Her vocalisation, as applied to "An Englishman's Castle is his Home" and "Come along, old chap," is full of character and expression. The Rushworths have a pleasing little entertainment consisting of illustrated songs written and composed by themselves. "My true-hearted Irish lad" and "Heroes who have never been to war" are the themes round which the verses are written, and the coloured pictures thrown upon the screen add an attractive ness to the ballads.

An engaging little comedienne who charms with her singing and dancing is Miss Ada Merry, who should be heard of in the future. Her song about her dolly is a pretty number prettily rendered. Collinson's company of juveniles in their "topsy-turvy school" engage in uproariously funny antics. The youngsters are a particularly bright lot, and deliver songs and pirouette round the stage in the sprightliest fashion. Mr. Jack Collinson as a schoolmaster somewhat given to habits of inebriety is an extremely comical figure. His latest contribution to the world of amusement finds great favour, the audience demanding recall after recall. A ventriloquist who makes one wonder what the human voice is not capable of doing is King Leo. His vocal illusions, if we may so describe his line of business, are skilfully arranged, and he is rewarded with loud and continued applause for the singing of a few verses of a popular ballad, "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," which seems to emanate from his dummy. Jack and May McKenzie are delightfully amusing in the duologue, *Married for Money*. It is the story of two lovers who perpetrate a fraud upon each other, each thinking that the other has a fortune. Marriage, of course, levels fiction down to fact, but everything ends happily enough. *Married for Money* is an agreeable petite diversion, and the McKenzies act in spirited style. Rozelle distinguishes himself in the direction of gymnastics, his various feats being neatly and smartly performed.

Picturesquely mounted, beautifully dressed, and capably presented is the dramatic episode in three acts, *Ye Ladye Godiva*. The plot is based on the historical incident with which the name of Coventry is indissolubly associated. The company is that of Miss Josephine Colona, who proves herself a graceful actress in the title-rôle. She possesses elocutionary powers of no mean order, and has mastered the art of dramatic gesture and motion. Added to these qualities she has a striking and handsome personality. Mr. W. H. Samo brings dignity and manliness of demeanour to his portraiture of Earl Leofric, and his delivery of the lines allotted to him is distinctly commendable. The parts of Peeping Tom and Bibeau are effectively sustained by Mr. F. H. Neville and Mr. Charles Bowen respectively, and the other members of the company ably assist in the production. A dainty juvenile comedienne and dancer faces the footlights in the person of Miss Maudie Francis, a daughter of the manager of the Brixton Empress; and a very accomplished child she is; and Mr. Harry Zetter wins golden opinions for his diverting comedy and eccentric dancing turn. Intense merriment is created by the series of cinematograph views shown by Raymond and Son's Bio-Tableaux, and pictorially describing how an advertisement for a watchdog is replied to. All manner of people, leading by the string and carrying all manner of dogs, from the ferocious mastiff to the harmless pug, are seen rushing through the gateway of a mansion in the hope of doing business, and the motley gathering affords a most ludicrous sight.

THE GRANVILLE.

During the dog-days, with insupportable heat outside, many of the music halls keep delightfully cool, thanks to the sliding roof and other facilities for toning down the temperature, and at the pretty Walham Green theatre of varieties Mr. Robert W. Duce sees to it that advantage is taken of all these aids to comfort. The hot weather also seems to have caused talent to spring up like mushrooms at the Granville. A better all-round programme has seldom been presented. The Delevines are in great form in their musical mélange and knockabout absurdity, entitled *Flipp and Flopp*, in which the said Flipp and Flopp try to take it out of the young squire on account of his attentions to Peggy, the barmaid, a charming young person. They introduce some wonderful contortionist business as a couple of scarecrows, and altogether give a very clever and entertaining show. The Harmony Four make a distinct and palpable hit in their fantastical and funny original musical medley. Each in his way is invaluable to the combination—Mr. T. C. Bergeron at the piano as Professor Schutz, Mr. F. M. Barrett full of dry humour as the porter Mike Murphy, Mr. John Lloyd as a sweet-voiced clubman Reginald Astorbilt, and last, but not least, Mr. E. Hughes as the irrepressible and resourceful Happy Hooligan. Roars of laughter accompany the action of the sketch.

A scena in a more serious vein, but pleasantly devised and well written, is the Napoleonic episode, entitled *The Emperor's Divorce*, capitally acted by Bayne and Hope (Ronald and Evelyn) on the familiar lines of the play entitled *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Carlotta Levey is in great form and as popular as ever in her songs "Learn to labour and to wait," and her latest ditty, with a moral, entitled "Sympathy" she renders her songs with great spirit and vivacity. Miss Amber Austa is a charmingly original and droll comedienne and dancer, with a marvellous facility for making bricks without straw, for there is really nothing in her song "Any Ice"; the success achieved is due to the admirable way in which she renders it, and the attractive abandon of the dance which follows. Hughes and Elliott, speciality dancers and sand-dancers, also apparently revel in their work, and are liveliness and dexterity personified. Miss Lilian Lowe is a vocalist with a marvellously strong and sweet voice, a combination not always found together, and her rendition of "The flight of ages" and "The song that reached my heart" gains tumultuous and well-deserved applause. Frank Hartley is, indeed, as the programme specifies, a clever boy juggler. He performs some exceedingly difficult tricks with a neatness and ability worthy of a more practised hand, and his imperturbable manner and unvaried *sangfroid* are delightful. Maggie Rennie is a taking little comedienne who sings and dances prettily, though her songs "I ain't no use for sleep" and "I wonder if the girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me" are not much in themselves. Mr. Charles Lilburn is a great favourite with his droll ditties "Better than nothing at all" and "He died of a broken heart." Mr. Sydney Dolf is undoubtedly clever and original, though if he styled himself a clever conjuror instead of a mimic it would be just as apropos of his performance. The Thurban Trio of vocalists and instrumentalists add singing and dancing to their accomplishments, and contribute a very lively turn. Mr. Frank Leslie scores as the kerbstone millionaire; Mr. Fred Kuton causes roars of laughter in his whimsical ditty "I'm not supposed to know what I'm about," his droll facial play helping considerably; Woodhouse and Wells are capital patter comedians and the Vernon's Bioscope is as admirable as ever.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

A novel entertainment was presented here on Friday night by Bruno and Bianco, the former of whom undertakes to coin money in full view of the audience. He exhibits flat strips of silver, afterwards passing them through a machine which stamps out discs about the size of a sixpence. He then inserts each into another machine, which is supposed to mill the coin, and finally pours acid on them to complete the process. The finished sixpences appear in some mysterious manner in envelopes which members of the audience have previously sealed and affixed their names and handed on to the stage. Mr. Bert Dent takes a leading part in the above. He is on the stage all the time, explaining the whole process to the audience, as each item occurs. Bianco's business consisted chiefly of producing out of one bottle any drink asked for by the audience.

The programme this week is of the usual excellence. The novelty entitled *The Trunk of Tantalus* is introduced by the popular local manager, Mr. Bert Dent. Mr. Jones, the commercial traveller, while showing his samples to a certain tradesman, suddenly discovers he has only ten minutes in which to catch his train. The station is five minutes walk from the shop, leaving him five minutes in which to repack his trunk with thirteen parcels of samples. A sovereign was offered to anyone who could accomplish this feat within the time named, but no one was successful on the night of our visit.

Jock M'Kay, billed as the new Scotch comedian, sang with success "Duncan Donald" and "Piper McIndoo." The Idento Brothers gave a capital exhibition of their skill as jugglers. C. Garnet Vayne and company appeared in a well-acted dramatic episode entitled *A Righted Wrong*, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope exhibited a new and interesting series of pictures. Miss Mabel Thorne, who was enthusiastically encored, sang in capital style "My Jack's come home to-day," "Oh, Mr. Green," "The Coalman's Wife," and "The Spider and the Fly." Gus Dallon's speciality, entitled *Snapshots*, was well received, and deservedly so, it being a clever ventriloquial and juggling turn. "The Big Four," viz., Callan, Morian, Kennedy, and Evans, were excellent alike in song, dance, and patter, and *Darky Frolics* was one of the best items on the programme. Mac and Hill introduced some original and amusing patter, and sang "Gentlemen" with capital effect. Miss Vesta Rich greatly pleased her audience by her charming rendering of "Spoon with me" and "Jack and Jill." Avon and Crest created an excellent impression with their clever dialogue. There were several extra turns, including Mr. Dan Carter, who sang "I'd like a little bit of that" and "Got it first pop," and was rewarded with considerable applause, and Mr. Eric Brand, who was well received in "Danger in Delay" and "Happy 'cos she's dead."

EALING HIPPODROME.

The Bioscope is always an attractive item in a variety programme, and, as introduced here this week by Ruffell's Imperial Co. in the "Phantom Ride to Monte Carlo," is especially welcome. The films are beautifully coloured, and almost free from the painful flickering that so often mars their effect. The starting point of the ride is upon the Place de l'Opéra in Paris, where an excited crowd "assists" at the departure of the "phantom motor. After a *contretemps* or two at Dijon railway station, where the car plays "leap-frog" with the officials, it is seen careering over the topmost heights of the Maritime Alps, and ultimately the "phantoms" invade the gardens of Monte Carlo. Another incident illustrated is "Boot-cleaning." A handsome society girl stops to have her tan-coloured boots polished. Filled with admiration at so dainty a spectacle, dozens of the sterner sex collect, and upon the lady's departure a crowd of "gilded youth" follows in pursuit. By train, tram, omnibus and street she is pursued, but ultimately Cupid appears upon the scene in the person of a sedate-looking curate, and all ends happily. This moving picture depicts the most "up-to-date" rendering of the "pursuit of pleasure," and was heartily applauded.

In the majority of her songs Miss Carlotta Levey conveys a moral lesson, and this is particularly so in "Sympathy," which she warbles very sweetly. Although, perhaps, not possessing so catching a refrain as her second number, "Put a little bit away for a rainy day," yet there is present a tender melodiousness that lingers long upon the ear. Miss Levey occupies an unique position in the estimation of West Londoners, and since her great success as "principal boy" in the King's Theatre pantomime last Christmas she has grown in popular favour, and her reception here this week shows how thoroughly this popularity is deserved. An attractive and chic young vocalist, who certainly, so far as Ealing is concerned, appears for the first time, is found in Miss Aline Sudbury. Endowed with a fresh young voice and a charming personality, she not only sings with distinction but also acts her songs admirably, while her movements upon the stage are instinct with freedom and grace. Her first song, "Marguerite," is given with excellent effect. Upon a recall "Come back to Erin" was substituted. Miss Sudbury wears the Irish peasant costume, and with her pretty bare feet presents the ideal picture of an Emerald Isle colleen; her turn is an altogether delightful one.

Mr. Tom Costello in his *Lovely Woman on the Warpath* has seized upon the irrepressible Suffragettes for his theme, and exploits it for all it is worth. Assisted by four irate exponents of "woman's rights" the maximum of fun is extracted from the little sketch, which is received with roars of laughter. Diving beneath the surface, there is something more than pathos in Mr. Costello's scena of the *Clown of Old Drury*, and as he for the last time dons his wig we appear to be assisting at the "swan-song" of this particular character. The Musical Silvo, soloist on musical glasses and silver chimes, has some novelties in the way of sweet sound producers. His proficiency upon the concertina is well known, and he is equally successful with other and more weird instruments upon which he essays his skill. Roze and Calvert, comedy artists, produce one of those frolicsome episodes which find much favour nowadays, and which are the medium in this particular little scena for some clever fooling and singing. Woodhouse and Wells are comedians and patterers of the first order, and are—as they claim to be—thoroughly original. Their travesty of a hunting song is most amusing, and they have some very good cross-talk, while the skilful use one of the gentlemen makes of his stick is an entertainment in itself.

Mr. Jake Friedman in his "One Man Opera" is extremely droll, and his quaint way of announcing himself is exceptionally funny. He is in continuous difficulties in his efforts to induce Mr. Neale's orchestra to accommodate itself to the exigencies of the "One Man Opera," while he is in positive terror of the big drum. Needless to say, an artist of so many parts is well received. The Papillons, four dainty dancers and singers, in a butterfly *pas de quatre* coupled with a tuneful song, are responsible for some fine dancing associated with very graceful acrobating. The turn is greatly appreciated, and the four pretty Butterflies in blue have a good reception. The Sisters Poole appear in an elegant society entertainment of the sort which is always popular, and their step-dancing is excellent. A selection from *The Geisha* is ably rendered by Mr. W. Neale's admirably-directed band. Mr. E. W. James has a capable and courteous acting-manager in Mr. C. M. Lurring.

A STRONG RESEMBLANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Kindly permit me, in reply to your correspondent Mr. Charles Darrell, to state that I have not had the pleasure of witnessing the sketch he refers to.

Nell of the Music Halls was played and copyrighted in the year 1900, and has been played, not "since last March," but for these six years, all through America, both by the authoress, Miss Marion Russell, and myself. The original manuscript, authenticated at Washington, U.S.A., is in the hands of my solicitor.—Faithfully yours,

MABEL BARDINE.

London Pavilion, July 27, 1906.

HARRY CONLIN and Rosie Coleman, after a successful three months in London, leave town for a provincial tour, opening on Monday at the Grand, Bolton.

MUSIC HALL CONTRACTS.

A case of great importance to music hall proprietors and artists was heard on Monday in the High Court, before Mr. Justice Phillimore and a common jury. The action was brought by Mr. Ferdinand Glinseretti, organiser and manager of a troupe of acrobats, known as the Glinserettis, against Mr. Harry Rickards, of the Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, and the Gaiety and Bijou Music Halls, Melbourne, to recover damages for alleged breach of contract.

Plaintiff said that in 1899 he was engaged to fulfil an engagement in Australia for twenty-four weeks certain, from May 15, 1902, with an option to the defendant for a further engagement at £75 a week, the troupe to have second-class passage-money out and home and travelling expenses in Australia. In February, 1902, defendant refused to carry out the contract, on the ground that the troupe was not then composed of the identical members who composed it when the contract was made. The troupe was partly broken up in 1901, and reconstituted, but it was performing with as much acceptance as ever when the engagement was broken. It was inevitable that such a troupe should find its members often changed. As a matter of fact, both Mr. Glinseretti and several of the performers were Austrians, and as their term for military service came round they had to return to their country to serve, so necessitating changes in the personnel of the troupe.

Defendant urged that by the very terms of the contract it was clear that the agreement was with the members of the troupe, and not with the plaintiff, the object being that Mr. Rickards should have control over the Glinserettis, or else they could have appeared at rival places of amusement. Throughout, the contract spoke of the members and not the plaintiff, otherwise there would have been no remedy against the troupe if they left Glinseretti and started in opposition to him.

Mr. Duke, K.C., and Mr. J. R. Atkin (instructed by Mr. G. C. L. Fry), were for the plaintiff; and Mr. Dickens, K.C., and Mr. Frank Dodd (instructed by Messrs. Beard and Sons) for the defendant.

In cross-examination, Mr. Glinseretti admitted that a particular troupe might do a trick very much better than if it were differently constituted; it was the particular way the trick was done that pleased the public and made the draw. It was important for a music hall proprietor to know how a combination worked, and he would usually see a troupe perform before he engaged it. His combination was as good or better than ever.

Evidence was given by Mr. Maurice Cronin to the effect that when there were alterations in a troupe between the date of a contract and the time when it had to be performed it was not the practice for the music hall proprietor to consider the contract broken. Witness was now performing with his troupe of jugglers at the Empire.

Mr. Dickens: We will all go there to-night.

Witness went on to say that he was one-fifth of his show.

Mr. Dickens: You are the show and the others are supers?—Oh, no; I do the serious part, and they supply comic parts.

I see, you swallow the knives, and they laugh at you?—Oh, no.

Mr. Dickens argued that the changes in the troupe were such as to make it practically another troupe, and the defendant had no opportunity of seeing whether the new members were as good as the old.

Defendant asserted that for eight years he had been in the habit of visiting England and America to engage artists, and he never engaged anyone without first seeing a performance. He saws the Glinserettis at the Empire. In 1901 competition was very serious in Australia, and as he was very short of artists he went to America to get others to meet the new competition. He heard the Glinserettis had disbanded, and cabled cancelling the engagement. He got another troupe in their place. He had been in the profession forty years. There was no supply of artists in Australia; they had to get performers from England and America. He had never had a company constituted differently offered him; all his companies had come out intact as he engaged them.

Cross-examined: He went to half a dozen halls every night to find artists.

Mr. Atkins: You must get very tired of it?

Witness (emphatically): I do.

Mr. Rickards went on to say that if a member of a troupe died he would not have considered the contract broken, nor if a light man got too heavy and had to be replaced by another lightweight. The Glinserettis were his star—his headline—and he could not get extra turns at a moment's notice. If anyone had said that the troupe was as good as before he would have accepted them.

Mr. Justice Phillimore: That seems to dispose of many points in the case.

Mr. J. L. Graydon, music hall proprietor, said that if he found that a troupe was changed he would put another turn on. Managers were never told of a change by either artist or agent, but they sometimes got to hear of it. He did not say that he had the right to cancel the contract, but he had to be careful. He could not give a particular instance.

On Tuesday Mr. Justice Phillimore, in summing up, said that the two questions the jury had to decide were (1) whether the troupe the plaintiff proposed to take to Australia was the same from a business point of view as the troupe with regard to which the contract was entered into, and (2) if they came to the conclusion that it was the same, and that there was a breach of contract, what damage was the plaintiff entitled to.

The jury, after half an hour's deliberation in private, answered the first question in the affirmative, and assessed the damages at £500.

His lordship entered judgment accordingly for the plaintiff, with costs. Stay of execution was granted for a fortnight with a view to an appeal.

THE "FRED LOCKE" FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow:—

W. Mowbray Harle, Palace Theatre, Glasgow	£0 10 6
Arthur E. Godfrey (219)	0 10 6
J. A. Wilson (219)	0 5 0
James Bruce	0 2 6
A. Oliver	0 2 0

FRANK PARKER AND THE COLISEUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It has been definitely stated in a public journal that I am to be very actively associated with the London Coliseum when it reopens its doors. Would you allow me to state that, up to the moment of writing, such report is erroneous?—Yours faithfully,

FRANK PARKER.
(Stage and Equestrian Director, London Hippodrome).

The London Hippodrome, Cranbourn-street, W.C. July 25.

MISS LENA VERDI will make her reappearance in London after a long provincial tour at the Tivoli on Monday next.

DR. BODIE AND "MEDICAL JEALOUSY."

The Civil Court at Leeds Assizes was crowded on Thursday, when the action was resumed, before Mr. Justice Grantham and a jury, in which Mr. Walford Bodie, the music hall artist, known as the "bloodless surgeon," sued Mrs. Robert Hudson, of Weetwood Mount, Far Headingley, to recover £100 damages for alleged slander. Mr. E. Tindal Atkinson, K.C., and Mr. Charles Mellor were for the plaintiff, and Mr. Scott Fox, K.C., and Mr. A. W. Bairstow represented the defendants.

The first witness called at yesterday's proceedings was Mrs. Emily Hurley, the mother of a girl who had passed through Mr. Bodie's hands. She said that in 1904 her daughter Violet, seven years old, suffered from scarlet fever, and in consequence she was kept at the Mansion Hospital for 32 weeks. The fever left her with a diseased knee, which was deformed, making it impossible for her to straighten it out. On the advice of the doctors she was taken to the General Infirmary, where she remained 23 days. On going out she was still unable to bend her leg, and for twelve months she was an out-patient of the institution. After coming out of the Infirmary the child wore a kind of leg shield (produced) and some irons. In February, 1905, the witness took the child to see Mr. Bodie, who operated upon her. The child at the time was wearing the irons, and Mr. Bodie took them off and threw them on the floor. Since that time she had never had to wear irons. The child could now use her leg, "dance, or anything," where she could not before. The witness had never been asked by Mr. Bodie to go on to the stage, but she had done so many a time, and had thanked Mr. Bodie many and many a time for what he had done for her. Mr. Bodie had never paid her or her child any money.

Somewhat similar evidence was also given by Mrs. Townsley, whose child was also treated by Mr. Bodie.

Nurse Higgins, upon whose information it was suggested that Mrs. Hudson had made her statements, told her story, and said that in consequence of what one of the girls at the Invalid Children's Home had said, she went to the Tivoli and saw the entertainments there.

"Dr." Bodie came on the platform, and explained some part of his electrical treatment. He performed operations on two people, and then said he would produce some of his cures, amongst them being Edith Estill and Rachel Schneider, two of the girls from the Home.

She believed that the girls had received appliances from the society, but it was before the witness's time. "Dr." Bodie did nothing to the children on the stage, but simply exhibited his cures. He said that the girl Schneider had been discharged from the Infirmary as incurable, and did not that night require either splints or crutches. The crutches had been chopped up for "piggies" for her little brother. The witness added that she admonished the children in connection with the affair.

Mr. Mellor: How soon after this particular evening did the girl Rachel go to the Infirmary again?—I could not tell.

Was it weeks or months?—Within two or three months after.

I understand the "doctor" did nothing to her at the Tivoli on this night; that he only produced her as a cure. Do you suggest that it was because of her going to the Tivoli that she went back to the Infirmary?—Certainly not. I only say she was not cured.

Mrs. Hudson then went into the box and gave evidence of the meeting at which the alleged slander was uttered. She said, as far as she could remember, that she regretted some of their children had been taken to the Tivoli, and represented as "Dr." Bodie's cures, one of the cases, she understood, not having been in his hands at all previously.

Mr. Mellor, addressing the Court for the plaintiff, expressed his amazement at the defence. From first to last there had been no apology, no expression of regret, no retractation. The defence practically amounted to saying that any lie could be told about a public entertainer with impunity. When they were compelled to confess that they were mistaken, they said, "Oh, if we told a lie about him, it was not as an entertainer, but in his capacity as a doctor, and as he is not really a doctor he is not entitled to recover." The thing was absurd, and now at the last they tried to plead privilege, but his Lordship would not allow them.

His Lordship, in summing up, said that so far as he could understand the case there was no defence. The defendant admitted that she was wrong, and the occasion was not a privileged one. The evidence of Nurse Higgins was of no value whatever, and had really nothing to do with the case. They could understand the feelings of nurses who were interested in these cases, and who got angry if anybody took a different view from theirs. The case amounted to this: Mrs. Hudson accused this man of being a rank impostor. Nothing more serious could be said about a man in the position of the plaintiff. People might regret, and he himself regretted, that he did not carry on his cures in some other way; but so long as a man was making his living legitimately people had no right to call him a rank impostor because they disliked the way in which he carried on his work. It was well known, added his Lordship, that doctors were jealous people. They called these men quacks, but it was a fact that these men did things that doctors could not do. It was a matter of common knowledge that a common cobbler had cured thousands of cases the doctors had never been able to touch. It was a very cruel thing, added his Lordship, to say these children had never been treated, and to accuse them of participating in a fraud.

After retiring for a few minutes, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff with one farthing damages. Mr. Bairstow asked that the plaintiff should be deprived of costs, and applied for a stay of execution, but both applications were refused.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My late friend and partner, Mr. James Clarence, who passed away recently, left a widow and two children in need of assistance.

Any subscription to this deserving case will be gratefully acknowledged by Mrs. Clarence, 3, Adventure-place, Hanley, Staffs. Trusting that the many friends of "Poor Jim" will give what little assistance they can. The following sums have been received:—

J. Gar Kiddie	10 6
James O'Conner	10 6
Joe Bell	10 6

—Yours faithfully, JOE BELL.

An inquest was held at Broadstairs on Monday night on John Albert James, 33, comedian, in "Uncle Mack's" minstrel troupe, whose home was at South Hackney. On the closing of the performance at ten p.m. on Saturday the deceased expressed an intention to bathe in the bay. Next morning his body was found half buried in the sands, his clothing being in a tent 200 yards away. It was supposed that he was seized with cramp, to which he had been subject. The deceased was a widower, without children, and a popular member of the troupe. A verdict of "Accidentally drowned while bathing" was returned.

DEATH OF MR. FRANK WEEKS.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Francis James Weeks, better known as Frank Weeks, the manager and secretary of the South London Music Hall. The deceased had been suffering for some time from diabetes, and recently a carbuncle formed on the neck, which caused blood-poisoning, which was the immediate cause of his much-lamented death. He gradually sank, and passed away on Sunday last at the age of fifty-six.

Mr. Weeks, in his early days, had a considerable experience as a military man. He served for over twenty-two years in both battalions of the Northumberland Fusiliers, in which he attained the rank of staff-sergeant at Newcastle-on-Tyne. At all the different districts where his regiment happened for the time being to be stationed he was the manager of entertainments for his comrades and others. At Aldershot, Glasgow, Curragh Camp, Dublin, Kilkenny, Mullingar, Jersey, Woolwich, Colchester, and Chatham he was the moving spirit in the military merry-making. In the garrison towns of Ireland he used to amalgamate theatre and variety shows, and he has had the assistance of some of the best artists of the day. Mr. Charles Duval, whose suicide on a steamer bound from the Cape to this country is not yet forgotten, was one who assisted Mr. Weeks at Newry. A man cannot organise and stage-manage even barrack entertainments for a number of years without becoming acquainted in some degree with the more pronounced features connected with public performances in a popular theatre or music hall, and it is hardly surprising that the taste thus acquired should later on be used to advantage in

[Photo by Angle.

MR. FRANK WEEKS.

a much bigger way. But Mr. Weeks did not merely manage these military concerts, but, in addition, appeared on the platform himself to show that he possessed vocal powers and humorous qualities to no small extent. He used to sing mostly Mr. G. H. Macdermott's songs, for which he first obtained permission in 1888. Mr. Weeks' most successful efforts in this direction were "How did you lose your arm?" "A little bit too slow," "His lordship winked at the counsel" (first sung by Mr. Harry Rickards), and Mr. James Fawn's "I did it." Mr. Weeks also took part in dramatic performances, one of the principal characters he played being that of Montmorency in *New Men and Old Acres*. When he became a member of the London Recruiting Staff he promoted many smoking concerts at St. George's Barracks, where he received great assistance from professionals. During the period of his association with the London Recruiting Staff Mr. Weeks was in the habit of taking the chair at the Montpelier in the good old days of George Edwardes and Charley Page, the musical director. It may be remembered that the last-mentioned died in his chair one night while writing a song. When Mr. Macdermott purchased the Hoxton Theatre of Varieties Mr. Weeks became the manager of this hall, remaining in the position for over three years. He very soon formed a pretty correct estimate of the people he had to deal with in the Hoxton playgoers, and he determined he would stop their bad behaviour. He succeeded, but the undertaking required all his efforts for twelve months. He broke up two or three gangs of ruffians, and he had the satisfaction of seeing the principal member of one of these select coteries sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude. After the local hooligans became aware of the fact that Mr. Weeks would not be played with matters considerably improved. After reigning for a little over three years at Hoxton Mr. Weeks had a serious illness, and was obliged to keep to his room for a considerable time; and on recovering Mr. Macdermott, the managing-director of the South London Palace, offered him the management of that house, where he commenced his control on Aug. 21, 1899.

Here also he made it his business to deal effectually with the noisy element in the audience, the result being the restoration of order and decorum, to the extreme gratification of the well-behaved patrons and the artists themselves. He was always an advocate for the best class of variety entertainment, and in pursuance of this policy engaged, for a period of several weeks, Mr. Charles Fisher and company in a series of condensed versions of well-known operas. The success attained was far beyond what might have been expected. Mr. Weeks has always shown a keen interest in the various societies and institutions connected with the variety profession. He was specially interested in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and occupied the important position of chairman of the committee. By means of his collecting boxes he raised a large sum for this fund, and his valuable services on its behalf received due recognition. He was also honorary vice-president of the Music Hall Sick Fund, and as recently as May 9th last presided over the usual monthly committee meeting.

The poor children of Southwark have lost a kind friend in Mr. Weeks, whose custom it was to give the little ones an annual treat. He was very popular amongst the members of the profession, and had many friends, these including members of the Borough Council, for which, indeed, he had frequently been invited to become a candidate. Kindness and generosity were leading features in his character; he never seemed better pleased than when promoting some good object or helping some deserving institution; and his death is a distinct misfortune to the profession with which he was so long and so honourably connected.

FUNERAL OF MR. WEEKS.

It was not merely the funeral of a very popular music-hall manager, it was also the funeral of a soldier. There was scarcely a wreath that had not its patriotic decoration of red, white, and blue ribbon, and picturesque interest was lent to the occasion by the fact that the coffin was carried from the house by members of the deceased gentleman's old regiment, the 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers (late Fighting Fifth), who, by the way, walked by the side of the wreath-covered hearse and formed a striking spectacle with their scarlet uniforms and black busbys.

That the late manager of the South London Palace was held in local esteem was testified to by the lowering of blinds and the placing of black planks in front of windows in the London-road. The funeral cortége, consisting of five mourning carriages and the hearse, started from the music hall shortly after one o'clock. Crowds of people lined each side of the road, and through a corridor formed of human beings on the pavement, the mourners passed to the vehicles. In the first carriage there were Mrs. Weeks (widow of the deceased), Mr. Weeks (brother), Mr. Rapsey (brother-in-law), and Mrs. Rapsey. The second carriage contained Miss Rapsey and Miss Ashling (nieces), Mr. J. Rapsey (nephew), Mr. Horace Marriott (representing the Music Hall Benevolent Fund), and Mr. T. N. W. Grimsdail. The occupants of the third carriage were Mr. Harry B. Wincote (acting-manager pro. tem.), Mr. C. E. Howells (musical director), Mr. Birkett, and Mr. H. R. Ackerman. The first two gentlemen, along with Mr. Charley Seaman (the stage-manager), represented the staff. In the fourth were Mr. Harry Masters, Mr. Fred Reeves, Mr. Charles Beecham, Mr. Harry Day, and Mr. Tom Pacey. Representing the Music Hall Sick Fund, of which deceased was vice-president, were Mr. Pat Carey, Mr. Harry Mountford, and Mr. H. E. High, while Mr. Harry Lester appeared on behalf of the Terriers' Association. Mr. W. Edelsten and Mr. Nelson Francis followed in a victoria. Accompanying the funeral procession, either on foot or in carriages, were fourteen non-commissioned officers of the 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers, namely, Sergeant-Major Buckthought, Colour-Sergeants Fenton, Hill, Thompson, and Hollett, Drum-Major Casey, Sergeant Casey, Pioneer-Sergeant Owen, Sergeant Haddon, Band-Sergeant Williamson, and Sergeants Harcourt, Huckins, McEnery, and Lees.

Nunhead Cemetery, where a private grave had been secured for the deceased, was reached about half-past two. The chaplain of the cemetery, the Rev. Mr. Walker, officiated, both in the chapel and at the graveside, whither the coffin was borne by the deceased's brother-sergeants. The coffin, which was of pale oak, bore the following simple inscription:—

Francis James Weeks,
Died 29th July,
1906,
Aged 56.

A goodly concourse of people, professional and otherwise, gathered around the graveside, and many of them seemed greatly affected during the reading of the Burial Service.

The handsome floral tributes numbered between thirty and forty. That from the widow was of arum lilies, white chrysanthemums, sweet peas, and lilies of the valley, and bore the following pathetic message: "To my dear husband, from his true helpmate, his wife Melvina." A beautiful harp, composed of white chrysanthemums, cornflowers, and arum lilies, came "With sincere and heartfelt sympathy from his fellow-managers," as follows:—Messrs. C. Blyth-Pratt, F. Miller, J. Wilson, E. T. Barclay, Charles Beecham, F. McAvoy, James Howell, H. Masters, F. Glenister, L. Zeitlin, Edward Swanborough, and Nelson Francis. A couple of wreaths were sent from two battalions of Mr. Weeks's late regiment, one of red and white roses, and the other "From the sergeants of the 5th Fusiliers to their revered comrade," testified to the affection in which the deceased was held by the lines—

A comrade near
To the regiment dear.

The directors of the South London forwarded a crescent of tiger lilies and lilies of the valley, and the floral token of Mr. C. E. Howells, the musical director, carried the sentiment, "I loved him as as brother." The staff gave a chaplet of arum lilies tied with tricolour ribbon; Misses Janet and Marjory Tozer, a wreath of pinks and white flowers; and Mr. and Mrs. Wincote, lilies of the valley and white roses. A particularly artistic floral combination came from the president, committee, and secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, "In sad memory of one of the best friends the poor music hall artist has ever had." The wreath of the Terriers' Association was of white chrysanthemums and arum lilies, into the midst of which were woven in blue cornflowers the letters "T. A." A dainty device in lilies and sweet peas, "In loving memory of his old friend," was from Mr. T. N. W. Grimsdail. Other wreaths came from the South London staff and orchestra, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Weeks and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Chadworth, Alderman and Mrs. Bowers and family, Mr. Pat Carey, Mr. Read, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pacey, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Rickards, Mr. and Mrs. H. Seward, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Pemberton, Mr. L. P. Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Howells, Mr. and Mrs. Ackerman, Mr. J. J. Feedon, Mr. F. Sharp, "Little Jack," Mr. Stow Banks, Mr. Duck, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Salter, Mr. and Mrs. Ginnett, Mrs. Wirth, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer, and Mr. Hoare. Mr. Theophilus Dunkley attended in his usual able manner to the funeral arrangements.

The following lines are from the pen of the musical-director of the South London:—

A TRIBUTE.

F aithful, firm to duty's call,
R ight his might, to honour true;
A lways a man to great and small,
N one better, his equal few—
K ind of heart and generous, too.

W e whom he has left behind
E very day will feel his loss;
E very heart, with love inclined,
K eep his memory green. His cross
S partan-like he bore—a soldier and a man.

—C. E. Howells.

THE KING AND MR. GEORGE LEYTON.

It was felt by several friends who watched Mr. George Leyton's incessant efforts to aid Crimean soldiers, that His Most Gracious Majesty the King would certainly be interested in the noble and benevolent work of the popular actor-vocalist. Therefore, when Mr. Leyton's Crimean Fund reached the magnificent total of £2,000 from the sale of his song, "The Boys of the Chelsea School," the psychological moment had arrived to place the facts before that Monarch who appreciates his soldiers to the full, and who undoubtedly felt a pang at the disbandment of the Scots Guards. So a brief but sufficient history of Mr. Leyton's praiseworthy movement was written, the very facts themselves, simply stated, giving the unique story an eloquence all its own. In this story to the King from the actor-vocalist of the music halls came the points that for three years Mr. Leyton has been singing his song, "The Boys of the Chelsea School," and, acting on his idea to sell the words of the song to the audience after the rendition of the same, the response has been most liberal all over the land. Of course, Mr. Leyton had to obtain the permission of managers and proprietors for the attendants to go into the audiences and sell the song, and he cannot speak too highly of such gentlemen as Mr. G. Adney Payne, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Thomas Barrasford, and others, who have granted every facility for the sale of the song. By this means he has given as much as £10 to £30 to a Crimean veteran, and, in some cases, the money he has raised has saved the old soldier from the workhouse, or the little home

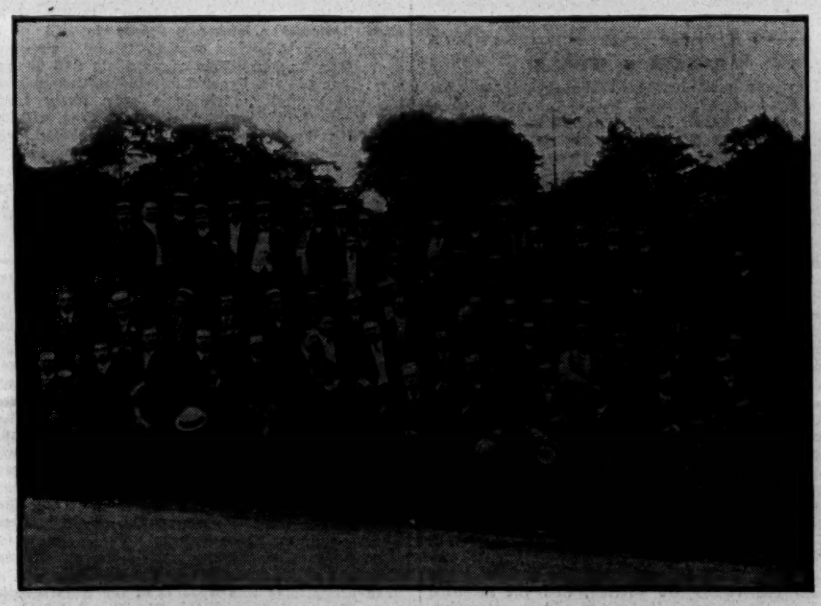
[Photo by Wintersett.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON.

belonging to a veteran and his wife, whose old age was embittered by penury, and yet, with the knowledge that the man had fought in the 'fifties, when England and Russia were foes, to be forgotten in his old age. The King was told how mayors and clergymen had gone on to the music hall stage on the last night of Mr. Leyton's engagement, and thanked him publicly for the good he was doing to old soldiers, for his work would be the topic of the week in a city or town deeply interested in the novel steps at the music hall by which the popular actor-vocalist was raising pounds for an old soldier more used to pence, and sometimes not even them. On these touching farewell performances, with the actor-vocalist on the stage, the mayor or a clergyman, there, too, would be the grizzled old soldier who was young in the long ago, and notwithstanding a straight career knew deep poverty in old age. Then the purse of gold would be handed to him amid the applause of the audience, and thus would conclude a scene which no witness would forget. There is no doubt this benevolent work has had a great moral effect in thousands of circles throughout the land. Mr. Leyton's desire is to consolidate a fund so that weekly payments might be made to old Crimean veterans, and thus their poverty would be a thing of the past. This point was also embodied in the story placed before His Most Gracious Majesty, and an acknowledgment has been sent with the thanks of our King from Buckingham Palace, thus assuring the fact that the details of Mr. Leyton's work have obtained attention in the highest circle of the land. As recently it seems that the Balaclava Fund, energetically pushed by Mr. T. H. Roberts, has met with diminishing support, it seems evident that the public are slow in sending shillings and pounds, and thus Mr. Leyton's direct appeal for the pence is very happy, as they in sufficient numbers make the larger coins. It it now beyond all dispute that Mr. Leyton has solved the problem of old soldiers' poverty, and with his aim for an enterprise in London to raise a good fund Crimean veterans should be well taken care of.

It may be pleasing to know that a copy of the words of "The Boys of the Chelsea School," beautifully printed on white satin, has been sent to our gracious King, with letters from philanthropic leaders, who have given their warmest appreciation to Mr. Leyton, whose work has imparted an unquestionably distinguished tone to music hall charity.

With our actor-vocalist military sketches are a speciality, and therefore he can carry on his work for the Crimean soldiers with each new one, for nothing could more win the world's regard to the value and discipline of the soldier than Mr. Leyton's latest sketch, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, which has just been produced in London, shows the artist himself to the best advantage, has won the warmest plaudits of his audiences, and secured the approval of our chief daily organs. When the words of *The Wreck of the Birkenhead* are printed, there are countless thousands who will buy them, that the money may be given to deserving old soldiers. Thus the £2000 will swell to bigger proportions, and it will be seen that the movement commenced on a small scale has grown into one of national importance, and that he who hoped to do a little good has stirred hearts in all circles, and seen thousands of pounds where he did not expect hundreds. It is to be hoped that now the story of Mr. Leyton's work has reached the palace of the King that some members of the Royal circle will yet hear the actor-vocalist in one of his sketches, in which by song, music, picture costume, and every possible elevating effect he concentrates attention on the heroic virtues of England's soldier. Our illustration shows Mr. Leyton in his new sketch, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*.



THE ALHAMBRA ANNUAL OUTING AT GUILDFORD, JULY 22ND.

TO MARIE IN HEAVEN.

Lines written by Dr. Walford Bodie on the day of her funeral.

Flow on, sweet Deveron, as of yore,
With wooded glens and rugged shore,
And memories sweet, I can't forget,
My Mystic Marie dwells there yet.
The rippling waters gently glide,
To follow up the ebbing tide,
The sky so bright and verdure green,
The day I lost my "Mystic" Queen;
And now the shadows softly fall,
My Marie's gone beyond recall.
An earthly Queen, none can deny,
It seemed a shame for her to die
So young, so beautiful, and fair,
Her spirit always light as air;
So gifted also in her ways,
She lingered on for many days,
Still hoping, trusting for the best,
But she's gone to her last rest.
She nobly fought with might and main,
And hoped to be herself again;
But cruel disease the victory won,
And as the ice melts with the sun,
So did my Marie pass away—
No one the Hand of Death could stay.
She shared my joys, she shared my pains,
Her memory with me still remains;
So good, so noble, and so kind,
Her equal I shall never find.
Oh, Macduff Town, while life remains,
To me shall be a hallowed spot;
Our darling Marie's dwelling-place
Shall never, never be forgot;
And while the winter's stormy blast
With lightning's flash and thunder's roar,
Thy memory green I'll always keep,
And think of you on yonder shore.
And on the hill top near the church,
To me a sacred place shall be,
For there our Marie sweetly rests,
In her last home so near the sea;
Her voice I'll hear in every wave,
Like music as in days of old,
For did she not enchant the ears
Of thousands then both young and old?
Oh, God, I know it was your will,
To take her to your fold;
I hope that she shall dwell with you,
And wear a crown of gold;
For was she not a Godly girl when
She on earth was living?
She now has gone aloft with Thee,
To take her place in heaven.

W. B.

Mlle. Talma, the celebrated palmist and queen of lady conjurers, need have no fear of being numbered amongst the ever-increasing army of unemployed if we can accept the testimony in the letter hereunder, which she received in the usual way at one of the music halls recently. The document has since been the cause of considerable mirth in the firm of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the Comedians de Mephisto Co., who are at present appearing at the Palace, Blackpool. The communication was as follows:—"Deer ladie,—i opes has ow yu wil kepe this ere letor strikli sekrit fack is i seed yore tern at the showbox larst nite and yu tikkeld me orful wen yu puld munie owt of mi eer and got it from pokkets ware thare warnt nun look ere ime a game un and yore a game un wot if we dubbles up i duz sum pinchin by trade and wiv yore tallence i cud put you up to makin a wallopin fortin you see i finks ov yore wa ov slidein fings owt ov site sorter quik like and orl this iz the sekrit of owr game ov kors hit wil bea orkard for Leroi and Mister Boskoe wen yu leev em but yu kan bet yore butes yu wil make tuns of munie wiv me meat me on fursda hat wilsons korner ov markit streat and we kan setel job. rite orf—beleev me yores respeckly, ——."

The adjourned Oxford City Quarter Sessions were held on Saturday to hear an appeal by Mr. Albany Ward, of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, against the decision of the Oxford City magistrates refusing the renewal of his licence for the Empire Theatre. The case was heard before the Recorder, Mr. R. B. Dyke-Acland, K.C. Mr. Hugh Sturges with Mr. Porter appeared for the appellant, and Mr. T. M. Snagge with Mr. Nigel Davidson represented the respondents. At the outset Mr. Snagge took a technical objection that no appeal could lie against the decision of the licensing magistrates, as the Act allowed appeals only against penalties which might be inflicted for breaches of rules, and that the magistrates in refusing the licence made no order closing the house. Mr. Sturges, for the appellant, contended that the refusal of the renewal constituted an order; he further argued that once licensed the premises were always licensed, and could only be closed if proof were given of breaches of rules.

In the course of a long argument it was elicited that no order was framed by the magistrates, and also that Mr. Ward had accepted annual licences running from June to June. The Recorder said the appeal must fail. It seemed to him that the appeal was against the magistrates for doing nothing, and that was the act complained of. He gave no opinion as to Mr. Sturges's argument that "once licensed always licensed," but thought it rather an amazing contention. He was willing, if Mr. Sturges wished, to state a case. As Mr. Ward had engaged companies for the next three weeks he would not formally give his decision until the expiration of that time.

A music hall case of some interest was decided at the Bow County Court on the 27th ult., when Miss Alice May, actress, of Rupert-street, Piccadilly, sued Messrs. Macnaghten, the music hall proprietors, for £8 in respect to the production of the sketch *Tranquillity* at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton. In March last the defendants agreed that the sketch should be produced, but after the first night Miss May was dismissed on the ground that the entertainment was "too classical" for the district.—His Honour: What is the character of the sketch—Mr. Robinson (for Miss May): Miss May impersonates seven different characters—a laundress, a slavey, a Salvation lass, Italian girl, newsboy, Punch and Judy show woman, and, finally, a society girl. (Laughter).—His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed and costs.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

To fully understand the popularity of Longsight wakes you must take into consideration the vast population it serves. Within ready access of the fairground dwell half-a-million people—Manchester workers driven by the growth of their city into its suburbs. It is this significant fact—the flow of the population from the centre of Manchester to its far-stretching outer circle known as Greater Manchester—that constitutes the necessity for and the abiding and ever-increasing success of the suburban wakes.

WELL within living memory Longsight was a pleasant village on the road to Stockport, a picturesque spot, with its roadside inn, smithy, and a small workshop or two. On the roadside less than thirty years ago the shows and stalls pitched, and the local wake held its privileged revel. Here came in those days the friends and neighbours of the people of Longsight from busy Ancoats and Beswick that lay nearer to Manchester, and on the other side from Levenshulme, Gorton, Fairfield, and other villages stretching yet further into the open country. Within living memory, too, are the Morris dancers from Stockport and Cheadle Hulme, and all the local accessories of a Lancashire holiday.

NOTHING more truly indicates the vast progress in the popular open-air amusements of the Lancashire folk than the contrast between what the people did then and what they do now. Forty years ago their principal pleasure was in eating and drinking. The stalls for the sale of tasty comestibles largely predominated; and after the fashion of our rude and hearty forefathers, the wake was a veritable feast of fat things, when the poor serving of the daily board gave way for a glorious season to the delights of a full table, summed up in the old adage, "plenty of cakes and ale." Oh, yes. There were shows and toy and novelty stalls, swing-boats, and hobby-horses in those far-away days; but great as the change and evolution has been in the life and habits of the people, greater still has been the progress of the shows and showmen. Forty years ago the showman pitched his circus, small menagerie, set of hobby-horses, over-boats, or swings in the side streets, or on the open space by the village inn. The itinerant traders and stall-keepers lined the roadside for half a mile, and the people turned out and were merry.

TO-DAY within its gates the wakes-ground at Longsight contains show concerns so costly that one of them alone represents a bigger capital outlay than the money invested in the whole of the shows thirty or more years ago. Here is another significant fact that proves the ability of the showman to follow the times and adapt himself to the needs of the people. The older generation of showmen to-day remember the day of small things, and have passed through all the changes leading up to the better things of the present time. When we visited the fair on the principal day of its enterprise and saw the happy and good-humoured crowd of eager sightseers, we felt sure that no honest critic of modern fairs could have failed to be convinced of their supreme popularity and growing importance in the life of the nation. Here in the crowd were all sorts and conditions of people freely mixing together on one common object intent—to see and be seen; open and frank pursuit of necessary recreation; after toil relaxation—and this was equally true of the brainworker as the craftsman and artisan (old and young alike), "the potent, grave and reverend seignior," and happy, light-hearted youths and maidens. All alike enter fully into the fun of the fair, with its marvels and delights, its delightful jangle of merry sounds, that entrancing medley of voice and music, so intensely human, yet so magical and compelling. What a spell it has over you. What resistless power and charm. What is it that hold you and sets your blood coursing through your veins, your heart beating in full response to its influence? It is the spirit of the common life, the joy of the common hope and comradeship. You are at one with your fellows, and you are the better for the fellowship. That is the real secret of the abiding power of the showman's work in the national life.

PASSING down the centre of the wakes-ground the first machine novelty to attract the eye was Lieske's big wheel. The double motion of this unique aerial roundabout is a notable and novel invention. The cars, filled with passengers, make many revolutions of the big wheel, and at the same time each car revolves on its own fixed axis in a contrary circle to the great wheel itself—a complex and yet most exhilarating experience. The next concern was provided by James Hibbert and Sons, of Stockport, and was one of their magnificent sets of electric racing cockerels, known as the farmyard roosters and revolving cars. Like everything else belonging to this up-to-date firm, the machine was resplendent in brilliant colour, golden glitter, and lit up with powerful electric arc lamps. In the central position stood John Whiting's immense electric novelty, the Japanese cars from Tokio—a vision of gorgeous colouring and Eastern splendour. The cars ride gloriously along a switchback track. Each is a model of exquisite Japanese artistry, richly carved in Japanese national emblems, and cushioned and upholstered in dark crimson velvet. This truly magnificent machine may be said to be the very last and best thing in electric roundabouts. John Collins exhibited the wonderful, weird, and sensational success, the new whirly-whirly, or whirling the whirl. This was the supreme novelty of the fair, and the talk of Longsight. Here you had an entirely new sensation in exciting motion—a roundabout, the deck of a steamer in a squall, an express train, a switchback, and up in a balloon. Take all these in the separate flight and motion, and you have the whirly-whirly.

ISAAC RICHARD'S twin ships in the air—excellent steam swings—well maintained their established position in public favour, despite the keen competition of more recent novelties. Mrs. John Whiting's delightful gems, the juvenile motor-cars, were a special feature of interest, and won the admiration of all visitors, and the "wee tots" thoroughly enjoyed their first ride in real motor-cars at the fair. A pretty set of juvenile swings completed the excellent range of machine novelties.

AT the far end of the ground and facing down the fair were located Proctor's London circus and James Norman's electric theatre. Proctor's circus is one of the oldest and most famous shows on the road, the entire programme in the arena, with but one exception, being given by the clever and justly celebrated Proctor family, fourteen in number — tight rope flying rings, bareback riding, clever humorous sketches by the Proctor clowns, assisted by that animated bundle of fun Little Mickey, the clown, trained horses, and the donkey introduced by Father Proctor making a genuine and entirely original and clever show, all too rare on our fairgrounds.

THAT grand old man of showland, James Norman, with his capital cinematograph theatre, gave great satisfaction to the patrons of his show by his high-class range of beautiful up-to-date animated photography. We saw two performances, and the delight of the audiences was enthusiastic. The long picture at each show was a masterpiece. The first we saw was a stirring drama, full of keen life and sensation, *The Train-wreckers: A Story of American Railway Life*. The second show gave us a moral drama—*Drink and Tuberculosis*—a French film of great length showing the downward path of the drunkard and the misery, want and disease that follow in its train. It was a sermon in action, and the audience quite grasped its tragic point. James Norman deserves every praise for placing such excellent pictures before fairground audiences.

AMONGST the side-shows were Ling's two exhibits—the fine art gallery with up-to-date pictures and models; the No. 2 concerns the stereorama.

STRETCHING from the entrance gate on either side of the ground were avenues of minor novelties, shooting galleries, refreshment saloons, dolly frames, variety stalls, throwing games, ring and dart boards, pannum and fairing stalls. These were provided, amongst others, by the Harringtons, the Whatmores, the Jewells, and Messrs. Delaney, Smith, Henshaw, Black, Richmond, White, Jennings, Newall, and Pessagno.

AT Hillkirk-street, Beswick, another Manchester suburban wakes, this week were John Collins's aggregation of fairground novelties, and with him were T. Hurst, with racing birds, Dyer's theatre of varieties, and a host of minor novelties.

AT Mossley Wake, on the Lancashire Round, were Col. Clark's electric coliseum, Wm. Mitchell, jun.'s motor cars, Ben. Mitchell's racing cockerels, James Hibbert and Sons' flying motor cars, the Newmarket Riding School, and sets of swings and minor novelties, shooters, &c., by Messrs. Shuttleworth, Frank Woods, Mrs. John Cornwell, and others.

AT Nelson Fair were Captain Payne's Bioscope, Holden's junks, Makin's horses, Pedley's whirling the whirl, Starkie's shooter and swings, Sharpe's shooting gallery and juvenile horse, and throwing games and stalls in galore.

CAPTAIN TOM PAYNE has suffered a serious misfortune in the loss by fire of his costly organ, and the whole of his electric light plant, dynamos, and complete up-to-date electric equipment.

THE fire broke out whilst the show was in transit by rail from Stalybridge to Nelson, and although immediate action was taken by the railway staff and the services of the nearest fire brigade called in, the fire was not subdued until damage to the amount of £1,400 was done. We understand that Mr. Payne was not insured, and we feel sure his fellow showmen will be heartily sorry to hear of his terrible loss.

MESSRS. W. C. AND S. HANCOCK have also suffered considerable damage and loss by an accident to their rolling stock. One of their big concerns was being taken by road by traction engine, when, owing to the uncoupling of the hind waggon, followed by the unfortunate snapping of the drag chains, the loose waggon and a water cart linked with it ran down the steep incline of Elford Hill, and was ultimately smashed with its valuable contents. Fortunately the road was clear of passengers, or more serious damage might have occurred. As it was, a number of carved horses used on the machine and electric lamps and appliances were destroyed.

UNDER the banner of the local caterers, the Hancock Family, Exeter and other West of England Fairs have the well-known shows and other novelties of Prince Samonda, Sidney Braham, Sol. Roader, Alf. White, John Jones, Wm. Weston, Anderton and Rowland, and varieties of all kinds by Messrs. Barker, Chapman, Heal Bros., Frampton, White, Legge, Moti, and others.

IN the West of England we have the commencement of the splendid run of fairs known as the Regatta Round, including places like Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot, Babbicombe, Paignton, Brixham, Torquay, Dartmouth, and Totnes. This run of fixtures leads on to the Autumnal Hiring Fairs, and includes towns like Taunton, Ilfracombe, Portland, Bridgwater, Gloucester, Cirencester, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, Stratford-on-Avon, Salisbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Warminster, Northampton, and Market Harborough.

FROM the Yorkshire Round we have news of Dewsbury Feast, maintained by the very best of the concerns on this busy circuit. Three large cinematograph shows—Relph and Pedley's, Monte Brothers', and Enoch Farron's—Permaine's performing bears, Bailey's Temple of Mirth and Mystery, and Westray's Freak Exhibition were the exhibitions proper. The machines, always well represented at this fair, included the well-known sets of Messrs. Howden and Son, P. Collins, the Waddingtons, the Redfearns, the Marshalls, and single sets by Corrigan and Shaw, manual swings and highfliers by Proctor, Johnson, and Blake, bazaars (invariably a great feature at Dewsbury) by Messrs. Seed and Sons, John Seed, A. Gledstone, and Howarth and Sons. Varieties in avenues and long rows, stalls and fairground novelties in their multitude and multiplicity by Messrs. Gavin, Burgess, Holdsworth, Richards, Blake, Guthrie, Lorenzo, Vanner, Jameson, Holdsworth, Clayton Brothers, Steward, Jacques, Stockwell, Pollard, Walker, Hodder, Kirby, Mitchell, Beaumonts, Whyatt, Howell, Rhodes, Patterson, Hepworth, Wright, Turner, and many others.

ON the Scotch Round, for the summer season of Holiday Fairs are Arthur Henderson, George Green, Senator Leo, J. Wilson, McIndoe, Carter, and Wm. Clark, jun., with cinematograph theatres; Buff Bill and Chipperfield, with menageries; Paulo Scott and Pinder Ord, with circuses; Biddall, with ghost illusion; and Biddall's No. 2 Show, the Freaks of Nature; and the side shows of Professor Moore and T. Wright. Messrs. Wilmot and Sons, George and John Green, Wingate, Howard, Swallow, White, and Mans, with all the best and latest novelties in riding machines; shooting concerns in great perfection and variety by Messrs. Hughes, Wright, Biddall, Sheeran, and others; minor novelties, throwing games, and stalls by Messrs. Dawson, Salvoni, Henshaw, Cook, Wright, Chapman, Newton, McIndoe, Smith, Hunter, Brockley, Irvin and Son, Stevenson, Wilmot, Baker, Day, Newman, Lawrence, Kelly, McIntosh, Lovell, and many others.

WITHIN a few short days of one another two notable show-women have passed away to their well-earned rest, namely, Mrs. Proctor and Mrs. Scott, both of circus fame, and known on a thousand fairgrounds throughout the United Kingdom.

MARIA PROCTOR retired from the active management of her circus a few years ago, having carried on the show after her husband's death with success and distinction. She spent the peaceful time of retirement at the house of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Twigdon, at Mortedge, Derby, and during the later months of her life was an invalid. The strenuous life of the road, the upbringing of a numerous family, the loss of her husband—all these broke down her remarkably vigorous constitution, and she passed away at the age of sixty-nine years, full of years and honour.

MRS. JOHN SCOTT, the wife of John Scott, of the British Circus, the head of a great clan of circus people, died of heart failure at Beith, Scotland, last week, at the comparatively early age of forty-seven years. Though twenty years younger than Maria Proctor, Nellie Scott was equally well known and respected by show people and the show loving people. We are quite sure that the heart of Showland beats in deepest and tenderest sympathy with both the Proctor and Scott families, and to all of these we tender our sincerest condolences.

THE fêtes and galas around Bath and district will be in full swing during August, and showmen will have a busy time. Jennings' steam roundabouts are at Batheaston this week. On Monday they move to Box and are due at Road (Wilts) on the 21st inst. Cole Bros.' electric switchback and galloping horses attend the big local flower show at Tiverton-on-Avon (Bath) on Monday. Symonds' great world fair were at Trowbridge on the 28th ult., and are billed to form a leading attraction at Neston Park (Wilts) on the 8th inst.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD., visited The Butts, Salisbury, on the 26th ult., and gave two shows to crowded audiences. The troupe of performing elephants proved a strong attraction in the first-class programme. The Maro Troupe of acrobatic equestrians were very smart. The other principal turns included the Fondants, musical wire artists; Pimpos' leaping dogs; The British Tars at practice; M. Roberts, barebacked equestrian; the Flying Airless trapeze marvels. A display, entitled "Nero; or, the Sports of Ancient Rome," was very creditably executed. Several highly trained horses were exhibited, including Hoffmann's talking pony and Miss Lina's thoroughbred. The musical portion was under the able bâton of Mr. Clem A. Lawrence.

STIRCHLEY is a large and important village, three miles from Birmingham, and two from King's Norton, where a fair is held on Oct. 1st. Some good shows and machines should do well here. In the neighbourhood the industries are metal works, paper mills, screw factories, cocoa works, and flour mills.

AT Astwood Bank this week Gilbert and Co., the auctioneers, are doing good business.

ALCESTER MOP will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 9, not Oct. 2, as has been falsely circulated. Alcester Mop is always held on the Tuesday before Oct. 11. Showmen may take up their quarters anywhere in the street close to the Town Hall and the church.

Jacob Studt's Electric Coliseum, galloping horses and motor switchback, with novelty side shows, were announced to open for the holidays at Archers' Field, White Horse-road, Oxford, on Friday. The proceeds of the first night were to be handed over to the Oxford Hospital's Committee.

AT the Cainscross and Ebley Flower Show, held in Jefferies' Field, Stroud, on Saturday, Biddall Bros.' palace of varieties and animated pictures drew large crowds; Mr. W. Symonds' switchback railway, swing boats, shooting saloons, and pleasure fair were well patronised.

ST. GILES, Oxford, great pleasure fair will take place on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 3 and 4. Those who imagine that fairs are dying out should take a trip to the carnival, where they will find one of the largest and best-conducted fairs in England. Many prominent showmen have been allotted spaces between the avenue of trees in the wide thoroughfare of St. Giles, right from George-street to the commencement of St. Giles' Church.

EAGLE DAVIS, a lion tamer, had a narrow escape whilst performing with the untamable lion Wallace at Aberkenfig, S. Wales, on the 24th ult. The performer had no sooner entered the cage, than the animal sprang at him; but, fortunately, the tamer managed to deal the savage brute a severe blow with a club which for the moment dazed him; but on endeavouring to get out of the den Davis had the middle finger of one of his hands severely clawed.

HEPWORTH'S new film, entitled "Black Beauty," is fully equal to, if not better than, "Rescued by Rover." A gentleman leaves his house for a ride in the country, mounted on his favourite horse. While riding through a lovely wood, he is suddenly attacked by two tramps, dragged from his horse and relieved of all his valuables. The injured man, upon reason gradually returning, calls his companion to him, and with a knowledge of the animal's wonderful powers tells him to return home for aid. Black Beauty races back to the house, and taking the handle in his mouth pulls the bell. His mistress coming outside, views with dismay the riderless horse, and quickly mounting allows him to take her to where his master lies. Realising that her husband cannot possibly be moved without assistance, she takes from his pocket, pencil and paper, scribbles a short note, asking for help to be sent immediately, and attaches the note to the steed's saddle. Then she instructs him where and how to go. A stretcher is thus obtained from the police, and following in the horse's steps they are soon brought to the scene, and lifting the poor man carefully on to the stretcher they take him home.

A UNIQUE event happened at Mr. John Henry Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh, on Saturday, when a reindeer was born. The mother is one of a herd used by Mr. Cooke in a spectacle, "Lapland," produced last Christmas.

THE pleasure fair at Eastbourne under the management of Swales Forrest has been a great success, the free show attractions, Herman (the monarch of the high rope), and Caselli (champion acrobat and table performer), astonishing the people of Eastbourne nightly by their marvellous feats. Herman conveyed a man across the high rope without any pole or other balancer.

ON George Beach's ground the outside attraction was Almero on the high mast—a very good show.

THE shows and novelties on Mr. Forrest's ground were the lessee's concerns, the Japanese airship, or whirling the whirl—a big novelty—the juvenile roundabouts, the big wheel sensation, and throwing games; Mr. J. Saunders's fine art gallery, Mr. Wm. Elliott's fistiana saloons and Winchester range, H. Forrest's park swings and games, Penfold's football frame, bottle battery, and varieties, Bolesworth's shooting saloons and cokers, and G. Bolesworth's throwing games, Sand's swings, and other attractions.

WITH George Beach were his well-known novelties the farmyard set, the shooter, swings, and cokers; and associated with him were Long, with shooting saloon and roundabout, Rowe, with fish pond and ring and dart boards; and Cooper, with pipe breaker and other varieties.

MR. PERCY T. BURNETT'S portable theatre, His Majesty's, has opened for a season at Camborne, where the performances are drawing good houses. Amongst the plays recently produced are *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Jack Ashore*, *Richard III.*, and *Driven from Home*. It is many years since a portable theatre has visited this district.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ENQUIRER.—*Lord George Sanger has retired from business, and if he is at present tenting, it is for his own pleasure.*

S. FORREST.—*Have been away for ten days, but will make enquiries and send word at once*

W. C. WITTLE.—*Again many thanks. We are taking all possible care to preserve the fair rights. Yes, keep in touch with the guild.*

A. TIVINGTON (Derby).—*Owing to absence on work of the guild, your interesting letter has been kept over this week. You have our sincere sympathy. See our columns this week.*

MISS MILLINGTON (York).—*The guild has successfully dealt with the Vagrant Children's Education Bill. Many thanks for your continued interest in the child of the showman.*

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

For ten years past at Longsight, Manchester, a meeting of the Guild has taken place at the annual Wakes. The continuance of this popular pleasure fair is largely owing to the great interest the Rector of St. Agnes (in whose parish the fair field is situated) has taken in the welfare of the show people. Upon many occasions when the fair has been attacked and efforts made to abolish it, the rector of the parish has stood as the champion of the people's fair rights and the particular interests of the travelling showman. Only last year the wise conciliation and tact of the Rector prevented the over zeal of some would-be puritanical reformers running riot, the object of the agitators against the fair being to take steps of some kind to hamper the show business and prevent, if possible, the Wakes taking place.

Owing to the Rector's interest in and sympathy with the Guild, the great bulk of his parishioners are supporters of the fair. Yet none the less showmen all over the country know how easy it is for one or two cantankerous persons in a town to do incalculable harm to the showmen during their absence between one fair and another.

These objectors can work up all manner of prejudice in twelve months, and unless the showmen have friends in the locality to speak a word for them and to defend them, the chances are in favour of the enemy gaining his ends.

At Longsight the strong bulwark of defence is the liberal-minded and kindly Rector, and showmen know this and appreciate to the full the good work and worth of the Rev. H. Norburn, Rector of St. Agnes, and Hon. Local Chaplain of the Guild.

As usual, the children of the fair were invited and welcomed to the school, and a good number of the children attended—many of them over school age. Some half dozen of these older ones in a class that the Rector catechised at the end of their lesson showed equal intelligence with the rest of the class, and in some of the subjects where definite and trained thought was necessary the child of the travelling show gave better answers than the regular scholars of the school. The Rector made a point of this fact, and agrees that the change from town to town and the necessity of the show life quickens the intelligence and gives the travellers' child a clearer and broader view of life and the sanction of Christianity.

This is important, in face of the utterly mistaken notion that show children are behind the children of the town in the blessings of education.

In the evening the Rev. T. Horne preached to a crowded congregation at St. Agnes Church, taking for his subject "The compassion of Christ for the multitude."

Following the church service, the clergy and church workers went to the Parish Rooms adjoining the Wakes ground. Here the show people were assembled in good numbers, together with friends from the congregation of the Parish Church. The singing was brightly sustained by the church choir, and the service intoned by the Rector.

Again the Rev. T. Horne was the special preacher. Taking the Gospel story of the day—the feeding of the hungry multitude by the compassionate Saviour—he spoke of the tender solicitude of the Master for the crowd. Their work, he told the show people, was to minister to crowds—to give, as their Master of old, to the multitude the ministry of their best. He then pointed out the peculiar influence and power of crowds. They had to work for the crowds that thronged their fairs. The inspiration of the crowd, the love of the crowd for their favourites, the reciprocal influences for good or evil between entertainer and audience, all these were dwelt upon and their lessons applied. The preacher especially referred to the exhausting nature of this work of ministering to the multitude.

At the close of the meeting the Rector tendered to the Guild Chaplain the thanks of his people and himself (in this he included his show people—parishioners for the time being) for coming again at Wakes time, and again showing that the Church regarded these travelling entertainers of the people as belonging to the household and family of God.

Amongst the prominent showmen present were John Whiting, James Norman, and Richard Newall, vice-presidents of the Guild; John Walker, an ex-President; T. Hurst, hon. secretary; George Proctor, of Proctor's Circus; and amongst the visitors we noticed Mr. Ward and other friends.

At the close a ten minutes' conference on the work of the Guild took place, and the action of the Executive with regard to the Education of Vagrant Children's Bill was explained.

ON the Shropshire and Cheshire round we have news of Crewe fair. The shows and concerns included P. Collins's, jun., electric coliseum of varieties and animated photography, Professor Huton's temple of magic, Cooper's novelty booth, Wright's fine art academy, Jess with boxers and athletes, P. Collins's motor-car set, and the Venetian gondola set; John Collins's switchback, P. Collins's, jun., steam yachts, and manual swings and highfliers by Messrs. Dobson and Jervis; Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, and bottle batteries by Messrs. Wright, Stokes, Hall, and Fletcher; the minor novelties, throwing and other games, were provided by Messrs. Humphries, Hall, Dobson, Cordwell, Mercer, Deeks, and others.

IN addition to the names already given as being at Stalybridge were Hibbert and Sons with their concerns, and P. Collins and Shuttleworth with one set each; and Messrs. Cordwell, White, Beaston, Jewell, Clough, Thomas, and Walter Shaw.

AT Nelson were also Walter Shaw's fine art gallery and steam swings, Williams's tunnel railway, Harrison's helter skelter, George Cornwell's shooting concern; and varieties, games, and minor novelties by Messrs. Slater, Pickles, Lorenzo, Forshaw, Redfern, Butterworth, Tughan, Freer, Holland, Crick, Broughton, Sharrocks, Jennings, and Gallagher.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the guild funds, per Mr. Whitney:—Mr. Ogden (Longsight), 10s. 6d.; Mr. Cris Darwent (Longsight), 5s.

As might be expected at this period of the year, there was a very poor attendance on the Collingwood-road Circus Ground on Wednesday, when Mr. Tom Norman, the famous auctioneer, offered at auction the Crystal Palace Circus. The majority of leading showmen are at this season much scattered about, and busy with their own concerns, but customers were found for the whole of the seventy-two lots. Mr. David Tayleur, of Ada Alexandra's world-renowned circus and hippodromes, who, it will be remembered, was a very extensive purchaser at Lord George Sanger's sale, was the principal buyer. The large tent was knocked down to Mr. Watson for £46 10s., tableaux went as low as 25 guineas, living carriages 15 guineas, and luggage waggons 8 guineas. Altogether the circus complete realised something like £435, a very poor price for such a high-class concern. Amongst those present we noticed in particular that well-known and highly-respected veteran showman, Sir Robert Fossett, Messrs. David Tayleur, Jas. Irwin, G. Cole, James Crockett, George Watson, Sidney Pinder, and James Green.

THE TIVOLI ANNUAL MEETING.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the shareholders of the New Tivoli (Ltd.) was held on Tuesday at The Tivoli, Strand, Mr. Henry Tozer (chairman of the company) presiding.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the accounts showed a substantial increase in the takings as compared with last year, and a general diminution of expenditure, save in the item of repairs and maintenance and London County Council requisitions, which had considerably increased their normal expenses. Those requisitions, or "suggestions" as the London County Council were pleased to call them, had been pressed upon them for the past three years, and the directors had, during the year just ended, dealt with them thoroughly, save that they had felt it impossible, in the interest of the safety and comfort of one portion of their audience, to concur in a request that they should narrow certain of their doors and doorways. However, he ventured to hope that commonsense and logic would prevail when that little matter was more fully considered by the London County Council Theatres Committee. Further sums must be spent to complete those alterations and to redecorate where the walls and ceilings were being disturbed. They were told that if they satisfied the present requirements of the London County Council they would be graciously permitted, in future, to carry on their business in peace. It was a consummation devoutly to be wished, for to lay their bogies had been a most expensive proceeding. Besides the cost of that process they contributed to the London County Council this year, amongst their rates, no less a proportion than £700, and they had also suffered depreciation of £374 on the London County Council stock they held. It could thus be seen that their profits had been largely dipped into to sustain that omniscient body, and truly might it be said, of course, in a spirit of patience and long-suffering, that whatever moral or physical benefits they received from them were very dearly bought. The board had spent, apart from the London County Council requisitions, £1,000 less than last year, and they had taken £10,000 more. They were thus enabled to recommend a substantially increased division of profits. They would, perhaps, have hesitated to advise quite so large a bonus as 4 per cent., but they took into especial consideration the fact that the dividend last year was only 6 per cent., and they therefore decided to recommend such a distribution this year, viz., 14 per cent., as would bring up the return to shareholders for the past two years to 20 per cent. The profits enabled them also to place £3,000 to reserve, making that fund £10,000. Although in the kindred company, the Oxford, they had a much larger reserve fund, it must be remembered that the Tivoli property was nearly all freehold. The business, which began many months ago to recover from its temporary depreciation, showed great steadiness, and they might safely claim that the prosperity of the Tivoli had been firmly re-established—subject, of course, to exceptional circumstances that they could not foresee. It was always satisfactory to have prophesied aright, and he might recall, therefore, the opinion expressed on behalf of the board at last year's meeting, that the unhealthy competition they had been subjected to would disappear, and that the diminution of profits was only transitory. Without seeming to triumph over the misfortunes of others, they were entitled, judging by what had happened, to say that there would appear to be no room in their immediate locality for any rival to the Tivoli.

Mr. G. Adney Payne (managing director) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, without discussion.

AT the weekly meeting of the Tramways and Electricity Committee of the Council of the Belfast County Borough, the question raised at a former meeting by Messrs. W. Coates & Son as to the electric installation at the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Belfast, was again discussed, a letter having been received from Messrs. Warden to the effect that as the new Hippodrome would be virtually under their charge they would probably put down a plant of their own and supply current to that building as well as to the Palace. The Lord Mayor said he thought that would be a very serious matter, and the committee should secure this business even if at a reduced rate. Mr. M'Cowen stated that in Glasgow, Liverpool, and Manchester a reduction was made in the case of theatres, but the rate charged was not any less than that at present paid by the Palace Theatre, which consumed 65,000 units of electricity during the past twelve months. It was finally agreed that Mr. M'Cowen should look into this matter again and bring it up at the next meeting, no decision to be arrived at meanwhile.

ON Thursday Mr. Harry Marvello had the distinguished honour of appearing, by special command, at Duff House, before Her Royal Highness Princess Louise (Duchess of Fife), His Grace the Duke of Fife, and suite. Mr. Marvello gave his clever conjuring and ventriloquial performance. This occasion is the sixth upon which Mr. Marvello has appeared before Royalty, he having been engaged on two previous occasions at Duff House, once at Mar Lodge, and twice at Balmoral Castle, before Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria.

IN a letter addressed to the editor of the *Times*, and dated July 27, a correspondent (Frances Balfour) writes: "The 'Political Notes' of the *Times* of to-day contain a letter addressed by Mr. Herbert Samuel to the secretary of the International Artistes' Lodge In this communication Mr. Samuel blandly asserts that 'the scope of this Bill,' now happily withdrawn from Parliament, has been 'misconceived.' The strong opposition to the Bill was formed under no misconception. The Bill purported to be one consolidating legislation already enacted. The Dangerous Performances Acts had to do with minors and children. The Government, by inserting the word 'women' into the Act endangered the professional livelihood of many thousand honest, hard-working women, and they were about to commit an act of gross injustice in a Parliament which is pledged to do justice to 'the rights of women.' It was under a complete apprehension of this back-handed blow at those unable to speak or vote for themselves that an opposition has successfully been organised to defeat the Government in their hasty and ill-considered action."

DURING the summer vacation Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, the proprietor of the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Attercliffe, has had the place thoroughly renovated, the whole of the auditorium and passages being decorated in a most artistic and elaborate manner, the predominating colours being crimson and gold, with a dado of dark green. New scenery has been added, and other improvements carried out, and when the place reopens its doors on Monday evening, the patrons will find it most cheerful and attractive. Mr. E. C. Clayton, who is re-engaged for the third consecutive season as biograph exhibitor, has introduced a novel and unique screen on which to throw his pictures. Mr. J. Lacy Lyne is still retained as general-manager, which is in itself a sufficient guarantee that the high-class character of this popular house will be fully maintained.

THE PASSING OF "THE CHAIRMAN."

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

The silvery-haired old gentleman with the retrospective expression of countenance tried bravely to conceal his emotion as ever and anon he puffed at his cigar, or rapped for silence with his ivory mallet, or bent over to answer a question put to him by the writer. For more than twenty-seven years he had nightly presided in his gilded throne over the principal public entertainments in Canning Town, and this Saturday evening marked not only his severance from the establishment he had served so long and so faithfully, but it also marked the occasion on which the last of his line—the line of music-hall chairmen—gave place to a less antiquated order of things. With his ample white locks always most carefully parted and brushed well back from the forehead, his full, though nicely-trimmed beard, his thoughtful, dreamy eyes, and a complexion that many a lassie of twenty summers might envy, he is what you would call a handsome old man. His pleasant personality will be sorely missed by many of the people he has himself watched grow up from childhood to maturity.

For a man in his seventy-sixth year Mr. Walter Leaver, who on Saturday night at the Royal Albert Music Hall, Canning Town, concluded a period of chairmanship extending over forty-three years, is a splendidly-preserved specimen of mankind. One would scarcely think that, seated with one's back to an orchestra for three hours every night year in year out for well-nigh half a century, and having one's auricular susceptibilities taxed to the utmost by a conglomeration of noises—the awe-inspiring booming of the big drum, the teeth-chilling, grating sound (at any rate at close quarters) of the violin, the shrill cry of the piccolo, the deafening blare of the trumpet, the clamorous echoes of the horned instruments, the singing (melodious and unmelodious) of songs by the artists, the bewildering shouts of the "quick-patter" comedian, and the tumultuous applause—was conducive to the improvement of one's nerves. Immediate proximity to a band does not inspire the average man with any great affection for harmony divine. As in the case of a masterpiece in oils, you must stand a little back from the production to enjoy its strength and beauty.

But in spite of all these adjectival terrors, Walter Leaver to-day enjoys the best of health. The fact is, he revels in a mighty uproar. During the daytime he follows the trade of a blacksmith, and to him the sharp, imperative clanging of the sledge-hammer is as sweet music. It seems a curious and violent change—this discarding every evening of the dirt-begrimed smock of Vulcan for the spotless starch and the silken suit of a Thespian president!

The Royal Albert came into the possession of Mr. Charles Relf, by whom it has just been sold to Mr. Arthur Hunt, in 1878, and Mr. Leaver was appointed chairman in the following year. Seemingly it has been Mr. Relf's principle to retain his officials as long as possible, as the stage-manager, Mr. Joseph H. Mitchell, has been associated with the hall for twenty-two years. When, in 1879, Mr. Relf was granted a music-hall licence, the Royal Albert held only 230 pepole, and the band consisted of piano, violin, and cornet. About that time Mr. Relf started giving benefits in aid of the Poplar Hospital, and in spite of his small audiences he was able to hand over as his first contribution the sum of £55 4s. 4d., the result of three nights' performances. The total extent to which this institution has benefited by his efforts would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of £3000, and a similar amount has gone to the Seamen's Hospital, for both of which charities yearly benefits were organised. Mr. Arthur Hunt, the new proprietor, intends to carry on this beneficent work. "As time went on," remarked Mr. Relf to us the other day, "I acquired property at the back of my little hall and added a gallery, with the result that I could seat 1500. Then, after a few years, I took other property, comprising three houses in Burnham-street, erected a second gallery, and there is now accommodation for 2300. When the trouble arose over the sketch question, I applied to our West Ham Council for a stage-play licence and got it, so that the Royal Albert can be run solely as a legitimate theatre or as a music hall, or as both combined."

The Lloyd Family, including the popular Marie, the Sisters Collins, Harry Ford, Kate Carney, Chirgwin, Harry Randall, Michael Nolan, Slade Murray, Harry Champion, Harry Anderson, and many other well-known artists made their first or early appearances at this establishment. It was at the Royal Albert that Pat Rafferty made a strong bid for fame and fortune with "We drew his club money this morning."

One might expect hooliganism to be rampant in Canning Town; but the writer is informed that the only outbreak of ruffianism which occurred in the Royal Albert was when an excited larrikin in the gallery threw a knife at a comedian. The latter had been commenting in too outspoken a fashion upon the condition and the inhabitants of Whiteman-street, a local thoroughfare which then bore a very bad reputation.

In the early days of the hall it was Mr. Leaver's custom to open the entertainment each evening by singing a song himself, and he tells us that one of his ditties which found most favour was "The Political Shoemaker," the first verse of which ran:—

"Folks says I'm a drunken old cobbler,
Just because I'm fond of my beer;
Yet I stick to my last firm and fast,
And I always stick to my beer."

This song, in addition to many others, was written and composed by the old chairman.

It is of interest to relate that Mr. Leaver gave evidence against the impostor, Arthur Orton, in the well-remembered *cause-célèbre*, the Tichborne Claimant case. The claimant and the subject of this sketch were, as boys, playmates at Wapping, and Mr. Leaver considers that Orton was a smart out impudent rogue.

The stately chair from which Mr. Leaver called out the names of the artists, the desk before which he sat, and the adjustable looking-glass which enabled him, while facing the audience and with his back to the footlights, to see what was being done on the stage, were all made by himself, and in other respects he has given practical evidence of mechanical ingenuity. There is at present in the possession of the King, given to His Majesty a score of years ago, a set of elegant models of the tools used by a blacksmith, consisting of a steel anvil, sledge-hammer, hand-hammer, vice and bench, all fitted on to a tiny plaque 5in. in diameter

No doubt Walter Leaver will miss the hubbub and the excitement of the Royal Albert. "I suppose I shall get used to it after a week or two," is the self-condoling phrase which gives expression to his thoughts. Possibly he will stick to his anvil, and in the sparks that merrily fly upwards revive his memory with recollections of the many happy hours he has experienced in Canning Town. Or possibly he will content his soul and find greater joy in spending the remainder of his days in the company of the sweetheart he took to the altar fifty-seven years ago. And surely, when a man has passed his grand climacteric by twelve years, is it not well that he should retire from the activities that are called into being within the noisy arena of business affairs and satisfy himself with quietly watching the shadows creep along the wall?

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE HIPPODROME.

At last Mr. Louis de Rougemont has given practical proof before a British audience of his ability to ride on the back of a turtle. It will be remembered that some few years ago the readers of a certain magazine were enthralled by a series of adventures, which, happening, as supposed, to one man, far exceeded in excitement and novelty the experiences of that friend of our boyhood, Robinson Crusoe. On Monday evening at the Hippodrome we sat and watched a curious spectacle. After the enormous red circular curtain had been lowered and raised, the huge tank was seen to be full of water. At one of the entrances to what in the ordinary course is the arena stood a tall, lean, elderly man, obviously attired in a bathing suit, which was partially covered by a large rug. On the landing stage there lay prone a big turtle, which we were informed weighed three hundredweights. The man in the bathing suit was, of course, the celebrated Frenchman, Louis de Rougemont, and he had a few remarks to make before entering upon the venture which was to provide the sensation of the evening. He referred to the oft-expressed doubts cast upon the statements made by himself in the *Wide World Magazine*, and admitted that in that respect his name had become a by-word. Years ago his critics averred that it was impossible for any human being to remain seated in the water upon a turtle. He would challenge that statement by taking a trip on his trusty chelonian. There is little more to be said. The animal was unceremoniously shoved into the water, and de Rougemont sprang on to its back. It threw him off; again he mounted the none too conveniently shaped shell saddle. His fat and greasy steed next turned a somersault in the water, splashing vigorously with its flappers, and for the moment it looked as if the plucky adventurer was placed *hors de combat*. However, he stuck bravely to the beast, and at the fall of the scarlet curtain de Rougemont was "top dog"—that is, he was apparently the master of the situation, seated on the back of the ungainly monster, albeit the latter liked it not, and clearly indicated its mind to the explorer. The act certainly succeeded in proving a "thrill."

There is much of interest and variety in the rest of the programme. Lavater Lee is as droll as a man can be. He makes known his presence from hte fauteuills, where he engages in an amusing altercation with the ring master, Mr. Otho Twigg. After having borrowed from a member of the audience a counterfoil of a ticket to prove his right of admission, he jumps over into the arena and introduces his three cleverly-trained French poodles. Then there is more fun, for the disobedient animals decline to do as he wishes, and laughable situations arise. Mr. James H. Jee almost makes our hair stand on end with his wonderful feats on the tight wire, on which he dances to the tune of "The Cosy Corner Girl," and performs a particularly daring jump over chairs from one part of the steel thread to another. The Jack Theo Trio distinguish themselves as equilibrists, and Iles and Antonio excite one's risible faculties with their eccentricities. Mlle. Olive juggles with a variety of articles in a smart and skilful manner. She has mastered the knack of balancing a large bowl on the point of a stick, and humour is imparted to that portion of her act which, with marvellous celerity and precision, she catches plates thrown to her from the side of the arena. If anyone wishes a lesson in the art of gracefully riding a cycle, let him visit the Hippodrome and watch the performances of the Kauffmann Troupe. Eight good-looking—physically as well as facially—young ladies execute a series of attractive manœuvres with the aid of their pneumatic steeds, the whole demonstration furnishing a pleasing spectacle. For agility and strength of body, and originiality of mind as displayed in an exhibition of gymnastics, we can commend the Lios Alfas, who, picturesquely attired, appear in front of an exceedingly pretty "backcloth," and engage in all sorts of evolutions on the trapeze.

"Buddha's Blackboard—an Unsolvable Mystery." The sub-title is correct. We tried hard from our seat to find out how the thing was worked, and, after discarding conjecture after conjecture, were finally compelled to "give it up." A large wooden contrivance after the style of an easel is wheeled on to the stage, and in the frame is placed a blackboard. The audience are told by a gentleman who is responsible for the "act" that any name they like to call out will appear, written in chalk, on the blackboard. We are not informed precisely how it is done, but a reference is made to what sometimes happens at spiritualistic séances, where seemingly disturbed spirits floating about in the supernatural sphere cause messages in black and white to be delivered by unseen hands. It should be mentioned, in regard to Buddha's Blackboard, that a thin sheet of amber-coloured wood is fixed before the blackboard while Buddha, or whoever it is, performs the graphological exercise. Anyway, the result is most satisfactory, the answers to questions being chalked on the blackboard by some invisible means. Unquestionably, to the lay mind, the method in which the words are put on the board is, as the programme expresses it, "an unsolvable mystery." The lively antics of those fantastically-garbed eccentric comedians, Harding and Ah Sid, are diverting in the extreme. The Harmony Four are likewise a mirth-provoking little band with what they are pleased to call their "original musical comedy." While one of the gentlemen makes an honest attempt at vocalism, the others chant a weird refrain, and indulge in a multitude of comicalities which are most ludicrous. Alburtus and Millar aid in the merry-making with their "scene at the fair grounds," in which, among other things, they prove to be expert jugglers. The Three Small Heads, said to be the only living members of an otherwise extinct race, arouse general curiosity, and the trio of strange women seem scarcely less interested in the audience. The American Bioscope is a capital entertainment in itself, the picture illustrative of the Fire Brigade drill in Hyde Park, and another in which smuggling dogs figure, being specially praiseworthy. The dramatic and realistic spectacular "episode," *The Flood*, with its beautiful scenes, is as greatly admired as ever.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

The Brewster Troupe arrived at Marseilles on the 30th ult. per s.s. Aquitaine, having completed five months with the Seguin tour. They were originally engaged for two months, but owing to the success they achieved were re-engaged. They speak very highly of the enthusiastic reception they received from the audiences in the various towns they visited in South America.

The employees of the Empire Theatre, Newcastle, held their annual outing to Shotley Bridge last Sunday. Grand weather favoured the excursionists, and a thoroughly enjoyable day was spent. A cricket match and sports were indulged in during the afternoon, and caused much excitement. After dinner, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy, the energetic manager, made a neat little speech, thanking the staff for the excellent manner in which they had carried out their duties, and also spoke in high terms of his directors.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, June 18.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—To the already strong bill provided was added yet another novelty on Saturday evening in the shape of the one-act comedy, entitled *Hooked by Crook*, performed by Miss Marguerite Keeler, Mr. Homer B. Mason, and Mr. Henry Travers. The comedy was played with a dash and go which completely took the audience by storm. Mr. Homer B. Mason as Burglar Bill did some excellent fooling, besides proving himself to be a first-rate performer on the piano. Miss Keeler possesses a pretty face and a beautiful figure, combined with a pleasing manner. Mr. Travers did excellent work as Oliver Kerkower. Alexander and Bertie appears in a graceful trapeze act, while Larola, Victor Kelly, the Lewis Sisters, the Three Lees, Baby Watson, Vasco, the mad musician, and others added interesting turns to an excellent programme.

MELBOURNE, June 26,—Princess's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Willoughby and Geach.—*The Man From Mexico* was produced at this theatre on Saturday evening last, in the presence of one of the most brilliant audiences that has ever gathered within its walls. The occasion was a memorable one, marking as it did the return to Melbourne, after an absence of a number of years, of the popular and fascinating actress Miss Grace Palotta, who was accorded a most flattering reception, which was shared to a large degree by Mr. Hugh Ward, who also made his reappearance after a lengthy sojourn in England. *The Man From Mexico* abounds in amusing situations, crisp dialogue, and smart byplay. The company includes Mr. Reginald Wykeham, Mr. J. Hartman, Mr. Edward Bonfield, Mr. Charles Knight, Mr. Arthur Cornell, Mr. W. Gamble, Miss Olive Wilton, and Miss Gillian Scaife. *The Man From Mexico* seems destined to have a long run judging from the enthusiasm with which it has been received since its opening performance.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson.—Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Tallis.—*On the Quiet*, presented by Mr. Charles Frohman's American comedy company, headed by Mr. William Collier, entered upon its second week on Saturday evening in the presence of a large audience. The play is a wildly farcical comedy, packed full of hilarious American humour that keeps the audience in a simmer of merriment from the rise to the fall of the curtain. *On the Quiet* will run till further notice.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—The exceptionally strong programme being presented just now drew a large audience on Saturday evening. The Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler company continues first favourites in the clever American sketch *Hooked by Crook*. Vasco, the mad musician, plays innumerable instruments with great skill; Alexandre and Bertie give a graceful trapeze act; while a number of other interesting turns are contributed by Mr. Slade Murray, the Three Lees, Larola, Mr. Tom Dawson, the Sisters Watson, Mr. Alf Lawton, and a host of others. Mr. Fred Aydon, the genial and popular manager for Mr. Rickards, has lately been suffering from a severe attack of influenza, but is now quite himself again.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The ever-popular melodrama *Hands Across the Sea* was revived on Saturday evening. Mr. George Cross as the hero, George Dudley, did excellent work; as Tom Bassett Mr. Bert Bailey was seen at his best; Mr. Laurence Dunbar gave a conscientious study of the part of the villain Richard Stillwood; and Mr. H. O. Willard made an effective French black-leg. Miss Duggan's interpretation of the part of the heroine Lilian Melford was one of the best things she has yet accomplished. Other characters were played by Miss Ethel Buckley, Miss Ada Guildford, Mr. Edwin Campbell, Mr. Edmund Duggan, and Mr. Temple Harrison. The setting throughout the piece was good, the opening scene in a Devonshire farm being excellent.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Clark; Business-Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—On Saturday evening there was a complete change of programme by the Folly company; Hagan and Fraser contributed a new sketch; Essie Jennings rendered three new songs; Miss Bella Perman appeared in new dances; Mr. Howard Thomas, a baritone from New Zealand, scored a great success. The performance terminated with a capital farce entitled *The Carpet Man*, by Frank Yorke.

"THE ERA" EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 0

At a special Dean of Guild Court, Paisley, on Wednesday, the continued petition by Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Scottish Zoo, Glasgow, to erect a hippodrome at Smithhills-street, Paisley, was granted. The plan shows a corrugated iron structure of ample dimensions, seated from the front backwards, starting from the orchestra, and including stalls, &c., pit, and gallery. A commodious stage is to be erected at the far end, and the whole of the seating area will be occupied, so that it is evident the performances will be of the variety order, without any circus features. There is to be only one entrance—a long covered way, leading from the Smithhills, and lit from the roof. The new hippodrome will be situated in the most central part of the town. Mr. E. H. Bostock is the proprietor, and from what the Paisley public know of his catering in Glasgow, their expectations in the matter of suitable entertainment will not be belied.

Lynn's "Mudlarks," a clever company of juveniles, are gaining a great reputation in Australia, where they remain under the management of Mr. Frank Murphy.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5 Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Sept. 17, Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 29, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, 12, 19, on.
Address, Milton Bode, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton, Sept. 10 Chester, Sept. 17 Reading. Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Aug. 20, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Aug. 20.
E. G. Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Companies, Dec. 3, on; also Panto., Jan. 2. Feb. and March. H. Vere.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
April 22, May 13, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 15 and Nov. 12,
NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
LOUGHBOROUGH.
Vacant Oct. 11, 12, 13 (last three nights of week).

DUMFRIES AND HAWICK
(Booked in conjunction).
First Vacant Date Jan. 14.
W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
WANTED, Big Attractions for Dec. 3 and 17. Only Vacant Dates this Year. Now Booking 1907. Big Attractions Only, Musical Comedies, Pantos., Operas, or Novelty Shows Preferred.
A. C. Moody, Lessee and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL,
DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions (Musical), Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22.
James Bell.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
SEAHAM HARBOUR.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
WANTED, Aug. 13. Aug. 13. Vacant through Misunderstanding, Aug. 13. Aug. 13, also Oct. 15 and 29, onward, with exceptions.
A. C. Harrison.

THEATRE ROYAL, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Lessees and Managers, J. and F. Coulson.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Vacant Oct. 22, only date this year.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, through Cancelling, First-class Companies, Oct. 25, 26, 27, and Nov. 15, 16, 17. Full Terms, Dates, Address, W. B. Redfern.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 10.
Will Mr. Ronald Gragham write?
Owner and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Aug. 13, 20, and 27, Good Business Assured, Town full of Troops and Visitors. Address, H. J. Snelson.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies for Aug. 27, Oct. 1, Dec. 17. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 20, and on, good Drama, Musical or Variety (if latter, can play two houses nightly). J. Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 3, 10 Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 3; good terms to good companies. T. C. Rawes, as above.

WANTED, Good Musical Comedy or Good Variety Co., Sept. 17, Vacant through Obliging. Apply, J. W. Chapman, Grand Theatre, and Empire, Doncaster.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, KENDAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Sept. 6 and 20. Only Vacant Autumn Dates.
J. Butler, Manager.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE,
RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.
WANTED, Known, all Dates Filled this Season. Visited by all the Leading Attractions. Next Week, "The Earl and Girl" and "The White Chrysanthemum." Frank Curzon's Co.

WANTED, for Pier Pavilion, Dover, First-class Concert Party, for Aug. 27, One of the Best Dates in the Year. Apply, with full particulars, to Fred C. Dew, Theatre Royal, Dover.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, Feb. 4, on.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, on.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant Aug. 13, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 30, Sept. 27, onward (last 3 nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Aug. 20, Oct. 8, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 20, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Aug. 27, Oct. 8, onward.

All communications to Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies for few remaining Dates.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20
Sept. 17, Oct. 15.
Address as above.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions for Sept. 10, 17.
Oct. 15 and 22.
Address,
Lingford Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3, and 17.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, for Oct. 8, one of the Best Dates in the Autumn, Really First-class Attraction for Theatre Royal, Bolton, Big Business Sure for Good Attraction. Address, J. F. Elliston, Bolton

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 13 (?), 27 (?), Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24, First-Class Attractions only. Address.
Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Sept. 3,
Nov. 19 (Three Nights),
and onwards, with exceptions.
Required, Sound Attractions for Christmas and New Year's Weeks.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

PUBLIC HALL, MINEHEAD,
SOMERSET.
WANTED, Companies, height of season. Apply, Secretary.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Aug. 29 and 30, also Sept. 24 (three or six nights), for Runnacleave Theatre, Ilfracombe. Bookings include "Walls of Jericho," "Blue Moon," Madame Albani, Marie Hall, George Grossmith, "His House in Order," Albert Chevalier, "Billy's Little Love Affair," "Worst Woman in London," "Night of the Party," &c. Wire or write, Phillips, Theatre, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Aug. 20, 27, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire, Pennington, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Tom Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 21, March 11.
Douglas Bruce, 22, Upper Hagley-rd., Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Oct. 22, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write. W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Aug. 27,
Sept. 10,
Oct. 1.
J. W. Cordiner, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
See Companies advertisement, Page 2.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, Fred Granville,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY and MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 22, 29 and Nov. 12.
Address,
Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM'S COMPANY in
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY,"
from
DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.
WANTED, Autumn Dates, No. 1 towns only.
All communications should be addressed to J. W. Wood-Ingram, Duke of York's Theatre.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 15. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vac. Sept. 3, Nov. 5, and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of Fifteen experienced Artists, headed by
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia.
Bookings include:—
Derby,
St. Helens,
Sheffield (Royal),
Bradford (Prince's),
Scarborough (Royal),
Newcastle (Grand),
Hull (Alex),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Dewsbury, Mexborough, Luton, Rotherham, Leeds, Lincoln, Barrow, Walsall, Castleford, Oldham, Barnsley, Yarmouth, Swansea, Burnley, Salford, &c.
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Striking Pictorials by McCaw.
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Sept. 10 (Lancs. or Yorks.), to follow Scarborough, Sept. 17 (to precede Lincoln), Oct. 22 (Wales), Nov. 5, 26.
Refer the following managers for opinion:—
J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury;
M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens;
T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby;
J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield;
F. Laidler, Esq., Bradford;
L. Carson, Esq., Liverpool;
Who will say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast, and does good business.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"The Conscript," specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Entirely revised with important changes.
Address all communications,
This week, Alex., Hull; next, Royal, Leeds.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Good Theatres,
"FLORODORA,"
Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 26 (3 nights).
"THE ETERNAL CITY,"
Sept. 27 (3 nights), Nov. 12.
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Aug. 16, Sept. 13, 17, Nov. 1 (3 nights each),
Dec. 31, Jan. 7, and various, onwards.
WILLIAM MARTIN, Theatre Royal, Ryde, I.W.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1 and 15,
Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1 and 15,
to follow Grand, Nottingham, and precede Stratford.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Opera House, Workington.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fiftieth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., '07.
WANTED, Sept. 3. Wire for Sept. 3,
Sept. 3 (in or near London),
Oct. 22 (through obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

MESSRS. SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR. "THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, and Christmas.
All Communciations to JOHN B. SHINTON,
Grand Theatre, Brighton.

PRINCES THEATRE, POPLAR, LONDON.
WANTED, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Nov. 5,
"THE GOLDEN LADDER,"
by Geo. R. Sims and the late Wilson Barrett.
Forty People on the Stage.
Nine massive sets of Scenery.
This magnificent production can be seen to-night.
Princes Theatre, Poplar, E.
Next week, Coronet Theatre, W.
Wire,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, as above.

MR. FRED PAUL'S CO.,
"THE LORD OF THE LAST,"
New Musical Comedy.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Aug. 27.
See large Advertisement.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel., 7504 Gerrard.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
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C. M. JULIAN, T. R., Lincoln.

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Mr. William Mollison as Lachlan Campbell.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 20 and Oct. 8.
ARCHIE W. CHAPPELL,
Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
Monday, AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 22.
Address,
CHARLES DURIE, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Sept. 24, for above, North. H. FISCHER, G., Edinburgh.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Aug. 16, 17, 18; also Aug. 27, for this Great Attraction, Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24, no greater Attraction Touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire for Sept. 10, 17, 24, Wire.
JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Aug. 13 (North or Midlands), Sept. 3 (Midlands or South).
H. HOLLISTER, Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, for "A Life's Story" and "A Marriage of Vengeance," Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, Christmas, and Few Spring Dates. S. CARLTON, Muncaster T., Bootle.

"LIFE." "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 29, on, follow Lincoln, Wakefield, &c. Superb Pictorials and Powerful Company. Splendid reception, "Life," Glasgow. Big week certain. Wires BARRS, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow; Monday, St. George's Theatre, Kendal.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, Xmas.
FRANCES DELAVAL, T. R., Edmonton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, onwards, with exceptions,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Entirely New and Elaborate Production of
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND,"
By Arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright.
First-class Company. Everything Carried.
Notice.
Legal proceedings will be immediately instituted against any person performing this piece without licence from Mr. Samuel James.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

A Startling Novelty at Last.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24, and 1907.
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Spectacular Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Autumn Bookings:—
Grand, Islington; Alex., Hull; T. R., Sheffield; Palace, Newcastle; Rotunda, Liverpool; Junction and Osborne, Manchester; Princess's and Lyceum, Glasgow; Aston (pencil), Smethwick (pencil).
Every Scene and Property Carried. Two Suites of Furniture, Two Carpets, all Borders, &c.
The most Complete Production ever Toured.
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Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

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WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"THE KING'S SECRET"
(James Stillwell and Company),
Oct. 1, onwards.
CHARLES MAJILTON AND COMPANY,
Nov. 26, various, on.
Note New Office Address:—
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

WANTED, Theatres,
MR. ALLAN WILKIE'S TOUR.
Managers are requested to Note that Mr. Wilkie can now offer the strongest combination of any Répertoire Company Touring, including
Mr. Allan Wilkie,
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh,
Miss Iné Cameron,
Miss Carrie Baillie,
in a Mixed Répertoire of Shakespeare, Old Comedies, and Standard Dramas.
N.B.—Two consecutive weeks can be booked at good theatres, with a change of bill nightly.
Vacant Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 26, onwards,
including Xmas.
Aug. 6, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO.
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston), and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby). Also Vacant Christmas Week, through Cancelling T. R., Sunderland, must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms. GEORGE KIRK, Address, this, P., Bradford; next, T. R., South Shields.

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"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for
Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8.
London or near preferred.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, care of "The Era."

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND,"
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Christmas, New Year. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, P. O. W., Mexborough.

"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE."
"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE."
"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, for this Great Attraction. J. NEGUS, Star T., Liverpool.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
for this, Sept. 8, Nov. 19,
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, 18.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, Aug. 27, Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 19, "The Youngest of Three," a Romantic Play of 1815. WYN WEAVER, Colwyn Bay.

"AT CRIPPLE CREEK."
WANTED, Aug. 27 and Sept. 24.
MARK BLOW, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for this Beautifully Mounted, Dressed, and Played Drama,
Sept. 10 and 24.
Sept. 10 and 24.
Also
Oct. 15, and on.
Oct. 15, and on.
Everything Carried, Company of Eighteen Artists.
Address, FRANK BATEMAN,
Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA."
Vacant, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, 11, and 18.
"ALADDIN,"
Feb. 18.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Feb. 18.
Address, JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, for "A City of Sin,"
Oct. 15, 22, and Nov. 5.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

CHARLES MAJILTON'S
Musical Sketch and Play Tour.
"THE PLUMBER."
"SHE WOULD BE A WIDOW."
"THE SCOTCHMAN IN PARIS."
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Others in Active Preparation
All Scenery and Effects Carried.
Fourteen Experienced Artists, headed by
CHARLES MAJILTON,
in his Inimitable Comedy Creations.
Aug. 6, PALACE, GLASGOW.
First Vacancy, Nov. 26.
WANTED, Halls or Theatres.
Coms., re Dates
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S Agency,
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Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."
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COLLEY-DRYDEN CO.,
The Variety Combination par excellence.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Variety Theatres. Only a Few Vacant Dates this year and next owing to long-standing engagements. Proprietors Desirous of Full Houses should send Vacant Dates to
LEO DRYDEN, Business-Manager for
Colley-Dryden Co., Palace Theatre, Belfast.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
SPECIAL PRODUCTION OF "ROB ROY"
for Three Weeks, Commencing Monday, Sept. 3.
Mme. Alice Esty as Diana and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Francis.
WANTED, First-class Artists, to Complete Cast. State lowest terms, and, where not known, references and photographs should be sent. Address, Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for La Comédie Anglaise, Fit-up Tour, Petite Lady for child's part, to sing, dance, or play piano preferred, refinement more essential than experience; also good opening for Amateur Lady for small parts, in excellent répertoire and understudy. Address, with photographs, particulars, Mr. W. L. DOBELL, Assembly Rooms, Ambleside, Westmorland.

WANTED, for "An Abandoned Woman," good Juvenile Lady. Photo., lowest terms, references. HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Young, Experienced Heavy Man, not under 5ft. 7in. or 8in; robust Character Gent. (Sir Noel), not under 5ft. 8in; young, short and slight Comedian (Ben), not over 5ft. 3in. (to combine A.S.M.), no songs or dances; must give ten days' rehearsal, commencing Wednesday, Aug. 22, Chorley. State age, height, references, photos. essential, stamped envelope (no paper and string), SANTE, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, smart young Actor, capable of understudying Lead and Heavy Parts, must be throughly experienced and have good modern wardrobe. Fullest particulars, photos., and last two refs., to GEORGE KIRK, this, P., Bradford; next, T. R., South Shields.

THE IAN MACLAREN SHAKESPEAREAN CO.
WANTED (rehearse next week), Juvenile Man (to sing), for Bassanio, Feste, &c.; Lady, for heavies; various other vacancies, including carpenter. Photos., references, MACLAREN, T. R., Tony-Pandy.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
Irish Fit-up Tour, commencing Aug. 20.
WANTED, Gentleman for Hankey Bannister and Dallas, also for Small Part. Terms and all particulars, EDMUND TEARLE, T. R., Glasgow.

WANTED, Heavy Gentleman, also Character Actor, to open Aug. 27, London. Please state particulars, height, terms, letters only, FRED EUSTACE, 3, Evandale-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Immediately, for Good Portable, First-class Leading Gentleman, Tall, Young, Experienced, Steady, Long Engagement, Good Terms, Comfortable Theatre, Good Winter Town. Terms and References to MRS. POULTON, Theatre, Richmond, Yorkshire.

SIDNEY BACON'S TOURS.
"THE DUCHESS OF TOOTING."
WANTED, good Juvenile Actor (Baritone Vocalist), and Comedy Old Man, must be first-class Musical Comedy people. Photos., references, and lowest terms (letters only), MELVILLE BICKFORD, 152, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Leading Gentleman for "Camille" and "Frou-Frou." Rehearse Ayr, Aug. 13, Open 20th. SYMONS, Pavilion, Ventnor.

WANTED, Comedian, must sing and dance well. Age, height, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

F. B. WOULFE REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Good Heavy Man, to Rehearse immediately, for Autumn Tour;
also Good Responsible.
F. B. WOULFE, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."
WANTED, Lunatic and Fifi, for Suburban Tour. Address, CHAS. THORBURN, Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Young Ladies and Gentlemen for Chorus and Small Parts, for Comic Opera, Sing Well and Dance, Refined and Artistic, Clever Amateurs also write. Particulars, Permanent Address, Photo. (returnable). Interviews by Appointment. Letters only. R. R. S., Bath House Hotel, Dean-street, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Petite Chorus Ladies, good voices, play small boys' parts. Age, height, references, photos., lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Refined Coloured Lady Vocalist, for a choir. Send particulars to ALBERT THOMAS, 138, Richmond-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, two Lady Vocalists, Clever Boy, Gentleman Vocalists, for Sketch; other vacancies. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars-st., E.C.

WANTED, smart Dancers, for America. Call, Tuesday, from 2 to 3, MADAME PHASEY'S, 156, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime Stage-Manager, who must be a capable Trainer of Chorus and Children for probable long run at a good Pantomime house; also Principal Boy and First-Class Comedian. Address, stating lowest terms, to
Box 3,532, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette. For terms, and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, Experienced, very large répertoire. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-street, Hendon, N.W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Forty Chorus Girls, for Provincial Pantomime, height not less than 5ft. 6in; good money for the right people. Apply to G. COOPER (with photo.), Salford Hippodrome, from Aug. 6.

WANTED, for Panto., 100 Chorus Ladies, Dancers, Demon King Comedians. Terms, Photos., &c., JACK MCKENZIE, 154, Coldharbour-lane, London, S.E. No interviews.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Lake-Grange, the Drury Lane Giant, at Liberty for panto. Address, Clovelly, Sandown, I. of W.

WANTED, Known, Oliver Conroy, Comedian, still vacant for Pantomime, 1906-7.
Pier Pavilion, Southport.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

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WANTED, Good Scenic Artist, for Few Weeks, to find palette and brushes. Apply, with references, HARRISON, Palace, Halifax.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Managers, Artists, requiring Scenery, Props, Trick Stuff, &c., write BOSTOCK, Scenic Co., Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester. First-Class Work; Lowest Terms.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, concluding at Palace, Grimsby, at Liberty, Engagement or Contract. Address till Monday, 23, Eleanor-street, Grimsby. Perm., 20, Park-st., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c.; experienced, quick. Moderate charges. Address, W. HENRY, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, to join at once, smart Gentleman, for Business-Manager, to work ahead, must thoroughly understand booming a show, &c.
Address, JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, Thomas Ferguson, Stage-Manager, Poster Writer, Bill Inspector, Disengaged. Hippodrome, Hull. Refs. from Mr. Alfred Graham, Proprietor.

WANTED, smart Assistant Stage-Manager, for small parts; also tall Baggage Man, capable of small parts. All particulars, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Coronet Theatre.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Monday, Stage-Manager, to act as Electrician; Man, as Billposter and Stage Hand; four tall Attendants. Apply, 2 o'clock, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

WANTED, Secretary; must understand Book-keeping thoroughly, able to prepare balance-sheet for audit. Apply, stating salary, age, experience, and references, to HOWARD LEES, General Manager, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, for Mrs. E. Pinder Ord's Royal Circus and Menagerie, Advance Agent, drive pony and trap, know how to use a brush, must be steady and know his business. All letters, address, Duns, Scotland.

WANTED, Young, Energetic Agent, on commission, or salary and commission; one who can boom a show; open Aug. 27. Full particulars, photos., SANTE, Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent; one used to working institutions, &c., preferred. Address, BANVARD, Boher, County Limerick, Ireland.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, a Stage Carpenter, must be thoroughly Reliable, one used to Variety Business, and Capable to Manage Stage. Terms, Age, References, to MR. H. MCKELVIE, Manager, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Experienced Carpenter (own tools), to combine baggage, able to make and repair; might arrange to open at once. Full particulars, photos., lowest terms, SANTE, Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Smart Carpenter, Baggage, Single, Live with, and look after boys, Army or Navy Man Preferred. CADLE'S Agency.

WANTED, Thoroughly Experienced and Practical Property Master (Resident Shop), Character must bear Strictest Investigation. Apply, FRED KARNO, Park House, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Baggage Man, immediately, not afraid of work. Wire absolute lowest. BEANLAND, Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, Artist and Designer of Pantomime Costumes to send particulars and prices of sketches to producer of new Pantomime, who is making own wardrobe.
Address, Box 3,531, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Billposters, for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, now Touring the Continent; must be able to use long-handled brushes, and have a first-class reference. Apply, JOHN MOORE LONDON, LTD., New Address, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, W., Sole Selling Agent for the Donaldson Litho. Co. Biggest assortment of circus, menagerie, agricultural, horse race, &c., &c., posters in the world.

WANTED, smart young Billposter, preference given to one who can build or assist in building hoardings. Particulars, HOLDSWORTH, Scalands, Ilfracombe.

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WANTED, Known, Gentleman (25), Assistant Manager of Important Theatre, Desires Change to Better Himself, Excellent Experience and References, Shorthand, Typist, Pianist, Society's Guarantee. Address, Box 3523, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Acting-Manager, 12 years at last variety hall. Apply, to good references, C. CASCOYNE, 7, Shaftesbury-terrace, Ashly-rd., Bristol.

WANTED, Known, George F. Gettler, Business or Acting-Manager, at Liberty shortly, resident or touring, late with W. W. Kelly, Esq., "Royal Divorce" Co., &c. Address, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, the Management or Acting Ditto of Theatre, Variety, &c., 19 years' experience in all details of the business. Address, MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, immediate offers as Advance Agent, highest references, fifteen years' varied experience; first-class appearance; just concluded nineteen months' engagement. Address, JOHN M. BRYAN, 56, Castle-street, Maesteg, S. Wales.

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WANTED, Situation by Practical, Experienced Billposter, age 29; good ladderman; good references. Address, H. G., 42, Albert-street, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Known, should a manager, actress, or variety Artist require a dresser, Miss Fannie Leslie can highly recommend Fanny Edwards, who was with her fourteen years. All communications direct to her, 27, Oswin-street, St. George's-road Southwark.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Leader, First Violin, to Commence Aug. 13, Thoroughly Experienced in Variety Business, Permanent Engagement to Suitable Man. Terms and References, WM. CLOSS, Mus. Dir., Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, First Violin (leader), Clarionet, Cornet, Drums and effects (tymps. preferred), refs., variety, experienced. MCMILLAN, Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Leader for Queen's Park and Solo Cornet, for Preston, Open Aug. 13, 1906. Apply PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Young (Single) Musical Director for Music Hall Sketch.
CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
LYCEUM THEATRE AND THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Two or Three First-class Violinists, must be thoroughly Competent and Reliable. Apply, with References, to GEORGE BURNLEY, Musical Director.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, to Act as Conductor when Required, Open Aug. 20. Address, with Terms, References, W. E. BARNETT, Acting-Manager, Royal County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First Violin (to sit next Leader), for Richmond Theatre, open Matinée next Monday (Bank Holiday). Wire, or call to-day (Saturday), between 2 and 5, on. Mr. KINKEE, 42, Lillyville-road, West Brompton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Second Violin (combine Brass), Tenting Season, commence immediately. Wire Saturday, BANDMASTER, Circus, Braintree; Sun., Mon., Dovercourt, near Harwich.

WANTED, Good Orchestral Lady Violinist, only experienced player need apply. CONDUCTRESS, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Violinist Leader for Music Hall, Permanency for Steady Performer.
Letters, apply to L. C., 26, Lisle-street, W.

WANTED, good Violin and Cornet, for Mail Steamer Ardrossan to Belfast. Terms or shares. MAITLAND LACEY, 3, Arran-lane, Ardrossan. Ferguson write.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
PALACE THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, for above, good Solo Cornet, to open Monday next, must be thoroughly experienced in Variety business, evening dress and sobriety essential. References to GEO. CLOUGH, Conductor.

WANTED, Good Cornet, Euphonium, and Violin, who can double with band, Steady Employment found all the year round with substantial firm. Should like to hear from some of my old musical friends. Address, OSCAR SCHADE, Secretary Sylvestre Band, Box 379, Lindsay, Ontario, Canada

WANTED, Solo Cornet Player, as an Attendant in a County Asylum,
Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found, single man.
Apply, with testimonials,
W. GRAINGER, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Good Cornet, for Town Band. Shares; permanent.
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WANTED, for Mrs. E. Pinder Ord's Royal Circus Menagerie, cornet and euphonium players; must be sober. All letters, address, Duns, Scotland.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, Solo Cornet, 32s. 6d.; Solo Trombone, 30s.; able to Read Bass and Treble Cleffs. E. COOK, B. M., Fossett's Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

WANTED, First and Second Cornets, for Pal., Sunderland, must be used to Variety business. Apply, J. W. GLEGHORN, Musical-Director.

WANTED, at once, an Experienced Solo Cornet, used to dramatic and operatic business. Terms, refs., to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, through disappointment, String Bass, for Keswick Town Band, open Monday. Terms Shares. H. ADAMS, Dog and Gun, Keswick.

BOSCO'S TENTING CIRCUS.
WANTED, Trombone, to Open at Once, steady men only need apply. Wire or Write, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Trombone, to Complete Band. Terms, 30s. per Week. Address Band Master, MR. WHITEHURST, Sedgwick Menagerie, Maesteg, Sat.; Porth Cawl, Mon.; Britton Ferry, Tues.; South Wales.

WANTED, for Autumn Season at Theatre Royal, Bolton, Trombone, Cornet, and 'Cello Players, to Open Aug. 13. References and particulars to W. AINSCOUGH, Musical Director.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, for three months' Engagement, Trombone, Euphonium, and Saxhorn. Monday, Tramore; Tuesday, Waterford; join at once.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Trombone, for long tour, open Monday next, wear evening dress and assist fittings. Wire, POOLE, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey.

BOSCO'S TENTING CIRCUS.
WANTED, at once, for Finish of Season, Good Trombone, Steady and Attentive to Business. Terms 32s. 6d. S. JONES, 20, Joy-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Flute, Opera House, St. Helens, open Aug. 6. Lowest terms, wire, J. DUXBURY, M.D., 5, Stansfeld-street, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Lady Pianist and Vocalist, also Tenor, long tour (Scotch), open Aug. 20. Send lowest terms and particulars at once. All railway fares paid after joining. G. W. WALKER, 43, Union-street, Dundee.

WANTED, for "Musical Outcast," brilliant Pianist. Apply with photo., refs., and lowest terms for stage, CYRIL GODWIN, Wheatsheaf, Bilston, Staffs.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Aug. 6, Pianist for Circus, Bury, 5 Weeks Certain. Wire, JIM WILKINSON, Orchestra, Central Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Thoroughly Experienced Pianist, to Open Aug. 13. State Past Engagements, age, absolute terms. MANAGER, Dare's Minstrels, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, for Al Fresco, all-round Pianist, humorist preferred; must be young and gentlemanly. Wire, MANAGER, 15, Victoria-terrace, Dovercourt.

WANTED, at once, Pianist, read at sight, used to Variety business; long tour, week towns. SILVESTER, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, good Pianist and Trombone, open Empire, Greenock, Aug. 20, well up in Variety. Terms and references. MAITLAND LACEY, Mus.-Dir., 3, Arran-lane, Ardrossan.

WANTED, good Pianist, must play another instrument (Cornet excepted), permanency. Lowest terms, references, and age.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Open Aug. 13, Thoroughly Experienced Drummer, Quick and Attentive, for Variety. Permanency to Suitable Man. Terms and Last Reference only. Good Musicians, including Solo Cornet, Dis. for end of Sept. Write, HENRY HINCHCLIFFE, Musical Director, Palace T., Carlisle.

WANTED, Double Drummer, Five Hours Daily. Terms and References to
CONDUCTOR,
Military Band, Penzance.

WANTED, good Double Drummer, with Effects. Permanency (open all year round). Terms and refs. W. HARTLEY, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Double Drummer, open Monday Morning (Bank Holiday), four weeks, play Pier and Bandstand, £2. Wire, FORSYTH, Pier, Bognor.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, for Palace Music Hall, Glasgow, to open Aug. 13. Apply to ARTHUR FELLOWES, Musical Director.

WANTED, immediately, Instrumentalists, to join a Staff Band; good Engagement; Cornet and Clarionet particularly wanted.
Apply immediately by letter to
H. L., c/o Messrs. Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly Circus, W.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER.
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Musicians, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Contrabassists, for Ocean Liners (Mediterranean service), Engagement from Sept. 21, 1906, to about the end of July, 1907; Nov. 7, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907; Dec. 26, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907. Musical duties only; second-class accommodation. State age and experience, with references as to ability and character to C. W. BLACK, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Performers on Violin, Violoncello, Piano, Flute, Clarionet, &c., for Pacific Liners' company having decided to keep bands the year round. Former applicants please write. No stamps; silence a negative. Address, J. O. SHEPHERD, 11A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musicians, for small Circus, two and three days in town, open to purchase organ. Address, GRAY, Circus, Tow Law.

WANTED, Three Young Ladies, Smart, for high-class musical act; must play three or more instruments; home, wardrobe, fares provided. Terms, continuous engagement, Mme. ROZELLE, 47, Oxford-st., Wellingboro'.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY, 717, New City-road, Glasgow.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical-Director or Leader, Thoroughly Experienced. Highest Refs. W. DENTON, 47, Alstone-ave., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Musical Director, Leader, or First Violin (good répertoire), highest references, Liberty Sept., theatre, hotel, or café. WILFRED BALL, Villiers Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin, experienced, soloist and orchestral, London preferred. A. PARISI, 106, Kenbury-st., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Edgar Haines, Conductor Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Prince's, Comedy Theatres, Manchester, at Liberty. Address, 125, Gower-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experiencel First Violinist, seaside or café. At Liberty now. LENA CHALLEN, Stinchcombe, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Engagement by Violin, can Combine Clarionet, Good Refs. H. SMITH, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington Park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, slight experience, requires Engagement, any business, perm. or short period; terms arranged. LONG, 62, College-street, Putney.

WANTED, by First Violin, Engagement or Deputising. Write, VIOLINIST, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Regent's Park-road, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Good Experienced Violinist, at Liberty, any Business. References. VIOLINIST, 6, Shaftesbury-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Position as Violin or Viola, in High-class Ladies' Orchestra, Experienced. Write Box 3524, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, 'Cello, and Basso, experienced in Dramatic or Variety business; together or separate. 'CELLO, 21, Hope-street, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, Good Sight Reader, been at Music Hall, Nottingham, 7 Years, Open at once, Excellent Refs. SAMUEL BRIGGS, 19, St. Ann's Well-rd., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement by Instrumental Quartette, Two Violins, 'Cello, and Harp, Combining Piano, Extensive Répertoire, for Hotel, Café, or Pavilion. Address, Box 3530, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Solo Violinist, all the best and well-known solos a Speciality. Box 3533, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Solo Cornet-player will give £5 to anyone finding Situation as above in Good Theatre. Box 3,480, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Reliable First or Second Cornet. Address, CORNET, c/o General Post Office, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, owing to misunderstanding, as Cornet. STEELE, care of COCKSON, 8, Alexandra-street, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, 'Cellist. Drums, all Effects. HARLEY, c/o 83, Vansittart-road, Forest Gate.

WANTED, by Clarionet, 22, twelve years' experience, Situation; willing to do other work; good refs. Box 3,521, "The Era."

WANTED, by E Flat Bass, string or military, combine Second Violin; undeniable references. JOHN GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-st., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, Theatre or Music Hall, Experienced and Reliable. GEORGE, 3, Midland-rd., Royston, near Barnsley.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising; any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement for Double Bass, Good Experience in Every Business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany), Disengaged Sept. 17. HERR OTTO BAYER, 1, Woodfield-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, or would Deputise, Trombone or String Bass, any Business. MILLER, 74, Archel-rd., W. Kensington, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as French Horn, First or Second, Thoroughly Experienced in Orchestral or Military, First-class Refs. HORN, 7, Porten-rd., West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq,. King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as Viola, good experience, and excellent references. WHITE, 6, Shaftesbury-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Viola or Violin, experienced in all Lines. ALFRED BEECH, 31, Bourne-street, Netherfield, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19. All letters 7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, First-class, Permanency, Experienced, all Lines, Sobriety, Efficiency, Indispensable. LEX WATSON, 45, St. Mungo-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist, theatre, hotel, or deputising. 60, Oglander-road, E. Dulwich, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo, Reliable, Vacant after Sept. 8. TOM CLEMENTS, Empire, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Engagement, terminating season Aug. 19; would accept few weeks. H. ALLEN, Victoria Pier, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Flautist, Permanency or Deputising, through closing, long variety experience, London or near. FOWLER, 14, Beacon-rd., Lewisham, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Good Pianiste, Accompanist, well up in Dramatic, Variety, and Orchestral Music; also Smart Comedienne, excellent Wardrobe and Répertoire. M. W., St. Winnifred's, Sun Hill, W. Cowes.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, combine Harp, last eight seasons at The Spa, Whitby. FRED HOOTON, 14, Clarendon-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Orchestral and Solo Pianist and Violinist, First-Class Musical Show preferred. 18, Brougham-road, Southsea.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Expert Pianist (London or Seaside), Variety, Dramatic, or any business; highest references. PIANIST, 77, Bancroft-road, Mile End, E.

WANTED, a Short Engagement, by Trio Ladies (together or separate), Piano, Violin, and 'Cello. Apply, 44, Burton-crescent, London.

WANTED, a Shop, as Drummer and Tympanist, with own tympanis. Highest references. F. KENT, 87, Caledonian-road, King's Cross.

WANTED, by the Blue Hungarian Band, Engagements, for Exhibitions, Bazaars, Flower Shows, Promenade Concerts, &c. Handsome Uniforms. Address, SIDONA, 4, Endleeham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, will be at Liberty after First Week in Aug, Brilliant Costume, Large Répertoire, can supply any number, all Soloists, Great Success on the Continent. CONDUCTRESS, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Rosabel Ladies' Military Band, open to offers. Playing, season, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9627 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Robert Fossett and Sons, for Circus Department, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., First-class Circus Company, Star Artists in all Branches, Male and Female, Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, Scene Act Riders, Tumbling Clowns, Novelties of a First-class Character, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. FOSSETT and SON, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton, or Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Please give time for re-direction of letters. All Artists having no intention of fulfilling engagements save stamps.

HENGLER'S.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines,
Good Equestrians, with Fast Horses, and Pantomimists, Knockabouts, and Tumblers.
Sept. 24.
Vacant Dates, Terms, and Full Particulars in First Letter to
MR. HENGLER,
Grand Cirque,
Glasgow.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, for about the Middle of October, all kinds of Novelties, every description. Please apply as above.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Novelties, and Riders, new, for Paris and Germany, for next Winter Season.
AGENCE RUBINI, 12, Boulevard du Temple, Paris, House Agent for Cirque Métropole, Paris, open all the Year.

WANTED, for Alexandra's Circus, to Commence at once, Good Juggler, 3 Bars, Acrobats, Feat Equilibrist, Risley Act, Aerial Show, Good Animal Act, Dog Show, and any Novel Act that can be done in a Ring. Terms must be moderate. Long Engagement, Preference given to those who can do more than One Act.
Wire, immediately, Circus, Braintree, Saturday; after, c/o MOORE, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, London.

WANTED, Gentleman Bar and Scene Act Rider, useful ground acts, clowns, also cornet player, at once. DENNIS, Circus, Queen's-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Dumb Show for Gala, Aug. 6, near Newcastle. Wire, SMALLEY, Carlton Hotel, Castleford.

WANTED, One Week, Oct. 28, Good Acrobatic Performers. Send particulars and lowest terms, FREEAR and SON, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Young Man, Second Mount and Tumbler, to open at once. Apply, J. ZARO, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, Good Grooms, with own Breeches and Leggings; also Respectable Tentmen write. Apply at once, R. FOSSETT, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

ROSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE.
WANTED, Smart Young Man, to travel with above Exhibition in France, as trainer and performer of Animals, Lions, Wolves, &c, white man, and without any encumbrance preferred. Apply, FRANK BOSTOCK, C/o Mr. Devere, 17, Rue Saulnier, Paris.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, bare-backed equestrians and clown, own horse, liberty, home or abroad. 1, Hutchinson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, vacant Sept. 14; both can work in Sketches. This is not a common Moke. BUER, 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston.

WANTED, Known, Algar and Radford, Juggling Konjuring Klowns, Kantankerous (Burlesque) Moke, Success, Fêtes, Gardens, &c. 9, Cologne-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Acrobats and Triple Bar Comedians, Vacant Aug. 13, onwards, two distinct turns. 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Kamari Troupe, Triple Bar Comedians and Acrobats, two distinct turns, Vacant Aug. 13, onwards. Address, see Card.

WANTED, De Ora, Gymnastic Speciality. Vacant Aug. 6, halls, galas, flower shows, &c; also Rosie Rickards, comedienne. 49, Wathrd., Mexboro'.

WANTED, Known, that this Novel, Humorous, Scientific, and Refined Number is, literally, a new departure for Europe. Lampo and Droll, Rebounding Somersaultists, Lord George Sanger, Ltd., Tour.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Society Acrobats and Equilibrists; also Comedy Bars, Two Acts, Now Touring Ireland, at Lib. Aug. 20, Big Success. All replies to P. O., Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, by Mons. Bellini, Continental Equilibrist and Trapeze Performer, booked right up, at Liberty for panto. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Anatomical Marvel and Barrel Expert, Liberty Aug. 6, on, Ring or Stage. Wire, 39, West-street, Harwich, for startling Novelty.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler Balancer, Plate Manipulator, and Wire-Walker; great success with Elton Hayes' Cadets, Marine Promenade, Maldon, Essex; Lib Aug. 13. Address above.

WANTED, Known, Alfonzo, Foot Equilibrist, at Liberty for Fêtes, Galas, and Halls. All Coms., 38, Balaclava-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Carlo Bianchi, Foot Juggler, Aug. 6 and 13, North; also big Musical Act. Address, Palace, N. Shields.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Trick Cyclist and Staircase Jumper, Aug. 6, Mansfield Flower Show, good act for galas. 106, Bigland-st., Salford.

WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, by Les Uniques (two ladies, gent.), original gymnastic potpourri, on two electrically-illuminated perpendicular ladders. Big success, Scarboro' Aquarium. Address, Kursaal, Southend.

Largest Balloon in the World.
WANTED, Engagements, for Ascent, by the "City of London" Balloon, the magnificent Aerostat, entered for the Gordon Bennett Competition, in Paris, in Sept next; available for two ascents only in this country.
SPENCER BROS., LTD., Aëronauts, 45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE, DONCASTER.
WANTED, Variety Artists having Vacant Dates to write in, stating very lowest terms for Doncaster. Apply, J. W. CHAPMAN.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Aug. 6 and 13, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Aug. 20, onwards, for Hippodrome, Castleford; also Good Bioscope. SMALLEY AND MATTINSON, Carlton Hotel, Castleford.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, for grand re-opening Palace, Sheerness, Aug. 13. Quote lowest; Hall small. REYMOND, as above.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 6, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Nothing too Big, Specialities, &c., Open Monday, Aug. 13; also Open to Treat with First-class Combination. Apply, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artists, Big Specialities, Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts, in fact, anything that is New and Novel. Send list of Bookings, Lithos, and Terms, to HOWARD LEES, General Manager, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Variety Artists to send vacant dates and terms to ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Wanted, Artists, for Sheffield and Leicester, Trial Weeks, on Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit. Successful Artists can be Guaranteed the Tour.
J. W. JOHNSON, Variety, Dramatic, and Pantomime Agent, 86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

THE EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines to Communicate at Once.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Aug. 20 and on, must be new to Liverpool. Apply by letter, J. S. CHILDS, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 6, on. Send lowest terms and bookings. FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, good, cheap, Artists every description, Aug. 13, 27, Stars on Shares and good Combinations, Aug. 20, Sept. 17. GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 17.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. A Room to Let, Palmistry excepted.

WANTED, Artists for Monday, onwards, Good Baritone Write for Aug. 13. Will Rose Alderman Kindly Write? Letters, VENTOR, Pavilion, Coventry.

THE LITTLEHAMPTON PROMENADE CONCERTS.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Al Fresco Work. Apply, FRED SPENCER, Maxwelton, Littlehampton.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Glasgow Concerts. Give permanent address. SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, Palace Thatre, Hull.

WANTED, Artists, for Hippodrome, Wakefield, Aug. 13, and on. Reply, ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome and Belle Vue Gardens, Llandudno.

WANTED, Artists, in Every Line, Aug. 13, 20, 27, Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, Greenock, good doubles doing singles, absolute lowest. Artists free Monday, wire or write. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Monday next, Aug. 6, also 27, and Sept. 3 and 10, on. Address, WILL ONDA, Kenwyn, Penwartham, Preston; next week, Shakespeare Theatre, Altrincham.

WANTED, Artists and Aspirants, to give Trial Show, with view to engagement on large circuit. If suitable, will be booked immediately. Apply, personally, or stamp for reply, to the MANAGER, Sadler's Wells Theatre.

WANTED, Known, Al Fresco Pavilion, Bradford. Call for Monday next: Matt Kilduff, Fred Casburn, Geo. Cornille-Pescud, Miss Elaine Cliffe, James Salter, Ed. Rawlinson, Percival Newman, Tomps and Wells, Musical Bentleys. Wanted, Specialities, Refined and Classy; stage 30ft. by 12ft.; finest Al Fresco Pavilion in England. Second season.

WANTED, Known, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton, Call, Aug. 6, at 1 o'clock, for The Jansons, Alfonso, Three Martinettes, Whirlo, Three Parzones, Knoto, Bonanzas, Sauteron, Lano Bros., and Ada Gatley. Sole Agent, ALLAN MCASKELL.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Star Turns.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession, Acts New in Dublin, for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland, Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

Please Note Change of Address.
JESS VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Stars, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c., for Immediate and Onward Dates.
State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c., and Please Note New Address,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Biggest Variety Stars, Big Specialities, Aug. 13, onwards. Bookings, terms, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester." Telephone, 09261.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos. Those having a good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.

WILL SLEY,
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Telephone 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

SKEGNESS PIER.
WANTED, Refined Turns, Aug. 20, Week.
State Lowest Terms Silence Polite Negative.
Apply, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, all Clients to Keep me Posted, and a few Good Turns Wanted, immediate and future dates. DUNNING, Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Talent all Lines,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Manchester.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.
Eight Lancashire Lads, Whirligigs, send address.

CAVILL'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Talent in all Lines. 127, Clapham-road, London, S.W. Tele., "Dramatical."

WANTED, Star Variety Acts, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Aug. 20 and 27; must be entirely new to the town. Address, OTTO C. CULLING, Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Sept. 3, onwards, Star Speciality and Variety Acts, Serios, Sisters. Learto write. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol. Wires, "Fêtes, Bristol."

WANTED, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 3, 24, Dutch Act, Gags, Songs, Grotesque Dance, Concertinacalities. BU-VAL, Charles House, Netherton-rd., Tottenham.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
WANTED, Attractions, Sept. 3, onwards.
HENRY KEMBLE,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, c/o "Dramatical."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big. Attractive Specialities,
Aug. 13 and 20 (North).
Three Days' Silence a Polite Negative.
G. AND F. PEEL, Granville House, Arundel-st, Strand.

WANTED, Specialities, South Wales. Ellis and Watts, Costellos, Paolias, Blanch and Diacoff, write. STERLING, Queen's, Poplar.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. T. B. Fayme communicate.

WANTED, for Sept. 10, on, Novelties, Specialities, and Artists, all Lines. Call for Monday, Aug. 6: Ada Margutti, Marti and Julietta, Nellie Bellmore, Sylverto, Walter Levalle, and the Biograph; rehearsal 11 o'clock. Temperance Hall, Palace of Varieties, Merthyr, Manager Mr. Israel Price.

WANTED, Combinations, Aug. 20, and on; must be good, or useless. ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome and Belle Vue Gardens, Llandudno.

WANTED, for London, Something Great, in an open-air attraction, essential that it must be a novelty, large space available.
Address,
"AMUSEMENTS," c/o Spiers and Pond, Ltd., Advertising Agents, 35, New Bridge-street, E.C.

WANTED, a few Useful People; those doing Turns; no fares; a good shop; portable. JIM O'MARR, Theatre, Shariston, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Known, Society Entertainer, Pierrots, &c., who are Open to Engagements for Garden Parties, At Homes, Bazaar Concerts, should send Full Terms, Commission Allowed, and References to 19, Shrub End-road, Colchester.

WANTED, Troupe of Acrobatic Dancers (ladies) for Music-hall Sketch, must be really good, and have Speciality. Quote Lowest Terms, and Photos if Possible. PENRHYN FORSTER, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Tour, commence September, good contralto, refined sisters, serios, pair of comedians. Photos., &c., JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Young Lady, with idea of Skirt Dancing, must be Good Figure and Pretty Appearance, Dark, for Big Electrical Production. To one who is prepared to provide own dresses for above, and desirous of making a name on the halls, here is the chance. Apply immediately, stating age, height, and full particulars, to ELECTRICAL, Box 3535, "The Era." Preference given to one in Birmingham District.

WANTED, Refined Humorists, Comedians, Specialities, for Billy Moore's New Pavilion, Hoylake, the acknowledged place of amusement in the town; covered-in show. Lowest terms, photos., to above address.

WANTED, First-Class Comedians, also Specialities. Lowest terms and full particulars, LEE and ARDEN, Arcadia, Dunoon, Scotland.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Juvenile Show, Clever Comedians, Actors, Acrobats, Pantomimists, must be short. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand.

WANTED, Young Comedians and Acrobatic Knockabout Pantomimists, must be short. CADLE'S Agency.

WANTED, Good Pair of Comedians, also Juggler, to open Monday. Wire, lowest, PARDOE, Circus, Blyth.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced Panto mimist, who can play Cornet.
Apply,
FRED KARNO,
Park House, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Vocalist, for Illustrated Songs, Baritone or Tenor, young man, must be steady and used to travelling shows. E. LAWRENCE, Show Ground, Whitwell, Derbyshire.

WANTED, High-class Refined Vocalist (Gentleman), to collect for Spa Bandstand, about six weeks. Apply, with répertoire, photo., refs., and absolutely lowest terms, to A. E. DAVISON, 1, Piedmont, Llandrindod Wells, Wales.

WANTED, Exhibition of Animated Photographs, every Sunday evening, Suburbs of London, to be given in two parts of thirty to thirty-five minutes each; pictures must consist of up-to-date subjects, including all the latest events of the day, also amusing subjects. Lowest terms and full particulars to G. C., Wood's Library, 92, Bedford-hill, S.W.

WANTED, Bioscope Operators, Lime and Electric, to open Aug. 6 and 13. FILMS, LTD., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Small Boy, Little Knowledge of Juggling, Coloured Boy Preferred. 3 Years' Contract. Good Home. Address, MODERN MAGICIAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Ivy Dene, Dainty Soubrette and Artistic Dancer, Aug. 6, 13, Big Success, Dublin. Wire, 13, Lower Buckingham-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Connie Edison, Serpentine Dancer, Disengaged Bank Holiday Week, Own Electrical Effects, Lamps, Operators, &c. 18, Denmark-road, N.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Warren, the Popular Pictorial Songstress, and Mysterious Lilith, at Liberty Sept. 3. All coms., Wellington Pier, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Babs Lloyd, and Nellie Van, comedy artist. Wire, Hippo., Lancaster; after Sat., B 158, Witton-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Vocalist and Soubrette, Vacant Monday. Wire quick for a reliable turn. 16, Camden-st., Oakley-sq., N.W.

WANTED, Known, Paganini Redivivus, the old veteran Violinist, aged 70, is at Liberty to accept Engagements for Theatres, Circuses, Music Halls, Ballets, Pantomimes, &c. Notice.—Paganini Redivivus uses his new invention, which he has named "The Chin Lever," which greatly reduces the difficulty of violin playing. The act he appears in will awaken enthusiasm, as Paganini Redivivus seemingly turns young again in presence of the audience while playing the splendid overture to "William Tell," a musical tour de force considered quite unequalled by all violinists. Please address Paganini Villa, 3, Kimberley-rd., East Southsea, Hants.

WANTED, Engagements, after August, in Birmingham, Cheltenham, or Gloucestershire, Felix Bone, the drawing-room white coon, for concerts, bazaars, at-homes, &c. Highest refs.; refined répertoire. Apply, Box 3,507, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Morris, Comedian, Mimic, and Raconteur. Wire, this, Winter Gardens, Morecambe; Monday, Hightown, Manchester.

WANTED, by Norman Russell, "The Musical Momus," Interlocutor, Reynolds' Minstrels, Winter Tour, with First-Class Combination. Aberdale, Penrhyn-road, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, Comedian, specialities, whistling, and laughing gags, concerted, and sketches. Until Sat., Empire, Oxford; after, 32, Graham-rd., Acton Green, Chiswick, W

WANTED, Known, Lynn, F.O.S., Newsboy de Lynn-eator's Success, "Let us be pals again," published Francis and Day. LYNN'S "Mudlarks" (Registered), Australia.

WANTED, Monday next, by Charlie Potz, the Merry Musical Dutchman. Always a success. Wire, Fountain Hotel, Meal-st., Mosley-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Erick, the Popular Pierrot, is at Liberty Monday, First-Class Al Fresco. Wire, 50, Chatham-place, Hackney, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday, also Aug. 20, "Soros," a Mystery, and two other acts. Salary or Percentage. This, Bottoming, T. R., Worcester. Refer Mr. Carlton.

WANTED, Known, Business is Extra Good this Week. Why? Oh! because they have got "Soros," the Mystery, at the T. R., Worcester.

WANTED, Mon. next (only Vacant Date), Chevalier T. H. Crowther, Champion Skater, Swordsman, Unicyclist, and Juggler, One or Two Acts, 15 to 60 minutes' Show, Shares or Salary. Address, 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, by Smart Continental Knockabout, Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator, Engt., age 22. Good refs. G. M., 27, Rosamond-st. East, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Comedy Tumbler, wishes Engagement with Good Comedy Act or other. Address, JACK WILTON, Richmond Theatre, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Aug. 6, 13, by the great Original Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Juggler; and May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, one or both, 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, on and after July 23, Carr and Rose will be known as Wyze and Adna, presenting a new and original Operetta, by Walter Gilbert, entitled "The Society Lady and the Cockney Swell." Aug. 6, E., Islington. All Coms, W. BENTLEY.

WANTED, Aug. 13 and 20, by Mons. Savaro, bird imitator; also Mlle. Lillian, and Clown, contortionists. Wire, till Sunday, 6, South-rd., Erith; after, Corn Exchange, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success, through Hungary.

WANTED, by Tomps and Wells, Comedy Musical Act, Aug. 13, North preferred. Great success Crystal Palace. 357, Holloway-road, N. Wires, "Honri, London."

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians, Lib. Sept. 17, onwards; also for Panto. Last Xmas A. E. Smith's "Aladdin." Offers invited. Address, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Swan and Edgar, "the Firm of Fun Factors," Eccentric Comedians, Vac. Panto. All Coms., 64, Westminster Bridge-rd.

WANTED, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, vacant Oct. 1, 8, and 15; also for Panto., Parts, and Speciality. Address C/o DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Speciality Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey; roars of laughter. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton, Comedy Act, Vacant Aug. 6 and 13. Wire, Empire, Dover; after Sat., 23, Cottenham-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Patterers, Dancers, double, single, Vacant Aug. 13. Coms., Queen's, Poplar.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, Vacant Sept. 24, only vacancy. Big success as Policeman and Baby. Mon., Emp., South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Turle and Turle, vacant Aug. 5, two big Acts for Galas, Comic Gymnastic Knockabouts. 5, Wood-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, Scotties' Waifs and Strays, in Unique Ballet, also Whizzing Whirl, Funniest Act on Earth. Offers. ALEXANDER, 78, Gresham-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, Free Aug. 6, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham

WANTED, by Walker's Comedy Nippers, Reklaw's Globe Show; two turns; Halls, Galas, &c. Wire, 2, Portland-place, Mansfield.

WANTED, Known, the Three Cheers, "Dick Whittington" Scena, real cat, own scenery and bells; vacant Aug. 6, 13. Wire, this week, Starring, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Monday, Aug. 6, also 13, by Armino Atilla, Gladiatorial Strength Act. Big success everywhere. Wire, Royal Theatre, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Aug. 13, Aug. 13, Aug. 13, by the Albano Troupe, the Greatest Refined Musical Act of the World. The Bristol Echo says:—The Albano Troupe of four members present a high-class musical act, which wins ready favour. The members of the troupe are versatile instrumentalists, and they engage in quartets and other pieces, being equally at home in the use of various musical instruments, which are introduced in turn; whilst Henry Albano, besides being a clever harpist, excels as concertina soloist. Wire or write, The Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Geo. Gulliver, ventriloquist, one or more figures, al fresco or otherwise. Wire, to-day, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester; Sunday, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Aug. 27, onwards. Address, Pier, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Aug. 13 and 20, for Matt. Wilkinson's Laughing Success, "The Registry Office; also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Tiv., Dublin.

WANTED, Dates in September, onwards, for new five-handed farcical comedy sketch, "Cleopatra's Needle." LLOYD TOWNROW, c/o King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, by the Strettons, in their Comedy Burlesque, "Disappointed." Wire, 6th, 13th. Something original at last. 31, Slyne-rd., Lancaster.

WANTED, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, by the Monckton, in their excruiatingly Funny Musical Comedy Acts; next, Palace, Bridlington, Return.

WANTED, through Error, Two Weeks, Aug. 20 (South or East), Week Sept. 24, Salary or Share. MR. HARRY LISTON'S Merry Concerts, Assembly Room, Woodhall Spa.

WANTED, Known, Elliman's Star Variety Co., Aug. 13, unexpectedly Vacant. Wire immediately for above Strong Attraction. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Staged Animal Act Worked by a Lady, including the Great Football Team, including the Masterpiece, the Goalkeeper, through Barring and Closing, is Vacant Aug. 6 and four other dates, first-class halls, fêtes, and picture entertainments. Add., 10, Wellington-place, Halifax. Specially engaged to appear at the Great Shrewsbury Fête.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Dogs and Cats, Liberty Sept., on, with exceptions. Perm. add., 74, Boyson-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Aug. 20, Chard's Dog Circus, Clough Hall, Harecastle.

WANTED, Dates for Le Clair, with Urban Bioscope, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Troupe of Dogs, Seventy Weeks, Big Success, Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement with sound Concert Company, by advertiser, who has up-to-date Boscope, also give Illustrated Recitations and Conjuring. Address, BANVARD, Boher, Co. Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, London only, ten years experience; abstainer; late Moss Empires. TRAVERS, 54a, Ward's-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen to Know. NOTICE is hereby given that Arthur Righini, of No. 56, Chapel-street, Salford, near Manchester, is no longer in the service of Charles Marenghi and Co., of Paris. All persons indebted to the said Charles Marenghi and Co. are requested to remit any sums due from them to such firm to Mr. J. Wentworth, of 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, the sole representative in England of the said firm of Charles Marenghi and Co.
Dated this 18th day of July, 1906.
CH. MARENGHI and CIE.
Witness to the signature of Ch. Marenghi and Cie.,
Hocking, Raby, and Beckton, Solicitors, Manchester

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, the Automatic Punching Ball Co., Pagden-street, Battersea, has several Mills' Punch Balls to dispose of at low prices; also machines to let out on hire or commission.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,
Butter Scotch Packets, Marked 3d. per Packet every Packet, 6s. a gross, weighing 2½oz.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

NEW ATHLETIC GROUNDS, TREHARRIS, GLAM.
WANTED, Great Attractions, Bank Holiday, Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 6 and 7, 1906. Application for Spaces for Shows, Stalls, &c., &c., &c., to be made to DAVIS, Auctioneer, Treharris, R.S.O.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties or Side Shows, for new Waxworks.
OWEN BAGAN, 48, North-street, Belfast.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR AUGUST, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

Aug. 4. Baslow.
Aug. 4. Calow.
Aug. 4. Calver.
Aug. 4. Curbar.
Aug. 4. Froggatt.
Aug. 4. Greenhill.
Aug. 4. Heywood.
Aug. 4. Marple.
Aug. 4. Milnsbridge.
Aug. 4. Milnrow.
Aug. 4. Redditch.
Aug. 4. Royton.
Aug. 4. Swadlincote
Aug. 4. Whitefield.
Aug. 4. Wombwell Fair.
Aug. 6. Accrington.
Aug. 6. Ricester.
Aug. 6. Bilston.
Aug. 6. Birkenhead.
Aug. 6. Blackheath.
Aug. 6. Brigg.
Aug. 6. Calverley Feast
Aug. 6. Cheltenham.
Aug. 6. Chertsey.
Aug. 6. Clevedon.
Aug. 6. Doncaster.
Aug. 6. Evesham
Aug. 6. Fleetwood.
Aug. 6. Hampstead Heath.
Aug. 6. Haslingden.
Aug. 6. Hunslet Feast.
Aug. 6. Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Aug. 6. Kenilworth.
Aug. 6. Malvern.
Aug. 6. Manningham Feast.
Aug. 6. Morecambe.
Aug. 6. New Brighton.
Aug. 6. Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Aug. 6. Northampton.
Aug. 6. Northwich.
Aug. 6. Otley Feast.
Aug. 6. Reigate.
Aug. 6. Richmond (Surrey)
Aug. 6. Ripon.
Aug. 6. Rodley Feast.
Aug. 6. Rushden.
Aug. 6. Salford (Trinity Market).
Aug. 6. Seaham Harbour.
Aug. 6. Southport.
Aug. 6. South Shields.
Aug. 6. Stafford.
Aug. 6. Stanningley Feast.
Aug. 6. Tanhill.
Aug. 6. Taunton
Aug. 6. Tewkesbury.
Aug. 6. Thornaby.
Aug. 6. Tunbridge Wells.
Aug. 6. Wanstead Flats.
Aug. 6. Wormwood Scrubs.
Aug. 6. Wyke Feast.
Aug. 7. Stoke-on-Trent.
Aug. 8. Astwood Bank.
Aug. 8. Crabb's Cross.
Aug. 8. Lindfield.
Aug. 9. Brighouse Feast.
Aug. 9. Padiham.
Aug. 9. Portsmouth
Aug. 9. Ryde (I. of W.)
Aug. 10. Cowes.
Aug. 10. Denholm.
Aug. 11. Barlow.
Aug. 11. Bolsover.
Aug. 11. Cheetham Hill.
Aug. 11. Clay Cross
Aug. 11. Cowhill Wakes.
Aug. 11. Culthorpe.
Aug. 11. Denton.
Aug. 11. Earlestown.
Aug. 11. Hazel Grove.
Aug. 11. Hyde Wakes.
Aug. 11. Littleboro'.
Aug. 11. Mitcham.
Aug. 11. Sowerby Bridge.
Aug. 11. Stockport.
Aug. 11. Haxel or Whalley Bridge.
Aug. 11. Wessington.
Aug. 11. Whitewell.
Aug. 11. Williamsthorpe.
Aug. 11. York Fair.
Aug. 12. Bowling Feast.
Aug. 12. Drypool (Hall).
Aug. 12. Eccleshill Feast.
Aug. 12. Highworth.
Aug. 12. Horncastle.
Aug. 12. Kirkstall Feast.
Aug. 12. Lowmoor Feast.
Aug. 12. Rawdon Feast.
Aug. 12. Silsden Feast.
Aug. 15. Leiant.
Aug. 16. Gildersome Feast.
Aug. 16. Queensberry Feast.
Aug. 18. Ashbourne.
Aug. 18. Ashton - under Lyne.
Aug. 18. Barnsley Feast.
Aug. 18. Droylesden.
Aug. 18. Middleton.
Aug. 18. Mottram.
Aug. 18. Newton Heath.
Aug. 18. Rochdale.
Aug. 18. Shaw.
Aug. 20. Guiseley Feast.
Aug. 20. Horsforth Feast.
Aug. 20. Morley Feast.
Aug. 20. Yeadon Feast.
Aug. 21. Appleby.
Aug. 21. Ashford (Kent).
Aug. 21. Great Harwood.
Aug. 21. Hartlepool.
Aug. 21. Stonehouse.
Aug. 22. Birstall Feast.
Aug. 22. Bracknell.
Aug. 22. Crediton.
Aug. 22. Ipswich.
Aug. 23. Skipton Fair.
Aug. 24. First Lee Fair.
Aug. 24. Skegness.
Aug. 24. St. John's Chapel.
Aug. 25. Bakewell.
Aug. 25. Darlaston.
Aug. 25. Darley.
Aug. 25. Eccles.
Aug. 25. Eyam.
Aug. 25. Hinckley.
Aug. 25. Hooley Hill.
Aug. 25. Irlams-o'-th'-Height.
Aug. 25. Long Eaton.
Aug. 25. Oldham.
Aug. 25. Poynton.
Aug. 25. Prestwich.
Aug. 25. Saddleworth.
Aug. 25. Shaftesbury.
Aug. 25. Strood.
Aug. 25. West Houghton.
Aug. 25. Whittington.
Aug. 27. Beeston Feast.
Aug. 27. Bingley Feast.
Aug. 27. Pudsey Feast.
Aug. 27. Romsey.
Aug. 27. Watchet.
Aug. 28. Bradford-on-Avon.
Aug. 29. Ilminster.
Aug 30. Cleckheaton Feast.

SCOTLAND.

Aug. 4. Kelso.
Aug. 6. Alyth.
Aug. 8. Alloa.
Aug. 9. Paisley.
Aug. 11. Hawick.
Aug. 15. Irvine.

WALES.

Aug. 4. Cardiff.
Aug. 6. Merthyr Tydfil
Aug. 6. Mold.
Aug. 6. Newport (Mon.).
Aug 7. Swansea.
Aug. 16. Malpas.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, now and future dates. Terms, salary. Apply, Waxwork and Mechanical Wonders, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow. F. BURNETTE, Proprietor.

WANTED, Quick-Showing Novelty or Freak, good Flash Paintings preferred; seaside; thousands pass daily; clear half share. PURCHASE, P.O., Southshore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Attractive Novelties, as Side Shows, for London, Large Centre of Amusements, no Cinématograph, commencing Aug. 13, for a month. Big business; sharing terms. Write to A. BAER, Poste Restante, Cliftonville, Margate.

WANTED, Freaks and Living Novelties, of every description, for three months, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen. FRED STEWART, Waxworks, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Side Shows, of all Descriptions, to open at once. ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome and Belle Vue Gardens, Llandudno.

WANTED, Cinematograph Operator, used to Travelling Shows, must be steady. Lowest Terms to E. LAWRENCE, Show Ground, Whitwell, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Engagements, Aug. and Sept., Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy, Marionettes, also Bioscope. 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Indian Fakirs, introducing Cabinet, Illusion, the Oriental Mysteries, Indian Stocks, and Assisted by Miss Valerie, with Oriental Costume, Quick Show or Long Show, Painting, Photos, Bills, &c., Success, Vacant Aug. 13. Apply STEWART'S Waxworks, 164, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102a, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept. for Secondhand Watches and Unredeemed Pledges. There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, Known, Ground to let at Musselburgh, for Fair Week, commencing Aug. 13, for Machines, Shows, Emmas, &c. Apply, STOTT, Manager for Evans' Iona-st. Carnival, Edinburgh. Ground to let at Saughton Games for Saturday previous Aug. 11, Machines, &c.

WANTED, Tender, for Roundabouts and General Amusements, for Horse Show, Fête, and Sports, on Aug. 15, 1906, at Wootton Bassett, near Swindon, Wilts. Apply, H. HORSELL, W. RICH, Hon. Secs.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for all kinds of Working Exhibits and Novelties, handkerchief embroidering, sweet making, &c.; also first-class side shows, animated pictures, distorting mirrors, on sharing terms, or would hire. Send for prospectus and plan, SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Showmen to Know, Spaces to Let at Xmas Carnival, six weeks, large London Hall. HENGLER, Post Office, Seaton, Devon.

WANTED, to Let, Good Shop, for Novelties, Main Street, Rhyl, season commencing. Apply, ENTERTAINER, 31a, Queen-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., for Winter Season, from October, in First-class Exhibition, for Minni Letta's High-class Side Show, the only one of its kind in the world. Can be seen working daily in the Bijou Kursaal (Aquarium-terrace), Brighton. Please note.—The Bijou Kursaal will be for sale end of season, price £150; composed of corrugated iron, built in sections (bolted together), stage opening 28ft., dressing-rooms, and stage-door entrance. Address, A. LETTA, 65, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

WANTED, a thoroughly Experienced Electrician and Road Tractor Driver; must be strictly sober, and attentive. Apply, ROBERT FOSSETT, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, that I have
Spaces to Let,
Spaces to Let,
Spaces to Let,
Spaces to Let,
for
All Kinds of Amusements,
All Kinds of Amusements,
All Kinds of Amusements,
All Kinds of Amusements,
at the following well-known
Flower Shows and Fairs.
Flower Shows and Fairs.
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"The Flood," Buddha's Blackboard, Kaufman Troupe, Automatos, Albertus and Millar, Jas. H. Jee, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle. Olive, Lios Alfas Sisters, Jack Theo Trio, Iles, Antonio, Three Microcophalos, Bioscope, Harmony Four, Lavater Lee.

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Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
"The Orange Girl," O. K. Sato, Edith Courtney, Orpheus, Lottie Govell, Poluski Bros., Dot Hardy, Grisse Bros., Georgina Leonard, Bioscope, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Three Olympiers, Bioscope, Die Obersteirers, Nellie Coleman, Dome, "Moses and Son," The Seddons.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bob Hutt and Co., in "Welcome Home," Bioscope, Marie Reeve, The Clarkes, Andy Fagan, Selbo, Brown and Robinson, Russian Imperial Troupe, The Remingtons, Jack Lane.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Neil Kenyon, Bioscope, Lee and Bentley, Shirley and Ransome, Norman and Leonard Trio, De Gracia's Elephants, The Allisons, Esdale Bros., "My Gollywog" Co., Illustrated Song.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chirgwin, Josh Dixon, Albertus and Bartram, Bioscope, Peggy Pryde, Goodfellow and Gregson, Will English, Devona Sisters, Johnny Gilmore, Alexandre and Hughes

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ten Genis, Steve McCarthy, Pierce and Maizee, Eric, Frank Lynne, Terry and Lambert, Bioscope, Canary Co., Francis and Melli, Marie Kendall.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
T. E. Dunville, Myra Stansfield, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Grais' Baboons, Will Poluski, jun., Daisy Dormer, Althoffs, Jas. H. Jee, Esta Stella, "Casey's Court."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
J. W. Rowley, Marie Weston, Binns and Binns, Arthur Gill, Rachel Lowe, Harrigan and Holt, Bioscope, Howard Bros., Ross and Grayson, Annie Abbott.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Melot Hermann, Bioscope, Maud Mortimer, Claire Beasy's Cats, Ruby Dahl, Motramos, Sanford and Lyons, Willie Gardner.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bransby Williams, Bioscope, J. W. Rickaby, Hector Grant, Borellis, Classicum Quartette, Conn and Conrad, Caselli Sisters, Les Bastiens, "Concordia."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Willie Edouin, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Four Lecussons, Chris Lecusson, Jacques Inaudi, Fred Elton, Howard and St. Clair, Kitty Wager, Cinquevalli.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Raku, Griff, The Mayvilles, Max Yorke, Jack Lorimer, The Mackweys, Nelson's Newsboys, Sutcliffe Family, Debreans, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Hackenschmidt, Spry and Austin, Atroy, Violi, Ambrose Thorne, Tine Clementa, Conway and Leland, Harry Carsdale, Pit and Cute.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Humanity," Bioscope, Margaret Ashton, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Barowsky Trio, E. J. Sheldon, Doughty and Co., in "Captain Cupid," Rose Naynon, Musical Jees.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
De Rougemont, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Lady Julia, Deane Tribune Trio, Toledo and Price, J. P. Ling, Will Cornish, Four Figaros, "Rorke's Drift."

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EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Boissetts, Frances Manners, Culpitt, Pictures, J. A. Wilson, Vi Raynor, Toner, Ike Scott and Son, George Formby.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harriett Vernon, George Reeves, Rezene and Robini, Pictures, Jack Wood, E. J. Johnson, Ina Lorrimer, Rosie Bartlett, C. H. Unthan.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Pictures, Stuart and Stuart, Fred Walker, Sisters Bronson, Queenie May, Arthur Richmond, Louisa Peach and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bros. Griffiths, Tatten Hall, Lenton Family, Billy Tucker, Pat Rafferty, Bioscope, Williams and Monkhouse, Goltz Trio.

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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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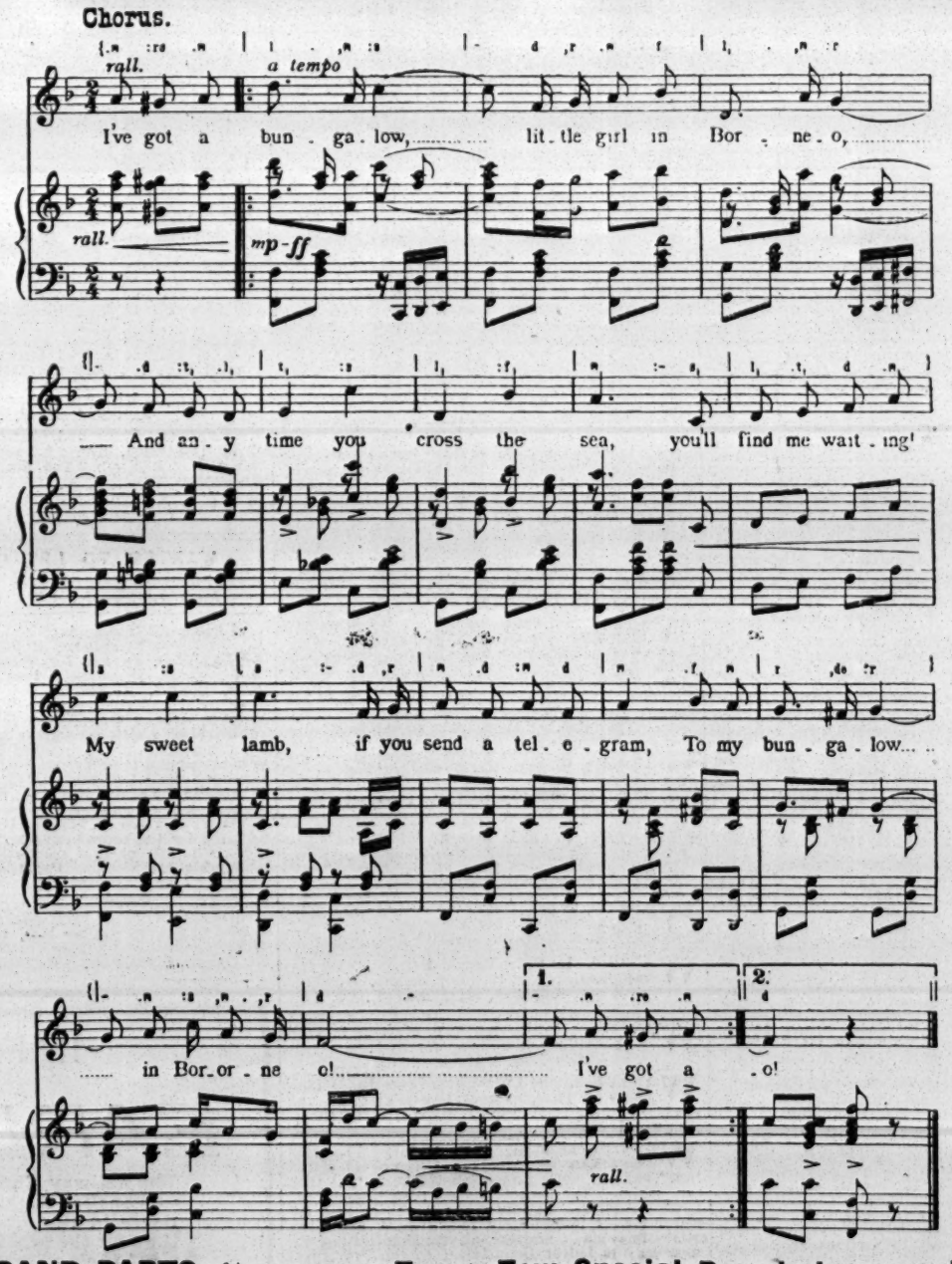

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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LONDON DISTRICT.
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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Frank Danby, Pauline Zaro, Billie Burford, Bayne and Hope, Dent and Dent, Harvey Boys, Five Olracs, Woodhouse and Wells, Johnny Danvers, Pictures, Tschernoff.

HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
J. Peterman and Co., in the "King of Sahara," Maud Prenton, Zarmo, Martin Conway, Hayman and Franklin, Fred Cary, Four Athos, Harry Brown, Pictures, De Biere.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
L. Pringle and J. C. Piddock, Nelson and Thomas, Kuroki, Shelleys, Sammy Shields, Joe Reichen, Mountford and Walsh, Katie Marsh, Lurins, Rae Walters, Pictures, Lowenwirth Bros. Matinée on August Bank Holiday. Rehearsal 11 sharp.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Tom Grave, Chas. Denton, Hill and Lane, Marie Wilton, Arleys Combination, A. Wyndham and Co., Fuller and Co., Mack Olive, Harry Cotton, Pictures, New York Comedy Four. Matinée on August Bank Holiday. Rehearsal, 11 sharp.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Edgar Budden, Rob Gilmore, Three Henriques, Williams and Warden, Terry and Bentley, Halter and Ray, Geo. Adams, Pictures, Three Rainats. Matinée, August Bank Holiday. Rehearsal, 11 sharp.

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Closed during July and August.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.

CALL for Monday, Aug. 6, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas, Maggie Rimmer, Mme. Collard, Charlie Craston, the Bros. Bright, Frank Cass, Voldam Bros., The Brontes, The Hugo Troupe, Frank Leslie, Daisy Mayer.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS. All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Call for Monday, Aug. 6, 1906. Charles Coborn, Tony Iveson, Wallau, Ted Cowan, Amiel, Du Gros Trio, Gus Harris, Gustave Fasola

Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, CLACTON.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—No Contract for above place is good unless bearing the signature of the Proprietor, H. FORD.

CALL.—NEW HIPPODROME, WEST BROMWICH, Monday, Aug. 6. Rehearsal at 11 o'clock, sharp. "Rejected Remounts." Walter Emerson, Patty Yole, Mlle. Lumiere, Ossi Souplessi, Sisters Desmond, Hippodrome Pictures, Fred Dunston, D'Renais Ballet Troupe, Allthaff's Scena, "The Canadian Lightning Drill," and Four Burnells. Mr. Wright and Orchestra and General Staff. Grand Captive Balloon display at 12 o'clock.

CALL for COVENTRY HIPPODROME, Monday, Aug. 6. Rehearsal at 11 o'clock, sharp. The Missouries, Rose Elliott, Tom Hughes, Harry Thurston, Rita and Roma, Alice May, Baker and Balfe, Salada and Vone, and Hippodrome Pictures.

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Reopening for the Autumn Season.

CALL for Monday, Aug. 6, 1906. Akimoto Japanese troupe, Phedona, Bishop and Vale, Lil O'Gorman, Bert and Dora, Jack Martin, The Bioscope, Frank Exley and Alice Hamilton, Mdlle. Florizel, E. D. Willcox, Musical Director, and Band. Rehearsal at 2, prompt. All must attend. No excuse taken.
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Leslie Reed, Ernest D'Almaine.
Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt,
Abel and Welsh.

SYD BECKETT, Pianist and Accompanist.
HARRY BARKER, Acting-Manager.
HARRY BARTLETT, Stage Manager.

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Miss Mabel Bardine's sole Agents for booking engagements for the sketch, "Nell of the Music Halls," are ASHTON'S Royal Agency, 31, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C. Dated this 1st day of August, 1906.—RALPH C. LEACH, 10, Serjeant's Inn, Fleet-street, E.C. Solicitor for Miss Mabel Bardine.

DAINTON.—Will Miss Nellie (or Dolly) Dainton, who appeared in the "Cinderella" Pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, in February last, please communicate with
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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 6, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls,
Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Dick Cruickshank and Co., Sisters St. Julian, Beatrice Bonnie, Stylo, Maidie Scott, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
La Faille Troupe, Ray Royal, Percy Curry, The Jalvans, Sadie Simpson, Herbert Rule, Downes and Langford, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
The Athlones, Nellie Dunbar, W. B. Raby, Fanny Humber, Rene and Smith, Ethel Yorke, Ballister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Sinclair and Whiteford, Vera Mayne, The Donatos, Vandinoff, Edna Knollys, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, Herbert La Martine, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Burnetti.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Four Burnells, Wynford Bros., Mlle. De Rose, Claver and Piccolo, J. H. Hawtrey, Keith and Merson, Chas. Sloman, Davis and Gledhill, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
W. H. Sloan and Co., Frank Cumminger, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Tate and Tate, Ringling Trio, Arthur Slater, Lilly Lena, Pilu, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Narow Bros., Zampas, Gracie Moore, Joe Almasio, T. B. Fayme, Leah Arden, Seaborne Bros., H. Gardener, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Florrie Forde, Woodward and Walton, Saxo, Flo Melville, Wat Tyler, Kavados, Gt. Northern Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Matinée Monday.
Marie Brien and Fred Lawrence, The Raies, Lottie Lennox, Roy Cochrane, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, The Players, Sisters Jongmans, Ford and Barris, Fitzgeralds' Illustrated Songs, Mispah Sketch Co.

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SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Chris. Richards, "Casey's Court," Tate's "Motoring," Carle Veri, Stidder and Dunbar, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sisters Melba, Marguerite Broadfoote, Sisters Ford, Harry Lynx, "A Soldier's Dream" Sketch Co.

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Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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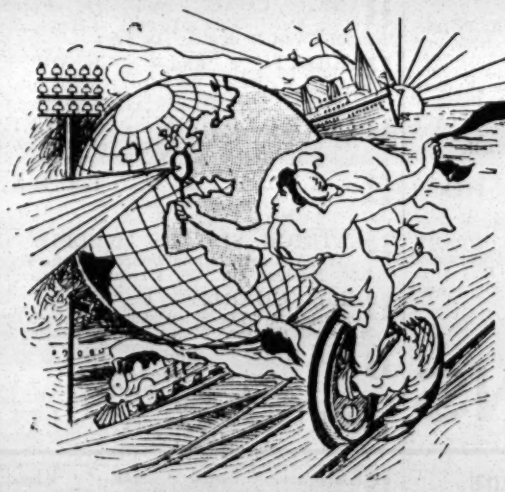

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"THE PROSPECTORS." A Drama of the Western Goldfields.

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DESCRIPTION.

Two men are seen approaching a miner's shanty; they are in appearance typical Western "bad men." Halting their pack horses they summon the occupant of the shanty, a young prospector who has recently located a rich vein of metal and needs experienced men to work it. He kisses his wife and children and mounting his horse starts out on the quest for wealth.

Under the direction of their young leader the miners are seen toiling in the excavation. Suddenly a shout of triumph and exultation marks the discovery of a rich metal-bearing lode—they have made "a lucky strike." The claim is staked out and they commence mining operations. Already the two confederates are beginning to plot treachery.

After weeks of arduous toil the three miners are just about to break camp and the gold is shared equally among them. They stretch out around the fire and go to sleep, each with a bag of precious gold in his belt. The two conspirators only feign sleep, and robbing their comrade of his gold dust are just making their escape, when their theft is discovered and they mortally wound their victim.

The young prospector regains consciousness and staggering to his horse manages to reach his cottage. An affecting scene follows, and after telling his wife of the treachery of his partners, he breathes his last in her arms. She takes his gun from the holster and swears to be revenged on his murderers.

The two guilty miners are seen gambling in a lonely hut. One of them, a card sharp, as well as robber and murderer, has won all his partner's gold and now offers to play for his "gun." This being agreed the sharper again wins, but is this time detected cheating. A furious "gun fight" follows and the one who lost is killed. His partner goes off with the gold.

Two Years Later—Vengeance.—The prospector's young wife has opened a Western saloon to support herself and children. She rules the roystering cowboys that frequent her place with a rod of iron, and when one refuses to pay he finds a .44-calibre "shooting iron" pointing at his head and is very glad to "cough up."

A tenderfoot visits the saloon and the boys have lots of fun with him. He is glad to escape with his life. The saloon is now empty—a blear-eyed and unkempt looking miner staggers in, and after several drinks falls into a drunken doze. The young woman watches him like a cat watches a mouse; stealthily she draws near, and lifting the broad brim of his hat recognizes the murderer of her husband.

He awakes to find himself held up, and the determined woman tells him his moments are numbered. By a subterfuge he wrests the revolver from her. Just at this moment the little boy enters, and seeing his mother in danger picks up a bottle, and with one blow fells the miner. As he staggers to his feet again and endeavours to pull his gun the young widow shoots him down, thus revenging her husband's death.

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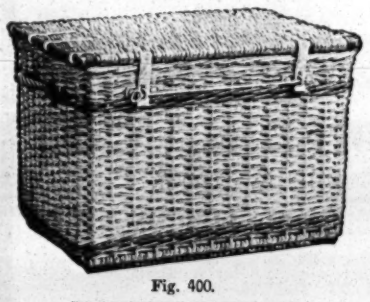

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*Sapho* occupies the boards here. Miss Annie Bell plays powerfully in the title-part, and Mr. Sydney Arnold gives a good account of himself as Jean Gausin. Mr. G. P. Lester and Mr. George Antley make excellent appearances as Father Legrand and Cesaire le Fenat respectively, and all the other members of the company play capably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Miss Annie Pierce with marvellous fidelity reproduces the mannerisms of a variety of other artists. Mr. Sid Cotterell and company appear in a highly amusing sketch, *The Substitute*. Messrs. Brady and Johnson are keenly appreciated; and Mersano's deft juggling feats are followed with interest. Other successful turns are those of Mr. R. C. Macgill, the popular Scottish comedian; Miss Marie Ross, a charming serio and dancer; Mr. Fred Tenby, a highly original comedian; Mr. Charles Lestree, an exceedingly smart juggler; Miss Annie Langley, a bright comedienne and graceful dancer; and Pearce and Ward, a couple of entertaining vocalists, patterers, and boxers.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventoin.—The above theatre re-opened this week with Mr. Edward Ranier and his No. 1 Mascot Vaudeville and Sketch Co., including Mr. Preston Holmes, musical expert. Miss Kitty Mayfair, comedienne and dancer, is much appreciated, as also is Mr. George Pauldon, actor vocalist; Messrs. Maynard and France, in their clever act, *A Perfect Lady*, deservedly score. Miss Alice Maud and Co. in *Let to Two*, cause much mirth; Kelbo, comedian, is clever, and the Two Willows are expert dancers. Frazellia, the marvellous aerial gymnast, is a fresh favourite. Of the two sketches, *The Bank Robbery* and *His Majesty's Coastguards*, the former deserves special mention, round upon round of applause greeting the fall of the curtain. The latter is pretty and well played.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—Miss Ellas is top of the bill here this week, and gives a daring performance with forest-bred lions. The three Temples render some operatic numbers with taste. Mr. Charles F. Best gives an amusing show as MacBunker the Mountebank. The Redferns are particularly smart, and fairly bring down the house; Spencer and Marks are also very good. The whole is concluded by the Hippo Bioscope.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company opened here on Monday with *Somebody's Sweetheart*. The piece is full of interest, and was played by an excellent company, including Mr. W. H. Kirby, who as Martin Blabbs is the life and soul of the play. Mr. E. H. Bertram is very good as Stanton Ashleigh, as are Mr. J. Templar Ellis and Mr. Leslie Martin in their respective parts. Miss Cordelia Knight must be complimented for her artistic performance of Zora the Gipsy.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams. After more than a year's absence *The New Barmaid*, with many additional attractive features, is forming a highly appreciated bill of fare here. One or two changes are noticeable in Mr. C. Edwardes's company, but without any detrimental effect. Mr. Leslie Austin as Lovebury acts cleverly, uses a fine baritone voice with good results, and looks after the staging. Mr. Chas. Adeson is a host in himself as Bertie, his display of humour and his original patter keeping all highly amused. Mr. Alexander Loftus repeats former successes here with his talented portrayal of William White, his endeavours on this occasion again meeting with the appreciation deserved. Mr. W. E. Chewd (Mons. Bonsor) and Mr. J. Grant (Colonel) are both worthy of comment. Miss Violet Osmund is vivacious and clever as Dora, and her hard work helps materially to the success. Miss Amy Preston is a charming Ethel Joy; Miss Maude Nichols, as Brenda, is acceptable; and Miss Winifred Preston is an engaging Lady Moulton. Comedy celebrities are introduced during the final act by Messrs. Chas. Adeson, Frank Collins, Alex. Loftus, W. Chewd, Misses Emily Preston, W. Vyner, Grafton; and dances are given by the Star Trio and Miss Violet Preston and Mr. Chewd.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn. — *An Unwedded Wife* is the attractive title of the stirring drama being presented at the Theatre Royal this week by a capable company. The drama is new, and is very well mounted, new scenery having been specially painted for the production. Miss Ethel Van Praagh ably portrays the part of Marion, the discarded wife; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes plays the villain, Philip Blackstone, with the requisite coolness and outward show of vigour and determination; Mr. Reginald Payne as the wrongly-accused hero, Frank Armstrong, brings to bear an adequate display of force and vigour in his fierce fight for right and justice; Miss Violet Wilson is a patient and amiable heroine as Elsie Langham; and the child, Reggie, is intelligently played by Miss Ella Gillette. The humorous element, which is somewhat overdone, is in the hands of Miss Amy Coralli, Mr. Fred C. Imbert, and Mr. Harry Towuley, as a trio of circus artists. Mr. Logan Darra gives an impressive impersonation of the convict father of the heroine, who has suffered for the wrongdoing of others. Other characters are ably presented by Messrs. Henry Nesbitt, E. Finlay, Eyre, Young, and Grove.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The company here this week includes Earle and Melville, who patter and dance well; Ward and Davis in a duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*, which is very funny; the Cosmans, whose dialogue amuses; Le Diabolo, who loops the "Devil's Wheel," and is as daring and clever as ever; the Dixon Girls, who give a pretty turn; the Five Cumberlands, who furnish a rare combination of cycling and acrobatic skill. An artistic feature of the programme is the musical sketch *Heart Strings*, in which Mr. H. A. Crane and others successfully appear.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaughten.—"Picture entertainments" still continue to be the attraction here, and are being well patronised, especially by the juvenile portion of the community.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Fresh from the hands of the decorator, this popular house presented a pleasing appearance on the evening of Bank Holiday, when it re-opened its doors for the season, and huge audiences frequently testified their appreciation of the liberal "bill of fare" provided. Premier place on the programme was provided by the Brown and Kelly Combination, in a mirth-provoking sketch, entitled *The Butler Knows*; the Four Louberts (three gentlemen and a lady) go through a pleasing, clever, and laughable acrobatic absurdity; Mr. Nat Watkins is a successful comedian; Mr. E. C. Clayton contributed an admirable selection of pictures by the Palace Attergraph; laughter and applause greeted Cavern and Cave (lady and gentleman) in their sketch *An Early Morning Dip*; Professor Jackson, ventriloquist, was heartily received; Wee Jessie, juvenile comedienne and dancer; and the Carney Brothers, character vocalists, also largely contributed to the general success.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—A welcome visit of Mr. R. A. P. Williams's company in *Les Cloches de Corneville* was made on Monday evening, and the time-honoured melodies of the opera were much appreciated. Germaine was charmingly portrayed by Miss Kathleen Emmett; Mabel Spencer did well as Christophe; and the Serpolette of Miss Adeline Harvey was exceedingly clever. Mr. Michael Kemble made an admirable Gaspard; and was well supported by Mr. Percy Watson as the Marquis; Mr. G. E. Hall as the Bailie; and Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo. The other members of the company played their respective parts well, and the result was a most enjoyable production.

Town Hall.—Mr. J. M. Hamilton and his concert company occupied the Town Hall on Saturday night, when the house was packed. Mr. Hamilton delighted his hearers with his delightful singing; Miss McNab, soprano, made a fine impression; Miss Bell, serio-comic, made her first appearance before an Ayr audience; Messrs. Chorley and Connor in their comic patter and duets caused much amusement; and Mr. A. J. Gamble, with his newest songs and business, was clever and entertaining. The "Collier Conjurer," Mr. William Menzies, bids fair to make a name for himself in that line.

Low Green Pierrots.—Mr. Ernest Hampton and his refined pierrot concert party are still commanding large audiences; Mr. F. H. Dundas is decidedly popular with his clever budget of songs; Messrs. Kent and Giddings are still to the fore; Mr. Chas. Champney and Mr. Joe McCulloch sing some clever duets, &c.; Messrs. Hayes and Sherwin are responsible for the musical department; while "Our Ernie" is a host in himself.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—This theatre reopened its doors on Saturday evening, when Miss Florence Baines' company paid a welcome return visit for seven nights, with the new farce, entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson is the centre of attraction, and she kept her audience in the best of humour, her singing being also much enjoyed; Miss Annie Mitchell is a charming Eva Lancashire; Mr. R. C. Hicks as Herbert Fox, the lawyer, gives an admirable delineation of the character; Mr. David Donaldson handles the part of John Higgings with skill and effect; Mr. Robert Turley submits a good rendering of Harry; and Miss Maurice Johnstone as Bertha is a ladylike representative of the part. Mr. Will Casey as William Henry Thompson gives a natural and unforced rendering of the part, and is ably assisted by Miss Pattie Groves, who, as Bridget Thompson, gives a lifelike performance; and Moses Goldberg finds a clever exponent in Mr. Burt Burton. Mr. Walter Hicks, as Grant the butler, is amusing.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This theatre re-opened for the season on Monday, after a six weeks' vacation, with Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's drama, *The Branded Woman*. Miss Zana St. George as Genevieve Larouche, in the titular rôle, displays remarkable dramatic power; Mr. James Stillwell's portrayal of Philip Maurice stamps him as a resourceful and clever actor; Mr. Paul E. Teulon is successful as Louis Duroc; Dick Brown is humorously played by Mr. Harry Liddle. Amongst other members of the company who deserve mention are Mr. Herbert Bentone as Zarka, Miss Violet Barley-Clarke as Rudolph, and Miss Kathrine Barnett as Marie.

Public Hall.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—Mr. Jasper Redfern is again delighting his Barnsley patrons with a capital vaudeville and bioscope entertainment.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—On Monday the theatre reopened for a special week, when the drama *The Sin of her Childhood* was the attraction. During the recess the pit of the theatre has been entirely re-seated with the latest modern tip-up seats, the work having been carried out by the well-known Birmingham firm of Messrs. Dean and Co. Presented by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, the piece secured an enthusiastic reception from a large holiday audience. Miss Florence Creagh acts sympathetically as Mary Haysel; her villainous brother Stephen being portrayed in emphatic fashion by Mr. Austin Milroy. Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks carefully avoids overdoing the drink addicted Maria Haysel. Captain Thornton is given a suitable military bearing by Mr. Frederick Lloyd, and Mr. E. E. Clive, as the youthful vicar, the Rev. Alan Grey, is commendable. The comedy element is largely in the hands of Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly, who receives assistance from Miss Annie Gibbs as Eliza Muggins. Little Ivy Rochfort cleverly doubles the parts of Little Mary and Eric Dugdale; and Little Dot Moss supplies specialities with songs, dances, and banjo solos, and gains numerous encores

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—The reopening week of the autumn season has been attended by good business. *His Birthday* is excellently played by Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene and two associates; and a farcical duo, entitled *Getting Even*, is smartly rattled through, to the accompaniment of continuous laughter by Sinclair and Whiteford. Herbert la Martine, vocalist, eccentric dancer, and bâton manipulator; Vandinoff, lightning painter; and the Donatos, one-legged acrobati clowns, renew former successes. The illustrated songs given by Edna Knollys are very popular; Burnetti, character musician and mimic, displays his talents to advantage; Vera Mayne, comedienne, is a favourite; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux, as usual, winds up the programme with interesting and comic subjects. The capital orchestra is now under Mr. J. Andrews, who has succeeded Mr. Rattray in this important position. The management have provided newly-painted sets and cloths, which are much admired.

BEDFORD.—The Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This theatre opened on Monday evening with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Mr. Charles Franmore makes an admirable John Meadows, and Mr. Wilson Gunning cleverly depicts Jack Livingstone. Mr. Gerald Jordan impersonates Cuthbert Lumley with vigour. Mr. Fred Ingram supplies rare humour as Toby. Miss Beanmont Collins capably undertakes the trying rôle of Barbara Wade, and Nellie Meadows is in the capable hands of Miss N. Meade.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—This theatre re-opened for the season on Monday. During the recess the ground floor has been re-arranged, and now consists of stalls, pit-stalls, and pit, instead of parterre, as formerly. A complete and elaborate system of heating has been installed, and other improvements have been effected. The piece for the re-opening week is *East Lynne*, presented by Mr. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. In the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, Miss Julie Kennard, a clever emotional actress, furnishes a convincing interpretation, her acting in the last scene being worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Alfred Beaumont is in every sense capable as Archibald Carlyle; and the villainy of Francis Levison is realistically portrayed by Mr. Eric Mayne. A clever child actress, Miss Jessie Bayes, deserves credit for her impersonation of Little Willie; and the rôle of the good-hearted Cornelia Carlyle is capitally portrayed by Miss Ethel Hardacre. Mr. E. Massingham gives efficient impersonation of Richard Hare; and Mr. C. C. Grattan is an admirable Justice Hare. The humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Mr. Alfred Tate, who creates roars of laughter in his impersonation of P.C. Bullock. Other rôles are commendably sustained by Miss Kathleen Bryan, Miss Ethel Saville, Miss Ida Heron, Miss B. Carroun, Miss E. Frith, Miss E. Rae, and Mr. Spencer Goodwin.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—Madame Ada Colley is the star here, and has created quite a furore with her delightful vocalism; Mr. Edward Cranston, supported by his company, appears to the utmost advantage in the Irish racing sketch, *Terry; or, True to his Trust*, the various rôles being ably sustained by Mr. Cranston, Miss Josephine Preece, and Mr. Harry McClelland. Mr. Leo Dryden has been enthusiastically received in his capital songs; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by the Pasquali Bros., head to head balancers and tumblers, their feats being quite amazing. Miss Alice Maydue is a charming comedienne, with good songs; and others here are the Ongars; Mr. Fred Hallam, comedian; Natalia and Diana, gymnasts; and the attractive Palace pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The Boisset Troupe again head the bill, and this week produce with great success their screaming pantomime *The Evening Party*. Mr. J. A. Wilson, the clever Black Oracle, introduces his famous performing dog Towser, whose tricks are quite amazing. Mr. George Formby, one of the driollest of comedians, creates much amusement with his funny songs; and Ike Scott and Son, comedians and dancers, have made a big hit with *The Officer and the Raw Recruit*. The Empire Bioscope introduces a new set of pictures; and others appearing are Toner, the Belfast newsboy mimic; Miss Frances Manners, a delightful vocalist; Culpitt, comedy conjurer; and Miss Vi Raynor, comedienne and dancer.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company is this week producing *What Women Suffer*, by Mr. H. Brandon, which met with a capital reception. Mr. Herbert Cecil's able impersonation of Herbert Standish reflects much credit on that clever actor; and a winning and graceful interpretation of Edith Coventry is furnished by that accomplished actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams. Mr. John Burton acquits himself with distinction as Squire Norton; and Mr. Cyril Grier, in the dual rôle of Wilfred Coventry and John Coventry, is very successful throughout. Miss Lina Nazeby appears as Nance Meredith, and acts well; and Mr. J. F. Pearce skilfully impersonates John Meredith. Mr. W. G. Wesley as Obadiah Shakespeare, and Mr. H. Arnold Allen as Tod Potts, evoke much amusement. Other rôles are capitally sustained by Miss Effie Macintosh, a charming Marion Thomas; Little Rosie; and Messrs. A Edwards, J. M. William, and Q. James.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—The re-opening of this house took place on Monday with Little and Darcy's drama, *The Shadow of a Crime*. Miss Rosie May played Winifred Maud with much spirit, and Miss Dorothy Ridell made a sweet Miss Bullington. Harry had a manly exponent in Mr. Stephen Crossley. The villainous work of Ralph Esmond was successfully carried out by Mr. Robert Forder. Mr. Wm. Matthews looked and acted as a fierce Jim Murdock. Tom Brown and his wife and Sarah the maid had the lively services of Mr. E. W. Avery, Miss May Rosine, and Miss Bertha St. Ruth. Miss Ina Grant was excellent as Loyale Norman.

Al-Fresco, Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. H. Battersby.—As the baritone vocalist Mr. E. C. Husbands has succeeded Mr. Tom Griffiths. The latest atttractions are the Cedrics in their comedy act; Victor's Troupe of performing dogs; and Bioscope pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Advantage has been taken of a brief recess to add to the embellishments and decorations of this already elegantly appointed theatre, which reopened on Bank Holiday with H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Leah Kleschna*. The title-rôle is represented by Miss Bessie Rignold, who gives a skilful rendering of a difficult part. Mr. William F. Grant as Paul Sylvane is a great success, playing the character with incisiveness and effect, and Mr. Paul Belmore displays much power and ability as Kleschna; Mr. Campbell Goldsmidt is well suited as Schramm; Mr. Hamilton Deane makes the most of his opportunities as Raoul; Valentin is well impersonated by Mr. Roland Daniel; and other parts are without exception in competent hands. Crowded houses have been the rule during the engagement.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A capital company includes Mr. Mike Whallen, a clever comedian and raconteur, who meets with his usual big receptions; Miss Daisy Jerome, the little American girl, who has become a great favourite; and Mr. Tom Edwards, a versatile and expert ventriloquist; the Sisters Terry, in their delightful entertainment, are a prominent attraction; and excellent turns are also furnished by Mr. Frank Seeley, comedian; Miss Gertrude Gitana, vocalist and dancer; Jack and Evelyn, variety artists; Miss Leoni Dixon, soubrette; O'Connor and Brady, comedians; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley. — After the usual summer vacation this popular place of amusement re-opened on Monday with a capital variety entertainment, which was witnessed by a large audience. The programme included the following artists: The Marvellous Pardoes, in their wonderfully clever gymnastic and contortionist performance, introducing "The Human Skipping Rope"; the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and clog dancers; Miss Violet Rivers, eccentric male impersonator; Miss Lottie Holland, whose illustrated songs are highly appreciated by all who have the pleasure of hearing her; Bert Gordon, Tyrolean vocalist and Milan pipe player; Teddy Vokes, comedian; Miss Elsie Kedwards, singer and dancer; and Tom Hulme, comedian, who possesses quite an inexhaustible supply of patter. The cinematograph pictures of recent events add to the credit of the entertainment, which includes the scena *On the Sands at Brighton*, and the sketch *The Doctor's Assistant*.

BLACKBURN.—New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page. The attraction this week is Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's powerful company in *The Wife's Triumph* and *Sapho*, the latter being played on Wednesday and Thursday. In the former piece Mr. Ernest Abbott is seen to advantage as Frank Wilton, a bank cashier, and Miss Ada Abbott makes a sympathetic heroine. The company gave a capital rendering of *Sapho*, Mr. and Miss Abbott again taking the leading parts.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—In a remarkably good programme Ancelotti takes honours with his thought-reading dog, "Pilu," which gives ample demonstration of its cleverness. The other turns are Tate and Tate, comedy trampolin acrobats; Frank Cumminger, clever sand dancer; Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white; Burg, Haud, and Wise, in *Ye Brown Cow Inn*; Ringling Trio, in an absurdity. *A Manager's Lunch*; Lilly Lena, comedienne; and W. H. Sloan, the American comedian, who is assisted by Miss Florence Gerald and Miss Kitty Hamilton, in the comedy sketch, *The Plumber*. Raymond's Bio-tableaux also show some excellent pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks have this week made their initial bow to a Blackpool audience in *The Catch of the Season*. The welcome which is nightly accorded these popular artists must be most gratifying, and the theatre is literally packed at every performance. They are ably supported by Mr. Laurence Caird, as Lord Dundreary; Mr. Julian Cross, as Sir John Crystal; Mr. Alfred Lloyd, as William Gibson; Master Louis Victor, who scores quite an extraordinary success as Bucket; Miss Florence Lloyd, a really delightful Lady Caterham; Miss Belle Napier, as Lady Crystal; Miss Margaret Fraser, as Sophia Bedford; Miss Maudi Darrell, as Honoria Bedford; and Miss Ivy St. Hellier, a very clever vocalist, who appears as Miss Caw. The dancing and singing of the Gibson Girls the Society Girls, and the Lucille Girls, are pleasing features of one of the successes of Blackpool's season.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Spring Chicken*, played by Mr. George Edwardes' company, is the dainty fare which Mr. Sergenson has provided for his patrons this week. The first honours are carried off by Mr. George Gregory as Mr. Girdle, and by Miss Irene Verona as Mrs. Girdle. Both artists are well and favourably known in Blackpool, and their efforts this week meet with the most cordial approval. Mr. John Brabourne works hard as Gustave Babori; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., plays Boniface with fair success; Mr. Frank Hector is the Baron Papouche; and Mr. Henry Adnes does the best he can with Felix; Rosalie finds a pleasing representative in Miss Gertrude Glyn; Miss Nancy Langtyre gives satisfaction as Baroness Papouche; Miss Gertrude Gilliam is suited in the part of Dulcie Babori; whilst Miss Nellie Lonnen as Emmy Lou and Mr. William Spray as Stephen Henry work well together, both as singers and dancers. The dresses and scenery are quite up to the Edwardes standard, which is saying a great deal. Mr. W. Hesseltine is in charge of the company.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco still top the bill here, and their feats of mystery remain unsolved; Rosina Casselli, who contributes a clever turn with her performing dogs, also keeps her place in the programme. The newcomers this week include Albert Le Fre, in his novel mélange, "That's what we see in the Halls"; the Four Juggling Geraldos, the Boccaccio Minstrels, Oliver Conroy, comedian; Howard and Harris, in their diverting sketch, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; Mabel La Blanche, burlesque artist; and Vanola, the clever American foot juggler. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope enjoys a permanent home here.

Hippodrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—An entirely new programme is provided here this week. The place of honour is nightly accorded to May Edouin and Fred Edwards, in their amusing sketch entitled *A Bachelor's Dream*. Alf Gibson, the stand-still comedian, is also a favourite turn; Charles Mildare, a clever imitator of singing birds; Cribb and Cribb, comedians; W. G. Webber, vocalist; Constance Mori, comedienne and dancer; Billy Farrell, comedian; Ethel Dove, comedy artist; Barney Vox, ventriloquist; and Kitty Beresford, comedienne, are also in the bill.

Winter Gardens Pavilion. — General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.— *In Sunny Spain; or The Troubles of a Tourist*, the new spectacular ballet, by Messrs. J. R. Sims and Charles Fletcher, is still played here to crowded houses twice daily. The remainder of the programme is occupied by Horace Goldin, in his wonderful conjuring feats; Dr. Jules Anglo's Tableaux Vivants; the Doretty Musical Quartette; the Belegruer Family of acrobats; Mlle. Lopezina, in a clever trapeze act; the Scala Girls, vocalists and dancers; and the Castillian Serenaders.

Tower Circus.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop. — The new-comers here this week are Jack Higgins, the jumper; and the Brothers Artois, bar performers. The Kellinos, acrobats; Walter Belloni, juggler; Keen and Waller, novel eccentrics; Paul Conchas, in his military pastimes act; Klein Family, musical cyclists; the Novellos, in their spectacular equilibristic act, *Europe in India*; August and September, comedians; and the Famous Finneys, in a swimming exhibition, are retained.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—The above theatre was re-opened for the season on Bank Holiday. During the vacation the energetic lessee had the theatre thoroughly renovated, and the installation of the electric light has greatly improved the appearance of the auditorium. For the opening Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company presented for the first time an interesting drama entitled *The London Fireman*, which had an enthusiastic reception from a large audience. In the leading rôles, Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles and Mr. Edward L. Garside are prominent throughout the performance; Mr. William Burgess as Abel Fortnum does well; and Mr. Harry Momber as Nixey Stinger gives a fine piece of character-acting. Miss Florence M. Daley as Grace Curtis plays with much feeling; and the Ida Curtis of Miss Nellie Shirley is a most successful impersonation, which won warm applause. Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble gives a charming performance; and Miss Nellie Waddington is much in evidence as Countess Fleming; excellent support being rendered by the remaining members of the company. Good staging and mounting add much to the success of one of the best dramatic works that has visited here for some time.

Tudor's Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm Tudor.—Mr. R. Sylvester presented on Monday a fine display of animated pictures, which drew a crowded house. Mr. Sylvester has also a good variety company.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Rowland Stewart. — *The Cingalee*, played by Mr. George Dance's excellent company, is the holiday attraction this week. Miss Georgina Middleton is a charming Nanoya, and deserved the applause she received. The Boobhamba of Mr. H. Le Maistre caught on exceedingly well, and Mr. Cyril Dane as Harry Vereker made quite a hit. The other parts were capably filled, and the chorus was remarkably good.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—During the summer vacation the theatre has been renovated, and it now presents a very bright and charming appearance. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw, supported by a fine company, appeared at the reopening on Monday night in F. Kinsey Peile's comedy, *The Adventurer*. Mr. Robertshaw presented a fine character study of the reckless hero, Michel le Grand. Mr. Harry Ashford was good as the stubborn country squire, Peter Nugent, and as his erring son Harold Mr. L. Race Dunrobin acted conscientiously and with feeling. The William Percival of Mr. Percival Stevens was a strong and convincing effort. The comedy element was well sustained by Mr. E. M. Robson as Le Grand's supposed secretary, Tobias, and by Mr. Harvey Long as the Jew money-lender, Samuel Stein. With easy composure and grace Miss Naomi Neilson assumed the part of Maria Nugent, and there was a subtle charm in Miss Marie Löhr's acting as the gentle and confiding Lillian Nugent. The rest of the cast was excellent. Mr. Peile's dramatic one-act play, *The Mummer's Wife*, preceded the comedy, and in this Mr. Robertshaw was most effective as the strolling player Raymond, and Miss Phyllis Relph added greatly to her reputation by a fine dramatic effort as his unfortunate wife Bianca. Mr. L. Race Dunrobin played Theodor with great power, and Mr. Haines was very fine as Quelch.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company, in the drama *No Wedding Bells for Her*, presents a strong holiday attraction here. In the exacting rôle of Lola Delaspierre Miss Lizzie Montague wins distinction. Doris Fane, another part which calls for dramatic skill for its interpretation, has an able exponent in Miss Louie Adair. Miss Ethel Lawrence is good as the Japanese Geisha. Mr. Louis Garton is effective as the forsaken husband, Montague Blair. In the rôle of the Rev. Frank Hatherleigh Mr. Stuart Lomath is admirable. Mr. E. E. Lewis acts well as the lover of Doris, Harold Travelyn. Dick Delver, the detective, has a good exponent in Mr. T. W. Ford. Incidents connected with the Russo-Japanese war are ingeniously interwoven, there is some effective scenery, and the piece, which is presented here for the first time, has had an excellent reception.

The Empire.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Rachel Lowe, who tops an excellent programme here this week, submits in telling style some quite original songs. Harrigan and Holt, in a familiar type of comedy, are humorous, and a very fine banjo performance, which is submitted by the Howard Brothers in a style quite their own, earns well-merited applause. J. W. Rowley, buoyant, bright, and humorous as ever in song and patter, is on a welcome return visit. Arthur Gill is a humorous songster. The Little Georgia Magnet, Annie Abbott, after a long absence, is also here again, perplexing her audience with her experiments as a "passive resister" of force. Maffe Weston, comedienne, sings and dances with skill. In their sketch, *The Professor and Pupil*, Ross and Grayson are most entertaining. Binns and Binns blend capital comedy and good music admirably, and there are some new and interesting films shown by the American Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The holiday attraction here is strong. The Four Burnells, in a golfing scena, provide a popular and acceptable item. A clever equilibristic and juggling entertainment by Claver and Piccolo finds favour. Applause greets the songs by Mlle. De Rose, the lady baritone. In an acrobatic hunting absurdity, *The Meet*, Keith and Merson are diverting. J. H. Hawtrey is an actor-vocalist of merit. Enthusiastic applause greets the wonderful jumping feats of the Wynfords. Charles Sloman's comedy is of an acceptable quality. The Davis and Gledhill Trio, roller experts, are distinctly clever in a cycle and motor-paced sensation. *Star v. Evening News*, and there are some fine films exhibited by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

St. George's Hall.—Manager, Mr. S. Carter.—The New Century Company's Animated Pictures continue to be an attraction here.

Al Fresco Pavilion.—Tomps and Wells, who introduce a good musical comedy turn, are a welcome acquisition to the company this week.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company opened here on Monday in *Sergeant Brue*. The company is a strong one, Mr. J. Harold Carson, as the Sergeant, giving a realistic rendering to the part; Mr. Albert James, as Crookie Scrubbs, is excellently fitted, his songs being capitally rendered; Michael Brue is well enacted by Mr. Robert Selby; and Mr. Frank Laceby scores as Mr. Crank; Miss Reydon Dallas is charming as Lady Bickenhall; Miss Florence Spurgeon is quite at home in her part of Aurora Brue; and Miss Dora Taylor is a smart Daisy. For the end of the week we have Mr. F. R. Benson's company in *The Merchant of Venice, The School for Scandal, &c.*

Spa Theatre.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—The United English Opera Company occupy the boards at this well-appointed theatre the first half of the week, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert. On Monday night that popular opera *Maritana* was given, with Miss Elsa May in the title-rôle, and a finished and talented representation of the part was presented by this clever artist. Miss Clairette Florence as Lazarillo was admirable, and Miss Kate White was an excellent Marchioness. Mr. F. S. Gilbert gave a fine rendering of the part of Don Cæsar, his splendid voice being agreeably heard; Mr. F. Sheridan was a capital King; Mr. H. Blagrave as the Marquis, Mr. J. Kneall Campbell as Don Jose, Mr. James Knox as Captain of the Guard, and Mr. F. Featherstone as the Alcade, were all capital exponents of their parts. On Tuesday the attraction was *The Bohemian Girl*, and on Wednesday *Faust* was given. For the remainder of the week we have Mr. Grant Allen's company in *The New Boy*.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Those wonderful little people the Pigmies have been amusing the visitors to the Grand Pavilion. The Flockton-Foster entertainers contribute attractive programmes, and the Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company show the latest pictures. In the Floral Pavilion the programmes given by Herr Sigmund Winternitz's Royal Viennese Orchestra prove very pleasing to crowded audiences, and that favourite vocalist, Miss Annie Bartle, is gaining fresh laurels by her finely-rendered songs.

New Spa and Gardens.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—A big programme is provided for the patrons of the Spa during the holidays. Herr S. Warm's orchestra is giving special musical programmes, which are a source of great enjoyment to large audiences. Miss Margaret Cooper, a special favourite here, never fails to secure unbounded applause for her charming "Songs at the Piano." The Misses Aileen and Doris Woods are paying a welcome return visit, their duets proving a great treat, and their dances being cleverly executed.

The Palace.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—A big holiday programme here includes clever sketches by the Monckton, *A Woman's Curiosity* and *The Lady Dentist*; Cyrus and Maud, with their performing donkey, are a couple of smart musical eccentrics; the Shamrocks, in songs and dances, and Will Douglas, the Yorkshire humorist, and a magical turn by Sphinx and Sphinx, all go well. Empress, a lady who does some clever handcuff and other feats, and the animated pictures are always good.

Summer Gardens. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland. —Attractive programmes are provided at this popular resort by the sea, and crowded audiences are delighted at the many amusing items of the Pierrots, and the laughable sketches by the company, the various characters by Messrs. Beanland, Bath, Danton, Coda, and Hyam being played with capital effect.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here this week with *A Girl on the Stage*, which is beautifully dressed and mounted. Mr. Lennox Pawle gives a finished impersonation of the Earl of Sanctobury; Miss Queenie Leighton achieves great success as Molly Montrose; Miss Fanny Dango and Miss Valli Valli as the Earl's daughters merit praise; Mr. John Humphries is very humorous as Shingle; Mr. J. Robert Hale scores heavily as Lord Congess; Mr. Nelson Keys is a mirthful Ethelbert; Mr. Colin Coop acquits himself admirably as Alderman Briggs, and the remaining characters are satisfactorily represented.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company opened here on Monday with *The Price of Her Soul*. Mr. Shinton gave a manly and popular impersonation of Lord Rolf Mandeville, V.C., and Miss Ada M. Ryder submitted a charming and refined enactment of the Countess Inez Steinmeitz. Miss Mona Gray was powerfully effective as Olga Lavonitz; Mr. Annesley Hely was forcible as the villainous Major Skoboloff; and able portrayals were furnished by Mr. Fred White as Zouroff, Mr. Archie Gear as General Lanovitz, and Mr. Murray Yorke as Captain Petroski. The light comedy element was capitally sustained by Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy; Miss Tina Frank as Polly Perkins; Miss Ada Arnott as Lady Jemima Fraser, "Pork Pie Queen"; and Mr. Geo. Marriott, jun., as the Hon. Algy Fraser.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a first-class company here this week. Eugénie Fougère, the accomplished chanteuse Parisienne, is enthusiastically received, and achieves distinct success; the Alaskas submit a clever comedy acrobatic entertainment; Edie Rivers is a pleasing singer and graceful dancer; Little Ganty is a very droll comedian; the Sprees are highly effective in their vocal scena *Twickenham Ferry*; Stuart and Rose are capital comedy artists; the Four Madcaps contribute a very smart dancing act; Freeman and Tench evoke hearty laughter with their duologue *A Broken Honeymoon*; and the Alhambrascope pictures are very interesting.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A varied and highly attractive programme is sustained here this week. Pauline Zaro, a dainty comedienne and nimble dancer, is well received; Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope submit a Napoleonic episode, entitled *An Emperor's Divorce*, in good styls; Billie Burford is a winsome vocal comedienne; the Harvey Boys win hearty applause in their boxing act, *The London Messenger Boys*; Fanny Dent and Harry Dent, in their refined comedy sketch, *Mary and the Squire*, achieve conspicuous success; the Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians, are very smart and clever; Johnny Danvers, vocal comedian and dancer, gains enthusiastic applause for his songs and dancing; Tschernoff gives a unique entertainment with ponies, dogs, and pigeons; Frank Danby, supported by W. J. Manning, Walter Nugent, Ethel Bryant, Esme Edwardes, and Edward Russon, appears in a musical absurdity, entitled *The Chauffeur*, which is admirably represented and warmly appreciated. The performance concludes with a capital series of Barrascope pictures.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love as Suzanne Trevor acts with much charm; and Mr. Percy Hutchison gives a very fine impersonation of Suzanne's husband. Miss Violet Ley is a bright Lady Isabel Bury; Mr. F. G. Thurstans makes a capital Fitzroy Harding; and able support is also given by Mrs. P. Turner, Miss Dorothy Lart, Miss Annie Stalman, Miss Charlotte Mead, Mr. Patrick Quill, Mr. F. Hill, Mr. Townsend Whitling, Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. J. E. Watson, and Mr. Bruce Smith.

New Palace Pier Theatre.—Mr. H. Bernhardt's company is here this week with *My Peggy*. Miss Atholie Robertson is highly successful as Peggy; Mr. Charles Bligh's James Purvis, and Miss Molly Paget's Evelyn Morris are well played; while Mr. Douglas Vigors as Lord Brooklyn merits warm praise. Mr. Chris Walker (under whose direction the play is produced) submits an excellent representation of the Earl of Truro; and Peggy's spinster aunts find capital exponents in Miss Nellie Clarence and Miss Una Gilbert.

Aquarium.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—The Modoc Minstrels are re-engaged here this week, and win hearty applause for the excellent manner in which they sustain their varied and attractive programmes.

Devil's Dyke.—Proprietress, Mrs. M. Barrasford. The attraction here on Bank Holiday was a baby show in the Café Chantant for three prizes offered by tradesmen of the district and three handsome awards presented by the proprietors of Nestle's Swiss Milk.

BRISTOL.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here with the popular drama, *Between Two Women*, which is staged with much taste and liberality, and excellently played. The Two Women, Violet Thornton and Carmen de Savereaux, have exceptionally clever exponents in Miss Molly Malone and Miss Winifred Pearson; Mr. Godfrey Tearle acts really well in a quiet and incisive style as the Rev. Philip Carton; Mr. Watkin Wynne displays considerable dignity as the Earl of Millard; Mr. Stephen Langton is effective as Harry Millard; Mr. Walter Thornton and Mr. Roland Yorke both do well in the unpopular parts of James Durwood and Major Strangeways; Miss Lulu Rowes is sufficiently pathetic as the Blind Boy; and Miss Winifred Graham displays genuine comedy as Polly Popp.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening when *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* was played for the first time in Bristol. Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is an exceptionally good one, and the play is staged in a liberal and effective manner. Miss Gladys Mason presents a pleasing study of Lady Clarice Howland; she displays much vivacity, and is charmingly expressive. Mr. Reginald Dance acts cleverly as Mr. Vanderveldt; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton is convincing as Colonel Rayner; and the parts of the Marchioness of Hendingby, Lady Clementina Derborough, Aggie Coles, and Miss Pelling, are taken in excellent style by Miss Mary Weigall, Miss May Brooke, Miss Eve Titheradge, and Miss Agnes Gunn. The remaining characters are all carefully performed by other members of the company. The intresting one-act play, *The Drums of Oude*, opens the performance, being capitally played by Miss Gladys Mason, Mr. Reginald Dance, Mr. Edward Coutts, Mr. F. Vernon Travers, Mr. Walter Armstrong, Mr. George Percy, and Mr. George A. Seager.

Palace.—Resident Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—The Albert and Edmunds' comedy Troupe head the programme with their absurdity, *The Little Charwoman*. Bijou Russell, coon singer and sand dancer, presents a pleasing and attractive turn, and others obtaining appreciation are Charles Lillburn, comedian; Warterberm Brothers, double foot jugglers; Fred Villiers, comedian; Allsop and Bekwith in their comedy act, *I'm Coming Upstairs*; Herbert Clifton, vocal mimic. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Here we have Wal Pink's Workmen in the amusing absurdity *Repairs*; Ross and Lewis, American speciality comedians, are amusing; Dora Lyric, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; and other artists obtaining appreciation are Evelyn Taylor, coon vocalist; The Fayes, speciality artistes; Fred Keeton, eccentric comedian; Tom Parker, comedian; The Four Aces, comedy acrobats, and Gus Barra, musical motorist. The performance concludes with a good selection of animated pictures.

Zoological Gardens.—Superintendent, Captain Villiers.—There was a great attendance here on Monday, probably a record number passing through the turnstiles. The variety entertainment provided by Mr. Tom Wood, of Upper Euston, Bristol, included Linton and Tera, wire performers; Vere and Royal, vocalists, dancers, etc.; Rabbits and his mechanical donkey; The Two Clarkes in a novel performance on the rolling globe; Marie Iverson, serio and dancer; Kelvin with his would-be actors; Ashley and Knight, in a knockabout bicycle act; Mantel and Oval, acrobats and contortionists. Mr. G. Walker acted as accompanist, Mr. Tom Weymouth's excellent band played selections, and for dancing there was the usual country fair, and Messrs. W. and I. Wilder, of Birmingham, supplied effective fireworks. The attendance continued to be good on Tuesday and Wednesday.

BROMLEY. — Lyric Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Strong. —The holiday attraction here is Mr. Charles Harrington's company in *The Sailors of the King*, and crowded houses have been the rule. An excellent company has been engaged to interpret the piece, headed by Mr. C. Harrington, who gives a fine performance of Admiral Drake; Mr. Frank Stephens supplies a breezy and realistic interpretation of Dick Dr

sents a rendition that is marked by a skilful and painstaking training, and his performance is a triumph from beginning to end. The character of his son, Jefferson, is no less successfully represented by Mr. Stephen Wentworth. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is conspicuously good as Mrs. Ryder.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*Under the Russian Flag* has been presented here by Mr. Jack Haddon's company. The cast includes that talented artist, Miss Marie Rayner whose representation of Luka Marischka is a fine piece of work. Capital interpretations are those of Michael (Mr. Edward Avinal) and Ivan (Mr. Cecil Melton). Captain Demetrius has an admirable exponent in Mr. Jack Haddon; and the General Romanoff of Mr. Geo. Herbert is excellent. Miss Elaine Vanburgh is a charming Vera Vassiloff; and Miss Violet Lytton creditably submits the rôle of Ogarita.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The Cardiff Empire has been more popular than ever this holiday, owing to the excellent programme presented. Herbert Lloyd, the diamond king, heads the list with his amusing and clever burlesque on vaudeville; Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq are still irresistible in their comic sketch *Black Justice*; Simms and Simms give a first-class mixture of gag and melody; Spot, "the enchanted coon" adds to the fun in his laughable travesty, "The cake-walk craze"; Bernar's Fantoches provide an ingenious "puppet" show; and Techow's cats display their clever training in a pretty performance. Helene and Emilon do marvellous feats on the trapeze; and the Glenroy Troupe present a delightful turn as International dancers. Edie King is worthy of much praise for her pleasing vocalism and dancing. The American Bioscope completes the entertainment.

CARLISLE.—THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Miss Ella Shields proves herself to be an accomplished artiste, and well worthy of the position she occupies on the bill; her singing of coon songs provokes great enthusiasm. Rex Fox makes a big hit with his exceedingly clever wire act. The Kyasyas do some remarkable weight-lifting by teeth and hair, and are much appreciated. Bertha Winder is an exceedingly clever dancer, and has scored an emphatic success. H. Pauson, illusionist, provides an excellent turn. Grant and Smith have a funny act, which is applauded. Miss Nellie Farrell, comedienne, and the Popiscope, complete the company.

CARLISLE H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Executors of R. S. McKim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—A large audience assembled on Monday night to see Messrs. Livesey and Hardy's company in *The Days of Cromwell*. The piece was well staged, and admirably interpreted by an excellent company. Interest centred in Mr. Henry Belding, who had many opportunities in the character-part of *Ironhand* of displaying his ability to advantage. His grip of the part was effective and artistic. The other characters were ably impersonated, and the whole performance met with much appreciation.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The holiday attraction here is *Florodora*, presented by one of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's companies. Mr. Daley Cooper's Tweedlepunch is the hit of the evening, and his efforts are creditably seconded by Miss Violet Grazia as Dolores. Miss Nellie Bowman is a lively little Augela, and scores in *My Starlight Queen*. Mr. Jos. R. Tate is stage manager, and finds time to give a hearty rendering of the part of Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton is excellent as Frank Abercoed; Miss Edith Housely proves a popular Lady Holyrood, and the rôle of Capt. Arthur Donegal is in the safe hands of Mr. Harold Perry. The musical director is Mr. B. J. Paterson.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Here we have Lily Esplin, serio and low comedy songster; Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist; Rosa Loader in *The Slavey at the Piano*; Duncan and Godfrey, who gain approbation for their coster romance, *Me and 'Er*; J. Beeson, with *Alice, Where Art Thou?* and *Anchored*; the Bros. Ashley in comedy boxing sketch, *Next, Please*; and pictures by the Edisonograph. Special mention must be made of the smart piccanninies introduced by Belle Davis.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—After a brief absence Mr. Leonard Mortimer's company is heading Mr. Barnard's holiday programme here, this week's production being the weird sensation, *Spectres*. George Collins, comedian, is excellent, and the bill includes Tom Lowen, comedian; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers; Frank and Free, comedy artists; Marie Keen, with a women's suffrage ditty; and pictures by Lacey's Erascope.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—The season was opened on Monday by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's excellent company in *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Stanley Drewitt as Fagin gave a remarkable performance; Mr. James Skea presented a distinctly artistic conception of Bill Sikes; Miss Edith Anton Laing was an excellent Nancy; Mr. Charlie Clark proved a veritable Artful Dodger; Miss Dorothy Marsdin gave a clever study of Oliver; and the other parts were all in excellent hands.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The Royal Pavilion Pierrots are a popular attraction this week. Miss Belle Thomas is a gifted comedienne; Mr. James Watson and Mr. Charles Neary are genuinely humorous; Mr. George Lomax has an excellent baritone voice; Mr. Charlie Rogers once again brings down the house with his banjo solos; and Mr. Walter Randall, an accomplished pianist, completes a talented sextette.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. H. F. Housden and company, who pays a first visit with the domestic drama *A Woman's Past*. Mr. J. Myrow-Howard makes an effective David Heath; Mr. David Phillips is a capable Frank Delauney; Mr. H. F. Housden (the author) gives a capital portrayal of the part of Clement Harper; and Mr. Clifton Earle does justice to the rôle of Uriah Craven. Miss Dorothy Wallace is pleasing as Bessie; Miss Doris Cameron is excellent as Dorothy Heath; Miss Mabel Northam is a vivacious Kate; and Miss Irene Carrington gives a clever representation of Clara Darrell.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemmingway.—This theatre was re-opened on Bank Holiday. During the vacation many improvements have been effected, and the building has been thoroughly cleaned and re-decorated throughout. The panels of ceiling and proscenium &c., have been filled in with richly-painted frescoes by Mr. Frank Murdock. *No Cross, No Crown*, played by Miss Rose Faith's company, was chosen for the opening week, and, despite the warm weather, a good house assembled. Miss Rose Faith as Clare gave a powerful rendering; and Miss Gwen Stewart as Mistress Grey, Mr. W. Carriden as Sir Francis Luttrell, Mr. H. Chapman as Professor Nebb, Mr. Herbert De Ville as Austin Blake, Mr. C. George as Rawson Haines, and Miss Ethel Ewer as Doris Luttrell, were all satisfactory in their respective rôles.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietors, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, Ltd.—Another good variety show is to be recorded here this week. Jane Temple, comedienne; Arthur Albert, comedian; and the Celtic Trio, are all smart artists, and give a good show. Franco Piper, in his great banjo act, is clever and entertaining; Miss Beatrice Willey, a dainty vocalist; and the Mannons, in their laughable absurdity, *Uncle Yank*, go to make up an excellent show.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS. — Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley are this week assisted by Miss Alice Braunstein, who is well known and well liked at these concerts; Mr. Walter Clyde, who sings a good song in fine style; and Mr. Owen Clark, a smart conjurer and ventriloquist; Mr. Fred Wildon, with his musical instruments and racy stories, help towards a most enjoyable evening.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. C. Macdona; Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—The first three days of this week has seen Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Country Girl* company playing to good houses. From a company of capable artists one might mention Misses Eileen Guilbert, Vera Vizard, and Florence Burdette, and Messrs. J. Mansell, Stringer, and Bernard Vaughan. On Thursday and Friday Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company was seen in *The Walls of Jericho*.

PIER PAVILION.—Mr. Digby Dent, manager for Messrs. Ashton, has a good variety show here this week. The following artists make up a good programme: Miss Molly Seymour, comedienne; Mr. Sidney Jarvis, baritone; Mr. Arthur Kennedy, Scotch comedian; and Miss Beatrice Beresford, a pleasing singer, with a mezzo-soprano voice; Mr. Wm. Gourlay, the human scarecrow, is here, and going down well; Mr. Chas. Minor has been to no little trouble with his midgets; and Mr. Nelson Hardy, in a ventriloquial act, is smart.

BANDSTAND CONCERTS.—In addition to Mr. Sainton's fine band, which is deservedly very popular, Miss Gertrude Shrimpton, who has a fine soprano voice, is here. The Welsh Glee Singers are also pleasing everyone by their fine rendering of part songs.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Considerable improvements have been effected in this house, among which may be mentioned the addition of a commodious lounge for the habitués of the dress circle, and more exits. The reopening took place on the 2nd inst., the attraction being Mr. Charles Vernay's company in *The Coal King*. The Bank Holiday fare was Mr. Charles Macdona's own company in *The Three Little Maids*. The feature of the piece was the attractive singing by the three maids, played by Miss Mabel Kerridge, Miss Bessie Walters, and Miss Edith Colley, and a really fine dudish study by Mr. J. Herbert Willis, as Lord Cheyne, a part he played with unmistakable cleverness. Miss May Wright danced with great success in the rôle of Gretchen, and, together with Cupid (Mr. Joseph Edwards), infused a considerable amount of humour into the performance. Miss K. Graham Beck was nicely placed as Lady St. Mallory, and her three protégées were ably represented by Miss Mollie Tremaine, Miss C. Sargent, and Miss Daisy Goldsack. Mr. Walter Bosco looked a worthy representative of the Church, whilst the parts of Brian Molyneaux and M. de L'Orme were efficiently undertaken by Mr. Lawrence Tessier and Mr. Herbert Ranson respectively.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Ben de Frece.—*Ben Hur* heads this week's holiday bill, and Mr. Ben de Frece has arranged a competition in connection with the strong man's entertainment, which is most attractive. Bosanquet, with his illuminated speciality scena, is accorded a good reception nightly. Rose Hamilton hits the popular taste, and is greatly applauded, the card-manipulating of Henry Hilton is wonderfully smart, Winnifred Preece has a refined manner, and sings some capital songs, and Fred Arthur is a cosmopolitan mimic of considerable ability.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Poole's Myriorama and Variety Company opened a week's engagement here on Monday last. The entertainment is varied and original. The excellent variety troupe includes Mlle. Juanita de Olvera, with a collection of beautifully-trained cockatoos; Selby, eccentric musical clown; the Veronas, lady dancers and vocalists; McAshell, a comic talking conjurer; May Fench, character vocalist; Felix Somers, facial king, who figures in character of celebrities past and present; and the Paulasto Troupe, grotesque acrobats. Nat Abott, guide and raconteur, is most refreshing and humorous.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—During the summer recess this popular house has been cleaned and decorated throughout, and presented a particularly bright appearance at the opening of the regular season on Monday. The artistic decorations, especially the chaste and exceedingly tasteful design on the ceiling, are the work of Messrs. Alfred Wyatt and Son. The company selected for the first three nights was Mr. James Hare's, who gave an excellent rendering of *A Destroyer of Men*, which a characteristic holiday audience received with rapt attention and unstinted applause. Miss Irene Clifford gave a powerful and finished portrayal of Olga Mischla, and Miss Minnie Walsh as Vida Ravel acted with great care and thought. Miss Alice Buckland was well suited as Nina Pattakake; Mr. Harold B. Lewis sustained the difficult part of Count Starevitch with distinction; and Mr. Hill Cremer was satisfactorily placed as Paul Starevitch. Mr. James Hare did excellent work as Karl Mischla; and Mr. Arthur West gave a creditable rendition of Michael Mischla. Mr. Frank Orchard was good as Fedor Strellitzke; and Mr. Freddie Bentley was amusing as Coco Tatchoski. Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *Three Little Maids* is announced for the remainder of the week.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Herrick. — Mr. Samuel James's company, in *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, is proving attractive here. Mr. Beresford Whitcombe as Tom Robinson plays with distinction; Mr. William Heilbronn as George Fielding is excellent; Mr. Edwin Wilde as the Rev. Francis Eden deserves praise; Mr. James Hay as Peter Crawley is very good; Mr. James Ford earns distinction as Isaac Levi; Mr. Geo. Claremont is very convincing as Mr. Hawes; Mr. Jackson Hayes as Mr. Meadows displays talent; Mr. Johnnie Leoni capably fills the rôle of Jacky; Mr. Foster well represents Mr. Merton; and Mr. Osmond Fairfax is well cast as William Fielding. Miss Hettie Graham as Josephs is well received; Miss Maude Ethelda is commendable as Mary; and Miss May Saker capably enacts Susan Merton.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—This theatre reopened on Saturday with Mr. George Stephenson's company in *Kitty Grey*. An augmented orchestra admirably renders the pretty music, the scenery calls for special praise, and the chorus is quite up to the mark. Miss Hilda Guiver's charming voice and excellent method stand her in good stead in the title-rôle; and Miss Marie West is particularly fascinating and agreeable as Lady Binfield. Mr. Leslie Steward makes a buoyant and mirthful Lord Plantagenet; Mr. Lauri Lisle is a whimsical and amusing King of Illyria; and Mr. George Rowland is quite satisfactory as Sir John Binfield. Miss Nellie Lauraine is an interesting Mrs. Bright; Miss Gertrude Page is a brilliant Saidie de Poulson; and the smaller rôles are all in capable hands.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The entertainment here is up to the usual high standard. Miss May Mars, in her song-scena, "In the Shadow of the Pyramids," brings down the house; Lieut. Travis, the man of many voices, gives an accomplished ventriloquial performance; Huline and Le May, musical clowns, are exceptionally clever and original; D'Arc's marionettes, in their representations of well-known variety stars, are well managed; Bert Coote's "Yankee Doodle Girls" are decidedly picturesque in their songs and dances; Kioto is a dexterous and daring Japanese equilibrist; Harry Wenburn is a very funny comedian; Lily Seville sings her songs in a very fascinating way; the Valdos are quaint acrobats; and Grey and Welford give a smart comedy boxing turn.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A company of more than usual interest is here this week. *The Enchanted Iona*, a sketch in which Mr. Charles Frazer takes the principal part, is greatly appreciated. Mr. J. Hughes, baritone vocalist, is well received; the Sisters Volbecque, character duettists, are distinctly successful; Little Rose Pink, in song and dance, is fascinating; Welda and Wynne are very clever in their juggling and dancing; Doyle and Gibson win well merited applause; Harry Marlow and May Manton appear in a laughable sketch, *Other People's Babies*; and the Bellograph shows some fine pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. E. Oswald Brook's company is the attraction here this week in the sensational drama, entitled *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly gives a powerful display in the rôle of Gerald Kingston; Mr. H. P. Kenn made an excellent Sir Gerald. For the heavy rôle of Ralph Hammond, Mr. Wilford Cheetham deserves much praise. Mr. Booth Conway was good as Gipsy Jake, as was also Mr. Geo. Harris as Chucks. Miss Marie Barrett made an excellent heroine, and Miss Nan Cameron well suited the part of Rachael. The comedy element was ably supplied by Miss Gladys Newcombe, and Mr. Vincent Kelway as William Higgins, and Rose Wilson respectively.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Several alterations and improvements have been carried out during the recess which cannot fail to be greatly appreciated. The dress circle has been re-arranged, and is now entirely screened, thus preventing draughts. The side circles have been extended and may now be booked, and great improvements have also been effected in the pit, where the entire seating has been upholstered. The opening attraction on Monday was the drama *The Prodigal Parson*, presented by Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company. Mr. Garrod cleverly enacted the Rev. Tom Godley, and is capably and creditably seconded by Miss Bertha Kingston, as the long-suffering wife. A villain of superhuman rascality is Enoch Jaggins, a part well and judiciously handled by Mr. A. Northway. Ben Jaggins is efficiently accounted for by Mr. Wm. Hayward; and as Ned Kettlepin Mr. Walter Vincent is to be commended. The comedy element is supplied by Mr. Thos. Ashton (Phil Drive) and Miss Lydia Hart (Gretchen). The child part is adequately sustained by Miss Gladys Canover. The vaudeville introduced in Act 2 is an agreeable diversion.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. A. Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—After having been closed for a month, during which time it has been thoroughly cleaned and re-decorated, this popular house was opened to the public on Monday night with a capital holiday programme, which was enjoyed by two well-filled houses. There is also a considerable amount of new scenery. An amusing farcical sketch, ycleept *Kiss Your Father; or, The Irish Doctor*, may be regarded as the pièce de résistance of this week's bill. It is well mounted, and capitally performed. Mr. Lennon Meadows is highly entertaining as Felix O'Callaghan, and the other characters are capably sustained by Mr. Lewis Leslie, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Mr. W. Dunlop, Miss Ada Tilley, and Miss L. Leslie. Wild, Willie, and West (the Three Bounding Navvies) provide a diverting turn, and introduce much that is clever in the acrobatic and tumbling line; Mint and Mart are clever paper manipulators; Mme. Beaumont is a pleasing burlesque actress, and sings very acceptably; Sandes and Vincent appear in a comedy act, and prove themselves expert contortionists; the Harrison Bros. are capable comedians and dancers; and another good comedian is Mark Merry. The Palace Bioscope presents a striking series of pictures.

DONCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman. — This theatre, which was re-opened on Monday evening, has been redecorated during the recess, and upon its improved appearance the managing-director was warmly complimented. The comedy, entitled *The Little Bread-Winner*, was the attraction. Lord William Dorrington was played in a praiseworthy and artistic manner by Mr. Eugene Santley; Mr. Matthew Boulton scored with a skilful rendering of Richard Lawrence; and Mr. Alfred Maurice, in the rôle of Joseph Prior, was especially successful. Mr. Allen Charles's rôle, that of Charles Prior, gave many opportunities; Miss Mary Fulton as Margaret Daventry won universal admiration; Miss Jenny Bostock was quaintly humorous as Bridget O'Flanaghan; and Miss N. Thorne-Hallam's Kate Charry was excellent. The title-rôle was brightly acted by Little Emmie Thomas. Miss Kitty Melville and Miss Lissa Young as Ruth Cherry and Baby Trot respectively also do well.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—*The Earl and the Girl* is a sure draw in Douglas; Mr. William Greet's company has scored with the public, local and otherwise. Mr. Alfred Donohoe's Jim Cheese is clever, the ladies of the company can sing and dance, the scenery is excellent, and the dresses beautiful. The Zanzibar Girls deserve sincere recognition, and gain it.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray. — The engagement of Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard, with Sir Conan Doyle's play, *Brigadier Gerard*, has proved a great success. The audiences have been most enthusiastic. Miss Evelyn Millard's Comtesse de Roquelare was entirely delightful; the Brigadier Gerard of Mr. Lewis Waller has all the flamboyant qualities of the picturesque hero of romance; Mr. A. E. George as Napoleon reproduced the last doys of the Corsican ogre with distinct artistic merit; Mr. Edward O'Neil's Talleyrand was remindful of piquant memoirs and remembered epigrams; Miss Helen Leyton's Agnes was sincere. The scenery and mounting of the play were admirable.

THE PALACE, LTD.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The attendance at the Palace this week, despite the numerous attractions at present in Douglas, must have pleased the management. Mr. Ernest Shand has the comedian's gift—he is really funny, his songs are witty, his patter smart. The Sisters Grey, duettists, gain applause; the Leo Cleos are experts on the horizontal bar; Ted and May Hopkins possess humour; Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lillian Roseberry contribute a good sketch, called *The Would-be Actors*; the Gerettes, lady trapeze artists, are graceful and daring; Mr. A. J. Ribla, a comic juggler, displays unusual dexterity, with a personality entirely his own. Then there are Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra, the fine ball-room, and Vernon's Bioscope.

DERBY CASTLE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—It may be said, and truly, that this week Derby Castle is Vesta Tilley and Vesta Tilley is Derby Castle. She has been a supreme success. The place is crowded, but the other turns are all good. Miss Cissie Curlette cleverly imitates the various denizens of a farmyard; there is also Morimuro, who comes from the flowery land, and is a clever illusionist; Viviana, the dancing girl, dances herself into the hearts of all those who watch her graceful poses; a clever little playlet, written by Mr. Frederick Maxwell, is admirably acted by Mr. Esmond and Miss Evelyn. There are also at Derby Castle many other attractions—side shows, picture galleries, and a full licence.

In addition, to add to the gaiety of thousands of visitors, there are Mr. F. J. Connor's Hippodrome, Mr. Frederick Buxton's Tea Village and Pierrots, Mr. Charles Dare's Minstrels on the Head; also Mr. Charles Elderton's variety programme at the New Empire, with two shows nightly, and his Toreador Minstrels at Onchan Bay.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—No more popular attraction for the holidays could have been found than Alfred Sutro's clever play, *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Herbert Bunston is an ideal Jack Frobisher, and he well deserves the hearty applause accorded him. A capital portrait of that rough diamond, Hankey Bannister, well thought out and admirably acted, is contributed by Mr. George A. Brandram; Mr. Cyril Baleine meets with a gratifying reception as the foppish Marquis of Steventon, whose son, Lord Drayton, is played with success by Mr. Alexander Cassey. Mr. Sydney Hamilton as Harry Dallas succeeds in hitting off the insincerity of the character with excellent effect, and Mr. E. F. Meads plays with skill as Bertram Hannaford; and Mr. Harry Pemberton is a good Lord Marchmont. Among the lady artists Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Frobisher easily secures first honours. Miss Molly Carton, pretty, girlish, and unaffected, is a delightful exponent of Lady Lucy, and Miss Lydia Busch is a sweet and sympathetic Lady Westerby. Miss Edith Cuthbert as Miss Morington, and Miss Rita Milman as the Duchess of Skye, each adds a character sketch of valuable assistance, while Miss Evelyn Maxwell is a debonair and graceful Lady Parchester. On Thursday night Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Evelyn Hughes dances into popularity as Julie Bonbon and Miss Madge Soutter is the quaintest of quaint little slaveys as Ruth; Miss Holford Beringer is a successful Mrs. Honeycombe, and Miss Ethel Irving a charming Norah. Among the host of fun-makers Mr. T. Gideon Warren is first and foremost as Major Fossdyke, Mr. Will Harman coming next with his amusing portrayal of Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Bertram Zardi plays Amos Dingle, and causes much hilarity; Mr. Edgar Ashwyn is a gallant Tom Everleigh; Mr. Dutton Nicholls a typical stage American; and Mr. J. Fitz-James a good Hans. Some well harmonised quartettes are rendered by the Imperial Glee Singers, Messrs. Ashwyn, Jones, Rose, and Fitz-James.

THE PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The Roman Singers are drawing crowded houses this week with their original miniature comic opera. Mr. Harold Payne has a good tenor voice, which he uses to advantage, and much amusement has been caused by the humorous songs, exceedingly well sung, of Mr. Broughton Black. Miss Dorothy Carter's songs at the piano are popular items, and Miss Ella Lorraine's contributions are received with rapturous applause. Mr. Lindon Wyatt has a genuine fund of humour, and convulses the house with his hilarious Irish stories and capital imitations. The Dover Corporation Band plays every morning from 11 to 1, and are under the control of Mr. George Bryer. Miss Minnie Johnson still gives her daily exhibitions of fancy and ornamental swimming, as well as her unique performance in the crystal tank.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—The three Sisters Graham top the bill, and give a bright and vivacious performance. Miss Daisy Rhyl, comedienne, is most successful, as is also Fred Collins, with humorous songs. The Maynards, duettists and dancers, are exceptionally clever artists; Louie Leybourne is a graceful dancer and good vocalist; and Pat Carey is humorous in his clever and amusing Irish act.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—A large audience assembled here on Monday evening to welcome a return visit of Mr. W. Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. Frank E. Petley gives a most able interpretation of Marcus Superbus, and the rôle of Stephanus is depicted in an artistic manner by Miss Effie Dane. The part of Nero finds a capital exponent in Mr. C. Yorke, and Miss Marie Leonhard supplies a fine study of the rôle of Mercia. Messrs. Frank Wood and Harry Jones as Glabiro and Philodemus are both acceptable in their respective parts, and Miss Cissie Carlton is highly amusing as Dacia. Mr. Walter Fleet, as Favius, and Mr. George Stanton as Titus sustain their parts excellently, and Miss Jessica Thore is exceedingly good as Ancaria. The minor parts are well filled.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Representative and patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Charles MacDona's principal company is presenting here this week *Mr. Hopkinson*, which is attracting large audiences nightly. Mr. Frank Stanmore is mirth-provoking in the rôle of Samuel Hopkinson, and the Duchess is capitally rendered by Miss Alison Alexander. Mr. Arnold Lucy ably sustains the part of the Duke of Braceborough, and Miss Gladys Jesson acts well as Lady Tyra Egglesby. Mr. Shirley Lea capably fills the character of the Earl of Addleton, and Miss Kathleen M. Romsey gives a good rendering of Eliza Gibbs. Mr. Reginald Dane as Lord Cawthorpe, Mr. C. M. Heslop as the Hon. Otho Dursingham, Mr. George McCloskie as Mr. Smethurst, Mr. Vincent Galley as Parbury, and Mr. J. G. Lowther as Blisset are also satisfactory in their respective rôles. The curtain-raiser, *The Snowstorm*, precedes, and is well received.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are appearing here this week in a version of Dumas' celebrated story, *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Junius Booth sustains with power the rôle of Edmond Dantes and Miss Emma Robberds leaves nothing to be desired as La Carconte. Mr. Walter Martin's conception of Abbé Faria is a praiseworthy one, and Miss Doris White is capital in the rôle of Sophie Danglars. Mr. Walter Huron effectively portrays the part of M. Villefort, and Mercedes is well played by Miss Clare Elstob. Mr. J. W. Braithwaite acts with judgment the rôle of Caderousse, and Mr. E. H. Templeton does good work as M. Noirtier.

PAVILION, KINGSDOWN. — Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The John Ridding Opera Company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when *The Waterman* was presented at the afternoon performance, and in the evening *The Daughter of the Regiment* was produced before a large and appreciative audience. The artists engaged include Mr. John Ridding, Mr. Charles Le Suer, Mr. Frank Mullings, Mr. Glendo, Mr. Fisher, and the Misses Kitty Brownlees, Winifred Knightley, and Jessie Dennis, who all acquit themselves admirably in their respective parts.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. March.—The patrons of this establishment are well catered for here this week, the chief item being John Leopold and Company in *The House Boat*, which causes plenty of laughter from start to finish. Another popular turn is that of Brett and Orford, in their military monologues, and some excellent songs are rendered in a finished style by Miss Mona MacDonald. Marba and Verity, acrobatic dancers, score a success, as do also the Two Madges, duettists and dancers, and Tom Collins, a vocal comedian of much merit. Fred Burton's novel musical act is highly acceptable, and Miss Millie Payne is a comedienne who has a host of admirers. The Empire pictures are interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Excellent houses greeted the company here on Monday evening. Bennett and Martell provide much fun in their nautical absurdity, *The Shipwreckers*, and the Avolos score a brilliant success in their acrobatic and gymnastic act. Professor McCann, with his well-trained troupe of terriers, repeats his former success. Mat Wilkinson and company supply a lively sketch entitled *The Registry Office, and* Captain Lamar's Tennessee Guards give a clever exhibition of lightning drill. Sandy and Carl, speciality comedians, are well received, as is also Zenora, head balancer, and Joe Oliver is a smart comedian. Violet Beatrice is a pleasing comedienne, and the Bioscope shows a series of up-to-date films.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Nellie Hustler, serio and dancer; Little Dandy, character comedian; L'Homme, miniature and giant; Mike Harvey, Irish comedian and dancer; Van Gelder, conjurer.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here includes:—Lead and Lead, comedy artists; Mabel Welfore, comedienne and dancer; Harry Balfour, eccentric comedian; Brothers Bailey, musical grotesques.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Miss Ada Wallis's company opened on Monday in the musical comedy-drama, *Sweet Marie*. Miss Wallis scores as Marie Denver, and Mr. T. C. McQuire (the author) ably depicts Lord Tofton; and other well-played parts are John Bush by Mr. Tom Mayne, Alfred Bush by Mr. Ernest Brame, and Mr. Harry Drew supplies the comedy element as Tom Bush. Miss Nellie Carton plays capably as Lady Violet; as does also Miss Ethel Raymond as Lady Augusta.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—A good programme here is headed by C. Wordley, Hulse, and company, in a dramatic scena of a highly sensational type, called *The Fight in the Forge*; Miss Lily Gaston is a good male impersonator, and exceedingly clever dancer; Leon and Leoni supply a capital turn of mirth and music; and Rose Tilley is a versatile comedienne of no mean order.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—During the first half of the week Mr. Robert Courtneige's company appeared here in *The Blue Moon*. Miss Clarise Lockstone, with sympathetic voice and dainty manner, is an admirable Chandra Nil; Miss Ethel Callanan is a pretty, attractive Evelyn Ormsby, who sings most effectively; Miss Florence Imeson is a particularly happy maid Millicent, she is all gaiety and brightness; Miss Kathleen Carteret is a smart and imposing Lady Brabisham; Miss Louie Lochner is an expressive Oma; Mr. Alfred Clark revels in the part of Major Callabone, and his work is some of the most successful of the evening; Mr. Alec Fraser, in manner, voice, and appearance, is a pleasing Jack Ormsby; Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne is a genial Bobbie Scott, and gives his "Burmah" song in capital style; Mr. Thomas Holding is a picturesque and impressive Prince of Kharikar; and Mr. Alfred Beers and Mr. Reginald Switz as Moolraj and Private Taylor, share the honours as principal laughter-makers, and each in his own individual and clever manner is highly successful. The augmented orchestra and tuneful chorus is under the command of Mr. Carlton Mason. Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Leveaux's company completes the week's performances here with *The Walls of Jericho*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—In securing Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*, an excellent holiday bill has been provided, and crowded and enthusiastic audiences have been the rule. Mr. Horace Mills as Chippy in his own genuinely funny way, extracts all the fun from the part and keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. O. E. Lennon works hard and very ably as Sin Chong, and his songs and dances are loudly re-demanded; Mr. F. Pope Stamper is an interesting, animated, and handsome Reggie, who sings in excellent style; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is a cheery and hearty Admiral Armitage; and Mr. Harry Paulton does excellent duty as Private Perks; Miss Gladys Elvey is pretty and attractive in face, voice, and figure, and she is a most successful Sybil; Miss Kate Vesey as Cornelia gives a delightfully pleasing performance, and she is an accomplished dancer; Miss Daisy Le Hay is a restrained and effective Betty Kenyon; and many other sweet-voiced ladies make up a large and able company. Mr. George Dance's company is billed to appear here during the latter part of the week in *The Spring Chicken*. Under the courteous management of Mr. Walter H. Hook a capitally arranged and interesting show of the St. Louis animated pictures is given. A very effective novelty is the introduction of the chronophone and the pictures are well up-to-date.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—The Warsaw Brothers cleverly combine fun and music, and contribute a popular turn; My Fancy is a wonderfully agile and expert dancer, and she is quickly a favourite; Miss Rosie Lloyd, too, returns to again triumph in her songs, which find much favour; Messrs. Grey and Parry contribute a most acceptable turn, they introduce a novel scene and some really clever acrobatic feats and smart fun; Messrs. Daley and Collins are a couple of amusing comedians; Miss Linda Wasey is a pretty and attractive comedienne whose songs are well given and well received; and Mr. George Prince is a successful laughter-maker.

THE FLORAL HALL.—Managing Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mr. Norfolk Megone has commenced his season here with the Devonshire Park Grand Orchestra, of which he is again the musical director and conductor. The orchestra is again a fine one, and the attendances have been very good. The special vocalist for the week is Miss Mabel Braine. On Thursday the second symphony concert was given, when Miss Grace Triggs appeared as the solo violinist.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—A special attraction is supplied this week in Mr. Frank Bertram's company in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar plays the part of Lieut. Reresby (the Rat) in first-class style. Viscount Dorsington is ably undertaken by Mr. Oswald Lingard. Mr. Richard A. Greene gives a clever representation of Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford; the Colonel Bagshaw of Mr. Alec. Flood is a clever character sketch; and Mr. George Jackson as Lieut. Willoughby is all that could be desired. The part of Batty is in the hands of Miss Celestine Bertram, and not a little of the success of the play is due to this lady's efforts. Mi

on Monday and scored a great success; Mr. Rosie Ashton met with a good reception; Mr. Charles Pond, raconteur and humorist, gives an interesting turn. On Friday, Miss Evie Greene and Concert Party were billed to appear. The Sabots are here another week, and the Imperial Austrian Band renders well-arranged programmes.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—The concerts here are very well attended. The artists this week include Miss Marion Battishill, contralto, and Mr. Maurice Garland, ventriloquist and conjuror.

Town Hall.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—A capital entertainment is being provided here this week by Jury's Bioscope showing a choice selection of pictures.

Bathing Establishment Grounds. — Cardow's Cadets are still very popular. Mr. Charles Cardow has been appearing this week, and is an excellent comedian; Mr. Arthur Hill excels as a ventriloquist, and Mr. George Ellis keeps the audience in good humour.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Kirk.—Miss Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern Belles are here this week in a variety entertainment, and a musical comedy entitled *The Lost Coon*. Miss Morris contributes some pleasing coon songs and dances. Master Sidney Norrie is a clever dancer; the Franklin Troupe of Russian vocalists and whirlwind dancers give a clever exposition of the style of dancing associated with similar troupes; the rest of the company consist of the Australian Troubadours; Hy. Gole, eccentric comedian; Warming and Goldheart; Miss Lillie Vanderbilt; Miss Molly Gwyne; and Miss Bessie Coburn, serio.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The place of honour here is occupied by George Leyton, who is warmly applauded for his "Boys of the Chelsea School" scena. He is assisted by twenty-four local boys and by James Passmore, Gateshead's Crimean veteran, to whom will be given the week's proceeds of the sale of Mr. Leyton's songs. Michael Nolan, the prince of Irish comedians, pleases immensely; and Newhouse and Ward, with their excellent comedy and trick cycling, are big favourites. An old favourite here, Ada Fawn, has a very warm welcome; Raglus, an eccentric ball-manipulator, makes a hit; and Smiler Lee is a droll comedian, with an original style. Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist, receives well-merited applause; Elton and Edwin, banjoists, give an excellent turn; and Hans and Lux are a pair of exceedingly funny knockabouts.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Texas Hattie, an intrepid young tight-rope artist, is here; Ted Young is a favourite with his amusing patter and songs; Ada Twibell, magnificently costumed, sings two ditties in taking style, and wins much applause; Joe Gold and Dorothy Sterling do a pleasing act, entitled *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*; George Goldburn, comedian; the Tiger Lily, coon artist; and Downey's pictures complete the entertainment.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Bulmer's capable company is presenting *Sentenced for Life* here. Mr. Ernest Vaughan is responsible for a praiseworthy portrayal of Paul Derrick; and Mr. Edward E. Louis is well suited to the part of Roy Stillwell. Mr. Morris Maud plays Martin Orris with force; and Mr. James F. Firth is a humorous McGentle. Messrs. Arthur Heand and Reg. Oldroyd are successful as Sharkey and Toby respectively. Miss Madge Douglas makes an excellent Adele Gray; and Miss May Neilson is highly successful as Kate Rennell.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole opened the old Theatre Royal under the above name to a large Bank Holiday audience. The company appearing included Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, marvellous cyclists; Ada Cerito, comedienne; Wyndham and Kitty, wire artists, etc.; Jimmy Shields, one-leg comedian; Sisters Stratton, duettists and dancers; Rosie Lemaire, descriptive vocalist; Dowton and Steeley, vocalists and speciality dancer; the Eugenes, musical act; the Fordyces, comedy act; and the Bioscope.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Geo. Musgrave's company, with the American musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen*, is paying a return visit here. As the Prince, Mr. J. B. Fox both sings and acts admirably; Mr. Martin Adeson, as Hans Wagner, proves himself an exceedingly clever comedian; Lieut. Tom Wagner is well represented by Mr. G. Villiers Arnold; Mr. Laurence Wesley is amusing as the Earl of Shrimpton; Cook's Courier is capitally enacted by Mr. Madison Rich; Miss Millicent Marsden acts brightly, sings effectively, and dresses handsomely as Mrs. Madison Crockes, and Edith Adms, Sidome, Nellie Wagner, and Jimmie are admirably portrayed by Miss Adele Roze, Miss Nell Emerald, Miss Isa Bowman, and Miss Meg Hamylton.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is paying a welcome return visit with the successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. A. E. Anson gives a vigorous and earnest rendition of the rôle of Jack Frobisher, and Miss May Taverner is artistic and effective as Lady Alethea. They are well supported by Mr. Alfred S. Barber as Hankey Bannister, Mr. Cecil Warde as the Marquis of Steventon, Mr. Leslie Rea as Lord Drayton, Mr. A. W. Tyrer as Harry Dallas, Miss Marguerite Cellier as Lady Westerby, Miss Lilian Rogers as Miss Mornington, and Miss Leonora Thomas as the Duchess of Skye.

Britannia Pier Pavilion. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Miss Billie Barlow is the particular star for the week, and her songs win many encores. Oakdene gives an amusing ventriloquial sketch; Agnes Molteno sings pleasingly, the Sisters Cora are successful as duettists and dancers, A. G. Spry gains many a laugh as a comedian, and W. L. Cockburn, baritone, sings effectively. Madame H. E. Angles's Ladies' Pompadour Band plays selections daily.

Wellington Pier Pavilion. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The holiday programme is a very acceptable one, and much appreciated by large audiences. The performance of Mysterious Lilith is most perplexing; Little Dande proves himself a capital comedian; Oswald Williams gives an exceptionally good turn as magician and shadowgraphist; Musical Silvo wins plenty of applause as a musical glass player; Hallam and Stanton contribute an enjoyable musical comedy sketch; Carson Hicks, singer and rag-time dancer; Adele de Frece, comedienne; Mabel Hind, in a Japanese scena; and R. A. Speedwell, in his unique sensation, are received with favour.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Pride of place this week must be given to the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of real Bedouin Arabs, who give a remarkable turn as tumblers, Moorish gun spinners, and human pyramid builders; to Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies, who submit an enjoyable programme of song and dance; and to Capt. Maxwell Gruber and his well-trained elephant, horse, and pony. Other artists appearing are the Three Cyclos, comedy bicyclists; Yelding, the English jockey; Cordite and Buffalo, lasso throwers and rope spinners; and Handy Andy and Rabbit, clowns. The great water pantomime, *The Walrus Hunt*, still continues to amuse.

Chappell's Promenade Concerts.—One of the leading attractions of the week is Capt. Devereux and his troupe of dog comedians, who give a capital turn. The Bowery Boys, in a laughable sketch, called *Mixed*, cause shouts of laughter; the Bros. Hannaway, cross talkers and dancers, continue their success; J. H. Crew, the jovial eccentric, has become quite a favourite; Cylo and Rochelle, comedian and soubrette, maintain their popularity; Ernest d'Almaine's songs are well received; Leslie Reed's quaintly sung ditties win loud applause; Bernard and Weston, the "Argumentative Gents," are amusing; Harry Barker proves himself a versatile artist; and other participants in a lengthy programme work their hardest to please.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. Tolfree.—A popular holiday attraction is provided in the drama, *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey presents a picturesque figure as the smith, John Strong, and his acting is marked by natural force. The strongly-contrasting character of Captain Leo is equally well portrayed by Mr. Joseph Carter; and the wrestling match between the smith and the captain is one of the features of the play. Miss Maggie Edwardes accomplishes good work as Kate Strong; and others worthy of commendation are Miss Cassie Le Grande as Ruth Parkins, Mr. Thos. E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins, Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins, and Miss Bertha Hanbury as Harry Strong; whilst Mr. George V. Campbell causes much amusement as Billy Twigg.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Palace reopened on Bank Holiday, after being closed for renovation. Florrie Gallimore has lost none of her attractive powers, and delighted audiences have listened to her charming songs each evening. A very smart triple bar act is performed by Vermette and Dionne, some of their feats being of a distinctly original order. Other excellent acrobatic turns are given by Sibb and Sibb, on the trapeze; and the Brothers Lavelle, tumblers; Godfrey furnishes a display of modern magic, introducing a very good speciality; and a capital musical entertainment is contributed by the Bodina Trio. Josie Delaine's song speciality is appreciated; and Walter Stanley's songs are amusing.

The Empire, Cleethorpes.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. Wm. Baker.—The stories related by Cliff Ryland have proved very diverting; Miss Clara Victor's song speciality, "Operatic Rehearsals," cause much pleasure, Miss Victor's vocal powers being greatly admired. A good musical turn is given by Henderson, a blind artist, who displays the possibilities of the English concertina as a solo instrument. Carl Howard gives a capital conjuring act; and Carl Vernon also shows considerable skill in this line. The Sisters Kilner give a clever acrobatic dance; and the remainder of the programme is contributed by Frank Coyle, a comedian who proves very popular; Violet Gerald, comedienne and dancer; and Lily Foy, comedienne.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—On Bank Holiday, Messrs. H. and F. Poole's Myriorama opened here, under the able guidance of Mr. Fred Poole. Some smart variety business is introduced, including the performances of Houston, Chinese Magician; the Snow Family; Learto; Harry Dowsett; and George French Troupe, acrobatic cyclists.

HALIFAX.—Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—An amusing comedian, with some very funny gags, is T. B. Fayme, who occupies a principal place here. Songs with more than ordinary interest help successfully to make Gracie Moore a popular artist; Joe Almasio; Narow Brothers, and the clever Zampas comprise a good programme.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A capital holiday programme is headed here this week by the Lyons Trio in an exceptionally mirth-provoking fantasy, *The Waiter, Parson, and the Lady*, which keeps one and all in exuberant spirits; Les Rubens are great singers, and win hearty plaudits from admirers; some very graceful and symmetrical posing is exhibited by a female executant of the Atlas and Vulcana Trio, while the weight-lifting experiments of the stronger sex are well done; a couple of capable artists are Hughes and Elliott, whose coon delineations and dancing are both bright and clever; Drawee, assisted by a fun-maker and a negro, together with a wonderfully-trained donkey, juggles, and creates uproarious laughter; Florence and Lilian are delightful instrumentalists; while Jno. Ross is deserving of praise as a vocalist of ability. A daring gymnastic performance by the Three Renards is also included in a very enjoyable entertainment.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—During the summer vacation this playhouse has been very artistically decorated, with a brilliant extra installation of fairy electric fittings; while the prolapsus seating has been effectively remodelled, which makes the Grand one of the prettiest of theatres. Auguste Van Biene and company opened here on Monday with *The Broken Melody*. Mr. Van Biene was seen at his best as Paul Borinski, and his inspiring 'cello playing took the audience by storm; Miss Lena Burnleigh is still leading lady, and played with her accustomed charm as Mabel; Miss Rosemary Lees portrayed with fidelity the rôle of the Duchess. Relief was found from the heavier passages of the plot by Mr. T. P. Haynes, who presented a very humorous study of the theatrical agent; while the General Ivanoff of Mr. H. Ludlow was impressively conceived. Mr. Chas. Morgan as Dixon, Mr. W. Behr as Beauford, and Mr. Archie Selwyn as Richard Spinnaker, appeared successfully, together with Miss Margherita Gordon, who interpreted the character of Mrs. Dixon in a commendable manner.

HANLEY.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Young Mr. Elphinstone, who entered upon his career as manager on Monday, has the good wishes of all, and, coming of a theatrical stock, should be in every respect an ideal manager. *The Great Awakening* was presented by Miss Maud Hildyard and company, and the drama is thoroughly enjoyed by good houses. As Lola Miss Hildyard scores a triumphant success, her portrayal of the adventuress being in every respect excellent. Mr. Charles Vivian as James Selby acts with much skill, and is most successful; Sir Henry Merton finds a highly capable exponent in Mr. Bernard Copping; Guy Rogan is admirably enacted by Mr. C. E. Linney; Mr. Herbert Evelyn does well as Captain Lambert; Billy Brass is in the capable hands of Mr. Willie Scott; Mr. Chas. Trevor is good as Richard Wilson; Miss Doris Digby acts capitally as Molly Merton; and Miss Isa Bellington is good as Selina Worts. Mr. Tracey Barrow, Mr. Godfrey Sheldon, Mr. F. Cole, Mr. Walter Newell, and Mr. Edwin Gordon all do well.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—A capital holiday programme is presented. At the head of the bill is Kelly and Gilette, whose acrobatic business is excellent; G. W. Hunter is distinctly successful in his songs and stories; Miss Carlotta Levey scores in her well-rendered items; Mr. Edward E. Ford, in his facial entertainment, is first-class; Miss Effie White dances admirably, her fire and kaleidoscopic items being very clever; the Mezzettis, in the funny gymnastic turn *The New Recruit*, are excellent; Miss Gwennie Hasto sings and dances delightfully; and the Urbanora presents several fine animated pictures.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—The holiday attraction is Mr. Geo. Dance's *Little Michus* company. Mr. W. Everard is a manly Gaston Riguad, and sings well; Mr. Leon Simkin is an amusing Pierre Michu, and is well supported by Miss Florence Hylton as Madame Michu; Mr. Harcourt makes the most of what little he has to do as Aristide Vert; Mr. Gilbert Child's as Bagnolet is excellent throughout; Mr. Foster Courtenay is very amusing as General des Ifs, his lines being greeted with roars of laughter; the little Michus are played by Misses Alice Coverick and Ethel Bryant, who are both to be commended for their excellent performance; Mlle. Marjorie as Mlle. St. Cyr is a clever dancer. The orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. Otto Manns.

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress. — Proprietors Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg.—The holiday bill is headed by the Holloways, acrobatic wire artists, whose performance is applauded to the echo. The Sisters Morgan, on this, their first visit, make a favourable impression; Bessie Willow is also upon her first trial before an Empress audience, and the verdict is favourable; Tom Lloyd, the popular exponent of eccentric comedy, is just as well taken with as ever; the fun introduced into *A Tramp's Picnic* by the Breton Troupe is absolutely irresistible, and is provoking roars of laughter; and others on the bill whose efforts are entirely successful, are Fred Horsfall, the double-voiced mimic; the Falcons, clever and humorous in hand-balancing; and the Bioscope, in a change of pictures.

HASTINGS.—Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—A return visit from Mr. A. B. Tapping and company in *Masks and Faces* has been welcomed here this week. Triplet is depicted by Mr. Tapping in a very convincing manner; Miss Alice Farleigh gives a charming portrayal of Peg Woffington; Mabel Vane is played by Miss Clarissa Selwynne with pleasing ingenuousness; the two town rakes have excellent exponents in Mr. Baliol Holloway as Sir Charles Pomander and Mr. Hubert Harben as Ernest Vane. The gavotte in the second act is an attractive feature; and the stage management is excellent. Good assistance is given by Miss Bella Moore, Kitty; Mrs. Lloyd Townrow, Mrs. Triplet; Miss Winnie Tapping, Roxalana; Messrs. G. C. Murray, Collie Cibber; Philip Gordon, Quin; Pat Alexander, Snarl; Eugene Wellesley, Soaper; and J. Bouchier, James Burdock.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is appearing here this week in the comic opera entitled *Veronique*. Miss Rita Leonhardt in the title-rôle is quite an ideal representative, and shines equally as actress, singer, and dancer; Agatha (Madame Coquenard) is played with exquisite grace and finish by Miss Agnes Tandy; Miss Neste Laurel is delightfully natural as Denise; Miss Edith Devonshire plays the character of Ermerance in a graceful and effective manner. The part of Florestan de Vallencourt, by Mr. Douglas Phillips, deserves high commendation; Mr. T. Seymour is highly amusing as the bailiff, Mons. Loustot; Mr. Scott Callen as the groom Seraphim does the part ample justice; a mirth-provoking representative of Mons. Coquenard is seen in Mr. Ellis Holland.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—A special holiday programme has completely filled the theatre this week. A pleasing vocalist, Miss Louise Zetland, opens the performance; the king of mimics, Eno, gives some clever sketches of musical artists; the Knick-Knacks are smart in their dancing; the blind musician, Mons. Slippere, goes through some remarkable performances on the piano, and is an excellent baritone vocalist; Queenie Lawrence, serio, gives two songs successfully; Mr. Lloyd Morgan is a remarkably clever topical vocalist; an extra turn is given by Miss Girty Grace, whose singing has met with great approval; Fred Karno's company of pantomimists appear in the amusing extravaganza entitled *The Dandy Thieves*; the films on the bioscope are unusually attractive.

Beach Concert Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—There is a change this week in the personnel of Wallis Arthur's company. The newcomers are Mr. Bert Meredith, comedian and banjoist, and Mr. Harry King, comedian. Miss Ada Gaskill (contralto) and Miss Winnie Harbor (comedienne) remain to charm and amuse, and are cleverly accompanied by Mr. Geo. F. Swaine.

Hastings Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The English Light Opera Company is here this week. The operatic selections are *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*. In the first-named opera Mr. F. J. Hargrave takes the titular character, his renderings being much appreciated. Equally successful is Mr. Arthur Winckworth as Mephistopheles. They are associated with Mr. Charles Victor, a fine tenor, as Wagner; Siebel is embodied by Miss Nancy Rossiter; and Martha by Miss Newman. The part of Marguerita is impersonated alternately by Miss Marie Tittens and Miss Elizabeth Burgess. On Tuesday Mr. George Robey, the popular comedian, appeared at the Pier Pavilion. His character songs are extremely laughable, while his patter is quite irresistible. The programme also consisted of a bright and sparkling comedietta entitled *The Fatal Bag*, in which the popular local favourites, Mr. J. D. Hunter, Miss Eva Bailey, and Miss Blanche Bailey, took part. Mr. Bert Forss gave a short selection of character sketches, and the pleasing vocalist Miss Winifred Dixon also sang.

HAWICK.—Thistle Theatre, Common Haugh.—Proprietor, Leland Jones.—Mr. Leland Jones is paying a visit to this town with his portable theatre, and large audiences are witnessing the performances nightly. On Monday evening *East Lynne* was staged, when all the members of the company acquitted themselves in a creditable manner.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—This theatre reopened for the season on Monday afternoon with a performance of *The Way of the World*. Miss Sidney Crowe in the part of Adela de la Roche does some fine acting, and wins the applause of the house; Mr. Herbert Skardon plays Cecil Montague in straightforward, manly fashion. Good support is also given by Mr. Victor Gordon as Capt. Slade, Mr. Clarence Temple as Matthew Malyon, Miss Violet Ingram as Marion Fanshaw, Miss Marie Fontaine as Kate Montague, and Miss Violette Vivienne as Polly Bell. Mr. Augustus Hammond as Bluff and Mr. Frank Stanley as Ned urovide humorous interludes.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The star turn here this week is Staley's novelty transformation company, in their clever quick-change act. The instantaneous change from cooper's shop to a modern drawing-room and back again, in conjunction with a very pleasant musical and dancing turn, brings down the house. The company also includes Harry Bent in a series of well-studied imitations of leading variety stars; Miss Carlotta Lunn, comedienne; Great Scott, in his particularly skilful juggling performance whilst balancing on a high ladder; Regan and Ryan, comedians and dancers; Miss Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Mark Leslie, coon impersonator; and Nadji, a clever and graceful contortionist. The Hippodrome pictures on the biograph are admired.

HULL. — Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Our Flat*, presented by Mr. Chas. Steuart's company, is just the sort of piece to please a popular Bank Holiday audience. The Nathaniel Glover of Mr. W. E. Shine was worthy this comedian's best efforts; Miss Pollie Emery was a capital Arabella; Mr. C. Steuart was able to give a natural reading of the rôle of Reginald Sylvester. That capable artist Miss Daisy Atherton was excellently placed as the wife of the dramatist.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Mr. John Hart, Managing-Director; Local Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The autumn season at this popular playhouse was inaugurated on Monday by an effective representation of *Sunday* by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. Miss Emelie Polini displays sufficient originality in her work to render the representation different from that of her immediate and talented predecessor; none the less, it is pleasing and successful. Towser, David, Lively, and Jacky, the quaint quartette, find every characteristic forcibly painted by Messrs. Wm. Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walter, and Mr. Arthur Vezin; while there is much distinctive merit in Miss Muriel Pope's work as the Nun. Miss M'Aimée Murray is an effective Mrs. Naresby; Mr. Leonard Pagden is a very desirable Col. Brinthorpe.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, General-Manager.—A strong and striking drama is *No Man's Land*, just the sort of play to catch on with a Bank Holiday crowd. A real triumph in stage realism is reached in the typhoon scene, the rain descending with full force; and again, the rescue from real water at the end arouses the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. As the heroine, Miss Ida Millais has a rôle that she is able to fill with much artistic skill. Heroic to a degree was Mr. Henry Herne, who as Harry Oaklands had a part for which he was well suited. Mrs. Mallalieu as Mrs. Poodle and Miss M. Kildare as Bessie hit off their rôles with success.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Resident-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—F. V. St. Clair, who tops the bill here, sings some popular successes; James Willard appears in an amusing farcical sketch entitled *The Little Wonder*. A welcome reappearance is that of the Zaros, in an acrobatic and tumbling act; N. C. Bostock and Arthur Boyne are two amusing comedians; Florence Deighton, a refined double-voiced vocalist, and Nellie Ellienne, descriptive vocalist, complete an excellent bill.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Blind Foundling* is the attraction here, played by Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company. As Gerald Dalton Mr. Chas. H. Phelps achieves success, and Miss Mabel Hall in the title-rôle deserves high commendation. Miss Amy Dalby plays feelingly as Viola Waterford, and Mr. Frank Harvey is a capital representative of the Curate of Elsingham. Mr. Bernard Webb appears to advantage as Jasper Waterford. Comic relief is cleverly provided by Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dick Dobbins, and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie Dobbins, Mr. Alfred G. Fry as Mark Redman, and Miss Belle Tilbury as Isabel are effective.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—This theatre, after being closed for some weeks, was reopened under new management on Bank Holiday with *A Wrecker of Men*, the work of Mr. Charles Mills, and produced by a company under the author's direction. The melodrama was well received, the title-rôle being powerfully played by Miss Amy Ellam, whose acting throughout showed her to be an accomplished actress. Miss Cissie Podmore, as the long-suffering heroine, was pathetic and earnest; Miss Beatrice Reynolds played an amusing part, that of Vavasole Slopper; while Miss Gwendoline Talbot deserves a word of praise for her rendering of the character of Marion Isaacs. The chief of the male parts, Jem Murley, received due justice at the hands of Mr. J. O. Stewart, and Mr. Miller Noble was effective as an Egyptian villain. Other characters were well sustained by Messrs. Holland Day, Lancelot Usher, William Anderson, and John Soden. The mounting of the piece was satisfactory.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A capital programme was provided here for the Bank Holiday week, the star item being a sketch called *The Musical Slavey*, in which Frank and Jen Latona gave a most humorous performance. Other turns included the Franco Midgets, a pair of eccentric youthful jugglers; "Astarte," a sensational aerial performance of an hypnotic character; Andie Burns, a "broken-down millionaire"; the Kashma Brothers, a couple of exceptionally clever acrobats; Russell Carr, an amusing ventriloquist; and Millie Howell, a pleasing comedienne. Special mention should be made of the cycling performances of Daunton Shaw troupe, who certainly gave a wonderful and unique display of difficult feats of riding, which created great applause. Pictures are also included in the bill.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. L. H. Mounier's company, Lyrique Française, with artists from the leading Parisian theatres, is appearing here for a short season in French opera-bouffe. On Bank Holiday Planquette's evergreen *Les Cloches de Corneville* was given, the leading part of Serpolette being undertaken by Mlle. Prevost, of the Gaieté Theatre, whose racy acting and fine voice proved the success of the evening. Mlle. Deschamps sang sweetly as Germanie; M. Robert caused roars of laughter as Le Bailli; M. Moizard was an amusing Grenicheux, and rendered his melodious numbers in a voice of excellent timbre; M. Poirier acquitted himself admirably as Le Marquis; and it would be difficult to overrate the acting of M. Laclaverie as Gaspard. *La Mascotte* is also billed for this week.

Springfield Grounds.—Mr. Victor Stevens and his Premier Pierrots are giving an excellent show here. Miss Locker's songs are much appreciated; Mr. George Neilson gains numerous encores; Mr. Arthur Tomlin tells funny stories; Mr. Will Pettitt is a first-rate banjoist; Miss Alice Brooks gains much favour by her dainty dancing; and Mr. Victor Stevens is as amusing as ever.

Oddfellows' Hall.—Messrs. Gale and Polden opened here on Monday night with their series of animated pictures illustrating "Life in the King's Service." The entertainment is interspersed with a good variety entertainment.

Triangle Park.—The White Coons, old Jersey favourites, are paying a visit here. Miss Jessie Jolly wins flattering encores; Mr. Allan Thomas sings effectively; Miss Carie Tabbs supplies some attractive numbers; Mr. Johnny Osborn sings in pleasing style; and Mr. A. E. Nickolds is an efficient mandolinist.

KENDAL. — St. George's Hall.—Mr. Herbert Barr's company opened the local season here on Monday with that stirring drama *Life*. Mr. Barr as Jack Lockhart and Miss Dorothy Oswald as Beartice Ferrars earn rounds of applause; and altogether the company is an excellent one. The merry songs of Miss Maudie Vincent, and her vivacity in rendering them, lend pleasing variety.

KETTERING.—Avenue Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company are here with *Napoleon the Great*. The character of Napoleon is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Hugh Montgomery, and Mr. Phil Harper appears to advantage as Colonel Mouron. The scheming Colonel Lavarennes is forcibly enacted by Mr. Hy. Earlsmere, and Mr. F. M. Thorne is responsible for some genuine comedy as Pierre. Miss Maud Russell plays Mlle. Marbœuf in talented manner, and Miss Marie Harcourt is pleasing as Marcelle Choupin.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—The theatre has opened this week for the season with a well-staged presentation of *The Eternal City* by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Good audiences have witnessed the play, which is forcibly enacted by an admirable company. As Baron Bonelli, Mr. D. Lewin Mannering repeats his former successes in that part, and in the capable company that supports him are Miss Sara de Groot as Donna Roma, Mr. Henry Deas as David Rossi, and Mr. J. Fortesque as Pope Pius.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Wilkinson; Lessee & Manager, Mr. S. Rogers.—The Athenæum opened on Monday under new management with Mr. Charles Carte's company in *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Carte, who impersonates Jerry, the tramp, is chiefly responsible for the success attained; he is ably assisted by Miss Doris Brookes, who gives a clever characterisation of Nana Leigh. Miss Alice Ballard is good as Mrs. Leigh, and Rosie Rapid has in Miss Rosie Conroy a clever interpreter. Mr. Howard Thorne as Colonel Richard Leigh plays well. Mr. Frank Lyndon portrays Henry Travers successfully, and Jack Elsworth is nicely embodied by Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin. The scenery and staging are admirable.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—Another capital bill of fare is being put before the patrons of this establishment. Miss Flo Velma, comedienne, is exceedingly smart, and has a good reception; The Wheelers, acrobatic comedy cyclists, win great favour, and Miss Gracie Graham, comedienne, sings nicely; Penistone, lady illusionist, baffles her audience, and the Walleys, comedy jugglers, bring down the house. The Sisters Lytton, duettists; Newham and Latimer, burlesque artistes; and Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the entertainment.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman. — After a prolonged summer recess, during which an attractive scheme of decoration has been effected, this premier theatre opened on Monday to a good holiday audience, with the evergreen farce, *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Stanley Cooke is still associated with the piece as the ubiquitous lady from Brazil, and his clever work arouses the same intense merriment as of yore. Mr. Walter Beaumont achieves good success as Spettigue; Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham are cleverly played by Mr. H. Lynn and Mr. R. B. Mason respectively; whilst Miss Lena McNaughton, Miss Marion Ripley, and Miss Kitty Carew are very charming in the leading female parts. The curtain raiser, *Fourchette and Co.*, is also by Mr. Brandon Thomas.

Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. F. Wyberd Clive brings a strong company to the Royal with the drama, *The Conscript*. Mr. Harry Cullenford and Miss Lilian Ross have the leading parts, and both display conspicuous ability in the presentation of them, whilst other prominent rôles are capably handled by Mr. Walter Steele, Mr. Chas. E. Johnston, Mr. F. Bellwood, Miss Connie Meadows, and Miss Violet Carlyle.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The powerful drama, *A City of Sin*, is a strong holiday attraction at this suburban theatre, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company giving an excellent presentment. Mr. C. H. Longden is in the cast as Zip Barzon, and his clever work in this arduous rôle is vociferously applauded. Mr. Conrad Heywood merits high praise for his personation of the hunted man, Paul Torraine. Mr. H. W. Hatchman, in the role of detective, displays ability, and a convincing portrayal of Bertrand goes to the credit of Mr. W. H. Burton. Miss Edith Wallis presents the part of Alice Bertrand with charm and grace; the wronged woman, Ilma, is effectively played by Miss Jenny Weston, whilst Mr. Wilfred Grahame and Mr. Val W. Gully are also responsible for good work.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—*Casey's Court*—a vastly amusing episode, with Bob King leading some 30 midget mimes in uproarious comedy—is the star attraction in a strong holiday programme. T. E. Dunville, the eccentric, is submitting new items to the manifest amusement of his audience. Jas. H. Jee performs remarkable feats on the slack wire; there are three charming lady artistes in song and dance—Esta Stella, Daisy Dormer, and Myra Stansfield—and the efforts of each are warmly applauded. Grais' Baboons go through an intelligent performance, which rouses great interest. Lord, Murray, and Lord are seen in a clever and novel gymnastic turn; a musical speciality by the Althoffs is pleasing and humorous, and Will Poluski, jun., comedian, also subscribes his quota to a good bill.

New Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—At great expense the old Tivoli has been transformed into a luxurious hall of amusement, up to date in every particular. Various structural improvements have been effected, and the decorator and upholsterer have combined with lavish hand to effect the maximum of comfort and luxury for the 3,000 people for whom there is now seating accommodation. The opening this week under its new name—the New Hippodrome—has been a most auspicious one, great crowds of eager pleasure-seekers having besieged the hall twice a night, and a typical Barrasfordian programme has been provided for their delectation. A prominent item is Joe Peterman's musical extravaganza, *King Ikey*, in which a clever company prove very amusing. De Biere, the magician, is at the bottom of the bill with a mystifying entertainment. Marton Conway and Fred Carey are a couple of exceedingly smart comedians, and each is having a good week. The comedy turn submitted by Hayman and Franklin is well received, and other popular entertainers include Zarmo, a clever comedy juggler, the Four Athos, novelty acrobats, Harry Brown, comedian, and Maud Prenton, comedienne.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A distinct novelty has been secured for the holiday week here, the exhibition of the wonderful phenomenon, Dou-Ban, the mechanical brain, arousing intense interest. The Three Richards score with a smart comedy speciality. The Howards are doing their well-known musical speciality with success. A mystifying act by The Davenports is much enjoyed; and other pleasing contributors include T. C. Callaghan, comedian; Lily Morris, comedienne; Cullen, Cluley, and Carthy, in comedy specialty; H. R. Friscari, hat manipulator; Henry A. Moore, actor-vocalist and expert mimic.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—A descriptive report of the reopening of this theatre will be found in another column.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—After being closed for one week, this popular house re-opened for the season on Monday evening, the attraction provided being Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in the drama *An Abandoned Woman*, which is played, staged, and dressed in a most commendable style. Miss Georgette Thierry displays high histrionic power as Ninon Malvoism; Mr. Bernard J. Lieli does exceedingly well as Phillipe Malvoism; Mr. Wolston Foster makes an excellent impression as Captain Herbert Seaton; Mrs. Harry Foxwell is very good as Eleanor Dean; Mr. Harry Foxwell gives a most amusing portrayal of Paddy Boyle; and both Mr. Darcy Kelway as Sammy Sharp and Miss Lily Beverley as Sally Sloper are capital aids in mirth-provoking characters.

Palace Theatre, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The great att

Miss Kate Hallam was tender and sympathetic as Sylvia Beech; Mr. J. Hooker made the most of the unscrupulous Walter Beech; Mr. Edward Van Biene was a well-finished type of French adventurer; the Sir Dobson Wilde of Mr. Harwood Roberts left nothing to complain about; and others worthy of notice were Mr. Imm Salph as Old Joe, Miss Elsie May as Master Beech, and Miss Nellie Birchenough in the part of Betty Black.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The Six Brothers Luck head the bill here, and evoke roars of laughter and loud applause in the sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*; Hayes and Suits, in their dancing and singing, are clever and artistic; the Musical Keiths are excellent; Harry Rogerson is a comedian of merit; Dale and O'Malley are amusing patterists; and other artists who add much to the evening's enjoyment are Pravio, Harry Taft, Mulvey and Miriam, and Craig Campbell.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Miss Lillian Beszant's company has held the stage here this week with *An Actor's Romance*, a play which has always found acceptance each time it visits the Star. It was well put on and well acted. As Dotty Dillingham Miss Beszant showed considerable histrionic ability; Mr. E. Eardley-Howard made a fine Harold Davenport; in the rôle of Robert Livingstone Mr. Cecil Fowler was seen to advantage; Mr. Harry Agar-Lyons ably undertook the character of Jack Woodford; Mr. Percy Warlow proved a humorous Ikey Isaacs; Miss Beatrice Hone played carefully as Louise Davenport; and other acceptable artists were Miss Florence Nelson (Florence Hastings), Miss Marion Ryder (Phyllis Davenport), and Mr. Harry Wren (Charley Cummins).

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company has been here this week with *The Power of Gold*, which has proved a good draw. Mr. Charles Whitlock displayed considerable ability as Hadji Zambrá; Mr. Richard Oliver was an excellent Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton afforded the fullest satisfaction as Mark Harley; a deal of humour came from Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire; Mr. Frank Ayrton with his Sammy Smudge and Miss Madge Seymour in the character of Norah Donnelly kept things lively; Miss Lilla Wilde made a stately Lady Brandon; and Little Prudence gave satisfaction as Paddy Blake, his singing being appreciated.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—This place opened on Monday with the system of two houses per night. Top of the bill was Bransby Williams, in his wonderful character studies; Percy Honori and company gave a pleasing entertainment entitled *Concordia*, in the course of which that artist went through several clever quick changes, while his efforts on the accordion were much appreciated; J. W. Rickaby proved as humorous as ever; some charming music was contributed by Signor and Madame Borelli; a clever acrobatic turn, *Fun on a Pole*, came from Conn and Conrad; and others in the list were Les Bastiens, acrobats on horseback; Hector Grant, Scotch comedian; the Caselli Sisters, duettists and dancers; and the Classicum quartet, in a Venetian love scena.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Lempriere Pringle, J. C. Piddock, and company are here this week with their musical episode, *The Romany King*, which has been richly enjoyed; as Hebrew comedians the Lowenwirth Bros. caused great laughter; some remarkable conjuring work was provided by Prince Kuroko, his hoop trick especially being witnessed with astonishment; Katie Marsh had a pretty entertainment. "Grave and Gay"; the Shelleys were a particularly good comedy duo; endless laughter followed the antics of Nelson and Thomas in *On the Ra-Ta*; Sammy Shields, the Scotch swell comedian, had a deal of humorous talk; Joe Reichen's performing dogs were a good turn; the Lurins presented a neat extravaganza, *Cinderella*; and the programme also contained the names of Mountford and Walsh, society entertainers; and Raie Walters, the fisher girl.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W Smith.—Top of the bill here this week is Fred Curran, a favourite comedian in Liverpool, who is heard to advantage in his latest smart songs; Alice Baptiste sings and dances in good style; Renson and Waite (Johnnie and Rose) have a high-class vaudeville entertainment; some excellent coon specialities are provided by Gracie Bard; Tom E. Cliffe shines as a comedian and dancer; and George Fletcher, character actor, sings several taking songs.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —The sketch *A Woman's Redemption*, from the pen of Cyril Austen-Leigh, has been given here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher provided most of the fun with his Claudius; a capital Farmer Griffiths came from Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Miss Florence Palmer was delightful as Mary Griffiths; Miss Sybil Hammersley helped considerably with the comedy in the part of Sally; and other characters well presented were Mr. Lowe (Mr. E. D. Allen), Bernard Sutcliffe (Mr. Sidney Grant), Jem Lee (Mr. Harry Thresham), Rev. John Ganthony (Mr. Robert Wilton), Harris (Mr. Leo Montgomery), and Ruth (Miss Beryl Ravenswood).

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Principal here this week are the Alberto troupe, a company of remarkable head, hand, and wire equilibrists; J. H. Atkinson is good as a comedian and dancer; Mollie Doon has several catchy songs; Luigo's Sextette Serenaders present a very attractive scena, *Naples by Night*; the popular Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists, prove as acceptable as ever; and some smart juggling comes from Halma.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—This hall has come under new management this week. Top of the bill are Verno and Voyce, the singing comedians, with their latest successes, including "The cause of peace" and "The Newsboy"; Nellie Gannon, a favourite vocalist and dancer, had a cordial reception; the work of Walker and Lake as comedians and patterers was loudly applauded; Will Vay's Juveniles, with their comedy scena, *Life in the Slums*, proved an excellent turn; Harry Wright was a smart extemporaneous comedian; as a comedienne Peggy Fame made herself popular; and the illustrated ballads by the Lovelaces were much appreciated.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—A particularly strong bill is given here this week. At the top is Cinquevalli, with his wonderful juggling. Another big line is that of Willie Edouin, who has made his first appearance on the provincial music-hall stage. His several character studies were much appreciated. The Four Lecussons, with Chris Lecusson, remain another week to delight people with their expert horsemanship; Jacques Inaudi, the lightning calculator, astonishes his auditors; Howard and St. Clair present a smart sketch of wit and humour; Fred Elton causes much merriment with his scena, *On Board an Ocean Liner*; and others in the bill are Kitty Wager, comedienne; and Poplar, comedian.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—This music-hall, which has been closed for some time, was opened on Monday by Mr. Fred Willmot, who has transferred his interests from the Haymarket. The bill for the launching of the new venture was an acceptable one. Foremost was Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," who had some capital songs and patter; the Sisters Marion showed much talent as juvenile duettists and vocalists; Fields and Lewis created great laughter with their burlesque work; Joe Conway was a good turn as a comedian; Percy M. Stevenson and company had a stirring sketch, *Face to Face*; the Bioscope showed some pretty pictures; and Lilly Vane, burlesque actress and dancer, also appeared.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Resident Manageress, Miss Alice Rochefort.—This house re-opened for the autumn and winter season on Monday, when Mr. G. A. Harvey's company gave *The Sorrows of Satan* in good style, Mr. Harvey ably undertaking the part of Prince Lucio. Mr. W. G. Reynolds was good as Lord Eltor, and Miss E. Murray as Mavis Clare was also excellent.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—A hearty reception was accorded *The Blue Moon* on its first appearance here. The scenery and dressing are especially praiseworthy, and a very capable chorus render efficiently the various charming melodies. The company responsible for the performance is Mr. Mouillot's, under the management of Mr. Gordon Starkey and Mr. F. Leslie Moreton. In the title-rôle Mlle. Marguerite Naudin gives a finished performance, and acts and sings throughout in a delightful manner. Miss Mary Glenbrane (Lady Brabasham) and Miss Dorma Morgan (Evelyn Ormsby) are both well placed, and the principal comedy parts are safely entrusted to Mr. Chas. Stephenson as Private Charlie Taylor, and Miss May Aubrey as Millicent Leroy, whose efforts are warmly applauded. Mr. Ainslie Burton is responsible for an amusing assumption as Moolraj, a professed magician; and Mr. Arthur Radcliff as Capt. Jack Ormsby renders several vocal numbers in a pleasing style; and another fine piece of acting is that of Mr. Victor Wallace as Major Callabone. Mr. Pennington Fuch is very commendable as the Prince of Kharikar. It should be mentioned that since last season the management of this popular playhouse have carried out several alterations and improvements for the comfort and convenience of their numerous *clientèle*, the most notable perhaps being the erection of several high-speed electric exhaust fans, which are much appreciated by visitors and others.

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capital holiday programme is provided here this week, the "turns" comprising Miss Marie San Toi and her London company, in a musical scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden*; Miss Florrie Humel, equestrienne; Prince, juggler; Bros. Huxter, American acrobats; Sterling and Love, musical act; Lilian, trick cyclist; James Humel, English jockey; Miss Iona, equestrienne; and the clowns, Little Bishop, Shadow, and Algie.

OLYMPIAN GARDENS AND SPARROW'S NEST PARK.—On Bank Holiday Mr. Paul Mill gave another illuminated fête at the Sparrow's Nest, thousands of visitors and residents participating in the general attractions. The whole concluded with a display of fireworks.

SOUTH PIER.—Under the auspices of the Lowestoft Town Regatta and Amusements Committee, a confetti carnival was held on Bank Holiday. The pier was beautifully illuminated by thousands of coloured electric lights.

MACCLESFIELD. — ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This popular playhouse re-opened on Monday evening, looking very spick-and-span after the redecoration and renovation it has been subjected to during the close season. The attraction was the drama *A Rogue's Daughter*, ably presented by a first-class company under the control of Messrs. Chas. Berisford and W. H. Moore. Mr. Roy Gordon is well cast as Sir George Mynard; Mr. Frank V. Fenn acts with great energy the part of Frank Tyler; Mr. Richard Ferris gives a good portrayal of Colonel Ferris; Mr. Eric Hargreaves is very funny as Christopher Crummles; and Mr. A. Hall-Menzies is very diverting as Ercules. Mr. Robert W. Lynn as Isaacs is good; Miss Marie Menzies as Lady Mynard, Miss Becky Elliston as Priscilla Jenkins, and Miss Madge Devereux as Letty Grey are equally successful. Miss Florence Gomer as Dicky is appreciated.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following are appearing here for the re-opening week: Miss Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams, in their popular and clever scena *Fun in a Forest*; the Albano troupe are clever instrumentalists; Miss Marie Blyth charms all with her fine contralto voice; the Ten Dixie Girls are on a popular return visit; the Lulaine Darrell trio of gymnasts combine clean comedy with clever work on the trapeze and rings; Li-chang-hi is a smart Chinese illusionist; and Frank Terry, comedian, and the bioscope, complete the bill.

MANCHESTER. — PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The reopening of this theatre was signalised on Monday by the staging of *Paolo and Francesca*, in which the Manchester public had an opportunity of seeing Mr. H. B. Irving in a rôle by which he might be judged as an actor of tragic potentialities. Mr. Irving's interpretation added distinctly to the dramatic force of the play, his impersonation of Giovanni being always full of intense feeling and personality. His efforts were assisted in excellent fashion by Miss Dorothea Baird, who gave a very ingenious and touching rendering of Francesca; and by Mr. Harcourt Williams, whose Paolo was a restrained, studious, and sympathetic piece of work. One of the best characters in the play is that of Lucrezia, enacted with womanly insight by Miss Maud Milton, who succeeded admirably in trying passages, and brought home forcibly to the audience one of the profoundest sentiments of the play. Among minor impersonations, Miss Ada Mellon as Angela, and Miss Elaine Inescort as Nita, acted with tact and skill; and the whole performance was a distinct and memorable success.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company are here this week in *The Executioner's Daughter*, a neat and smooth sensational drama, which was greatly appreciated by Monday's audience. Miss Nelly Hewitt plays the title-rôle with distinct power, and is ably supported by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as the executioner, Monsieur Roche; Mr. Juan De Alberti, who has big opportunities as Marius, the thief and gambler; Mr. Geoffrey Chote, a clever exponent of Vivian Ormonde; Miss Evelyn Robson, as the unspeakable Felice; Mr. W. Ruddle Brown, as Paul Lovel; Mr. W. S. Stevenson, as Kretch, a very clever impersonation; and Miss Marie Ada Browning, as the cripple, Christina. A strong vein of humour is introduced by Mr. Willie Hicks as Tom Holmes, and Miss Billy Moody as Sally King. The guillotine act is especially strong.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — An excellent programme here this week is headed by a farcical comedietta entitled *The Barmaids*, presented by Hulo Hodgson, Harry Lowther, and company. Next in order of prominence is Sibson's Vaudeville Circus, a capital show, while the Bonnettis, in a comedy speciality act, do exceedingly well. Other enjoyable turns are Wallace Whitney, character comedian; Bernard Katz, the Hebrew basso; Beattie Foster, clever low comedienne; Harley and Hardon, eccentric dancers. Billie Burns, the Pit Boy; and Calile and Walker, accomplished comedy artists.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus. Flanagan.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company are here this week in the well-known sensational drama *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Lionel D'Aragon gives a powerful interpretation of the Chevalier Lucio Delgado, the "wolf"; and a very effective rendering of Marie de Brisson is submitted by Miss Eugene Magnus. Among the remainder of a powerful cast, Miss M. Leslie Cudd is distinctly clever as Barbette, and Mr. C. Alan Hineson is a lively Peter Pottleberry. The staging of the play is entirely satisfactory.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —An entertaining play here this week is *A Woman's Revenge*, played admirably by a company which includes Mr. Henry L. Osmond in the part of Frank Drummond, and Miss Winifred Chalmers in the corresponding heroic rôle of Mary Lonsdale. Besides these, clever performances are given by Mr. Harry Cooke, as Dick Chilton; Miss Mabel Tremere, as Lottie Bromley—Dick's wife; Mr. Dunlop Stewart, as Grimwade, the solicitor; Mr. Alexander Hairland, as the villainous Overstone; and little Ivy Rochfort, as Mary Drummond's child; and the whole play, well staged and well acted from beginning to end, forms an enjoyable entertainment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—An old favourite, *The Streets of London*, is presented here this week by Mr. Eade Montefiore's company. An excellent interpretation is given, Mr. William Rokeby being particularly successful as Badger, and Miss M. Kynnersley, contributing a smart performance as Alida Bloodgood. Heroic parts are well portrayed by Mr. John Richter and Miss Edyth Goodall, and others who distinguish themselves are Mr. Riddell Robinson as Gideon Bloodgood, and Miss Marian Armitage as Dan Puffy.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Fred. Karno's speechless comedians in *Jail Birds*, are the attraction here this week, and, as usual, cause no end of laughter. Another good turn is that of Kelly and Ashby, the American acrobatic grotesques, in their well-known act; De Marce's animals are wonderfully well trained; the Sivronis are very smart comedy artists; Maud Vera is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Charles Williams, the Scotch Nigger, is a first-rate big boot dancer; Arthur Croxton, comedian, raconteur, and mimic, is well received; the Marconis present a marvellous electric act; Joe Mac is a clever burlesque dancer; and Harry Haytor, comedian, amuses with song and dance. The Palace pictures are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The big turn here this week is provided by John Lawson and company in *Humanity*, the well-known and popular sensational episode. George C. Doughty and company add a smart sketch, called *Captain Cupid*; Margaret Ashton, comedienne, sings with spirit and accomplishment; Alix Lukos gives his scena, *Pictures in the Fire*, in excellent style; the Jees contribute a fine comedy and musical act; the Barowsky Trio are seen in a brisk and clever acrobatic performance; E. J. Sheldon gives an agreeable comedy turn; a wonderful exhibition of bird training is offered by Rose Nayron and Clyde Phillips; and a nice turn is added by Nancy St. John, comedienne and dancer. The pictures, depicting "A Naval Nursery," are especially interesting.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A novel turn here this week is the riding of a live turtle, in the Hippodrome lake, by the famous Louis de Rougemont. Toledo and Price are among the neatest of contortionists, their feats being distinctly new, and performed in a graceful manner. Another first-rate item is that of the Four Figaros, whose international songs and dances, in characteristic costumes, are distinctly pleasing. Will Cornish provides a delightful turn with his silver bells and chimes; Lady Julia, "the ape with a human brain," is cleverly trained; J. P. Ling makes a hit in his mimetic monologue; Deane, Tribune and company, in a smart absurdity, are responsible for considerable laughter; and Claude Ginnett and company present an episode in the late Zulu war, entitled *Rorke's Drift*. Mr. Foy, assisted by the choir, sings in fine style "The Dear Homeland," to pictures; and Bennett's "Come live with me," is nicely rendered by the choir. The American Bioscope show Daring Cavalry Manœuvres.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Vesta Victoria, the Queen of Comedy, fresh from her American triumphs, is the bright particular star here this week, and meets with a deserved big reception; Callan entertains with song, story, and dance; Ada Parker, a clever juvenile coon singer and dancer, is well received; A. E. Clifford, vocalist, sings in a pleasing manner; the Silvinis Trio, and the Two Manzanaris are exceedingly clever gymnasts; Mlle. Sylvesto appears in a speciality act; and Will Lytton is a capital dancer. Raymond's Vivagraph, as usual, is good. Violet Belrose, comedienne, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here this week in the domestic drama, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and a good performance, twice nightly, is given. Mr. Beresford Lovett figures admirably as the hero, and Mr. Archie Helsby is seen to advantage as Captain George Darrell. Miss Kathleen Magee portrays the part of Margaret Rivers in a clever manner; and very pleasing is Miss Mildred Eversleigh as the General's daughter. The two little drummer boys are nicely played by Miss Margaret Hazel and Miss English; and others who are prominent are Mr. Edward Bikker as the General, Mr. J. Magrath as Quiney, Mr. Harry Lyndon as Timothy, and Miss Edie Macklin as Molly. The scenery is good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead —Some clever turns are seen here this week, chief amongst them being the Schiavonis Troupe, in a marvellous and unique acrobatic performance; and Mason and Bart, in a daring gymnastic display. Mike Cray, eccentric comedy juggler, and his dog Dooley, are very funny; and the Firnans, in their sketch, *In the Fire Station*, are also vastly amusing. Lack and Ford, the indiarubber man and the twister, are good; the Elgars are deservedly applauded for their rendering of Irish melodies; the Rupertos are smart equilibrists; Lillian Hodge, ballad vocalist, sings sweetly; and Jim Alston, comedian, is much appreciated. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Pichels head the bill here this week in a highly finished Risley display, and are loudly applauded. Tom Kelso and company, in a comic adsurdity, entitled *The Silly Servant*, cause much laughter; and Edwards and Espinosa provide a clever musical item with violin and banjo. The Frantz Family present a humorous acrobatic turn; and Will Freedo, comedian, executes some very neat dancing. Good turns are also contributed by Mary Glenn, vocalist; Anna Kenwick, comedienne and dancer; the Sisters Valli, musicians and top boot dancers; and the Bioscope pictures.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—A big attraction here this week is Mr. Charles Parker's famous Three K.'s, under the able direction of Mr. H. Flockton-Foster, the new songs, sketches, and concerted pieces being greatly appreciated.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Mr. Pinero's new play, *His House in Order*, was the holiday attraction here, and as performed for the three nights by the company specially selected by Mr. George Alexander, it left nothing to be desired. Mr. Frank Fantin played admirably as Hilary Jones, bringing out with good effect the varying phases of the complex rôle; Miss Auriol Lee did well as Nina, sustaining with natural breezy touches the impulsive girl, and in the third act shows with forcefulness the nature of the woman possessed with a spirit of revenge, but the spirit of gentleness and forgiveness as well, displayed in the last act. Mr. Cyril Harcourt was exceedingly good as the cold and impassive Filmer Jones, playing the character with admirable restraint. Miss Doris Champion played prettily as Derek Jesson, and Mr. Adam Alexander was all that could be wished for as the old humbug Sir Daniel Ridgelay. Mr. George Silver's Pryce Ridgeley was another good character sketch. Very good also was Mr. Charles Tyrell as Major Maurewards, whilst Miss Audrey Campbell was quite the frigid and implacable Geraldine Ridgeley. Mrs. Kemmis was starchy and severe as Ladv Ridgeley, and Mlle. Juliette Milo gave a most interesting Mlle. Thomé. For the remainder of the week *The Earl and the Girl* is announced.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Holiday business has been done here this week. Amy Sullivan, comedienne, has had a flattering reception, and a most enthusiastic welcome has greeted Mr. W. H. Downs, the Australian coloured vocalist. Arthur Reece is very popular as a vocal comedian; the Sisters Bartholomew are pleasing duettists and dancers; and Clemart, ventriloquist, is most amusing and heartily applauded. The applause which signalises the appearance of Mr. Harry Randall indicates at once his popularity, and with so many holiday-makers at each house his welcome was immense. The Reed-Oetzmann troupe, pantomimists, in their absurdity *On Tour in the Tyrol* keep the audience in roars of laughter.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—Large and highly delighted audiences have crowded this popular place of entertainment at both performances each day. Flo Wood, burlesque actress, is a success with her songs, and Martinette and Wallis, gentlemen of colour, appear in a novel instrumental performance, exhibiting considerable proficiency as players on several instruments. Tony Spring is amusing as "The Jumping Comedy Ragman," his feats being smartly done; the Wedburns elicit a good deal of applause for their amusing patter, whilst as instrumentalists and vocalists they are capital; a very mystifying performance is given by Carl Rosine, his hoop trick being particularly clever; Lillian Doreen sings well, and the Cleveland Burlesque company present a very merry and meritorious turn, which comprises dancing, tumbling, and comedy juggling.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson. — *The Mysteries of the Thames* opened here on Bank Holiday to a full house. The company is under the direction of Mr. F. Brooke Warren, and includes Miss Gwynne Warren, who gives a realistic performance of Flash Nell. Mr. Andrew Money is a manly hero; Mr. F. Brooke Warren plays admirably as Captain Denbigh; and the part of Kate Brandon is well sustained by Miss Nellie Ramsay.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The company engaged here this week includes Kyoto, Japanese entertainer; Nellie Belmore, comedienne and dancer; Walter Levalle, coster comedian; Francis and Francis, knockabouts; and May Geraldine, vocalist. The Biograph pictures make up a good programme.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The Bank Holiday attraction here was provided by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company in the drama *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Montagu Beaudyn gives an artistic rendering of Ivan Paulovitch; the rôle of the villainous Count Karateff is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Tom Robertson; Mr. Albert Wray is a capable Sergius Strogoff; Miss V. St. Lawrence, in the title rôle, brings much histrionic ability to bear on the part; the Nadine Karateff of Miss Irene Munro is a cultured and sympathetic study; Mr. Hy. Oates finds plenty of scope for comedy in the character of Christopher Crackles; and Miss Blanche Hill is entertaining as Patty Woodlands.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Eugene Stafford's company is this week presenting here the well-known comedy *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Donald Price-Evans as the Rev. Robert Spalding creates roars of laughter, and a word of commendation is due to Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Mr. Marsland; Mr. James Hussey is excellent as Harry Marsland; and Mr. W. Hargreaves is a decided success as Mr. Cattermole. Mrs. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford imbues the part with all the humour and charm that it is possible to put into it; Miss Dora Gray as Edith Marsland leaves nothing to be desired; and Miss Beth Elliot does well as Eva Webster; Miss Cecily Wade as Mrs. Stead is exceedingly pleasing and vivacious, and adds in no small measure to the evening's enjoyment.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The Lights of London* is this week being played here by Mr. Herbert Hollister's company. The scenery is delightful and the acting of the first order. Mr. Montague Lane as Harold Armytage has a thorough grasp of the part, and his assumption is entirely satisfactory. Mr. Herbert Lewis does full justice to the part of Jarvis, and Mr. Skeffington has an excellent representative in Mr. H. W. Forster; Little Iva Wallace is good as Joey, a street arab; and for the rôle of Hetty Preene, a clever representative is found in Miss Constance Davey. Miss Hilda Wollard infuses much sweetness into the part of Annie, and Miss Mary Rose does well as Janet, the servant.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—An excellent programme is being submitted here this week, and good houses are the rule. Nat Clifford heads the bill, and he creates roars of laughter with his songs and sayings, as does Tennyson and Wallis with their song, "You can't take it with you when you die." Elsie Earle is successful in her scena, *Love against Gold*; and Harry Anderson is an excellent vocalist. Mr. Fred Callane's comedy trio, in their sketch *The Ladies' School*, are amusing and George French is an excellent comedian. The other turns are provided by Winnie Denson, the Banjo Quartette, and the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—The management have this week arranged an excellent programme, which meets with the appreciation it deserves. No one can witness the performance of the Rooney Brothers, London's lazy coalmen, without laughing; and Rumbo Austin, with his comical troupe of navvies, causes much amusement; and the Brothers Zampah provide a clever acrobatic turn. Will Letters is an excellent comedian, and Clarice Raynor sings well. The other turns are provided by Wenie Clements, the Crown Trio, and the Bio.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *Florodora* has been appearing here, and the piece has been acceptably played.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The Seven Savonas and the Cycling Elliotts have proved the leading attractions here. The Vandykes in their sketch *Nicodemus* have been a draw; and in the bill there have also been included Carl Lynn, animal mimic; the Brooklands, good dancers; Mlle. Renee, saxophonist; Wyndham and Walters, harmonising duettists; Radford and Valentine, juggling jesters; and the Brothers Obo, laughing duettists.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—Rousby's electrical show, *Around Paris*, is most cleverly worked here, and beautiful effects are obtained. In the bill are Diamond and Beatrice, harp and saxophone; Lotte de Abbey, impersonator; Bensby Evans's company in the clever sketch *Sally's Dilemma*; Will Walton, comedian; Jimson's novelty sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*; Adams and Ward, smart and clever comedy acrobats; and Ferris and Famley, patter merchants.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Belrose and De Vellin have been fulfilling a most successful engagement here, and their duets have been a great feature of the programme. Mimi and Bartlett have a "screamer" in *The Lost Collar Stud*, and the Ramlos are tremendously funny. Doody and Wright have raised a plentiful crop of laughs at each show; the Two Neros have a good balancing act; Maude Clifton, soubrette; Clarke's Nippers; the Two Cellos, musical entertainers; and Maud Holmes, contralto, are also here.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.— Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—The theatre re-opened for the season on Monday, Mr. G. W. Whitehead's company appearing in a series of Irish dramas. *Willy Rully* was chosen for the opening night, and in the title-rôle Mr. Robert Faulkener was distinctly successful; Miss Cecilia Dare being a sweet and sympathetic Helen Folliard. The villainous Whitecraft was ably played by Mr. Henry Forrest; and the choleric old father by Mr. James Clarke. As the Red Rapparee Mr. James Daly is pre-eminently good. The humorous element is ably sustained by Mr. James O'Brien and Miss Monica Kelly. Mention should also be made of Miss Madeline Hurst as Mary Mahon, and of Mr. Ion Ireland as the Sheriff.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.— Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—After being closed for the summer vacation, the Tyne was reopened on Monday night with Mr. C. P. Levilly's company in the ever-popular comic opera *La Poupée*. Miss Stella Gastelle was again delightfully entertaining as Alesia, and sang with much charm. A new Hilarius in Mr. W. H. Powell has the difficult task of following in the footsteps of Mr. Eric Thorne, but Mr. Powell comes through the ordeal with flying colours, and is to be complimented on a richly humorous impersonation. Mr. Manfred Russell uses his pleasing voice to advantage as Launcelot; the Father Maxime of Mr. Frederick Hobbs is a typical picture of a monk, and his singing meets with warm appreciation. Mr. Fred Seymour is seen at his best as Loremois; and Mr. William Griffin is highly diverting as Baron Chanterelle. Miss Avis Grahame is a buxom and good-natured Madame Hilarius; and Miss Kitty Cavendish is quite a natural and boy-like Henri. A word of praise is due to the chorus, who do excellent work under the bâton of Mr. Henry Rushworth.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The favourite musical comedy *Sergeant Brue* is paying a visit here this week, and is presented by an excellent all-round company, under the direction of Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman. The title-rôle is now played by Mr. Arthur Reynolds, who invests the part of the metropolitan "bobby" with rare humour. Mr. Charles McLagan presents a quaint impersonation of the criminal Crookie Scrubbs, and is throughout successful. Mr. E. Percy Rogers glides with ease through the part of Michael Brue, and also sings with much acceptance. Mr. Harry Soutar is quietly effective as Matthew Habisham; and Mr. Cecil Burt does exceedingly well as Mr. Crank. Miss Mary Hay, looking a veritable picture, is a graceful and refined Aurora Brue; and Miss Hebe Bliss gives the utmost satisfaction as Lady Bickenhall. Others worthy of notice are Mr. Cecil Hood, Mr. Ernest Mozar, Miss Marion Hargrave, and Miss Mabel Keith. The chorus is a strong one, and is under the able direction of Mr. Norman Latham.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is appearing here this week in a thrilling drama, entitled *The Power of the Cross*. In the weird and mysterious rôle of Baron Curzola, Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby acts the part in a skilful manner; Mr. Richard E. Nugent is a buoyant and jovial exponent of Timothy O'Dowd; Mr. Edwin Beverley is responsible for a praiseworthy portrayal of Gerald Fairfax; and Mr. Royce Carleton does fairly well as Leslie Fairfax. Mr. L. F. Tenaur's rendering of Benjamin Hawke lacks nothing of the callousness and cruelty of the conventional villain; and Mr. A. J. Murray as David Kingsley does all that the part requires. A stately and magnificent type of womanhood is Miss Cissie St. Elmo, and her rendition of Rita Lascelles, an adventuress, leaves nothing to be desired. The rôle of Blanche Kingsley is sympathetically portrayed by Miss May Grayce; Miss Stanley Burt as Margaret Seaton gives an intelligent interpretation to the part, and Miss Etta Turner is sufficiently humorous as Dolly Gray.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Despite frequent visits here, the popular drama entitled *The 10.30 Down Express*, managed to fill the Byker house to its utmost capacity on Monday night. Mr. Horace Stanley's company is responsible for the production. Mr. Stanley himself again keeps the fun going merrily as Sam Wagstaff, and his love-making with Peggy Potts allows Miss Kate Kilpack, who assumes the latter part, ample opportunities to display clever comedy talent. The other characters are all well handled, and mention must also be made of the excellent scenic effects.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. The Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The premier position in this week's programme is worthily assigned to G. H. Chirgwin, "he of the white eye," whose entertainment, always bright and refreshing, has been received with hearty approval. Those merry musical jesters, Alexander and Hughes, are again much in evidence, their "bar act" being particularly funny. It is quite a long period since we had the pleasure of listening to Peggy Pryde, and this charming lady has lost none of her cleverness. A comedian who is always on the move is Josh Dixon, and this quaint comedian is decidedly funny in song and dance. Alburtus and Bartram, as comedy club jugglers, are in a class by themselves; and the Devona Sisters, in a graceful trapeze act, give ample proof of their skill. Will English, the real coon, creates much diversion with his funny walking skits. Goodfellow and Gregson score a gratifying success as comedy duettists; and Johnny Gilmore secures attention as a comedian. "Rescued in Mid Air" is a novel picture depicted by the Bioscope.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Large and appreciative audiences have laughed themselves hoarse this week at the screamingly funny tabloid comedy entitled *Where's the Count?* presented by Arthur Roberts and company. As Joe Muggins Mr. Roberts has a part that suits him to a nicety, and he receives admirable support from Messrs. Stanley Damerell, Geo. P. Poison, Harry Huddlestone, and the Misses Jessie Burgwitz and Ruby Celeste. A very clever and daring stage-flying trapeze act is submitted by the Three Rainats; mirth of the wholesome sort is found in abundance in the comedy sketch, *The Hunt*, presented by Terry and Bentley; Geo. Adams, the New Zealand baritone, has a host of admirers, and receives unstinted applause; Frank Halter and Marie Ray as the Hebrew character-comedian and singing soubrette are an amusing and versatile couple; the Henriques provide a speciality of much excellence; Williams and Warden, Irish cross-talk comedians, score

Willmer is seen to great advantage; Miss M. Douglas does well as Cecil Jelf; Miss Mary Moffat makes the most of Cecil Blunt; and Miss Kitty Russell is clever as Shrove Tuesday. The Almo Trio are also loudly applauded for their clever performance.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Four Herberts, the Californian farmers, top the bill here, and have made a great success; Miss Emmie Milstead and Mr. Joe Bell, with *The Belle of Arizona*, are enthusiastically greeted; Miss Emmie Ames, in her scena, *'Neath the Shadow of Big Ben*, is very popular; Messrs. Carney and Armstrong, musical comedians, are smart; Miss Florrie Simms, comedienne, is clever; Mr. Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, goes well; and the Bio-Photoscope is, as usual, interesting.

NORTHWICH. — Pierrot Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Co. — A programme of variety has been provided for the holiday week. Miss Queenie Palmer sings some acceptable numbers; Miss Lily West, who was an established favourite here last season, had a flattering reception on her re-appearance; Mr. Fred Corbett has been a great success; Mr. Charlie Bayman has a quaintly humorous style of his own; Messrs. Stevens and Stevens give a clever turn of dancing and high kicking; and Mr. Glanmore Jones is singing as sweetly as of yore.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—This place of entertainment opened for the season on Monday last, when Mr. Charles Macdona's powerful company gave an excellent all-round representation of *The Toreador* to a well-filled house. Mr. Sydney Greenville makes an excellent Conajolo, both his acting and singing being greatly successful. Mr. Ralph Lynn is good as Sir Archibald Slackett, and Mr. Geo. Austin is equally so as Augustus Trail. Mr. Walter Champney as Sammy Gigg creates no end of amusement. Mr. Henry Arthur is successful as Governor of Villaya, and Mr. Harold Batt, both in singing and dancing won much applause. Mr. Arthur Penborer shows great activity as the Bandmaster, and Mr. Chas. W. Anson as Rinaldo. Mr. Daniel Maston as Moreno, and Mr. Harry Playfair as Mr. Probitt all deserve praise. Miss Leah Howard is very pleasing as Susan, and deserves every commendation for her efforts. A compliment must also be given to Miss Eliza Earle as Dora Selby, and Miss Nina Carlton is praiseworthy as Donna Teresa, receiving a double encore for her song. Miss A. Chambers, Miss Winifred Downing, Miss Florence Wood, Miss Edith Mason, Miss Mabel Funston, Miss Alice Sands, and Miss May Lewis are all good in their respective parts.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—An excellent holiday programme is provided this week. Mr. George Mozart obtains immense applause for his songs and patter; A-Ba-Be's picture postcard Album is a very pretty turn, and well deserves its favourable reception; the Five Bogannies as the Lunatic Bakers are also clever in their acrobatic performance; La Tostia is very entertaining as a mandoliniste and pianiste; and Bert Byrne is funny as a comique. The Sisters Dorreli are pleasing duettists and dancers, and the New Macs are good knockabouts. Guy Rider as a vocalist and silhouist is also well received, and the Hippodrome Bioscope show some entertaining pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Mnnaging-Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—For the re-opening attraction after the usual summer vacation, Walter Melville's drama, *The Female Swindler*, occupies the boards, and has attracted large holiday audiences. Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company presents it, and the artists are thoroughly competent. Miss Grace E. Leslie has peculiarly the necessary tenderness and fire by turns to portray her Valrey, and is ably assisted by Mr. Joseph Millane, who acts the part of Jack Coulson admirably. Mr. Wilford Cheetham as Geoffrey Warden gives a capital impersonation of a thorough-paced villain, and the Jew Mike stein is excellently outlined by Mr. John Beaton The part of Harold Travers is entrusted to Mr Guy P. Ellis, and his work is of the best. Very sweet and charming appears the character of May Andrews as played by Miss Florrie Kelsey, and the rôle of her guardian, James Oliver, is well taken care of by Mr. A. Kenyon Gray. Mr. Henry Wright as Billy Binks, and Miss Mary Dawson as Mary Ann Mee supply the comedy element, and their efforts result in shouts of laughter and applause.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, touring with *Her Fatal Fast*, is here this week, and proves an excellent attraction. A successful emotional drama well-staged and well-played, it has everything to recommend it to holiday crowds. The adaptability of Miss Ward is well displayed in the principal rôle of Honor Symes, and she seizes and retains the sympathy of the audience with consummate ease. Miss Adeline Raby has plenty of scope for her talents in the double part of Bella de Lara and Ruth Fernside, while Miss Kate Newman, Miss Effie Spalding, and Miss Gertie Reid are thoroughly at home in their respective characters. Great praise is due to Little Audrey Sutherland for her efforts in the child part. Mr. George M. Newall gives a manly characterisation as Mark Desmond, and Mr. Victor Rowland does thoroughly well as Leonard Fernside, whilst Mr. Wilson Coleman realises the rôle of Gilbert Fernside to its full extent. Mr. T. Edward Ward scores as Nobbs, and Mr. Claude Paget will few opportunities shows great cleverness as an actor. Mr. Edward Sidney as Dicky Bird completes a very good company.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—For the eighth successive week this theatre is occupied by the Royal Animated Picture company's entertainment of picture-song and story, under the direction of Mr. Matt. Raymond.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—One of Herbert Darnley's laughable creations, *The Skirmishers*, occupies first place on the bill this week, and is presented by a strong company of comedians, who cause considerable laughter and merriment. The Max Wesselys troupe of comic jugglers are always welcome visitors. Leonard and Francis are a funny pair, and amongst eccentric acrobats the Tupps undoubtedly hold a high place. As a first-class comedian, J. W. Hall is hard to beat, and the Sisters Iris quickly sing and dance themselves into favour. James Heron is an exceptionally good singer of serio-comic songs, and the Tally Ho Trio can congratulate themselves upon hitting the taste of their admirers to a nicety. A good series of Biograph pictures, of which the principal is "Rescued in Mid Air," complete a very attractive programme.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainment Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—There was the usual large and appreciative holiday audience on Monday night, when the theatre re-opened with *When London Sleeps*, presented by Mr. Lester Collingwood's company. Mr. C. P. Wentworth makes an excellent Capt. Rodney Hayes; Mr. Louis Norman gives a good interpretation of David Engleheart; as Queenie Carrutners Miss Mabel Scudamore plays with effect; Miss Maude Yorke as Hilda Carode is good. Plenty of fun is supplied by Mr. D'Arcy Kilway as Sammy Blythe, and Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead. The piece is well staged.

OLDHAM. — Colosseum Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—After being closed for the summer vacation, during which the theatre has been cleaned, it was re-opened on Monday evening with Miss Evelyn Moore's company in a new play entitled *The Crimson Club*. Mr. Clifford Wright impersonates the hero, Richard Fenton, in a capable manner, and Mr. Sydney Bland is also good as the Hon. Herbert Selby. Mr. Fred G. Kay plays the part of Sir Philip Garside, the villain; and he is ably supported by Miss Florence Delmar as Julia Marsden. Miss Sydney Barrasford is a charming heroine, Muriel Lockwood. As Esther Craddock Miss Millie Hasting has not much to do, but she does it well; while Miss Kitty Elliott, along with Mr. Percy Shaw, as Sophonisba and Adolphus, provide the comedy. Mr. J. Franklin Heywood as Silas Craddock, Mr. C. Nugent as Sir Richard Steel, and Mr. Will Shaw as Sir Charles Lockwood, complete the list of principals, the remaining minor parts being filled by Messrs. Walters, Wayton, Daniell, Nevill, Wayte, Rolls, and Redstone.

Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Asistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Variety again holds the boards this week, at the top of the bill being the Japanese wrestler Yukio Tani. Lambert and Hands, duettists, have had a capital reception; the Two Leslies (Rosie and Dot) give some smart songs and dances, and France and Stewart appear in a humorous sketch with good effect. The Leanders, mandoline and guitar trio, also do well, and Dan Kirton, clog dancer, is well received. M. and Mme. Henris have a good show in their equilibristic and gymnastic act. Among other artists on the bill are Miss Nora Hamilton, vocalist; Minnie Dawn, comedienne; Ada Clare, in a charming act; Rosie Lennard, comedienne; the Izons, in a startling novelty; and George White, eccentric comedian.

OXFORD.—Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—This theatre is open for another two weeks, and on Monday Mr. Henry S. Dacre's company commenced a week's engagement here with *The Prince of Sinners*. As Nat Jacobs Mr. Henry S. Dacre was natural and realistic; Mr. Edward Percy gave a manly rendering of Henry Denby; and Mr. Henry Leslie portrayed Stephen Deveral in careful style. Mr. Walter Murton was admirably suited as Sir Harold Armitage; and Mr. Scott Phillips made a success of Walter Thorneycroft. Miss Ida Phillips sustained Kate Denby with considerable power; and Miss Polly Carew made a charming Laura Armitage. Little Dolly Murch was excellent as Arthur Armitage.

New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell opened here on Bank Holiday with the juvenile musical comedy company, in the fairy spectacle, *Beauty and the Beast*. As Silver Star Miss May Gibson won golden opinions, and sang in excellent style; as also did Miss Dolly Dodds, who made a captivating Beauty. Miss Kitty Trewhitt was delightful as Prince Charming; and Miss Daisy Fielder was effective as Will Scarlett. Miss Isa Gibson made the most of Maid Marion; and Miss Edie Camm was well suited as Tommy Tucker. The Brothers Armstrong worked well, and made considerable fun as Dressalinda and Marrigolda; and Messrs. Adams and Sloan were very amusing as Flip and Flop. Master Fred Bentley gave a successful interpretation of Baron Hardup; and Will Orston did well as the Beast. Undoubtedly the favourite of the evening was the small comedian, Wee George Wood, as Pip, whose recitations and songs were received with unbounded applause. Miss Edie Camm is a clever bâton swinger; and dances were given by the Marguerita Quartette.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—A strong attraction here this week is Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company, in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Mr. Yorke Stephens distinguishes himself by his finished and artistic portraiture of Captain Mowbray; Colonel Jardine is depicted in realistic fashion by Mr. Maitland Dicker; a sound and capable embodiment of Lieut. David Cairn is furnished by Mr. W. Brisco Owen; Mr. Reginald Walter is smart and painstaking in his assumption of Jernigan; and Mr. Lawrence J. White cleverly portrays Charles. Miss Frances Vine assumes the rôle of Mrs. Gorringe in a charming manner, and plays delightfully; Mrs. Jardine is finely interpreted by Miss Ethel Royal, who acts with natural ease and abandon; Miss May Saker is to be complimented on a finished and thoroughly sympathetic assumption of Isabel Kirke; Miss Mabel Melba as Vicky Jardine is winsome and vivacious; and Miss Isabel Fladgate is good as Miss Potts. *Uncle Joseph*, in which Mr. Lawrence J. White, Mr. Edgar Stevenson, and Miss Isabel Fladgate appear with considerable success, serves as a curtain-raiser.

PENZANCE.—St. John's Hall.—*Blue Bell in Fairyland* was the holiday attraction here. Mr. Graham Falcon produced the piece in a complete and finished manner. Miss Lily Exton was well suited in the part of Bluebell, and Mr. Lawrence Emery made the most of his opportunities as Dicky. Mr. Herbert Clark and Mr. Will L. Clement as Will and Wont were very funny. Some clever dancing was introduced by Miss Haidee Fitch, and the chorus and ballet added considerably to the success. The musical direction was in the hands of Mr. Herbert Simpson, and the duties of stage management were carried out effectively by Mr. Herbert Clark.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The theatre was re-opened here on Monday with the farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*. An amusing impersonation of Mr. Crosbie is given by Mr. Sebastian Smith, the audience according him throughout the hearty applause he deservedly merits. Miss Evelyn Howard also evinces a talent beyond the ordinary in her clever portrayal of Lady Hampshire; Miss Maud Linden is quite a success in the rôle of the vivacious Paulina, and the Misses Lena Graham, Stanley Ronalds, Marion Lewis, and Gertrude Manners are successfully placed as Mrs. Young, Gipsy Vandelier, Nannie Portland, and Baby Hastings respectively. Mr. Frank S. Denton sustains the arduous rôle of Mr. Frank Frayne in a manner which marks his possession of exceptional talent; Mr Aidan Lovett makes an ideal elderly Sir Charles Hampshire; Mr. Douglas Munro's Mr. Flambert is clever and effective; as also are Mr. A. Patrick as Mr. Roundle, and Mr. Ernest Rivarz as the amusing Mr. Bogle; Mr. Edmund H. Sayers is seen to advantage in Alderman Kargon, and Messrs. Charles F. Bruce, Charles Wilson, Abbey, A. E. James, and Samuel Plinge are advantageously placed in their respective parts of Alec. Montressor, Horace Clonge, Mr. McRoth, Boy at Hadstine Hall, and Captain Bleary.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The Royal re-opened on Monday after the summer vacation, and the vagaries of Mr. James Welch in *The New Clown* were immensely enjoyed. Mr. Welch, as Lord Cyril Garston, made fine use of the opportunities afforded by this exceptionally humorous part; Mr. G. H. Snazelle was an ideal circus proprietor, throwing himself heart and soul into his work; Miss Audrey Ford made a fascinating Rose; Mr. Charles Hanbury was excellent as Captain Jack Trent, and Mr. A. Brown was a fine "strong man." Other members of the capable cast are Messrs. Lamb, L. Herbert, C. James, and the Misses Helena Millias and Alexander.

Palace of Varieties.—Owners, County Theatres and Hotels, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, in his well-known sketch *Dick Turpin*, makes a hit here by his marvellous quick-change acting. Datas, the man with the remarkable memory, holds his audience spell-bound while giving dates of bygone events with never-failing accuracy. Kahmand Kahn mystify beholders by some mysterious necromancy; Will Musgrove has a couple of songs with "catchy" refrains, and Ruby Ashton is a finished comedienne. Others contributing to the entertainment are Pete and Juno (coloured comedians), Victor Travers (eccentric), and Vernon's Pictures.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Mr. Percy Williams's company presents Mr. Lingford Carson's *Drama of Life* here. Mr. Edward Lloyd as Harry Beech, a banker, gives a studiously accurate representation of a difficult part; Mr. Johnny McElroy is distinctly good as Sir Dobson White; Mr. Henry Compton makes an ideal Count de Foi, and Miss Ethel Kay as Sylvia Beech has no small share in the successful presentation of the piece.

Pier and Pavilion.—The Smart Set Entertainers are drawing crowded houses here. The company includes Messrs. Walter George, Arthur Court, and the Misses Hilda Light, Georgie Martin, Ethel Wilford, and Lena Hutchings.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Mr. Harry Bedford's company is presenting *Gipsy Jack* here. Mr. Bedford earns hearty applause for his very capable acting as the hero, and is well supported by Miss Ada Antley as Nan. Miss B. Bedford makes an excellent May Harvey. Other members of a very creditable company are Messrs. David Curtis and Robert Gilbert.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The comic opera *The Little Michus* is being presented here by Mr. George Edwardes's well-selected company. The Little Michus are charmingly played by Miss Iris Hoey as Blanche Marie and Miss Thelma Raye as Marie Blanche; Madame Michu as portrayed by Miss Florence Parfrey is a brisk and telling performance. Of the General Des Ifs of Mr. Eric Thorne it would be difficult to speak too highly; Mr. Jack Cannot as Bagnolet ably seconds Mr. Thorne; Mr. George Miller as Pierre Michu plays genuine comedy; Gaston Riguad is undertaken by Mr. Tailleur Andrews in capital style; Aristide Vert is impersonated by Mr. Leonard Mackay with conspicuous success.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Carr Loates and company are here for the week with the musical comedy drama *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. W. G. Irving is distinctly good as Captain Frank Manley; Moris Glodstein is cleverly played by Mr. Carr Loates; and Mr. Arthur S. Read is very creditable as Jabez Barber. The comic element is much in evidence, and in Act 2 a capital variety entertainment is given in which Miss Molly Bee, Mr. H. Evan Gibbon, Little Daisy, Mr. Leo Rodway, and others, meet with considerable success.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The management of this hall have provided an excellent bill of fare for the holidays, and on Monday night there was a very crowded house to welcome the ever-popular queen of comedy, Miss Marie Lloyd, who was in her happiest vein, and gave four of her most successful songs, to the huge delight of the audience. The pleasing trio, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales, were much liked, and scored greatly; Chas. Ulrick, the barrel and banka wonder, is a clever exponent of the art of balancing with the feet while lying on his back; Kittie Rayburn, a smart character comedienne, had a flattering reception for her catchy and tuneful songs; Dale and Vale, speciality artists, gave a capital exhibition of pedestal dancing; Alexandra Edwin, a capable vocalist, was heard to advantage; the Two Bees, in their Indian scena, did well, and met with unstinted applause; the Three Rosslyn Girls, in song and dance; Stan Aubrey, eccentric leg-mania comedian; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope, with some popular pictures, completed a capital programme.

PRESTON.—Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—First place in this week's bill is given to Stanley's Urchins, who provide a refined harmony, comedy, and dancing act; Frederica's Toy Terriers are very clever and amusing; Mlle. Du Roche has an excellent voice, and her songs evoke loud applause; H. O. Wills is a really funny comedian; Wallace Muirhead, "the singing boiler-maker," pleases the audience greatly; the Three Panamas are clever acrobats. Other good turns are provided by Johnson and Pelham, in a comedy pot-pourri act; Little Elsie, juvenile vocalist and dancer; and Leon and Williams, comedians.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—*Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune*, admirably presented on alternate nights by Mr. Norman MacCowan's company, are the attractions here this week, and a hearty reception has been accorded to both plays. As M. Beaucaire, Mr. MacCowan gives a fine performance, interpreting the varied moods of the character very effectively; to Miss Violet Sterne generous praise is due for her artistic and very pleasing portrayal of Lady Mary Carlisle; the sinister rôle of the Duke of Winterset is ably filled by Mr. Murray Hathorn; Mr. J. C. Taylor is an earnest and manly Major Molyneux; and Mr. P. Ramsey Forman a thoroughly uncompromising Captain Badger. Mr. Robert Entwistle cleverly assumes the pompous manner of Beau Nash; Mr. Hans Schlasinger acquits himself well as the Marquis de Mirepoix and François; Miss Annie Windsor is seen to advantage as Lucy Rellerton; and Miss C. Howard Medley commendably sustains the part of Lady Relletron. Handsome costumes and picturesque scenry are praiseworthy features of both productions.

RADCLIFFE. — Grand Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—This theatre had a cosy, bright, and comfortable appearance when re-opened for the season on Monday night. Mr. Harry Starr's company is playing *Carl, the Clockmaker*. Mr. Starr fills various characters, and is successful in all, his excellent singing being a pleasing feature of the performance. As Farky Nabbs, an amateur detective, Mr. Wm. Miller is very humorous, and Mr. F. W. Graham is another humorist who is seen to advantage. Mr. Edwin Frith makes a good villain; Mr. W. Hee efficiently plays the part of a Nihilist; Miss Madge Blundell is a graceful heroine; and Misses C. Crossley and K. Norris impersonate minor parts well.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; Lessee, Mr. Henry Bowman.—During the first three days of the week the boards of this house were occupied by Mr. William Greet's well-chosen company in *The Earl and the Girl*. Large audiences welcoming the return visit of this capital production. Mr. William Cromwell, in the rôle of Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, was in splendid fettle, and made a great hit; while Miss Gertrude Simpson was equally successful in the character of Miss Elphin Haye, the American heiress. As Richard Wargrave, the real Earl of Stoke, Mr. Robert Hyett acted and sang in admirable fashion; and the same remark applies to Miss Florence Wix, who made a capital 'Liza Shoddame, Jim's sweetheart. All the other characters were in capable hands. The chorus and orchestra, augmented for the occasion, contributed largely to the success of the production. For the last three nights the attraction at the Amphitheatre was *The White Chrysanthemum*, produced by Mr. Frank Curzon's principal company, which includes Mr. Horace Mills, Mr. W. H. Rawlins, and Miss Sybil Cunningham.

Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Sole Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—*Two Little Vagabonds*, played in capital fashion by Hardie and Von Leer's company, has constituted a popular attraction at "the Pav." this week. Miss Evelyn Shaw is a big success as Marion Thornton; and Mr. Norman A. Overton plays in capable and effective style the character of George Thornton. Miss Dorothy Hart and Miss Josie Beltram, with grace and skill, impersonate the parts of Dick and Wally (the "two little vagabonds") respectively; Miss Violet Agnew handles the rôle of Barabara Scarth in excellent fashion; Mr. E. Stidwell portrays Capt. Darville admirably; and good work is contributed by Mr. Gordon K. Bull (Bill Muggins), Miss Kathleen O'Connor (Biddy), and by the remainder of the company. The play has been doing good business.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece; General-Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—This theatre re-opened under new management on Monday evening, when Mr. Andrew Melville's company appeared in *Driven from Home*, which was well presented. Miss Frances Ruttledge, in the dual part of Laura Raybrook and Walter the Younger, was a distinct success, her portrayal being very powerful and artistic. Miss Evelyn Marrable made an excellent Margaret, and Miss Florence Trevoir an acceptable Barbara Ashdown. Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook was very good, whilst as Jabez Thomas, his servant, Mr. Harry Cornwall gave a dignified and natural portrayal. Mr. James Allen as Geoffrey Waring was clever as the villain, and made the most of his opportunities, and Mr. Alick Macmillan as John Anderson was an early favourite with his humorous interpretation of the character. Mr. Percy Dawsone gave a neat representation of Willie the Outcast.

RHYL.—Queen's Palace.—General-Manager, Mr Howard Lees.—A good holiday programme is provided for the patrons of this house. The Andos Family, foot balancers, perform a number of clever feats with a wonderful grace and ease; the Maisanos, novel entertainers, combine good instrumental work with their comedy; Attilla, the heavy-weight lifter, displays his remarkable strength in various exploits; Edward Davies has a capital voice, and sings his songs in good style; the Sisters Brookes, clever vocalists and dancers; and Tom Moore, comedian, contribute good turns.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Old and new favourites supply a strong and varied programme this week. Wee Mona, juvenile comedienne, tops the bill, and her songs and dances are greatly enjoyed; Marriott Edgar introduces both originality and humour into his songs; Jack Hughes remains another week, his vocal contributions being always appreciated; Bert Weston sings a budget of catchy songs; Jack Macdermott never fails to evoke hearty applause for his well selected songs; Forshaw Kershaw is successful as solo pianist and reciter.

E. H. Williams' Merrie Men are drawing great crowds, and deservedly so, for the programme is one of agreeable variety.

ROCHDALE.—New Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—The re-opening was inaugurated by *Her One Great Sin*, the interest of which was maintained throughout. Mr. Sam Arthur as the honest Reuben Warhurst is seen to great advantage; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson cleverly portrays the part of Arnold Thorahill; some genuine humour is infused into the rôle of Jerry Jumble by Mr. Fred Hodson; Miss Nellie Lambert is effective as Nancy Winpenny; and Miss Blanche St. Albans acts with power as Grace Warhurst.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Hargreaves.—Another good company is engaged for this week. Bishop and Hanlon are a highly-diverting pair of comedians; Flo Hilton is a popular male impersonator; Marlo, juggler; the Elvie Comedy Trio; Jim Hegarty, comedian, dancer, and whistler; the Five Casino Girls, brass instrumentalists; and the Empire Bioscope complete a most enjoyable programme.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mrs. Morton Powell and company are here this week with *When All Is Dark*, a strong moral play. Mr. Cecil Austin-Lee is an excellent Rev. Basil Gorke, and Mr. George H. Pitt gives a strong portrayal of the part of Constantine Schwabe. Mr. Henry Heller is highly successful as Rev. Mr. Byars, and Mr. Francis Cairns scores as Lucifer; Sir Robert Llewellyn is capably enacted by Mr. Bryce Methven; and Mr. G. Rammell scores as Harold Spence. Mr. W. M. Wilson is deserving of mention as Hon. Charlie Gadfly; and Mr. Charles Clayton does well as Mr. Ommaney; Mr. D. M. Stormont has a capital part as Ionides; and Mr. Ritchie Bell is a sprightly Alphonse. Mrs. Morton Powell gives a pleasing representation of Helena Bryass; and Miss Bessie Ellis as Gracie Goldeye has a very suitable part. Miss Laura Walker as Gertrude Hunt gives a highly-finished representation of a most difficult part.

RUGBY.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Mr. F. B. Wouife and company are appearing this week with *Lady Godiva*, *Jane Snore*, and *Nell Gwynne*. On Monday night, before a large and appreciative audience, *Lady Godiva* was presented, and gave much satisfaction. Mr. F. W. Wouife as Tom o' Coventry is an actor of exceptional merit, and his powerful and artistic rendering could not well be improved; Miss Ethel Grimes as Lady Godiva gives an artistic and impressive impersonation; as Lady Aldwyth Miss Catherine Brook is excellent; Miss Edith Lorraine as Elfrida acquits herself creditably; Mr. R. S. Innes thoroughly looks the part of Leofric, Earl of Mercia, and acts exceedingly well; Mr. Howard Barlow, in the rôle of Algar, Earl of Northumbria, gives a very successful exposition of a difficult character; Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolfson proves himself an actor of ability; and as Robin Shackleton Mr. Bob Anderson wins much applause. Mr. G. Edward Dunstan as Edgar the Nameless gives an excellent impersonation.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crossman's company have been here on a three days' visit with the musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*, which has attracted good audiences nightly. In the title-rôle, Mr. E. Russell gave an entertaining display; and Miss Kitty Dale acted successfuly the part of Aurora Brue. Miss Constance Berkley performed brightly as Daisy; and Miss Aileen Macdonald was a charming Mabel Widget. Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy's presentation of Michael Brue was a meritorious one; and the characters of Crookie Scrubbs and Mr. Crank, as presented by Messrs. T. A. Shale and Henry Chichester, were the cause of much merriment. Lady Bickenhall was very successfully impersonated by Miss Lily Lingard, whose graceful performance was greatly appreciated.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—The programmes provided by the management during the past week have come up to the high standard maintained in the past. The principal portion has been borne by the ever-popular Stanford Quartette, whose return to the town has met with due success. The Ladies' Grosvenor Orchestra give a talented performance twice daily from the band stand, and their efforts have gained general admiration.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Warning to Women* is a strong holiday attraction, and the leading part of Dr. Marcus Dread is taken by Mr. C. Watson Mill, the author, who plays with much force. Miss Rosalind Tate makes an impression as Moira Kennion; as Shaun Mr. Algernon Syms acts the constant friend cleverly; Mr. Henry Rutland makes a good study of Squire Kennion; Mr. N. C. Slaughter is an amusing Lord Eversleigh; Mr. V. W. Carlyle a manly Fergus McNaughton; Miss Emmie Barton is a charming Sheila Kennion; and Myles O'More a pleasing character in the hands of Miss Edith Rutland. Miss Ellen Beverley as Molly O'More, Miss Daisy Beaumont as Balrice, Miss Marie Moore as Hildred, Mr. Norman D. Cannon as Rev. Emmanuel Wallace, Mr. Henry P. Kennedy as Mike McQuade, and Mr. W. Pallister Adcock as Ferdinand de Joules give adequate support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. — As usual, the drolleries of Harry Weldon, a great favourite here, keep the house in roas; *A Concert Rehearsal*, by Lady Mansel and her juveniles, is a clever performance, which is much appreciated. The excellent programme also includes Geoffreys and Benson, in comedy sketch, *Spoofed*; Frank Crisp, baritone comedian; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; the Haverleys, American song illustrators; Childie Stuart, comedienne; the Loves, duettists and dancers; Mlle. Sara's living pictures; and the Two Eltons, triple horizontal bar comedians; Chas. Rowen, eccentric comedian; and Sill and Sillcott, in sketch, *Left Luggage*, also appeared, and gave much satisfaction.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—A capital entertainment is provided this week. A smart performance is given by the Tokios, the famous Japs; Carl Mysto, a handcuff king, gives a clever exhibition of prison-breaking; George Young, a blind collier boy, with a good voice, is also well received. Other clever turns include Jessie Jukes, juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Three Coopers, descriptive vocalists; Bill Bailey, comic vocalist; Permane's Bears; the Three Sisters Thurman, vocalists and instrumentalists; and George Edney, character actor-vocalist.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Miss Emily Huby's company in *The Price of Pleasure* formed the holiday attraction here. Mr. Howell Webb as Sir James Featherstone was extremely good; as Gilbert d'Armand Mr. Bertram Ross gave an excellent interpretation; Mr. D. Vere made an amusing Tatters; and Miss Emily Huby as Biddy Flanagan scored a success; Miss Mara Collings deserved praise as Alice Rivers. The remaining characters were well cast.

Victoria Park.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—A good programme is again presented here. Miss Beattie Witham proves a smart comedienne; Miss Ramsdale sings with good effect; Mr. Skidmore fairly takes the audience by storm with his quaint vocalism; Mr. Tom Walton and Mr. William Dyar do good work.

SCARBOROUGH.—Spa Theatre.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Pery Hutchison's company is here this week with *Public Opinion*. Miss Lilias Earle as Lady Diana Calderhaw renders her part with spirit and vivacity. As Viscount Pomley Mr. Douglas Greet acts very capably. Mr. Percy Marshall takes the part of Wibsey very cleverly. Mr. Fred Lewis as the Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley acts capably. As Lord Percy Kilgom Mr. Ashton Pearce is well received. Mr. C. J. Barber is quite at home in the rôle of Jowers, and as Sir Babbington Mulley Mr. Douglas Hamilton is deservedly well received.

Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is paying a third visit here. The part of Jim Cheese is in the able hands of Mr. Wm. Stephens, who causes roars of laughter by his comical antics. Mr. Will Hindson as Downham is an old Scarborough favourite, and has a part that he fills exactly. Mr. Arthur Harold as Dick Wargrave finds much favour. Miss Jennie Richards as Liza Shoddam displays originality, and as Elphin Haye Miss Frances Earle is all that could be desired. Miss Beatrice Anderson as Mrs. Shimmering Black acts with much energy.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. George Zalva.—"Billy," the famous horse, is here this week, and can do almost anything but talk. The Ohmys are still here with an entire change of programme and clever equestrian tricks. The feature of the performance is Selkirk's Juvenile Spectacle, entitled *Bonnie Scotland*. The children who take part have undoubtedly been trained by excellent tutors. Frank Hartley is a capable boy juggler. Yetta shows remarkable agility on the tight rope. Pietro, who makes his first appearance in England as a contortionist, gives an excellent performance.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. Fred Benton has a powerful company here this week in *The French Spy*. Miss Gertrude Evans as Countess Andre acts to perfection. Miss A. Harrison Tate is a tragic Olga. Mr. Rd. Fulton is admirably suited as Capt. Sommers, and Mr. Max Coutts is successful as Count Romanoff.

People's Palace and Aquarium.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalist for the week is Mr. Wilfred Hudson, who has a powerful and well-trained tenor voice. The Zerbinis Troupe of seven, in their musical scena, *The Enchanted Glen*, gave an excellent and up to date turn. The Sisters Allen are international dancers, who put a good deal of spirit into their work, and dance well. Takio imitates with wonderful ability. M. Edgar is very clever on the trapeze. Le Brun and Irene are artistic jugglers, and are well received. Leo Lester's comedy pantomime, *Sports*, contributes a lively turn. The Lizzette Troupe of tumblers are here for another week. Miss Molly Auguarde sings tuneful songs. Elsie Rubina is still retained on the bill. Lily Andrews shows much ability in coon songs. Mlle. Ameda is an efficient contortionist and juggler. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope has an entirely new set of pictures, and Mlle. Levante's Orchestra of Ladies increases in popularity daily.

Olympia, Foresnore Road.—Proprietors, People's Palace and Aquarium; Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Pygmies are paying a return visit here, and are attracting a great deal of attention. Mr. W. Hoffman, who was with Stanley in Africa, is the lecturer, and carries out his part of the work very creditably.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Cleaned and entirely redecorated, the Lyceum presented a bright and artistic apparance on Monday when *The Silver King* was acted to a large and delighted house by Mr. Austin Melford's specially-selected company. That old Sheffield favourite, Mr. Edward J. George, was cordially welcomed on making his entrance as Jaikes, and his acting was full of the old humour and genial characteristics; Mr. Fred Davis acted with great dramatic power and s

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"CUMBERLAND '61."

Play in Four Acts,
by Franklin Fyles.
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This play deals with incidents occurring during the American War between North and South. The question of heredity will be found treated in connection with the character of Dirk Kansett, the son of Colonel Leslie Murdoch by an Indian wife. We find a large party assembled at the Colonel's residence at the West Point Military Academy. Amongst them are a widow, Mrs. Victor, and Pink, her daughter; John Lennox, an idle New Yorker, whose son, Dolph, is a cadet; the Colonel; Alice Ainsley, daughter of a Cumberland mountaineer, educated by the Colonel, who wishes to marry her; Gordon Grayne, a cadet lieutenant, in love with Alice, and others. There is a deadly feud between the Graynes and the Ainsleys, owing to a dispute over the diversion of a mountain stream. Many lives have been sacrified, usually on, or near a certain bridge over a deep mountain ravine (where, too, the scene of the action in the third act is laid); the last victim of the feud was Benner Ainsley—Alice's father's brother. The course of the American-Veronese love story is anything but smooth, at first, that is. Visitors arrive from the Academy. Dolph, like many a youth, fancies that he loves the widow, while he is really devoted to Pink. The mother, while fond of the son, finds the father worthy of more serious consideration. He, too, appears soon. Colonel Leslie Murdoch is a thoroughly selfish, unprincipled, and intemperate man of the world, but a clever soldier and a strict disciplinarian. His son, Dirk Kansett, is "ragged" and "hazed" by the fellow cadets. The strain of Indian blood in his veins causes him to be treated as if he were a mulatto, and they drive him almost to despair by singing negro songs "at" him. He appeals to his father, who bids him, coldly and sternly, return to his duties as a cadet in the Academy. Dirk reminds him that his mother was an Apache Princess, the daughter of a chief, married by the ceremonies of her people. He tells his father that he knows the true story of his parentage, and that his weak, gentle mother died when a white libertine broke her heart. Murdoch replies that he intends to drive Dirk from West Point, and the latter threaten exposure. The father tells him that he cannot prove his story; the son's Indian blood is roused, and he vows vengeance for his mother's wrongs and sufferings. Alice hears their conversation, and is aghast at the prospect of her future life as the wife of such a man. He knew that her father was a poor, rough Cumberland mountaineer, unable to afford to educate his beautiful child of the mountains; pleased with her childish beauty, he consented to Murdoch's defraying the expenses of bringing her up, with a view of marrying her, but her father and daughter regret bitterly the bargain, when seen in the true light of its development. When her old boy-lover, Gordon Grayne, arrives, Alice, who has made a confidante of Pink, tries to avoid him. He has his commission, and is ordered to join General Sherman's forces for immediate service in the Cumberland district—his old home. Alice and he discuss old scenes and memories; they are Juliet and Romeo still, in defiance of feuds and the trend of events. The Colonel's sympathies are with the Southern cause: Gordon Grayne's with the North. The latter begs the former to influence Alice's father to end the feud, telling him of his love for Alice, but Murdoch tells him of his impending marriage with her in the pretty little church on the Knoll, close to her home, adding, with cutting sarcasm, that if Gordon will carry a flag of truce and can obtain leave of absence, he may regard himself as invited to the wedding. The lad is deeply offended, and, knowing Alice's wishes, resolves to save her. Her father arrives, and his honest, homely ways and dialect contrast with the purer speech and culture of his affectionate daughter. She tells him that she detests the Colonel, who means the bargain to be carried out, and this leads to the mention of Gordon Grayne's name. Benner Ainsley asks Murdoch to release Alice, but the reply is that she would be free to marry Gordon; thus using the feud to further his own egoism. This is the third skein in the thread of the plot. Dirk has to be acknowledged by his father, the feud must end, Alice and Gordon are to make a happy marriage, and all these things are brought about in a series of picturesque scenes. The Colonel's marriage is actually celebrated, but it is never consummated, as Murdoch is shot during an attack by the enemy. He had signed a paper, at Dirk's instigation, tricked Dirk out of its possession, and it is found on his father's dead body. Gordon Grayne saves Benner Ainsley's life at the bridge, instead of taking it, thus ending the feud, and removing all obstacles to a happy marriage with Gordon for Alice. Dolph and his father pair off with Pink and her mother.

"THE AUSTRIAN DANCER."

Play, in Four Acts, by Margaret Mayo.

This is a play dealing with the period of disturbances between Austria and Italy in 1848, the scenes being laid in or near Milan. Nearly all of those engaged or employed at the Theatre Royal, Milan, are Patriots, and sworn members of a league and conspiracy to expel the Austrians from Italy, and restore freedom from the Austrian yoke to their country. The Archduke Adolph of Austria is the hereditary Duke of Rustenburg, and Viceroy of Italy. His grandson and heir-presumptive is Flavio, whose cousin, Count Otto von Lutzen, is next heir and present aspirant to the Dukedom of Rustenburg. The Countess Stephanie von Eifelstein is the greatly-neglected betrothed of Flavio. Betti, the "Austrian dancer," is a world-famed star. We find the whole personnel of the Theatre Royal rehearsing while awaiting her arrival for her first appearance before an impatient Milanese audience; Carlos, dancing-master and Patriot, directing the rehearsal at the theatre, of which Verbio is the director. Von Lutzen tells him that the Archduke and Flavio intend to witness Betti's *première*, and to pass through the green-room to the Royal box, in order to avoid a public arrival. Captain Falkenstein is in Lutzen's confidence in all matters, gallant or otherwise, connected with Flavio. Nissa, Fidelia, and a host of other dancers are all curious to see Betti, whose fame and extravagant tastes have already preceded her. The Countess Stephanie is already seated in her box, but consents to come to the green-room for a talk with Von Lutzen. We find, very soon, that the two are deeply attached to each other; but she is true to Flavio, who is suspected of Italian sympathies and of plotting against Austria, following in the footsteps of his renegade father, Virdi Rinaldo; his mother, the daughter of an Austrian Archduke, having fled to the arms of Virdi Rinaldo, an Italian, half-rebel, half-brigand. Should Von Lutzen be able to prove Flavio to be a traitor to Austria his succession to the Dukedom and his marriage with Stephanie seem certain to result. He thinks Flavio devoted so much to Italy that he would prefer an Italian peasant girl to Stephanie herself, whom Von Lutzen tells of his desire to bring home to Flavio the proofs of treachery. The Archduke and Flavio arrive at the theatre privately, to avoid a hostile reception at the hands of the infuriated Italian populace. From ensuing conversations, it is easy to see that Italy's misfortunes have roused Flavio's strongest pity. In a talk with Carlos, he is told the story of his father's death while leading his forces against the Archduke's, his grandfather's, during the battle of Sandri. Virdi Rinaldo fought bravely to the last; but the Austrians were reinforced, and Carlos shows Flavio the knife, with a crucifix attached to it, with which Rinaldo stabbed himself, but not before he had made the infant Flavio lisp a vow of revenge upon the cross and the knife—and a vow, too, never to make peace with the Austrians. Carlos tells Flavio that secret preparations for an Italian rising are complete, and that the knife will be sent to him, in a few days' time, as the signal for him to answer his dead father's call to throw in his lot with the insurgents. Flavio promises to obey the summons. When Betti arrives she is full of whims, fancies, and fads, and pretends to be too ill to dance. After a long delay and much fuss, she consents to appear, after having expressed a wish to leave the excitements of theatrical life for good and all, and to retire to a peaceful life in the country. Meanwhile, she has seen Flavio, and fallen violently in love with him; and she confides her rustic longings to him. Falkenstein overhears this, and makes use of it, in consultation with Von Lutzen, to further their plans against Flavio. Von Lutzen tells Betti that he wishes to save his cousin from the results of his political follies, and that he is anxious to discover whether they are of a really serious nature. Flavio is to leave, on the following day, for Castle Veccio, at the foot of which is old Urban, the Archduke's head gardener's flower-clad cottage. Betti consents to disguise herself as an Italian peasant girl, and pretend to be old Urban's niece, with the view of extracting incriminating confessions from Flavio; and she is led to believe that it is all for Flavio's welfare. This comedy of make-believe proceeds apace, and most of the principals concerned meet again, near the Archduke's country seat, at Castle Veccio. After much reluctance, Betti is persuaded to do without her maid and a number of pet animals, and she and Flavio meet, without his recognising her. Von Lutzen had already obtained possession of the knife and crucifix by a lucky accident: they have passed into Betti's care, and she lets Flavio see them. He asks eagerly for the "message" and the "summons," but she is unable to explain his impatience, fully, to herself. However, she gives him the knife and the crucifix, returning his ardent embraces. A week later, the Patriots from the Milan Theatre Royal assemble at Castle Veccio. An Italian rising has been decided upon, to begin in the neighbourhood. Old Urban has already arrested an Italian spy, disguised as a wandering minstrel. His message—intercepted—is for Flavio to join the insurgents at the Caponi ruins, near at hand: the spy being, evidently, Carlos. The meeting is fixed for noon. Old Urban, who is the willing tool of Von Lutzen and his party, is told to tell his "niece" (Betti) to give Flavio the message, the others waiting to watch its effect upon their "suspect." Urban, most innocently, tells Betti that Von Lutzen would inherit all should anything happen to Flavio. This explains Von Lutzen's plot to her, and, as she loves Flavio by this time, she resolves to save him. Orders have been given for the man found wearing the disguise taken from Carlos to be shot down, as he was evidently carrying it for someone else to adopt. Von Lutzen gives the disguise and the message to Betti, knowing that she will give them to Flavio, who will go with them to the south gate, where he will be shot by Von Lutzen's soldiers. Betti pretends to agree. It had been arranged for her to ride, with Stephanie, to the Caponi ruin at noon. In an interview with Flavio, their newly-found love impels her to tell him of Von Lutzen's plot and of her part in it. He forgives her for her duplicity. Noon approaches; Flavio is anxious to join his men. Stephanie arrives; the two horses are brought. The plans of the conspirators from the theatre have been discovered at the castle, and there are signs already of a disturbance. Carlos warns Flavio against Betti as a tool of Von Lutzen's. This time he believes it, and, furious against her, he rushes off to join his men. To save him, Betti dons the disguise, mounts one of the horses, and disappears, ahead of Stephanie, in the direction of the south gate. Three months later we are back in the green-room at the Milan theatre. A festival performance is arranged, to celebrate the Italians' victory. Flavio, now a general, is the hero of the hour. Betti's exploit is known, but her identity with the "Phantom Saviour" of the Italian forces is not known to anyone. She arrives, ragged and travel-stained, at the theatre, to find herself supplanted by the other members of the ballet. Flavio arrives in the green-room. He has heard how his life was saved, but does not know that it was saved by Betti, and, distrusting her still, he greets her coldly and cruelly. His entrance in the theatre is greeted with loud acclamations. Stephanie tells Flavio the story of Betti's heroism. The other ballet-dancers jeer at Betti, calling her the "Austrian spy." Flavio, however, believes Stephanie, and Betti is restored to his loving arms at last.

"A CHILD OF POVERTY."

Sensational Drama in Four Acts, by Frank L. Bixly.

In this play a child, Gertie, has been kidnapped, but has fallen into good hands, as she is found and adopted by Albert Rufus, and is adored by all the members of his family and household, and especially by his schoolboy son Willie. Gertie's father has offered a reward of $25,000 for her recovery. A "gentleman" villain tries to steal Gertie again from Albert Rufus; he appears to have had already shady transactions with Pietro, an Italian villain, who is also trying to steal Gertie again and obtain the whole reward for himself. The little girl is stolen by Pietro and carried off. Singleton, the "gentleman" villain, witnesses the abduction, which he tries to hinder by shooting Pietro; but he misses his aim, and the shot kills Albert Rufus. The rest of the play deals with the chase—half over the American continent—of the two miscreants by most of the other characters in the play. There are several attempted murders, the brave lad Willie being always to the fore in all dangers, and enjoying apparently a charmed life in the midst of repeatedly occurring hair's-breadth escapes from what appears unavoidable death or disaster. He is the leading spirit in this chase, which involves his father's murder and almost his own, and a dangerous journey to the mountains near Ouray, Colerado, where the whole pursuing party are nearly blown to pieces by a dynamite explosion, engineered by the two villains Singleton and Pietro; his capture by the villains, who try to hurl him down a mountain gorge at Emigrant Gulch, Colorado, falling down themselves in an ensuing struggle; Willie's nearly being burnt to death by the lightning setting fire to the mining hut which shelters Gertie, during his daring successful rescue of the child; and other adventures. The villains die of their injuries at the mountain gorge. Willie discovers that the rich mines visited during the chase are his own property, willed to him by his father, and he lives to restore Gertie to the arms of her distracted parents, and in due time to make her his wife.

THE STAGE IN THE 18th CENTURY.

With the death of Barry in 1777, the retirement of Garrick the year before, Mrs. Cibber and Mrs. Woffington dead, Mrs. Pritchard and Mrs. Clive in retirement—says Mr. H. B. Irving in an article with the above title in the *Fortnightly*—a generation of great players had passed from the stage. But in 1782 the glory of the theatre was revived by the first appearance of Mrs. Siddons as Isabella in the *Fatal Marriage* at Drury Lane. It was not her first appearance in London. Garrick had engaged her seven years before; but she had not been cast for parts that suited her; her genius was yet unmatured, and Garrick had failed to detect even the promise of it. Now she astonished and electrified her audience by the power of her declamation, the intensity of her passion. In 1785 she reached the zenith of her greatness by her performance of Lady Macbeth. The year before, old Mrs. Clive, then over seventy years of age, had come up from her retirement at Twickenham to see the new actress who had so taken the town by storm. She was eagerly asked what she thought of her; her reply is a truly delightful criticism: "Think!" she said, "why, I think it's all truth and daylight!" The year after Mrs. Siddons's appearance as Isabella, her brother, John Kemble, had made a distinct success at Drury Lane as Hamlet; it was the beginning of a career honourable and distinguished. The Kembles were the first great players who had sprung from the itinerant ranks of their calling. Their father, Roger, had been a strolling player, and many were the hardships that John Kemble and his brother Stephen would relate of their own strolling days. The adversity of their early lives had given the Kembles—John and Mrs. Siddons—strong and resolute characters; they were honourable, upright, worthy people, with all their rather Crummles-like solemnity, players who supported the dignity and independence of their calling. Their history lies to a great extent in the nineteenth century. The school of acting they introduced had neither the fire and vivacity of that of Garrick nor the fierceness and intensity of that of Kean and George Frederick Cooke. With some allowance for the prejudice of an actress whom Mrs. Siddons eclipsed, Mrs. Barry's account of the Kemble style of acting has some truth in it. "The Garrick school," she said, "was all rapidity and passion; while the Kemble school is so full of paw and pause, that, at first, the performers thinking their new competitors had either lost their cues or forgotten their parts, used frequently to prompt them." That solemn pause, which in theatrical history has become associated with the name of Macready, would seem to have had its origin with the Kembles. But the genius of Mrs. Siddons, the undoubted power of John Kemble in all that was eloquent and dignified in tragedy, these must not be confounded with, or judged by, the mannerisms which their admirers or pupils copied and converted into a habit of acting that had all the faults but none of the genius of the originals. No actor or actress has ever left so unmistakable an impress on those who saw them, won such an unanimous tribute of praise from the most diverse critics as Mrs. Siddons; in tragedy she is supreme in the history of our English theatre. "Of actors," said Lord Byron, "Cooke was the most natural, Kemble the most supernatural, Kean the medium between the two. But Mrs. Siddons was worth them all put together." We are apt to think to-day that there was something mechanical, stagey, rather unnatural, about even Mrs. Siddons, with all her greatness. Those who would correct such an impression may refer to Charles Young, the actor's, account of her entrance as Volumnia in *Coriolanus*, in the scene of her son's triumph. Most actresses had been content to follow the procession with the conventional stately steps of the tragedy queen; but Mrs. Siddons recollected she was the proud mother of a proud son: "Instead of dropping each foot at equi-distance in cadence subservient to the orchestra, deaf to the guidance of her woman's ear, with head erect and hands pressed firmly to her bosom, as if to repress by manual force its triumphant swellings, she towered above all around her, and almost reeled across the stage, her very soul, as it were, dilating and rioting in its exultations, until her action lost all grace and yet became so true to nature, so picturesque, and so descriptive, that pit and gallery sprang to their feet, electrified by the transcendent execution of the conception." Few written criticisms can give any real picture of a great piece of acting; this one comes very near to it. We catch a glimpse of the power and originality, the "truth and daylight," as Mrs. Clive called it, of Mrs. Siddons's acting; we see her doing a daring and difficult thing that mght well have been absurd or vulgar but for the genius of the artist.

Mrs. Siddons, though a woman, could not escape the penalty of success in these days any more than Garrick. No sooner had she won her great triumph in London than scurrilous attacks were made on her private character and that of her brother. Her morality being unassailable, Mrs. Siddons was attacked and caricatured as an ungenerous, grasping woman, whose only desire as an artist was to get money, who was deaf to all prayers of suffering or distress, who would even suffer her relatives to starve or subsist on public charity, sooner than give them a shilling of her great earnings. She and her brother were falsely accused of neglecting their aged father, and refusing assistance to their most eccentric sister, Mrs. Curtis. Mrs. Siddons may not have been as liberal with her money as some of her fellow-artists, but we must always remember that she was the mother of five children and supported her husband. Even if there had been any truth in the charges of meanness levelled against her, they were no concern of the public; but that is a later view. At the end of the eighteenth century, in the very zenith of her success, such libellous statements were sufficient to persuade an audience at Drury Lane Theatre to greet Mrs. Siddons with yells and hoots of disapprobation, and to compel her to address them in her defence. The actor was just as exposed at the end of the century as in the time of Garrick to the slander of some malicious penman or the brutality of an audience. But John Kemble was manfully indifferent to such things, far more resolute in withstanding them than David Garrick. Kemble, with all his affectation of Roman dignity and solemn speech, had a nice sense of humour and a stout heart. It was a happy omen for the theatre when, towards the close of the century, John Kemble became manager of Drury Lane. Though he could not succeed in averting the ruin brought about by Sheridan's disreputable administration, he preserved the stage itself from many of the ill-effects of the patentee's unscrupulous extravagance. In 1802, weary of Sheridan, he took a share in the management of Covent Garden Theatre, and throughout the fifteen years that he governed its affairs, upheld those high traditions of theatrical administration, the legacy of Colley Cibber and David Garrick.

The traditions handed down to their successors by these eighteenth-century actors are worthy of the beautiful art they so faithfully pursued. The pure art of acting, unassisted by the collaboration of other arts, received in them its highest expression. The intention of all the arts, says Sir Joshua Reynolds—and he includes the art of the actor among them—is to supply the natural imperfection of things; they are addressed not to the gross senses, but to the desires of the mind, to that spark of divinity which we have within, impatient of being circumscribed and pent up by the world that is about us; painting and acting are as far removed from the vulgar idea of imitation as the refined civilised state in whch we live is removed from a gross state of nature. I believe that the conditions of the eighteenth-century theatre were peculiarly favourable to the realisation by the actor of these, the highest possibilities of his art, that he had to make a single, an individual appeal to the imaginations, the emotions of his audience which taxed to the full all the resources of art, of temperament, of intelligence that he possessed.

And to follow his art in this eighteenth century, the would-be player had to be prepared to face difficulties and disadvantages which to-day have disappeared. I have in these papers been obliged to confine myself to the London stage; we have seen that there the actor had to endure much that was odious, that he was exposed on occasions to treatment which to-day is regarded by all sensible people as a relic of Puritan barbarism. But the ambitious actor who began his career as a strolling player had to endure, if we may accept the reminiscences of John Kemble, such humiliation, ignominy, actual suffering, as only a great devotion to his work could have determined a man of ordinary sensitiveness to go through. Towards the end of the century, however, a great improvement in these conditions took place. Instead of booths and barns, the provincial actor began to find in the more considerable towns theatres ready to receive him. Within a period of ten years, theatres were patented at Edinburgh, Bath, Norwich, York, Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, Chester, and Bristol, and at the end of the century we find the London "stars," Kemble, Mrs. Siddons, and others, for the first time making tours to the chief provincial centres. The theatre was becoming more and more a part of the life of the people, and, unprotected, unassisted by the State, more and more at the mercy of popular taste. No art that is left to the mercy of popular taste, that has to fight for its existence, can escape some measure of corruption. In the case of every other theatre in Europe, of every other art in England save theatrical art, this truth has been realised. It is the art of the actor that has suffered most in the course of the struggle; long runs, constant performances, no reasonable man will deny, are baneful to the artist. Perhaps some persons in this country may be found who will say that the art of the actor is not worthy of protection or encouragement; there are persons to whom it gives quite exceptional delight to call violinists "fiddlers," writers "ink-slingers," painters "daubers," and actors "mummers." They are the Philistines, and belong to all centuries. We see them at their fell work in the eighteenth as well as the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. But an impartial study of the history of this eighteenth-century theatre proves to us conclusively that, under propitious conditions, England is a soil as favourable to the production of fine actors as any other, and that the traditions of the English stage are as deserving as those of any other theatre of fostering care and preservation. That any esteem approaching the conditions of our eighteenth-century theatres could ever be reproduced in our own time may be a vain, a delusive hope; and we shall be perhaps forced to content ourselves with looking back with longing and regret to the splendid vitality, the zealous emulation, the spacious record of those great and palmy days of the English actors.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Variéties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Subscriptions already announced	£430 17 7
Mrs. Bunbury Thompson	10 0 0
Ada Blanche	1 1 0
J. G. Crichton, Glasgow	0 5 0
William Forbes	0 5 0
Mrs. C. H. Stephenson	0 2 0
Collected by Willis Armitage:—	
W. A.	0 5 0
T. Haggarty	0 1 0
R. Hunter	0 1 0
G. D. V.	0 1 0
J. K.	0 1 0
D. D.	0 1 0
T. R.	0 1 0
C. R.	0 1 0
W. G.	0 1 0
J. H.	0 1 0
R. G.	0 1 0
P. M.	0 1 0
D. K.	0 1 0
R. G. S.	0 1 0
T. J.	0 1 0
J. P.	0 1 0

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

CONSIDERABLE improvement has recently been made in the ventilating arrangements of Queen's Hall so that the comfort of both smokers and non-smokers will be increased. The opening promenade concert will be given on Saturday next.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

The Rev. J. Cartmel-Robinson, vicar of St. Michael and All Angels', Bedford Park, is strong in his defence of the drama.

"I have always said," he remarks, "that the drama was the best and highest form of literature. No one can read the tragedies of Æschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and later of men like our own Shakespeare, without feeling that the school of the humanities is somehow more truthfully represented there than in any other form of literature. And so I remember in the old parish whence I came, in the slums of the East End, it was my pleasure and privilege to reopen a theatre which, with its stock company—the best kind of company, I think—produced melodrama of the good old kind, not always quite true, making our friend 'Thomas Atkins' rather a swaggerer, who put the flag round him and died the death of a hero, whereas he is not like that, but a very prosaic person, with few ideals, who works for his wage and goes through the world with his mouth shut, and least of all a braggart among the soldiers of the nations.

"When one comes to deal with the relation between the Church and the theatre, one must at once confess that the relationship is better now than perhaps it has been at any former time. There was a period in England when the theatre, and all forms of art, and æstheticism, in every shape and form, were regarded as bad, when it was a sin to love anything that was fair and beautiful. By what process men arrived at this lamentable conclusion I don't know, because if God made things beautiful, and gave us a seeing eye, then it was natural we should love the best when we saw it, and it would have been a mere mockery if God had made beautiful things on the earth and we had not had any faculty within ourselves by which we could appreciate them. And, therefore, Puritanism did make a mistake in its day and generation. I have a respect for Puritanism as representing the sterner side of life, so necessary for everybody; but one must confess it has very serious limitations, and one of the worst things it did for our religion was to dehumanise it. The religious people of to-day, not only in this dear mother Church of ours, but also among the Nonconformist churches—that is to say, among all those whose progenitors were the iconoclasts of a former age—are beginning to appreciate the ritual of worship, and to appreciate art. There are some, of course, in every parish who object to a theatre, especially in their own neighbourhood, who nevertheless think it legitimate to go to one when they come to London on business. But there are also some who have a real rooted objection, and we ought to be willing to consider such an objection. There is such a thing as a conscientious objection, but when we plead for the conscience we ought to realise that God needs an enlightened conscience. If it were not so, then the Anarchist, who throws bombs at kings and governors, and kills women and little children, because he did it conscientiously would do it legitimately. It must be enlightened, and not merely the prejudice of a person with no real acquaintance with the theatre, the drama, or the actor, except, perhaps, what they have gathered from the enemies of the dramatic art. To say that the theatre is an evil place is a base assumption, a hypothesis which they have not proved. The question is not whether there is any evil in the theatre, but if it is inherent and a necessary part of the theatre. If it were, of centre, theatres should be closed forthwith by the law of the land. But evil is not more inherent in the theatre than it is in the church or chapel.

"The functions of the stage, I suppose, are chiefly to entertain, recreate, and educate. I do of set purpose occasionally go to the theatre when life sets into the ruts and seems to lose its expansiveness and rebound and I feel the horizon is narrowing around me a bit and the colour of it is getting grey. Yes, I go to the theatre at such times for recreation, and I may say I nearly always find it. The life of the average man is somewhat hard and colourless, and our occupations, from the highest to the lowest, are not always what we would like, and recreation is necessary. What are we to do? We are to choose some form of recreation, I think, which shall at once be really recreative and renew the life within us, and we find that in the theatre—at least, I do. I should not advise anyone to go there who has no hope of finding it, or thinks it to be unclean. But the theatre, as an educative medium, I hold to be one of the best institutions in the land. We get there what we cannot get anywhere else—certainly not in the pulpit. The plays of Bernard Shaw—I think he wants some understanding, as Wagner in his music dramas—are amongst some of the best sermons I have ever heard. If 'the proper study of mankind is man,' I am certain one gets it at the hands of the playwright and through the impersonation of the actor better than one can anywhere else. Vice and meanness and sins of all kinds are rebuked. Very often I notice those sins which are the sins of the respectable man outwardly, and which do not pass for sins with the average well-to-do citizen; sins for which he is seldom or never rebuked from the pulpit. Such sins, I say, are treated by the dramatist in a most effective way, and in the hands of a clever actor show us ourselves as no other can. Of course, there are some plays we ought not to go to at all, and there are others we ought to be careful about sending our children to. Of the problem play we can have too much. It may be necessary for the student, but I fancy that when you have it in excess, to say the least it is morbid and unhealthy. The same may be said of 'realistic' plays. It is a good thing to have a drain and a coal-hole, and to know that they are all right—if not, to make them right—but one does not want to live down there in the darkness or among the evil smells continually.

"I have seen in the musical dramas of Wagner some magnificent spiritual truth, *Lohengrin*, *Parsifal*, indeed, all of them are full of finest inspiration. They have touched me as no sermon ever did. We cannot wipe out the dramatic instinct; it is inherent-born with us, and only dies when we die. Therefore, let us see to it that we encourage only what is wise and good and true, for we should not reform the theatre by staying away from it. The Church knew the dramatic instinct and nature, and in the Middle Ages prepared those wonderful plays which were the forerunners of the great plays of the immortal man, 'the bard of Avon'—our own Shakespeare. He himself said, 'The world's a stage, and men and women merely players.' We have our exits and our entrances. We pass through the great world-drama until we come to the end, and then the curtain rings down, and the house of life is empty."

WE regret to hear that Mr. Will Simpson, comedian and clown, late of Drury Lane Theatre, is lying in the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, having to undergo an operation.

MISS IVY MILLAIS, late of Mr. Wm. Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company, has been engaged by Mr. Albert Wyndham for Prince Arthur in his provincial tour, having made a distinct success in his King John sketch.

THE New Theatre, Aberdare, was reopened on Monday, after the recent renovation, with Mr. Whitmore Ledger and Miss Hettie Jeffries and a strong cast in *The Curate*. Miss Jeffries is exceedingly good in the part of Dick the Trumpeter. The same may be said of Mr. Whitmore Ledger as the Russian spy. Others of the company include Mr. Geoffrey Broughton as the curate, Messrs. Frank Stuart, Alfred Horton, Misses Winifred Stuart, Annie Stuart, and Msis Agnes d'Aragon.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Theo. Cremer,
entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

The Fatal Wedding, the Bank Holiday attraction at the Marlborough, was first played in London at the Princess's Theatre on Aug. 25, 1902, and commended itself to popular favour as an excellent example of modern melodrama. Of American origin, and strongly flavoured with sensational incidents, the piece abounds in broadly-contrasted characters, and the author has also supplied the comic relief with a liberal hand. The plot turns upon the estrangement of a husband and wife, brought about by an unscrupulous man about town and an adventuress of the usual stage type. Howard Wilson is led to believe that his wife Mabel has been unfaithful to him, and, upon somewhat flimsy evidence, brings an action for divorce and gains a verdict. The unhappy mother is forbidden to see her two children, but with the assistance of a couple of faithful servants, takes them away with her. Then the sympathy of the audience is aroused by the sight of Mabel Wilson in a poorly-furnished attic in a New York tenement, endeavouring to earn a livelihood for herself and children by means of needlework. The boy is seriously ill, and the agent of the landlord threatens ejectment unless the overdue rent is paid. The villain and the adventuress pay a visit to the attic, and the last-mentioned makes an attempt to poison Mabel, whose little girl, quite by accident, drops the wineglass containing the deadly draught, and so saves her mother. It is in this obscure retreat that Howard Wilson discovers his wife and children, and takes means to have the invalid boy and the girl restored to their luxurious home. Of course there is the usual happy ending, while due punishment for their sins overtakes the bad characters in the piece.

Mr. Wilson Howard portrays with due care and distinction the part of Howard Wilson; and Mr. Guy Hastings is quite successful in his embodiment of Robert Curtis, his acting being particularly good in the later scenes, when the villain shows evidence of deterioration as the result of excessive drinking. Miss Katherine Clarke, without any tendency to exaggerate, displays natural feeling as the heroine Mabel Wilson; and Miss Leah Marlborough excellently embodies the scheming adventuress Cora Williams. Very popular characters are Toto, a French butler, and Bridget, a cook, who befriend the unfortunate heroine, these two rôles being played with much spirit and a true sense of humour by Mr. Edward Morgan and Miss Blanche Stanley. Mr. Walter Westwood must also be complimented on his capital rendering of the stolid German, Peter Schwartz; and Mr. Jack Waring wins favour as O'Reilly, a good-hearted policeman. Miss Madge McCalla plays in charming style the part of Jessie, the "little mother," who helps her mother, and says rude things to the wicked adventuress. Mr. Arthur Law Raynor does well as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford; other parts being assigned to Miss Florrie Lucas, Master Jack Crisp, Master Percy Franklin, and Miss Ethel Perry. The third act is greatly brightened by the songs and dances given by a number of children headed by Miss Dolly McCalla, who, assisted by the chorus, successfully gives "Yankee Doodle Dandy" and "Cariboo," an Indian coon song and dance. Master Walter Aubrey scores with a neat step-dance; Miss Ivy Westaby sings "Absence makes the heart grow fonder"; Miss Madge McCalla, the dainty "little mother," gives "Honey, won't you stop teasing me?"; and Miss Winnie Crisp, a clever juvenile toe-dancer, gives the descriptive song, "A picnic for two." Mr. Bert Coote is responsible for the production and arrangement; and the scenery gives complete satisfaction.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Saturday, August 4,
the Drama, by George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley,
entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

The King's reopened its doors for the autumn season on Saturday evening with this eminently celebrated Princess's play. The audience on Monday evening—a thorough Bank Holiday one—enjoyed to the utmost the exciting and pathetic incidents of the play. The company is judiciously selected, and in consequence the story of the play moves easily along. Mr. W. D. Fazan is an excellent and manly George Thornton, and Captain Darville is a capable impersonation in the hands of Mr. Henry Watson. The John Scarth of Mr. Edmund Cuthbert is of merit, and Mr. Jack Royal as Leeson, the soldier servant, acts satisfactorily. Mr. John F. Traynor makes a sturdy and amusing villain, Bill Mullins, alias "The Gaffer," and his confederates, Dido Bunce and The Cough Drop, find exceedingly clever representatives in Mr. Ernest K. Nelson and Mr. Fred Archer. Hargitt, the landlord of the Chequers, is ably played by Mr. Marston Moor, and the Joe Gargoyle of Mr. Hugh Holliman is keenly relished. Miss Grace Heywood enlists the warmest sympathy of the audience by her really fine acting of the much-wronged wife, Marion Thornton, and her success is most emphatic. Miss F. Russell Spiers is a pleasant Barbara Scarth, and Miss Muriel Clay's rendering of Nurse Randall deserves praise. Miss Marie Pritchard proves herself an actress of exceptional merit, and earns much applause by her bright picture of the villain's wife, Biddy Mullins. Of course, the chief interest centres in the sayings and doings of the "two little vagabonds," Dick and Wally, played by Miss May Hart and Miss Margaret Nybloc. Their bearing is boy-like, and the acting of both is very pathetic, bringing tears to the eyes of many hardened playgoers. It is a pleasure to say that their success was immediate and absolutely well deserved. The scenery was of a high order, and the music of Mr. Clarence C. Corri in good taste.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Theo Cremer,
entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Like the good wine that needs no bush, *The Fatal Wedding* requires no recommendation to playgoers, whose interests it has served worthily and well for many years past. As a result, the popular parts of the well-appointed house at Clapham Junction have this week been crowded, and the elegant auditorium has resounded with cheers intermingled with shouts of laughter. The production is that of Mr. Bert Coote, whose name is an assurance of excellence, and the play has been set with striking elaboration and care, the scene of the Fifth-avenue Church, in which the title of the piece is realised, being very impressive. Another important scene is that of the richly-furnished drawing-room, in which a number of New York "slum" children take part in various specialities. Songs and dances are supplied in this scene by Master E. Frisby, Miss Ethel Priss, Master J. Grice, a diminutive clog-dancer, Miss Nora and Essie Herbert, and Miss Margaret Perry, who is responsible with assistants for an Indian love-scena, in which the romance of rival red men is depicted. Another contributor to the speciality entertainment is Miss Marjorie Lawrence, the impersonator of Daisy. The dainty little lady won great popularity in the Shakespeare pantomime this Christmas, and her welcome was most cordial. She portrays the "little mother" of the play with constant vivacity and no little dramatic skill, and her artless roguery and winning way make her a general favourite. Mr. Ernest Owttrim, an actor of sterling ability, has the part of Howard Wilson, and enacts the varied phases of the difficult character with rare judgment, his clear and distinct enunciation proving again invaluable in the stirring lines he has to deliver. Mabel Wilson, the hapless wife, is portrayed with great emotional power by Miss Madge Haines, whose wifely devotion and maternal affection are very affecting. A sound and well-studied impersonation of the Rev. Dr. Lanceford is given by Mr. Somers Bellamy, whose appearance and manner are quite in accord with the character of the estimable clergyman, his elocutionary accomplishments being also agreeably evident. Mr. Herbert Humber reveals the despicable qualities of the evil-minded Robert Curtis; and the relentless Cora Williams is strongly portrayed by Miss Gertrude Harrison, whose stylish appearance and refined manner serve to intensify the spite and malevolence of the rôle. Miss Maud Locker supplies a humorous performance of the buxom Bridget, and to her credit must be placed a large share of the merriment which arises during the evening. A large producer of mirth is also found in Toto, the French butler, as played by Mr. C. H. Hughes; Mr. George Waring as the policeman O'Reilly adds appreciably to the joviality of the evening; and the kindly Peter Schwartz is impersonated with zest and animation by Mr. Cyril Melton. Master E. Hicking is a natural exponent of Jessie's little brother Frank; and Miss Grace Essex, Miss Hettie Kelly, and Master J. Barclay are also associated with small parts as friends of the "little mother."

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama entitled
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

After being closed for a few weeks, this theatre opened on Bank Holiday for the autumn season. The large audiences on Monday found a play which suited their tastes admirably, for, in the American drama, *A Fight for Millions*, there is every kind of sensational incident, from the wreck of a train in a tunnel to the escape of the hero in a submarine, the latter scene being capitally staged. There are introduced several musical numbers. One song especially, "Pal of mine," has a very pretty refrain, and is well sung by Mr. Robert Perris, who makes his appearance as Dudley, the scheming adventurer of the story, and plays the part with much skill. Mr. John C. Carlyle gives a finished and straightforward embodiment of Tom Manley; it is a natural and easy piece of acting, and is much applauded. Helen Dudley, the deserted wife, is portrayed in a pathetic manner by Miss Elma C. Turner; and the little child Madge is charmingly played by Miss Doris Howe. As the tramp, Willie Neverwork, Mr. Harry Howe makes the most of his opportunities, and is decidedly amusing; his laughing song is quite a feature of the entertainment. Mr. George Beresford does well as Hudson Rivers; and Miss Nora King is good as Mrs. Rivers. Miss Eva Purcell is seen to advantage as Pearl Rivers; and Miss Lottie Pearce is very bright as Mag Brady, and scores with her song and dance. Solomon Moses is ably and humorously embodied by Mr. Karl H. Edwards; and Mr. N. Conway is good as Hobbs, the butler. The other characters are well filled. The play is well mounted, and the production is under the management of Mr. Robert Perris.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Play by Tomashevsky,
with Last Act by John Jackson, entitled
"CAPTAIN DREYFUS."

When the history of France for the present generation is written, the story of Captain Dreyfus will occupy an important position in its pages. The narrative of the prisoner of Devil's Island, the intrigue of people in high places, the unflinching courage of the victim reads like a chapter from Dumas, and, told baldly with a close adherence to facts, becomes a story of thrilling interest—a story of one of the greatest fights for justice ever recorded. Upon the events in this celebrated case a play has been written by Tomashevsky, and since the recent necessary reparation to the gallant major an original last act by John Jackson has been successfully introduced into the piece, which on Monday evening was received with enthusiasm by an audience which packed the house from floor to ceiling. That the Yiddish patrons of the Pavilion continue to give unqualified support to the enterprising management is fully evidenced by the large crowds at each performance, and Mr. Donald Munro, the general-manager, together with the business-manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, and Mr. Fred Brown, the acting-manager, are to be warmly congratulated on the exceptional talent they engage with such excellent results. As Alfred Dreyfus, Mr. M. D. Waxman gave a capable and well-balanced impersonation, which was marked by earnestness and a painstaking appreciation of the requirements of the part; and Mr. Gusofsky as Colonel Picard acquitted himself in a manner that left nothing to be desired; while Mr. Streng made a competent General Briset. Mr. J. Fineberg proved himself an actor of unquestionable ability, and gave a capital delineation of the villainous Esterhazi; and the assuasive artistic style of Mr. J. Scherman was eminently suited as the scheming Colonel Henry. Mr. Rosenfield presented a forcible rendition of Pati de Clam; and Mr. Isaacowitz deserves praise for his acting as De Mange and Caveniak. Lucy Dreyfus was played with tenderness and feeling by Mme. R. Waxman; and Mme. F. Waxman as the Princess of Meternik displayed much judgment, and gave suitable point to the sentiment expressed in many of her lines. Mr. Zeidel was a satisfactory Procurator; and the unusual experience of a musical director enacting a character was found in Professor F. Staub, who infused much vigour and dignity into and delivered with good elocutionary effect the speech of the advocate Monard in the last act. The scenery, mounting, and dresses were in the best possible taste, while the stage-management was excellent. The week's programme includes *The Seder Night*, *Alexander*, *Medea*, *Ahasuerus*, and *Meturef* and *King Lear*.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

The excellent representation of *The Bells of Haslemere*, given by the Standard Theatre stock company, is this week crowding the house to excess. On Monday, at both performances, the audience was large and enthusiastic, and the share of applause allotted to each artist as he or she appeared afterwards proved to have been well deserved. Once again the favourite actor, Mr. Ashley Page, holds a prominent position in the cast, and as the hero, Frank Beresford, he contributes a performance of sterling value. Next on the list of honours comes Miss Marion Denvil as Evelyn Brookfield. She sweetly acts the part of the loving, confiding, and trusting sweetheart of Beresford, and plays throughout with marked skill. Mr. Alfred Harding as John Silkstone imbues the part with all the brutality and hard-heartedness we expect to find in a character of this kind. Support comes from Mr. Chas. A. Chandler as Captain Vere and Mr. John Sargent as Joseph Thorndyke. A word of praise is due to both of these gentlemen for their excellent and lifelike delineations. Mr. F. L. Lawrence plays with manly bearing as Matthew Brookfield; and hearty laughter is the result of the untiring efforts of Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Reuben Armstrong. He keeps the ball of fun successfully rolling with the able assistance of Miss Mattie Everett as Dorothy Tremble. A characteristic sketch of Patrick Desmond, an Irish settler in America, is supplied by Mr. Frank Woodville; and Mr. Tom Taylor is well placed and very successful as Captain Salem. Toby, a negro, Seth Thomas, and Abe Jeffs have satisfactory impersonators in Mr. D. J. Hennessy, Mr. Richard Cameron, and Mr. Harry James respectively; and Mr. Chas. Edwards is all that can be desired as Inspector Quick. Miss Georgie de Lara plays with pathos and feeling as Mary Northcote; and Miss Maggie Byron acts with decided charm the rôle of Norah Desmond. The scenery and effects employed in this drama go a long way towards making the production what it is—a complete success. Mr. H. A. Chappell, Mr. Melville's energetic and courteous acting-manager, is once more back at his post, after a well-deserved rest from his arduous duties.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Play in Four Acts,
by A. Conan Doyle, entitled
"BRIGADIER GERARD."

In booking Mr. Lewis Waller's company in *Brigadier Gerard* Mr. Clarence Sounes is to be congratulated on securing a stirring, romantic play, which should appeal alike to popular as to more sophisticated audiences. That all sections of the large audience assembled on Monday night were thoroughly pleased with their entertainment was, at any rate, very obvious from the hearty applause, which was continuous throughout the evening. The company, which starts its tour this week, has been carefully selected and well rehearsed, and the play is mounted and staged with unusual elaboration. Mr. Loring Fernie is particularly well cast as Gerard, giving an excellent rendering of the hot-headed and none too clear-witted Hussar, who is, nevertheless, cleverly shown to be quite as brave and by no means such a fool as his own accounts of himself would indicate. Miss Beatrice Lindley is also well suited as the Comtesse de Roquelaure, her impassioned appeal to the Emperor and her prettily rendered love scene with Gerard showing her, perhaps, at her best. As Talleyrand, Mr. George Mallett submits a clever character-sketch, excellent in conception and in execution. Mr. Arthur Somers plays the Emperor on safe, if somewhat traditional, lines; Mr. Elliott Ball acts Major Olivier with the necessary swagger and braggadocio; Mr. Penn Hamilton makes a decided hit as D'Albert, the secret service agent; and Mr. James Crowe plays the secretary with a decided touch of humour. The smaller parts are all capably handled, worthy of special mention being the clever Agnes of Miss Gertrude Beatie, and the amusing Papilette of Mr. Arthur Bowyer.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by F. S. Jennings,
entitled
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

Mr. Samuel James wisely selected this new drama, from the pen of his able lieutenant at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, the engagement being the initial one of the long provincial tour for which it is booked. The production has been well patronised by large and enthusiastic audiences. The drama itself was very fully noticed in our columns on its original production at Hammersmith, and it is only necessary to call attention to the very adroit manner in which Mr. Jennings has utilised his experience in melodrama-writing in constructing the many excellent situations that occur in the progress of the play. Mr. James has spared no expense in the mounting, everything being on a very elaborate scale. A very competent company has been engaged for the tour, Mr. H. H. Barrington as Mark Williams giving a capital performance of great merit, particularly in the second act. Mr. Leonard Lawrence as Jack Stanton acts with force and manliness, and leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Lewis Gilbert enacts the heavy rôle with ease and distinction; Mr. Norman Hall as Spanker is a comedian of resource and ability, and deserves congratulations for a really funny performance; Mr. J. Thorpe Tracy as Nias submitted a humorous study; as did Mr. E. Tressner in the small part of a butler. Mr. Fred May was seen to advantage in the small rôle of Simpson; Mr. Eric was very commendable as Captain James; Miss Marie McAuley as Kate D'Arville gave an excellent performance in the heavy rôle; Miss Gertrude Bonser was sympathetic as Nora Williams; Miss Florence Lovell portrayed Mrs. Nias in an amusing style; and Miss Ella Seton supplied a bright performance as the maid. Miss Irene Ross as the boy gave a clever and altogether admirable study; and lesser parts were all in good hands. The drama was cordially received.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Romantic Play, by William P. Sheen,
entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

After being closed for two months, this popular South London house opened on Bank Holiday to a very large audience, who gave a deservedly cordial welcome to *The Temptress*. The piece is full of exciting incidents and ingeniously contrived situations, while the author has not forgotten the necessity of providing a due amount of the comic element. Mr. Roy Redgrave presents a capital rendering of the soldier hero Philip Welford, his physical advantages lending additional success to the rôle. Miss Olga Andre is fascinating, and plays with much success as the adventuress Stella Lady Fordyce, the female temptress, who lures her victims to their ruin. That sterling actor, Mr. Frank Lister, plays with much effect as the lion tamer Pedro Gonzales, the foreign accent being well sustained throughout. Mr. Lister is seen to much advantage in his scene in the third act, when he is blinded with vitriol by the Temptress. Miss Daisy Murch is a sweet and gentle Marion Fordyce; and Miss Eva Dare is bright and amusing as Rhoda Brown, a young wife addicted to flirting, Mr. George Villiers obtaining many a laugh as her jealous old husband. Mr. Jack Denton helps the fun of the play very materially as Francis FitzFluke. Mr. Wingold Lawrence soon becomes a popular favourite as the manly young East End parson Austin Dale; and Mr. J. C. Aubrey submits a powerful rendering of the utterly unscrupulous Lucas Denbigh. Mr. Herbert Woodin extracts a good deal of fun out of the part of the little circus clown Bob Tanner; and Mr. Edwin J. Arthur is good as the villain's accomplice Caleb Blake. Madge Denbigh, the oppressed wife of the villain, is capitally played by Miss Marion Turner and Mr. H. C. Cooper makes the most of his opportunities as Sir Oswald Fordyce. The scenery and effects are quite up to the mark. Special music has been composed for the production by Mr. Ben Barrow. Mr. Will T. Taylor, the courteous acting-manager, is still here to welcome his numerous patrons.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the American Drama, in Four Acts,
by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

The Still Alarm is proving a great attraction at this theatre, and is interpreted by an excellent all-round company controlled by Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. As the hero, Jack Manley, Mr. Glenville makes an ideal fireman, strong and resolute in will and manner. He is a tender chivalrous lover, and his performance could scarcely be bettered. Mr. George Arthur as John Bird, the villain of the piece, earns the execrations of the audience by his diabolical plots to wreck the happiness of Jack Manley and his sweetheart. Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley is bright and cheery, and Mr. Fred Osmond, as the drunken old reprobate, Doc Wilber, is exceedingly clever in his delineation of the part. Mr. J. Sutton Pateman as Franklyn Fordham gives a careful rendering of the old merchant, and as Joe Nozzle, Mr. T. Varney provokes great amusement by his antics at the fire station. As Mrs. Manley, Miss Mabel Veriton is successful on her portrayal of the character, and Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber, is bright and clever. Her rendering of "Maid of Hindostan" is received with much applause. As the heroine, Elinor Fordham, Miss Maud Warburton is excellent. She brings to her work a graceful and charming manner, and firmly establishes herself a favourite with the audience. All the smaller parts are capably acted, and some glees and part songs are excellently rendered by the Lyric Comedy Four, who further participate in the piece as firemen. No notice of this play would be complete without reference to the admirably trained horses "Pegasus" and "Bucephalus." Mr. Herbert Leonard continues to act in his usual courteous manner as business-manager, and the incidental music is well rendered under the direction of Mr. Stephen E. Blythe.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, by Mark Melford, entitled
"FLYING FROM JUSTICE."

Mr. F. S. Jennings, the popular manager of this theatre, has made a wise choice in placing *Flying from Justice* before the Hammersmith public this week. Mr. Arthur Bawtree and Miss Minnie Grey undertake the leading parts of John Lacaney and Mildred Parkes effectively. To Mr. Fred Morgan as Haldane Gully a word of congratulation is certainly due; Mr. J. P. Dryden as Major Parkes, Mr. Geo. K. Askly as Tanner, and Mr. A. P. Kaye as Woodruff are successful; Mr. J. E. Manning makes a decided hit as Jim Kimber; as Charles Bearing Mr. Bert Morley is well placed; a highly-entertaining embodiment is that of Winnie Bradley by Miss Nellie Fletcher, who shows her genuine ability; Miss Nellie Gilmore is much appreciated in the part of Mrs. Bearing.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Drama, by Lilian Clare Cassidy, entitled
"IN HOLY (!) RUSSIA."

The Dalston Theatre reopened its doors on Monday evening after the summer recess. The first programme after the vacation is provided by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company, in the drama with the significant title, *In Holy (!) Russia*. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy sustains the part of Renee Rubinoff, who has escaped from Siberia, and her trials and troubles are followed with breathless interest. Sir Harry Beresford finds a suitable representative is Mr. Frank Copeland. The Tsar of Russia is impersonated by Mr. Robert Cockcroft; Count Gregori Petrolski (the people's friend) is vigorously portrayed by Mr. Horace Butler; Mr. Terence Nerrey is Captain of the Russian Guard; Mr. Arthur Stratton introduces humorous effect into the character of Colonel Richard Forrest; and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy also aids materially as Micky Nolan, servant to Colonel Forrest, in some of the lighter scenes in the play. Miss Annie Dudley is Mrs. Richard Forrest, and Miss Mavis Lee Anderson gives a startling portrayal of a woman police-spy.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, August 6,
the Drama, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"DEATH OR GLORY BOYS."

The attraction at this popular house for the Bank Holiday week is the above stirring and picturesque military drama. It is excellently rendered by Mr. G. M. East's company, which includes in its cast of characters several well-known names. Mr. Henry Renouf, an old Peckham favourite, makes a manly and stalwart soldier hero as Jack Malden, and his fine voice gives great effect to the character. Mr. Charles Langley is a gallant Colonel Furgeson, and supplies an excellent portrait of the kindly old soldier. Miss Kathleen Russell looks very handsome as Nina Furgeson, and exhibits much emotion and sincerity in the part. Mr. Horace Hunter gives a clever and polished rendering of the rôle of the villain, Captain Glynn Ferrers, and his accomplice Carr is done full justice to by Mr. E. H. Brooks. Miss Ida Phillips is satisfactory as Edith Malden. Mr. Edward Coleman gets a large share of the favour of the audience as the trusty friend of the hero, Nat Wilks, who is at first a farm servant and afterwards enlists in the 17th Lancers. Sam, a yokel, becomes in the hands of Mr. Paul Peters a capital sketch of bucolic stupidity, and Miss Agnes Paulton is very pretty and piquant as Janet, Nat Wilks's sweetheart. Mr. Arthur Eldred is capital as "the fool of the regiment," Lieutenant Duff, and Mr. Charles Edwards gives a clever sketch as Sergeant Brim. The scenery and effects are quite adequate, and the whole production is very favourably received.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, August 6th,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Frederick Melville,
entitled
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in what is aptly billed as a whirlwind drama of surprises, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, fills the programme here this week. Drama and comedy well intermingled evidently pleased the large holiday-making audience which assembled on Monday, for they were loud in their laughter and unstinting in their applause. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as George Maddison plays the hero in a right manly fashion, and acts with an earnestness which carries distinction. As Sir George Lancaster Mr. Eric Campbell portrays the easily led old man with much skill. The audience are roused to a high pitch of resentment by the villainy of Charles Devereau and Lady Lucretia Lancaster, played by Mr. Louis Hector and Miss Octavia Noel. These parts are, indeed, in safe hands. Miss Barbara Gott as the Mother Superior is responsible for a fine reading of the part, her elocution in many long passages being excellent. Miss Minnie Westgate makes a pretty pathetic figure as Lucy, the ward of Sir George Lancaster, and by her unaffected acting completely charms the audience. Comedy in large measures, and of, indeed, a good kind is furnished by Mr. Fred de Vere and Miss Jennie Danvers as Timothy Tuttutt and Patty Lovejoy. Mr. Philip Renouf as Joe Lambkin, an old rustic, also causes much merriment. Mr. R. Vivian makes a good parson as the Rev. Mr. Dean. Mr. Leonard Maxwell is successful as Geoffrey Broughton, who aids in the villainy, and John William, a clerk, is ably played by Mr. Henry Milton. Little Lucy, as the daughter of the heroine, is very natural. Other characters are safe in the hands of Messrs. Louis Brown, W. Brooks, George Elsworthy, and Harry Norris. Great care is noticeable in the mounting and effects of the piece. Mr. S. A. Atkin is general-manager for Mr. Frederick Melville.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, August 8th,
in Four Acts, by G. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett,
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."

The pretty Coronet Theatre reopened after the vacation with typical Bank-holiday fare in the shape of the successful melodrama, *The Golden Ladder*. There is a ring of sterling worth about this piece, and all admire the pluck of the young missionary as much as they deplore the misfortunes that continually assail him. As this remarkably fine specimen of muscular Christianity—yclept Frank Thornhill—Mr. William Clayton does remarkably well, his fine presence and robust manner imbuing his performance with just the virile strength and sympathetic personality required. He speaks his lines, too, uncommonly well. Miss Mary Austin is very sweet as the persecuted heroine Lilian Grant; Mr. J. Milne Taylor and Mr. Vivian Edmunds are effectively villainous as the rascally cashier Michael Severn and the Greek adventurer M. Peranza; Mr. Fred Acton imparts strength and character to the part of Jim Dixon, and Mr. Joseph Rowlands and Miss Nellie Graham earn hearty commendation by their excellent performances as Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Peckaby, a couple of characters such as Mr. George R. Sims loves to put on the stage—poor but honest, and generous and large-hearted to a degree. Mr. Eric Thompson is good as the revengeful Malagasy servant Rao, and the rest of the large cast do ample justice to their tasks, Mr. T. C. Grenville, Mr. W. Chambers, Mr. Frank Martin, and Misses Winifred Acton, Mabel Gamont, and Fanny Williams especially deserving commendation. The scenery and mounting are excellent.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Wilson Barrett,
entitled
"THE MANXMAN."

Mr. Cross must be congratulated upon the excellent manner in which he has produced *The Manxman*; the company is a thoroughly capable one, and the mounting and dresses leave nothing to be desired. The character of Pete is undertaken by Mr. Cross, who gives a fine study of the warm-hearted Manxman. His performance in the fourth act is rewarded with abundance of applause, and the curtain has to be raised several times before he is allowed to depart. Miss Winnie Watersford gives Mr. Cross ample support by her performance of Kate Cregeen, which is well and consistently played. The character of the hypocritical Cæsar Cregan is well represented by Mr. James Dillon. Phillip Christian is well embodied by Mr. Frank Liston. Mr. Dudley Stuart makes the most of his opportunities as Ross Christian. Mr. Graham Winsford gives a good character study of the kind-hearted Doctor Mylcreest. Mr. Edward Cartell and Mr. Richard Hutton revel in their respective characters of Monty Missitt and Professor Mawley. Miss Mona Spearing is very good as Miss Christian, and brings a minor character into importance. Miss Dorothy Duncan causes a considerable amount of amusement by her humorous impersonation of Nancy. The smaller but indispensable characters of Tom the postman and John the constable are creditably undertaken by Messrs. J. Morgan and W. Horgan.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, August 6,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Sutton Vane,
entitled
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."

Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here this week on a return visit with the realistic drama *In Sight of St. Paul's*. As Captain Gridston, Mr. George D. Daiper plays with energy and force, his conception of the character being most lifelike. Mr. F. B. G. Richardson is well suited in the part of Harry Chichester, jun.; Mr. Ernest R. Allen is convincing as Tom Chichester; Mr. Herbert Sydney is responsible for a clever character study of Blidstein; Mr. Arthur Armfield plays with intelligence as Mr. H. Chichester, sen.; Mr. Geo. Slack's demeanour is excellent as Detective Clarkson; and Mr. Edward Valentine is responsible for a powerful portrayal of the unfortunate Fretley Burside. The important rôle of Cynthia Dell is sustained with forceful ability by Miss Lallah Davis, who is an actress of experience and resource; and Miss Constance Bellamy impersonates Aileen Millar in an easy and natural manner that can hardly be improved upon; Miss Amy Randolph as the Throstle is worthy of mention; Miss Jennie Hackness does well as Beatrice Moreland; and Miss F. Valentine does full justice to the maid-servant Rose. The play is mounted and staged in an effective way, and the acting all round is excellent.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

This theatre, which has now passed into the hands of Mr. Louis Calvert, reopened on Monday evening, when Mr. Giffard addressed the audience in the following terms:—"In the name of the new lessee, Mr. Louis Calvert, I have the privilege of bidding you welcome, and of introducing myself and Mr. Walter, his lieutenants, who will be managers of this theatre; and we are here to look after your interests and suit your convenience, which I assure you we shall do to the utmost of our power. We have already made one or two small innovations, such as a ladies' drawing-room on the circle floor. Here ladies will be able to retire and read the papers, to chat, and to write if they wish. Mr. Calvert is going to exert his influence to bring you the pick of West End productions, so that the Broadway Theatre will be second to no other suburban house."

Mr. Giffard was very warmly greeted, and retired amidst enthusiastic applause. The attraction this week is a return visit of the ever-welcome *Silver King*, presented by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. It is admirably acted throughout. Mr. Melford repeats his well-known rendering of Wilfred Denver, of which it is sufficient to say that it, if possible, improves with time. Mr. Charles Baird is very good indeed as the Spider; Mr. Tom Paulton gives an admirable study of Daniel Jaikes; Henry Corket is played in just the right spirit by Mr. Claude Vernon; the Eliah Coombe of Mr. Henry Osman is a capital character-sketch; the same remark applies to the Cripps of Mr. Charles H. Fenton; Mr. Allen Jeayes gives an earnest and manly rendering of Geoffrey Ware; Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is good as Samuel Baxter; as is Mr. Charles Birch in the part of Frank Selwyn; the Mr. Parkyn of Mr. Percy Store is a clever impersonation. Miss Victoria Addison is a charming Nellie Denver—powerful, and yet sympathetic; Miss Viola Holland plays Olive Skinner very pleasingly. The remaining rôles are all excellently sustained.

On the 5th inst. the employees of Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, the theatrical stores, Waterloo-road, S.E., held their tenth annual outing. The large party left Waterloo for Reading at 9.35. On arrival at Reading the visitors walked down to Caversham Lock, and boarded the commodious and well-appointed steam launch Queen of England. At midday an excellent luncheon was partaken of, and later on tea was served. A visit was paid to Monkey Island. During the trip a vocal and instrumental concert was given, many really capital turns being supplied. Among those contributing to the programme were Miss Daisy Fisher, Miss Kate Fisher, Mr. Stanley Knapman, Master Rayne, Mr. Holt, and others. Mr. O'Dell proved an efficient accompanist. On reaching Windsor, the party went to the Royal Oak Hotel, where Mr. T. Aves, in an eloquent speech, proposed a vote of thanks to the firm. Mr. Rayne, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, referred to the kindly feelings existing between the employees and the firm, and said as long as it was in his power he would do his best to see that their pleasant relations continued. He concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the committee, to which Mr. Hopwood suitably responded. The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Mr. W. Wright, who for many years held a responsible position with Messrs. Rayne; and a vote of thanks was passed to the hon. secretary, Mr. J. H. Wright, to Mr. Ives, and to Messrs. Smith, who had kindly supplied the printing and the covers of the very tasteful menu and programme booklet. The arrangements made reflected high credit on Miss Lottie Phillips, Miss May Jackson (whose absence through illness was regretted), Mr. Fred Fry, and Mr. Joe Reed, who formed the committee, and on Mr. J. H. Wright, the hon. secretary.

SALARIES IN THE FIFTIES.

BY E. EDMONDS.

The accompanying salary list of the Theatre Royal, Bristol, may be of interest to readers of *The Era*.

	£	s.	d.
John Rouse and wife	3	8	0
Mr. Wilton	1	5	0
E. Harwell	1	10	0
Edward Pritchard	0	18	0
Jane Jarrett	0	15	0
Mr. J. Lenox	2	5	0
Mr. Dobbins	1	10	0
Mr. Charles Quick	1	1	0
	2	2	0
Paul Pietro (clown)	4	13	4
Mr. Salmon	2	2	0
	1	5	0
Thaddeus Wells	1	11	0
Mr. C. Owen (property man)	1	4	0
Mr Richardson	1	4	0
Mr. S. Hughes	1	8	0
Mr. Williams	1	4	0
Mr. Brooke	1	5	0
Mr. Chapman	1	4	0
G. Davis	1	4	0
W. W. Webb	1	4	0
M. Pavey	1	4	0
George Rignold	1	10	0
Arthur Wood	2	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Robertson	(not stated)		
Madge (Mrs. Kendal) one night, Apparition, in *Macbeth*	0	2	0
Fred (her brother), Fleance	0	2	0
Mr. Marshall (old man)	2	10	0
John Chute	2	2	0
Harry Sinclair	2	0	0
W. J. Evans	2	10	0
E. Shepherd	1	1	0
Mr. Ravenscroft	1	1	0
George Ellis	1	10	0
David Evans	1	10	0
Charles Adams	1	5	0
H. Barton	0	12	0
George Melville	3	3	0

What an interesting flood of reminiscence flows through the above list. Here we have our Madge Robertson (Mrs. Kendal) as a toddling mite, appearing in the witch's cauldron as one of the apparitions, and lisping the words, "Be bloody, bold, and resolute," &c.; and Fred, her brother, playing Fleance. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson's salaries are, through some omission of the business-manager, not recorded. Then come George Melville (grandfather of the present authors and managers)—a first-class all-round leading tragedian of his day; Harry Barton, afterwards a celebrated low comedian; Charles Adams, the prompter, of whom it is related that, being out of a situation during the summer vacation, he took an engagement as a funeral assistant, and, when the cemetery was reached, knocked at the door of the hearse, and called "Beginners, please!" David Evans, afterwards a well-known leading man; George Ellis, who was to be Charles Kean's righthand man in his glorious Shakespearean revivals at the Princess Theatre, London; Edwin Shepherd, now the well-known impersonator of old men, whom I met one day last week, as ever was, in the pink of condition; Henry Sinclair, leading gentleman at Drury Lane; John Chute, late acting-manager for John Coleman; George Rignold, now the celebrated Australian manager; Arthur Wood, still with us, I am pleased to say; poor George Chapman, for many years musical conductor at Bristol; Thaddeus Wells, a first-rate light comedian; Paul Pietro, a well-known clown; and John Rouse and his wife will be remembered by many yet living as a talented and versatile couple. Edward Pritchard gave a good account of himself as a tragedian in the sixties.

What really admirable schools for acting were these same theatres of Bristol, Edinburgh, Manchester, Plymouth, &c., where the novitiate *had* to play anything and everything—aye, and give a good account of himself, or receive his notice—light comedy, low comedy, old men, juvenile men, and character parts of all degrees, until he finally gravitated into a line of business, not tutored, and taught, and drilled for the stage.

"Salaries were small," you will say. Yes; I own that, but they were *paid* punctually and regularly. The bogus manager was unknown; there were no long railway journeys on the seventh day, for Sunday was a thing of rest and recuperation; no landlady harpy, with her expensive apartments and family to be kept by the travelling actors, who lived, and moved, and had their beings midst the beauties of Clifton, and studied their parts breathing the ozone of the health-giving downs of the West Countree, and it was from finishing schools like these we gained our Irvings, Barretts, Bancrofts, and Kendals. Where are such academies to be found nowadays? And echo answers—hibernically—"Can't say, I'm sure!"

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*A Royal Divorce* continues its extraordinary fascination here, and as a "Royal" holiday attraction probably holds the record. Miss Edith Cole is again the idol of all with her beautiful and touching embodiment of the Empress Josephine; Mr. Fred Victor presents a well-night perfect picture of the Emperor Napoleon, and acts with consummate finish; Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell handles the rôle of Talleyrand in a most masterly style; Mr. Graham Woods acts with fine bearing and elocution in the part of the Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. St. George Frere as General Angereau; Mr. Arthur Preston as Marshall Murat; and Mr. Dennis Bryan in a droll conception of the innkeeper, Grimaud, render invaluable aid. Miss Agnes Imlay acts with fitting emphasis as Marie Louise; and Miss Clara Russell as Stephanie de Beauharnais, Miss Helena Meadows as Mother Lomas, Miss Loyale Frere as the Governess, Miss Violet Hudson as Blanche d'Hervas, and Miss Doris Watts as the little King of Rome are also successful.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*What the Butler Saw* has proved a piquant attraction this holiday week. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, the butler, has an excellent method of stirring up fun; Miss Ada Blanche lends rare charm and vivacity to the rôle of Mrs. Barrington; Mr. Charles Fawcett as the peccant husband plays a most diverting part, and scores indubitably; Mr. George Ascott adds hugely to the mirth as the fiery-tempered General Dunlop; Mr. Reddick Anderson is well employed and appreciated as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. Louis Lingard gives a clever and humorous delineation of the Jew, Weinstein; Miss Jennie Wigney acts with true lover-like feeling as Nora; Miss Dorothy Garth yields clever comic support as Maria; Miss Marie Daltra gives the necessary quaint characteristics to the rôle of Miss Foden.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*A Mother's Love* has kindled the utmost enthusiasm among the patrons of this theatre, which is crowded nightly. The company is provided by the part-author of the piece, Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, who, as Matt Ruddock, proves himself a humorist of the first order. Mr. Arthur Mervyn renders a capital portrayal of the character of Paul Wingate; Mr. Geo. Child acts in a finished manner as Geoffrey Mannering; Mr. Robert W. Lynn supports the comedy element in smart style as Joe Jackson; Miss Rosa Mervyn succeeds to admiration as Winnie Wingate; Miss Shirley Dalton acts charmingly as Eilaine Mervin; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse as Mary Smart assists ably in the comedy scenes; and Mr. S. Clifton as Ralph Mervin and Miss Bertha Christobel as the child, Marjorie, are very successful.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* has won large audiences here with Mr. Douglas Bruce's company. Miss Evelyn Clyde as the betrayed girl, Molly Vernon, acts with desirable fervour and pathos, kindling the utmost enthusiasm; Mr. Frank Adair cleverly depicts the pitiless nature of Geoffrey Caversham; Miss Lydia Mannington does exceedingly well in the rôle of Marian Franklyn; Miss Ethel Bracewell is most acceptable as Rose Seymour; Mr. Edwin J. Collins as the Rev. Robert Everton invests the rôle with due dignity; Mr. C. W. Standing wins much favour with his manly impersonation of the hero, Jack England; and Mr. George Mitchell as James Sutton gives able support. The humour of the play is adequately sustained by Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch; Mr. John Wilson as Purvis; and Miss Midge Meynard as Lucy Vere.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Sins of a City* has been played here with much success by Miss Winifred Maude's company, under the direction of Mr. Victor du Cane, who shines in his cleverly acted rôle of Isaac Levi. Miss Winifred Maude both looks and acts the part of Seaweed with charming expression, and holds the audience completely in her thrall; Mr. William Vane is popular in his robust and artistic exposition of the honest lover's rôle, Sandy McDonald; Mr. Leonard Harrison commands sympathy in his powerfully acted part of Donald McIvor; Mr. Maurice Drew differentiates the rôles of the twin brothers Woodleigh in a clever manner; Mr. James Carson as the unscrupulous lover, Ralph Blackwater, is in the highest degree successful; and Miss Jenny Hackett as Midge, Miss Ethel Tinsley as Lesbia, and Miss Jessie Mason as Jenny are also highly successful. *The Stowaway* is announced for the latter half of the week.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*For Better or Worse*, the new and already popular drama by William P. Sheen, is here for the first time. The rôles are well distributed, and the specialities vouchsafed by Miss Jenny Hallworth as Melinda Little, Miss A. Harcourt as Dolly Delaney, and Mr. Willie Black as Horatio Ranter, are most acceptable. The more serious parts are taken by Mr. George Edwin Clive as Capt. Frank Hilliard, Mr. Scott Leighton as Major Gerald Crawford, Mr. Owen Redmond as Lieut. Hector Dalrymple, Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh as Ned Earnshaw, Mr. Fred Garrett, as David Heathcote, and Miss Marriott Watson as Olive Heathcote, the merchant's daughter.

"MELVILLE'S NOTES."

Pompeii, Italy.

A few notes en route to Australia to play the Harry Rickards Circuit may be of interest to your readers. "Motogirl," the famous mechanical doll who has been engaged for six months on the above circuit, concluded her engagement at Carlsbad, Austria, and journeyed to Marseilles, to join the steamer Oroya, bound for the Antipodes. After leaving Marseilles, the first port of interest to visitors was Naples, where the good ship Oroya remained fourteen hours waiting the mails from London *via* Rome. This gave everyone an opportunity to visit the several points of interest; numerous guides visited the ship, and the company split up into several parties for the purpose of convenience in getting about while ashore.

The first move on landing was to engage a carriage in which to drive to the buried cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. This place we reached after an hour of the hottest ride it has been my lot to have experienced since Mexico. However, we had a chance to observe the characteristics of the country, which resemble very strongly those of Portugal, Spain, and even of Mexico and Cuba, particularly in the forms and designs of many of the buildings.

On reaching the city of Pompeii (after having seen en route many macaroni factories at work), we first of all had lunch at the hotel. To enable you to do this in comfort, an attendant armed with a long stick, to which is attached long strips of coloured paper, continually and adroitly attacks the thousands of flies that surround the tables.

After these preliminaries, the visitors are conducted to the ruined city of Pompeii, which is certainly worth a visit, not only from a spirit of curiosity, but from a highly educational point of view, being a perfect refresher to those who studied Roman history in their younger days, for the guides (although the biggest extortionists I have had the pleasure of meeting) are well posted on every subject relating to the fall of Pompeii.

A visit to the three ruined towns—Bosco de Corse, Ottaino, and Somma—that were utterly destroyed in the last eruption of Vesuvius was our next point of interest. The lava in some parts is still smoking and burning; in proof of this our guide lighted his cigarette from it, and the ground was also so hot under foot that it was not pleasant to walk on. A visit to the National Museum was an instructive trip. Among various interesting objects was a statue of Venus made 97 years after the birth of Christ. This was so constructed that, by a tube passing from the interior of the head, through the body, and down to a platform on which it stood, the priests were enabled to delude people into the belief that the head could talk. So we see that talking heads were many years ago thought of, although they were of a crude description.

An examination of the copy of the original bust of Nero showed how faithfully the character was studied in the recent splendid representation by Beerbohm Tree in London.

A visit to the "Eldorado," a very pretty summer theatre built on the seashore, ended our evening's sight seeing. The *Geisha* was being produced by a capable company, the tenor singer being especially good. Notwithstanding a very hot night, the theatre was crowded, and the audience exceedingly demonstrative. A peculiarity with them is their not waiting for a singer to completely finish the last verse of his song before they begin to applaud, and shouts of "Bis, bis," "Decapo, decapo," are heard from all parts of the house.

On our return to the ship we discovered our entertaining guide had charged us just three pounds too much; and one of the passengers on coming on board the tender lying at the docks, unfortunately stepped off in mistake into space between the landing and a lighter, striking in his descent his jaw, and fracturing it; he is at present in a serious condition.

Port Said, Egypt.

Arrived at the above port very early in the morning, and all the passengers hastened on shore to see the sights. This is a most interesting place, and full of curiosity is everyone to pay visits and carry away relics of every description. The guides are surrounding us, and it is the greatest difficulty to get away from them.

FREDERIC MELVILLE.

MESSRS. H. AND M. RAYNE, of 115-119, Waterloo-road, S.E., and 49, Charing Cross-road, have taken over the stock and goodwill of Bourots' theatrical hat factory, late of Oakley-street, S.E.

CHAT WITH MR. ALFRED WOODS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr. Alfred Woods, the well-known Australian actor-manager, who is at the present in England, arranging a tour of a new romantic drama, is a native of Sydney. "My career," says Mr. Wood, "began when I joined Mr. Charles Warner, who was then playing at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne. The position I then took up was assistant stage-manager, and that was my first introduction to things theatrical in an important way. In September, 1889, we went on tour through the colonies, opening in Tasmania, and travelling through New Zealand, and back again to the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, where Charles Warner produced for the first time in Australia *A Man's Shadow*. After I had been with Mr. Warner for five months, I was appointed his general stage-manager, in which capacity I remained with him for upwards of a year. Finishing with Mr. Warner, I joined Miss Jennie Lee, of *Jo* fame, and toured Australia with her as her stage-director, and taking several important characters. My next move was with Mr. Edmund Thorne, producing for the first time in Australia *The Three Musketeers*, subsequently touring with it through the colonies. After touring with various other managements, I made my initial success as an actor in a peculiar character-part, Warrigal, in Rolf Boldrewood's *Robbery Under Arms*. Warrigal, as you may be aware, is an Australian aboriginal, and, in order to study the race, I went out every day to the camp at Sanssouci, some miles from Sydney, and made myself conversant with their methods, customs, and speech. In 1893 I became lessee and manager with Mr. Harold Ashton of the Theatre Royal, Sydney, where we ran a stock company for upwards of a year. After another tour of the colonies with our own company, I played a season under the management of the recently-deceased Hon. George Coppin, at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne; then for a few years on tour through the colonies with my own répertoire of plays, and in September, 1895, succeeded Mr. George Rignold as lessee and manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, which I held for three years. It was there that I produced my first pantomime, *Robinson Crusoe*, which established a record run in Australia of twenty consecutive weeks. From there I toured New Zealand, returning to Sydney, opening under the management of the Messrs. MacMahon at the Lyceum

MR. ALFRED WOODS AS DAN MYLREA IN "THE DEEMSTER."

Theatre, as joint-star with Miss Maud Williamson, and together we appeared for seven years. After a successful season here, I opened at the Princess Theatre, Melbourne, and produced for the first time on any stage an original Biblical play, called *Barabbas*. Seasons followed in Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane, and other big cities, and in April of last year I left Auckland for San Francisco, which was my first trip away from home. I opened in 'Frisco a fortnight after arrival at the Grand Opera House, starring as Pete Quilliam in Hall Caine's *The Manxman*. After taking it through the States, I opened and created, at the Garrick Theatre, New York, in the original production of Mrs. Humphrey Ward's *The Marriage of William Ashe*, the rôle of the clergyman, a character I played in the American capital until I left for England, arriving here at the end of April."

Almost immediately Mr. Woods joined forces with Mr. Charles Cartwright in *David Copperfield*, playing the part of Ham. Mr. Woods is at present busily engaged in booking and arranging a tour for Miss Marie de Campi, the charming American actress whom he is supporting in the romantic costume drama, *The King's Mistress*. Mr. Wood's part in this piece will be that of a breezy, picturesque, swashbuckling cavalier."

Mr. Woods, who has played a wide range of parts, from Hamlet to Wilfred Denver in *The Silver King*, tells us that the part of Captain Maurice D'Alroy in *The King's Mistress* should prove as popular with the English as those in which he has been so big a favourite in Australia.

DURING the vacation the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, has been very thoroughly cleaned and beautified, and now looks very smart in its new dress. An alteration has been made which will be highly appreciated. A staircase leading from the stalls to the dress circle has been put in at each side of the house, this enabling patrons to pass from one part to the other without going outside.

IN commemoration of having acted as manager of the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, for twenty-five years, Mr. Joseph Potter is to be accorded a complimentary benefit on the 25th inst. A monster programme has been arranged by Mr. Fred J. Reece.

REOPENING OF THE LEICESTER ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above theatre was reopened to the public on Monday evening, after undergoing extensive alterations and redecoration. The Opera House, which was first opened on September 6, 1877, was built for the late Mr. Elliot Galer, who came from the old "Royal," to take possession, being followed by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Winstanley as proprietor. A short time ago the property was purchased by Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, whose names were a guarantee that everything would be done, both before and behind the curtain, for the comfort of their patrons and the artists.

On Saturday afternoon last the leading citizens of the town, with a large number of county gentry, were shown through the building by Mr. Henry Dundas, the courteous business manager. The orchestra, augmented to twenty-five, under the direction of Herr J. Th. Klee, played selections during the afternoon.

The decorations, which have been carried out by Mr. Harry Childs, of Reading, is in the Renaissance style, the colours in the auditorium being cream and gold. The artistic panels over the boxes, which are extremely handsome, bear the names of Irving, Kean, Siddons, Mathews, Garrick, and Macready. The dome has had special attention paid to it, the colours being turquoise blue and cream and gold; and when lit up by the new electric brackets it evoked great admiration. The corridors and staircases present a bright and inviting appearance, being richly carpeted, with the addition of handsome *portière* curtains. The whole of the decorations here have been carried out in red and white, and a large number of new pictures have been hung on the walls. The saloon bar for the dress circle and stalls has now only one entrance, the door facing the entrance to the dress circle having been removed. Handsome new furniture has been added, and the plain windows, which faced a blank wall opposite, have been taken out and new ones substituted, with the monogram of Bode and Compton artistically worked in.

The proscenium has been entirely rebuilt, an 18in. wall being taken through the roof four feet, and everything possible has been done for the safety of the audience. The arch is exceedingly handsome, and bears at the top the inscription, "All the World's a Stage." The fire-proof asbestos curtain can be lowered by machinery, which can be worked as far away from the stage as the hall-keeper's office. New iron doors leading from the auditorium to the stage have also been put in. At the request of a member of the Watch Committee, who was loud in approbation of the pains taken by Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton for their safety, Mr. Dundas appeared before the guests, and after a few explanatory words lowered and raised the curtain several times.

An entirely new electric installation throughout has been added, Mr. J. W. Cane and assistants, from Mr. Milton Bode's headquarters, being responsible for this work. Two new rows of pit stalls have been introduced, the whole of the upholstering and new seating having been carried out in the style for which Messrs. R. Dean and Sons, of Birmingham, are so famous. Praise should be accorded to Mr. William Lockwood, F.R.I.B.A., Chester, under whose personal direction the whole of the operations have been carried out. Mr. Henry Dundas, the business-manager for the proprietors, was assiduous in his attention to Messrs. Bode and Compton's guests.

A capital holiday attraction is the engagement of Mr. Charles F. Cooke's capable company in the Adelphi drama, *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Charles F. Cooke is conspicuously successful in the part of Sergeant-Major Milligan; Mr. Leonard Yorke is very good as Cuthbert Cuthbertson; and Mr. John Dennys as Richard Featherstone does well. Popular and amusing portrayals are given by Mr. Joe Bracewell as Professor Ginnifer and Mr. Freddie Bentley as Tommy Dutton. Excellent embodiments are also supplied by Miss Doris Gilham as Astrea, Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill as Constance, Miss Helena Digby as Mrs. Wicklow, Miss Marion Armitage as Lavinia Ginnifer, and Little Nellie Lomas as Little Cuthbert. The drama is suitably staged, and was well received by the audience on Monday.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the patenting of inventions.

976. Theatres. Circuses, &c. Patentee, J. C. Boswell, Oadby, near Leicester. Consists of a suitably braced wheel, mounted upon an inclined shaft carried by a carriage, and provided with seats adapted to carry performers who fall off, as the wheel rotates, in order to amuse the spectators. The carriage is provided with a shaft, and a handlebar or whipple-tree attachment, by means of which it is drawn around a preferably circular course, its motion being restrained by an adjustable pivoted bar. The axles of the wheels of the carriage are arranged in radical alignment with the pivot of the bar. The wheel bears on the ground at its underside, so that, as the carriage moves along, the wheel also rotates on its shaft in planes inclined to the horizontal. The underside of the wheel is covered with an iron band, which prevents wear of the wheel. Handles are provided on the spokes of the wheel, so that the riders can remain on the seats until the wheel attains a certain velocity.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—The late SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

MR. SYDNEY TOLFREE, who has been for six years assistant-manager at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Grimsby, and has also held the position of acting-manager and secretary in connection with Curry's Tivoli, Ltd., Grimsby, is about to sever his connection with these establishments. He has entered into partnership in a new entertainment combination, and will shortly commence a tour of the country with an exhibition of up-to-date animated pictures. Mr. Tolfree's many friends in Grimsby, whilst regretting his departure, heartily wish him success in his new venture.

MR. AND MRS. TENCH (late of the Salisbury Hotel) are now proprietors of the Stock Exchange Hotel, Manchester, off Cross-street. It is an old-established English and German fully-licensed restaurant, and quite up to date. Miss Lily Burnand, who has been much pleased with the hotel, wishes to make its merits known for the benefit of other professionals visiting Manchester.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by John Power.
Produced for the first time on any stage at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Friday, August 3.

Gaspard Lebarge ..... MR. JOHN POWER
Ronald St. Pierre ..... MR. FRANCIS EVERARD
Henri St. Pierre ..... MR. T. A. ELLIS
Picard Picole ..... MR. GEO. T. GREIG
The Abbé Latouche ..... MR. A. DEANE MEADE
Jean le Grande ..... MR. GEO. PORTEOUS
Chief Warder of Arne ..... MR. STANLEY HOBAN
Sergeant Ongate ..... MR. H. PAYNE
Prefect of Police ..... MR. CLIFFE LOCKE
Lizette ..... MISS EDITH LESLIE
Miladi St. Pierre ..... MISS CLARK ANDREWS
Nanette ..... MISS FLORRIE SORSBY
Celeste le Grande ..... MISS MARIE LYONS
Rosette le Grande ..... MISS CLARA REID

Mr. John Power's new play, *For Wife and Home*, which was produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on the 3rd inst., is frankly illustrative of the bitter struggle that is for ever going on between vice and virtue on the stage. It has some clever and sensational "curtains," and when the comedy element has been strengthened will provide a very acceptable addition to current melodrama.

The situation is outlined in the first act, while Miladi St. Pierre, Countess of Arne, lies dying in her boudoir, to the accompaniment of a tremendous thunderstorm. She is concerned about the loss of her first child, Roland, who was taken from her twenty years ago to make way for the child of a second marriage. Round Roland's neck, however, was hidden a locket containing a certain number, without which, by some legal process, the inheritance of the estates of Arne cannot be obtained; and this is all in Roland's favour. But the half-brother, Henri, is at hand, with a particularly sinister accomplice, Gaspard Lebarge, who, in addition to many questionable experiences and attainments, is equipped with a hypnotic gift, and this satanic personage, to prevent further disclosures of the missing heir, hastens the death of the mother by poison. It is not easy at first to understand the connection between Henri and Lebarge, but this is made clear at a later moment by the latter's confession that Henri is his son, and therefore not of the legal line of Arne. This precious couple are now intent upon the finding of Roland, the acquisition of the locket containing the means of access to a will establishing the true heir's right, and the uncompromising murder of the man who stands in their way. For this purpose Henri endeavours to enlist the help of Celeste le Grande, his cast-off mistress, and daughter of the very man who had picked up Roland in his infancy. But Celeste is now in love with Roland, and it is jealousy of Roland's love for her blind sister Rosette rather than Henri's persuasion and promises which induces her to participate in the plot. On Roland's appearance, a quarrel is speedily arranged. Henri and Lebarge depart for swords, while Celeste obtains Roland's pistols secretly and gives them into Henri's hands. A trifling sentimental interlude between Celeste and her father provides the dramatic upshot. In a leaning attitude, his shoulders covered by Roland's coat, the father is mistaken for his adopted son by the cowardly Henri, who shoots him from behind. Roland is, of course, the first to appear after Henri's hasty withdrawal, and it is he (equally of course) who is arrested for the murder, on what appears to be irrefutable circumstantial evidence.

From this point the drama becomes one of heroic circumvention and endurance, in spite of the unabated efforts of Henri and Lebarge to attain a speedy end. On Roland's vehement protestations of his innocence, he is taken from prison (where he is married by a priest to Rosette) to a "trial by touch" in the chapel mortuary of St. Mary's. This is an interesting, but a rather ghastly, ceremony, for Jean le Grande lies in a real coffin, swathed in graveclothes, with all the appearance of a corpse. From this superstitious ordeal Roland promises to emerge a free man; but it happens that Henri (accompanied by his satellite Lebarge) is the examining magistrate, and at a propitious moment for the deed, he knocks Roland insensible by a blow on the head, and is assisted by Lebarge to put him in the place of the dead man in the coffin. This is done (though we are not clear what becomes of the corpse of Jean le Grande), and there is every probability that Roland will be buried alive, and speedily. But the scheme is defeated by the appearance of Rosette, who, after groping her way to the coffin, recovers her sight by the shock of feeling the supposed dead man rise up. On a hint from her, the officiating priest, the Abbé Latouche, causes the coffin to be conveyed into his private apartment, whence Roland, who has resumed his place under the shroud for the purpose, duly makes his escape. Among the later exploits of the plotters is the murder of the Abbé Latouche, while Roland is far away, under another name, fighting in the wars. Another notable incident is the impersonation of the Abbé Latouche by Roland on his return, by which Henri, thinking the apparition supernatural, is impelled to confess his crime upon the Abbé. This is leading onward to the close, which occurs, dramatically enough, by the death of Henri, the arrest of Lebarge, and the triumphant restoration of Roland to his rights, and the vindication of his heroic attitude "for wife and home."

Allowing for the almost inevitable first-night lapses, the acting was, on the whole, very satisfactory. Mr. John Power, the author, as Gaspard Lebarge has provided himself with a part which gives him, however, not so many opportunities to shine as his obvious talents deserve. Nevertheless, he sustained the attitude of the ex-convict and hypnotist, who might have figured much less effectively in other hands, with a weird and suggestive dignity. As Henri St. Pierri, the villainous natural son of Lebarge, Mr. T. A. Ellis showed himself well fitted for the rôle, being obviously well practised in the demeanour and intonation which are characteristic of the refined stage scoundrel. A good part is that of Celeste le Grande, played by Miss Marie Lyons. It is that of the erring daughter who is reclaimed from evil, first by a tender word from her father, and afterwards by the forgiving kindness of her sister Rosette, for whose blindness and gentle nature she had shown no sympathy. Miss Lyons showed every indication of ability to make the most of her chances when the players settled down, and realised the character with smartness and intelligence. As Rosette, Miss Clara Reid displayed remarkable tact and accomplishment, though she was handicapped by an assumption of blindness which, intended for effect in the chapel scene and other exigencies of the plot, might be advantageously dispensed with. Her voice, movements, and appearance were pleasing and sympathetic, and her impersonation was one of the successes of the evening. Considerable credit is due also to Mr. Francis Everard for a bold and manly depiction of Roland St. Pierre—a hero conceived on the lines demanded by audiences which like to hear fine sentiments appropriately declaimed at the right dramatic moment. Mention should also be made of Mr. A. Deane Meade's delineation of the Abbé Latouche, which was a careful and effective piece of work. It is not possible to say much in favour of the comedy element, the conception of which is rather weak; but Mr. George T. Greig made a vigorous attempt to get some fun out of his opportunities as Picard Picole, succeeding best as the braggart soldier from the wars; while Miss Edith Leslie as Lizette rendered all possible assistance. Others who did well were Miss Clark Andrews as the Countess of Arne, and Mr. George Porteous as Jean le Grande.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham, whose friendship with Sir Henry Irving synchronised with that of Mr. J. L. Toole, was unable to attend the funeral of the late comedian, being away at Marienbad. The message sent by Sir Charles was a heartfelt one, and ran as follows:—"Please convey to Mr. Toole's relatives my great grief at the severance of a close friendship, thirty-nine years old, and, at the same time, my grateful sense of relief that his unparalleled sufferings are over. My heart is too full for further words."

Among the many stories now being told to illustrate "Johnnie" Toole's love of practical joking there is one that has a touch of poetic prettiness. Mr. Toole had invited Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Willard to dine with him one evening, and had particularly urged them to "come early, before it gets dark." Mr. Willard was, however, unable to get there before candle-light, and, on welcoming him, Toole, pretending to be slightly annoyed, said:—"Dear me, I wanted you to choose the fruit for dinner, and now it is so dark that we cannot make a nice selection—and I have the very finest fruit garden in England. But, come along; we'll take a candle, and do the best we can." He lighted a candle, took up a large fruit-basket, and led the way into the garden, still keeping up a testy manner, which Willard met with good-humoured apologies, and the declaration that the proper time to gather fruit was when it was too dark to notice imperfections.

Toole held the light to a tree. "There," said he, "look at those oranges. You can't find the like of them growing anywhere else on this blessed island. What do you think of them? Pick one. Fine, eh?" It was a cherry tree, from the branches of which depended many oranges of the finest Californian variety. "Any kind of fruit you want. See here. What do you think of these pears?" He held the light to a lilac bush heavily freighted with pears. From rose bushes he gathered apples, picked a few lemons from a plum tree, and, having filled his basket, covered the top with a layer of strawberries from a row of hollyhocks. "I think this will do for dinner," he said, turning towards the house; but suddenly stopping, he asked: "How would you like a peach or two? There may be some ripe on the wall. Let's try." From the ivy against the house he secured half-a-dozen peaches, as luscious as any hothouse product. Entering the house, he said: "Follow my example. Grow your own fruit, Willard. It is the only way to get round the rascally shop-keepers, who simply skin you alive." And throughout the dinner Toole soberly descanted on the superior advantages of home-grown fruit, and subsequently he sent Willard a small basket of "Samples of my garden nectarines."

Reference to Mr. Toole was made on Sunday afternoon in the course of an address by the Rev. Edward Husband, Vicar of St. Michael's, Folkestone. The speaker described the late comedian as a man of wonderful talent and genius. Grown up men and women, he said, cherished his name as a household word, and remembered the hours of happiness and merriment he used to give them. Mr. Toole was one of the most generous, kind-hearted, and upright of men, and although the majority of his gifts were distributed in private, his charities to the poor and needy year by year were something untold.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has been seeking health and rest at Minehead, and has gained much benefit from his sojourn in that charming resort in the Bristol Channel, commences rehearsals within the next few days for a lengthy tour, which begins on Monday week at the Opera House, Buxton. Mr. Harvey, Miss de Silva, and their company then proceed to Llandudno, where they will appear at the Grand Theatre on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th inst. Mr. Frank B. O'Neill is still Mr. Martin Harvey's business manager, whilst the veteran H. J. Loveday controls the stage.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will have the distinction of starting the new dramatic season, having decided to produce Mr. W. J. Locke's play, *The Morals of Marcus*, at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday, the 29th inst. Mr. Bourchier has engaged Miss Lillah M'Carthy for the part of Judith, and Miss Alexandra Carlisle for that of Carlotta. The production will also witness the return to the stage of Miss Sadie Jerome, and the cast will likewise include Miss Helen Rous, Miss Marianne Caldwell, Mr. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, Mr. C. V. France, Mr. Wilfred Forster, and Mr. Sydney Valentine, who is assisting Mr. Bourchier in the production of the play.

Mr. Charles Frohman, by altering the date of the production of *Toddles* at the Duke of York's to Thursday, August 30, will avoid a triple clash of first nights. The full cast of the new piece will consist of Messrs. Cyril Maude, Kenneth Douglas, Charles Maude, Allen Thomas, Ivo Dawson, and Alfred Bishop, and Misses Gertrude Kingston, Lottie Venne, Alice Crawford, Helen Ferrers, and Nancy Price.

Two notable productions are underlined for the following Saturday, September 1, when Miss Ellen Terry begins in *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's, and *Aladdin* is to be brought out at the Gaiety. The succeeding Monday, September 3, is set apart for *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*, at the Waldorf, and the next day witnesses the début of *Tristram and Iseult* at the Adelphi. The cast of *Mrs. Temple's Telegram* will include Mr. William Morris, Mr. W. Cheesman, Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Frank Collins, and Miss Constance Hyem.

Mr. James Carew, who is to be Miss Ellen Terry's leading man during her American tour, hails from Chicago, where he won great popularity as an actor. Miss Maxine Elliott brought him to London with her last Clyde Fitch play, and since then he has sustained minor rôles in *The Little Stranger* at the Criterion, and in Mr. Shaw's plays at the Court. It was doubtless during her association with the latter house that Miss Terry became aware of Mr. Carew's dramatic abilities, and decided to assign to him the important position which he is shortly to occupy.

Royal assent was given to the Musical Copyright Bill in the House of Lords on Saturday, and the Measure now takes its place on the Statute Book. Its provisions furnish ample protection to the work of song-writers and composers, and the wrongs which they have so long endured may now be considered at an end. Congratulations are due to those who have fought so determinedly for their rights for years past, and to the influential promoters of the Bill in both Houses of Parliament the sincerest thanks are offered.

Mr. Albany Ward, the lessee of the Empire, Oxford, who has been arbitrarily deprived of his licence for that theatre, has obtained a rule *nisi* in the High Court. It is essential that such a case should not be allowed to drop, and Mr. Ward deserves the support of all in his efforts to obtain a more favourable hearing.

Miss Olga Nethersole is endeavouring to induce the famous French poet-dramatist, Edmond Rostand, the author of *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *L'Aiglon*, to write a play for her especial use. Miss Nethersole has the advantage of being a close personal friend of Rostand's. They have met frequently during Miss Nethersole's stay this summer at Biarritz, where she has rented the beautiful villa of the Marquise de Montbrison. As is well known, Monsieur Rostand lives in the closest seclusion in his castle in the Pyrenees, which is only a few miles from Biarritz.

Among those staying at Marienbad are Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. and Mrs. Tree, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Mary Moore, Mdlle. Yvette Guilbert Saharet, the German tenor, Werner Alberti, Mr. Ernest Mayer, and the famous Berlin impresario, Adolph Sliwinski.

Mr. Seymour Hicks' penchant for playwriting has lately been indulged by the concoction of a musical comedy, upon which the title of *The Pet of the Public* is likely to be conferred. The lyrics will be by Mr. C. H. Taylor, and the music by Mr. Herbert E. Haines. The first home of the new piece will probably be the Hicks Theatre in Shaftesbury Avenue.

The Actors' Church Union is forging ahead very nicely, and new members are constantly being enrolled. During the month of July the Union was strengthened by the addition to its ranks of such well-known artists as Mme. Fanny Moody, Mr. Charles Manners, Mr. W. M. Chapman-Huston (manager of the Moody-Manners Opera Company), Miss Violet Hedda, Miss Sybil North, and Miss Winifred Vyvyan. The Rev. Donald Hole, the honorary secretary of the Union, has been very energetic in furthering its objects, and communications may be addressed to him at 20, Woodview-gardens, Highgate, N.

"Peter's Mother," a comedy by Mrs .Henry De La Pasture, acquired some time since by Mr. Otho Stuart, is to be the next novelty at Wyndham's, where it will be produced about the middle of September. The services of Miss Marion Terry have been secured for the chief part, one of emotional tenderness in which her great gifts as an actress will be worthily employed. The story is that of a mother who, on the death of her husband, devotes herself to her son's welfare, her second marriage, however, exercising considerable influence over the subsequent interest of the play.

Mr. Toole, as is well known, had a wonderfully extensive collection of theatrical mementoes and curios. It has been stated that some of these will shortly be put up for auction, and if that rumour prove to be correct, the sale of these relics will most certainly see a repetition of the scenes at the Irving auction, which took place last December. In the deceased comedian's museum of curiosities, pictures, engravings, photographs, letters, and other articles which Toole regarded, with an affectionate eye, as "household gods," are represented the arts, the literature, the drama, and the history of the last half of the nineteenth century.

A picture, by De Conti, of the old Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, which shows a couple of men bearing posters inscribed, "J. L. Toole as the Artful Dodger, to-night," reminded one that in the same room in the pretty house at Maida-vale were two china wine-coolers which at one time belonged to Charles Dickens. Another memento of the immortal novelist takes the form of a handsome carved oak-framed mirror standing ten feet high.

On one of the walls of the chamber wherein stood the coffin and the scores of beautiful wreaths last week is a small frame containing a telegram which is now of pathetic interest. It is dated July 22, 1902, Brighton, and is from His Majesty's yacht, Cowes: "I am commanded by the King to congratulate you on the jubilee of your appearance on the London stage." That will surely be kept in the family, whether other relics are sold or not.

A recollection of the deep affection which existed between two men is rapidly borne to one's mind on glancing at a framed picture postcard of Irving as Vanderdecken, the cardboard made precious by the words, "My dear love, my dear friend.—H. I.," in the great tragedian's handwriting. Passing from dramatic to naval characters, mention should be made of an interesting autograph letter written by Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton a few days before the battle of Copenhagen. It is dated from the battleship St. George, March 31, 1801, and contains the significant sentence, "Now we are sure of fighting, I am sent for; when it was a joke I was kept in the background."

What a multitude of pictures and prints Mr. Toole has left behind him! In the deceased comedian's picture gallery are to be found all the famous old-time players and their contemporaries in politics, art, science, and literature. In this collection are Garrick and Kean as Richard III., the "Infant Roscius," Macready, Lemaitre, Fawcett, Kemble, Mme. Vestris, Dickens, Thackeray, Mrs. Liston, Henry Irving (an engraving after Ernest Moore), John Reeve, Buckstone, Mrs. Alfred Mellon, Lal. Brough, and a host of others. Then we must not forget Mr. Weedon Grossmith's portrait of Frank Toole, the son whose early death "J. L." deplored with all the feeling of a devoted father.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard has, by arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury, secured the rights in George Warren's dramatic version of Edgar Wallace's successful novel, "The Four Just Men," and will send it on tour this autumn with a company supporting Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who will "produce" the drama and play the part of George Manfred, the leader of the Four. It will be remembered that the mystery around which the novel is written—the murder of the Foreign Secretary, Sir Philip Ramon—was left unexplained, and prizes to the extent of £500 were offered for the solution, which will appear shortly in the form of a diagram in the *Daily Mail*, together with the names of the prize-winners, simultaneously with the publication of a second edition of the book.

"The New Barmaid" has been doing excellent business at Aldershot this week, and, strangely enough, the Wednesday night's receipts were bigger than those of the August Bank Holiday. This is most unusual, and shows what favourable reports were spread by early visitors to Mr. Clarence Sounes' popular theatre.

The lady members of *The New Barmaid* company appeared in the cricket field in opposition to the Aldershot Athletic Club on Thursday, when an exciting match was played. The gentlemen were armed with broomsticks, and played left-handed, with the result that they were beaten by their fair opponents by 18 runs. The "New Barmaids" achieved the total of 102, of which 20 were extras, and the rest of the score was as follows:—Miss W. Preston 18, Miss E. Preston 19, Miss Prairie 0, Miss Grafton 0, Miss A. Preston 9, Miss Short 0, Miss Goddard 0, Miss Grey 3, Miss Nicholls 4, Miss Delamere 8, Miss Hawthorne 10, and Miss Maynard 11. The proceeds of the match were devoted to the funds of the Aldershot Hospital.

Mr. John W. Deverell, who has lately been understudying Mr. James Welch during his season at Terry's, and who played Cyril Garston in *The New Clown* during Mr. Welch's indisposition, has been engaged by Mr. Clyde Meynell to produce and play in *The Little Stranger*, in Australia. Mr. Deverell sails for Australia on the P. and O. Mongolia on Aug. 17.

Mr. Howard Cochran's company, including Miss Aïda Jenoure, start their tour of *The Marriage of Kitty* at Blackburn on Aug. 20, Miss Jenoure playing Kitty. This specially selected company includes other well-known artists—Miss Betty Castle, Miss Helen Kay Robertson, Mr. Cecil Wilford, and Mr. Howard Cochran. All the scenery and properties from the Duke of York's Theatre are carried, and, with such a strong cast, suggests a most successful tour.

Miss Mabel Love has made a remarkable success in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, with which Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison opened their third season at the West Pier, Brighton, on Monday, playing to enormous business. All the front was made into stalls, and in spite of the terribly hot weather, the audiences averaged 1500 at each performance. For the three remaining weeks of their season will be presented *Cousin Kate* and *On the Love Path*, Miss Annie Hughes in *A Country Mouse*, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, and the last week *Public Opinion*, with Miss Hutchison in the cast.

Of making new theatres there is no end. The latest is a house to be erected in Hampton-road, Twickenham, capable of holding 2000 persons. Mr. A. Parry Fielder is the architect; and a syndicate has been formed to carry out the work when the plans have received approval.

Mr. Russell Rosse's company, which includes Messrs. Charles Groves, David James, and Robert Minster in *A Pair of Spectacles*, will be the attraction at the Kennington Theatre next week.

The tour of Messrs. Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch's powerful play, *The Shulamite*, starts at Plymouth on the 20th inst. Miss Lena Ashwell will appear in her original part of Deborah Krillet during the first four weeks, after which she sails for New York to fulfil a twenty weeks' engagement with the Messrs. Shubert in the same character, supported by an American company. After Miss Ashwell's departure, the part of Deborah will be sustained by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy. The company, under the direction of Mr. William Greet, will also include Mr. Charles Weir, Mr. T. W. Lovell, Mr. Reynolds Denniston, Miss Mary Griffiths, Miss Marcelle Hudson, and Mr. Henry de Solla, who is to fill the responsible position of stage manager.

The new route viâ Fishguard and Rosslare should prove of special service to companies visiting Cork, where Mr. John Horgan, the manager of the Opera House, is making a spirited bid for patronage in the forthcoming season. The bookings comprise all the best companies, and include Mr. Martin Harvey and Mr. Edward Terry, while such popular attractions as *Floradora*, *Veronique*, *Public Opinion*, the Moody-Manners A Company, *His House in Order*, the D'Oyly Carte répertoire company, *Mollentrave on Women*, and other leading combinations also figure in the list.

Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's revival of *The Prodigal Parson* has proved so successful that they have secured a further lease of the play, and will extend their tour until the end of next year. Practically every drama-theatre of repute in the kingdom will be visited, the bookings including five weeks each in Manchester and Birmingham. The autumn of 1907 is almost entirely confined to re-bookings. Messrs. David Allen and Sons are at present engaged on some new full-colour pictorial posters, the scenery is being repainted and added to, and electric lighting effects introduced in the Carnival scene. The same management have a new play in preparation, and will probably send out another company shortly.

News from New York reports the wedding of Miss Fay Templeton with Mr. William Patterson, the Pittsburg millionaire. Miss Templeton has been for several years one of the most popular comediennes on the American stage.

The beautifully decorated and re-seated Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, was re-opened after a four months' closure on Monday last with Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Christian* company. It has now commenced its seventh year of tour, and starts out with a fresh plant of printing and new scenery and dresses, the former by Mr. Ernest Howard. This is the sixth visit of the piece to Edinburgh, and it has broken all records for August, both of the piece and the theatre. Miss Grace Chalmers, a native of Edinburgh, continues to play Glory Quayle with striking success.

Mr. Wentworth Croke having arranged all his autumn tours, has left London for a brief holiday on the Continent, and will visit Antwerp, Bremen, Bruges, Ghent, and Ostend in search of talent.

Mr. William B. Ashcroft's many friends will regret to learn he is lying seriously ill at White Rose Cottage, Lancing, where he was spending a short holiday in company with Mrs. Ashcroft prior to returning to town for rehearsals with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal. The engagement has had to be cancelled.

Mr. G. H. Snazelle is touring *The New Clown* with a strong company, including Miss Helena Millais, who is playing Rosie, Mr. Snazelle repeating his impersonation of Mr. Dixon. Mr. Welch has carefully rehearsed the company so that everything has been done to secure the success of the tour. Ping-Pong, the celebrated donkey, is travelling as a member of the company.

Miss Daisy Halling, who has just concluded an engagement in Mr. Ernest Carpenter's stock season at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, is now playing Madam Sanson in Messrs. Pitt and Halling's new version of *£1000 Reward*, which bids fair to realise the most sanguine expectations. Owing to this arrangement, Miss Halling was unable to accept Mr. Carpenter's offer to resume her original part of the Spider in the autumn tour of *The Spider and the Fly*.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper, now touring the Continent, met with an alarming accident in Paris last week. They had just started in a friend's automobile on a journey to Versailles when the car skidded on the tram-lines in the Avenue du Main, breaking the left front wheel, and plunged violently into the curb. The vehicle turned completely over on the top of its occupants, an electric tramcar pulling up within a yard of them. Medical aid was obtained, and Mrs. Cowper was found to be suffering from severe contusions to the head and body, from which she has now nearly recovered. Mr. Cowper had both legs badly crushed by the car, besides being bruised by the fall, and was obliged to keep his bed for a week, when he hoped to be able to continue his tour. The car was a complete wreck.

Patrons of the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, will next week have the opportunity of seeing Mr. Allan Wilkie, supported by a strong company, in a round of Shakespearean and standard plays. Mr. Wilkie has an enviable reputation, having done excellent work under the banner of Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Julia Neilson, and Mr. Fred Terry, and Mr. F. R. Benson, both in London and the provinces. He has now reached the third year of tour with his own company, and he is supported by Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, and Miss Carrie Baillie, who for a long time played the leads with the late Osmond Tearle company and by Miss Iné Cameron. His répertoire will include such popular attractions as *The Merchant of Venice*, *Hamlet*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *Robert Macaire* *The Lady of Lyons*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *David Garrick*, and *The Bells*, the two last-mentioned plays being given on Friday night, the occasion of Mr. Wilkie's benefit.

Miss Louisa Jephcott, the amiable lady secretary at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, relinquishes to-day that position in which throughout Mr. Lester Collingwood's régime she distinguished herself by her apt business-like ways and sunny disposition. Miss Jephcott, who is leaving solely on account of home duties and family ties, will take away with her the good wishes of all professional visitors to the theatre.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present:—Mr. M. R. Morand (in the chair), Misses Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh; Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, Brandon Thomas, and Spencer Trevor; and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). A claim by a non-member against a member of the Association, for arrears of salary, &c., was considered, and the secretary was directed to write to the member upon the subject, and ask for an explanation.

Mr. Cruikshanks reported that he had received letters from Sir Squire Bancroft, and Messrs. George Alexander, Arthur Bourchier, John Hare, H. B. Irving, A. W. Pinero, and Edward Terry in reply to his letter to them on the subject of the proposed "Irving memorial." All those gentlemen were in favour of the suggestions made, that the matter should have attention without delay; and Mr. Cruikshanks was directed to communicate with Sir Squire Bancroft and Sir Charles Wyndham on the subject, and arrange, if possible, with the former to attend the next Council meeting, so that the matter might be fully discussed, and the date of meeting for settlement of necessary details, fixed.

The secretary reported the receipt of two complaints from defrauded landladies, and was directed to file the particulars. The secretary stated that the persons against whom the complaints were made were *not* members of the Actors' Association. Mr. Cecil Barth brought forward "a scheme for reading new plays, introduced by members, with a view to production, if considered of sufficient merit"; but as the attendance was not very large, it was suggested that the matter should be placed on the agenda for next week. Mr. Barth agreed to this course being adopted. In connection with the work of the Agency Department, it was agreed, upon proposition of Mr. Cecil Barth, seconded by Miss Kate Bishop, that in the agency report submitted to the Council from time to time, the names of the artists engaged be entered. The secretary received instructions to arrange the writing-room, on the second floor, as a "silent room," and to carry out the necessary details in that connection. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given. A former member was reinstated. Aubrey Mallalieu, Frederick Castleman, Florence Watson, and Florence Farr were nominated for election.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting last Tuesday. There were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Messrs. M. R. Morand, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the secretary reported the present position of the list of members with regard to the payment of subscriptions for the current year; and matters having been discussed in connection with a proposed outlay which the committee did not favour, it was ultimately agreed that a recommendation should be made to the Council that the question involved should be abandoned.

Mr. Lester Collingwood, the popular proprietor of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, has once again successfully launched the favourite drama *When London Sleeps* on an autumn tour, which opened on Monday evening at Nuneaton to a big house. The play has the advantage of a powerful cast of well-known artists, and is admirably staged and dressed. The management is in the capable hands of Mr. F. Bernardo.

Mr. Walter Emden, J.P., the well-known West-End architect, who has now retired, has presented his business to his four principal assistants, namely, Mr. S. H. Egan, Mr. W. S. Emden, Mr. A. J. Croughton, and Mr. T. C. Ovenston, who will now carry on the firm at the same address under the name of Messrs. Emden, Egan, and Co.

The dates for the autumn tour of Servais Le Roy's new mystical play, to include Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the world's monarchs of magic, have now been settled. Offers for the novelty were so numerous that the tour could have been filled three times over. A good story of Le Roy's ready wit is just now going the round. It seems that recently, while the turn of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, was in progress, and geese, ducks, fowls, pigeons, &c., were being produced from nowhere, a wag in the gallery shouted out, "Can't you produce a jackass?" Whereupon Le Roy replied, with cutting politeness, "It will afford me much pleasure to introduce a jackass to the audience if you will step on to the stage."

The Mozart Festival at Munich is creating great enthusiasm. The performances are given in the Residenz Theatre, and are mounted with the most elaborate attention to detail. *Don Giovanni* was the opening piece on Aug. 2, and was played as originally devised, in two acts, the whole of the eight scenes being presented by means of a revolving platform.

Preparations are now in active progress for the production of *The Bondman* at Drury Lane. Mr. Hall Caine read the play on Wednesday to Mr. Arthur Collins and the company engaged to perform in it, which includes Mr. Patrick Campbell, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Frank Cooper, Mr. James Fernandez, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Lionel Brough, and other popular players.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal start their tour on the 27th inst. at the Grand Theatre, Llandudno. Blackpool, Harrogate and Buxton, Eastbourne and Folkestone, the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, Manchester, Southport, Liverpool, Newcastle, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, and Middlesbrough, are amongst the other towns that will have the privilege of a visit from the accomplished artists.

The proprietors of the Brixton Theatre have decided that on and after October 22 the theatre shall be run as a music hall on the two-houses-a-night system, under the management of Mr. Walter Gibbons, and will in future be known as the Brixton Hippodrome.

MM. Emile Bergerat and Georges Duval the well-known Parisian dramatists, are spending their holidays in an out-of-the-way corner in Brittany, and are putting the finishing touches to a three-act comedy that bears the unlovely title of *L'Oncle Pig*. It may be incidentally remarked here that M. Georges Duval—a great admirer of English literature—is writing a volume, "Londres au temps de Shakespeare," wherein he will give Parisians an exact reconstruction of London at the time of the great English poet.

"At Cripple Creek," which has beaten all records for the holiday week at Wigan, will, on Monday, pay a return visit within four months to Hanley. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow have also *Under Two Flags* and *A Sailor's Sweetheart* on the road in the autumn, "Flags" paying its sixth visit to Brighton this month.

Active preparations are made at the Porte Saint Martin, Paris, for the production of *Cinderella*. Rehearsals are in full swing, and the management are glad to have the benefit of Mr. Arthur Collins' experience. The French translation is by M. Herbel; and it is more than probable that the work will prove a thorough success. The principal rôles have been entrusted to Mlle. Arlette Dorgère, Mlle. Jeanne Petit, M. Mayal, and M. Morton, all of them excellent artists.

Mr. Lingford Carson resumed the reins of management at the Queen's Theatre, Keighley, last Monday, after a well-earned rest at Douglas. The Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, is also under his management; and in addition to sending out three dramatic companies in the autumn, great interest is centred in his pantomime production of *The Babes in the Wood*. With the exception of one or two dates, a capital tour has been booked, and a number of excellent artists engaged. The scenery and dresses will excel anything hitherto seen at Keighley.

Mr. Norman V. Norman, with Miss Beatrice Wilson and his principal company, is this week giving a series of pastoral plays at Southsea, under the auspices of the newly-formed Entertainment Committee, in which the Mayor of Portsmouth (Sir George Gosens) and the principal members of the Council are financially interested. The various plays have been elaborately mounted and produced, and the house is packed each evening, even standing room being at a premium. The Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Council attended the performance officially on Friday, every seat for this night being booked in advance.

Mr. F. Lumsden Hare sails to-day for New York as leading man with Mr. Charles Frohman to open in *The House of Mirth*, by Clyde Fitch. Miss Fay Davis will be the leading lady of the company.

Mr. Frank J. Arlton, the cousin and boon companion for eighteen years of the late J. L. Toole, desires us, on behalf of himself and the other members of the family, to tender thanks for "the very many tokens of sympathy, respect, and love to my dear old Governor." Mr. Arlton adds that it was impossible to ask all who wished to attend the funeral, and it was equally impossible for him to write to all who had made kindly enquiries. Mr. Arlton deserves the gratitude of all for his great courtesy and assistance at the funeral of Mr. Toole last week. We are pleased to state that Mr. Arlton, who was completely broken down after the death of his companion of many years, and was compelled to leave London for a few days, is now much improved in health.

The protection afforded by the new Copyright Bill has already resulted in a number of new publications of importance, which had been held back for fear of piracy; and chief among these is a delightful solo, entitled "Vespers," which Mr. Van Biene is playing with great success in *The Broken Melody*. It is published by Reeder and Walsh, and is the first work of its class to be included in the popular sixpenny edition. Its composer is Edward van Biene, a son of the famous 'cellist, and general-manager for Mr. Lingford Carson's *Drama of Life* company.

At the Lyceum, Edinburgh, the holiday attraction has been Mr. Charles Carey's successful musical comedy *After the Ball*. This piece is now played in two acts instead of three, and several new numbers have been introduced. The excellent cast includes Miss Queenie Finnis, who recently made a success in *The Blue Moon* at the Lyric, and later still in *Castles in Spain*. Mr. Percy Baverstock now appears as Colonel Joseph Menit, and in his several numbers with Miss M. Sadie makes one of the many hits scored in the piece. *The Ball* was reproduced by Mr. H. Buckstone Clair, who still appears as the jovial Don who, at the critical moment, fails to remember his own name.

An interesting bowling match took place in the Heaton Park, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Wednesday afternoon, between the members of the *Sentenced for Life* and *The 10.30 Down Express* companies, resulting in an easy victory for the latter. The scores were:—R. G. Elder 5, Edwin Clark 6, G. Beverley 4, total 15; Edward E. Louis 3½, Jamcs Firth 2½, B. Bass 1, total 7.

Miss Amy Willard, the clever little brunette whose success as Paulina in *The Night of the Party* at the Avenue Theatre will be remembered, has just concluded two years' engagement under George Musgrove's management, supporting Australia's star, Nellie Stewart, in *Sweet Nell of Old Drury* and repertory. Miss Willard has visited every theatrical town in Australasia, as well as in America, and escaped the earthquake in San Francisco by only four days. She is now spending her vacation cruising on Lake Michigan.

Mr. Blake Adams opened as Capt. James Barley in *Beauty and the Barge* at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday, when the piece was received with all its old favour. The occasion marked Mr. Adams' 297th appearance in the part.

Miss Marianne Caldwell has been engaged by Mr. Bourchier for the part of Antoinette in the *Morals of Marcus*, with which piece the Garrick Theatre is to reopen.

The news from Cardiff that *The Lion and the Mouse* has been received there with undoubted signs of approval is reassuring. The cold reception accorded to the play in London was inexplicable to a good many, but it was the American "atmosphere" apparently that did not appeal to the British audiences. Mr. Walter Maxwell, who secured the provincial rights from Mr. Frohman, set to work to Anglicise the play, and has succeeded in retaining all the strength of the piece while clothing his characters in home-spun garments. Miss Christine Silver and Mr. Leslie Carter have received five curtain calls at the end of the big scene in the third act, and four at the conclusion. Mr. Robert Redford, the lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, and admittedly one of the best judges of the public's wants in the country, has re-booked the play for his new theatre in October, 1907. The first suburban production will take place at the King's, Hammersmith, on Aug. 27, and it will be interesting to see whether the Cardiff reception will be repeated.

Mr. Bannister Howard has decided to open the Castle Theatre, Richmond, with *Sergeant Brue* on Aug. 27, instead of the 30th. With the exception of this engagement, and Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Sept. 3, 4, 5, when Miss Annie Hughes will appear in *A Country Mouse*, the theatre will be opened every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, with a matinée on the last-mentioned day.

Miss Ellen Terry has accepted from Miss Ina Rozant, the authoress of "An Actor's Pilgrimage"—a one-volume novel which has just been published by T. Seeley Clark—the dedication of the book, which is a lively, amusing, and faithful description of an actress's life on tour in the provinces. Many writers who choose to depict theatrical life in their stories find it necessary to lay on the colour thickly, and to exaggerate wildly for the sake of effect. Thus a lurid, and often false, view of stage life is presented to the non-professional reader, and evokes the scorn and ridicule of the professional one. Miss Rozant has not found it necessary to be repellant or "realistic" in order to be interesting, and she has written a bright, humorous, and always readable little book, which is so light and cheerful as to be exactly suited for perusal on a sea-washed beach or in the shade of a spreading tree.

Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram, who have secured the sole rights of *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* from Mr. Charles Frohman, have booked an excellent tour, which will start on Sept. 17. Already a long list of bookings has been made; and a first-class company will appear in the play, which was so successful at the Duke of York's Theatre.

"AMASIS."

AN EGYPTIAN PRINCESS.

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts.
The Book by Frederick Fenn, the Music by Philip Michael Faraday.
Produced at the New Theatre on Thursday, August 9.

Amasis IX. .....Mr. Rutland Barrington
Prince Anhotep .....Mr. Roland Cunningham
Cheiro .....Mr. Whitworth Mitton
Nebenchari .....Mr. Norman Salmond
Ptolemy Theopompus Allakama .....Mr. Herbert Ross
Sebak .....Mr. Lauri de Frece
Psamtik.....Mr. Frank Perfitt
Zopyrus .....Mr. G. Mackarness
Town Crier .....Mr. Leonard Calvert
Second High Priest ..Mr. F. Aubrey Millward
First Expert Witness .....Mr. B. Fraser
Second Expert Witness .....Mr. J. Clulow
Third Expert Witness .....Mr. C. Gregory
Fourth Expert Witness .....Mr. W. Derwent
Natis .....Miss Madge Vincent
Anna .....Miss Emmie Santer
Queresa .....Miss M. Stather
Atossa .....Miss Marion Marler
Ladice .....Miss Evelyn Beresford
Kleis .....Miss Ethel Grahame
Tachot .....Miss Gladys Erskine
Ranofre .....Miss McKay
Rhodopis .....Miss Max Hinton
Nitetis .....Miss Paula St. Clair
Kassa .....Miss Poppet McNally
Princess Amasis .....Miss Ruth Vincent

Everybody knows that in Egypt the cat is regarded as a sacred animal, and that in ancient times, at all events, the punishment of death awaited anyone who killed a number of the feline race. To quote from a book on the history of Egypt, "Such was the reverence which the Egyptians had for these animals, that in an extreme famine they chose to eat one another rather than feed upon these imagined deities." Mr. Frederick Fenn, the author of the comic opera produced at the New Theatre on Thursday night, has gone to ancient Egypt for his story, and evolved an ingenious plot out of the quaint custom of cat worship. Prince Anhotep, Lord of the Upper Nile and Ruler of Philæ, has come to the Court of King Amasis at Memphis in order to marry his daughter, the Princess, who, strangely enough, bears the same name as her father; but this was a whim of that rather eccentric ruler. The wedding is about to be solemnised when something happens that upsets all the nuptial arrangements. The prince's slumbers being disturbed by the howling of a cat under his window, he throws a brick at the sacred animal and kills it, for this one has not the proverbial nine lives. He confesses his crime to the princess; but believing that no one saw him commit the deed, he does not regard the incident very seriously. He has, however, reckoned without Ptolemy, the wily court embalmer, who discovers on the Prince's dress a clue to the murderer in the form of bloodstains and pieces of fur. Taxed with the crime by the High Priest, Nebenchari by name, he admits that "quite thoughtlessly" he dropped a brick upon the Royal mouser. The cat murderer is sentenced to death amidst the execrations of the excited crowd who surround him. Of course, the sentence is not carried into effect; and in the second act, through the intercession of the Princess, the culprit is allowed a State trial, which is conducted on a decidedly humorous basis. Bribed witnesses give evidence against him, and eventually the original sentence is upheld; but, thereupon Cheiro, a poor scribe who is deeply in love with the Princess, resolves to sacrifice himself, and declares that he killed the cat. In the end, his life, as well as that of the Prince, is spared. When a sacred cat is killed somebody has to die, and this condition is complied with by the death of Ptolemy, who, trying an evidently risky experiment with his new patent embalming chamber, himself falls a victim to the "patent vapours."

The new production is much nearer akin to Gilbertian comic opera than it is to modern musical comedy. The plot and much of the dialogue are in the manner of Mr. Gilbert. As an instance, we may quote the remark of Amasis: "There was a man who once told the High Priest a joke. Of course, he had to leave the country, but the girl he was going to marry went with him. Wasn't it splendid of her?" Then, again, the King's speech: I do not yet see how we can let him off. Besides, a man once found guilty can never be found innocent. It would make our Courts ridiculous. The individual often has to suffer for the State. To set him free after he has confessed to the crime would practically amount to calling him a liar, which would be worse than death. But I have great hopes that we may be able to execute you as well." This is essentially Gilbertian in tone, and delivered in Mr. Rutland Barrington's crisply humorous manner, these and similar remarks were effective and certainly refreshing after a surfeit of the dialogue of musical comedy. The first act is undoubtedly the stronger of the two. The second act would be greatly improved by judicious compression. Mr. Faraday's music was found to be bright and tuneful, several of the songs being admirable specimens of charming melody.

Miss Ruth Vincent as the Princess Amasis had a flattering reception on making her first entrance, and her performance of the part was quite in accordance with the best traditions of comic opera. She quickly gained an encore by her delightful rendering of a song, "Little Princess, look up!" A little later a duet with Amasis was also greeted with loud applause. In the second act Miss Vincent again scored with some very pretty solos. Mr. Roland Cunningham played the part of Prince Anhotep in a robust style that proved effective, and he also sang well. Mr. Whitworth Mitton, who comes from the concert platform, appeared as Cheiro, and his singing proved to be one of the musical treats of the evening. He promises to do extremely well with increased experience as an actor. Mr. Norman Salmond was a grim, dignified High Priest, and made good use of his fine voice. Mr. Herbert Ross was an amusing Ptolemy, the court embalmer. Mr. Lauri de Frece, though suffering from a cold, was quaint and funny as Sebak, keeper of the crocodiles. Mr. Frank Perfitt was a commanding Captain of the King's Guard; and Mr. G. Mackarness rendered good service as Zopyrus, a wine merchant. Mr. Rutland Barrington, who only appears in the second act, played the rôle of the Pharaoh of Egypt in that quietly droll style which has so often proved effective in comic opera, and, of course, he had a popular ditty, in which references to motor-cars, the County Council, and Chicago were made. His reception was quite enthusiastic. Miss Madge Vincent was a captivating Natis, the Princess's maid, and sang very sweetly, and minor rôles were well sustained by Mr. Leonard Calvert and Mr. F. Aubrey Millward. The new production was adequately staged, and at the fall of the curtain, in response to the loud and prolonged applause, Mr. Louis Calvert announced that neither the author nor the composer was in the house.

"A BEGGAR ON HORSEBACK."

A New and Original Romantic Play, in Five Acts, by Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews, Produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, Aug. 6.

Marley of Tournay .....
The Duke of Staines .....} Mr. Frank Cooper
William III. (Prince of Orange) .....Mr. Edward Ferris
Sir Richard Wentworth ..Mr. Ernest Leicester
Lord Petridge .....Mr. Cooper Cliffe
Lord Harry Dudley ....Mr. Herbert J. Bentley
Captain Lorraine ....Mr. H. Ashton Tonge
Marquis de St. Hiliare .....Mr. Price Hamer
Sir Aubrey Verum .....Mr. Douglas Cox
Lord Howard .....Mr. Scrope Quinton
General Dickton .....Mr. Frederick Fielding
Belton .....Mr. Pearce
Fletcher .....Mr. Rowland Harrison
Brent .....Mr. Cecil Brentwood
Sheldrake .....Mr. H. Reynolds
Hobson .....Mr. Clive Ross
Eades .....Mr. Edwin Palmer
Bartolo .....Mr. W. Dempsey
Landlord (Star Inn) ..Mr. Robert Phillimore
Captain Maynard .....Mr. Fuller Price
Lady Rosewarline .....Miss Maud Hoffman
Lady Blessington .....Miss Brennard
Lavinia Wentworth .....Miss Violet Cooper
Nita .....Miss Irma Foldi
Lady Mary Dudley .. Miss May Chevalier

Mr. Ferris and Mr. Matthews deserve to be congratulated, as they have been, upon having produced a play very powerful in its interest, and exceptionally rich in the language in which the story is clothed. This is the pre-eminent feature of *A Beggar on Horseback*, and entitles it to rank with some of the best efforts of dramatic authors.

The new production has to do with the plots and counterplots of the time when James of Scotland and William of Orange were striving to reach the throne of England, and the picture that is presented of that troublous period is one that may be of interest, even to the student of Jacobite affairs. Introduced into these plots and counterplots, and, indeed, predominating over them, is the loves of two people, an English lady of title and a street-singer in a Spanish town. The play opens on a terrace in the town of Sabastian in Spain, where a young and beautiful English noblewoman is residing with her friends, some of whom are interested in the prospects of the Prince of Orange, whilst others are equally devoted to the cause of James of Scotland. Lady Mary Dudley, the young English noblewoman referred to, is affianced to the Duke of Staines, a staunch adherent of the Prince of Orange, although their love is not as whole-hearted as it ought to be; and it is at Sebastian that she hears the street-singer, Marley, who exerts such a powerful influence upon her subsequent fortunes. Marley is really a nobleman himself, though fallen on evil days, and when he sees the beautiful Englishwoman, he straightway falls in love with her, though he dare not in his then condition declare his affection. Anxious to serve her, he falls an easy prey to the scheming Sir Richard Wentworth, who, in love with the lady himself, and thinking the chances of James of Scotland are better than those of his master, the Prince of Orange, induces the street-singer to proceed to England to personate the Duke of Staines at a momentous meeting which the Duke himself cannot attend, through having been attacked by a hireling of the opposite party. Marley, bearing a strong resemblance to the Duke of Staines, accepts the situation lightly, fortified by the belief that the deception will benefit Lady Mary, and will save her brother, Lord Harry Dudley, who is in a position of great danger. And so, at a ball at the Duke of Staines' town house in London, we find Marley masquerading as the Duke, and deceiving everybody, even Lady Mary, who, believing that he is the Duke, comes to like him because he so much resembles the street-singer in the Spanish town. One of the ladies in the Duke of Staines' town house, however, recognises in the so-called Duke a former lover whose respect she had forfeited, and, failing to reawaken affection in him, she discloses to his enemy, Lord Petridge, a double-dealing Minister of the Prince of Orange, the place where the adherents of James of Scotland were to meet and mature their plans, and where Marley, as the supposed Duke of Staines, was to appear and offer them the encouragement of his rank and power. The meeting-place was the tap-room of the Star Inn, at Covent Garden, and when Petridge and the supposed Duke got there, they found an excited mob of Jacobites waiting for light and leading. The entrance of a young flower-seller, Nita, a street companion of Marley's, who had also come to love him, arouses the suspicion of the conspirators, who, taking her in her disguise for a spy, decide to kill her. To save her, Marley discloses his own personality and the deception he had played, and Petridge manages to assuage their anger by the specious excuse that, though the real Duke of Staines may appear afterwards, he will never be able to prove to his master, the Prince of Orange, that he was not the same man who attended the meeting of his enemies. After this there is a return to Sebastian by the principal characters in the play. Petridge produces documentary proof that Lady Mary is bound to marry the Duke of Staines. Marley, knowing that the Duke is now, without his help, lost, resolves to proceed to England to save him, for the sake of the woman he loves. And so we get to the last act at Whitehall in England, where we find William of Orange on the throne, and trying to find the false and the true amongst the powerful courtiers around him. The Duke of Staines is under sentence of death for, as the King supposed, conspiring with his enemies. Lord Petridge, who engineered the conspiracy, is still a trusted Minister. Marley appears, and discloses the part he was induced to play by Petridge, who, discovered, is banished from the country, and the King, as a reward for the honesty and honour of Marley, consents to his marriage with Lady Mary.

It is impossible to speak in terms of too high praise of the way in which this story is presented on the stage. The authors have got together a most capable company, every one of which, even those in subordinate rôles portrayed their parts with skill and discretion. Chief amongst them was Mr. Frank Cooper, who played the dual rôle of Marley and the Duke of Staines with great distinction. Whether as the gallant soldier, ready at any moment to draw his sword, or as the lover, full of tender devotion for the woman he loved. Mr. Cooper was most impressive, and never lost touch with the audience, who followed him with increasing interest, until, in the last act, an impressive scene, he overcame all his enemies. Mr. Cooper Cliffe was also a great success as the scheming and traitorous Lord Petridge. He succeeded, by his art, in clothing his villainies with such a specious covering of finesse and polished respectability, that even the onlookers might well have been deceived by them. Mr. Edward Ferris, one of the authors, made a most impressive though brief appearance in the play as the Prince of Orange, and ably depicted the perplexities of that well-meaning monarch surrounded by false friends. Mr. Ernest Leicester gave a good account of himself as Sir Richard Wentworth; and Mr. Herbert J. Bentley was successful in the part of the headstrong and impulsive Lord Harry Dudley. The Captain Lorraine of Mr. H. Asheton Tonge was also a most creditable performance. Amongst the ladies in the cast a special word of praise is due to Miss May Chevalier, for her impersonation of the part of Lady Mary Dudley. One could not but be impressed with the earnestness with which she played her part, and that she succeeded was amply evidenced by the manner in which her efforts were received by the audience. A pretty and touching picture of the flower girl, Nita, was given by Miss Irma Foldi, and Miss Violet Cooper made a sympathetic Lavinia Wentworth. Special pains were taken to see that the play should be well presented, both in the matter of scenery and of costumes, etc., all of which were above reproach.

The play was produced by Mr. Ferris, Mr. Clive Ross acting as stage-manager and Mr. Charles Brereton as assistant stage-manager.

"A KNIGHT ERRANT."

Produced at the Grand Theatre, Falkirk, on the 6th inst.

Duke de Cabreau .....Mr. Frederick Park
Marguerite .....Miss Erine Douglas
Count de Lutier .....Mr. Harold Chapin
Helen Ferrier .....Mrs. Alice Chapin
Captain Perdre .....Mr. Harry Welchman
Colonel Daubeterre ..Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming
Madame Floubert .....Miss Paula Fernan
Fenchette .....Miss Elsie Chapin

What is described as a new comic opera, and entitled *A Knight Errant*, was produced for the first time in public on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Falkirk. The period of the story is the reign of Louis XV., and the complications arise out of the escape of a young lady from her convent school and the cavalier disguise she adopts to hide her identity. There is another young lady in the same school, and the attentions paid to her by one Captain Perdre, who is completely infatuated by her charms, imperil his freedom. To avoid arrest he attires himself in the dress of a young lady and masquerades as the escaped girl, and wins the affections of the giddy old Count de Lautier and the Duke de Cabreau. This double masquerading leads to many funny situations. The piece is founded on an old costume play, and the setting and dressing are effective, pretty, and picturesque. It is presented in two acts, the first being laid in the courtyard of the White Hart, Verdun, and the second in a room in the White Hart. It is constructed more on the lines of a musical farce than of a comic opera. *A Knight Errant* certainly possesses qualities which should make it a success. The lyrics are by A. and H. Chapin, both of whom appear in the cast, and the dialogue is quaint, piquant, and entertaining. The music is by Mr. Frank Corrie, and is very agreeable and appropriate. The choruses are bright and sparkling, and the songs are sprightly and tuneful. Mr. Harry Welchman, the Captain Perdre, has a fine figure and a capital baritone voice. His acting of the part is a great success, and he imparts a happy *abandon* to his rendering. His singing of "The Wandering Knight" and "The Slap-dash Man" is heartily received, as is also that pretty item, "The Rosebud." Mr. Harold Chapin undertakes the part of the Count with rare intelligence, and his song, "I'm on a strange and awful quest," proves a hit. Mr. Frederick Park deserves a special word of praise for his interpretation of the difficult part of the Duke. His acting is clever, and his singing of the number, "I am the Duke," is effective. "Am I wrong?" is an attractive ditty. As Colonel D'Aubeterre, the lover of the young lady who escapes from the convent school, Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming invests the part with the necessary passion, and is quite successful. Mrs. Alice Chapin appears as Helen Ferrier, the damsel who flies from the convent. Her conception of the part is excellent, and she wears the disguise of the cavalier very becomingly. Miss Eirene Douglas makes a winsome Marguerite. She possesses a very pleasing voice, and her singing of "The Ambitious Plant" is clever. Miss Paula Fernan as Mme. Flaubert is very successful, and especially smart is Miss Elsie Chapin as Fanchette. Miss Alice Chapin and company have every reason to be proud of their first public appearance in *A Knight Errant*. Mr. Corrie, the musical conductor and business-manager, and the authors are deserving of congratulation.

CONTINENTAL ENGAGEMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—I shall be very much obliged if you will kindly find room for the following warning in your columns.

Not infrequently troupes of English artistes, musicians, etc., are engaged to perform on the Continent. Many of these are well acquainted with the towns and places where they are to perform, while, on the other hand, a large number have never been abroad and are totally unacquainted with foreign languages, yet sign contracts in the language of the country where they are engaged to perform, and are, as a rule, ignorant of the conditions of what they sign.

It would avoid much trouble and misunderstanding if the members of such companies would, before entering into an engagement, write to the British Consular Officer or the British Chaplain at the place where they desire to fulfil an engagement, and inquire as to the reputation of the place where they are to perform and as to facilities for obtaining decent and respectable lodgings. Above all they should insist on having a duly legalised English translation of the contract, if they are unable to understand its terms in a foreign language.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER R. HEARN,
H.M.'s Consul-General.

The winner of the international shorthand speed competition at Baltimore, U.S.A., was Mr. Sidney H. Godfrey, who attained the remarkable record of 250 words per minute. Of his achievement he writes: "The pen used by me was a 'Swan' Fountain Pen, purchased six years ago, and which has been in constant use ever since. It has never failed me, even when writing at the rate of 250 words per minute." This is another remarkable testimony to the qualities of the "Swan" Pen, which is one of the best investments our readers can make. A fully illustrated catalogue is to be had on application to Mabie, Todd, and Bard, 79-80, High Holborn.

The Handel Festival at Berlin will begin on October 25, and continue over the three following days, the programme including *Israel in Egypt*, *Belsazar*, the *Ode to Cæcilie*, and a selection of instrumental works. There will also be a matinée of chamber-music and songs. Professors Siegried Ochs, Joseph Joachim, and Georg Schumann will conduct, and the choral and orchestral duties will be performed by members of the Royal Academy, the Philharmonic, and the Singacademy choir.

Mme. Melba drew an enormous audience to the Winter Gardens symphony concert at Blackpool on Sunday, Mr. Landon Ronald conducting. In consequence of the crowd obstructing the traffic, it was found necessary to open the doors three hours before the advertised time of the concert. Many distinguished visitors were present, and among the celebrities of the theatrical world were Lady and Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Frank Allen. Mme. Melba sang with her usual brilliant success, and was presented with a magnificent floral tribute by Lady Moss.

Comfort in seating is one of the most important problems which presents itself to the mind of the astute manager who wishes to attract the public. Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Limited, have fully borne this in mind in the elegant refurnishing and redecoration of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. No less than 600 patent automatic tip-up seats, from the noted chair expert, H. Lazarus, have been added to the attractions of this well-managed house.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 6,
for the first time in London,
the Drama in Four Acts,
by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled
"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."

Cyril Girdlestone .....Mr. Stanley Gordon
Welby Girdlestone .....Mr. Ellis J. Preston
Rev. Mr. McAllister .....Mr. H. C. Lansley
David Strong .....Mr. Frederick Ross
Romulus Roe .....Mr. Fred Terriss
Remus Roe .....Mr. Charles A. Preece
Sergt. Blatchett .....Mr. J. W. Thomas
Jack Naylor .....Mr. Robert Castle
Edith McAllister .....Miss Nina Vaughton
Stella Gray .....Miss Amy Venimore
Molly Blake .....Miss Lucy Murray
Jane Ellen Scriver .....Miss Ada Palmer
Flipps .....Miss Katie Wilson
Polly .....Miss Nellie Burges
Abigail .....Miss Kate Parker

Everything from a railway engine to a balloon has been utilised by Mr. Arthur Shirley for the purposes of melodrama, and his latest sensation which he has provided in conjunction with Mr. Sutton Vane, another prolific dramatist, consists of a steam launch going at full speed along the river Thames. For the rest of the piece such practised playwrights may be trusted to provide engrossing material, and the audience at Kennington on Monday gave themselves up to the keenest enjoyment of the exciting web of infamy woven by the villains of the piece. The "Spider" of the cast is of the subtlest order, and the gentle fly the most unsuspicious, and as the result of their conflict some effective situations have been furnished. The play is rich in comedy episodes supplied by characters who are bound up more closely than usual with progress of the story.

A bright beginning is made in the first act, when a scene of domestic happiness is presented in the little Yorkshire village of Undercliffe, where dwell Cyril Girdlestone and Edith, his young bride, the daughter of the local minister. The first inharmonious note is sounded by the arrival of Cyril's half-brother Welby, whose beetling brows and lowering countenance proclaim his sinister intention. Welby is aware of Cyril's marriage some time previously to a certain Stella Gray, who has since been reported dead. Cyril becomes heir to his father's fortune, and Welby demands half the legacy as the price of his silence. Cyril indignantly refuses, and bids him do his worst, whereupon his half-brother produces the first Mrs. Girdlestone alive and well. Prosecution for bigamy looms in the distance, but Edith, realising Cyril's danger, declares that she had gone through no marriage with him, but was only his mistress.

Driven from the village in disgrace, Edith, with her new-born baby, takes up her quarters in lodgings in London, where she ekes out a miserable existence by her needle. Her poverty is shared by her father and by a faithful domestic named Molly Blake, who has won the esteem of Remus Roe, an eccentric individual known as "Soft Roe," while his twin-brother Romulus rejoices in the sobriquet of "Hard Roe." Remus is, in reality, the husband of Stella, from whom he has fled in dismay at the power of her evil eye. Cyril Girdlestone has meanwhile been abducted by Welby and Stella, and confined in a darkened cell in an old moat house at Finchley, where he has become half-demented under the influence of a drug administered by his captors. Cyril's cell is hidden by folding doors which open upon a spring at the side being pressed. Edith visits the place to bring some work which she has just finished, and feeling faint touches the spring in order to summon the servant, and the opening doors reveal the prostrate form of her husband. Stella comes in for the purpose of compelling Cyril to sign away his fortune, but Edith intervenes. Welby hastens to his colleague's assistance, and husband and wife are in imminent danger when David Strong, a sailor from Edith's native village, arrives to the rescue.

A voyage to South Africa is prescribed for Cyril, who fully provides for Edith and their child during his absence. News of the return of the boat arrives, and Stella receives a note from the purser of the vessel stating that Cyril has met with an accident and lies seriously ill on board. Edith hurries off with her child, but presently finds herself in the power of Stella, who meets her, disguised as a nurse, at a public-house now owned by Remus Roe, who subsequently reveals to Cyril his relationship to the unscrupulous adventuress. Stella gets Edith into a small boat on the Thames, and purposes to sink her and the child as soon as they reach mid-stream, but Edith clings to a buoy and is rescued by her husband, who has boarded a police steam launch and overtakes the boat, while Remus Roe plunges into the water and saves the child.

The whole family is caught in the web in the last act, when the resourceful Stella manages once again to get Cyril and his wife and child into her clutches, and immures her in a secret apartment with a movable roof in the moat house. She expresses her intention of killing all the lot, when Welby appears, and thrusting Stella into the fatal apartment proceeds himself to do the killing. He presses a button and the ceiling begins to descend, but when it is half-way down David Strong and the twin brothers arrive opportunely, and enable all the victims to escape with the exception of Stella, who is left behind to be crushed by the descending ceiling.

The authors could scarcely have been better served than they were by the artists engaged in the performance. Mr. Stanley Gordon was a refined but none the less energetic exponent of Cyril Girdlestone. Vigorous and buoyant in the earlier episodes, he rendered the poignant scene of his incarceration in the dark cell with moving pathos, and was also powerfully effective in the stirring lines he had to deliver. A remarkable performance of the hearty seaman, David Strong, was given by Mr. Frederick Ross, who bore himself nobly, and employed a wonderful voice in the rendering of dialogue which made an invariable mark. The delicacy and grace of Miss Nina Vaughton had pleasing prominence in the part of Edith McAllister. She delivered herself with striking emphasis of her passionate avowal of her alleged dishonour and subsequent scenes also served to display her powers of emotion. To Miss Amy Venimore also must commendation be awarded. No more ungrateful part could be imagined than that of Stella Gray, but Miss Venimore, while assuming a fascinating appearance, made the repulsiveness of her actions stand out with unmitigated effect. A worthy associate was found in Mr. Ellis J. Preston, who presented the rascality of Welby Girdlestone in subdued yet impressive colours. His evil deeds peeped out from his eyes, and the intensity of his acting well bore out his appearance. Comedians of quite an original kind were found in the brothers Roe, as impersonated by Mr. Fred Terriss and Mr. Charles A. Preece, who won genuine and hearty laughter. The former adopted a burlesque tragic air as Romulus, and looked quite Dickensian, while Mr. Preece presented in a truly comic manner the absurdities of Remus, who falls in love but is prevented from declaring his affection by the thought that his wife Stella still exists. Miss Lucy Murray made a blithe servant-maid, and shared largely in the prevailing merriment as Molly Blake, and Miss Ada Palmer was a ludicrous lodging-house keeper, a part into which she afterwards managed to infuse a little pathos. Mr. H. C. Lansley, as a hale and venerable clergyman, won general esteem, and the part of a mud-lark was realistically represented by Miss Katie Wilson. The scenery is skilfully painted by Mr. David Young and well set, the representation of the river Thames at night with the barges moored about and the arrival of the steam-launch being extremely well done.

"THE GREAT WILDERNESS."

A Melodrama, in Four Acts, by W. Alexander-Dallas, played for the first time in London at the Fulham Theatre on Monday, Aug. 6.

Royal Keene .....Mr. Leonard Williams
Lascelle La Mort .....Mr. Edward Leroy
Sir Vivian Asley .....Mr. C. M. Davidson
Ronald Granville .....Mr. Arthur Lowry
Hans Krott .....Mr. Jim Woods
Michael Maloney .....Mr. Robert A. Earle
Moses Moloch .....Mr. Walter Clarke
Red Heart .....Mr. Theodore Hill
Judge Tremain .....Mr. Douglas Howard
Thomas .....Mr. George Sinclare
Antelope .....Mr. Robert Goodwin
Running Deer .....Mr. Fred Leslie
Jem Marne .....Mr. W. B. Restan
Sam Owens .....Mr. W. Lester Norton
Winona .....Miss Evie Leyton
Louise Granville .....Miss Blanch Leroy
Star Eye .....Miss Kitty McPherson
Wild Rose .....Miss Hazel Dent

Judging by an omen, the play which was presented to Londoners for the first time on Monday at the Fulham Theatre, ought to have a successful career. During the production of *The Great Wilderness* a cat appeared behind the footlights in one of the scenes, frisked about for a while in the centre of the stage, and, after a general look round, finally returned to the wings. But the piece deserves to succeed on its merits, and not only by a "stroke of luck."

The ten scenes of Mr. Alexander-Dallas's play are not lacking in incident. We have scarcely recovered from one exciting episode when we are brought face to face with another. Sir Vivian Ashley, an English nobleman, is on a visit to America for the purpose of discovering the murderer of his brother, who was done to death by white men, although an attempt had been made to put the crime to the account of some Indians. Sir Vivian has the assistance in the work of detection of Royal Keene, a U.S. Army scout. The murderer is Lascelle La Mort, a renegade, who, learning of the nature of the quest upon which Sir Vivian and Keene have set out, attempts to accomplish the death of the latter by conspiracy with an Indian chief, Red Heart. But Red Heart will have none of it, and several endeavours to get Keene out of the way for ever are frustrated, mainly by the aid of a pretty Indian girl. Thus in the Indian village Keene is bound to a tree by the orders of La Mort, whose intention is to shoot him there and then, but he is released by the friendly natives. In the second act the scheming and treacherous renegade is at the mansion of one Ronald Granville, a mine owner, of St. Louis, whose cousin he is. Granville, thanks to his amiable relative, is in debt, and has mortgaged his mine for a large sum of money. La Mort is conspiring with Moses Moloch, a Hebrew moneylender, and Judge Tremain, a rascally lawyer, to secure Granville's daughter, Louise, for his wife. Moloch offers to let his loan to Granville stand over if the latter will consent to his daughter's marriage to a certain estimable person of the Jew's acquaintance; if not, the money will be called in, and the mine owner will be ruined. Louise, however, finds a sufficient amount to pay off the mortgages on the mine and return the loans, and once more the ends of villainy are defeated. It is here that Keene appears disguised as the English nobleman, and there is a desperate struggle between him and La Mort, the latter escaping. In the third act we are taken to Sunrise Saloon, Denver. Here a motley gathering of men assemble at the drinking bar, play cards, and quarrel among themselves The comedy element is well attended in this scene, for Michael Maloney, an Irish settler, amuses the "bhoys" with his dancing and singing of Scots and Irish favourites while Hans Krott, another comedy character, renders a Dutch song and dances a national jig in splendid style. Keene sits down at one of the tables and plays cards. Tremain and Moloch are here, too, and La Mort turns up wearing a red mask. His identity is made known, whereupon shooting irons come into requisition, and a little later La Mort seizes Louise Granville and vanishes. Everyone sets out in pursuit, and in the final scene, "the celebrated Black Canyon," Keene encounters the murderer, and rescues the white girl. A duel is then arranged between the two men. The scout would have been perfectly justified in shooting La Mort at sight, but he prefers to follow a more honourable course. They stand a few paces from each other, back to back; La Mort fires before the given signal, but the Indian girl, Wild Rose, aims at him with fatal effect.

The Great Wilderness is capitally mounted and staged, and the story is full of sensational adventures and startling incidents. Messrs. W. Alexander-Dallas and Hubert Carson have engaged a good all-round company. Mr. Leonard Williams, as the dashing and manly scout, Royal Keene, acts in vigorous fashion, and the part could scarcely be better played. Mr. Edward Leroy, as Lascelle La Mort, is one of the most energetic villains we have ever seen; his wicked doings on the stage are performed with that cool sangfroid and frank boldness which are characteristic of the Western American adventurer. Mr. Robert A. Earle gives a laughable impersonation of Michael Maloney, and supplies some admirable comic singing and smart dancing. Mr. Jim Woods is capital as Hans Krott, a Dutch saloon keeper. His "English made in Holland" is distinctly good, and his Dutch rendering of a song most praiseworthy. Miss Blanche Leroy is agreeable and ladylike as Louise Granville, and a couple of very engaging Indian girls are Miss Kitty McPherson, who plays Star Eye, and Miss Hazel Dent as Wild Rose. Mr. C. M. Davidson is gentlemanly and dignified as Sir Vivian Ashley, and Mr. Walter Clarke is to be commended for his portrayal of a satirical Jewish moneylender, Moses Moloch. A particularly pleasing study of a high-minded, honest, and scrupulous Indian chief is furnished by Mr. Theodore Hill as Red Heart, and a good word can also be said for Mr. Douglas Howard as the scheming lawyer. During the progress of the piece solo dances are executed in exquisite style by Miss Evie Leyton, and the special music by Mr. Louis Gray provides a delightful accompaniment. Mr. Frederic C. Garton is the able acting-manager of the company, and Messrs. Theodore Hill and C. M. Davidson share the duties of stage-managership. *The Great Wilderness* should certainly find warm favour with popular audiences.

Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay, who have been spending their vacation on the Continent (visiting Switzerland, Paris, etc.), and in the Emerald Isle, commence their autumn tour on Monday at the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, with *The Wearin' o' the Green*. This popular Irish musical play is now in its eleventh year of tour, and is rebooked at all the principal theatres without a vacant date.

Mr. Chas. Cardon appeared with his cadet party at Folkestone on Wednesday, having run over from Southsea, where he has been showing previously. He received a cordial welcome from a fashionable audience.

At St. Michael's Church, Dover-road, Folkestone, on Sunday afternoon last, at the 237th monthly afternoon for the people, the "Dead March from Saul" was played on the great orchestral organ in memory of the late Mr. J. L. Toole.

Messrs. Barnes and Weston, the well-known writers for the variety stage, have received many congratulations on the great good done by their song, "Boys of the Chelsea School."

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Opposition, Lyric, June 28, 1892.
Orange Blossoms, Strand, Feb. 17, 1862.
Orange Tree and the Humble Bee, Vaudeville, May 13, 1871.
Orchard of the King, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Nov. 20, 1889.
Ordeal by Touch, Queen's, April 4, 1872.
Ordeal of the Honeymoon, Prince of Wales's, May 9, 1899.
Ordeal, The, Comedy, June 20, 1893.
Ordered South, Forest Hill, July 28, 1900.
Order of the Night, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 22, 1873.
Ordsall Hall, Prince of Wales's, Salford, Aug. 27, 1883.
Orfeo, Covent Garden, Nov. 6, 1890.
Organ Grinder, Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 24, 1898.
Organist, The, New Cross, Nov. 14, 1887.
Oriana, Globe, Feb. 15, 1873.
Orient Express, Daly's, Oct. 25, 1893.
Original Affection, Olympic, Jan. 12, 1852.
Orlando Dando, Fulham, Aug. 1, 1898.
Orphan and the Outcast, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, Oct. 20, 1871.
Orphan Heiress, Bishop Auckland, Dec. 23, 1895.
Orphan's Legacy, Grecian, June 10, 1867.
Orphans, The, Surrey, May 15, 1866.
Orpheus and (P)Eurydice, Great Yarmouth, July 20, 1891.
Orson, Adelphi, Aug. 12, 1876.
Ostrolenka, St. George's Hall, April 2, 1884.
Otello, Lyceum, July 5, 1889.
Othello, Olympic, May 21, 1892.
Other Days, Theatre Royal, Hull, April 12, 1883.
Other Fellow, Court, Sept. 9, 1893.
Other Lady, Edinburgh, June 20, 1898.
Other Little Lord Fauntleroy, Avenue, June 18, 1888.
Other Man's Business, Kingston, June 18, 1900.
Other Man's Wife, Theatre Royal, Worcester, May 16, 1898.
Other Woman, Her Majesty's, Nov. 11, 1897.
Otto a German, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, July 28, 1879.
Otto the Outcast, Nelson, April 4, 1898.
Oude Doullagh, Shoreham, June 7, 1879.
Oughts and Crosses, Theatre Royal, Jersey, July 28, 1884.
Ought We to Visit Her, Royalty, Jan. 17, 1874.
Our Accomplished Domestic, Strand, Aug. 21, 1878.
Our Agency, Avenue, July 19, 1886.
Our Amateur Theatricals, Theatre Royal, Croydon, July 23, 1894.
Our American Cousin, Haymarket, Nov. 11, 1861.
Our Angels, Vaudeville, March 3, 1891.
Our Autumn Manœuvres, Adelphi, Oct. 21, 1871.
Our Awful Lads, Gaiety, West Hartlepool, March 11, 1878.
Our Babes in the Wood, Gaiety, April 2, 1877.
Our Babies, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, Nov. 26, 1888.
Our Bairn, Kilburn, Dec. 4, 1890.
Our Boarding School, International, Feb. 1, 1884.
Our Bonnie Prince, Grand, Glasgow, Oct. 24, 1887.
Our Boys, Vaudeville, Jan. 16, 1875.
Our British Empire, Bootle, Aug. 1, 1898.
Our Burlesque Baby, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 13, 1895.
Our Cinderella, Gaiety, Sept. 8, 1883.
Our Club, Strand, May 9, 1878.
Our Coastguards, St. James's, Manchester, Nov. 14, 1892.
Our Colonial Relative, Tyne, Newcastle, July 9, 1886.
Our Court, Woolwich, Nov. 17, 1888.
Our Cousins, Bijou, June 14, 1869.
Our Daily Bread, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Oct. 5, 1885.
Our Daughters, Strand, April 15, 1891.
Our Dear Old Home, City of London, June 20, 1868.
Our Diva, Opéra Comique, Oct. 29, 1886.
Our Doctors, Terry's, March 24, 1891.
Our Domestics, Strand, June 15, 1867.
Our Eldorado, Opera House, Northampton, Aug. 6, 1894.
Our Emmie, Opéra Comique, Aug. 1, 1892.
Our Family Legend, Brighton, Oct. 8, 1892.
Our Family Motto, South Kensington, Feb. 27, 1889.
Our Farm, Queen's, June 29, 1872.
Our Flossie, Addlestone, April 2, 1888.
Our Flat, Southport, April 10, 1889.
Our Folks, St. George's Hall, July 26, 1900.
Our French Lady's Maid, Adelphi, May 22, 1858.
Our Friends, Olympic, May 6, 1872.
Our Garden, Parkhurst, Dec. 15, 1894.
Our Geordie, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, March 7, 1872.
Our Goblins, Leamington, Sept. 18, 1882.
Our Great Surprise, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 20, 1889.
Our Guardian Angel, Novelty, Jan. 6, 1896.
Our Hated Rival, Theatre Royal, Richmond, Dec. 17, 1891.
Our Helen, Gaiety, April 8, 1884.
Our Hostess, Kilburn, April 5, 1897.
Our Joan, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Aug. 22, 1887.
Our John, Garrick, June 10, 1899.
Our Lass, Prince of Wales's, Salford, April 30, 1886.
Our Last Rehearsal, Folkestone, April 25, 1893.
Our Lodger, Theatre Royal, Brighton, May 27, 1885.
Our Lodgers, Lyceum, Sunderland, June 26, 1868.
Our Lot in Life, Lancaster, April 2, 1900.
Our Luck, Theatre Royal, Doncaster, Sept. 22, 1876.
Our Mess, St. George's Hall, , 1883.
Our Native Home, Surrey, Sept. 19, 1892.
Our Own Antony and Cleopatra, Gaiety, Sept. 8, 1873.
Our Own Correspondent, Charing Cross, Aug. 14, 1871.
Our Pal, Shanklin, April 24, 1889.
Our Party, Theatre Royal, Croydon, Aug. 4, 1884.
Our Pet, Charing Cross, Nov. 12, 1873.
Our Play, Teddington, Feb. 1, 1893.
Our Pleasant Sins, Grand, Leeds, Feb. 13, 1893.
Our Polly, Pavilion, April 16, 1881.
Our Regiment, Vaudeville, Feb. 13, 1883.
Our Relations, Brighton, Oct. 5, 1891.
Our Relatives, Olympic, Dec. 11, 1880.
Ours, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 15, 1866.
Our Sailor Lad, Bootle, May 6, 1895.
Ourselves, Vaudeville, Jan. 29, 1880.
Our Servant Girl, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, June 15, 1896.
Our Servants' Ball, St. George's Hall, Dec. 26, 1887.
Our Silver Wedding, Standard, March 22, 1886.
Our Sons and Daughters, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Oct. 31, 1879.
Our Squire, Southport, Feb. 11, 1884.
Our Strategists, Opéra Comique, May 29, 1886.
Our Summer Holiday, Clifton, Nov. 25, 1886.
Our Tom, Theatre Royal, Leicester, Feb. 8, 1875.
Our Town, Warrington, Nov. 16, 1871.
Our Toys, St. James's, July 16, 1895.
Our Tuner, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, Oct. 15, 1885.
Our Tutor, Leytonstone, Oct. 25, 1890.
Our Volunteers, Brighton, July 6, 1896.
Our War Correspondent, Opera House, Leicester, May 27, 1878.
Our Wives, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, Sept. 16, 1885.
Out at Elbows, Toole's, March , 1882.
Outcast Fortune Teller, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Dec. 18, 1883.
Outcast Joe, Theatre Royal, Bolton, March 28, 1870.
Outcast London, Elephant and Castle, Oct. 2, 1886.
Outcast of the Streets, City of London, Feb. 18, 1866.
Outcast Poor, Surrey, Aug. 25, 1884.
Outcasts of the City, Theatre Royal, Jarrow, Nov. 3, 1884.
Outcasts, The, Effingham, Feb. 6, 1864.
Out for a Holiday, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Nov. 29, 1870.
Out for the Day, New Theatre, Oxford, Aug. 2, 1886.
Outlawed Son, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, July 30, 1881.
Out of Evil, Queen's, Battersea, Dec. 4, 1894.
Out of Sight, Cromwell House, July 8, 1881.
Out of Sight, Out of Mind, Nottingham, May 29, 1894.
Out of Sorts, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Sept. 20, 1884.
Out of the Beaten Track, Strand, July 11, 1889.
Out of the Frying Pan, Holborn, May 4, 1872.
Out of the Frying-pan into the Fire, City of London, July 8, 1867.
Out of the Hunt, Royalty, Oct. 8, 1881.
Out of the Past, St. George's Hall, June 6, 1893.
Out of the Ranks, Strand, June 3, 1884.
Out of the Shadowland, Bayswater, June 17, 1899.
Out of the World, Vaudeville, Feb. 23, 1892.
Outsider, The, Great Yarmouth, March 2, 1891.
Outward Bound, Col., Liverpool, May 17, 1875.
Outwitted, St. George's Hall, July 14, 1871.
Over Heads and Ears, Park, June 10, 1876.
Overland Route, Haymarket, Feb. 23, 1860.
Over Proof, Royalty, Nov. 6, 1878.
Over the Cliffs, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, Feb. 11, 1884.
Over the Garden Wall, Folly, July 20, 1881.
Over the Way, Strand, Dec. 8, 1856.
Owner of the Works, Theatre Royal, Leamington, March 18, 1895.
Oxford Agreement, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, Oct. 29, 1897.
Oxygen, Folly, March 31, 1877.
Pace that Kills, Britannia, March 7, 1870.
Pacha of Pimlico, St. James's, April 15, 1861.
Packet from England, Bayswater, April 24, 1895.
Paid in Full, Theatre Royal, Oldham, Nov. 3, 1873.
Painless Dentistry, Adelphi, June 12, 1875.
Pair of Boots, Olympic, Oct. 4, 1873.
Pair of Kids, Comedy, Manchester, July 2, 1888.
Pair of Knickerbockers, St. George's Hall, Dec. 26, 1899.
Pair of Spectacles, Garrick, Feb. 22, 1890.
Pair of Them, Gaiety, March 1, 1879.
Pair of Wings, Gaiety, Dublin, Dec. 13, 1878.
Palace of Pearl, Empire, June 12, 1886.
Palace of Truth, Haymarket, Nov. 19, 1870.
Pale Janet, Pavilion, Aug. 31, 1867.
Pallettaria, St. George's Hall, June 4, 1895.
Palmistry, Prince of Wales's, April 13, 1888.
Pamela, Falkirk, Nov. 7, 1898.
Pamela's Prodigy, Court, Oct. 21, 1891.
Pandora's Box, Prince of Wales's, Dec. 26, 1866.
Panel Picture, Opéra Comique, March 28, 1889.
Pan; or, The Loves of Echo and Narcissus, Adelphi, April 10, 1865.
Pansies, Hackney, Nov. 14, 1900.
Pansy, Theatre Royal, Preston, Feb. 28, 1890.
Pantomime Prince, Theatre Royal, Belfast, March 15, 1897.
Pantomime Rehearsal, Terry's, June 6, 1891.
Paola, Edinburgh, Dec. 16, 1890.
Papa, Dover, March 21, 1898.
Papa's Honeymoon, Criterion, June 28, 1890.
Papa's Wife, Lyric, Jan. 26, 1895.
Paper Chase, St. George's Hall, May 1, 1888.
Paper Wings, Adelphi, Feb. 27, 1860.
Papillonetta, Sadler's Wells, June 2, 1866.
Paquita, Royalty, Oct. 21, 1871.
Paradise Up to Date, Gravesend, March 26, 1894.
Parallel Attacks, Strand, July 11, 1893.
Parasite, The, Athenæum, Jan. 15, 1894.
Parcels Post, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Feb. 4, 1884.
Parisian Romance, Lyceum, Oct. 1, 1888.
Paris; or, Vive Lempriere, Strand, April 2, 1866.
Par le Glaive, Drury Lane, June 14, 1893.
Parlour Match, Terry's, Oct. 4, 1900.
Parlours, Royalty, July 24, 1880.
Parsifal, Albert Hall, Nov. 10, 1884.
Parson Jim, Terry's, May 24, 1889.
Parson's Play, Grand, July 8, 1889.
Parson, The, Globe, Oct. 10, 1891.
Parson Thorn, Opera House, Wakefield, April 3, 1891.
Parson Wynne's Trust, Comedy, April 22, 1898.
Parted, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Sept. 2, 1874.
Parted and Reunited, Britannia, June 24, 1872.
Parted on the Bridal Hour, Sadler's Wells, Feb. 8, 1888.
Parting of the Ways, Terry's, Feb. 8, 1890.
Parting, The, Hotel Cecil, May 15, 1899.
Partners, Haymarket, Jan. 5, 1888.
Partners for Life, Globe, Oct. 7, 1871.
Parts and Players, Stoke Newington, April 11, 1887.
Parvenu, Court, April 8, 1882.
Parvenu, The, Globe, Feb. 18, 1891.
Pasha, Kilburn, Feb. 28, 1898.
Pasha, The, Hounslow, Dec. 11, 1900.
Pa's Odd Trick, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Feb. 4, 1897.
Pa's Pills, Aberystwyth, June 1, 1894.
Passing Cloud, Drury Lane, April 8, 1851.
Passing Hour, Southminster, Edinburgh, Dec. 13, 1873.
Passing through the Fire, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 1, 1873.
Passion, Vaudeville, Feb. 8, 1873.
Passion and Principle, Sadler's Wells, June 9, 1883.
Passion Flower, Olympic, March 13, 1885.
Passion Flowers, Theatre Royal, Hull, Oct. 28, 1868.
Passions of the Heart, Albion, June 26, 1876.
Passion's Penalty, New Theatre, Swansea, April 16, 1884.
Passion's Peril, Britannia, March 23, 1874.
Passion's Power, New Cross Public Hall, March 25, 1886.
Passion's Slave, Theatre Royal, Bradford, Nov. 1, 1886.
Past Master, Strand, Dec. 21, 1899.
Pat, Woolwich, Nov. 16, 1891.
Patched-Up Affair, St. James's, May 10, 1900.
Patent of Gentility, R. Col., Glasgow, Feb. 6, 1869.
Path of Life, Theatre Royal, Halifax, June 9, 1896.
Patience, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 27, 1866.
Patience; or, Bunthorne's Bride, Opéra Comique, April 23, 1881.
Patient Penelope, Strand, Nov. 25, 1853.
Patricia in a Quandary, Strand, Dec. 19, 1898.
Patrick's Vow, Vic., Strathaven, May 23, 1873.
Patriot's Daughter, Albert, Portsmouth, Jan. 15, 1872.
Patriot Spy, Standard, March 3, 1866.
Patron Saint, St. James's, Oct. 17, 1888.
Pat's Thanksgiving, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 18, 1872.
Pat, the Irish Lancer, Sadler's Wells, March 12, 1888.
Patty; or, The Shipwright's Love, Bijou, June 6, 1872.
Paul and Virginia, Olympic, Oct. 15, 1870.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 13.

An Actor's Romance.—St. James' T., Manchester.
Are You a Mason?—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
As Midnight Chimes.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
At Duty's Call.—Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Douglas.
Chinese Honeymoon.—Salisbury and Weymouth.
Charley's Aunt.—Grand Theatre, Middlesbro'.
Christian, The.—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
Cingalee (S.).—Lowestoft and Hastings.
Coal King.—West London Theatre.
Conscript, The.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Convict's Daughter.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Country Girl.—Bridlington and Whitby.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Pier Pavilion, Southend.
Days of Cromwell.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Destroyer of Men.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Driven from Home.—T. R., South Shields.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Southend.
Earl and the Girl (No. 1).—O. H., Blackpool.
Earl and the Girl (No. 2).—Hastings.
Earl and the Girl (No. 3).—Grand T., Llandudno.
Eternal City (Howard):—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Aldershot.
Facing the Music.—Deal and Littlehampton.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Town Hall, Rhyl.
Faust Up-to-date.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Female Swindler.—T. R., Croydon.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—Seacombe.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Clacton.
French Spy.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
Gay Parisienne.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
Geisha, The.—Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells.
Girl on the Stage.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Golden Ladder.—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Great Awakening.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Her Luck in London.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
His House in Order.—D. P. Theatre, Eastbourne.
Honour Thy Father.—Theatre Royal, Tony-pandy.
I Defy the World.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Indian Mutiny.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Kennedy's Komiks (A.).—Kidderminster.
Kennedy's Komiks (B.).—Cradley.
Kitty Grey.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Keswick and Cleator Moor.
La Poupee (Levilly).—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Lion and the Mouse.—Barrow-in-Furness.
Little Breadwinner.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Little Michus (Edwardes').—T. R., Brighton.
Little Michus (S.).—Scarborough.
London Fireman.—Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Chatham.
Lucky Durham.—O. H., St. Helens.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Manxman.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
Marriage of Kitty.—T. R., Blackburn.
Midnight Mail.—Alex. T., Sheffield.
Midnight Wedding.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Opera House, Southport.
Monte Cristo.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
Mr. Hopkinson.—Llandudno and Shrewsbury.
Mr. Popple.—Blackpool.
Napoleon the Great.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
New Clown.—O. H., Leicester.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—T. R., Worthing.
Orchid (S.).—Bournemouth.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.
Prince of Pilsen.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Prodigal Parson.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.
Public Opinion (N.).—Bridlington.
Queen of Villainy.—Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
Royal Divorce.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
See-Saw of Life.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Shadow of Crime.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Sign of the Cross.—Opera House, Cork.
Silver King (N.).—T. R., Edinburgh.
Silver King (S.).—Borough T., Stratford.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Spider and the Fly.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Spring Chicken (S).—Harrogate.
Still Alarm.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Temptress, The.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
Terry, Edward.—P.O.W., Birmingham.
Three Little Maids (N.).—Liverpool.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Skegness and Cromer.
Throne of Terror.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Toreador.—Ipswich and Colchester.
Traitor Prince.—O. H., Carlisle.
Traitor, The.—P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.
Trip to the Highlands.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Two Little Sailor Boys.— T. R., Scarboro'.
Veronique (S.).—Buxton and Tunbridge.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Walls of Jericho.—Ramsgate and Ipswich.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—O. H., Wakefield.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
Warning to Women.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Way of the World.—King's T., Gainsborough.
What the Butler Saw.—Theatre R., Nottingham.
When London Sleeps.—O. H., Coventry.
When Woman Hates.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—T. R., Dublin.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Morecambe.
Woulfe Repertoire (A.).—T. R., Leicester.
Woulfe Repertoire (B.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Worst Woman in London.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Wrecker of Men.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
£1000 Reward.—P.O.W. Theatre, Mexboro'.
10.30 Down Express.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

"THE ERA" EARLY DELIVERY.

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	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.35
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 10.*)

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company is here this week with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. Jones's portrayal of Captain Harold Marston stands out prominently; Mr. Oswald Douglas, the heavy lead, is an effective Doctor Colbrooke, whose confederates, Kimberley Coutts and Rev. Edward Grey are characters smartly acted by Mr. Robert Sawin and Mr. Clem. Horlock. Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner is a successful comedian; Martin is humorously sketched by Mr. Bertram Lee; Doreen Rivers is played with admirable taste by Miss Marie Daventry; Miss Elsie Walton is a dainty Bess Grayson; and Miss Mary Ainslie is successful as Fay Colbrooke.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Pier Hill Bandstand. Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless.—This extremely popular place of attraction is more than ever sought after, where excellent fare is provided by Mr. Ballard Brown, who has a capital lot of entertainers. These include Mr. J. W. Bowie, a tenor of ability; Mr. Arthur Thomas, a capital humorist; Mr. Arthur Edwards, humorist and dancer; Mr. Victor Marmont, a good solo pianist; and Miss Patie McCarthy, who delights with a capital selection of songs. Mr. Ballard Brown, too, takes part, his baritone renderings being of the best.

Alfresco Theatre of Varieties, Royal Terrace.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—An exceptional programme is being submitted here, and one which is evidently a great draw to the holiday crowds. So well patronised are these entertainments that extra seating accommodation has been necessary. Professor Golding, the well-known ventriloquist, gains great popularity; and Mons. Le Clair's high diving dog, "Spot," causes quite a sensation. Mr. Chas. E. Ellis and Miss Marie Laurence are entertaining; whilst Mr. W. Banks is a good tenor vocalist. The Bijou Orchestra, under Mr. H. Syme, is undoubtedly an attraction in itself.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson. — Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is occupying the boards this week with *Judy; or, The Fatal Hand*. Mr. George Kirk in the part of Grip the detective, displays controlled force, making the part stand out effectively; Miss Florrie Groves, in the title-rôle, hits off the child of the street in good style; the dual rôle of Alice the victim and Polly the coster is cleverly delineated by Miss Mary Neil. Able representations of Duburg the viper, and Blake the wretch, are given by Mr. Charles A. Leicester and Miss Ada Roscoe. The comedy parts have good exponents in Mr. Tyrone Power as Giddles the showman, and Mr. J. Tilly Dillsen as Jim the coster. The mounting and scenery are good.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—At the top of the bill is Harriett Vernon, the lilac girl, whose finished style and singing creates an excellent impression; C. H. Unthan, the armless wonder, is an accomplished player on the violin and cornet, also being an expert card player and rifle shot; Rezene and Robini, trapeze artists, provide excellent comedy; and Jack Wood, the Lancashire pitman, possesses a powerful tenor voice. Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian and dancer, does well. The other items include Rosie Bartlett, charming comedienne; George Reeves, resourceful comedian; Ina Lorrimer, comedienne and expert dancer; and the American Bioscope.

Tivoli. — Lessees and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The Universal Living Pictures are still attracting large audiences here. Jack Crawley, American comedian and raconteur, obtains an enthusiastic reception; Professor Dewhill, conjurer and illusionist, succeeds in mystifying the audience; Lottie Lonsdale, vocalist and top-boot dancer, is a prominent feature. A "Baby Show" competition is being held this week

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. H. Thomas.—The late J. K. Murray's drama, *The Luck of Life*, forms the holiday attraction at this theatre, which opened its doors on Monday night for the first time since Whitsuntide. Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company presented the piece. Miss Nita Langford and Miss Marie Clavering, two very accomplished artists, fill the important rôles of Rene Bazilovitz and Countess Vlame with conspicuous ability. Miss Adelaide Clare as Vivienne D'Artois presents an admirable sketch of a woman of the world; Miss Dorothy Huggett as Laura North submits a really pleasing performance. The trio of Nihilists, Michael Bazilovitz, Count Petroff, and Ivan Polowski, are capably handled by Messrs. Harry Lloyd, Henry Loraine, and Charles Belcliffe. Mr. Wilton Marsh acquits himself with great credit as George Stanhope, and the like may be said of Mr. Polson Turner, who impersonates the Hindoo Bahadur. Mr. Harry T. Butler's efforts to amuse as Simon Stanley are highly successful.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, J. Dunford Oswald.—Chevalier Cliquot, sword swallower, heads the bill here this week, and gives a clever performance. Tom Hague, whistler and bird imitator, is above the average. Bugler Carr goes through a balancing performance with dexterity, and Lillie le Breton is a graceful trapeze performer.

ST. ANNE'S.—Public Hall Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Carlton.—Brandon Thomas' company is here in *Charley's Aunt*. As Lord Fancourt Babberley Mr. Edmund Baker quite convulsed the audience with his representation, especially in the scenes with Sir Francis Chesney, aptly portrayed by Mr. Frederick Tyrell. As the two "grads," Jack Chesney and Charles Wykeham, Mr. Sidney Lynn and Mr. Basil Lynn were excellent; Mr. William Allison was well placed as Stephen Spettigue; Miss Boyne and Miss Margaret Morean were sprightly and captivating as the "guests," Miss Amy Spettigue and Miss Kitty Verdun; whilst Miss Katherine Vereker made a good Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; Miss Mary Mallalieu as Ela Delahey; and Mr. Fred Morland as Brasset, a scout, were praiseworthy.

ST. HELENS. — Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader. — After undergoing a thorough cleaning and renovation this theatre re-opened on Monday for the season, when Mr. Frank Lindo's company appeared in the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*. The company is an exceedingly good one, special praise being due to Mr. F. Lindo (Stephen), Miss Marion Wakeford (Joan), Miss Daisy Rochefort (Dora), Miss May Rochefort (Sybil), and Messrs. D. L. Doyle (David), F. Myles Hodgson (Lucas), Sid Bryant (the Hon. Percy), George Overs (Dick), and Captain Gerald Gambier (Duke of Ancaster). The piece was excellently staged.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The programme here this week is headed by the Milton Ray's company of comedians in the laughter-provoking episode, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, which is thoroughly enjoyed. Miss Edie Gray and her White Coons score a big success as vocalists. Others in the bill include Percy Hannan, young American baritone; Rappo and Ella, equilibrists and acrobats; Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists and dancers; and the Sunbeam Trio, vocalists. The Bioscope is also an attraction.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Grip of Iron* is once again providing the attraction here, and giving evident pleasure to large audiences. Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company includes Mr. Fred Powell, who gives a powerful impersonation of his old character Jagon; Mr. Geo. Denham as Loustelot the Smiler is distinctly amusing; and Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood as Alphonse de Coucou is exceedingly good. Mr. A. G. Polson Turner as Lorentz de Ribas acts with ability; and Mr. Wallace Curnock capably fills the character of Paul Blanchard. Cora Simmonet is meritoriously played by Miss Rosabel Dodd; and Miss Muriel Inglis is praiseworthy as Sophie Blanchard.

Empire. — Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—W. J. Churchill (Uncle Willie) is amusing large audiences here this week, and among others contributing to the entertainment are the Mohamed Ben Mohamed Troupe of Soussa Arabs, who command enthusiastic applause for their clever acrobatic feats; Charles Stevens, an entertaining character vocalist; the Ferganas, expert hand-balancers; Pattie Bella, a pleasing vocalist; La Bella Nello, a lady contortionist and hand-balancer of much ability; Gena Manon, a delightful soprano vocalist; and George Barron, an eccentric comedian, meet with success.

(*Continued on page 23.*)

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. Williams.—One Shade Deeper, *three-act drama, by C. Verner, produced at the Effingham Theatre on Feb. 16, 1863. Cast:—Dr. Nicholi, Mr. Charles Verner; Leonard, Mr. Charles Morton; Mr. Mowbray, Mr. J. Russell; Jacob, Mr. Coreno; Clara, Miss Jane Coveney; Nourka, Mrs. William Lingard (Miss M. Foster); Brenta, Mrs. Murray; Hannah, Miss C. Clifton.*

Juno. — (1) *At the revival of* Cymbeline *at the Queen's, in Long-acre, in April, 1872, Miss Henrietta Hodson played Imogen, the late John Ryder Iachimo, and George Rignold Posthumus. This play was chosen as the result of a "Shakespearean ballot," and by a majority of 569 votes. It ran a fortnight, and then several extra performances were given.* (2) *It was revived by Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum in 1896, running from the end of September till the middle of December.*

W. K.—*You are mistaken. The play was first produced at the Gaiety Theatre.*

R. O.—*We cannot say. A music-hall sketch would not be included in our list of plays. You might reasonably ask to be furnished with the exact date and place of production.*

F. J.—*Mr. Forbes-Robertson's first London performance of* The Light that Failed *was at the Lyric on Feb. 7, 1903. The play was transferred to the New Theatre on April 20, the same year.*

E. Butler.—*As Count Orloff in the revival of* Diplomacy *at the Garrick Theatre in the year 1893, Lady (then Mrs.) Bancroft appearing as Lady Henry Fairfax.*

W. Saunders.—*White to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand, London.*

Mr. Arthur C. Forde *writes:—I notice in last week's* Era *you say in answer to a correspondent ("Hart") that you can discover no record of a pantomime called* Rats of Rats' Castle *having been produced at the Adelphi. I saw, when a child, at that theatre a pantomime called* Cats' Castle; or, Harlequin and the King of the Rats, *which is probably the one referred to. I cannot give the exact date, but I think it must be about sixty-five years ago—certainly more than sixty.*

In reference to the above, we have also received the following note from Mr. Mark A. Kinghorne:—*A lurid melodrama, entitled* The Rats of Rats' Castle, or, Bobby, the Baby, *was played at the Bower Saloon, also at the Grecian Theatre about 1866. At the latter Rayner, Grant, John Manning, and, I think, Miss Pettifer were in the cast.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

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BIRTHS.

Gibbons.—On Aug. 7, at Coldblow, Burgh Heath, near Epsom, Surrey, the wife of Walter Gibbons (née Nellie Payne), of a son.

Thomas.—At 8, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne, Daisy Yates, wife of Dan Thomas, of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Brace—Edney.—By special licence, Aug. 7, at Westcliff-on-Sea, Rosie Edney (of Edney and Wade, and late Sisters Clive), to Mr. Roy Everett Brace (Brewer), of Bristol and Gloucester.

Dunne-Lindsay—Mellor.—Aug. 2, at St. Peter's Church, Horsham, Surrey, by the Rev. F. W. Fagan, Vicar, Charles Dunne-Lindsay, Barrister-at-Law, Advocate of High Court, United Provinces, India, to Marion, youngest daughter of the late T. Randolph Mellor, C.E., formerly of Clifton, Dalkey, co. Dublin.

DEATHS.

Cockburn.—At Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, on 26th inst., Lizzie Dyer, beloved wife of Peter Cockburn, vocalist, late Mr. Durward Lely's "Rob Roy" Co.; also Theatres Royal and Empire. Loved by all who knew her. 2, Baxter's-place, Edinburgh.

Toole.—July 30, at Brighton, John Lawrence Toole, aged 76.

In Memoriam.

Larkin.—In loving memory of dear Aunt Sophie Larkin, Aug. 10, 1903. — Rhoda and Herbert Shelley.

For Sympathy

Presentation.—Mr. Richard Nugent, the clever comedian, who during the variety season has appeared with great success in Mr. Geo. De Gray's sketches at the Queen's Theatre, Keighley, was the delighted recipient of a handsome travelling bag from a number of Keighley boys known as the "Syndicate." The presentation was made at the Cycling Club on the 3rd inst. by Mr. Albert Barlow, the local representative of *The Era*, and a large gathering of club members assembled to give a hearty send off to Mr. Nugent, who is engaged by Mr. Lingford Carson as principal comedian in *The Power of the Cross*. The proceedings closed with the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow" and "Auld Lang Syne."

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We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

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Becky Elliston—Saturday, August 11.
Alice Thornton—Saturday, August 11.
Mary Collette—Sunday, August 12.
Sid Cotterell—Sunday, August 12.
Frank Sherlock—Sunday, August 12.
Edmond T. Sayers—Sunday, August 12.
Douglas Gerrard—Sunday, August 12.
Fred Solo—Monday, August 13.
Beryl Mercer—Monday, August 13.
Louisa Peach—Monday, August 13.
Leola Selbini—Monday, August 13.
Bransby Williams—Tuesday, August 14.
Ambrose Manning—Tuesday, August 14.
Rose Cazalet—Tuesday, August 14.
Gladys Murray—Tuesday, August 14.
Phyllis Dare—Wednesday, August 15.
Fanny Selby—Wednesday, August 15.
Louise Raffin—Wednesday, August 15.
Albert Ward—Wednesday, August 15.
George Brooks—Thursday, August 16.
Nellie Randall—Thursday, August 16.
Edward Boston—Friday, August 17.

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Mr. Reginald Grant, late of the King's Theatre, Cardiff, and the Grand, Plymouth, has been appointed resident-manager at the New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present isue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual appears once more in its familiar binding, a compendium of information and amusement for all who are interested in theatrical affairs. In the calendar will be found an array of anniversary dates, some recent, some recalling memories of old times and actors and actresses long passed away. The summary of new plays produced during the past year is admirably done, its value being increased by the alphabetical list which is appended. Well-known actors and actresses contribute stories in accordance with a custom justified by its success.—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 18, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1906.

THE EMPIRE (OXFORD) CASE.

The recent refusal of the Oxford magistrates to renew the licence of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, draws attention to the extraordinary power possessed by provincial Benches of suppressing, at one stroke, the business of a respectable and meritorious purveyor of amusement. The invested capital of any manager in the country is obviously at the mercy of the local magistrates; and the fact that the power is so seldom abused must not blind us to the fact of its existence. Mr. ALBANY WARD, the licensee of the Oxford Empire, seems to have been a model manager from the justices' point of view. He had held the licence of the Empire for six years, and during the whole of that time there was no complaint against him as to the way in which the house was carried on. When the justices demanded structural alterations Mr. WARD called in an architect, who reported that some of the "improvements" suggested by the Bench would have been a source of danger to the public; but the non-objectionable alterations were made at considerable cost, with many additions of Mr. WARD'S own origination. A fireproof curtain was put in when required by the justices, and in every way Mr. WARD appears to have endeavoured to meet the demands of the authorities.

On the 6th of June last he applied, in due course, for the renewal of his licence. There was no opposition, but the magistrates, after retiring to consult, returned to court "quite unanimous" that the renewal of the licence should be refused. They, however, granted a temporary licence, to extend to the date of holding the Quarter Sessions on July 28 last.

The appeal to the Quarter Sessions failed, it should be noticed, on a point of law. Section 20 of the Theatre Act of 1843 says: "It shall be lawful for any person who shall feel himself aggrieved by an *order* of the justices of the peace to appeal therefrom to the next sessions of the peace." The Recorder ruled that the refusal of the magistrates to renew Mr. WARD'S licence did not amount to an "order" within the meaning of the section; and he saw no provision in the Act which enabled the aggrieved person to appeal against the refusal of the magistrates to grant a licence.

This condition of things is a very serious one for provincial managers as a body. If nothing can be done to alter the decision of the Oxford magistrates it comes to this—that local Benches hold a despotic power of financial life or death over every manager in the provinces. They have simply to refuse to renew a licence. They need not, it appears, give any reason for so doing, except their will and pleasure.

Mr. WARD'S case is the more extraordinary because there was no reason or excuse offered for the course taken. Generally, when a licence is refused, some fault of omission or commission is urged against the manager. In this instance he appears to be so blameless that no case could be made out against him.

We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that, as the law stands at present and as it is administered, the power of the local Benches is despotic. It was decided in the case of *ex parte* Harrington in 1888 that the justices had power to refuse a licence to a theatre. This is, we believe, the only decision which can be regarded as a precedent as to the refusal of a licence. There is no precedent at all regarding the refusal to *renew*. But, as Mr. ALBERT STRONG, the well-known authority on theatrical law, points out, the matter has been fought by the publicans, who secured, in the important case of Sharpe *v.* Wakefield, a very valuable decision of the Lord Chancellor as to the kind of "discretion" which must be exercised by justices in granting an excise licence to a public-house. The Lord Chancellor defined "discretion" to mean that something was to be done "according to the rules of reason and justice, not according to private opinion, or abitrary and fanciful." But no such rule has even been laid down in the case of refusal to licence a theatre; and the so far successful action taken by the justices in Mr. WARD'S case makes the position of the provincial manager still more dangerous. For it is evident that by simply refusing to renew the licence of a theatre and making no "order" for its closing the justices may evade even the appeal to Quarter Sessions. The justices have simply to decline to make any order at all, and then the letter of the law can be referred to as making the appeal to Quarter Sessions null and void.

It is true, as Mr. STRONG points out, that the word "discretion" does not occur in 6 and 7 Vict., and that, by the wording of the Act, the justices appear to have no power to refuse to grant a licence, or to close a theatre without the sworn testimony of two persons that a riot or breach of the rules has taken place in the house. But what is the use of the manager having the best of the argument when the Bench is practically answerable to no authority for its actions? Counsel appear and make statements showing that "according to the rules of reason and justice" a manager's licence ought to be renewed. The justices cannot "shut him up," but they do what is practically much more effective—they shut up the manager's theatre. The manager gets his bark, but the Bench most certainly gets its bite, and we are all aware which matters the most.

We should like to know what the large number of people who have been in the habit for the last six years of coming to the Oxford Empire from the immediate neighbourhood and villages in the vicinity think of the matter. How do they relish being deprived at a stroke of their customary recreation? Have they not the spirit to resent the action of the justices by some demonstration? In a provincial community a good deal may be done by agitation and "ventilating" a question.

With regard to the legal course to be taken, Mr. STRONG is of opinion that the matter is essentially one for the Theatrical Proprietors' Association to take up. If the decision of the Oxford justices is to stand, it will affect theatrical property all over the country, for no theatrical licence will be worth more than a year's purchase. The case is so novel and important that there is hope that a mandamus may be granted. In any case, the point should be fought by the profession on principle with all possible vigour and energy.

A MEMORIAL tablet was erected on Thursday on No. 31, Baker-street, where Lord Lytton was born. An examination of directories and of the records in the possession of the London County Council, under whose direction the tablet was placed, shows that the number of the house has not been altered since the date of the distinguished writer's birth, and the owner has informed the Council that, save for the conversion of the ground floor into a shop, the premises have not undergone any substantial alteration.

MR. HICKMAN-SMITH'S fashionable al fresco concerts have recommenced at the New Pavilion, Whitstable, and a strong party, consisting of Miss Edith Broad, Miss Marie Westcott, Messrs. Cadwaladr, Reg Ewen, and Hickman-Smith, give delightful concerts to large audiences.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR," a domestic military drama by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, was produced for copyright purposes at the King's Theatre, Longsight, Manchester, on Wednesday.

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA COMPANY.

Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, followed by Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, were given at the matinée on Wednesday afternoon. In the first opera Mr. Wilson Pembroke appeared with great success in the part of Turridu, his efforts being most ably seconded by Mr. Marshall Vincent as Alfio; while Miss Toni Seiter left no doubt as to her ability as an actress in the character of the unhappy Santuzza. The Lola of Miss Ethel Cadman and the Lucia of Miss Arnold were alike excellent, and the chorus sang the Easter Hymn very finely. The orchestra also gave a capital rendering of the popular *Intermezzo*.

In Leoncavallo's tragic opera Mr. Charles Carter made a great impression by his intense singing and acting as Canio, and Mr. William Dever displayed no little humour in the part of the revengeful Tonio, being also entirely successful in his singing of the famous Dorologue. Miss Ethel Cadman made a charming and picturesque Nedda, acting and singing in quite the right spirit, her duet with Silvio, capitally enacted by Mr. Lewys James, being one of the chief successes of the afternoon. The small part of Beppe was cleverly undertaken by Mr. V. Brodo, and the intelligent and animated chorus added greatly to the realistic effect. Mr. Harrison Frewim, who conducted both operas, kept his forces well in hand, never overpowering the vocalists. There was a large audience in spite of the hot weather.

On Wednesday evening Wagner's opera, *Tannhäuser*, was given, the attendance being so large that money was turned away at the doors. The performance of *Tannhäuser* was as fine as on the first night it was heard, Mr. Joseph O'Mara displaying his great vocal powers to the finest advantage in the character of the hero, while Madame Fanny Moody made a graceful and pathetic Elizabeth, her singing and acting in the Hall of Song being most impressive. Mr. Charles Magrath again was a stately and dignified Hermann, and the part of Wolfram, this time played by Mr. Lewys James, was beautifully sung. Miss Lucy Lever as Venus and Miss M. Wilcocks as a young Shepherd ably performed their duties; and the characters of Biterolf, Henrich der Schrieber, Reinmar, and Walther were cleverly filled by Mr. Marshall Vincent, Mr. Tattersall, Mr. H. Brindle, and Mr. R. Brookes. The chorus were, as usual, excellent, and Herr Eckhold conducted with care and discretion.

Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* was given at the Lyric on Thursday night, Aug. 2. It is a pity that such melodious music as Donizetti's should be wedded to a libretto that is almost a libel on Sir Walter Scott's beautiful and pathetic story; but the motto of the Moody-Manners company evidently is what is worth doing, is worth doing well, and the same care and attention to detail was given to *Lucia* as to other and more important operas. The cast on Thursday night was excellent. Mme. De Vere sang the music of Lucy Ashton with fine dramatic feeling, gaining a veritable triumph for her acting and singing in the mad scene. There was, indeed, so much "method in her madness," and such brilliant singing of the great scena, that the storm of applause and hearty encore were thoroughly well deserved. Mr. Wilson Pembroke also did full justice to the somewhat stagey part of Edgar. His fervent singing and acting in the contract scene were extremely effective, and he shared in the honours with Mme. De Vere in the old-fashioned but nevertheless charming duets. Mr. William Dever made an excellent Sir Henry Ashton; and Mr. Charles Magrath as Bide the Bent had to repeat his solo in the second act. Mr. Seth Hughes sang the music of Arthur Bucklaw pleasingly, but he has still something to learn as an actor. The minor parts of Norman and Alice were well filled by Mr. Charles Moppett and Miss Rigby; and Signor Sapio's untiring efforts secured so fine a performance of the famous sextette by the vocalists and orchestra that, after the inevitable encore, he was called on, and shared in the abundant applause. The chorus also deserved praise. They acted with intelligence, and did not stand in a stolid row while poor Lucy Ashton went musically mad. The opera was well mounted, and we hope will shortly be repeated, as there are many opera-goers, old and young, who would gladly hear so fine a performance of a work that used to charm and delight a former generation.

Faust was given at the matinée on Saturday, and attracted a large audience. Owing to the indisposition of Mme. Fanny Moody, the part of Marguerite was undertaken by Mme. De Vere with successful results, notwithstanding her hard work in *Lucia* and *The Huguenots*. Mr. Wilson Pembroke made an effective Faust; and Mr. Charles Manners repeated his clever impersonation of Mephistopheles; while Mr. Marshall Vincent was of great service in the character of Valentine. Signor Sapio was the conductor. In the evening, Balfe's popular opera, *The Bohemian Girl*, was heard for the first time this season. Although this opera is considerably over sixty years old, it still attracts a large number who love melody for its own sake without desiring any higher form of musical art. The cast included Miss Ethel Cadman, who as Arline proved very attractive, being encored in her solo, "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls," a compliment that was also awarded to Mr. Lewys James for his singing of "The heart bowed down." Mr. Seth Hughes was an entirely acceptable Thaddeus; and Mr. H. Bailey played the character of Florestine with no little humour; while Mr. Charles Manners, in spite of his exertions as Mephistopheles in the afternoon, made a most striking and picturesque figure of Devilshoof, his comic business greatly delighting the house. The old opera went remarkably well under the conductorship of Herr Eckhold, and hearty praise may be given to the intelligent chorus.

A PAIR of boots has led to the arrest of the manager of a theatrical touring company in Paris. The gentleman in question needed a new pair of boots, but business had been bad and he had not the wherewithal to purchase them, so he hit upon the ingenious expedient of ordering two pairs from different makers. On the arrival of the boots he found fault with the left and right of the respective pairs, and returned them, with the intimation that he would pay when they had been altered to suit. Left in possession of the odd pair, he put them on and immediately decamped, leaving his company in the lurch. A subscription had to be raised to send the unfortunate company home.

MISS EDNA MAY is credited with the distinction of having designed a bathing costume that will remove for ever a reproach under which our seaside resorts have long lain. She has commissioned a famous London house to create—that is the only word—a bathing dress that will rival in elegance the costumes of the most stylish continental spas. The colour, we learn, is to be pale blue, and the design is said to be of the most elegant character. The stage has long held the reputation of giving the lead to dress in society, but it seems to be quite a new departure for it to set the fashion on the seashore.

"THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE," which opened at the Empire, Southend, on Monday week last, July 30th, and is this week appearing at the West Pier, Brighton, has for its able and courteous business manager, Mr. H. Chiswell Billing, Mr. Perkins being at present business-manager of the *Public Opinion* company, under the Emma and Percy Hutchison régime. *The Freedom of Suzanne* is doing big business.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, AUG. 9.—M. Albert Carré, manager of the Opera Comique, has not yet decided who is to replace M. Luigini whose death we announced last week. The two candidates for the post of chef d'orchestra at that theatre are MM. Pierné and Marty, both well-known composers. As to M. Alexandre Georges, he declined to come forward.

M. ERNEST REYER, who has just been nominated Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, is the fourth composer on whom this distinction has been bestowed. The first to receive it was Verdi, after the première in Paris of *Othello*. The two others are Gounod and Ambroise Thomas.

FOR the first time, we will see Rembrandt on the stage in a work by M. Jean Richepin and a Belgian collaborator, to be brought out at the Renaissance next season. At M. Guitry's request, M. Eugène Demolder had written a play founded on his book "La Route d'Emeraude," three acts of which were finished when M. Richepin made the author's acquaintance in the directorial sanctum of the Renaissance. M. Richepin was so struck with the scenario that he at once proposed a collaboration, and suggested giving a prominent part therein to Rembrandt. The new play will probably see the footlights in the course of next season.

MLLE. LAURE LUKAS, who, at the recent Conservatoire competition, received a first honourable mention, has been engaged by M. Gémier for the Antoine Theatre.

AT the Gymnase the upholsterers are hard at work. The old stalls have been removed and replaced by comfortable seats, and other improvements have also been introduced. M. Alphonse Franck will inaugurate his season with a new play by M. Henry Bernstein. It was originally called *Les Fauves*, but the author intends to exchange it for another title. In *Le Joujou Tragique*, the comedy that will also be produced at the Gymnase, the principal rôle will be played by Mlle. Polaire.

MM. CLOT and DUBLAY, the new managers of the Bouffes-Parisiens, have accepted *Le Cœur de Sylvie*, a three-act comedy in verse, by M. Gabriel Nigond. Mlle. Jeanne Rabuteau, formerly of the Odéon, will create the leading part.

A STONY-HEARTED creditor, having obtained a judgment against the charming Mlle. Guerrero—well-known on your side of the Channel—distrained, at the theatre where she was performing, her property, comprising her dresses and jewels. The chorographic artist thereupon made an application to a Judge in chambers for a replevin, pointing out that, in consequence of this seizure, she could not fulfil her engagements. The Judge, to his regret, could not accede to the lady's demand, but he ordered her creditor to give up her dresses, &c., on condition of her giving him a jewel representing the value of the sum for which she had been sued. Mlle. Guerrero handed him a valuable diamond bracelet, and she now can resume her dances.

THE principal reason why M. Alexandre Georges did not apply for the post of chef d'orchestra at the Opera Comique is that he is busy on three important works, the first of which is *Cléopâtre*, to a poem by M. Jean Richepin. Then there is *Riv-Nah*, a Bohemian girl, who, by her beauty, aroused violent passions. And lastly M. Georges is working on *Aucassin et Nicolette*, a tale of the middle ages, by M. Maurice Chassaing, in five tableaux.

AT the Opéra we will have a revival of *Thamara*, by M. Bourgault-Ducondray, for which M. Louis Gillet wrote the libretto. It will be interpreted by Mlle. Jeanne Hatto and MM. Affre, Cerdan, and Gilly.

THE Variétés will open its doors with a revival of *Le Paradis de Mahomet*, after which M. Samuel will give us *Miquette et sa mère*, by MM. Caillavet and de Flers with Mlle. Lavallière as Miquette. This piece had been offered to the Comédie Française, but as M. Clarétie would only accept it for "the summer months," the authors very wisely took back their MS. and gave it to M. Samuel. The next novelty at the Variétés will be *Paris-New York*, by MM. Croisset and Emmanuel Arène.

THIS month—like in the preceding years—we will have at the Comédie Française the same grim farce, called the "Auditions." M. Clarétie, flanked by a few sociétaires, will sit in a box, and, with a bored expression, will listen to the candidates who ask to be admitted to the "House." These candidates know they have no chance whatsoever of obtaining an engagement; yet they come, and insist on being heard. Not a few of them present themselves every year, and we wonder whether it is because they hope against hope or because they want to give themselves the satisfaction of appearing for a quarter of an hour on the first Paris stage—but without an audience.

THERE is trouble in the Comédie Française. M. Clarétie accepted *Le Foyer*, a three-act comedy by M. Octave Mirbeau and M. Thadée Natanson. At the eleventh hour, however, M. Clarétie refused to have it put into rehearsal unless M. Mirbeau altered some of the scenes. M. Mirbeau, a hard-hitter, portrays therein a member of the French Academy, who looks to his wife to supply him with money. M. Clarétie being a member of that august body (the French Academy), objects to this character, and appealed to M. Mirbeau. But the author of *Les Affaires sont les Affaires* is an obstinate man. He refused to alter a line in his play, and both he and M. Clarétie laid their grievance before M. Briand, the French Fine Art Minister. "The members of the company who read my play," said M. Mirbeau, "offered no objections; why, then, does M. Clarétie raise difficulties?" And M. Briand then hit upon a happy idea. "Let them decide the question," he said. And MM. les Sociétaires will now constitute themselves into a tribunal to decide whether or not *Le Foyer* can be produced in its present form without risking offence in certain quarters.

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The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

THE Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, reopened its doors on Monday evening, after undergoing a process of thorough renovation. The decorations have been carried out in shades of crimson, white, ivory, and gold, and when the theatre was lighted up on Monday evening it elicited great admiration from the large audience present. *The Private Secretary* was the opening play, and was well acted by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's admirable company, and thoroughly enjoyed.

PINERO'S PLAYS.

"The plots of Mr. Pinero's plays," writes Mrs. Alec Tweedie, in her most excellent book, "Behind the Footlights," "are all conceived and born in movement. He walks up and down the room. He strolls round Regent's Park, or bicycles further afield; but the dramas are always evolved while his limbs are in action, mere exercise seeming to inspire him with ideas.

"It is long before he actually settles down to write his play. He thinks and ponders, plans and arranges, makes and remakes his plots, and never puts pen to paper until he has thoroughly realised, not only his characters, but the very scenes amid which these characters are to move and have their being.

"He knows every room in which they are to enact their parts, he sees in his mind's eye every one of his personalities, he dresses them according to his own individual taste, and so careful is he of the minutest details that he draws a little plan of the stage for each act, on which he notifies the position of every chair, and with this before him he moves his characters in his mind's eye as the scene progresses. His play is finished before it is begun—that is to say, before a line of it is really written.

"His mastery of stage-craft is so great that he can definitely arrange every position for the actor, every gesture, every movement, and thus is able to give those minute details of stage direction which are so well known in his printed plays.

"In his early days he wrote *Two Hundred a Year* in an afternoon; *Dandy Dick* occupied him three weeks; but as time went on, and he became more critical of his own work, he spent fifteen months in completing *The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith*, nine months over *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, and six months over *The Gay Lord Quex*, helped in the latter drama, as he said, 'by the invigorating influence of his bicycle.'

"He is one of the most painstaking men alive, and over *Letty* he spent two years.

"'I think I have done a good day's work if I can finish a single speech right,' he remarked, and that sums up the whole situation.

"Each morning he sees his secretary from eleven to twelve, dictates his letters, and arranges his business; takes a walk or a ride till luncheon, after which he enjoys a pipe and a book, and in the afternoon lies down for a couple of hours' quiet.

"When he is writing a play he never dines out, but after his afternoon rest enjoys a good tea (is it a high tea?), shuts the baize doors of that delightful study overlooking Hanover-square, and works until quite late, when he partakes of a light supper.

"No one dare disturb him during those precious hours, when he smokes incessantly, walks about continually, and rarely puts a line on paper until he feels absolutely certain he has phrased that line as he wishes it to remain.

"Pinero's writing-table is as tidy as Ibsen's; but while Ibsen's study is small and simply furnished, Pinero's is large, contains handsome furniture, interesting books, sumptuous *Editions de luxe*, charming sketches, portraits, caricatures, handsome carpets, and breathes an air of the owner's luxurious taste.

"Like his writing-table, his orthography is a model of neatness. When he has completed an act, he carefully copies it himself in a handwriting worthy of any clerk, and sends it off at once to the printers. But few revisions are made in the proof, so sure is the dramatist when he has perfected his scheme.

"Mr. Pinero keeps a sort of 'day-book,' in which he jots down characters, speeches, and plots likely to prove of use in his work. It is much the same sort of day-book as that kept by Mr. Frankfort Moore, the novelist, who has the nucleus of a hundred novels ever in his waistcoat pocket.

"Formerly men jotted down notes on their shirt-cuffs, from which the laundress learned the wicked ways of society. The figures now covering wristbands are merely the winnings or losings at Bridge.

"The dramatist loves ease and luxury, and his plays represent such surroundings.

"'Wealth and leisure,' he remarked, 'are more productive of dramatic complications than poverty and hard work. My characters force me, in spite of myself, to lift them up in the world. The lower classes do not analyse or meditate, do not give utterance either to their thoughts or their emotions; and yet it is easier to get a low life part well played than one of high society.'

"Mr. Pinero is a delightful companion, and he has the keenest sense of humour. He tells a good story in a truly dramatic way, and his greatest characteristic is his simple modesty. He never boasts, never talks big; but is always a genial, kindly, English gentleman. He rarely enters a theatre; in fact, he could count on his fingers the times he has done so during the last twenty years. Life is his stage, men and women its characters, his surroundings the scenes. He does not wish a State theatre, and thinks Irving has done more for the stage than any man in any time. He has the greatest love for his old master, and considers Irving's Hamlet the 'most intelligent performance of the age.' He waxes warm on the subject of Irving's 'magnetic touch,' which influences all that great actor's work. Pinero's love for, and belief in, the powers of the stage for good or ill are deep-seated, and each year finds him more given to careful psychological study, the only drawback to which is the fear that in over-elaboration freshness somewhat vanishes. Ibsen always took two years over a play, and Pinero seems to be acquiring the same habit.

"What strikes one most in a Pinero play is the harmony of the whole. Every character is a living being. One remembers them all. The limelight is turned on each in turn, and not, as at so many theatres, on the actor-manager only. The play is a complete picture—not a frame with the actor-manager as the dominant person. He is so often the only figure on the canvas, his colleagues mere side-show puppets, that it is a real joy to see a play in England where every one is given a chance. Mr. Pinero does that. He not only creates living, breathing studies of humanity, but he sees that they are played in a lifelike way. What is the result? A perfect whole. A fine piece of mosaic work well fitted together. We may not altogether care for the design or the colour, but we all admire its aims, its completeness, and feel the touch of genius that permeates the whole.

"No more discriminating audience than that at the first night of *Letty* could possibly have been brought together. Actors and actresses, artists, writers, men and women of note in every walk of life were there, and the enthusiasm was intense. Mr. Pinero was not in the house, no call of 'author' brought him before the footlights, but his handsome wife—a prey to nervousness—was hidden behind the curtains in the stage box."

NONE of the reminiscences of the late Mr. Toole appear to allude to his appearances in the Marylebone Theatre. Mr. David Stevenson, one of Toole's first friends, relates that he met him at a private house in the Goswell-road, where he recited a few little things of his own so cleverly that everyone present advised him to try and get on the stage. Very soon after that evening Toole was part of an entertainment at the Marylebone Theatre, coming on between a melodrama and a burlesque to give imitations of the voices of popular actors, his most successful imitation being that of Benjamin Webster.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS, having heard that the sum of £4 19s. was still needed to make up the full amount required for the erection of a monument in Abney Park Cemetery to the memory of the late Mr. G. W. Hunt, the well-known song writer, at once, with characteristic generosity, handed the hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, a cheque to make good the deficiency.

MR. RICKARDS met G. W. Hunt when he first entered the profession, and was singing at the Oxford and the Canterbury, then under the management of the late Mr. Charles Morton, and he became intimately acquainted with the clever song-writer at the old Philharmonic at Islington, of which the late Mr. Sam Adams was the then proprietor. Mr. Rickards was at that time rapidly making his way to the front, and had fulfilled his first two or three engagements at first-class halls, the stars of that day including "the great Vance" and George Leybourne, of "Champagne Charlie" fame. G. W. Hunt wrote a number of Mr. Rickards' most successful songs, amongst them being "We're not dead yet," a patriotic ditty which proved a great hit at the London Pavilion; "Where is my Nancy gone?" "Colonel Slashem," "I wish I was a fish with a great big tail," "Cerulia was beautiful," and many others. Mr. Rickards has thus generously shown his respect for the memory of one who rendered him good service in advancing his professional position in his early days.

SOMETHING very startling may be looked for as a finale to "The Earthquake," which is to be the next production of the ever-resourceful Frank Parker at the London Hippodrome early in September. The water effect promises to be startling—quite diametrically opposed to any of the previous water shows given at the Hippodrome. The book, which is the combined production of Rudolph de Cordova and Alicia Ramsay, is intensely dramatic and full of thrilling situations. Mr. Cecil Morton York will be seen in a new character. Mr. Hal Forde as a "Champagne Charlie," Miss Semita Marsden in quite a serious rôle, and a newcomer, whose identity at the moment is a mystery, who, we are told, has a part allotted to him requiring specially powerful acting. Meanwhile the playlet is in active rehearsal, and the structural additions, in the shape of waterworks, are growing visibly every hour.

MISS CONNIE EDISS, the well-known Gaiety actress, and Mr. Henry A. Lytton will on Monday next appear at the London Pavilion in a new comedietta, entitled *United Service*, by George Rollit. The plot deals with the complications arising through Lady Betty Blenkinsop (who was a chambermaid before she captured a rich old baronet) having arranged to go to a fancy dress ball—in the absence of her husband—with old Lord Knightridge, an admirer of hers. She intends going as a cook and his lordship as a soldier. Private O'Flanagan, who is her sister Sally's sweetheart, meets Lady Bettie, while Lord Knightridge meets her sister Sally, a cook, and as the twin sisters look exactly alike funny misunderstandings naturally occur. Miss Connie Ediss will represent Lady Bettie and her twin sister, the cook, and Mr. H. A. Lytton will appear as Lord Knightridge and Private O'Flanagan. Including three musical numbers, the comedietta plays little longer than twenty minutes.

As may be supposed there have been many statements as to the identity of the beautiful young dancer, who prefers to be known as "La Domino Rouge," and who will make her first appearance at the Palace Theatre on the 20th inst. Americans have been particularly struck with the pertinacity with which the artist clings to her disguise, but Mr. Oscar Hummerstein, the well-known American impresario, has made a statement in the New York Press that he knows who "La Domino Rouge" really is. Mr. Hummerstein offers to pay "La Domino Rouge" £100 per week to appear as premier danseuse of his Manhattan grand opera ballet, which will be produced next November. Supplementing this announcement, Mr. Hummerstein offers to pay £200 if he is not correct in his surmise on the understanding that she accepts his offer and returns to America unmasked. "La Domino Rouge" will give an exhibition of the terpsichorean art that has seldom been seen in this country, and will be assisted by a troupe of dancers and further aided by novel stage effects.

THE monthly committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the York Hotel, York-road. Mr. H. E. High presided, and there were also present Messrs. H. Griff, Seth White, and J. Mulcaster. On the motion of Mr. Griff, seconded by Mr. Mulcaster, the Secretary (Mr. R. T. Baines) was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the widow of the late Mr. Frank Weeks, manager of the South London, and hon. vice-president of the society. Since he was elected to this position Mr. Weeks had on two or three occasions presided at the monthly meetings of the Fund, and had evinced a keen interest in its progress. The nomination of some new members was sanctioned, and the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, who congratulated the members on the satisfactory position of the Society.

FRAMED bills, giving full particulars of the benefits derived from joining the fund, are now to be seen in most of the London variety theatres, the respective managers having kindly given their consent to the placing of the bills.

THE Shepherd's Bush Empire will celebrate its third birthday next Tuesday. The first performance starts at 6 p.m., and the second at 9 o'clock. Fifty star artists figure in the two programmes, and locally a great welcome is being prepared for the new manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan, who will be officially installed on this occasion.

MR. HENRY TOZER and Mr. Fred Miller attended the burial service in the Nunhead Cemetery at the funeral of Mr. Frank Weeks last week, and among others at the graveside were Mr. Pat Rafferty, Mr. J. Hart, and Mr. H. E. High.

MR. W. S. REDFERN, the popular assistant cashier at the London Hippodrome, was the recipient of a graceful compliment yesterday, at the hands of his superiors and general staff. Mr. Fred Trussell, Mr. Frank Parker, and Mr. H. C. Wild, the leading lights of the "Hippo.," presented friend Redfern with a splendid combination silver and cut glass "utility" wine stand on the occasion of his wedding to-day. In making a pretty little speech, Mr. Fred Trussell (the manager) spoke very feelingly of the affection the general staff felt towards the recipient. They had all with one accord contributed, and wished him long life and happiness, and he, personally, hoped that his future would be one of every prosperity. "The future Mrs. Redfern" was also toasted in glowing language.

FUJI-KO, the Japanese actress, arrived in New York a few days ago on the steamer "Minnehaha," two months ahead of schedule time. According to her manager, she left London literally at an hour's notice. She was rehearsing at the Empire in London, preparatory to her appearance there, when she learned of the serious illness of a friend in New York. She had just time to despatch a dozen telegrams and reach the boat. Such disregard of business interests shows the strength of the Japanese character. Fuji-Ko will remain in America until the fall now, and before her return to Europe will be seen in her one-act play, *The Love of a Geisha*, which is said to be an embodied idea of the doctrine of Nirvana, an idea never before seen in the Western world.

THE third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Limited, was held on the 3rd inst. at the Midland Hotel. Mr. F. Allen presided, in the absence, through indisposition, of Mr. Oswald Stoll. The Chairman moved the adoption of the report. He expressed regret that Mr. Stoll had, during the night, been taken ill and was confined to his bed in the hotel. The balance-sheet, the Chairman went on to say, was one of the best he had ever had the pleasure of reading. Since June 30—the end of the financial year—everything connected with the company had gone on most satisfactorily, and the shareholders could look forward to a great future for the Manchester properties. He moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, with the payment of a dividend making 10 per cent. for the year. Mr. Alderman Carey seconded the motion, and it was passed.

UPON the proposal to re-elect the retiring director, Mr. Selig Brukewich, there was some discussion upon a question put by Mr. T. Andrews as to whether it was competent to nominate a fifth director. At present the board, he said, consisted of four, and there was a feeling in Cardiff, where a large number of the shares were held, that an additional director would strengthen the board. They had power to elect up to six. Mr. Brukewich was re-elected, and, upon the motion of Mr. Alderman Carey, seconded by Mr. Andrews, and supported by Dr. Corrigan, Dr. B. W. Broad, of Cardiff, was unanimously elected a director of the company.

GREAT alarm is said to have been experienced a morning or two since on a crowded pleasure pier on the South Coast. While the band was playing, the pier-head was noticed to be subsiding gradually into the sea, and a rush *en masse* was made for the beach, everyone succeeding in getting off safely. The cause of the trouble was made manifest later, it is averred, when one of the staff of a well-known music publishing firm was discovered by the pier master fishing on the lower landing stage. The weight of the fish he had caught had dragged the pier-head down, and it was not till the angler had fished for two hours at the shore end that the pier righted itself, the enormous catch made counterbalancing the graceful iron structure.

ON the occasion of a concert given by Mr. Ernest Hampson and his refined Pierrots in the Town Hall, Ayr, Mr. Hampson was presented by members of his company and several tradesmen with a beautiful gold-mounted umbrella, travelling bag, and rug. The hall was packed from floor to ceiling. Mr. Hampson handed over to the Ayr County Hospital the sum of £8 1s. 4d., being the proceeds of Friday afternoon's concert on the Low Green.

MISS ALICE MAY is starring this week at the Hippodrome, Coventry, in her rollicking sketch, *Tranquillity*, and is a great success.

A LIONESS, named "Gretchen," has given birth to four fine healthy cubs at Morecambe Winter Gardens. Mdlle Ella, who is in charge of the performing troupe of lions, has expressed her surprise that the male lion, who was in the cage, "did not devour the cubs, as is usual when born in captivity." They will be fed on a specially-made bottle, procurable only in Germany. On Friday night, the 3rd inst., the new arrivals were named Morecambe, Astor, Alexander, and Edward. The baptismal ceremony was performed on the stage at the Winter Gardens, by Mr. F. V. St. Clair, the well-known topical vocalist and song writer.

MR. E. LESLIE CONROY, for five or six years resident-manager at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has severed his connection with that establishment. Mr. Russell, late acting-manager at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, is filling the vacancy *pro tem.*

MR. FORD'S "Wonderland-by-the-Wave" at sunny Clacton has justified all the expenditure lavished upon it by its enterprising founder, and crowds of happy holiday folk enjoy its many and varied outdoor and indoor attractions daily. Mr. Frank Marshall did much clever work in the booming of the newest palace on East Anglia's shores, and in the choice of such a brainy and smart Press representative Mr. Ford was certainly most fortunate.

THE jumping match between Charles Matthews and John Higgins for £100 and the world's championship took place at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, on the 3rd inst., before a packed house. The result was a draw, both men winning their nominated jumps.

AMONG Mr. G. Harrop's visitors on Saturday evening last at the Palace, Blackpool, were Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. H. H. Feiber (the London representative of Keith's American enterprises), Professor Leamy, Mr. Taff Volta, and Mr. Billy Bint. The Melba concert drew a crowded house to the Pavilion at the Winter Gardens, and among those who listened to the Australian prima donna were Mr. Horace Goldin and Mlle. Fransiola.

BELROSE and De Velin, who are so well known on the principal tours and London halls, were secured this week at the Central Pier, Morecambe, owing to a disappointment, and have fulfilled a very successful engagement. They return to town for two months for their London season.

DOLLY, AGNES, AND MAUD, known as "The Factory Nightingales," with their fresh young voices, have been appearing with great success on the variety stage for more than two years, and have bookings running well into next year before a vacancy occurs—no small tribute to the vocal ability of these young ladies, whose refined musical programme consists of high-class ballads and harmonised duets and trios.

MR. EMILIUS HILL, manager of the Central Pier, Morecambe, was taken suddenly ill on Monday last, and is still confined to his residence.

THE secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received from Mr. Harry B. Wincote the sum of £5 8s., collected by the late Mr. Frank Weeks in the pence-box at the South London Music Hall.

ON Saturday the Deepcar sports and variety carnival were attended by thousands of pleasure-seekers from Sheffield and district. The stage amusements, &c., were all provided by the old-established Geo. Burton firm of caterers. The principal entertainers were the Ardells, comic bar performers; Silvo, trapeze artist; Lillian Sivado, the graceful aerial performer; the Dunlops, comic cyclists; Prof. de Lyle, conjurer; the De Cora troupe of athletes; Gyto, tramp juggler; and the Hamiltons, two amusing burlesque actors in their sketch *The Mesmerist*.

MR. E. LESLIE CONROY, who has been manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Newcastle, for five and a half years, has resigned his position there, and a number of local gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee with the object of presenting him with a testimonial prior to his departure for the south. During his management of the Empire some £1,500 has been given out of the receipts of performances at the theatre to local charities, in the cause of which Mr. Conroy was liberal both in time and trouble. Cheques or postal orders may be forwarded to the secretary, Conroy Testimonial Fund, Charing Cross Bank, Grainger-street, Newcastle.

PAUL CINQUEVALLI next week finishes the Moss tour for several years to come. He has surpassed by far any of his previous successes on this circuit, with which he has fulfilled engagements for the past fifteen years. The renowned juggler has made arrangements to stay in town under the management of Mr. George Adney Payne, at the Oxford, Tivoli, &c., for nearly the whole of 1907 and 1908. By the courtesy of Mr. Buchanan and the directors of the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, who have postponed his pantomime engagement, M. Cinquevalli will be enabled to pay another visit this winter to America, where he will open on October 8. From there he goes to the Berlin Wintergarten, the management of which have also been kind enough to postpone his appearance to January and February of next year, to allow the clever artist the opportunity of playing his American season.

CINQUEVALLI is everywhere meeting with his usual success. The world-famous juggler's performance is watched with the closest interest, and the accomplishment of his marvellous feats arouses intense enthusiasm, which finds expression in loud and prolonged applause. In his own special line Cinquevalli may be said to reign supreme, and the unequalled skill he displays in his balancing and other feats is set off by a natural ease and grace of manner that partly accounts for his great popularity. "There is only one Cinquevalli" has become quite a trite saying amongst variety theatre patrons.

THE latest of the theatres to give up the "legitimate" for "variety" will be the Brixton house. When Mr. Ernest Stevens's lease expires in October, Mr. Walter Gibbons will take possession, and add another variety theatre to those already under his successful management. The Brixton Empire will be run on the twice-nightly plan.

MR. CHARLES BLYTH-PRATT, the new manager of the Oxford, has had a varied and interesting career. He was educated at Trent College; and eventually entered the Army, becoming a lieutenant at the age of eighteen. He rapidly rose in his chosen calling, and held several important posts, being appointed, in 1889, Instructor of Musketry. Mr. Blyth-Pratt, in 1892, married Miss Alice Yorke, who has since made for herself an enviable position on the stage. In 1893, he bought a ranch in California; but, not finding in himself a genius for farming, he went to San Francisco, where he joined the company at the Opera House in 1894.

UNDER the stage-management of Mr. "Billy" Gleeson, he appeared in *The Silver King* and other well-known dramas, while Mrs. Blyth-Pratt was winning golden opinions at another theatre in the city. In 1895 his military training was utilised, and he secured a commission in the Sierra Leone Frontier Force. The year after he became a captain, being subsequently appointed Acting District Commissioner and Justice of the Peace for the Colony. The climate, however, did not suit his health, and he resigned the appointment and returned to England in 1898.

THEN he became acting-manager to Mr. Hugh Moss's *Bootle's Baby* company, and, under the able management of that gentleman, obtained valuable experience. He also went on tour with *The J.P.*, and, in the spring of 1899, became General-Manager for Mrs. Lancaster Wallis. In the August of the same year he joined Mr. Albert Gilmer's *How London Lives* company. This was his last engagement before undertaking the acting-management and treasurership of the Oxford. He filled those important posts until his appointment to manager of that establishment.

MR. BLYTH-PRATT is a cultivated gentleman, a lover of classical and modern literature, and a pleasant and popular man-of-the-world. His varied experience of many different lines of life has made him as many-sided as he is able, active, tactful, and energetic.

WITH regard to the announcement that has been made that Mr. Harry Nicholls is about to appear in the halls in a vaudeville sketch, that well-known comedian writes to the effect that he knows nothing of the matter, and would be glad to be informed of the name of the sketch and the halls for which he is engaged.

THE Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend, has been renovated and redecorated. Both in the stalls and in the circle the seating accommodation has been renewed. There is now no threepenny part on the ground floor, and the "pittites" have been transferred to the gallery, which a new system of ventilation renders perfectly cool. This gallery is accessible by means of a well-lighted staircase running direct from the main entrance in Harmer-street and separate from any other portion of the house. What was once the pit bar has been walled off from the stalls, and the seats on the ground floor now consist of five rows of cushioned tip-up fauteuils, four rows of similar chairs, and five rows of leather upholstered forms. A new exit has been supplied from the orchestral stalls.

MR. GEO. E. BELMONT writes in reference to a statement in our account of the professional career of the late Mr. Frank Weeks: "When, acting on my advice, the late Mr. G. H. Macdermott purchased the Variety Theatre, Hoxton, it was with the proviso that Mr. Thos. Belmont should be his manager for the first six months. This position my brother held during that period, and a glance in the columns of your journal (exactly nine years ago) will substantiate my statement."

QUITE a remarkable display of monkey-training is to be seen daily at intervals in the Chinese Court of the Crystal Palace. Through great patience and perseverance, Maud Rochez, who is described as the greatest lady animal-trainer in the world, has made a troupe of monkeys behave strangely like human beings. Her entertainment she calls "A Variety Theatre." The audience are shown a miniature stage with proscenium boxes, orchestra, and everything complete. The members of the orchestra and the conductor are monkeys, the "gentlemen" in the boxes are monkeys, and apparently enjoy the performance. Monkeys change the numbers, and monkeys carry on the whole entertainment. The leader of the orchestra, the little fellows who put up the numbers, and a monkey in one of the boxes who is given to drink, are particularly funny. On the stage are introduced some very clever animals who prove to be acrobats, equilibrists, motor-drivers, bicycle riders, etc.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, who is enjoying a well-deserved rest at his Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, has been daily receiving shoals of letters and telegrams from various parts of the country offering hearty congratulations on his great victory at the Assize Courts, Leeds, last week, when he gained a verdict against a Leeds lady for slander, the doctor being also allowed his costs, the defendant having to pay both her own and Dr. Bodie's. Mr. Justice Grantham, who tried the case, which lasted for two days and created great excitement in the town, summed up strongly in favour of Dr. Bodie. The doctor is naturally jubilant over the result. He remains one week longer at Macduff, and then will open in London for three or four months, his first date being with Mr. Oswald Stoll at the Stratford Empire. There is no doubt the doctor's success at Leeds will make his detractors now think twice before they say anything against him and his work.

THE 475th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), J. Alexander, Peter Bijou, H. Griff, Geo. Preston, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and questions arising out of them dealt with. Rule 15 was enforced in the case of a member who refused to pay a sum of money adjudged by the committee to be due from him. A member who claimed a refund from a railway company attended before the committee, but as the numbers of the tickets had not been taken he was informed that the matter could not be entertained.

CASES of insurance and refunds were considered, and in reply to a question by an agent it was ruled that separate vouchers might be made out at an agent's discretion for sections of a party, provided the additional voucher did not reduce the remainder sufficiently to cause them to lose the concession. The Secretary was instructed to request a committeeman at present in the provinces to look into the procedure in connection with the issue of vouchers in a certain town. Mr. W. F. Osborne, of the Theatre Vaults, West Bromwich, and Mrs. Ferguson, of the Victoria Hotel, Huddersfield, were appointed agents for the Association in that town.

THE Secretary prefaced his financial report with the statement that the week had been a very busy one, no less than fifty parties, some of which numbered thirty and forty persons, having been despatched from the metropolis on Saturday. The statement for the week ending Aug. 4 showed the addition of thirty-two new members, while the receipts amounted to £37 14s. 6d., and the expenditure to £17 5s. 11½d. The Hon. Treasurer's financial report was also received and passed.

THE committee of the M.H.A.R.A. are constantly having before them cases in which claims for refunds from the railway companies fail solely through some members constituting the party having neglected to retain the numbers of their tickets. This is a distinct hardship upon those who have taken the necessary precaution but are put out of court by their fellow-travellers, and the rule bearing upon the matter would seem to call for amendment at the annual general meeting, which is due in a couple of months.

MISS JESSIE M. LYONS will shortly resume work with her sketch, *Nelly of the Veldt*, being booked to play the Macnaghten London circuit, followed and preceded by most of the best variety houses. Miss Lyons is at the present time enjoying a well-deserved holiday.

THE Crystal Palace Company have arranged with Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. for special displays of fireworks for the children on the 16th, 23rd, and 30th inst. They will commence at 8.30, and some novel, humorous, and mechanical devices will be introduced.

COUNSEL applied at the North Riding Court last Thursday for a dramatic licence on behalf of Mr. Geo. Zalva for the Scarborough Hippodrome. He understood, he said, that some objection was taken to some broken canvas on the walls because people struck matches on it. It was proposed to substitute plastering for that canvas and so do away with any danger there might be in that direction. His clients, the York City and County Banking Company, the mortgagees of the building, would also be prepared to consider any suggestion from the Bench as to alterations to exits.

MR. TURNBULL went on to explain that Mr. Zalva had engaged his artists for the season, and as many as 185 persons were engaged and would be prepared to claim from him for wages. It practically meant ruin to him if at this eleventh hour the right to perform in that building, in which performances had been held for years past without accident, were refused. He contended that the exits were no worse than those of the Old Town Hall, where recently a dramatic entertainment, amateur he knew, was held. There was only one exit, except for the small way out at the back of the platform. Mr. Zalza had timed the people clearing out of the Hippodrome, and it took just 1½ minutes. The usual time was three minutes. Counsel suggested that, in face of immediate loss and bankruptcy, the Bench should grant the licence for this season, and that for the next season any alteration the Bench thought desirable would be made.

IT was stated that a committee of justices had examined the place, and though they suggested certain alterations to the exits they condemned the whole building. After a short retirement the Chairman said the magistrates, in face of the report they had received, which had been read in private, on the dangerous state of the Hippodrome, as far as exits and liability were concerned, declined to grant the application.

TOWARDS the close of the performance at the Scarborough Hippodrome on Monday evening, Mr. Metcalf, the equestrian director for Mr. Zalva, the proprietor, referred to the granting of the licence for the building. He said that that building had been built thirty-five years, and although not a single panic or accident had taken place, the county magistrates had deemed it proper not to renew the dramatic licence, imputing that the building was not safe. The borough magistrates had granted a music and dancing licence, subject to several slight alterations, and after an expert had stated that with these the building would be quite safe. He pointed out the number of exits, and made it evident that the building could be cleared in little more than a minute. He urged all present to assure their friends that the building was as safe as ever it was, and as safe as any other building in Scarborough.

THOMAS BRYAN, 20, and Edward James, 19, the first described as a labourer and the latter as a bookbinder, both giving addresses in Hoxton, were charged at the Old-street Court, on Tuesday, with using insulting behaviour, whereby a breach of the peace might have been caused, in the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton; James being further charged with discharging a loaded revolver at Police-constable Cooper. Prisoners were put up separately, Bryan's case being first taken. The constable, being sworn, said that he was on duty on the previous night in the pit of the Britannia, when his attention was called to a young woman who was smoking. On his speaking to her, the prisoner, seated next her, asked him, with a foul expression, what it had to do with him. He told accused to mind his own business, and the prisoner repeated his foul expression and was then seized to be removed. He took the belt produced from his pocket, but was prevented using it. Mr. Cluer: If that is all the evidence, he must be discharged. The management of the theatre have the only remedy—that of getting rid of such customers by removal.

BRYAN having been released, the lad James was put into the dock. The constable repeated his evidence as to the beginning of the affair, and said that James put the revolver into his face about a foot away. The shot grazed his (the constable's) chin, and subsequently he found that his tunic had two shot holes in it above the shoulder. A second shot was fired by the prisoner towards the balcony. At the station the prisoner said, "I did not mean it for you. I fired in the air." Prisoner was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court and allowed bail.

A GOOD story is told of Mr. Nat Clifford, who is engaged to appear at the Hackney Empire next week. Not long since at a certain variety theatre Nat appeared and began to sing. After the first few bars he stopped and asked the conductor to kindly "take it again." Off he went again, but with no better result. A third time tried, but the discord between singer and orchestra was earsplitting. Nat declared it was the cornet that was wrong. The player of the instrument in question stood up and entered into a wordy war with the comedian. He said he had been an expert soloist for twenty years, and had never before been so insulted. The audience was spellbound. The stage-manager lowered the curtain. The argument between Mr. Clifford and the cornettist grew more and more heated. By this time the excitement in the audience had reached a high pitch. The curtain rose again, and the manager said he regretted the unfortunate misunderstanding between Mr. Nat Clifford and the member of the orchestra. The cornet-player, he stated, had come to him with a high reputation, and to prove that he was everything he professed to be, he would ask the gentleman to come upon the stage and play a solo, so that those in front might judge for themselves.

THEN the cornettist, a man with fair curly hair, a thick moustache, and spectacles, began. His opening bars sounded fairly well, but the spectators began to think they had heard better. The majority of the people were now on Nat's side, for the music from the cornet was far from sweet. Then Nat lost his temper and rushed at the musician. In the scrimmage the curly hair and moustache of the cornet-player disappeared, and the audience saw the grinning face of Will Evans. Breathless with excitement, the audience quickly recovered, and roared with delight at the great joke that had been played on them. The unanimous cry was, "We've been spoofed." And indeed they had been.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, breaking his holiday at Herne Bay, paid a visit to the Walthamstow Palace on Bank Holiday, and was cheered by the sight of a packed house. The principal attraction was Lew Lake's sequel to *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, called *My Pal Jerry*, a sketch which, while containing abundance of humorous incident, has also a touch of pathos by way of effective contrast.

MLLE. GHITA CORRI, who commences her second week at the Metropolitan next Monday, has in preparation a new Spanish song, which has proved the rage in Madrid and Cadiz, and will incorporate it with her enormously successful character-scena *Waiting* at an early date.

MDLLE. GUERRERO, the famous dancer, who has accepted an engagement at a fashionable summer resort in France, came up to Paris recently for the purpose of purchasing some frocks, frills, and flounces for her professional work. Her arrival was noted by a vigilant creditor, to whom she owed a sum of £320. The creditor literally pounced upon the dancer's baggage. He had it all seized by a legal agent or "bailiff," including the professional dresses and stage properties of the "Belle Guerrero." The latter brought her case before a judge in chambers, who withdrew the seizure of her baggage, but directed that the dancer should place in the hands of her creditor jewellery of sufficient value to guarantee the subsequent payment of the 8,000 francs due.

"A PRODIGAL WIFE" is the title of a powerful dramatic sketch by Frederick Maxwell, to be produced by him during his autumn season in London.

MISS CARLOTTA DE YONSON, who, along with her company in *A Russian Spy*, is deputising this week at Sadler's Wells in the absence of Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, and at the Britannia in the absence of a sketch, will produce at Sadler's Wells on Monday a playlet, new to London, entitled *A Dandy Detective*. The author of it is Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, who has written several successes for Miss de Yonson.

OUR congratulations to Mr. Walter Gibbons, whose wife presented him on Tuesday with a fine baby boy, born at his house at Burgh Heath, near Epsom.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR has scored a great hit with his "In Chicago" song at Manchester, and thousands of copies of the words and music have been sold, the same thing having taken place at Morecambe. At the Hippodrome, Hull, where he has been at the top of the bill this week, Mr. St. Clair created such enthusiasm that Mr. Graham offered him six return engagements.

MR. FRANK HEATH, the hon. treasurer of the Music Hall Sick Fund, is at present enjoying the health-giving breezes of merry Margate.

MR. J. H. WOOD, the popular promoter of Lancashire clog-dancing, is, unfortunately, an inmate of the Cancer Hospital, in Upper Brook-street, Manchester. A championship clog-dancing contest will shortly take place in Manchester. In 1880 the late Dan Leno won the coveted belt at Leeds. These competitions have been successfully organised in London, Leeds, Hull, Bolton, and Bury, and some of the best dancers in the country have been among the competitors.

MR. WILLIAM NOKES, who was for eight years with Morell and Mouillot, and for the last few years with Moss' Empires, Limited, in a secretarial position to Sir Edward Moss, D.L., J.P., and Mr. Frank Allen, is to be married to Miss Ethel Yeo, eldest daughter of Mr. William Yeo, engineer, of Shepherd's Bush, on Saturday the 25th inst.

PARK'S Eton Boys are back in London, appearing this week at the Empire, Hackney, with great success. There is not the slightest doubt as to the popularity of this troupe, who always get a good reception wherever they appear.

A GRAND Fancy Dress Carnival and Confetti Fête will take place in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the 15th inst. Valuable and handsome prizes will be offered, not only in the grown-up classes, but also for children. At the Café Chantant, from 6.15 to 7.15, all the seats will be free to those entering the North Tower Gardens for the fête.

A NEW variety theatre in Oxford-street is talked of, but no definite decision has been arrived at. Messrs. Warings are said to be interested in the scheme.

MARGARET COOK, a well-spoken woman, aged thirty-eight, with her two children, Godolphin, aged fourteen, and Olga, aged nine, were charged, at West London on Wednesday, with wandering abroad in Hartismere-road, Fulham, without visible means of subsistence. Police-constable 226 T found the woman sitting on a doorstep. She stated that she had slept out since the previous Friday with her children in the backyard of an empty house. In answer to the magistrate, the woman said she had been connected with the dramatic and concert profession. What? Singing in the streets?—No; at high-class concerts. I used to act sometimes. That is a long time ago, is it not?—Yes. Then after that I went in for the variety business, whistling solos. I was with Mr. Harry Liston on tour. The woman, who said her brother-in-law, a man of good position, was on holiday in Scotland, and could not attend, was remanded for inquiries.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

The Empire well maintains its reputation as one of the coolest places of amusement in London, and its patrons have this week enjoyed the excellent holiday programme under comparatively comfortable conditions. One of the most attractive items is of course the exceedingly dainty Watteau divertissement, designed and produced by Mr. C. Wilhelm, entitled *Fête Galante*, which in a former occasion formed part of the pretty *Cinderella* ballet. The scene in a glade in the Royal Park of Beau Séjour, with its charming sylvan surroundings, makes a delightful picture, and in the whole production refinement, good taste, and beauty are the predominant features. The picturesque scene is quickly peopled with courtiers and court ladies, huntsmen, pages, and dancers in Watteau costumes, and the stately and graceful dances of the period charm the eye, while the pretty music, carefully selected and arranged by Mr. C. J. M. Glaser, is listened to with delight. Mr. Fred Farren is responsible for the dances and the action, and the scenery is from the skilful brush of Mr. Hawes Craven. Remarkably handsome in person and gallant in bearing is the Prince Fleur de Lys of Miss D. Craske, and he possesses a smart equerry in Philidor, brightly impersonated by Miss M. Dawson. There is a further demand made upon our sense of admiration by the Belle Etoile of Miss F. Mansell and the opera dancer, L'Hirondelle, of Miss B. Hill. Other prominent and picturesque personages in the gay scene include the Chamberlain, Pavane, of Miss Courtland, and the chief huntsman, Joli-Cœur, of Miss Elise Clerc. Mr. Fred Farren proves himself to be well qualified in every respect for the important and responsible position of Passepied, Master of the Revels; Miss F. Craske is a vivacious Mignonne; and courtiers and court ladies have much-admired representatives in the Misses F. M. Jenkins, B. Trevesick, E. Collier, and M. Collier.

The successful ballet *Coppélia* is in itself worth a visit to the Empire, and great credit is due to the producer, Mr. Alexander Genée; also to the composer of the music, Mr. Leo Délibes, and the scenic artist, Mr. Joseph Harker. In the absence of Mme. Adeline Genée, who is enjoying a well-earned holiday, the part of Swanilda, the village girl, is taken by Miss Amelie Peters, who comes from the Stadt Theatre, Strasbourg. This lady is an admirable dancer, and amongst her most successful efforts is a valse in the first scene, and in the second she evokes great applause by an automaton dance, assisted by Miss D. Craske, Mr. Fred Farren, and coryphées, a grand galop, &c. Miss D. Craske is well placed as Franz, Swanilda's sweetheart. Mr. Fred Farren gives an exceedingly clever sketch of Coppélius, the eccentric inventor of mechanical figures, Mr. Paul Sundberg distinguishes himself as Laszlo, a Slovak pedlar, and Miss Elise Clerc gives him able support as Irma, the pedlar's betrothed. These two introduce the Hungarian national dance with successful results, and their pas comique (Slovak) is also loudly and deservedly applauded. Miss E. Collier cleverly represents the doll Coppélia and able assistance comes from Miss Shepherd as the innkeeper, and Mr. A. Young and Miss M. Paston, as the Burgomaster and his wife.

In the early part of the evening the Parisian fantaisist Albany gives a novel entertainment which is watched with interest; and Mr. R. H. Douglass scores with one of his comical monologues. Harry Huntly, comedian, and the Kremkas, comedy acrobats, meet with success, and so, too, do Haig and Novel in their smart acrobatic act. The Australian Ladies' Quartette sing "Comin' thro' the Rye" and an Irish ballad in charming style. Miss Anna Hickisch, an excellent vocalist, is the recipient of prolonged applause for the admirable rendering of "The Wandering Breeze" and the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*. Paulton and Dooley display great skill as cyclists, and the one who plays the comic part causes hearty merriment by his funny business. The Biograph shows a series of interesting pictures, including scenes at Goodwood. Mention should be made of the valuable services rendered by the musical conductors, Messrs. C. J. M. Glaser and Cuthbert Clarke, and Mr. H. J. Hitchins, manager, and Mr. A. Aldin, acting-manager.

PARAGON.

Absurdly lugubrious in countenance and manner, that intensely comical low comedienne, Miss Nellie Wallace, sings of the joys of single blessedness and the woes of the married state. Then, with an excess of boisterous jollity, she skips about the stage in ridiculous fashion what times she gives expression to the heartfelt yearning of many a middle-aged dame, "I wish I were young again!" Miss Wallace is inexpressibly funny in all that she does in her own distinctive way. Another merry-maker comes along in the person of Little Tich, whose irresistibly comical sayings and antics are as fruitful as ever in their mirth-provoking qualities. We get an exciting account of the sanguinary battles of "The Gallant 23rd," a regiment, if we are to believe Mr. Tich, far surpassing in dash and "go" even the famous Light Brigade—so dashing, indeed, that it is difficult for the pursuing force to catch them. But the laughter is louder and more furious upon his third appearance, when the little man is attired as a dainty corpyhee, and frisks round the stage, whirling his diaphanous skirts! From the Sisters Lunelle we get sprightly dances and tuneful melodies, and Mr. Joe Archer, "The Peculiar Chappie," treats us to a host of whimsical fancies in his songs and patter. The Three Laurels give a demonstration of agility and strength in their smart ping-pong table act. Mr. Harry Tate is here, too, with his uproariously diverting motor-car breakdown act, which, by reason of the fact that it is from time to time varied, is always welcomed. Miss Katie Butler distinguishes herself as a character comedienne, and her original methods find great favour.

For a turn that is amusingly weird and fanciful we can commend the Phantos. Ghostly figures come and go with mysterious suddenness, and these same phantoms turn somersaults and engage in springing and jumping exercises in a manner that is simply amazing. And over the cleverly-arranged "phantom ship" the man in the moon smiles, as do the audience, with appreciatory features, upon the pranks of the Phantos. Simply bubbling over with buffoonery is Mr. Dan Crawley, whose popularity is attested to by the loud applause which greets the appearance of his number. He has a fund of jokes to offer, and they are offered in the jocular spirit which fails not in the effect it is intended to produce. Mr. Crawley is a comedian whose liveliness is whole-hearted, and he seems able to impart a remarkable spontaneity to his verses, "Anywhere does for me" and "Mary Mumps." Well-known selections are played in capital style upon the xylophone by the Vernon Troupe, five talented lady and gentlemen instrumentalists. Quickness of hand and eye is necessary to the successful manipulation of the xylophone, and these qualities are possessed to no little extent by each member of the Vernon party, whose performances show good execution and musical ability. While on the subject of instrumentalism, it would not be inappropriate to refer to the admirable work of Mr. Arthur Grimmett, the gifted musical director of the Paragon orchestra. Everybody has noted what a distinct improvement has taken place in the accomplishments of the band at Mr. Payne's Eastern hall, and it affords a delight to listen to the well-chosen compositions and the accompaniments played under Mr. Grimmett's guidance.

When Miss Margaret Parker produced a new playlet, entitled *Under the Seal*, last week at the Chelsea Palace, we were not informed to whom we owed the authorship. The piece proved popular at once, and we are now able to offer congratulations to the writer, Mr. William Felton. The story is a highly dramatic one, and the interest is well sustained throughout. The plot concerns the confession by a ruffian to a priest of the murder of the latter's brother, and the duty imposed upon the clergyman by the laws of his Church not to divulge a statement made "under the seal." Mr. Herbert Harden realises our ideas as to the dignified and scholarly demeanour of a Roman Catholic priest, and Miss Margaret Parker, in a part which is divided between low comedy and pathos, gives evidence of considerable versatility. Her death scene is extremely affecting. Praise must also be bestowed upon Mr. Morrice Seaton for an effective character study of a cockney ruffian. Mr. Whit Cunliffe, the smart, well-groomed "dandy" comedian, meets with a flattering reception, his light topical ditties, notably, "Hello! Hello! Hello!" being taken up by the audience with great gusto. That ludicrously eccentric "tramp," Mr. Bert Clark, and his charming partner, Miss Venie Hamilton, contrive to keep the house in an uproar of merriment with their quaint quips and cranks. One could scarcely wish for jests more comically presented. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope brings a highly agreeable evening's entertainment to a close with some attractive stories told historically.

QUEEN'S PALACE.

Mr. Jack Woolf is to be congratulated upon at least one thing in connection with his management of the Queen's, and that is that since the establishment has been under his control it has been patronised by the best people of the district. It would have surprised many folk, who regard Poplar as a place where the submerged tenth eke out a miserable existence, had they visited the Queen's on Monday evening, and gazed upon the well-dressed holiday audience, the dresses of the ladies in the stalls giving a picturesque appearance to that part of the house. There is no question that Mr. Woolf has effected a wonderful improvement in every respect in the conduct of the Messrs. Abrahams' property. As to the programme, it is not necessary to dilate upon the usual ancient effusion as to a Bank Holiday bumper. Mr. Ernest French is wonderfully energetic, considering that Londoners are at present being worried by a heat-wave. He sings a humorous song about a flying machine and a man who had a yearning to live in the air; and then, attired as an absurd kiltie, he tells how he had "another look for luck." The curious sights that extra special look gained him were, to say the least, amusing, and, during the telling thereof, Mr. French engages in all manner of lively antics. "Before he marries the lady, how's the fellow to tell?" sings Miss Maud Laverne, and then she goes on to explain in her merry way what an awful lottery marriage is. Her other song, and which seems to find most favour, is of the sentimental order, "Remember me to mother dear," and is rendered with feeling and expression. Miss Laverne's appearance is all in her favour, and her dresses are much admired.

One could scarcely imagine a more beautiful pastoral scene than that in which the Vivians are disporting themselves this week at the Queen's. In this stage spectacle are to be seen a couple of charming shepherdesses (Miss Violet Vivian and Miss E. Buckingham), with whom the very sheep—if they had any—could not help falling in love! Then there is a vivacious young swain in the person of the sprightly Miss Ruby Vivian, and a jocular, larkish "servant to the King"—the monarch is unnamed, but whoever he is, he should never be lonely with so jovial a jester—in Master Vivian. With the prettiest of dances and gayest of roundelays, the Vivians attempt to revive a happy phase of rural life before England was given over to the Philistines. Mr. C. Gordyn's "bow-wow pantomime" is an entertainment in itself. Nothing could exceed in the direction of canine cleverness the doings of Mr. Gordyn's fox terriers and French poodle. Master Dandy Dinny, who is described as a "wee Scot," is an entertaining little fellow, who sings some laughable Scottish lines, and, although he may never have hailed from the north of the Tweed, he makes a passable effort with "It's a braw bricht moonlicht nicht the nicht." He is funny, too, as a miniature policeman. Miss Lilian Helmes is a pleasing, engaging, and bright comedienne, and wins golden opinions for her "business."

Sterling and Cashen distinguish themselves mainly in the step-dancing line, although their duets and patter are most praiseworthy. Mr. J. F. Sterling, by the way, won the All-England Challenge Cup at Middlesbrough in 1897, and is the holder of other championships. Prince Fee Lung, assisted by Wha Sing Ging and Lee Chung, is responsible for an interesting Chinese illusion act, in which many sleight-of-hand feats are smartly and neatly performed. On the night of our visit—Monday—Mr. Woolf appeared before the footlights, and apologised for the non-appearance of Miss Julie Mackay, who had been billed as one of the star turns. Mr. Woolf read a telegram from that lady, stating that, through indisposition and by the doctor's orders, she was kept at home. *Rip Van Winkle* is being presented by Miss Lilian Holmes's company, with Mr. Fred Storey in the title-rôle. It seems almost late in the day to eulogise Mr. Storey's superb impersonation of the wayward Rip, so often has he delighted the play-going public with his finished acting in that part. Miss Holmes herself undertakes the character of Gretchen, her study of which is as polished as it is effective. There are some fine pictures from the New Bioscope.

THE KILBURN EMPIRE.

The Empire, Kilburn, reopened its doors again on August Bank Holiday, this time under the control of the well-known sketch producer and actor, Mr. Brien M'Cullough. The house has had a somewhat chequered career as a variety theatre, but the new management is evidently determined to make a bold bid for success, judging by the really generous entertainment provided and the low charges for admission, the highest price being 1s., while an excellent seat can be obtained for 3d. Two performances are given nightly, and there are no "early doors," an arrangement on which the management is to be congratulated. There were full houses at both evening performances on Monday, and also at the matinée, and if enthusiasm counts for anything the audience were evidently highly delighted with the fare provided. The principal item in Mr. M'Cullough's opening bill was a condensed version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, most of the familiar incidents in Mrs. Harriett Beecher Stowe's notable novel being presented. The playlet was admirably enacted throughout, and the scenery, by Mr. Francis H. Bull, who has done wonders with the limited stage room at his command, is also entitled to praise, especially "The Rock of Freedom" and "The Old Plantation." The part of Uncle Tom was undertaken by Mr. Fred Percy, who was especially good in the scene with Little Eva, where the aged darkey recalls the days of his youth, and indulges in song and dance. George Harris had a manly and earnest representative in Mr. David G. Noble, and Mr. Stafford Smith was entirely satisfactory as the good-hearted planter, Mr. St. Clair. Mr. Gilbert Vernon was sufficiently brutal as Simon Legree, "the devil in disguise"; Little Eva was pathetically enacted by Little Nancy Edgar; and Miss Bernice Fielding gave a quietly convincing portrayal of the sorely-tried Eliza Harris. The comedy parts of Marks and Topsy were quite safe in the hands of Mr. M'Cullough and Miss Nellie Nelson, the former arousing much hilarity with his oft-repeated phrase, "My name's Marks—I'm a lawyer," and his many droll bits of business; and Miss Nelson contributing a quaint impersonation of the little black girl, and scoring also in her song. In the plantation scene a decided success was made by the Yankee Doodle Coons, a team of vocalists and dancers of undoubted ability, who were making their first appearance in England. Each member of the combination is a worker, and a number that secured abundant applause was the singing by a lady member of the troupe of a darkey ditty, "My Little Curly-headed Coon."

Miss Edna Alexander was heard with pleasure in a well-rendered song, "Little Miss No-one from Nowhere"; Mr. and Mrs. Washington submitted "My Carolina," the accompanying dance being smartly executed and loudly applauded; and the trombone solo of Miss Nettie Goff was appreciated at its true worth. A particularly popular item in the programme was the new Bioscope exhibition, the three comic pictures shown being "The Chaser Chased," "The Troubles of a Fireman," and "The Holidays," the last-mentioned film, depicting the destructive pranks indulged in by three little "imps" who are spending their holidays at a farmhouse, being especially laughable. Mr. Fred Mason, billed as "The World's Champion Whistler," scored unmistakably in his song descriptive of "Pretty Polly," but he will evidently have to look to his laurels as a siffleur, the occupants of the balcony being expert whistlers to a man—and boy, and on Monday they were evidently determined to exhibit their ability in this direction. The Sisters Belmont appeared as a couple of charming "colleens," and footed it merrily in some well-executed steps, expert top-boot and clog dancing also being included in their loudly acclaimed and exhausting exhibition. An "extra" who also contributed to the enjoyment of the audience was Salerni, who did some neat card palming and other difficult sleight-of-hand tricks. Mr. John Jourdain is the courteous acting-manager, and the capable little band is under the careful direction of Mr. J. Andrews.

THE SURREY.

Even with the temperature as high as it has been lately, a queue of pleasure-seekers, extending from the doors of the Surrey Vaudeville and half round St. George's Circus, has twice nightly not only attracted the attention of passers-by, but has induced many of them to enter its brilliant portals and enjoy the cool interior and the holiday programme provided by Mr. Frank Macnaghten for his patrons. Miss Josephine Colona and her "Ladye Godiva" company are very popular. Miss Colona's shapely form is seen to advantage, and her acting of the difficult character is decidedly good. As Earl Leofric Mr. W. H. Samo fills the part with a dignity that makes its mark. Mr. Charles Bowen's Bibeau is a careful character study, and an extremely finished performance. Miss Madge Morley as the Ladye Rowena, Miss Florence Spencer as Eaitra, and Mrs. Edgar Colona as Ulrica fill their parts with care and attention, and the general mounting is excellent. A highly sensational sketch is that provided by the Vaudeville Dramatic Comedy Company, entitled *The Black Sheep*. It tells the tale of a villain's treachery and his diabolical endeavours to cheat his brother and his sweetheart out of their inheritance. Much of the success of this miniature drama is due to the efficient acting of Miss Marguerite Trevosper, who as May Courtnay is sweet and pathetic. Mr. Ernest Wingfield as Harry Ferndell is manly and earnest. Mr. Leslie Vyner as Jimmy Joyce supplies a careful character study, and Mr. Herbert Pearson as Dunstan Ferndell makes a strong impression. A word of praise is due to Mr. F. Fellows Bassett in the dual parts of Sir Edmund Ferndell and Cully Grainger; and Miss Helena Walbran is excellent as the maid Susan. Fun and amusement in abundance are provided by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden in their farcical comedy, *A Desperate Remedy*, which is extremely well played. The laughter of the audience tells of their hearty enjoyment. Little Maudie Francis has more than fulfilled the bright promise of her early efforts in pantomime, and her pretty song, "Santa Claus," ranks among the foremost of the evening's successes. Her clog dancing is wonderfully clever, and well merits the series of enthusiastic recalls her tireless activity evokes. The Eight Sunrays, smartly costumed, are pretty enough to win admiration, but their singing of "The Seaside Girl" and their dancing of a Spanish fandango lend an added charm to their merry performance. King Leo with his vivacious doll "Jerry" gives an exhilarating ventriloquial entertainment. The Rushforths win warm approbation by their popular illustrated song, "The True-hearted Irish Lad," the chorus of which is taken up with evident enjoyment and gusto by the audience. The Three Leaves are charming dancers; Jenny Belmore is a dainty male impersonator, and wins high favour with her pretty ballad, "Baby 's the King." Valero's lightning crayon sketches of naval engagements are admirably well drawn, and the final electrical development of the largest picture is as pretty as it is startling, and evokes unlimited enthusiasm. Little Ada Merry is "looking for a sweetheart," as she tells her audience in her song, and she does a lively hornpipe. Roars of laughter follow the adventures of "The Three Terrors"—Tommy, Toby, and Terrier Tim—so humorously depicted by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. A feature of the evening's enjoyment is the good order maintained in every part of the house by the courteous staff, who do most efficient work under the ever-watchful eye of Mr. Fred Baugh, the general-manager, and his able lieutenant, Mr. Charles Craig.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

During the recess this pretty theatre has been furbished and redecorated, and on Monday—the opening night—was quite gay in mural decorations of white and gold. The entire house has been cleaned, and now looks quite spick-and-span. The management in front is still in the capable hands of Mr. Kay Draco, whose courtesy and ability are readily recognised by the theatre's *clientèle*. Led by Mr. F. R. Kinkee, the orchestra commenced with a rousing march; next came Stuart and Stuart, and very admirably they performed. Mr. Fred Walker, a comedian with a keen sense of the ridiculous, brought down the house with his song dealing with the Labour Party, the drama, and other topical events. He was even more successful with a Bacchanalian ditty, "All through meeting a pal in the rain." Graceful, dainty, and pretty, it was but fair that the Sisters Charnley should win immediate recognition; their dancing was really excellent, and they won the hearty appreciation of the audience. The comedy sketch, *Taming Her Husband*, gave Miss Louisa Peach ample opportunity for the display of her histrionic abilities. Miss Peach gave a performance which was excellent in every way. The sketch was vociferously applauded. Miss Queenie May, described as "the little lady with a big voice," certainly gave evidence of the latter acquisition. Her best selection was a love ditty, which won from the gallery a triple "call." She became a favourite quite early in the evening. We have already commented on the peculiarly droll production, *Casey's Court*. Since our last visit, this *olla podrida* of drollery has been amplified and improved on. The denizens of *Casey's Court* are delightful. They sing, dance, act, and yet do some delicious fooling, to the manifest enjoyment of the audience. The fun reaches its height when a burlesque imitation of "lightning cures on a poor working-man" is given by the members of the troupe. The zoological burlesque and the travesty of *Turpin's Ride to York* are both exceedingly funny; and Casey's youngsters are evidently pets with the audience. Vernon's Bioscope shows several interesting items. "Father, mother wants you" is worth seeing; and "The Hand of the Artist" is a wonderful sample of the marvels of modern photography. The orchestral selections leave little to be desired, the excerpt from *The Country Girl* reflecting credit on Mr. F. R. Kinkee and his men. The whole show is excellent.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Something of exceptional interest is required to attract crowded audiences into a variety theatre in the dog days, but this is the achievement accomplished by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay here this week. The second house especially is crowded with enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Barclay and his excellent assistant-manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter having all their energies taxed to find room. The programme is full of variety, "from grave to gay, from lively to severe"; the severity, however, being not very much in evidence. The longest offering consists of *My Pal Jerry*, played by Mr. Lew Lake and company. This little play, in four scenes, forms a sequel to the same actor's success, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, and is a mélange of mirth and pathos. After several scenes of broad humour, pathos is provided in the death of Jerry. Mr. Lew Lake plays his part of Nobbler Nolan for all it is worth, extracting from it every atom both of fun and seriousness of which it is capable. The chief is admirably supported by Mr. Bob Morris as Jerry, and a number of clever ladies and gentlemen. Miss Amy Elvira is a burlesque artist with a charming appearance, a good voice, and good songs, among which is one about the inevitable motor-car. Mr. Leo Tell is a clever imitator, both of animals and musical instruments, his efforts calling forth both laughter and applause. Miss Elsa Joel sings "Queen of the Earth" with acceptance, and afterwards "obliges" with some capital imitations of various styles of singing, from the Parisian café to the London coster. An excellent turn is that of the Paolias, the gentleman being an exponent of muscular training that is truly astonishing, while the lady is an admirable assistant. Miss Evelyn Hope appears with Mr. Jack Wayho in a series of character sketches from the works of Charles Dickens. These include a scene from "Oliver Twist," with Fagin; another from the same book introducing Nancy and Sikes, the Marchioness and Swiveller. Mr. Bert Williams is an excellent ventriloquist, who makes his puppets speak and sing without moving a line of his own face. It is some time since we saw an artist in this line who is more deserving of the loud cheers which greet him. The programme finishes with some amusing pictures exhibited by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. The overture, "Holiday Echoes," published by Von Tiltzer, is played in a spirited manner by the orchestra, directed by Mr. H. Petersen. To mention the fact that the stage management is in the hands of Mr. John Grant is to assume perfection.

THE EMPIRE, OXFORD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—For the information of the profession generally and theatre lessees in particular, I shall be glad if you will publish the following statement. On June 5 Mr. Albany Ward made his annual application to the Borough Bench for a renewal of his licence. The following magistrates were on the Bench:—The Mayor (Councillor Twining), Aldermen I. Saunders, Thos. Lucas, G. W. Cooper, and J. H. Salter; Councillor Bevers; Messrs. T. H. Rose and F. Ryman Hall. The Watch Committee of the Oxford City Council had, after a heated discussion *in camera*, when many members spoke in favour of the theatre and the licence, decided, by a bare majority, to advise the magistrates to refuse the licence. Consequently at the hearing the magistrates were unanimous in refusing the licence, although there was no opposition offered—police or otherwise—in public court.

The Watch Committee of the O.C.C. is comprised of the following Councillors:—Aldermen Robt. Buckell, J.P. (chairman), Thomas Lucas, J.P. (vice-chairman), G. W. Cooper, J.P., Sir W. Gray, J.P., Jason Saunders, J.P., Bacon, and Woodward; Councillors Bevers, J.P., Brooks, G. H. Cooper, H. Lewis, J. E. Salter, C. M. Vincent, Sherwood, and Skene (the last two are representatives sent by the University).

In analysing the above statement, it will be found that of the eight magistrates who sat on the Bench on June 5, five were members of the very committee which had, by a small majority, secretly decided to advise the Bench to refuse the renewal of the licence. Three out of the eight are Nonconformists, and no doubt opposed to all theatres on principle. Moreover, the managing-director of the other local theatre happens to be the vice-chairman of the Watch Committee, and also as a J.P. sat on the Bench on June 5 last. I do not say he opposed the licence in any way; he is a most fair-minded man, but no one could blame him if he did. It may, however, affect the case from a point of law.

Here, then, is surely a case where the application for a dramatic licence was debated upon by a Watch Committee *in camera*, who are, be it noted, not the licensing body, and have really no *locus standi* in the matter, and who had practically decided that the theatre should be closed before the case came before the magistrates. The public hearing was therefore a farce from beginning to end, and was simply intended to humbug the play-going public, for the magistrates, as members of the Watch Committee, had already decided on their verdict. Mr. Ward was not even notified that they (the Watch Committee, *i.e.*, the magistrates themselves) had decided to offer opposition to his licence. Surely in common courtesy he should have been so informed.

As this case affects theatre licensing all over the country, I am sure all managers would be interested in Mr. A. A. Strong's opinion on the points I have set forth. I should like to say that Mr. Ward's counsel pointed out to the Bench that (according to the Queen *v.* London County Council) it had been decided by the High Court "That if any Justices of the Peace had made an inquiry into a certain matter that recommended a certain course to be pursued, those Justices ought not to sit." Notwithstanding this objection, however, they sat, and sat very tight. I hold no brief for Mr. Ward, and know him not; but I am certainly interested in the legal aspects of this case, which in a long stage career I have never seen paralleled.—Yours faithfully, ACTOR-CITIZEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—The Magistrate's Clerk at the Oxford City Court put several leading questions to Mr. Albany Ward, of above theatre, when applying for renewal of licence last June. The object of the Clerk was apparently to damage the reputation of Mr. Ward's theatre in the eyes of the magistrates. Will Mr. Strong say if the Magistrates' Clerk was, or was not, usurping his position in doing this? I am advised by a solicitor that he was acting quite illegally. For instance, he asked Mr. Ward if he had heard that two or three persons had had to be relieved from the poor-box through companies having been left stranded in the town by managers. Mr. Ward said he had not heard it. I should like to know why the magistrates, before giving charity, did not inquire of Mr. Ward whether they had really been acting at his theatre or not.—Yours faithfully,

A. G.

MR. WORTH, of "Harris and Worth," was taken suddenly ill last week at New Cross Empire, and will, it is feared, be unable to work for two months.

"NICI, THE BELLE OF THE PACIFIC."

A Musical Extravaganza, in One Act, written by Cayley Calvert, with Music composed by Denham Harrison, produced at the Cambridge Music Hall, on Monday, Aug. 6.

Jim Mobbs ..... MR. JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD
Lieut. Howlett ..... MR. BRYEN DESMOND
The Emperor ..... MR. GROVES WATSON
Dunkali ..... MR. E. T. SEARLE
The Vizier ..... MR. PERCY WEST
Princess Nici ..... MISS OLIVE PRINCE
Shadi ..... MISS QUEENIE CALVER

Mr. Cayley Calvert's new sketch, which is in one scene, opens on the island of Nante Mappo, the background revealing a lovely stretch of the Pacific Ocean. On the golden sands sing and gambol a bevy of these Phœnecian beauties so beloved of Robert Louis Stevenson. To them comes Dunkali, the Royal marriage broker, with the news that the Princess Nici, the most beautiful of them all, comes of age, and therefore, by the sacred laws, must be married that day, and not to an inhabitant of the island. She is already betrothed to an officer who some months before landed from a British man-of-war, but failing his return, Dunkali is in a difficulty to find her a husband. In this dilemma he seizes upon the expedient of presenting to the Emperor a ship-wrecked cockney, by name Jim Mobbs, as an eligible suitor. Mobbs fears Dunkali, and has an idea that the natives have designs upon his life, and take him for a missionary—"tender to stew"—so he readily falls in with the plan of marrying a princess, or any other, to escape his dreaded fate. He therefore takes lessons from the marriage broker as to what to say and how to behave, and he is in due course presented to his Imperial Majesty as "Mr. Britisher come to claim yer daughter's 'and." The princess objects very strongly. In vain she protests that she is a "suffragette" who obeys no laws made by mere man. There is only a quarter of an hour left for the ceremony, and the priest performs it. No sooner is the nuptial knot tied than the "real Mr. Britisher," Lieut. Howlett, arrives, to find his expected bride a married woman. The rest of the plot consists of the scheming of the Princess, Howlett, Dunkali, and Shadi, the Princess's maid, to get Jim Mobbs to renounce his bargain and divorce his Royal wife. They break it to him that by the sacred laws of the island if the wife dies the husband is buried with her. They tell him his wife is delicate—that she is ill—that she is worse—that a consultation has been called—that there is no hope—that she is dead!

In portraying these gradations of comic terror, Mr. Johnnie Schofield finds abundant scope for varied humorous expression, and he does full justice to his opportunities. In the end Lieut. Howlett reappears, and annexes the island with a delightful comic-opera freedom—on behalf, of course, of the British Government—releases the Princess, who has been hidden in a heathen temple, and all ends merrily. Mr. Johnny Schofield is immensely funny as Jim Mobbs, of the 'Ockney-road, and has a good song about different kinds of girls. Miss Olive Prince is a delightful Princess, and in her duet with Mr. Bryen Desmond (Lieut. Howlett) assisted in bringing down the house. Mr. Desmond also scores with his song, "My guiding star." Miss Queenie Calver is fresh and bright as Shadi, the maid, and her song, "Risks," followed by a pretty dance, elicits loud applause. Mr. Groves Watson reveals flashes of humour as a dignified Emperor; Mr. E. Searle is an alert Dunkali; and Mr. Percy West appears as the Vizier.

Mr. T. G. Richards is to be congratulated on placing before the patrons of the Cambridge so excellent a production. Mr. Cayley Calvert's book is exceptionally good, the songs and dances were all well received, and the mise en scène was pretty and picturesque. Mr. Denham Harrison's music was tuneful and pleasing throughout. The new sketch, which is admirably compressed into thirty-five minutes, should have a bright future before it.

The Bank Holiday programme was also contributed to by Mr. Mark Tapley, comedian; Avon and Crest, speciality comedy artists; Mr. Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; Miss Rosie Reval, character-comedienne; and Miss Amy Russell. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some interesting pictures. On Monday evening that admirable juggler and cannon-ball manipulator, Valazzi, deputised for Mr. Herbert Shelley, who was indisposed.

"GARDENING."

HARRY TATE'S NEW SKETCH.

Mr. Harry Tate is a comedian who believes in being thoroughly up to date. Everybody remembers how he created humorous situations out of early difficulties experienced by motorists whose petrol-driven vehicles were constantly breaking down on the King's highway. In his latest sketch, *Gardening*, produced on Monday at the Oxford, he touches in a comical manner upon a nuisance which, if it be not checked, will make nervous wrecks of us all. A gentleman, seeking peaceful surroundings wherein he and his family can enjoy life, removed from the tumult of the city, purchased a house, apparently some distance from the suburbs. But the property is deceptive. The place certainly looks countryfied enough, but, unfortunately for the owner of the villa, there are other people who are fond of the country—bean-feasters and motor-car scorchers, for instance. The scene opens upon a pretty garden, the tender thereof carefully watering the flowers upon a huge mound with a tiny child's toy water can. The new master of the house enters this picturesque domain, but as his ideas in the direction of horticulture are of the most meagre description, he and the gardener are ever at loggerheads. He wrenches from its comfortable bed a tall and flourishing plant, just to see if the roots are actually there, and, to the horror of the worthy countryman, flings it against the wall. He says that he prefers to see it lying there, and, after all, is he not the owner of the land? He carries his absurdities further when he offers to explain to his son, who is as ignorant as the father, the cultivation of flowers, the very names of which he does not even know. Finding his tutelage as a nurseryman is not exactly a success, he sits down to enjoy the sweet quietude of his little paradise. His haven of rest quickly becomes an obnoxious babel. A noisy, dismal-looking tramp puts his head over the wall, and cries out that he has walked from Manchester—*ergo*, he is dry. Won't the kind gentleman take the hint? The kind gentleman is charitable enough to do so, and is so benevolent as to deprive his flowers of their favourite beverage in order to moisten the features of the forlorn tramp with the aid of a squirt. A party of loud-mouthed roysterers are the next to break in upon the owner of the house with their boisterous merry-making and their ribald song, and what was formerly imagined to be poetic solitude, the purest of rural air is further desecrated by the deafening, ominous sounds of motor horn, and the mountains of dust raised by cars travelling at the speed of an express train. The curtain falls upon a misguided or drunken chauffeur demolishing the garden wall with his machine.

The whole thing is ridiculously, uproariously funny, and keeps the audience in a continuous outburst of laughter. Mr. Harry Tate, in his absurdly and well assumed seriousness of manner, makes a most diverting character of the irritable householder. *Gardening* is one of the most entertaining acts that are to be seen on the music hall stage to-day.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Glorious sunshine, surging crowds of happy, light-hearted pleasure-seekers, all Nature, all humanity rejoicing, these were the dominant notes of "Saint" Lubbock's Day, the August Bank Holiday. No other holiday in the year is so full of the modern spirit as the last and best of them all—the first Monday in August.

London especially has made this one of the legal Bank Holidays its own peculiar and particular festival, all the other new holidays merely serve to extend the old long established church and national festivals, but the August Bank Holiday is a real gift, a glorious free day to the moilers and toilers of the nation. Everybody takes the gift so opportune and so necessary with both hands—away go vast multitudes to the sea, or to visit far-away friends and relations, yet there always remain in our great towns, and notably so in the Metropolis, vaster crowds who cannot get away. It is to these town-bound citizens that the showman comes and brings a full day of joy and mirth and gladness. It is for these stay-at-home (perforce) people that the fair means the only possible place of recreation and relief. It is for these toilers of our vast city that the London County Council sets out the fairs at holiday times on the free spaces and common lands under their wise and beneficent control, the wise and tolerant acceptance of the undoubted truth that all work and no play makes "Jack a dull boy," and its natural result the popular open-air amusement for the people by the travelling showman and the itinerant entertainer. All this is good, and right well did the people appreciate it.

On Hampstead Heath were some 200 pitches of the itinerant showmen and traders; the principal shows were:—Purchase's menagerie, Chittock's cinematograph theatre, Wilson's fine art show, Bennett's novelties, Bailey's peep show, Forrest's horses, and big wheel, Brett's galloping horses, and other attractions. Wilson's motor-cars and swings by a host of caterers. The leading exhibitors of throwing games were:—Messrs. Peters, Bailey, Brett, Wilson, Herick, Rowe, Crisp, Harrison, Groom, Putnam, Wharmby, and Corby. We noticed again the complete and most satisfactory arrangements for the comfort of the enormous throng of visitors, and the thoughtful and the kindly provision for the show people.

On an excellent ground close by the railway station we found the "Revived Village Fair" of Hampstead, under the management of Fred Gray, the London caterer. Here were F. Gray's gondolas and flying motor-cars, the bike track, park swings, throwing games, and shooting saloon, S. Jones's galloping horses, shooter, and varieties, Purchase's dolly frame and bottle battery, Parrish's throwing games and minor novelties. The great show attraction was Prof. B. T. Burnett's battery and military assault-at-arms. In addition to the usual excellent programme Mr. Burnett had secured a number of capital variety turns and gave an excellent show.

At the Vale of Heath, Hampstead Heath, were the well known attractions under Mr. Harry Cox's direction, these included gallopers, the big wheel, swings, etc.

At that immensely popular holiday resort Wormwood Scrubs, were Hasting's and Whayman's coliseum of varieties and cinematographs, Edward Elliott's boxers and athletes, W. Wilson's electric set of horses, and Cockerell's, Smith and Whittle's switchback, swings, and varieties, Wm. Beach's motor-cars and horses, shooting gallery, aerial flight and park swings, Edward's steam horses, swings by Allingham, Brinkley, George, Martin, and others, and rows and rows of minor novelties, throwing games, etc., by Messrs. Bedford, Sanders, Irish, Hussey Bros., Traynor, Elliott, Phillips, Taylor, Goodall, Holt, Cooper, Bowler, Wooley, Putnam, Manning, and many others. There were three sets of juvenile horses and motors by Messrs. Sanders, Harvey, and Manning.

At Blackheath were Buckley's cinematograph, Wilson's flying motors, and a host of minor side shows and varieties.

At Goringe Park, Tooting, were Searle's fair-ground novelties, the steam horses, shooters, throwing games, variety stalls, and refreshment tent, and Prince Pereira, conjuror.

The Bromley fête had for its entertainers Biddall Brothers with cinematograph show, and Cilbey with throwing games, etc.

At Kew Gardens Green were George Beach's aggregation of shows, &c., cinematograph theatre, steam roundabout, shooter, swings, varieties, and cokers.

The Uxbridge holidays were kept by Mrs. Bird's roundabouts, cokers, doll frames, &c.

Mr. Fred Gray also leases the ground at Watford for holiday times. Here Mr. Gray had on exhibition a set of galloping horses and flying ostriches, shooting range, park swings, and coker-sheets. With him were Sanders, with varieties, and Ashton, with minor novelties.

As usual, the East End of London kept its big Bank Holiday on the splendid Forest ground, Wanstead Flats. Here were some of the best shows, &c., on the London round. Ball's royal bioscope, Barker's coliseum of varieties, H. and W. Thurston's royal hippodrome and theatre of cinematography, S. Forrest's whirling the whirl, Thurston and Sons' steam galloping horses, Barker and Thurston's gondolas and motors, Brown's roundabout, Parr's big wheel, Girling's juvenile horses, Mrs. Parr's novelty booth, and ranges of swings, highfliers, &c., by Messrs. Forrest Brothers, Bolesworth, Harris, Girling, and Tucker. Throwing games and varieties in excellent style by Messrs. Bolesworth Brothers, Forrest Brothers, Parr Brothers, Simpson, Taylor, Parker, Harris, Carr, Barrett, Reynolds, Dare, Tiller, Rowe, Scott, Cockram, and others.

Manchester, like London, has its suburban fairs at the great holiday times. The greatest of these is the North Manchester Fair, held under John Collins's management at the Albert Memorial Croft, Queen's-road. Here were a big crowd of shows, roundabouts, &c., for the amusement of the people, and right well did they appreciate the fair.

The shows were Colonel Clark's animated photography and varieties, Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, Layland's marionette theatre, Haydn's second sight experts and temple of magic, Denis's circus, Birch's midget marvels, and Payne's freak pony show.

On the machine list were J. Collins's motor cars, Hibbert's racing cockerels, J. Collins's "wheely whirley," Harrison's helter skelter, J. Collin's jumping horses, White's big boats, J. Collin's steam yachts, Wilkinson's swings, J. Collins's rolling junks, gem horse and motor sets by Messrs. W. Chaplain and S. Mercer, rifle saloons by Fletcher and Buxton. Varieties in magnificent array were provided by Horton Brothers, R. Deeks, S. Mercer, Fairclough, W. Chaplain, Lee, Mackney, Johnson, Brannan, Clough Mitchell, W. Cordwell, and others.

Leeds has a big fair at the Bank Holiday. This is held on the grand open space on Hunslet Moor. Probably no town in England has a better-equipped fair than this on the breezy moorland of Hunslet. We can only give the bare list of names, and that is sufficient to prove its abiding popularity and business importance. The exhibition list included cinematograph theatres by Messrs. H. Testo and Tuby and Sons, Prof. Gibson's temple of magic and spiritualistic séance exposé, Wilson's lady wrestlers and athletes, and Westray's freak exhibits.

The machines were motor-car sets by Wm. Murphy, Ben Howden and Son, and G. Redfearn, steam horses by Tuby and Sons and George Collings, flying ostriches by P. Collins, steam yachts and steam swings by Corrigan, Morley, and Burgin, swings and highfliers by Dobson, Redfearn, and Morley, whirling the whirl machines by Relph and Pedley and Howden and Son. Bazaars by John Seed, over-boats by Richards; variety frames, emma sheets, &c., by Dobson, Johnson, Jameson, Holdsworth, Steward, Eastwood, and many others. There were seven sets of children's horses and motor-cars, six juvenile swings, four football frames, ten gingerbread stalls, four refreshment booths, and scores of other stalls.

Mid-way between Leeds and Bradford lies the village of Stanningley; the annual feast was kept with great heartiness on Aug. 4, 6, and 7. Relph and Pedley's electric coliseum of varieties and up-to-date films was the star attraction. Mrs. Waddington's motor-cars, Hamilton's gallopers, and Proctor's, J. Casey's, and Mrs. Hughes' swings, Casey's shooters, and coker-sheets, &c., by Townend, Guthrie, Hughes, and some twenty other amusement caterers made up the novelties of the fair.

At Nantwich Wakes were Bates's royal hunters and jumping horses, Wright's up-to-date peep-show, Connor's roll-up boards and coker-sheets, Hilton's shooting saloon, Wright's shooters, cokers, and other variety novelties. The other caterers were Messrs. Dobson, Turner, Dillon, Beech, and Connor.

The fight for Mitcham Fair has reached another stage, and as the fair is dated to begin next Monday, the present serious issue between those who want to retain the fair and those who seek by all possible means to abolish it will have been brought to the test of real struggle on the opening day of the fair. We have already stated that the attempt to abolish the fair under the provisions of the Abolition of Fairs Act has failed. The Home Secretary, after full consideration of the reasons given by the abolitionists and the counter petitions and arguments of the Showmen's Guild and various local traders, decided that the fair should remain. The small body of influential residents of Mitcham who desired to abolish the fair were acting well within their rights in petitioning the Home Secretary; but, having made their appeal and failed, it is utterly unfair and quite unconstitutional to seek to gain, by their own authority, that which the law of the land, properly appealed to, has refused them.

Having made their appeal to the Secretary of State under the statute law of the realm, and having got "No" for their answer, they refuse to obey the decision of the King's executive officer and the authority of the statute provided for their own purpose. In the face of the adverse decision of the Home Secretary, who has full powers to deal with the question and to do justice between the conflicting interests, the Conservators of Mitcham Common, who have no power either by law or custom, take upon themselves to do what the Home Secretary has refused to do for them. The decision not to abolish the fair has been known for weeks past; yet the Conservators have waited until a week before the fair before issuing a notice, on their own authority, practically abolishing the fair. It is worded as follows:

MITCHAM FAIR, 1906.

Notice is Hereby Given

That no sites for shows, roundabouts, or other similar amusements on the Fair Green will be let for the present year; and proprietors of such shows, &c., are warned that they must not pitch on the ground of the Fair Green, or on any part of the Common.

By order of the Conservators of Mitcham Common,

Fredk. Foss,
Chairman;
and on behalf of the owners of the Franchise.

The posting up of this notice has provoked the just indignation of the people of Mitcham, and the town is in a perfect ferment of excitement over this attempt to deprive the people of their pleasure fair. The great majority of the tradesmen refuse to show it in their shop windows, and wherever it has been posted up the people have torn it down. Not only does this matter concern the people of Mitcham, it also concerns the travelling showmen, particularly those London showmen who have taken this fair year by year on their business round. The Showmen's Guild for months past has made every effort to protect their business interests—by a petition to the Home Secretary, by a deputation to the Home Office, and by many visits to the local authorities, in particular to the chairman of the Board of Conservators who claims to be the present owner of the Fair Franchise. Everything has been done to obviate any conflict of interests at the time of the fair. These conciliatory negotiations have been in the capable hands of the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. Alf. Ball. Mr. Ball, proprietor of the Royal Bioscope, has been for many years past an occupier of the Fair Green, and he has given valuable time upon many occasions to save the rights of his brother showmen using Mitcham Fair.

The position of affairs at present is this: the showmen will draw on the Fair Green as in years past. They will hold the fair, and will tender the accustomed tolls. This action will raise the direct issue as to the right of the Conservators and the owners of the tollage to prevent the showmen using the Fair Green on the legal days of the fair.

This is a clear issue as to the lawful authority to hold the fair; but in order that the larger question of the fair rights and franchise of the people of Mitcham may be fully known and a vote taken, a meeting of protest has been organised to be held on the Fair Green at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday, Aug. 12, on the front of Balls' bioscope exhibition. The following poster and window-bill is now extensively seen in Mitcham:—

MITCHAM OLD FAIR.

Public demonstration and Mass Meeting on Sunday next, on the Fair Green, at 3 o'clock p.m., to defend the Rights and Privileges of the people of Mitcham in their ancient Pleasure Fair.

The chair will be taken by a member of the District Council. The speakers will be the Rev. T. Horne, hon. chaplain; T. Watson Wright, Esq., solicitor to the Showmen's Guild; and local gentlemen.

Come and defend your Fair Rights!

Alfred Ball,
Convener on behalf of the showmen attending Mitcham Fair.

Aug. 8, 1906.

THE LATE MRS. PROCTOR.

Amid many manifestations of local sympathy and esteem for the deceased and her family, the body of Maria Proctor was laid to rest in the family vault at the New Cemetery, Derby, on Friday, July 20. The permanent home of her son-in-law, Mr. Arthur Twigdon, is at Morledge, Derby, and it was at Derby with her daughter that Mrs. Proctor lived in peaceful retirement for the last few years of her life, the beloved mother of a numerous family of upgrown sons and daughters all engaged in show work. The members of the family attending the funeral were:—Mr. and Mrs. George Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. William Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Proctor, Mrs. John Proctor (Mr. John Proctor was unfortunately prevented from being present by illness), Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Twigdon, and Mr. and Mrs. Charlton. The following grandchildren also attended:—The Misses Harriett, Maria, and Master John Taylor, the Misses Lizzie, Maria, and Master George Twigdon, the Misses Emily and Martha Twigdon, and Masters W. and F. Chorlton. Other friends of the family at the graveside were:—Mr. and Mrs. Fox, Mr. H. Clayton, Mr. J. Smith, Norah Sullivan (Mrs. W. Le Neve), and Mrs. George Bishop. In memoriam wreaths and

[Photo by Tyler.

THE LATE MRS. MARIA PROCTOR.

floral tributes were sent (amongst others) by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. John Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor and family, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Twigdon, Miss Maria Taylor, Miss Harriett Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Le Neve, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hall, Miss Florrie Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. F. Westrop, Mr. and Mrs. Yorke, Mr. and Mrs. Blake, Mr. and Mrs. Grudgings, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop and family, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mrs. Weir and family, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Marlow, and Mr. J. Smith.

At the Victoria Theatre, Evesham, this week the following plays have been performed:—*Shadows of a Great City, The Shamrock, Drummed Out, Sherlock Holmes, The Octoroon,* and *Crime and its Reward.* Other attractions at Evesham were Mr. H. Ayers, with steam roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, and bottle battery.

Redditch Fair was larger this year than usual, and included Clarke's electric racing motor-cars, Herbert's roundabouts, Mander's grand star menagerie, Cordwell's living pictures, Chipperfield's royal show, Ingram's dog and monkey circus, Frank Gess's boxing saloon, and Chipperfield's hall of laughter; cokernut sheets by Messrs. Clarke, Humphreys, and Buckland; bottle-shooters and galleries by Messrs. Clarke, Wilson, and E. Herbert, Yates's novelty stalls, T. Clarke's set of swings and striker, Wainwright's and Stockton's gingerbread stalls, Parsons and Cooper with sausage stalls; ringboards, fisheries, Emmas, stalls, &c., by Messrs. Chipperfield, Wilson, C. Herbert, Taylor, Smith, and E. Herbert.

In connection with the athletic meeting at Carmarthen Park on August Bank Holiday a number of variety artists appeared. Frank Hope, the trick cyclist and somersault artist, gave a clever performance; the Brothers Mills, gymnasts and teeth artists, with revolving apparatus, supplied an excellent show; Professor Donn gave a good juggling and conjuring exhibition; Henri Pablo caused laughter with his clown act on the revolving globe; the Musical Zelloes delighted the crowd with their comicalities; Professor Fairweather, ventriloquial exhibitor, was much appreciated; Swell and Rags, grotesque acrobatic knockabouts, gave an excellent performance; while the Royal Punch and Judy Show amused and delighted the youngsters.

Capt. Bidmead had also been engaged to make captive-balloon ascents during the day, and a right-away balloon ascent at seven o'clock, but the silk of the balloon was in some way damaged, and the ascents had consequently to be abandoned. In the evening Messrs. J. Pain and Sons gave a fine firework display. There were also in the park, doing good business, Messrs. Danter and Son's electric motor-cars and horses, and cocoanut shies, Aunt Sallies, shooting galleries, and swings; J. Evans' "test your strength," shooting gallery, and Aunt Sallies; and Risley's "test your strength."

At the Sydney Gardens, Bath, the fine weather of the Bank Holiday drew large crowds to enjoy the varieties and gala provided by Mr. T. R. Gannon, the well-known West of England caterer.

Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie is staying at Hastings for a few days. There is a fine exhibition of wild animals. Two large elephants are included, and the lions and tigers are magnificent specimens of those denizens of the jungle. One remarkable feature in the show is a horse whose mane and tail are of singular length and beauty.

Mander's star menagerie has been paying a one-day visit to Studley, and gave some first-class performances.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE GUILD FUNDS, 1906.

	£	s.	d.
Per Mr. Mitchell.			
Mr. Robert H. Williams	1	1	0
Mrs. Susan Holden	1	1	0
Mr. Henry Taylor	0	10	6
Mr. Wm. Shorrocks	0	5	0
Mr. J. J. Butterworth, jun.	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Stanley	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Burke	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Taylor	0	5	0
Mr. William Makin	0	5	0
Per Mr. Geoghegan.			
Mr. H. Winterbottom	0	10	6
Per Mr. Whiting.			
Mr. Wm. Munday	0	10	6
Per Mr. S. Forrest.			
Mr. Rowe	0	5	0

KILMARNOCK FAIR.

As indicating the ever growing interest taken in the popular fairs of the people, the *Kilmarnock Standard* of Saturday last may be cited as a certain proof and index. In addition to a leaderette on fairs past and present, there are special articles in the local vernacular, a full report of the fair, and (this is a rare departure) a complete story, with its characters and plot at Kilmarnock Fair.

The editorial thus speaks of fairs ancient and modern:—

"Sound the clarion, fill the pipe
To all the sensual world proclaim—
One crowded hour of glorious life
Is worth a world without a name."

"The shows have arrived, and the youth of the town glories in the fact. I remember the time when the arrival of the shows was one of my red letter days. Despite the warnings of loving parents that show folks were bad people and would carry me away with them, I would go down to the old Cattle Market, at the entrance to what was then known as Barbadoes Park, and spend the livelong day watching the various accessories to the fun of the fair being erected. A crowd of boys sat upon the wall and gate-posts at the entrance to the market, watching eagerly for any new arrival, and at frequent intervals the air resounded with cries of 'A show, a show, a show!' and we would all rush expectantly into Dundonald Road, usually to find that it was but a hoax. We exhibited as much interest in the doings of the show folks as did the youthful immortals in Mr. Barrie's *Sentimental Tommy.* I cannot at this instant recall if, like them, I ever discovered that the fat lady had a partiality for 'inguns' to tea, but if I did, I doubt not that I too revelled in the fact. The roundabouts were not then so elaborate or gorgeous as they are now, nor was the accompanying music so fine. The motive power was a pony, or sometimes a number of boys dragged the cycle of wooden horses round. Before the aforesaid place was used for that purpose, the shows were pitched in the neighbourhood of Portland Road, and swing boats used on occasion to be erected on a piece of ground off East George-street."

The "Harry Lauder" of the local Press, known as "Sandy McNab," thus speers the fair:—

"It's a wonnerfu' time is the fair. Whit atween thinkin' o' holidays at the coast an' in the kintra and gaun to the shows, folk get sae excited that some o' them dinna ken their heids frae their feet. My sang, its different frae the auld days when we lookit furrit tae the shows wi' perfec' equaneemity. Of coorse, things were ta'en in a mair leisurely wey when I wis young. We didna hurry as they dae noo-a-days to catch cars and macheens and trains. Och, aye, but times is fairly chinged. But I suppose it's jist the wey o' the worl'. They say if you're no gaun furrit, you canna staun still, and maun jist fa' ahin. Weel, its maybe better tae be makin' some progress in life, and sae I'm no gaun tae compleen onything aboot the new-fangled notions that hae entered intae the heids o' the risin' generation. Ye ken, the young folk o' the praisent day are to be oor men and weemen o' the future, and if they're tae haud up their heids wi' ither folk then they'll no need to lag ahin."

Proceeding to the fair-ground itself, he thus details his experience:—

"Takin' a general survey o' the place, I could see that the maist o' the stances alang the tap were ta'en up wi' shootin' galleries. Seein' that the meelitary speerit's in the air, oor buddin' young marksmen will nae doot be tryin' their skill tae qualify for the rifle range and maybe the next competition at Bisley. Streetchin' awa' doon the left haun, there are things they ca' dolly stands, whaur you get 'three balls a penny' tae shy at a sort o' forms and feegurs, and you get a prize—a ceegaur, a walking-stick, or a jumpin' jake, or something o' that kin', and if it's no o' very muckle vailue it's aye there to show tae your frien's that you hae a sherp e'e in your heid and that you can aim gey and weel. But it's doon the middle o' the showgrun' that you see the maist glare and glitter. Whit gran' merry-go-roons they hae noo-a-days as compared wi' the time when I was a laddie! We had naethin' but wee wudden horses tae get a ride on. Noo they hae bicycles, motor-cars, bantam cocks, razzle-dazzles, an' a'thing up tae the very best. Thae kin' o' caterers for the public amaizement are gey an' enterprisin', and they maun spen' a heap o' siller in gettin' the latest novelties an' keepin' themsel's up tae date. Mr. Swallow has a rael selec' stud, and he has also introduced motor-cars, which are pented in a' sorts o' colours and look bricht and braw. Mr. Wingate promises to gie you the maist exhileratin' and sensational ride o' the 20th century on his marvellous Japanese airship. I had the preevilege o' crackin' wi' this gentleman for two or three meenits, and withoot a word o' a doot he's rael entertainin'.

"He telt me he had been in the show bisness for five-and-thirty years. He wisna brocht up tae this bisness, for his father was a fairmer, but he took a fancy for't, and made up his min' that naething would stop him. Sae he stertit wi' a single donkey, and he has gane on prosperin', wi' the result that he has noo three or four big establishments on the road and a museum at Skegness, Lincolnshire. The estaiblishment noo in the market is gran'ly got up. It's pented roon' and roon' with spaicems o' coats-o'-arms, and comic views o' motor car escapades. Green's motor-cars are gey arteestic, and Howard provides big swing-boats, wi' nets roon aboot them, so that bairns may gang into them wi' perfec' safety. Wilmot, tae, has a gran' lot o' motor-cars. He has also brocht wi' him a wunnerfu' novelty in the shape o' an instrument which he ca's the 'Gaviolophone.' It's naethin' short o' a gran' organ, and it discoorses the very finest o' maisic by the introduckshun o' sections o' perforated cairdboard. The sheet for the overture to 'Maritana,' I wis telt, measures nae less than 115 feet. Chipperfields Menagerie is weel worth a veesit. The man in chairge is Mr. Manders, and he telt me that they had dune awfu' weel for ten days in the Glesca' Carnival, where they were engaged by Mr. Green. Here you may see the untameable lion Norma, and a heap ither lions that perform at the instigashun o' Prince Rotana. In addeetion, Capt. Bizarre enters the dens o' hyenas and wolves, and a young lady gi'es a wunnerfu' show wi' snakes and reptiles. If you want tae see some nice ceenimatograph pictur's you shood gang in an' hae a look at M'Indoe's show. 'Dick Turpin's Ride to York' and 'The American Train Breakers' jist keep you on the tip-tae o' excitement. Wilson's ceenimatograph, doon in the left haun corner, has also some gey guid pictur's. Carter's Electric Empire gi'es a first-class entertainment in the same kin' o' line. The very latest in leevin' pictur's may be seen in Green's. The subjects are baith serious and comic, and in the animated views the man wha gie's the lectur's speaks tae suit the different characters that appear, and you wad jist think that they were a wheen o' actors in a theatre. This is the first season, they tell me, that sich a novelty has been placed afore the public. Clark's Pepper's Ghost illusion has come again, and a ceenimatograph show has been added. Buff Bill's Menagerie is ootside o' the market proper. It stauns on a bit o' the vacant grun' near the Safety Rifle Range. In this show there are two lady lion tamers, and they display great courage and darin'. The untameable lioness Vixen is here put through her facings by Captain Williams, a gentleman of colour. The lioness was in furious form on Wednesday nicht, and it was three-quarters of an oor before her dusky trainer could find his wey into her cage. There's a fine pack o' eddicated wolves in this show, and Capt. Williams mak's them dae some gey an' clever feats. Here also you may see the lion that got oot o' its cage at the fair in the auld Cattle Market aboot a dizzen years since, and made the folk rin helter-skelter to places o' refuge. It's a guid fair, and I hope you'll a' gang and see't."

A SHOWMAN'S CHILD.

For many years past at Great Glasgow Fair Mr. Joseph Wright, a philanthropist and lay missioner of that city, has gathered the children of the fair-ground together and given them a special service, and what is called "a treat," in the shape of a tea-party to show children. This year the festival was held as usual, and the kind-hearted "foster father" of child life at the fair. Mr. Joseph Wright gave one of his agreeable addresses.

Mr. Wright is a man of wide sympathies and many activities. We take the following extracts from a delightful book of "Sketches of Scottish Life and Manners" he has written. It tells us how it was that he began to take an interest in children of the fair-ground:—

"There seems to be in most people a hankering after nomadic life. We are all, in spite of ourselves, tinged more or less with the Bohemian spirit. When the bright spring sunshine peeps in at our windows in the city we get into the mood of Charles Lamb when he wished to be on board the old Margate hoy. Bygone days in the country or at the seaside are brought to mind, and we long to get away from the man-made town to the God-made country. I cannot remember the time when I was not haunted with such desires; and somehow I have always had a sympathetic feeling for the wandering tribes—the men of open-air lives, gipsies, strolling players, acrobats, showmen; and even Messrs. Codlin and Short, with their friends Toby and Punch and Judy, have ever had a warm place in my affections. I am not aware that any of my forbears lived in this fashion; but I suspect the spirit of nomadic ancestors must have come down to me, as I never feel so much at home as when under canvas on the green-sward, as it is my good fortune to be at present on the Ayrshire seaboard.

"Another explanation may be that in my early youth I came much in contact with all sorts and conditions of men. My father's shop being the village 'howff,' I was always mixing among a composite society that included many wanderers, and spent my youth in that atmosphere. The attachment thus formed has never left me, so much so that whenever I see a string of caravans passing through the city streets I feel a desire to know whence they have come and whither they are bound."

Speaking of a visit to a caravan in a corner of the village green, he goes on to say:—

"It turned out that I knew the old acrobat under whom one of them had been trained, and also the family with which the other had formerly travelled until the death of his master one day on the showground at Glasgow Fair. This happened in a fit of excitement. A brother showman, whose place of entertainment stood next to his, was making more noise with his organ and cymbals, to attract the people to his entertainment, than the old man thought he had a right to do; and when speaking excitedly to his neighbour he fell down and expired on the stage in sight of hundreds of people. His last words were: 'It's all right, Joe; I have known you since you were a little kid, but this is too bad of you.' We had a long talk that day about the travelling families we had known. On leaving I promised to come over soon with some pictures for the little ones. The acrobat was greatly pleased, for what man is there but likes to see 'his bairns respected like the lave'? On going across the following afternoon I received a cordial welcome from the mother and the two little girls, who were seated on the grass at the foot of the little ladder leading up to the place which was to them the sweetest spot on earth. Rising at my approach, the acrobat's wife said cheerily, 'Good morning, sir; we've been keeping a look-out for you. I've had little peace from these gals since their dad told 'em that you were a-coming over to the waggon. Will you come up, sir? Mind the steps, sir—they aint easy to climb; I'm used to it; but Lor' bless you, we never knew anything else!' Having got seated, I opened out the parcel of illustrated magazines and picture-books and gave them to the children. While they were engaged with the pictures the mother showed me every nook and corner of the caravan, even to a large chest containing all the paraphernalia that the acrobat used in his outdoor performances. The waggon, like the showman's wife herself, was very tidy—it was kitchen, bedroom, dining-room, and parlour, all rolled into one; yet what a contrast to the dismal single-apartment dwellings in our great cities! The sea air, laden with ozone and scented with the hawthorn blossom, was blowing about us; and we looked out on the bright sunshine above and the blue ethereal sky, against which, like specks in the distance, the larks were carolling in ecstasy. It made one feel the loss sustained by the thousands of rustic poor who have been driven from the sights and sounds of the country to live—nay, rather to die—in the fetid atmosphere of the wynds and alleys of our great towns. Happy the children who spend their youthful days in the country! 'We're Yorkshire folk, sir,' said my hostess. 'My husband, at least, is Yorky, or "Yorkshire bite," as they call 'em there; but I belong down Kent way myself. This is all our family, sir, and this little chit is not our child. She's "nobody's child," as the song goes.'

"The little waif, who, before reaching this haven had been tossed about from pillar to post, was gentle, most innocent looking, and affectionate, reminding one of little Eva in *Uncle Tom's Cabin.* The other girl was a tough, wiry, forward child. Before taking my departure I asked the mother to let the little girls come up to the glen to have tea with my own children on the following Sunday. When the clock pointed to the hour of three, I looked out of the attic window and saw my two little friends tripping down the steps of their movable home, and then hurrying across the lea. They were dressed in their Sunday attire, and the mother stood at the door of the caravan watching them with a smiling face. They spent a happy afternoon, and in the evening we had to say 'goodbye,' as on the morrow at daybreak their moving home would be again on its way to some other place, and we would in all likelihood never see them again. I often wonder what has been the lot of the little castaway of whom we had that passing glimpse, and whose image we can still so vividly recall."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. L., Rhyl.—*We shall be glad to hear from you as to the result of the local matter you wrote us about.*

Agent B.—*As regards by-laws, refer to synopsis in the* "Showmen's Year Book," *published at this office.*

Cameo.—*Kindly forward us your permanent address that we may write you concerning the Children's Education Bill.*

Symonds Great World's Fair was at Frome Flower Show and Fête on Bank Holiday.

Jennings' steam roundabouts attended the Liberal Fête, Bath, on Tuesday, Aug. 7, which was patronised by thousands of holiday folk and many political notabilities.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—After the summer vacation this house reopened on Monday with Mr. Edmund Tearle's company in *Jeanie Deans*. Miss Kate Clinton appeared in the title-rôle, and gave a very touching portrayal of Scott's heroine; the Effie Deans of the cast was Miss Mary Campbell, who played with much tenderness and feeling. Mr. Tearle was seen as counsel for the defence, in which part he delivered his address with telling effect; David Deans was a striking characteristic figure as represented by Mr. J. Cook Hinton, and the broad humour of Mr. J. T. Macmillan's Dumbiedykes was thoroughly appreciated. Madge Wildfire and Margery Murdockson were depicted with weird realism by Miss Esther Tearle and Miss Clare Armitage; Miss Ethel Storey pictured the airs and graces of Queen Caroline admirably; Mr. Ernest Lodge gave dignity to the part of the Duke of Argyll; as Reuben Butler, Mr. Sidney Bland acted with good taste; the Geordie Robertson of Mr. Bernhardt Turner was a spirited conception; and other well-filled parts were the Sharpittaw of Mr. J. A. Keogh and the Ratcliffe of Mr. A. W. Wynne. Friday evening was set apart for the benefit of Miss Kate Clinton, when *The Three Musketeers* was performed.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. William M. Downie.—*A Trip to the Highlands*, now in its second week, continues to draw excellent houses here. Mr. Frank Barclay is a clever representative of the Hon. Frederick Lackington; his acting and singing are attractive features of the performance.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. McFarlane.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company, in *Beauty and the Barge*, had an enthusiastic reception here on Monday from a well-filled house. Mr. Blake Adams as Captain James Barley gave a very humorous interpretation of the love-sick skipper, and was warmly applauded at the end of each act. Miss May Fairclough, as Ethel Smedley, was thoroughly suited to the part, and acted in a charming manner; Miss Mary Pemberton was equally successful as Lucy Dallas; Mr. Edward Coventry as Lieutenant Seton Boyne, R.A., played with much spirit, and greatly helped the success of the performance. The remaining characters were in good hands; Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Herbert Manners; Mr. Fred Knight as Tom Codd; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as Augustus; Mr. Ewart Drake as George Porter; and the Mrs. Porter of Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite being worthy of special mention.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—This popular theatre reopened on Saturday after the summer vacation, the attraction being a new drama by Edward Marris, entitled *As Midnight Chimes*. The company is under the direction of Mr. Leonard Dalrymple, the comedy part of Tat Spavin being well played by Mr. Witty Wattie Walton, who had a hearty welcome on his first entrance. The humour he infused into his reading was very enjoyable. With Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette, the French maid, the fun was never allowed to flag. Mr. John Raymond made a handsome and earnest Dave Stannard; and Mary was played with fine effect by Miss Lallie Forsyth. Mr. Eric Hudson acted with much force as Luke Dezzard, and had a strong scene in the Church vaults. Mr. Herbert Belmore made a striking figure of the old sailor Ezra Gamble. Miss Dorothy Lupone did well as Little Davy; and the part of the Hindu girl Zamora was ably undertaken by Miss May Harte. Mr. Percy Maitland made an excellent appearance as Nat Wilson. Mr. Reginald Egmont helped the humorous scenes as Dodgy Ike; Mr. H. Simpson as Limpy Mudge; Mr. Stanley Hirst as a drayman; Mr. Robert Hope as P.C. Tibbot; Mr. John Swire as the Chief Constable; Mr. Lionel Stocken as a warder; and Mr. Arthur J. Sanders as Detective Pollard completed a really able cast. The play was mounted and dressed with much care.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—This theatre reopened for the autumn season on Monday with Miss Grace Warner and company in *The Scarlet Clue*. During the vacation the theatre has been entirely redecorated in handsome style, giving it a bright and attractive appearance; and, in addition, the pit patrons have been specially well looked after. This portion of the house has been entirely reseated with newly-cushioned seats, and the rake of the floor has been increased so that those occupying the back seats have now a greatly improved view of the stage. Miss Grace Warner had a hearty welcome on Monday, and her performance as Sal Scarlet was followed with keen interest by the large audience. The part is one that calls for a variety in its many phases, but Miss Warner was easily able to meet its utmost requirements. Mr. George Gordon was well placed as Michael Stanton, acting with decisive force. Mr. L. Brien as Stanton's humble partner in crime, ably assisted. Mr. R. Brown cleverly played the twin brothers, Jack and Harry Esmond. Miss Hilda Herne acted sympathetically as Elsie Dane. Three well-played types of low life were the Mother Scrooge of Miss Kathleen Cranston, the Cocky Evans of Mr. Edgar Bruce, and the Billy of Mr. J. L. Leigh, the latter also giving several smart songs and dances. Little Violet Palfrey was excellent as the flower girl Polly; and a smart young Eton boy was well acted by Miss Phyllis Massey. Miss Maud Stamer as Miss Esmond, Miss Esther Dean as a lively French servant, and Mr. Jack Clarence as Sir Desmond Lisle completed a good cast. The play was specially well staged.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is appearing here in *A Queen of Villainy*, Miss Edith Blande powerfully sustaining the title-part. Mr. Edward Heanly as Stephen Faucit enacts the villain so well that he receives an extra "boo" of execration; Mr. P. Howard Sturgess as Timothy Kodac supplies some excellent comedy, ably supported by Miss Jessie Crammonde as Molly Maggs. Mr. Alfred E. Calver as Alec is a manly hero; and Miss Cecilia Desmond as Rose Delmayne is a pleasing heroine. Mr. Owen Harris as an escaped convict portrays the character strongly; Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Reuben Hawk acts well; and Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Mrs. Hawk is equally realistic. Mr. Gordon Carnegie as Sir John Desborough, Mr. Lawrence Stephenson as Kit, and Mr. Walter Spearman as Matthew Dawes do ample justice to their parts.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—The company here this week is of exceptional merit, the chief attraction being the engagement of Fred Karno's company in *Moses and Sons*. From beginning to end, the piece is followed with intense interest, and great credit is due to Mr. Fred Kitchen, in the character of Perkins, for the manner in which he keeps the fun going. The Three Olympiers provide an artistic entertainment, entitled *Beauty in Bronze*, which was well received; and the efforts of Miss Nellie Coleman meet with deserved recognition. The other members of the company are Die Obersteirers, Tyrolean troupe of singers; the Seddons, expert jugglers; and the American Bioscope with new films.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, E. H. Bostock.—Fun runs riot while Bob Hutt and company are on the stage here in their *Welcome Home* sketch—one of the best seen for some time. The company is a talented one, and the piece goes with a rare swing. Andy Fagan sings and dances so well that he has several recalls, a compliment also paid to Jack Lane, rustic comedian and mimic, who is very popular. Marie Reeves sings most pleasingly, and justifies her place on the programme; the Clarkes, finished banjo players, have to add extra items nightly; and Selbo is a masterly club juggler. Brown and Robinson charm in a series of popular songs, scored for tenor and baritone as duets, and the latter is a fine organist. The Remingtons, evening-dress acrobats, give a brilliant display; the Imperial Russian troupe supply an entertainment of surpassing excellence; and the bioscope is as fine as ever.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas provide the star turn this week, and again give their amusing duologue *Her Birthday*. Daisy Mayer as a representative Yankee girl dances and sings with genuine American vigour; Maggie Rimmer is a sweet singer and smart dancer; Mme. Collard, with her highly-trained dogs, gives a wonderfully clever performance; Charlie Craston is a very amusing comedian; the Bros. Bright perform their gymnastic feats gracefully; Frank Cass sings "Vanity Fair" and other songs in a telling manner; Voldam Bros. do their acrobatic feats in comically-leisurely fashion; and the Hugo troupe of gymnasts give a performance full of statuesque elegance; the Brontes do good work in comedy duologue; and a capable orchestra accompanies the entertainment.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—An exceptionally strong company is here this week. Neil Kenyon keeps his audience in a constant state of laughter, and from start to finish his performance is most successful. *My Gollywog* is a pretty scena presented by Will Bishop and company, in which he introduces a most amusing eccentric dance; the Allisons are a funny couple, and keep the audience in good humour; De Gracia's elephants go through some marvellous tricks; the turn is not without humour, the huge animals' cricket playing being heartily enjoyed. The William Lee and Helen Bentley company in a lively sketch, entitled *The Member for Muddlesex*, supply one of the most amusing items of the programme. Other good turns are presented by the Esdale Bros, comedians; Shirley and Ransom, in a coster-sketch, entitled *'Arf a Quid*; the Norman-Leonard Trio, in a pleasing musical scena; and R. T. Meikle, Scotch baritone vocalist.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A good company is appearing here this week. Chas. Coborn, comedian, was well received on the opening night. There is no lessening of his popularity. Another meritorious turn is that provided by Chas. Majilton and company in the comical musical episode *The Scotchman in Paris*. All the parts are in good hands, and the sketch is full of humour. Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator, has made a marked impression; and Gustave Farola, the Indian fakir, gives a performance that delights the audience. Other members of the company are Ted Cowan, comedian; Wallau, an expert juggler; Tony Iveson, pianist and vocalist; Du Gros Trio, gymnasts; and Emil Amiel, contortionist. The bioscope shows a splendid series of pictures.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Still another hall reopened on Monday, and with a very good programme. Madge Grey is a dainty comedienne, whose dialect songs and imitations of children are much enjoyed; Horace Wheatley is a great favourite in song, dance, or patter; Curtis and Vanity are a clever couple, the lady's dancing and acrobatic feats being really marvellous; the Transfields do a smart musical turn; Peggy Lotus is a juvenile vocalist of promise; Jack Rae supplies a clever and amusing comedy acrobatic turn; Cassie de Frece sings some Scotch songs effectively; a very smart comedy act is done by Indiarubber Reco, entitled *How to Become an Acrobat*; and the bioscope has a fine selection of new films.

THE LATE FRANK WEEKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With a certain amount of pride, mingled with the deepest regret, I noticed in your excellent article on the above gentleman's death, that you had referred to his production of my "Miniature Operas." Believe me, none deplores this sad loss more than I do. It was on February 9, 1903, that we produced *Maritana*, and after the second performance I met Mr. Weeks and began by trying to explain how sorry I was that in the first house the gallery boys were so noisy. He put his hands on my shoulders, looked me straight in the eyes, and said: "They've got to have it. We want it for our stalls, and the Kaffirs (meaning the gallery boys) will have to have it. You will most likely stay here a month, anyway; what will you play next week?" I replied "the *Bohemian Girl*, and thank you very much." He little knew what those words meant to me, for one of my dreams was going to be realised. I had tried for years to get the ear of a manager, but failed. Before the end of the week, when our number went up, you would hear the boys, in half-whispers, say, "Opera! Opera! Shut up! Turn him out!" Up would go "the governor," and after the show he would relate with beaming face how he had turned a whole row of "Kaffirs" out because they did not keep the noisy one quiet. To show the perceptive judgment of this manager, I don't think there is a hall in the United Kingdom to-day without its operatic selection of some kind or other. Previously to our "bold attempt" it was quite a rarity.—Yours faithfully, CHAS. FISHER.
Empire, Birmingham.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Bountiful entertainment for the Bank Holiday was provided at the Crystal Palace, which this year enjoyed its customary generous patronage, crowds of enthusiastic amusement-seekers overwhelming the palatial interior and thronging every part of the spacious grounds, which are now to be seen at their very best. The café-chantants on the North Tower Gardens terrace, directed by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, were liberally patronised, contributions to the programme being made by the Stavordale Quintet, George Angus Roe, Lucy Coventry, and Captain Carl Howlett's marionettes. Mr. Charles Bertram's conjuring entertainments in the theatre drew appreciative audiences, whom he succeeded completely in mystifying. Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock's organ recital was greatly admired, and music was also discoursed by the bands of H.M.'s Coldstream Guards, the 2nd Seaforth Highlanders, the Crystal Palace Military, the 4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment, the Upper Norwood Prize, and the Crystal Palace Quadrille. A balloon ascent was made by Mr. Spencer during the day, and in the evening a magnificent firework display was given by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co.

THE "FRED LOCKE" FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow. The fund is increasing slowly, and the treasurer would be pleased to hear from any professional friends who have collection sheets in hand for above:—

John E. Coyle, Lodge Star, No. 219, Glasgow	£1	1	0
Fred Kitchen (Lodge Dramatic, No. 1609, Liverpool)	0	10	6
D. M'Millan	0	2	0

PAUL CINQUEVALLI
ON TOUR.

A FEW OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

ACCORDED A DEMONSTRATION.

Rarely does it fall to the experience of any artist to have such a demonstration as that accorded Cinquevalli on his initial visit to the Three Towns. Many an M.P. would have been delighted with the reception; but then M.P.'s are, after all, only ordinary mortals, and Cinquevalli is not. —*Bristol Independent*, March, 1906.

HIS WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE.

It is a considerable time since there was such enthusiasm shown at the Palace, as was the case last night. Cinquevalli was the particular artist that aroused the audiences to such a high pitch of enthusiasm. They clapped and cheered his wonderful performance.—*Sunderland Daily Post*, April, 1906.

A TRULY REMARKABLE PERFORMANCE.

Starring the bill is Paul Cinquevalli, the world-renowned juggler. His performance last night was truly remarkable, and he carried the audience the whole time he was on the boards. Jugglery he has developed into a fine art.—*Plymouth Morning News*, March, 1906.

HE IS INCOMPARABLE.

The principal star is Cinquevalli, the renowned juggler and balancer. Cinquevalli is incomparable in his profession. His performance is a wonderful one.—*Bury Times*, March, 1906.

HIS UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT.

P. Cinquevalli, whose wonderful powers as a juggler have won him fame in every quarter of the globe, is this week delighting the frequenters of the Hippodrome with his unique entertainment. All nations in recent years have paid him homage, and no one who has had the good-fortune to witness his feats can marvel at the circumstance. They are as varied as they are amazing.—*Carlisle News*, April, 1906.

BRILLIANT AND PERFECT.

Hippodrome.—There is only one Cinquevalli, and he is as brilliant and as perfect and as graceful as ever.—*The Era*, June, 1906.

HAS MANY IMITATORS.

There is but one Paul Cinquevalli, although he has many imitators, both male and female, and his appearance at the Empire makes the show worth seeing, if there were nothing else in the programme.—*Birmingham Owl*, June, 1906.

A SHOW IN HIMSELF.

Cinquevalli is the principal attraction at the Empire this week, and the great juggler is admittedly a show in himself. Paul has no superior to-day, and it is safe to say he is likely to possess his title of champion of all jugglers until such a time as he retires from the boards. — *Bradford Catholic Herald*, June, 1906.

A PRINCE AMONGST PERFORMERS.

Cinquevalli is a prince amongst performers. His work is so clever and so artistically done that it is not surprising that his popularity shows no signs of decay.—*Sheffield Telegraph*, July, 1906.

HIS EXTRAORDINARY SKILL.

The crowded audience watched Cinquevalli with admiration for his extraordinary skill, his ease, and his natural artistic grace.—*Hull Daily Mail*, July, 1906.

INIMITABLE.

Cinquevalli heads a grand bill at the Empire. He presents an inimitable programme. Like most real artists, he dispenses with the usual paraphernalia of the "black art," if magic can be said to enter into his performance.—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, July, 1906.

HEADING THE BILL.

Heading the bill was Cinquevalli, who, as a juggler, stands out by himself.—*Scotsman*, July, 1906.

THE MARVELLOUS CINQUEVALLI.

Paul Cinquevalli fully sustained his reputation in a number of feats, several of which bordered on the marvellous. He demonstrated afresh that as a juggler he has no peer.—*Glasgow Herald*, July, 1906.

CHAT WITH MISS ADA COLLEY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

There is scarcely a corner of the world where the name and the identity of the "Australian nightingale" are not known. Miss Ada Colley can claim to have had a really remarkable career for a young artist. The wonderful range and quality of her voice are products of Australia's clear atmosphere and of musical inheritance. Her mother, who accompanies her wherever she goes, was her sole tutor. When only ten years of age, Miss Colley developed a rich contralto singing voice, which her mother carefully fostered.

Miss Colley started her professional career at the age of thirteen by playing Marguerite in *Faust*, immediately afterwards appearing in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Some six or seven years ago she came to England, and immediately scored a vocal triumph. Everyone who recalls her first appearance will recollect the slender, graceful girl, with the winning face, and the cluster of sunset hair, and how, without effort or affectation, she sang, holding her audience in a thrill of expectation, until the most difficult measures of her songs were reached, thus proving to them that her heralded powers were no vain boast. On that occasion, as on many occasions since, the words flowed from her vocal organs in bell-like tones, delightfully sweet, and even in the highest registers without effort or exertion.

Miss Colley is as charming and engaging in private life as she is on the stage. As a conversationalist she is extremely interesting, and her opinions on stage matters are worth listening to. For instance, she has a complaint to make in regard to the treatment of young and unknown vocalists.

"It seems to me," she remarks, "that the younger generation of singers are kept down, and they do not get a chance unless they are prepared to wait until they are forty. I have found plenty of really clever people in the chorus. It is not want of appreciation on the part of the public that keeps them there, nor is it want of appreciation of those who give concerts and operas. They have known Miss Smith or Miss Brown since she was a little child, and she accordingly is pushed forward, while Miss Jones, who is far superior, but not so well known, does not get a chance. In the opera companies I have played in myself I have seen a little girl in the chorus who was infinitely better than my second lady. And I maintain that to be a good operatic singer you do not require to be a first-rate actress; in fact, it is rarely that one comes across a 'star' actress who is also a 'star' vocalist."

"Perhaps they do these things better on the Continent, Miss Colley?"

"Yes; and that brings me to a subject about which I have a little to say. Why should it be necessary to import so many foreign singers and artists to England? Now, the English people have got good voices. Why should they be put aside for people with a long name and 'ski' at the end of it? Folks go to the opera and hear Italian, and because it is Italian it must be fine, whether it is understood or not. And now let me make a suggestion. I think that the most insignificant vocalist taking a small part in an opera should be allowed the opportunity of studying the principal part. If such a principle were acted upon, you would discover plenty of good English singers, and there would, perhaps, be less justification for going to the Continent for talent."

"My next move do you ask?" resumes the interviewee, in reply to a question. "Well, I am thinking of getting up an operetta and producing it myself. I have my own ideas as to the way it should be done, and as to the story I wish to convey. Of course, I am aware that it is very difficult to condense story and opera into half an hour."

"Perhaps you will not find it always possible to present your operetta in the music halls?"

"Such a possibility has not escaped my calculations, and if I cannot get what I want in the halls and other places I shall go into the theatres."

"Won't you give me some indication of what it will be like?"

"I don't wish to say too much at present, but I can assure you that the operetta I contemplate producing will be chic, and bright and pretty, and artistic and funny. There! What more could you want?"

Miss Colley, who commenced her professional career as a prima donna, has had a remarkably busy life, the principal events of which are known to our readers and the public. She tells us that her favourite opera is *Lucia di Lammermoor*, as in that piece she is afforded fine scope for her acting and her good, vigorous voice.

Unquestionably Miss Colley's appearance on the variety stage tends to elevate the artistic standard of "the halls."

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

What reminiscences of bygone times are recalled of the historic hill upon the summit of which the Alexandra Palace stands. George Colman the elder, when a lad of fourteen, visited his uncle, William Pulteney, Earl of Bath, who owned the property, and there had met the Earl's friends, the famous David Garrick and Richardson, the novelist, who connected his heroine, Clarissa Harlowe, with Muswell Hill. Dr. Johnson in 1775 travelled there to view the sixteen acres of grounds his friend Topham Beauclerk had laid out in "The Grove," now part of the Palace property. On Monday last there were amusements enough and to spare. Three variety shows were given in the Central Hall. Amongst the artists may be mentioned Devere and Walker, excellent pantomimists and comedians; performances on the triple bar by Desmonti and Mora received marked attention; exceedingly clever manipulations were given by Cinizelli, the silent jester; the vocalisation by Miss Kate Rooney was meritorious and pleasing; Zarinella, an equilibrist and contortionist, excited wonderment; a troupe of dancers, the Merry Maids, in national costumes, deserved the applause they received; and the two flying gymnasts, the Argentine Wonders, met with a flattering reception. A parachute descent and balloon ascent were successfully accomplished by a protégée of M. August Gaudron, the Alexandra Palace aeronaut.

In the theatre Fred Karno's company is appearing this week in the popular musical comedy, *Saturday to Monday*. Miss Amy Rogerson was a piquant representative of the bride Clorinda; Miss Daisy Stone deserves favourable recognition as Violet Blake; Miss Ada Maskell distinguished herself as Aunt Skinner; Mr. W. J. Bradbury was well adapted to the rôle of Clorinda's father; Mr. Dick Harcourt as Major Potts gave a capital rendition of the part; Mr. Sidney Marle played the lover, Tom Freeman, with excellent judgment; Mr. James Fletch may also be commended as Spinks; Mr. H. Crawford played and sang well as John Willie Jaggs, jun.; and as John Willie Jaggs, Mr. Rolando Martin was the life and soul of the piece. The other numerous characters were in well-chosen hands. The Geisha Boys deserve praise for their venture in the grounds. A very fine firework display, with entertainments on the lake enclosure, including the attractive fire-piece, "Mount Vesuvius"—one of Pain's best efforts—concluded a very enjoyable day's amusement.

THE Two Sparks, instrumentalists, who were such a pronounced success with Mr. Stanley Rogers's pantomime company last season, have been re-engaged for the forthcoming Christmas production.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 16.*)

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Geo. and Robt. A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Chung Ling heads the bill here, and thoroughly mystifies his audience by his clever tricks; Gallando, lightning sculptor, takes well; Helen Charles is very good, her entertainment being a distinct success; the Dean Brothers are wonderful dancers, and earn ample applause; and other good turns are supplied by the Toreadors, Gus Hindell, Lillian Trevelli, Hector and Sultan, Sam Dalton, and the Jagos.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Hippodrome reopened on Monday after a thorough cleansing and redecorating, and now presents an elegant appearance. A good bill is presented, and on Monday a packed house greeted *Electra's Bower*, which is a really beautiful spectacle. The Jackley Trio contribute a smart and clever turn; Sam Redfern is most successful in his items; Geo. Helm and Emmie Cozens in their sketch, *The Doctor and the Patient*, are much appreciated; Tom Dunmore is a comedian of merit; Vincent is a tumbler of excellence; the Sisters Edwardes are smart vocalists, dancers, and drummers; Violet Morgan is a clever mimic; and the Bioscope shows some good pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—For the opening night of the season we were favoured with a production of the drama, *£1000 Reward*. The company is under the direction of Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling. Mr. Charles Halling has won high praise for his portrayal of Vincent Ravensworth; Mr. Frank Pitt as Fred Ingleford has to sustain a heavy rôle, but his acting adds in no small measure to the success of the drama; Mr. John Murray as Inspector Gilbert proves a most entertaining artiste; while Mr. Edward de Vere as Fighting Jeffs contributes plenty of fun. Miss Lynn Darlington, in addition to a creditable embodiment as Meg, receives a well deserved encore for her song, "Eileen Alannah. Miss Cissie Francis as Kitty Springthorpe and Miss Daisy Halling as Mme. Sanson are winsome actresses, and add much to the enjoyment of the performance.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—After five weeks' vacation this popular playhouse was reopened on Monday, and long before the raising of the curtain was densely crowded with a typical Bank Holiday audience. The opening attraction is that powerful play, *Under Two Flags*, ably presented by Mr. Mark Blow and Miss Ida Molesworth's company. The chief interest is centred in Mr. Mark Blow, who submits a powerful and effective portrayal of the part of Bertie Cecil Royellieu, and Miss Mary Thorne, who stands out prominently with her delightful and clever performance as Cigarette. Mr. L. West deserves special praise for his representation of Barkie Cecil, and Mr. Wellesley Draper should be commended on his work as Lord Rockingham. Mr. George Elliston is capitally suited to the part of Rake, and Mr. Arthur Elwyn is excellent as Colonel Chantrey. Miss M. Ormonde is charming and graceful as Princess Corona.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgwood Barrie.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. Harold Regner's company in *The Prince of Rogues*. Mr. Henry B. Lewis is excellent in the part of Gilbert Henry, the detective; the villainy of Geoffrey Flint is well portrayed by Mr. Cland Haviland; Mr. John Darville wins favour as Frank Farrel; Mr. Gordon Phillott does well as Dick Harwood; and Mr. Ed. Laudor is very amusing as Josh Buggins. Miss Gertrude Littlewood does justice to the part of Rita Congreve, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert wins admiration as Winnie Harwood.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—Mr. Walter Curtis's Merriment Company is providing good entertainment here; Miss Lilian Payne is a vocalist and pianist of talent, and meets with great applause; Miss Joan Deering has a sweet soprano voice, and renders violin selections in highly-finished style; Mr. Walter Curtis is as popular as ever in his humorous and character sketches, and is a great favourite; Miss Barbara Babington sings in a manner worthy of commendation; and Mr. Fenton Cross is applauded for his paper manipulation and lightning landscape drawings.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The Band and Pipers of the 1st Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders head the bill here this week, and please with their various well-rendered selections; they also give some excellent exhibitions of Highland dancing. Stanleys' Giant Fairy Fountain remains; Zanfretti and Napio, the "Knifegrinders of Paris," are amusing in a clever musical entertainment; Bert Woodward is a trick cyclist of considerable ability; Chas. King, entertainer, causes much mirth; the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, is as popular as ever; and the Casino Orchestra is under the expert bâton of Mr. Henry Sprake.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here in *A Sailor's Sweetheart*. Mr. Ernest G. Batley gives a fine, manly rendering of Lieutenant Clive; Mr. Arthur Rodney is capable as Philip Pemberton; Mr. Charles Stafford does justice to the rôle of Admiral Sefton; Mr. Arthur Escourt proves effective as Captain Mayland; Mr. George Vincent ably sustains the character of the Rev. Robert Clive; Mr. Arthur Wellesley is well placed as Tim Kelly; and Mr. Willie Osborne is satisfactory as Pinkson; Miss Mabel Mannering submits a pleasing portrayal of Grace Mayland; and Miss Ida Ernest merits favour as Phœbe Penbury.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Dr. Carl Hermann, electrical and scientific hypnotist, effected some wonderful cures last week, and remains for this week, with equal success. Miss Fanny Robina, comedienne, is very popular; Bond and Soo present a clever illusion; Mr. Geo. Gulliver is a talented ventriloquist; Miss Florry Cooper, vocalist, sings in good style; Demi and Semi, instrumentalists, and Billy Bint, comedian, present acceptable turns.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Here this week are the Griffiths Bros., humorists, in *The Motor Car* and *The Duel*; Goltz Trio, equilibrists on globes; Billy Tucker, ball puncher; the Lenton Family, foot equilibrists; Alice Williams and Monkhouse, in a duologue, *Misery Jim*; Tatten Hall, in his funny songs; and Pat Rafferty, who is exceedingly popular.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—*A Soldier of France* is being played here by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company. Miss Leila Zillwood is clever and versatile as Pauline and the Duchesse; and Mr. Arthur Hinton excels himself as Father Jean. Also included in the company are Mr. Travis Green, Mr. Frank Brunnell, Mr. Gerald Bryne, Mr. Lingham, Mr. William Beck, Mr. Henry Millow, Mr. C. P. Blake, Mr. A. Dumont, Miss Oliver, Miss Lydia Audre, Miss Phœbe Watson, and Miss Florrie Zillwood.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here again in *Lucky Durham*. A crowded house welcomed the play on Monday evening, and the members certainly maintain the high standard of excellence which characterised their efforts when last seen here. Mr. Edmund Kennedy again acts the title-rôle with clever restraint.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmott.—A refined entertainment is provided here this week by Stewart and Morgan, whose delightful rendering of Irish ballads form a rare attraction; Charles Serra is seen to advantage in a unique gymnastic act; and Rose Waller is a dainty comedienne. G. W. Foster is an accomplished comedian; and the Society Quartette score in a special turn. The Two St. Johns are expert instrumentalists; and the Royal Bioscope pictures are a choice collection.

WEST BROMWICH. — MOORE'S HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. P. Moore.—On Monday afternoon Mr. J. P. Moore opened this place of amusement under its new name. The twice nightly system has been adopted. The bill was topped by Messrs. Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company in *The Daybreakers*, which was received with great applause, and caused great merriment; a smart turn was given by Mr. Chas. Banks and his dog "Woof"; the Calcotts

gave an effective musical act; Mr. Frederick Neiman was responsible for roars of laughter with his dolls; a very droll comedian was seen in Wisper; Mr. Harry Rochez's Circus proved to be a great success, and well deserved the applause given him and his cleverly-trained animals; the Marners and a show of pictures completed the bill.

New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—The commodious and up-to-date hippodrome, which has been erected at Carters Green, West Bromwich, was opened on Monday last to crowded houses. The new building, which is centrally situated, is comfortable, roomy, and admirably fitted. The management have arranged a highly-attractive programme for this the first week, the artists including the Sisters Desmond, who gave a smart turn; some clever songs and a dance were contributed by Miss Patty Yole; as a comedian, Mr. Fred Dunston is hard to beat; a good turn was submitted by Menotti; Osso Souplessi gave an expert performance as the boneless wonder; Mlle. Lumiere was well received in her transformation dance; Claud Ginnett's "Rejected Remounts" was a great attraction. Mr. Walter Emerson also contributed, and a fine selection of animated pictures by Mr. W. Rowe's Hippograph was shown.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The holiday attraction here is Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company in the domestic play, *The Black Bishop*. Miss Jeannie Marquise shows undoubted talent as the twin sisters Kate Marleigh and Marian Strathcoat. The part of the Black Bishop is admirably sustained by Mr. Norman Clarke; as Simeon Strathcoat Mr. Alf. Collingham leaves little to be desired; Mr. Arthur Danville as Captain Keilerirt and Mr. Harry Sebastian as Brank Bruttlebut do excellent work in their respective portrayals. Miss Grace Garside makes a charming Hannah Bruttlebut. The rôle of Ruth Oldbury is in the worthy hands of Miss Norah Curonne, and as little Ruth Miss Dolly Collingham proves highly interesting.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred. Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—This theatre re-opened on Monday after the summer vacation with *A Beautiful Criminal*, presented by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred. C. Somerfield and a well-balanced company. Mr. Somerfield is distinctly prominent in the rôle of Will Maynard, and that of Elinor D'Arville has a realistic representative in Miss Dagmar. Others in the cast who are responsible for the success of the piece are Mr. G. T. Vane, Mr. Wallace Davidson, Miss Mollie Monaghan, Mr. Roy Fortescue, and Mr. Chas. E. Warne.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The holiday attractions here are Florrie Forde, whose songs catch on immensely; Leo Melville is an established favourite about here; the neatness with which Karado's juggling feats are performed is notable; Wat Tyler's scena is effective. Some smart dancing is done by the Great Northern Troupe, and other turns that considerably strengthen the bill are Sam Veld, character musician; Woodward and Walton, a refined dancing duo; and some interesting pictures on Raymond's Bioscope.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Victoria Hall.—Manager, Mr. E. W. Sulley.—Miss May Palfrey's company opened here on Monday in Arthur Laws delightful comedy, *Three Blind Mice*. It would be impossible to speak too highly of Mr. Frederick Kerr's interpretation of Julian Stuckburgh; Mr. Compton Coutts gives an artistic study of Andrew Lavender; a quaint impersonation, too, is Mr. Frederick Lloyd's Lawson Guest; Mr. Max Leeds does admirable work as Peter Ricketts; and Mr. Duncan Bruce is a praiseworthy footman; Miss May Palfrey looks exceedingly handsome and acts with irresistible charm as Marjorie Lovel; Miss Granville proves herself a thorough artist by her portrayal of Lady Marrable; Miss Mary Barton's Lady Clarisforde is a performance entitled to the highest eulogy; Miss Dorothy Edwards is an excellent Jessop; and Miss Annie Hill is a commendable Miss Tippings; the Mrs. Joliffe of Miss Florence Harwood and the Polly of Miss Sheba Brozel both merit praise.

Grand Pier Pavilion. — The Drolls attracted a large audience here on Monday, when their efforts were much appreciated. Miss Esee Prenton was loudly encored for her artistic rendering of her coon song, "Can't you see I'm lonely?"; Miss D. Carr's fine voice was heard to advantage in "If I built a world for you"; Miss Phyllis Beadon's tersichorean efforts were loudly applauded; Mr. Fordwych was favourably received for his comic songs and "gags"; so, too, was that excellent comedian, Mr. J. T. Macullum; and Miss Marjorie May was an able accompanist. Mr. Frank Len's pictures on the Bioscope were received with much approbation; and Herr Julian Kandt's Austrian Blue Band has become more popular than ever.

Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Robert Macdonald's *San Toy* company has this week paid a welcome return visit here. Miss Mora Hersee acts and sings well, and altogether fills the title-rôle with credit; Miss Ethel Twitchen is a delightful Rose Tucker, her *pas seul* in Act 2 is much appreciated; Miss Florence Cameron is seen to advantage as Yung Shi; and so, too, is Miss Maud Lucy as Dudley; Miss Althea Hyde is a charming Poppy; and Miss Daela Gordon an excellent Ko Fan. Mr. Grahame Herrington shows exceptional talent as Yen How; and Mr. Bert Barton is ludicrously comical as Li; Mr. James E. Leighton is a meritorious Lieutenant Harvey Tucker, Mr. Harry Turner is facetious as Sir Bingo Preston, whose son, Captain Bobby, is ably portrayed by Mr. Victor G. Huntley; Mr. Fred Storrie is an extremely good Emperor; and Mr. Scott Rae's Fo Hop is far above the average; Mr. Edward Christopher does well as Sing Hi. Mr. Henry E. Leigh's *The 'Varsity Belle* company is here the last three nights of the week.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. John Power's company opened here with the drama, *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Francis Everard as Harry Stanton portrayed the character in fine emotional style, while the part of General Stanton was in the clever hands of Mr. T. Arthur Ellis. Mr. A. Dean Mead played the pathetic rôle of Fred Lisle in an effective manner. Mr. John Power as Tom Drake, and Miss Marie Lyons as Sarah Drake were received with well merited approval. Mr. Cliffe Locke sustained the part of Count Lanski in dashing style. Mr. G. T. Greig as Ikey Barnet, Mr. C. Porteous as Adolphe, and Miss Clara Reid as Polly caused much laughter.

WHITBY.—The Spa Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale's company appeared at this theatre in *The Vicar of Wakefield* and *The Bells* respectively. The house was well filled upon each occasion. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale gave a fine rendering of the Vicar, whilst Mr. Arthur Rose filled the rôle of Squire Thornhill with excellent effect. As Mr. Burchell, Mr. David Beattie acquitted himself very creditably, and Mr. Hartley was successful as Farmer Flamborough. As the Vicar's daughters Miss Georgina Wynter and Miss Violet Macaree gave excellent personations, and Miss Elaine Grant was effective as Patty Flamborough. On Thursday Mr. E. Lockwood's company appeared in *Sergeant Brue*, and delighted a large audience by a capable rendering of the piece.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Keddie.—On Manday evening this popular theatre reopened for the season, a house of holiday proportions assembling. Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company presented *The Indian Mutiny*, and the drama was received with much warmth. The company are of a high standard of merit, and there is hardly a weak spot in the cast. Mr. Geo. Steel is a handsome and virile Lieutenant Manley; Mr. John Davidson in a "Lord Roberts" make-up does good work as Major Ingleby; Mr. Cecil Morand as Jerry O'Brien provides the humorous interpolations very cleverly; Mr. Villiers Stanley is a thoroughly sound Nebu Singh; Mr. J. S. Shedden plays Abul Khan in impressive fashion; and the Ra Goonga of Mr. Charles Boult was one of the features of the production. Miss F. Melrose Millet is charming as Ghuz Valo, a Brahmin priestess, and evidences high histrionic gifts; Miss Lillie Grey is a humorous Mrs. Major Ingleby; and Miss Agnes Kingston and Miss Dora Moorhouse are also well suited.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Following the vacation this theatre was re-opened on Monday evening with the drama *At Cripple Creek*, as presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Stanley Bedwell as Joe Mayfield, and Mr. Chas. D. Lester as Martin Mason play strong characters exceedingly well; and Mr. Arthur Bellew and Mr. Arthur Layland interpret their respective rôles very successfully. Miss Daisy Carlton is a fascinating Maggie Mason; and Miss Lily Beagle is a piquant Belle Gordon. The part of Little Tatto is admirably played by Baby Betty; and other pleasing impersonations are given by Miss Norah Dillon and Miss Agnes Verity.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The Waldrons give a droll and most amusing sketch, entitled *The Silly Burglar*; and the Dorans, comedy gymnasts, are also exceedingly popular. Jack Pleasants, comedian, is frequently recalled; and the Two Errolls, in their comedy acrobatic performance; and the Musham Trio, in a comical sketch, *A Day on Hampstead Heath*, give capital performances. May Fallowfield, sonbrette; Herr Addison's highly-trained fox terriers; Palles and Cussick, comedians and dancers; and the Herald Comedy Four, comedy gymnasts, complete an excellent bill of fare.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—After being closed for the summer months this house was reopened on Bank Holiday, when Mr. Baron H. Harriss presented *The Prince of Pilsen*. The production is admirably staged, and the scenic effects most effective. The part of Hans Wagner is essayed by Mr. Harry Kilburn, whose performance is eminently droll and entertaining. Miss Sophie Harriss fills the part of Mrs. Maddison Crocker to the satisfaction of all concerned, her acting and singing being alike good; as Carl Otto, the Prince, Mr. Frank Crimp, who has a capital stage presence, and possesses a good voice, does excellently; Mr. Roy Sydney is a smart and efficient Lieut. Tom Wagner; Mr. Bernard Russell is a capable Arthur de Willoughby; and Mr. E. Gifford is fully equal to the part of Francois. Miss Dorothy Fransdorff is a charming little Nellie Wagner, and sings sweetly; Miss Connie Leon is smart and chic as Sidonie; Miss Florence Beech is satisfactory as Edith Adams; Miss Molly Wynne is a capital Jimmie; and Miss A. De Loriere does full justice to the part of Maize Manhattan.

Empire Palace.—The holiday programme at this house comprises the Scottish Meisters, comedy glee quartette; Jennie Reeve, the Two Carrs, Four Jumels, Three Prestons, Fred Lund, Brothers Ralston, and Walter Munroe.

Hippodrome.—The attractions for the week include George Gilbey, comedian; Spouty, the goalkeeper; Tiny Arnold, lilliputian comedienne; Bromley and Fontein, vocal entertainers; Musical Schafers; Frank Maura; Flo Somers, comedienne and dancer; and Fred Russell, ventriloquist.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday there was a large and appreciative audience to witness the performance by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company of *A Traitor Prince*. The play was artistically staged. Mr. G. M. Montanine was picturesque as Prince Rao; as the hero, Frank Derrick, Mr. James Sherwin was effective; Mr. E. O'Grady as Billy amused his auditors; Mr. E. Fenton was amusing as Bobby; Miss Rose Broomfield was a charming heroine; Miss Nesta Sandford as Vashte played with vigour, and was attractive. The low comedy of Miss Thomas was good, as also that of Miss Clara O'Grady as her mother.

WORTHING.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and company opened here on Monday with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Mr. James Gelderd is good as Theseus; as is Mr. Edgar Marton as Egeus; Mr. Gilbert Clarke gives a manly delineation of the part of Lysander; Mr. Francis Chamier scores as Demetrius; Mr. Leigh Lovel puts in excellent work as Bottom; Miss Octavia Kenmore is admirable as Helena. The remainng characters are well placed. On Thursday Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crosswood's company presented *Sergeant Brue*.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following good all round company has appeared here:—La Belle Lily and Albert, gymnasts; Tennis and Laune, comedians; in *Chapters from Life*; Mr. Dan Conway, comedian; the Two Wambas, in their instrumental comedy act; the Bros. Carelle, American comedians and expert dancers; with the pictures.

YORK.—Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Dacre.—The Jamaicans are singers of a high order of merit, and their vocal efforts have been heartily appreciated during the week.

Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The esteemed acting-manager has resumed his duties after his recent severe illness. This week Taro Myaki is astonishing all by his undoubted prowess as a wrestler of the first rank; Cruikshanks is a quaintly-amusing musician, who is appreciated; Kisbey once more causes pleasure and amusement in his speciality, *The Call Boy*; Henry Bekker is a conjurer of more than average merit; the Emilions are versatile acrobats; and Lozelle is a clever gymnast. J. C. Scatter, the Ampholetts, and Adey Spencer are also in the bill.

Miss Margaret Ashton, a great favourite with North Country audiences, who keenly appreciate the captivating style and refinement of her entertainment brings to a conclusion next week at the Palace, Blackpool, a highly successful provincial tour. The charming American cantatrice has a two months' engagement at West End halls, before commencing her continental tour at the end of October.

The Katos resume business on Monday next, after an enjoyable holiday at their seaside residence, Clacton-on-Sea.

The Miles-Stavordale Quintette arrived at Tilbury Docks by the P. and O. s.s. Mongolia on Sunday last from Australia, where they have been fulfilling an engagement under Mr. Harry Rickards. The tour has been the most successful they have yet had. On their way home they gave a grand concert in Colombo, at which the élite, the passengers of the various mail steamers in port, and the officers of the war ships attended. This was in every way a brilliant success, and was the first of many that Mr. Rickards is arranging.

Over 1,000 persons attended the Palace Theatre on Monday evening, a large number being excursionists from various provincial towns.

Mr. H. Chance Newton and Mr. Hermann Finck have collaborated in writing and composing a skit entitled "The Real Little Robinson Crusoe." It was successfully produced at the Tivoli on Saturday afternoon, with Miss Minnie Thurgate as Crusoe.

Mr. James White's gondolas and Geo. White's No. 2 electric pavilion are still at Wick doing good business.

Mr. McIndoe's novelty—the figure-eight electric railway—and other attractions are at Peterhead doing good business.

Geo. White's aggregation of electric novelties, motor-cars, cinematograph, and variety pavilion have opened at Fraserburg Links, and are doing excellent business. On Wednesday the wedding was celebrated of Mr. Chas. O'Neil and Miss Bessie Burnside, both of whom are well known and highly respected on Scottish showgrounds. To commemorate the occasion a concert and dance were given after the last show in the pavilion. Dr. Oliver proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom in a neat speech, which was seconded by Manager Daniels, and drunk by the company with musical honours and great enthusiasm. The company broke up in the early morning hours after a most enjoyable time, three cheers being given for Mr. and Mrs. O'Neil.

"Sanger's Circus" is on Southsea Common doing good business.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

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"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

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"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

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"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

MR. FRANK CURZON.

"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.

"I think the list will be immensely useful."

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"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should not be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.

"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.

"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

MR. JUSTIN HUNTLY McCARTHY.

"I have watched with the greatest interest the progress of your alphabetical list of the plays published during the last half of the nineteenth century. It is a most useful undertaking, and when it appears in volume form it must prove of great value to all who are concerned with the drama."

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

"The list of plays will be very interesting and useful when published in complete form. The etiquette of the profession apparently still allows of novelists' titles being used by playwrights. Thus, *The Master*, which will appear in your list as a play by somebody else, is the name of a book of mine; while the new play, *Noah's Ark*, has the same title as a shorter story of mine."

MR. ARTHUR LAW.

"The publication in *The Era* of a list of plays produced during the fifty years, 1850-1900, is an excellent idea, and will be most useful to authors who may be in doubt as to their right to a certain title. When it is issued in book form I shall be very glad to possess a copy."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

MR. TOM GALLON.

"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. HAROLD MONTAGUE.

"I think the idea of printing a list of plays produced during the last fifty years an excellent one. It should be of great value to authors."

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

"The list of produced plays was not merely a happy thought, for the same idea has probably occurred to many, though until *The Era* carried it out no one took the pains to collect and publish such a truly valuable record.

"Managers, dramatists, as well as would-be authors, will henceforward have a long list of titles to refer to, and there will be neither reason nor excuse for encroaching on pre-existing copyright in play titles. What a lot of trouble it should save us all!"

MR. WALTER MELVILLE.

"I think it shows great enterprise on the part of your journal, and likely to prove most useful and at the same time interesting to the general profession."

MR. ARTHUR MORRISON.

"The list you are publishing will be a most valuable work of reference to everybody taking an interest in the stage, and I have no doubt that when it is published as a book you will find its success warrant you in issuing fresh editions from time to time, with the information brought to date in each case."

MR. J. J. DILLEY.

"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary. *Cousin Grace* has not been included. This is a little piece from the French, played at a matinée performance at the Gaiety Theatre, Dec. 4, 1884."

MR. COSMO HAMILTON.

"I think that your new feature is an excellent and most useful one. A list of plays produced during fifty years is interesting not only to the playgoer, but essentially so to the manager and the playwright. They will only have to consult it to be sure that a title has not been used before."

MR. CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD.

"My attention has been called to your list of plays produced between 1850-1900. I have no doubt it will prove interesting and useful to many."

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"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 29, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 1, (three nights each), Nov. 5, 19, 26, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton, and Sept. 10, Chester. Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, April 22, May 13, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

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Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Companies, Dec. 3, on; also Panto., Jan. 2, Feb. and March. H. Vere.

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WANTED, Powerful Attraction, Oct. 15, 22.
Particulars, Terms, to
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Full Terms, Dates, Address, W. B. Redfern.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Known, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant, Sept. 3, Sept. 3, Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Sept. 17, Sept. 17, only First-Class Companies entertained.
Wire, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
WANTED, Big Attractions for Dec. 3 and 17.
Only Vacant Dates this Year. Now Booking 1907. Big Attractions Only, Musical Comedies, Pantos., Operas, or Novelty Shows Preferred.
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Apply, Managing-Director.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, Important Attractions, Sept. 3, Sept. 3; also 17, through misunderstanding.
T. C. Rawes.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 10 and 17.
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COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, best Companies, for best Dates, Sept. 10 and 17 (three or six nights); seatings 1,400; best position. Wire, Phillips.

WANTED, Powerful Company, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Aug. 20. Wire to-day, Powell, 53, Sarsfeld-road, Balham.

WANTED, Companies, for Paisley and Perth Theatres, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 26, and onwards.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

PRINCE'S LLANDUDNO, P.H., COYWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 10, on, with exceptions, three nights each town.
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COMPANIES WANTED.

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Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, Feb. 4, on.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, on.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant Aug. 13, onward (3 or 6 nights).

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Vacant Aug. 30, Sept. 27, onward (last 3 nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Aug. 20, Oct. 8, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 20, onward.

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All communications to Arthur Carlton,
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Telegraphic address, "Carlton, Worcester."

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WANTED, Powerful Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Re-decorated throughout; re-opened for Autumn Season. Wire, Aug. 20, Aug. 20, Aug. 20, Wire; Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, 17, 24.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 10 (?), 24, Nov. 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
Wire to-day, Morton Powell, 53, Sarsfeld-road, Balham. Letters Monday, T. Royal, Norwich.

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WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions for Sept. 10, 17.
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Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business here. L. Carson, Keighley.

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Douglas Bruce, Court Theatre, Wigan.

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WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

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The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
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Eleventh Year of Tour.
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this Year.
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"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 10,
Oct. 1, 22.
J. W. Cordiner, Pier Pavilion, Southend.
See Companies advertisement, page 2.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, 27, "The Sorrows of Satan," Mystic Effects. Also, "A True Briton," Great Sensational Drama. Wire to-day, Harvey, Royalty, Llanelly; next, New, Aberdare.

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"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 15, on.
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THEATRES WANTED.

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WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

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A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

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WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 22. Booked all the Best Theatres for this fine old play.
Notice.—This play must not be performed in any theatre by any other company but Mr. Samuel James's, who holds the exclusive rights by arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright.
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BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
Enormous Success at G., West Hartlepool.
Theatre packed every night.
Monday the worst house of the week!

N.B.—Will local managers please write to Fred Granville, Esq., and ascertain the phenomenal business "A Beautiful Criminal" has done this week, in spite of great opposition?
This Play is a Brilliant Success.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 22.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, T. R., West Stanley.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this beautifully mounted, dressed, and played Drama,
Sept. 24, in or near London.
Sept. 24, in or near London.
Also
Oct. 15, 22, and on.
Oct. 15, 22, and on.
Everything carried. Company of Eighteen Artists.
FRANK BATEMAN, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

JUNIUS BOOTH and CO.,
"MONTE CRISTO."
Big Scenic Production; Gorgeous Costumes.
mous Success in Dublin. Refer J. W. Whitbread
Enormous Success in Dublin.
Refer J. W. Whitbread, Esq.
WANTED, Sept. 3, between Barrow and Nottingham. Wire, GRIFFIN, Queen's T., Dublin; next, Grand Theatre, Nelson, Lancs.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 24 and Oct. 22 (London, South, or Midlands).
H. HOLLISTER, Grand Theatre, Middlesboro'.

WANTED, Aug. 27, in or near London, Madge McIntosh and Lumsden Hare's Company, in brilliant Comedy, from St. James's Theatre, "Mollentrave on Women," by Alfred Sutro. Special Scenery, West End Cast, including Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. E. A. Warburton, and Madge McIntosh.
Wanted, Aug. 27, in or very near London.
Add., Aug. 13, T. R., Belfast; Aug. 20, O. H., Cork.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
The Great Domestic Drama,
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, for above Great Attraction
Oct. 8 and 22,
Oct. 8 and 22,
Address,
FRANK LINDO, 19, Cambridge-road, Blackpool.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for
Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8.
London or near preferred.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, care of "The Era."

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 15.
HENRY L. OSMOND, King's T., Cardiff.

"THE HONEYMOON,"
the Screamingly Funny Musical Absurdity.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 15 (?), 22, Nov. 5, picked company.
GILBERT PAYNE, Roslin House, Broughty Ferry, N.B.

"THE TRAITOR," E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, and 24. Please refer Victoria, Broughton; Palace, Newcastle; Grand, Edinburgh. The Best Organisation of Mirth, Music, and Jollity, produced this year.
DICKIE CLARE, Queen's Theatre, Workington.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1 (6th year). Wire, "Busily, London."

"HER LOST SELF."
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, Xmas, New Year.
FRANCES DELAVAL, T. R., Edmonton, N.

No. 1 "OUR BOYS" and "CASTE."
Mr. CHARLES OTLEY and First-Class Company. Three months' Tour ended June 25. Great success at Princes, Bristol; T.R., Cardiff (twice in six weeks); T.R., Plymouth, &c.
WANTED, Dates, Sept. 3, on, with exceptions, not Scotland.
C. OTLEY, Champion-grove, Denmark Hill, S.E.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Sept. 3 and 10.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, and on.
DENCH, Opera House, Burton.
MESSRS. STILLWELL AND FENTON'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
Refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alex., Sheffield.
WANTED, Aug. 27, unexpectedly vacant, South or Midlands; Oct. 1, 22, Dec. 3.
JAMES STILLWELL, T. R., Rotherham.

"MAN'S ENEMY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Sept. 3, 10, onwards. Entirely new plant of printing by David Allen and Sons, Ltd. Cast includes Miss Amy McNeill, Miss Clara Reid. "Man's Enemy."
JOHN POWER, T. R., Sunderland.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Miner's Theatre, Ashington.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
The greatest Dramatic Success of the year.
Receipts going up nightly week after week.
Magnificent all-round Attraction; no clap-trap, but a High-class Money-making Play.
Refer Bristol, Middlesbrough, Bradford, Chatham, Manchester, &c.
Vacant,
Oct. 1, 8, 15 (?), 22 (?), Nov. 12, 19, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY."
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"THE KING'S SECRET"
(James Stillwell and Company),
Oct. 1, onwards.
CHARLES MAJILTON AND COMPANY,
Nov. 26, various, on.
Note New Office Address:—
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM'S COMPANY,
in
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY,"
from Duke of York's Theatre.
WANTED, a few Autumn Dates, to complete tour.
All communications
should be addressed to
Mr. J. W. WOOD-INGRAM,
Duke of York's Theatre.

Mr. JAMES STILLWELL'S CO.,
"THE KING'S SECRET."
the great Anglo-Egyptian Drama.
WANTED, Oct. 1, and on, with exceptions. Apply, re Dates, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Esq., 2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

"THE BANK OF ENGLAND."
WANTED, Theatres, for only vacant Spring Dates: Jan. 21, to precede Darwen; Feb. 25 and March 4, between Nuneaton and Met., Glasgow; and April 1.
CHAS. H. LESTER, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS,
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, Aug. 20, (to oblige Major B. Grant, R. A. T., Woolwich);
also Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Xmas.
Address, JOHN B. SHINTON, T. R., Stratford, E.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Aug. 27, follow Metropole, Glasgow, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, various on. W. J. MILLER, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15. Superb Pictorials and High-class Company. Refer Metropole, Glasgow (rebooked for six Buchanan Syndicate Theatres). HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Sterling Attraction, Vacant Nov. 12, 19, and Dec. 3; also Dec. 24 and 31.
Rapidly Booking Spring, 1907.
A Beautiful Production.
New Special Scenery and Effects.
Brixton Theatre, S.W. G., Croydon, Aug. 13.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this Brilliant Play.
Gorgeous Uniforms, Charming Scenery, Fine Acting, a perfect all-round Production.
Refer Brighton, Bristol, Aldershot, Newcastle, Poplar, Bradford.
Vacant,
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 17, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for the best Domestic Drama ever written. Playing to fine business all along the line.
Vacant,
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 12, 26.
MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO.
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston), and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby). Also Vacant Christmas Week, through Cancelling T. R., Sunderland, must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms.
GEORGE KIRK, this, T. R., South Shields; next, Prince's, Preston.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 1,
Success Greater than Ever.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grand.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-first Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., '07.
WANTED, Sept. 3. Wire for Sept. 3, Sept. 3 (in or near London),
Oct. 22 (through obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
Address,
C. M. JULIAN, Grand, Nottingham.

Special Revival of the Well-known Moneymaker,
"JUDY."
WANTED, Aug. 27, on, with Exceptions.
(Copy.)
T. R., South Shields.
Dear Mr. Kirk,—We are delighted with your production of "Judy" this week, and will be pleased to rebook it for the third time. All good wishes.—Yours faithfully, J. and F. COULSON.
Address, GEO. KIRK,
This, T. R., S. Shields; next, P., Preston.

Mr. ALLAN WILKIE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and 29, Nov. 26, and onwards.
Company includes
Mr. Allan Wilkie,
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh,
Miss Iné Cameron,
Miss Carrie Baillie.
Aug. 13,
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Three Nights, Aug. 16, 17, 18, to follow Aberystwith; also Sept. 10 and 17; only vacant dates this year. Band of drums, fifes, and bugles for parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as Fiend.
By arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard this company can play anywhere except London.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, and New Year.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, Eden, Bishop Auckland.

THEATRES WANTED.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of Fifteen experienced Artists, headed by Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Lillian Rose as Nadia.
Bookings include:—
Derby,
St. Helens,
Sheffield (Royal),
Bradford (Prince's),
Scarborough (Royal),
Newcastle (Grand),
Hull (Alex),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Dewsbury, Mexborough, Luton, Rotherham, Leeds, Lincoln, Barrow, Walsall, Castleford, Oldham, Barnsley, Yarmouth, Swansea, Burnley, Salford, &c
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Striking Pictorials by McCaw.
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Sept. 10 (Lancs. or Yorks.), to follow Scarborough, Sept. 17 (to precede Lincoln), Oct. 22 (Wales), Nov. 5, 26.
Refer the following managers for opinion:—
J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury;
M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens;
T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby;
J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield;
F. Laidler, Esq., Bradford;
L. Carson, Esq., Liverpool;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Hull.
Who will say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast, and does good business.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"The Conscript," specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Entirely revised with important changes.
Address all communications,
This week, T. R., Leeds; Next, Royalty T., Barrow-in-Furness.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 21, and on, for the above magnificent aggregation of splendour and talent, to follow production, Grand, Derby. Nothing spared to command success. Unrivalled cast. Gorgeous scenery and dressing. List of cast on application.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, Jan. 28, and on, for the real old English Pantomime, full of Comedy, magnificently mounted and costumed, second to nothing on the road.
FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15, Xmas.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Opera House, Workington.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 20 and 27, Good Theatres, for the above enormous attraction. HARRY FISCHER, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Youngest of Three." Mr. H. F. Maltby and Co., Aug. 27, Oct. 8, 15. WYN WEAVER, Coliseum, Aberystwith.

MR. and MRS. GARTON'S JUVENILE CO., in the new Musical Comedy,
"THE BERYL."
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, and on, with exceptions. KEANE, 209, High-st., Jarrow.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and 17,
for the most Successful Variety Combination on the Road.
Address, ONDA, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

KENNEDY'S KOMIKS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Grand and Attractive Triple Bill. The Greatest Novelty. A Certain Draw. Over 100,000 persons paid this summer.
Vacant Aug. 20 and 27.
Address, JAMES P. MOORE, Theatre, West Bromwich.

CHARLES MAJILTON'S
Musical Sketch and Play Tour.
"THE PLUMBER."
"SHE WOULD BE A WIDOW."
"THE SCOTCHMAN IN PARIS."
"THE TRIPPERS."
Others in Active Preparation
All Scenery and Effects Carried.
Fourteen Experienced Artists, headed by
CHARLES MAJILTON,
in his Inimitable Comedy Creations.
PALACE, GLASGOW.
First Vacancy, Nov. 26.
WANTED, Halls or Theatres. Coms., re Dates.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S Agency,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."
All others to CHARLES MAJILTON, en route.

Special Notice.
Owing to the Enormous Success Achieved by the
NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA
(Four Ladies, Six Gentlemen, Ten Coloured Artists),
Specially Brought to this Country by
Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G.,
they will
Extend their Stay in England for another Three Months,
and will now sail for home by the Port Royal, leaving Bristol Dec. 15,
instead of Sept. 22,
as previously arranged.
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions.
A Novel and Artistic Entertainment.
A Sensation Everywhere.
Native Costume Camp Dress for Sunday Concerts, and Evening Dress.
Splendid Lithos., Frame Photographs (3 kinds), Postcards (4 kinds), &c.
Heartily Complimented by Earl Roberts, Lord Derby, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, &c.
This week, Theatre Royal, York;
next week, North Pier, Blackpool (return visit).
For Full Particulars, Press Opinions, &c.,
Apply, Sole Agents,
Messrs. JONES and DOUGLASS,
21, Water-street, and 14, Dale-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
SPECIAL PRODUCTION OF "ROB ROY"
for Three Weeks, Commencing Monday, Sept. 3.
Mme. Alice Esty as Diana and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt as Francis.
WANTED, First-class Artists, to Complete Cast. State lowest terms, and, where not known, references and photographs should be sent. Address, Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, opportunity occurs for Lady or Gentleman to Star and Finance good Comedy Drama; well booked; can have third interest if required; interview preferred, genuine offer. Address, MANAGER, 82, St. Edmund's Church-street, Salisbury.

WANTED, Artists, Commonwealth Tour, latest West-end Farcical Comedy; Unique Opportunity; small expenses. Full particulars, Box 3,540, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

W. H. HALLATT'S and WALTER HOWARD'S CO., "HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour of above, open Sept. 17, at Manchester, rehearse twelve days previously, Juvenile Actress for Romantic, Manly Boy's part, supposed age fifteen, capable of pathos. Age, height, references, photo. (important), with stamped directed envelope for return. Lowest terms. WALTER HOWARD, 409, Edgware-rd., W.

MR. GEOFFREY FULTON'S PRODUCTIONS.
"THE POOR MUST LIVE."
WANTED, Cockney Comedian (to look sixteen), Juvenile Gentleman, also Carpenter, capable of small parts. "The Dear Homeland." Wanted, good Eccentric Comedian, also Child (to look twelve), able to sing well. Particulars, with photos., address to Theatre Royal, Bolton.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, First-Class Powerful Character-Actor, for Sir Robert Llewellyn, must be tall, robust, and have good voice. Terms, age, build, references, MORTON POWELL, T. R., Norwich.

WANTED, Powerful Heavy Gentleman, young, also Comedian and Chambermaid, joint. Address, letters only, HERBERT COLE, 121, St. George's-rd., Lambeth-rd., S.E.; long engagement.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Young Actor, for small important parts in Sketches, and to look after baggage, &c. References, photos., terms, H. LESLIE BELL, 28, Noel-street, Islington, N.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Young Juvenile Gent, for Francis Tresham.
State experience, age, lowest terms, and enclose photo. EUGENE BERTRAM, Victoria, Broughton.

WANTED, Leading and Heavy Man, Old Lady, &c., for "Master and Man," at once. Address, Box 50, DURRANT, BENNETT, and Co., 69, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," Responsible Man, rehearse 15th, Manchester. Lowest terms, photos., particulars (letters only), MILLER, Osborne T., Manchester.

WANTED, Juvenile Heavy Gentleman, useful Couple, Lady sing and dance. Lowest terms. SIDNEY DENCH, Opera House, Burton.

WANTED, for week Aug. 27, Tall Comedian, Tall Chambermaid (5ft. 7in. at least), used to Costume Play. State height, references, terms, MARK BLOW, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, Good Responsible Man. Wire,
MOFFATT, Theatre, North Shields.

WANTED, young, good-looking Show Lady; must be tall and have good head of hair. Photo. if possible. Box 3,542, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known and experienced Cosmopolitan Entertainer (Four Times round the World), Young Lady. Amateur, with capital (Pianist, good voice and appearance essential), for Complete Novelty; also pretty, brilliant, refined Vaudeville Artist, not exceeding twenty, and good all-round Dancer.
Write for particulars.
Box 3,547, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Contralto, Short, for Part Music. Sight-reader preferred. Apply to-day, 12 o'clock, PERCY HALL, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED smart Dancers. Apply, Monday, 12.30 to 1.30. Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road. E. CRANSTON.

WANTED, Several Smart Girls, 14 to 17, for Dancing Troupes; free tuition. Apply, MADAME, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mr. J. W. Chapman thanks the 338 Variety Artists who replied to his recent Advertisement; the number being so great, it is impossible to reply to each individually.
Grand Theatre and Empire, Doncaster.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette. The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells. For terms, and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Juvenile Gentleman (6ft.), Light Comedy or Dude part preferred, at once; excellent references; age 24. A. G., 43, Crompton-street, Derby.

WANTED, Known, Baritone (Pianist), good repertoire, wishes join Refined Entertainers, Incog; shares. Could bring Mezzo-Soprano (gold medallist). Address, P. S., 4, Cancell-road, North Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by young lady, tall, trained Soprano, in Quartette or Sketch; would join gentleman on halls. Box 3,557, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Leo Trainor, "A Brilliant Dame," Liberty Pantomime, big success last year Fred Granville's "Forty Thieves." Only good offers entertained. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, for Flower Shows, Garden Parties, Bazaars, &c., apply to Percy Newport, 185, Upland-road, E. Dulwich, Manager of the I.D.K. Minstrels and London Entertainers. This week Artists supplied Sutton Bridge Horticultural Show, Horsham Fête, Kingston (Abingdon) Flower Show, West Wycombe Horticultural Fête.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantos., "Babes" and "Red Riding Hood," Prin. Boy and Girl, Second ditto, Knockabout Comedians, Acrobatic Dancers who can step-dance, tall handsome Chorus Ladies who can sing. Apply,
GEORGE SINCLAIR, 118, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for London Pantomime, First-Class Troupe of Pantomimists, to play Animal parts, and a Lady for Dutch part, must have good dialect and be a good clog dancer; also for big Provincial Pantomime, Operatic Vocalist, must be tall, young, and of good appearance; any number of Show and Chorus Ladies for London and the Provinces. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Principal Girl, by Rose Conroy, First-Class Actress, Vocalist, and Dancer; young, clever, attractive, refined.
Managers invited to see personally.
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Pantomime, Part and Speciality, Arthur Bright, the popular Comedian and Instrumentalist, one of the Best All-round Artists obtainable. Communications, BRIGHT, Manager Entertainers, Stonehaven; or agent, FRED HIGHAM.

WANTED, Mons. Bellini, Continental Equilibrist and Aerial Trapeze Artist, Liberty for Panto. only. Perm. address, 36, Verdon-street, Cheetham, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Harry Morgan, vacant for Comedy part. Success last season as the Baron, with Mr. J. Tiller's Panto. "Red Riding Hood." Address, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters pro tem., Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c.; experienced, quick. Moderate charges. Address, W. HENRY, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, at Liberty. Engagement or Contract; excellent refs. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, a Gentlemanly Youth, about 17, as Clerk, in Palace Theatre, Glasgow; knowledge of shorthand preferred; opportunity to learn duties of business-management. Send photo. and salary desired. Address, H. MCKELVIE, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Steady Sober Young Man, as Agent, with good references, to assist at Show when not ahead as Doorsman, &c.; one used to travelling shows and fair business. PURCHASE'S Menagerie, Wells, Monday; Blakeney, Tuesday; Cley, Wednesday.

WANTED, Stage-Manager and Carpenter combined; must be smart, and know his business. State lowest terms, experience, and references, MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Reliable Agent for Musical Act, one of the most Gorgeous Settings ever Staged, at tremendous cost.
Up-to-date, smart, novel, and talented Artists.
Right man, sole agency.
Exceptional terms.
Address, first instance, Box 3,543, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent, one who has knowledge of working Institutions, &c., and play piano a little. Address, BANYARD, Caherconlish, Co. Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, First-class Billposters, for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, now Touring the Continent; must be able to use long-handled brushes, and have a first-class reference. Apply, JOHN MOORE LONDON, LTD., New Address, 8, Rupert-court, Piccadilly Circus, W., Sole Selling Agent for the Donaldson Litho. Co. Biggest assortment of circus, menagerie, agricultural, horse race, &c., &c., posters in the world.

WANTED, Steady High Ladderman. Apply, giving references, RICHEY and Co., Ltd., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to join at once, at Public Hall, Redditch, really strong and willing Baggage Man, for Fit-up Tour of "The Silver King." Address, WILLIAM MARTIN, T. R., Ryde, I.W.

WANTED, an Engagement, young experienced Acting-Manager, or as Stage-Manager. MANAGER, 40, Palm-street, Slade-lane, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Manager or Acting ditto, Theatre, Music Hall, &c.; experienced all details, Bookings, Bars, Books, &c. MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Acting-Manager, experienced, Theatre or Music Hall; good references. Box 3,564, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, immediate Offers as Advance Agent; highest references; six years advance agent Joseph Poole's No. 1 Myriorama; first-class appearance. Address, E. WYNDHAM LLOYD, 200, Manorplace, Walworth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Situation by Practical Billposter, age 29, Good Ladderman; good references. H. GREENWOOD, 42, Albert-street, London, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to commence Aug. 27, for Tour, Musical Conductor, Good Double or Single Comedians, Vent., &c.; also good Baggage-man that can play in Sketches; must be steady and reliable. Fullest particulars to W. PARDOE, Theatre, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, for a short period, First Violin, Double Bass, Second Clarionet, Fourth Horn, and Viola; also Second Bassoon, for Tour, nine months; must be used to Grand Opera. Apply, stating experience, terms, &c., to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Lyric Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, a good Second Violin, for Town Band, Colwyn Bay, to commence Aug. 18. Lowest terms and references, Wm. UNDERWOOD, Bandmaster, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Second Violin (combine brass for Parades), for Tenting Season; join immediately. Wire Sat., BANDMASTER, Circus, Hadleigh, Suffolk. Mon., Felixstowe.

WANTED, for Hippo., Castleford, Aug. 20, First Violin, Pianist, Cornet, Drums, and Bass. SMALLEY and MATTINSON, 10, Welbeck-street, Castleford.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet, to open immediately; also First-class Violinist, to act as Conductor when required, to open Aug. 20. Address, with terms and references, W. E. BARNET, Acting-Manager, Royal County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, to Open at Once, used to Circus Business. Address, T. REYNOLDS, Baker's Circus, Pont-y-Cymmer, Glamorganshire, Wales.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Grand Theatre, Hanley, to open Aug. 13; permanency if suitable. Terms, references, J. H. CARTMELL, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, for Pitching, Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, Drums. Terms, shares. T. JACKSON, Manager, Leader H. JAMES, 15, Lower Drayton-place, Croydon.

THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Clarionetist.
Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Clarionet, for Empire, Ashton. Open Aug. 20. Apply, PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, a Double Bass Player, used to variety, to combine singing, if possible. Permanent, Volthurst, Boundary-rd., Newbury.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD.,
ROYAL CIRCUS.
WANTED, a Good Euphonium, to Open Monday, Aug. 20. Terms, 32s. 6d. weekly. Add., with refs., BANDMASTER, Sanger's Circus, Ltd., Seaford, Sussex.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, join at once, Trombone, terms 30s. per week. Address, Briton Ferry, Monday; Neath, Tuesday. Those that wrote last week please write again, route altered.

WANTED, Trombone, Violin, and other Instruments, at Once. Apply,, with references and lowest terms for a permanency, to W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to open at once, for long Tour, Trombone, wear evening dress, and assist fittings when traveiling; fare paid on joining.
Apply, POOLE, St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey.

WANTED, Oboe and Bassoon, for about five weeks. Write full particulars, references, salary, to CONDUCTOR, Tynemouth, Palace-by-Sea, Northumberland.

WANTED, at once, good 'Cello, for about seven weeks, for Variety and Dancing. State age, refs., &c. CONDUCTOR, 5, Charlotte-square, Margate.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, Pianist, &c. (Ladies). Experience and Terms. Box 3,539, "The Era."

WANTED, good, experienced 'Cellist, Aug. 20 to 29 inclusive. Salary, £3 14s. Write at once to 'Cello, Hippo., Oxford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, for Empire, Ashton, 'Cello, Aug. 20; Second Violin and Solo Cornet, Aug. 27. Apply, Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Harpist, for Town Band, Colwyn Bay. Salary £2 2s. per week. Particulars and references to Wm. Underwood, Bandmaster, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, Good Flute and Piccolo, wear evening dress, commence immediately, assist with fittings when travelling. Address, terms, age, and refs., F. Mayer, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, to commence Aug. 17, must be good performer: A. Collinson, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo. Join Monday. Wire, Tidswell, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to commence Sept. 3, for five weeks, Brilliant Pianist, with own music, to accompany Animated Photos. Terms, &c., to V. Hamilton, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED good Pianist and Trombone, used to Variety, open Monday, Aug. 20, Empire, Greenock (permanency). Terms and refs., Maitland Lacey, Mount Vale, Belmont, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Aug. 20, Pianist, young, sight reader; long engagement if suitable. Photo., refs., lowest. Rolmaz, Corn Exchange, Newark-on-Trent.

WANTED, Address of smart Pianist, who can compose catchy Melodies. Stanley, Percy Hall, 3, Percy-street, W.

WANTED, experienced Lady Pianist, also Violinist, at Once for Café in Ireland. State age, experience, and terms. Box 3,541, "The Era."

WANTED, a girl for Piano; good wage and live in; amateur entertained. Clowes, Mechanical Theatre of Varieties, Bruton, Somerset.

WANTED, Drums and Effects, Monday, Aug. 20 to Sept. 16, Clarence Gardens Orchestra. State lowest terms. Arnold, 32, Tennyson-avenue, Scarborough.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.

WANTED, Double Drummer, to commence Aug. 20.
Lowest terms and references, address as above.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, with Tymps, open Monday. Wire terms, Gardner, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, smart Young Lady, Instrumentalist, Double-handed, First-class Musical Troupe; everything provided; live in. Director, 5, James-street, Scarboro'.

WANTED, First-Class Musicians, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Contrabassists, for Ocean Liners (Mediterranean service), Engagement from Sept. 21, 1906, to about the end of July, 1907; Nov. 7, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907; Dec. 26, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907. Musical duties only; second-class accommodation. State age and experience, with references as to ability. C. W. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C., "Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Musical Director, Leader, or First Violin. Liberty Sept. Address, Wilfred Ball, Villiers Hotel, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor-Piano, permanent or otherwise; highest refs. Liberty Sept. Mus. Director, 6, Caledonian-road, Saltcoats.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), London or suburban; good répertoire. Conductor, Box 3,553, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Bachelor of Music, Oxford, desires immediate Engagement as Musical Director, Pianist, or Conductor; heavy baritone voice. Musbac, 18, Warrington-crescent, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Mr. A. Taggart, Conductor, Composer, Arranger, Violin, Panto., Tour, Theatre; ref. and Press notice. Address, 21, Beaconsfield-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement by good Violinist, experienced any business; references. Violinist, 33, Brewerton-road, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet would join Good Band where Employment found, any capacity; excellent recent references; soloist at Crystal Palace, 1905, second prize (Bromley silver), own instrument Wheeler, 1, Clifton-rd., Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet, First or Second, any business; first-class references. Address, L. Leon, 11, Belle-hill, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, used to Variety business. Steele, care of Cookson, 8, Alexander-street, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, Cello, Viola, Drums, &c.
C/o Harley, 83 Vansittart-road, Forest Gate.

WANTED, by Clarionet, week or two at seaside; anyone wishing to come to town could exchange. 21, Eversleigh-rd., Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement as String Bass, London preferred; last situation twelve years; references if required. W. Jacques, 110, Drayton-gardens, S. Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass, Theatre or Music Hall, Experienced and Reliable. George, 3, Midland-rd., Royston, near Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass, experienced any business; can join at once. Wire, Davies, 9, Windsor-street, Luton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any Business. Apply, Bassist, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, Corporal late Army Band, Orchestral experience, excellent testimonials from Bandmasters. Pitt, Post Office, Penrhiwceiber, S. Wales.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement for Double Bass, Good Experience in Every Business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany), Disengaged Sept. 17. Herr Otto Bayer, 1, Woodfield-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombone, any Business. Strictly attentive to business, and reliable. Permanency preferred. Box 3,561, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Tenor Trombone, any business.
R. Dougherty, 2, Careline-street, Kendal.

WANTED, Engagement, by an experienced Horn Player, late Dan Godfrey's Orchestra, late Bath Pump Room Concerts, First Horn Italian Opera, Amsterdam. M. Langerack, 4, Coram-street, Russell-square, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement as French Horn, First or Third, Opera, Variety, or Concerts; first-class refs. Horn First, New Spa Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagements, Orchestral or Military.
H. Angel, 47, Stopford-rd., Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, experienced, Engagement, permanency. Address, 'Cellist, 14, Leslie-road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cello and Bass, any business; can open at once. Apply, 'Cello, 21, Hope-street, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by good 'Cellist, experienced, any distance; good refs.; abstainer. 'Cellist, 44, Bulkeley-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, as Viola, good experience, and excellent references. W. H. White, 6, Shaftesbury-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, by Viola. Engagement, any line. Excellent references.
Herbert Allen, 2, Forest-view, Southampton.

WANTED, by Good Viola or Second Violin, steady and experienced, Engagement, any Business; good refs. J. Harrison, 51, Buckley-st., Edgeley, Stockport.

WANTED, by First-Class Oboe Player, Engagement; excellent references. W. Benson, 2, Lansdown-villa, Eastern-rd., Fortis Green-rd., E. Finchley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, any Business. Disengaged Sept. 8. Good references. Mr. Oboe, 8, Thanet-road, Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19.
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, experienced, young, sober, moderate terms for permanency; can open at once. Saul, Loundstreet, Kendal.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, London or Suburbs. H. Otto, 19, Herbert-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Jimmy Law, Solo Pianist and Entertainer, unexpectedly vacant; references, Sydney James' Strolling Players. Wire, Westminster House, Llandrindod Wells.

WANTED, Engagement by Miss Eileen Melsom, Pianist, Mandolinist; good sight reader, MSS., Orchestral, or otherwise. This, 130, New Albert-street, Millom, Cumberland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Tympanist and Double Drummer, splendid set of Instruments, ten years last shop. Apply, Tympanist, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Re-engagement; thoroughly experienced; highest refs. Musicus, 167, Church-street, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, by the Blue Hungarian Band, Engagements.
for Exhibitions, Bazaars, Flower Shows, Promenade Concerts, &c. Handsome Uniforms.
Address, Sidona, 4, Endlesham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. Williams, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. Jesson, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. Lees, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. Bartley, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Robert Fossett and Sons, for Circus Department, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., First-class Circus Company, Star Artists in all Branches, Male and Female, Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, Scene Act Riders, Tumbling Clowns, Novelties of a First-class Character, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. Fossett and Son, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton, or Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Please give time for re-direction of letters. All Artists having no intention of fulfilling engagements save stamps.

WANTED, Clowns, with good Entrées, also Riders, Trapeze, &c., for Tenting. Address, H. Norman, Post Office, Kanturk, Ireland.

WANTED, for Giles's Circus, Hippodrome, Llandudno, Artists in all Lines, suitable for Circus; also Property Man. Address as above.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, Triple Bar Performers; those doing two acts only write in; also Trombone and Euphonium. Monday, Wexford; Tuesday, Enniscorthy.

WANTED, Juggling Act, Useful Ground Acts, that can Clown. Jack Raynor write. Join at once. Dennis, Circus, Cattle Market, Stockport.

WANTED, by Professional, smart Ring or Trapeze Performer, good Engagements for right party; clever Amateur write. Particulars, Box 3,556, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, for well-known Double Comedy Acrobatic Act, a smart Young Man, about 9st. to 10st; must be funny, good tumbler, and used to Comedy Acrobatic Business as Top Mounter.
Write, stating age, height, weight, tricks, and all particulars in first letter to A. B., 180, Cambridge-st., Westminster, London, S.W.

WANTED, Young Girls, with little knowledge on Trapeze or Rings, to join Lady's Act; good home and experience.
Box 3,549, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Family of Musicians and Variety Artists. Double-handed preferred. Communicate lowest terms (letters only), Henry Silvani, Stephen's Hotel, Cork.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Miss Ella's Performing Lions, before departure for Spain, Aug. 20 and 21. Two Days' Fête and Gala between Boston and Southampton. Com., week Aug. 13, Palace Theatre, Boston, Lincs.

WANTED, Known, Sylvia Martin, La Belle Equestrienne, with her beautiful mare Princess Beatrice. At Liberty. Address, Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Gymnast, the only Act of its kind in England, Liberty Aug. 13, 20, and onwards. Address, 77, Liverpool-road, Manchester. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bar Experts, vacant Aug. 13, on. Wire this week, C. W. Poole's, Palace, Porth, S. Wales.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, Gymnastic Speciality, Vacant Dec. 24, onwards. Agent Stebbing. Permanent, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, by Alveno and Cleo, Novelty Gymnasts on the Breakaway Ladder. Coms., People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Queenie Lo Lo, Lady Gymnast and Teeth Expert; also Princess Ena, Graceful Contortionist. Permt. address, 127, Aughton-road, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Kamari Troupe, Triple Bar Comedian, and Acrobats, vacant Aug. 13, onwards. Two distinct turns. Wires, letters, see Card.

WANTED, Known, Levene and Wilton, remarkable strength gymnasts, acrobatic grotesques. Starring attraction, Cecil Clayton's Fêtes, Aug. 6, Ely; Aug. 7, Abergavenny; Aug. 11, Colchester. Always complimented. Managers, beware of swank imitators using our name. Add., c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Three, Bar Performers. This week Gala; next, Hippodrome, Lancaster; free Sept. 10, 24. Thanks Stebbings for contracts.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Acrobats and Triple Bar Comedians, vacant Monday next. Two distinct turns. 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats and Equilibrists, touring Ireland; also Comedy Bars; two acts, at Liberty Aug. 20. Bert Leonard, Post Office, Wexford, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Floria, Equilibrist and Slack Wire Artist, has vacant Aug. 20 and 27. Finished successful S. American Tour. Agent write. Lithos. 38, Harwood-road, Walham Green, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, that we play Europe by permit from American Managers. Zampo and Clown, Novelty Somersaultists and Humorists. Lord John Sanger, Ltd., Tour.

WANTED, Known, the Original Spring and Spring Rosie Carlo, female Acrobatic Barrel Jumpers, a new novel Act, great success Hippo., Llandudno; specially engaged Hippo., Wakefield; Liberty Aug. 27. Letters, Rosie Carlo, the old reliable for talent; or Edgar Stebbings, Manchester.

WANTED, by Tomps and Wells, Monday, onwards, most successful Comedy Act. Wire, wire, Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford. Wire, wire, any distance.

WANTED, Monday next, also 20th and 27th, by Mons. Twisto, Contorionist, Posturer, and Legmania Artist. Success, Tower, New Brighton (second return).

WANTED, Known, Harry Levett, late of Seltina Troupe and Wulfrunas, is at Liberty to join Troupe as Middle Mounter and Tumbler, or Partner for Comedy Show. Address, 6, Prince's-row, Birmingham.

Largest Balloon in the World.
WANTED, Engagements for Ascent, by the "City of London" Balloon, the magnificent Aerostat, entered for the Gordon Bennett Competition, in Paris, in Sept next; available for two ascents only in this country.
Spencer Bros., Ltd., Aëronauts,
45B, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, London, N.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
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RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, all Kinds of Artists, Variety and Dramatic, representing the best establishments and the best numbers required.
30, Maiden-lane, Strand. 'Phone, 6704 Central.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 13, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Aug. 20, Variety Artists all Lines, Bioscope Operator, Pianist. Refs., photos., lowest terms, Rolmaz, Corn Exchange, Newark-on-Trent.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Specialities, Big Attractions, Aug. 20, on, two houses nightly. Lowest terms, James Elphinstone, Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 20, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

THE GARDNER-BROWN VAUDEVILLE COMPANIES, INDIA.
WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines. Leo Montague, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Aug. 20, onwards.
Wm. B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

THE EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
Manager, H. L. Skivington.

WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines to Communicate at Once.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for High-class Combination. Athletic Acts write. Send lithos. and lowest terms, E. Strong, Thompson's Buildings, Yeadon

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. A Room to Let, Palmistry excepted.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Aug. 27, and on, must be new to Liverpool. Apply by letter, J. S. Childs, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines (including Dancers, Clog, Step, &c.), and Big Attractions; shares. Bioscope wire, others write, lowest terms, photos., Wood, Colosseum, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Sept. 24 (North), for Kellino's Vaudeville Company. All communications to Kellino's Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 13, on. Send lowest terms and bookings. Fred Durham's Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for immediate Dates. Price no object, but talent. All clients keep me posted; promise nothing, but try my best.

Please note change of address.
JESS VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 13, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., and please note new address.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, Wanted, Artists, for
Sheffield and Leicester,
Trial Weeks,
on
Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.
Successful Artists can be Guaranteed the Tour.

J. W. Johnson,
Variety, Dramatic, and Pantomime Agent,
86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.

Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Manchester.
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Manchester.

Telephone 09144.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Aug. 27, onwards, for Hippodrome, Castleford.
Smalley and Mattinson, 10, Welbeck-st., Castleford.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aug. 20 and onwards, Comediennes, Sisters, Doubles doing Singles. Terms must be low; Hall small. Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. Frank Lynne, Empire Palace, S. Shields.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, Coventry Hippodrome Co., Ltd.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. Sylvester, Manager.
G. E. Wright, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Fell. Wanted, Star Turns.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
the Biggest Variety Stars,
Big Specialities,
Aug. 20, onwards. Bookings, terms, &c.,
Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."
Telephone, 09261.

WANTED, Stars and Combinations, Aug. 27, onwards, Sharing terms; good business with good shows. Transfield's Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, to commence Sept. 3, for five weeks, good refined Comedy Turns, for Animated Photo Entertainment. Lowest terms to V. Hamilton, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Turns, immediate, S. Wales, Sept. 17, 24, near Durham; Bar Act, Aug. 20, near London. Letters only. Jake Almo, T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Talent in all Lines, Nothing too Big.
Cavill's Agency,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical."

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, the Biggest Acts in the Business, Monday, Aug. 20, and on.

Harry Burns's Agency,
Empress Theatre,
Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, PAISLEY.
Lessee, J. H. Savile; Manager, Delno Fritz.
WANTED, for Sept. 3, and onwards, Variety and Circus Acts of all Kinds.
Lowest terms to Delno Fritz.

WANTED, good Tops of Bills, £50 to £100, forty turns booked in the North this week. Artists in all Lines write me for Aberdeen, Dundee, Greenock, Glasgow. Drew Bayley, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Top Liners, for immediate time. Wire full particulars,
Jacobs' Agency, 48, Cranbourn-st., W.C.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 8, Top of Bill, Variety Acts, all Kinds. Artists working West and South Wales can have two weeks near. Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol. Telegraphic address, "Fêtes, Bristol."

THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE, SANDGATE, KENT.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Benet.
WANTED, a First-class Combination, Dec. 3 (only date this year); none but the best need apply.

WANTED, Aug. 13 and 20, Good Reliable Comedy Musical Act. Trick and Trixie Wire for Monday, Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, Kent.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 8, onwards, Pair of Sisters, Variety Artists all Lines, for Tour. Boston Twins write. Burton's Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, Refined Girls, 14 to 18, for High-class Scena. Singers or Dancers. Stanley, Percy Hall, Percy-street, W.

WANTED, Ventriloquist, as Entertainer, dress well, sobriety indispensable, long engt. State lowest terms. Apply, Director, 185, Ystrad-rd., Pentre, South Wales.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
Residential Offices,
The Hippodrome, Scarboro'.
Telegraphic address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."
Telephone, No. 288.

WANTED, for Hengler's, Glasgow, Sept. 24, on, the Best Class of Acts of every description. Say when and where in Glasgow before.

Also for Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Exeter, and Scarboro' Hippodromes, from Aug. 20, on.

Give full bookings and absolute lowest terms.

WANTED, Really Good Character Comedian (sing), eccentric knockabout ditto, to do funny falls, &c.; girl, for small soubrette part (dance); trio of dancers; chorus ladies and gents. Photos., height. Call, to-day, Jack McKenzie, 154, Coldharbour-lane, S.E. Aug. 13, Barnard's, Chatham.

WANTED, a clever refined Humorist, also a really amusing Comedian, with good Songs and Patter (not vulgar); both evening dress and character items, for first-class Indoor Concerts. Send répertoire, with lowest terms, to Business-Manager, "The Cameron Quartette," Central Hall, Hoylake, Cheshire.

WANTED, Good Humorist, for Concert Party. Large répertoire of songs and concerted; with Speciality preferred. Lowest terms, photo., Box 3,536, "The Era."

Al Fresco Concerts.
WANTED, Baritone, also Comedian, used to Concerted Numbers. References, height, age, terms, Willie Osborn, West View, Steyne Gardens, Worthing.

WANTED, High-Class Refined Entertainers, for Aug. 20 (week).
J. H. Graham, Tynemouth Palace-by-the-Sea.

WANTED, Boys, age 14, good singers or dancers, for established troupe; also Dwarf Boy. Address, Troupe, Box 3,560, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Operators (Experienced) for Bio-Photoscope. Terms and references, Walter Payne, 346, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, a smart, experienced Young Man, Comical, to attend Animal Act, and groom them. Write, Box 3,546, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Lilith, the greatest Mystery of Modern Times, and Lilian Warren, the popular Pictorial Songstress, Lib. Sept. 3, only vacant date this year. Starring with enormous success, this, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth. Monday, Circus, Bury. All coms., Mrs. Fred Harcourt.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged Aug. 20 and 27. Address this week, Theatre Royal, Halifax; next, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagements, after August, in Birmingham, Cheltenham, or Gloucestershire, Felix Bone, the drawing-room white coon, for concerts, bazaars, at-homes, &c. Highest refs.; refined répertoire. Apply, Box 3,507, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Charles Conway, the World's Greatest Character Monologue Entertainer, unexpectedly vacant Aug. 20, phenomenal success of new Pot-Pourri Act. Next week, Café Chantant, Crystal Palace. Address, 32, Tollington-road, Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Sept. 10 and 17, Midlands, by Wal Kent, the Long Comedian, also Panto. Coms., Pierrots, Ayr.

WANTED, Aug. 13 and 20, by Jack Coleman, Eccentric Comedian; great success this week, wire Pavilion, La Terres Gardens, Guernsey.

WANTED, Eng., Aug. 18 and Sept., by W. Howard, Light Comedian and Instrumentalist; good voice; refined; just concluded Vic. Gardens, Bognor. 13, Gains-road, Bognor.

WANTED, by Sam Paul, Powerful Descriptive Vocalist, Aug. 20, 27, on. This and next week, Pavilion, Urmston, Manchester. Wire, wire, wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Charlie Potz, the Merry Musical Dutchman. Always a success. Wire, Fountain Hotel, Meal-street, Mosley-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Neddy Yokes, the Funniest Single Musical Comedian before the Public, Liberty Aug. 20, 27. Address, Theatre, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, Comedian, Whistling and Laughing. Vacant Monday, Al Fresco, &c.; gags, sketches, &c. 32, Graham-rd., Acton-lane, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Known, George W. Kenway, the Original Mimic, Liberty Aug. 20, 27, and Sept. 3.
Hazeldene, Tooting Bec-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Sydney, Humorist, Raconteur, Society Musical Entertainer, Versatility, Refinement, and Originality. 178, Burgess-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Hesketh Meade, Baritone, in Illustrated Songs, including "Village Blacksmith," with Animated Pictures, Liberty Sept. 10, onwards. Coms., Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, by Mark Merritt, Actor-Vocalist, and Two Palmers, Refined Comedy Duettists, Engagement, Halls or Al Fresco. Panto. settled. Merritt, Post Office, Maldon, Essex.

WANTED, Aug. 13, by Armin Attilla, Gladiatorial Strength Act. Enormous success Palace, Rhyl. Wire after Saturday, 195, Boaler street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, from Sept. 17, onwards, for Le Diabelo, riding the Devil's Wheel. Biggest Sensation on Earth. Share or certainty. Monday, Hippo., Bury.

WANTED, Aug. 13 and 20, by Lazern, the Mystic, Magician and Illusionist, success everywhere. 96, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, a good all-round young Pantomimist is at Liberty for Good Engagement. F., 40, Palm-street, Slade-lane, Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Watsons, of Vocal, Musical, and Comedy Fame, New Business and Inventions. Enormous success. Re-booked everywhere. Monday, return, Granville, Walham Green.

WANTED, Aug. 13, 27, by the Great Original Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, &c.; also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne and Dancer; enormous success. Wire, Palace, Merthyr; after Saturday, 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dan Noble, the popular Comedian, and Marie Yorke, the Dainty Burlesque. Liberty Monday, Halls or Al-fresco. 30, Leitrim-street, Cork.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by The Sheppards (Charles and Blanche), Speciality Variety Duettists, Legmania, Acrobatic Dancers, Monday, onwards. 24, Church-street, Lisson-grove, London.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Hoop Juggling, Beatrice Bonnie, Artistic Comedienne, vacant Aug. 20, through closing. Wire, Pav., Leicester. Aug. 13, P., Blackburn.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, Mlle. Lillian and Clown Agouste, Comedy Contortionists. Two turns. This, Corn Ex., Ashford; next, Hippo., Dartford.

WANTED, Monday and on, by Jessie Harper, Gifted Soprano Vocalist, and Clown Ohmy, High-stilt Performer, and dog Toby. Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Monday next, on, the Mintos (Lady and Gentleman), Refined Musical Eccentrics and Vocalists; if Pierrots, a song each in first part. Wire, 34, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success. through Hungary.

WANTED, Aug. 20, to follow Palace, Bridlington, and preceding Empire, Dudley, by Sphinx and Sphinx, in Double Magical and Illusional Act; also Singles if needed; 2cwt. properties carried. Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, vacant Oct. 1, 8, and 15; also for Panto, parts and speciality. Address, c/o Drew Bayley, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Tomps and Wells, a most successful Comedy Act. Wire today, Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford; after, 357, Holloway-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians and Patterers, at Liberty Sept. 17, onwards, also for Panto. Offers invited. Add., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, by The Meltons, Pantomimists, Legmania, and Novel Musical, Two Distinct Acts. 169, Great Dover-st., Borough.

WANTED, Monday next, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystic Lady; also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Wire, 35, Chapel-street, Blue Town, Sheerness.

WANTED, Known, The Ettenas, two ladies, one gentleman, Speciality Artists, in their meritorious performance, Comedy and Talent combined with Artistic Abilities. This, Waterhouses and Spalding; next, return, Circus of Varieties, Bury. Free Mon., Aug. 20, and from Oct. 13, few weeks. Address above, or 63, Buchanan-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, The Three Cheers, "Dick Whittington" Scena. Real Cat; own scenery, bells. Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27. Wire, CHEERS, Shakespeare Theatre, Altrincham.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free Aug. 13 and 20, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, also 20th and 27th, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, with his Liliputians. Splendid act; a refined Novelty. One or three figures, as required. This week, another huge success, Hippodrome, Wakefield; after Sunday, address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Aug. 27, onward, Sept., Nelson Hardy, Ventriloquist, &c., Wonderful Automaton Varmer Giles; North preferred. 8, Chivalry-road, Wandsworth Common.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, Land, Ventriloquial Expert and Whistler. Great Success, Tower, Blackpool, last week. LAND, Ventriloquist, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Lieut. Albini terminates most enjoyable three weeks' engagement (nights only) with Mr. Fred Spencer's Promenade Concert Party, Littlehampton. Sorry could not stay longer with the boys; my benefit bookings a record; fishing at Chichester daily; good, comfortable shop, indeed, wish the show every success, and it is a success. Next week, starring Hippodrome, Wigan (I love the seaside); then, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, through error, Aug. 20 to Sept. 1, and week 24th, share or salary. Mr. Harry Liston's Concert Party, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Aug. 20, for Matt Wilkinson's Laughing Success, "The Registry Office"; also Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Wulfrunas, three ladies, four gentlemen, Comedy Acrobatic Sketch, "Fun in a Café." Own scenery and effects. Liberty Monday, for Halls or Galas. 22, Ashted-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Most Refined and Elaborately-Staged Animal Act Worked by a Lady, including the Great Football Team, including the Masterpiece, the Goalkeeper, through Barring and Closing, is Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and four other dates, first-class halls, fêtes, and picture entertainments. Add., New Hippo., W. Bromwich. Specially engaged to appear at the Great Shrewsbury Fête.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert's Dogs and Cats, Liberty Sept., on, with exceptions. Perm. add., 74, Boyson-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dogs, Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees. Aug. 24, 25, Fête Grounds, Llanelly, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Minni Letta and Company, in a New and Novel Performance on the Rolling Stage. Proprietors and Agents in Search of a New Attraction should see this Show. Appearing Daily, Bijou Kursaal, Aquarium Terrace, Brighton. At Liberty from October.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen to Know. NOTICE is hereby given that Arthur Righini, of No. 56, Chapel-street, Salford, near Manchester, is no longer in the service of Charles Marenghi and Co., of Paris. All persons indebted to the said Charles Marenghi and Co. are requested to remit any sums due from them to such firm to Mr. J. Wentworth, of 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, the sole representative in England of the said firm of Charles Marenghi and Co. Dated this 18th day of July, 1906.
CH. MARENGHI and CIE.
Witness to the signature of Ch. Marenghi and Cie.,
Hocking, Raby, and Beckton, Solicitors, Manchester

WANTED, Known, Chiappa and Sons, Ltd., have just received one of the latest 110-key Full Orchestral Organs, and cordially invite all Travellers to inspect same at their factory, 6, Little Bath-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers. MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the world, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. Most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties or Side Shows, for new Waxworks. OWEN BAGAN, 48, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Good Novelties, Freaks, and Living Wonders, for Samuel's Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Good Novelties and Freaks, 12 weeks' engagement. Wire for Monday. FRED STEWART, Waxwork, Cowcadders, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, now and onwards. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, a good Character Delineator, lady or gentleman, can open at once; also Wire Worker, &c.; one of the best positions in Rhyl; Share or Salary; working Palmistry big. Would like to hear from Marcus. MANAGER, 18, Bodfor-st., Rhyl.

WANTED, immediately, Lady or Gentleman Phrenologist and Character Reader, for Pier, Aberystwyth; big business. Apply, CASTON'S Waxworks, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, pair good Knockabout Comedians, for Cinématograph Show, work inside and outside. Lowest terms to S. RUSSELL, G.P.O., Trowbridge.

WANTED, an Experienced Planksman and Comedian, one who can tell the tale. Apply, with lowest terms. Theo Daniels please write. Mrs. GRANT, Klondyke Bazaar, Caledon, co. Tyrone.

WANTED, Paraders, for Cinematograph Show; live in or out, with selling right. State business. Box 3,545, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Woman, for Shooting Range, Shop Business; permanent situation to suitable girl. Mrs. PRIEST, No. 7, Kirkgate, Leeds.

Stickybacks.

WANTED, a thoroughly experienced man, for Stamp and Midget Photos., to operate and develop. Permanency, MANAGER, 1, Gallowgate, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy and Toby close to-night, Three Galas this week. Still with Wilder's, Birmingham. Address, Bennett-street, Buxton, Derbyshire. The Old Firm. Chair up.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Will Vincent, Handseller and Pianksman, Comedian, either Halls or Tents. Care of Auction Mart, near Theatre, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, Known, Indian Fakirs, male and female, Performer, Painting, &c., vacant Aug. 13. Wire, Stewart's Waxworks, 164, High-st., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Frank and Florance, the Up-to-date Paraders, at Liberty (late of Tuby's). Can join at once. Add., NORSDEN, 101, Great Thornton-street, Hull.

WANTED, by Doorman and Pianist, Engagement, Exhibition Shops or Fairs; Turn inside if required; good appearance. ARTLEY, Alexandra Palace, N.

Waxworks.

WANTED, Engagement in Waxworks, Panopticon, Winter Garden, or Music Hall, for the celebrated Fasting Champion Beauté, Great Attraction. Enormous success. For full particulars, write or wire to MANAGER of Beauté, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept. for Secondhand Watches and Unredeemed Pledges. There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, Lancashire and District Auctioneers to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, has a Full Selection of Goods during the Season at the Albion Hotel, Blackpool. Ring Up, Wire, or Write to MR. S. L. SIMONS for appointment.

NOTICE TO CIRCUS PROPRIETORS, TRAVELLERS, AND SHOWMEN.

WANTED, to Sell, a large Circus Tent, with seating, all complete, to seat 2000 persons, with wallings, pulley blocks, and ropes, all in good order; also 1 Living Waggon and 1 Band Carriage. The lot can be sold together or separately. Cheap to an immediate purchaser. P.S.—Where tent is erected can be inspected. Apply to G. WATSON, 110, High-street, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, to Sell, Bioscope Show, complete, Front Waggons, carved front, large Organ, Booth 50ft. by 30ft., Bioscope latest make, pictures all new; show goes by road in five loads. No fancy price. Apply, T. M., 4, Wharf-road, Stratford Market, Stratford.

WANTED, to Sell, Light Road Living Waggon, with skylight, grained, fitted up for use. Letters, H. STRUDWICK, Burton Latimer, Kettering.

WANTED, to Sell, the prettiest and best Pullman Living Carriage in England, 17ft. long, and 7ft. wide, cost £50 for painting last winter, private bedroom, sliding door. Cost £250; will take £110. Apply, AUCTIONEER, 5, School-st., Walsall.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, every Description supplied; best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Est. 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, First-class American penny-in-slot Puncher, owner having no use, Original cost 10 guineas, First Come, First Served. Sacrifice same £2 10s. Apply WILSON, 129, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, one 4-abreast Set of Gallopers, for road or rail, complete with waggons; one 3-abreast Set of Gallopers, with waggons, complete for rail; also one ordinary Machine, complete, with waggons, for road. Can be seen working. All the above are equal to new. Arrangements can be made for part cash and part hire of any of the above. WALKER, Roundabout Maker, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, 50,000ft. of Films, just received from the Myrioramas, majority good as new, from 1d. per ft. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Helter Skelter and Aërial Flight, complete, now showing at Exhibition, Limerick, delivery Sept. 3. CALVERTO, Exhibition, Limerick.

WANTED, Known, Shop in Busy Thoroughfare in Glasgow, Stickybacks or Photographer. Apply, STELLA, Zoo, Glasgow. Shares or rental.

WANTED, one horse Living Waggon, good condition; must be cheap. Address, Box 50, "Observer" Office, Lancaster.

WANTED, to Buy, Light Portable Engine, for Electric Light; must be in good condition. State where can be seen, lowest cash price, full particulars, to J. CUMMINGS, G.P.O., Kelso, N.B.

WANTED, to Buy, Small Set of Galloping Horses, under 36ft. diameter. Apply, F. SAVAGE and Co., LTD., Oxford-road, New North-road, London, N.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, that I have Spaces to Let, Spaces to Let, Spaces to Let, Spaces to Let, for All Kinds of Amusements, All Kinds of Amusements, All Kinds of Amusements, All Kinds of Amusements, at the following well-known Flower Shows and Fairs. Flower Shows and Fairs. Flower Shows and Fairs. Flower Shows and Fairs.

Trowbridge Flower Show, Aug. 15 and 16.

Chippenham Flower Show, Aug. 22 and 23.

These are two of the principal Flower Shows in the West of England.

Reading (during the Fair).

Gloucester, Barton Fair, Sept. 28 and 29.

Gloucester Mops, Oct. 1 and 8.

Cheltenham Fair, Oct. 4.

And I am prepared to entertain offer to Let the whole of the Cheltenham Market from Monday, Oct. 8, over the Mop, till Saturday, Oct. 12, to First-class, Respectable Concerns only.

Newbury Pleasure Fair, Oct. 11.

Winchester Pleasure Fair, Corporation Fairground. Poole Pleasure Fair. Other Fairs and Good Private Business to follow till my Great Annual Pontypridd Xmas Fair, where I shall positively open for the first time my new and real Motor Car Track; also my Electric Bioscope.

There will be nothing spared to make this Fair a Great Success.

Note! Spaces now Booked for same.

Apply at once. Spaces let according to application.

Also my Monster Xmas Fair Monster Xmas Fair Monster Xmas Fair (under cover), Victoria Hall, Southampton. Victoria Hall, Southampton. Victoria Hall, Southampton.

No Respectable Concern Barred. No Respectable Concern Barred.

Reasonable Rents; Clean, Dry, and Respectable Grounds; well Advertised.

Stupendous Attractions. Stupendous Attractions. Stupendous Attractions.

For Spaces, State Full Requirements to Sole Lessee, JACOB STUDTS, JACOB STUDTS, JACOB STUDTS, JACOB STUDTS, Amusements, Oxford. Amusements, Oxford. Or Victoria Hall, Southampton.

SANDWICH REGATTA, Aug. 23.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces or Whole Meadow, for Regatta and two following days; close to river; steam roundabout, swings, nuts, circus, doll show, boxing booth, menagerie, and anything good; room for all and good business. Last year Forrest and Beech and Prince Alexander did big business. Write, Wire, or Call, T. TOBIN, 72, Victoria-road, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, Xmas Carnival, four weeks, Large Premises in Dundee. Set Galloping Horses, also Motors; must be up-to-date. Communications by letter only to F. H. HOBBS, 1, Laing-terrace, Joppa, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Roundabout and Circus Proprietors, that J. F. Macklin has to Let, a Field, in splendid position, for the above Business; also Ground to Let now, for his great September Fair at Folkestone, and Canterbury (Oct.). Terms moderate. Apply, 3, St. Peter-place, Canterbury, or to the Agent, W. WAGHORNE, Nelson House, Godington-road, Ashford, Kent, for full particulars.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., for Winter Season, from October, in First-class Exhibition, for Minni Letta's High-class Side Show, the only one of its kind in the world. Can be seen working daily in the Bijou Kursaal (Aquarium-terrace), Brighton. Please note.—The Bijou Kursaal will be for sale end of season, price £150; composed of corrugated iron, built in sections (bolted together), stage opening 28ft., dressing-rooms, and stage-door entrance. Address, A. LETTA, 65, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING. Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for all kinds of Working Exhibits and Novelties, handkerchief embroidering, sweet making, &c.; also first-class side shows, animated pictures, on sharing terms, or would hire or buy reasonably. Send for prospectus and plan, SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. Spaces to Let, for working exhibits, novelties, &c. Apply at once to SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-rd., Stratford, London. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. It is anticipated we shall get from 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily.

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"The Flood," Althoffs, Klos Sisters, Galetti's Monkeys, Harding and Ah S'd, Mdlle. Olive, Jack Theo Trio, Kaufmanns, Wille Brothers, Harmony Four, Abdullah Arabs, Buddha's Blackboards, Gudzow, Alf Daniels, Lavater Lee, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Chirgwin, Devona Sisters, Jean Seul, Bioscope, Harriett Vernon, Will English, Wright and Roxborough, C. H. Unthan, Harrigan and Holt, Laurie's Kindergarten.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Small Heads, Bioscope, Sisters Melba, Chas. Fisher and Co., Grisse Brothers, Brothers Ebert, Edith Courtney, W. J. Ashcroft, Mark Melford, Edna Aug.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Hetty King, Bioscope, Georgina Leonard, O. K. Sato, Pit and Cute, Willie Gardner, Dot Hardy, Roland Carr, Shawlene, Barowsky Trio.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Boissetts, Bioscope, Orpheus, Tilbury and Ford, Daisy Dormer, Billy McClains Company, Geo. Tacius, Lottie Govell, Victor Newman, Poluski Brothers.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moses and Son, Ltd.," Rosie Bartlett, Lord, Murray, and Lord, C. J. Johnson, Rezene and Robini, Esta Stella, Geo. Reeves, Ludwig Amann.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Pilu, Flo Dorville, Leonard Fletcher, Bioscope, Binns and Binns, Nellie Young, Smythson's Comedy Company, Stella Troupe, Alburtus and Bartram, Monte Myro Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Louie Freear and Company, Algernon J. Hicks, Pierce and Maizee, Marie Weston, Canary Company, Eric, Madge Osmond, Arthur Gill, Tom Parker, Terry and Lambert.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bransby Williams, Will Mitcham, Signor and Mdme. Borelli, Caselli Sisters, Casino Comedy Four, Maud Ross, Howard and St. Clair, Myra Stanfield, T. E. Dunville.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Kitty Wager, Scottish Meisters, Francis and Melli, Fred Poplar, Bioscope, Maud Mortimer, Woodhouse and Wells, Ian Colquhoun, Albortus and Miller.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Cot and Colibri, Grais' Baboons, Alf. Holt, "Nell of the Halls," Classicums, Rachel Lowe, Two Madges, Frank Seeley, "My Gollywog," Howard Brothers.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Cruikshank, Bioscope, Alice Blanford, Hector Grant, Ten Genis, Durant Brothers, Sisters Sprightly, Ross and Grayson.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bioscope, Lillian Lea, Will Poluski, jun., Millie Payne, Sandford and Lyons, Clarkes, Jas. H. Jee, "Fighting Parson," Remingtons.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
De Rougemont, Bioscope, Jack Lane, Irene Rose, Die Obersteirer Troupe, Doughty's Sketch, Brett and Orford, E. J. Sheldon, Barton and Ashley, Three Olympiers, Les Bastiens.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Lily Langtry, Nat Clifford, Gwennie Hasto, Carrie Joy, Rosa Naynon, Bennett and Martell, Clarice Netta, J. H. Milburn, H. Roxbury and Co., Casey's Circus.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
George Robey, Fred Lincoln, Barnard's Marionettes, Carlton, Olive Trio, Adelmann, O'Gust, Thereses Brothers, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Elsie Robey, Rich and Rich, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Minnie Cunningham, Goltz Trio, The Zanettos, Winifred Hare, Inaudi, Ten Loonies.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Griffiths Bros., Tally-Ho Trio, The Tups, Tatten Hall, Leonard and Francis, "The Skirmishers," Bioscope, Darwin and Bradshaw.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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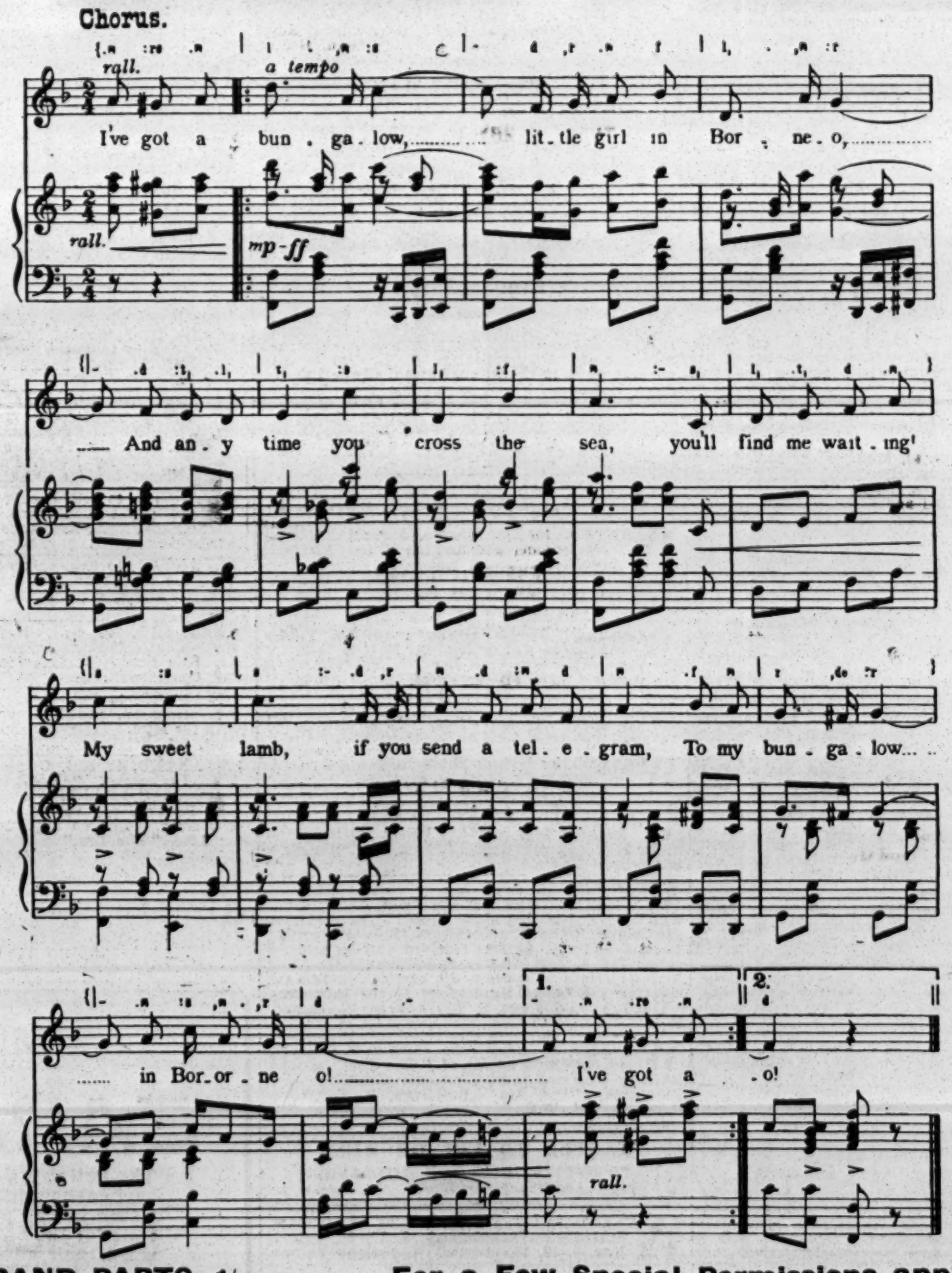

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Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
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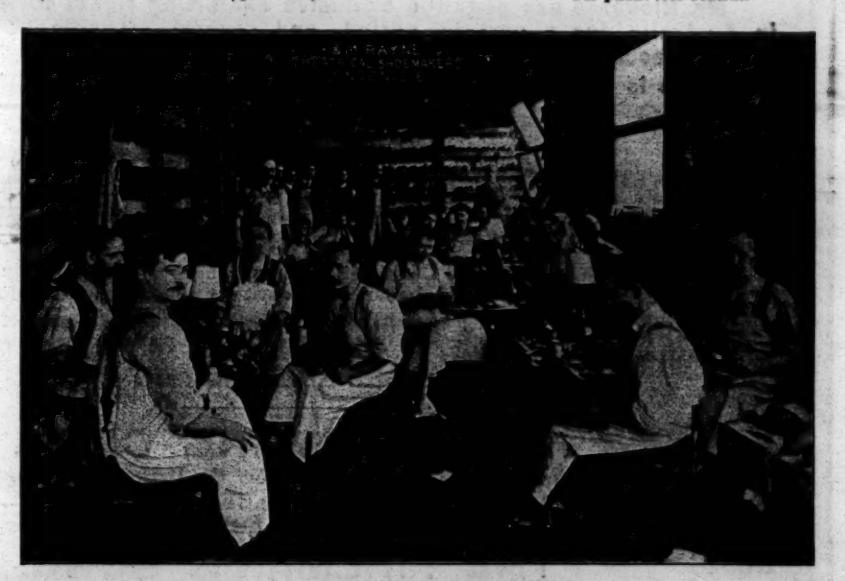

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Under the direction of their young leader the miners are seen toiling in the excavation. Suddenly a shout of triumph and exultation marks the discovery of a rich metal-bearing lode—they have made "a lucky strike." The claim is staked out and they commence mining operations. Already the two confederates are beginning to plot treachery.

After weeks of arduous toil the three miners are just about to break camp and the gold is shared equally among them. They stretch out around the fire and go to sleep, each with a bag of precious gold in his belt. The two conspirators only feign sleep, and robbing their comrade of his gold dust are just making their escape, when their theft is discovered and they mortally wound their victim.

The young prospector regains consciousness and staggering to his horse manages to reach his cottage. An affecting scene follows, and after telling his wife of the treachery of his partners, he breathes his last in her arms. She takes his gun from the holster and swears to be revenged on his murderers.

The two guilty miners are seen gambling in a lonely hut. One of them, a card sharp, as well as robber and murderer, has won all his partner's gold and now offers to play for his "gun." This being agreed the sharper again wins, but is this time detected cheating. A furious "gun fight" follows and the one who lost is killed. His partner goes off with the gold.

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He awakes to find himself held up, and the determined woman tells him his moments are numbered. By a subterfuge he wrests the revolver from her. Just at this moment the little boy enters, and seeing his mother in danger picks up a bottle, and with one blow fells the miner. As he staggers to his feet again and endeavours to pull his gun the young widow shoots him down, thus revenging her husband's death.

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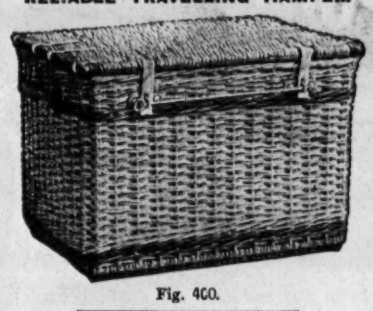

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—The boards are occupied here this week by Miss Bonwin Carlton's No. 1 company in the sensational comedy-drama, *The Plucky Nipper*. The company includes Mr. Edward Surrey as Bill Burgess and Mr. Fred Rivers as Richard Vanbrugh. Miss Bonwin Carlton plays the title-rôle, and evokes roars of laughter; Miss Kitty Maynard as the little blind girl creates quite a sensation; Mr. Douglas Campbell scores as Tommy Atkins.

ACCRINGTON. — Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The excellent bill provided here this week includes the Brothers Redmond, clever comedy acrobats; Marion Scott, a dainty comedienne; Percy Hannan, whose musical numbers are applauded; the Casino Girls, and Halma; Walker and Lake; the Twin Bros. Dean, dancers. Some excellent pictures are also shown by the Bioscope.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Fred Melville's company opened here on Monday in *The Beast and the Beauty*. Miss Alice Bowers fairly wins the sympathies of her audience by her impersonation of Beauty. She has the excellent support of Mr. Milton Rosmer as Jack Barrymore. Miss Daisy Gwynne in her impersonation of Delilah Vane acquits herself creditably. Miss Molly Williams is good as Clarice; Mr. Bernard Mervyn gives an admirable performance as Henry Denver; Mr. William E. Passmore must be complimented on his lifelike portrayal of the Earl of Loman; Mr. Harry Talbot is amusing as Tom Chicken; Ned Sampson is well played by Mr. Eric Campbell; Mr. G. Vivian and Mr. A. Woods are good in their respective parts.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting Manager, Mr. Williams.—The sensational drama *The Face at the Window* is presented here this week by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, a feature being the very effective scenery and mechanical changes. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe gives a skilful portrayal of Paul Gouffet; whilst as Le Loup, Mr. D'Aragon displays much dramatic force; Mr. H. Douglas as Cortier is a capital actor; and Miss E. Magnus proves herself a talented and refined actress as Marie; Mr. C. A. Hineson invests the part of Peter with comic flavour, and he, with Miss M. L. Cudd, as Barbette, causes many amusing scenes; Miss Marie Tennant does well as the Queen of Rogues.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The current week's bill opens with a comic triple-bar act by the Zamo Bros., who combine rare acrobatic skill with grotesque antics; Calile and Walker are an amusing couple; Bill Bailey has "come home," and sings a couple of songs in droll style; Dolly Denver, in attractive costume, sings a "catchy" ditty, and gives an expert clog dance; the Bonanzos are a smart pair of hand balancers; the Richards Trio are remarkably agile acrobats in comic dress; the Three Coopers, including Miss Kate Cooper, juvenile actress, give two refined and pathetic song-scenas, *Descendants of Eve* and *The Two Orphans*, and evoke much applause; the Vekeys are remarkably expert executants of the banjo; Mike Cray is always a big favourite here. He brings some new "business," and introduces a performing dog; Permane's Siberian bears display remarkable intelligence. "The burglar's slide for life" is illustrated in an amusing way on the Bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaughten.—An entire change of pictures, embracing a wide range of subjects, is presented here this week by the Imperial Picture Company. Mr. Baker E. Belphor, the well-known vocalist, makes a welcome reappearance, and is well received in his songs, which are admirably illustrated.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A well-selected bill is provided here during the present week. The Four Emilions give a smart show as acrobats and hand-balancers; Miss Violet Morgan contributes with much fidelity impersonations of well-known music-hall artists; Sibb and Sibb give a refined, graceful, and clever performance on the trapeze; Mr. Clayton's pictures include an interesting series; the Davenports are conjurers of the highest order, the lady giving a smart show of card-palming; Dene and Dawson cause much laughter by their duologue entitled *Stage Aspirants*; the Sisters Edwards, vocalists, dancers, and drummers, win hearty applause; and Mr. Mark Merry, comedian, is well received.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The theatre is occupied this week by Mr. Richard F. Symonds' company in *Camille* and *Frou-Frou*. The former piece was played the first three nights of the week. The rôle of Camille was admirably played by Miss Eva Moss. She had excellent support in Mr. E. Stanton-Sharp as Armand Duval. The Monsieur Duval of Mr. H. K. Ayliff was restrained and effective; Gaston Rieux was in the capable hands of Mr. Walter P. Carr; Mr. W. Kingsford Pearce was a capital Count de Varville; while as Gustave Mr. David Hallam made a good impression. The Madame Prudence of Miss Phyllis Manners was pleasing; and the parts of Nichette, Nanine, and Olympe were cleverly represented by Miss Gregory, Miss Wynne Hanley, and Miss Gertie Homeward respectively. On Thursday night *Frou-Frou* had an equally good interpretation from the same company. The pieces were admirably staged and dressed.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale. This week an excellent variety company occupies the boards. The following are some of the turns which find favour with the large audiences. Dick Webb and Yank Murphy, exponents of Ju-Jitsu; Lil Dresden, refined vocalist; Roseti, the one-stringed Hungarian violin player; Derbyshire Dan, the master mimic; Delno, hypnotist and mesmerist; James and Joce, knockabouts and cross-talk comedians; Amy Hovis and company, in the screaming farce, *Brown's Kid*; Syd Herman, popular Hebrew comedian, who scores in his dramatic scena *The Hebrew Fugitive*; Steb, comedy clay modeller; W. H. Gerald, comedian; Billy McKeever and Ada McGovern, and others.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company in the powerful drama, *A City of Sin*. Mr. H. W. Hatchman furnishes a forcible and artistic portrayal of Mortain, and is ably assisted by Mr. Chas. H. Longden as Zip Barzou. As Paul Torraine, the persecuted hero, Mr. Conrad Heywood displays undoubted ability; and Miss Edith Wallis appears to much advantage as the heroine, Alice Bertrand.

Public Hall.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—Mr. Jasper Redfern's popular variety entertainments continue to be the attraction here.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Wybert Clive's company in *The Conscript* is here. Mr. Harry Cullenford is exceptionally fine as the hero, Karl Truevitch, and Mr. Walter Steele plays Ivan Manloff with fine dramatic effect, while Mr. Chas. E. Johnson is a capable Count Paul Hardiskie. Miss Lillian Ross acts sympathetically and with effect the part of Nadia Truevitch, and in the lighter parts of Wandel Khoval and Tretch Troloff Miss Connie Meadows and Mr. Tom Brien respectively are seen to advantage.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Paulinetti and Pique are the top of the bill here this week, and they give a high-class comedy gymnastic show; Booker and Narbis create roars of laughter with their sketch, *The Interviewer*; Charles Stevens is an exceptionally good character vocalist; Martini and Son are quite at the top as song illustrators; La Belle Nello is an exceedingly clever contortionist; Wallace Whitney gains much applause for his character songs; Barney Vox soon becomes quite a favourite; Beattie Foster is a capital low comedy artist.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*The Lion and the Mouse*, a comedy drama, is here this week, and is played by an exceptionally clever company. Special mention must be made of Mr. Leslie Carter's portrayal of the Lion, a strong character, and Miss Christian Silver as the Mouse scores in a sympathetic part.

BATH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—The principal attraction in the current bill is supplied by the Six Brothers Luck, who, in their farcical pantomime sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, cause great hilarity. Herbert Rule, comedian, is paying a first visit, and his success is most pronounced; Gracie Moore is one of the best illustrated song stresses yet heard locally, her "In Dreamland" pictorial scena proving a delightful item for the juveniles; Sadie Simpson, coon artist and dancer, puts plenty of go into her work; the Sisters Chester are a trio of ladies who play upon mandolines and banjoes cleverly, and also dance with credit while performing upon the latter instruments; Ray Royal, vocalist, evidently from "across the pond," is to the fore; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux this week are showing the Coronation of King Haakon, and also a capital "chase" film of a flying wig.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from Miss Madge McIntosh and Lumsden Hare's company in Alfred Sutro's play, entitled *Mollentrave on Women*. The piece met with a capital reception on Monday. As Lady Claude Derenham Miss McIntosh was in every way successful—a more delightful impersonation indeed it would be difficult to imagine; and Mr. E. A. Warburton furnished a skilful impersonation of Sir Joseph Balstead, K.C. Mr. Michael Sherbrooke achieved quite a triumph by the excellence of his acting as the philosopher Mollentrave; as Everard Swenboys Mr. Murray Carrington was all that could be desired; and Miss Gwladys Wynne deserves praise for her impersonation of Margaret Messilent. Satisfactory impersonations were also furnished by Miss Belle Donaldson, Miss Ada King, Miss Alice Arden, and Messrs. Stockall Ward, J. P. Wilson, and Chas. Halford. *Bob's Mrs. Kenningham* formed a capital curtain-raiser, the various rôles being efficiently sustained by Miss Madge McIntosh, Miss G. Wynne, and Messrs. Murray Carrington and J. P. Wilson.

Palace Theatre of Varities.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The top position here is held by Raku, a clever exponent of the Japanese art of self-defence, ju-jitsu. He is assisted by Miss Moto, who demonstrates how a lady can defend herself by her knowledge of ju-jitsu. Mr. Fred Russell, ventriloquist, evokes much merriment with his precocious partner, "Coster Joe"; and a hit of no small magnitude has been recorded by that droll American comedian Mr. Will H. Sloan, who, assisted by Misses Florence Gerald and Kitty Hamilton, appears in that laughable sketch *The Plumber*. Selbo's club-swinging feats are quite astounding; and also here are Simosa San, who appears in her speciality with trained pigeons; the Lyttons, vocal duettists; Harry Conlin, comedian; Miss Ailsa Douglas, vocalist, and the Palace pictures, which are always interesting.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading feature here is provided by Mr. Bob Hutt and company, who appear to great advantage in their pantomimical skit, entitled *Welcome Home*. A capital reception has been extended to the Norman Leonard Trio, in their musical sketch, *The Itinerant*; Brown and Robinson's tuneful vocalism has been highly appreciated; and Mr. Tom Collins, a capital comedian, has been applauded to the echo. Miss Marie Reeve is a dashing comedienne and fine dancer; and also here are Miss Mona Macdonald, vocalist; Marba and Verity, and Mr. Harry Hayton, comedian.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. Harry T. Downs.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company is presenting *The Pleasures of London* with gratifying success. The rôle of Capt. Maynard is undertaken by that clever actor Mr. Herbert Cecil, who is most successful throughout; the talented emotional actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, deserves much praise for her skilful impersonation of Ethel Dunmore; Mr. Cyril Grier distinguishes himself as Godfrey Dunmore; and Mr. John Burton furnishes a capital impersonation of Silas Screwman; Mr. J. F. Pearce makes the most of his opportunities as Ned the Nobbler; and the humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Miss Effie Macintosh as Martha, and Mr. W. G. Wesley as Jacob Worth, who succeed in causing roars of laughter. Miss Lina Nazeby evokes much sympathy by her skilful acting as Lucy Brierley; and other parts are carefully sustained by Messrs. Wm. Malling, J. M. William, H. Arnold Allen, and S. Moselle.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—The boards here are occupied this week by Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company, in the romantic costume-play, *The Black Bishop*, which is well mounted. The trying parts of the twin sisters Kate and Marian Marley are admirably undertaken by Miss Jeannie Marquise. A fine character sketch of the blustering captain Keilcroft is submitted by Mr. J. W. Ryder; Mr. Alf Collingham is good as Strathcoat; and Miss Norah Caroune is successful as Ruth Oldbury.

Al-Fresco, Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. H. Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston; Musical Director, Mr. Bertram Brennan.—The patrons of this popular place of amusement are again provided with a pleasing entertainment. The principal attraction this week is the Imperial Quartette party, Messrs. Walter and Horace Terry, Harry Anslow, and Bertram Roberts. The Bioscope pictures are also well appreciated.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company opened here on Monday with *The Span of Life*, and has done excellent business. Mr. Kyburn-Dellar does every justice to the rôle of Richard Blunt; the villainies of Dunstan Leech are vividly portrayed by Mr. Sanderson Moffatt; Miss Ella Willmer is good as Kate Heathcote; Miss Phylis Hamilton gives a skilful rendering of the scheming Mrs. Jelf; Cecil Jelf is well played by Miss M. Douglas; and the comedy element is admirably supplied by Mr. Walter Dale as Nutty Brown and Miss Kitty Russell as Shrove Tuesday. The Almo trio of acrobats are also requisitioned in the course of the piece.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Dutch Daly, the popular comedian and concertinaist, is a leading attraction here, as also is Mr. Harry Weldon, a capital comic singer, with a taking style of his own; Miss Elsie Claire, an acomplished balladist, is a general favourite; and Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, are well received. A varied programme is also supported by the Two Anartos, instrumental comedians; the Carina Sisters in their musical mélange; Miss Daisy O'Malley, comedienne and dancer; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

Bishop Auckland. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—The visit of Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's No. 1 company to this place of amusement in *A Beautiful Fiend* is attracting large and enthusiastic audiences each evening. Mr. Montague Beaudyn as Ivan Paulovitch gives a manly interpretation; Countess Nadine Karateff is admirably portrayed by Miss Irene Munro; and Sergius Strogoff has an able and painstaking exponent in Mr. Albert Wray. The characters of Count Fedor Karateff and Wanda Lubinoff are in the safe hands of Mr. Tom Robertson and Miss V. St. Lawrence. The comic element is sustained by Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles and Miss Blanch Hill as Patty Woodlands, Nadine's maid. Mr. T. Byron as Malachi is also worthy of mention.

BLACKBURN.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald Yorke.—There was a crowded house on Monday, when the theatre was re-opened after the summer vacation, and the audience gave a hearty welcome to Mr. Baron H. Harriss's company in *The Prince of Pilsen*. This is the first occasion on which the Prince has visited the town, and while the smart and clever dialogue caused roars of laughter, great admiration was expressed at the magnificence of dresses and the scenery. Blackburn people will certainly desire to renew acquaintance with the latest American production. The greatest success was achieved by Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner, the Cincinnati brewer, who is mistaken for the Prince of Pilsen. His droll methods were a never-failing source of amusement. Miss Sophie Harriss, whose dresses were much admired, was vivacious and entertaining as Mrs. Maddison Crocker, while Mr. Bernard Russell filled the rôle of Lord Shrimpson with much credit. Possessing a capital voice, Mr. Frank Crimp made an ideal Prince of Pilsen, and as his sweetheart (Nellie Wagner), Miss Dorothy Grasdorff won golden opinions by the charm of her acting. Miss Florence Beech as Edith Adams (Vassar girl) and Mrs. Roy Sydney as Lieutenant Tom Wagner were a clever couple, and Mr. E. Gifford as Franson, the concierge, added to the gaiety of the proceedings. The chorus left nothing to be desired, and the different songs were effectively rendered.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—At this theatre the boards are held by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company in the exciting drama, *The Temptress*. In a capable company, the honours are carried off by Miss Lydia Donovan, who gives a striking performance in the title-rôle. Mr. W. Atherstone achieves a big triumph also as Lucas Denbigh.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The star performance this week is that given by Melot Hermann, who has added to the laurels he has already won in the town. He has been enthusiastically received. The Wynfords have also earned applause by their wonderful jumping feats. The other contributors to the programme are the Northern Troupe of Dancers; Mdlle. de Rose, the lady baritone; J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist; Oakley and James, humorists; Stylo, hoop juggler; Beatrice Bonnie, comdienne; and Raymonds' bioscope.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Although *The Earl and the Girl* has frequently been seen here, Mr. William Greet's company, which is interpreting the comedy this week, has met with the most cordial reception, and the theatre is crowded at every performance. Mr. William Stephens is again Jim Cheese, a part that suits him completely; Mr. Arthur Harrold acts and sings well as Dick Wargrave; whilst Mr. Percy E. Wright scores as Crewe Boodle. Elphin Haye finds a charming exponent in Miss Frances Earle, and Miss Jennie Richards is all that could be desired as Liza Shoddam. Mr. Tom Redmonds as Mr. Hazell, and Miss Mary Morison as Virginia Bliss are also to be commended for their contributions. The special numbers rendered by a competent chorus are encored nightly.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Charles Macdona introduces *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* to Blackpool this week with great success. The title-rôle is in the excellent hands of Mr. Morris Harvey, who has established himself a great favourite with the holiday-makers who throng the theatre nightly. Mr. Herbert Dickeson gives a satisfactory account of Norman Popple, and Messrs. Augustin Symonds as George Hennay and Fred F. Allen as Henry Doring also lend material assistance in the fun-making. La Bolero, the actress, is played by Miss Maimie Brickwell, who captivates the house by her tuneful singing and her spirited rendering of the part, and Miss Lulu Louden acquits herself with credit as Louise. Miss Louie Rene (Mrs. Doring), Miss Stella St. Audrie (Mrs. Hennay), and Miss Claire Pridelle (Violet Brinton) are others who do well in their respective parts. The scenery and dresses are lavish yet tasteful.

Palace.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Immense crowds are flocking here twice daily this week, in order to see the redoubtable Hackenschmidt, whose name appears at the top of the bill. Another favourite turn is Neil Kenyon, one of the best of the many Scotch comedians. Besides these stars are the Boccaccio Minstrels; Duncan and Godrey, with the famous coster romance *Me and 'Er*; Albert Le Fre in his novel mélange, *That's What We See in the Halls*; Oliver Conroy, comedian; Margaret Ashton, vocalist; Howard and Harris, in their diverting speciality, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; Horace Wheatly, comedian; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

Hippodrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—A capital programme is provided here, and is warmly appreciated by good houses twice daily. The original Karnos in a sketch entitled *The Travellers' Rest*; Alf. Gibson, the standstill comedian; and Charles Mildare, the singing-bird imitator, are the chief favourites. Enjoyable turns are also rendered by Edith St. Clare, burlesque actress; Master Harry Butt, vocalist; Harry Morgan, coon delineator; Florence Leonard, Scotch vocalist; Henry A. Moore, actor and mimic; Mabel Sinclair, ventriloquist; the Sisters May, vocalists and dancers; Three Phydoras, in a musical act; Miniature Florry, child vocalist; and Frank Hartley, the juggling schoolboy.

Winter Gardens Pavilion. — General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Paul Cinquevalli and the Achmed Ibrahim troupe of acrobats are the only new comers here this week. The ballet, *In Sunny Spain*, is still running, and increasing in popularity.

Tower Circus.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—The continuance of last week's programme here is amply justified by the notice posted outside, "House full," at almost every show.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Messrs. Charles Phelps and H. Tilbury's company, on a first visit here, has presented the attractive romantic comedy drama, entitled *The Blind Foundling*, and has achieved a decided success. In the rôle of Gerald Dalton Mr. Charles Phelps scores well, and receives due recognition; Mr. Frank Harvey as Parson Ray acts the part in a vigorous manner; as the adventurer Mark Redman Mr. Alfred G. Fry deserves praise; Mr. Bernard Webb as Jasper Waterford gives satisfaction; Viola Waterford, in the hands of Miss Amy Dalby, is a sympathetic and feeling portrayal; and the Isabel of Miss Belle Tilbury is a prominent feature. The comedy element is successfully represented by Mr. H. Tilbury as Dick Dobbins, and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie Dobbins. To Miss Mabel Hall praise is due for a capital performance of the titular rôle. Catchy songs, dances, and other specialities are introduced with successful results.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—This house was re-opened for the autumn season on Monday, when a large and appreciative audience witnessed the production, by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company, of the drama, *The Poor Must Live*. Included in a good company is Mr. Shaun Glenville, a clever comedian, who, as Hooker Holdsnitch, keeps the house in a continual roar with his funny patter, songs, and dances; Mr. Harold C. Macartney gives a manly rendering of the character of Drummond Tredigar; Miss Violet Hammersley is sympathetic as Dorothy Murdock; and Miss Carmichael displays clever acting as Olga D'Eyncourt.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Apollo is filling a week's engagement here with his Japanese wrestling entertainment, assisted by Miss Moza, a Japanese lady Ju-Jitsu exponent of the art. Other turns are Lottie Siegenberg, who appears in her quick-change musical sketch *The Lazy Slavey*; Vernette and Dionne, in a daring performance on the triple bars; Miss Jeanette Latour, a pleasing soprano; the Three San Remo Girls, speciality dancers; Lilian Rigby, in a smart musical act; J. H. McCann, acrobatic roller skate dancer; A. G. Spry, comedian; Frank and Thomas, duettists; Percy Curry, eccentric comedian; Muir and Bartlett, in their comedy duologue, *A Clerical Complication*; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Young.—Mr. James Hare and company opened here on Monday night with the thrilling Servian drama, *A Destroyer of Men*. The piece is full of stirring incidents, and the excitement is kept up throughout until the fall of the curtain. Miss Irene Clifford gives a powerful rendering of Olga Mischla; and Mr. Harold B. Lewis is seen to advantage as Count Starevitch. Mr. James Hare works hard in the character of Karl Mischla; while special praise is due to Miss Minnie Walsh for her artistic rendering of the part of Vida Ravel. The comedy portion is well sustained by Miss Alice Buckland as Nina; and Mr. Ross Warren proves a very versatile artist as Coco Tatchoski. Other characters are in most capable hands.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—A good all-round programme is provided for the patrons of the Hippodrome this week. The Five Madcaps, famous terpsichorean troupe, give a wonderful exhibition of dancing; Clarice Mayne, comedienne and mimic, is soon a popular favourite; Little Ganty is funny, and evokes roars of laughter; with their troupe of dogs, cats, monkeys, ponies, and donkeys, Clown Barker and Miss Rozsitca contribute a taking turn; Clemart, ventriloquist, gives his clever act, *The Benches in the Park*; Madge May and May Marton, comediennes, conclude the programme.

BOSTON.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini. — This popular place of amusement opened last Monday for the winter season after extensive alterations, including a new stage and scenery. At the head of the bill is Miss Ella, who enters the den of full-grown forest-bred lions, and puts them through a marvellous performance. The Zaro Troupe, introducing some wonderful acrobatic feats, is received with the utmost enthusiasm; the Brothers Brooks, eccentric comedians, make the audience roar with laughter with their exceptionally good songs and patter; Andy Burn wins applause for his songs and dance; the Sisters Brand, duettists and dancers, are well received; Mignon, musical artist, is also recalled; and H. Duncan, protean sketch artist, and Edwin Towle also contribute to a strong bill.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*The Orchid* has been presented here by Mr. George Dance's principal company. Miss Dorothy Firmin is a delightful Lady Violet, her singing being deservedly applauded; Miss Dorothy Greville is a captivating Josephine, her by-play with Mr. Holden forming a distinct feature; Miss Emily Stevens gives a capital sketch of Caroline Vokin, and sings most successfully. To Mr. Colin Campbell as Meakin, much of the laughter evoked is due, and he receives valuable assistance from Mr. Sinclair Holden, a remarkably good Guy Scrymgeour, and Mr. Bullock Webster as Dr. Faucett, while Mr. E. Nainby as Cassignat is capital. Others deserving special mention are Miss Vera Marshall, Miss Ruby Forbes, and Mr. J. R. Val, whose clever dancing wins much applause.

Shaftesbury Hall.—Mr. T. J. West's pictures are showing to full and enthusiastic houses twice daily. The films include "The Disappearance of a Banker," "A Canadian Sleigh Ride," and many others. Excellent and appropriate incidental music is provided by Mr. Arthur Marston. During the interval Mr. André Letta, Court conjurer, gives an exhibition of some up-to-date sleight-of-hand tricks. The whole performance is under the able management of Mr. T. W. Kingston.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—On Monday night the well-known actor-musician, Auguste Van Biene, re-appeared after a long absence in the time honoured play, *The Broken Melody*, which was greeted very heartily by a large and sympathetic audience, with whom Herr Van Biene's charming 'cello solos were the chief source of interest; his acting, too, as the sorely-tried musician, Paul Borinski, was very pathetic, and Miss Lena Burnleigh as his wife Mabel, supported him finely. As the Duchess de Verviers, Miss Rosenary Rees was excellent.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is this week stirring the pulses of big audiences in Walter Melville's exciting drama, *The Worst Woman in London*, on a return visit here. Miss Florence Dalton with great power and effect fills the trying character of the adventuress, Frances Vere, and her associate in crime, Vincent Lyle, has a capital exponent in Mr. Paul Barry Lewers. Mr. G. Gaisford is a manly Jack Felton. As Ruth Milford Miss Elizabeth Watkins awakens sympathy. James Milford is played in convincing style by Mr. C. R. Stones; Mr. Leonard Booker's Philip Armstrong is a vigorous effort; as Bob Goldfinch Mr. Willie Garvey has a fund of welcome humour, and the remaining numerous characters in the cast are in good hands.

The Empire.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A large audience assembled here on Monday night, and the reception accorded Mr. Bransby Williams, who is making another welcome appearance, was very enthusiastic. In his usual clever style he gave selections from his repertoire of readings and character sketches, his "Showman of the past" quite convulsing his audience. That quaint comedian, T. E. Dunville, is on a return visit, too, eliciting roars of hearty laughter. A bright and merry turn by Howard and St. Clair wins much favour. There is quaintness in the capital vocal turn by the Casino Comedy Four. In their *Musical Tit-bits*, those old favourites, Signor and Madame Borelli, win unstinted applause. On a number of instruments Will Mitcham again delights his audience with his cleverness. Myra Stanfield is a bright and attractive comedienne. Maud Ross is here again, popular as ever as a step-dancer; and the Caselli Sisters, with their clever acrobatic dancing, command applause.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The menu here this week is quite to the taste of the patrons. Joe Almasio, the jumping juggler, submits a clever turn, assisted by an amusing attendant. The Sisters Aindow are instrumentalists of exceptional quality, and they are appreciated. A clever comedy acrobatic turn by Tate and Tate wins marks of favour; A. E. Clifford, vocalist, displays versatility and is well received; Lily Lena is a favourite comedienne with an excellent reputation here; Ada Parker is well received in her smart coon song and dance. Much merriment is provoked by the American eccentrics, the Ringling Trio, in their absurdity, *A Manager's Lunch*, and the mirth prevails during the performance of the droll acrobatic act by Bure, Haud, and Wise, viz., *Ye Brown Cow Inn*. There are some entertaining films shown by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

St. George's Hall.—Manager, Mr. S. Carter.—The New Century Company's Animated Pictures are a continued source of amusement here. Master Harold Robinson, a gifted young vocalist, also contributes to the porgramme.

Al Fresco Pavilion.—The good programme here has been well varied this week by the speciality in thought transmission and ventriloquism submitted by Miss Inglefield and Sidney Gandy, and by the scenes from *The Sign of the Cross*, presented by Miss Ellaine Cliffe and Mr. Edward Rawlinson.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Emma Hutchinson and Mr. Percy Hutchinson's company opened here on Monday night in that amusing farcical comedy, *Public Opinion*, in which Miss Nancy Beresford gives a capital rendering of the part of Lady Caldershaw, and Miss Connie Dean as Pansy Bligh shines conspicuously; Mr. Charles Harley as Spencer Traughton is quite at home; Mr. Percy Marshall's Wilesey is amusing; as Justice Mallay Mr. Fred Levers is very clever, and Mr. Douglas Hamilton as Babbington Mulley, Mr. Douglas Greet as Viscount Pottey, Mr. Ashton Pearse as Lord Cilgour, and Mr. C. J. Barber as Jowers give able representations of their parts.

Spa Theatre.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company is the attraction here the first half of the week in the popular musical comedy, *A Country Girl*, which is admirably staged and magnificently dressed. Miss Ena Stephens is a splendid Marjorie, both her acting and singing being rapturously applauded; Miss Rita Marcelli gives an excellent rendering of the Princess, and Miss Madge Campbell is a capital Sophie; Miss Blanche Courtney as Nan, Miss Florence Brewster as Mrs. St. Quentin, Miss Violet Leslie as Lady Anchester, and Miss Nellie Read as Miss Carruthers are also admirable in their various rôles. Mr. J. Maxwell Edwards is a fine Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Bernard Vaughan's rendering of the part of the Rajah is excellent; Mr. W. O. Billington's Sir Joseph, Mr. George Stone as Granfer Mummery, and Mr. W. Besley Beltram as Douglas Verity are good; and the part of Barry is finely portrayed by Mr. Frank Weir, who keeps the house in laughter every minute he is on the stage. For the second half of this week Mr. George Dance's company with *The Duchess of Dantzic* is billed.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—In the Grand Pavilion this week the bright particular star is Miss Nellie Ganthony, the clever and amusing society-entertainer, who gives a delightful entertainment; the Flockton-Foster Entertainers and the Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company are always well received, and on Thursday the Gordon Highlanders' Band appeared with their pipers and dancers. Mr. Bert Coot's clever company of Juvenile Prodigies have been here for three nights and proved a great attraction. They have been well trained, and gave their songs and dances charmingly. Miss Monica Bevan's dancing was a great treat, as were the duets by Misses Bertha and Nellie Korrin, and the recitals of Miss Gladys Rose Jones; but the gem of the company was Miss Haidee Vorzanger, a "wee child," whose rendering of solos on the violin showed remarkable talent. The attraction in the Floral Pavilion this week, in addition to Herr Sigmund Winternitz's Promenade Concerts, is Mr. Joseph Lycett, whose songs are always well rendered, and are listened to by crowded audiences.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—The manager of this favourite resort secured his patrons a great treat by engaging the famous boy pianist and musical conductor, Master Max Darewski, who was rapturously received on his first appearance in Bridlington on Saturday evening. This week the vocalists at Herr Wurm's promenade concerts are Mr. Cuthbert Allan, who has an excellent baritone voice, and that fine Australian soprano vocalist Mme. Mary Conly.

The Palace.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—There is a capital programme this week, including Eddie Clay, the funny musical tramp; Cyrus and Maud, musical grotesques, with their cleverly trained donkey; Percy Victor and his troupe of amusing dog minstrels; the Monckton's in sketches, including *The Lady and the Burglar*, which is capitally played; Harry Desborough, coon vocalist; and conjuring feats by Sphinx and Sphinx. Mr. Hubner's animated pictures are a source of great delight.

Summer Gardens. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland. —The popular manager of this favourite seaside resort took a well-earned benefit on the 9th inst., when he was supported by a host of talent, which included Mr. Arthur Chenery's fine company, "The Willow-Pattern Serenaders"; Arthur Wheatcroft, descriptive vocalist; Will Mason, humorist; H. B. Anda, in a comic interlude; Miss Dolly Palmer and C. Danton in songs and dances; Mr. George Hyam, female character comedian; Charles Beanland, in a great speciality scena, *The Topical Cartoonist*; Miss Madge Douglas, contralto vocalist; Mr. Chas. Watkins, in his whistling solos; and Ernest Benn, the talented harpist. The Waterloo Pierrots also played a sketch entitled *Family Jars*. This week the company are appearing in the amusing burlesque, *Lady Samina's Orchestra*, in addition to the usual variety turns by the popular Pierrots.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is here this week with *The Little Michus*. Mr. George Graves gives a clever and humorous portrayal of General des Ifs; Mr. Jack Cannot is an amusing Sergeant; Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Thelma Raye as the little Michus, are charming and refined; Mr. W. Talleur Andrews, as Gaston Riguad, is admirably suited; Mr. Leonard Mackay as Austide Vert, Mr. George Miller as Pierre Michu, and Miss Florence Parfrey as Madame Michu are capitally placed. The choruses are well sung, and great praise must be awarded to the dressing and staging of the comic opera.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company opened here on Monday with *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Alfred

personates five different characters; the Musical Schafers present a good entertainment, *The Garden of Melody*; Kahn and Kahn give an interesting exposition of necromancy, illusions, &c.; Allis and Cassati, comedian and Tyrolean vocalist, present a good turn; Dunning scores as a ventriloquist; De Vere and Kenwick amuse with burlesque pictures of popular songs; Victor Travers, comedian, obtains applause; and Will Musgrave, comedian, also scores with his songs. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Mr. Fred Conquest and company are here with the clever and interesting sketch, *The Freak's Revenge*; J. W. Winton, ventriloquist, does a good turn; Warsaw Brothers, comedy musicians, obtain considerable appreciation; Johnson and Pelham's "pot-pourri" act of ball punching, dancing, &c., is entertaining; Barney Kane, Scotch comedian, gains applause; Rosie Revell, comedienne, is successful in character songs; and Jane Temple, American comedienne, is also pleasing. The performance concludes with an excellent display of coloured animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here this week presenting *The Breed of the Treshams*, and on Monday evening a large house gave every evidence of the pleasure they derived from the performance. The rollicking Lieut. Reresby was an exceedingly fine performance by Mr. H. Tripp Edgar; Miss Celestine Bertram was well suited to the character of the boy Batty; the Hon. Margaret Hungerford was a very charming lady as portrayed by Miss Florence Thressilian; Mr. Oswald Lingard was seen to advantage as the fine old Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Richard H. Greene cleverly sustained the part of the craven Colonel Hungerford; Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham was satisfactorily played by Mr. Charles Langton; Mr. George Traill as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; Mr. Alec Flood as Colonel Bagshaw, Mr. H. Fitzmaurice as Colonel Stanhope, Mr. H. C. Cross as Colonel Rashleigh, Mr. George Jackson as Lieut. Willoughby also did well in their several capacities, and the staging was excellent.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Jack and Evelyn in *Come into the Office*, form one of the principal attractions here this week. Much applause greets Charles Serra for his excellent equilibristic performance. Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton are distinctly pleasing in a pretty little musical comedy, *A Broken Journey*. Ariel and Astarte give a smart gymnastic turn, and George Helen and Emmie Cozens are very humorous in *The Doctor and the Patient*. Lack and Ford are a pair of clever acrobatic contortionists; Tom Dunsmore is a good comedian; and the Lynches, whose songs are illustrated, do not fail to please.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Walter.—The stage is occupied this week by Mr. Sidney Dench's company with *The Rich and Poor of London*. Miss Dora Dench finds a congenial rôle as a hospital nurse. The unscrupulous Rugby Redgrave is ably represented by Miss Lily Morell; Miss Sybil Viney is bright and clever as the coster flower-girl; Mr. Sidney Dench, in his original sketch of the "one-man band," creates quite a furore; and the aristocratic scoundrel (Ravenswood) is powerfully played by Mr. Dennis Clyde. The legal and medical faculty are capably interpreted by Mr. Cole Aspinall as Grabbem and Mr. Graham Arthurs as Dr. Morton. The juvenile artists, Miss Ethel Denville and Master Bert Deuce, are well placed, as are also Mr. Jack Sidney (a typical coster) and Miss Emily Woodleigh (Auntie Scrimp).

BURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company are playing *The Drama of Life* here this week. Mr. E. M. Hamilton is capital as Harry Beech, and is ably assisted by Miss Kate Hallam as Sylvia; and Mr. J. Hooker acts admirably as Walter Beech, the villain. Good comedy work is put in by Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde, and Miss Florence French as Lady Wilde.

THE CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good company is here for the "Wakes" week, including the Mysterious Lilith, introduced by Madame Fred Harcourt; Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice give a brilliant musical performance; the Ettanas, globe rollers; Charles Chard, comedian; the Two Erolls, comedy acrobats; Billy Burns, the singing pit lad; Boy Glen, comedian; and Lillian Warren sing songs which are well illustrated.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A splendid programme is again put on at this house. Le Diabelo, "looping the devil's wheel"; Stanley's Urchins sing and dance well; the Rupertos, equilibrists; C. C. Corri and Derevic's company, in a little sketch, entitled *Heart Strings*, gives Miss Gladys Hooley a chance of showing what a fine violin player she is; Sheila McNeil, comedienne; Jessie Jukes, dancer; Mlle. Du Roche, vocalist; and Wallace Muirhead, the singing boiler maker, are all good turns.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the past three nights this week we had Mr. George Dance's company in *The Spring Chicken*. Mr. Fred Payne was most diverting as Mr. Girdle, and Miss Nellie Kavanagh scored repeatedly as Mrs. Girdle. Mr. J. S. Durant played Babori with an abundance of go and resource; and Mr. Harry Averell was capitally placed as Boniface. Mr. Edwin Dodds was particularly good as Felix; and Mr. Lewis Wigley and Miss Lilian Errol were admirable as the Children. Miss Beatrice Poole was a pleasing Baroness Papouche, and Miss Florence Lee did her work well as Mrs. Babori. Rosalie had a delightful representative in Miss Crissie Leonard. The dancing was exceptionally good, and the scenery beautiful. *Veronique* completes the week.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Hardie and Von Leer's company opened here on Monday with *Two Little Vagabonds*. The piece is capitally presented, the company working extremely well together. Mr. Henry Hare as George Thornton acts with care and ability; Mr. Edward McLean plays the part of Captain Darville with striking effect; and Mr. Max Ducane is quite at home in the rôle of John Scarth. Miss Valerie Crespin displays true histrionic powers as Marion Thornton; and Miss Celia Olivia gives an artistic enactment of Barbara Scarth; while the clever representations of Dick and Wally by the Misses Violet Bazalgette and Jessie Zatman win the sympathetic admiration of the audience. Mr. Lionel Ellis is a particularly good Bill Mullins, splendid support being rendered by Miss Violet Vivian as his wife.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—The drama presented here is the powerful piece, *A Woman's Revenge*, which has attracted good houses. The leading character of Mary Lonsdale is rendered by the clever artist Miss Winifred Chalmers, whose delineation is one of the chief successes of the play. Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Frank Drummond is a tower of strength in the cast. The remaining characters are all well rendered, the comedy being especially smart.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Marie Loftus is always a draw with Cardiffians, but her clever skit, *Singers Past and Present*, makes her a greater favourite than ever. *The Cockney Huntsman* is the title of an amusing absurdity presented by Queen and Le Brun and their company; Nipper Lupino Lane makes a great success with his capable singing and dancing; and the Lupino Bros. are uproariously amusing in their animal impersonation. Much merriment is caused by the coon singer and dancer Billy Hobbs; while the picture-song presented by Fox and Melville arouses the admiration of the audience; Beppo's clever monkeys; J. P. Ling, in a mimetic monologue; Chas. Pastor, eccentric singer; and the bioscope, are the other turns provided this week.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is appearing here this week in the Anglo-Indian drama, *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. G. M. Montanini gives a powerful rendering of the part of Prince Rao, and receives able support from Miss Nesta Sandford, who is excellent as Vashti, an Indian snake charmer. Special mention, however, should be made of the fine acting of Mr. Victor Rae as Cara; Mr. Ernest A. Duval is successful as Frank Derrick, and Edmond O'Grady causes plenty of laughter as Billy Bright. Miss Rose Routledge is a charming Lola Vane, and acts in a most natural manner; Mr. Lex Phillip and Miss Kitty Thomas do exceedingly well as Hon. Bobby and Pansy Blossom respectively.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.—Managing Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Pichel Troupe, is a smart and clever Risley act, top the bill here this week; the Violas, in a thought-reading séance, are very mystifying, as also is Shang Hia, a Chinese magician; the Brothers Obo are responsible for much merriment with their funny cross-talk and singing; and the Brontes score an instantaneous success with a cleverly written and funny duologue, entitled *Saucy Maud*; Raglus, tennis ball manipulator, has made a big hit. Other items are Sisters Hayden and the Pepiscope.

CHATHAM. — GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne. — Here we have Wal Phillips, comedian; Les Henris, in their act, *Sport in the Garden*; Cherry Lass, comedienne; Herbert Cyril, the seven foot comedian; Miss Lillian Lowe, who charms the audience with her songs; Boswell's troupe of cleverly trained ponies, dogs, and donkey; the Edisonograph with fresh pictures; and Frank Hardie and Co. in an interesting sketch.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Downes and Langford are with us again, scoring with lively ditties and smart patter; Sid Bandon is a comedian who quickly gets on good terms with Barnard's patrons; Jack and May McKenzie give a scena, *Married for Money*, and the Sprees contribute one entitled *Twickenham Ferry*; Leonard Mortimer's company, remaining from last week, is applauded throughout in *The Schemers*; others appearing are Lizzie Harper, comedienne, and Stan Aubrey, eccentric comedian. The Erascope continues to amuse and interest.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—*The Convict's Daughter* is paying a visit here this week. Mr. Frank Bertram in the rôle of the escaped convict, Michael Graham, is excellent; Mr. G. Moreton Williams acts neatly in the part of the typical villain; and Miss Nellie Clyde is pleasing throughout as the heroine. Mr. H. Nelson Wallace is also good as the banker, Frederick Neville; Mr. Herbert King is intense as the virtuous lover; Miss Phyllis Gibbon and Mr. Sam Roberts as the pert maid-servant and her devoted Irish policeman do good work in the comic interludes; and other parts are well played by Miss Rose Carew and Mr. Wallace Donald.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—The Blue Viennese Band, conducted by Herr Moritz Wurm, are a popular attraction this week, assisted by Mr. Fred Vallance in his magical entertainment and ventriloquism.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. A. Hemmingway.—Messrs. Buchanan and Huntley's Vaudeville Company is here this week. Among the several turns, the Happy Sailor Boys present a musical pantomimic mélange, *Crossing the Line*.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietors, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, Ltd.—The opera company is again here, and giving extracts from *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *Maritana*, and other operas. The singers include Misses Boaden and Beaumont, and Messrs. Beaumont and Griffiths, all of whom are capable artists with good voices. Varieties by the Olracs, in their laughable acrobatic *mélange*; Jas. Stewart, the tramp pianist, in his Paderewski act; Miss Criss Cross, comedienne; and Ch. Ridgwell, eccentric comedian, both help to fill a fine programme. Ruffell's Bioscope continues to show some fine films.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS. — Messrs. Graham, Russell, and Bentley are this week assisted in their popular concerts by Miss Emily Hayes, a fine vocalist; Mr. James Davis, the well-known tenor; Miss Ethelle Stapley, violinist; and Mr. Owen Clark, the clever conjurer and entertainer.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. C. Macdona; Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes. Mr. Mouillot's company, in the *Blue Moon*, has been playing to good houses here the first three days of the week. Specially deserving of notice in an excellent company are Mlle. Marguerite Naudin as Chandra Nil, Miss Dorma Morgan as Evelyn Ormsby, and Miss May Audrey as the lady's maid; Mr. Ainslie Burton as Moolraj, and Messrs. Victor Wallace, Arthur Radcliff, Basil Mercer, and Ch. Stephenson. *The Freedom of Suzanne*, played by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, with Miss Mabel Love, was here on Thursday and Friday.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Ashton; Manager, Mr. Digby Dent.—The following artists all assist in a good variety concert: Miss Byam Yates contralto; Mr. Rt. Dyers, comedian; Mr. Archie Anderson, baritone; Miss Lillian Jefferies, dancer and singer; and Messrs. Finlay Dunn and Fred Frampton. Good pictures are shown by the Walturdaw Bioscope.

Record business is being done at the Bandstand Concerts. Mr. Collingwood has now taken charge of the seating arrangements, &c. Miss G. Shrimpton, soprano, is still here, and in addition Mr. Th. H. Howell, a good baritone, and Mr. Eric Charlwood, humorist.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Henry E. Leigh's *'Varsity Belle* company appeared here for the first three nights. Mr. James Danvers was highly successful as the proctor, Septimus Stoney, and special mention should be made of the sketch introduced into the third act, entitled *A Musical Lesson*, which showed Mr. Danvers at his best. In the title-rôle Miss Josephine Ellis fairly delighted her audience with her impersonation of an undergraduate; Miss Nellie Parker Dent was decidedly well-placed as Mrs. Barker; and as Runyard, the college scout, Mr. Frank Lilliput, always a favourite in this locality, was extremely funny. The minor parts were in each instance efficiently undertaken. Mr. Charles Macdona's own company, in the *Toreador*, filled the bill for the last half of the week.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—The Six Brothers Luck, in *The Demon of the Cellar*, head the bill this week, and are well received; Phillips and Terry, in a comedy sketch, entitled *The Revolt of Man*, are accorded a big reception; Montague Biggs, the "male Marie Lloyd," is decidedly good; a like remark applying to Idalia May, transformation dancer. Lily Black scores as a comedienne; and Tom Leo is also applauded for his "lazy" songs. As usual, the pictures conclude a good evening's entertainment.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. William Greet's No. 1 company opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. Frank E. Petley as Marcus Superbus made a favourable impression; Miss Marie Leonhard as Mercia gave a fervent rendering of the part of the Christian maiden; Mr. C. Yorke was a sufficiently cruel Nero; Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio created much amusement; Miss Gertrude Price was a successful Berenice; and Miss Jessica Thorne made a satisfactory Ancaria.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's company, in the ever-popular drama, entitled *When London Sleeps*, is paying a welcome visit here this week. The hero, David Engleheart, is capitally portrayed by Mr. Louis Norman, ably assisted by Miss Mabel Scudamore, who gives an admirable impersonation of Queenie Carruthers; Mr. D'Arcy Kelway is responsible for the part of Sammy Blythe; Miss Bessie Frank is seen to advantage as Carrie Jones, the circus rider. Others who give good accounts of themselves are Mr. C. P. Wentworth (Capt. Rodney Hayes), Mr. Chas. Sutton (Furnaby Fuller), Mr. F. E. Thomas (Bob Jones), Mr. F. Howard (Hon. Bertie Broomhead), Mr. L. Thompson (Mark Blackwood), Mr. Fred Bernando (P.C. Stone), Miss Maud Yorke (Hilda Carrode), Miss Daisy Clifford (Maud de Freier), Miss Edith Colona (Signorina R. Jonesto), and Miss Josephine Goldsmith (Lelia).

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Chief amongst the attractions here this week is George Bastow, the well-known comedian. The New York Nippers are another capital turn in the speciality act, entitled *Bed Time*; Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams give a good exhibition of singing and dancing; Cussac-Talma is a clever illusionist, and is ably assisted by Mlle. Yvonne de Forge; the Sisters Allen are capital vocalists and dancers; Connie Milton is a good comedienne; and Marie Blythe is a descriptive and character vocalist; the usual animated pictures conclude the performance.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Fred Benton's company in *The French Spy* is attracting good houses this week. Mr. Richard Fulton is excellent in every way as Captain Somers, and Mr. L. Chaseby does justice to the rôle of Lieut. Maxwell. Mr. Fred Benton as Fritz is a distinct success; Mr. MAX COUTTS ably represents the character of Count Romanoff; and Mr. George Sherraton gives an effective portrayal of Petroff Romanoff, Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe as General Trepoff, Mr. Charles Digby as Viscount Alexis, and Mr. Claude Aymond as Lord Aynsley, meritoriously sustain their respective parts. Miss Gertrude Evans gives a clever rendering of Countess Andre; and a word of commendation is due to Miss A. Harrison-Tate and Miss Margaret Seymour.

CROMER.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. L. Locke.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. George Dance's company paid a visit with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. The well-known comic opera is staged in an effective manner, the costumes and dresses being on an elaborate scale. Miss Blanch Lynd scores a well-won success as Sans Gene, playing with exquisite grace and distinction. In the first act the Lieut. Napoleon Bonaparte of Mr. C. Ibberson is adequately presented; and the Napoleon, in Acts II. and III., of Mr. George Pollock, is a piece of good acting. François Marechal Lefebre, played by Mr. W. Wallington, is good. For the remainder of the week Clifford Essex's Pierrots and *Three Little Maids* fill the bill here.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert; Musical-Director, Mr. Leonard Gautier.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company in *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross gives a fine, manly impersonation of Pete; Mr. James Dillon is excellent as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Frank Liston is commendable in the rôle of Philip Christian; Mr. Dudley Stuart is capable as Ross Christian; Mr. Graham Winsford makes a suitable Dr. Mylchreest; Mr. Richard Hutton is praiseworthy as Professor Mawley; Mr. Edward Cartell accurately interprets the part of Monty Missitt; Mr. H. Morgan has a keen perception of the part of Tom the postman; Mr. W. Horgan ably sustains the character of John, the constable; Mr. H. E. Morton is good as Jobique Jelly; Miss Minnie Watersford acts with care and judgment in the rôle of Kate Cregeen; Miss Dorothy Duncan is successful as Nancy; Miss Mona Spearing is seen to advantage as Miss Christian; and Miss Kitty Livesay is expressive as Bella Kelly.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, in *The Female Swindler*, is here this week. Mr. Joseph Millane as John Coulson is well placed; Mr. John Belton as Abraham Mikestein appears to advantage; Mr. Henry Wright is exceedingly good in his various impersonations in the parts of an ambitious young man; Mr. J. Wall as Detective Dixon is good; Mr. Wilford Cheetham submits a fine representation of Geoffrey Warden; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray ably fills the rôle of James Oliver; Mr. A. Wilson as Larkin is commendable; Mr. Alfred Masters as Cartwright is most capable; and Mr. Guy P. Ellis is excellent as Harold Travers. Miss Gray as Mrs. Poppem does well; Miss Mary Dawson admirably sustains the part of Mary Ann Mee; Miss Florrie Kelsey as Mary Andrewes is a success; and the title-rôle is played with marked distinction by Miss Grace E. Leslie.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The attractions here are enjoyable. Harry Pleon, as P.C. Rudder, is remarkably funny; Grahame and Harrington, in their sketch *A Daughter of Pleasure*, display some fine acting; Gus Barra is a clever musical comedian; a nautical sketch, *The Little Stowaway*, under the direction of Arden and Abel, is well staged, and creates quite a sensation; the Five Whiteleys give a capital acrobatic act; Wyze and Adna are decidedly brilliant in a humorous domestic episode; Gladys Huxley is a fascinating comedienne; Daisy Mayer is a vivacious singer; and the Sisters Belmont are neat dancers.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—An attractive programme is presented here this week, including the Achmid Ibrahim troupe of Arabs, whose feats of tumbling, &c., are marvellous. Messrs. Collins and Rice are funny in their comedy business; Miss Ruby Dahl, with her latest novelty, *The Merry Mannikins*, is diverting; Mr. R. C. Note is a popular vocalist; and Miss Elsie Earle a capital burlesque artist. Mr. J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer, is well received; Mr. John Ross, double-voiced vocalist, sings with power; the Bellograph, with new pictures, is also an attraction.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—The attraction here this week is Miss Evelyn Moore's company in *The Crimson Club*. Reginald Adolphus Garside is made a distinctly funny character by Mr. Percy Shaw, who also treats the audience to several capital whistling solos; Mr. F. G. Kay makes a capital Sir Philip Garside; Mr. Clifford Wright is good as Richard Fenton; Miss Florence Delmar leaves little to be desired as Julia; Miss Kitty Elliot and Miss Sidney Barrasford are good as Sophonisba and Muriel respectively.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton. — *A Fight for Millions* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Robert Perris as Richard Dudley plays extremely well; Tom Manley is ably impersonated by Mr. J. C. Carlyle; Miss Eva Purcell makes a charming Pearl Rivers; and Miss Elma C. Turner as Helen Dudley, the deserted wife, is all that can be desired. Some amusement is caused by Miss Lottie Pearce, a clever soubrette, who doubles the rôles of Betty the maid and Madge Brady, and introduces several good songs.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The programme here this week is headed by the Four Cattaneos, eccentric acrobats; Whimsical Walker and company appear successfully in a short sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, and are assisted by Frances Maddock, a clever child actress; Wee Jessie, a juvenile comedienne and dancer, is well worthy of mention; Joe Mac is a quaint comedian; Elton and Elmo are skilful triple bar comedians; Vincent is a praiseworthy tumbler and table expert; the Sisters Walmsley are charming duettists and dancers; and the pictures depicted by the Palace Bioscope conclude a good all-round programme.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—An old favourite in the person of Mr. Arthur Milton is here this week with a well selected variety company. The musical farce which was formerly submitted is now staged by Mr. Milton in a considerably condensed form. Much laughter is aroused by the humorous incidents and situations of the farce. Mr. Fred Russell plays in breezy style Captain Frank Fairweather. A very droll exponent of Peter Panley is present in Mr. Joe English, whose qualities as a comedian are as pronounced as they are helpful in the success of the farcical element of the piece. Others in the cast comprise Miss Minnie Mulvey (Mrs. Cherrible Chickington), Miss Hettie Lind (Maud), Miss Lily Ward (Fanny Panley), and the popular comedian, Arthur Milton, as Cherrible Chickington. The costumes worn are very attractive and picturesque in colour and design. Boden and Bell are a pair of juveniles whose remarkable cleverness as vocalists and dancers earn them a tornado of applause; Bugler J. Carr gives a performance which is distinctly novel and enjoyable; Marlow and Manton prove amusing in the farcical sketch entitled *Other People's Babies*; the Sunbeam Trio, who sing "The Bamboo Bungalow," also dance very smartly.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The Villions, acrobatic cyclists, are appearing here in their latest tandem act; Les Louberts are the cause of marked hilarity with their pantomimical acrobatic sketch, *Uninvited*; La Belle Sylvia greatly pleases with her abilities as a vocalist, speciality artist, and acrobatic dancer; other artists who appear and are warmly approved of are T. C. Callaghan, character comedian; Selby and Myers, vocal comedians, dancers, &c.; the Strands, gymnasts, acrobats, jugglers, &c.; Katie La Blanche, singer and step dancer; and Abel and Welsh, grotesque eccentrics.

DONCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE. — *The Two Hussars* is the attraction here this week. A vivid and dramatic embodiment of Harry Alford is given by Mr. Wilson Benge; a well-conceived and capable rendering of Paul Villiers can be written down to the credit of Mr. Fred J. Mabb; full justice is done by Mr. J. Stuart to the character of Harry Maythorne; Mr. G. Paradise gives a refreshing touch to Sergeant M. Finne, alternating topical and humorous songs with some quaint dances; Mr. Jones is an admirable Lewis Montagu; Miss Marie Helené is powerful as Mrs. Giles; Miss Lallah Price is suitably placed as Molly Cutts; and Miss M. Danvers Smith is very engaging as Ellen Maythorne.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company, Ltd; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Wood.—*Lady Madcap* is being presented here by Mr. Alfred Hemming, the musical comedy being agreeably presented by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Isabel Dillon invested Lady Betty with charm; Mr. Ray Russell's impersonation of Bill Stratford was capital; Mr. Jules Charmettes was excellent as the Count de St. Hubert; and Mr. Harold Parke as Oroya Brown did well.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. George Dance's company is playing *The Catch of the Season* here to fine houses. Mr. Frank Lincoln, as the Duke of St. Jermyns, invests the character with distinction; Miss Moya Mannering was delightful as Angela; Miss Gwenneth Gallon looked every inch a Duchess as St. Jermyn's mother, and played with force and conviction; Miss Belle Napier made a fascinating Lady Crystal, and the Sir John Crystal of Mr. Julian Cross was a sound performance.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castles, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary; Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The Palace has been crowded during the past week, and on Monday it was filled to its utmost capacity. The orchestra of Mr. Harry Wood suggested dancing; nay, they insisted on it, and the Douglas visitor danced. Mr. Ernest Shand repeats his success of last week, and punctuates the value of the variety programme presented. This includes Morimura, a distinctly clever illusionist from the land where the chrysanthemum blooms; Mlle. Lola, a lady juggler, who exhibits the latest developments of her particular form of plastic work with excellent intention; there is also Ted and May Hopkins, who have found an original idea in their Welsh love-making scena; a comedy sketch the *Express Baby* is well played by Miss Edith Evelyn, Mr. Frank Esmond and their company; Miss Madge Grey, a dialect comedienne, who scores; the Selborns give a daring acrobatic and trick bicycle act; the Vernon Bioscope is a standing dish, but unlike the ordinary chef's culinary achievements, it changes as the moon waxes and wanes. The outdoor attractions include the Mascot Pierrots, who are really clever.

Other amusements are Derby Castle, where Miss Florrie Forde is creating a furore; Mr. F. J. Connors, Hippodrome; Mr. Charles Eldertons, New Empire, and Mr. Charles Dare's Minstrels.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. Gilbert Heron and company occupied the boards with *The Superior Miss Pellender*. The natural charm and vivacity of Miss Jessie Danvers were eminently suited to the part of Mrs. Pellender; the superciliousness of Miss Pellender was cleverly emphasised by Miss Jessie Belmore; Mr. Gilbert Heron was delightful as Mr. Tister; laughter was caused by the amusing antics and unsophisticated ways of Noel, the schoolboy, as played by Mr. George Belmore; Miss Muriel Meek gave point and expression to the lines allotted to Nancy; and Miss Enid Emilie was excellent in the rôle of Edith. The comedy was preceded by *Kit's Atonement*, by Mr. Gilbert Heron. The author himself played the part of Kit, and his portrayal was both touching and impressive; Mr. George Belmore did good work as Dick Russel; and Miss Gladys Walton made a sympathetic Marie. On Thursday Mr. George Dance's own company opened with *The Cingalee*.

PROMENADE PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—This week musical entertainments have been given twice daily by the Evening Stars, a party of six talented artists, who are known only as Neptune, Juno, Jupiter, Venus, Mercury, and Mars. A really bright and amusing entertainment is submitted, and good houses have been the rule.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield. — Louie Hurman, burlesque artist, submits a pleasing turn; Sam Ives contributes to the evening's amusement with a smart ball-punching act; and other artists billed to appear are Jack Foley, Harry Churchill, the Percys, Arthur Elvin, and George Thursby and Rosie Alexandre in *A Terrible Mistake*.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—A large audience assembled here on Monday to witness *The White Chrysanthemum* as presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's company. Miss Gwladys Elvey establishes herself a favourite in the rôle of Sybil Cunningham; Mr. Horace Mills, as Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont, keeps the house convulsed with laughter, being ably supported by Miss Daisy Le Hay as Betty Kenyon; Mr. W. H. Rawlins sustains with spirit the part of Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; Miss Katie Vesey makes a pleasing Cornelia Vanderdecken; Mr. O. E Lennon provides abundant excuses for mirth as Sin Chong, and Mr. F. Pope Stamper is suitably placed as Lieutenant Reginald Armitage.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Representative and patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—*Three Blind Mice*, a charming light comedy in three acts by Arthur Law, was presented here on Monday, and received a most favourable verdict. Mr. Frederick Kerr cleverly enacts the rôle of Julian Shuckburgh; Miss May Palfrey gives a delightful portrayal of Marjorie Lovel; Andrew Lavender has a capital exponent in Mr. Compton Coutts, and Miss Annie Hill is commendable as Miss Tipping; Mr. Frederick Lloyd is intensely amusing as Rawson Guest; Miss Mary Barton is seen to advantage as Lady Clarisforde; Mr. Max Leeds proves acceptable as Peter Ricketts, and Lady Richard Marrable is excellently portrayed by Miss Granville. The curtain-raiser *What an Escape*, in which Miss Annie Hill, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, and Miss Florence Harwood appear, is successfully presented.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in the Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne* is playing to excellent houses here this week. Mr. Eric Mayne, as Francis Levison, submits a talented portrayal; Miss Julie Kennard sympathetically sustains the rôle of Lady Isabel; the character of Archibald Carlyle finds effective treatment in the hands of Mr. Alfred Beaumont; and Miss Kathleen Bryan successfully undertakes the part of Lady Mountsevern; Mr. Alfred Tate gives a humorous impersonation of P.C. Bullock; Miss Ethel Saville acts with grace the rôle of Barbara Hare; Lord Mountsevern is well played by Mr. Spencer Goodwin; and Miss Ethel Hardacre makes a good Cornelia Carlyle; Mr. C. C. Grattan acts with care the part of Justice Hare, and Miss Jessie Bayes displays much ability as Little Willie.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The leading feature here this week is George Formby, whose quaint songs delight the audience. A strong item of the programme is the Imperial Russian Troupe who elicit loud applause for their excellent singing and dancing; J. W. Rickaby is highly successful as an eccentric comedian; Lee and Bentley in a capital sketch create much laughter; J. W. Wilson gives an entertaining turn with his clever dog Towser; Ike Scott and Son appear in an amusing nautical sketch; Francis is successful as a juggler; Culpitt is a comedy conjurer of more than ordinary ability; and the Empire Pictures are also good.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—One of the principal items here this week is supplied by Frank Bernard and company in the absurdity *Hello*; Verno and Voyce in their local scenas are warmly applauded; the Cladenbacks furnish a clever hand balancing and ring speciality act; Fields and Lewis, burlesque artistes, are appreciated; J. D. Toner, a mimic with a good voice, wins cordial approval; the Fiman's sketch *In the Fire Station* is highly diverting, and others who contribute to the programme are Mlle. Sylvesto, lady contortionist; Francisco, equilibrist and juggler, and May Moodie, piccolo soloist. The Bioscope is up to the usual standard.

ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Photo company commenced a short season here on Monday when an enjoyable programme was presented. The Pictures showing up-to-date events are interesting and amusing, and the vocal numbers contributed by Miss May Durkin, Mr. Ralph W. Goggin, and Miss May O'Connor are warmly applauded.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company here include:—Van Gelder, conjurer; Lilly Sungham, chic comedienne; Little Dandy, comedian; Will Pearce, humorist and mimic; and Colossus and Miniature.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following artists are appearing here:—Lead and Lead, comedy artists; Harry Balfour, eccentric comedian; Mabel Welfore, comedienne and dancer; Maud Harvey, ballad vocalist; Pat Clifford, comedian; and Lucy Larkin, serio.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The Streets of London* has proved a big attraction here this week. Mr. Wm. Rokeby acts Badger in realistic style; and Mr. Riddell Robinson gives a forcible rendering of Gideon Bloodgood. Mr. John Richter plays in finished style as Mark Livingstone; and Mr. Clifford Brown creates much amusement as Jonas Puffy. Amongst the ladies, Miss M. Kynnersley shines conspicuously as Alida Bloodgood; and Miss Edith Goodall plays the sympathetic part of Lucy Fairweather admirably. Miss Marion Armitage as Dan Puffy acts in a vivacious manner.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—The Two Eltons are exceedingly funny in a comedy horizontal bar act; the Carvers, comedy artists and speciality dancers, supply a capital turn; the Marbleseque Trio, in statuary tableaux; Matell and Oval, comedians and knockabouts; Amy Nield, comedienne; and Francis Haskoll, in illustrated songs, all do themselves credit.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; General

a diverting portrayal of the peppery Major Smedley; and Mr. Fred Knight's impersonation of the burly mate, Tom Codd, was extremely entertaining. Mr. Charles White was droll as Dibbs, the gardener; and a good bit of acting was contributed by Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as Augustus. A charming representative of Ethel is found in Miss May Fairclough, who was particularly happy in her delineation of the girlish irresponsibility of the part; Miss May Pemberton was an engaging Lucy Dallas; Mrs. Ruby Wyndham a humorous Mrs. Baldwin; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite was undeniably clever in her realistic impersonation of Mrs. Porter. Miss Mona Robin, who is still remembered in Edinburgh as an accomplished elocutionist and talented actress, played Mrs. Smedley with all her former grace; and mention must be made of Mr. Ewart Drake, a funny comedian, as George Porter, the diminutive host of the Old Ship. The members of the company were repeatedly recalled at the close of each act, and the applause was as cordial as it was well deserved.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company is appearing here this week in *The London Fireman*, a drama which contains some thrilling situations, and not a little humour. The piece is admirably acted and staged. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, in the title-rôle, is a gallant, impressive figure; and Mr. E. L. Garside makes a clever character-study of the part of Ratty. Mr. Oliver Birrell is excellent as Viscount Fleming; and as Joe Bluener and Nixey Stringer, Mr. Walter Wilby and Mr. Harry C. Momber give two amusing studies. Miss Nellie Shirley is a graceful, pathetic Ida Curtis; Miss Nellie Garside scores heavily as Polly Bramley; Miss Florence C. Daly is a capital Grace Curtis; and Miss Nellie Waddington is good as Countess Fleming.

Empire Palace Theatre—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. Mr. G. H. Chirgwin gives one of his well-known versatile turns of vocal and musical items, including, by unanimous request, the famous song, "The Blind Boy"; and Miss Carrie Laurie's Juveniles carry through their bright and entertaining performance in a lively fashion, securing a cordial reception. An amusing comedy playlet, entitled *Cockie*, is briskly acted by Mr. Picton Roxburghe and Miss Fanny Wright; Mr. Will English in his coon songs proves himself one of the best of coloured comedians; Unthan, the armless wonder, shows wonderful facility in making his feet do the work of hands; Miss Harriet Vernon, the lilac girl comedienne, sings several songs in pleasing style; while an interesting display of Oriental juggling by Jean Seul, smart dancing by Messrs. Harrigan and Holt, a clever musical act by Brilliant and Brilliant, and an interesting series of bioscope pictures, complete a good all-round bill.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Dr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Winifred Maude and her company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, are producing here this week the musical comedy-drama *The Stowaway*, and the production has been much appreciated by good houses. Mr. Victor Du Cane as the stowaway, and Miss Winifred Maude as Althea Dale are good, and render their songs excellently; Miss Jennie Hackett as a London newsboy portrayed her part smartly; Mr. James Carson as Charles Etherington, and Miss Ethel Tinsley as Florence Etherington are all that can be desired. *The Sins of the City* was also successfully produced during the week.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The stirring and sensational drama, entitled *A Queen of Villainy*, received capable treatment on Monday evening by Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's No. 1 company. Miss Edith Blande fills the title-rôle, and acts with rare skill and ability; the part of Timothy Kodaco, a tourist, is a very comical one, and receives every justice from Mr. P. Howard Sturgess; Mr. Owen Harris as the escaped convict leaves little to be desired; the Alec of Mr. Alfred E. Calver is a careful study; and Mr. Edward Heanley gives a good interpretation of the character of Stephen Faucit. Matthew Dawes and Sally Chimes are presented respectively by Mr. Walter Spearman and Miss Amy Ross Clyde in a manner befitting the types portrayed; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson as Kit, and Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Reuben, also do well. Miss Cecilia Desmond makes a pretty Rose Delmayne; and Miss Jessie Crammonde a pert and *chic* Molly Maggs.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*The Earl and the Girl*, played by Mr. William Greet's company, was the attraction here the first three nights of the week. Mr. William Cromwell, in the rôle of Jim Cheese, caused roars of laughter; Mr. Robert Hyett made a vigorous and manly Dick Wargrave; as the Hon. Crewe Boodle Mr. Stanley Harrison gave a clever portrayal; Mr. A. E. Coleby was very good as Bunker Bliss; Mr. Frank Cane and Mr. Arthur Cassidy were excellent in their respective parts of Downham and Mr. Talk; Mr. Fred W. Pattrick gave satisfaction as Mr. Hazel; Miss Gertrude Simpson was a charming Elphin Haye; Miss Florence Wix submitted an amusing impersonation of 'Liza Shoddam; Miss Nellie Grant gave adequate support as Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Eva Bevington acted very capably as Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Nellie Lawrence's graceful dancing was much appreciated. For the remainder of the week Mr. Mouillot's company, in *The Toreador*, was billed.

Victoria Pier.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—Engaged at this cosy and popular resort are Mr. Frank Lawton, whistler and humorist, in his clever whistling solos; the Sabots, under the direction of Mr. Harry Ivimey, give a talented performance, and their efforts have gained general admiration. The Imperial Austrian Orchestra also contribute to a capital programme.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. Litten.—Miss Ella Lorraine, soprano, is a charming singer; Mr. Julian Brandon gives a clever second-sight and sleight-of-hand turn; and the pictures are exceptionally good.

Town Hall.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—Mr. W. P. Jury's Imperial Bioscope Pictures are here for another week, and continue to please the patrons of this hall.

Bathing Establishment Grounds.—The items include contributions by Mr. Arthur J. Hill, a smart ventriloquist, he also receives well-deserved applause for his living marionette show; Mr. Charles Cardow took his benefit on Wednesday night, and was well supported.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The chief item in the programme submitted here this week is Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company of speechless comedians in an absurdity, entitled *The Daybreakers*. The sketch is excellently presented, and causes much laughter. Another turn on the same lines is given by the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe in the sketch *On Tour in the Tyrol*, which also provokes a deal of merriment. One of the biggest hits of the week is made by Fred Dunstone, who has some excellent parodies and a fund of original patter; the Crown Trio of speciality vocalists are deserving of all the praise they get, and Starr and Jerome, vocalists and sand dancers, prove a very entertaining couple. Gus Hindell, descriptive vocalist, provokes hearty applause; and May Fallowfield sings two tuneful ditties in taking style. A return visit is paid by Boy Dryden, whose impersonations of several famous comedians are well applauded; Ida Ross, a dainty comedienne, completes the bill.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Heading the bill here is Silvo in a capital musical entertainment; George Adams, baritone, pleases the audience immensely; and Charley Dixon, eccentric comedian, works hard, and receives unstinted praise. The Two Dixons, banjo, song and dance artists, present a smart turn; the Sisters Brenton are clever comediennes and dancers; and Kate Lynd sings two chorus songs with good effect. Downey's living pictures conclude the entertainment.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Walter Melville's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads* has drawn large audiences to this house. Chief honours go to Miss Beaumont Collins, whose depiction of Barbara Wade wins for her the highest praise; Mr. Charles Franmore portrays Farmer Meadows excellently; Mr. Wilson Gunning is seen to advantage as Jack Livingstone; and Mr. Gerald Jordan as Cuthbert Lumley has a part which fits him like a glove. Dr. Weston receives capable treatment at the hands of Mr. Chas. Rean; the part of Toby Turvey gives Mr. Fred Ingram a chance to show his abilities as a comedian; Miss Nannie Meade presents a praiseworthy rendering of Nellie Meadows, and Miss Lena Delphine is a vivacious Tilly Vane.

GLASGOW.—King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—C. P. Levilly's company is again here with *La Poupée*, and the favourite comic opera is proving as big a draw as ever. Miss Stella Gastelle is still the Alesia, and her acting as the doll and her charming singing again form two outstanding features. The comedy part of Hilarius is now played by Mr. W. H. Powell, and on familiar lines he brings out the humorous touches in the part in clever style. Mr. Manfred Russell sings well as Lancelot, and the fine voice of Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Father Maxime is heard to advantage in "A Jovial Monk." Mr. Fred Seymour and Mr. William Griffin ably play the old beaux Loremois and Chanterelle. Miss Kitty Cavendish is an attractive Henri, and the Madame Hilarius of Miss Avis Grahame is well played. Mr. Vernon Reed is an amusing Balthazar. The chorus and orchestra ably assist in the general effect.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys.—A good house welcomed on Monday, the return visit of Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian*. The leading parts are still in the same hands, the Glory Quayle of Miss Grace Chalmers and the John Storm of Mr. Frank Tennant being as before excellent and powerful renderings. Mr. George R. Montford, who stage manages the play, is well suited as Lord Robert Ure, and Mr. Jackson Wilcox acts the part of Horatio Drake convincingly. Mr. Charles Hill as Parson Quayle invests the part with pathos. Mr. Charles E. Dering as the pompous Archdeacon Wealthy and Mr. Edwin Ling as Father Lamplugh show two contrasting types of clergymen. Miss Vashti Wellborne as Polly Love gives a most sympathetic rendering and Brother Paul is finely played by Mr. Wilfred Noy. Miss Molly Haydon as Mrs. Callender, and Miss May Weir as Aggie Jones give able support.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Charles Carey's company in *After the Ball* provided some hearty amusement on Monday. Miss Queenie Finnis makes a charming and attractive Nellie Mather, and her various songs are sweetly sung. Miss Eva Ellis as her friend, Ruth Gay, also ably adds her quota to the song and dance items. Miss M. Sadie's comic acting as Nancy proved most enjoyable, and her efforts were much appreciated. Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Halliwell Menit makes his best hit with a pretty dream song. The fiery Colonel Menit is cleverly acted by Mr. Percy Baverstock, and the inane youth, Dick Seymour, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Norman Bowyer. Mr. Buckstone Clair, who is responsible for the lyrics, gives a smart performance as Martin, and ably assists in the fun-making. Miss Nellie James as Kitty is a neat dancer. The chorus of Gibson Girls, and the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers complete an able company.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's stirring and exciting play, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is drawing good houses here. Mr. Henry Lonsdale acts the hero to perfection; Miss Minnie Westgate as Lucy is charmingly ingenuous; Mr. Louis Hector as Charles Devereux and Mr. Leonard Maxwell as Geoffrey Broughton enact a couple of scoundrels with good dramatic effect. Miss Octavia Noel as Lady Lancaster gives a powerful impersonation of an unscrupulous woman; the Mother Superior is excellently played by Miss Barbara Gott; Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty Lovejoy supplies the humorous element, being ably assisted by Mr. Fred De Vere as Timothy Tuttutt.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch. — Mr. Edmund Tearle's company occupies the stage here in a good production of *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, by arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright. Mr. Neal Fitzwilliam is excellent as Tom Robinson, and his breezy acting is greatly enjoyed. As George Fielding Mr. Sidney Bland is seen to advantage; Mr. I. A. Keogh as Jackie deserves particular mention for a clever portrayal; Mr. J. T. Macmillan as Peter Crawley is effective; Mr. J. C. Hinton as Meadows is well chosen for the part; and the Isaac Levy of Mr. Ernest Lodger and Prison Governor of Mr. W. R. Wilson deserve mention. Miss Esther Tearle as Susan Merton is winsome.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company is paying a welcome return visit with *The Wearin' o' the Green*. The Part of Barney O'Hea is well taken by Mr. Mackey. Mrs. Mackey appears successfully in her accustomed rôle of Norah McGrath. The part of Shamus McDermott is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Hayes, whose rendering of "Let Erin Remember" and "The Wearin' o' the Green" is enthusiastically received. Miss Nana Flensberg portrayed cleverly the part of Biddy McGinn. Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs. McDermott, Mr. St. John Stuart as Gerald Courtney, and Mr. H. Sainsbury as Sir George, also deserve mention.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Govan's own playhouse, after the summer vacation, reopened on Monday, and presents a most attractive and comfortable appearance with its improvements and redecoration. The opening attraction is the same as at the Princess's last week, being Miss Grace Warner and her company in *The Scarlet Clue*. This strong play has just hit the tastes of local playgoers to a nicety, and the hearty applause accorded Miss Warner, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. R. Brown, Mr. Arthur Page, and Mr. J. L. Leigh for their clever performances in the leading parts showed that the audience were quick to realise their abilities. On Friday a change was made in the programme, the occasion being Miss Grace Warner's benefit, and the musical play, *The Little Widow*, was given.

Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong. — This cosy little theatre, formerly the Tivoli, has reverted to theatrical business again, instead of variety. It re-opened on Monday as a two-house-a-night theatre, the opening play being *Her Wedding Day*, by E. T. de Banzie, condensed for the purpose into eight tableaux. Mr. Horace Booth makes a manly hero as Harold Saxby, and Miss Laurie A. Pardy plays the heroine, Madge Conway, with considerable charm and full appreciation of the dramatic possibilities of the part. Mr. Alfred D. Adams acts with due force and incisiveness as the unscrupulous Weedon Kenyon. Miss Marie de Roos as his partner in wickedness is fully equal to the many strong scenes, and carries them through with distinction. Mr. T. C. Conover and Miss Jenny Macintyre as a nagging husband and wife impart the necessary humour. Mr. H. Hesselgrave, who stage manages, ably acts the part of Seth Mayson. Miss Mattie Crawford as Dolly and Mr. Wilton Reed as Jessop give efficient support.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The programme submitted here this week includes several notable items, the most interesting being the Three Small Heads, members of a tribe almost extinct, who are described as the most extraordinary human beings on earth. The Bros. Egbert, acrobats, are as popular as ever; the Charles Fisher Pocket Opera Co. also make a successful appearance, their selections from *Maritana* being admirably rendered. The other members of the company include the Sisters Melba, vocalists; W. J. Ashcroft, "the solid man"; Edith Courtney, ballad vocalist; Grisse Bros., comedy acrobats; Mark Melford and Co., sketch artistes, in a lively sketch called *Only a Wedding*; Edna Aug, comedienne; and the Bioscope, with a fine series of pictures.

Zoo Hippodrome.—Proprietors Moss' Empires, Limited, and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The star turn this week is Miss Hetty King, whose clever male impersonations may be considered the ultra-refinement of precocious boyhood. The Barowsky Trio give an original display of comic acrobatics; Pit and Cute are artists who also combine comedy and acrobatics in their feats; Roland Carr is a pleasing descriptive vocalist; Georgina Leonard, a clever burlesque actress; Willie Gardner does some surprising feats on roller and ordinary spates; D. K. Sato can juggle comically and cleverly; Dot Hardy is a lively little singer and dancer; Shawlene is a whistler who astonishes all with his versatility and Animated Pictures wind up a pleasing entertainment.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A first-class company is billed here this week, the special attraction being the engagement of Arthur Roberts in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*. He is ably assisted by Mr. Geo. P. Polson and Miss Jessie Burgwitz. Another item of special interest is submitted by Geo. Leyton, actor-vocalist, in the soul-stirring story, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*"; the songs sung by Miss Sable Fern afford much merriment; the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; Geoffreys and Benson, comedy sketch artistes; and Claremont and Victor, in comedy acrobatic and equilibristic act, make up other acceptable and clever turns.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Houses crowded in every part are welcoming the Boissets in their lively knockabout sketch, *The Bricklayers*, which seems to go better than ever; and the Poluski Bros., who come armed with lots of new gags and business, and keep the audience in roars of laughter during every minute of their turn. Then there is that great South side favourite, Dainty Daisy Dormer, whose coon songs and dances are heartily applauded and joined in by the audiences. Billy McClain's sextette of coloured ladies and gentlemen give a smart song and dance turn, which is much enjoyed. Tilbury and Forde are a clever couple, and their musical sketch, *When the Cat's Away*, is full of good things. Lottie Govell is a lively comedienne; George Tacius scores as a vocalist; and Victor Newman's character impersonations are wonderfully clever and life-like.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—That rollicking son of Erin, Michael Nolan, again delights patrons of this resort in a series of popular ditties with his wonted success; the Four Burnells acquit themselves well in an enjoyable sketch, *On the Links*"; the Delomes are agile and neat as clog dancers; Gertie Gitana is an accomplished singer and graceful dancer; Fred Hallam and J. P. Dane divide honours in the comedian line, the latter's dancing being well received; Terry and Bentley in *The Hunt* sketch are versatile, and the Gondolier Glee Singers complete an excellent programme.

Queen's.—Lessee, Mr. Barney M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman. — Those very smart artistes, Curtis and Vanity, again appear in their Yankee absurdities; Marie Collins, a favourite here, once more proves it by her smart contributions; *The Anarchist Terror*, one of the strongest dramatic sketches seen on this stage for some time, is played by Mr. Edward Neville and full company; a gymnastic display by the Bros. Bright is favourably received; Frank Cass succeeds in adding to his popularity; Daisy Ray is smart in coon ditties; and the acrobatic and equilibristic display by Rappo and Ellar is well received. New pictures continue to be shown on the establishment Bioscope.

GLOUCESTER. — Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole.—The variety company this week is headed by the Avondale Quartette, and the Bouncing Dillons, in their comedy gymnastic act, are popular. Mr. Herbert Clifton, mimic and entertainer, is a capital turn; Miss Lottie Bray, comedienne and banjoist; Yorick and Yorick, acrobatic comedians; Charles Ashdowne, comedian and legmania artist; Miss Effie White, in her clever kaleidoscopic dance; Luke and Logan, in comic sketch, *The Governor's Lunch*; Sisters Le Bas, duettists and speciality dancers; and some good pictures on the Bioscope complete an excellent entertainment.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Robert Courteridge's company is here this week with the musical play, *The Blue Moon*. It is the first visit of this piece to Yarmouth, and each night it has been enthusiastically received. Mr. Alfred Clark is capital as the gallant Major, Mr. Alec. Fraser is manly and natural as Captain Jack Ormsby, and Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne sings melodiously as Bobbie Scott. Moolraj is a quaint figure as depicted by Mr. Alfred Beers, whose comicalities create roars of laughter. Private Charles Taylor, the merry little bandmaster, is excellently played by Mr. Reginald Switz, and his songs win loud applause. He is admirably aided by Miss Florence Imeson as Millicent Lerg, who sings most effectively her semi-recitation, "She didn't know," winning an insistent encore. Miss Clarice Lockstone acts quietly and gracefully as Chandra Nil, and sings sweetly; Miss Ethel Callanan is dainty and charming as Evelyn Ormsby, and Miss Kathleen Carteret is excellent as Lady Brabisham. Mr. Arthur Soames is dignified and picturesque as Prince Badahur Samatsinghi. The scenery and dresses are extremely bright and effective.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—An enthusiastic reception is given each evening to Mr. George Alexander's company, who interpret so admirably Mr. Pinero's successful comedy *His House in Order*. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart, as Hilary Jesson, is excellent both in the lighter vein of the first acts and the powerful passion of the third. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay depicts the varied moods of Nina naturally and sympathetically; Filmer Jesson is effectively played by Mr. J. Edward Pearce; Sir Daniel Ridgeley is a capital character study by Mr. Geo. Fitzgerald; and Price Ridgeley is cleverly represented by Mr. E. P. Hollway. Miss Elaine Stedhall is severe and frigid as Geraldine, Miss Augusta Haviland is amusing as Lady Ridgeley. Mlle. Eve Grand is very successful as Mlle. Thome, and Miss Magna Hill plays prettily as Derek Jesson.

Britannia Pier Pavilion. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Miss Billie Barlow continues her successful and enjoyable entertainment, King Leo amuses greatly with his ventriloquial sketch, the Rushforths win loud applause for their illustrated songs, Les Uniques, gymnasts, give a fine show, Miss Gertrude Gray sings charmingly, Fred Walburn contributes a clever musical turn, and Mr. W. L. Cockburn pleases with his expressively-sung songs.

Wellington Pier Pavilion. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—A capital programme of varieties is drawing good houses, and includes: Charles Bignell, comedian; Gracie Logan, comedienne; Cinizelli, the silent jester; Astarte, the aerial nymph; Jane Howard Reynolds, comedienne; the Treshams, in a novelty singing and dancing act; Alma Burton, comedienne and dancer; Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone; Kenneth and Keith, in a vocal and comedy interlude; the Pavilion Bioscope; and the Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The newcomers are Lotto, Lillo, and Otto, who give a remarkable turn as trick and comedy cyclists, the Brothers Webb, most amusing musical clowns, the de Vere's, smart acrobats, and Yelding and J. H. Culeen, clever equestrians. Captain and Max Gruber's performing animals, and Bonnie Goodwin's piccaninnies continue to please.

Chappell's Concert Party.—The artists mentioned last week are again appearing most successfully, the concerted items by members of the company being very favourably received. Mr. Harry Barker, manager, has had his benefit, when the ring was crowded. He was presented by Chappell's Concert Company with a handsome marble clock, as a mark of their appreciation of his unfailing courtesy and kindness.

GREENOCK.—Alexander Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This theatre was re-opened for the season on Monday, when Miss Alice Chapin's company presented *A Knight Errant*, followed by *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. In the first-mentioned piece, Mr. Harry Welchman makes an amusing Captain Perdre; Mr. Harold Chapin is a capable representative of Count de Lautier; and Mr. Frederick Park ably fills the rôle of the Duke of Calreau; Miss Eirene Douglas as Marguerite acts and sings nicely; and Miss Alice Chapin is a charming Helen Ferrier; Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming does well as Colonel D'Aubeterre; and the other parts are in good hands. *A Pantomime Rehearsal* followed, and proved very amusing, the principal parts being taken by Mr. Harry Welchman, Mr. Frederick Park, Mr. Harold Chapin, Miss Etherington, and Miss Chapin.

Pavilion Theatre. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Charles Coborn heads the bill here, and gives an excellent turn. Other good items are Katie More, vocalist; Capita, the living marionette; Lillie Lassah, dancer; Sanlo Brothers, comedians; Alix Lukos, who appears in animal characters; and Tom E. Cliffe, dancer and singer. The entertainment is concluded by a smart cinematograph display.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, *The Traitor*, has again drawn good audiences. Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan still represents the Chief of Police with force and realism; Mr. C. Bonhote Wilson is equally successful as the Crown Prince Rudolph; the passionate character of Zula secures sympathetic treatment from Miss Ruth Shepherd; and Miss Isabel Hunt makes the most of the popular character of the youthful Lieutenant Nicholas. Miss Gertrude Bardsley is a good exponent of the Countess Zicka; and Miss Katherine Vere as Elise Dupres, and Mr. T. W. Hurst as Captain Ross, are satisfactory. There is a strong comedy element, which is well sustained by Mr. Frank Sutherland as Jack Boult, Mr. Edward Lowrie as Zoff, Mr. Arthur McCulloch as General Hertz, and Miss Maude Stuart as Cen-Cen.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—A distinct novelty has been introduced here by the Bob Hanlon troupe. They present a burlesque, *Jinks in the Jungle*, in which amusing effects and capital acrobatic business are introduced. Mabel Thorne, the dainty American artist, has pleased everybody, her songs being as tuneful as her style is vivacious; a tragic sketch, *The Bigamist*, is performed by J. K. Reynolds' company, and the programme also includes the Revell Troupe, in an amusing knockabout speciality; Lottie D'Abbey, a clever child impersonator and mimic; the Carney Brothers, comic duettists; Fred Horsfall, double-voiced vocalist; and Toney, an expert whistler.

The Empire, Cleethorpes.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. M. Baker.—Dandy George has caused much interest by displaying the talents of his dog "Rosie," which is certainly one of the most perfectly trained animals exhibited. An absurdity, *An Artistic Success*, was given on Monday by the Henriques, who took the opportunity to introduce some clever eccentric acrobatic work. The remainder of the programme was of an excellently-varied character, including Will Souls, a comedian who scored greatly; the Sisters Brooks, who gave pretty dances; Farr and Farland, a couple of expert banjoists; Ella Rose, an operatic vocalist; Mamie Iris, comedienne; and Hector and Sultan, who combine good comedy with smart gymnastics.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—On Monday Messrs. Poole's Myriorama entered on its second week. Despite counter-attractions and the heat, crowded houses are the rule. The films representing the local "Battle of Flowers" are especially interesting. "Houston" continues to mystify audiences by his clever experiments; the Geo. Fredericks Troupe repeat their marvellous performances on the wheel; and the Snow Family still continue in high favour.

HALIFAX.—The Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here this week with *The Village Blacksmith*. John Strong has an admirable representative in Mr. Sam Livesey; Mr. Joseph Carter gives a meritorious embodiment of Captain Leo; and Mr. George Campbell cleverly portrays the character of Twiggs; Miss Maggie Edwards and Miss Cassie Le Grand also do well. As Harry Strong, Miss Bertha Hanbury is very effective.

Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Fred Slippere is once more in our midst, and on this occasion he is presenting a new and very effective scena entitled *Romanisque*, in which he is efficiently assisted by that charming musician, Miss Li Ramsay. The programme also includes Mlle. Nadji, contortionist; Yamamoto and Koyoshi; the Sisters Kilner, who sing and dance admirably; Lydia and Albino; the Harrison Brothers; Great Scott and "Johnny" are also here.

HANLEY.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—A return visit is being paid here this week by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in the stirring drama *At Cripple Creek*. Miss Lily Beagle is successful as Belle Gordon; as Dynamite Ann Miss Agnes Verity plays with much power and effect; Sarah Lively is all that could be desired in the capable hands of Miss Leslie Wynne; Baby Betty is an accomplished child-actress; her singing is also quite a feature in the evening's entertainment; Mr. Stanley Bedwell, as Joe Mayfield, contributes a capital impersonation, which is much appreciated; as Martin Mason Mr. Charles H. Lester scores, and Mr. J. G. Maine, as the bully Manuel Alvarez, does well; Mr. Arthur Layland as the Indian, Wahketah, is praiseworthy; Mr. Will Hook and Miss Daisy Carlton in the lighter parts of Reggie Harwood and Maggie Mason, provide much amusement; Mr. Sydney Benson is well-placed as the nigger, Ben White; Mr. Charles Watson is good as the Rev. Mr. Wilson.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Camilla D'Alberg and company in the Parisian episode, *La Main*, opened on Monday to a capital house; Belle Davis and her pick-chick actors met with a hearty reception: Dan Conroy is always welcome; his songs and funny stories being capital; Fraser and Haley sing admirably, and are accorded a hearty welcome; Mabel Hind does well in her Japanese scena; the Howards are buglers and cornet players of exceptional ability; the Brothers Lavelle in their comedy acrobatic turn are much appreciated; the Atkimoto troupe of Japanese performers contribute some extraordinary feats. The Grand Pictures are quite a feature in the programme.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Geo. Dance's company was here on a return visit in *Veronique*. Miss Ruth Lincoln both sang and looked well in the title-rôle; Miss Edith Devonshire, as Ermerance, was good, and brought down the house by her excellent singing in the third act; Mr. Douglas Phillips played excellently as Forestan, and Mr. Scott Cullen made a particularly handsome Seraphin; Miss Neste Laurel was a dainty little Denise; Mr. Ellis Holland, as Coquenard, was both quaint and original, and had valuable aid from Miss Agnes Tandy as Madame Coquenard; Mr. Tom Seymour as Loustot, the bailiff, was excellent. The orchestra was under the baton of Mr. Clement Locknane. Mr. Geo. Dance's *Spring Chicken* company appeared on Thursday and Friday.

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The star artistes here are the Five Saxonias, who charm all with their tastefully-rendered musical selections; Will Letters, a versatile comedian, is making himself popular; *The Motor Maniac*, a sketch played by Will Raine and company, is a very bright item; Howard and Townshend are two capital vocalists; Jack Crawley's mimicry is clever; "On Deck" by the Bros. Onda is very popular, and the neat comedienne, "Little Rose Pink" pleases immensely. Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

HASTINGS. — Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened on Monday a three-days' visit with *The Toreador*. Mr. Harry Buss, as Sammy Gigg, kept the house well amused; as Susan, Miss Vera Vallis made him an excellent partner, and sang and danced in good style. Mr. Fred Fowler, as the eccentric Pettifer, was successful. Mr. Howard Cridland was humorous as Sir Archibald. Other capable members of the company were: Mr. Atheling Farrar as Augusta Trail, Mr. Alfred H. Majilton as the Governor, and Mr. Alick Macmillan as Rinaldo. Miss Sadie Sundius, as Donna Teresa, displayed cultivated vocal powers; Miss Katie May, as Dora Selby, and Miss Rose Helene, as Nancy Staunton, were a charming couple; and Miss Zoe Gilfillian was effective as Mrs. Malton Hoppings. The chorus proved very capable, and the tuneful music was well rendered by the orchestra, directed by Mr. George Saker. During the remainder of the week, Mr. William Greet's company appeared in *The Earl and the Girl*.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert-Mathams.—A long and varied programme is opened by the attractive comedienne Miss Kate Perrier. An excellent comedian is found in Harry Maxim; Mephisto is a clever society contortionist; the Herald Comedy Four introduce some harmonious singing in their Indian scena. A clever comedy sketch is given by Fyne and Hurley. The scenes of a Spanish bull-fight are remarkably effective as revealed on the Hippodrome Bioscope. Some exciting episodes are occasionally witnessed in a turn given by the wrestler Peter Gotz. Miss Lucy Coventry is a versatile and expert dancer; loud applause greets Tom Lowen, the comedian; Vasey and Ramsey give examples of smart step-dancing.

Beach Concert Pavilion. — Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—Mr. Wallis Arthur's company has provided a new programme, and has attracted crowded houses. Mr. George Blackmore is an excellent comedian, and easily secures premier honours; Miss Winnie Harbor, in attractive song and dance, secures much approval; Mr. Bert Meredith and Mr. Harry King assist in the comic business; and the ballad singing of Miss Ada Gaskill arouses great enthusiasm.

Hastings Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The English Light Opera Company, under the bâton of Mr. T. Lawton, is prolonging its stay, and has this week introduced Benedick's delightful opera, the *Lily of Killarney*. The talented vocalists seem to gain in finish, smoothness, and precision. Nothing could be more pleasing than the part of Eily O'Connor, the heroine, as played by Miss Elizabeth Burgess, her sweet soprano voice charming all her listeners. Equally appreciated are the songs rendered by Miss Vera Vizard as Mrs. Cregan, and Miss Marie Titiens in the part of Ann Chute. Mr. Arthur Winckworth makes a typical Irish priest in the character of Father Tom. Mr. F. J. Hargrave as Myles exhibits a well-trained and cultivated tenor voice; Mr. Charles Victor in the part of Danny Mann, the would-be murderer, does that important rôle ample justice; the fine bass solos which he contributes are rendered with much expression. Mr. Charles Burnand as Hardress Cregan also gains favour.—Mr. Albert Chevalier paid a flying visit here on Monday. The talented comedian gave a series of sketches and songs in his characteristic and happy vein. The enthusiastic and crowded audience repeatedly recalled him. Mr. Chevalier was assisted in his recital programme by Miss Daisy Irvine and Mr. Alfred H. West, pianist and composer.

St. Leonards Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—For the first time at this theatre Mr. H. V. Esmond's amusing comedy, entitled *Billy's Little Love Affair*, is being played here by Miss Kate Johnson, Mr. Frank G. Bayly, and company. Mr. Frank G. Bayly gives a fine, manly characterisation of Jack Frere. An example of dignity and ease is shown by Mr. Lemmon Warde in the part of Sir Harry Harmon; Jim Greaves is well acted by Mr. Orlando Barnett; Miss Clara Nicholls quite realises the character of Mrs. Jim Greaves; Miss Gladys Bartle Frere is a charming representative of Lady Duncan. Nothing could be more captivating than Miss Katie Johnson as Wilhelmina Marr (Billy); her comedy throughout is excellent.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Chas. F. Cooke's company is playing the old Adelphi drama, *The Trumpet Call*, with a satisfactory appreciation of the many good points in

SPRINGFIELD GROUNDS.—Mr. Victor Stevens and his famous Premier Pierrot Party continue their attractive nightly programme here.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Messrs. Gale and Polden are doing big business here with "The King's Service" series of animated pictures, the hall being crowded, both at the matinée and evening performances. Mr. Wilfrid Lyndon, well known to the Jersey public, gives several pianoforte solos, and as an entertainer keeps his audience well amused; Miss Maudie Wright sings several solos, and is supported by a good chorus. Two new films, presented for the first time on Monday evening, were "The Train Wreckers" and "The Life of Napoleon the Great."

TRIANGLE PARK.—On Monday night this park was brilliantly illuminated with thousands of Chinese lanterns and coloured lamps, the scene being a veritable fairyland. Eleven hundred people were present, and the White Coons, who are as popular as ever, introduced several new items into their programme. Mr. Johnny Osborn's songs, "Nobody" and "Different Walks," were enthusiastically applauded; Miss Carrie Tubb delighted her hearers with "The Daily Question"; Miss Jessie Jolly and Mr. Allan Thomas contributed some good numbers; and Sergeant-Drummer Yates, of the East Surrey's, rendered a cornet solo, "Le Petit Marquis," in first-rate style.

PEOPLE'S PARK.—The Stars of the West have proved a big draw here. The four ladies of the party are particularly attractive, and gain great applause, the violinist being exceptionally good

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—An excellent variety programme is presented this week. An exceptionally clever turn is provided by Harwood's Juveniles, their well-rendered songs and smart dances delighting the audience; the musical act of the Two St. Johns is accorded loud applause nightly; the Kyasyas perform some astounding feats; Vetta, in her speciality wire act, is a favourite artist; Harry Bickley is extremely funny; and Ferris and Farnley are also smart comedians. J. Hughes, baritone vocalist, is heard to advantage; and Annie Hales is successful.

KINGSTOWN.—PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—Owing to the enormous success of the John Riddings Opera Company here, the management has re-engaged this company for a second week. On Monday afternoon the operetta, *Old Knockles*, was presented before a select audience, and in the evening *The Lily of Killarney* was played to a full house.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Wilkinson; Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers.—The attraction this week is Miss May Douglas's company in *What Men Dare*, and the drama was followed throughout with keen interest on Monday evening. As Fedor Drugin, Mr. Percy Norman acquitted himself admirably; Mr. Edward Standish was a manly Richard Wilson; Mr. Alfred Burrows did well as Nichola; and Mr. A. Balfour Mackay made a good impression as Ivan Brutoff. The comedy of the piece rests chiefly with Mr. Bargent Rogers as the simpleton; and he is ably supported by Mis Ida Mackay as Mary O'Brien. Miss Maud Buchanan displayed exceptional ability as Olga Levin; Miss May Douglas did all that was required as Duba; whilst the part of Clara Pauloon was well looked after by Miss Eileen Devonport.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—Another capital bill of fare is provided here, at the head of which is Ara. Zebra, and Vora, in their comedy, *Indian Pastimes*, which is well received; Hugo Family, statuary and equilibristic artists, are very smart; and the Arthur Lloyd Trio have a great reception. The Maros, comedy triple bar performers, cause much laughter; Miss Nina Gordon, mimic, is recalled again and again; and Hurlstone, concertinist, plays some beautiful selections; Jack Woods, tenor vocalist, and Walter Payne's animated pictures, complete the programme.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—That very successful play, *Sunday*, is here for the first time, and Mr. Louis Calvert's company is responsible for an excellent presentation. Miss Emelie Polini makes a most delightful Sunday, all the varying moods of the character being depicted with irresistible charm; Mr. Leonard Pagden's work as the elderly lover, Colonel Brinthorpe, leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Ernest A. Dougles wins high praise for his clever conception of bluff and breezy Tom Oxley; Sunday's four "boys," as played by Mr. William Lockhart, Mr. Sidney Rennef, Mr. Cecil Yapp, and Mr. Arthur Vezin, make a novel and effective picture. Minor parts are capably sustained by Mr. G. Wallace Johnstone, Miss Aimée Murray, and Miss Muriel Pope.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—This is a busy week at the Royal, for Mr. Arnold Bell and his company are always accorded a big welcome. This week's répertoire consists of half a dozen well known popular plays. The evergreen *Ticket-of-Leave Man* attracted a big house on Monday evening, when Mr. Arnold Bell's powerful portrayal of the name part aroused demonstrative appreciation. In an excellent company specially good support is given by Mr. Cuthbert Imrie, Mr. Joe Bardsley, Mr. F. Gregory, Miss Frances Campbell, and Miss Violet Campbell. *Called Back*, *The Octoroon*, *The Shaughraun*, and *Leah the Forsaken* have also been effectively staged during the week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—The eminent actor, Mr. Allan Wilkie, is on a first visit to this city and is attracting a big share of patronage to this popular theatre with a round of Shakespearean and other well-known plays. *The Merchant of Venice* was submitted on Monday, and Mr. Wilkie's histrionic abilities were well displayed in the rôle of Shylock, his fine conception of the scheming old Jew arousing much enthusiasm. Excellent support is forthcoming in Mr. Alexander Marsh's Bassanio, and the leading lady of the company, Miss Ino Cameron, makes a most favourable impression in her interpretation of Portia; Mr. George Munro as Clown Gobbo, Miss Eily O'Dempsey as Jessica, and Mr. Herbert Morgan as Antonio are prominent by reason of good work; whilst Mr. Wilton Ross, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Ian Fleming, and Miss Ruth Nightingale also play leading parts. The week's répertoire includes *The Corsican Brothers*, *Hamlet*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *Robert Macaire*, and *Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and on Friday evening, which is a benefit performance to Mr. Wilkie, *David Garrick* and *The Bells* are announced.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—That clever and versatile comedienne, Louie Freear, is the central figure in a mirth-provoking incident, *Jemima the Slavey*, and her artistic eccentricities have been vastly enjoyed by the Empire habitués this week; Terry and Lambert are again to the fore with an excellent vocal and comedy act; Pierre and Maizee are seen and heard to advantage in a vocal show scena; Arthur Gill is possessed of a remarkable voice of flexible quality; Algernon J. Hicks, with cleverly drawn character sketches from Dickens, is entertaining; there is merit in the ventriloquial performance of Eric; the male impersonations by Madge Esmond are well done; whilst Tom Parker, comedian, Marie Weston, comedienne, and the Canary Company in a pantomimic absurdity, are also prominent lines on a most enjoyable programme.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—This hall continues on the high wave of popularity, and a generous programme is again provided. Arthur Rigby leads the bill with his funny skits and drolleries, over which the crowd waxes enthusiastic; Heeley and Meeley, acrobatic eccentrics, evoke uproarious merriment; F. Demarce provides an interesting equestrian sketch; Lillie Soutter enhances a big local reputation as a clever song and dance artist; Rale Walters, with a novel specialty, wins favour; Mountford and Walsh need no introduction as favourite entertainers; the Narow Bros. are smart and amusing as comic cyclists; acceptable comedy is subscribed by Will Godwin; Nelson and Thomas, the Bros. Ethairien, Katie Marsh, and The Serenaders.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Will Vay's Juveniles depict the brighter side of slum life in a humorous entertainment which is much enjoyed, and the youngsters are voted a clever lot; Wyndham and Waters prove very successful with novel comedy business; and the efforts of Roze and Calvert in a similar line also hit off the popular taste; the remarkable dancer, Bertha Winder, is again on the programme; Maud Esmond is a clever burlesque actress; the Three Transfields provide an enjoyable musical turn; Spencer and Marks, as speciality comedians are having a good work; and the comedy element is also supplied by Wal Robbins, a comical musical specialist, and Mark Leslie, the dusky prince.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business and General Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The redecorations and renovations here evoke the admiration of all. The farcical comedy, *The New Clown*, is presented by a company, under the direction of Mr. G. H. Snazelle, and elicits the heartiest laughter. In his original part of Mr. Dixon, Mr. G. H. Snazelle makes a conspicuous success; and as Lord Cyril Garston, "the new clown," Mr. P. R. Goodyer is also to be complimented on a performance of great merit; and Mr. Chas. Hanbury makes an excellent impression as Captain Jack Trent; Miss Helena Millais gives a finished impersonation of Rosie Platt, and to her charming assumption of the part much of the success attained is due. Both Mr. Arthur G. Brown as Mr. Pinnyquick, and Mr. A. M. Moore as Thomas Baker are also good. In place of the usual "curtain-raiser," Mr. Snazelle renders items from his entertainment, "Music, Song, and Story."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards are held this week by Mr. John F. Preston's company, who are presenting *Lady Godiva*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *Jane Shore*. The former popular play was the opening attraction, in which Miss Ethel Griffies, as the heroine, and Mr. F. B. Woulfe, as Tom of Coventry, thoroughly deserve the success achieved. Mr. R. Seath Innes does well as Leofric; and both Mr. James Duncan as Algar, and Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf, are good; Miss Katherine Brook is praiseworthy as Lady Aldyth; Miss Edith Lorraine is capital as Elfrida; Mr. Bob Anderson is amusing as Robin Shackleton; and as Edgar Mr. A. Bernard Dunston is also to be complimented. The staging and dressing of the various plays deserve special mention.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager Mr. George Andrews.—The principal attraction in this week's programme is Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in the comic military pantomime production, *The Skirmishers*, which proves most mirth-provoking. At the other end are the Griffiths Brothers, whose versatile and funny "show" is heartily appreciated; the Tally-Ho Trio of singers and comedians are scoring a well-desreved success; Tatten Hall, an excellent comedian, sings his funny songs to the accompaniment of much laughter; Gertrude Bradshaw's cultivated voice is heard to good effect in illustrated songs; the Tupps are eccentric acrobats, who display much smartness; Leonard and Francis, in their "bull-fight," are very amusing; Frank Darwin, vocal actor, also entertains with success. The Bioscope, showing the latest subjects, is a feature of the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Ford and Barris, the agile legmania dancer and organ soloist, who were picked up in the street by Mr. Barrasford, top the bill here this week. In connection with their engagement, which is of a most successful character, a dancing competition is being held. Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, secures a thoroughly deserved warm reception; Vandinoff delights all with the smart and lightning manner in which he paints pretty pictures; Fanny Humber, soubrette, instrumentalist, and dancer, is another successful and versatile artist; Ethel Yorke is a pleasing comedienne; W. B. Raby, renders his songs in a quaint style; Dick and Dorothy are a couple of youngsters who sing and dance in an entertaining manner. Pallister's Bioscope is again retained.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—Variety is the order here this week, and an attractive programme is provided. The outstanding turn is the Marvellous Pardoes, aerial gymnasts and contortionists; Miss Lottie Holland, with illustrated songs, contributes a charming musical and pictorial turn; Mr. Teddy Vokes, musical comedian, is a great favourite; Mr. Bert Gordon, Tyrolean vocalist, meets with a cordial reception; Miss Violet Rivers, male impersonator, gives a first-rate turn; the Bros. Hannaway, cross-talk comedians, Miss Elsie Kedwards, serio and dancer, and the Pardograph, complete a varied programme.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A large audience gave a cordial greeting on Monday to Mr. Horace Stanley and his company, who pay a welcome return visit with *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Stanley himself appears in this, his own drama, as Sam Wagstaffe, and provides plenty of amusement out of his rollicking impersonation of the jovial A.B. and of the many other characters he assumes in the course of the piece. Good work is done by the other players in a large cast, notably by Mr. George Beverley, in the rôle of the hero, Jack O'Malley; by Mr. Charles Burden, as the arch-plotter, James Inderwick; by Mr. Edward Clarke, as Huntley Mason, from Scotland Yard; and by Mr. Alaric Burton as the Squire, Cuthbert Leigh. Among the ladies, Miss Elsie Capell is a charming Bessie Leigh, betrothed to Jack; while the ancient maiden Letitia is well represented by Miss Evelyn M. Watson; and Miss Kate Kilpack is an animated Peggy Potts, Sam's bit of sweet stuff; Miss Josephine Lee makes a realistic study of Olive Coombes; and Miss Hilda Miller is a pleasing Matilda Ann.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—Mr. Herbert Barr's company, is here in *East Lynne*, which is extremely well received. Miss Dorothy Oswald is sympathetic in the rôle of Lady Isabel, in which she scores distinctly; Mr. Herbert Barrs is good as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Ronald Graham plays incisively as Levison; and Mr. E. Cheetham is excellent as Mountsevern. Comedy is supplied with great success by Mr. W. Collins as Dill; Mr. A. B. Lyons as Bulbs; Miss Ida Fane as Cornelia and Miss M. Vincent as Joyce. Miss Edna Hane must be commended for her Barbara Hone; and Mr. A. Selwood for his Richard; while Little Daisy ably plays Willie.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur. — A bill of the greatest attractiveness is offered here; Davis and Gledhill present a cycling turn of high merit; Maidie Scott is a charming as well as clever comedienne; and other meritorious turns are supplied by Leah Arden, Sisters St. Julian, Baroux and Bion, Woodward and Walton, and the Raymond Bio-Tableaux, and the Athlones.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*Sergeant Brue* again visited the leading Liverpool theatre this week, with the result that large audiences attended to laugh at the almost interminable troubles which beset that individual in his efforts to secure promotion and wealth. The company presenting the musical comedy was that of Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman. Mr. Arthur Reynolds made an admirable Brue, both his singing and actions being eminently acceptable; Mr. Charles McLagan as the criminal, Crookie Scrubbs, often made the audience shake with laughter; the magistrate, full of silliness, was admirably portrayed by Mr. Cecil Burt; Miss Hebe Blis was the Lady Bickenhall; as Aurora Brue, Miss Mary Hay deservedly won honours; and Mr. Percy Rogers is worthy of praise for his Michael Brue. The costumes were especially worthy of note, and the scenery particularly pretty.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney. — During the week the stage here has been occupied by Mr. Charles Macdona's company, with *Three Little Maids*, a charming musical play, which has been much enjoyed. Miss Laura Wright was attractive as Gretchen, and danced prettily; the daughters of the Vicar, Ada, Hilda, and Edna Branscombe, found in the Misses Cora Lingard, Daisy Sylverton, and Eva Weigh able exponents; Miss Alice Rene was a stately Lady St. Mallory; Mr. Walter Freear proved exceedingly funny as Cupid; the M. de L'Orme submitted by Mr. Eric Barrington was a well finished character; and Mr. Victor Kerr gave satisfaction as Lord Cheyne. The work was staged in a most attractive style, and the dresses exceedingly pretty.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—During the week, Mr. J. A. Campbell's company have been here with *The Little Breadwinner*. A charming juvenile actress, little Emmie Thomas, sustains the title-rôle with ability; Mr. Matthew Boulton played well as Richard Lawrence; Miss Mary Fulton was a delightful Margaret Daventry; the part of Lord Dorrington was ably presented by Mr. Eugene Santley; and the efforts of Mr. Frederick Maurice as Joseph Prior were much appreciated. Miss Lissa Young played sweetly as Bobby Trott; and Miss Jenny Bostock created a deal of humour with her Bridget O'Flanaghan.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—An array of highly meritorious and interesting talent is billed here for this week, headed by a pair of clever and original comedians, Doody and Wright, who keep the house in roars of laughter. Another original and clever turn is that of Les Mentaldos, who give an exhibition of their abilities on the slack wire, which is loudly applauded; they also introduce some cleverly trained birds. Edie Gray and her white coons are a pleasing turn; Cullen and Carthy are amusing, being answerable for a deal of laughter; other items worthy of mention are Barrington, musical expert; the Three Sisters Silcott; the Bohemians (Will and Madge); Stave, electric comedy artist; Bishop and Hanlon, comedians; and the Lyrioscope.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg. *The Prodigal Parson*, presented by Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company, has been the attraction here. Some of the scenic effects were especially good. Mr. Garrod played well as the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Alfred Northway made a capital Enoch Jaggins; Miss Bertha Kingston as the parson's wife deservedly won appreciation; Mr. William Hayward was seen to advantage in the part of Ben Jaggins; and other prominent rôles were undertaken by Mr. Thomas Ashton as George Markby, and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—The attraction here this week has been *A Noble Brother*, and the musical comedy, *Happy Land*, presented by Mr. Charles Carte and company. Both plays have been much appreciated. As Jerry the tramp Mr. Charles Carte was particularly great, and provoked much laughter; Miss Doris Brookes played with effect as Nana Leigh; Miss Alice Ballard was well placed as Mrs. Leigh; every satisfaction was afforded by Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin as Jack Elsworth; and Mr. Michael Madden kept the ball rolling merrily as Larry O'Brien.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Top of the bill here this week are the remarkable conjurers Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, whose work has created general surprise; their turn is undoubtedly one of the best seen in Liverpool for some time. The Three Rainats provide a graceful exhibition on the flying trapeze; Albert Wyndham and company are seen to much advantage in the episode *Prince Arthur; or the Days of King John*; taking songs come from F. V. St. Clair, his "In Chicago" being particularly well received; the historical duologue, *An Emperor's Divorce*, by Bayne and Hope, proves interesting; Maud Prenton as a comedienne gives satisfaction; the Paytes are a smart pair of duologue artists; and others in the list are C. Bu Val, comedian; Frank A. Wood, vocalist; and Edgar Budden, comedian.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—An interesting programme is provided at this little house, where the public still gather in goodly numbers, despite the many attractions elsewhere Principal is Walter Stanley, whose return visit has been appreciated. His latest songs, as well as old favourites, are richly enjoyed. Laughter loud and long follows the antics of Cavern and Cave, with their *Early Morning Dip*; the Adderley Bros., duettists and mimics, bring a new and amusing speciality, *The Military Band*; some sweet singing and smart dancing come from the Sisters Douglas; Harry Chester is an acceptable comedian and dancer; and Lily Vane, comedienne, proves creditable.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*The Streets of London* has been an attractive sketch here this week, the excellent Royal stock company presenting it in good style. A special feature was the introduction of a street urchin ballet by local boys and girls. Mr. Percy Boucher as the Badger had many good points; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood was an admirable Captain Fairweather; the heavy part of Bloodgood was particularly well placed with Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Harry Tresham made the rôle of Mark Livingstone very effective; Mr. E. D. Allen was a capital Puffy; Miss Florence Palmer as Lucy Fairweather proved eminently popular; a powerful Alida came from Miss Beryl Ravenswood; and Miss Sara Blumenthal handled the rôle of Mrs. Puffy in an experienced manner. The bioscope showed some very fine pictures.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," a comedian of much merit, is at the top here this week; an excellent turn is submitted by the Society quartet of vocalists, comedians, and speciality dancers; the illustrated ballads of the Lovelaces are much appreciated; Mr. Cross shows the remarkable performing dog Vet; Rose Waller is a dainty comedienne; the Musical Keiths (Carlina and Charlie) present a novel and refined entertainment; and G. W. Foster, comedian, also appears.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The new management of this popular north-end hall has no cause for complaint. Mr. Weisker has commenced very favourably, considering that "house full" had to be announced several times last week. Certainly some excellent talent is being booked. This week the clever Alberto troupe are in big type; their remarkable exhibition as equilibrists has been a source of enjoyment. A comedian well worth listening to is H. O. Wills, a favourite here; Bowman and Wood's military sketch, *Medals v. Gold*, is neat and pretty; Mlle. Zelda does some expert work with musical novelties; Renson and Waite prove popular as a vocal comedy duo; the Two Neros go through some really good tumbling, &c.; and Minnie Fenton, as a Scotch comedienne and international dancer, meets with cordial approval.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—A lengthy and diversified programme of a very pleasing character has been given here during the week. The big attraction was De Rougemont, with his turtle-riding feat, which aroused a deal of interest. A prettier turn than that provided by the Three Olympiers, in their imitations of bronze statuary, would be hard to find, and the audience failed not to accord due appreciation. Screams of laughter followed the movements of Barton and Ashley in their farcical item; it was a pleasure to watch the graceful acrobatic work of Les Bastiens; Jack Lane showed himself full of humorous sayings; a bright entr'acte was submitted by Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford; E. J. Sheldon proved a quaint comedian; a smart comedy sketch, *Captain Cupid*, came from George C. Doughty and Co.; picturesque, interesting, and expert were the Obersteirers, Tyrolean troupe; and Irene Rose, comedienne and dancer, was not the least worthy artist who appeared.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The new management of this hall has every promise of success. Martin Conway, a popular comedian, is at the top of the bill; N. T. Kioto, who shows well as an equilibrist, has a good reception; the favourite Smith and Johnson society coloured duo are welcomed; some capital songs come from Peggy Fame; and others on the list are Harry Wright, extempore vocalist; and Nellie Gannon, contralto.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company is appearing here in the musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese, supplied the comic element in capital style; Mr. Thomas Kennard as Dick Wargrave also does well; Mr. Leslie Owen is good in the part of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Greville Hayes as A. Bunker Bliss, Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton as Downham, and Mr. Sam Lysons as Mr. Hazell sustain their respective rôles in a praiseworthy manner. Miss May Yates as Elphin Haye supplies an excellent impersonation; Miss Lina Hicks (Liza Shoddam), and Miss Ida Strathan (Daisy Fallowfield), both show skill and ability.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—For three nights, commencing Monday, Mr. Chas. Macdona's company presented *Mr. Hopkinson*, the title-rôle being in the hands of Mr. Frank Stanmore; he gave an excellent rendering, and kept the audiences in roars of laughter throughout. Mr. Arnold Lucy, as Duke of Braceborough, was good; the same can be said of Mr. Reginald Dane as Lord Gawthorpe; and Mr. C. M. Heslop, as the Hon. Otho Dursingham; Mr. George McCloskie (Mr. Smethurst) displayed ability; Miss Gladys Jesson (Lady Tyra) was pleasing; Miss Katherine Romsey (Eliza Dibb), also did well; Miss M. Allison Alexander as the Duchess of Braceborough gave a capital rendering of a difficult part.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Whitmore Ledger and Miss Hettie Jeffries' company is here in *The Curate*. Mr. Whitmore Ledger is capital in the part of the Russian spy, and Miss Hettie Jeffries as Dick the Trumpeter is also very clever, and wins great applause. The Curate's part is in the able hands of Mr. Geoffrey Broughton. Others in the company taking their various parts well are the Misses Winnifred Stuart, Annie Stuart, and Agnes d'Aragon, Messrs. Frank Stuart and Alfred Horton.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—A most enjoyable attraction is presented here this week, in a welcome return visit of Mr. Geo. Dance's principal company, in the musical play, *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss May Glenn is again here, and has made a conspicuous success in the title-rôle, both her acting and singing winning the highest admiration; Mr. Ernest Torrance is also to be warmly complimented on his admirable Sergeant François Lefebvre; a clever character sketch of Napoleon is submitted by Mr. Gilbert Yorke. Other artists in the lengthy cast who are also to be singled out for embodiments of merit are Messrs. Stephen Fitzgerald as Papillon; T. Bolesworth as Vicomte de Bethune; and the Misses Dulcie Garland (Grand Duchess of Berg), Daisie Bent (Princess Borgese), Maggie White (Renee de Saint-Mezard), and Buena Bent (Lisette). There are an excellent chorus and orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr. Edward Whitehall. The latter part of the week *The Cingalee* was presented.

HIPPODROME. — Mr. Geo. Gilbert. — The bill this week includes Marie San Toi and her Japanese girls, in a musical scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*; Cordite and Buffalo, rope manipulators; Carson Hicks, buck dancer; Miss Iona Ginnett; Prince, juggler; Roberts's performing cats and dogs; the Humels; Pietro; and the clowns, Little Bishop, Shadow, and Chester.

MACCLESFIELD. — ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Frank Ayrton, with a strong company, has been here this week in *The Power of Gold*. As Hadji Zambra, Mr. Charles Whitlock displayed considerable ability; Mr. Richard Oliver made a fine Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton was seen to advantage as Mark Harley; Mr. Frank Ayrton, in the rôle of Sammy Smudge, had a part with which he was entirely at home; and in conjunction with Miss Madge Seymour as Nora Donnelly, kept the house in a very good humour all the evening. Miss Georgina V. France as May Judson won the warm sympathy of the audience; Miss Lilia Wilde as Lady Brandon was stately, and portrayed the part with genuine power; Little Prudence was satisfactory as Paddy Blake.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following contribute to the bill here this week: Mr. Arthur Reece, the popular comedian; the Three Missouris, comedy acrobats; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, on a return visit; Prince Kuroki, a smart Japanese magician; Miss Onra, on the silver wire; Miss Amy Sullivan, comedienne; and Sabino, instrumentalist. The Bioscope is also an attraction.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr. J. Beslee.—We have had a visit here from Miss Katie Johnson's company in H. V. Esmond's charming comedy, *Billy's Little Love Affair*.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—On Monday evening and the two following nights Mr. George Dance's company appeared here in the musical play *The Cingalee*. Miss Edith Harmer, in the name rôle, played with grace, sang charmingly, and secured an all-round success; Mr. Tom Payne, as Chambuddy Ram, deserved the unstinted applause his amusing efforts evoked; Miss Minnie Muir, as Peggy Sabine, also merited high commendation. The Hon. Harry Vereker was ably accounted for by Mr. Harold Montague, whose excellent voice was heard to advantage in the various numbers allotted to the part; Mr. Frank Sutton acquitted himself well as Boobhamba, his topical song being encored. Mr. Coope Edmonds was good as Sir Peter Loftus; and Mr. William Austin was in every way satisfactory as Bobby Warren. The Misses Tessa d'Alberta, Annie Crisp, Rosa Lind, and Kathleen Kennedy figure most agreeably as the four tea girls; whilst Miss Bertha Frey and Miss Florrie Treseder were good as Lady Vereker and Angy Loftus respectively. For the remainder of the week *The Blue Moon* was announced as the attraction.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—This week's programme is headed by Kate Carney, this being the popular comedienne's first visit to this house, and she and her company, in the scena, *The Brighton Promenade*, have been accorded a hearty reception; Charles Austin, eccentric comedian, has also been a great success in his amusing songs. Other contributors to an all-round good programme have been Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; Will Driscoll, comedian; Johnson and Bert, in their comedy acrobatic performance, *A Queer Customer*; Will Johnson, the lively comedian; and Luis Hardt, the "mighty atom," who was here not long since.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—Seven excellent turns are presented here twice daily (afternoon and evening), and the programme has proved a very attractive one. Kingsley, handbell sololist, is good; and Mlle. Thelma, the lady clay modeller, works out her subjects artistically and quickly. Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers, are once more eliciting plenty of applause; and the Grovini family, five in number, are clever acrobats. Baker and Balfe play delightfully operatic selections on the xylophone; whilst the Peritas, up-to-date gymnasts, and Harry Maynard, vocal comedian, are well received.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Répertoire company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott, is this week paying a re-visit, and successfully appearing in *A Modern Adventuress*. Mr. Charles Draycott as Pietro Donelli and Miss Muriel Thompson, an adventuress, acquit themselves admirably. Others deserving of mention are Mr. Morley Carroll as William Delby, Mr. Sydney C. Cranston as Harry Delby, Mr. Ernest J. Fare as Wallace Danton, Mr. Arthur Byron as John Compton, Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Walter Beale, Mr. H. Scotchard as Steve Meredith, Miss Daisy Norman as Sally Hodges, and Miss Mary Cleveland as Viviette Delby.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Messrs. Frank Pitt and Chas. Halling's company is this week presenting here the drama, *£1,000 Reward*. Mr. Chas. Rodgers, jun., gives a fine interpretation of Dick Springthorpe; Mr. Chas. Halling is eminently successful in the rôle of Vincent Ravenforth; Mr. F. J. Pitt plays capitally as Fred Ingleford; Mr. Frank Dallas is well placed as Inspector Gilbert; while Mr. Edward de Vere makes the most of the humorous character of Fighting Jeffs. Miss Daisy Halling scores a dramatic triumph in the part of Madame Sanson; as Kitty Springthorpe, Miss Cissie Francis is charming and pleasing; Miss Lynn Darlington is capable as Meg and gives a delightful rendering of the song, "Eileen Alannah."

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, in *The Power of the Cross*, is here this week. Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby as Baron Woulfe Curzole gives a forcible impersonation; Mr. Harry C. Rutland as Gerald Fairfax, and Mr. Royce Carlton as Dr. Fairfax, act with ability; Miss Cissie St. Elmo is exceedingly good; Miss May Grayce is capable as the banker's daughter; and for the part of Dolly Gray a clever representative is found in Miss Etta Turner. Miss Stanley Burt gives a very natural and womanly rendering of the part of Margaret Seaton; Mr. Wilfred Santley acts with considerable force as Jan Grotchen; and as the banker, Mr. A. J. Murray plays with artistic restraint.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company, with *Charley's Aunt*, is here this week. From first to last the artists keep audiences convulsed with laughter. Miss Lena McNaughton, as the real lady from Brazil, imbues the part with all the requisite humour and charm; Mr. Stanley Cooke is as amusing as ever as Lord Fancourt; Mr. Hastings Lynn as Jack, and Mr. Richard B. Mason as Charley, are a decided success; and Miss Kitty Carew is exceedingly good as Amy. Mr. C. B. Keeston is excellent as the Colonel; and a word of commendation is due to Mr. Walter Beaumont as Stephen Spettigue.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. B. Rembges.—A most entertaining programme is being presented here this week. The great turn is that given by Starr and Leslie, in their speciality act, which includes an excellent display with the Indian clubs. Les Lios Alfa Sisters prove themselves clever gymnasts; and Gladys and Alber cause laughter with their songs. Alma Grey is a clever dancer; and Ethel Dove proves a popular little comedy artist. The Kimberley Boys create roars of laughter; and Fred Villiers, vocalist, does well. The other turns are provided by Bonnetti and Corrie, T. C. Callaghan, and the bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—An excellent programme is provided at this popular place of amusement. Tom Lloyd, comedian, has a rare reception; Harry Nelson, a Tyneside humorist, creates roars of laughter; and Milsted and Bell are very successful in their musical comedy scena *The Belle of Arizona*. George H. Keith, comedian, pleases; and Florence Deighton, double-voiced vocalist, does well. The other turns are provided by Childie Stuart, comedienne; Charlie Dean, comedian; Ryde and Beeston; and the bioscope.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—During the week Mr. Chas. Macdona's company has been appearing with success in *The White Chrysanthemum*, the Criterion production having been admirably portrayed by a company including Messrs. Chas. Schmiedt, H. Langdon Bruce, H. E. Garden, Richd. Telford, James Dallas, Misses Muriel George, Nellie Groves, and Emily Taylor. The chorus shows evidence of careful training under the direction of Mr. Walter Scott; whilst the business arrangements have been carried out by Mr. Frank Withers.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—For a second week the Savonas and the Elliotts have provided the principal items in the programme here, and all they have done has been warmly applauded. Donaldson Bros. and Ardell are excellent in their pantomimical absurdity, *A Zoological Comedy*; and Florence Schuberth is a pleasing burlesque artist; the Three Mushams raise abundant laughter with their sketch, *A Day on Hampstead Heath*; George Barron's comic songs and patter are well received; Herr Addison introduces some particularly clever fox terriers; Miss Marie Stiven, the distinguished contralto, wins much applause; and illustrated songs are given by Miss Florence.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—A strong programme has been provided by Ald. Gardner this week, and it has drawn the people. Topping the bill is Rosina Casselli and her wonderfully trained Ch

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—Tyne Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—A revival of *Faust Up-to-date* has proved acceptable entertainment here this week, and an excellent company, under the direction of Mr. George Edwards, does the piece full justice. The Marguerite of Miss Eda Mardy was charmingly refreshing, and her sweet singing was loudly applauded. The Mephistopheles of Mr. Herbert Sparling was rendered on original lines, and was always amusing. Mr. Stephen Adeson did exceptionally well with somewhat scanty material as the Lord Chancellor, and Mr. Fred Winn as Valentine gave due effect to the songs allotted to this rôle. The Faust of Miss Moyra Sackville was an artistic triumph, and the dancing of Miss Amy Payne was neatness itself.

Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird head an excellent company in Mr. Stephen Phillips's tragedy, *Paola and Francesca*, which is being played here this week. On his appearence in the character of Giovanni Malatesta, Mr. Irving was accorded a flattering reception, and his fine impersonation of a difficult part met with frequent and well-merited outbursts of approval from the crowded house. Of the excellence of Miss Baird's Francesca it would be difficult to speak too highly. A powerful and finished piece of acting is Miss Maud Milton's Lucrezia Dege'Onesti, while Paola finds an able exponent in Mr. Harcourt Williams. Other parts in the fascinating play, which is admirably staged, are capably filled.

Palace Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company has done good business here this week in the Russian drama, entitled *The Assassin*. Quite a pet aversion of the galleryite is the callous Prince Demetri of Mr. Augustine Knight. Mr. Edward E. Ashby is an heroic and soldierly-like Ivan Spanoff. Mr. Theo Balfour ably sustains the rôle of Duke Carl, and Mr. Cecil H. Raymond scores with a skilful rendering of Baron Alphonse. A bright and spirited Captain O'Neil is found in Mr. Edward Jenner, and Mr. Tom Taylor is quaintly humorous as Peter. Miss Ella Vane handles the difficult rôle of Countess Wauda with tact; Miss Frances Waring effectively renders the part of Nita; and Miss Georgina Hamilton wins admiration for a pleasing rendition of Connie Jonathan. Miss Maria Robertson, Miss Ada Douglas, and Miss Edith Woodward are also deserving of praise.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacore.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is paying a visit here this week in the drama entitled *The Shadow of a Crime*. Included in an excellent cast are Miss Ina Grant, Mr. Stephen Crossley, Mr. John Manley, Mr. Robert Forder, Mr. William Matthews, and Mr. E. W. Avery.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. The Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Fred Karno's latest creation, *Moses and Sons*, was presented here for the first time on Monday, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Fred Kitchen was the life and soul of the piece by his richly humorous impersonation as Perkins, and kept the fun going right merrily. Lord Murray, and Lord, with their boxing act, are prime favourites; Esta Stella is a dainty coon impersonator, and also executes some tricky dances; Ludwig Amann is remarkably clever with his facial impersonations; George Reeves, in a couple of songs, provides a diverting turn; C. J. Johnson sings and dances himself into favour; and Rosie Bartlett, comedienne; and Rezene and Robini, comedy artistes, submit acceptable contributions.

Pavilion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The top liners in this week's programme are The Cratons, who are responsible for a mirth-provoking entertainment, entitled *The Mumming Birds*. Tony Iveson, a comedian with local connections, proves his versatility in his musical show; Gus Harris with his Synagogue scena hits the popular fancy, and other contributors are the Dugros Trio, comedy gymnasts; Will Lytton, Frank Leslie, and Ted Cowan, comedians; Amiel, contortionist; the Baltus troupe, acrobats; and the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Samuel James's company is playing *It's Never Too Late to Mend* here this week. Mr. W. Heilroom gives a skilful interpretation of the character of George Fielding. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb shows himself to be an actor of no mean ability in the part of Tom Robinson, and Mr. Jas. May as Peter Crawley, is most amusing. Mr. Jackson Hayes makes a capital villain as Mr. Meadows. Miss Hettie Graham's portrayal of Josephs was very moving in the prison scene, and Miss May Laker was seen at her best as Susan Merton. Miss Maude Ethelda was successful as Mary, and Mr. Edwin Wilde as the Rev. Francis Eden, and Mr. Osmond Fairfax as Isaac Levi, sustained those parts with dignity.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. O. Stoll.—Geo. Robey is chief favourite here this week, and affords much amusement. Carlton, a quaint jester, does many clever things, and Fred Lincoln, a comic singer, is warmly received. The Olive Trio of lady dancers are popular; Prof. Therese, comedy hypnotist, provides a good turn; and Barnard's mannikins give a smart and amusing performance. Joseph Adelmann makes a favourable impression with his performance on the xylophone, and the Bioscope, showing among other pictures "Rescued in Mid-air," completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General Manager, Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Bert Cooke's company is here this week in *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss Leah Marlborough gives an effective rendering of the scheming adventuress. Cora Williams; Miss Katherine Clarke is well suited as Mabel Wilson; Miss Madge McCalla is commendable as Jessie; Miss Blanche Stanley makes an amusing Bridget; Mr. Guy Hastings gives a clever reading of the part of Herbert Curtis; and Mr. Wilson Howard makes the best of the unsatisfactory rôle of Howard Wilson. Toto by Mr. Edward Morgan; Peter Schwartz by Mr. Walter Westwood; and O'Reilly by Mr. Jack Waring, are admirable impersonations. Mr. Arthur Law Raynor is highly impressive as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson. — The Bensons are here again in their vocal and comedy act, the strong point of which is their dancing, which is highly applauded. Leon and Leoni appear with success in a musical act; Nellie Adrienne, whistler, obtains a good reception; the Three Zaracs are most comical on the triple horizontal bars; the Sisters Varley are pleasing vocalists; Harry Phydora's comic songs are favourably received; the Ladderites provide a clever acrobatic show; Stronge and Mainze appear in what is termed a "Continental cannon act"; and the Palace Pictures provide a most amusing turn.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company, with *The Luck of Life*, has proved a great attraction here this week. As Michael Bazilovitz, Mr. Harry Lloyd gives a capital impersonation; Mr. Henry Loraine is a capable Count Petroff; and Mr. Charles Belcliffe, as Ivan Polowski, achieves success; Mr. Hilton Marsh is clever as George Stanhope; and Mr. Harry T. Butler makes quite a hit as Simon Stanley; as Rene Bazilovitz, Miss Nita Langford plays in a skilful manner; Miss Marie Clavering gives a satisfactory impersonation of the Countess Vlame; Miss Adelaide Clare makes a good Vivienne D'Artois; Miss Dorothy Huggett is well placed as Laura North; and Miss Kate Penrowne gives a pleasing performance as Mlle. de Beaudyn.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The programme here is headed by Cullane's Comedy Trio, who have made a great hit; Messrs. Williams and Warden, comedians, cause intense fun; Mr. Martin Henderson, concertina soloist, is as successful as ever; and Mr. Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, repeats his success; Messrs. Manillo and Merazo, musical knife grinders, are clever; Miss Lily Lonsdale, juvenile vocalist and dancer, is appreciated; and the Bio-Photoscope has lost none of its popularity.

NORTHWICH.—Pierrot Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Co.—The Merrions (Will, Harry, and Fred) are providing the programme here this week, and it is mirthful and musical from start to finish. Their repértoire is extensive, and each evening's selections have afforded the greatest satisfaction. Two items in particular met with favour, viz., "The Musical Mélange," by Will and Harry, and "The Pictorial Sketch," by Will Merrion.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan. — A powerful company under Mr. Morton Powell is appearing here this week, in *When it was Dark*. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee gives a fine representation of the part of the Rev. Basile Gortre; Mr. Geo. H. Pitt is equally good as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. Francis Cairns is most successful as Lucifer; Mr. Henry Heller as the Rev. Mr. Byars, deserves commendation; Mr. Bryce Methven is effective as Sir Robt. Llewellyn; Mr. G. Rammal makes an excellent Harold Spence; Mr. Millar Wilson ably presents the part of the Hon. Charlie Gaybly; and as Mr. Ommaney, Mr. Charles Clayton does well. Mrs. Morton Powell is highly satisfactory as Helena Byars; Miss Bessie Ellis as Gracie Goldergo acts with vivacity; and Miss Laura Walker is charming as Gertrude Hunt.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is again presented this week. Frank and Jen Latona head the bill, and are great favourites in their comedy, *The Lady Slavey*, exhibiting much musical ability. Millie Howell is successful as a descriptive vocalist; Maxwell and Frances are attractive in their singing and dancing; Arthur Stacey scores as a top boot dancer; Arabella Allen is responsible for some pleasing impersonations of characters from Charles Dickens; Agnes Molteno's songs are very taking; the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists submit an excellent turn; and the Hippo Bio shows some interesting pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Upon its return visit here, *What the Butler Saw* is proving as great an attraction as ever. In the part of Pink, Mr. Lionel Rignold simply revels, and his every appearance is greeted with shouts of laughter. Miss Ada Blanche has every opportunity in the part of Mrs. Barrington for her ripened abilities, and is ably supported by Mr. Charles Fawcett, who handles the part of Jack Barrington in a very clever manner. Mr. Reddick Anderson has every qualification necessary to the impersonation of the impecunious baronet, Sir Charles Foden, and Miss Maria Daltra scores in the rôle of Miss Foden. Mr. Harry H. Rignold has a congenial part in that of Abraham Weinstein, and acts it without undue exaggeration. Miss Jennie Wigney makes a suitable Nora, and Miss Annie Webster and Miss Dorothy Garth are satisfactory as Fanny and Maria. Mr. George Ascott has care of the part of General Dunlop, and acquits himself well, whilst the difficult rôle of Vere de Bogyns loses nothing in the hands of Mr. Alec Alves, and that of Sydney Clifford is carefully acted by Mr. Lewis Lingard. Mr. Roy Byford, Mr. Frank Kingsley, and Mr. C. Barney all do well in their respective parts. Miss Hylda Davies and Miss Vera O'Connell as the Dunlop Girls are good, and Miss Violet Gould and Miss Agnes Goward are capable as Mrs. Fleming Smyth and Mrs. Hake respectively; whilst as Miss Hake Miss Minnie Willett does all that is required in an efficient manner. The mounting and management of the piece are all that could be desired.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—An excellent company, under the auspices of Mr. Julian Malvern, and directed by Mr. Chas. M. Julian, is appearing here in the powerful drama, *I Defy the World*, by Arthur Shirley and E. Hill-Mitchelson. Mr. Percy Ballard has a congenial part as Leon Darville, to which he does ample justice, whilst as the Count de Beaulieu, Mr. Chas. Walton is thoroughly successful. Mr. Alfred Denning as the fiery General Delaporte is good, and the blackmailer, Laroche, finds a capable impersonator in Mr. Chas. Conway. As a young artist, Mr. Arthur Chisholm makes the most of his opportunities, and Mr. C. M. Julian is altogether at home as Samuel Wozzle, and, together with Miss Maud Lillian as Marie Wozzle, causes endless fun and laughter. Miss Connie Gray is clever in the rôle of Fifine, and Miss Rosie Dane is well able to support the part of Fauchette. Miss Violet Craufurd looks thoroughly charming, and acts the rôle of Blanche Darville in a sympathetic manner. Messrs. A. Lewis, H. Passmore, A. C. Johnstone, and W. Darling are excellently made up as beggars, and Mr. Albert Ball and Mr. E. H. Cartwright make capital gendarmes. The priests are capably represented by Messrs. Devenport and Barkley, and Messrs. Reginald A. Hunt and Dalton J. Bosher satisfactorily fill the remaining parts. The play is capitally staged, and reflects great credit on all concerned.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The success of the animated pictures has been so pronounced that they are being continued this week with new films and subjects, with the addition of the engagement for the week of Mr. Lester King, baritone vocalist.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The eccentric musical sketch produced by the Ten Loonies is attracting large audiences, whose laughter and applause testify their appreciation alike of the buffoonery and skill. Miss Winifred Hare occupies the next place on the bill, and her charming and winsome style, added to her excellent voice and beautiful dresses, at once win the admiration, and evoke the plaudits of her auditors. Rich and Rich are comedians of no mean capacity, and great enthusiasm is elicited by the vocal duets and witty repartee of the Sisters Pine. Of comedians from the Emerald Isle, Miss Minnie Cunningham is undoubtedly one of the best. The Leonards sing and dance well, and their duets are admirably topical and to the point. Of burlesque piano players there is more than enough, but Elsie Roby is one of them we could not easily spare. Jacques Inandi, the man of figures, has still power to attract, and the Goltz Trio of globe equilibrists deserve mention. An excellent programme is completed by The Zanettos, a first class trio of jugglers.

NUNEATON. — Prince of Wales Theatre.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd. — Managing Director, Mr. A. J. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. J. F. Preston's company is here this week. The company opened on Monday with *Lady Godiva*, which was received with much favour, the acting throughout being excellent. Miss Ethel Griffies at once won the sympathy of the house in the title-rôle; Mr. Rawson Buckley as Tom of Coventry was all that could be desired; Mr. Howard Barlow was sufficiently repulsive as the villainous Aljar. As Lady Aldwyth Miss Catherine Brook was seen to advantage. Mr. R. S. Innes was good as Leofric. Mr. Ernest Hamilton did good work as Unwolf Unwolfson, and Edgar (the nameless) was played with good effect by Mr. G. Edward Dunstan. Mr. Bob Anderson as Robin Shackleton produces an amount of genuine humour, and Miss Edith Lorraine is a sprightly Elfrida. The staging for the memorable ride is very effective. *Nell Gwynne* and *Jane Shore* are also played by the same company.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*A Royal Divorce* is paying a return visit this week. Mr. W. W. Kelly's strong company includes Miss Edith Cole, who appears with great success as the Empress Josephine. Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon gives a capital rendering; Mr. F. Joynsen Powell is all that can be desired as Talleyrand; Mr. Graham Woods does well as the Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. Arthur Preston is a capital Marshal Murat; and Mr. St. George Frere is good as General Augereau. Miss Clara Russell makes the most of the part of Stephanie de Beauharnais.

Colosseum.—General Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton are here this week with *A Gambler's Daughter*, and Mr. Ayrton capably fills the part of Desmond O'Dare. Ralph Gillman is well played by Mr. Martin Sands; Mr. Howell Travis does well as Dick the Weazel. Stephen Brand is effectively played by Mr. Arthur T. Lennard; and Mr. A. Sanders as Soloman Solomans is responsible for much of the comedy. Miss Adria Hill as Mildred and Miriam Grant leave nothing to be desired. Miss Harriett Loydale is a capital Auntie Zeb, and Miss Sanders a good Carita.

Hippodrome (late Gaiety).—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. Nuttall. — After being closed for the season, the theatre opened on Monday under the above name. The Marvellous Avolos top the bill with their acrobatic novelty on the perpendicular poles. The Elvio Comedy Trio present a capital sketch, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, and Correze and Keith have a good equilibristic act. Martinengo is a capable vocalist and cellist; Joe Chevers is a good comedian, as is Master Joe Conway. Lillie Lebreton is a dainty trapeze artiste. The Dottoscope is showing some capital pictures.

OXFORD.—Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. Henry S. Dacre's company is this week presenting *Moths*. As Lord Jura, Mr. Dacre is very natural and consistent; while Mr. Ernest Percy gives a capital rendering of Prince Zouroff; Mr. Percy Twyman acts the part of Correze with praiseworthy depth of feeling; and Mr. W. Castlemain is very humorous as the Duke of Mull. Miss Sophy Shenton is adequately suited as Lady Dolly Vanderdecker; Miss Jessie Gillette makes the most of Duchess de Sonnaze; and Miss Legarde Atheling is a typical American as Fuchsia Leach; Miss Poppie Carewe gives a careful and sympathetic rendering of Vera.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The successful comedy *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* is being staged this week for the first time in Perth. Mr. Yorke Stephens's Captain Mowbray is admirable; Mr. Maitland Dicker assists greatly by his excellent impersonation of Colonel Jardine; Mr. W. Briscoe Owen has a difficult part in Lieutenant David Cairn; and credit is due to him for the manner in which he plays the rôle; Mr. Reginald Walter is successfully placed in the rôle of the detective Jernigan; as also is Mr. Lawrence J. White in that of Charles the footman. Miss Ethel Royal acts the part of Mrs. Jardine with the necessary force; Miss May Straker is to be commended on her charming portrayal of Isabel Lirke; Miss Mabel Melba is happily placed as Vicky Jardine; Miss Isabel Fladgate makes an excellent Miss Potts; Miss Frances Vine's Mrs. Gorringe is received with hearty approbation throughout. A comedietta entitled *Uncle Joseph* is given as a curtain-raiser.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—A large audience left the Royal tired with laughing on Monday, after witnessing the excruciatingly funny situations in *Are You a Mason?* as presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's chief company. Mr. E. H. Paterson as Amos Bloodgood the would-be Worshipful Master, and Mr. Howard L. Tracy as Frank Perry, his son-in-law, kept the audience convulsed by their efforts to obtain from each other some clue to legitimate Freemasonry; Mr. Ernest Copart scored as George Fisher; Mr. Frederic Jaques was original as Hamilton Travers, a fourth-rate actor; and Mr. Dare Austin was acceptable as Ernest Morrison. Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood, made an ideal dictatorial mother-in-law; Miss Minnie Rayner as Lotti created much genuine amusement; and the Misses Mabel Younge, Babs Stuart, and Madge Merrique, made a fascinating trio of daughters of Mrs. Bidgood; Mr. Edwin Millins as John Hilton proved a distinct acquisition. The piece is preceded by a well-rendered one-act play, entitled *The Ruby Heart*.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Grant. — Mr. Percy Williams' company is presenting here the drama entitled *The Heart of a Hero*, which abounds in exciting and realistic situations. Mr. Edward Lloyd makes a fine well-set hero, Jem Resdale; Mr. Walter Terris well represents a shrewd detective; Mr. Johnny McElroy causes laughter as Timothy Heighno; Mr. Alfred Brandon as Wilfrid Marl, the intriguer, makes the most of a difficult part; Miss Caroline Fenton correctly interprets the part of Mrs. Ryder; and Miss Ethel Kay as Nell Resdale is excellent.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Mr. Henry Bedford's play, *The See-Saw of Life*, is here this week. Mr. Bedford himself fills the leading rôle of Matt Marston, in a highly creditable fashion; Mr. Robert Gilbert is distinctly good as Sir James Dalroy; and Mr. Syd. Bedford is quite an original comedian.

Palace of Varieties.—Owners, County Theatres and Hotels, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here. The Albano Troupe have a high-class musical act, M. Henri Albano being loudly applauded for his manipulation of the English concertina; Bijou Russell is a finished sand dancer; Charles Matthews, jumper, does well; the Wartenburg Bros. are skilful jugglers with their feet; Charlie Williams gives a wonderful exhibition of big boot dancing; Albert and Edmunds have a breezy sketch entitled *A Trip to Boulogne*; and Marie Gibson is a high-class ballad vocalist. Other items are furnished by Charles Lilburn, comedian, and Vernon's Pictures.

Promenade Pier and Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The Vaudevilles, a well-balanced little company, are performing to large audiences here. Some exceptionally good dancing is submitted by Thomson and O'Hanlon; Miss Kathleen Moore is an able exponent of cake-walking; Miss Rosalie Jacobi is a popular vocalist; Master Cecil Bernard earns loud applause by some character sketches; and the humorous business could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Leonard Lane.

PORTH.—The Palace (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting and Stage-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Messrs. Poole are working this house on the two performances a night system, which is proving a huge success. The building has been closed for several weeks for renovating purposes, and is now thoroughly equipped to meet the demands of the numerous patrons. The bill is headed by Wyndham and Kitty, wire artists, who are well received; Rosie Lemaire, descriptive vocalist, meets with a hearty reception; Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer, is loudly applauded; the Mezzettis, in a comedy gymnastic act on the triple bars, are exceptionally clever; Eugene, in his musical act, is a capital turn; Dowton and Steeley, comedians, are much appreciated; the Fordyces, singers and dancers, are decidedly clever; the Sisters Stratton, duettists and dancers, are also well received; the pictures shown on the American Bioscope are delightful. The band is under the direction of Mr. Nimrod Williams.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here this week, presenting the musical play, *A Girl on the Stage*, to well filled and most enthusiastic houses nightly. Mr. Lennox Pawle as the Earl of Sanctobury gives a most artistic impersonation; Lord Congress is taken by Mr. J. Robert Hale with conspicuous success; Shingle, in the hands of Mr. John Humphries, is an exceedingly clever portrayal; Mr. Colin Coop makes an imposing Alderman Briggs; and Mr. Arthur Longley is very humorous as Algernon Southdown; Miss Queenie Leighton is delightfully fascinating as Molly Montrose; and Miss Fanny Dango and Miss Valli Valli ably fill the parts of the Earl's daughters.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—*Her Wedding Day* is being staged here this week, Mr. T. Edward Ward and company giving a very capable presentation. Harold Saxby, the bridegroom, is played by Mr. George M. Newall in manly fashion; Mr. Wilson Coleman, as Weedon Kenyon, gives a very acceptable performance; Mr. Fred Arnold acts characteristically the Sexton Caccles; and Mr. T. E. Ward invests the part of the ex-convict, Seth Mayson, with a strong individuality; Miss Ward, in the character of Madge Conway, gives a charming impersonation; and Miss Adeline Raby is excellent as Dora.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Collinson and company, with the sensational sketch, *A Club Raid*, head the bill here this week; Zaro and Arno are smart in their comedy bar act; Rita and Roma, versatile vaudevillists, give a much appreciated performance; Ben Albert, character comedian, is quaint in his impersonations; the Darrell Trio are vocalists and instrumentalists of quality; Grant and Allen, burlesque comedians, meet with success; George Antill, with his whimsicalities and legmania, wins applause; Collinson's juveniles, with the speciality, *Topsy-Turvy School*, create uproarious merriment; Maude Forde is a capital soubrette; the Sisters Bartholomew are smart duettists and dancers; and Payne's Pictures complete a varied programme.

PRESTON.—Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of this week's bill is Leoni Clarke, with his 200 cats, monkeys rabbits, canaries, &c., which provide an interesting and amusing performance; the Schiavonis furnish a very clever and novel acrobatic act; the feats of Ranji, Sinji, and Valeria, Indian comedy magicians mystify the audience; the Seddons give a smart and mirth-provoking display of juggling; Tom Kelso and company in the farce, *The Silly Servant*, evoke hearty laughter; Claude Felman's Juveniles sing and dance well; other turns deserving favourable mention are Lil O'Gorman, burlesque actress, vocalist, and dancer; and the Bros. Passmore, comedians.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—This week Mr. Wm. Mollison and his company are fulfilling a popular return engagement in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Lachlan Campbell is impersonated with impressive effect by Mr. W. Mollison; Mr. John Clyde gives a jovial presentment of Dr. Maclure; Mr. Kendal Chalmers, as Thomas Mitchell is exceedingly droll; Mr. D. Lyall capably depicts the Earl of Kilspindie, and Lord Hay, his son, has an earnest and manly representative in Mr. Archie W. Chappell; Mr. Durward Lely acquits himself well as the Rev. John Carmichael, and Mr. Alec F. Thompson creates much merriment by his lively humour as McKittrick; as Kate Carnegie, Miss Alice Francis is seen to advantage; Miss Josephine Woodward's embodiment of Margaret Howe is admirably natural; Miss Edith Blair-Staples is quite successful as Annie; and Miss Evelyn McNay displays strong dramatic ability in her portrayal of Flora Campbell. The play is beautifully staged.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Mrs. Rose Faith's company, in *No Cross, No Crown*, has played to good audiences here this week. The excellent acting and the fine costumes have gained favourable comment. Miss Faith, a talented actress, is seen to advantage as Clare, the second wife; and Miss Gwen Stewart acts effectively as Mistress Gray, the first wife. Sir Francis Luttrell, the husband, has an able impersonator in Mr. W. Carriden; Mr. H. Chapman does well as Professor Neil; and Mr. Herbert De Ville makes a good villain. A word of praise is also due to Miss E. Ewer, a youthful actress, for her efficiency in her part.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Proprietor, Lord Geo. Sanger; Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—The programme during the first three nights has consisted of *The Walls of Jericho*, played in capital fashion by Mr. A. Bourchier's company, under the management of Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux. In the central character of Jack Frobisher, Mr. Herbert Bunston was eminently successful, and Mr. George A. Brandram was effective in the rôle of Hankey Bannister. Miss Florence Jackson played with skill the part of Lady Alethea. On Thursday Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 company commenced a three nights' engagement in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, an old favourite, which never fails to secure an appreciative reception.

Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux. — Admirably played and mounted, *The Orchid* proved a big success at the Pavilion on the first three evenings of the week. Mr. Harry Walsh was highly amusing as Meakin, and Miss Hilda Vining as Caroline Vokins contributed greatly to the success of the production. The other members of the cast performed their allotted parts in a manner with which it was difficult to find any fault; the singing was good, and the *tout ensemble* admirable in effect. — On Thursday, *The Orchid* gave place to the well-known burlesque, *Faust Up-to-Date*, played by Mr. Mouillot's capable company.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece; General-Manager, Mr George Dickinson.—Messrs. Charles Beresford and W. H. Moore's company opened here on Monday evening to a crowded house with *A Rogue's Daughter*. Miss Gertrude Sterroll as Lady Mynard gave a charming and really artistic rendering of the part, and made a good impression; whilst as Colonel Foster, Mr. Richard Ferriss submitted a powerful and finished portrayal of an aristocratic villain; Mr. Roy Gordon was a good Sir George Mynard; and Mr. Frank V. Fenn an excellent Frank Tyler. Mr. Robert W. Lynn played the part of Isaac Isaacs in fine style; and Mr. E. Hall-Eldon was also good as Ebenezer Dunnem. Miss Florence Gower was admirable as Dicky; and Miss Madge Deverick as Letty Gray gave a very capable and pathetic portrayal. Miss Becky Elliston as Priscilla was capital; and the rest of the characters were ably sustained.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Vivian Grantham's No. 1 London company is appearing here this week with success in the new romantic drama *Held in Bondage*. Miss Florence Tyrrell gives a very powerful impersonation of the Countess de Beaupre; Mr. Charles Stirling as Ivan Dronski, Mr. R. Vane as Prince Mazaroff, Mr. George Child as Sir J. Hawthorne, Mr. C. V. Proctor as Paul, Mr. R. Dryden as Col. Ispanoff, Mr. George Scully as Harry Dunn, Miss Grace Baring as Leonie Devigne, and Miss Maude Merrick as Lisette, all merit special mention; and the other parts are well filled.

ROCHDALE.—New Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Fatal Wedding* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Ernest Owtrim is very effective in his portrayal of Howard Wilson; Mr. S. Herbert Humber cleverly impersonates the unscrupulous Robert Curtis; Mr. C. H. Hughes is good as Tolo; and Mr. George Waring is diverting in the part of O'Reilly. Miss Madge Haines enlists sympathy as Mabel Wilson; Miss Gertrude Harrison is all that could be desired as Cora Williams; and Miss Marjorie Lawrence wins all hearts as Jessie, the Little Mother.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—J. Boganny and troupe, comedy Risleyists, as the Lunatic Bakers, fairly bring down the house with a really fine performance; Jack Pleasants is a popular comedian with a quaint and original style; and other capital turns include Little Beattie, a charming song and dance artist; George Goldburn, comedian; Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers, dancers, &c.; Vesta Fay, male impersonator; Mary Glenn, who vocalises with refinement and taste; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company is this week presenting *The Branded Woman* to the local playgoers. Mr. James Stillwell is an excellent Philip Maurice; Mr. Edwin Turner a smart Leon, Baron Hauber; Mr. Duncan Bell scores as Zarka; Mr. Harry Liddle is responsible for much humour as Dick Brown; Mr. Atherton Edwards is seen to advantage as Paul Flouret, and Mr. Paul E. Tenlon does well as Louis Duroc. Miss Violet Bailey-Clark as Rudolph gives a pleasing portrayal; Miss Isobel Marte is chic as Jacqueline; Miss Katherine Barnett, sympathetic as Marie, and Miss Zana St. George as Genevieve (the title-rôle) gives a powerful rendition.

RUGBY.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—*Proof*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company, is doing good business here this week. Mr. W. J. Butler as Lazare gives a powerful and impressive impersonation; and as the Duke d'Aubeterre, Mr. Carl Beechey is very successful. Mr. Wilfred Bailey as Chamboran is amusing; and Mr. Arthur St. Aubyn as Victor de Langney is excellent. Mr. Gerald Kennedy as Pierre Lorance quite enters into the spirit of the character, and displays great ability; Mr. Eric Neville makes the most of his opportunities as the Seneschal; Miss Beatrice Slirley, as Madeline in the prologue and Madame Deprets in the drama, acts exceedingly well; as Adrienne Miss Beatrice Shirley wins the sympathy and approval of the audience throughout; Miss Nita Ashby is capital as the Duchesse D'Aubeterre; Miss May Grimshaw as Valentine is charming; and Miss Ellen Morris as Julie also deserves praise; Miss Ellina Turner as Little Adrienne displays marked ability.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company has been seen to marked advantage here during the past week in the society play entitled *The Walls of Jericho*. The part of Jack Frobisher was impressively played by Mr. Wallace G. Court, and as Lady Alethea, Miss Maud Stuart was consistently successful. Hankey Bannister was excellently impersonated by Mr. Lionel Gadsden, and the character of the Marquis of Steventon was well placed in the hands of Mr. A. Rolfe; Miss Bertha Frances acted ably the part of Lady Lucy Derenham, and Miss Olive Elton won praise as Lady Westerby; Mr. Martin Pedlar gave ample expression to the part of Harry Dallas.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—*The Yokels* did well at this popular house early in the week. Miss Empsie Bowman and Miss Maggie Bowman, as the Shepherdess and the Milkmaid, were charming; Mr Albert Chapman's farmer was good; and as Giles, Mr. Tom J. Morton has evoked a great deal of merriment. Stockham's company of harpists and entertainers occupied the boards the last three days of the week. Assisting at the performances, and appearing at frequent intervals throughout the week, the Grosvenor Ladies Orchestra have done excellent work.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—A capital house gave a good reception on Monday to *A Life's Story*, played by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. Miss Augusta Tullock, as Zeika, a Russian adventuress, and Mr. Edward Fryer, as Count Bergen, successfully represented villainy; Tom Berry, a detective, was an amusing character in the hands of Mr. H. B. Peppin; Miss Ruby Maude was a charming Beatrice; Miss Susie Beaven as Rosa gave much pleasure by her charming singing; and with Mr. Fred Richards as Toni Crimonini, contributed much to the amusing situations; Mr. Stanley Carlton was successful in his representation of Captain Jack Tempie; Mr. J. Brunelle Harvey, as Max Clifford; Mr. Wm. Annesley as Lieut. Hugo de Brassier; Mr. Fred Heather as Frank Clifford, and Mr. Percy Darrel as Dr. Laffar, were also good in their several capacities.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Foremost here this week is the grand illuminated spectacle, "Electra's Dream," by Alma Abdullah and La Suberbe; Grant and Grant (Coley and Mamie), in *A Georgia Flirtation*, give a smart acrobatic and dancing turn; Fred Curran keeps the house in roars with his eccentric songs and business; Rutledge and Hare in an amusing sketch, *A Savage Encounter*; Bella Leyburn, comedienne; Wheeler and Wilson, comedy acrobats; Jack Martin, actor-vocalist; and Emily Evans, soprano operatic vocalist, also give acceptable turns.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Another excellent all-round bill of fare has resulted in good business. The Betsons, mad cyclists in a drawing-room, are very comical; Three Panamas do a smart acrobatic p

proved quite to the taste of the Royal patrons. Mr. Arthur Armfield, an old and esteemed Sheffield favourite, was cordially received in the character of Mr. Chichester; Mr. F. B. Richardson played in a manly and energetic manner as Harry Chichester; a "firm" piece of acting was the Capt. Gridley of Mr. George D. Daiper; Mr. Edward Valentine was good as Fretley Burside; Mr. Ernest Allen as Tom Chichester, Mr. George Slack as Detective Clarkson, and Mr. Herbert Sydney as Blidstein were all thoroughly at home in their respective parts; Miss Lallah Davis made a handsome Cynthia, and showed considerable histrionic ability; Miss Constance Bellamy was a graceful Aileen, and other well-rendered characters were Miss Amy Randolph's Throstle, and Miss Valentine's Rose the vivacious maid-servant. The piece was realistically staged.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—There is no drama more sure of a hearty welcome from crowded houses here than *The Midnight Mail*, a play replete with healthy excitement and domestic interest. On Monday the well-known and affective situations were enthusiastically applauded, and all the ladies and gentlemen of Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company had warm "receptions." Mr. Fred. G. Evison's Billy Brewer was a clever sketch of serio-comic rascality, and his "D.T." scene was terribly realistic. Mr. Alfred Goddard as the engine driver truthfully depicted the struggles and ultimate victory of a lovable, honest man led astray by the schemes of a villain; Mr. Charles McCann, Scotch railway director, was a natural bit of character-acting; Miss Ada Oakley repeated her sympathetic performance of the mis-judged wife, and other characters were carefully represented by Mr. Dobell Lyle, Mr. Arthur Gilroy, Miss Phyllis Bailly, and the vivacious Miss Nelly Sheffield.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—There is a distinct flavour of "Stern Caledonia" about the Empire bill of fare this week, and warm applause from a crowded audience on Monday greeted a contingent of the gallant Gordon Highlanders, who gave some smart drill exhibitions under the direction of Captain Bevan; Mr. Ian Colquhoun sang some good songs, and the Scottish Meisters were loudly applauded; the "star turn" was, naturally, Mr. Mark Sheridan, a comedian who "struck oil" years ago in a pantomime at the Alexandra. On Monday this genial fun merchant kept his auditors in roars of laughter; he was applauded to the echo, and recalled again and again; another favourite comic singer is Mr. Fred Poplar, with new and diverting ditties; fresh to local audiences are the droll entertainers, Miss Jessie Millar and Mr. Albertus, who do a new and original act; Miss Maud Mortimer was well received, and others who gave pleasure were Francis and Meeli, musical entertainers; Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians; and Miss Kitty Wager, a pretty and amusing serio.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Mr. James Willard's dramatic company is here this week, appearing in *The Little Wonder*. M. Kavados is a smart juggler, and others who successfully appear are Playfair and Nikola, in a novel act; Miss Flo Melville, burlesque actress; the Dewars, novelty performers; Mr. Wat Tyler, variety entertainer; the Franko Midgets, &c. Pallister's Bioscope with good topical and comic subjects concludes a bright and refined entertainment.

CENTRAL HALL.—Animated pictures continue to form the *pièce-de-résistance*, supplemented by the clever performances of the Spanish Goldinis, acrobatic specialists; Miss Nellie Nora, instrumentalist; and Mr. H. Mead, vocalist.

WONDERLAND.—Proprietor, Mr. Victor Sampson.—The attraction this week is the famous play, *Leah, the Forsaken*, with Miss Emma Poole, the clever daughter of "rare old Jimmy Poole," as the Jewish maiden.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*For Better or Worse* was presented on Monday by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Miss Marriott Watson portrays with skill the part of Olive Heathcote. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Bella Baverstock plays with considerable power, and her fine efforts are ably seconded by Mr. Scott Leighton as Major Gerald Crawford; Mr. George E. Clive as Captain Frank Hilliard and Mr. Willie Black as Horatio P. Ranter sustain the other principal rôles.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—The return visit of *The Prince of Pilsen*, under the direction of Mr. Charles Thorburn is very popular. Amongst the newcomers is Mr. Martin Adeson, who scores a huge success as Hans Wagner. Among the ladies, Miss Millicent Marsden (Mrs. Crocker), Miss Isa Bowman (Nellie Wagner), and Miss Adele Roze (Edith Adams), all act and sing admirably. Mr. J. B. Fox is satisfactory as the Prince; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold (Lieut. Wagner), Mr. Lawrence Wensley (Earl of Shrimpton), Miss Meg Hamylton (Jimmie), all repeat their previous successes. Miss Nell Emerald (Sidonie) and Mr. Alfred Selby (François) dance neatly.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Director General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Kelly and Gillette cause much amusement with their new billiard table act; Carlotta Levey sings well, and wins golden opinions; Burnetti gives clever impersonation of musical celebrities; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene submit a smart sketch, *His Birthday*; and the Jalvans are expert jugglers and Oriental entertainers; Chas. Sloman and George Leonard are a couple of good comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell. — Tarro Miyaki, the ju-jitsu wrestler, is starring here, and huge crowds witness some interesting wrestling nightly; the Morton Comedy Trio sing remarkably well; Harry Taft is a fine siffleur; and Anthony does all kinds of mysterious tricks; Mark Hinton is a droll comedian; Flo Cecil, comedienne, and Dolly Golden, dancer, also contribute their quota to the bill of fare.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. George Dance is providing exceptional attractions for this week, and for the first three nights his principal company appeared in *The Cingalee*. Some good singing was greatly enjoyed, and Mr. Peter Fletcroft directed the choruses and orchestra with ability. Mr. Cyril Dane was responsible for a clear interpretation of the Hon. Harry Vereker; Mr. Helier Le Moistre was well suited as Boobhamba; Mr. Grafton Williams as Sir Peter Loftus was worthy of mention; and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards was conspicuous in the rôle of Bobby Warren. Chief honours fell to Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambhuddy Ram and Miss Gladys Guy as Peggy Sabine, who both worked most assiduously, gaining well-deserved appreciation; Miss Marjorie Clark, too, proved capable in her portrayal of Lady Patricia Vane, whilst Miss Essie Perrin showed cleverness in her dancing, and taking Angy's character in pleasing manner. Miss Georgina Middleton was allotted the rôle of Nanoya, a Cingalee girl, and was successful. *The Duchess of Dantzic* is being enacted the remaining nights of this week.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The programme at this attractive place of entertainment provides plenty of amusement. Large crowds are not lacking in their appreciation, especially the theatre entertainment. Those contributing are Mr. Wilfred Fry, who is excellent in his characters of Dickens; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Emro give a delightful sketch, entitled *When a Man's Married*; Mr. J. B. Houghton is a trick pianist who gains capital recognition for his cleverness; the Bennetts are gun spinners and dancers of repute, maintaining their success of a few weeks previous; Wilfred Fry's Comedy Company plays *Claude Duval* in taking manner; Miss Clara Urwin, who has been retained, sings and dances well; and the Ten Dixie Girls are again appearing as the ballet, delighting much in their scena, entitled *Silver Coon*. The Bioscope completes with a capital set of new pictures. Other attractions include Lorenzo's miniature circus in the Hippodrome, the Kursaal Pierrots in the café, where excellent turns are given by a good number of artists, the Galatea in the Café Theatre, Chung Foo Soo, Chinese magician, and Stanhope, the modern Valentine Fox, being very interesting for children.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—This week's programme drew a large gathering on Monday to witness the capital production of the musical comedy novelty, entitled *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, by Mr. Henry Swinerd, who is assisted by an excellent all-round company. The play, although it has made several appearances in Southend, has lost none of its attractiveness, as was testified by the splendid reception accorded. The specialities were rendered in masterly style, gaining well-deserved appreciation. Capt. George Fielding had a characteristic exponent in Mr. Walter Ashley, and Capt. Edward Dudley was equally as well impersonated by Mr. Henry C. Ward. Mr. Deane Cliffe proved humorous in the rôle of Featherstone Haugh; Mr. Arthur Verne was very popular as Silas Crump, and is the principal comedian. The Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake are smart and clever acrobatic dancers, winning immense favour. Judith, in the capable hands of Miss Nellie Harcourt, was very prominent, and her skipping-rope dance was greatly enjoyed, as was also her singing. Miss Marie Vere creditably portrays Ruth Montrose, whilst Miss Dorothy Desmonde gave a pleasing and capital delineation of her sister Dorothy, both artists being heard to advantage in their singing.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—It is pleasing to record that this new place of entertainment continues to draw exceptional crowds to witness the capital programmes submitted. The chief item perhaps is the Urban Bioscope, which shows very fine pictures. Last week's artists have been retained, and Mons. Le Clair's high-diving dog Spot is a special attraction.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Mr. Ballard Brown and his entertainers maintain their reputations of giving excellent and refined programmes, huge crowds being delighted with all the turns. Two newcomers are Mr. Sydney Locklynne, a mimic, who is received most favourably, and Mr. S. A. Melverne, a ventriloquist, who pleases immensely.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson. — Mr. Andrew Melville's company in *Driven from Home* is occupying the boards here. Miss Frances Ruttledge gives an excellent interpretation of the dual rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherley, the younger. Mr. Clement Wakefield as Walter Hatherleigh, is good. Mr. Fred Sandy as the villain, Geoffrey Waring, creates a favourable impression. Willie, an outcast, is forcefully delineated by Mr. Percy Dawsone. An excellent portrayal of Barbara Ashdown is given by Miss Florence Trevoi. The Jabez Thomas of Mr. Harry Cornwall is a dignified performance. Mr. Felix Pitt is a powerful Anthony Raybrook. The comic parts are ably performed by Mr. Alick Hemming as John Anderson and Miss E. Marrable as Margaret Bailey.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Annie Abbot, the little Georgia Magnet, causes much merriment by her unique show. Alexandre and Hughes, comedians, are entertaining. Peggy Pryde, comedienne, is a distinct success. An amusing sketch, entitled *Watch the Chalk*, is contributed by Goodfellow and Gregson, assisted by Mr. Bert Wade. Josh Dixon, comedian, is exceedingly funny. The remaining turns, Frank Lynne, comedian, Wee Winnie Jackson, a local artist, and the Bioscope all have their admirers.

TIVOLI. — Lessees and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The universal living pictures continue to be popular. Vesta Whelan, vocalist, renders her numbers charmingly. A hearty welcome is accorded to Conway and Welsh, versatile comedians, and the engagement of Ethel Payne is pleasing. A "Beauty Show" Competition is held this week.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—The romantic drama, *The Days of Cromwell*, has been the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry Belding deserves favourable mention for his fine impersonation of Ironhand; Mr. Robertson Foulis is the embodiment of crafty villainy in his assumption of the rôle of Sir Marsden Mardyke; Matthew Mardyke, another hardened scoundrel, is admirably portrayed by Mr. Howard Hardy; Mr. Jack C. Gray acquits himself creditably as Walter Clifford. As the much-injured heiress, Ruby Avondale, Miss Gertrude Gilman shows capability. Miss Cecilia Crawford submits a capital study of the demure Puritan maid Judith; boisterous fun is supplied by Miss Annie Clunn and Messrs. T. R. White and George Harvie.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—A variety entertainment is given twice a night at this theatre. The turns include La Studio, mystifying act; T. H. Etherdo, equilibrist and juggler; Little Venus, a clever child vocalist and dancer; Luce O'Bright, a comedienne who sings and dances well; La Belle Rosa, an able mandolinist; and Madame Rosini, with her highly trained dogs.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Dunford Oswald.—The premier position here is accorded to Blanche and Diacoff, whose marvellous "cycle whizz" earns the plaudits of good houses; Mollie Wolstenhulme is a charming operatic vocalist; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, who describe themselves as the factory nightingales, are very captivating; Ada Gatley on the swinging wire is attractive; Monty Walker displays humour in his laughing and mimetic songs and patter; Little Ada Merry is a dainty comedienne and dancer; the Carls show themselves to advantage in their comic speciality-act, *Fun in a Café*, and the Bioscope concludes.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—This is the Wakes Week, and *The Great Awakening*, which has been presented here nightly by Miss Maude Hildyard and company, has quite suited the tastes of the holiday audiences. The acting of Miss Maude Hildyard as Lola Selby stood out prominently as of great merit; and Mr. Bernard Coppings' impersonation of Jack Merton was most impressive. Mr. Chas. E. Linney atced the villain Guy Rogan admirably; Capt. Harry Lambart was ably impersonated by Mr. Herbert Evelyn; Mr. Willie Scott was amusing as Billy Brass, and Mr. George Child displayed ability as Richard Wilson. Mr. Charles Vivian effectively portrayed the character of James Selby; Mr. Tracy Barrow was distinctly funny as the waiter Antoine; Miss Doris Rigby acted with charming grace as Molly Merton, and Selina Worts was a pleasing character in the hands of Miss Isa Bellington.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—There is much to amuse and entertain in the holiday programme provided here this week. Imro Fox, the comic conjuror and illusionist, who heads the bill, is highly successful; Kisbey in his speciality "The Call Boy" is genuinely amusing, and the King's College Boys are appreciated for their rendering of excerpts from operas; Adey Spencer as "the girl from the hat shop" is an accomplished artist; and Kendrick and Laura are pleasing vocalists and dancers; whilst George Prince, the crazy comic; Maude Kaye, coon vocalist and dancer; and Max Merlin, the human crocodile, are also well received.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Two capital audiences greeted the programme submitted on Monday. Mr. Lonnen Meadows and company head the bill in their funny sketch, *Kiss your Father*; as O'Callaghan Mr. Meadows is particularly funny; the Sisters Geretti in their double-trapeze act are excellent; the Davies Trio in their motor-cycling act in mid-air are accorded a hearty welcome; Kloof and Ramsey in their amusing musical act are well received; the Sisters Brookland sing and dance admirably; Bessie Willon sings tunefully; W. H. Downs has a good tenor voice, which is heard to advantage. The Pictures are interesting.

SUNDERLAND. — AVENUE THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin. — Mr. Harry Fischer's company in the Scottish musical play, entitled *A Trip to the Highlands*, is being staged for the first time in Sunderland. Chief among the comedians is Mr. Wal Croft, who in his unconventional impersonation of the Highland chieftain makes a great hit; Mr. Joseph B. Montague is highly amusing as the manservant Timmins; Mr. Frank Barclay sings well, and ably fills the responsible rôle of the Hon. Frederick Lackington; whilst Mr. Gus Wheatman scores as Sir Septimus Brown. Miss Millie Engler is a bright and winsome Winnie Brown, the runaway heroine; Miss Maisie Ellinger makes a dashing Araminta Brown; and Miss Nellie Engler is a pert maid. The Midget Troupe of dancers add considerably to the success of the production. During the intervals, some interesting Scottish scenery is shown.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Mr. John Power's company, *Man's Enemy*, is the attraction here. Mr. Francis Everard gives a powerful rendering of Harry Stanton; and as Count Lanski, Mr. Cliff Locke makes the most of his opportunities. Miss Edith Leslie gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Grace Lisle; the comedy parts are filled by Mr. G. T. Greig (Ikey Barnet) and Miss Clare Reid (Pollie Harris). Other parts in good hands are played by Mr. H. Payne (General Sir Arthur Stanton), Mr. F. A. Ellis (Bill Sanders), and Miss Florrie Sorsby (Nellie Saunders).

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Browne and Syd. B. Stringer.—Alice Pierce, impressionist, heads the bill, and is accorded a flattering reception; Conn and Conrad contribute an excellent acrobatic act, which is heartily appreciated. Other turns are Gertrude Moore, vocalist and dancer; Four Herberts, the jolly Californian farmers; Little Vio-Lette, dancer; Holles Goldman and company in a clever comedy mélange; Hans and Lux, eccentric act; and Fred Land, comedian.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—*Beauty and the Beast*, described as a fairy spectacle, and presented by Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's juvenile company, 60 in number, is proving a great attraction here this week. The piece is excellently staged, the ballets smartly arranged, and the well-balanced chorus and orchestra ably conducted by Mr. H. Levy. The outstanding feature is undoubtedly Master George Wood's remarkably quaint and clever impersonation of Pip, the Baron's page. Miss Dolly Dodds is charming as Beauty, and Miss May Gibson as Silver Star wins much applause with her sweet voice and well-rendered songs; Miss Kitty Trewhitt is strikingly successful as Prince Charming, and Miss Daisy Fielder very pleasing as Will Scarlett; Master Fred Bentley does well as the Baron. Considerable amusement is provided by the Brothers Armstrong as "ugly sisters," and Messrs. Adams and Sloan as sheriff's officers. The Marguerittа dancers, Misses Edie Camm, Isa Gibson, and Gladys Skipp, and Mr. Will Orston (as the Beast) all deserve special mention.

TAMWORTH.—THE CASTLE.—Pleasing performances are given nightly in these historic pleasure-grounds by Mack's Pierrot Troupe, concluding with living statues by Mme. Mabel Lenton.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgwood Barrie.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour thy Father* is this week proving attractive here. Mr. Walter M. Cameron gives a clever representation of Gabriel Garth; Mr. Bertram Ross as Jack Halyard deserves praise; the part of Duncan Ply is well placed in the hands of Mr. W. R. Winging; Mr. Fred Rolls is very humorous as Mike Copplestone; Mr. Frank Eden is excellent as Dr. Sleak; Miss Winnie Donover acts with decided charm the rôle of Mercy Merry; and Miss Mabel Coleman must also be complimented on her capital rendering of Lilian Garth.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crosswood's company, in the musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, opened to a well-filled and enthusiastic house on Monday. In the name part Mr. E. Russell was all that could be desired; Mr. T. A. Shale was quaintly funny as Crookie Scrubbs, and the Mr. Crank of Mr. Henry Chichester was very effectively played. Miss Lily Lingard was a capital Lady Bickenhall; Aurora Brue was gracefully impersonated by Miss Kitty Dale; and Miss Constance Berkeley made a bright and winning Daisy. Mr. E. Percy Rogers was successful as Michael Brue; and Mr. Chas. Sims did exceedingly well as Matthew Habisham. Mention should also be made of Miss Aileen Macdonald and Miss Edith Monckton. The chorus was under the able direction of Mr. J. H. Yorke.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—A crowded house greeted the opening on Monday of Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers. Miss Ona Ashton is a capable and effective artist; and Miss Gertrude Grant soon becomes popular. Mr. G. Harker Holt never fails to evoke hearty applause for his well-selected songs; and Miss Alice Singleton performs with grace and skill. Mr. Frank Quinn renders several popular items, and his contributions meet with merited applause. Mr. Tom Heyworth is the humorist of the party, and achieves conspicuous success. Mr. Ernest Lord acts as musical-director.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Charles Carey; Manager, L. J. Gunnell.—Miss Hutchinson's company in the *Freedom of Suzanne*, with Miss Mabel Love as leading lady, has proved a great success this week. Miss Love, as Suzanne, had a most cordial reception, and was well supported by Mr. Templer Powell as Charles Trevor. Suzanne's three admirers were admirably impersonated by Messrs. Frank Hill, Townsend Whitling, and Richard Neville. Mr. F. G. Thurstans gave a very humorous sketch of the Uncle, and Mr. Patrick Quill of the part of Sir Horace, while Miss Annie Stolman as the mother-in-law, and Miss Charlotte Mead as the companion, were excellent comedy studies. The other ladies' parts were well sustained by Miss Violet Ley and Miss Dorothy Last. For the week end, Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Geisha* is the attraction.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers. — The Gems head the bill, and please by their unique entertainment; *Casey's Court* (representing street arabs' idea of producing a variety entertainment) proves highly amusing; Stanley's giant fairy fountain and the Court Orchestra remain under engagement.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the direction of Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, is paying a first visit in the play *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. A. E. Anson acts with great power and earnestness as Jack Frobisher; and Miss May Taverner gives a fine performance as Lady Alethea, acting with great charm and taste; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is excellent as Hankey Bannister; Mr. Cecil Warde is good as the Marquis of Steventon; Mr. Leslie Rea is well placed as Lord Drayton; Miss Marguerite Cellier displays ability as Lady Westbury; Miss Nora Wynne is admirable as Lady Lucy Derenham; Miss Lillian Rogers and Miss Leonora Thomas are successful as Miss Mornington and the Duchess of Skye respectively; and Mr. A. W. Tryer, ably fills the rôle of Harry Dallas.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Texas Hattie heads the bill this week, and gives a wonderful performance on the tight rope; the Three Pirmans are a clever trio of comedy pantomimic acrobats; Miss Renee Walton, comedienne, dances well. Other items include Spring and Spring, lady barrel jumpers; Miss Rosa Carlo, low comedy artist; The Tiger Lily, coon vocalist and dancer, who wins applause; Mr. Arthur Richards, character vocalist; and the Two Roses, duettists.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Max Wessely Troupe of comic jugglers, who are the star attraction here this week, are exceedingly clever. Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer; Drew and Alders, eccentric comedians and dancers; Flo. Esdaile, serio; the Three Albions, novelty musicians; Lucretia, legmania dancer; J. W. Hall, comedian; all create a good impression; and the American Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is here this week, with *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Arthur Hinton as Pietro Danelli is all that could be desired; and Miss Leila Zillwood is a charming Olga Gynne.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—One of the most original, as it has proved one of the most popular, turns seen here for some time is the performance this week of Mr. John Kurkamp and Miss Alice Raymond, described on the programme as the singing conductor and the lady instrumentalist. Miss Raymond soon proves herself a clever cornet-player. Mr. Kurkamp, standing in the conductor's place in the orchestra, sings in a tenor voice of great volume and sweetness. Their combined effort in "A Che la Morte," from *Il Trovatore*, is a musical treat, and is rapturously applauded. Another very popular item is provided by the Two Bostons as novelty showmen in their bull fight. Their performing dogs are deserving of the highest praise for their intelligent performance. Mr. Dan Thomas is a comedian of great humour; Dainez' Circus is capital, the doings of the donkey, pony, and dogs being excellent; Miss Gladys Mavius, an established favourite here, is in good form, and in addition to several of her old favourites sings a novelty entitled "My Ship's Come Home" with happy effect. The Eugene Family are as graceful as ever in their entertainment as aerial gymnasts; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has some attractive films, which are received with the usual delight. The sketch for the week is *The Amber Light*, played by Mr. Fred Eustace and his company. This goes remarkably well, and is cordially received.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Florence Baines and company are here this week in the musical farce, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson is a charming comedienne, and she is also possessed of a rich soprano voice. Miss Annie Mitchell is an engaging Eva Lancashire and Miss Muriel Johnstone a charming Muriel. Miss Pattie Groves submits a clever character sketch of Bridget Thompson; Mr. Will Casey as the bluff Farmer Thompson interprets the part well; and Mr. Burt Burton is a typical Jew. Mr. David Donaldson scores as John Higgins, and Mr. Robert Turley as Harry is especially successful.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Four Heames are an exceptionally clever troupe of acrobats; Herbert La Martine is smart in all he does; Dale and O'Malley are clever comedians; and the Royal Temples sing several trios with rare effect. Zaran is a humorous contortionist; and De Paso a unique modeller in clay. The pictures are all good.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Messrs. W. Alexander Dallas and Hubert Carson's company, in *The Great Wilderness*, is here this week. A capital impression is made by Mr. Edward Leroy as Lascelle la Mort, a renegade; and also by Mr. Leonard Williams as the scout. Mr. C. M. Davidson acquits himself well as Sir Vivian Asley; the part of Ronald Garnville is left in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Lowry; the comedy of Michael Maloney is amusingly emphasised by Mr. Robert A. Earle; Miss Hazel Dent characteristically renders the part of Wild Rose; and as Star Eye, Miss Kitty McPherson is well suited. Miss Blanch Leroy makes the most of the rôle of Louise Granville.

WEST BROMWICH. — MOORE'S HIPPODROME AND THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. P. Moore.—There is another attractive programme for the second week of the two-shows-a-night system, which the public evidently very greatly appreciates. Geo. M. Schilling, the famous athlete, who walked round the world for a wager, gives an interesting account of his travels. Wallace is well described as the phenomenal boy juggler, for his turn is remarkably clever; Nellie Dunbar is a dainty dancer and singer; Russell Carr gives a new form of ventriloquial entertainment, which is much appreciated; Vernon and Burdeel are amusing dialoguists; Chas. Leighton performs admirably on the piano; Frank Couch is a very funny comedian; and Ruffell's Bioscope pictures are interesting and up to date.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—The management are to be congratulated on another very excellent programme. Their efforts have been appreciated by large audiences. Harry Tate's company, which appears in *Fishing*, is a very capable one, and the delightful humour of the scene is well brought out; Mlle. Roza's football dogs create great interest; Harry Thurston is a remarkably clever impersonator, and is deservedly applauded; Miss Nellie Van, comedienne and dancer, secures a good reception; Babs Lloyd is well described as the smartest juvenile artist in the world; Parker and Parr are two funny duettists; Miss Vi Carlyle appears in a refined vocal scena; Nanno, Leo, and Kinko give a capital turn; and the Hippodrome pictures are as popular as ever.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Keith and Merson in their hunting absurdity, *The Meet*, provide hilarity; Tennyson and Wallis are irresistible in their patter, and T. B. Fayme (Yorkshire comedian) is also a good entertainer; the equilibristic and acrobatic act of the Three Seabournes is a capital exhibition; and another clever act is that by Claver and Piccolo (equilibrists and jugglers); Guy Rider's whistling is, as usual, first-rate; Tom Yorke (character and coster comedian), and Raymond's Bio-tableaux complete a good bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Mr. Harry Starr, an old favourite at the Hartlepools, is presenting with great success, *Otto, the Outcast*, and *Carl, the Clockmaker*. Mr. Starr's songs are a special feature of the performances, and they are exceedingly well received.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—The visits of Mr. Norman V. Norman's excellent repertoire company is always welcomed here with keen delight. On Monday *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* was presented. Mr. Norman V. Norman's Sir George Sylvester proved a great success; Miss Beatrice Wilson, looking remarkably handsome, portrayed the Lady Ursula Barrington with all the skill of a first-class artiste; Mr. Dennis Cleugh was distinctly good as the Earl of Hassenden; Mr. Ernest Cossart is thorough in everything he does, and his Mr. Dent merits the highest eulogy; Mr. Francis Hope gave an artistic interpretation of the Rev. Mr. Blimtoe; Mr. Castleton found a good exponent in Mr. Norman Leslie; so, too, did Quilton in Mr. Charles Redforth; Mr. Howard Brenan (Mr. Devreux), Mr. Charles Casson Freer (Mr. Ward), Mr. Chris. Curtis (Sir Robert Clifford), Mr. Sam Wilkinson, jun. (Mills), are all entitled to the highest praise for their delineations of their respective characters; Miss Sibyl Ruskin acted with rare grace and skill as Dorothy Fenton, and a sound performance was that of Miss Hilda Gregory as Mrs. Fenton. *David Garrick*, *A Scrap of Paper*, and *Nell Gwyn* were also in the week's programme.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Smart Set are on a return visit here this week, and are drawing crowded houses. Miss Georgie Martin's song "Under the Goo-goo Tree," was loudly encored; Miss Lena Hutchings's fine voice is heard to advantage in Dessamer's "Come Out," and Miss Hilda Light sings artistically "My Little Laplander." The recital of "Mrs. Pagally's Juvenile Party" by Miss Ethel Wilford meets with approbation; Mr. Lionel Atwell's song, "In the Heather, my Lads," is well received; as is Mr. Arthur Court's "An Evening Song"; Mr. Walter George is enthusiastically applauded for his humorous song, "Nobody Knows, Nobody Cares." A series of new pictures are shown on the Bioscope by Mr. Frank Lens, and are well received.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark Lindon.—*A Beautiful Criminal* is being presented here this week by Mr. Fred C. Somerfield and Miss Marie Dagmar's company. Miss Marie Dagmar, in the title-rôle, is admirable; and the emotional acting of Mr. Fred Somerfield as Will Maynard creates a deep impression. Mr. Roy Fortescue, who appears in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon, is an actor of marked ability; Mr. T. G. Vane as Leonard Vimbart and Miss Amy Naughton as Florette de Vere give a typical representation of a society Johnnie and his sweetheart. Mr. J. E. Maine makes a hit as Harold Hingston; Mr. Willie Barrett as Peter Miles and Miss Molly Monaghan as Peter's Janet are an amusing country couple.

WHITBY.—THE SPA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company occupied the boards of this theatre on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in *The Merchant of Venice*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Hamlet*. The company is an excellent one throughout, the principal rôles being admirably portrayed. Mr. Bert Coote's Juvenile Prodigies, assisted by Mr. Harry May Helmsley, have proved a great attraction during the afternoons this week. They are an exceedingly clever troupe of children, and have been enthusiastically received. Much interest was also centred in the visit of the Pygmies on Monday and Tuesday, a large number of people visiting the Spa during the afternoon and evening.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr. George Grossmith, assisted by Mesdames Dorothy Scott, Dorothy D'Egville, and Dorothy Forster, in his drawing-room entertainment, had a most cordial reception on Tuesday night, the hall being crowded to its utmost capacity.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDER THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiddie.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is here this week with the stirring drama *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Jack Haddon does good work as Captain Demetrius; the General Romanoff of Mr. George Herbert is an even performance, and Mr. Edward Avinal and Mr. Cecil Melton, as Ivan O'Michael, handle well-written parts very capably; Mr. Fred Haming gives a finished study of the part of Alexis Skopolofski, and the same remark applies to Mr. W. Wilson as Colonel Souvaroff; the Doctor Keroff is ably played by Mr. William Rivers; Mr. Hal Forde is an amusing Peter Poulski; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is excellent as Nera Vassiloff; Miss Violet Lytton acts Ogarita capably; and Miss Marie Rayner makes quite the hit of the evening in the part of Luka Marischia.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company, in the drama, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, has played before good houses during the week. Miss Evelyn Clyde takes the title-rôle of Molly Vernon; Miss Ethel Bracewell that of Rose Seymour; and Miss Midge Meynard is a most humorous Lucy Vere, a servant. Miss Lydia Mannington is a vivacious Marian Franklyn; and Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch is exceedingly comical; Mr. Edwin J. Collins acts naturally as the Rev. Robert Everton; and Mr. C. W. Standing in the dual part of Jack England and Private Johnson is most entertaining.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick. — The Jackson Family give a capital musical entertainment here; and Radford and Valentine are very amusing jugglers, jesters, &c.; W. J. Churchill, comedian, is a capital entertainer; Miss Fannie Robina is a delightful vocalist; and great popularity is achieved by Miss Florrie Cooper; Walter Wade, comedian, is a popular favourite; the Alskarno Trio are accomplished acrobats; the Queen of Sheba is a wonderful mechanical talking and singing head

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, August 13th,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Law, entitled
"THE COUNTRY MOUSE."

Years have passed away since the production of Mr. Arthur Law's *The Country Mouse* took place at Worthing, and its success there, and afterwards at the Prince of Wales's and Criterion Theatres, promises to be renewed in the present revival. A fine house welcomed the company on Monday, and Miss and Mr. Hutchison have placed the piece on the boards with that completeness which one expects from managers of high reputation. The company, with Miss Annie Hughes at its head, is one of all-round excellence, and the audience received the popular and rightly-described comedy with enthusiasm. Miss Hughes, in her original impersonation of Angela Muir, the innocent "country mouse," charms and delights everyone by her natural assumption. Mr. Charles Esdale throws himself into his work as the Hon. Archibald Vyse with a heartiness that does one good to witness. Mr. Evelyn Vernon acts with discrimination and tact as the amorous old Duke of St. Kitts; Mr. Thomas A. Braidon is responsible for a rich fund of amusement as Lord Wyckham; Mr. John Nesbit is thoroughly satisfactory as John Bowlby; Mr. J. E. Watson gives a capital portrait of the old family retainer Jephcot; and Mr. R. Pank makes the most of his opportunities in the part of the footman. The rôle of Lady Sylvia Bowlby is handled with ease and confidence by Miss Moyra Cregan, and a finer performance one could scarcely desire to witness. Miss Francis Davie is deserving of high commendation for her portrayal of Violet Ainsley; and an excellent and most amusing character study of the charwoman is contributed by Miss Ida Laurie. In the curtain raiser, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, Miss Hughes undertakes her original part of Saucers, and is well supported by Messrs. Charles Esdale (Jack Hillier), Evelyn Vernon (Phil McDonald), and T. A. Braidon (Raymond). The incidental music and tuneful selections during the entr'actes are skilfully performed by the Marlborough Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Charles Elcock. Mr. Murray Heriot, the manager, is the personification of kindness and courtesy.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, August 13,
the Musical Comedy, by George Dance and Ivan Caryl, entitled
"THE GAY PARISIENNE."

Since its original production at the Duke of York's Theatre *The Gay Parisienne* has been continuously on the road, retaining its undoubted popularity and meeting with financial success everywhere. As performed by Mr. Charles Macdona's compact and talented company it is likely still to bring grist to the managerial mill for many days to come. The King's patrons on Monday evening approved and testified their satisfaction at the efforts of the comedians and the singing in the usual way. Mr. Will Harman is exceedingly amusing as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe, the audience laughing delightedly at his efforts. A genuinely funny performance is that of Mr. T. G. Warren as Major Fossdyke, and as Amos Dingle Mr. Bertram Zardi acts capitally. Mr. Edgar Ashwyn cleverly portrays Tom Everleigh, and the Algernon P. Ducie of Mr. Dutton Nicholls deserves mention. Mr. J. FitzJames as Hans, the hotel proprietor, plays splendidly, and Mr. Bloomfield Jones well sustains the rôle of Fritz, the waiter. A polished and spirited rendering of M. Pompier is given by Mr. Clifford Seyler, who works very hard and scores heavily. Miss Evelyn Hughes as Mdlle. Julie Bon-Bon is the life and soul of the piece, her bright and entertaining manner and smart singing being much admired. As Mrs. Honeycombe Miss Holford Beringer, whose methods are admirable, acts with excellent effect; Miss Ethel Ivimey is a charming Norah, and Ruth, the servant, finds a comical representative in Miss Madge Soutter. The Major's daughters are prettily undertaken by Miss Kathleen O'Malley, Miss E. MacHardy, Miss Gertrude Davies, and Miss Nance O'Neil. Several unaccompanied quartettes sung by the Imperial Glee Singers gained repeated encores. Pretty scenery is provided, and the dresses are elaborate.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled
"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."

Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and Sydney Cooper's company is appearing here this week in Shirley and Vane's latest drama, *The Spider and the Fly*, and a fine production it is. The drama is quite out of the common, and is capitally sustained throughout, each character having a distinct bearing on the plot, which grows in interest in each act. There are two big scenes in the play, the first being the rescue of the heroine and her child from the river by the aid of a steam launch, while the representation of a moveable ceiling by which the villainess meets her doom, provides a most thrilling finish to the story. As the hero, Mr. Stanley Gordon gives a quiet and distinguished portrayal of Cyril Girdlestone, and his acting in the scene in the cell at the Moated Grange is of a high standard. As the heroine, Edith McAllister, Miss Nina Vaughton is very sweet, and plays in a most pathetic and realistic manner, while Mr. H. C. Lansley enacts the rôle of the Rev. McAllister in a dignified and gentle way, which quite suits the character. Mr. Ellis J. Preston makes a notable appearance as Welby Girdlestone, bringing out the darker side of the character in requisite style, and in company with Miss Amy Venimore, who gives a striking picture of the adventuress, Stella Gray, works very hard throughout the play, both actor and actress showing unbounded resource and energy. A finely-written part is that of David Strong, and it gains materially by the admirable way in which it is handled by Mr. Frederick Ross, whose manly and straightforward manner is most convincing. Messrs. Fred Terriss and Charles A. Preece are excellent comedians, whose appearances as Romulus Roe and Remus Roe are the signal for much amusement. They are a couple of quaint characters, and are most diverting. Miss Lucy Murray is a bright and captivating Molly Blake, and Miss Ada Palmer gives a clever sketch of a bibulous landlady. There is also a little street boy, which is neatly acted by a young lady, whose name we were unable to discover. The other characters are capably filled.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 13,
the Play, by Sydney Grundy, entitled
"A PAIR OF SPECTACLES."

Sydney Grundy's evergreen comedy, *A Pair of Spectacles*, is amusing and delighting good houses this week. As presented by Mr. Russell-Rosse's company, the comedy preserves all its pristine freshness, and is as diverting as when Mr. John Hare first captivated the fancy of the London playgoer. The audience on Monday night followed the subtle humour of the play with evident relish, and thoroughly enjoyed the worldly wisdom of Uncle Gregory, whose remark, "He cooms fra Sheffield," gave rise to continual merriment. Mr. Benjamin Goldfinch is admirably portrayed by Mr. David James, who acts the part of the guileless philanthropist with life-like fidelity. Mr. Charles Groves scores a big success as Uncle Gregory, the rugged, hardened, sceptical man of business, and his economical methods create a great deal of fun. Mr. Robert Minster plays the difficult part of Dick with infinite credit, and as Percy, Mr. E. H. Brooke makes himself a warm favourite. Miss Ida Phillips gives a charming impersonation of the character of Mrs. Goldfinch, and Miss Norah Dwyer is a graceful Lucy Lorimer. As Joyce, the old butler, Mr. Alfred J. Thomas does exceedingly well, and Mr. Michael Dwyer merits mention as Lorimer. The company is thoroughly well balanced, and in the smaller parts Miss May Lawrence, as Charlotte, the maid, and Mr. Norman Clark, as Bartholomew, the shoemaker, ably support the principals.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

Mr. Frederick Melville's company is appearing this week at Notting Hill Gate in the drama entitled *Between Two Women*, wherein lovers of sensationalism are well catered for. As Carmen de Severeaux Miss Winifred Pearson does not spare herself in the portrayal of gilded vice and unscrupulous revenge, and her last-act repentance comes as a complete surprise. Miss Molly Malone is very sweet and attractive as pretty Violet Thornton, and Miss Lulu Bowes is pathetic as the poor blind boy who works such wonders in taming the tigress Carmen. Miss Lilian Earle is a great favourite as Polly Popp, and Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack Pringle is greeted with roars of laughter every time he practises some new and strange quip and crank. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is delightful as the young minister, Rev. Philip Carton, his thoughtful, quiet, and reposeful manner being quite a relief among so much exuberance of emotion. Mr. Stephen Langton acts with all the necessary vehemence and earnestness as young Harry Millard, and Mr. Watkin Wynne also "lets himself go" as Millard *père*, of Millard Castle. Mr. Walter Thornton supplies a realistic and repellent portraiture of the consummate scoundrel, James Durwood, and Mr. Roland Yorke is most saturnine and sneaking of villains as Major Strangeways. Mr. J. P. Kennedy as Jacques Spado of the "Vultures," and others, do their share in this exciting three hours' traffic of the stage. The scenery is pretty and tasteful throughout.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

Mr. Alexander Greenwood's company in the drama *The Price of Her Soul* is this week holding the boards of Stratford's Theatre Royal. Just now, when the Muscovite masses are engaged in a fight for freedom and liberty, and when the whole world is watching with sympathetic interest the mighty struggle that is being waged between the workers and the wealthy, a tale of Russian intrigue is of special significance. Therefore, the adventures in St. Petersburg of Lord Rolfe Mandeville, V.C., and the schemes which are set on foot by unscrupulous Russians with the object of discomforting the aristocratic Englishman, should certainly appeal to an audience with an eye to the sensational. The plot of the drama—the author of which, by the way, is Mr. William Hibbert—is of the kind that thrills. Mr. John B. Shinton in the part of Lord Mandeville acts with dramatic forcefulness, and shows us a courageous, honourable English gentleman always maintaining the dignity of his character and personal attributes, even in circumstances of extreme difficulty and danger. From Miss Ada M. Ryder we get a superb piece of tragic acting in the rôle of the heroine, Countess Inez Steinmitz, and the young lady is to be congratulated for her work in the play. The most objectionable, hypocritical, and treacherous individual, Major Ivan Skoboloff, is personated with a realism that almost takes one's breath away by Mr. Annesley Hely; and Mr. Murray Yorke as the "second heavy" runs him pretty close for consistent and unblushing villainy with his portrayal of Captain Sergius Petruski. Ah! but shure be St. Pathrick they're not going to have the whole play to themselves for their ugly doings, for Pat Murphy 'ull have his say, and a moighty funny one it is! And Pat Murphy is only another way of saying Will Percy. How comical, too, is Miss Ada Arnott in the rôle of Lady Jemima Fraser, the pork-pie queen! Miss Tina Frank treats us to some delightful light comedy in her study of Polly Perkins; and if there be eulogy in loud hisses, then Miss Mona Gray can rightly think that she receives great praise for her characterisation of Olga Lavonitz, a bad woman. The piece is adequately mounted and staged.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, August 13,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

The Fulham Theatre this week is given over to the delights of melodrama, furnished by a competent company in *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. The mysterious heroine is impersonated with great power and skill by Miss Beatrice Homer, who is remarkably successful in surrounding herself with a subtle sense of repulsion, partially dispelled, however, by the charm of her voice. Miss Margaret Watson, as the revengeful Italian girl, has the gift of enlisting sympathy, and puts plenty of power into her work. Miss Nell Oliver acts well as Rose Courtenay, the "villainess" of the piece. Not less commendable and much more attractive is the performance of Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown, in a more comic rôle. The fine presence of Mr. Philip Darien lends special force to his acting as Jack Meriman, the hero, who wins the sympathies of the audience. Mr. Leyton Canceller as Hubert Gold plays the villain in whole-hearted fashion, and is most effective, while his companion in crime, Antonio Luchesi, is represented with equal effect by Mr. Charles Barrett. Mr. Allan Davenport is vigorous as Tom Redvers, and Mr. Leonard Thackeray is dignified and earnest as Dr. Carr. As Tubby Herrick Mr. Tubby Edlin scores a great success in the low comedy line, and provokes roars of laughter at every appearance. He was quite a tower of strength in the way of comic relief to the sorrows of the other characters. As Raggles, a "hooligan," Mr. W. Wallace Aston contributes a good character sketch, and a word of praise should also be given to Mr. Stuart Roberts as a most remarkable specimen of the hopelessly "foreign" waiter.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, August 13,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Fred Bowyer and W. E. Sprange, entitled
"THE NEW BARMAID."

The return of musical comedy to this theatre appears to be welcomed by its habitués, who gave *The New Barmaid* a rousing reception this week. Mr. C. Edwardes has got together a capital company who work with a will, and, what is more commendable, in unison. Miss Amy Preston, who undertakes the title-rôle, has a bright and sparkling way with her, and is possessed of an excellent voice, which she uses to much advantage in "The Merry Barmaid" song. Miss Violet Osmund as Dora Heather, the lady journalist, has a remarkable store of energy. She delights her audience with several numbers, including duets and trios, and her dancing is of a pleasing character, particularly in the concerted number, entitled "My Golden Belle." Miss Maude Nichols plays Brenda Louth, the old barmaid, in an able manner, and as Lady Moulton, Miss Winifred Preston could not be bettered. As Captain Lovebury Mr. Leslie Austin is excellent, and his singing of "I love you, ma cherie" and "Britons, awake!" evoked loud applause. As William White Mr. Alexander Loftus brings to bear his store of talent and humour with great effect. His drolleries keep his audience chuckling with delight. Mr. Charles Adeson, who plays Bertie White, is another comedian of no mean ability, and whilst these two gentlemen are on the stage the risible faculties of the onlookers are continually exercised. Mr. Loftus scores considerably with a song and chorus, entitled "That's the man for you," and Mr. Adeson does well with the ever-popular "Little bit of sugar for the bird." Mr. James Grant is excellent as Colonel Claymore, and Mr. W. E. Chewd as Mons. Bonsor presents an effective picture of the proprietor of the Owletts Club, introducing some clever dancing with his business. Miss Grafton is quite satisfactory as Braddy, and Miss May Hawthorne and Miss Jennie May dance charmingly. Mr. John Cole and Mr. F. Collins successfully carry out their duties as waiters at the club, and the Star Trio indulge in some neat dancing.

All the smaller parts are well played, and the piece is admirably staged.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 13, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"IN HOLY (!) RUSSIA."

The title of the above-named play is admirably calculated to arrest attention, and that the good audience that assembled here on Monday night found their expectations fully realised was evidenced by the frequent applause which greeted the efforts of Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's talented company. In the rôle of Renée Rubinoff, Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy is provided with a part excellently suited to her talents; her acting in the stronger scenes is characterised by power and pathos, and in the scenes in which Renée enacts the high-spirited American girl, Mrs. Cassidy is altogether charming. Miss Mavis Lee Anderson submits a striking impersonation of Catska Lavotski, and paints in strong colours the infamous character of this double traitress. Miss Annie Dudley is amusing as Mrs. Richard Forrest; and Miss Alice Marsden does well as Mme. Natolski. A fine character-study of Count Gregori Petrolski comes from Mr. Horace Butler, whose impassioned earnest manner on several occasions fairly brings down the house. Mr. Carl Rovinelli gives a convincing portrayal of Laurice Steragoff, and is at his best in the scene in which the Nihilist determines to leave his official organisation and play his own "hand." As Michael Natolski, Mr. T. Nerrey is sufficiently cunning and pusillanimous. Mr. Arthur Stratton makes a characteristic Colonel of the Guards, and gives an excellent rendering of Forrest's scene with Renée in the second act. Mr. Joe Cuthbertson submits some clever acting as the Chief of the Russian Police; Mr. Robert Cockroft is an impressive Tsar; Mr. Frank Copeland makes the most of Sir Harry Beresford; and last, but by no means least, Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is responsible for much hearty laughter in the character of Micky Nolan. The smaller parts are capably handled, and the drama is mounted and staged with commendable care and attention to detail.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, by Frank M. Thorne, entitled
"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

Drama of the realistic and sensational order seems to have fairly taken possession of the Dalston Theatre for the time being. This week Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is appearing there in the drama, with the comprehensive title, *Her One Great Sin*. Mr. J. Leicester Jackson as the spendthrift squire, Arnold Thornhill, a gentleman villain, plays a part which, although despicable in the matter of wickedness and cruelty, is clever and interesting as a stage sketch. Miss Blanche St. Albans makes an attractive heroine as Grace Warhurst, and fully secures the sympathy of the audience, especially in her blindness. Miss Maudie Lambert is a great favourite as little Gracie, daughter of Reuben Warhurst, a typical village carpenter, a character very well represented by Mr. J. Beresford Innes. Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble, Mr. Charles E. Lambert as Dan Hundle, a tinker, Mr. Harold B. Ford as Jack Hundle, his son, and Miss Louis Walton as Bet Hundle, an old virago, form a notable quartette. Others in the cast include Miss Nellie Lambert, Miss Phyllis Damian, Messrs. J. Nella, A. Raymond Shaw, Tom Pollard, W. Dudge, G. Smythe, and C. Dale.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

A large audience assembled on Monday to greet this play on its return visit to this theatre. The cast is different in many instances to the former one; but clever Miss Hilda Beverley still appears in her original creation of Dora Grey, and delights all by her skilful representation of the heartless adventuress. Miss Dorothy Hildebrand is a gentle and sympathetic Laura Norman; Miss Polly Marsh as Elizabeth Burke submits a clever sketch of a drunken woman; Miss Marie Kildare is a vivacious and charming Kitty Rosebud; Miss Alexandra Lisle and Miss K. R. Garrett act well as Sister Margaret and Sister Westwood; and Miss Agnes Rose is very good as Jane Terrors. Mr. John Nolan gives a bluff and life-like portrait of Captain Norman; Mr. Frank Robertson is excellent as Jack Carlton; Mr. Wm. C. Reid is a bright and amusing Teddy Butterfly; Mr W. H. Porter is good as Guy Brand; Mr. Charles Longdale is capable as Tom Norman; Mr. A. Fellows looks picturesque, and plays well as Beppo; Mr. Leonard Arson is effective as Doctor Ridley; and the remaining parts are all in competent hands.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Aug. 13,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"AT DUTY'S CALL.

Mr. John Gerant and company are paying Islington a visit with the above drama, a very large audience being present on Monday to witness it. Built on familiar lines, it is just the type of play likely to attract a popular audience. Mr. Gerant, who is starring as Harold Allison, gives a good performance. Harry Scott gives a capital portrayal of the heroic rôle, and proves himself a very clever boxer. Mr. Ernest St. John as General Gordon submits one of the best things of the evening, excellent alike in make-up and characteristics, and his reading deserves warm commendation. Mr. Harry Ugar as Teddy O'Halleran is resourceful and amusing, and has a capital couple of coadjutors in Mr. Julian Bainbridge as Jack Spencer (who also displays his skill in the noble art) and Mr. Ivan Mavis as Trott, their scenes provoking much laughter. Mr. A. W. Harvey as Harsan does well in a small part. Miss Eva Bull as Mary acted with animation and go, her scenes with the humorists mentioned above going well. Miss Beatrice Western as Salume enacts a heavy part with skill and success. Miss Lily Crammonde as Dora Drummond plays the leading rôle sympathetically, her performance being very pleasing. The drama received an enthusiastic reception, curtains being numerous.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 13,
the American Drama, in Four Acts, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

Crowded houses have watched with interest the performance of *The Still Alarm* presented by a strong company, under the direction of Messrs. Glenville and Osmond. Mr. Glenville, as the hero Jack Manley, gives an excellent interpretation of the fireman, brave and resolute, and yet at times loving and tender. Mr. George Arthur is good as John Bird, and imbues the part with all the necessary callousness and hard-heartedness. Mr. Fred Osmond supplies a clever delineation of the drunken reprobate Doc Wilber; and an excellent rendering of the old merchant, Franklyn Fordham, is given by Mr. Lewis Gordon. Mr. Tom Varney as Joe Nozzle causes incessant amusement by his antics in the fire station. Mrs. Manley is successfully undertaken by Miss Mabel Veriton. The heroine, Elinor Fordham, is sympathetically played by Miss Maud Warburton, who infuses into the part a cheerfulness that is irresistible, and wins general sympathy. Miss Hettie Zilwood gives an excellent impersonation of Carrie Wilber, and is well applauded for her singing of "The Maid of Hindostan." The Lyric Comedy Four introduce some well rendered songs in the fire station scene. The smaller parts are in capable hands. A word of praise must be given for the admirable training of the two horses, Pegasus and Bucephalus. The mounting of the play is well carried out, especially the fire station, which is very realistic. Mr. J. S. Pateman is the courteous manager of the company. Mr. Tom Beasley, who has the arduous duties of stage management in his hands, successfully plays the character of Willie Manley.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, by Watts Phillips, entitled
"LOST IN LONDON."

The attraction here this week is the above popular drama. The piece in some respects recalls *East Lynne* in its dramatic intensity, and the woes of the erring yet loving wife make a special appeal to the sympathy of the audience. Miss Olga Audre acts with much pathos and charm as the young wife, Nelly Armroyd, who is led astray by the fashionable villain. Mr. J. C. Aubrey presents a clever portrait of polished rascality as the tempter, Gilbert Featherstone. Mr. Frank Lister is the rough but good-hearted miner, Job Armroyd, to the life, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout. Mr. Lister is especially good in the third act, and plays with much pathos. Mr. Herbert Woodin is very amusing as Benjamin Blinker, a London tiger, and creates much laughter, and his sweetheart, Tiddy Draggletherpe, is brightly played by Miss Ruth Zillwood, the understudy of Miss Eva Dare, who is unable to appear in consequence of a severe cold. Both these artists by their clever acting do much to lighten the more sombre portions of the drama. Thomas, a footman, is well played by Mr. Jack Denton. Miss Amy Mayland makes a bright and sympathetic Flounce, Mr. Wingold Lawrence acts with much force as the invertebrate Sir Richard Loader. The scenery and effects are quite adequate, and the revival meets with great appreciation.

The farce, entitled *Poor Phil Garlic*, by Roy Redgrave, is well received by the audience, and causes much laughter. Mr. Roy Redgrave is excellent in the parts of Lieut. Phil Garlic and Lieut. Chanter. Mr. Denton makes an amusing Major Garlic. Miss Zillwood is good as Nance Garlic. The remaining parts are well played by Miss Turner, Mr. Woodin, and Mr. Cooper.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, August 13,
the Naval Play, by Frank Bateman, entitled
"THE SAILORS OF THE KING."

Mr. Charles Harrington's specially-selected company is proving greatly popular in the above-named exciting nautical play. The piece is superior to the ordinary run of melodramas, and a considerable portion of the action takes place at sea, thus giving opportunity for some exciting situations. Mr. Frank Stephens makes a manly young lieutenant as Dick Drake, and scores a great success. Mr. R. F. Stacey gives a capital impersonation as his wicked brother, Orrel Drake, and duly earns the execrations of the gods for his clever acting. Mr. Charles Harrington makes a dignified Admiral Drake. Mr. Fred Owen provides a good character-sketch as the Jewish money-lender, Harris Wilkinstein; Rufford Dent is very well impersonated by Mr. Harold Webb, and Mr. Walter Farnworth is good as the loafer, Bige. Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., scores well as Barnet Fair, and Mr. Harry Conway makes the most of Captain Cancardine. Miss Lily Prescott acts with much pathos as the unfortunate Daisy Dent, and looks very charming in the part. Miss Madge North is very well placed as the young heiress, Felicia Phynynne, and Penelope Pen is capitally enacted by Miss Hero Hathaway. Miss Sylvia Stella gives a very powerful rendering of the rôle of Rebecca Crosby. A great feature of the production is the fine staging and scenery, special mention being deserved of the realistic scene of the launch at the end of the piece.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn, entitled
"THE COAL KING."

The novel features in this stirring drama appeal very forcibly to the emotional West Londoners, who are correspondingly lavish in their applause. Chief interest in the play centres round the doings of one Tom Roberts, a part well suited to the robust methods of Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, who triumphs accordingly. Mr. Lionel Thompson portrays Sir Reginald Harford in a dignified and impressive way; Mr. Frank Dalton is sufficiently convincing as Dick Shirley; Mr. John Coghlan is an earnest Seth Baker, and Mr. Fabian Lock is admirable as Detective Saxby. The rascally Walter Harford finds a capable exponent in Mr. Escott Robson, who brings the villainous side of the character well to the fore, and Mr. Alfred Terriss has ample scope for his comedy powers in his rendering of Jim Williams, a part which he handles with much skill and effect. Miss Linna St. Clair cuts a pathetic figure as Mad Ann; Miss Evelin North is painstaking as Mrs. Baker; Miss Sybil Coghlan is a vivacious and pleasing Araminta Green; and Miss Gertrude Valentine sustains the important rôle of Grace Shirley with much archness and charm. The play is well mounted. Mr. John Coghlan is the acting-manager for Messrs. Polini and Maitland.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

The story of *The Silver King* has been told many, many times; but seemingly it is not one of which the playgoing public tire. The story of a man who rose from his dead ashes to better things, the story of a woman who suffered much for his sake and for the sake of her children, the story of the unravelling of a mystery, the proof of innocence of a crime on the part of one man who, in fear, had fled from home and family, and returned years later, a more moral and highly prosperous individual, only to find that his wife and children were starving—when will it cease to attract us with its many interesting and "human" incidents? This week at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, capital audiences have assembled to be enthralled again by the adventures of Wilfred Denver and his wife Nellie, and all the people, friendly and unfriendly, with whom they come in contact. The piece is beautifully staged, as, indeed, are all the attractions toured by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford. In the rôle of the Silver King Mr. Melford proves himself as delightful an actor as of yore. He is no stranger to the part, but repetition does not cause him to deteriorate—he is far too careful an actor for that. Miss Victoria Addison touches the hearts of her audience with her pathetic portrayal of Nellie Denver. She is, to say the least, a most artistic and cultured actress. From Miss Mabel Gardener we get an admirable character sketch of Mrs. Gamage, and the parts of Cissie and Ned Denver are sustained in able fashion by two smart little children, Miss Jessie Apted and Master Eric Dene, respectively. Mr. Charles Baird interprets the wicked sayings and doings of Captain Skinner, otherwise known as the Spider, in a vigorous style, and Mr. Tom Paulton gives a most praiseworthy performance of the part of Daniel Jaikes, the faithful servant of the Denver family. It need scarcely be said that all the other rôles are in safe keeping, the whole production being distinctly commendable.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, August 13,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Always a favourite in the riverside town, the *Two Little Vagabonds* found a fairly numerous audience waiting at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night to give them a welcome back, and the welcome was as cordial as ever. The drama was presented by a capable company, engineered by Messrs. Hardy and Von Leer. Miss May Hart appears as Dick with much success, and was very favourably received by those of the audience who recognised in her a former and popular principal boy in Kingston pantomime. A capital impersonation of the other vagabond Wally is given by Miss Margaret Nyblock. Miss Grace Heywood appears as Marion Thornton, in which she presents a refined portraiture of the part; and Miss F. Russell Spiers is equally successful as Barbara Searth. A word of commendation is also deserved by Miss Mary Pritchard as Biddy Mullins. Amongst the gentlemen in the company, Mr. John F. Traynor takes a prominent place by his breezy picture of the showman, Mr. William Mullins; and successful services are also rendered by Mr. Wm. D. Fazan as George Thornton, Mr. Henry Watson as Captain Dareville, Mr. Ernest K. Wilson as Dido Bunce, and Mr. F. Archer. The drama was admirably mounted.

REOPENING OF THE PRINCE'S, PRESTON.

This theatre was reopened on Monday evening, when a number of improvements greatly adding to the comfort and pleasure of its patrons were disclosed. The whole of the auditorium has been redecorated; electric light has taken the place of gas as an illuminant, and handsome tip-up seats in brown and crimson leather have been substituted for the old ones in the best parts of the house.

Radiating from the centre of the ceiling is an elaborate and graceful design in white and gold, which has been specially supplied for this theatre and executed in fibrous plaster by Mr. John Alberti, of Manchester, who is responsible for all of the work in this material. The walls have been coloured a rich, deep red, which contrasts vividly with the pale blue ground of the ceiling, around which are painted designs representing music.

The balcony surrounding the circle is in blue and gold, branches of electric lamps being inserted at intervals. The same colours are employed in the embellishment of the proscenium, which is surmounted by the Prince of Wales's plume, upwards of 6ft. in height. The whole of the decorative work has been carried out in admirable style by Messrs. Watts and Co., of Liverpool.

Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in *Her Luck in London*, proved to be a well-selected opening attraction. The house was literally packed, and the play met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Charles A. Leicester was distinctly successful as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor. Mr. Alfred D. Adams, as Richard Lenowen, ably presented a repellant character; Mr. Douglas Tremayne did justice to the part of the Rev. Lionel Strong; Stephen Harborne was effectively delineated by Mr. Tyrone Power; Mr. Bruce Clapham as Algie Kircumbrie; Mr. J. Telly Dilson as Jerry Gotobed; and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Shovepenny evoked hearty laughter in comedy parts. Miss Ada Roscoe was well suited in the rôle of Mme. Gabrielle; Lilian Harborne had a good exponent in Miss Frances Bruce; and much praise is due to Miss Mary Neil for her strong and affecting portrayal of Nellie Harborne.

"AMASIS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—When it was first announced that an Egyptian comic opera was to be produced at the New Theatre this month, with a sacred cat figuring prominently in the plot, you were kind enough to insert a letter from me drawing attention to the coincidence that I, too, had written an Egyptian opera in which a sacred cat was an important factor. But now that I have had the opportunity of witnessing *Amasis*, I find that what was before quite a remarkable coincidence has now developed into an astounding one. In both this piece and in my own the action revolves round this same central idea. The daughter of the King of Egypt is betrothed to the hero, but their wedding is prevented through his having slain one of the sacred cats. Taxed by the high priest with the crime—a capital one, even though an accident—the hero immediately confesses, and is duly condemned to death. Eventually a way out of the difficulty is found, and, in the end, he is enabled to marry the Princess. My own "book" contains much more plot than this brief outline would suggest, but these are the chief points of identity.

The coincidence does not end here, however, but extends to the scenes. Thus, in my piece, Act I. is "Hall in the King's Palace"; Act. II., "Exterior of the Temple of Ra." In *Amasis*, Act I. is "Courtyard of the Palace of King Amasis at Memphis"; Act II., "Before the Temple at Memphis." Further, my manuscript was provided by me with sketches showing in detail each scene; and the construction of the first scene of *Amasis* is practically identical with my second scene. In the centre stands a tall obelisk—which, by the way, is an important item in both operas—and, behind it, a low wall runs right across the stage. On one side is a building with four columns, a flight of steps leading to the entrance. On the opposite side a large propylon is seen, and, in the background, foliage on the terraces below, water, palms, and desert. A Sphinx completes each picture; but it must be stated that left and right are reversed in the two scenes.

Of verbal similarities, one specimen must suffice. I wrote: "The lives of cats are nine at least; a loss of eight befell your beast!" From *Amasis:* "She (the cat) should have had nine lives at least, but though I cut off one, poor beast, I couldn't well ensure the other eight." As to priority, it has been stated in the Press that *Amasis* was written in 1904; whereas my correspondence shows that my complete libretto, the writing of which was spread over some three years, was first submitted to a manager in February, 1898, and it has been "considered" by several producers, and shown in various quarters, at intervals during the subsequent period, whenever it appeared to me there was a prospect of a revival of real comic opera in place of musical comedy. All the above facts I am prepared to substantiate, and I think it will be conceded that, taken together, they form one of the most astonishing coincidences in the history of dramatic authorship—one so remarkable, indeed, that if the production of my piece is eventually arranged, I should undoubtedly be accused of plagiarism—and possibly sued for damages—were I to let the matter pass without publicly drawing attention to it.—Yours faithfully,

W. GUNN GWENNET.

196, The Grove, Hammersmith, W., Aug. 13, 1906.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

The history of English Comedy is more comic than its absurdest subject. Who but the Comic Spirit himself could have devised the exquisite jest that, after so many lost opportunities, it should have fallen to the lot of our generation to give birth to Mr. Bernard Shaw? For Mr. Bernard Shaw certainly does not take his contemporaries very seriously. Few masks, few disguises, escape the raking eye of this clean-sweeping philosopher. To the centre of things—to the "unaccommodated man"—he must come, whether the coat be buttoned at back or at front.

Yes; his plays amuse us. They are so funny, so outrageously irresponsible, we say. Ah! and so is Nature funny now and then, and the "little pleasures" of Providence go on their path with a charming disregard for regulations. The truth is that those who find Mr. Shaw only funny are the sort of people for whom Nature is a Vale of Tempe aureoled discreetly in an artificial mist. The real Nature is quite another thing, and *Her* cherished darlings—those for whom she fills the enchanted cup of her pungent wine, and lets fall the wild berries of her perilous woods—honour, with due rights and awful regard, this Pan of the drawing-rooms. Nor does he let any of us escape. The guilt of the misery of the oppressed is upon all alike. We are all responsible for *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. No demureness, no prudery, can shield us. The armour-piercing glance of a witty Irishman is like the laugh of Panurge; it *will* be heard, and though the lady take to herself the wings of the morning, she will not escape the little mirror he holds up. Still it sounds! A strange, baffling, mocking laugh, in our respectable and revered places! Still it sounds, this trumpet of the Lord, and behold! the walls of the City of Convention are already falling down flat, and the "Hebraic Spirit" is sparing none but the house of Rahab, the harlot!

For the earnestness, the terrifying sincerity, of this formidable comedian is more astonishing than his wit. But "London does not take Mr. Shaw seriously"? Ah! that is perhaps because it is safer not. It might entail uncomfortable consequences. How dreadful if, after all, this Jester of Society turn out to be John the Baptist!

Stranger things have happened. The painter who wrote from left to right found an ecstacy almost Dionysic under that raiment of camel's-hair. And whither is *his* prophet pointing with the furtive smile? Yes; on the whole, it were better for the peace of those who cry peace that they should *not* take Mr. Shaw seriously.

He will not be alone in being so misread. We remember whose book it is, and to whom the book refers, which speaks of "the little boxes called Sileni, painted on the outside with wanton toyish, figures, as harpies, satyrs, bridled geese, horned hares, saddled ducks, flying goats, and suchlike counterfeited pictures, at pleasure, to excite people unto laughter, as Silenus himself, who, as the foster-father of good Bacchus, was wont to do. But within those capricious caskets were carefully preserved and kept many rich and fine drugs, such as balm, ambergris, amamon, musk, civet."

We know how Heine, the invincible champion of the Holy Ghost, the liberator of Germany, was regarded by many as nothing better than a lewd fellow. The truth is that Mr. Bernard Shaw has a very definite and important philosophy to expound: so above all things is it necessary for him to conceal his purpose from the vulgar. It is ever the mark of a wise man to speak in parables, so that only those may hear that have ears to hear. It is not the really great who try by obvious rhetoric to convince the crowd. Ruskin's rôle is suitable enough for the spiritual director of young women, and Carlyle's for the rugged recruiting-sergeant of gallant boyhood clasping the sword; but as the voice of one addressing such as have borne the burden and heat of the day, scarred and disillusioned brains, whom neither words can cajole nor thunders stun, Bernard Shaw finds his place—the place of the prophet of those who have eaten of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Every foot who followeth after Mr. Shaw is only one more bucket tied to the rope, and the more there are the fewer ever get to the bottom of his well-deep wisdom; so that the more popular he becomes the more he will *not* be taken seriously. What, then, is the gospel of this Devil's Advocate from Ireland? Well, it emerges pleasantly enough by degrees as we read these cryptic plays. First of all we have the ground absolutely cleared—in other words, cleared of the Absolute.

All things, says Mr. Bernard Shaw, are relative to the individual. No single person has by searching found out God. We must all say not—so it is—but—so it seems to us that it is. This is of course a point of view that would appeal entirely to St. Thomas Aquinas, the relativity of the ultimate reality being, I suppose, a commonplace of the schools; but it is not an idea that the average Englishman puts on with his hat. This having been granted, Mr. Bernard Shaw then turns upon the world, and surveys it up and down and round and round. He distinguishes at once between evolution and progress. Out of the animal kingdom man has been evolved; but that happened some thousands of years ago, and man is still man. The word progress does not deceive this modern Diogenes. "Stand out of my light," he says to civilization. Progress? Are we then so improved? Are our *characters* improved? Are we braver, wiser, sincerer, more frankly and boldly *ourselves* than we were two thousand years ago. It is true we can get across the Atlantic in five days and a half; it is true that though, as Disraeli reminds us, Damascus has outlasted the drums and tramplings of a dozen empires, and has changed but tittle, the electric tram-cars in Birkenhead have now got covered tops. But *character*—ah! that is a different matter. Christianity has liberated women; but are women nicer now that they are liberated? Christianity has made slavery impossible; but are the wage-earners in a hundred sweated industries better off than the slaves. Buddha and St. Francis call animals and birds their brothers and sisters. We vivisect some, put some in cages, eat nearly all, and hunt the rest. We do not murder one another with swords, but with account books. A pretty word, Progress! But Man, however, decked out with the patches and paint of premature divinity, remains still lamentably and ludicrously man. How, then, is he to escape? The only way is to erect himself above himself. If God by natural selection has created man, man must by artificial selection create Superman. In plain words, there must be a Secretary of State for breeding heroes. This indicates the place of women in the philosophy of Mr. Bernard Shaw. No modern writer has gone more boldly than he does to the root of the matter here. "Women," he says, "as things go, are wiser than men. They represent Nature's Stream of Tendency more emphatically; they act in a more direct manner. Every woman regards the fine-spun theories and passionate ideals of every man she meets with the gentle indulgence of a mother for her child's games. She will play with him at oranges and lemons all the afternoon; but the really important thing is to get him safely tucked into bed. And that is the right point of view—Nature's point of view. The philosopher can see round everybody else; but he can't see round his Mother. And Mr. Shaw sees clearly that great fact which most of our duellists of sex learn too late—that in nearly every case it is the woman who pursues and the man who is pursued.

But to the Stage! John the Baptist he may indeed be called, this dreadful Irishman! for has he not caught the eyes of his generation watching the twinkling feet of the daughter of Herodias? The stage, in fact, is, according to our prophet, obsessed by sex-infatuation. The leading lady has to be prettier than a picture postcard, the second lady at least as pretty, the third also, and thus to the end. But, he adds, our average Englishman will not go eternally to the theatre merely to be tantalised. So, by a notural evolution, the music hall offers itself and other pleasure domes—not of ice. Here again Mr. Shaw, the Socialist, calls upon the State to help us. Let us establish by degrees a subsidised theatre, where plays so really exciting as to purge our passions by pity and terror may be seen for nothing. Let us relieve the well-meaning manager of his invidious task of catering for Capricornian demands under Uranian symbols. Let us appeal to the Puritans to save us from Aphrodisic art as they have saved us before. Let the malignants be smashed with a heavy hammer and let the will of God prevail!

The word Puritan leads us to Mr. Shaw's singular hero-worship for the author of "The Pilgrim's Progress." Here is a society jester indeed! No wonder our Duchessy friends regard him somewhat obliquely. They would be glad enough to see and acknowledge if they could the gold spangles of the irresponsible harlequin through the philosopher's cloak. In Cowper's time it seems to have been "not the thing" to mention Bunyan at all, and even now Mr. Worldly Wiseman and Mr. Facing-both-Ways do not feel quite at ease under the dreadful tinker's eye. Bunyan, according to Bernard Shaw, is the greatest English dramatiser of life. This has been regarded as a wilful and paradoxical attack upon Shakespeare. Shakespeare, he says, has a mirculous genius, his laughter clears the air of many affections; but he has no definite philosophy—he has written no prefaces. We cannot tell for certain what he would say on any particular subject, and we do not know whether he knows himself what he would say He interprets rather the diversity than the unity of nature. Shakespeare, an accidental Superman, has delineated no satisfactory Supermen. Prospero is too vague, Hamlet is lacking in adequate purpose; the whole thing is the comedy and tragedy of *personal* aims. But Mr. Shaw maintains that we must transcend personal aims. "The only real joy of life," he writes in one of his prefaces, "is the being used for a purpose that you yourself recognise as a mighty one—the being thoroughly worn out before you are cast upon the scrap heap—the being a force of nature and not a bundle of lamentations; and the only real tragedy of life is being used by *personally*-minded people for ends which you recognise as base—all else is mere misfortune and mortality." It may be noted incidentally (as Dr. Rondibilis whispers in my ear) that there is a decided sound of dogmatism in all this. When a prophet arrives at telling us that the only real joy of life is what he says it is, it is time for ordinary people to bethink themselves of those singular beings whose only real joy in life is the discovery of the relativity of prophets. But, all the same, the sentiment is a heroic one, and draws together John Bunyan and Marcus Aurelius. Even if we criticise it by reference to that "ecstasy" which has been found both by Pagan and Christian to be the secret of the deepest pleasures, and say that in comparison with such an ecstasy reconciling us to all things and all things to us, this theory of doing the will of the universe seems a little cold and remote. It must at least be remembered that the love of things as they are, which is so important an aspect of the Christian secret, is inseparably connected in all the documents of that faith with hope in the coming of the kingdom—that is to say, with a very considerable alteration of things as they are. There will, we may imagine, always be two conflicting types of mind: one which fixes its regard steadily upon the future, labours for it and despises the present; the other which is intoxicated with things in their present beauty. The first of these is often a misanthrope, so enamoured is he of archangels; the second is often a co-respondent, so enamoured is he of mortal dust. Mr. Shaw will pardon our placing him in the former category. It must be confessed our comedian puts more value upon a State department for the breeding of Supermen than upon the various ideals by which humanity has until now tried to lift itself above itself. The Christian would say, Why all this bother? The Superman is among you! The Mystic would say, In the unconscious self there are many supermen. The Lover would say, From the lips of my beloved I drink draughts of immortality. The Patriot would say, I die that my country may live. These are, we may timidly submit, possible interpretations of the superman cult; but Mr. Bernard Shaw makes short work of them. Romance, Patriotism, Idealism, above all, Love, are to him mere illusions. He displays—this Fenian of the soul—as he dynamites our popular idols, some of his most entertaining humour; so humorous is he when bowling over all these pretty toys that we begin to get quite an agitating impression that after all, somehow or other, we have been made complete fools by the World Spirit, and have been shut up in a fool's prison. There is a positive passion in him for bringing psychological matters down to their proper basis, showing, in fact, at once the dignity of the flesh and its comic helplessness in the hands of nature. When this mood is on him there is a real Rabelaisian movement about his wit—a dragnet movement working along at the bottom of the great deep, and bringing to light all sorts of queer fish. Well, the wheel has come full circle indeed in a strange enough manner. Here is Mr. Bernard Shaw, the cleverest of modern comedians, —the Revolutionist, the Fabianist, the Evolutionist —side by side on the evangelical platform with Uncle Tom, casting away the filthy rags of worldly righteousness and renouncing the City of Destruction. Here is our old friend "the just man made perfect" sitting down cheek by jowl with the emancipated animals of Zarathrustra.

But what kind of a person is the Superman to be? That is the question. When we say some sort of philosopher-athlete we get an approximate answer. But what an answer! How much of our present disposition rebels against this dreadful superior brain and more dreadful superior brawn? I suppose an Englishman always carries a floating remnant of Original Chaos in his composition which makes him reluct at any categorical imperative; and at the present moment I seem to see this overpowering Superman as a kind of monster eating up his *ancestors* as Saturn is said to have devoured his children. And yet a great deal of such reaction can be nothing more than unregenerate motions of the carnal mind at enmity with God. However, there it is—that is the feeling we have! A Catholic criticism of Mr. Shaw would say, I suppose, that he made too much of Head in comparison with Heart. Certainly he has a positive mania for philosophers. Philosophers as a class have not so far been very popular with comedians. Ever since the curtain fell—or rose—on the discomfiture of Mr. Square these naughty rogues have been having constant digs at the eternal fitness of *things* concealed behind the eternal unfitness of *persons*. But Mr. Shaw is anxious to bring philosophy into the realm of Art. Philosopher-artists or artists with a definite system of the Universe, are what he hunts up, and side by side with Bunyan appears Hogarth. In these, Nature becomes more and more conscious of herself and of her far-away hope discerned in terms of her present in competence, as by the labour and travail of women she sets forward into the future. The ideas we have been attempting to indicate can be found in all these four volumes of plays: in all of them there is the same resolute determination to see things not as they are said to be, or thought to be, or wished to be, but as they really are. "Things are what they are," quotes the incomparable Matthew Arnold from Bishop Butler, "and the consequences of them will be what they will be—why then should we desire to be deceived?" The heroic personages in Mr. Shaw's plays take this view. The Devil's Disciple, for instance, at war with conventional religion in this world and with no opinion about any other world, is ready to give his life for the race. "I die for the world's future," cries he, when the rope is round his neck. Don Juan's idea of heaven is a place where you are not bored with having everything that you like, and he speaks from experience. Mrs. Warren reminds us how the real causes of the tragic procession of Piccadilly is the miserable wage that women are reduced to by the selfishness of all of us, virtuous and vicious alike, and the farewell scene between Captain Brassbound and Lady Cecily Waynflete (Mr. Shaw's Just Woman made Perfect), whose peculiarity is the sweet unscrupulousness of reason, lifts us into the pure, clear atmosphere of those heroic souls who in all ages have cried out to the Universe: "Ave Cæsar morituri te salutant!"

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A second visit of *The Spring Chicken* to Manchester was welcomed here on Monday by a crowded and enthusiastic house. This is a second edition of the piece, which is presented with new songs, dances, and dresses, and never for a moment flags in its vivacity and humour. In point of popularity, Mr. George Gregory is foremost as Mr. Girdle, a part invested with immense entertainment by this resourceful comedian. Miss Gertrude Glyn is also very pleasing as Rosalie; and a nice impersonation of Dulcie Baberi is given by Miss Gertrude Gilliam. Others who distinguish themselves among the ladies are Miss Irene Verona, whose Mrs. Girdle adds much to the fun; Miss Nelly Lonnen, who is very sprightly as Emmy Lore; and Miss Nancy Langtyre, as the charming Baroness Papouche; while Mr. John Brabourne is lively and acceptable as Gustave Babori; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., is smart and entertaining as Boniface; Mr. Frank Hector gives a capable and amusing depiction of Baron Papouche; a clever impersonation of the head waiter is presented by Mr. Henry Adnes; and Mr. William Spray is all that could be wished as Stephen Henry Girdle.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A romantic play of Robespierre and the Reign of Terror, *The Throne of Terror*, is given here this week by a company which includes Mr. William J. Miller as Robespierre, a part well suited to this talented and powerful actor, and Miss Katherine Maude Davies, who gives a graceful and sympathetic rendering of Marguerite de Roqueforte, a character of great importance in the plot. Mr. Roy Milton is excellent as Captain de Lisle; and others who contribute to the success of the play are Mr. Renton Sax as Mother Brigand; Mr. Bert Ellis as Joujon; Mr. C. Carsdale as Mallier; Miss Ethel Lanyon-Maude as Victoria D'Almonte; and Miss Eva Norman as Pepietta, the barmaid at the Guillotine Inn.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme here this week includes the Sousasa Arabs, a smart troupe of bounding acrobats; Frederica's wonderful toy terriers and pony; C. Wordley Hulse and company in a sensational sketch; Florrie St. Roy, a dainty comedienne; the Frantz Family, in an up-to-date comedietta; Little Elsie, a clever juvenile vocalist and dancer; Amy Elcock, comedienne and dancer; and George Edney, a popular actor-vocalist.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Good business is being done here this week with *An Actor's Romance*, played by Miss Lillian Besant's company. The English version of this play was produced here a year or two ago, and gave then every promise of its present success. Miss Lillian Besant achieves a big success as Dotty Dillingham; Miss Florence Nelson gives a capable impersonation of Florence Hastings; a very good performance is that of Mr. E. Eardley-Howard as Harold Davenport; Mr. Cecil Fowler is excellent as Robert Livingstone; and other notable members of the cast are Mr. Harry E. Lyons as Jack Woodford; Mr. Harry Wren as Charley Cummins; and Mr. Percy Warlow as Ikey Isaacs.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company is here this week in *The Executioner's Daughter*, an excellent sensational drama. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is admirable as Roche, the executioner; and Miss Nelly Howitt gives a fine rendering of Annette, his daughter. Mr. W. Ruddle Brown plays Paul Rovell, the hero, very well; Mr. W. S. Stevenson gives a good delineation of Kretch; Miss Marie Ada Browning is excellent as Christina, the cripple; and others who distinguish themselves are Mr. Willie Hicks as Tom Holmes; Mr. Geoffrey Chote as Vivian Ormonde; Miss Evelyn Robson as Felice; and Miss Bella Moody as Sally King.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—The well-known drama *Trilby* is presented here this week by a clever company, including Mr. Frederick Annerley in the exacting rôle of Svengali, and Miss Lily Bertram as Trilby. Both act exceedingly well, and are supported in capable style by Mr. Reginald Hargreaves as Billy; Mr. J. W. Henson as Taffy; Mr. John Cecil as Sandy; and the remaining members of the cast, the whole forming a most enjoyable entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A fine programme is offered here, the star turn being Staley's novelty transformation company in a quick-changing musical scena, which is very interesting and effective. Another big turn is that of Ella Shields, who is among the very best as a coon comedienne. Frank Elliston and company in *Aunt Matilda* are extremely funny; Atroy gives a smart juggling act; Ambrose Thomas, comedian, sings well; Spry and Austin add much to the entertainment by their comicalities; Harry Carsdale gives a capital imitation of farmyard sounds; Viola contributes a pleasing musical turn; and a delightful vocal act is added by the Darktown Entertainers, who sing very well indeed. The Bioscope also presents a series of entertaining pictures.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Harry Randall, the well-known comedian, is to the front here this week, and meets with a warm reception. Charles Whittle, of "Billy Muggins" fame, is another capital comedian, and is deservedly well received. Another excellent turn is that of Hill and Whitaker, who make a big hit with their novelty in music and song. Bertha Stuart, Scotch character ballad vocalist, sings well; the Lulaine Darrell Trio are clever gymnasts; Regan and Ryan are good in dancing and patter; Lily Morris is a favourite comedienne; Patty Yole dances nicely; and the Sisters Reno are clever acrobatic dancers. As usual, the Palace pictures are good.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A remarkable turn here this week is that of the Four Lecussons, whose horsemanship and astounding feats, including back somersaults from a pair-horsed waggonette, must be seen to be believed. Dolly Elsworthy and company are seen to advantage in an episode in the life of King Charles II., entitled *The Orange Girl*; De Gracia's Elephants play a cricket match and become barbers, and do other surprising tricks; and some exceedingly smart sharp-shooting is done by Lillian and Vera. Tina Clementa introduces clever horses and dogs; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are vastly amusing; Leslie's Dogs do some high jumping; Pat Rafferty is a capital Irish comedian; and the Bioscope pictures are excellent.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Madge Temple, the well-known comedienne, is here this week, and sings several songs in a delightful manner. Ye Merrie Peasants, vocal and comedy quartette, present a pleasing sketch, *Country Courtship*; the Greys are excellent operatic vocalists; and Cecilia Maude, vocal comedienne, has a good voice; Gracie Grahame, a pleasing comedienne, scores with her "Fishing" song; the Original Cecilias are charming instrumentalists; Heteb and Kalida present an act of Egyptian mystery; the Voldam Brothers are Dutch eccentric acrobats, and are very clever; Nellie Chandos is a neat dancer; and Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are entertaining.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Major and Thurgate's comedy illusion, entitled *Mystery Fair*, tops the bill here this week, and delights crowded houses. Charming Mlle. Florizell goes through a neat contortionist performance; Ward and Davis are good in their musical duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*; Bernard Katz, the Hebrew basso, sings well; Cavilli is a capital ventriloquist; the Sisters Valli are pleasing comediennes and musicians and expert top-boot dancers; George Young, the blind collier boy, plays the concertina agreeably; Harley and Hardon are amusing knockabouts and eccentric dancers; and Burns and Bentley are good simultaneous dancers. "Cricket Terms" (illustrated) are depicted on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An exceptionally good array of talent is provided here this week. The Cumberlands, who are wonderfully expert cyclists and acrobats, take premier place, and receive enthusiastic applause. The Weimars contribute a good musical and comedy act; Lambeth and Robertson give an amusing sketch, entitled *Scot's Folks' Wooin'*; Anna Kenwick is a pleasing singer and dancer; the Thurbans are good instrumentalists; Espinosa and Edwards offer clever dancing and playing; Alfonza is a first-class foot balancer; and Will Freedo is an excellent dancer and satisfactory comedian. A song and dance are also agreeably contributed by Maisie Adair; and the Bioscope pictures complete.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. George Abel and selected company are the attraction here this week in that most amusing sketch *Three of a Kind*, and are exceedingly popular. Silbon's vaudeville circus is a novel turn, introducing some cleverly trained cats; May and Eugenie are good in a quick-change singing novelty; and the Saletos are smart acrobats and equilibrists. Other good items are those of the Cosmans, in comedy act; Earle and Melville, patter comedians; Leon and Williams, in comic tumbling act; and Flo Hilton, male impersonator. The animated pictures are interesting.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—A capital variety programme is provided here this week, including Lena Vere, comedienne; Harker Nicholls, humorist and musical entertainer; Mabelle Ashton, soubrette; Tom Alix, character comedian; Charles North, baritone; Bert Belton, eccentric comedian; Harry Land, ventriloquist and whistler; Bernard Rowley, tenor; and W. H. Jackson, pianist.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, JULY 10, 1906.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Willoughby and Geach; Business-Manager, Mr. Frank Musgrove.—The popularity of *The Man from Mexico* has not abated one whit, and the piece bids fair to run for a number of weeks. Mr. Ward never lets the fun flag for an instant, his droll singing aid clever dancing evoking rounds of applause. Miss Palotta sings two songs and gives a graceful Spanish dance; while Mr. Willoughby and the rest of the company keep the fun merrily going throughout the performance.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Miss Nellie Kilburn, an old favourite at this theatre, made her reappearance on Saturday evening after an absence of over two years, and was accorded an enthusiastic reception. Miss Olive Lenton gave two new character songs. The Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler company appeared in a new one-act absurdity, entitled *A Hero*, which kept the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Mason is a comedian of great ability. Other artists who are highly popular with patrons of the Opera House include Vasco, the mad musician; Alexandre and Bertie, Kelly and Agnes, Seymour and Dupré, and a host of others.

WEST'S Pictures and the Brescians gave their final performance at the Athenæum Hall on Saturday evening, before a packed house. The season of eight weeks has been a highly successful one, the attendances being excellent thoroughout. A feature of the entertainment has been the remarkably clever pianoforte playing by Mr. G. LAX.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Clark; Business-Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons.—A complete change of programme was presented on Saturday evening—all the artists engaged appeared in new turns. Hagan and Fraser still continue popular favourites; Little Roy is a clever child singer; Laura Diamond possesses a pleasant contralto voice; Harry Leggett, the pocket comedian, tells a number of funny stories; while an excellent series of Bioscope views are shown during the evening.

THE Glaciarium is proving a strong attraction for a large number of those versed in the art of skating on real ice. The weather lately has been exceptionally cold, which renders the exercise highly exhilarating. Professor Brewer gives an exhibition of fancy skating nightly.

THE Temperance Hall continues to attract large audiences to the popular Saturday evening concerts. Among the artists appearing at present may be mentioned Miss Symmons, contralto; Mr. A. Jones, baritone; Miss Janet Douglas, contralto; Mr. Pete Miller, with his performing cats and ducks; and others. Gunn's Bioscope concludes an excellent programme.

MISS HELENA MILLAIS, who is playing lead in *The New Clown* at Leicester Opera House this week, has been doing excellent work recently, notably as Constance Neville in *She Stoops to Conquer*, and Isabel Kirke in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. As Rosie Platt in *The New Clown* she brings all her natural gifts to bear, and the result is a bright, sparkling performance which materially helps the success of Mr. Snazelle as the circus proprietor, Mr. Dixon. Mr. Goodyear, in Mr. James Welch's part, is also a fine performance, well maintained throughout. The donkey, Ping Pong, is as lively as ever, and created a mild sensation.

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD has during the last week had an excellent company at the Café Chantant in the North Tower Gardens at the Crystal Palace. They included Miss Nita Clavering, the Original Stavordale Quintette, the "Con-Clavo" Comedy Duo, Nelson Hardy, and Charles Conrad. Next week visitors to the Café will have the chance of seeing "The Scarleteers" in their musical variety entertainment, including Miss Lillian Sanders, Miss Rosa Mellish, Miss Daisy May, Mr. Alex. B. Gilbert, and Mr. Chas. Hinchliff.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"RAHAB."

Drama in Three Acts,
by Richard Burton.

A drama, in blank verse, dealing with the siege and fall of Jericho and the part played by Rahab. Her parents have dissociated themselves from her, and are hardly moved by her faithful devotion to her younger sister, Asenath. The worship of Baal has become distasteful to her and she is influenced, by a vision, towards adopting the religion of the Israelites. After a scene in her house, where we find her, amongst her women companions and attendants, listening to a soothsayer, a message is brought to her from her father, Nathaniah, with the king's signet as a sign, warning her to cease from all display and revelry at her house, as the Israelite hosts are approaching the city walls, and the arrival of spies is apprehended. One of her lovers, Ammon, receives the message, and conveys it to Rahab, with demonstrations of affection which she resists, and she tells him of her vision of the fall of Canaan and the rise of Israel. Her maid, Zuleika, hears, too, the recital of the dream. The Israelite spies—Prince Salmon and Horeb—arrive. Horeb welcomes them and gives them food and wine. Salmon is soon in eager conversation with Rahab; Horeb with Zuleika, the maid. Unwillingly at first, but with enthusiasm increasing with their mutual newly-found love, Rahab listens to Salmon's inspired prediction of the siege and the fall of Jericho, on the seventh day, at the sound of the trumpet. She aids the spies to escape by descending a scarlet cord, which is to remain suspended as a sign to the victors to spare the house and everyone found therein. They are hardly gone, when a search party enters, but Rahab sends them to continue their search in a wrong direction. The tedium of the siege is apparent, even in the remoteness of a quiet spot in Rahab's gardens. She has sent to warn her relations, and to entreat them to seek refuge in her house. Amorah, her mother, and her beloved sister, Asenath, take advantage of the asylum afforded; but her father, Nathaniah, refuses all intercourse with the daughter, whom he has cursed and disowned. There are scenes of delicate beauty between the two sisters, interrupted at length by Nathaniah's arrival with a band of soldiers. Rahab, observing the manner in which they bow to the idol, shatters it, and predicts the speedy triumph of Israel over Canaan. Nathaniah, enraged, leaves; but consents to Amorah and Asenath remaining with Rahab. Horeb returns without his master Salmon, and forces his attentions upon Rahab, who is saved by Ammon's timely arrival. Ammon stabs Horeb, who dies. He then rushes off to his post on the walls of the city. On the seventh day the siege is at its height, and the din of battle penetrates the seclusion of Rahab's house, where all provisions, except fruit and wine, are long since exhausted. Ammon enters, but is reproached by Rahab for not bringing her father to share their asylum, and she goes out to look for him, disguised as a girl water-carrier. Salmon enters, seeking Rahab. He fights with Ammon, and disarms him, and, by a great effort, hurls him from the wall on to the crowd below. Rahab rushes in, her garments half-torn from her by the furious street mob. Salmon embraces and welcomes her. Nathaniah, informed of the part that Rahab has played during the siege, arrives to take away her mother and sister. He bears important papers from the King in his breast. Asenath steals them while embracing him. Rahab takes them from her, and thrusts them into the jaws of the image of Moloch, whence flames issue and destroy them. The trumpets sound anew: the walls of Jericho crumble, and the triumph-song of Israel is heard. The prophecy is fulfilled. Rahab and her people are saved, and Salmon and Israel claim her for their own.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—The late SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MR. EDITOR, SIR,—In your last week's notice of *What the Butler Saw*, at the P.O.W. Theatre, Birmingham, you favourably mention the performance of the Jew Weinstein by Mr. Louis Lingard. The part is played by yours, truly, HARRY H. RIGNOLD, T.R., Nottingham, August 14.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, Liverpool, was on Thursday evening filled by a representative audience, the occasion being the first annual benefit of Mr. Fred L. Arthur, the manager. During an interval in the special programme, Mr. Lewis Peake, chairman of the Benefit Committee, presented to Mr. Arthur, on behalf of many patrons of the theatre, an illuminated address, which is to be followed by a substantial cheque. Mr. Arthur, who was much moved, said that starting 24 years ago, he had risen from the bottom to the top, and knew that he had plenty of good friends, which was shown by the enormous audience that evening. Mr. Carson, the proprietor of the theatre, was not able to attend, but sent a telegram, which read: "Good men are few; that is the reason why I write to you."

THE fusing of an electric wire caused an ugly rush during an entertainment in the pavilion on the Britannia Pier, Yarmouth, on Tuesday evening. The cry of "Fire!" was raised, but the band continued playing, and a panic was averted.

KEEPS THE SKIN COOL AND REFRESHED during the Summer.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, heat, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentleman will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who has just returned from a short holiday on the Continent, has given his views on sleep. "In my case," says the popular actor-manager, "eight hours' sleep is better than seven, and nine hours' better than eight. I take nine hours' whenever I can, and invariably sleep for that period when on a holiday, and as near to it as possible at all times. Further, I consider sleep before any effort, with the power to go to sleep at any time, most valuable. I have cultivated that power, and invariably recuperate by its aid before the exhausting strain of a 'first night' or before playing a new part." On the other hand, Mr. Charles Frohman, an equally busy man, has indulged in only a meagre allowance of "Nature's sweet restorer," for during the six months which he spent in London recently his hours of sleep averaged not more than five. He rose at 7.30 a.m., and rarely got to bed before 2 a.m.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving are the guests of Lord Armstrong during their visit to Newcastle. Mrs. Irving (Miss Dorothea Baird) is a Northumbrian lady, and a descendant of the famous Dorothy Forster.

The directors of the Gaiety Theatre, Ltd., report that the net profit for the twelve months ended June 30, 1906, was £9,196 15s. 8d. It is proposed to pay a further dividend of 2s. per share, making, with the interim dividend already paid, 15 per cent for the year, and to carry forward £1,102 2s. 8d. to the current year's accounts. The ordinary general meeting of the company will take place at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday at noon.

We record with deep regret the death of Mrs. Craigie, the famous novelist, whose wide renown was achieved under the pen-name of "John Oliver Hobbes." Mrs. Craigie passed away in her sleep at her residence at Lancaster Gate on Monday morning with startling suddenness. An inquest was thereby rendered necessary, and at an inquiry held on Wednesday at Paddington, a verdict of death from heart disease and syncope was returned. The funeral was announced to take place at Kensal Green on Friday, a requiem mass being previously celebrated at the Jesuit Church in Farm Street.

Mrs. Craigie did notable work for the stage, her most successful effort being that of *The Ambassador*, which was produced by Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's on June 2, 1898, and had a run of nearly two months. On a subsequent revival of the play the following year it was preceded by a one-act drama, entitled *A Repentance*, a powerful little play for which "John Oliver Hobbes" was also responsible.

"The Wisdom of the Wise," which Mrs. Craigie next wrote, was also produced by Mr. Alexander in the November of 1900, a career of about six weeks being vouchsafed to the play. Mrs. Craigie was also part author of *The Bishop's Move*, written with Murray Carson, and produced at a matinée at the Garrick on June 7, 1902; *Journeys End in Lovers Meeting*, written in conjunction with George Moore for Miss Ellen Terry, and produced at a benefit matinée at Daly's in the June of 1894; and *The Flute of Pan*, an adaption of her book, produced by Miss Olga Nethersole at the Shaftesbury in the November of the same year.

The English players engaged to accompany Mr. E. S. Willard to America this season are:—Mr. William Sauter, Mr. A. S. Homewood, Mr. Ivan Simpson, Mr. Walter Edmunds, Mr. H. Cane, Mr. J. W. Lawrence, Miss Marie Linden, Miss Joan Blair, and Miss Ruth Barry. They will sail, Sept. 14, on the Virginian, from Liverpool to Montreal, where they will be joined by the American contingent, at the head of which is Miss Alice Lonnon, the leading lady, and the season will open Oct. 1 with *Colonel Newcome*. Besides this play Mr. Willard will have *The Man Who Was*, *David Garrick*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, *The Middleman*, and *The Professor's Love Story*, which are much too popular to be put aside, though *Colonel Newcome* bids fair to give Mr. Willard one of his greatest successes in recent years.

Mr. E. Dagnall is at the head of the "Twentieth Century" Syndicate, a company which has been formed for the purpose of providing high-class melodramas at a West End theatre. The syndicate includes Messrs. E. and A. Smith, Mr. William Holles, and Mr. Norman J. Norman. The first production will be a drama by Messrs. G. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, and many plays by other authors are in hand. The theatre which will be taken by the syndicate has not yet been settled upon. The Princess's had been thought of, but the costly requisitions of the County Council prove prohibitive to the syndicate, who are considering the Lyceum as an alternative.

Miss Decima Moore, who has just returned from a holiday on the West Coast of Africa, where she has seen and had many interesting experiences with "the children of the desert," has returned to London eager to start work again. Miss Moore has arrangd to play the title-rôle in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, which Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram will tour with a first-class company from September 17.

Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss, who drew record houses to Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool, with *The Catch of the Season*, have been staying at the Grand Hotel, St. Anne's-on-Sea, whence they motored over to Blackpool. Both he and his charming wife must have been delighted at the wonderful heartiness of the crowds—many of them mill hands—that packed the charming theatre directed by Mr. Huddlestone. Mr. Hicks, who is effervescent and alert on the stage, believes in the calm restfulness of the sport of fishing, and is an enthusiastic angler.

Mr. Hicks and Miss Terriss had a warm welcome at the opera house, Blackpool, last week, during which record houses were achieved. On the Saturday night the place was packed, and at the finish the demand for "a speech" was so imperative that Mr. Hicks at length came forward. He was no speaker, he said, whatever he might be as an actor, and words failed him utterly at a time like that. He could only thank them fervently on behalf of himself and his wife. They had been delighted by their visit to Blackpool, and had been tremendously impressed by the welcome which had been extended to them. They would never forget their visit to Blackpool, and he promised them that they would come down next year and bring the very best thing they could put on the stage.

An interesting game of cricket was played at the grounds of St. Paul's Club at North Shore, on the 9th inst., when teams representing *The Catch of the Season* and *The Spring Chicken* companies competed. The two sides numbered twelve each. Mr. Vincent Lawson was the captain for the "Catchers," and Mr. W. Hesseltine, the general manager, looked after the "Chickens," the former being the winners by 98 to 89, with one wicket to fall. Mr. Lawson put up 52 for the winning team, and Mr. Arthur Hope for the winners and Mr. Jocelyn Hope for the losers each scored 20. Mr. Seymour Hicks made a really brilliant catch by which Mr. George Gregory's fate was sealed. Between the intervals the teams were entertained to lunch, Mr. Hicks acting as host.

Miss Dot Stephens, who met with so terrible a misfortune last June, when she sustained such injuries to her feet in a railway accident that amputation had to be performed, has been discharged from the hospital, and is going away for a change of air. Subscriptions in aid of the unfortunate young artist are still invited, and should be sent to Mr. Bannister Howard, the hon. treasurer, or to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, assistant hon. treasurer, at this office.

Felicitations are to be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Michael (Miss Nora Kerin), to whom a daughter was born on Saturday last.

The beginning of the autumn campaign is to be advanced a day earlier by the entry into the field of Mr. Gray Murray, who, in conjunction with Mr. Tom B. Davis, will begin a season at the Lyric on August 28 with a new play, entitled *The Sin of William Jackson*, written by Baroness Orczy and Montague Barstow, the authors of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Mr. Murray, who has recently been touring with Mr. Laurence Irving as acting-manager, has had an extensive experience in the theatre, having made his first appearance at the age of fifteen, when he played with Mr. Thomas Thorne in *Joseph's Sweetheart*. The cast of the new play, the action of which is laid in the East-end of London, will comprise Mr. Robert Pateman, Mr. Ernest Leicester, Mr. John Tresahar, Mr. Harry Parker, Miss Ruth Mackay, Miss Vernon Paget, and Miss Nina Boucicault.

A judicious shuffling of the managerial cards leaves first-nighters free to indulge their bent fully at the beginning of the ensuing season, which starts with the presentation of *The Sin of William Jackson* at the Lyric. Mr. George Edwardes has postponed the production of *Aladdin* at the Gaiety, originally announced for September 1, to a fortnight later, namely, September 15, thus leaving *A Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's in sole possession of the former date. A postponement has also taken place in regard to *Toddles* at the Duke of York's, which is now set down for Wednesday, September 5. *The Morals of Marcus* will be revealed at the Garrick on Aug. 29. The evening of September 3 is adhered to for the production of *Mrs. Temple's Telegram* at the Waldorf, and *Tristram and Iseult* at the Adelphi remains a fixture for September 4.

Mr. Comyns Carr has taken the material of his play *Tristram and Iseult*, which is due at the Adelphi next month, chiefly from Malory's "Morte d'Arthur," but the work includes several episodes of the author's own invention. The first act is laid at the Court of King Mark at Cornwall, and the second takes place in Ireland, where Sir Tristram is miraculously healed of a mortal wound by Iseult, the daughter of King Gormon. The next act passes on board ship, and the final division of the piece is laid at Cornwall. The part of Tristram will be played by Mr. Mattheson Lang, Miss Lily Brayton will be the Iseult, and Miss Wynne Mattheson and Mr. Oscar Asche will also be in the cast.

The genesis of the story which called forth some of the finest efforts of Tennyson's muse is not, it would seem, particularly well known. Mr. Carr relates that he was sitting the other day at dinner by the side of a lady who, having heard, apparently, that he was writing a play on the subject of Tristram and Iseult, naïvely asked whether he had applied for authorisation to Frau Wagner! The version upon which the German composer founded his opera was, if we mistake not, that of Gottfried, of Strasbourg.

Miss May-de Sousa, the charming Geisha of Daly's, who has so quickly but effectively attained a foremost place among London favourites, is returning from New York, where she has been to spend a brief holiday. The death of Miss de Sousa's maid, who was killed in the street by a motor-car on the first night of *The Geisha*, quite unnerved the young actress, and the news a week later that an eye-witness had committed suicide completed her resolve to seek restoration to health by a voyage to her native land.

"The Sweet Girl" is the title of a new musical play adapted from the German of Alex. Landesberg and Leo Stain, by A. Demain Grange, William Caine, and Herbert Cottesmore, which is to be produced at Nottingham on Aug. 27. The music is by Heinrich Reinhardt, with additional numbers by K. Ernest Irving.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who commence their next autumn tour at the Grand Theatre, Llandudno, on the 27th inst., will visit many of the principal towns, including Blackpool, Eastbourne, Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Birmingham, an engagement being also fulfilled at the Marlborough, Holloway. In addition to the old plays, *The Ironmaster* and *The Elder Miss Blossom*, *The Housekeeper* and their latest and most successful comedy by Herbert Swears, entitled *A Tight Corner*, will be played for the first time in the majority of the theatres visited.

"The Bondman," the drama by Hall Caine, is now in active preparation for production at Drury Lane next month. Meanwhile, a company of *The Prodigal Son* will begin a tour at the Gaiety, Douglas, on the 27th inst. Mr. Arthur Collins has engaged a very strong company, including Miss Alma Murray, Miss Lily Hall Caine, Miss Cecil Cromwell, Mr. Henry George, Mr. Henry Renouf, Mr. Howard Russell, and Mr. Norman Partriege, and as all the scenery and effects come from the Lane, a highly successful tour may be predicted.

Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, having taken over the entire rights of *Sherlock Holmes*, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, from Mr. Harry Yorke, will start his tour on September 3rd at the Theatre Royal, Preston. Mr. Stewart has been fortunate in securing several of the artists who toured with the play under Mr. Frohman's management.

Mr. James W. Mathews, the much-liked manager of the Duke of York's Theatre, has returned from an enjoyable visit to the Russian capital. He is now completing his well-earned holiday at Bacton-on-Sea, a charming little seaside resort near Cromer.

During the last act of *The White Chrysanthemum* at the Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, on Monday night, a large lamp suspended in the centre of the scene suddenly caught fire. There was a commotion amongst the crowded audience and some cries of alarm, but the management requested the people to retain their seats. The fireproof curtain was lowered, and after a while the burning lamp was extinguished, when the piece was continued to a satisfactory ending.

Mr. Allan Wilkie, who is playing this week to excellent business at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, has considerably increased the strength of his company by the inclusion of Mr. G. Alexander Marsh and Miss Carrie Baillie, who for so many years played the leading parts with the late Osmond Tearle company. Mr. Wilkie, who recently added *Hamlet* to his repertoire, will shortly produce *Romeo and Juliet*, which will be followed by a production of *As You Like It*. His repertoire will then include all the more popular plays of Shakespeare, besides several standard dramas and old comedies.

Mr. Martin Harvey is now actively rehearsing *The Corsican Brothers* in view of the production at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on the 19th prox. It has been decided that the revival shall have a particularly fine and picturesque setting, and the three chief scenes—"The Hall and Terrace of the Château of the dei Franchi at Cullacaro," "The Ball at the Paris Opera House," and "The Glade in the Forest of Fontainebleau"—are to be stage pictures of rare completeness and beauty. After the revival, Mr. Harvey will at once give the Boucicault adaptation a permanent place in his repertory, and it will be played twice a week during the remainder of the tour. The one-act play which will be staged in front of *The Corsican Brothers* will provide Miss de Silva with a new and most original part.

Mr. Andrew Melville, who is ever improving and beautifying his popular theatre, the Metropole, Birmingham, reopened on Bank Holiday after a brief vacation, with a well-decorated house and much-improved lighting arrangements, the floors being newly laid with linoleum. The comfort and elegance of the house have been much increased during the interregnum.

Miss Mabel Love and Mr. Percy Hutchison, in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, were successful in beating all records at the West Pier, Brighton, last week over 10,000 people having paid for admission. Both artists acquit themselves admirably in the chief parts, and high encomiums have been deservedly bestowed.

The new management of the Marlboro' Theatre, Holloway, is making a spirited bid for public favour. Next week, at the popular suburban playhouse, Mr. Charles Macdona will introduce Mr. G. P. Huntley and Miss Millie Legarde in the recent Apollo success, *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*. This engagement is eagerly looked forward to at Holloway, and the advance-booking is proportionately great. The attraction of Mr. Huntley's name is magnetic, and the enterprise of the management in securing the popular comedian is sure to be amply repaid.

Mr. Alfred Thomas, the well-known entertainer, is scoring a great success at the Pavilion, Barmouth, the fashionable Welsh watering-place, where he is fulfilling a twelve-weeks' engagement as the humorist of the excellent costume party known as "The Redcloaks." Mr. Thomas's original interpretations of well-known ballads like Tosti's "Good-bye" and Del Riego's "O dry those tears" are received with uproarious applause and laughter, and the skits are in great demand.

At the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, on Monday, Mr. D. Lewin Mannering was unable to play his part of Baron Bonelli in *The Eternal City*, owing to a sudden attack of pleurisy. His place was taken by his understudy, Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood, who had only been one week with the company, and had not had a rehearsal in the part. He succeeded, however, in giving a performance which entirely satisfied both his own and the local managements, and won unqualified praise.

Mr. Henry Taylor, who will this year complete his twenty-fifth year of uninterrupted management of the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, has this week had the honour conferred upon him of being added to the list of magistrates for the borough. There are only two other provincial managers that we can recall—namely, at Oxford and Cambridge—where a similar distinction has been bestowed. Mr. Taylor has served a long time as Town Councillor of Crewe, and only two years ago filled the civic chair. His long association with the various charities of Crewe have no doubt been considered in this last addition to Mr. Taylor's honours.

During the visit to Hastings last week of Mr. George Dance's company in *Veronique*, at the Gaiety Theatre, the management were confronted with a serious dilemma. On the Wednesday evening, it appears, shortly after six o'clock, the manager received a telegram from Miss Leonhardt, the leading lady, stating that she was unable to appear through a motor accident at Lewes. Later, when the members of the company were dressing for the piece, Miss Leonhardt arrived, and announced that she did not intend to continue her performance as Veronique, as she had just been married, and her husband did not wish her to act the part any longer.

There was no understudy, this being only the third night of the present tour, but the difficulty was overcome by Miss Ruth Massina—who had appeared as Sophie on Monday and Tuesday—volunteering to go on as Veronique, and seeing that she had to perform the part without any previous study, she did remarkably well, and has since made a striking success in the rôle. The sudden withdrawal of Miss Leonhardt also necessitated other changes in the cast. Miss Emmie Lennox quickly read up the part of Sophie, and played it cleverly, and other members of the company adapted themselves to the altered circumstances with great ability.

The Brough-Flemming Comedy Company, which is now under the direction of Mr. Herbert Flemming, has just completed a fifteen-months' Australian tour. So successful has the enterprise proved that the management has renewed all engagements, with one exception only, for a further period of twelve months. The company opens in Perth, W.A., on July 20. *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* has recently been secured by Mr. Flemming, and will be the first production of the company on their return to Adelaide.

Miss Beatrice Day, who as leading lady in the Brough-Flemming Comedy Company, has contributed so much to its success in Australia, has been re-engaged for a further period of twelve months. *Dr. Wake's Patient*, which has proved a trump card since its initial production in Sydney, has given Miss Day an opportunity of proving her sterling merits as an artist, and she has made herself highly popular in every city in the Commonwealth.

Miss Laura Hansen has again accepted the part of Marion Thornton in *Two Little Vagabonds*. This makes that popular lady's fifth tour with Hardie and Von Leer in the rôle, for which it will be remembered she was selected in the revival of the play at the Adelphi. She has played it since most successfully in South Africa. Miss Hansen opens at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday next.

At Bow Street Police-court on Wednesday, before Mr. Marsham, Beatrice Chambers, described as an actress, of Boundary Street, Manchester, was charged, on remand, with obtaining money by false pretences from the Actors' Benevolent Fund. It was alleged that the accused applied to the fund for assistance in the name of Muriel Brendon, and succeeded in obtaining two separate sums of £1. Subsequently other applications were received in different names, but in the same handwriting, and inquiries led to the discovery that accused had been acting in this way for some time. Prisoner pleaded guilty, and it was proved that she had been previously convicted of a similar offence. As, however, she is in a delicate state of health the case was not pressed, and the magistrate sentenced her to three months' imprisonment in the second division. Miss Muriel Brendon was in court, but was not called upon to give evidence.

Mr. Charles Warner, who is to be the Leontes of Mr. Tree's production of *A Winter's Tale*, in which Miss Ellen Terry will appear as Hermione, will have a warm welcome back to His Majesty's, where in recent years he has appeared in some notable impersonations. Mr. C. W. Somerset will be the Autolycus, Mrs. Tree the Paulina, and Miss Viola Tree the Perdita, and the rest of the cast will comprise Messrs. Lyn Harding, J. Fisher White, Henry Williams, Keith Fraser, Julius Knight, Basil Gill, William H. Day, O. B. Clarence, and Master Tonge; Miss Florence Wells, Miss Bruce-Joy, and Miss Ethel Wood. The production is fixed for Sept. 1.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present:—Sir Squire Bancroft (in the chair); Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor); Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh; Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, Spencer Trevor, Frederick Volpe, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (hon. sec.)

The honorary solicitors reported progress in several matters, also that they had advised various members on points submitted, and had received an instalment on account of the indebtedness of a manager to different members of the association who had claims against him.

The question as to holding a meeting of the members of the association in connection with the proposition to raise a memorial to the late Sir Henry Irving was under discussion, and ultimately it was agreed that such meeting should be held on Monday, the 1st October, at 11 o'clock, with Sir Squire Bancroft, president of the association, presiding. The secretary was instructed to make arrangements as to the place of meeting, and it was agreed that when matters were definitely settled, notice given by placards exhibited in the offices of the association should be deemed sufficient intimation to the members.

Mr. Cecil Barth's scheme for reading and producing plays, if considered of sufficient merit, such plays being introduced by members, was again under discussion, and ultimately Messrs. Cecil Barth, Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Fewlass Llewellyn were appointed as a committee, with power to add to their number, to consider and digest the scheme and report to the council. The chairman read a letter from the secretary of the Theatrical Managers' Association, stating that the question of payment for rehearsals would be considered at their next council meeting. Miss Irene Moncrieff and Messrs. C. B. Keston and Frank Melrose were appointed commissioners to the association. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. The suggestion book was considered, and an entry made. Miss Hylda Franklin was nominated as a candidate for election.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday last, the chair being occupied by Mr. Acton Bond (chairman of the committee), supported by Messrs. M. R. Morand, Hubert Willis, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the committee proceeded to consider the question of unpaid subscriptions for the current year, and ultimately a letter to the members in arrear was drafted, and the secretary directed to put in circulation.

Next season will welcome the advent of Mme. Yvette Guilbert to the dramatic stage, the famous Parisienne having arranged to sustain an English-speaking part in a dramatisation of *Esther Waters*, to be produced in London after her short American tour. The rest of the company will consist of English players, and the production of the piece will be in the hands of a London manager.

Mr. Edouard Jose, who is well known in theatrical circles in this country and abroad, arrived a few weeks ago in Cape Town after a well-earned holiday abroad. On July 30 he sailed for South America, where he is now representing Messrs. Wheeler and George Edwardes as General Manager of the Gaiety Company. With this position, Mr. Jose combines the musical directorship, as he has been doing for the same firm in South Africa for the past three years.

The Golfing Company terminate a most enjoyable holiday at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, to-day, the tour of *His Excellency the Governor* having proved a real financial success. Mr. H. Marsh Allen and Mr. Lionel Mackinder come back to town to arrange for their autumn season, Mr. Charles Brown and Miss Jean Aylwin return to the Gaiety, Miss Salberg joins Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. D. J. Williams and Mr. Malcolm Cherry return to Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, and Mr. Arthur Bertram, who has managed the party, will fill in a few weeks with *The Breed of the Treshams*. The Golfing Company contemplate touring next year with a motor-'bus, a most convenient mode of transit. There will be no need for long journeys, and the 'bus will be at the disposal of the company who care to use it during the daytime.

Mr. A. De Frece, the new lessee of the Rawtenstall Grand Theatre, is being encouraged in his enterprise by large and appreciative audiences. Last week the houses were exceptionally good, and Saturday last nearly, if not actually, passed the record for the theatre. On Monday another fine house awaited the rising of the curtain, all parts being full of what eventually proved thoroughly delighted playgoers. In the face of the excellent bookings for the coming season we anticipate that the houses will continue equally large and appreciative.

Mr. Thomas Lucas, the managing-director of the New Theatre, Oxford, was not, as has been stated, one of the magistrates on the bench when Mr. Albany Ward made his recent application to the bench for a renewal of his licence. Mr. Lucas, with great propriety, has abstained altogether from taking any part in the proceedings of the Oxford magistrates in connection with the case.

Mr. Philip Leslie, who is touring through Australia and New Zealand with the Brough-Flemming Comedy Co., which finishes on the 30th inst., has attained considerable success. His performance of Duff Wynterden in *Dr. Wake's Patient* has been greatly eulogised, and the morning after his first performance of this exacting rôle, Mr. Leslie was engaged by Mr. J. C. Williamson for a lengthened period from the end of his present engagement.

Miss Olga Nethersole has engaged Mr. Frank Mills as her leading man for her forthcoming tour. Other members of an exceptionally strong company are Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. John Nesbitt, Mr. Eric Maturin, Miss Ina Goldsmith, Rosalind, Ivan, and Molly Pearson. Miss Nethersole will take the same company with her to America next November for a season there of thirty weeks.

Mr. Ben Greet, whose company is to open Mr. Bannister Howard's season at the Crystal Palace next month with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, has departed for the Continent, where he will visit Munich, Bayreuth, and Ober Ammergau.

Mr. Bannister Howard has now almost completed his list of plays to be given at the Crystal Palace Theatre. He will open his season on September 17th with the Ben Greet company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A performance of this delightful play by the same company was given at Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight, last week, by command of Princess Henry of Battenburg. Besides flying matinées, Mr. Howard has made arrangements for the following companies to appear during the autumn: *Are You a Mason?* *The Silver King*, *The Private Secretary*, *the Belle of New York*, *Four Just Men* (Norman V. Norman's company), *Charley's Aunt*, *Prince of Pilsen*, *The Earl and the Girl*, *Mr. Hopkinson*, *Three Little Maids*, *Floradora*, *Sergeant Brue*, etc. At Christmas the pantomime of *Aladdin* will be produced.

Mr. George Child has been engaged by Mr. Vivian Grantham to play his part of Sir John Hawthorne in *Held in Bondage*, and stage-manage the play.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard will have two of his companies in the suburbs next week, viz., *Florodora* at the Borough, Stratford, and *Oliver Twist* at the Grand, Fulham.

Mr. Bannister Howard is making ample provision for his patrons at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, which will open on Monday, Aug. 27, with *Sergeant Brue*. The theatre will be lighted by electricity, and there will be a ladies' lounge, where light refreshments will be served. For the convenience of the patrons to the balcony and gallery, a special bar has been erected in the foyer of the theatre. Many first-class attractions are already booked, the list including *Oliver Twist* and *The Eternal City* (by arrangement with Mr. Tree), *A Country Mouse*, with Miss Annie Hughes in the title-rôle, *The Earl and the Girl*, *Bluebell in Fairyland*, *Public Opinion*, *Charley's Aunt*, and other companies of the best class.

Mr. Charles Carey hopes to produce, about November, a new musical comedy called *The Pick of the Bunch*. The scenery and dresses are all well in hand at his Tunbridge Wells theatre, where the piece will first see the light. The autumn season in that progressive town is now in full swing, and Mr. Carey, looking well ahead, already announces a fine list of attractions for the season which comes with the spring.

Mr. Cyril Keightley, so long associated with Mr. F. R. Benson's company, will shortly go on tour with his own combination, and will produce at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on Sept. 3, a new play, entitled *Miles Carew*, *Highwayman*, in which Harry and Edward Paulton, the authors of *Niobe*, have again collaborated. Mr. Graham Morrison is the general-manager for the company, which is a strong one, and includes that talented young actress, Miss Haidee Gunn.

"After the Ball," with its beautiful dresses and bright music, has been captivating Glasgow this week. On Monday next, through the enterprise of Mr. Payne Seddon, Mr. Carey's clever company will reopen the renovated theatre at Dumfries.

"Mrs. Temple's Telegram," the farce by Frank Wyatt and William Morris which is to be produced at the Waldorf on Monday, September 3, will be sustained by Messrs. Aynworth, Allan, William Morris, William Cheeseman, Rudge Harding, Frank Collins, Misses Sybil Carlisle, Constance Hyem, Dido Drake, and Francis Wetherall. The action of the play takes place, morning, afternoon, and evening, at the residence of Mr. Temple, in Curzon-street, Mayfair.

Internal dissension in Russia is obviously not destined to drive the drama from the Czar's dominions, for M. Simon Boyanus Bronewski, a distinguished actor of the Russian Imperial Theatres, is at present on a visit to London, with the object of obtaining information upon the subject of the management of theatres here, taking care to see any play that might be suitable for translation into Russian, with a view to its production at the various State theatres in his own country. In the course of his tour M. Bronewski has already visited the chief cities of the Continent.

M. Bronewski's visit is not happily timed for his purpose, and his quest for serious plays at a time when most of the theatres are closed has been naturally ill-rewarded. He declares that Russians take their drama in earnest; the humour of their stage is grave and deliberate, and they are content to go to the theatre to see pieces which stirs them to deep and serious thought. Of this, he declares, the French were, temperamentally, quite incapable, and as a consequence their dramatic literature is for the most part superficial.

A pathetic plea was put forward in the Southampton Police-court on Saturday, when a young Australian actor, named Brand Kaye Brand, was charged with stowing away on board the Union Castle liner Briton. He said that early in February he went to San Francisco with a theatrical company, and was there at the time of the earthquake, during which he lost everything. He then came to England, but was unable to get an engagement, and, having sold all he possessed, walked from London to Southampton, with the object, if possible, of getting a passage as stoker, or some similar position. He had friends in South Africa. A letter from a member of the Cape Legislative Assembly intimated that if the magistrates only imposed a small fine he would pay it, as he was aware accused was a deserving person. The magistrates said they sympathised with the prisoner, but these offences were becoming frequent, and the Bench could not do less than impose a fine of £10 and costs, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

The German Emperor may now be hailed as a discoverer of latent talent. During his recent visit to Fräulein Krupp the choral society of the works sang before him. His Majesty afterwards said laughingly to the conductor, "I ought to have your first tenor for my opera house." On Tuesday the singer in question, a workman named Moeller, was informed by Herr von Bohlen, Fräulein Krupp's fiancé, that the funds necessary to give him a thorough training for the opera stage would be provided.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, the first meeting of creditors was held under the failure of John Sayer, described as of the Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C. The liabilities were estimated at about £2000, and the assets at about £4000. It appeared that in January last the debtor acquired the right to sell programmes and run the bars and cloak rooms at the Apollo Theatre. He was formerly connected with Bristol (Limited), now in liquidation, and attributes his present position to his liability for debts incurred by that company, and to his assets not being immediately available. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting was adjourned.

The Rugby Theatre and Entertainment Company was registered on July 31 with a capital of £25,000. The object is to take over the Rugby Theatre Royal and the Rugby Town Hall, and to build a theatre on that part of the last-mentioned property which is now used as a market hall. The first directors are A. F. Cross (managing director), J. Barlow, T. W. Willard, T. Beasley, and A. J. Lawrence (chairman).

"THE BEAUTY OF BATH."

The belle of the western city held her court at the Aldwych for the 150th time on Wednesday, when a large audience assembled in London's newest playhouse to render homage. By the magnificence of the mounting, the richness of the costumes, the wealth of melody, and the abundance of fun and frolic, *The Beauty of Bath* has stood the test of the dullest season of the year, and the enthusiasm of the audience was more pronounced than ever on Wednesday, when the work of Messrs. Seymour Hicks and Cosmo Hamilton, for which Mr. Charles H. Taylor has furnished the lyrics, and Mr. Herbert E. Haines the music, sparkled to the accompaniment of the cheers and laughter of a crowded house. Many topical allusions have been introduced, the interpolations coming so near to the moment that a reference to the meeting of the King and the Kaiser the same morning was included.

One important change effected in the cast since the first night is the succession of Miss Zena Dare to the title-rôle in place of Miss Ellaline Terriss. The daintiness and grace of the Hon. Betty Silverthorne are preserved intact by Miss Dare, whose charming personality is exactly fitted to the part. The numbers which fall to her share are rendered with delicacy and refinement, which are agreeably manifest in the refrain "When a girl's in love." The charm of her manner is again revealed in "Things you never learnt at school," of which many repetitions were demanded, and the song of the "little sea-pigs," in which the maidens who impersonate the oysters lend such admirable assistance, gained similar honours.

Mr. Seymour Hicks, who has been playing a special week with the touring company of *The Catch of the Season*, has returned again to the cast in his finest form. His welcome was of the heartiest kind, and his mercurial spirits and limitless energy put Lieut. R. Allington, R.N., before the audience in his most attractive guise. The number of encore verses to the song in eulogy of "Joey Chamberlain" appeared to be endless. The audience could scarcely have consisted wholly of Unionists, yet none demurred when the great statesman was placed at every verse on the highest pinnacle of popularity, so abundant was the drollery yielded by the song and the nimble wit of the singer.

A comic effect of a unique kind is obtained by the association of the parts of Mrs. Goodge and her son Lemon, the programme boy of the Mascot Theatre. The Bloomsbury landlady as impersonated by Miss Sydney Fairbrother is a living reality which never once deviates from its purpose. The simpering smile and Cockney accent are there throughout, and laughter of the heartiest kind results from the impersonation. An early development of the comedian's art is shown by Master Valchera, whose originality shines forth effectively in the part of Master Goodge. The mock passion and vocal eccentricities infused into the quaintly inspired duet of "Hearts of Bloomsbury" appeal with irresistibly comic effect, and encore verses innumerable could be given if only the evening were lengthened.

Mr. Stanley Brett as Mr. Beverly, the actor, secures the closest resemblance to Dick Allington, and by his alertness and vigour cleverly maintains the required illusion. The Hon. Dorothy Quorn is played with engaging charm by Miss Barbara Deane, whose girlish grace renders the rôle quite captivating, while her fresh and tuneful voice gives delight in the pretty ballad which is allotted to her.

A distinguished figure of the piece is that of Viscount Bellingham, played by Mr. William Lugg, whose voice and style combine to form the fine old English gentleman. The white locks surmounting the refined features make a pleasing spectacle, and Mr. Lugg's finished acting, and measured tones complete an impersonation which secures marked prominence.

Mr. Murray King is one of the oddities of the cast in the part of Sir Timothy Bunn. He extracts humour to the last ounce out of the character, and his eccentricities are appreciated to the full. Mr. Lawrence Caird is also valuable in creating mirth in the part of Lord Quorn, whose good humour and bonhomie are well assumed.

Miss Maudi Darrell imparts irresistible vivacity to the character of Miss Truly St. Cyr, rendering her dialogue archly and acting merrily throughout. Miss Mollie Lowell, who hitherto sustained the part of Lady Bun, has given up the rôle to Miss Marguerite Leslie, who makes of the character a well-spoken and aristocratic personage. Miss Lowell takes up the rôle of Mrs. Allington, and infuses a delicacy and tenderness into her embodiment that endears the character to all.

Dancing of a high order is furnished by Miss Topsy Sinden and Mr. Bert Sinden, whose duet is capitally sung, while the nimbleness and grace of the pair in the subsequent dance is a treat to witness, and wins a well-deserved recall. Mr. E. W. Royce presents the Earl of Orpington with his usual care in characterisation; and as the Countess of Orpington Miss Vera Morris is commendable. The bevy of Bun Girls continue to exercise a fascinating effect, and the realisation of picture-frame beauties still forms a most agreeable feature of an evening of pure delight.

THE USEFULNESS OF THE A.A.

Following is a set of seven reasons, compiled by the Committee of the Commissioners, and approved by the Council, why members of the profession should join the Actors' Association.

1. Because the Actors' Association is the only recognised representative body of the theatrical profession. By joining the Association you will help to increase its powers. You will help to secure further benefits, and you will help to strengthen the position of the actor.
2. Because the Actors' Association provides you with a permanent address. You lose many engagements in consequence of your address not being known. The Actors' Association undertakes to forward you all letters.
3. Because you have Central Offices where you can make appointments, transact your business, see papers, have the use of stationery and telephone. There is also a dramatic agency through which many engagements are made, both for the country and London, at half the usual fees.
4. Because you can have free legal advice and the advantages of arbitration, for which, in conjunction with the Touring Managers' Association, a Joint Board has been created; failing that, your approved claims will be taken up and, where possible, the debtor will be pursued.
5. Because in almost every town where there is a theatre there are hon. medical officers appointed by the Actors' Association, whose services without fee are at your disposal.
6. Because when you have paid your current subscription, you have the benefit of an insurance policy, which no insurance company would issue to you as a private individual for the full amount of your year's subscription.
7. Because at the bi-monthly meeting you have the opportunity to attend or be represented by letter so that all suggestions have the fullest consideration.

The Actors' Society of America extends the courtesy of honorary membership to the members of the Actors' Association while visiting the United States.

The "Red Book" is published early in January each year, and contains legal notes, list of doctors, and register of recommended professional lodgings.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, AUG. 16.—Gounod is to have his statue, and our grand opera is largely subscribing towards the fund. This is as it should be, for this institution owes Gounod a debt of gratitude. Thanks to *Faust*, they make both ends meet, and, on the nights that work is given, seats have to be booked in advance. Few people, however, know what a terrific struggle the great French composer had to come to the fore. Although he obtained the gold medal at the Conservatoire competition—the Prix de Rome, as it is called here—no publisher would accept his compositions. In 1855 only two of his songs, "O ma lyre immortelle" and "La Chanson du Pâtre"—extracts from *Sapho*—had been published, and poor Gounod had to bear the expense. One day Gounod set Béranger's well-known poem, "Mon habit," to music. Anatole Lionnet, the well-known vocalist, heard Gounod sing that song in a drawing-room, and was so delighted with it that he asked Heugel, the publisher, to print it. And it was only after Lionnet had promised to add the song to his répertoire that Heugel at last consented, and paid the composer £4 for the melody. It was the first money Gounod had ever received for one of his compositions, and he had then entered in his thirty-seventh year. Altogether, French composers have had a hard fight before they were acknowledged in their own country. Berlioz, César Franck, Saint-Saëns were appreciated in Germany and England long before their music found favour with the French; and, as to poor Lalo, who died a few years ago, he had to wait until his seventieth year before his *Roi d'ys* was produced at the Opéra Comique.

REFERENCE has been made in these columns of the violent attacks against our Authors' Society, which, according to its detractors, oppresses the unknown author and composer with its draconic regulations. Whilst, however, we are attempting to sweep away this superannuated institution, the Italians have founded an Authors' Society on the French lines, and in Italy the system seems to work well. This can be easily understood. Few playhouses there possess permanent companies; the others are all nomadic, and the poor authors always have the greatest trouble to collect their royalties. The Italian Society, only three years old, has just published its report, from which we glean some curious facts. Thus, they now collected £17,120 royalties against £3,600 in the preceding year; and the authors of course are jubilant. As to the pieces produced, I saw to my surprise that French authors figure on the list for three-fifths, English and German authors for one-fifth, and the Italians themselves only for one-fifth. Italy apparently produces more macaroni than plays.

MLLE. CHARLOTTE DURAN, the clever young actress from the Odéon, died a few days ago, after a short illness. She was a great favourite with the public, and her death created a painful impression in the theatrical world. Mlle. Duran was only twenty-four.

THE Comédie-Française has not yet come to an arrangement with MM. Octave Mirbeau and Natanson in respect to their play *Le Foyer*. M. Claretie adheres to his decision not to produce the work unless the authors change some of the scenes; and M. Mirbeau flatly refuses to alter a line. This is how matters stand, and, unless—which is very improbable—one side gives in, the authors will take their MS. to another playhouse. These things have occurred before in the house of Molière. Alexandre Dumas had trouble there with his comedy *Madame de Chambly*, and had it produced at Ventadour. Emile Augier, too, had ructions about *Madame Caverlet*, in consequence of his refusal to modify the dialogue, and the piece was brought out at the Vaudeville.

THE title of M. Henry Bernstein's three-act comedy, to be produced at the Gymnase, is *Le Voleur*. The principal rôle therein has been assigned to M. le Bargy.

M. ALBERT CARRÉ has received a one-act musical comedy called *Le Songe d'un soir d'autonine*, founded on a poem by Gabriel d'Annunzio. The music is by M. Torre Alfina. The rôle of the heroine will be sung by Mme. Félia Litvinne.

M. ANDRE DE LORDE, famous for his blood-curdling plays, and whose *Système du Docteur Goudron* used to frighten the playgoers out of their stalls, is now writing a drama founded on M. Guy de Maupassant's uncanny story, "La Petite Rogues," wherein he will introduce several scenes from "La Horla." The new work will very likely be produced at the Grand Guignol, which has the speciality of these productions.

THERE has been a general meeting of shareholders of the Palais-Royal Theatre, and, as could be expected, the figures laid before them were anything but satisfactory. The theatre has been losing money heavily; and during the last three or four years no piece was produced there that had any lasting success. M. Maurice Charlot, alleging ill-health, has withdrawn from the management, and his place will be taken by M. Georges Judic—the son of the well-known actress—who for some time was connected with the management of the Châtelet. The Palais-Royal has a formidable opponent in Les Nouveautés which, under M. Michaud's able government, has become one of the most prosperous houses in our city. The latter gentleman knows his public, and to his skill and tact in the selection of plays the phenomenal success of the Nouveautés can in a great measure be attributed. Moreover, M. Michaud always takes care to keep his company to a high point of excellence, and to retain such favourites as Germain, Torin, Noblet, etc. At the Palais-Royal things were conducted in altogether a different style, and hence its gradual decline.

PIERRE LOY'S amusing story *La femme et le pantin* has tempted Signor Puccini, who is writing the music to a libretto taken from this novel.

IN November will be opened the theatrical museum bequeathed to the State by the well-known playwright, M. d'Ennery. It is called the Musée d'Ennery, and is situated in the Avenue du Bois de Boulogne. It is a curious collection which everybody interested in the stage will be glad to visit. Among other curiosities, there will be an exhibition of over two thousand scent boxes as used by actors and actresses in Japan. M. Clemenceau, our Prime Minister, the intimate friend and executor of the late M. d'Ennery, is personally superintending the arrangements.

"UNE MAISON TRANQUILLE" is the title of a one-act comedy by M. Lucien Marotte to be brought out at the Théâtre Antoine next season.

AMONG the new engagements at the Théâtre Antoine is that of Mlle. Renée Leduc, whom we had already occasion to applaud at the Gymnase and the Ambigu.

The municipal theatre in Besançon have issued a ukase that next season ladies with hats will not be allowed in the stalls and dress-circle. The Besançon ladies, on the other hand, intend to boycott the theatre unless that order is rescinded. It will be a homeric struggle wherein the authorities are expected to be beaten, for the odds appear to be very much in favour of the ladies.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS writes:—"I should be obliged if you would point out that while the Brixton Theatre will be opened as the Brixton Hippodrome on Oct. 22 under my sole management, it will not be run in opposition to the Empress Theatre of Varieties. As a matter of fact, both places belong to the same company.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 13,
for the First Time in London,
the Dramatic Comedy, in Three Acts,
by F. Kinsey Peile, entitled
"THE ADVENTURER."

Michel le Grand	MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
Peter Nugent	MR. HARRY ASHFORD
Harold Nugent	MR. L. RACE DUNROBIN
William Percival	MR. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Richard Percival	MR. R. HENDERSON BLAND
Tobias	MR. E. M. ROBSON
Samuel Stein	MR. HARVEY LONG
François	MR. W. A. HAINES
Charles	MR. A. J. MAY
Savage	MR. JAMES STARKEY
Henry	MR. GOODWIN NOCK
Sir Edward Villiers	MR. CHARLES TERRY
Mr. Howard	MR. HENRY SEMON
Miss Howard	MISS KITTY MAY
Mrs. Blake	MISS MARION STERLING
Miss Blake	MISS NORAH CATTLEY
Maria Nugent	MISS NAOMI NEILSON
Lillian Nugent	MISS MARIE LOHR

Sentiment and humour are both welcome in their place, but when they are allied indiscriminately, the chances of the former are very remote. No better proof of this could be required than that presented on Monday at Clapham Junction, when Mr. Kinsey Peile's new play, which has been revised and strengthened since its original production at the Gaiety, Hastings, on July 10, 1905, received its introduction to London. The romance contained in *The Adventurer*, which is laid at the period of William IV., is of a delicate cate and subtle kind, but scenes of tenderness are continuously compromised by the farcical element which obtrudes at all times and places, and resulted on Monday in the loud laughter of a house ever ready to see the comic side of a situation, even when none was presented. The first episode upon which the serious issues of the play depend, where the evil genius of the piece proposes marriage to the heroine, is turned into ridicule by the various members of the family, who gather round and interject facetious remarks during the proceedings.

The maiden is the recipient of two proposals in the opening scene. The first is from William Percival, a country land-owner, whose addresses are encouraged by Squire Nugent, the father of Lillian, the young lady in question. Percival's suit meets with a cold reception; but the wooing of Michael le Grand, a gallant and chivalrous adventurer, who boasts of landed estates in Normandy and Wales, is more successful. Lillian's brother, Harold, has lost heavily at the gaming-table, and takes advantage of his friendship with le Grand to forge his name as security for £1,000, which he has lost to Percival's younger brother. The bill falls due in a month, and on that day William and his brother present themselves to claim payment. Le Grand, in order to protect Harold, has admitted his signature, but his means are nil, so he borrows a brooch from his lady love, ostensibly to decide a wager, but in reality to assist him in obtaining the money from a Jew usurer named Stein, who is made to promise that he will keep the jewel sealed up for three days, by which time le Grand hopes to win sufficient money at cards to pay the debt. The £1,000 is therefore ready for Percival, who grows suspicious at its production, and, on conferring with the Jew, learns from that wily gentleman by what means the money was obtained. Percival then hies him to le Grand's house, where a ball is in progress, and accuses Michel of stealing Lillian's diamonds and pawning them with the Jew, whereupon le Grand triumphantly produces the trinket, and hands it to Lillian. Again does Percival resort to his Hebrew ally, who examines the diamond received from le Grand, and finds that a false stone has been foisted upon him. It is then Percival's turn to triumph, and he returns and denounces le Grand, who is fain to admit the charge. After Squire Nugent and his friends have departed, and Lillian has taken a sorrowful farewell, le Grand produces a pistol from a drawer, and is about to end his life, when Harold rushes forth from an adjoining apartment and snatches the weapon from his hand. Hastily recalling his father and sister, Harold confesses that it was his debt which le Grand had undertaken, in order to save him from disgrace, and the Squire is so affected by the news that he joins the hands of Lillian and her lover, thus securing the happiest ending imaginable.

The piece is filled out by comic relief, which, as we have hinted, often obtrudes. The effect of the chief part is thus injured, and the favour with which Michel le Grand was received in all parts of the house is therefore all the more commendable to Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw, who is taking out the company in the interval of his appearances at the West-end. Mr. Robertshaw played the reckless adventurer with all the buoyancy at his command, the mixture of courtliness and swagger, his gay demeanour and resourcefulness, being completely in accord with the part. He became quite a favourite, and it seemed a pity that he should have to stand by while his sportive secretary Tobias took the bit between his teeth and played havoc with the serious situations. The conception of the character by Mr. E. M. Robson was one of a distinctly original vein, and screams of laughter resulted from his impersonation of the diminutive secretary, who was as merry as a kitten, and gambolled about not at all unlike one. Miss Marie Löhr made a girlish and graceful Lillian Nugent. Charming and ingenuous in the earlier moods of the part, Miss Löhr rose effectively to the later situations, requiring breadth and force, and her indignation towards Percival was as vigorous as her emotion at parting with her lover was affecting. Admiration was also commanded by Miss Naomi Neilson, who provided a neat sketch of Lillian's maiden aunt, delivering some neatly-turned phrases with a sense of humour that gave them the utmost point. Mr. Harry Ashford presented a perfect picture of a hale and hearty country squire, whose splenetic outbursts were made thoroughly amusing; and, as his son Harold, Mr. L. Race Dunrobin acted an ungrateful part with such dramatic skill and fervour as to make it prominent among the best impersonations of the cast. A finished character-study was furnished by Mr. Harvey Long as the Jew moneylender, who in the early days of the 19th century, while retaining his cupidity, did not seem to possess those extravagant nasal characteristics and mannerisms with which melodrama of a later period have clothed him. Mr. Long's impersonation of Samuel Stein was a distinctly clever study, the skill of which was very generally recognised. The character of the unscrupulous William Percival was powerfully played by Mr. Percival Stevens. It is not at first easy to decide whether he is a fool or a knave, but Mr. Stevens put his evil nature plainly enough before the audience, and quite forfeited their esteem thereby. A laughable impersonation of a feather-brained fop, with whom one would gladly have had a longer acquaintance was supplied by Mr. R. Henderson Bland, the mincing manners of Richard Percival, William's brother, being cleverly assumed. Mr. James Starkey as Savage, a Bow-street runner, was as fierce as his name and profession implied; and the stalwart footman and valet to le Grand were drolly played by Mr. A. J. May and Mr. W. A. Haines, the latter of whom should be warned against allowing his French accent to injure the distinctness of his delivery. The piece was elaborately dressed and staged, and innumerable curtains throughout the evening proclaimed its success.

The Adventurer was preceded by a drama, in one act, founded by Mr. F. Kinsey Peile, on *La Femme de Tabarin* of Catulle Mendès, and originally produced at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, on Aug. 2, entitled

"THE MUMMER'S WIFE."

Raymond	MR. JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
Theodor	MR. L. RACE DUNROBIN
Quelch	MR. W. A. HAINES
Lord Delaporte	MR. R. HENDERSON BLAND
Captain Hugh Tollemache	MR. GOODWIN NOCK
John	MR. A. J. MAY
Sarah	MISS MARION STERLING
Lady Delaporte	MISS NAOMI NEILSON
Lady Kitty Trevor	MISS NORAH CATTLEY
Bianca	MISS PHYLLIS RELPH

A tragedy of a startling kind is represented in this little play, the scene of which is laid in the barn-storming days. It relates the story of a strolling player, who, suspecting his wife of infidelity because she has given food and shelter to a former member of his company, accuses her in front of the assembled audience, telling them that they shall see some rare acting. The wife's protests are taken as a sample of realistic playing until the enraged husband at length draws the curtains, and attempts to kill the young man; but the sword pierces the breast of his wife, who falls mortally wounded. A member of the audience steps forward to offer a bouquet in token of admiration, and finds that the blood is real, and the husband, seized with remorse at the outcome of his rash act, bids the spectators depart. Mr. Robertshaw gave a striking exposition of the passion and hatred of the jealous husband, the wild fury and ungovernable rage of the part being finely expressed. Miss Phyllis Relph made the rôle of the gentle and terror-stricken wife very impressive; and Mr. L. Race Dunrobin as the supposed lover, and Mr. W. A. Haines as the vindictive member of the troupe, were also commendable. Loud applause was given at the end, the curtain having to be raised several times.

MR. H. B. IRVING AND THE A.A.

A meeting of members and friends of the Actors' Association was held on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Grey-street, Newcastle, on Thursday, the chair being occupied by Mr. H. B. Irving.

The Chairman said it was a great pleasure to him to do anything he could to further the interests of the Actors' Association, and he was very glad indeed to see that that scheme which had been formed for having meetings in the provinces had made some sort of real start. As they well knew, the Actors' Association had been in existence for some considerable time. It had weathered a good many storms, and it had managed—which had not been the case with all associations of the kind—to keep its head above water, and to fix itself as the representative body of their profession. ("Hear, hear.") There was no doubt whatever about that. The Actors' Association was a body which was publicly recognised as representing their profession. It was recognised at the time of the King's coronation by an invitation being sent to the president of the association to attend the coronation. He thought that that was a remarkable tribute to the impression which the association had managed to make. But it had been a very uphill game, and only those acquainted at all with the work of the association could tell how difficult it had been at times to make the association prosperous, and indeed to make it a self-supporting concern. ("Hear, hear.") The association had done a great deal of good. Things secured through it had been of unquestionable benefit. He need not enumerate all those things. He had, however, seen how useful, among other things, the association had been in taking up litigation. Except for the association they were quite a defenceless class. They had nobody really except the association to represent them. If the occasion should arise when some serious question came up involving the rights of actors and actresses, it would be to the association that they must look for assistance. While the association had done a great deal of good in the past, there was a great deal more that it ought to do, but which it would never be able to do unless greater support were given to it by the body of the profession than it received at present. The number of members of the association, as compared with the number of actors and actresses in this country, was unfortunately small. The wish of those who were interested in its welfare was that it should receive more general support than it received at present. (Applause.) In supporting the association they had the satisfaction of supporting something which they knew had done good to other people, if not to themselves. The association had never shown itself hostile to criticism, or been unwilling to seriously consider any reform or proposal coming from its own members. He would most earnestly ask people not to stand outside criticising, but to come inside and do their best to make the association more effective and powerful than it was at present.

Mr. Irving concluded by expressing the hope that those provincial meetings would be productive of good to the association, and that the energies of a lady like Miss Hamilton would be rewarded by an increased membership, which was really what was wanted.

Miss Georgina Hamilton, who is playing at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle, this week, and is a member of the Commissioners' Committee of the Actors' Association, also spoke. At present, she said, the funds of the association would not permit of a provincial centre being established.

Four new members were enrolled during the meeting.

The Chairman mentioned that the association had undertaken the organisation of Actors' Day. Such a scheme should benefit their charities to a very large extent, and make them practically independent of outside help. Mr. Irving moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Robert Arthur for the use of the theatre, which was seconded and heartily carried.

A similar vote was passed to the Chairman, who in reply said they had every reason to be gratified with the result of their meeting.

MR. ALBANY WARD, the popular lessee of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, took his sixth annual benefit on Wednesday and Thursday, when a large audience assembled. Mr. H. S. Dacre's company played *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Mr. Edward Ottley being the Robert Brierly, and other parts were sustained by Mr. Ernest Percy, Mr. Percy Twyman, Mr. Henry S. Dacre, Mr. F. Castlemain, Miss Sophy Shenton, Miss F. Gillette, and Miss Lelegarde Atheling. At the end of the play speeches were made expressive of sympathy with Mr. Ward in his litigation with the local magistrates, and the residents of East Oxford were urged to strive their utmost to support the manager in his appeal. Mr. Ward briefly thanked one and all for their kind sympathy and support. Miss Grace Geraldine afterwards gave a monologue, entitled *A Lancashire Girl's Visit to Oxford*, and also appeared with Mr. Harry Percival Riley in a trifle, entitled *Convict 45*; the Office scene from *Still Waters Run Deep* was played by Messrs. H. P. Riley, Edward Ottley, and E. A. Clinch; and Miss Hope Tempest, Miss Madeline Comyns, Miss Nellie Pratt, Miss Lily Beechey, Miss Lily Howard, Mr. F. Masters, Mr. F. Pollard, Mr. George Jennings, and Mr. O. Dare also contributed items to the extensive programme.

THE inauguration of the new route to Ireland viâ Fishguard and Rosslare, by which journeys to the sister isle will be greatly expedited, is to take place on Aug. 30.

"ALASKA."

Drama, in Four Acts, adapted by Mr. Albert Rogers from the American Version of W. L. Lockwood, and Produced, for the First Time in England, at the Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, on Monday, Aug. 6.

Shookum Jim	MR. HILLIARD VOX
Ned Larson	MR. C. D. PITT
Baptiste	MR. H. GRIMSON
Pompey Cæsar	MR. ALBERT ROGERS
Father Bernard	MR. BEVAN PENTON
Malumite Kid	MR. JOHN FORD
Le Harding	MR. J. HOWARTH
Feathers	MR. E. BROOKES
Pete	MR. S. LYNCH
Topsy Samarintha	MISS E. CLARKE
Widow Casey	MISS LESLIE WYNNE
The Widow's Mite	LITTLE BABY ROSIE
Jess Dalton	MISS ETHEL RAINFORTH
Alaska	MISS G. HASTINGS WALTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Alaska; or, Life in the Frozen North has been successfully produced in America, several companies at present touring with the piece, and, on its first English production, the play was accorded a good reception. The scene of the piece is laid in Alaska, a gold-mining town of North America, where a man named Dalton has made a discovery of gold in the mouth of a volcano worshipped by Indians as their Fire God. Not being able to establish his claim, Dalton left a map locating his find in the care of Father Bernard. The first act opens in a log cabin on the Island of Akutan. The villain of the play, Ned Larson, with the aid of a half-caste Indian, plots to secure this map, and, while the other members of the camp are away, he murders the priest with a knife belonging to the hero. On discovery of the murder, this knife is found clasped in the dead man's hand, along with a scrap of yellow hair. Ned Larson thinks the only witness of his deed was a little girl, whom his Indian accomplice frightens into silence. In this, however, he is mistaken, as Alaska, the daughter of the chief of a tribe of Indians in the vicinity, witnesses the murder. Meanwhile, Shookum Jim, described as the "truest man in Alaska," is charged with the crime, and, not being able to establish his innocence, has to take to the woods, but on Christmas Eve comes into the camp in the guise of Santa Claus to see his dead sister's child. Alaska, who loves Shookum Jim, warns him that her people intend to massacre the whites. This massacre is caused by Ned Larson, who had sent to the father of Alaska in the name of Jim some medicine which turned out to be poison. Alaska's father dies, and over his dead body she swears to avenge the crime; but when the opportune moment comes, and she has the chance of stabbing the hero, love prevails, and she finds she cannot commit the deed. On receiving the warning from Alaska, lots are drawn as to who shall take a boat and endeavour to get assistance from a gun-boat cruising some miles away. This duty falls upon Ned Larson, but he proves himself a coward, as well as a villain, by refusing to go, and, to make matters sure, he sinks the craft. Jess Dalton, Shookum Jim's sweetheart, then bethinks herself of a carrier pigeon given her by one of the officers of the gun-boat, and they entrust a message to the bird, stating their plight, and asking for assistance. The pigeon is despatched with the blessing of the priest, but has not soared very far before it is shot at by the half-caste, who is in hiding. The shot fails to kill the bird, and the sailors arrive just in time to relieve the camp; but in the confusion the half-caste escapes with Jess Dalton, carrying her to a deserted hut high up the volcano. Alaska discovers the trail, and rescues Jess; but Shookum Jim, in searching for the girl, comes across the same cabin, and is overpowered by Ned Larson and his accomplice. They bind him to a post, and, placing a charge of dynamite close to his feet, attach a lighted fuse, which burns slowly towards him; but he is eventually rescued by a nigger, named Pompey Cæsar. In Act 3 there is a great volcano scene, with a fight to the death right over the mouth of the crater. Ned Larson proves to be the man who has ruined the sister of the hero, who has vowed to kill her betrayer. Although given the chance of a fair fight, Larson suddenly fires with the intention of killing Shookum Jim, but Alaska, springing forward, receives the bullet in her breast, and expires after having fastened the guilt of the priest's murder upon the villainous Larson.

The drama is full of action and interest, and situations of striking sensation are numerous. The humorous element is provided by the adapter, Mr. Albert Rogers, who is an excellent artist, but should give his abilities greater scope. Mr. C. D. Pitt gives a capital exposition of the villain, deceit and cunning being displayed in all his actions. Miss G. Hastings Walton is a promising young actress, and plays the rôle of the faithful Indian girl excellently. Jess Dalton, as enacted by Miss Ethel Rainforth, is a charming and lovable character. Mr. Hilliard Vox, an experienced actor, takes the part of the hero, and his acting leaves nothing to be desired. The other members included in the cast performed their duties with great credit. The company is under the able acting-management of Mr. G. W. Tripp.

NATIONAL ENGLISH OPERA UNION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In reference to my previous letter, the replies I have received have been so numerous that it has encouraged me at once to take further steps in the matter. Will you allow me to state, through your columns, that I am now willing to receive the names and addresses of those who are ready to become members of the National English Opera Union under the conditions stated in my previous letter? I shall be glad to receive the names and addresses as soon as possible at this theatre as an expression of their definite intention to support the scheme, the objects of which are:—

(1) To promote in every possible way the love of English opera by the utmost endeavour of the Society as a whole, and by the exertions of its individual members.
(2) Subject to the approval of the majority of the members, the Council of the Society shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, secretary, and executive committee, who will be elected by ballot from time to time.
(3) When the membership has reached, say, 10,000, a general meeting of the Society will be held to consider the election of the above.
(4) In the meantime there will be no expense or subscription of any kind, as, until otherwise obtained by a duly appointed committee, all expense will be borne by the Moody-Manners Opera Company.
(5) Until the Council shall decide as to the wishes of the members in the matter, Mr. Manners will gladly place an office at the disposal of the Society at the Moody-Manners Stores, The Hyde, Hendon, London, N.W., where all communications may be addressed *pro tem.*
(6) On no account must the powers of this Union be at any time used to advance the cause of any private enterprise in opera.
(7) Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Charles Manners will be at all times most willing to give their services to in any way advance the cause of the Union, if so desired by the Council.
(8) It is, of course, understood that these suggestions are merely tentative, and are subject to alteration and modification.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES MANNERS.
Lyric Theatre, W., August 15.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Paul Clifford, Victoria, July 2, 1870.
Paul et Virginie, Covent Garden, June 1, 1878.
Pauline, Lyceum, Nov. 22, 1876.
Pauline Blanchard, Opera House, June 16, 1892.
Pauline Paulovna, Westminster, Feb. 4, 1896.
Paul Jones, Theatre Royal, Bolton, Dec. 10, 1888.
Paul Kauvar, Drury Lane, May 12, 1890.
Paul Lafarge, Princess's, March 7, 1870.
Paul Lazaro, Drury Lane, Jan. 9, 1854.
Paul o' the Alps, Theatre Royal, Colchester, April 15, 1898.
Paul Pry Married and Settled, Haymarket, Oct. 3, 1861.
Paul's Return, Princess's, Feb. 15, 1864.
Paul Zegers, Alfred, Nov. 13, 1871.
Pauper of Lambeth, Victoria, April 21, 1851.
Paved with Gold, City of London, May 16, 1868.
Paw Clawdian, Toole's, Feb. 14, 1884.
Pay to the Bearer a Kiss, Haymarket, July 16, 1868.
Peace and Quiet, Strand, July 1, 1861.
Peaceful War, Prince of Wales's, May 24, 1887.
Peacemaker, Ipswich, Sept. 30, 1887.
Peacock's Holiday, Court, April 16, 1874.
Pearl Among Women, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, March 11, 1870.
Pearl Darrell, Sefton, Liverpool, Sept. 17, 1883.
Pearl of Paris, Albert, Portsmouth, Dec. 18, 1872.
Peck's Bad Boy, Britannia, June 1, 1891.
Pecksniff, Folly, Oct. 23, 1876.
Peculiar Case, St. Leonards, Dec. 2, 1884.
Peculiar Proposals, Gaiety, Dublin, March 9, 1876.
Pedigree, Toole's, March 28, 1890.
Pedlar Boy, The, Standard, Jan. 27, 1862.
Pedlar, The, Theatre Royal, Lowestoft, Dec. 30, 1889.
Pebbles, Gaiety, Glasgow, Aug. 14, 1882.
Peep o' Day, Lyceum, Nov. 9, 1861.
Peep Show Man, Surrey, Feb. 10, 1868.
Peer and Peasant, Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, April , 1884.
Peer of the Realm, Theatre Royal, Bolton, June 4, 1890.
Peer or Pauper, Olympic, Sept. 21, 1885.
Peggy, Royalty, Feb. 14, 1881.
Peggy's Little Game, New, Greenwich, May 18, 1868.
Peggy's Plot, St. George's Hall, Dec. 20, 1894.
Peg the Rake, Bayswater, Oct. 25, 1897.
Pelleas et Melisande, Opéra Comique, March 26, 1895.
Penal Code, Gaiety, Dublin, Feb. 11, 1878.
Penal Law, Britannia, March 24, 1879.
Penal Servitude, Prince of Wales's, Salford, Nov. 29, 1883.
Penalty of Crime, Devonport, Nov. 2, 1896.
Penalty, The, Terry's, Dec. 2, 1890.
Pendaroon, Alexandra, Liverpool, March 2, 1874.
Penelope, Comedy, May 9, 1889.
Penny Hedge, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Oct. 29, 1883.
Pentlands, The, Theatre Royal, Wakefield, April 23, 1872.
People's Hero, Glasgow, Feb. 20, 1889.
People's Idol, Olympic, Dec. 4, 1890.
People's William, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, May 12, 1884.
Pepa, Royalty, April 1, 1889.
Pepita, Court, Liverpool, Dec. 30, 1886.
Pepper's Diary, Royalty, Oct. 6, 1890.
Percy, Globe, April 29, 1877.
Perdita the Royal Milkmaid, Lyceum, Sept. 15, 1856.
Perfect Cure, Opera House, Cheltenham, Aug. 1, 1898.
Perfect Love, Olympic, Feb. 25, 1871.
Perfect Treasure, Theatre Royal, Darlington, Jan. 26, 1900.
Perfidy, Theatre Royal, Bolton, Nov. 10, 1887.
Perichon, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, June 19, 1882.
Peril, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 30, 1876.
Perilous Pass, Britannia, Aug. 11, 1862.
Perilous Picnic, Theatre Royal, Dundee, June 16, 1879.
Perils of Crinoline, Strand, Jan. 9, 1857.
Perils of Life, Hartlepool, Sept. 11, 1899.
Perils of Paris, Hammersmith, Sept. 20, 1897.
Perla; or, The Court Bell(e), Britannia, Nov. 1, 1875.
Perola, Theatre Royal, Rotherham, March 19, 1883.
Per Parcel's Post, Prince's, Accrington, Nov. 26, 1883.
Persecution of the Jews in Palermo, International, Jan. 22, 1884.
Persecution of the Jews in Portugal, Novelty, April 1, 1896.
Peruvian, Opéra Comique, Nov. 12, 1891.
Peruvians, The, Bayswater, May 7, 1895.
Pet Dove, Crystal Palace, Sept. 20, 1870.
Peterkin, Royalty, Sept. 4, 1893.
Peter the Great, Lyceum, Jan. 1, 1898.
Peter the Shipwright, Gaiety, April 15, 1871.
Pet Lamb, Strand, Sept. 10, 1860.
Pet of Newmarket, Sadler's Wells, Nov. 12, 1881.
Petrovna, Theatre Royal, Colchester, April 6, 1885.
Pets, St. George's Hall, May 31, 1889.
Pets of the Parterre, Lyceum, Nov. 5, 1860.
Petticoat Perfidy, Court, May 21, 1885.
Phadrig the Bocaun, Kilkenny, May 7, 1879.
Phantom Captain, Grecian, Sept. 28, 1864.
Phantoms, Surrey, Oct. 1, 1894.
Phantom, The, Adelphi, Liverpool, Oct. 22, 1888.
Pharaoh, Grand, Leeds, Sept. 29, 1892.
Pharisees, Theatre Royal, Llanelly, Dec. 8, 1884.
Pharisee, The, Shaftesbury, Nov. 17, 1890.
Phedre, Princess's, April 16, 1888.
Philanthropy, Princess's, Sept. 3, 1888.
Philemon and Baucis, Covent Garden, Oct. 24, 1891.
Philip, Lyceum, Feb. 7, 1874.
Phillis Mayburn, Britannia, July 28, 1873.
Philomel, Globe, Feb. 10, 1870.
Phil's Folly, Royalty, April 30, 1877.
Phobus's Fix, Drury Lane, Feb. 28, 1870.
Phonograph, The, Walsall, Nov. 20, 1889.
Phunnygraph, Folkestone, May 28, 1894.
Phyllis, Globe, July 1, 1889.
Physician's Wife, Grecian, Oct. 4, 1858.
Physician, The, Criterion, March 25, 1897.
Piccadillettante, Ladbroke Hall, April 24, 1900.
Piccolino, Gaiety, Dublin, Jan. 4, 1879.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The staff of the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle, enjoyed their annual outing on Sunday, when a party numbering about 80 journeyed by brake from the theatre doors to Mitford. Among those who took part in the outing were Mr. W. H. Boardman (manager), Mr. Mark Abrahams, Mr. Watson, Mr. H. Vineberg, Mr. C. Campbell, Mr. J. Brewis, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sutcliffe, and others. Following a sumptuous dinner at Mitford Plough Hotel sports were indulged in, and tea having been partaken of the company returned to Newcastle, arriving in the city about half-past nine.

The staff of the Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham, went on their annual outing to Worcester and Holte Fleet last Sunday. The party numbered fifty, and a most enjoyable day was spent. At the dinner the usual compliments were passed, and Mr. Frank Whittles, the popular acting-manager of the establishment, was presented with a gold ring and a gold albert.

The annual outing of the staff of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, took place on Sunday last, when about 34 members in charge of the manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson, journeyed by train to Morecambe. They put up at the Clarendon Hotel, where they dined. It had been the intention of Mr. Dreschfeld, the managing director, to have been with them, but he had to forego that pleasure, and in a letter apologising for his absence, he expressed his great satisfaction at the work the staff had done, and particularly thanked the manager and secretary for the no inconsiderable share in the marked improvement which had lately taken place in the theatre. After a pleasant drive the party returned to the Clarendon Hotel and had tea. They arrived back in Manchester about 8.30 p.m., all agreeing that they had had a very enjoyable outing.

BAWN'S AGENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

Sir,—I have seen in a contemporary a statement to the effect that Messrs. Bawn's Agency has been taken over by Messrs. Macdermott and Sheldon. This is incorrect. I shall be glad if you will kindly contradict same. Bawn's Agency has been transferred to new offices at the Empire, Camberwell, and is run by Messrs. Jesse Sparrow, and, yours faithfully,

HENRY BAWN.

The Chelsea Palace, Aug. 16.

Margaret Cook, who last week was charged at the West London police-court with wandering abroad without visible means of subsistence in Hartesmere-road, Fulham, came up again before Mr. Lane, K.C., on Thursday. She was now dressed in a neat grey costume and black hat. Last week she said she had sung with Harry Liston. On this occasion she handed up a long-written statement to the magistrate, which he promised to read at his leisure. She said she was the widow of a circus proprietor, and had acted as inquiry agent of the Charity Organisation Society. Mr. Lane remanded the case again for further inquiries.

The results of the applications of Mr. Mack, of Mack's Pierrot Troupe, to the Tamworth Borough magistrates for a music licence for the Castle al fresco grounds were rather unique. On the first occasion he was granted a temporary licence for a fortnight, but when he applied for its renewal for the season there was a larger number of justices on the bench, and by a majority it was refused, as they were not in favour of Sunday concerts. Subsequently he made arrangements with the Corporation, who are the owners of the Castle, to which a music licence is attached.

During a few weeks' closure, the Palace, Sheerness, has been thoroughly overhauled, repainted, and decorated, and on Monday, the reopening night, presented a very bright and cheerful appearance. The hall was well filled, and a successful season seems to be in prospect for Mr. Phil Reymond.

Miss Millie Henderson, who made such a success as principal boy at Brighton last Christmas, has been specially engaged for the London halls, for the boy's part in the military sketch *Balaclava*, in which she will display her remarkable swordsmanship. Miss Henderson received her first lessons in this art from her father, Mr. John Henderson, during the production of one of his spectacles at Manhattan Beach, and she carries to this day cuts and scars as mementos of her first lessons.

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco have been meeting with their usual success at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, during the week. Servais Le Roy is sparing neither expense nor trouble in the preparation of his mystical play, in which many novelties will be introduced.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*His Excellency the Governor*, preceded by *A Waste of Time*, is represented here by a clever array of artistes constituting themselves the Golfing Company. Sir Montague Martin is represented in an exceedingly clever manner by Mr. Malcolm Cherry; Mr. H. J. Williams makes the most of the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P.; Mr. H. Marsh Allen shines as Captain Charles Carew; and Mr. Lionel Mackinder makes a droll impression as Baverstock; Messrs. C. Brown and A. Willoughby figure successfully as Captain Rivers and Major Kildare respectively. Miss Jean Aylwin enacts the part of Stella De Gex with much ability; Miss Valerie Salberg appears successfully in the rôle of Ethel Carlton; and Miss Isabel Grey acts in a properly impressive manner as Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. Edward Terry is once more offering his attractions, which remain undiminished in their popularity. *Liberty Hall*, which was done for Monday and Thursday evenings, has lost not one whit of its charm, while Mr. Terry's performance as William Todman is finished and sympathetic, and he has added to his répertoire another very human character impersonation. Miss Fyfie Alexander presents a perfectly satisfactory rendering of the part of Blanche Chilworth; Miss F. Glossop Harris submits a highly creditable presentment of the sister Amy; Mr. Allan Pollock gives a manly exposition of the masquerading Mr. Owen; Mr. William Dexter acts the difficult part of Briginshaw in a most capable way, and Mr. E. W. Thomas as Pedrick; Mr. Frank Collier, jun., as the Hon. Gerald Harringay; Miss Eugenie Vernie as Crager; and Master Earle as Binks, do well. *The Magistrate* and *Sweet Lavender* have also been given with much success.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—*A Warning to Women* is presented here by a capable company, led by Mr. C. Watson Mill, who continues to fascinate with his powerful study of Dr. Dread. Miss Rosalind Tate is meeting with many new admirers in her pathetic picture of the heroine Moira; Mr. Henry Alding acts with sincerity as the wandering minstrel, Shaun; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle is admired for his robust and manly bearing as the young squire, Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Henry Rutland carries himself with dignity as Squire Kennion; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter affords much diversion as Lord Eversleigh; Miss Emmie Barton acts in a sympathetic style as Sheila Kennion; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy as that broth of a boy Mike McZuade is highly popular; and Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Marie Moore, Mr. Norman B. Cannon, and others afford much support to the production.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*Napoleon the Great* figures very successfully here with Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery in the title-rôle is all that the character should be, scoring indubitably; Mr. Henry Earlesmere gives powerful emphasis to the villain's rôle, Colonel Lavarennes; Mr. Phil Harper evokes hearty cheers by his convincing exposition of the rôle of Colonel Jules Meuron; and Mr. Bartlett Garth as Paul Laczinska, and Mr. G. Acton Dix as Monsieur Fonchè figure prominently. Miss Leslie Warner gives a dramatic realisation of the rôle of Marie Walewska; Miss Maud Russell meets with favour as Mademoiselle Leonie Marboeu; and the humour of the play is sustained in a most efficient manner by Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Pierre Pomponnet, Mr. Albert Sinclair as Sergeant Choupin, Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle, and Miss Florence Thorne as Mère Dumont.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The cinematograph reigns here, depicting, amongst other highly interesting events; the Britt-Nelson fight for the championship of the world. This is followed with intense interest, and furthermore, there are illustrated slide-songs, the Frisco Girls, Frank Coyle, and Thid Gwynn appearing among the attractive items.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Woman who Gambles* holds the stage here with Mr. Morton Powell's company. Miss Gertrude Hunt sustains the titular-rôle, Countess Natalie Steinbach, and scores a palpable hit. Miss Florence Halton depicts the more gentle character of Cora Gouldhart in a sympathetic manner; Miss Rhoda Clighton acts the part of Stella Melakoff with powerful effect; Mr. Horatio Sinclair puts much energy into the rôle of Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. James Duncan as Count Otto Steinbach delivers his lines with distinctness; Mr. Reginald Fox as the self-sacrificing Lieutenant Karl Ctzarteryski gains much sympathy, and Mr. Ernest H. Clarke is good as M. Stambuloff.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The programme this week is headed by Henri Cot, the French giant, whose height is 8ft. 7in., and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, who is only 1ft. 11¼ins. Another novel turn is Grais' Baboons, with a tight-rope exhibition. Will Bishop and company present the sketch, *My Gollywog*; the Classicum Quartette have an effective venetian love scena, and Frank Seeley is loudly applauded for his comic songs. Frank Deeley, Mabel Bardine and company in a dramatic sketch, *Nell of the Halls*, Rachel Lowe, and the Two Madges, the Howard Bros., and Alf. Holt are other attractions.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell. — Charlene and Charlene are delighting large houses in their refined drawing-room entertainment; Harry Anderson is popular in his songs; the Spanish Moor Zaid presents a remarkable acrobatic act; the Twin Andersons sing and dance themselves into favour; the Sisters Moyan, Winnie Derson, the Marconis, Haig and Novel, and Cribb and Cribb are other popular turns.

Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—*The King of Sahara*, a musical production, played by Joe Peterman and company, is a big attraction here; De Biere is more mysterious than ever; Rose Harvey is well encored for her songs; Emma Don successfully presents her black and white comedy quartette; and Fouretti and Eli. Hayman and Franklin, and Robb Gilmore add to to the success.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—A return visit of Cruikshank is responsible for large audiences. His witty and merry humour keeps his audience in one continual roar of laughter. Ross and Grayson in their sketch, *The Professor and His Pupil*, take well; the Ten Genis, Alice Blanford, and the Three Sisters Sprightly are loudly applauded; Hector Grant is a quaint Scotch comedian, and the Durant Bros. and the Bioscope complete the bill.

Curzon Hall.—Manager, Mr. Waller Jeffs.—The New Century Pictures are attracting crowded audiences. Operatic selections from *The Bohemian Girl* are rendered by the Regal Quartette—Messrs. Edward Wynn and Albert German, and Mesdames Adele Prescott and Marie Burnett.

CRICKET.

Little Michus Co. v. Mr. Howard's XI.

Played at Harrogate on 10th August. The match ended in a draw, rain stopping play. Scores :—

Little Michus Co.—Scholes, 1; Gervase, 0; Idle, 64; Leyland (prof.), 29; Simpson, 8; Standing, 1; Harcourt, 3; Carter, 4; Sancter, 12; Patrick, 2; Haywood (not out), 8; extras, 18; total, 150. Mr. Howard's XI.—Howard, 6; Mutrie (not out), 44; Chippendale, 3; Idle (not out), 24; extras, 23; total (for 2 wkts.), 100.

Lyceum and Royal, Sheffield, v. "The Eternal City" and "In Sight of St. Paul's" Companies.

Played at Sheaf House, Sheffield, Thursday, Aug. 16. Scores :—

Lyceum and Royal.—W. Bingley, st Dapier, b Rodgers, 1; A. Denman, b Rodgers, 4; F. Elston, st Dapier, b Sydney, 0; J. E. B. Beaumont, b Rodgers, 4; J. Chapman, b Rodgers, 1; C. Beal, c Dapier, b Rodgers, 0; A. W. Turpin, b Rodgers, 4; J. Nicholson, not out, 0; J. Wilson, b Rodgers, 0; J. Taylor, c Rodgers, b Sydney, 2; W. Robins, b Rodgers, 0; extras, 6; total, 22.

United Companies.—Rodgers, b Beaumont, 10; Dapier, lbw, b Beaumont, 18; Hales, b Chapman, 1; Anworth, b Chapman, 4; Valentine, b Chapman, 14; Garland, b Chapman, 5; Hardington lbw, b Turpin, 8; Sydney, b Turpin, 0; Beattie, st Taylor, b Chapman, 0; Allan, b Turner, 4; Murday, not out, 0; extras, 1; total, 65.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Amount already acknowledged..	£418	1	7
Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Pinero	5	5	0
One of the Public	2	2	0
H. W. Rowland	1	1	0
Daley Cooper	1	1	0
Leslie Stuart	1	1	0
C. Harrington	0	10	6
Huddersfield Club	0	10	0
Ethel Miller	0	5	0
James Durkan	0	1	0
Annie Saker	0	7	6
Maud Nugent	0	7	6
Nina Sevening	1	0	0
Mrs. Gay	0	10	0
Mr. W.	0	1	0
Mr. S.	0	1	0
Emily Levetterz	1	1	0
Collected by Miss Rose Murray	4	4	0
Total	437	10	1

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It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Mr. W. Watson, who is travelling in China with Spampani's European Circus, sends the following interesting particulars of the experience of a circus in the Flowery Land :—"We are now in Peking, playing to packed houses, this being the only circus here for over two years. Last week we were invited to the Summer Palace, and played before the Emperor and Empress of China. During the whole of the performance the Emperor and Empress and other members of the Royal family sat behind muslin screens so that we could not see them, but they could see the performance. It was a very strange experience. We have now been away from England nearly two years, and on the whole we have made good success, but most of the shows that come out to the East make a great mistake in not finding out the best time of the year to visit certain towns—as, for instance, in the rainy season in India and elsewhere it is not worth while showing. All our company are in good health and spirits."

During the performance at Tientsin recently, one of the lions, known as Prince, the most active and menacing of the five beasts, got out of its cage. The animal jumped on to the back of one of the elephants, which seized the lion bodily with its trunk and dashed it to the ground. Mr. Watson, who was dressing to go into the ring, rushed out of the dressing-room with a stilt in his hand and courageously beat off the lion. Mr. Schaad the lion-tamer, hearing the tumult, ran up at once to the lion, calling it by name, and the lion followed him as far as the public refreshment bar, crouching down peacefully for some minutes. Suddenly some inquisitive Chinese burst open the door. The lion sprang off the counter and dashed off to the menagerie, and on to the back of a pony, where it was subsequently shot. The loss of this valuable lion is stated to be £300.

The interesting fête in aid of the Crewe Cottage Hospital had for its shows, etc., P. Collins, No. 1, Cinématograph Theatre and two high-class machines by the same proprietor, Wright's fine art gallery, Day's novelty booth, Smith's big boats, Furness's photo saloon. Rifle and gun tubes by Wright, Dobson, and Ford, and varieties by Cordwell, Wright, and others.

John Whiting and the crowd of entertainers under his banner are now at Hightown after successful business at Poston.

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 20.

An Actor's Romance.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
As Midnight Chimes.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Accrington.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Windsor.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Darlington.
Bulmer, Mr.—Grand T. Newcastle.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Dublin.
Charley's Aunt.—Opera House, Perth.
Chinese Honeymoon.—Newton Abbott.
Christian, The.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Cingalee (S.).—Eastbourne and Buxton.
Claudian.—O. H., Leicester.
Coal King.—Broadway Theatre, Deptford.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Convict's Daughter.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Country Girl.—Lytham and Whitehaven.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
Days of Cromwell.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Driven from Home.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Southampton.
Earl and the Girl (No. 1).—Blackpool.
Earl and the Girl (No. 2).—Lowestoft.
Earl and the Girl (No. 3).—Morecambe.
Eternal City (Howard).—Grand Theatre, Hull.
Executioner's Daughter.—Chesterfield.
Face at the Window.—Aberdare.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Spa T., Scarboro'.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Faust Up-to-date.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Female Swindler.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Florodora (Howard) (N.)—T. R., Birkenhead.
Florodora (M.).—T. R., Ryde.
Florodora (S.).—Borough T., Stratford.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
French Spy.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Gay Parisienne.—Chatham.
Geisha, The.—Bournemouth.
Girl on the Stage.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Golden Ladder.—O. H., Northampton.
Great Awakening.—Llandudno.
Great Wilderness.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Held in Bondage.—Star T., Swansea.
Her Luck in London.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Her One Great Sin.—County T., Reading.
His House in Order (N.).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
His House in Order (S).—Herne Bay; Buxton.
Honour Thy Father.—Lyceum T., Pembre.
I Defy the World.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Indian Mutiny.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Kitty Grey.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Egremont and Ulverston.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Yarmouth and Hastings.
La Poupee (Levilly).—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Lights o' London.—T. R., Peterborough.
Lion and the Mouse.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
Little Breadwinner.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
Little Michus (Edwardes').—Kennington T., S.E.
Little Michus (S.).—Douglas.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Love that Women Desire.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Luck of Life.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
Lucky Durham.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Man and Wife.—T. R., Stratford.
Man's Enemy.—Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.
Manxman.—Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
Marriage of Kitty.—Barrow-in-Furness.
Midnight Mail.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Midnight Wedding.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Monte Cristo.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Moody Manners.—Lyric Theatre, W.
Mr. Hopkinson.—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
Mr. Popple.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Harrogate and Scarboro'.
Napoleon the Great.—West London Theatre.
New Clown.—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Norman v. Norman.—Norwich.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Grand T., Fulham.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—Birmingham.
Orchid (S.).—Hastings and Eastbourne.
Otto the Outcast.—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Power of Gold.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Price of Her Soul.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss's).—T. R., Middlesboro'.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Worcester.
Proof.—Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.
Queen of Villainy.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Revenge.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Royal Divorce.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Shadow of Crime.—Seaham Harbour.
Sherlock Holmes.—T. R., Blackburn.
Sign of the Cross.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Silver King (N.).—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Silver King (S.).—Prince's T., Poplar, E.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Leicester.
Sins of a City.—O. H., Doncaster.
Spider and the Fly.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Spring Chicken (S.).—O. H., Southport.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Temptress, The.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
Terry, Edward.—Bridlington and Whitley.
Three Little Maids (N.)—York and Wakefield.
Three Little Maids (S).—Aberystwith and Carnarvon.
Throne of Terror.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Toreador.—Southend.
Traitor Prince.—Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.
Traitor, The.—P. O. W., Salford.
Trip to the Highlands.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Trumpet Call.—Junction T., Manchester.
Two Hussars.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—PalaceT., Newcastle.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Grand, Croydon.
Under the Russian Flag.—Prince's T., Preston.
Under Two Flags.—Palace P., Brighton.
Unwedded Wife.—King's T., Cardiff.
Veronique (N.).—Blackpool.
Veronique (S.).—Folkestone and Lowestoft.
Village Blacksmith.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Londesboro' T., Scarboro.
Walls of Jericho (S).—T. R., Brighton.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Grand T., Edinburgh.
Warning to Women.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
Way of the World.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Wearin o' the Green.—New Gaiety T., Leith.
What the Butler Saw.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
When London Sleeps.—Grand T., Nottingham
When Woman Hates.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon.)—Coronet T., W.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Chester.
Wilkie Allan.—O. H., Workington.
Woulfe Repertoire (A.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
Woulfe Repertoire (B.).—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
Worst Woman in London.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Wrecker of Men.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Youngest of Three.—Aberystwyth.
£1000 Reward.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
10.30 Down Express.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.

Mr. Bransby Williams is this week resting with his family at his house at Selsey, on the Sussex coast. On the 28th he will sail with his wife on the s.s. Caronia from Liverpool for New York, where he is engaged to star in Dickens characters at a wonderful salary. The popular young actor has received offers to stay in the empire city for a year, but is returning in time to play a principal part in the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, pantomime. He has other offers under consideration—one of them being to star as leading actor in London—but his plans for next autumn are uncertain. Mr. Bransby Williams is naturally proud of the distinction of heading the poll in the election of the Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation.

Dr. Walford Bodie, the well known exponent of bloodless surgery, will open on Monday in London for a long season. Commencing at the Empire, Stratford, he will there present some new and startling experiments in electricity. Since he won his great victory at the Leeds Assizes he has been inundated with offers from all parts of the country and America. Mr. Macnaghten, ever up to date, has secured him for two weeks at Leeds.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

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Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Address,
The PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. E. P.—Henry the Fifth *was revived at the Lyceum, Dec. 22, 1900, by Messrs. Lewis Waller and William Mollison.*

J. P.—*The play has been translated into English, and was recently produced in America.*

Amateur.—*French's "Guide to Selecting Plays" gives all the particulars you want.*

G. R. B.—Nelson's Enchantress *was produced at the Avenue, Feb. 11, 1897. Mr. Forbes Robertson and Mrs. Patrick Campbell played the two principal parts.*

J. E. Ellis.—*The Alexandra Palace was destroyed by fire on June 9, 1873.*

S. S.—The County Fair *was first produced in London at the Brixton Theatre, April 12, 1897. It went to the Princess's on June 5, 1898. The original cast included Messrs. Neil Burgess, Bartley McCullum, Cecil Elgar, Ridgeway Barrie, and Laurence Cautley, and Misses Ray Scott, May Taylor, and Emma Pollock.*

E. T.—*Mr. Tree owns all the stage rights appertaining to any dramatisation of* Trilby.

"Cat's Castle."—Ans. *writes: Having observed the correspondence on the subject of the production of a pantomime called* Cat's Castle; or, Harlequin and the King of the Rats, *Mr. H. Spencer, of Bath-street, Glasgow, was kind enough to inform me that this pantomime was written by Mr. Buckstone, and was introduced to the public at the Adelphi Theatre, London, during the Christmas week of 1844. Mr. Spencer can supply your correspondent with the cast if he is anxious for these particulars.*

A. G. S.—*Mr. John Lancaster died Nov. 12, 1896.*

A. Williams.—*Cast of* The Old Toll House, *produced at the Marylebone Theatre, on Sept. 30, 1861:—Richard Broxbourn, Mr. H. Forester; Samuel Blackthorn, Mr. Burleigh; Tom Burgess, Mr. Clifton; Bob Bartlemy, Mr. W. Shalders; Jack Bunnage, Mr. Harry Bolton; John Miller, Mr. Sym Thomson; Counsel in the trial, Mr. Mackey and Mr. F. Thomas; Phœbe Broxburn, Miss Fanny Bennett; Patty Bilbury, Miss M. Johnstone; Amy Broxbourn, Miss Clifton. Messrs. Skinner and F. Webb were also in the cast.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Greene.—On the 13th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Greene, at Portsmouth, a daughter.

Michael.—On Aug. 11, at 7, Clarence-gate-gardens, Regent's-park, to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Michael (née Nora Kerin)—a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Day—Brady.—Aug. 14, at St. Agnes' Church, Birch, Manchester, by the Rev. H. Norburn, Charles Ernest Day, of Gore-street, Piccadilly, Manchester, to Mary, only daughter of Thomas Brady, 28, Reynell-road, Birch, Manchester.

DEATHS.

Craigie.—August 13, suddenly, at 56, Lancaster-gate, London, W., Pearl Mary Teresa Craigie, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan Richards, of 56, Lancaster-gate, W., and Steephill Castle, I. of W., novelist and dramatic author, aged thirty-eight years.

Haynes.—Jenny Haynes wife of Harry Wenburn, Died Aug. 13, 1904. Interred at Abney Park, Aug. 20. R.I.P.

Hulme.—On Aug. 4, Mrs. Hulme (late Miss Dolby), aerolist, daughter of Devono, England's oldest conjurer, died, 6, Armenia-terrace, Roundhay-road, Leeds. Foreign papers copy.

Kennette.—Aug. 8, after an illness of several months, Kennette, aerial wonder.

Lambert.—At Birmingham, Winifred Mary, the beloved daughter of Edwin and Emmie Lambert. Interred at Whitton Cemetery, Aug. 16, age 2 years. Gone, but not forgotten by her sorrowing father and mother.

White.—At the Infirmary, Leicester, on Aug. 9, Julia, the beloved mother of Effie White, aged 68. Her end was peace.

In Memoriam.

Bonehill.—In loving memory of Bessie Bonehill, who passed away Aug. 21, 1902. Inserted by her sincere friends, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Moore. R.I.P., dear Bessie.

Chalmers-Colona.—In loving memory of my husband, Edgar Chalmers-Colona (Don Edgardo Colona), who died suddenly Aug. 12, 1904.—Edith Colona.

Drescher.—In loving memory of my dear wife and our darling mother, who fell asleep at Johannesburg, Transvaal, on Aug. 8, 1904. Never forgotten by Carlos, Bonita, and Cleopatra.
"Tho' lost to sight, to memory dear."

Knox.—In ever-loving memory of my darling wife Mabel, who died Aug. 19, 1905, aged 25 years. R.I.P.

Lee.—In affectionate remembrance of Bessie Lee, the coloured Patti (died Aug. 13, 1904). Still living in the memory of her loving friend Jessie Rushforth (The Rushforths).

Litchfield.—In ever-loving memory of my dear father, Edward Carr Litchfield, who departed this life Aug. 18, 1894. Dearly loved, never forgotten, by his daughter Emma.

Widdicombe.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband Jarvis Widdicomb, who passed away Aug. 18, 1898. Never forgotten, dear, by your wife. Eight lonely years.—Lizzie.

HOW TO KEEP COOL.

We strongly recommend all who suffer from the prevailing heat to add a few drops of Condy's Fluid to the Daily Bath or Foot Bath.

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A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

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Alexandra, Mr. Julius
Andys, The Four
Artois, Mr. Jack
Ascot, Mr. George
Ashby, Mr. Jack
Ashwyn, Mr. T.
Athos, Mr. Jack
Austin, Mr. Leslie
Bacon, Mr. Charles
Baldry, Mr. H.
Barker, Mrs. J.
Baroni and Kemp
Barton, Miss Ada
Beddell, Mr. Chas.
Bedford, Mr. W.
Bell, Mr. Percy
Belmore, Mr. Lionel
Bentley Mrs. Walter
Blackburn, Mr. Harry
Bostock, Mr. N. C.
Bradshaw, Miss Gertrude
Brand, Miss Sissie
Branscombe, Mr. Arthur
Bray, Mr. Tim
Breton Troupe
Brownson, Mr. J. H.
Bull, Mr. Gordon K.
Burke and McVoy
Callahan, Mr. G. W.
Callan, Mr. John
Carling, Mr.
Carlisle, Miss Ettie
Carter, Mr. Hubert
Cartwright, Mr. & Mr. A
Chaplin, Mr. Sydney
Chase, Miss Pauline
Cheevers and Kennedy
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clayton, Mr. Wm.
Cleveland, Miss Cissie
Collier, Miss Adelina
Collingham, Mr. A.
Collins, Mr. Ernest
Colville Girls
Cooke, Mr. J. F.
Cottismore, Mr.
Courtneidge, Mr. Robert
Cox, Mr. F. Berridge
Coyle, Mr. John E.
Craven, Miss Gertrude
Dare, Miss Ethel
Deer, Mr. Geo. W.
Delmar, Mr. Neville
De Marco, Mr. F.
Desmond, Miss Nancy
Devona, Sisters
Dewar, Prof.
Dodson, Mr. J. E.
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
Draco, Mr. Kay
Dryden, Mr. C. L.
Dugdale, Miss Hilda
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Elcock, Mrs. C.
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Kaye, Mrs. W.
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Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kirby, Mr. W. H.
Lee, Mrs. Helen
Leslie, Miss Marie
Leslie, Mr. Gerald
Le Thomas, Mr. Alfred
Letters, Mr. Will
Levell, Mr. Harry
Lewis, Miss Mabie Terry
Lister, Mrs. Kate
Lomas, Master Tom
Loraine, Mr. Robert
Louavee, The
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Lynn, Miss Millie
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Martin and Ridgway
McAllister, Mr. H. V.
McCann, Prof
McCelland, Mr. G. B.
McElroy, Mr. J.
Melrose, Miss Lol
Meredith, Miss P.
Miller, Mr. St. Aubyn
Monti, Miss Lottie
Morris and Morris
Nash, Miss G. E.
Natalia, Madame
Neilson, Mr. Harold V.
Neildon, Mr. Tom
Nichols, Mr. Harker
O'Connor, Mr. Robt.
Pate, Miss Mabel
Percy, Mr. Saville
Picitt and Lizzette
Pierce, Mr. Frank
Pitt, Mr. Ford
Preston, Mr. Arthur
Primrose, Mr. Harry
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Prinz, Mr. Chas.
Purchase, Mr. A.
Radford, Miss Wanda
Randall, Miss Nellie
Rawson, Mrs. T. W.
Ray and Ransford
Ray, Miss Belle
Reece, Mr. Arthur
Reeve, Mr. Wybert
Reiff, Miss Tina
Reyner, Mr. Harold
Richards, Mr. Arthur
Ripley, Miss Blanche
Roberts, Mr. Ralph
Robertson, Mr.
Robins, Mr. Wal
Robson, Mr. G.
Rolands, The Three
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rossi, Mr. Chas.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Kennedy
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Searelle, Mr. Luscombe
Skater, Mr. Charlton
Smith, Mr. A. E.
Soarks, The Two
Strenge, Mr. George
Thornton, Miss N.
Traverner, Mr. G. W.
Valls, Mr. Ricardo
Van-Biene, Mr. A.
Vane, Miss Edith
Vansittar, Miss Louise
Venne, Miss Lottie
Wade, Mr. Walter
Waldon, Mr. Max
Walpole, Mr. E.
Walton, Miss Fay
Walliser, Mrs. L.
Ward, Mr. H.
Warren, Mr. Brooke
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Watson, Mr. Guy B.
White's Arabs
Whitworth Cycling Girls
Williams, Mr. R.
Wilson, Mr. Chas.
Windermere, Mr. Chas.
Wynne, Mr. Alf.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Edith Cruikshanks—Saturday, Aug. 18.
Dollie Hook—Saturday, Aug. 18.
J. H. Clyndes—Saturday, Aug. 18.
Frank Denman Wood—Saturday, Aug. 18.
John Marx—Monday, Aug. 20.
Marie Collins—Monday, Aug. 20.
Audrey Canning—Monday, Aug. 20.
Maitland Marler—Monday, Aug. 20.
Gwendoline West—Monday, Aug. 20.
Marian Maple—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Lionel Ellis—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Natt Lloyd—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Lillian Graham—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Violet Sims—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Connie Irvine—Tuesday, Aug. 21.
Clarice Reefern—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Adnam Sprange—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Joe Bracewell—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Calder O'Beirne—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Sir A. C. Mackenzie—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Wilfred R. Morgan—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Willie Scott—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Charles M. Harrold—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Charles J. Cameron—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Ada Poole—Wednesday, Aug. 22.
Louise Moodie—Thursday, Aug. 23.
Austin H. Longford—Thursday, Aug. 23.
Dulcie Reigate—Friday, Aug. 24.
Charles A. Leicester—Friday, Aug. 24.

Annersley and Newstead (the country of Lord Byron) was *en fête* last Saturday, when the annual carnival took place. In addition to the ordinary attractions a smart variety show was provided by the old-established Geo. Burton firm of caterers. The artists who took part being the Dunlops, trick cyclists; Mdlle. Lillian Sivado, a graceful trapeze artist; Mr. Billy Watson, negro humorist; Prof. De Lyle, ventriloquist; the Girardots, legmania artists; Yapp and Napp, pantomimists; Teddy Bedford, comedian and stage-manager; and the Hamiltons, two funny burlesque actors.

The programme at the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, includes G. Rousby's Electrical Review, which created hearty applause. Harry Brown with his catch phrase, "Is everybody happy?" soon caught on. Chard's dog circus is well worth seeing, and the Brothers Zampah, one-legged marvels, are very clever. Chummie La Mara, burlesque comedienne, Mulvey and Miriam (with their comedy act, *In the Studio*), Will Sergeant, vocalist, and the Sisters Redfern, dancers, etc., also contribute successful items.

Mr. Editor, Sir,—In your notice of the Alexandra Palace, you have omitted to mention the Royal Court Marionettes, who have performed regularly for seventeen weeks.—Yours, faithfully Harry Fanning, Alexandra Palace, N., August 15

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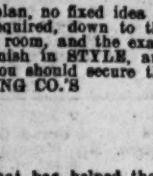

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In "The Era" Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), Miss Vesta Tilley breaks into verse, and a score or more of her comrades of "the boards" try their hands at fiction. The result is entertaining, and as there is added a list of new plays and revivals during the past year, with other information, the annual is worth a place on the playgoer's bookshelves.—The Yorkshire Post

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1906.

THE FORTUNES OF THEATRES.

The rumour that COLONEL HENRY MAPLESON has arrived in London as the representative of a Paris syndicate with a capital of £200,000 for the purpose of acquiring the London Coliseum, in order to present Grand Opera there all the year round at ordinary theatre prices, is, we hope, well founded. And we are much cheered by the statement that the Lyceum may be reopened early in October with high-class melodrama by Mr. GEORGE R. SIMS and Mr. ARTHUR SHIRLEY. The Coliseum, which was opened in the December of 1904, is one of the most elaborately arranged and sumptuously appointed variety theatres ever erected in London. Before completing the scheme of it, Mr. OSWALD STOLL and Mr. FRANK MATCHAM, the architect, paid a visit to the United States to see whether any ideas could be gleaned in New York, Chicago, or Boston. The Coliseum contains every contrivance hitherto invented for the comfort and convenience of an audience; and its acoustic properties are so good that it would make an admirable opera-house. The Lyceum, which was designed by Mr. BERTIE CREWE, is another example of the skill of the modern architect and of the degree to which the erection of luxurious "pleasure-houses" has been carried. The stage is one of the largest and most complete in the kingdom, being about 60ft. deep by 100ft. in width. The grid is some 60ft. above the stage, and the width between the steel flies is over 50ft. With its special contrivances for working the scenery with a minimum of hand labour, so that the most extensive and weighty "sets" can be dealt with in the least possible time, the Lyceum is admirably adapted for the production of spectacular plays and melodramas.

One of the peculiarities of the amusement business is the vicissitudes of fortune to which theatres are subject. The Lyceum Theatre, which was built—or rather rebuilt—in 1794 by ARNOLD, the composer, was in turns a school of eloquence, a concert-room, a Roman Catholic chapel, and the show-place of a white negro girl and a porcupine man. Later on it became the home of Madame TUSSAUD'S waxworks. Then it was known as the English Opera House, old ballad operas and musical farces being performed in it; and there MATHEWS the elder first appeared in his famous entertainment "Mathews at Home." But the associations of a theatre like this may almost be called fanciful; for, what with rebuildings and fires, the "genius of the place" has been subjected to so many disturbances that the spirit must have had a very uneasy time.

Generally speaking, the tendency of theatrical business is to "go West." Formerly, the Strand was the centre of theatreland. The Prince of Wales's, the Lyric, the Apollo, the Shaftesbury, the Criterion, and the Avenue are all of modern date. The influence of size and position—especially position—on the fortunes of a theatre is so great that not even the strongest attraction can do no more than galvanise a deserted house into a temporary *vogue*. A playhouse, to retain its popularity, must neither be too large nor too small, and had better be in a broad and well-frequented thoroughfare. Theatres in back streets out of the traffic have a great deal to contend with. The probability is that the mere view of the building taken by passers-by is a most valuable and almost necessary advertisement. The reason of the shifting of the zone of theatrical favour in a westerly direction seems to be the dependence of the modern manager on his stalls and dress-circle for support. Except when some extraordinary inducement is offered, "carriage people" do not care to explore the intricacies of the "back districts" in search of amusement. Indeed, the frequentation of certain fashionable playhouses by Society seems to be more or less a matter of habit.

An experienced theatrical manager once presented to us a whimsical argument against precautions against fire in theatres. He contended that in London, when a playhouse was burned down, no harm was done, for the fire always took place when the house was empty, and that good resulted from the number of playhouses being kept down. A theatre which has lost its *vogue* is indeed a very "white elephant." It cannot be used for any purpose but that of amusement. Even while it is empty it has to be kept in repair; and the occasional lettings to temporary tenants may not pay even a moderate interest on the original outlay. The burning down of Her Majesty's Theatre in 1867, when under Colonel J. H. MAPLESON'S management, is an interesting example of the vicissitudes to which theatrical management is subject. In the December of that year, during a rehearsal of *Fidelio*, the Colonel's insurance agent called to complete the insurance of the house. MAPLESON agreed to insure for £30,000; but, as the costumier's list was not at hand, and the costumier himself was out at dinner, the agent suggested that the manager should give him £10 "on account," and thus keep the matter open till the following Monday, when he—the agent—would call again. MAPLESON replied, jokingly, "There is no fear," and the agent left without the advance. At half-past eleven the same evening MAPLESON, who was dining in St. John's Wood, was called by an excited servant to look out of the window, and saw the sky red in the distance. Her Majesty's Theatre was on fire. The manager hurried to the scene of the conflagration, and found the house in full blaze. Without a moment's delay he despatched Mr. JARRETT, his acting-manager, to Mr. F. B. CHATTERTON, then the lessee of Drury Lane, to endeavour to secure that theatre from March till the end of July. It was of great importance that the emissary should reach CHATTERTON, who lived at Clapham, before that astute manager could learn of the fire; for, had he been aware of MAPLESON'S extremity, he would, of course, have raised his terms accordingly. On arriving at CHATTERTON'S house early in the morning, the first thing JARRETT saw, lying on a table in the hall, was a copy of that day's *Times*. On this he threw his overcoat, in order to hide the paper from view, and waited for the manager of Drury Lane to descend and receive him. Without appearing at all anxious, Mr. JARRETT quietly concluded an agreement by which MAPLESON secured the use of Drury Lane Theatre for the following spring and summer seasons, with a right to renew the occupation for future years. This document was in MAPLESON'S hands by nine o'clock, and it was not till half-past ten that CHATTERTON learnt of the fire. The Monday after, the insurance agent called on MAPLESON and offered him his sympathy, since, if the manager had paid down the £10 on account of the proposed insurance, he would have received a cheque for £30,000. MAPLESON replied that he was exceedingly glad that he had *not* paid the deposit, as he certainly would have been suspected of having set the theatre on fire, and should never again have been able to set himself right with the public.

A really well-built theatre, in a suitable locality, and furnished with all the latest improvements, is like desirable house-property; taking year by year, it is almost certain to let at a profit, or a purchaser can easily be found for it. This was shown in the case of the late R. D'OYLY CARTE'S Royal English Opera House, which, with its highly improved stage and elaborate cooling and heating apparatus, became such a fine theatre of varieties under the name of the Palace. It will be strange if the variety business returns the compliment, and the Coliseum, built as a music-hall, becomes a home of opera. And perhaps we may find at the Lyceum, which was built for variety entertainments, a repetition of the success which was won by superior melodrama under the WILSON BARRETT *régime* at the Princess's.

PRINTER'S DELIVERY.

In the Watford County Court on Monday was heard the case of David Allen and Sons *v.* Ganthony. This was a claim by the plaintiffs, a firm of printers at Harrow, against the defendant, Robert Ganthony, for £27 15s. 7d., for work done. There was a counter-claim for £30 for damages for delay.

Mr. G. H. Mallinson, barrister (instructed by Messrs. Camp and Ellis), was for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Pridham-Wippell, barrister, appeared for the defence.

Mr. Mallinson said the defendant was a public entertainer, and the account was for printing done by the plaintiffs, and sent to various towns to the defendant while on tour.

James Motherwell, assistant-manager to Messrs. David Allen and Sons, deposed that the defendant signed the contract for printing in his presence. In consequence of telegrams of complaint as to delay, witness went to Sidcup and saw the defendant. Other printing was despatched, and at a subsequent interview, when the account was discussed, defendant said he would pay when he got the royalties from a piece of which he was the author. Defendant made no demand for a rebate in consequence of delay. Defendant had never returned any of the printing supplied to him.

Cross-examined: It was not the custom of theatrical printers to have the printing despatched so that it was delivered at least ten days before the entertainment was to be given. If time was specified for delivery of the printing it was delivered accordingly. In witness's opinion, two or three days was sufficient notice of an entertainment. Witness had never heard that the defendant had to abandon his tour in consequence of the delay in the delivery of the printing. Witness denied that in July or August, 1905, Mr. Allen agreed to excuse him the amount owing providing he took no action and proceeded to have his printing done by the firm. Witness was not aware that the printing for the Sidcup show arrived only a day before the performance.

Re-examined: There was no suggestion at the interview in 1905 that the claim should be dropped.

Defendant, sworn, said that in August, 1901, he was engaged on a tour, which had started in June. The printing for the performance at Bexley, on Monday, Dec. 16, arrived on the afternoon of that day. The performance was not held because Mr. Searle, the advance agent, telegraphed that there had been no advertising. He took a few bills to Sidcup, for the performance there, which was to take place next night. These were the posters that Mr. Motherwell saw. He did not know when the printing for the Sutton performance arrived, but he knew it was too late to be of any use. The gross returns at Sidcup were £3 10s.; at Sutton they were about £2. He could not say what the receipts were at Epsom, but at any rate they were "rotten." (Laughter.). That summed up what he felt about it. At Caterham the tour had to be abandoned. Messrs. Allen and Company had everything to do with the abandonment of the tour. The printing did not arrive in time to advertise the entertainments. He had to engage two artists for Bexley and Sidcup. He paid them about £4 a week. His manager received about £2 5s. a week. The advance agent left in disgust, and he had to pay his manager to go down and take his place. He had to give them all notice, and he gave the manager £4 10s. in lieu of two weeks' notice. It was the custom in the profession to get the printing at least two weeks before the entertainments. At an interview with Mr. Motherwell, on Dec. 17, he put the blame of the failure at Bexley, and the non-success of the posters at Sidcup, on Messrs. David Allen and Sons. He never said that he proposed to say nothing about it and start afresh. At an interview with the plaintiffs, in July, 1901, they made an agreement to drop the whole matter, on condition that he let them have his printing in the future. It was not until four years afterwards that they discovered a certain clause in the contract.

Cross-examined: He never went to Bexley at all. He arrived at Sidcup about midday. He learnt that the printing had only just been put up. At Sutton, both from observation and what he was told, he found that the printing was not up. The plaintiffs did agree to let the printing account stand in abeyance if he let them have his printing orders in the future. That was in one of the several interviews that took place about July, 1901.

Bertram Knight, a theatrical manager, said it was the custom to deliver all dated printing from ten to fourteen days before the entertainments.

Counsel then addressed the Court on the question of the contract.

His Honour held that the contract was binding, and gave judgment for the plaintiffs on the claim with costs, and dismissed the counter-claim.

MR. EMILIUS HILL, manager of the Morecambe Central Pier, whose sudden indisposition was recorded last week, was able to resume business last Saturday. Strange to say, on Monday last Mr. Bayliss, the director of the orchestra at the same place, was compelled to temporarily retire through illness.

THE streets of Bath were enlivened on Wednesday by the parading of a finely appointed four-horse coach, the seats being occupied by Mr. Charles Schubert, the manager of the Palace, and the six Brothers Luck and other members engaged at that house this week.

MR. ALFRED BUTT is away on the Continent on a special mission to see a turn, and he will visit several leading variety houses in the search for new attractions.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—Your report of the Empire, Bradford, last week was a little misleading. The bill there was headed, not by the lady mentioned, but by—Yours faithfully, J. W. ROWLEY, 16, William-street, Bradford, Aug. 16.

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA COMPANY.

An excellent performance of *Faust* was given on Thursday, August 9, when a large and appreciative audience was present at the Lyric Theatre. Madame Fanny Moody, quite recovered from her recent indisposition, made a delightful Marguerite, and aided by that clever artist, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, who appeared as Faust, the music of the garden scene was splendidly rendered. Mr. Lewys James displayed his fine voice to great advantage in Valentine's air, and Mr. Charles Manners again proved his ability in the part of Mephistopheles. Signor Sapio conducted.

On Monday last *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* were performed before a large audience. In Leoncavallo's opera Mr. Joseph O'Mara appeared for the first time this season as Canio, and achieved an undoubted success. Indeed, the great scena has never been more finely or dramatically sung, and Mr. O'Mara was received with unbounded enthusiasm, being recalled no less than six times. This fine artist, during the present season at the Lyric, has displayed such great gifts, both as vocalist and actor, that he may be called the Caruso of Mr. Manners' company. The rest of the cast in *Pagliacci* were the same as on former occasions Mr. William Dever making a capital Tonio, and Mr. Lewys James a most excellent exponent of Silvio's music. Miss Ethel Cadman proved very attractive and charming as the inconstant Nedda, and Mr. Brodo gave importance to the small part of Beppo, his singing of the serenade in the play scene being most effective.

Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* contained some noteworthy features. Miss Toni Seiter, in her impersonation of the unhappy Santuzza, gave ample proof of her gifts as an actress, and Mr. John Child, a most useful member of the company, proved a vigorous Turiddu, the drinking song being sung with great spirit. Mr. Marshall Vincent made a picturesque Alfio, and in the duet with Santuzza sang with appropriate passion and intensity. Miss Cadman was the Lola and Miss Arnold the Lucia. The chorus, as usual, was excellent, both in animation and singing.

Signor Sapio admirably conducted both operas.

Faust was again performed at the Lyric on Tuesday before a full house. The cast included Mr. Wilson Pembroke, who filled the title-rôle in a thoroughly refined and artistic manner, gaining hearty applause for his graceful singing of the solo, "Hail! dwelling, pure and holy," the *Salve dimora* of the Italian version. Mr. Pembroke was also very effective in his duets with Marguerita, impersonated on this occasion by that gifted artist, Madame De Vere, who, in her share of the lovely music of the garden scene and the brilliant "Jewel" song, acquitted herself admirably. Mr. Charles Manners again gave us his skilful and popular reading of Mephistopheles, while Mr. Marshall Vincent sang Valentine's air, "Even bravest heart," with much expression, and acted in a manly and intelligent style. Miss Mildred Bryan's Siebel may be highly commended, and the part of Martha was most satisfactorily filled by Miss Maud Baker. The lively music of the Kermesse scene was capitally sung by the clever chorus, and the delightful ballet given with spirit and animation. The orchestra was conducted with care and discretion by Mr. Harrison Frewin.

Verdi's *Il Trovatore* was given on Wednesday night, and attracted a large audience. Mme. De Vere made a striking Leonora, attacking the florid music of the part with considerable success, besides acting with freedom and originality this somewhat conventional character. Mr. Joseph O'Mara, as might be expected, sang the music of Manrico beautifully, his fervent rendering of the air "Ah! sight of horror" in the second scene of the third act resulting in a most enthusiastic encore, and after the curtain fell the distinguished Irish tenor had to appear many times in answer to the long continued applause. It was also due to his efforts and those of Madame De Vere that so fine a performance of the Miserere scene was secured that its repetition had to be granted. Miss Toni Seiter as Azncena greatly distinguished herself, amply compensating for any slight lack of vocal power by her really fine and dramatic acting; her singing of the duet "Home to the Mountains" with Mr. O'Mara in the last act may also be warmly commended. Mr. William Dever proved an effective Count di Luna, singing and acting with good expression and vigour; and the smaller parts of Ferrando and Inez were well undertaken by Mr. Marshall Vincent and Miss Rigby. The scenic effects were capitally managed, the costumes handsome, and the chorus singing excellent; while Mr. Harrison Frewin's unremitting care secured a good ensemble from the orchestra.

In the afternoon Wagner's *Tannhauser* was performed before a well-filled house. Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Wilson Pembroke were in the principal parts, Mr. Lewys James making a capital Wolfram, and Mr. C. Magrath a dignified Landgrave. The chorus sang with splendid effect, and the orchestra greatly distinguished themselves under the bâton of Herr Richard Eckhold.

Mozart's opera, *The Marriage of Figaro*, was performed on Thursday evening, August 16, with the sparkle and finish Mozart's work demands. To many old opera-goers among the audience the excellent performance on Thursday must have revived pleasant memories of the past, when such great artists as Trebelli, Scalchi, Cologni, Titiens, and our own fine baritone, Mr. Santley, were heard in this delightful opera. The cast could hardly have been better. Madame Fanny Moody made an ideal Susanna. Her demure, yet impudent, acting in her scenes with the Count and Figaro deserve the very highest praise; while, needless to remark, the music was admirably sung; in particular the really exquisite singing of the latter duet between Madame Moody and Miss Lucy Lever in the third act calls for special comment. The Figaro of Mr. Lewys James could hardly have been improved upon, this clever artist giving such vivacity and life to the character; while as Dr. Bartelo, Mr. Charles Magrath revealed unexpected and most welcome humour. Mr. Frederick Erle as Count Almaviva proved a valuable member of the company; he has a fine stage presence, and shows no little ability as an actor. So quaint and grotesque was the make-up of Mr. H. Bailey as Don Basilio that a ripple of merriment greeted his first appearance. Mr. Bailey, while making the part full of unctious drollery, just stopped short of buffoonery. Miss Rosina Beynon made a delightful Cherubino; at first Miss Beynon was slightly nervous, but she quickly recovered, and sang her solo in the second act with much charm, besides acting throughout in a most sprightly and artistic manner. We must, however, take some exception to her sombre black costume. If anyone ought to wear bright colours, it is certainly Cherubino. Miss Lucy Lever was very attractive as the Countess, and even the smaller parts of Antonio, Marcellina, and Barbarina were undertaken by Mr. Alexander, Miss M. Baker, and Miss M. Carter, with the same care and intelligence as the principal rôles. The opera was most handsomely mounted, and the admirable singing of the chorus evidently showed that the utmost care had been taken in the matter of rehearsals. The performance of Mozart's lovely opera is indeed another feather in the cap of the Moody-Manners Company in their all too short season at the Lyric. In accordance with the composer's instructions, the orchestra consisted of only 24 performers, and Herr Eckhold secured an excellent performance.

"THE DANDY DETECTIVE."

A New Dramatic Sketch, in Three Scenes, by C. Douglas Carlile, produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre, on Monday, Aug. 13.

Kit Carson ..... MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE
Rev. Tobias ..... MR. KIT CARSON
Ikey Mo .....
Risque Lincoln ..... MR. CHAS. A. CARLILE
Yaller Jack ..... MR. A. WHITTAKER
Steve ..... MR. J. MANTON
Abe ..... MR. B. JOHNS
Patch ..... MR. LEE GILBERT
Tess Lincoln ..... MISS CARLOTTA DE YONSON

Mr. C. Douglas Carlile has enhanced his reputation as a writer of sensational sketches with his latest playlet, seen for the first time this week at Sadler's Wells, and he has also given Miss Carlotta de Yonson an opportunity of displaying her talents in a character which is quite distinct from many others she has previously assumed. The scenes in *The Dandy Detective* appear to be laid in North America. Kit Carson, a detective, is on the track of two notorious ruffians, Risque Lincoln and Yaller Jack, who have committed various crimes. The opening scene shows Mother Brady's drinking saloon, where Lincoln and his gang are gathered together. They are well aware that they are being hunted by the officers of the law, and how to evade the latter is the absorbing problem which is perturbing their minds. At a signal of danger, they quit the saloon, and Carson, with his men, enter, only to find a girl, Tess Lincoln, who is described as "the dandy's pal." Failing in their search, the police leave, one of their number, a mere boy, being secreted behind the bar to take note of anything that happens. Lincoln and Yaller Jack return, the lad is discovered, and is only saved from brutal treatment by the intervention of Tess, whose revolver, however, is snatched away from her. Things look very bad indeed for the boy and the girl, until the appearance of the Rev. Tobias, who proves a bit too handy with his fists for at least two members of the fraternity who test his skill. There is a general uproar, during which the identity of the Rev. Tobias, alias Kit Carson, is revealed. In the following scene a plot is laid for the destruction of the detective. Tess, who is really in love with him, is induced under a subterfuge invented by Lincoln (supposed to be her father) to write a letter to Kit asking him to meet her at the saloon at a certain time. Immediately after penning the note she is bound fast to a chair. Kit has been near at hand all the while, and when the ruffians once more decamp he rescues the girl. Dynamite has in the meantime been placed in the cellars with the idea of blowing up the shanty on the arrival of the dectective and his force. Kit has arranged with his men to rush into the place immediately they see a lamp held to the window twice, and while he is discussing this plan with Tess the band of rogues re-enter and overpower him and the girl, Kit being secured by ropes to the window-post. The dandy detective, in spite of his apparent peril, jeers at Lincoln, and prophesies that that worthy will himself give the signal which will bring about the release of the lovers. Not quite realising what is meant by this statement, Lincoln goes to the window and examines his prisoner with the lamp, which is just what Kit desires him to do. A few minutes later the detective is set free by one of his men, the scheme to destroy the building by dynamite is frustrated, Lincoln is despatched with a bullet, and the other members of his gang are arrested. Tess proves to be the daughter of an old detective who was formerly Kit's chief, and Cupid smiles with the fall of the curtain.

The piece is played throughout with fine spirit and dash. Miss Carlotta de Yonson, as the ill-treated Tess, who remains faithful in trying circumstances to her detective lover, acts with expression and feeling, and wins the sympathy of the audience for a very intelligent and pleasing characterisation. In the part of Kit Carson Mr. C. Douglas Carlile demonstrates his versatility. At one time he is the well-groomed, dandy, but resolute and plucky police officer, at another a parson of manner meek and mild and speech effeminate, and at another still an artful, money-grubbing, shuffling old "sheeny." Mr. Charles A. Carlile submits an admirable study of a bullying, hesitate-at-nothing ruffian, and the latter's villainous pal, Yaller Jack, has a commendable impersonator in Mr. A. Whittaker. Praiseworthy, too, is Mr. Lee Gilbert's representation of Patch.

AT the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday, Brother 876 was elected to the chair. In reference to the Alien Bill, concerning which the secretary had written to the New York meeting on July 3rd, a letter was read in reply from Bro. Willy Zimmerman, who had referred the matter to the New York solicitor to the League. This gentleman in his communication culled the following extract of the law on the subject:—"The provision of this law applicable to labour contracts shall not be held to exclude *professional* actors, artists, lecturers, singers, ministers of any religious denomination, professors for colleges or seminaries, persons belonging to any recognised learned profession, or persons employed directly as *personal or domestic* servants." It was suggested by the members of the meeting that a special note should be made of this report.

THERE was a letter received from Collins and Hart with reference to their case with Messrs. Cadle Bros., in which they agreed to the terms of arbitration. It was proposed and passed by the meeting that Bro. 1359 should be the representative of the I.A.L., and the secretary was instructed to communicate the decision to Messrs. Cadle.

MR. FRANK GERALD, manager of the V.A.F., was present, and a discussion took place with reference to the affiliation of the I.A.L. and the V.A.F. It was unanimously agreed that an executive committee meeting of the I.A.L. and the V.A.F. should be held next Sunday after the I.A.L. meeting, at 8.30, at the Sovereign, Upper St. Martin's-lane, to discuss special points with regard to the affiliation of the I.A.L. and the V.A.F.

WATER pantomime has a cooling sound during a heat wave, and one of the most seasonable attractions ever presented to a fun-loving public is to be found in Darrell's "Walrus Hunt." In this, ten comic artists, with boats, and amusing accessories, are employed. The "tusker," we may add, has a most exhilarating time, and is quite a whimsical amphibian.

IN another column will be found a letter from the mother of Miss Rosée Heath, who has again developed distressing symptoms of mental disorder. Miss Heath was pursuing a most successful career as a comedienne, when her mind gave way, and older music-hall frequenters will remember her delightful turn at the Empire, the London Pavilion, and other leading halls twenty years ago. She was one of the most fascinating dancers of her time. One of her last engagements was in pantomime at Brighton.

THE latest quotations for Music Hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1 7-16; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. pd.), 1½; ditto (10s. pd.), 1; Lon. Pav. Ord., 3½; ditto, Pref., 5; Lon. Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empire, 4⅜; ditto, 5 p.c. Pref., 3⅝; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 11s.; Tivoli, 6½; Var. Cons. Theas. 13s.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir, In your notice this week of the Richmond Theatre, you mention the Sisters Charnley. This is not correct; it should have been—Yours faithfully, SISTERS BRONSON.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. David Day is so elated at the success which has attended Mr. T. P. O'Connor's efforts in securing the rights of musical publishers against the gutter pirates that he is exhibiting a fine picture of the popular M.P. in the window of the Charing Cross establishment. The picture is inscribed "T. P. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., Champion of the Musical Copyright Act."

Mr. Harry Rickards has deposited the necessary £500 and entered an appeal against the decision of the judge in the action Glinseretti v. Rickards, in which damages were given against the Australian entrepreneur. The appeal can scarcely be reached before November.

Some three weeks ago Colonel Henry Mapleson, the president of the International Society of Music, which has its headquarters in Paris, offered, it is authoritatively stated, £160,000 for the London Coliseum, with the idea of turning it into an opera house. The liquidators of the Coliseum Company, Messrs. Gillespie Brothers and Co., are not in the position to say whether Colonel Mapleson's offer will be accepted or not, but as the house cost £300,000 to build, it seems inadequate.

Miss Ada Reeve will make her re-appearance on the variety stage, after a prolonged absence, opening at the Tivoli on Monday. Miss Reeve, who has just returned from her most successful tour in S. Africa, where she was engaged at the largest salary ever paid to any music-hall artist, has two excellent songs, viz., "If the world were ruled by girls," and "Auntie sent me marketing," together with another, the title of which is at present a secret, but which promises to fetch all London.

Mr. Fred Wright, jun., a member of the celebrated family of comedians, will make his appearance at the Palace on Monday next, when one of his items will be a new song in the character of a Chinaman. He has just finished an engagement as Wun-Hi, the irrepressible Celestial in Mr. George Edwardes's sumptuous revival of *The Geisha* at Daly's, which has now run its course.

Mr. Fred Trussell, the genial manager of the London Hippodrome, is about to take a well-deserved holiday. On Wednesday next, Aug. 22, he will embark for foreign climes on board the good ship Zweena from the Morocco Wharf, London. On the evening of that date, and henceforward—seeing that the vessel is owned by the Forward Brothers—Mr. and Mrs. Trussell will weeks.

In the interim, at ports of call, such as Gibraltar, Tangiers, and delightful places of interest like Las Palmas, Teneriffe, Madeira, and other towns on the Moroccan sea-board, the popular "Frederick" will employ his time at photography. By the way, he is well known as a capital amateur photographer. We shall probably, therefore, have the pleasure of seeing his efforts in most of the big illustrated papers, for rumour has it that he holds roving commissions from not a few.

Among other notable journeys that Mr. Trussell has made in the course of his eventful career (some for pleasure, some for business) have been those to Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, and through the Sahara: to say nothing of the whole of the Continent of Europe. An interesting point about his largest journey is his desire to gain an insight into the mysteries of Eastern music (?). We may also expect a very interesting account of his experiments on board with his own sextant, as he is very keen on teaching himself navigation; "Bon Voyage," and all good wishes.

Mr. Alfred Richards, who has been selected by the directors of the Oxford for the post of assistant-manager to Mr. Blyth Pratt, has had a large and varied experience as an entertainer, both on the concert and operatic stage. He was very popular in Australia and New Zealand before he set sail for this country in 1901. "Down under," he played several of the tenor rôles in Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and sang both at concerts and oratorios. On his arrival in London he found much favour on the concert platform, where his artistic singing gave very much pleasure.

Since Miss Kitty Loftus appeared at the London Pavilion last November Messrs. Hyman have never ceased offering that accomplished little lady a highly remunerative contract to appear at their new Empire Theatre at Johannesburg. At last by dint of persuasion, and just a few thousands by way of salary, she has agreed to sail by the Kenilworth Castle on Saturday next, Aug. 25. Messrs. Hyman consider that Miss Loftus's charm and personality will prove so attractive to Rand audiences that they will be well rewarded for the enormous terms they are giving her. She leaves London with some exquisite costumes from Paris, excellent songs by some of our best lyrical writers and composers, and with letters of introduction to folk whose names are well known in the best set. We heartily wish Miss Kitty Loftus a big success, both artistically and socially. She hopes to return to London early in December to produce a fairy play, or to appear at some of our west-end halls.

The Terriers' second river outing of the season will take place on Sunday, the 26th inst. The party will "train" from Waterloo to Hampton Court, afterwards going up the river on a launch to Old Windsor, where sports will be held. Early application for tickets is necessary, and should be made to the secretary, Mr. Harry Lester.

Mr. Frank Glenister is holiday making at mirthful Margate, and Mr. Joseph Wilson is enjoying the quiet of the country near the sleepy old town of Bridport, being the guest of Mr. Wilfred Cotton and Miss Ada Reeve (Mrs. Cotton) at their pretty place at Chideock.

The two McNaughtons and charming Miss Alice Lloyd will be in pantomime this coming Christmas at the Crown, Peckham. The sprightly Tom will, for the first time, essay a "dame" part, being cast for Mother Goose, and the burly Fred will portray her anæmic son. Miss Alice Lloyd will enact Jill. At the close of the pantomime season they will proceed to New York for eight weeks, opening at the Colonial Theatre. The Moss and Stoll tour will follow, and later pantomime at the Borough, Stratford, where the popular brothers will take the Ruffians in *The Babes in the Wood*.

Mr. Charles Bertram, who has been re-engaged for another week at the Crystal Palace in consequence of his great success, performed for the first time before the Prince of Wales (now the King) in 1881. Altogether he has given his show before His Royal Highness about twenty-three times. He has also charmed the German Empress, the President of the French Republic, the Shah, Cetewayo, the Rothschilds, and, indeed, all the crowned heads in Europe have nodded with pleasure to him. He tells a funny story about one of the young princes. On one occasion he was performing at Sandringham. In one of his tricks he produces what appears to be heavy weights, each of fifty-six pounds. When he had finished the entertainment, the children who were present were very keen upon examining all the apparatus used by the conjurer. Much to everyone's amusement one of the little princes, who was then in short skirts, was seen to be quietly toddling off with a 56-pound weight in each hand, so that Mr. Bertram, therefore, for once in his life, must have absolutely tried to deceive his audience.

Mr. B. G. Maclachlan, who has been manager of the Glasgow Coliseum since it opened, and has made many friends in that city, leaves this week to take up his new duties as manager of the Shepherd's Bush Empire, to which he has been transferred by Mr. Oswald Stoll. Mr. Harry Burdette, assistant-manager at the Coliseum, now assumes full command of this large and important Glasgow variety theatre

We understand negotiations are in progress between local landowners and a theatrical syndicate with a view to obtain a suitable site for the erection of a first-class music hall at Devonport. The continued success of the new Palace of Varieties at Plymouth has doubtless been the cause of the projected scheme and bearing in mind the fact that the Palace owes a great deal of its support to the naval element hailing from Devonport, there seems no reason to doubt that the venture should meet with success. Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport, the "Three Towns" as they are locally named, have an aggregate population of nearly a quarter of a million.

Smart repartee is always appreciated by a variety audience, and a reply given by Datas at the Palace, Plymouth, last week, was greatly appreciated. Datas was giving with his customary ability the dates of obscure events when an occupant of a box, attempting to be funny, asked the date of Bill Bailey's birthday. He little expected the prompt and crushing retort, "The first of April, sir, same date as your own." Exit questioner.

The Tivoli, South Shields, though only a small house, has been one of the most successful in the North, and has completed three years without a break, not even closing during the height of the summer season. The place is now undergoing an entire renovation, and will close for two weeks, reopening on Monday, September 3rd, for its fourth year, under the general management of Mr. Harry Burns.

The staff of the Birmingham Hippodrome had a most enjoyable day's outing on Sunday at Bidford-on-Avon, where Mr. P. D. Elbourne, the resident-manager, entertained a party numbering fifty-five to dinner and tea at the White Lion. The weather, albeit at times threatening, proved entirely favourable, and a cricket match in the morning, and a stroll to Cleeve Mill and the adjacent beautiful weir in the afternoon were heartily enjoyed. At the dinner, Mr. P. D. Elbourne proposed the toast of "Barrasford's Hippodrome," and the "Health of Mr. Elbourne," was proposed by Mr. Fred Homer, who referred in felicitous terms to Mr. Elbourne's recent marriage. Mrs. Elbourne graced the proceedings, and among others present were Mrs. F. Homer, Mrs. E. Homer, the Misses Homer, Mr. J. Leishmann (stage-manager), Mr. W. Crabtree (musical-director), and Messrs. L. C. Lax and E. Homer. After an ample tea, the party returned to Birmingham.

Mr. George Harrop, the enterprising manager of the Blackpool Tower and Palace, has just accomplished one of the biggest things on record in the way of mural advertising. It takes the form of a mammoth handpainted poster, detailing this week's attractions at the Palace. It is to be seen on the great hoarding opposite the Wellington Hotel. It is 55ft. high by 24ft. deep. The representation of the nude figure of Hackenschmidt stands 22ft. high, or over three and a half times as high as an ordinary six-foot man. Hackenschmidt, however, stands only 5ft. 9in. high, so that the picture is four times the size of the original. And yet some of the ladies amongst the thousands who have admired the poster have asked if the great wrestler was as big as that! The poster was designed by the Tower Company.

The first two performances of *The Catch of the Season* at Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool, last week, were conducted by Mr. Carl Kiefert, late chef d'orchestre of the London Hippodrome, who came down especially for this purpose. It is interesting to note that Mr. Kiefert renewed old associations in Blackpool, as he was a member of the Winter Gardens orchestra in 1880, since which period the Opera House has been built, and Mr. Kiefert would observe many other improvements in Lancashire's great seaside resort in the last quarter of a century.

There is no doubt about the Southampton Hippodrome having caught on with the local public, and as predicted at the outset it has become the family resort and most popular place of entertainment in the town. The attendances last week established a record—no fewer than 17,000 persons paying for admission in spite of the terrific heat. Mr. George Gray and his *Fighting Parson* sketch were in a great measure responsible for this satisfactory state of things—although the entire company was an admirable one. Excellent talent is supplied each week by the London management, Messrs. F. Mouillot, W. de Frece, and J. de Frece, and this is supervised locally by Mr. Sydney Paxton, the astute district manager, and Mr. Harold P. Howell, the courteous acting-manager of the "Hippo," who are always on the spot and do their utmost to study the comfort of their patrons

Mr. E. H. Bostock has sustained a severe loss at the Zoo, Glasgow. The giraffe is no more. While adjusting its great legs on Tuesday night, preparatory to taking a well-earned rest, it unfortunately pushed one of them through the wire screen in front and broke the limb. Professor M'Call was summoned, but he could do nothing for the poor brute, and it had to be destroyed. It cost Mr. Bostock £600 to purchase the giraffe in Central Africa and convey it to Glasgow. It was a stately, docile animal, and will be greatly missed by visitors to the Zoo.

Mr. George Saphrini reopened the Palace, Boston, for the season last Monday, and hundreds were unable to gain admission to witness one of the finest programmes ever submitted to a Boston audience, Miss Ella's lions being the special feature. During the vacation several improvements have been made, including a large new stage and new scenery.

The benefit to Mr. Harry Gold, proprietor of the Margate Pierrots, which took place on Margate Sands on Wednesday, was honoured by the presence of Miss Kate Carney, Miss Marie Kendall, Mr. Steve McCarthy, Mr. Chas. Austin, Mr. Will Johnson, Mr. Will Driscoll, Messrs. Johnson and Bert, and many other well-known artists. It may be mentioned that the benefit beat all previous records.

The action brought by J. H. Wood against Mr. Winder, the father of Bertha Winder, for the recovery of the ladies' jewelled champion belt was tried before Judge Parry, in the County Court, Manchester, on July 24. The judge gave an order for the delivery of the belt to J. H. Wood within seven days, with costs. The belt has now been delivered to Messrs. Salomonton and Smith, solicitors, and will be put up again for competition as soon as arrangements are completed. Mr. J. H. Wood, who is at present an inmate of the Christie Cancer Hospital, Manchester, during his active career as a caterer has organised more dancing competitions than any man living, and the rattle of the clogs is familiar music to his ears. In the Midlands, in the north, and in London he has been the prime mover in many of the most interesting contests, and a few years since he did much to revive the love of the clang of the wooden shoon in town. We regret to hear of his illness, and hope that the skilful treatment he is undergoing may be successful.

The Empire, Camberwell, as the old Metropole is now called, is to start on its variety career on the twice-nightly plan on Monday, Sept. 3. Mr. Jesse Sparrow is the managing-director, and under his management the house has been entirely remodelled, renovated, and decorated. Mr. Sparrow's arrangement and organisation of variety entertainments began more than thirty years back, when his Saturday night concerts at the Shoreditch Town Hall became celebrated. He has had much to do with music-hall enterprise in South London, where he has managed the Grand, Clapham, and the Camberwell Palace. The scenery for the newly-established Empire is to be painted by Mr. Richard Douglass—an excellent choice.

The Universal Dramatic and Variety Agency is the latest firm established to represent variety artists. It is directed by Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn. Neither gentleman needs any introduction to our readers. Mr. Sparrow's experience, acumen, and sound judgment have received tribute in the way of important positions at the head of variety enterprises, which he has filled with unvarying success. Mr. Bawn, in addition to an excellent early business training, has been both artist and manager, and is alert and up to date in every particular.

Mr. Harry Lauder, the well-known Glasgow comedian, came on late at the Tivoli on Monday, sang his popular song, "Ma Scotch Bluebell," and returned to the wings. The large audience waited for a time, then, in response to insistent demands for another song, Mr. James Howell came upon the stage and claimed the indulgence of the audience, explaining that Mr. Lauder had left the house after refusing to sing another song. Unfortunately, as Mr. Lauder is allowed twenty minutes, the following turn had not arrived, so that the wait had to be filled up by the band—by no means a hardship, when one considers the excellence of Mr. Louis Reeder's combination.

Mr. Lewin Harrington, a Walworth-road coster, has a curious hobby. For two years past, in the intervals between visiting Covent Garden Market and selling fruit from his barrow in the neighbourhood of Camberwell Gate, he has trained a troupe of girls to dance. All his savings he spent on buying dresses for them, and at last succeeded in getting his team a week's engagement at the Montpelier, a small music hall in the locality. There they were seen by a representative of Moss' Empires, and so good were they that a week's engagement was given them at the Camberwell Palace, to commence on Monday next, where they will appear as the Primrose Girls. Mr. Harrington has spent over £80 on dresses, music, and incidentals connected with his troupe of "cyclone dancers."

Mr. Charles Day, eldest son of Mr. David Day, was married on Tuesday at Manchester, the bride being Miss Mary Brady, the only daughter of Mr. Thomas Brady, of Birch, Manchester. The ceremony, which took place at Saint Agnes's Church, Birch, was performed by the Rev. H. Norburn, who delivered a very impressive address. Quite a number of congratulatory letters and telegrams were received in the course of the day by the happy couple, and during the wedding breakfast a cable was handed in from far-off New York, bearing best wishes from Mr. Fred Day (the bridegroom's brother), Mr. William Francis, jun., and Mr. Percy West, an old school fellow. A letter from Mr. Fred Day, who, as is well known, is manager of the New York branch of the famous firm, further stated that he had been fortunate enough to secure the services of Messrs. Jerome and Schwartz, the most renowned team of song writers in the States, and, strange to relate, the very first songs they had written for the house were entitled "Sweet Anastasia Brady" and "Float me, Charlie." This was somewhat remarkable, the bride's maiden name being Brady.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Day were the recipients of handsome presents from, among others, Mr. Thomas Brady, the bride's father, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brady and family, Mr. and Mrs. David Day and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. John Smith and family, Mr. Charles Plucknett and family, Mr. W. Eyke, Mr. Sam Anderson, and Mr. John Lee.

The combined staffs of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's Charing Cross Road and Denmark Street establishments, presented Mr. Charles Day with a handsome writing set in oak and silver, a fine example of the workmanship of the famous firm of Messrs. Mappin and Webb. Mr. Charles Day, as is known to most of the profession, has resided in Manchester for some time past, and his music warehouse in Gare Street, Piccadilly, is ever the resort of the innumerable artists visiting Cottonopolis.

Mr. Lawrence Barclay, many will be pleased to learn, has again won the Cup, presented by Col. W. Kenyon Mitford, C.M.G., for being the best "turned-out" trooper in the Middlesex Imperial Yeomanry. This makes the second time in succession that the popular young variety comedian has secured the coveted honour. It has never been done before in the M.I.Y.; so that Trooper Barclay has created a record to be proud of.

The employees of a well-known firm of music printers on Saturday last were returning to Southend railway station, on the occasion of their annual dinner and outing, when they were asked with much persistence by a hawker to buy pirated copies of "In the shade of the old apple tree," *The Catch of the Season* selection, and various other copyright works, the property of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, at the low price of twopence each. The music printers, having in mind the many good turns the pirates had done them, immediately "eased" the man of two hundred copies or thereabouts in a manner not at all appreciated by the vendor. As one of the parties expressed himself later, it was a finishing touch to a happy day and a happening worthy of the occasion.

The small son of a well-known comedian gave a remarkably smart reply to a question from his Sunday school teacher a short time since. "Now, Johnnie," said the teacher, "can you tell me the difference between the quick and the dead?" "Yes, miss," replied the young hopeful; "the quick is them as gets out of the way of motor-cars, and the dead is them as doesn't." The vicar, who happened to overhear the answer, left the room hurriedly to hide his laughter.

Jem Mace, the old-time ex-champion in the noble art, is this week to be seen at the Queen's, Poplar, in a little scena written by Mr. Jack Woolf, the popular manager of the hall. Mr. Mace, who is exhibiting his belts, cups, trophies, medals, and prizes, is nightly introduced by Mr. Harry Bristow.

The Metropolitan and Middlesex staffs take their respective outings to-morrow.

Mr. John L. Shine must have been puzzled on Monday night at the Metropolitan at the ripple of laughter which was evoked when in "Hogmany" he began the most serious speech in the admired play act, the speech in which he tells of his sad love and episode of years before and which commences with the words "'Tis years and years ago." The fact was that several turns prior Mr. Harry Lauder had used the same words at the commencement of each verse of his new song "We Parted on the Shore," and both artists delivering the words in broad Scotch caused the merriment.

The residents of Reading and the district will be delighted to learn that all arrangements are now complete for the erection of a Hippodrome to accommodate 1,500 persons. The occupants of the house will have an unobstructed view of the stage from any portion of the auditorium, and a special feature is the provision of a comfortable seat for each person in every part. The complete plans have been accepted and passed by the Borough Council, and a certificate was granted for the erection of the Hippodrome on the 14th of March last.

The plans, prepared by a well-known firm of London architects, include a basement floor, containing stage machinery, spacious green room, boiler room, extra dressing-rooms, etc. On the ground floor will be comfortable and elegantly-upholstered stalls, in front of a commodious pit. The stage will be large and fitted with a scene dock. There will be a handsome vestibule, and four large shops will flank either side of the main entrance. The grand circle floor will embrace circle, refreshment bar and lounge, manager's offices, etc., and there will be a large gallery above. Between the circle and the gallery floors there will be a small mezzanine floor introduced, containing foyer and refreshment-room.

The general decorations will be carried out in an artistic style, and the whole of the furnishing and upholstery will be up to date and sumptuous. The whole of the building will be electrically lighted, and will be constructed of fire-resisting material. Handsome fittings have been designed to correspond with the decorations. The proscenium opening measures 28 feet, with a depth of 30 feet, there also will be a specially-constructed room for the safe working of the cinématograph apparatus.

The house is to be built on what is practically an island site, and will be within a few minutes' walk of the G.W.R. and L. and S.W.R. and S.E. and Chatham Railway Stations and on the main tram route, almost in the immediate centre of the town, with a frontage of 112 feet in Caversham-road. The public will be provided with an excellent variety programme of the highest possible character, and a valuable feature will be that the children of all classes in the neighbourhood will be specially catered for at the weekly matinée. Special railway arrangements for late trains and cheap tickets will also be in operation.

Rougemont, with his turtle-swimming act, has proved a great draw at the Liverpool Olympia, a packed audience being present twice nightly. The turtle, weighing about 2cwt., with which he opened on Monday, died on Wednesday night, but another, and far larger, was speedily ordered from London. This is the second turtle, one expiring in Manchester last week, that has been lost. Rougemont states that he has had a turtle weighing 1,000 pounds captured abroad, and that on it he intends to cross from Calais to Dover.

"Le Domino Rouge" will make her first appearance in this country at the Palace Theatre on Monday. Disguised by a red domino, showing a coronet over the left eye, this artist has hitherto successfully mystified the public as to her identity, and the pertinacity with which the fair incognita has clung to her cognomen has prompted the description of "Miss Nobody from Nowhere." In Paris and America, "Le Domino Rouge" has made a big success with her novel dancing act. Aided by countless mirrors, and further assisted by a number of dancers, it will be found that her mirror dance is one of the most sensational that has been seen in England for many years.

Oscar Hammerstein, the well-known American impresario, recently made a statement in the New York Press that he knows who "Le Domino Rouge" really is, and offers to pay her £100 per week to appear as *première danseuse* in his Manhattan grand opera, which is to be produced next November. Mr. Hammerstein also offers to pay £200 if he is not correct in his surmises, on the understanding that Le Domino Rouge accepts his offer and returns to America unmasked. It is understood that this offer has been accepted.

Mr. Russell Wallett, the well-known "Lady in Black," was unable to appear at the Tivoli, the Empress, or the Grand, Clapham, at the beginning of last week, owing to an attack of ptomaine poisoning, which confined him to his bed for the rest of the week. He was fortunately able to reappear on Monday at the Tivoli and elsewhere, with his usual success.

Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, we are sorry to learn, was taken suddenly ill on Sunday night, the 12th inst., and was unable to fulfil her engagement at the Empire, Burnley, this week. We sincerely wish Miss Ra Leslie a speedy recovery.

In delightful weather the staff of the Manchester Hippodrome held their second annual picnic at Chester last Sunday. After spending a pleasant time seeing the sights of the ancient city, the party adjourned to the Queen's Head Hotel for dinner, under the presidency of Mr. E. P. Morgan, the genial manager. The outing was an entire success, thanks in a great way to Mr. C. E. Burnell, the assistant manager, who acted as treasurer, and Messrs. Harry Denvil and H Graham, the hon. secretaries.

In conjunction with Mr. Walter Booth, the well-known illusionist, Mr. Frederic Cull-Pitt is producing at the Standard, Pimlico, on Aug. 27, an entirely new and original act of illusions and prestidigitation. The effects to be produced are novel and up-to-date in treatment and conception, and will be presented by Mr. Booth, Mdlle. Adele, Mr. Cull-Pitt, and a full company of assistants.

H. B. Marinelli, who has just returned from America on the s.s *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, has secured several big acts on the other side, which he will import into Europe for the forthcoming season. In exchange, he has booked quite a number of our English stars to appear over there. He has also made special arrangements concerning the bookings of the New York Hippodrome, as well as partly accepted the European representation of a big American theatrical concern.

The 476th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), J. Alexander, Harry Blake, H. Griff, Fred McNaughton, Fred Neiman, Geo. Preston, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising therefrom discussed. A comprehensive report from a member of the executive in one of the provincial towns was read, and the secretary was instructed to take action. Mrs. McMillan, of Bridge-street Bar, Aberdeen, was appointed agent in that town, in lieu of Mr. George Stephen, resigned, to whom a letter of thanks was ordered to be addressed. Mr. F. Halliday, of the Stanley Arms Hotel, Preston, was appointed agent in that town. Cases of refunds and insurance were considered, and the secretary received instructions. The statement of accounts for the week ending Aug. 11 showed the addition of forty new members, while the receipts were £34 1s. and the expenditure £16 12s. 2d. The hon. treasurer's weekly and monthly reports were also presented, showing that the amount standing to the credit of the Association on July 31 was £1,041 10s. 6d., while the total membership at that date was 5,151. The grant of a holiday to the secretary was approved. Attention was drawn to the issue in a certain town of tickets independent of a voucher, and it was decided to obtain particulars with regard to the practice.

Mr. Carl Hertz, the king of cards, has just arrived in town. The popular magician, it will be remembered, went out to America in answer to a cable informing him of the dangerous illness of his father at San Francisco. On reaching New York he heard of the awful earthquake overwhelming the great city of the Pacific, which Mr. Hertz reached in time to say a last farewell to his parent. His father's papers have been completely destroyed, and the heirs are quite without means of tracing the stocks which the dead man held. Hertz, however, turned his visit to account by producing a new illusion called "The Bridal Chamber," a beautifully furnished apartment which grows apparently out of nothing at the will of the American Abanazar. Of course, the "bridal chamber" possesses a bride—none other than the pretty Emeline D'Alton. The new and most astonishing illusion will be produced for the first time in London on Monday next at the Holborn Empire.

Through the enormous success of Mr. Charles E. Machin's latest sketch production, we are informed that Moss Empires, Ltd., through Mr. Tom Shaw, the well-known agent, have secured *The Gorilla's Revenge*, by Mr. Charles M. Daly, Mr. Machin's manager, author, and producer. We gave a full account of its production in Sunderland, and at that time predicted that its success was assured after its first performance. It differs entirely from most sketches we have seen, both in the originality of its scenery and in its startling effects, which Mr. Machin intends to reproduce in their entirety, and with a strong cast.

Mr. Charles M. Daly's pen, we are given to understand, is also busy on three other like novelties for Mr. Machin. These are near completion, and will in due course be presented, with similar elaboration and elegance of staging as obtained in the staging of their successful predecessors. *The Gorilla's Revenge*, by the way, does not resemble anything that its title may suggest, and is legally copyrighted and protected. Mr. Cross, the world-famous menagerie proprietor, of Liverpool, procured a fine Phrebyan snake and Indian monkey for Mr. Machin, and these two denizens of the reptile and animal world are aids to the wonderful success Mr. Machin's sketch has made. Done on a similar principle, and with the fine staging for which Mr. Daly has become noted himself, Mr. Charles E. Machin's supply of first-class novelty sketches to the halls cannot but result in real success.

The great desideratum of the profession has always been to obtain a true and faithful representation of the personality of the artist at a dramatic moment. For the first time in the era of printing this has now become possible. Messrs. W. J. Bruce and Co., of 35, Surrey-street, Strand, are now reproducing any subject from life with great rapidity, and with a result as perfect as if it were a photograph itself. All that is required is a simple and good photograph, and from this, by enlargement and lithography, Messrs. Bruce reproduce an exact copy in photo-brown or in colours as preferred, at reasonable prices. We have specimens of the work (at our office, where they can be seen), and can recommend it as the very thing required for both professions.

Amid manifestations of the deepest sympathy the funeral took place on Saturday of Kennette, the famous aerial wonder, whose death was announced on the 8th inst. Deceased, who was fifty-seven years of age, was well known and highly esteemed both in and out of the profession. Through a lengthy and painful illness, he had not performed since the August Bank Holiday of 1905, at which time he was using the sobriquet of "Watchim" in deference to his lightning act.

Kennette, many years ago in America, met at the house of a sister a Miss T. Skuse, whom he married under romantic circumstances. The wife eventually went on the variety boards as a musical performer under the name of Sara Nette. Though she has not been seen in public for a lengthy period, she still, it is pleasant to relate, retains her old talents, and is ardently attached to her profession. The interment of the remains of poor Kennette took place in the new family grave in Abney Park Cemetery, many handsome wreaths being placed upon the coffin.

The husband of Mme. Fougere, the well-known music hall artist, was on Monday fined 20s. and costs for assaulting Adelina Bernardazzi. Complainant said that when she went to 8, High-street, Bloomsbury, to serve the summons, Girault rushed forward, snatched the summons out of her hand, and abused her in French. He ultimately handed the summons back, and she dropped it on the floor. She was about to leave the room, when Girault caught her by the shoulder and pushed her, causing her to fall downstairs. After hearing the defence, the magistrate said Girault should not have touched the complainant.

Miss Ethel Walker, who has been entertaining crowded houses at the Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes, this week, with her refined humorous songs at the piano, opens on Monday in the Stoll tour at Liverpool, and from there goes further north to Edinburgh and Glasgow. This is Miss Walker's first appearance beyond the Tweed.

Mr. Albert Wyndham's production of the Shakespearian episode from *King John* is more popular than ever, and the touching lines of Prince Arthur receive excellent interpretation from Miss Ivy Millais, a young actress who fairly touches the hearts of her audiences by the naturalness of her acting and her decided gift of pathos.

A most accomplished horse trainer makes a welcome return to the Hackney Empire next week. This is none other than Mr. Fred Ginnett, actor, equestrian director, circus proprietor, and financier. How many Empire patrons there are who have chortled with delight at the eccentricities of the old gentleman who plays the title-rôle in *Rejected Remounts*. Mr. Fred Ginnett is the grandson of the man who "created" it in the ring. The first to play the part was Jean Ginnett—his grandfather. He was a Frenchman and was taken prisoner at the Battle of Waterloo. After he came to England he became a horse-breaker for Ducrow, who ran Astley's circus. Mr. Ginnett's grandfather died forty years ago. His own father—to whom there is an equestrian statue at Brighton—followed him in the part, and played it hundreds of times all over the country, "tenting."

Mr. John Lawson has been very busy this week. He has been appearing as "the King's Minister" at Clapham, and as the large-souled Hebrew in his famous sketch, *Humanity*, which has been very finely mounted at the Granville, Walham Green, where packed houses have been thrilled by the realistic fight on the staircase.

The annual outing of the Front of the House Staff at the London Hippodrome will take place to-morrow, when the party will assemble at Victoria Station (L.B. and S.C.) and depart at 8.50 for Portsmouth, which will be reached at 11.30. Luncheon and dinner will be enjoyed at the Esplanade Hotel.

The annual outing of the staff of the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties took place on Sunday, when a drive to Windsor, via Egham and Staines, was very much enjoyed. Dinner was served at the Grapes Hotel, and after the usual toasts had been honoured, the party boarded a launch and voyaged to Monkey Island and back. Then followed tea, and the return journey, by way of Datchet, finished a thoroughly enjoyable day.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

Miss Connie Ediss and Mr. Henry A. Lytton were seen in a new comedietta, entitled *United Service*, produced for the first time at the London Pavilion on Monday. The author of the sketch is Mr. George Rollit, and the cast is thus:—

Lady Betty Blenkinsop / Sally, a cook ..... } Miss Connie Ediss
Pte. Mike O'Flanagan / Lord Knightridge .... } Mr. Henry A. Lytton

Lady Betty Blenkinsop was once a domestic servant, and her twin sister Sally is still in service in Maida Vale. Her ladyship has arranged to see Lord Knightridge; for a little bit of amusement they are going to make up as a cook and a soldier. Almost at the last moment she receives a note that Sally is coming to pay her a visit, and is in a state of terror lest it should be found out that her sister is a domestic servant. The gay lord eventually arrives and sees Sally, whom he at once takes for Lady Blenkinsop, and an entertaining conversation ensues between the two. Later, Private Mike O'Flanagan calls to see the cook, and is met by her sister, whom he accuses of being "uppish." The truth is, both Lady Blenkinsop and the cook, in the different situations, make no attempt to undeceive the men. Miss Connie Ediss, in her double rôle, in the part of Lady Betty, is absurdly dignified in her attempt to be aristocratic, while in the rôle of the cook she is pert and breezy. Mr. Henry A. Lytton gives us a clever character-study of a larkish old nobleman in one part of the piece, and of a lively young soldier-sweetheart in another. The comedietta, though scarcely original, is certainly laughable. There are a few good songs, notably "London's the place for me" (Mr. Lytton) and "Oh, I say!" (Miss Ediss).

Sculpture and sketching comprise the act presented by La Milo and Cruickshank. Tributes galore have already been paid to La Milo's beauty, and in some effusive verses which are given away with the programme she is compared to all the handsome ladies of mythology. But La Milo doesn't require the fulsome adulation of the bubbling rhymester. She is poetry herself. It is nothing less than an inspiration to watch her on her pedestal as the infatuating Circe, or as the muse Thalia, or as Venus—the latter, be it said, after the famous Velasquez painting in the National Gallery. These poses are most beautifully and artistically arranged. As for Cruickshank, he excels in the sketching line. Thus, we have caricatures of the Rev. Mr. Clifford, Lord Lonsdale, Mr. Martin Comstock, New York's purity crank, and others. The Sisters Gilbert are a couple of pleasing and smart dancers, and Mr. Gus Dallon distinguishes himself as a versatile entertainer. Percival has an agreeable comedy and piano turn, in which we get capital imitations of various people singing and playing instruments; and Mr. Harry Zetter makes for merriment with his eccentric singing and dancing. Vocalists and dancers of much merit come along in the persons of the Three Cape Girls, whose song, "Hugh, you coons," is a delightful number. Mr. Paul Vandy juggles in a wondrously tricky manner with metal tankards, bricks, balls, and other articles, and Foreman and Foreman compel one's laughter with their ridiculous cross-talking. More vocalists and dancers enter the field when the Pavilion Girls trip on to the stage. The clog dancing of these eight young ladies is admirable. Athas and Collins are distinctly funny with their burlesque business in *The Italian Girl and the Monkey*, which is already known to popularity.

Mr. Hal Forde, assisted by the Pavilion Girls, appear in the exceedingly pretty "episode," entitled *They Never Do That in Japan*. There is no story to tell. In an extremely pretty Japanese scene Mr. Forde and the ladies and some gentlemen dressed up as British naval officers merrily sing and dance. Mr. Forde explains to the girls, who are wearing the kimona, all the evil things that go on in that belated land called England, and the sweet little "geishas" sing in unison, "They never do that in Japan." Mr. Phil Ray goes one better than the late Sir Isaac Pitman in an attempt to abbreviate the English language, and the effect of Mr. Ray's shortened pronunciation is most amusing. But he shines best with his imitations of street calls in the ditty, "Who's that a-calling so sweet?" Mr. Whit Cunliffe, as up-to-dately dressed and as smartly groomed as ever, gains applause for his bright numbers "Hello!" and "Once upon a time." Miss May Rawlinson, the well-known contralto vocalist, offers some ear-enchanting items in "The sweetest flowers that bloom" and "Springtime," and Mr. Edwin Boyde tickles one's fancy with his diverting mannerisms and sayings. Howard and Collinson are, as usual, lively and humorous with their absurdity, *The Porter and the Parcel*; Miss May Henderson meets with great favour as a "dusky comedy queen"; and Mr. Chris Richards submits some intensely comical lines, and proves himself to be a neat dancer.

THE METROPOLITAN.

It is to the credit of that always energetic and hard-working comedian, Mr. Will Evans, that he never runs the risk of having brought against him a complaint of staleness in clinging too long to a successful impersonation. He makes frequent changes in his clever and amusing character studies, and that this policy is a judicious one cannot be doubted. Nor is there a tiresome sameness in Mr. Evans's impersonations. On the other hand, they are nearly always strongly contrasted with previous efforts. His latest embodiment is that of a Spanish dancer, and it is one of the funniest creations that Mr. Evans has given us. Mlle. Flora de Dindigal is a most amusing burlesque, and, in stage slang, has decidedly "caught on." The characteristic movements of the Spanish dancer are copied, but exaggerated in such a manner as to evoke the heartiest laughter. The hat and dress also constitute a whimsical caricature of the real thing. In the first scene the dancing lady appears alone; in the second she is seen as the leader of a *corps de ballet*. But such a ballet! The appearance of the coryphees excites the wildest merriment, and the energetic pirouetting of the principal danseuse, who floors her troupe one after the other, as if they were so many skittles to be knocked down, still further adds to the hilarity of the audience. Mr. Will Evans deserves his success: he works so hard to secure it.

The couple known as Osborne and Brooks appear in a pleasing little musical duo, the gentleman representing a husband who returns home at three o'clock in the morning in an inebriated condition to find that his wife is awaiting him. A Caudle lecture does not seem to have much effect, and when the lady threatens to go home to her mother, the incorrigible husband opines that it is a better arrangement than his mother-in-law coming to his house. The couple conclude with a neat song and dance.

An important engagement is that of Mr. Harry Lauder, whose song, "Mary, my Scotch bluebell," has such a pretty melody that the temptation to join in the chorus is well-nigh irresistible. Mr. Lauder has also introduced here his new ditty, "Since we parted on the shore," and the result has been most successful. His make-up as a heavily-bearded sailor man is exceedingly effective, and the chorus of the song is given by the audience with much vigour. A highly-successful appearance is also made by Mr. R. H. Douglas in his funny monologue, in which he represents Deadshaw, the private detective. This astute follower of Sherlock Holmes in the pursuit of his calling assumes various disguises, including a young man about town, a curate, and an old fellow who, Gaspard-like, gloats over his gold. Mr. Douglas's ability is generously acknowledged. Miss Nellie Dade, a clever comedienne, has a capital song in "I've played at that before," her dialect imitations being very good. Miss Dade also appears in the character of a servant-maid who has had the misfortune to break the statue of Venus, and, in order to deceive her master, poses as the damaged figure. Mr. G. H. Elliott scores as the chocolate-coloured coon, singing with much acceptance "My own Havana Queen," and also excelling as a dancer. Mr. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Ladies' Quartette are deservedly applauded for their charming rendering of well-known national songs; and the Lancashire Lads distinguish themselves as carefully-trained singers and dancers. Miss Nina Martino is heard to great advantage in a French song and "There let me rest." Mr. John L. Shine and company are here on a return visit in their popular sketch *Hogmanay*, with its Dickensonian touches; and the Picquays are appreciated in their refined drawing-room entertainment. Mr. Phil Ray is a favourite comedian; and Mr. Wilson Hallett has won renown as a whistler and a clever mimic of children. Quite acceptable are the respective contributions of Miss Mignon Tremaine and Miss Ella Retford, comediennes and dancers; and Mr. Ernest Rees, a droll comedian, is also in the bill. Mention should not be omitted of the services rendered by Mr. J. W. Edgar as manager, and by Mr. D. M. Trytel as musical director.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

An excellent bill is provided here this week, and very keenly are the various items enjoyed. Mr. John Lawson, the entertainment manager, is to be complimented on the happy results achieved. The selection by the orchestra, admirably interpreted under the *bâton* of Mr. Bodin, is the forerunner of many pleasing items. Miss Minnie Wren, a dashing comedienne, sings with plenty of energy and no little charm "The Stowaway," which quite early in the evening won the hearts of the audience, who joined in the refrain with pleasing effect; Miss Wren's second contribution is equally happy, in which she strongly advised the boys to look after their parents; loud applause greeted the lady's injunction. Mr. Edward Eller and Miss May Rose are intensely funny in a vocal comedy, entitled *Lost a Husband*; the former as an actor turned waiter by force of circumstances is really highly diverting; Miss Rose proves herself as capable a dancer as she is a vocalist. Several of the numbers are exceedingly tuneful, notably the duet between the waiter and his fair guest; the burlesque imitations of heavy drama are also very droll, and the audience enjoy them amazingly. Mr. Dick Graham is billed as "a Singer of Sensible Songs," and this aptly describes his contributions; but not only are his songs sensible, they are tuneful and full of sound advice. In one of them he gives the male portion of the audience some valuable hints in regard to the choice of a wife. His second song, "Live and let Live," is awarded a welcome that is encouraging.

The hit of the evening, however, belongs to the Katos, their clever marionette "show" being as artistic as it is clever. The Katos work unflaggingly. The lady promptly dances herself into popularity, when, as an Irish Colleen—and a pretty one at that—she indulges in a typical jig. Later she joins in a duet anent "Maria," and the audience cheer to the echo. Mr. Ventom Swift is an eccentric dancer of marked ability, his song, "The White Coon," is quaint; eccentricity coupled with refinement here go hand in hand. Jessie Elvin and Co. add to the interest of the programme with a romantic sketch of the melodrama type, entitled *The Gipsy's Revenge*. As the twin sisters—a dual rôle not easily assumed—Miss Elvin succeeds in the highest degree. Very excellent, too, is the banker, William Downs, of Mr. Arthur Burton; a fine, manly, and impressive Carlos is Mr. Wilfred Benn. To Mr. A. Carrington is allotted the rôle of "the villain of the piece," and he scores a success in an unthankful part. Mr. Stanley B. Grosvenor is in front of the house, and his courtesy is unvarying.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Despite the warm weather of the last few weeks this popular place of entertainment has been filled almost to overflowing, and during the recent holiday its utmost holding capacity was severely tested, but thanks to the skilful management of Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the popular acting-manager, everything was smoothly and comfortably arranged. On the night of our latest visit the hall was, as usual, well filled, and the programme quite up to the high standard of entertainments here. After the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Louis la Rondelle, had "discoursed most excellent music," in the shape of a selection from *My Lady Molly*, the first turn was that of the Mayvilles (Harry and Elsie), who delighted all present with their marionette show, and so cleverly manipulated their little artists that the adventures of "The policeman and servant," "The Salvation Army," and other items, including a Scottish song, were rewarded with enthusiastic applause. Next came the Mackweys, aptly described on the programme as "The riotous trio in a mad whirlwind on the wire." They were immensely popular, and must have been highly gratified by their reception. Jack Lorimer—the Scotch "breeder of smiles"—next appeared, and caused much amusement by his quaint rendering of "I've lost my little doggie," finishing up with a neatly-executed dance. Then followed the De Breans, Japanese jugglers and sciographists, who delighted all by their skilful and graceful juggling, their tricks—many of which are novelties—being executed with that precision and smartness that we look for from these clever little people. They also exhibited most pleasingly their skill as shadowgraphists. Griff followed in his clever act, entitled "The Clown in Apartments." The popular artist's whimsicalities were warmly greeted. The American Bioscope was the next attraction, and exhibited a new series of interesting and up-to-date pictures, including "Rescued in Mid-Air" and "Henley Regatta." Max Yorke's dogs, which are indeed marvels of canine intelligence, perform many new and clever tricks, and reflect great credit on their owner and trainer by showing evident interest in their work. Nelson's Newsboys are a welcome turn, their songs and dances being really excellent. The Sutcliffe Family are very popular with their acrobatic show, and also as Scottish pipers and dancers, their sword-dance in particular being loudly applauded. Mr. Frank Danby's musical and comedy sketch is a favourite feature of this week's programme. It is clever, bright, and well acted all round. This pleasing trifle, written and composed by Edward Marris, may be chronicled as an unqualified success, mainly due to the clever acting and smart fooling of Mr. Frank Danby as Jim. He is ably supported by Mr. W. J. Manning as the Major, Mr. Walter Nugent as Archie, Mr. Edmond Russon as Jack, Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Bettie, and Miss Esme Edwardes as Lady Kitty. The playlet is entitled *The Chauffeur*, and Mr. Frank Danby fills the title-rôle. This sketch formed a fitting conclusion to an enjoyable entertainment.

THE CAMBRIDGE OUTING.

The staff of the Cambridge Music Hall had their outing on Sunday, when a party of over fifty in number left the Commercial-street establishment in four well-appointed coaches at 10.30 a.m. Travelling by way of Hackney-road and Lea Bridge, smoky London was soon forgotten in the enjoyment of the sylvan delights of Epping Forest. A halt was here made for refreshment, and the journey was then continued through Chingford and Waltham, past thatched barns, rustic cottages, fields of waving corn, and windmills moving lazily in the gentle breeze, over the winding Lea, on to Broxbourne, and thence through undulating country to St. Margaret's and Stanstead. The latter place was reached at about 2.30, and the company then sat down to an excellent dinner provided by "Mine Host," Mr. C. H. Harper, at the Red Lion Hotel.

Mr. T. G. Richards, the general manager of the Cambridge, occupied the chair, and gave the toast of the "Royal Family," which was right heartily supported.

Mr. Charles Knowlden, in proposing the health of the Chairman, referred to the kind interest which Mr. Richards always took in the members of the staff.

The Chairman, in responding, said it was a great pleasure for him to preside, and to look round the tables and see the large staff which the "Cambridge" had. The employees had done much to improve the hall, and he was proud of them for it. But the credit for the day's outing was chiefly due to Mr. B. Broadbridge, the secretary and treasurer, who had really arranged the whole affair and had done everything in his power to make it a success. He (Mr. Richards) hoped to have the privilege of taking the chair on many similar occasions. (Applause.) Mr. Broadbridge was then "toasted," as were also the two hard-working stewards (Messrs. George Garrard and Charles Knowlden), the ladies, the visitors (for whom Mr. Hector Munroe replied), and the host.

The dinner was followed by sports and games in the field attached to the hotel. The principal event of the day, a 100 yards' flat race, was won by Mr. J. Levy. Mr. Richards and Mr. Munroe were indefatigable in the work of carrying out the programme, and the Sports Committee also included Messrs. Leon Thomas, Mr. J. Jacobs, Harry Jacobs, T. Boam, A. Macey, and B. Broadbridge. After the vigorous athletic pursuits, tea was found most appetising, and at seven o'clock the drive home was commenced, and was as greatly enjoyed as the outward one. The route taken was through Edmonton, the party reaching Shoreditch about eleven o'clock, everybody expressing himself exceedingly well pleased with a most enjoyable trip.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

"A merry musical mélange" is the alliterative description of one of the principal attractions in the Hackney Empire programme this week. *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, by Paul Knox and Harry Roxbury, is on comic opera lines, but serves chiefly as a medium for the display of Mr. Roxbury's quaint humour in the part of P.C. Longfellow, of Scotland Yard. Having undertaken the exposure of a couple of French card-sharpers, the ambitious officer pays a visit to the mansion of Lady Carr, where he discovers a dress suit, which for purposes of disguise he dons. The result is that he is mistaken for the Prince of Monte Carlo, and when that distinguished stranger arrives he is accused of being an impostor. The police constable, however, induces the Prince to play the part of the detective who has been engaged. The eccentric behaviour of the supposed Prince is the cause of a great deal of amusement, and the representative of Scotland Yard gives offence to a fire-eating Frenchman—one of the card-sharpers already mentioned—who on the slightest provocation flies into a violent rage and scatters challenges broadcast. A duel is arranged to take place in the gardens at Monte Carlo between the policeman and the Frenchman, and a very comical affair it proves to be. The Englishman turns the whole thing into ridicule by his antics, and this laughable burlesque business winds up with the arrest of the French adventurers—a man and a woman—who have managed to make a good thing out of Lady Carr's card parties. Mr. Harry Roxbury, whose Sergeant Lightning in Fred Karno's *Dandy Thieves* will be remembered as a capital piece of work, is also an excellent representative of the police constable who masquerades as the Prince. He keeps the fun going merrily all the time, and his high spirits never flag for an instant. Mr. Roxbury is supported by an excellent company, the part of Lady Carr being played in capital style by Miss Vashti Wynne. A full chorus lends valuable assistance; and the piece has also the advantage of being adequately staged, both the scenery and dresses giving complete satisfaction.

Another leading item in the current bill, the eccentric act entitled *The Casey Circus*, is also well received. A number of youngsters give a circus entertainment, the energetic lead being taken by an Irish dame. Singing and dancing contributions are plentiful, and the young people work with an evident determination to do their best, the result being an unqualified success. One of the funniest things in the new production is a comic bull fight, and burlesque performances are also given of a well-known Arabian troupe, and of Mr. Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin" sketch. Miss Rose Naynon, assisted by Mr. Clyde Phillips, gives a wonderful performance with her troupe of trained tropical birds. For the time being the stage is converted into an aviary, the birds, of various kinds, numbering about a hundred. A pretty and interesting sight is a toy hansom cab, drawn by a bird, while another plays the part of driver, and two others occupy the interior of the vehicle. A couple of birds also do a turn—in a double sense—on the horizontal bars; and, altogether, this show is one that should not be missed. Bennett and Martell, referred to on the programme as "the Long and the Short of it," are eccentric comedians who meet with a good reception. Miss Lillie Langtry, as bright and as lively as ever, is also accorded a cordial welcome, and meets with the success that she unquestionably deserves. Miss Clarice Netta, in a very pretty white dress, trimmed with red, gives a charming rendering of an old favourite, "The dear Homeland"; and Miss Gwennie Hasto achieves quite a triumph with her song and dance. Mr. J. H. Milburn, character comedian, sings "From Saturday to Monday" in good style; and Mr. Nat Clifford continues to score with his ditty, "The Grand Hotel," Miss Carrie Joy, comedienne, also deserves favourable mention. Mr. John Christie is the able acting-manager, and he has an energetic assistant in Mr. W. E. Higgett.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Mr. Chas. S. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum are again at the Holloway Empire. This time they are appearing in a new sketch, entitled *The Cuckoo*, a brisk, bustling little piece, that is played to an accompaniment of merry laughter. Mr. Kitts appears in the character of a gay young officer, who is engaged to a charming girl. But, like the adventuress in a modern melodrama, he has "a past," and amongst those who have been closely associated with it is a pretty, but giddy, young widow. When he is expecting his sweetheart to take tea with him, the widow, looking very charming in black, puts in an appearance. She is a lady who is not easily rebuffed, and, in spite of a rather cool reception from the military gentleman who was once her devoted admirer, she proceeds to make herself quite at home, and helps herself to the cream and other delicacies which have been provided for another lady. The sound of the other charmer's voice—she is heard speaking to the gallant captain's manservant—drives her lover into a condition of mind bordering on frenzy; and the widow is compelled to conceal herself within the interior of a grandfather's clock. Then the fun begins in earnest. The hands of the ancient timepiece behave in the most eccentric fashion, and naturally the new arrival is startled when she beholds them revolving at a rapid rate. Bent on still further worrying her old admirer, the mischief-loving widow, partly opening the clock-case, cries "cuckoo," and the explanation that it is the cat fails to satisfy the puzzled young lady visitor. Then, during her temporary absence from the room, the widow emerges from the clock, but is quickly forced to seek another place of concealment—this time a large chest—and to prevent her escape the captain and his man sit upon it, whilst the prisoner has her revenge by means of a hairpin. The little piece is brought to a merry conclusion. Mr. Kitts as the much-worried military man and Miss Windrum as the widow work exceedingly hard in the fun-making, and are well supported by the other members of the company.

A very popular turn is Park's Eton Boys, a combination of juvenile vocalists who do great credit to their teacher. They open with a good rendering of "Excelsior," and this is followed by excellently sung solos by members of the troupe, Mr. Park acting as accompanist at the piano. The comedy element is also introduced, one of the boys giving a laughing song, while another represents a certain Billy Green, who gets into trouble, but makes a very effective stage exit. The Eton Boys are called upon to acknowledge well-deserved recalls. In their own line those clever comedians, the McNaughtons, are unsurpassed. There is nothing funnier on the variety stage than their burlesque fight, first with knives and then with the gloves. The shouts of laughter with which their performance is received afford sufficient evidence of the enjoyment of the audience. A welcome reappearance at this hall is made by dainty Miss Alice Lloyd, who, charmingly costumed, sings in piquant style of Rosy who had a cosy bungalow up the river. This favourite artist scores even a bigger success with her second ditty, "Who are you looking at, eh?" The trio, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, represent the cowboy, the swell, and the lady, in a brisk American singing and dancing act which is greatly appreciated. Mlle. de Dio's attractive and artistic performance has been so often described that it is now only necessary to say that her "weird dance," with its wonderful lighting effects, has lost none of its charm, the lady displaying her wonted grace of movement and deftness in manipulating the waving masses of gauzy drapery. Mr. Jake Friedman, dressed all in red, upholds his reputation by his vocal contributions; and Forest and King also meet with success. The American Bioscope shows some interesting pictures of the exhibition recently given by members of the London Fire Brigade in Hyde Park. The arrangements in front of the house continue to be carefully looked after by acting-manager Chas. W. Adams, and the orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Henry W. May.

"CAMBRIDGE MUSIC HALL" OUTING TO EPPING FOREST, AUG. 12TH, 1906.

SOUTH LONDON OUTING.

The beauties of Knockholt Beeches were explored by the staff of the South London Palace and their friends on Sunday, when the annual festival took place. A party of close upon fifty strong, under the genial directorship of Mr. Charles E. Howells, the musical conductor, and Mr. Harry B. Wincote, the honorary secretary and treasurer for the outing, started in brakes from the London-road shortly after 9 a.m., the company including as one of its guests Mr. William Payne, the new manager, who commenced his duties on Monday last. It was rather a coincidence that the late manager, Mr. Frank Weeks, died on the very day (July 29) that was originally set aside for this trip, and in the midst of the merrymaking there was a note of regret and a kindly thought for the man who, with his bluff, hearty, straightforward manner, had won the esteem and respect of all his subordinates at the theatre he controlled for nearly seven years.

The drive into Kent was most enjoyable. The route taken was through New Cross, Deptford, Catford, and Farnborough. The scenic splendours unfolded after Catford was left behind were a source of pleasurable surprise to those who were unacquainted with the district, and renewed delight to those who had on previous occasions haunted its picturesque byways and wooded glades. Several of the trippers had provided themselves with cameras, and amateur collections are no doubt by this time greatly enhanced by picturesque views of rural scenes in the Hop Country. Knockholt was reached a few minutes before one o'clock, and, after a little photographic fun in the grounds of the hotel, all assembled for dinner, presided over by Mr. C. E. Howells, the vice-chairman being Mr. H. B. Wincote.

After the chairman had proposed the usual loyal toasts, he made some graceful references in an admirable speech to the late Mr. Weeks. They all deplored his loss. He was a good-hearted, frank, and honourable man, and a kind friend to the staff had vanished from their midst. However, while paying a tribute of respect to the dead, they must not forget the living, and he (the chairman) took pleasure in introducing to them their new manager, Mr. William Payne, whom he hoped they would support in the same conscientious manner that they had supported Mr. Weeks.

Mr. William Payne, who stated that for the past five years he had managed the Tottenham Empire, thanked the chairman for his welcome, and the company for their generous reception of him. He would do everything in his power to further the interests of the South London, and he felt sure that the staff, of whom he had heard such excellent accounts, would put forth every effort to work harmoniously with him for the mutual benefit of their directors and themselves.

The vice-chairman, in submitting "The Directors of the South London Palace," paid a nice compliment to those gentlemen, remarking that they could not wish for kinder or more considerate proprietors. The toast was heartily honoured by the whole company.

Mr. L. A. Weeks, in a capitally-worded and well-delivered maiden speech, which augured much for his future in the direction of addressing audiences, proposed "Success to the South London Palace," and it need hardly be said that the good wishes to which he gave expression were shared by his hearers.

The chairman gave the toast of "The Press," and Mr. Douglas Crichton responded thereto.

The health of the new manager, Mr. Payne, was drunk with musical honours, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Howells, for presiding so ably, brought the speech-making to a close.

Rambles in the neighbourhood of Knockholt Beeches occupied the rest of the afternoon until tea-time, and at seven o'clock a start was made for home, the brakes arriving at the South London at 10.45, everybody feeling the better for the trip.

Among the party were Messrs. C. E. Howells, H. B. Wincote, L. A. Weeks, W. Lynch, W. Rosser, W. Dane, J. Glover, T. Beck, G. Wilkins, P. Harris and C. Owen; Misses Howells, Cross, White, Herbert, Newnham, Baron, Ashlin, and Rapsey. The guests were Messrs. William Payne, Warner, Grimsdale, Angelotti, Nelson Downs.

THE EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Please accept my very warmest thanks for your splendid and masterly leading article in this week's *Era*. You have done more than your utmost to help us, and I feel I cannot thank you sufficiently. By the way, there is an error in "Actor Citizen's" letter. He states that Mr. Thos. Lucas sat on the Bench on June 5. This is incorrect, although the *Oxford Times*, in their June 9 issue, stated he sat. As a matter of fact, he sat on the Bench for the previous cases, but when ours was called on he moved to the side, and remained there.—Yours faithfully,

ALBANY WARD.

Aug. 11, '06.

The following correspondence has been sent to us for publication:—

(COPY.)

"DEAR SIR,—Referring to your letter of November last *re* cinématograph, I beg to ask permission of the Justices to allow me to give about one hour's cinématograph exhibition in the above building on the 15th and 16th inst. The exhibition would be under my personal supervision, and every necessary precaution as laid down by the insurance companies would be taken.—Yours faithfully,

"ALBANY WARD.

"T. Mallam, Esq., Clerk to City Justices, Oxford.
Aug. 9, '06."

(COPY.)

"DEAR SIR,—I laid your letter of yesterday's date, asking permission of the Justices to allow you to give about one hour's cinématograph exhibition in the Empire Theatre on the 15th and 16th inst., before the Justices this morning.

I am directed to state in reply that they refused unanimously to grant such permission.—Yours faithfully,

"THOMAS W. MALLAM,
"Clerk to the Justices.

"126, High-street, Oxford, Aug. 10, '06.
"Mr. Albany Ward, The Empire Theatre."

These cinématograph exhibitions are allowed in every music hall and theatre in the United Kingdom; yet these high and mighty Justices refuse permission to Mr. Ward to give one of them.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

There can be no doubt that public opinion is on the side of the showmen in the Mitcham Fair dispute. Overwhelming proof is shown in the following extracts from the London daily Press. The *Daily Telegraph*, in several special articles, has shown a sympathetic grasp of the question. In the early days of the struggle—whilst its possible occurrence was in the balance—the *Daily Telegraph* said :—

"Apparently, the proprietors of steam and electric roundabouts, the conjurers, the contortionists, the jugglers, the strolling players, the 'infant phenomenons,' and all the rest are determined to hold carnival at Mitcham, whether the local authorities like it or not. And, although the ordinary, prosaic person, who knows nothing of the joys and sorrows of van-dwelling, may be unaware of the fact, the world of travelling showmen represents a very large community and a really important industry. Will it be believed that something like a million of money is sunk in this country in their plant and paraphernalia? You can't make, or buy, or repair steam jumping and galloping horses, 'merry-go-rounds,' switchbacks, 'flying ships,' and the like for nothing. And if all the Jarleys and their brother and sister professionals in these islands were to invade Mitcham next week, bent on making mischief, Mitcham would know it. For there are 70,000 of them, more or less. This, at any rate, is the computation of the Rev. T. Horne, who acts as hon. chaplain to the Showmen's Guild—an admirable association, originated by Mr. F. H. Pedgrift some years ago to safeguard the interests of the community in question. And what the showmen's hon. chaplain doesn't know about them simply isn't worth knowing.

"It was only the other day that the veteran Lord George Sanger, together with Mr. Horne, Mr. Pedgrift, and others went in deputation to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee of the London County Council to plead the cause of the vandwellers, as the result of some attempt which had been made to prevent them from occupying Hampstead Heath on the night of Bank Holiday, when the fun of the fair was over. And the interesting truth was suggested to the members of the Council that they would find caravan-dwelling a very novel and pleasing form of holiday making in the summer vacation. It will be interesting to learn hereafter whether the amiable hint has been acted upon by any of the Spring Gardens representatives.

"As for the threatened fair, it would be a pity, all things considered, if it were to go the way eventually of that of Southwark—of which Hogarth, it will be remembered, painted a picture—Bartholomew, and the rest. A time-honoured fixture of which the origin is lost in the mists of antiquity might well be perpetuated, however humble its present-day form.

"They would do well to remember, in any event, that from olden days show-folk and strolling-players have been held in high esteem by Royal and august personages. It is affirmed that the original charter for holding this particular fair was granted by Good Queen Bess. And there is preserved in the British Museum a bill of the entertainments at old Bartholomew Fair which mentions various shows patronised by Queen Anne and her Court—vaulters, posturers, performing dogs, conjurers, balancers, tight-rope performers, and other artists in agility and daring. And what was good enough for Queen Anne ought surely to satisfy Mitcham at the present day. Let us hope, at any rate, that the coming conflict will be a bloodless one."

Following this in a second article the *Daily Telegraph* said :—

"Somehow or other the Conservators of Mitcham Common do not seem to be exactly popular just now. They have tried to deprive the good folk of Mitcham of their ancient and annual fair, but the invasion of travelling showmen has already taken place, and since nothing succeeds like success, public opinion is apparently all on the side of the invaders. It seems more than likely that to-day 'all the fun of the fair' will be in full swing, Conservators or no Conservators. On Saturday a long procession of caravans appeared in the streets, and almost before it was realised that the interfering authorities were being dared to do their worst, the camp was set. Steam and electric roundabouts, swings and cokernut shies, were fitted up, caravans were laagered, horses turned out to graze, while the proprietors—sturdy-looking sons of the road—sat down to the unusual pastime of passive resisting. Later on a couple of policemen put in an appearance and took the names of the defiant nomads; but no one worried much about this, as all were firmly convinced that they were well within their rights, and that the people of Mitcham were at their back. As a counterblast to the notice of the Conservators, whereby showmen 'are warned that they must not pitch on the ground of the Fair Green, or on any part of the Common,' the showmen themselves issued a manifesto, which was widely placarded, and which invited the men of Mitcham to defend their ancient fair rights and 'franchise.' But leaving nothing to chance, they pitched camp first, and manifestoed afterwards. Yesterday the van-dwellers had quite settled down. No rough tarpaulin 'hotel' of the Triangle Camp pattern was good enough for them. Caravans with neat white curtains, polished brasswork, and as often as not with birdcages hung outside, formed the homes of about one hundred showmen.

"That the Conservators of Mitcham Common are not to have the support of the Government is evident from a letter received at the fair on Saturday from the Home Office. It briefly informed the recipient that the Home Secretary had made no order relating to Mitcham Fair. The Conservators are left to fight their own battle, and the showmen feel strong in the fact that they have reached, in the course of their ordinary itinerary throughout the country, a spot on which there is record of a fair having been held under Royal charter as long ago as 1559."

The *Daily Chronicle* is equally emphatic on the side of the showmen :—

"There is to be no quarter at Mitcham in the dispute between the Conservators of the Common and the showmen who hold their annual fair on that pleasant spot. In spite of prohibitions and threats of injunctions, all the fun of the fair was in full swing yesterday, and it is understood that it will be allowed to run its three-days' course this year without any serious interference.

"The Common Conservators, on their part, decline to submit. Yesterday morning Mr. Alfred Ball and other leading showmen called on Alderman Fosse at Croydon, and offered to him, as chairman of the Conservators, the amounts usually paid as tolls; but he refused to accept the money, and declared that the Conservators intend to proceed against the showmen for trespass. The showmen are prepared to fight the case, and a fund is to be opened for that purpose. Meanwhile, they decline to suspend the fair, which is now in full swing. About two hundred booths of various kinds, big and little, are now erected on the Fair Green—which is no longer green—on each side of the main road, and yesterday the proprietors found no lack of patronage.

"All Mitcham was palpitating with eagerness yesterday over the opening of the fair. Every variety of entertainment common to such institutions was to be seen on the grounds.

"Merry-go-rounds abounded all over the fair, and were patronised by all the young people of the village, and some of the 'grown-ups' as well. The ancient and the modern met curiously in the steam 'horses' and the ancient contrivances worked by hand; but each seemed to be equally popular. Machines for testing strength were set up in various parts of the ground, and budding marksmen tried their skill at shooting glass balls dancing on the apex of a spray of water.

"Over one booth was displayed the golden, or rather gilt, 'key' of the fair, which, although it has never opened anything, is yet preserved as a relic of bygone days. The real excitement and joy of the fair did not begin until the evening, and many of the bigger booths, in fact, did not throw open their doors until the village population had finished their day's toil, and were ready to indulge in a few hours' genial, if somewhat rollicking, amusement. Then, indeed, the fun became 'fast and furious,' but it was quite free from any objectionable elements, and could hardly have been objected to, even by fastidious conservators of commons.

"Like many of our English fairs, that at Mitcham is an inheritance from ancient days, and it is pleasant to hear a showman like Mr. Alfred Ball, or 'Professor' Ball, as his fellow-showmen call him, enlarge upon the honourable lineage of the present-day institution. Mr. Ball is a well-preserved man a little over middle-age, and, like so many of our legitimate showmen, his business was handed down to him from his father, just as he expects to pass it on to the son who is now assisting him.

"'Yes,' said Mr. Ball, to a *Daily Chronicle* representative, who caught him on the fair ground, 'this is a very ancient fair. It goes back to the days of Queen Elizabeth, although there was no charter then. That came later. I have attended this fair for twenty-six years, and my father was a showman here and at other country fairs before me.'

"Naturally Mr. Ball is full of interesting reflections about the past and present of English fairs. He has travelled pretty well all over England with his bioscope and variety entertainment, and he asserts with an air of conviction that the tone of English fairs has greatly improved.

"'Years ago,' he said, 'they were merely freak shows or some kind of catch-penny entertainment. Now better ideas prevail, more mechanism is used in the production of shows, and a great deal more money is expended by showmen in seeking to meet the public taste. To-day many more thousands of pounds are laid out on a good travelling show than used to be spent years ago when I came into the business. It has become an organised, legitimate, and respectable industry, and I hope also a respected industry.'

"In support of his last remark Mr. Ball produced an interesting letter which he received recently from the Curate of St. John, Tilbury Docks, the Rev. F. W. King. He regards it as a complete vindication of the showman's answers, and all answers to those who look upon shows and fairs as vulgarising influences in public life. In the course of his letter, Mr. King says :—

"'Speaking as a clergyman and from personal observation during the period for which you have been here, I am perfectly satisfied that your stay has been beneficial to us. At the best of times this is the dullest of dull places, and a well-conducted show, run on good and healthy lines, renders a useful service to our people. That you have done so is quite certain, because you have maintained a high character and a good tone throughout your performance. Indeed, the only grumble I have heard—and heard with considerable satisfaction—is that the public-houses in Tilbury have had to complain of a slackening in business while you have been here.

"'I should like to add, if you will allow me, that the general influence exerted by yourself and by your company in this neighbourhood has been of the best.'

"On the question of fairs generally Mr. Ball draws a sharp distinction between those at which horse dealers are present. 'These,' he said, 'are always more or less rowdy and noisy, but at Mitcham, for instance, there are no horses, and the fair is as quiet and well-conducted as it could well be.'

"Local authorities apparently deal with showmen in widely different fashions. At Oxford, for instance, Mr. Ball explains, the fair is right in the centre of the main road, and with the sanction of the authorities of St. John's College traffic is stopped for two days from ten in the morning till midnight, and generally speaking every facility is given to the showmen to pursue their calling. After this revelation it would be unfair to speak again of Oxford as 'the home of lost causes.'

"'Till we get to within sixty or seventy miles of London,' said Mr. Ball, 'we are treated as proper tradespeople, but as we get nearer the capital, and especially near the suburbs, things are different. The Middlesex County Council treat us very well and give us the privilege of removing the gipsy people fifty yards from our show ground.'"

Besides reporting the speeches at the Sunday demonstration, the *Standard* said :—

"More than the usual interest was attached to the preparations on Saturday for the annual fair at Mitcham. It was known that the Conservators of Mitcham Common and the owners of the franchise had circulated notices to the effect that no sites for shows, etc., on the Fair Green would be let for the present year, and that proprietors of shows had been warned against pitching on the green or on any other part of the common. But the showmen had avowed their intention of defying the Conservators and franchise-holders. About mid-day on Saturday a long line of caravans entered the town, and their appearance was the signal for loud cheering by sympathisers. Police were present in large numbers, but the showmen entered the Fair Green and set to work to rig up their attractions. Crowds and police looked on quietly for some time, till at length two officers commenced a tour of the shows, and took the names of the intruders.

"Later in the afternoon, the Rev. Thomas Horne, hon. Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, issued on behalf of the showmen a printed appeal to the 'men of Mitcham' to defend your ancient fair rights and franchise.' In this appeal it was said :' Before Mitcham Fair can ever be abolished the people have a right to be heard and a vote taken.' The position the showmen take up is that the franchise entitles the holder to exact tolls, and not to decide whether there shall be or shall not be a fair. They complain that their offer to pitch on a quieter part of the common—near the pond on the Croydon-road—has not been accepted by the Conservators. The fair usually commences on August 12, but that day falling on Sunday this year, the fair has been fixed to commence to-day.

"A demonstration was held on the Fair Green yesterday, when a crowd numbering about 5,000 attended."

Thus the *Daily News* :—

"When Queen Elizabeth, according to the traditional story, declared Mitcham Fair to be open 'for ever,' she evidently reckoned without the Conservators of Mitcham Common.

"The 'fun of the fair' has entertained thousands of pleasure-seekers since the spacious days of Elizabeth, but even ancient charters cannot prevail against the growth of London suburbs and the inevitable electric tramway. The small area of waste land at Mitcham, bounded by London-road, Western-road, and Broadway, is now obviously unfitted for the purposes of a fair ground. The Conservators, who last year endeavoured to banish the fair, rest their right on the fact that they have purchased from the holder the right to levy tolls (and therefore to accept or refuse applications for space for booths) on the fair ground. On the other hand, the inhabitants deny that this overrides their right, under charter, to hold a fair.

"Interviewed shortly after the meeting, Mr. Grange told a *Daily News* representative that he strongly resented the attempt of four men to overrule the wishes of 4,350 inhabitants. It was immaterial to him personally whether the fair was held or not, but he was fighting for the rights of the inhabitants and for the enjoyment of the poorer people. Out of four hundred of the better-class inhabitants he had canvassed, not one had objected.

"The fair was the means of circulating money in Mitcham, being visited by thousands of people for miles round.

"'We are all sportsmen in Mitcham,' said Mr. Grange, 'but they have already stopped our football on the common. I am seriously thinking of calling a meeting to consider whether golf on the common is not far more dangerous, especially since the introduction of the tramcars.'

"Mr. Ball, the leader of the showmen, who has waited on the Home Secretary with the Rev. T. Horne in reference to this matter, said that if the present Fair Green was considered unsuitable for a fair owing to the growth of traffic, the showmen were quite willing to pitch their booths on Three Kings' Common, where there was plenty of space. He had taken good care that the showmen were thoroughly respectable men, all members of the Association. He had himself attended the fair for twenty-six years. The showmen were, he added, fighting to protect themselves and their children, as it meant a three-days' living for them.

"Our representative also interviewed one of the Conservators, Mr. Deputy Millar Wilkinson, C.C. of Seatonross, Sutton. Mr. Wilkinson, though declining to enter into details, admitted that the Conservators had ordered the names and addresses of the showmen to be taken, with a view to taking further proceedings. They had, he said, no desire to prevent the enjoyment of the people, but they wished to consult the wishes of the majority of the inhabitants, who considered the noise and drunkenness which accompanied the fair to be a nuisance. The Conservators had, therefore, bought out the rights of levying tolls, and intended to do their best to put a stop to the fair."

The *Morning Leader* brightly summarises the meeting as follows :—

"Was Mitcham downhearted? No!

"Not a little bit of it; and the great fair is to be held this year as per usual, notwithstanding a determined stand by the Board of Conservators, who refused to grant the use of any land under their control for the purposes of the fair.

"But the Home Secretary has been appealed to by the showmen, and red tape—for once—has been cast to the winds, and, after a fair consideration, the Home Secretary has decided that the fair shall remain.

"It was generally believed that there would be—well, a little disturbance at the meeting yesterday; but no, Mitcham was in a very good temper, and crowded in its bronzed-faced thousands round 'the platform of the people,' Messrs. Alfred Ball and Son.

"There was a beautifully draped blue table, covered with a white damask cloth, upon which Mitcham gazed in reverence. There were curtains beyond, which were subsequently raised, to "discover" well-known showmen, who were cheered to the echo.

"Mr. Grange, a member of the Mitcham Parish Council, presided, supported by the Rev. T. Horne, chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, Mr. T. Watson Wright, the Guild's solicitor, Mr. A. Ball, and Mr. R. Clasper, two of the leading showmen of the fair.

"There was an air of expectancy about everyone. But there was neither trouble nor a row; and the big crowd listened quietly to Mr. Watson Wright, who said that the owners of the right of tollage must not think that because they had bought the franchise they could do as they pleased. The holder of a charter did not hold his charter for his own benefit. (Deafening cheers from Mitcham.)

"Then arose the Rev. T. Horne, who thought there were many people who, seeing a man enjoying himself, thought he must, of necessity, be doing wrong.

"'I don't believe in moaning and groaning,' said this broad-minded son of the Church.

"Then came the appeal—

"'Hands up for the fair.'

"There was a maze of bronzed hands.

"'Against?' Not one!

"So that the fair starts again to-day, and will be even more popular than ever."

The *Daily Express* :—

"The annual fair on Mitcham Common, which is to open to-day, promises to provide more excitement for the inhabitants of the town and district than ever before. This is because it will be held against the orders of the Common Conservators.

"The fair was first held in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. She granted a charter to the villagers, giving her Royal assent to a fair which should be held annually; but when the last owner of the franchise died it was sold by his widow to certain people in Mitcham who desired to abolish the fair.

"They appealed to the Home Secretary to do so, and when he refused notified showmen that the fair would not be held. The amount paid for the franchise was £930.

"When the long lines of caravans began to arrive in Mitcham on Saturday the excitement was intense. The people were plainly delighted at the arrival of the showmen, and the latter as they passed were cheered again and again by hundreds of people, who accompanied them to the fair ground.

"The police were in unusually large numbers, but they did not attempt to prevent the erection of booths, shooting-galleries, 'penny gaffs,' and merry-go-rounds. But afterwards they made a tour of the caravans and took the names of the owners.

"The showmen held a demonstration yesterday on the Fair Green, and every available inch of space around the caravans was occupied by interested spectators. The crowd when at its height numbered about 5,000."

And the *Daily Mirror* :—

"Mitcham enjoyed 'all the fun o' the fair' yesterday, despite the dark threats of the authorities.

"The trouble that threatened arose from the fact that the Conservators of Mitcham Common have recently acquired, by purchase, the charter, granted in Elizabeth's reign, to control the annual fair.

"The Conservators said there should be no fair, the showmen arrived in swarms and said there should be one.

"With their solicitor they had concluded that an Act of Parliament was needed before the four-centuries-old merrymaking could be abolished, so the fair proceeds.

"The Conservators maintained a dignified attitude yesterday, and refused to accept the fair tolls offered to them at Croydon in the morning.

"Crowds of people flocked into the little lavender suburb, to the huddled crowd of tents, merry-go-rounds, swing-boats, and cocoa-nut shies on Fair Green.

"Business was brisk, and one old showman, who has been present at Mitcham Fair for the last thirty-five years, told the *Daily Mirror* that there was a better attendance than usual."

Lloyd's News, in an illustrated article, remarks :—

"Mitcham fair-ground, a triangular piece of waste, practically in the heart of Mitcham, was yesterday the scene of what at one time threatened to be 'lively times' between the showmen and Common Conservators on a question of rights. At the last moment, however, peaceable counsels prevailed, and the showmen, after being legally warned off, were allowed to take up their stands without being stopped by the use of physical violence. In anticipation of a scene, a vast crowd had gathered round the Fair Green some time before the showmen were expected, a prominent figure parading the centre of the road being ex-Sergeant Lawson, of the W Division, who was for many years warrant officer for the Croydon district. He represented the Mitcham Common Conservators, and, on the arrival of the showmen, formally forbade them to camp on the ground.

"The leading vans, belonging to Mr. Alf. Ball, who has taken an active part in fighting the showmen's battle, were being drawn on to the ground by a traction engine, when a couple of small caravans, one being driven by a woman, made a dash for the honour of being the first to brave the wrath of the Conservators. A ringing cheer from the showmen and the crowd of sympathetic onlookers greeted this performance, and willing hands at once helped to unload and to commence to build up the fearful and wonderful parts that go to constitute a stand of swing-boats.

"Once the Conservators had been publicly defied, a host of vans had invaded every corner and available space on the Fair Green, and it seemed a puzzle to the casual onlooker where the promised roundabouts, swings, and cinématograph shows were all to be pitched. Showmen, however, seem born organisers, and in less than half an hour—almost before the crowds had finished cheering on the last van—the early arrivals had got swings, roundabouts, and shooting-galleries in position and effective working order."

Mitcham Fair has been served with more high-class show and amusement this year than ever before. The attendance of the people has been the greatest on record. Not only the poor hard-working man and his family, but also the rich and well-to-do have visited the fair—some driving to the fair in their carriages and enjoying the sights, and taking home fairings for their family. Owing to the widening of the Croydon-road for tramways, the lower green was much smaller than before, with the result that Mr. Alf. Ball could not build upon his old ground. He was therefore obliged to occupy the capital pitch owned for many years by the Bailey family—the centre position on the larger portion of the green. Here we saw the Royal Bioscope and theatre of varieties—a splendid show both inside and out—in full swing of popular favour and patronage on the first day of the fair. Mr. Ball is to be heartily complimented on the capital company of Paraders he has with him. We have seen nothing better on the road. A word of sincere praise is also due to Mr. Ball for the excellent range of up-to-date films he exhibits to his delighted patrons.

An equally fine show is Mr. Wm. Biddall's cinématograph and electric coliseum of varieties, with a good range of living pictures and variety company.

Prof. Sol Elliott's School of Boxers, Prince Pereira, the conjurer from the east, the lady athletes and wrestlers, and the fine art shows of Messrs. Bailey and Knighton were the popular side shows, and all did good business. The roundabouts, swings, and other machine novelties were in their accustomed positions—these were provided by Messrs. C. Hill, T. Pettigrove, H. Taylor, Sanders, Lang, Hardy, and Mrs. Bird; swings by Messrs. Knighton, Pettigrove, Stenning, and Bird. A most pleasing object and a big attraction to the latter ones were the gem motor-cars and juvenile horses and swings. Mr. Brooks's photo saloon as usual did good business. The throwing games in wonderful variety occupied every inch of a valuable space—there were also shooting galleries and bottle batteries. All these were provided by the old tenants of the fair green, and amongst them were found Messrs. Manning, Peters, Stenning, Wilson, Edwards, Mayne, Clarke, Bond, Matthew, Lang, Bailey, Hardy, Pettigrove, Knighton, and Bird.

We recognise that the London show people have rendered loyal help to the old tenants of Mitcham Fair by abstaining from attending the fair this year and thus giving preference to the tenants who had a prior claim by the length of years they have attended Mitcham. When the time comes to properly move the fair to a larger ground—then the general body of London travellers will have a fair chance of ground at the fair.

On the opening day of the fair Messrs. A. Ball and R. Clasper interviewed Alderman Foss—chairman of the Board of Conservators, and the purchaser from Mrs. Bailey of the tolls—and offered to pay the accustomed tolls and dues, according to the charter, but we regret to say that this offer was refused. How the matter will be settled is in doubt—all that the showmen can do is to be ready to defend their just right to attend and hold the fair.

For some years past at Redditch Fair the showmen have given their takings on each Wednesday evening of the fair, after 9 o'clock, to the local hospital. This year was more successful than any former year, viz., £35 0s. 6d. The Hospital Committee have acknowledged their kindly help in the local Press.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY COLLECTIONS.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow us space to express the best thanks of the committee to the proprietors of the various stands for their generous contribution of £35 0s. 6d., realised on the fair ground on Wednesday night; also to the public, who, by their combined support, made the undertaking so successful, exceeding all previous records by more than £5? The following are names and amounts subscribed :—Mr. T. Clarke, £22 13s. 6d.; Mr. J. W. Chipperfield, £8 19s.; Mr. Mander, £2 11s.; Mr. R. Chipperfield, 5s.; Mr. Goodwell, 8s.; Mr. Ingram, 2s.; Mr. Gess, 2s. On behalf of the Hospital Saturday Committee, yours truly,

JONAH WARNER, Chairman.
WALTER HILL, Hon. Sec.

Redditch, August 9, 1906.

The fair at Bicester was maintained by Harvey's living picture show, Wall's steam horses, swings, and throwing games, Hackett's rifle saloon, bottle smasher, cokers, and throwing games, and varieties by Smith and other caterers.

Subscriptions to the Guild Fund, 1906 :—Per Mr. John Whiting, Mr. Whittaker (Hightown), 10s. 6d.; per Mr. Mitchell, Mr. John Ingham, 5s.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Cameo.—*Your letter to hand. Hope to be able to have your valuable co-operation in the matter at the right time.*

Buff Bill.—*There is a letter in this office addressed to Mrs. Keyes.*

Walk Up.—*Read carefully the Annual and Parliamentary Sessional Reports of the U.K.V.D.A., and you will see that the Association has its hands full without touching the question of ground rents.*

Puzzled.—*The rule is that when the Fair falls on a Sunday, the legal Fair day is the Monday following. This rule does not apply to Non-Charter or Private Ventuale Fairs. In these cases business begins on the Saturday, or even the Friday, before the customary Fair day.*

J. H. (Willaston).—*Will deal with the interesting interview next week. Can you send us a photo of the H. K. for reproduction?*

H. D. W. (Woodburn Green).—*We have already dealt with the proposal to abolish Whittle Fair, near Chelmsford. Many thanks for all your kindly interest.*

SHOWMEN VINDICATED AT MITCHAM FAIR.

Despite the notice of the Conservators of Mitcham prohibiting shows, roundabouts, and stalls pitching on the Fair Green, when the proper time arrived the showmen did draw on and did fix up. The only thing done by the Conservators was to send an agent of theirs to take the names of the daring vindicators of the right to maintain the fair.

For the information of our showman readers in all parts of the kingdom we wish to carefully indicate where Mitcham differs from the great number of other places that have succeeded in either removing or abolishing their fairs. The local authority drew no rent, derived no profit from the revenue of the fair. This, as showmen know to their cost, is always a point against the continuance of fairs. Especially is this so, when, as at Mitcham, there arises a strong and influential body of property owners and speculative builders who wish to do away with the pleasure fair, under the erroneous impression that it vulgarises the place, and depreciates the value of villa property.

At Mitcham there is, in addition to the Parish Council, a public body known as the Conservators of Mitcham Common. The abolitionists are very strong on both the Parish Council and the Board of Conservators. Naturally the Fair Green was by the Local Government Act under the control of the Parish Council, and kept by them for the benefit of the people of Mitcham.

The first step in the scheme to abolish the fair was to remove the control of the Fair Green from the Parish Council—a democratically-elected body—to the more privileged and select body, the Board of Conservators. This was done some few years ago, and, utterly regardless of the historic fact that the Fair Green was the people's fair ground for ever, the Conservators planted trees and shrubs, and enclosed the growing trees and shrubberies with huge iron railings, cut a wide road through a portion of the green, and in other ways reduced the already too straitened area of the ground-space for the annual fair.

The late Frank Bailey, the then owner of the Fair Franchise, in order to prove his individual rights tore up one of the trees and challenged the Conservators to take action against him. This, at the time, they were too wise to do.

The next step was to widen the main roads that abut on the Fair Green, and to permit the double line of rails for electric trams to still further take from the green.

We have detailed these particulars, because they expose the hollowness of the glib argument of some of the abolitionists, "See how dangerous it is to the safety of the public. A fair in the heart of the town, at the junction of four roads, and two double lines of tram-cars." If the Parish Council had kept the people's Fair Green whole and entire, and under their own control, they could have insisted upon the exchange for it of a better and less dangerous site. It is, however, one of the legal points in the showmen's case, and one that weighs heavily in their favour, that the Home Secretary suggests that he will hear with favour any practicable scheme to remove the fair to a more commodious site. In every possible way the executive of the Showmen's Guild endeavoured to meet the views of the people opposed to the fair, and we know that amongst many who were either indifferent or neutral in the matter this reasonable attitude of the Guild has aroused interest and made friends. The whole body of the workers, and almost the entire shop-keeping class, are in favour of retaining the fair, and we have hopes that a mutual arrangement may yet be made, and the fair remain better than ever before, and held upon that portion of the Common that by universal acclaim is admitted to be the best site for it.

Various misleading paragraphs that have gone the round of the London and provincial Press need to be corrected. Many of the newspapers said : "Showmen defy the police, and move on the Fair Green." Nothing of the kind took place. The police knew their duty too well to attempt any interference without the order of the Home Secretary abolishing the fair. Throughout the whole course of the proceedings to maintain the showmen's rights in Mitcham Fair the police have been most fair and courteous; and showmen, as a class, are most law-abiding. Had there been an order abolishing the fair not a single concern would have drawn on the Green; but we doubt not that at Mitcham, as at scores of other places, when narrow-minded prejudice and class intolerance succeeds in abolishing the old Charter Fair, another fair would have arisen upon private land for the amusement of the people.

In order to test the popular feeling in the matter, and to set before the people of Mitcham the showmen's case, a mass meeting and demonstration was called. The following is the manifesto drawn up and issued by the Rev. T. Horne in the name of the showmen attending the fair. Within a few hours of issue it was eagerly read in every home in the village :—

MEN of MITCHAM
Defend YOUR Ancient
FAIR RIGHTS and FRANCHISE.

You have Rights and Privileges that cannot be sold nor yet given away without your free will and consent. Before Mitcham Fair can ever be abolished, the People have a right to be heard and a Vote taken.

The Fair does not belong either to the Board of Conservators, or to the Owner of the Right to collect Tollage from the Occupiers of the Fair Green during the legal days of the Fair, Aug. 12, 13, and 14.

The "Franchise," or right to collect tolls, has become a marketable property; but it does not follow that because the Lord of the Manor, many years ago, sold his birthright, that the purchaser bought with it the birthright of the People of Mitcham.

The Fair is Your Fair, Held upon Your Ancient Fair Green, and until you surrender by your own free will your right to have and to hold your Mitcham Fair, it remains yours.

There is both law and justice for the poor of Mitcham as well as for the rich. The cottager has as much right to his recreation at the annual Pleasure Fair as the villa resident has to enjoy amusements — say, golfing — on the People's Common.

This is a free country, and within the sanction of just and equal laws every man may live his life in his own way. It is a narrow creed which denies workers a day or two's recreation and pleasure at the Time of the Fair.

Men of Mitcham, there are men amongst you who have tried to abolish Your Fair. They made their appeal to the Home Secretary. After considering all the facts of the case, their request was refused by the Secretary of State, acting as the Sole Authority Empowered by Statute to abolish a Fair.

These defeated abolitionists still persist, and want now to gain their end and purpose, by assuming authority and power, to do what they will with the People's Fair.

The Friends of the Fair and the Showmen have saved the Fair. It is Not Abolished. Come in your thousands to the Fair Green on Sunday at three in the afternoon, and enter your orderly and just protest against this high-handed and arbitrary invasion of your Ancient Fair Rights and Privileges.

Signed on behalf of the Showmen attending the Fair,
THOMAS HORNE,
Hon. Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.
Aug. 10, 1906.

The good people of Mitcham began to assemble before Mr. Alf. Ball's Royal Bioscope Exhibition an hour before the time fixed for the meeting, and some time before three o'clock a huge crowd occupied the centre of the ground, and spread itself out into all the side avenues.

Punctually at three o'clock the chairman of the meeting, Mr. J. Grange, a member of the Parish Council, accompanied by the Rev. T. Horne, T. Watson Wright, Esq., and Mr. A. Ball, with other prominent showmen, came on the front of the concern, and the meeting began amid the cheers of the vast crowd. Amongst the showmen and their many friends we noticed Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, and Messrs. Biddall, H. Bailey, Stroud, Hastings, and Whayman, Wilson, Hill, Pettigrove, Stenning, Manning, Knighton, Mayne, Clarke, H. Taylor, H. Bond, H. Peters, Long, Hardy, Matthews, Sanders, Elliott, and Brooks.

Mr. Councillor Grange, in a brief but telling speech, told the story of the local opposition to the petition to abolish the fair; that he and his colleague, Mr. Councillor Parker, had petitioned the Home Secretary in favour of retaining the fair, and that they had received the following reply from the Home Office:—

With reference to your letter of the 26th inst., relative to the proposed abolition of Mitcham Fair, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has decided not to interfere with the holding of the fair this year. Mr. Gladstone will inquire further into the matter, and will be glad to consider any objections, in writing, to the abolition of the fair, or any evidence that it is practicable to move it to a more convenient site.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. P. BYRNE.

In the face of the notice issued by the Conservators, he had written again to the Home Secretary only yesterday (Saturday), and had received another official letter, telling him "that the Home Secretary had issued no order to abolish the fair." He presided at that meeting in order to preserve the people's right in their fair. He then called upon Mr. Watson Wright, solicitor to the Showmen's Guild, to address the meeting.

Mr. Watson Wright began by claiming for the show people that just treatment that was the birthright of every Briton. He insisted that showpeople as a class were as honest, as industrious, as law-abiding, and as moral and cleanly in their lives as any other class in the community. He told how that for seventeen years they had been organised as a body of traders, and had their trade protection society known as "The Guild"; that in the defence of their business they had fought public bodies and corporations all over the kingdom; that in Parliament alone they had defeated some sixty Bills that aimed at penalising their business interests, or at abolishing the trade interests of their industry and the equally important fair rights of the people.

Not the least important of their work he maintained was this preservation of the fair rights and privileges of the masses of the people. They had to recognise that in every community there were faddists, who formed themselves into a "killjoy committee," in order to curtail the amusements of their poorer neighbours, and to dictate what they shall have or not have with regard to necessary means of relaxation after toil. The showpeople, in fighting for their means of livelihood, were also fighting for the liberties of the common people.

The showmen had not taken the decided line that they had done without exhausting all possible agencies of agreement and compromise. It was the primary principle of a showman's success to carry all classes with him in his business enterprise. To make an enemy was to lose a customer.

The Guild had tried all means of conciliation. The offer had been made to remove the fair to a safer site, to undertake all the responsibilities of orderly maintenance, and to guarantee the high-class nature of the entertainments. All this had been done, and then, at the eleventh hour, came the prohibition notice. Well, they disregarded that notice, and he was there to warn the Board of Conservators that they could not lightly override the expressed decision of the Right Hon. Herbert Gladstone, His Majesty's First Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and that until the order abolishing the fair was received by the Parish Council, that the showmen were well within their legal rights in using the fair for the purposes of their lawful trade and calling.

He would show them from the highest authorities that so long as the fair remained a legal fair, it was the bounden duty of the grantee of the fair to provide ample space for its continuance. He would show them that the right to hold a fair, and to take tollage also, bore with it the legal responsibility of providing a fair ground large enough for all its purposes. The purchasers of the Fair Franchise had not the power to do as they pleased with the fair. The original grantee held his Royal privilege, not for his own benefit, but for the benefit of the people. According to the cited cases, the owner of a Fair Franchise was liable to be indicted for a misdemeanour, and to be sued for loss and damage, if he did not provide a fair ground for the carrying out of the liberties inseparable from the fair.

They would find that right and justice was the very foundation of English law and jurisprudence, and that every Royal privilege (the direct grant of the prerogatives of the Crown—such were the Charter rights of fairs) carried with them serious and urgent responsibilities, and that no individual or public body can enjoy a special privilege without fulfilling its relative duties. With the right to hold the fair and the right to draw the tolls there must be inevitably the duty of providing a fair ground. Having thus defined the law of the matter as regards the traders using the fair and the owners of the Fair Franchise, there yet remained the equally important question— the rights of the people in the fair. They had a right to use the fair, and any attempt to deprive them of their right of user was an invasion of their Charter privileges. The showmen as traders had their business interests and rights to defend; but they, the people of Mitcham, must see to it that their ancient fair rights were not taken away. He still hoped that reason and conciliation would prevail, and that the voice of that magnificent meeting would be heard, and that wise counsels would prevail, and that Mitcham Fair might continue its time-honoured record of popular favour.

When the hon. chaplain to the Guild (the Rev. T. Horne) rose to speak, the audience numbered between four and five thousand people—such a crowd as is rarely witnessed in towns like Mitcham.

We are here to-day, he began, to vindicate the rights and liberties of the people of Mitcham in their ancient charter fair, and at the same time to protect the business and avocation in life of a respectable and industrious class of workers and traders—the itinerant entertainers and showmen of the Empire. He felt sure that in coming there on that work and mission he was best serving his Divine Master, who, at the beginning of His work on earth, worked a miracle to add to the enjoyment of His people at the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee. He believed that in ministering to the people there was a place for the showman, who provided, as at Mitcham Fair, for the amusement of the toilers after weary work. There were people who thought that man ought ever to be serious and sad, and that when a man was merry he must be wrong. He did not believe in any such narrow view of life; "the doleful pieties" and "the knights of the rueful countenance" were travesties of that Christianity taught by Him who was ready in teaching the Gospel of the full life to "pipe to the children dancing in the market place," and to break bread with the common people. Why should not the people have the perfectly harmless amusements of their popular fairs? He knew that their better-to-do neighbours could enjoy themselves in their own way; they could go to the grand opera, Covent Garden; to theatres and high-class variety palaces; to the seaside, and enjoy their own amusements. Why take away the amusements of the people who cannot afford these higher forms of recreation? He could well imagine that to the cultured lover of the best music, or the man who could easily obtain any relaxtion his heart desired, skirting the border line of the fair on his way home, hearing the friendly rivalry of half a dozen mechanical organs, and catching the wonderful medley and jangle of sounds from thousands of people at play—that to such a man the fair may seem an undesirable sort of thing. To such a man he said, "Have the common humanity to remember that the poorer people have only this one time of utter change and lively abandon of recreation in the whole round of a year's crowded and anxious toil." What would the Conservatives have the people to do? He could imagine a stern and determined abolitionist saying, "Why don't they go to the grand opera, the chamber concerts, to the seaside? Why don't they buy motor-cars, or join the golf club? Why don't they save their money, and buy marbles and play like good dear children, or, better still, improve their shining hours by watching their betters play golf on the people's common?" Well, he thanked God for a sense of the humorous, and he trusted that the would-be reformers of the amusements and pleasures of the people may in time be blessed with the power of getting out of themselves, and see their folly as others see it, and, having a good hearty laugh at themselves, cease to trouble their poorer neighbours. In pleading for the rights of the travelling showmen he also championed the rights of the people of England to the full enjoyment of those all too few opportunities of cessation from hard, grinding toil. With the abolition of the fairs would inevitably go the holidays of the people. He told the men of Mitcham that their fair rights and privileges had been handed down by their fathers, and that it was their duty to hand these privileges down to their children. Why should the children of Mitcham be robbed of their free sight pleasure fair? What possible harm, intellectual or moral, could come to their children by the varied and up-to-date entertainments of the fair? None whatever. What other entertainment could possibly take the place of the fair? He knew of none. A fair was the most suitable, the most social, the most ready and accessible form of popular amusement known to them. With or without the ready penny, it was free to all. It catered for all kinds of people. A modern fair was a veritable commonwealth or co-partnership of fun, frolic, and amusement. Fairs had changed and had grown with the growth of the Empire. He warned would-be abolitionists of fairs that the showmen were well organised and banded together. The showmen had taken the advice that he invariably gave to newly-wedded couples in the marriage service. By way of parable, he sometimes told the married the story of a young husband and wife, how that on the day of the marriage the husband told his wife to go to the other side of their cottage and to pull over the roof of their home a rope that he had cast across it. The story says that the obedient bride exclaimed, "I cannot pull it over, love, whilst you are pulling against me on the other side." "That is true, my dear," answered the husband; "I will come to your side, and we will both pull together." "Pull together. Do you see the point of the parable, men of Mitcham? The showmen are organised, and they pull together. What are you going to do? Will you pull together, and save your fair rights?"

Mr. Horne then took a vote of the meeting—at this time five thousand in number. "Hands up for Mitcham Fair." A forest of hands followed this appeal—an unanimous vote for the retention of the fair. "Now," he proceeded, we will take the contrary opinion. "Those in favour of doing away with the fair, hands up." Not a single hand was lifted, and the crowd, with one voice, cheered the speaker, who concluded a speech that occupied over forty minutes with another parable of humorous illustration to enforce the burden of his argument, and then resumed his seat amidst a deafening roar of applause.

Mr. Alf Ball (very diffident on public platforms, as most showmen are), in a modest speech, thanked the people of Mitcham for so enthusiastically rallying round the showmen. He had attended their fairs for twenty-seven years, and in the name of the old tenants he could assure them that everything that they could do would be done to maintain the fair. He, for one, was quite ready to remove it to the Three Kings' Common, away from the busy traffic of the road. He had always brought them a good show, and he and his fellow-tenants of the fair were willing to pay their accustomed tolls to all things lawful and honest, and to do all they could to improve the character of the amusements at the fair. As to the part he had taken in preserving the fair for the people, he was already rewarded for that in the approval and the warm friendship of Mitcham men for himself and those for whom he acted. As in the past he had striven to do his best, so in the future nothing on his part would be lacking to preserve the fair at Mitcham.

The Rev. T. Horne proposed, and Mr. J. Watson Wright seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was unanimously accorded, and the meeting terminated by singing "God Save the King."

C. HEAL'S steam roundabouts were at Nunney (Somerset) Horticultural Show on Thursday.

CARMARTHEN August Pleasure Fair was held on the Corporation Fair Ground on Monday. The weather was very boisterous, rain falling in torrents in the morning which to a very great extent affected the attendance at the fair. In the evening the weather cleared up, and good business was done. The chief attractions were Messrs. Henry Studt and Son's electric zoological roundabouts and Messrs. Haggar and Son's electric bioscope, while the others in attendance were Mr. E. Booth's shooting saloons and swings, Mr. D. Boswell's cokernut shies and swings, Mr. Marshall Evans' juvenile roundabouts and swings, &c.

MESSRS. DARTER AND SON'S roundabouts, shooting saloons, &c., did good business at Llanstephan Fair this week, this Carmarthenshire favourite seaside resort being crowded with visitors.

THE attractions at Astwood Bank this week include Mr. Thomas Scott's new steam galloping horses, park swings, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, etc., and Mr. C. Herbert, with pony roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, pipe smasher, cokernut sheets, and stalls. At Astwood Bank Flower Show were Mr. C. Herbert's roundabouts, park swings, bottle battery, cokernuts, stalls, etc., and varieties by Messrs. Smith and Lewis.

AT Harvington, near Evesham, was Mr. H. Ayers with steam roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernuts, etc.

AT Redditch Fair Ground a benefit was given for the local hospital by Messrs. T. Clarke (motor cars), James Manders (menagerie), John Cordwell (cinematograph), J. W. Chipperfield (ditto), Ingram Bros. (Italian circus), Frank Gess (assault-at-arms), R. Chipperfield (hall of laughter). The handsome sum of £35 0s. 6d. was realised.

MISS ROSEE HEATH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Permit me through *The Era* to thank the proprietors and managers of the various variety halls throughout the metropolis for the kindness they have shown my daughter during her stay at home during the past ten months. I am deeply grieved, however, to announce that she has had a relapse, and has been obliged to return to the asylum. Her illness has now extended over a period of fourteen years, but Dr. Forbes Winslow,

Photo. by W. Avenell and Co.

ROSEE HEATH.

who has taken great interest in her case, continues to hold out hopes of her ultimate recovery. Her father and myself, as well as all our intimate friends, are deeply grieved, and greatly appreciate the numerous kind inquiries we have received.—Yours truly,

(MRS.) H. HEATH.

67, Chelsea-gardens, S.W.

"THE BIGAMIST."

A Farcical Sketch by J. H. Brownson,
With Incidental Music by Clement Locknane,
Produced for the first time at the Queen's Palace, Poplar, on Monday, August 13.

Jerry Dobbs ..... MR. AUSTIN LENTON
Martha Dobbs ..... MISS VI HAMILTON
Martha Dobbs ..... MISS GLADYS GASTON
Mary White ..... MISS AGNES LANE
P.C. Nab'em ..... MR. ROBERT PEALER

A gentleman with an eye to the main chance who bears the classical Christian name and cognomen of Jerry Dobbs is the unfortunate possessor of two wives. It is with Martha, the second Mrs. Dobbs, that he is living. There is good reason for his attempted undivided attentions upon Martha, for Martha has money and Dobbs has none. Now, these two people are well enough content—Jerry especially—to coo sweet things into one another's ears, and to let the outside world look after itself. No doubt the outside world would be equally content to do this were all things fair and square, and were it not for the fact that the outside world contained two intimate acquaintances of Jerry—his first wife and her child. In short, Lucy Dobbs has run her faithless spouse to earth, or, rather, to the domain which belongs to the lady who has, unwittingly, usurped her pride of place in the Jerry heart. Naturally, it is not a very pleasant and amiable creature who now, carrying a miniature member of the Dobbs species, confronts the gentleman who led her—then a blushing, guileless, and unsophisticated maiden—to the altar, and who promised to worship her with his body and to bestow upon her all his worldly goods. Sad to relate, she soon discovered that Jerry's worshipping was about on a par with his worldly wealth—it didn't exist. But she will be revenged. He deserted her, and he will now have to take care of the child, while she goes and enjoys herself with another man. And in order to make certain as to the self-enjoyment the discarded Lucy compels Jerry to part with all the money he has about his person, and then leaves the baby in his arms. The poor man is in a quandary. What will Martha say when she sees the child? A milliner comes in with a bandbox containing a hat for Mrs. Dobbs, and the latter's husband endeavours to persuade the girl to say that the baby is hers. But milliners' assistants are not, as a rule, given to acts of such childish innocence, and, of course, the young lady refuses straight away. In her temporary absence a bright idea strikes Dobbs. He flings the new hat upon the floor and places the baby in the box. The child's screams attract the attention of Martha on her return, and she tries hard to discover their origin, for Jerry has previously hidden the baby under his coat, and its presence had then been discovered. After having failed to persuade the milliner to take the box away, Jerry places it in the hands of his wife, who is in great spirits over what she believes to be a beautiful confection from her husband. After the presentation, and before his wife has had time to open the box, Jerry rushes out of the room with the new hat upon his own head. The surprise of Martha at the sight of the baby can be better imagined than described. And here Mary White, the pretty milliner, acts as a wicked little schemer. The five pounds paid for the bonnet is in her safe keeping, so a little intrigue can be indulged in without fear of retribution following by way of an unsettled account. She begs Martha to reflect what might be the consequences if her loving and true and tender Jerry were to find her with a baby in her arms! Would he not have good cause for anger? Finally, she works Martha up to such a pitch that the poor woman herself tries to hide the baby under her skirts on the sofa as her lord and master enters. Then there is more fun, but the end of it all is not so funny for the bigamous Jerry, for he makes the acquaintance of a policeman who requires his presence elsewhere. The sketch causes roars of laughter. Mr. Austin Lenton, whose company it is, is excruciatingly comical as Jerry Dobbs, and Miss Vi Hamilton as Martha gives a rather clever character-sketch of a staid middle-aged woman. Miss Agnes Lane is refreshingly saucy as the milliner, and Miss Gladys Gaston is amusingly revengeful as the first wife.

ON Monday last, August 13th, at St. Matthias' Church, Upper Tulse Hill, Brixton Hill, the Rev. A. H. T. Clarke solemnised the marriage between Mr. William Redfern, of the London Hippodrome, and Miss Marie Ann Nicee Kearley, daughter of Mr. George William and Alice Victoria Kearley, of Elm Park, Brixton. The bridesmaids were:—The two Kays (Madeline and Fedora), Miss Camilla Feo, sisters of the bride, and Miss Mary Jones; Master George Jones was train bearer; both devoted friends of the bride. The happy pair are passing their enjoyable honeymoon at Brighton.

THE V.A.F. COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen have been elected to serve on the Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation. From a perusal of the names it will be found that the body is highly representative. The asterisks denote members of the provisional committee.

ELECTED FOR THREE YEARS.

1	Williams, Bransby	723
2	McNaughton, Tom	698
3	*O'Gorman, Joe	692
4	McNaughton, Fred	685
5	*Pink, Wal	657
6	*Roberts, R. A.	654
7	*Griff, Harry	654
8	*Elen, Gus	640
9	Bijou, Peter	625
10	*Tate, Harry	622
11	* Voyce, Albert	620
12	*Le Fre, Albert	612
13	*Clemart, W. H.	610
14	Ray, Phil	609
15	*Coburn, Chas.	606
16	*Poluski, Will	600
17	Wheatley, Horace	596
18	*Clifford, Nat	594
19	*Russell, Fred	594
20	*Daly, Dutch	593
21	Munroe, Walter	591
22	*Lauder, Harry	587
23	Gray, George	577
24	Borelli, Signor	572
25	*McConnell, Chas.	567
26	*Wright, Harry	563
27	*Reece, Arthur	562
28	*Alexander, John	557
29	*D'Albert, George	554
30	*Leonard, Bob	549
31	*Mountford, Harry	541
32	Tennyson, Joe	538
33	*Rigby, Arthur	535
34	*Delevine, Harry	534
35	*Delevine, Percy	529
36	*Pastor, Chas.	518
37	*Herbert, Fred	515
38	McConnell, Joe	506
39	*Foreman, James	496
40	Gardener, Chas.	480
41	*Nolan, Michael	477
42	*Caine, Andie	476

ELECTED FOR TWO YEARS.

43	Haytor, Frank	475
44	Garrick, Gus	467
45	Brooks, George	456
46	*Tell, Leo	450
47	Haytor, Arthur	449
48	Christian, A.	447
49	Carlton, A.	446
50	*Atroy, J.	434
51	Donaldson, Leon	431
52	Donaldson, Fred	429
53	*Lee, Wm.	426
54	*Bartram, Claude C.	425
55	Cunliffe, Whit	425
56	Booker, George A.	424
57	Conlin, Harry	422
58	Smythson, G. H.	422
59	Young, Ted	421
60	*Sanford, George	416
61	*Konorah, Max Berol	415
62	Johnson, Will	414
63	*Slone, Ryder	414
64	Fannan, Peter	413
65	Wallett, Russell	413
66	*Schafer, Albert	398
67	Earle, Fred	398
68	Jee, Harry	398
69	*Frazer, Charles	392
70	Mayville, Harry	390
71	*Allen, Will Van	389
72	Stavordale, Bernard	389
73	*Livesey, Carter E.	368
74	*Bancroft, Harry	366
75	Forde, Hal	364
76	Albert, Ben	363
77	Rich, Charles	363
78	*Berol, Wm.	340
79	Etharien, Wm.	338
80	Rich, Harry	334
81	*Harrison, Fred	331
82	Sterling, Max	329
83	Russell, Charles	321
84	*Rose, Max	318

ELECTED FOR ONE YEAR.

85	Latimar, Fred	306
86	Preston, George	304
87	Romaine, Edgar	304
88	Hart, Jerry	301
89	*Grace, Wal	295
90	Dillon, Charles	285
91	Luck, Oscar	285
92	*Mason, H.	282
93	Bendon, George	280
94	Godfrey, Arthur	280
95	Brantford, Bert	277
96	Newham, George	276
97	Dillon, Ernest	266
98	Jimson, J. C.	256
99	Ryan, Fred	248
100	Phillips, Harry	248
101	Geraldo, Maurice	244
102	Baldwin, Chas.	238
103	Ganty, Little	237
104	Monti, E.	229
105	Herald, Alfred	226
106	Halter, Frank	225
107	Reeves, George	225
108	Howard, James	217
109	Leonard, A. E.	216
110	Herald, Harry	209
111	Farley, W. H.	208
112	Thurston, Harry	197
113	King, Walter	194
114	Lyons, Friel	181
115	Harvey, Lew	176
116	Kopski	176
117	Jordan, Jules	174
118	Benson, Frank	172
119	Alexander, S. King	166
120	Raymond, Matt	164
121	Kisbey, H. J.	161
122	Gunning, Davis Spot	157
123	Holles, Wm.	152
124	Warsaw, Erne	152
125	Amandus	142
126	Butler, Chas. J.	139

NOT ELECTED.

127	Josey, J.	105
128	Montel, Edward	98
129	Smith, E. K.	91
130	Ward, E. A.	89

The trustees are Messrs. Paul Martinetti, the famous pantomimist, Mr. Joe Elvin, the leading variety-sketch comedian, and Edmund Edmunds, of the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, and Mr. Dutch Daly is the treasurer.

THE "FRED LOCKE" FUND.

The following subscriptions are to be recorded this week, in aid of this deserving appeal, and Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, is assiduously bringing the claims of the case before all theatrical and Masonic friends:—

Trip to the Highlands Co., per Arthur Poole	£2	6	0
Horace Wheatley	0	10	0
H. Paroni	0	2	0
J. B. Helm	0	2	0

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE ANNIVERSARY.

The Shepherd's Bush Empire—a palace of smoke and song that has enjoyed the steady patronage of variety lovers from its opening night—celebrated its third birthday on Tuesday, when the fine hall was crowded in every part at both performances, hundreds having to be satisfied with standing room—and very little of that. The programme was of the usual festival proportions, and included many entertainers of the front rank, so many "extras" being in attendance that few of the artists in the regular bill were called upon to answer to their numbers. Amongst the volunteers who appeared at the second house, few were accorded a heartier welcome than Miss Lottie Collins, the popular comedienne, singing with all her well-known archness and vivacity "The Little Widow." Applause was also lavished on her daughter, Miss José Collins, for her tuneful selection; and Miss Alice Hollander's fine rendering of "The Lost Chord" gave evident delight. The many humorists appearing included Mr. Tom Woottwell, with his quietly droll ditty, "The little shirt my mother made for me"; Mr. Arthur Lennard, who gave his familiar and funny "Cigar" song; Mr. Walter Emerson, whose mirth-moving selection was "Here's another one off to America"; Mr. Tom Leamore, with his quaint impersonation of a County Council parkkeeper, with much droll patter; Mr. Wilson Hallett, who scored with his funny and truthful mimicry of children; and Mr. Alf. Lester, in his laughter-compelling and original interlude, *The Scene-shifter's Lament*, one of the most enjoyable items in the programme. Percival submitted clever imitations of a musical box and organ on the piano; Dunningarto was watched with interest and loudly applauded for some smart conjuring and neat card-palming; the difficult *pas de deux* of Espinosa and Neilson was acclaimed at its proper value; and Miss Hettie Chattell, looking very smart in male evening dress, contributed an appreciated song, "That's what I call love." Miss Ethel Netherton, who has recently seceded from comic opera in order to delight variety audiences, also figured as a male impersonator. She made a "fetching" appearance in her smart attire, and scored an unmistakable hit. This clever and attractive comedienne sang with capital effect "Don't believe it" and two other numbers. Miss Netherton made an excellent "boy." Miss Nina Martino was loudly cheered for her pleasing rendering of "Eyes of blue"; Maud and Sydney Wood, who evidently possess much of the family talent, were seen in a very attractive and well-executed song and dance, and the Three Cairo Girls gave a spirited number, "Have you seen my soldier boy?" Miniature Marie contributed some life-like impressions of George Lashwood and 'Gene Stratton in one of his coon songs; and Miss Ena Richards, Miss Daisy Davidson, and Miss Beatrice Edwards were all responsible for numbers that contributed to the enjoyment of the audience. Mr. John Le Hay, the versatile and clever actor, was the central figure in a humorous playlet, *Poor Beggar*, and the popular Brothers Horne also appeared with success in a funny interlude.

The programmes at the two houses also included such well-known artists as John L. Shine, Jack Lorimer, Rose Hamilton, Griff, May Henderson, Annie Purcell, Mamie Cannon, George French, Sylvia Du Barri, Fred Herbert, Clive Watts, Hal Forde, the Brothers Lang, Lottie Lennox, R. H. Douglass, Nelson's Newsboys, Ernie Mayne, the mysterious Mr. "E.," Gwennie Hasto, G. H. Elliott, Nat Clifford, Clarice Netta, Dolly Harmer, Clark and Hamilton, Percy Honri, Harry Grey, Arthur Royd, Miss Tree, Virginia and Piccs, and others. Time alone prevented many artists who were in waiting from showing. The working of the stage was particularly smart, and in this direction Mr. Will Collins, Mr. Bertie Sheldon, and Mr. Ernest Aplin, amongst others, are to be complimented. The band, under the direction of Mr. George Richardson, who specially composed and arranged for the occasion the overture, "Echoes of the Empire," are also to be congratulated on their arduous evening's work. Every courtesy was extended to the visitors by Mr. Will A. Bennett, Moss and Stoll's Press representative.

THE LATE FRANK WEEKS AND THE M.H.B.F.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—As announced last week in *The Era*, at the date of Mr. F. Weeks's death his pence box in aid of the fund contained £5 8s. His constant solicitude for the pensioners on this fund, and the poor music hall artists who apply every week for aid, was beyond estimate. It was strong in his last moments, when between the intervals of pain he would ask his wife, "How is the box going on?" His constant efforts were the efforts of a good man labouring to advance the cause of charity. In a genuine case of distress his first thought was how best to assist the applicant, and no pains or trouble were spared to accomplish that end. He was fully aware that many came for assistance who had never done anything to deserve it; but he would always stretch a point to try and lift them up to better things. It may be truly said that he was fully imbued with the "business of charity," and his grasp of the whole thing was what might be expected of one who had the spirit of discipline in his nature.

His attendance at weekly meetings of the committee were punctual and regular, and both as member, vice-chairman, and chairman (which latter position he held when he died) he brought to bear the experience of years of military order and precision. He was rapid in forming his decisions, and of the thousands of cases that came before him he was rarely, if ever, wrong. By the death of Mr. Weeks the poorer members of the music hall profession have lost a real friend. The results of his pence-box collections are well known, and if other managers would only follow his example, it would be unnecessary for the fund to go further for support.

Mr. Frank Weeks, always enthusiastic, collected over £50 a year. If from the other halls a point were made of collecting only £10 each in a like period this object would be gained. No one would object to subscribe if asked in return for a gratuitous seat. What Mr. Weeks has so nobly done can be done, and, in the interest of the poor, should be done, by others, and the thanks of those relieved would be the reward. Let us hope that the good he has done will not die with him, but lead others to follow his example, and so bring help to those who cannot help themselves. We none of us know what is in store for us, and the query, Who shall be the next to ask for aid? may well suggest itself.—Yours truly,

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.

"HER LAST DANCE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will Mr. Norman Harvey, who claims the right to the above title, kindly inform me, where and when he produced his piece, *Her Last Dance*, twelve years ago; also, where he acted the play on August Bank Holiday, Aug. 6, 1906. Until such proofs are forthcoming, I shall consider the title, *Her Last Dance*, to be my exclusive property by right of public performance at the Empire, New Cross, July 17, 1906.—Yours faithfully,

ROLAND OLIVER.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, 21, 28, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Oct. 29, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 24, Xmas week, 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 13, Oct. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3 (six nights each).
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton. Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
April 22, May 13, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 10,
onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Companies, Dec. 3, on; also Panto., Jan. 2, Feb. and March. H. Vere.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, N.
WANTED, a First-Class Company, for week commencing Sept. 10 (available through transferring for the Carl Rosa Company). Address, Mr. J. B. Mulholland, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Oct. 1, recognised Musical Comedy, or other High-class Attraction (no dramas).
Fred Granville, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Company, Sept. 10, unexpectedly vacant.
Jos. B. Ormerod.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company, Sept. 3.
Sept. 3, vacant.
Sept. 3, vacant.
Apply, Fred Morgan.

LYCEUM, IPSWICH.
WANTED, through cancelling of "Mrs. Goringe's Necklace." First-Class Company for Sept. 10; also vacant Sept. 17 (three nights) and Nov. 5, for good Musical Attraction. Address, Leonard Grey.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Sept. 17 and Oct. 29.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Drama, or other First-Class Attraction, Sept. 17 and 24.
E. H. Page.

WANTED, for Opera House, Dunfermline, High-class Attractions, Sept. 10, Oct. 1 (Holiday date), Oct. 22. W. E. Potts.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 8. Best terms. T. C. Rawes.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 10 and 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25.
Address, Frank King.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 5 and 26.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

THEATRE METROPOLE, HOYLAND.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Companies, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, on, with exceptions. Geo. S. King, Walthamsal, Barton-road, Cambridge.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for
Dec. 10.
Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 27 (six nights), Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 15, 22 (three nights each), Nov. 12, and on. Elphinstone, Theatre, Stafford.

PRINCE'S T., LLANDUDNO;
P. H., COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Musical Attractions, Sept. 10, 17, 24, and on, 3 nights each town. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Treherbert and Maesteg (3 days each), 9 miles apart, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. dates. Poole, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, for Opera House, Buxton, First-class Company, Aug. 30, 31, and Sept. 1. Add., Arthur Willoughby, O. H., Buxton, Derbys.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Oct. 1, 15, Nov. 19 and 26. Address, E. B. Goulden.

CENTRAL THEATRE, NORTHWICH.
WANTED, through transfer, Good Attraction for Aug. 27, also Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8.
Wire for Aug. 27. Address, E. Golden.

Jersey.
Vacant Oct. 1.
WANTED, First-Class Company,
Apply, C. Robt. Perkins, Jersey.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Visited and re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above,
Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Dec. 3 and 17, and Jan. 7.
Amongst others, the following list of companies are booked and pencilled for the ensuing season, viz., "Dare-Devil Dorothy," "The Conscript," "After the Ball," "Monte Cristo," "Lucky Liza," Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Walter Reynolds' "Mr. Smith," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (5th visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Fredk. Mouillot's Co. in "Faust Up-to-date," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes, "Goody Two-Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Cos. in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique," &c., &c. Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

Mr. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, 17, 24,
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 24, Nov. 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
First Vacant Date Dec. 4, onwards, with exceptions.
CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Sept. 17, Oct. 4, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15 (3 nights each).
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN,
Sept. 3, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, March 4, onwards (3 nights each).
Address, William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Sept. 10 (?),
Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 3, 10, 17.
Required, Big Attraction for Christmas and New Year's weeks.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

BORO' THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, Attractions (non-dramatic), rental only. Address, for terms and conditions, Horace Lee, Theatre, Royal.

T. R., RUGBY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 5 (3), 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 31.
A. F. Cross. P. O. W., Nuneaton.

P. O. W., NUNEATON.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for Nov. 12, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, 25,
March 11, 18, 25.
A. F. Cross.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Drama, last three nights of Sept. 17 week, also last three of New Year's week and Musical Show, Dec. 6.
Edward Marris, Queen's T., Longton.

GRAND T., FOREST GATE, LONDON, E.
Lessee, Mr. Sydney Spenser.
Handsome brick and stone building, situated in a densely-populated part of London. Surrounding population 300,000; seating accommodation for 1,000 persons. Electric light all through (three colours on Stage).
Mr. Sydney Spenser having acquired a lease of the above Theatre, will work the same on up-to-date lines, with competent Resident-Manager, Professional Band, capable staff, &c.
Width of stage, 50ft.; depth, 20ft.; Pros. opening, 28ft.; work 15ft. 6 flats. Plans in preparation for enlarging Stage.
Good Companies wanted for Sept. 17 (opening date), and onwards; everything possible will be done to ensure success.
WANTED, for opening date (Sept. 17), First-Class Attraction (Musical preferred).
Address, Sydney Spenser, T. R., Glossop. Good Attraction wanted for T. R., Glossop, three nights, Sept. 20, also Oct. 11 (three). Add., T. R., Glossop.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Companies,
Aug. 27,
Sept. 10 (through obliging Mr. Elliston),
Oct. 15 (through obliging Mr. Bannister Howard),
Nov. 5 (through obliging Mr. Calvert),
Dec. 3, 10.
Wire,
E. Oswald Brooks,
Resident Partner.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attraction, March 4, and on, with exceptions, and probably Xmas and New Year's weeks. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

WANTED, for Large Town in Midlands, First-class Companies, last three nights of weeks. Particulars, &c., to Box, "Era" Office.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 22. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Tom Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 3, 10, on. New Scenery, New Printing, Full Chorus, Specialities. Charles Harrington, T. Royal, Colchester.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24 (to oblige), Oct. 1, on. Enormous success. Crown, Peckham, calls and recalls. Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

"THE TRAITOR," E. HILL-MITCHELSON and HARRIS FINEBERG'S Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19. E. Hill-Mitchelson, P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Manager Fred Morgan,
of the
Theatre Royal, Norwich,
says:—
As good a play as "The Sign of the Cross." There is a fortune in it. I cannot see how it can fail.

This unsolicited expression of opinion comes from a manager who for over a quarter of a century has been associated with the highest forms of dramatic art, and whose wide experience and vast knowledge make his opinion of great value.

Is Higher Praise Possible?
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Manager Francis Laidler,
of the Prince's Theatre, Bradford,
said:—
"A fine play. Will make a lot of money."
Manager C. Imeson,
of the
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough,
said:—
"Delighted with it. A great play."
Manager E. Shirrah,
Theatre Royal, Manchester,
said:—
"There are great moments in the play."
Manager Eastwood,
Colosseum Theatre, Oldham,
said:—
"A fine play. Beautiful."
Manager Hardy,
Theatre Royal, Rotherham,
says:—
"Not only my circle, but my pit and gallery have been alike in their verdict. It is one of the most interesting stories they have ever had the pleasure of witnessing."

But One Opinion
in all
Classes of Theatres,
"A great play."
Write to
Bristol.
Ask
Chatham.
Enquire of
Great Yarmouth.
Refer
Sheffield, Stockport, Rochdale, Bury, Crewe, or any Theatre Visited.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
The Press on this Great Play.
Bristol Magpie:—
"When it was Dark" is a play in ten thousand."
Independent.
A play equal to "The Sign of the Cross."—Sheffield.
Mercury.
Its conception is clever and strikingly original, and the experience is a tense revelation in dramatic art.—Bristol.
The Magpie.
To those who would acquire the beauty of a great thought, "When it was Dark" will supply it.—Bristol.
The Times.
It is a play that is bound to make one think. It has a wonderful depth, a wonderful hold upon the audience, and it was set forth at the Theatre Royal last night with such a completeness and vividness of colouring that, whilst it was at times weird, it at others inspired awe. The acting and mounting reaches a standard which has never been excelled, and rarely equalled, at the Theatre Royal, for many years at any rate.—Bristol.
The Guardian.
It cannot be seriously urged that there is an ground for an opinion other than that the play is a most remarkable one, and that it is admirably conceived, and is as educative as it is interesting.—Crewe.
Midland Telegraph.
A more remarkable, brilliantly-conceived, interesting, and, in a great measure, educative play one has not seen for many a day.
Further expressions
from the Press of
Oldham, Bolton, Bradford, Chatham, Middlesbrough, Burton, &c., &c.
A great thought.
A play which will live for years.
A bold, but meritorious effort, to lift dramatic art to its true level.
All should see this wonderful play, which will do much good.
Appeals with intensity to all sections of the community.
Nothing so daring, so original, so enthralling, has been seen on the stage before.
Other plays dealing with religious questions have been written before, but none have approached this in grandeur of conception.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"A play in ten thousand."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"A play equal to 'The Sign of the Cross.'"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"There is a fortune in it."
Managers
Managers
are earnestly requested to verify these statements for themselves. A letter to any of the authorities quoted will satisfy them that
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"Is a play in ten thousand,"
and that
"There is a fortune in it."
This Play
Will Prove an Attraction in
No. 1 Theatres
and in
Dramatic Houses
Alike.
Once in every
Ten or Twenty Years
a Great Play comes along
which Appeals to all Classes,
Creates a Sensation,
and
Packs all Theatres.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
is
such a one.
Book it.
Book it.
Book it.
Vacant,
Oct. 1, 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 1, 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 1, 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Nov. 26, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

THEATRES WANTED.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of Fifteen experienced Artists, headed by Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Lillian Rose as Nadia.
Bookings include:—
Derby,
St. Helens,
Sheffield (Royal),
Bradford (Prince's),
Scarborough (Royal),
Newcastle (Grand),
Hull (Alex),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Dewsbury, Mexborough, Luton, Rotherham, Leeds, Lincoln, Barrow, Walsall, Castleford, Oldham, Barnsley, Yarmouth, Swansea, Burnley, Salford, &c
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Striking Pictorials by McCaw.
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.
WANTED, Aug. 27 (through disappointment), Sept. 10 (Lancs. or Yorks.), to follow Scarborough, Sept. 17 (to precede Lincoln), Oct. 22 (Wales), Nov. 5, 25.
Refer the following managers for opinion:—
J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury;
M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens;
T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby;
J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield;
F. Laidler, Esq., Bradford;
L. Carson, Esq., Liverpool;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Hull.
Who will say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast, and does good business.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"The Conscript," specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Entirely revised with important changes.
Address all communications,
This week, Royalty T., Barrow-in-Furness; next, Royal, Jarrow.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Sept. 3, for this Magnetic Attraction. Sat. night beat Monday (Bank Holiday) at Palace, Newcastle. Refer Mr. Rowe. Instantaneous success here. Persistent calls. Refer Mr. Imeson. Also vacant, Nov. 5, Dec. 10 and 31, Spring and Autumn, 1907, fast filling. Some Holiday Bookings: Xmas, Rotunda, Liverpool; Easter, 1907, Prince's, Preston; Whit, 1907, Keighley; Aug. Bank Holiday, Royal, Sunderland. Verb. sap.
Carson, R., Middlesbro'; next, King's, Longsight.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3.
Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this year.
Chalmers Mackey, New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, Aug. 20, 6 nights.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sept. 10,
Oct. 1, 15, 22.
J. W. Cordiner, Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate.
See Companies advertisement, page 2.

WANTED, Good Theatres,
Aug. 27,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY,"
First-class Show,
vacant through double booking.
Good terms.
Secretary, Opera House, Southport.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, Sept. 24 (Scotland), Oct. 15 (North), for this Smart Musical Money-maker.
Cast includes the popular comedian W. H. Kirby.
Eighth year of tour, and business as good as ever.
Refer J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Accrington; or
R. C. Buchanan, Esq.
Edward Marris, Queen's T., Longton.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Oct. 22.
Superb cast. Exquisitely dressed.
Special scenery, printing; weird, startling surprises.
Refer Mr. Peacock, Harrogate; Mr. Darlinson, Leith. Equal to "The Christian."—Scotsman.
Also, "THE ANARCHIST TERROR,"
the Solid, Staple Success.
Last week at Leith, £40 over first visit.
Either or both plays. Wire, to-day,
Lois Esmond, Queen's Music Hall, Glasgow.
Aug. 20, H. M. T., Barrow-in-Furness (4th visit).

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

LIONEL GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM'S CO. in
"ALL OF A SUDDEN PEGGY,"
from Duke of York's Theatre.
Miss DECIMA MOORE
as PEGGY.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Only vacant dates Sept. 24, Oct. 1,
Nov. 5 15, 26. Address,
Mr. J. W. Wood Ingram, Duke of York's Theatre.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Brilliant Attraction, Sept. 3, Oct. 1.
follow Grand, Nottingham, precede T. R., Stratford.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
All Drama Records Broken at T. R., Hyde.
Refer Fred Granville, Esq.
Company Second to None Touring.
No Premium Payers.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Hyde;
Aug. 20, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, to complete Tour, for Edward Marris's personally managed Production of above. A Big Show, beautifully done. Production T. R., Preston, second year. Booked by Thos. Sergenson, Esq., Harry Yorke, Esq., Jas. Bell, Esq., Jas Kiernan, Esq., M. Loader, Esq.
Edward Marris, Queen's T., Longton.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Sept. 24 (to follow third visit to Palace, Newcastle) and Oct. 15 (to follow third visit to Alexandra, Hull), for Witty Wattie Walton and powerful company. Wire, Marris, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, for this Beautifully-Mounted, Dressed, and Played Drama,
Sept. 24, in or near London,
Sept. 24, in or near London,
Also,
Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3, 10, &c.
Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3, 10, &c.
Everything carried; magnificent production; eighteen Artists.
Frank Bateman, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as Fiend.
By arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard this company can play anywhere except London.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, and New Year.
Montague Beaudyn, next, New Royal, W. Stanley.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, Fred Granville,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, First-class Drama Houses, where money can be taken, Sept. 10, 17, and 24. Oct. 1, 8, 15, and 22. Opened at Rawtenstall last Monday to nearly £50. Refer Arthur De Frece, Esq., re show and business. Wire, Wire, Wire.
Beresford, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.
"£1,000 REWARD."
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, Sept. 3, Sept. 3,
Wire,
P. O. W., Mexboro'; next, G., Rawtenstall.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, various, on.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY."
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"THE KING'S SECRET"
(James Stillwell and Company),
Oct. 1, onwards.
CHARLES MAJILTON AND COMPANY,
Nov. 26, various, on.
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Great Attraction. More Successful than ever.
Vacant Nov. 12, 19, and Dec. 3;
also Dec. 24 and 31.
Rapidly Booking Spring, 1907.
New special scenery and effects. Magnificently advertised, beautifully mounted, and splendidly acted.
Aug. 20, Victoria, Broughton (return).

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 21, and on, for the above magnificent aggregation of splendour and talent, to follow production, Grand, Derby. Nothing spared to command success. Unrivalled cast. Gorgeous scenery and dressing. List of cast on application.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Wanted, Jan. 28, and on, for the real old English Pantomime, full of Comedy, magnificently mounted and costumed, second to nothing on the road.
Fred Granville, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this
Brilliant Play.
Brilliant in Acting,
Brilliant in Mounting,
Brilliant in Drawing Powers.
Refer
Mr. Hewitson, T. R., Smethwick.
Refer
Bristol, Brighton, Aldershot, Newcastle, &c.
Vacant,
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 24.
Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the great Domestic Drama, by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Oct. 22.
Important Notice.
The following are the Return dates booked for this year alone: Birkenhead; Empire, Oldham; Castleford; Prince's, Preston; Nelson; Longton; Queen's, Liverpool; Bury; Rochdale; Dewsbury; Halifax; Osborne, Manchester; Metropole, Glasgow; Victoria, Broughton; T. R., Stratford; Prince's, Portsmouth; Alex., Sheffield; W. G., Blackpool; Prince's, Blackburn; Kettering; Blyth; Bacup.
Now Booking 1907.
"HOME, SWEET HOME."
For vacant dates, please address,
Frank Lindo, 19, Cambridge-road, Blackpool.

"THE PERFECT LOVER,"
by ALFRED SUTRO.
Mr. Lewis Waller's Success from the Imperial Theatre.
WANTED, a few Autumn and Spring Dates, to complete Tour. Address, Harold V. Neilson, Imperial Theatre, S.W.

A play that will live for ever.—Daily News.
Wilson Barrett's and George R. Sims' Great Play,
"THE GOLDEN LADDER,"
From the Globe Theatre London.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12, Dec. 31, Jan. 14.
A Magnificent Attraction. Forty People on the Stage. Miss Mary Austin as Lilian Grant. Mr. William Clayton as Rev. Frank Thornhill.
Address,
E. Vivian Edmonds, Opera House, Northampton.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, various onward, nearing completion of year's continuous tour.
W. J. Miller, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Theatre, South or Midlands, for the great revival of Walter Howard's Military-Domestic Play, "Man and Wife," Xmas week, also few later dates. Add., T. E. Ward, T. R., Stratford, E.

"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
Playing to excellent business this week at Stanley.
Refer Mark Lindon, Esq.
Managers invited to witness this splendid play.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Oct. 1, 8, 22, 29,
Nov. 12, 19, Xmas, New Year.
Fred C. Somerfield, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

WANTED, First-class Dates for the Great Sensational Russian Drama,
"WHAT MEN DARE."
Vacant Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 15, 29 (3 nights, Scotland), and Nov. 19 (Scotland). Communications,
Percy Norman, Cambridge T., Spennymoor.

WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, for the Four-year-old Drama,
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
Business better than ever. Refer W. Bennett, Coventry, who secured it for his August Bank Holiday Attraction, and the third visit.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS,"
Nov. 26, Xmas week, and a few Spring Dates, for this Gilt-edged Attraction.
Eugene Bertram,
T. R., Darlington.

"AFTER THE BALL,"
a Musical Comedy second to none.
The Provincial Success of the Year.
"AFTER THE BALL."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Sept. 10, week, North.
Charles Carey,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

E. H. KNIGHT AND GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas.
George Denham, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 15, and Spring for these Musical Versions.
Powerful Company; Splendid Reception Lincoln, and big business with "East Lynne."
Wires, Herbert Barrs, T. R., Lincoln;
Monday, Opera House, Wakefield.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17.
Wire for Aug. 27.
Edward Surrey,
to-day, Metropole, Abertillery;
next, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, for "The Crimson Club," Theatres, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, 8, 22, and various, on.
Shaw, this, Darwen; next, Chorley.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Sept. 17 and 24.
Refer H. Fischer, Esq., Grand, Edinburgh.
Dickie Clare, Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

WANTED, Theatres that can Hold Big Money, for a really first-class Pantomime, Feb. 4, and on.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.'
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Sept. 10 and 17, for this Successful Play, only vacant dates this year. Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade. F. G. Kimberley, Vauxhall, The Scotlands, W'hampton.

MR. JAMES STILLWELL AND CO. in
"THE KING'S SECRET."
the great Anglo-Egyptian Melodrama.
WANTED, Oct. 8, and on, with exceptions.
Apply, re dates, Arthur Jefferson, Esq., 2 Park-terrace, Queen's-park, Glasgow.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-second Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., '07.
WANTED, Sept. 3. Wire for Sept. 3, Sept. 3 (in or near London),
Oct. 22 (through obliging).
Frank Ayrton, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, precede Portsmouth.
Fred Bulmer, G. T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, and 1907, Mr. Samuel James's Company, "AS GOOD AS GOLD," a story of "What Love Will Do." Splendid reception this week at the Alexandra Theatre, Hull. Extracts from Hull Press: Patrons of the Alexandra Theatre have not for a long period been afforded an opportunity of witnessing a drama of such exceptional merit as that entitled "As Good as Gold."—Hull Daily News, Aug. 14, 1906. There was no doubt whatever at the Alexandra Theatre last night of the great grip "As Good as Gold" gained upon the audience. . . . Certainly every art of modern stagecraft in portraying sudden destruction seemed to have been used with thoroughness and ingenuity.—The Daily Mail, Aug. 14, 1906. Murmurs of pleasure were heard on all sides last night as each new scene was presented, and a large audience was delighted with the whole production. . . . The piece was throughout an unqualified success.—Eastern Morning News, Aug. 14, 1906. Mr. Barnard saw the production and booked Aston, Smethwick, and Chatham. Mr. Harry Lyons saw the production, and booked Woolwich, Poplar, and Aldershot. Address, re dates, F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Mr. Samuel James's Company, "IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND," an entirely new production; everything carried. Bookings include the majority of the money-making theatres. A first-class company of real dramatic artists, who make this fine old play a real treat to witness. Refer Sidney Cooper, Esq., Lyceum, Newport. Address, re dates, F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S COMPANY. "HER LUCK IN LONDON," By Charles Darrell. Another Triumph at Preston. Monday, £72 0s. 2d.; Tuesday, £46 0s. 8d.; Wednesday, £54 13s. 10d. Thursday, £52 4s. 1d. Eighth Month of Tour, and already Rebooked P., Bradford; R., Liverpool; P., Preston; T. R., S. Shields; Alex., Hull; O. and T., Manchester; Q., Liverpool. Bookings include all the best Drama Theatres in the Country.

WANTED, Sept. 3, between G., Islington, and Aston; Sept. 24, between Smethwick and Grimsby; also Xmas, through cancelling T. R., Sunderland. Must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms. George Kirk, This, P., Preston; next, Col., Oldham.

WANTED, Good Theatres for JAMES KIDDIE'S JAMES KIDDIE'S Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime, "CINDERELLA," "CINDERELLA," "CINDERELLA." Vacant Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4 and 11. Only Theatres having large Stage and large holding capacity can be entertained for this mammoth production. Add., James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES." WANTED, Sept. 24 (to follow third visit to Palace, Newcastle) and Oct. 15 (to follow third visit to Alexandra, Hull), for Witty Watty Walton and powerful company. Wire, Marris, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"SAPHO." "SAPHO." WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, No Greater Success Touring. Miss ANNIE BELL as FANNY LE GRANDE. Wire for Sept. 24. Wire. James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART." WANTED, Sept. 24 (Scotland), Oct. 15 (North), for this Smart Musical Money-maker. Cast includes the popular comedian W. H. Kirby. Eighth year of tour, and business as good as ever. Refer J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Accrington; or R. C. Buchanan, Esq. Edward Marris, Queen's T., Longton.

Special Revival of the Well-known Moneymaker, "JUDY." WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 1, on, with Exceptions. Address, Geo. Kirk, This, P., Preston; next, Col., Oldham.

"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE." MR. H. F. MALTBY AND COMPANY. WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 19, and Spring. Wyn Weaver, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES." Mr. H. Hamilton-Stewart in Title-rôle. WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Dec. 31. Address, Walter J. Bayliss, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for weeks of Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, either 3 or 6 nights, for Arthur Law's Latest Success, "THREE BLIND MICE," with the Identical Cast that returns to Open in the West End in Sept. Reply, Richard Maynard, next week, OPERA HOUSE, CHELTENHAM.

WANTED, Theatres, for MISS LENA STANTON'S CO.'S. Latest Musical Success, "BONNY BOY BLUE," Oct. 8, 15, Midlands. "SINBAD THE SAILOR," Grand Pantomime, Xmas Week Vacant, Midlands, Company of Forty Artists. All Coms., Pagoda, Littlehampton.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE." Fourth Year of Continuous Tour. WANTED, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, 15, Xmas. E. Carter Livesey, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS." "THE SWISS EXPRESS." "THE SWISS EXPRESS." WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 8. Address, C. and F. Renad, Opera H., Northampton.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE." WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, to complete Tour, for Edward Marris's personally managed Production of above. A Big Show, beautifully done Production T. R., Preston second year, Booked by Thos. Sergenson, Esq., Harry Yorke, Esq., Jas. Bell, Esq., Jas Kiernan, Esq., M. Loader, Esq. Edward Marris, Queen's T., Longton.

MESSRS. STILLWELL AND TEULON'S CO. "THE BRANDED WOMAN." WANTED, Aug. 27, unexpectedly vacant, also Sept. 10 (through closing of Empire, Oxford), Oct. 1, 22, Dec. 3. James Stillwell, T. R., Aldershot.

WANTED, for the Successful New Bijou Comic Opera, "A KNIGHT ERRANT," Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 15. Apply re dates, Chapin, Gaiety, Ayr.

WANTED, for "Gipsy Jack" and "The See-saw of Life," Sept. 24, and onward, with exceptions. Apply, Henry Bedford, 99, Halton-road, London, N.

WANTED, Oct. 8 and 15, Nov. 12, 19, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gorton's Juvenile Company, in the new Musical Comedy, "The Beryl." Keane, 209, High-street, Jarrow.

HERBERT BARRS' "ALADDIN" PANTOMIME. WANTED, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 11, for this brilliant production. The tour which terminates at Nuneaton March 9 is fully booked with these exceptions; must be first-class theatres, as expenses are over £100 weekly. Herbert Barrs, Opera House, Wakefield.

THEATRES WANTED.

Special Notice.—Owing to the enormous success achieved by The Native Choir from Jamaica (ten coloured Artists), specially brought to this country by Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G., they will extend their stay in England for another three months, and will now sail for home by the Port Royal, leaving Bristol Dec. 15, instead of Sept. 22, as previously arranged.

WANTED, Theatres, &c. First Vacant Date Oct. 1, and onwards, with exceptions; a novel and artistic entertainment. A sensation everywhere. Native costume, camp dress for Sunday Concerts, and evening dress. Splendid lithos, framed photographs (three kinds), postcards (four kinds), &c. Heartily complimented by Earl Roberts, Lord Derby, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, &c. This week, North Pier, Blackpool (return visit, and playing to enormous business). Next week, The Spa, Whitby. For full particulars, Press opinions, &c., apply Sole Agents, Messrs. Jones and Douglass, 21, Water-street, and 14, Dale-street, Liverpool. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool." Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.

THE KELLINOS' STAR VAUDEVILLE CO. WANTED, First-class Theatres or Hippodromes, only Vacant Date this year, Oct. 1. We put on a first-class company, headed by our great act, "A Fête in Venice." All coms. to Tower Circus, Blackpool. The Kellinos thank the many artists who wrote in for Sept. 24. Company complete for that date.

WANTED, for Great Sensation, Autumn dates, Sept. 24, on, with exceptions. Apply. Sydney N. Hallows, Grand, Middlesbrough.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, a Full Dramatic Company, for Maurice Bandmann's Season in the East and Mediterranean, commencing about November. Write full particulars and photos., Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Send photographs, or call. Andrew Melville, Metropole T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Tall, Aristocratic Lady, capable of Juveniles. Send particulars, two refs., and photos. indispensable, Miss Grace Warner, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Amateur Lady of Experience, for good parts, in semi-professional company, playing odd nights round London, commencing next October; splendid opportunity for gaining experience. Write, giving full particulars; state if playing at present time, and where. Box 3,584, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Stout Old Lady, for Mrs. Kelly, "Shaughraun." Rehearse to-day, 4 o'clock. Wire or call. McCullough, Empire, Kilburn.

"CLAUDIAN." WANTED, through breach of Contract, tall, experienced, Responsible Gentleman, one used to legitimate preferred; age, height, lowest terms, references, recent photos., &c. William Maclaren, 7, Turner-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman, for Harry Millard, and Strong Leading Actress, for Earl Millard, "Between Two Women." Rehearse next week. Open Aug. 27. Fredk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES." WANTED, to rehearse immediately, Character, Heavy Lead. Particulars, L. Dalrymple, P. of W. T., Grimsby.

WANTED, Gentleman, Light Comedienne, to play Charlie Teviot in "The Bauble Shop." Terms, T. W. Rawson, 18, Euston-grove, Morecambe.

WANTED, Character Comedian; must be good vocalist, for light opera; also one or two ladies, for chorus. Apply, Chapin, Gaiety, Ayr, N.B.

WANTED, Responsible Gentleman, capable Juveniles, for Stock Sketches. Open immediately. Wire, Forbes, The Casino, Bexhill-on-Sea.

"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL." WANTED, Second Heavy Gentleman, to double small French part; tall, good voice. Photos. (imperative), lowest terms. John B. Shinton, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

WANTED, Open Monday, Gent. Leads and Heavies, Good Responsible Gents., Chambermaid (turns), First-class Portable. Four and five pieces weekly; must have good wardrobes. Whitmee, Portable Theatre, Hemel Hempsted, Herts.

"GOLDEN LADDER." WANTED tall, robust Character Actor, for responsible parts. Terms, photographs, references, E. Vivian Edmonds, O. H., Northampton.

WANTED, Good Comedian and Juvenile Man. Last two references, age, height, lowest salary, Arthur Carlton, Worcester.

WANTED, Young Juvenile, to rehearse with Lady, for Japanese Sketch for the Halls; must be quick study. Send photos. at once, which will be returned. Ward, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. Manager, D. Brandon.

WANTED, Light Comedy Baritone, used to playing in Sketches; essentially a gentleman; 5 weeks certain if suitable, to open Aug. 27. Lowest terms and references, Jollities, Pier, Exmouth.

"ON THE LINKS AND OFF." WANTED, Known, The Golfers (title fully protected), Original Costume Concert Company, on Tour. Next week, Concert Hall, Deal.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK." WANTED, three Lady Dancers, to go on in two or three scenes, and speak a few lines; open at once; good appearance essential. References, lowest terms, photo, and full particulars, to Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, for Tour, Trio, Quartette, or Troupe of Eccentric and Acrobatic Dancers, or Posturers and Benders, for Sprites (with own act preferred). Age, height, references, lowest terms, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford. Raynor Brothers write.

WANTED, to Rehearse at Once for Autumn, Winter Tour, a few smart Girl Vocalists, must be good singers; also a smart Young Comedian, for Panto. Tour. Apply, John Walters, Assembly Rooms, Lytham.

WANTED, Ballad Vocalist, for Illustrated Songs, to Tour, Contralto or Mezzo. Lowest terms to Sydney Tolfree, P.O.W., Grimsby.

WANTED, Show Girls, Physical Culture Girls, Society Girls. Three Superior Handsome, Well-developed, and Physically Perfect Young Ladies required for a High-class Theatrical Novelty. Magnificent Opportunity for suitable subjects. Experience (if any) and full measurements, to Box 3,566, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette. Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. Lloyd Stanford, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by a Young Lady, petite, Low Comedy, Chambermaid, or Waif parts. Add., F., 11, Lorne-villas, Salmeston-road, Margate.

WANTED, by Contralto, Engagements, at Concerts, Garden Parties, or Seaside, &c. Miss Annie Colthrup, Belmont, 148, Friern-rd., Dulwich.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES. WANTED, First-Class Comedian, sing and dance, for Hassarac; Comedians, good pair Rumans; Sisters (not children), for "Babes"; tall, handsome ladies for Chorus. Photos., references, ladies' height, and where can be seen working. Fred Granville, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooke's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Artists in all Lines, and Choristers. Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Nettie Du Cane, Child Actress and Expert Dancer. Autumn Arrangements complete. "Faust Up-to-date." Open for Panto., Boy Baby, Cinders, or Speciality. This, Aug. 20, Lyceum, Edinburgh; next, King's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Pantomime, Part and Speciality, Arthur Bright, the popular Comedian and Instrumentalist, one of the Best All-round Artists obtainable. Communications, Bright, Manager Entertainers, Stonehaven; or agent, Fred Higham.

WANTED, by Mons. Bellini, Continental Equilibrist and Aerial Trapeze Performer, at Liberty for Panto. only. Address, 36, Verdon-street, Cheetham, Manchester.

WANTED, Pantomime, by John E. West, Scotch Comedian and Dancer. Last season, Dame with Messrs. Little and Darcy's "Sinbad the Sailor." Permanent, 138, South Wellington-street, Glasgow.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters pro tem., Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c.; experienced, quick. Moderate charges. Address, W. Henry, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. Roberts and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Tour, by well-known Management, an experienced Business Manager, also Stage-Manager. State terms, height, references, Box 3,581, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman, to Learn Acting-Management of good class touring company, thorough training, small premium required. Salary. Box 3,586, "The Era."

WANTED, a Clerk; must be good Book-keeper, Typewriter preferred. Apply, stating full particulars, salary expected. References. Photo. if possible to Dr. Walford Bodie, 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Lady Typist, must be expert at shorthand and book-keeping, to travel as Secretary, one able to walk on in play preferred. Lowest terms, references, speed, and name of machine worked. C. Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, to introduce Capital, New Musical Comedy, well-known authors; reliable management. State capital first letter; amateur entertained. Box 3,593, "The Era."

WANTED, Agent in Advance; must be a good window-biller, and able to use brush; also a strong youth, for baggage and billing. Age, photo., and refs., to Crane, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

MR. H. F. MALTBY AND COMPANY. "THE YOUNGEST OF THREE." WANTED, Good Carpenter, for above, at once. Age, references, &c., to Wyn Weaver, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Carpenter (resident), at once. State full particulars, and lowest terms for a permanency. Apply, W. R. King, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, Property Master, and to assist Bill-Posting, Shop Boards, &c., must be a good worker and of good character. Write, stating age, previous experience, references, W. Morton, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Property Man, to combine Bill-posting, for a Suburban Theatre. Permanency to a steady man who is willing to work. Apply, Box 3,592, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, Sober Billposter. State age and wages expected. Fred Lewis, Circus Advance Agent, c/o Mrs. Carlin, 30, Great George's-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Good Effect Worker and Window Biller, open Monday. Wire Manager, Pictures, Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Assistant-Manager of Important Provincial Theatre desires change, to better himself; excellent experience and references, shorthand, typist, pianist. Address, Clifford, Homestead, Hurst-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Manager, Music Hall or Theatre, experienced in both; good references. Box 3,576, "The Era."

WANTED, Position, Theatre or Varieties, Act., Assist., Stage, or Advertising Manager, open Sept. 3. Good refs. Reply, Manager, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, George F. Gettler, Disengaged, for Acting, Business, or Advance Management, resident or tour, late W. W. Kelly, Esq.'s, "Royal Divorce" Co., &c. Address, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Offers, Advance Agent; 6 years agent Joseph Poole's Myriorama; good references. Ernest Lloyd, 200, Manor-place, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Electrician, in Theatre, First-class London and Manchester references. F. McMullen, 14, Caversham-st., Chelsea, London.

WANTED, Situation, by thorough Practical Stage Carpenter and Manager for Music Halls, Theatres, or Tour. Address, Harrold, 27, Greenhey-lane, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, a Resident Engagement by Master Carpenter and Scenic Artist, Theatre or Music Hall. Box 3,569, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Smart Mechanic requires an Engagement for evenings; experienced workman; in London. Apply, A. W., 157, Kilburn-lane, Paddington.

WANTED, by Billposter, Situation. Apply by letter to Dennett, 13, Queen's-street, Henley, Oxon.

WANTED, Situation, as Bill Inspector or Billposter, age 29; good references. Address, R. H. Greenwood, 42, Albert-street, Islington, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES. WANTED, First-Class Violinist, to act as Conductor if required, for Northampton, to open Sept. 3. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to Frank Seddon, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Musical Conductor (Violin), for a small Theatre, open all the year round. Address, Box 3,579, "The Era."

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL. WANTED, to Open Monday, Good Violin Leader, experienced in variety business, engagement till Sept. 29, to those suitable. Only steady and experienced men need apply. Wire lowest terms (inclusive) to A. Parker, Conductor.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, Solo 'Cellist, and Pianist, thoroughly experienced in high-class orchestral work, permanency for suitable men. Only really good musicians of good appearance need apply. State lowest terms and reference to Box 3,583, "The Era."

WANTED, Second Violin (combine brass), commence immediately, Circus business. Apply, Auguste Denton, Mus.-Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT. WANTED, Monday, Aug. 27, Good Violinist, experienced in Variety. Terms and references, C. Wright, Conductor, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, First Violin, and Double Bass, for Music Hall; permanency for steady performers. Letters. Apply to L. C., 26, Lisle-st., W.

WANTED, at Once, First Violinist, Viola, also other instruments write, to enlarge English orchestra touring in Germany, two and three months in one place, concerts only. State lowest terms, height, and photo.; not over 20 years. Also Soprano Boy write. Box 3,573, "The Era."

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE. WANTED, Male Attendant, First Violin Player or Pianist preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the Medical Superintendent, at the Asylum.

WANTED, a good First Violin, open Monday next. Wire, Zalva, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Young Gentleman Violinist, who is willing to invest a little cash in London production of a beautiful musical romance; must play class solo. Particulars, Nemo, 53, The Rake, Bromborough, Cheshire.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, as Leader, for Quartette; must be experienced, a good sight-reader, open Aug. 27. Clarissa Matthews, Drill Hall, Derby.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalist, Cornet, 'Cello, and Bass, to complete Band of Eight, touring, commence Sept. 17. Write, Manager, Provincial Trades and Foods Exhibition, 715, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, for Town Band, shares, permanent. Holders save stamps. Phillips, 11, Market-place, Southend.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON. WANTED, to open at once, Solo Cornet, must be used to Variety; permanency to good man. Address, last two refs., lowest salary, James Bell.

WANTED, Cornet, First, good, to open Aug. 20, '06. State lowest and refs., Musical Director, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

WANTED, First-class Solo Clarionet, for Municipal Orchestra. Wire terms, references, Joseph Sainton, Mus. Dir. to the Council, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Double Bass Player, to combine Singing preferred. Volthurst, Boundary-rd., Newbury, Shikissimma Band Ladies' Japanese Orchestra.

C. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA. WANTED, Trombone, also Second Violin. Join at once; must assist with fittings; sober and competent. Harry Stewart, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Trombone. Terms, 30s. per week. Address, Whitehurst, Leader, Sedgwick Menagerie, Ystalyefera, Sat.; Pontardawe, Mon.; Brynaman, Tues.; Glanmman, Wed.

WANTED, a good, sober, respectable Trombone Player; join on Monday next. Wire, Tidswell, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, for Permanent Staff, 3rd West Kent Regt., a Trombone or Euphonium Player, good Band Pay during Training. Apply The Bandmaster, Barracks, Maidstone.

WANTED, for Reading Professional Town Band, good Bombardon (through death of W. Remenent). Terms, shares. Sec., Horn Hotel, Butts, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, First French Horn, from Aug. 29 to Sept. 11. Salary, £3 weekly. Address, Signor Domenico, Royal Prince's Parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Good Oboe Player; must be used to opera; to commence at once. Send lowest terms and testimonials to Mus. Dir., Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Flute Cornet and Drums, for Music Hall, near London. Terms and refs., Box 3,582, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Gent. Pianist (vocalist preferred); read, transpose, MS., sight, expert Accompanist. Rehearse Aug. 31. Tour begins Sept. 3. Photo., age, refs, terms, to Mr. Harry Liston, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Piano-Vocalist (Baritone preferred), for Illustrated Songs and to accompany Pictures. Lowest terms and references. Manager, Mechanics' Hall, Crook.

WANTED, Pianist, for Cinématograph Tour, only very steady need apply. Lowest terms and references to Sydney Tolfree, P.O.W., Grimsby.

WANTED, to Open immediately, a Pianist, al fresco, on shares. Sole permit. Wire, Fuller, Sea View Inn, Newbiggin-by-Sea.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, used to Variety, open at once, six weeks, with auction van, six months (permanency) in variety theatre to follow if suitable. Terms and refs. to J. Cummings, G. P. O., Coldstream, N.B.

WANTED, for Variety, Pianist, Clarionet, First Violins, Drums, and Double Bass. Apply, Manager, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Pianist, immediately, lady or gent., varieties and dancing. Wire or write at once; terms must be low. Pollard, Marina, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Good Pianist, used to Picture Shows; one who can give refined humorous turn preferred, and assist lecturer. Particulars to Manager, Pictures, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS. WANTED, immediately, Double Drums and Effects; wear evening dress, and assist with fittings when travelling. J. Wolseley Poole, Town Hall, Luton.

WANTED, Drums and Effects, open Monday, to Sept. 16. Arnold, 32, Tennyson-avenue, Scarborough.

WANTED, Guitarist, for Music Hall Business; must read music and play good accompaniment. Apply, Box 3,565, "The Era."

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE. WANTED, Good Double Drummer, with Effects. Permanency (open all year round). Terms and refs., W. Hartley, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, Drummer and Tympanist (tympani provided), accustomed to opera and musical comedy, commence on Monday, 20th. Chambers, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley, 717, New City-road, Glasgow.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Musicians, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Contrabassists, for Ocean Liners (Mediterranean service). Engagement from Sept. 21, 1906, to about the end of July, 1907; Nov. 7, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907; Dec. 26, 1906, to about middle of Aug., 1907. Musical duties only; second-class accommodation. State age and experience, with references as to ability. C. W. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:— To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C., "Re Advertisement "'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.' "Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion. "Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:— "Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.' "Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer. "Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs, Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), London or suburban; good répertoire. Conductor, Box 3,553, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor or First Violin; excellent references. Wire or write, J. Heale, Palace Theatre, Lincoln.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director, for Variety; higest reference; good library; can supply Orchestra. Vacant Aug. 20. Conductor, Hippodrome, Margate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Director, pianist, tenor vocalist, good library, effective composer, expert arranger. 62, North-rd., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Musical Director, leader or first violin, good répertoire. Highest refs. Add., Wilfred Ball, Villiers Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, a German gentleman, Berliner Conservatorian Professor, First-class Pianist, Brilliant Accompanist, and Flautist and Composer, thoroughly experienced, desires a suitable post for the 20th inst., or later. All replies to be addressed, Herr Cremers, Claremont House, Serpentine-road, Egremont.

WANTED, Engagement, Mr. A. Taggart, Conductor, Composer, Arranger, Violin, Panto., Tour, Theatre; ref. and Press notice. Address, 21, Beaconsfield-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by experienced Conductor and Solo Clarionet, for Town Band; good references; Army experience. Burke, Regent-street, Shanklin, I. of W.

WANTED, Engagement as Violinist, First or Second, Theatre or Hall; young, sober, and reliable musician; good references. Wire or write, Violinist, No. 8, Gas-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin, in London; S.E. district preferred. Violinist, 27, Wernbrook-street, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double-handed Musician (Violin, Clarionet), E flat if required; experienced any business. Rudolf Boehnke, 12, Higher Gunstone, Bideford.

WANTED, by First Violin, Engagement or Deputising. Write, Violinist, 6, Sharples Hall-street, Primrose Hill, N.W.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, as First or Second Violin, Theatre or Hall (latter preferred). Violinist, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First Violin, experienced, in Ladies' Orchestra. Box 3,571, "The Era."

WANTED, Autumn Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), hotel, restaurant, or tea rooms; extensive répertoire, popular music. Box 3,567, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Experienced Violinist, any business. References. Violinist, 33, Brewerton-road, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin. Splendid refs.; can open at once. P. Lewis, 13, Guppy-street, Swindon.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement or Deputising, Second Violin; 3 years last engagement. J., 26, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Violin, theatre or variety. First-class references. H. Heggie, 55, West Cumberland-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, used Variety, well recommended, fair terms. Steele, c/o Cookson, 8, Alexander-st., Carlisle.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, a few weeks' engagement, any business; good testimonials. Lib. Sept. 1. Cornettist, 2a, Earl-st., Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet. Address, Cornet, 19, Quarry-road. Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, Engagement. J. W. R., 55, St. Mary's-road, Hornsey, N.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by reliable Clarionettist; thoroughly experienced, Military or String. Address, H. C. Garner, Solo Clarionet, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement for Double Bass, Good Experience in Every Business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany), Disengaged Sept. 17. Herr Otto Bayer, 1, Woodfield-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or any Business; long experience and good reference. Harry Davis, 9, Windsor-street, Luton.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass (four strings), splendid refs.; last engagement three years. A. Gaitley, 22, Jubilee-st., Burnham, Somerset.

WANTED, by Double Bass, a few weeks, deputising. Liberty Sept. 3, any Business. Highest refs. Johnson, Derby Castle, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, experienced; can open at once. George, 3, Midland-rd., Royston, near Barnsley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bassoon Player, any capacity. Concert or Operatic. Late Band 1st Life Guards. G. J. Grierson, 19, Trinity-square, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Experienced, Engagement, or Deputising, any business. Apply, Bassist, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass Player, String or Military Band; excellent references. Address, J. Barton, 29, Harcourt-st., Marylebone-rd., W.

WANTED, Eng., as String Bass, London preferred; last situation twelve years. Refs. if required. W. Jacques, Orchestra, New Grand, Clapham Junction, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Euphonium Soloist, combine Trombone, any business; reliable; excellent references; at Lib. Sept. 10. George Gruber, 26, Kingsmead-terrace, Bath.

WANTED, Known, B flat Bombardon, open; Military experience; good reader. Apply, Saunders, Bombardon, Library, College Green, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, first-class, late Royal French Opera, the Hague, good refs., disengaged Sept. 16. Rebattu, New Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Casselle, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, experienced 'Cellist will be Disengaged Aug. 25; would like an engagement in town or country. 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, experienced, for end of Sept.
Box 3,577, "The Era."

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, as Viola, excellent references, at Liberty Sept. 3.
W. H. White, 103, Upper Cliff-road, Gorleston.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady 'Cellist (A.R.C.M., Silver Med.). Newcombe, 11, West-square, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19.
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo; thoroughly experienced in Variety, Theatre, and Concert, London or Suburbs. H. Otto, 19, Herbert-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, and Cornet Players, to join Travelling Band, or Good Show. Hart, Avon View, King's-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flautist, London or South Coast, Theatre, Variety, or Concert Business. Millars, 60, Oglander-road, E. Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by Pianist, Solo and Accompanist, Classical or Popular Engagement, Sight-reader, thoroughly experienced, Organist, Chorus Trainer, Composer, pupil of Hambourg's. Phillips, Stanlake House, Blomfield-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Pianist, just finished with Lee and Arden. Highest references. Wire for Monday next, Coulton, 6, Caledonia-road, Saltcoats.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, from London, desires Engagement as Pianist, for Dances; sight-reader. Holiday address, A., 9, King's-street, Maidenhead.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, day or evening, any business. Shanahan, 137, Mansfield-street, Haggerston, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Orchestral or otherwise; experienced Accompanist, Sight-reader. R. Stone, 52, Winstead-street, Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, excellent refs., used to any business. Address, Whitehead, Pianist, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Tympanist and Double Drummer, splendid set of Instruments, ten years last shop. Apply, Tympanist, Central Pier, Morecambe.

DIRECTORS, MANAGERS, of HOTELS, CAFES, and RESTAURANTS.

WANTED, Known, Directors, &c., seeking a good Attraction, write or wire at once to the Gardenia Band; just returned from the Continent with great success; also in England last season. Our musicians are only first-class Soloists, having a large up-to-date Répertoire.
Agents please note address.
Offices, 82, Richmond-road, Bayswater, W.

WANTED, by the Blue Hungarian Band, Engagements,
for Exhibitions, Bazaars, Flower Shows, Promenade Concerts, &c. Handsome Uniforms.
Address, Sidona, 4, Endlesham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Madame Angless's Ladies' Orchestra, vacant October, onward. Now performing Britannia Pier, Yarmouth, sixth successive season. Address, Pier.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, can supply Bands, any number; brilliant costumes; large repertoire. Conductress, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, Engagements, by First-class Band (German), First Violin (Conductor, Soloist), One Violin, Piano (Soloist), Violoncello (Soloist), Double Bass. Open Sept. 16. Fritz Preisicke, Musical Director, Kathaus Hotel, Altona, Hamburg.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. Williams, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. Jesson, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. Lees, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. Bartley, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Robert Fossett and Sons, for Circus Department, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., First-class Circus Company, Star Artists in all Branches, Male and Female, Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, Scene Act Riders, Tumbling Clowns, Novelties of a First-class Character, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. Fossett and Son, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton, or Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Please give time for re-direction of letters. All Artists having no intention of fulfilling engagements save stamps.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Circus and Menagerie, for rest of tour in Australia, and tour through South Africa, good Comedy Musical Show, Comedy Acrobats, or any turn suitable for ring or stage, and at reasonable terms for long engagements, to sail during September. Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Johnson's Variety Circus, a Good Ground Act, also a Wire Performer, and Young Lady for Parading on Show Front; long engagement to suitable people; those used to Fair Business preferred. Mrs. Sarah Johnson, Poste Restante, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Present and Future Dates, Artists suitable for Circus. Full particulars to Henry Giles, Giles Circus Co., Hip., Llandudno.

WANTED, Youth, that can Tumble, and has a slight knowledge of Gymnastics, aged about 15.
Address, Henry Giles,
Giles's Circus Company, Hippodorme, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Vacancy for bearer or middle man, to open Monday. Wire, Sat., 3, Waverley-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, a Smart Youth; must be good tumbler and top mount, live in. Particulars, salary expected, to Frantz, Empire, Ashton-u-Lyne.

WANTED, Acrobat, well-up in Backs; one that can do a few cycle tricks preferred.
Box 3,595, "The Era."

WANTED, Several Young Gentlemen, slight knowledge of Juggling, to join Troupe. Idento Bros., 1, St. Margarette's-avenue, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Zarmah and his Zoological Statuary of Wild Animals, consisting of African Forest-bred Lions, Bears, and Boarhounds, returns England, and at Lib. Nov. 1 and onwards. Perm. address, 42, Newman-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, will shortly arrive in England.
Proprietors and Managers take notice.
The Yelding Trio,
(two gentlemen, one lady)
will be at Liberty shortly with a number of First-class Acts, including Double and Single, Jockey, Bar Act, and all Scene Acts.
also Silver Wire and Globe Artists.
All communications, address c/o "Era" Office.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors and Hippodrome Managers to Note, The Three Ohmys, Greatest of all Lady Acrobatic Bareback Somersault Riders on Three Beautiful Coloured Horses, will shortly be at Liberty. Now appearing with Great Success at the Hippodrome, Scarborough, and the talk of the town. Nothing like this act ever seen in England before. A Sure Success.
Address,
The Three Ohmys,
Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, Clown and Agouste, with Trick and Comic Entrées. Loud applause nightly, Gilbert's Hippodrome, Lowestoft, until further notice. At Lib. for winter.

WANTED, Known, that Lampo and Clown, bounding wonder and bouncing droll, are working a novel, scientific, humorous, and refined number with Lord John Sanger, Ltd., on tour.

WANTED, Sept. 17, Comic Act, Clown and Donkey; also wonderful educated dog, Bobeydasler. Com., Buer, 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Potpourri acts, free Sept. 10, 17. Monday, C. V., Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, Gymnastic Speciality, Liberty Dec. 24 and on. Agent, Stebbings. Perm., 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Comedy Bar Act, vacant Monday. Wire, Queen's Palace, Rhyl; or 24, Brook-street, Preston.

WANTED, Known, the Two Levines, in a novel acrobatic and hand-balancing speciality, Liberty Aug. 27, and onwards; also Two Acts, for galas; Liberty for small tour. P. O., Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Panlo Bros., comedy acrobats; and Aldro Lukos, man monkey act; two distinct acts. Wire, Pavilion, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler and Slack Wire, two acts; at Liberty Monday next. Wire, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and Sept. 3, by Lillian and Agouste, comedy contortionists. Wire, offer, Hippo., Dartford.

WANTED, Known, Kiaro, the recognised Champion Hand Jumper and Pyramidist of the World (late Jules and Ferond). Aug. 20, Met., Manchester. Liberty Aug. 27.

WANTED, to join Speciality, by Smart Gymnast, Juggler, Knockabout, Comedy or Straight. J. Clay, 4, Dauber-street, Grove-road, London.

WANTED, Good Comedy Gymnast (rings, &c.), and loose knockabout grotesque; would join comedy act; has everything. Box 3,585, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Juggler, 18 years, seeks Engagement with a Troupe. Write, Adrien Angel, 2, Chapel-street, Wood-street, Walthamstow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

THE PAISLEY HIPPODROME.
Proprietor, E. H. Bostock.
WANTED, for Opening Early in October, Variety Artists, in every line; must be new to Paisley, and terms moderate. Also Manager and the usual Staff, for front and back of house.
Address, Zoo, Glasgow.
Silence a polite negative.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 20, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to Morgan, Aquarium

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Aug. 27, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, for Joseph Poole's Myrioramas, immediate and future dates. J. Wolseley Poole, Town Hall, Luton.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Disengaged Monday next and Aug. 27. Write lowest terms, James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms to save correspondence. Messrs. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, W. Telephone, 6070 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Artists,
Immediate and Later Dates.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

THE EMPIRE,
GREENOCK.
Manager, H. L. Skivington.
WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines to Communicate at Once.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, for Manchester, Dewsbury, Liverpool, Stalybridge, Southport, Grimsby, Oldham, Bolton, Burnley, Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Glasgow, Lancaster, Sheffield, Leeds, London, Chatham, &c, Aug. 27, onwards. Terms, lithos., bookings,
Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Stebbings, Manchester."
Telephone, 09261.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for First-class Vaudeville Co., Aug. 27. Write in at once, share or lowest certainty, to E. Havelock, 34, Newcomen-road, Sheerness.

WANTED, Artists, for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, vacant Sept. 3 to Oct. 15, those doing two acts preferred, for a Commonwealth Combination; share expenses.
Address,
Box 3,570, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. Frank Lynne, Empire Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PALACE, BRIDLINGTON.
WANTED, Monday next, onwards, Sketch Artists doing single turns. Comedy Musical Specialities and Vocalists. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 13, on. Send lowest terms and bookings. Fred Durham's Agency, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Aritists, all Lines, Sept. 3, 10, and 17, Lancashire and Yorkshire. Address, Will Onda, Post Office, Greenock.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, also Good Bioscope, to open Monday, Oddfellows' Hall, Canterbury. Wire, Hugh Dempsey, Apollonian Hall, Dover.

WANTED, Good Cheap Artists, Aug. 27; no fancy salaries. Geo. Saphrini, Palace, Boston.

Please note change of address.
JESS VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Aug. 20, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object, but talent. All clients keep me posted.

WANTED, Refined Artists working South (not Acrobatic or with big Sets), for Isle of Wight, Aug. 27. Wire, Charles Coborn, Pavilion, Greenock, or write him, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Stars, on Shares or Salary. Good combinations with star attractions entertained, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, and later. Geo. Saphrini, Palace, Boston.

RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
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RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
WANTED, all Kinds Artists, Representing the Best Establishments, and the Best Numbers required.
Big Acts New to London call and see me.
I have booked the best, and can book you.
Must see all. Recommendations useless.
30, Maiden-lane, Strand.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.
Sole Proprietors,
Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg.
General Manager, Harry Burns
WANTED, Known, Wanted Known, all Communications must be addressed solely to Harry Burns, our Sole Agent and General Manager.
TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Sole Proprietors,
Councillor J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney.
General Manager, Harry Burns.
Now in its fourth year of success, and all communications respecting engagements and all Bill matters, &c., must be forwarded solely to Mr. Harry Burns, our Sole Agent and Booking Manager, at his head office, Hartlepool. 'Phones, 0231 and 0231a.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Fell. Wanted, Star Turns.

WANTED, Known, Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale (Proprietors, Smith and Lee), Re-opens Monday, Aug. 27.

WANTED, Speciality Turns in all Lines, Sisters and Good Comedians. Send full list of bookings and vacant dates. Lowest terms, Ward, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. Manager, D. Brandon.

WANTED, Stars, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, on. Best Syndicates. Full bookings and lowest. Artists for Australia and India. The very best. Pantomime Talent communicate.
Geo. Aytoun,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics," London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.
Frank Lynne, Provincial Representative, on Tour.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, and Novelties. Send vacancies and bookings, Dave Barnard, Variety Agent. Note new offices, 24, Islington, Liverpool. D. B. has no representatives.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, the Biggest Star Acts in the Profession, immediate, and onwards.
Full list of Bookings and absolute lowest in the first instance, or no notice taken of application. To the right people I can guarantee you nine months out of every year solid Booking. Booking every Hall of note in England; also can arrange for American Tour for Novelties only, comprising all the leading Vaudeville Houses.
Harry Burns' Agency,
Head Office,
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telephones, 0231 and 0231a.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Established 1895.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Picitt and Lizzette communicate. Wanted, Top Liner, for 27th.

WANTED, the greatest Star Acts in the profession, Comedy Act, Specialities, &c., for Aug. 27 and on. Send full bookings and lithos. (if any) to new office, 211, Parade, York-rd., Leeds. Please note change of address owing to the big increase of my provincial business. I am making Leeds my centre. Leo Fritz's Agency, Residential Offices, 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Big Star Act, the bigger the better, sharo or salary, Aug. 27. Smalley and Mattinson, Hippodrome, Castleford.

LITTLEHAMPTON PROMENADE CONCERT.
WANTED, Good Specialities, for
Harry Joseph's Pagoda,
Littlehampton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Specialities, Sept. 3, on. Quote absolute lowest terms, or no notice taken. Entertainment Manager, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Big Attractions, and First-Class Artists of every description, for London and Provinces.
George Pearson,
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.
N.B.—Those not receiving a reply within three days kindly consider silence polite negative.

WANTED, Big Tops, and Artists in all Lines, doubles doing singles, must be good, for Aberdeen, Dundee, Greenock, Glasgow, Boston, Sheerness, and other towns. Bookings big. Drew Bayley, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Tops and Bottoms, Aug. 20, and onwards. The greatest success ever known, Britannia Theatre of Varieties. Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Top the Bill, Aug. 27, Empire, Kilburn, London, anything novel; must be a Great Show.
Can work on certainty and percentage.
Address, Brien McCullough.

WANTED, Oct. 8, Top of Bill, Variety Acts, all Kinds. Artists working West and South Wales can have two weeks near. Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol. Telegraphic address, "Fêtes, Bristol."

WANTED, Head Liners only, for April 27, Sept. 3, onwards. Send material, full particulars. Jenie Jacobs, 48, Cranbourn-street, London, W.

WANTED, Combinations, Aug. 27, onwards. Nothing too big.
Prichard, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, at Once, a First-class Pierrot Troupe with good répertoire. Sharing terms only. Apply, Spence, Lees, Laxey, Isle of Man.

WANTED, at Once, Two Young and Attractive Ladies, Speciality Dancers and Mandoline Soloists, to work in conjunction with a new and refined Speciality Act. Terms, with photo., Herbert Lenton, 9, Woodland-rd., W. Bridgeford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Smart Girls, from 16 to 18, with good appearance, and knowledge of dancing, to travel with well-known family. Send photo., with full particulars, and salary expected, A. L. M., 65, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
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Residential Offices,
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
WANTED, for Hengler's, Glasgow; Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and Scarboro' Hippodromes, Exeter, York, Blackpool, Stockton, Grimsby, and the North,
Big Acts of every description, for immediate and future Dates.
Give lowest terms first letter, and full list of Bookings, and please note it is impossible to answer all.
Look out for Mme. Claessen's Troupe; they will make their first appearance in England shortly.
Telephone, No. 268.
Telegraphic address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."

WANTED, Smart Girls, Acrobatic Dancers and Singers, age 15, live in, best of homes. Full particulars to Frantz, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Bright Young Comedienne and Dancer, also Light Comedian; must be refined, and well up in Concerted Items and Sketches. Talented artists only need apply; long engagement to suitable people. Open Monday. Wire, Stewart Braide, Pavilion, Bridge Pleasure Gardens, Ilkley.

WANTED, refined Singing Comedienne, for month's engagement, South Coast. Letter only, with recent photograph, to Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-street.

WANTED, pretty refined intelligent Girl, for Magical Act. Stage experience unnecessary. Must give time for rehearsals. Photo., age, terms, &c., Illusionist, 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

WANTED, several Smart Girls, over 14, for New Production of the Sketch, "The Little Papoose." Apply to Mr. Sinclair, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Two Ladies, for Illusions, not more than 7st to 8st weight; good appearance. Apply to-day between 3 and 7, or Monday morning.
Bianco,
The Ship, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Comedians, Comediennes, and Big Specialities, for Aug. 27, and on. Send full list of bookings, lithos., and terms. Always vacancies. Brown and Co., 58, Chicksand-street, N.E. Interview by appointment only.

WANTED, experienced Pierrot,
Songs, Sketches,
or to Date.
Bioscope immediately,
fortnight. Wire lowest,
Wilson, Bundoran.

WANTED, Good Humorous Singer, refined, Aug. 20, week, Al-fresco, Southend. Add., R. J. Golding, Pier, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, immediately, young Pantomimist, good knockabout, and play brass instrument. Send full particulars and salary (imperative), Herbert Darnley, Palace, Leicester.

WANTED, a refined Comedian, Operator with own Bioscope, First-class Pianist, also a few Variety Specialities, one week, Sept. 24, near London. Several weeks to follow. Fare paid. Lowest terms, Daly, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, for Tour, commence September, really good comedians, sisters, serios, and contralto. Photos., &c., John H. Tomkinson, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Al Fresco Comedians and Specialities, for Gloucester, Aug. 27, onward. Address, lowest terms, Fred Boulton, 22, St. Mary's-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, open Monday, in Liverpool, smart Young Man, play straight in Comic Sketch, height 5ft. 8in. Address, particulars, Foster, c/o Mrs. Egerton, American Bar, Liverpool.

WANTED, Robust Tenor, for Sketch, in Halls, young, smart, speak few lines. Age, terms, particulars, Box 3,588, "The Era."

WANTED, Ventriloquist, as Entertainer, dress well, sobriety indispensable, long engt. State lowest terms. Apply, Director, 185, Ystrad-rd., Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Children, Boy and Girl, small, sing and dance. Apply, Fred Farren, Bath House, Dean-street, Soho. Monday, 11 o'clock.

WANTED, Boys, age 14, good singers or dancers, for established troupe; also Dwarf Boy. Address, Box 3,560, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, about 9st, slight knowledge of Strong Business or other Athletics, to assist in Strong Act, shops and halls. Send photo., Saxo, Varieties, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

Advance Agency.
WANTED, Good Crowd.
Fred Fenn,
Edmund House, Richmond-road, Leytonstone, E.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, for the above, Young Man, to assist with effects; must wear uniform, sober, steady, make himself generally useful. Terms and references, W. Hamilton, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Small Coloured Boy, to assist Conjurer; good home; 3 years' contract. Address, Magician, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, a Bioscope; must have Latest Pictures for Tour. Absolute lowest terms and full particulars to Crane, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, able to work gas and electric (both currents). State age, experience, and salary required. Sobriety essential. Tour if suitable.
Manager, Pictures,
Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Bioscope, with or without Operator.
Long run; absolute lowest.
Bearne, Bognor.

WANTED, Cinematograph Operator, open Monday. Wire full particulars, Manager, Pictures, Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Vocalist and Soubrette, Vacant Monday, musical comedy, or high-class al fresco. Wire, quick, Empire, Clecthorpes, until Sunday; then, 13, High Park-terrace, Paignton.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Renée, in her Refined Drawing-room Musical Act, Disengaged Aug. 27 and Sept. 3. Address this week, Pier Pavilion, Southport; next week, Tivoli, Barrow.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bessie Hardman, soprano. This week, Camberwell Palace, "Naples by Night," and Royal Welsh Singers, Chelsea, 41, St. Mary's-square, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Lilith, the greatest Mystery of Modern Times, and Lilian Warren, the popular Pictorial Songstress, Lib. Sept. 3, only vacant date this year. Starring with enormous success, this week, Olympia, Bury; next, Hippodrome, Blackpool. All coms., Mrs. Fred Harcourt.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. La Tosca, the Artist's Model, thanks following for batch of contracts, coms., returns, &c.: Crystal Palace, London; Hippo., Blyth; Circus, Rochdale; Sam Bury, Esq., Fred Anderson, Esq.; Exhibition, Newcastle; F. Willmot, Esq., Wrexham; T. R., Worthing; International, Paris; Munro, Christchurch, New Zealand; &c. Bookings by Lynn, F.O.S., the O.S.N.B.

WANTED, by Arthur Wade, Baritone, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, North preferred. Sure success. Special three weeks, G. Payne, Esq., Pavilion, Broughty Ferry. Address, G.P.O., Broughty Ferry, N.B. First-class Agent wanted.

WANTED, Monday next, also 27th, Jimmy Shields, comedian. Palace T., Porth; after Saturday, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield. Wire.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, by Ventom Swift, Swell Eccentric Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Hounslow. Perm., 790, Romford-road, Manor Park.

WANTED, Monday next, by Harry Albery, eccentric comedian and dancer. Wire, 35, Cross-st., Morecambe, Wire, any distance. Panto. settled.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday, on, Ventriloquial, Facial, Vocal, Mimetic Sketches, Three Splendid Specialities; suitable any entertainment; refined, reliable, artistic. Melverne, Pier, Southend.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 24, the Happy Dutchman, with Concertinacalities. Bu-Val, Hippo., Liverpool. Mon., 54, Tewkesbury-rd., N.

WANTED, Monday, by Charlie Potz, the Merry Musical Dutchman, original and clever. Wire, Fountain Hotel, Meal-st., Mosley-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday and onward, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Jail Breaker. Sure draw. Houdini's Greatest Rival. Big top. 6, Oakden-street, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Known, the Original M. C. Ugo, in Magical Scena, Mirthful Mysteries, elaborate stage fit-up. Vacant Oct. 1. Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Hal De Starte, Speciality Magician, this week, New Kursaal, Cleethorpes, great success; Vacant Aug. 20.

WANTED, by Floria, Equilibrist of Strength and Slack Wire, finish Tournee St. Amerique, Free. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17. Wire, Hippodrome, Oldham. The Original and Great Japanese Kyoto. Also May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, the Brentwoods, in clever, original, and funny duologue, "The Marriage Market," a fifteen minutes' laugh. 17, Hanover-park, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Pillay, from Malabar, introducing the latest Oriental illusion; also Mlle. Valerie, the unique bender and lady dancer, unique performance; side show, exhibitions, &c. Shares, salary. Wire for Monday, 13, Drummond-st., Edinboro'.

WANTED, Aug. 27, by the Great Kyoto, Original one, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer; a laughing and applauding hit; also May Geraldine, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Aug. 20, Hippodrome, Oldham. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, 20th, Trick and Trixie, musical and comedy artists, a novel and reliable act. Wire, Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend.

WANTED, to Thank, Messrs. Bentley, Killduff, and Poppelwell, Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford, for making our engagement with them so very comfortable; also pleased to know all previous records our week were broken, and what a select and refined audience. Bradford Telegraph says:—The speciality this week is Tomps and Wells, who delighted the audience with their refined comedy musical act, coming from the Crystal Palace being a sufficient guarantee. Tomps and Wells, Palace, Tynemouth. Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3.

WANTED, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3, by The Monckton, in Original Excruciatingly Funny Screaming Musical Successes. Next, return, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by Sphinx and Sphinx, double magical act, and lady handcuff manipulator, Aug. 27, and later dates. Aug. 20, Palace, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Hughes and Elliott, in their refined Singing and Dancing Act, Disengaged Aug. 27, Sept. 3. Address this week, Hippodrome, Huddersfield; next, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success, through Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Wright and Elton, Comedy Act, vacant Aug. 20 and 27. Wire or write, 23, Cottenham-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, by The Two Jays, Patter Comedians and Vocalists, Aug. 20 and 27. Lynton House, Durand-gardens, Clapham-road, S.W. Wires "Jays, Comedian, London."

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Versatile Comedians, at Liberty Sept. 17, onwards; also for panto., last Xmas A. E. Smith's "Aladdin." Address, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Esdaile Bros., Novelty Comedians, Vacant Monday.
Wire, 28, Ayres-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27, by the Original Tullett and West, variety comedians, with burlesque donkeys. 74, Warwick-rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Speciality Artists, vacant Monday. Wire for a sure success, Palace, Dundee. Two acts if required.

WANTED, Monday, and Aug. 27, the Lashmars, comedy act, acrobatic, songs and dances, hand and head balancing. Wire, Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, the Three Cheers, Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, "Dick Whittington" Scena, own special scenery, chimes, introducing wonderful performing and talking cat. This, Pavilion, Stretford; next, Pavilion, Levenshulme.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free Aug. 20 and 27, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Fred Cullane's Great Comedy Trio, vacant Aug. 27 Sept. 3.
Coms., Queen's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. Everything up-to-date, clean, and good. Two acts managers can depend on. Fifth week, Lee and Ardens, Saltcoats. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 1, by Geo. Gulliver, successful Ventriloquist, the smartest refined vent. novelty on the road. See Card. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, week, Sept. 24, en route, Ryde to Blackpool; salary or share, whole or part programme. Mr. Harry Liston's "Merry Moments" Party, Pier, Skegness.

Mr. E. HAVELOCK'S TOUR.
WANTED, Good Halls, Aug. 27 and later, for First-class Vaudeville Co. Wire or write quickly, 34, Newcomen-road, Sheerness.

WANTED, Monday next, for Matt Wilkinson's "Registry Office"; also Violet Beatrice, boy impersonator. Wire, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Most Refined and Elaborately-Staged Animal Act Worked by a Lady, including the Great Football Team, the Masterpiece, the Goalkeeper, through Barring and Closing, is Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and four other dates, first-class halls, fêtes, and picture entertainments. Add., 24, Seymour-flats, Euston, London; N.W.

WANTED, Aug. 27, Chard's Dog Circus, Hippo., Stockton, till Monday; Aug. 24, 25, Hospital Fête, Llanelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti (Ina), clever acrobatic cycling act. Mansfield, Porchester, and Whitwell Flower Shows. Perm., 106, Bigland-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement at Once, as Assistant to Conjurer or Juggler.
Apply, Box 3,589, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Prince Colibri, the smallest living man on earth, and Henri Cot, the only French Giant ever seen in England, now exhibited together as a Star Turn and Unique Sight at Messrs. Moss and Stoll's Empires, have only five weeks vacant before leaving for America.

Managers desirous of securing this big Attraction kindly write to
R. Deverеux, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Sept., together or separate, Bioscope, Serpentine Dancer, and Illusion, "Astarte," vicinity N. Wales. Bioscope, Pier, Bangor, Wales, during Aug.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, by Youth, 15, Situation as Assistant to Illusionist; good refs. needed. Apply, Assistant, 57, West-gate, Mansfield, Notts.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen to Know. NOTICE is hereby given that Arthur Righini, of No. 56, Chapel-street, Salford, near Manchester, is no longer in the service of Charles Marenghi and Co., of Paris. All persons indebted to the said Charles Marenghi and Co. are requested to remit any sums due from them to such firm to Mr. J. Wentworth, of 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, the sole representative in England of the said firm of Charles Marenghi and Co.
Dated this 18th day of July, 1906.
Ch. Marenghi and Cie.
Witness to the signature of Ch. Marenghi and Cie.,
Hocking, Raby, and Beckton,
Solicitors, Manchester

WANTED, Known, Chiappa and Sons, Ltd., have just received one of the latest 110-key Full Orchestral Organs, and cordially invite all Travellers to inspect same at their factory,
6, Little Bath-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.
Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. per Packet every Packet, 6s. a gross, weighing 24oz.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Oakley's, 17, Aston-road, Birmingham, have large quantity of finished ironwork, including wheels in their entirety, for switchbacks; also quantity of woodwork, for roundabout motor-cars; purchased at sale of Phœnix Carriage Co., to be sold cheap.

WANTED, a good Working Manager, for Cinématograph Show, must be thoroughly competent in this line of business, also must be a good doorsman; a good shop for a right man; living carriage provided.
Apply, Gondola, Walsall.

WANTED, Good Side-shows, Illusions, Novelties, Cingalese, &c.; open at once, Crystal Palace. Shares or rent. Halls provided. Manager, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks. I can book you for two months.
Humber, Permanent Waxwork Exhibition,
George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply.
Owen Bagan, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Chas. Thurston's Royal Show, Lady Paraders, and Knockabouts, single people, those used to Fair Business preferred. Apply, Chas. Thurston, Royal Show, Feast Ground, Heigham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, until Aug. 22. Permanent address, 60, Ketts-hill, Norwich.

WANTED, Young Lady, about 9st., slight knowledge of Strong Business or other Athletics, to assist in Strong Act, shops and halls. Send photos., Saxo, Varieties, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, open here Monday, Lady Delineator, refined, clever, quick. Wire terms, references, age, Corella, Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, First-class Phrenologist and Character Reader, for Pier, Aberystwyth; must be well up in the business, lady or gentleman, now doing big business. Caston's Waxworks, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Comedian and Planksman, Pianist preferred. Good shop for good man. Apply, Bert Hall, Auction Mart, back of Theatre, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, Watchmaker, Singer or player preferred; also open to buy Rail Living Van, cheap for cash. Box 3,575, "The Era."

WANTED, for Photos., Stamp and Midgets, a thoroughly reliable man, or man and wife, for shops. Permanency. Address, Manager, Studio, 1, Gallowgate, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, Marionette Figure Worker, also Young Man, with knowledge of same. Wire age, terms, Milton, Market Hall, Frome. Can open at once.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Flo, Tattooed Lady, and Ydac's Cabinet, at Liberty for Shops or Booth. Cady, 13, Clarence-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagements, Punch, Judy, Pipes, Drum, talk of Yarmouth. Apply, Knox and King, Punch Performers, Yarmouth. Photo. in Daily Mirror, Aug. 16.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Roundabout and Circus Proprietors, that J. F. Macklin has to Let, a Field, in splendid position, for the above Business; also Ground to Let now, for his great September Fair at Folkestone, and Canterbury (Oct.). Terms moderate. Apply, 3, St. Peter-place, Canterbury, or to the Agent, W. Waghorne, Nelson House, Godington-road, Ashford, Kent, for full particulars.

WANTED, Known, GRAND INDUSTRIAL TRADES EXHIBITION will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. Spaces to Let, for working exhibits, novelties &c Apply, Secretary, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. It is anticipated we shall get from 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for all kinds of Working Exhibits and Novelties, handkerchief embroidering, sweet making, &c.; also first-class side shows, distorting mirrors, on sharing terms, or would hire or buy reasonably. Send for prospectus and plan, Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, to Let, Space, for Monograms, Stamps, &c., in the Provincial Trades and Foods Exhibition, touring, second season, Sept. 17. Write to Manager, 715, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

OLYMPIA,
LONDON, W.
THE FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FAIR AND CARNIVAL
commences Dec. 24, '06, for eight weeks.
THE MAMMOTH FUN CITY,
with
Free Circus, Aerial and
Vaudeville Shows,
will be
open all day long.
Admission Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Space will be allotted to Approved Side-shows and Exhibits.
For prospectus and plans, write
to the Secretary,
The International Fair,
10, Leicester-place,
London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, in James's Waxwork and Variety Exhibition; suit Medical Electrician or others. Henry-st., Dublin

WANTED, to Let, Temporary Shop in the Best Position, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Write, H. W., 60, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, best position in Rhyl, for season, for good novelties; would share. Davis, 31A, Queen-street, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, Set Distorting Mirrors, Punching Ball, Height and Weight Machines, Camera Obscura; also First-Class Bioscope (electric), with very latest Films, Irish Bazaar, week Sept. 24. Dunlop, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, to Hire, about Four Wagons of Wild Beasts, for Winter Season, in Building, South-coast. Manager, 44, Church-lane, Old Charlton.

WANTED, Lancashire and District Auctioneers to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, has a Full Selection of Goods during the Season at the Albion Hotel, Blackpool.
Ring Up, Wire, or Write to
Mr. S. L. Simons for appointment.

WANTED, to Sell, Pullman car, built by Howcroft, for Road or Rail, 18ft. long by 7ft. 6in. To be seen at Pudsey Feast, or Great Horten Feast, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Saloon Pullman Car, 21ft. long, fitted up-to-date, every convenience; only wants seeing. Bargain, £160, cash. 106, North Gates-street, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Auction Vans, in four loads, Tent, Shutters, and Gas, all complete, one of the best lots travelling; to be sold cheap. Box 3,580, "The Era."

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, every Description supplied; best and cheapest. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, 50,000ft. of Films, just received from the Myrioramas, majority good as new, from 1d. per ft.
Poole, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, an entirely New Kind of Roundabout, Big Money-taker. Write Devereux, Poste Restante, Charing Cross, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Circus Tent, 80ft. tilt, used short time; also seating, and everything complete for Tenting Circus, take £25; also splendid Living Waggon (road), beautifully fitted, and everythin gfor use, £40. P. C., G. P. O., Belfast.

WANTED, to Sell, Foden 6 h.p. Traction Engine, compound, on springs. Price £250, or exchange for larger engine. Geo. Baker, Elm-st., Southampton.

WANTED, to Sell, for Cash, the World's Claimed Largest Bullock, with booth and painting, cheap; also Rail Waggon, nearly new, 18ft., with living compartment over, lock; also New Booth, 12ft. by 15ft., complete. T. Matson, 2, Westmorland-place, Harrogate.

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WANTED, to Buy, Limelight Outfit, complete, suitable for Cinematograph; want the best, no rubbish, cheap for cash. Want to Purchase Large Organ, must have good tunes on it, and in good condition. State lowest price. Will also purchase 60ft. by 30ft. Booth, with seat and gallery; must have tilt; suitable for picture show. Send lowest cash price to H. Mennell, New Cross Empire.

WANTED, Road Living Waggon, strong underworks, secondhand waterproof Tilt; also small Organ for front. Madame Carboni, Britannia T., Kirtlington, Oxon.

WANTED, to Buy, Rail Baggage Van, or have two road living waggons, and would exchange. Waring, Post Office, Oxford.

WANTED, to Buy,
Small Set of Galloping Horses,
under 36ft. diameter.
Apply,
F. Savage and Co., Ltd.,
Oxford-road, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, by W. C. and S. Hancock, Roundabouts and Show Proprietors, two good traction engine drivers; must be steady, reliable men; also two or three roundabout men, those used to electric light preferred. Apply, W. C. and S. Hancock, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

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ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Known.—The above Hippo. for Sale, complete, with electric installation, gas, tip-ups, &c., suitable for auctioneers, circus proprietors, &c. Address, Mrs. E. P. E. Veitch, Proprietress, 16, General Graham-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Two Small Music Halls, near town; family trouble prevent attention; fitted up-to-date, and doing good trade this time of year. Address, Box 3,591, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Woven Animal Dresses, Paddings, Tights, Opera Hose, in all Materials. Lowest prices. H. J. Boxall, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Blondin Donkeys, Elephants, Bulls, &c. Mayers, 22, Shepperton-rd., Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell,
The Minstrel Arena, Gt. Yarmouth.
Now playing the tenth season.
Retiring from the business.
A splendid chance. Principals only dealt with.
Apply, De Frece, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome White Pomeranian Dog; also Small Fox Terrier, very good Somersault Dog; £6 each. Prof. Dicker, 35, Limehouse-causeway.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Clever Performing Dogs, Boxing, Overbacks, Thought-reading, Skipping, Jumping, &c. Clackson, 9, Rosoman-street, Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Smart Card Bitch, also Trick Fox Terrier, cheap; would exchange Conjuring Tricks, if good. J. Porter, Chesters, Dorchester.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Leather-covered American Travelling Trunk, Barrel Top, suit lady. Prof. Wingard, Bradford-road, Southsea.

WANTED, to Sell, Four Gas Battens, and Footlights, length 18ft.
J. B. Ormerod,
Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, to Sell, a number of Tip-up Seats. Apply to
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WANTED, Purchaser, for several First-class Conjuring Apparatus front and side loading table, &c., late property of Herr Valadon, nearly new. Albini, 125, Tufnell-park-road, London.

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WANTED, Purchasers for Music, Dresses, and Act, complete, of Albini's "Sailor and His Lass" Illusion. 125, Tufnell Park-road, London.

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WANTED, Known that the Annual Outing of the Staffs of the Palace, Bow, Foresters', Britannia, Surrey, and Sadler's Wells, to Southend-on-Sea, will take place to-morrow, Sunday, Aug. 19, 1906.

Arrangements.
10.25 a.m.—Train leaves Liverpool-street. 10.27 a.m.—Train leaves Bethnal Green. 11.40 a.m.—Train arrives Southend. 1 p.m. sharp.—Dinner. 3 p.m.—Brake drives, weather permitting. 5.30 p.m.—Tea. After tea, sports in Kursaal Grounds. 9.25 p.m.—Train leaves Southend. 10.35 p.m.—Train arrives Bethnal Green. After leaving train at Bethnal Green, all invited to the Foresters'.

Sports Programme.
Tug-of-War between the Five Halls for Silver Cup, given by Mr. Baugh, and Medals for the Winning Team, given by Mr. Lew Lake. 50 Yards Race for Married Ladies. 50 Yards Race for Single Ladies. 100 Yards Race, Open Handicap for all Halls. 100 Yards Race, Open. Egg and Spoon Race. Potato Race. Three-Legged Race. Sack Race. Monkey Race. Blindfold Race for Ladies. Blindfold Race for Gents. 100 Yards Handicap Programme Boys' Race. Match—Mr. Baugh v. Mr. Weaver, 100 yards for 5s., Mr. Baugh 35 yards start. Match—Mr. J. Malchar v. Mr. C. Redgrave, 100 yards for 5s., Mr. J. Malchar 5 yards start. Two Miles Cycle Race. Half-Mile Race, Open.
Mr. Con Weaver, Property Master for the Sports.
President, Mr. F. Baugh.
Committee: Mr. C. Harvey, Mr. J. D. Kirkland, Mr. J. McCarthy, Mr. C. Craig.
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"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 20, 1906.

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"The Flood," Althoffs, Klos Sisters, Galetti's Monkeys, Jack Theo Trio, Kaufmann Troupe, Wille Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. E. Renz Leamy Troupe, Abdullah Arabs, Gudzow, Alf Daniels, Harmony Four, Buddha's Blackboards, Bioscope, Lavater Lee.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Annie Abbott, Alexandre and Hughes, Rosie Bartlett, Barowsky Trio, Chas. J. Johnson, Mark Melford and Co., Goodfellow and Gregson, Josh Dixon, Rezene and Robini, George Reeves, Ludwig Amann, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Cot and Colibri, Bioscope, Atroy, Violi, Algernon J. Hicks, "Nell of the Halls," Harrigan and Holt, Lockhart's Elephants, Jean Seul, Chirgwin.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Frank and Jen Latona, Bioscope, Ruby Dahl, Woodward and Walton, Arthur Albert, Alburtus and Bartram, Three Behans, Unthan, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Roxborough and Wright.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
"Trip to the Continent," Bioscope, Will English, Stuart and Stuart, Three Albions, Chas. Robinson, Chas. Fisher and Co., Harriett Vernon, Macdonald and Huntingdon.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moses and Son," Pierce and Maizee, Frank Lynne, Canary Co., Eric, Terry and Lambert, Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendall.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Vesta Tilley, Ian Colquhoun, Scottish Meisters, Marie Weston, Grais' Baboons, O. K. Sato, Woodhouse and Wells, Myra Stanfield, Albertus and Millar.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Randall, Maud Ross, Flo D'Orville, Nettie Starr, Will Mitcham, Monte Myro Troupe, Smythson Comedy Co., Leonard Fletcher, Stella Troupe, Millie Hylton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Bros. Dean, Clement Trio, Bioscope, Lilian Lea, Will Poluski, jun., Sisters Sprightly, Florence Esdaile, Jacques Inaudi, Les Bastiens.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
T. E. Dunville, Sybil St. Elmo, R. H. Douglass, Ross and Grayson, Alf Holt, Picquays, Brett and Orford, Will Cornish, Marie Collins, "My Gollywog" Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Alice Pierce, Three Olympiers, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, "Pilu," Borrellis Francis and Melli, Casino Comedy Four, Melba Sisters.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Ella Shields, Bioscope, Caselli Sisters, The Clarkes, E. J. Sheldon, Howard and St. Clair, Jack Lane, The Remingtons.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Bioscope, Marba and Verity, Harry Freeman, Grisse Bros., Ike Scott and Son, Spry and Austin, Darktown Entertainers, J. A. Wilson, Peggy Pryde.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Hackenschmidt, Bioscope, Starr and Leslie, George Formby, Ten Genis, Wm. Lee and Co., Pit and Cute, Ethel Walker, Hal Godfrey and Co., James Toner.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Rejected Remounts," Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Tschernoff's Dogs, Die Obersteirers, Dorothy L. Clarke, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
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"Casey's Circus," Lily Langtry, Nat Clifford, Gwennie Hasto, Rosa Naynon, Carrie Joy, Bennett and Martell, Clarice Netta, J. H. Milburn, Harry Roxbury and Co.

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EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Frank Danby and Co., Fred Lincoln, Durant Bros., Barnard's Marionettes, Carlton, Olive Trio, Adelmann, Thereses Bros., Jose Collins, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Ten Loonies, Elsie Robey, Rich and Rich, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Drew and Alders, Minnie Cunningham, Goltz Trio, The Zanettos, Winifred Hare.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
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The Small Heads, Bioscope, Edna Aug, The Tupps, Tally-Ho Trio, Leonard and Francis, J. W. Hall, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Max Wesselly Troupe.

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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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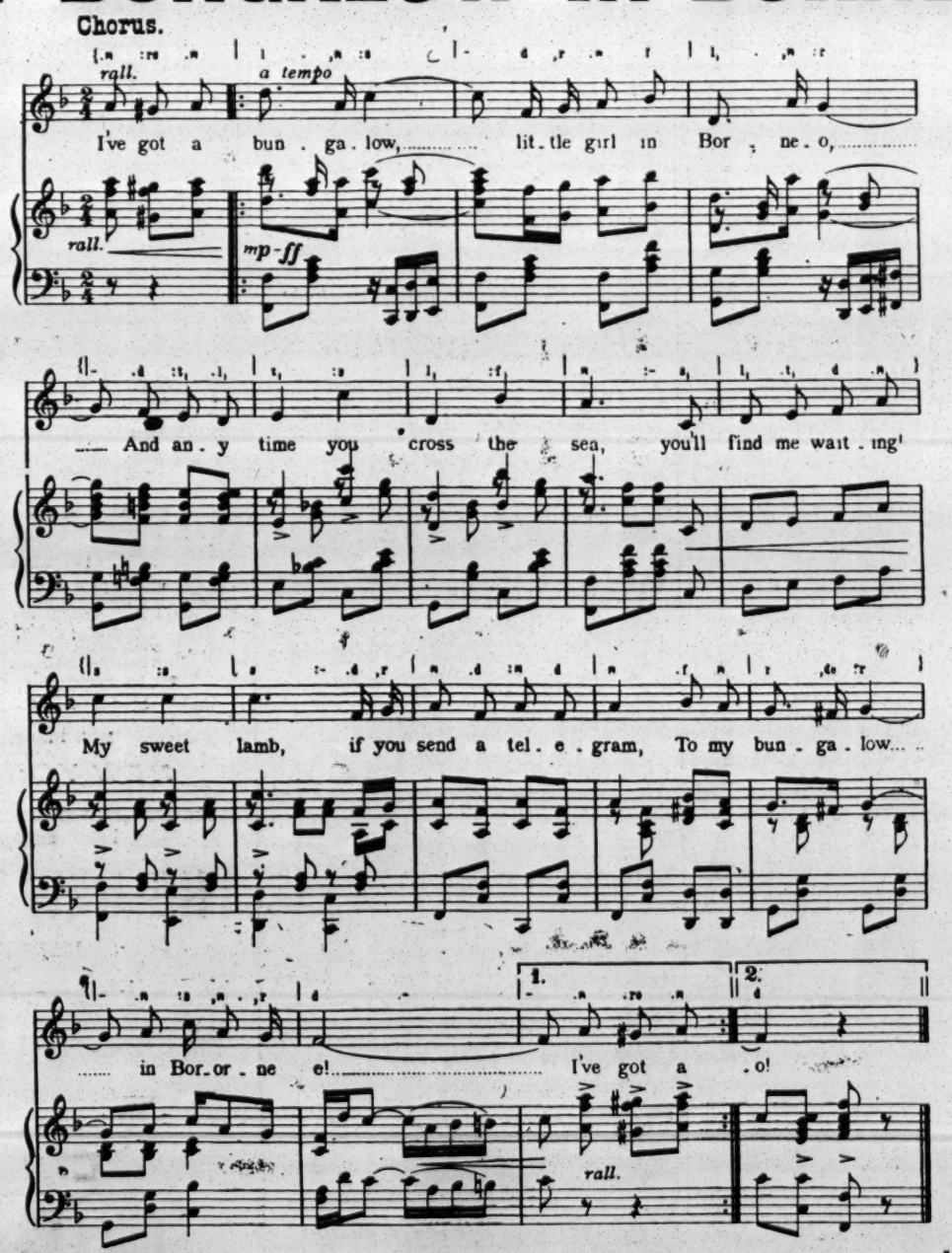

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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CALLS for MONDAY, AUG. 20, 1906.

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Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

All Artists must carry Band Parts for Full Band.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Aug. 20, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Mme. Fougere, Dinah Morris and Co., Carlo Bianchi, Will Sergeant, George Helm, Emmie Cozens, Maud Esmond, Five Saxonias, Chummie La Mara, Fred Russell.
GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Lily Morris, Nat Watkins, Annie Laurie, Sterling and Love, Rae Walters, Pavoscope, Ernest Montefiore and Co. in "Little Colonel."
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow at least 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their date cancelled. By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Call for Monday, Aug. 20, 1906.
"The Tripper," Two Cecilias, Williams and Warden, Harry Brown, Akimotos, Will Lytton, Mabel Hind, Zerbini Troupe and Billy Williams.

Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
NOTICE TO ALL ARTISTS.
The above Hippo. is now Closed. All Artists holding engagments after this date, Aug. 18, 1906, will be cancelled.
Signed (Mrs.), E. P. E. Veitch, Proprietress.
16, General Graham-street, Sunderland.

PERSONAL.
Information is desired from HENRY HADDON GRIFFITHS and ALICIA JEANETTE, as to their witnessing the marriage between THOMAS EDWARD GUERIN and EMILY CHAPMAN at the Registrar's Office, Leeds, on Jan. 10, 1901; also from KATE HARVEY, sister of the bride.
Particulars to MR. FOWLER, 11, Horsford-road, Brixton-hill, S.W., would greatly oblige.

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Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt,
Abel and Welsh.

SYD BECKETT, Pianist and Accompanist.
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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 20, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls,
Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Lily Lena, Playfair and Nikola, Athlones, Dewars, Pallister's Bioscope, Harry Roxby, Kitty Willis, Camerons.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Geraldos, Mabel La Blanche, Vandinoff, Three Sisters Chester, Lambert and Glover, T. B. Fayme, A. E. Clifford, Ada Parker.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Dick and Dorothy, Maidie Scott, Jessie Elvin and Co., Leah Arden, Baker E. Belphor, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Geo. Bastow, McCann's Dogs, Jalvans, Downes and Langford, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Florence Yaymen, W. B. Raby, Davis and Gledhill.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Mark Leslie, Kavados, Flo. Melville, Howard and Harris, Baroux and Bion, Eight Seabournes, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Fred Earle, Alice Ormonde.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Franko Midgets, Wat Tyler, Sisters St. Julian, Herbert Shelley, Barton and Ashley, Chas. Sloman, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Elliotts, Savonas.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Closed for alterations.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Frank Cumminger, Tate and Tate, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Arthur Slater, Ringling Trio, Frank Elliston, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Oakley and James.

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Indian Maids, Meier and Mora, Herbert Rule, G. Victor, Carl Verdi, The Two Sprees, Roy Cockrane and Co., Jessie Burnett, The Albano Troupe, Raymond's Bioscope, Carlotta De Yonson and Co.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
The Melroses, Harry Zetter, Charles Austin, Casey's Court, Ralston Boys, Stidder and Dunbar, Raymond's Bioscope, Lily Kirton, Madge Morley and Co., Valvero.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
J. Holland and Co., The Three Greysons, The Three Leaves, Tate's Motoring, Maudie Francis, Harry Royde, Josie Watson, Raymond's Bioscope, Lew Lake and Co., in "My Pal Jerry," Sisters Daventry, Allsopp and Beckwith.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Rosie Archer, The Five Bon Bons, Susie and Protti, Brothers Ashley, George Bendon, The Three Rubys, Tiny Arnold, Ernest Rees, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Raymond's Bioscope, The Players.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Sisters Jonghmans, Ted Saunders, Virto, The Raies, Edna Knollys, "Bridget's Idea," Grace Langley, Raymond's Bioscope, The Cromwells, Lew Lake and Co., in "My Pal Jerry," Vera Mayne.

Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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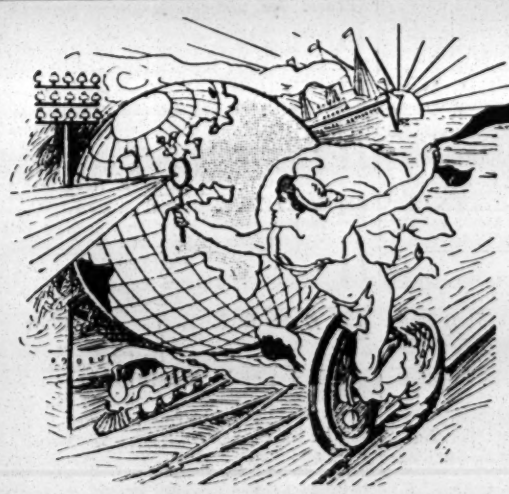

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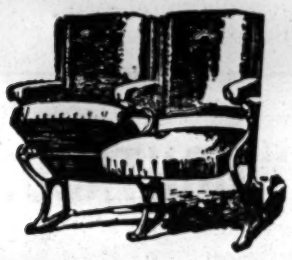

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DAVENPORTS, Lightning Magicians and Illusionists. Great Hit, bottom of bill, Palace, Attercliffe; next, Circus, Bury.

DAVENTRY, SISTERS (Dolly and May). This, Britannia, Hoxton. Next, Surrey, London.

DAVIES, TOM, TRIO, Motoring in Mid-Air. Sail next Wednesday on the Majestic from Liverpool. Aug. 22, Hip. New York.

DAY, Mysterious Postman with Straight Jacket and Post Box. Also "RAGSON," Conjurer. Vac. Oct. 1, on. 10, Dale-street, Blackpool.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Casino, Rotterdam, Holland.

DECARS, THE, in their Screaming Burlesque, "Off to the Races." Fifth week, Printania, Paris.

DE HENAU and MLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter, and Cockatoos. Tour Continent. Add., 7, r. Otlet, Brussels.

DELEVINES, THE, in New and Original Comedy, "Flipp and Flopp." Hippo., Boscombe.

DENE and DAWSON, "Stage Aspirants." Terrific Success, Palace, Attercliffe; next, Grand, Stalybridge.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., J. H. HAWTREY, The Lady Foli. Actor-Vocalist. Grand Theatre, Bolton.

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the Educated Horse, the Marvel. Aug. 20, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth. No vacancies this Year.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, Comedy Gymnasts with a Great Drawing Novelty. August 20, Palace Theatre, Porth.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND. Thanks for Offers. Merthyr, Pontypool, Maidstone, Guernsey, London. Mon., Regent, Salford.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Factory Nightingales, Ovations Nightly, Starring, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

DOMINOS, TWO, Educated Donkey and Clown, with Comical Dog. Lib. Sept. 17. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

DORRIE, IDA, Dainty Soubrette. Panto Settled with J. Gar Kiddie, Esq. Coms. to T. R., Leamington.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Chic Comedienne. Gigantic Success, Star, Bermondsey.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers. This, Pier Pav., Southport; next, Assembly Rooms, Lytham.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming young comedienne and dancer. Aug. 20, Argyle, Birkenhead.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Always a Great Success, and Away from all Others. Monday, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Hippo., Bury; Next, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester. Panto., Principal Boy with John Hart, Esq.

ELCOCK, AMY, and FLORRIE ST. ROY, Success, Metropole, Manchester. Vac. Aug. 27, also Panto. Next, Hippo., Hulme.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best Existing Lion Show. Cirque Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

ELLERTON, Songs, &c. Dunville's "Nurse," "Tickets." Little Tich's "Gallant Twenty-Third," 90, Vassall-rd., Brixton.

ELLIOTT, SILLY BILLY, the Eccentric Man. Sixth week in Isle of Man. Great Success. Liberty for Panto. 15, Head-road, Douglas.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Palace, Blackburn.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Sole Proprietress, "Orange Girl" Co. Next Week, Alhambra, Morecambe.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act. Thanks for Offers. Panto. Settled. Next Week, Fête and Galas.

ELVIN, JESSIE, and CO., "A Gipsy's Revenge." Vac. Dec. 3, 10, 17. Aug. 20, Grand, Sheffield.

ENGLISH (GEORGE) and PENLEY (FLO). New Production, "In Ould Kildare." London, nightly.

ERIC, with Something Fresh in Ventriloquism, Quite Away from the Hackneyed Style. Newcastle.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand Balancers, and Double Ladder Experts. Coms., 15, Harford-st., St. James's, Bristol.

EUSTACE, FRED. "Our Doctor," by Chris. Davis. "The Fish and the Net," by Charles S. Self.

FALCONS, THE, Comedy Acrobats, always a success. Aug. 13, Grand, Stockton; Aug. 20, Palace Aberdeen.

FAME, PEGGY, "The Girl Without a Smile," who creates smiles innumerable. Grand, Gravesend. Hartley Milburn.

FANNING'S Royal Court Marionettes. Great Success, 17th week. Eastern Manipulators. Representative, H. and E. Cadle.

FAWN, MISS ADA, Big Success, "Not the Only Rose," by Will Letters. Mon., Aug. 20, Queen's, Glasgow.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL, New Act, by Chas. Norton and Alan Macey. Perm., 358, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

FIMANS, THE, "Nulli Secundus." Aug. 20, Alhambra, Morecambe.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,586 Royal.

FITZROYS (FRED and LILY), Society Gymnasts. Vac. Aug 20 and 27. 95, Brixton-rd., London.

FORD and HANSON, The American Musical Millionaires. Permanent, Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORD, MISS RAY, Seriously Indisposed. Would like to hear from all friends. C/o Dr. Wright, 2, Symbol-st, Ardwick, Manchester.

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FOX and MELVILLE, the World-Famed Song-Illustrators. Monday, Empire, Swansea.

FOX, REX, Aug. 20, Palace, Walthamstow. First Vacant Date Sept. 23, '07.

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FRITZ'S, LEO, AGENCY, Please note New Offices, 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds. Acts in all lines wanted.

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GANNON, NELLIE, an Unparalleled Success. Roscommon. Liverpool. Mon., Grand, Gravesend. Harry Wright is also at Gravesend.

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GRANADAS, LOS, 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham. Agent, Tom Shaw.

GRANTLEY and COLEMAN (CHAS. LILLIE). Big Success Palace, Attercliffe. Monday, Grand, Stalybridge.

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GRIEVE, Original Ventriloquist, 22nd week Tour, One Contract. No Vacancies this year. 46, Conningham-rd., W.

GULLIVER, GEORGE, Successful Ventriloquist. Vacant Monday next. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

HAIG and NOVEL, on Tour. Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham. Aug. 20, Grand, Bolton. Continental Tour shortly.

HALL, CLIFTON, Vocalist. Vacant Sept. 17, on. Coms. next four weeks, c/o Entertainers, Portobello, N.B.

HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in Musical Comedietta, "A Broken Journey." Regent, Salford.

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HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius. Usual Success, P., North Shields. Monday, E., Stockport. Vac., Aug. 27.

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HINTON and WOOTON, Gilbert's Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

HOWARDS, THE, (RALPH and NELLIE), The Circus, Bury.

HUGHES and ELLIOTT, in a refined singing and dancing act. Hippo., Hudersfield; Aug. 20, Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate.

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JONES, THEODORE, as Jack in "Jack Sheppard," Topping the Bill, at the Palace, Tottenham. Aug. 20, Gravesend.

JORDISON, LITTLE ELSIE, Dainty Vocalist and Dancer. Dis. Aug. 27. St. James's Hall, Manchester.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 2nd week.

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Lord Percy Kilgour in "Public Opinion."
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The Duke, in "The Duke of Killicrankie,"
With Mr. Leigh Lovel. A. A.

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Broken Melody." Aug. 27, Theatre R., Rotherham.

MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
and MISS ALICE ARDEN (Mrs. S.).
2, Joubert's-mansions, Jubilee-place, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON
(Ada M. Ryder). Starring in "The Price of
Her Soul." Aug. 27, Prince's T., Blackburn.

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Aug. 27, Lyceum, Sheffield.

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Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY,
Acting-Manager,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON-SHARP,
John Storm, in "The Christian" (Howard's).
Aug. 27, T. R., King's Lynn.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY,
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Aug. 27, Lyceum, Sheffield.

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Vaudeville Theatre,
Strand.

MR. NORMAN H. TRACY, as Robert
de Belfort, E. H. Knight and George Den-
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Prince Mazaroff, "Held in Bondage."
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Opera Singers (costume). Moments of Mirth
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should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, published at a shilling from 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, combines utility and entertainment. Its former aspect is exemplified by the record of the plays produced last year in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin; it also includes an obituary for the year, and lists of the United Kingdom's theatres and music halls. The attractive side of the Annual comprises numerous stories by stage celebrities, whose portraits illustrate the text. It is a delightful budget of good things. Mr. T. P. O'Connor's appreciation of the late Sir Henry Irving is brief, but tender and impressive.—Financier, Jan. 23, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingsworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Desprez, the editor, ocntributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

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UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS

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Dear Mr. Harris,—I have much pleasure in informing you that the curtains which have been dyed and cleaned for the Borough Theatre have given entire satisfaction.
Yours faithfully, FRED. FREDERICKS.

18, Victoria-street, Scarborough.
Aug. 14, 1906.

Dear Sir,—Costume received, and is beautifully done. I am very pleased indeed.
Yours faithfully, LIZZIE CHAMBERS.

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Aug. 21, 1906.

Coat and skirt to hand. Many thanks for promptitude and excellence.
Faithfully yours, HELENA MILLAIS.

"Milanje," 3, Preston-road, Westcliffe-on-Sea.
Aug. 21, 1906.

Dear Sir,—Basket and parcel safely received; am very pleased. With thanks.
Yours faithfully, J. WESTBROOK POOLE.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Mark Blow's company opened here on Monday with *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell gave a manly performance of Joe Mansfield; Mr. J. G. Mayne made a capable Manuel Alvarez; Mr. Charles H. Lester was distinctly good as Martin Mason; Mr. W. Hook was a breezy Reggie; Mr. S. Benson gave an excellent delineation of Ben White; a clever performance was that of Dynamite Ann by Miss Agnes Verity; Miss Daisy Carlton achieved success as Maggie Mason; and Miss Lily Beagle acted Belle Gordon with great charm.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—An excellent bill here this week includes Creamer and Braun, in their great racing act, Horse versus Cyclist; the Brothers Lillian, society acrobats; Rose Waller, vocal comedienne; the Bohemians (Will and Madge), in a clever musical turn; Harry Claff, with well-rendered numbers; Stave, a versatile and comic instrumentalist; J. W. Foster, a quaint comedian; and the Society Quartette. Some good pictures are shown on the bioscope.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—The sensational drama *The Branded Woman* is being played here this week by Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company, and obtains a very hearty reception. As Philip Maurice Mr. James Stillwell appears with decided effect, his powerful acting and resonant voice being well suited to the rôle. Miss Zana St. George scores a complete success as Genevieve; Mr. Harry Liddle is a loquacious and ludicrous representative of Brown; Mr. Edwin Turner does well as Leon; and as the French Anarchist Mr. Paul E. Teulon is successful; whilst Mr. D. Bell as Zarka is well placed. Marie is ably played by Miss I. Marte; and as Rudolph Miss V. Barley-Clarke is good.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn. — For Wakes week the Theatre Royal re-opened its doors with a performance of the stirring American drama, entitled *A Fight for Millions*, Mr. Robt. Perris's company being responsible for its interpretation. There are numerous effective situations in the piece. In the second act the progress of the play is arrested for a space, and a song is sung by Mr. Perris, "Pal of Mine," illustrated with coloured pictures. Mr. Jno. C. Carlyle, as the hero, an inventor of the wireless ocean telephone, plays with manly vigour; Mr. Robert Perris is a gentlemanly villain; Miss Eva Purcell as Pearl Rivers appeals very forcibly to the sympathies of the house as the heroine; Miss Elma C. Turner as the deserted wife of the principal villain also touches many hearts; Miss Doris Howe is also very lovable as Little Madge; and Miss Lottie Pearce does good work as Betty and Mag Brady. Miss Nora Kingsley cleverly represents the anxious and self-sacrificing mother; and Mr. Karl H. Edwards is very funny as the Jew accomplice of the villain.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — A number of "star turns" have been secured here. Bernard Katz, who is billed as the great Hebrew basso, possesses a voice phenomenal in depth and pure in sonority of tone; Frederica's toy terriers and well-trained pony, "Dot," display great intelligence; Anna Kenwick is an extremely prepossessing and well-dressed young lady; Espinosa and Edwards, in *The Coon's Holiday*, give pleasing examples of violin and banjo playing; the lady, Mlle. Judith Espinosa, from the Alhambra, London, adding an extraordinary exhibition of terpsichore; the Frantz Family are remarkably expert as creators of fun in their act, *Happy School Times*, their acrobatic exercises being very neat; May and Eugerie introduce an attractive "turn" in their Anglo-French quick-change singing novelty; *The Land Grabbers* is a funny parody; and Will Freedo and George Edney are two able entertainers. The Bioscope shows a series of amusing pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten. — Drama supersedes pictures here for one week, the boards being occupied by Messrs W. Alexander-Dallas and Hubert Carson's company in a picturesque American drama, *The Great Wilderness*. The principal parts in a lengthy cast are sustained by Messrs. Leonard Williams, Edward Leroy, C. M. Davidson, Theodore Hill, Arthur Lowry, J. Woods, Robert A. Earl; Misses Blanche Leroy, Kitty McPherson, Hazel Dent, and Miss Eva Leyton.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A strong and diversified programme is submitted here this week, and meets with hearty approval. A welcome turn is furnished by the Regal Operatic Quartette, who give selections from *Maritana* in costume, Mr. Edward Wynne as Don Cæsar de Bazan, Mr. Albert German as Don Jose and King of Spain, Mlle. Adele Prescott as Maritana, and Mme. Marie Burnett as Lazarillo, all render their songs in faultless style. Miss Ruby Bijou is a dainty dancer in charming costumes; the Prinellas are most acceptable in *A Country Flirtation*; Picitt and Lizette, in a pantomimic episode, *The Demon Chef*, introduce some remarkably clever and novel conjuring illusions; Mr. E. C. Clayton's popular pictures on the Attergraph are as heartily received as ever; and other turns are provided by Toney, society silfleur; Vincent, acrobatic table expert; and Mr. George French, comedian.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The theatre is occupied this week by Miss Alice Chaplin's company in *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. Mr. Harry Welchman makes the most of the character of Jack Deedes; Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming is particularly good as Sir Chas. Grandison; the Lord Arthur Pomeroy and Captain Tom Robertson of Mr. Fredk. Park and Mr. Harold Chapin are made excruciatingly funny; and Tompkins, the footman, is well played by Mr. Clifford Standing. Miss Alice Capin is well placed in the part of Lady Muriel Beauclerc. The *Pantomime Rehearsal* is preceded by a two-act comic opera, *A Knight Errant*, in which Mr. Frederick Park as Duke de Cabreau and Mr. Harry Welchman as Captain Perdre particularly distinguish themselves. Some rather pretty songs are introduced, for which Mr. Harold Chapin and Miss Alice Chapin are responsible.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—*San Toy* paid another visit here this week, and that its attractiveness has in no way diminished was proved by the reception given to Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, who presented the piece for two nights. In her impersonation of the title-rôle Miss Mora Hersee embodied qualities of good acting and brilliant singing, and deservedly merited the unstinted praise accorded; Miss Maud Lucy, as the vivacious lady's maid, secured many encores for her songs and dances; Miss Althea Hyde made a distinctive hit as Poppy; Mr. Victor G. Huntley possesses a fine voice and uses it to great advantage in the part of Captain Bobby; Mr. Harry Turner contributed many bright moments with a humorous rendering of the irascible old Consul, Sir Bingo Preston; the evergreen Chinaman is always sure of a welcome, and Mr. Bert Barton added appreciably to his reputation in the part; as the Emperor, Mr. Fred Storrie gave an admirable likeness of the sensual potentate; Mr. Grahame Herrington did ample justice to the part of the imperious mandarin, Yen How; and Mr. Scott Rae gave full effect to the vindictive intentions of the Chinese student. One of the cleverest items was the pas seul of Miss Ethel Twitchen.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company is here with *Lucky Liza*. He himself as Silas Slim creates much fun; Mr. Dan Ryan also is accountable for much laughter as William Biffins; Mr. Leonard Maitland is capitally suited as Paul Pettitoe; and Miss Vesta Brownie makes an interesting and pleasing Virginia Blatherwick. In the title-rôle Miss Madge Brownie is a great success.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Loie Esmond's company is here this week with *The Sorrows of Satan*. As prince Lucio Romanez Mr. Edward Neville fills the rôle capably; Mr. W. H. Wilson gives an excellent impersonation of Geoffrey Tempest; Miss L. Esmond as Diana Cheaney is clever; Miss Flora Leslie as Lady Sibyl Elton leaves nothing to be desired; and Miss Rosa Neville as Mavis Clare makes the most of the part.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. T. Whitney.—At the top of the bill here are Barney, Burk, and Bray, another performing pony, who creates a deal of laughter. The Jackley Trio are responsible for a refined and humorous acrobatic drawing-room entertainment; Mdlle. Rénee is a most delightful musician, and her selections on the ocarina are exceedingly clever; the Sisters Wingrove are exceedingly clever dancers and duettists; and Raglas is distinctly good in the manipulation of tennis balls.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Davis and Gledhill's novel and ingenious bicycle act is drawing crowds here; George Bastow is popular; McCann's performing Irish terriers and wonderful leaping hounds are received with loud applause; Florence Yaymen, coon singer and agile dancer, wins applause; and the Jalvans, Oriental entertainers, and Downes and Langford, comedians and dancers, are each on successful return visits. W. B. Raby, comedian, also appears. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are showing amusing films.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The boards are occupied this week by a vaudeville company. Miss May de Freece's songs and dances are highly appreciated; and Miss Ella Rose proved herself a charming vocalist; Mr. Harry Carter causes much amusement as a character comedian; the Sisters Cleave, as duettists and dancers, leave nothing to be desired; and Mr. Bernard Bransby acquits himself satisfactorily in his songs.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. William Greet's No. 1 company opened here on Monday in *The Sign of the Cross*, which met with much success from a capital audience. The acting calls for special praise, chief honours being due to that clever actor, Mr. Frank E. Petley, for his skilful impersonation of Marcus Superbus. Miss Marie Leonhard furnishes a sweet and sympathetic impersonation of the pure-minded Mercia, and the craftiness of Tigellinus is realistically portrayed by Mr. Charles Aldred. Mr. C. Yorke's impersonation of Nero is perfect; and much amusement is created by Mr. Frank Wood, who appears to advantage as the bibulous Glabrio. Miss Effie Dare must be congratulated on her striking impersonation of Stephanas. The rôle of Berenis is ably sustained by Miss Gertrude Price; and a dignified impersonation of Poppœa is furnished by Miss Mary Newcombe. Miss Cissie Carlton's Dacia has much to commend it, being quite a charming interpretation; and other rôles are admirably sustained by Messrs. Walter Fleet, George Stanton, J. Weatherall, H. Thurston-Harris, and Roy Cushing. The songs by Miss Beatrice Felsted and the dances by Miss Gladys Gordon are features of the production.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Another fine company is provided this week, and this beautiful theatre is securing vast patronage from all classes of the community. Mr. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians appear in two mirth-provoking sketches, *The Skirmishers* and *Moving In*, which have been most successful, the large audience being kept in perfect shrieks of merriment. The Poluski Bros. uphold their reputation as fun-makers, appearing to much advantage in their entertainment entitled *Laughs*, and a good reception has been extended to Mr. Michael Nolan, the famous Irish entertainer, whose songs have been enthusiastically received. Mr. Harry Carsdale's mimicry is certainly realistic; and the dancing of Doyle and Marney has been voted first-class. Also appearing are Mr. Alf. Barton, raconteur; Miss Edie Rivers, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Arthur Croxon, comedian; Little Olga Keen, juvenile comedienne and dancer; and the Palace Pictures, which are very interesting.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The star here this week is Mr. J. W. Rickaby, whose comic songs have been hugely enjoyed. A good reception has been extended to the Russian Imperial Troupe of singers, whose dancing is first-class. Orpheus furnishes a capital turn in his entertainment entitled *A Solitary Rehearsal*, phonograph effects being supplied by the Edison Bell Company. Walton and Lester evoke much merriment with their funny act, their burlesque conjuring being exceedingly smart; and the sweet vocalisation of Miss Edith Courtney has been enthusiastically received. Frances and Alfred, comedy jugglers; Dot Harvey, comedienne; and Miss Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress, complete a fine programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The success of the dramatic season here continues to be unabated, and this week the Alhambra Dramatic company (under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.) produce the fine drama, *A Woman's Redemption*. The rôle of Bernard Sutcliffe is cleverly sustained by Mr. Herbert Cecil, capital in every rôle he undertakes; and nothing but praise must be accorded that talented emotional actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, for her sympathetic impersonation of Mary Griffiths. Mr. Horace Denton is an admirable Jem Lee, his acting being worthy of high commendation; and Mr. J. F. Pearce makes the most of his opportunities as Farmer Griffiths; Mr. Cyril Grier deserves credit for his skilful impersonation of Mr. Lowe; and Miss Lina Nazeby fills the difficult rôle of Ruth, the gipsy, with distinction. The humour of the piece is sustained by Mr. W. G. Wesley as Claudius, and Miss Effie Macintosh as Sally, and they succeeded in creating much merriment. Mr. H. Arnold Allen as Rev. John Ganthony, and Mr. J. M. William as Harris completed the cast. Mr. Herbert Cecil is responsible for the admirable stage management.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—The chief attraction here this week is formed by a series of animated photographs, depicting the great glove contest for the light-weight championship of the world between Jimmy Brett and Battling Nelson, on Sept. 9, 1905. Other interesting items are songs and dances by the Friscoe Girls, and an exhibition of ball-punching by Kid Gwynn.

AL-FRESCO, PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. H. Battersby.—A novel feature this week is the presentation by the Imperial Pierrots of a pantomime sketch of *Aladdin*. Miss Edie Sinclair makes a charming and winsome boy; Mr. Alf. Brookes does well as Abanazar; and Mr. Syd Bazley convulses the audience as Widow Twanky.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bell.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in the popular musical comedy *Florodora* is again proving an irresistible attraction here. On the present occasion Mr. Alf. E. Passmore assumes the rôle of Tweedlepunch, and right well does he acquit himself, the impersonation being brimful of humour. Mr. Allman Morris is an excellent Frank Abercold, displaying considerable vocal ability; Cyrus W. Gilpin is capitally played by Mr. Stanley White, and Mr. H. St. John is well suited as Captain Donegal; Miss Josephine Sullivan gives a fine and telling rendering of Dolores, which is received with evident delight; Miss Kate Leicester displays exceptional ability as Lady Holyrood; Miss Lily Gullick scores many points as Angela Gilfain; and a numerous cast contains many competent artists. The chorus is a prominent feature, and the comedy is staged with commendable liberality.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clark.—An excellent all-round company is headed by Mr. Percy Honri, who by his skilful manipulation of the concertina and amusing witticisms, easily constitutes himself first favourite. Conway and Leland, one-legged artistes, are also comedians of the first water, and Miss Bertha Duckett, a clever coon vocalist, has made a hit. Johnny Alexander and company in the well sustained sketch, *Our Lodger*, are a decided acquisition; and a diversified programme is also supported by Mr. A. G. Spry, comedian; Mr. James Lowery, the singing furnaceman; Mr. Peter Barman, Scotch comedian; Miss Rose Finnetti, top-boot dancer, etc., and Burns's Royal Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Two Little Vagabonds*, well presented by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company constitutes the attraction here. Mr. William Fazan is eminently satisfactory as the hero, George Thornton; Mr. Henry Watson depicts the villainous nature of

Capt. Darvillo with clever tact; Mr. John F. Traynor makes the utmost of that amusing reprobate, Bill Mullins; and his associates, Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop, are cleverly enacted by Messrs. Ernest K. Nelson and Fred Archer; Mr. Edmund Cuthbert does good work as John Scarth, and Mr. Marston Moor as Hargitt and Mr. Hugh Holliman as Joe Gargoyle act well; Miss Laura Hanson gains instant sympathy with her truly fine emotional acting as the wife, Marion; Miss F. Russell Spiers acts agreeably as Barbara Scarth; Miss Muriel Clay is successful as Nurse Randall; Miss Marie Pritchard cores as Biddy Mullins, and the Misses May Hart and Margaret Nybloc as Dick and Wally thoroughly earn their popularity by their clever pathetic acting.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*A Girl on the Stage*, which contains most that is brightest and best in *The Little Cherub*, besides many new and striking features of its own, is presented here to large houses by Mr. George Edwardes's company. Mr. Lennox Pawle in the character of the Earl of Sanctobury is the quintessence of drollery; Mr. J. Robert Hale spares no pains and makes every effort tell as the son, Lord Congress; Mr. Arthur Longley, as Algernon Southdown, adds well to the merrymaking; Mr. Colin Coop contributes a clever character study of the Alderman; Mr. John Humphries sings his songs with much point and acts well as Shingle; Mr. Edwin Rutland, as the hotel proprietor, disports with clever agility and volubility; and Mr. Nelson Keys is successful as the page boy, Ethebert. Miss Queenie Leighton, with her fine shapely figure and rich musical and histrionic talents, fills the rôle of Molly Montrose splendidly; Miss Fanny Dango appears with exquisite charm as Isabel, and Miss Valli Valli as Lady Dorothy and Miss Hazel Saqui as the maid, Letty, are both charming and clever.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—*The French Spy*, a most enthralling and exciting drama, presented by Mr. Fred Benton and company, holds the boards this week. Mr. Benton is himself a popular character in the piece, looming large as Fritz, the strong man; Mr. Richard Fulton does exceedingly well in the rôle of Captain Somers; Mr. L. Chaseby fills the part of Lieut. Maxwell adequately; Mr. Max Coutts is an able representative of Count Romanoff; Mr. George Sherraton acts cleverly as Petroff Romanoff; and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe as General Trepoff, Mr. Charles Digby as Viscount Alexis, and Mr. Claude Aymond as Lord Aynsley are meritorious; Miss Gertrude Evans engrosses the audience with her brilliant acting as the Countess Andre, and praise is due to Miss Harrison Tate and Miss Cissie Cleveland for their splendid efforts as Olga, the fast woman of society, and Julie, the music-hall girl, repectively; Mr. Seymour Perry is the cause of much diversion as Knipps, a waiter.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hendle Taylor.—*The Biggest Scamp on Earth* is seen here with Miss Frances Delavel's company. Mr. Cecil Gray portrays the machinations of the villain, Derrick Knight, in a cleverly comprehensive fashion; Miss Delavel's impersonation of the music-hall star, Naomi Belvedere, is distinguished by fine pathos and passion; Miss Clare O'Sullivan creates an agreeable impression as Irene May; Mr. Geo. Lyttleton, jun., gives finish to the part of Sir Aubrey; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle invests the rôle of Napoleon Hawke with many excellent points; Mrs. Edmund Lyons submits a clever characterisation of Mother Hawke; Miss Carrie Johnson places a smart study of the disowned Bobby to her credit; Mr. Fred Lillywhite acts and declaims the part of Vivian Wakefield in a highly creditable style; and much mirth attends the love-making of Joe Piper, played by Mr. Tom Otley, to Molly Sterling, a rôle in which Miss Nell Ingram distinguishes herself. Another humorous character is that of Rufus Liggins, played by Mr. Horace Buckley.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Streets of London* is represented here in an able manner by Mr. Eade Montefiore's company. Mr. William Rokeby gives a particularly clever and exciting portrayal of the all-important part of Badger; Mr. R. Robinson acts the character of the unscrupulous Bloodgood with the utmost success; Mr. John Richter proves a popular representative of Mark Livingstone; Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie gains a sympathetic hearing as Paul Fairweather; Miss Edith Goodall acts with charming grace and modesty as Lucy; Miss M. Kynnersley is successful in delineating the hard, unsympathetic character of Alida Bloodgood; Miss Marion Armitage acts smartly as Dan Puffy; Miss Adelaide Gracey indicates the kindly nature of Mrs. Puffy with every success; and Mr. Clifford Bown scores as the good-humoured and good-natured Mr. Puffy; Master Harry Moorehouse and Miss Rosie Townshend shine as a couple of street urchins.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Still Alarm* is running successfully here with Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville assumes the part of the hero, Jack Manley, with satisfactory results; Mr. Fred Osmond diffuses a pleasant flow of humour in the rôle of Doc Wilber; Mr. Goerge Arthur plays the villain, John Bird, in a most resolute and convincing style; and Mr. Lewis Gordon acts creditably as Frank Fordham; Miss Maud Warburton gives a pleasing impersonation of Elinor Fordham; Miss Mabel Veriton wins much favour as Mrs. Manley; Miss Hetty Zillwood, as the exponent of music-hall art, Carrie Wilber, acts and sings vivaciously; and Mr. J. Sutton Pateman as Joe Jones, and Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley are the cause of much cleverly contrived mirth. The Lyric Comedy Four are in attendance, and the specially-trained horses, Pegasus and Bucephalus, excite due admiration.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The Three Olympiers in their artistic entertainment, *Beauty in Bronze*, is an important item in this week's programme. Alice Pierce gives a clever impression of several actresses; the Casino Comedy Four are always a big attraction; and other popular turns are Signor and Madame Borelli, Kitty Wagner, Francis and Melli, Melba Sisters, Aucillotti with his thought-reading dog "Pilu," and Fred Poplar.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Imro Fox, the well-known illusionist, is mystifying good audiences here, and the Ten Dixie Girls, in "The Silver Coon," are a big attraction; the Callcotts have a smart musical entertainment; the comedy element is provided by the Three Missouris (Dan Conroy, Stewart, and Morgan); ermette and Dionne are clever bar gymnasts; Alma Gray is loudly applauded for her songs; and Herbert la Martine is an excellent vocalist and dancer.

Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The Three Rainats head a strong bill, which includes the Lowenwirth Bros., the Bensons, the Shelleys, and the Narrow Bros., who keep the audience in a happy humour; Bayne and Hope have a good sketch, *An Emperor's Divorce;* Rita Bell is applauded for her songs, as also is Miss Mollie Doon and Miss Maud Preston; Frances Haskell, vocalist, and Joe Reichen with his performing dogs, are also good turns.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—One of the finest coon comediennes we have seen is Ella Shields, who is delighting large houses here. The Remingtons are a clever troupe of acrobats; the banjo is well mastered by the Clarkes; Jack Lane is a most eccentric comedian; and other well-known turns are the Caselli Sisters, Howard and St. Clair, and E. J. Sheldon, who come in for a good share of applause.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—Patrons of this place of amusement are this week being treated to the drama *Under the Czar*, presented by Mr. Fred Jarman's company. As Nicholas Yeroslaff Mr. Livingstone is manly; the tyrannical Zakhar Rovesky has a powerful exponent in Mr. W. H. Riley; the part of Michael Granovisky is well handled by Mr. R. Merrin; Sonia Gregorovitch is sympathetically played by Miss Francesca Strickland; and Miss Nancy Newell is responsible for a clever rendering of the part of Zara Buhra. The fun is provided by Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Ignat, Mr. John Levey as Alexis Petroff, and Miss Linda Riley as Siomka.

BLACKBURN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Howard Cochrane's company in *The Marriage of Kitty* is paying a return visit to Blackburn this week, and the comedy has been warmly welcomed by good houses. Miss Aida Venoure gives a clever representation of the lively Kitty Silverton; Mr. Howard Cochrane plays well as Sir Reginald Belarge; and as John Travers, Mr. Cecil Wilford is good; as is Miss Betty Castle as Madame de Sewiano, the Peruvian widow. The comedy is preceded by a very interesting curtain-raiser, entitled *The Proposal*, in which the characters are sustained by Mr. Colet Dare and Miss Gladys Dare.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The Savonas in their famous musical show and the Elliotts in their cycling entertainment are the chief artists in an excellent programme, which also includes: Barton and Ashley, in their comedy sketch, *Canal Boat Sal;* Herbert Shelley, in a quick-change act, entitled *Dan, the Outlaw;* the Franko Midgets; Wat Tyler, character vocalist; Sisters St. Julian, harmonising vocalists and dancers; and Charles Sloman, comedian.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. William Greet's company is still in possession here with *The Earl and the Girl*, and drawing crowded houses. The lion's share of the work is done by Mr. W. Stephens in the part of Jim Cheese.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Veronique* is once more the attraction here, and on this occasion Mr. George Dance's company is responsible for a capital representation of this dainty opera. As Florestan de Vallancourt Mr. Roland Bottomley scores a great success, both as actor and vocalist; Mr. Fred Lyne is well suited to the part of Mons. Leustot; and Mr. Courtney Comber gives complete satisfaction as Seraphin. Mons. Coquenard is well represented by Mr. Leslie Holland; and Mme. Coquenard is faithfully attended to by Miss Ethel Negretti. Veronique is in the very able hands of Miss Ruth Lincoln, who uses her pleasing and tuneful voice with good effect; the Countess de Champ Azar is suitably portrayed by Miss Jessie Browning; Miss May Leslie leaves nothing to be desired as Aunt Benoit; and Miss Gracie Sinclaire plays Denise with decided ability.

Palace.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler and exponent of Ju-Jitsu methods, tops the bill here this week. Other clever turns are contributed by Dolly Moore, male impersonator; the Eight Sunrays, vocalists and dancers; Gilbert Girard, animal and instrumental mimic; Horace Wheatley, the deservedly popular Irish comedian and dancer; Gipsy Woolf, with her charming company of girls, in a picturesque scena, entitled *Fun in a Forest;* Mike S. Whallen, vocalist and raconteur; Tacius, female impersonator and double-voiced vocalist; Arthur Rigby, comedian; Wyndham and Kitty, in a wire act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

Hippodrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Dulgnan.—A long and varied programme is submitted here this week. The Karno Trio, in a sketch entitled *The Traveller's Rest;* and F. V. St. Clair, the up-to-date singer, are chief favourites. Besides these are Percy Curry, an eccentric comedian; Flo Schubert, ballad vocalist; Frank Maura, an equilibrist of great skill; Beattie Foster, comedienne; the Florodora Girls; Wallace Whitney, comedian; Miniature Florry, child vocalist; Rita and Roma, speciality artists; Lillian Warren, vocalist; and the Revell troupe of eccentric pantomimists.

Winter Gardens Pavilion. — General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—There is no change whatever to record here this week, the grand spectacular ballet, *In Sunny Spain*, and Paul Cinquevalli, remaining the chief attractions. Two shows are given daily to packed audiences.

Tower Circus.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—The "house full" notice is now in daily use here. The bill this week boasts the names of the Kellinos, Risley performers; Jack Higgins, the champion jumper; Bros. Artois, comedy bar performers; the Musical Johnstons, xylophone artists; August and September, comedians; Keen and Waller, novel eccentrics; the Avolos, acrobats; the Novellos, in an equilibristic act; Klein Family musical cyclists; the Finneys, in a swimming act; and Professor Duncan, with his performing dogs.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Mr. Arnold Bell and company opened here on Monday in the presence of a large audience with *Ben-My-Chree*. Mr. Bell, in the rôle of Dan Mylrea, was seen to great advantage, and was much applauded; Mr. John Belton gave an admirable impersonation of Ewan Mylrea; and the Deemster of Mr. W. G. Gregory left nothing to be desired. Mr. Cuthbert Imril submitted an able and well-studied portrayal of the Bishop of Mar; and to Miss Frances Campbell every praise is due for a finished performance of Mona Mylrea. *Hoodman Blind* and *Lost in London* have been staged on other nights, and have met with equal success, the staging and mounting of each drama eliciting the highest enconiums.

Tudor's Circus and Hippodrome.—Mr. George E. Good, the erstwhile lessee of the Theatre Royal, has provided an excellent programme, consisting of a fine collection of electric animated pictures interspersed with attractive variety turns; Mlle. Tosca, the artist's model, gives a pleasing display of living statuary. Lynn, the famous Tyrolean vocalist and character comedian; and Sid Downs, the juvenile comedian, both have a most enthusiastic reception. Good audiences have rewarded the efforts to provide a pleasing entertainment.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Young.—On Monday *Fritz* was presented here by Mr. Phil Herman and company. Mr. Hugh Carmichael plays Colonel Crafton with power; Mr. Edward Cudd is good as Gregory Graham; Mr. Phil Herman as Fritz the Dutchman is a host in himself, his songs and patter being received with well-merited applause; Miss Adeline Yohle makes a charming Katrina; and Mr. Sam Foster is seen to advantage as Sambo Squash; Mr. Fred Cherry gives a good performance of Bowery Bill; and Lena is sweetly portrayed by Miss Loue Langley. The singing of Little Doris Middleton as Little Schneider is deserving of special mention.

BOSTON.—Palace Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—On Monday night this popular place of amusement was again packed to enjoy a high-class variety entertainment, including Chevalier Cliquot, the famous sword swallower, in his unique performance, concluding with swallowing an electric light, which is plainly visible in the performer's throat. Turle and Turle do a very daring act on the double bar and trapeze. Lily Gaston, male impersonator and dancer, wins much applause. Jessie Hart, comedienne; Fred Terry, comedian; Diamonde and Rube, jugglers; Winnie Loftus, burlesque artiste; Bosco Bros., and Saker Harlow, complete a very good programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—It is an excellent company which Mr. Mouillot has recruited for the exploitation of the second edition of *The Geisha*, which opened here on Monday. Miss Louie Collier, whose beautiful voice is heard to advantage as O Mimosa San and Mr. Edward Carlton as Wun Hi, received several calls from a crowded audience, and right well they deserved them. Miss Florrie Saunders as Molly Seymour plays the part excellently; and as Reginald Fairfax Mr. Cyril Thompson is quite successful; whilst Mr. Lionel Braham, an old favourite here, is exactly suited in the character of the Marquis Imari. Miss Violet Kenyon as Juliette, Mr. S. Lockridge as Dick Cunningham, and Mr. Mansell Stringer as Capt. Katana are, among others, worthy of mention.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—On Monday last Mr. Lewis Waller's company presented for the first time here A. Conan Doyle's grand soldier play, *Brigadier Gerard*, which was represented throughout with a fine spirit and dash. Sentiment and humour are admirably blended in the story, which has a peculiar fascination for all parts of the audience, and Mr. Loring Fernie, in his impersonation of the brave but hot-headed Captain Gerard, was not long ere he established himself a favourite. As an ally he had Miss Beatrice Lindley, who acted throughout with skill and winsome grace as the Comtesse de Roquelaure. The Napoleon of Mr. Arthur Somers was a fine conception; the cunning Talleyrand had an able exponent in Mr. George Mallet; Mr. Alfred Hilliard bore himself with dignity as General de Calaincourt; there was a lot of the fire-eater in Mr. Reginald Mason's Colonel Guerin; as Major Olivier, the swashbuckler, Mr. Elliot Ball was forcible and effective; Mr. Arthur Bowyer was good as the faithful Papilette; the part of Agnes fitted Miss Gertrude Beattie well. The gentlemen filling the parts of the Hussars of Confians made a brave show; Talleyrand's subtle and cunning agents were represented effectively. The play was very finely staged, and the applause which greeted it was hearty and enthusiastic.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth. — Crowded audiences and much enthusiasm greet the return here of M. S. McLellan's play, *Leah Kleschna*, and Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company give a representation of the piece which is brimful of dramatic skill and excellence. We have seen nothing more powerful or convincing than Mr. Paul Belmore's acting as Kleschna, and Miss Bessie Rignold's intensity and emotional power in the part of Leah is positively thrilling. Mr. W. F. Grant's Paul Sylvaine is an admirable effort of suppressed power, and he is convincing. Schram is played with real earnestness by Mr Campbell Goldsmid, Mr. Hamilton Deane acts with force and skill as the *roué* Raoul Berton, Mr. Max Alison is earnest as the General, Madame Berton is in the capable hands of Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Helene Belgrave is a satisfactory Claire, and Mr. Roland Daniel is good as Valentin Favre.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A very hearty reception has been accorded that "genial philosopher" and inimatable comedian, Mark Sheridan, on his welcome return visit here this week, and Jacques Inaudi, "the man of figures," is once more interesting and astonishing the audiences with his prodigious feats of memory and calculation. Acrobatic feats by Les Bastiens are novel in character and cleverly executed. In a special scena, *My Bungalow in Borneo*, Miss Lilian Lea, a charming vocalist, is particularly bright and effective. In their turn as three animated dolls the Three Sisters Sprightly, comediennes, on a return visit, are bright and popular; some smart dancing and good whistling by the Brothers Dean win favour; Flo Esdaile, a charming vocalist, contributes good songs; a very clever performance is accomplished by the Clement Trio of flying gymnasts; Will Poluski, jun., a very quaint comedian and dancer, contributes some capital songs; and some very fine and up-to-date pictures are exhibited by the American Bioscope.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, Jun.—The programme provides plenty of variety and amusement here this week. Billy Howard and Kathyrn Harris in their speciality, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, are clever and vastly entertaining; Kavados, the juggler and "Cannon Ball King," is an expert; Baroux and Bion are very eccentric acrobats; Mark Leslie, "the Dusky Prince," gives a very entertaining and acceptable comedy turn; as a comedienne, Alice Ormond appears to advantage; an acrobatic and equilibristic turn by the Three Seabournes is smartly and cleverly accomplished; Flo Melville, comedienne, renders her songs with pleasing effect; Fred Earle is very quaint with his "Seaweed"; and some excellent pictures shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux find favour.

BRIDLINGTON.—Spa Theatre.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Edward Terry and his talented company appeared before a large audience on Monday in K. C. Carton's fine play, *Liberty Hall*. Mr. Terry gave as fine a representation of the innocent old bookseller as it is possible to conceive, and was heartily recalled after each act. Mr. Allan Pollock as Mr. Owen gave just the requisite tone to the part, and his admirable acting stamps him as an artist of great merit. Mr. Frank Cellier, jun, was a well-set-up Gerald Haringay; Mr. William Dexter a right blustering Briginshaw; and Mr. E. W. Thomas an excellent Mr. Pedrick. Hickson was in the capable hands of Mr. G. Howard; and Mr. C. E. Wallis played his part well as Luscombe. Miss Fyfe Alexander was at home in the character of Blanche Chilworth, and her reading was all that might be expected from so finished an actress. She was ably seconded by Miss F. Glossop-Harris, who showed great ability as Amy. Miss Eugenie Vernie as Crafer portrayed the vagaries of the "second-class housekeeper" effectively. On Tuesday Mr. Terry presented *The Magistrate*, in which he gave a very amusing representation of Mr. Poskett, and the part of Mrs. Poskett was capitally played by Miss Agnes Knight. Wednesday night's performance was that charming play, *Sweet Lavender*, in which the inimitable comedian was seen as Dick Phenyl.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Ethel Hirschbein, a fine contralto, is the vocalist this week at the promenade concerts in the Floral Pavilion. On Wednesday there was a grand gala on the parade, which proved very attractive, and in addition to the coloured electrical illuminations, Messrs. Wilkins and Brothers gave a fine show of aerial fireworks. The Flockton-Foster entertainers and the Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company are still drawing crowded audiences to their capital entertainments in the Grand Pavilion.

The Spa.—Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Sydney James's clever company of entertainers have received several additions this week, including that charming vocalist and dancer, Miss Madeline Rossiter, and their programmes are amusing thousands of visitors. Madame A. Radford, an excellent soprano, delights with her well-rendered songs; and Mr. Nelson Hardy, a capital ventriloquist, causes great fun. Wednesday was a special gala night, when the grounds were beautifully illuminated.

The Palace.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner. — Mr. J. W. Delmar gives capital conjuring and ventriloquial turns; Miss Amy Townsend is an excellent vocalist and dancer; Le Brun and Irene, jugglers and equilibrists, do some clever feats; Trick and Trixie give a good musical show; and the Misses Lemande are clever duettists and dancers.

Summer Gardens. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The variety turns at this popular resort are always well received, and the various members of the company of Waterloo Pierrots give some well-arranged programmes. Mr. Joe Bath (Johanna), who is such a favourite with the visitors, took his benefit on the 16th inst., when there was a monster programme. The Flockton-Foster Costume Comedy Company gave some of their best items; Mr. Jack Graham in his character songs and Mr. Will Mason in coon songs were excellent; and Miss Lily Norbury proved herself a smart comedienne and dancer. Mr. Chas. Beanland gave one of his amusing items, "The Chef"; Aoda and Benn, in a very comical musical act; Chas. Danton in a clever song and dance; Jack Sydney, "one of the Upper Ten"; and George Hyam in a laughable ventriloquial turn, were all good; and the "Fun at the Piano," by Chas. Watkins, as well as Ernest Benn's harp solos were capitally done. The bénéficiare gave a new turn, including conjuring, paper manipulation, and lightning sketching, which was loudly applauded; and Mr. Bath was the recipient of several presents from his many friends and admirers.

BRIGHTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company is here this week with *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Herbert Bunston gives a very fine impersonation of Jack Frobisher; Miss Florence Jackson makes a charming Lady Frobisher; Mr. George A. Brandram is admirable as Hankey Bannister; Miss Lydia Busch is very effective as Lady Westerby; Miss Molly Carter acts brightly as Lady Lucy Derenham; Mr. Cyril Bayleine submits a capital portrayal of the Marquis of Steventon; and other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Alexander Cassy, Mr. Sydney Hamilton, Miss Edith Cuthbert, and Miss Rita Milman.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*In Sight of St. Paul's* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Ernest R. Allen presents a finished impersonation of Tom Chichester; Mr. Edward Valentine is well suited as Blidstein; Mr. Arthur Armfield is excellent as Mr. H. Chichester; Mr. F. R. Gwyn-Richardson does well as Harry Chichester; Mr. George Daiper acts powerfully as John Gridston; Miss Lallah Davis is forcible as Cynthia Dell; and the humour of the play is ably submitted by Miss Amy Randolph as Becky Vetch and Mr. Wilton Bedford as Jim Palfrey.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—An excellent company is here this week. Chanti, the protean artist, achieves distinct success with his electrical and mechanical transformation novelty; Bert Danson is a very amusing comedian; Winnie Derson is a dainty comedienne; Busie and Hurst are entertaining in their comedy duologue, *The Wrong Flat;* George Lennard is heard to great advantage in his latest successes; Queenie Lawrence is warmly received; Harry Anderson is a capital vocal comedian; James Willard and company acquit themselves admirably in the sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* Avon and Crest are clever comedy artists; Bert Earle is a highly accomplished banjoist; and the Alhambrascope Pictures are amusing.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. George Abel, Ethel Arden, and company achieve great success in *Three of a Kind;* Daisy Jerome is a versatile and popular comedienne; F. de Marce wins hearty applause for his equestrian novelty, *Jocko and Kocko;* Leo Tell is a smart imitator of animals; Cribb and Cribb are capital in *Idle Fellows with Idle Thoughts*, their patter being very amusing; B Troba is an excellent juggler with heavy weights; the Lurins prove very enjoyable in their *Cinderella* extravaganza; Mamie Iris, comedienne and buck dancer; Ada and August, in a comedy act; and Marie Wilton, a charming comedienne, also contribute good turns; and the Barrascope Pictures are entertaining.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *A Country Mouse*. Miss Annie Hughes is delightfully winsome as the "Country Mouse"; Mr. Charles Esdale makes an excellent Hon. Archibald Vyse; Mr. Evelyn Vernon as the Duke of St. Kitts; Mr. Thomas A. Braidon as Lord Robert Wyckham; and Mr. William Calvert as Mr. John Bowley, M.P., merit warm praise; Miss Frances Davies as Violet Aynsley, Miss Moyra Creegan as Lady Bowlby, and Miss Ida Laurie as Mrs. Cooper also add to the great success of the performance. The play is preceded by *A Bit of Old China*.

New Palace Pier Theatre. — Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here this week with *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Mark Blow's portrayal of Bertie Cecil Royellieu is a capital piece of work; Miss Mary Thorne makes an admirable Cigarette; Miss Mabel Ormonde is successful as Princess Venetia Corona; Mr. Arthur Elwyn's Colonel Chanteroy, Mr. Wellesley Draper's Lord Rockingham, and Miss Fay Garnet Vayne's Lavinia also merit praise.

Aquarium.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—A capital variety entertainment proves attractive here this week. Wisper, a clever juggler, is well received; Knottella, comedy leg-mania artist and boneless wonder, submits an interesting turn; Li Chang Hi provides mirth, music, and mystery; Bettie Bloom is a charming comedienne; Arthur Blount is amusing; and Paul contributes pleasing songs and dances.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here for the week with *Mr. Hopkinson*. The farce attracted a good attendance on Monday evening, the audiences being still larger later on in the week. Mr. Arnold Lacy is decidedly good as the Duke of Braceborough, sustaining the part throughout in capital style; Miss Alison Alexander makes a charming Duchess of Braceborough, always cool and collected, and with a nice aristocratic tone; Mr. Shirley Lea presents an amusing study of the Earl of Addleton; Miss Gladys Jesson is decidedly pleasing as Lady Tyra Egglesby; Miss Kathleen M. Romsey hits off Eliza Dibbs very well; Mr. Reginald Dane and Mr. C. M. Heslop make the most of the parts of Lord Cawthorpe and the Hon. Otho Dursingham; Mr. George McCloskie is sufficiently grave and stately as the solicitor, Mr. Smethurst; the small parts of Parbury and Blisset are satisfactorily taken by Mr. Vincent Galley and Mr. J. G. Lowther; and Mr. Frank Stanmore causes much merriment as Samuel Hopkinson, though his exposition of the part is certainly very near the border of burlesque, particularly in the first two acts. The performance commences each evening with an interesting duologue, *The Snowstorm*, the two parts of Henry Fenton and Edith Kingsley being nicely taken by Mr. George McCloskie and Miss Dolly Chard.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—This week *The Love that Women Desire* is staged here in a liberal manner, the drama being well played by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company. Miss Lalla Stanhope acts in a pleasing and interesting manner as Sybil Thornburn; Miss Alice N. Livesey displays considerable power as Madge Abingdon; Mr. Fred Lloyd acts in good manly style as Philip Carnaby; Mr. Alfred Grenville is both effective and consistent in the heavy part of Richard Abingdon; Mr. Charles Herbert does well as Squire Abingdon; and the comic parts of Denis O'Rourke, police Constable Sowerberry, and Pattie Swift are taken in good style by Mr. John Hignett, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, and Miss Helen Richmond.

Palace.—Resident Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Eugene Stratton is attracting large audiences at each performance, giving an entirely different selection from his répertoire each night; the Four Madcaps present an exceptionally pleasing turn as vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Marie Gibson is a successful vocalist; Alfred Hurley amuses with song and patter; Charles Matthews (assisted by Miss Doris Reece) obtains much applause for his clever jumping act; Fred Moule and company amuse with their sketch, *The Battle of the Belles;* Charles Williams, black-faced comedian and dancer, obtains applause; Vi Carlyle has a pretty scena, *My Mountain Maid;* the Sages (Will and Jenny) are smart comedy artists and dancers; and the entertainment concludes with a good display of Vernon's animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Apollo is appearing successfully here in his Japanese wrestling entertainment, he being assisted by Miss Moza San, Japanese champion of the art of ju-jitsu. Much interest is evinced, and substantial money prizes are offered to local competitors. Alice Raymond, conducted by John Kurkamp, displays her skill as a cornettist and bugler; Daisy James, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; J. W. Rowley, comedian, is eminently successful; Barratt and Knowles, patter comedians, obtain applause; Florence Inman, descriptive vocalist, has considerable ability; Johnny Fuller, does some good acts, including a smart act on the wire; and Millie Denham, comedienne, is attractive. The performance concludes with new animated pictures.

BROMLEY.—Lyric.—Lessee, Mr. A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Strong.—A successful three nights' visit was paid by Mr. Bannister Howard's company in *Oliver Twist*. The Fagin of Mr. Stanley Drewitt is a splendid piece of work, grim and realistic; Mr. James Skea is well placed as Bill Sikes; Mr. Charlie Clark makes an alert Artful Dodger; Charlie Bates and Tom Chitling receive good interpretation at the hands of Mr. R. C. Hunter and Mr. J. Johns; Mr. W. H. Rotherham doubles the characters of Mr. Grimwig and Monks, and undertakes besides the arduous duty of stage-manager, coming through the ordeal with honours; Mr. Paige Lawrence is an ideal Harry Maylie; and a charming and pretty Rose Maylie is presented by Miss Dorothy Mayhew; Miss Edith Anton Laing played with undoubted skill the part of Nancy; and a sympathetic Oliver was that of Miss Dorothy Marsdin. The play was excellently mounted, the scene of London Bridge calling for special mention.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Manxman* drew a very good house on Monday, when Mr. Alfred B. Cross (who has sustained the character over 1500 times) had a flattering reception as Pete. Miss Minnie Watersford rendered able support as Kate Cregeen; Philip Christain was finely played by Mr. Frank Liston; Miss Christain was charmingly portrayed by Miss Mona Spearing; Mr. James Dillon acted the sanctimonious Cæsar Cregeen with effect; and the other characters were well presented.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—For the re-opening after the recess Mr. Samuel James' company is here in an excellent drama, *As Good as Gold*, in which Mr. H. H. Barrington achieves success as Mark Williams. Mr. Lewis Gilbert gives a masterly performance of Sir Richard Wharncliffe; Mr. Leonard Lawrence is seen to advantage as Jack Stanton; much humour is infused into the drama by Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey as Timothy Lia and Mr. Norman Hall as Horatio Spanker; Miss Florence Lovell is good as Anna Lias; Miss Irene Ross gives a sympathetic rendering of The Kipper; Miss Ella Seton makes an excellent Madge Merry; and Miss Marie McAuley is much at home as Kate d'Arville; Miss Gertrude Bonsor gives a womanly performance of Nora Williams.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Holloways, acrobatic wire artists, head the excellent programme here this week. Florence and Lilian, with various instruments provide a musical treat; the Cotton Blossom Quartette submit a most diverting turn; and the Three San Remo Girls do some clever dancing; a clever trio of athletes are the Schaffers; Walter Ray is a good comedian; the Wheelers give a funny cycling act; and Cecilia Maude is welcomed for her charming singing of "Such a dear old sweetheart."

Mechanics' Institute.—Pringle's North American animated pictures are doing excellent business here with a collection of very fine films, including "A Miner's Romance," "Living Flowers," and "The Terrible Twins."

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett and Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The attraction here this week is Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company in the romantic costume play *Proof*. Miss Beatrice Shirley displays considerable ability as Adrienne, and Miss May Grimshaw acquits herself admirably as Valentino. Miss Nita Ashby is praiseworthy as the Duchesse D'Aubeterre, and Miss Phena Powell is excellent as Madame Deprets. Pierre Lorance is ably portrayed by Mr. Gerald Kennedy. Mr. W. J. Butler as Lazare is satisfactory, and Mr. Carl Beechey as the Duke D'Aubeterre, and Mr. Arthur St. Aubyn as Victor de Laugney do well. Mr. Wilford Bailey is very amusing as Chamboran. Miss Ellen Morris as Julie and Miss Ellina Turner as Little Adrienne are also deserving of mention. The play is well staged and dressed.

BURY.—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Otto. C. Culling.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is appearing here in *The Fatal Wedding*. The piece has proved itself very popular in Bury, and with Miss Marjorie Lawrence's charming performance as the Little Mother the popularity is not likely to wane. Miss Madge Haines, Miss Gertrude Harrison, Mr. Ernest Owttrim, and Mr. S. Herbert Humber are also deserving of mention. A great amount of variety is introduced, including songs by Master Frisby, Miss Ethel Press, Miss Marjorie Lawrence, Miss Hetty Kelly, Miss Shirley Sparks, and speciality dances by Master J. Grice and the Misses Nora and Essie Herbert.

The Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A fine programme includes Radford and Mdlle. Valentine in a highly amusing turn; the Villions, acrobatic cyclists; Thos. E. Finglas, who sings excellent coon songs; Davenports, lightning magicians; Ross, Taylor, and Elvio, knockabouts; the Howards, comedians; Sisters Poole, vocalists and dancers; and Jessie Albini, vocal comedienne.

Archibald Brown Tee is very amusing; an able interpretation of Jean Berand is given by Mr. F. Marriott Watson; Miss Minnie Lisle gives a piquant and vivacious impersonation of Bessie Blazer; and the winning way in which Miss Annie Hylton plays her sympathetic part of Agnes Weyland is deserving of high praise. Mr. James Chippendale makes an effective Zorak; and Miss Judith Ansell scores a success as Sarah Barnstein.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Mattinson; Business-Manager, Mr. S. Smalley.—A capital variety entertainment is given here. Kloof and Ramsey, in their musical sketch, are very amusing, and prove a strong attraction; the Great Carls are smart acrobats; the Two Roses, coon vocalists and dancers, are well received; Seth and Nellie, in their comedy act on the triple bars, win much applause; George Le Wist is a capital ventriloquist; Miss Cissie Ford has a remarkably sweet and pleasing voice; Brookes' Bioscope is an attraction; and other turns are given by Miss Rosie Carlo, vocalist, and Henry Reno, conjurer.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Once again we have *The Gay Parisienne* here. It is played by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, and has lost none of its attractiveness. In the title-rôle Miss Evelyn Hughes gives a refined performance; Mr. Will Harman is amusing as Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. T. Gideon Warren makes a natural Major Fossdyke; Miss Holford Beringer as Mrs. Honeycombe renders in telling style a ditty on "Man"; Miss Ethel Ivimey is a pleasing Norah; whose fiancée, Tom Everleigh, has an easy representative in Mr. Edgar Ashwyn. Mr. Clifford Seyler is a hard-working Pompier; and Miss Madge Soutter makes the most of every opportunity as Ruth. The Imperial Glee-singers are frequently encored.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Maudie Ford, a neat sand-dancer, opens the ball, and is followed by Will Farrell, comedian. Then comes Ada Martine, whose songs are principally of the coon order. The Two Anartos next score with a comedy skit, *The Morning Mail*, an enjoyable contribution; Paul Martinetti and company are immensely popular in the play without words, *A Duel in the Snow*, in which Paul brings down the house by his skilful representation of Morice Landrel. Fred Collins gives Scotch songs; Rosie Lloyd is on a return visit; and the Edisonograph has a new series of pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Lovely Lily Burnand, who is starring here, is a prime favourite, and sings in fine style, "Stowaway," "She's My Lady," and "Man"; Percy Dalton is effective as a comedian; Adams and Rouse score in *The Lady and the Page*; Henry Carlton and company create roars of laughter in their scena *The Window Cleaner*; Les Belles Americaines are a quartette of lively vocalists and dancers; and Cullen, Carthey, and Cluley have some quaint sayings. Lacey's Erascope continues to interest.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Arthur Law's new play, *Three Blind Mice*, was presented on Monday to a highly appreciative audience. Miss May Palfrey has a delightful part as Marjorie Lovell, and wins golden laurels; Miss Granville cleverly presents the rôle of Lady Richard Marrable; and Mr. Frederick Kerr's conception of the part of Julian Shuckburgh is a delicious piece of acting. The "three blind mice," Mr. Lavender, Mr. Guest, and Peter Ricketts, are respectively represented by all requisite point by Mr. Compton Coutts, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, and Mr. Max Leeds; Miss Annie Hill fills a small but effective part as the formidable governess; Miss Mary Barton is languidly amusing as Lady Clarisforde; while smaller characters are brightly sketched by Miss Dorothy Edwards, Miss Florence Harwood, Miss Sheba Brozel, and Mr. Duncan Druce.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Mr. Herbert Fordwych, of Aldwych, on Monday presented his amusing *Drolls*. Mr. H. Pegg Carr is an excellent baritone; Miss Dorothy Carr a soprano of ability; Miss Phyllis Beadon a bright and animated actress-danseuse; Miss Esse Prenton an acceptable "coon"; Mr. Jno. T. MacCollam a humorist; and little Marjorie May accompanist.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company is appearing here in the sensational drama, *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is an admirable Roche, the executioner; Miss Nelly Howitt gives a fine rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. W. Ruddle Brown is very good as Paul Rovel, the hero; Mr. W. S. Stevenson gives a good portrayal of Kretch; and Miss Marie Ada Browning makes an excellent Christina.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. A. Hemmingway.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company is here this week with *The Crimson Club*. The drama is well staged and a most realistic fight is given in the last act. Mr. Percy Shaw as Reginald Adolphus Garside is a decidedly clever whistler; Miss Florence Delmar is exceptionally strong as Julia Marsden; and Muriel Lockwood is capitally rendered by Miss Sydney Barrasford. Miss Kitty Elliot is good as Sophonisba Garside; Mr. Fred G. Kay is well suited as Sir Philip Garside; and Mr. Clifford Wright capably enacts Richard Fenton.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietors, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, Ltd.—This week the Harvey Boys top the bill, and have been extremely well received; Edwards and Dacre, comedy duologue artists, are funny and smart; the Solario Duo are fine vocalists and instrumentalists; Miss Daisy Rhyl is a dainty comedienne; Hughman has some laughable farmyard imitations; and the Brothers Risto are smart eccentric acrobats. Ruffell's Bioscope shows some fine films; and Mr. G. S. Thomas's band is all that can be desired.

WESTCLIFFE GARDENS.—In spite of opposition, nothing seems to stop the famous trio, Graham, Russell, and Bentley, who are stil very successful here. This week they are helped out by Miss Winifred Siddons, a charming vocalist; Mr. James Davis, a fine bass; Miss Ethelle Stapley, a clever violiniste; and Mr. Kit Keen, the coloured comedian, a great favourite here.

OPERETTA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Ch. Macdona; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—During the first three days of the week Mr. Harold V. Neilson's company presented *The Light that Failed*, *A Maker of Men*, and *A Debt of Honour*. On Thursday Mr. James Welch was announced.

PIER PAVILION.—Mr. Digby Dent, manager for Messrs. Ashton, has a fine company here. *The Vagabonds*, under the direction of Mr. Haroid Montague, are both amusing and clever; and fine turns are given by the following artists: Misses Belle Green and Merita Leclair, and Messrs. Ernest Devereux, David Morton, and Percival Mackenzie.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—This popular resort is now in full swing, and this week the attraction is Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company, with *A Queen of Villainy*. Mr. Gordon Carnegie as Sir John Desborough proved a highly capable artist; Mr. Alfred E. Calfer as Alec showed ability; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson scored greatly as Kit; as Stephen Faucit Mr. Edward Heanley was a huge success; and as Dick Leinster Mr. Owen Harris provided an excellent portrayal. Miss Edith Blande is the great attraction, and in the rôle of Cora Granville showed considerable power; Miss Amy Ross Clyde was admirably cast as Sally Chimes; and Mollie Maggs was cleverly undertaken by Miss Jessie Crammonde.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Charles Harrington is here this week, with his company, in *Sailors of the King*. He himself does well in the part of Admiral Drake; Mr. Frank admirably portrays the heroic qualities of Dick Drake; the heroine is faithfully represented by Miss Madge North; Mr. R. F. Stacey is a powerful Orrel Drake, and is ably assisted by Miss Sylvia Stella as Rebecca Crosby. Considerable humour is infused into the piece by Barnet Fair (Mr. Kenneth Black, jun.) and Penelope Penn (Miss H. Hathaway).

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—Harry Roche's circus heads the bill here, and his horses and dogs perform many clever evolutions; Henry Anthony conjures in a delightfully easy manner; and two turns which are loudly applauded, and deservedly so, are Mark Tapley and J. C. Callaghan. Rosa Adams reappears, after a brief interval, with her father's songs; and Florrie St. Clair, with her little doggie pet, is most welcome. The pictures conclude the programme.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Miss Madge McIntosh and Mr. Lumsden Hare's company, in *Mollentrave on Women*, is here this week, and is enthusiastically received. The company is an exceptionally clever one. Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, a finished artist, fills the part of Mr. Mollentrave, and is a great success; Mr. E. A. Warburton makes an excellent Sir Joseph Balsted; Miss Madge McIntosh takes the part of Lady Claude Derenham, and acts with great skill; Mr. Murray Carrington as Everard Swenboys is sufficiently ardent; Miss Ada King as Miss Treable is successful; and Miss Belle Donaldson scores as Mrs. Martelli. The play was preceded by a cleverly written sketch, entitled *Bob's Mrs. Kenningham*, in which Miss Madge McIntosh acted with great power. Friday was set apart for the benefit of Miss McIntosh.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's company in the stirring Anglo-American play, *A Gambler's Daughter*, is attracting considerable attention at the above house this week. Mr. Robert Ayrton makes a very fine Irish emigrant as Desmond O'Dare. Mr. Alfred Sanders is an amusing rascal as Solomon Solomons; Mr. Richard Pitt performs creditably as John Grant, a gambler; Mr. Martin Sands makes an imposing character as Ralph Gillman, the capitalist; and Mr. Howell Trairs is successful as Captain Stanhope. Miss Adria Hill gives a very fine rendering of the dual character of Mildred Grant and Miriam Grant; Miss Harriett Loydall is amusing as Auntie Zeb, a negress; and a host of other characters are suitably represented.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester. The Six Brothers Luck with *The Demon of the Cellar* are the star turn, the audience being kept in a continued state of merriment. Dan Gantry's Electric Grotto is another capital item, some of the effects produced being very fine; Walter Munroe, the popular Irish comedian, is heartily received; Arthur Reece is very entertaining; Russell Carr is a polished ventriloquist; Nellie Sheldon is a capital comedian and dancer; and the usual set of animated pictures conclude.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P. — An attractive variety programme is provided here this week. Kennedy's Komiks prove an entertaining troupe of artists; the Cedrics, equilibrists, are clever and smart; Mons. Vela, on the wire, is a good turn; the Sisters Godfrey are expert dancers; Sandes and Vincent, the comedy couple, are effective; a sketch by members of the troupe is well done; and some excellent pictures are shown by the Teatrograph.

CROMER.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Baring Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Locke. — The Elizabethan Stage Society presented their revival here of Oliver Goldsmith's comedy, *The Good-Natur'd Man*. Mr. William Poel, to whom the work is very evidently a labour of love, has made a special version, with the result the piece plays closer than in the original. The audience quickly grasped the plot, and as the situations were unfolded were not stinting in their applause. The staging and costumes, eloquent of the period, in which the influence of Hogarth's pictures could be traced, is another triumph to the enterprise of Mr. Poel and those who work with him in these grand revivals. The Croaker of Mr. Shakespeare Stewart was a fine piece of work; Mr. Honeywood, "the good-natur'd man," was admirably represented by Mr. Lewis Caston; Miss Muriel Currey did well as Miss Richland; and Miss H. B. Potter made a charming Olivia; Sir William Honeywood was ably sustained by Mr. Henry Doughty; and Mr. Ben Field won a fresh triumph by his humorous conception of Lofty; as Leontine, Mr. Edwin Coates was a success; Miss Clara Greet appeared very naturally as the affectionate mother, Mrs. Croaker; and Miss Helen Vicary as the Landlady, acted piquantly. The minor characters, particularly the Bailiffs, played by Mr. W. M. Mayne and Mr. E. H. Wynne, did their work well. There was no music. On Wednesday Miss Marie Hall paid a visit, and the Bioscope finishes the week.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is winning approval in the realistic play *For Life; and After*. Mr. Vernon Sansbury is excellent in the rôle of Richard Grey; Mr. Charles Osborne is commendable as Rube Hexham; Mr. Henry Hare acts with care as Jim Huggett; Mr. Chris Mason gives a careful impersonation of Joe Grimper; and useful services are rendered by Messrs. Sidney Vautier and Henry Hare as Gilbert O'Neil and Jack Huggett. Miss Grace Heywood deserves praise for her portrayal of Marion Grey; Miss Muriel Dean is persevering as Dora Grey; Miss Rosslyn Vayne is efficient as Loo Hexham; Miss Edith Barwell is invaluable in the rôle of Mrs. Grimper; and Misses Marion Fawcett and Sissie Murdock are adequate as Jenny Huggett and Liza Jones. The drama is creditably mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howards company in *The Midnight Wedding* is proving attractive here this week. Mr. Alfred Paumier, who plays Paul Valmar, is a capable actor; the Crown Prince Leopold finds a powerful exponent in Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman; Mr. Ulick Burke as Lieut. Eugene Von. Streslburg is excellent; the villain, Capt. Rudolph Von Scarsbruck, is impressively presented by Mr. Clinton Baddeley; Mr. James E. Page as Sergeant Max does well; Mr. Percy Compton as Corporal Ottu is very good; and Mr. Algie Spalding is responsible for the humorous part of Private Bobs, and deserves praise. Miss Ada Champion as Kathie is commendable; Miss Florence Hunt as Rozel appears to advantage; and Miss Annie Saker in the dual rôle of Second Lieut. Karl Helsburg, and Princess Astrea Von. Streslsburg is particularly good.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—A palatable bill of fare is presented at this comfortable theatre. Sid Bandon, comedian, sings his songs with expression; Dale and Vale are singing and dancing specialists of no mean ability; Clarice Mayne is a smart vocalist and mimic; Joe Archer is a popular comedian and patterer; the Sisters Reno are untiring transformation and acrobatic dancers; very funny is the sketch *The Water Cure* as played by Chas. Stuart and company; the Musical Schafers are great in a novel and invigorating instrumental act; the Ongars are neat and vigorous dancers; and Irma Lorraine is picturesque in her representations of pictorial art. A tremendous hit is made by Mooney and Holbein, irreproachable eccentric vocalists and legmania dancers. Mr. A. Hugh Emmett is a courteous acting-manager.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—*The Breed of the Treshams* is here this week. As Lieut. Keresby (the Rat) Mr. Tripp Edgar acts the reckless cavalier to perfection; Mr. R. A. Greene as Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford is a typical villain. Miss Florence Tresselian is a charming Margaret Hungerford, and Miss Celestine Bertram makes an attractive Batty.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—R. A. Cuthbert's company is here this week with *The Black Bishop*. Miss Jeannie Marquise displays remarkable dramatic power in the two parts, Marion Strathcoat and Kate Marleigh; the title-rôle is admirably interpreted by Mr. Norman Clarke, who is accorded unstinted applause; Miss Norah Caronne as Ruth Oldbury supplies the pathetic element; and Mr. Alf. Collingham acts with great care as Simeon Strathcoat. Mr. J. W. Rider as Captain Keilcrirt, and Mr. Arthur Danville as Brank Buttlebut, are all that could be desired. The child part is admirably sustained by Little Dolly Collingham; and the part of Hannah Bruttlebut, acted by Miss Grace Garside, commands instant admiration.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton. — Mr. Walter Melville's company is here this week with the melodrama *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley plays Dora Grey in a convincing manner, and is to be congratulated upon her excellent depiction; Jack Carlton has a manly exponent in Mr. Frank R. Robertson; and the Laura Norman of Miss Dorothy Hildebrande is very acceptable. Guy Brand is successfully portrayed by Mr. W. H. Porter; the characters of Captain Norman and his son Tom are in the capable hands of Mr. John Noland and Mr. Cyril Vernon respectively. Much amusement is caused by Mr. Willie Reid as Teddy Butterfly and Miss Marie Kildare as Kitty Rosebud. Two other parts deserving of special mention are those of Beppo, the Italian, undertaken by Mr. Leonard Aardale; and Elizabeth Burke, cleverly enacted by Miss Polly Marsh. The play is well staged, and the company a very capable one.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The principal attraction here this week is a dramatic scena entitled *The Fight in the Forge*, presented by C. Wordley Hulse and Co., which proves eminently successful; another good turn is that of the Merrions, who appear in an amusing comedy sketch *In the Shops*, and meet with a good reception; Sibb and Sibb provide an excellent trapeze performance; W. H. Downs, coloured vocalist, is well worthy of mention; Sisters Brooklands are charming duettists and dancers; Devereux's performing dogs are very entertaining, and their cleverness is duly recognised; Charles Clark is an amusing comedian; and the Palace Bioscope is responsible for several acceptable films.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The programme here this week includes the Brothers O'Brien, who give a unique performance on the three bars; the vocal work of the Herald Comedy Four, vocalists, dancers, and entertainers, is of so excellent a quality that their services are eagerly redemanded; Maggie Rimmer proves an attractive comedienne and dancer; Texas Hattie, who can apparently accomplish anything she wishes on the tight-rope, dances, reclines, balances, and executes many other smart things with the greatest ease; in the knockabout act, *Everyday Cyclists*, Messrs. Frank Reegan and Co. can certainly claim that they add "to the gaiety of the nations," for peals of laughter followed their extraordinary antics and escapades; Francisco, without doubt, deserves great praise for his skilful work as an equilibristic and novelty juggler; so accomplished a piccolo soloist as May Moodie is rarely heard, and her skilful playing on that instrument is greatly enjoyed; Mr. Charley Craston acquits himself with infinite credit as an eccentric comedy vocalist; and Harry Morris is worthily acclaimed for his abilities as a comedian and mimic.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—A variety programme sufficiently varied and entertaining pleases the palates of the public here. Edgar Forrest's comedy sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*, is interpreted with spirit; Arthur Wallace, the Anglo-American entertainer and dramatic monologue artist, shows talent in the scena *The Stampede of the Steers*; the Three Tivoli Girls go with a swing and heartiness in their songs and dances; Miss Lottie Bray, described as the champion clog skipping-rope dancer of the world, also displays skill as a banjo, song, and dance artist; the Maros, three in number, prove adroit and amusing in their gymnastic work; Evansio is a very smart conjurer, and is expert in the art of spinning plates and basins; Salida and Vone, Creole ragtime dancers; and George Prince, the crazy comedian, complete a very satisfactory bill.

DONCASTER.—NEW THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company on Monday presented *A City of Sin*. Mr. Conrad Heywood as Paul Torrains did ample justice to the part; Mr. H. W. Hatchman was vigorous as Mortain; Mr. Charles H. Longden made an effective Zip Barzon, known as the "Red Rat"; Messrs. Wilfred Grahame and Val. W. Gully ably impersonated Bebe Lebveuf and Titi Culotte, getting good support from Mr. H. Fiske as Iolet; Alice Bartrand was effectively played by Miss Edith Wallis; and Miss Jenny Weston as Ilma did well. Misses Polly Denville and Elvira Stuart were unaffectedly bright and breezy in their parts.

DONCASTER GUILD HALL.—Mr. Joshua Dyson's dioramas and gipsy choir drew a crowded house on Monday. This is the eighth visit, and it may safely be said that the combination has grown in popular esteem.

THE PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Baker.—The popular summer resort, the Hexthorpe Flatts, is crowded with visitors, all anxious to witness the excellent bill of fare provided this week by the popular lessee. The company includes Lilian and Frances, Scotch artists; Hilda de Gray, soprano; Frank Royle, comedian; Grace Lade, character dancer; Ada Clair, comedienne; Will Sullivan, quaint comedian; Bob Pearson, vocal comedian; the Izons, song and sketch artists, and others.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company, Ltd; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—*The Little Michus*, one of the most entrancing operas ever seen in Douglas, is being played here by Mr. George Dance's company. Mr. Foster Courtenay is responsible for a droll impersonation of General des Ifs, evoking screams of laughter; Miss Alice Coverick plays Marie Blanche with much charm, and singing her music most daintily; Miss Ethel Bryan as Blanche Marie is an excellent foil; the dancing of Mlle. Marjorie captivates the house; Mr. William Everard is effective as Gaston Rigaud; Mr. H. Harcourt does well as Aristide Vert; and Mr. Gilbert Child's impersonation of Bagnolet and Mr. Leon Simkins' Pierre Michu are truly admirable.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Blue Moon* was presented here on Monday. A crowded house witnessed the production, which was under the direction of Mr. Robert Courtneidge. Miss Florence Smithson as Chandra Nib looked picturesque and sang charmingly; Mr. Edward Lewis as Moolraj was decidedly funny; Mr. Bert Gilbert was a droll Private Charles Taylor; Mr. George Mudie made an effective Bobbie Scott; and Mr. J. Edward Frazer as Captain Jack Ormsby presented a delightful hero. Miss Olive Crellin, a native of Mona's Isle, impersonated Oma from the Far East with delicacy and charm.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castles, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary; Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Audiences at the Palace have been most enthusiastic. The large Ball Room has been packed, and the Opera House crowded. Mr. Ernest Shand has made a huge popular success in Douglas; Viviana, the dancing girl, has pirouetted herself into the affections of the Douglas visitors, her graceful turn evoking applause; the Viola's White Mahatmas astonish everybody; and the Selbinis' trick cycling riding is not only daring but graceful.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—To the Douglas visitor there is only one Florrie Forde—she of the "Old Bull and Bush" fame. The greetings this artist receives should entirely satisfy her. There is no mistake about it. They are hall marked with sincerity. She is a public favourite. When she appears the people applaud with all their might. They shout the choruses with unsophisticated exuberance; and after endless encores she disapears in a furore of enthusiasm. Mr. Loudon Cameron is a smart ventriloquist; and Miss Madge Grey, a real mimic, can tell anecdotes with verve. The delineation of the idiosyncrasies of children has fidelity to nature. Miss Mona Edwardes is a capital ventriloquist; and Mr. Ben Albert a quaint comedian. The Castle Bioscope is highly appreciated.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietor and Managing-Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The programme here contains clever and novel turns. Hoppet, Tony, and Terry, in their coster circus, cause the children to shriek with laughter; Victor Dagmar on the horizontal bar is gracefully effective, being assisted by the very talented clown Myers; Herr Addison, with his troupe of toy terriers, causes enthusiasm; the Lizettes give a performance worthy of the best traditions of the arena.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—An enthusiastic welcome was accorded *The Duchess of Dantsic* on Monday. The musical play was presented by Mr. George Dance's company, and was, as is usual with this gentleman's productions, elaborately staged and dressed. To Miss Mary Young was entrusted the part of Sans Gêne, and a most fascinating Duchess she made, while her admirably-rendered songs were received with rapturous applause; Mr. C. Burrunston Williams made a gallant soldier and an ideal lover as Francois Lefebvre; a powerful impersonation, and one which showed a decided touch of individuality, was the portrayal of Napoleon by Mr. Frank Bradley; and a really cleverly humorous characterisation was the Papillion of Mr. Frank Attree. Mr. S. H. Curzon, the possessor of a rich baritone voice, made a gallant and debonair Vicomte de Bethune, and deserves a special word of commendation for his admirably rendered song in the first act. Miss Gipsy Dale, a delightfully sweet and piquant Renee de Saint Mezard, charmed all by her winsome ways; and Miss Ethel Bradley gave the necessary touch of dignity to the rôle of Empress Josephine. Misses V. Kennerley and M. Eastland were excellent as Napoleon's sisters, and Miss Isabel Vivian was successful as Lisette. On Thursday Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company opened with *The Freedom of Suzanne*, with Miss Mabel Love and Miss Templer Powell in the principal parts. The comedy was preceded by a little play entitled *Mary's Secret*.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A bright and varied evening's amusement is contributed this week by a concert party who call themselves The Motorists, under the direction of Mr. Griffiths Humphreys. Miss Madge Nicholson has a fine soprano voice and a charming selection of songs. Some excellent musical sketches are given by Miss Edith Eatherley, and Miss Kathleen Cardigan's items are received with much favour. Mr. Harry Halstead's tenor voice has won him many admirers; Mr. Lester James causes much hilarity with his humorous songs; and Miss Muriel Lee, besides being a sympathetic accompanist, proves herself an intelligent and talented soloist.

TOWN HALL.—Some wonderful pictures have been shown here during the week by Jury's Bioscope, under the management of Mr. Egerton Burnett. Much interest is excited, and a capital evening's amusement is provided.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Charles R. Stanfield.—A most successful turn is given by Gus Dallon, who deserves unqualified approval for his highly-amusing and clever performance; Sam Ives is accorded a tremendous reception, and Grove and Chalmers are also talented artists. The programme also includes Will Colley, Gertie Grace, and Brian and Lawrence.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Charles Frohman is presenting Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks here for two weeks in *The Catch of the Season*. The management are to be congratulated on their attractive engagement, and on Monday night, the musical comedy gave the greatest enjoyment to the large audience present. Miss Terriss made an agreeable impression with her charming manner and great abilities as a comedienne and vocalist, the audience being completely carried away with enthusiasm over her portrayal of Angela. Mr. Seymour Hicks as the Duke of St. Jermyns exerted a similar effect, and both these popular artists were heartily applauded throughout. Lord Dundreary had a capital exponent in Mr. Lawrence Caird; and Miss Florence Lloyd was charming in the rôle of Lady Caterham; Master Louis Victor was intensely amusing as Bucket, and met with well-deserved applause; and as Lady Crystal Miss Belle Napier played with care and finish; the parts of Higham Montague, Lord Yatton, and Sir John Crystal were cleverly enacted by Messrs. A. R. Boielle, Arthur Hope, and Julian Cross, respectively; and the Misses Margaret Fraser and Maudi Darrell were all that could be desired as Sophia and Honoria Bedford; Mr. Alfred Lloyd was exceedingly good as William Gibson; and Miss Barbara Deane scored successfully as Miss Caw. The Gibson Girls, Society Girls, and Lucille Girls, with their clever dancing and singing were a very pleasing feature of this delightful musical comedy; and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. A. Robertson, was excellent.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mrs. B. B. Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. Lewis Waller and company are paying a welcome return visit this week, and on Monday night *Brigadier Gerard* was presented to a packed house, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Lewis Waller's artistic rendering of the title-rôle is thoroughly enjoyed, and the favourite actor scores heavily throughout the piece. Miss Evelyn Millard's finished performance of the rôle of the Comtesse de Rouqelaure is equally fascinating, and both artists win most enthusiastic cheers. Mr. Edward O'Neill displays much ability as Talleyrand; and Miss Helen Leyton wins general admiration by a careful and complete rendering of Agnes. Mr. A. E. George is well-suited as Napoleon, Mr. Owen Roughwood as Major Bron, and Mr. Frank Woolfe as Major Oliver, both acquit themselves well in their respective parts. General de Caulaincourt is played in an admirable manner by Mr. J. N. Irvine; and Mr. Eric Scott sustains with credit the rôle of Colonel Guerin. The other parts are also in capable hands, and the staging and scenery are excellent. The one-act play, *Fortune's Fool*, in which Mr. Waller also appears, precedes.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company occupies the boards here this week, presenting the domestic drama, *The Poor Must Live*. Mr. S. Burnard impersonates very creditably the part of Clifton Manville; and Miss S. Carmichael acts with marked ability the rôle of Olga D'Eyncourt; the Earl of Marwood is played in a capable manner by Mr. Charles O'Connor; and Miss Violet Hammersley submits a careful study of the rôle of Dorothy Murdock; Mr. Harold C. Macartney makes a capital Donald; and Sal Darling is successfully played by Miss Marguerite Thorne. The humour of the piece is well sustained by Mr. Shaun Glenville as Hooker Holdsnitch; and Miss Dora Hilstrom is excellent as Moya Darling; Mr. Arthur Trail as Sam Sully and Mr. Frank Dale as Dick Sully are both good in their respective parts, and receive material assistance from Mr. George Mour as Bertie Miggs, Mr. Albert Spencer as Jack O'Moode, and Mr. William Myers as James.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A varied and attractive programme is presented here this week, the top-liner being Bob Hutt and company, in their pantomimic absurdity, *Welcome Home*, which causes roars of laughter; Messrs. Sandford and Lyons are highly humorous comedians, who achieve conspicuous success; and Miss Marie Reeve sing and dance herelf into great favour; the Norman Leonard Trio, in their musical sketch, *The Itinerant*, are well received; and Mr. Harry Hayton is an acceptable comedian; Brown and Robinson create a fund of merriment in their sketch, *Harmony in the Kitchen*; and James H. Jee in a marvellous wire act merits applause. As a comedian and dancer Albert Le Fre makes a decided hit, and the Empire Pictures are also interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—This week's excellent programme is headed by Herman Melot, a remarkably clever conjurer, who is accorded a hearty reception; another very acceptable turn is that of Bosanquet, a capital violin virtuoso; and Harry Conlin, an entertaining comedian; Jimson's novelty sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*, is eminently successful and comical; Walker's parody acrobats cause much merriment; the efforts of the Two Dixons, banjo song and dance artists, are duly recognised; and Ailsa Douglas, vocalist; Harry Morris, comedian; Mons. Reklaw, globe performer; and the Bioscope complete the bill.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—An attractive programme is presented here this week, the principal item being the singing of the Maori Chieftain Ranginia, who possesses a good tenor voice, and is loudly applauded. Graham's human marionettes are highly amusing, and the sketches, musical monologues, and songs contributed by Miss Mollie Seymour, Mr. Lawrence Derrick, and Miss Marion Brereton are well enjoyed and highly appreciated, and the entertainment concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Photo Company entered on their second week here on Monday. The continuous change of pictures and the variety turns provided continue to attract large audiences.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The artists engaged here include: Rex and Graham, living marionettes; Little Dandy, character, comedian; Louie Rex, serio and dancer; Rex Graham, comedian and dancer; Alice Ashworth, soprano vocalist.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following are appearing here:—Prof. Robert Davison, ventriloquist; Lead and Lead, comedy duettists; Mabel Welfore, serio and dancer; Harry Balfour, eccentric comedian; and Will Kerr, conjurer.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is paying a first visit here. The piece is powerfully presented. Mr. James Duncan as Count Otto Steinbach acts in excellent style; Miss Gertrude Hunt as the Countess Natalie plays with power and pathos; of the Baron Cratzlaw Mr. Horatio Sinclair gives a forcible rendering; and Mr. Reginald Fox is effective as Lieutenant Karl Ctzarteryski. Mr. J. O. Stevenson as the Hon. Bertie Bray, and Miss Florrie Hall as Mlle. Zila, are conspicuous in the lighter vein. Miss Rhoda Clighton, well gowned, plays Stella with thorough abandon; and Miss Flora Halton is refreshingly sweet as Cora.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—The feature of the programme this week is Fred Fuller and company in *The Miner's Dream*, a varied and most entertaining turn. Another notable contribution is that of Zaid, in an Oriental speciality, wherein he performs some marvellous contortions on the "rings"; Charles Chard is a comedian with good songs; Vesta Fay, a male impersonator of good style; the Bros. Newport are clever ring and trapeze artists; and other attractions in the bill include Annie Casey, comedienne; Mark Lane, quaint comedian; and the Empire pictures.

DUMFRIES. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. W. E. Potts; Manager, Mr. Seddons.—This theatre was opened for the season on Monday with Mr. Charles Carey's company in *After the Ball*. Mr. Algernon W. Lee as Haliwell Menit was very successful; Mr. Percy Baverstock made a capable Colonel Joseph Menit; Miss M. Sadie was very charming as Nancy; Mr. Norman Bower played the part of Dick Seymour with great ability; Miss Queenie Finnis as Nellie Mather was very sweet and winning; Miss Eva Ellis was a very attractive Ruth Gay; and the rest of the company, which is a large one, lent good support. The scenery is effective, and capital houses have been secured.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Well-acted and cleverly staged, *Life's Sweetest Sins* has drawn good houses during the week. As Doctor Colbrooke Mr. Oswald Douglas simply revels in villainy, and plays his part particularly well; his brutal confederates, Mr. Robert Sawin and Mr. Clem Horlock, give a good account of themselves; Mr. T. Arthur Jones as Captain Harold Marston makes a manly hero, and Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers a pleasing heroine; in lighter vein, Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner and Miss Elsie Walton as Bess Grayson, treat the audience to some smart dancing and singing. The minor parts are

each evening by *His Landlady*. Mr. Percy Hutchison himself undertook the part of Arthur Frederick Adolphus Taunton with highly successful results; while the special engagements of Mr. George Mudie and Miss Lilias Earle for the respective parts of John Gripleigh and Charity Concannon were other specially prominent features in a performance of all-round excellence. These three artists were supported by Messrs. Ernest Cox, whose Gerald Marvel left nothing wanting; Frank Hill, in a richly humorous sketch of Peter Concannon; Charles Bedells, an appropriately melodramatic representative of Denbigh Thraile; S. Irwin Barrett, J. Mitchell, Misses Margaret Marshall (excellent as the typical open-air girl Mary Concannon), and Hilda Honise (a truly charming Norah Concannon). The business management is vested in Mr. F. C. Dee.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. G. Hayes.—Mr. Mouillot's company, managed by Mr. Frank Pemberton, opened a three nights' engagement on Monday in *The Toreador*. Mr. Fred Fowler's Pettifer was a highly praiseworthy assumption, conspicuous ability being displayed in acting, singing, and dancing; Mr. Howard Cridland's impersonation of the typical Johnnie, Sir Archibald Slackett, merits warm commendation, as also does the very excellent portrayal of Augustus Trail by Mr. Atheling Farrar. The name-rôle of Carajola was a distinct vocal success in the hands of Mr. H. M. White; Mr. Harry Buss was a tower of strength to the performance as Sammy Gigg, a part played to the accompaniment of incessant laughter; and smaller male parts were capitally undertaken by Messrs. Alfred H. Majilton, Alick Macmillan, and A. Finch, Misses Vera Vallis (a delightfully vivacious representative of Susan), Katie May (a bewitchingly dainty and unaffected Dora Selby), Zoe Gilfillan (admirably cast as Mrs. Malton Hoppings), Florence Burdette (a satisfactory Donna Teresa), and Rose Helene (histrionically a truly admirable Nancy Staunton) were the chief lady artists. The musical direction was in the hands of Mr. George Saker. Mr. George Dance's company in *The Cingalee* is completing the week.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Bert Williams, in a very clever, original, and amusing ventriloquial act, heads the bill, and is scoring a gratifying success; Regan and Ryan excel as cross-talk comedians and dancers, and their turn is keenly enjoyed; the Evalos, amusing burlesque conjurers, clever hoop-rollers, and smart gymnasts; Patty Yole, a talented comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Ein, an amusing joke-picture act; together with Miss Cordite, assisted by Wild Buffalo, in a rope manipulation turn; Charles King, the possessor of a phenomenal tenor voice; and Dora Lyric, a refined comedienne, also figure in the programme, which is completed by the Hippodrome pictures.

Devonshire Park.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mr. Norfolk Megone's Devonshire Park Grand Orchestra is continuing its successful engagement. Miss Eleanor Felix is this week's vocalist, and Miss Dorothea Walenn was the solo violinist at the Thursday symphony concert.

ECCLES.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—Watson Mills' company is here this week with *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Dora Price as Risca Mallison, the adventuress, gives a clever impersonation, deserving great credit; Mr. Frederick Biron as Jim Murley undertakes the part of a criminal in a masterful way; Mr. Milner Noble as Pharosophus acts a mysterious Egyptian creditably; Mr. Millar Anderson plays admirably as Railton; as Guise Strange and the Hon. Reggie Verincourt Mr. Holland Day and Mr. Lancelot Usher take their respective characters in a pleasing manner. Miss Cissie Podmore is applauded repeatedly in the part of Doris Melville.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Dr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crossman's company is appearing here this week in *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. E. Russell in the title-rôle is a capable actor; Mr. T. A. Shale as Crookie Scrubs, the "ex-lag," brings down the house with his songs and jokes; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is excellent as Michael Brue; and Mr. Arthur Stroud ably sustains the part of Gerald Treherne. Mr. Henry Chichester is good as Mr. Crank; Miss Lily Lingard smart and bewitching as Lady Bickenhall; Miss Kitty Dale winning as Aurora; and Miss Aileen Macdonald piquant as Mabel.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's stirring drama, *The Beast and the Beauty*, filled the bill for the first half of the week. Mr. Milton Rosmer as Jack Barrymore (the beast) proved himself an actor of great ability, giving an able and artistic presentation of a difficult part; Miss Alice Bowes as Violet (the beauty) filled the rôle of the innocent and pure-minded flower-girl with winsome grace and irresistible charm; as the Earl of Loman, Mr. Wm. E. Passmore was very successful; Mr. Eric Campbell seems designed by nature for the part of Ned Sampson, the fighting man, looking a perfect gladiator in the ring; Mr. Harry Talbot as Tom Chicken, in conjunction with Miss Mollie Williams as Clarice, provided the bulk of the humour of the piece; Miss Daisy Gwynne fulfilled all the requirements of the thankless and unpopular part of Delilah Vane. The piece was received with acclamation by well-filled houses.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is appearing at the Queen's Hall this week. In Monday night's performance of *Maritana* Miss Elsa May as Maritana and Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Don Cæsar de Bazin were excellent, and delighted with their fine singing. Miss Kate White and Mr. H. Blagrave as the Marchioness and Marquis de Montefiore respectively took their parts effectively. Miss Clairette Florence gave a good representation of Lazarillo; and Mr. J. Kneale Cambell appeared to advantage as Don Jose. The King of Spain and Alcade were ably represented by Mr. W. Newby and Mr. Fred Featherstone respectively. *The Daughter of the Regiment* was given on Tuesday, on Wednesday *Faust*, on Thursday *Maritana*, on Friday *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl* is billed for to-night. The principals are assisted by a capable company, and the singing throughout is very good.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Orchid* was here the first three nights of the week. Miss Dorothy Firmin made a charming representative of Lady Violet; Miss Emily Stevens played the part of Caroline Vokins with success; Miss Florence Wakeman was a vivacious Zelie; and Miss Constance Hamilton was effective as Thisbe. The Countess Anstruther had an able exponent in Miss Ethel Holdsworth; Miss Gladys Ward did full justice to the part of Josephine; Mr. Sinclair Holden as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour was all that could be desired; Mr. J. Bullock Webster acquitted himself well as Dr. Ronald Fausset; Mr. Stenson Liddard as Aubrey Chesterton, and Mr. Edward Nainby as Comte Raoul, took their respective parts in an able manner. Mr. John R. Val as Zaccary sang well; and Mr. Colin Campbell was the cause of much merriment as Meakin. Mr. George Dance's company in *Veronique* occupied the boards on Thursday.

Victoria Pier.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—An interesting programme is provided here this week. On Wednesday Mrs. Langtry and company gave two performances, and were accorded a big welcome. The Sabots still retain their popularity, their concerted numbers being very smartly rendered. The Blue Viennese Band, under the direction of Herr Moritz Würm, commenced a month's engagement on Monday.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Marion Pilcher, contralto, is on a return visit here this week. Mr. George Robins is an excellent entertainer; and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band render acceptable items.

Bathing Establishment Grounds.—Mr. George Ellis took a well-deserved benefit on Wednesday, and was seen at his best in several songs. The solos and concerted items by "The Cadets" meet with enthusiasm.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Heading a very strong programme here are Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe in a magnificent illuminated spectacle named *Electra's Dream*. The Eight Lancashire Lads, a very smart combination of singers and dancers, get rounds of applause; Dusty Rhodes described as a comedy merchant, has a host of racy stories to tell, and also distinguishes himself as an impersonator; Madame Collard's trained boarhounds go through their performance with remarkable aptitude; Bromley and Fontein present a pleasing musical turn, the gentleman of the twain being also a very clever comedian; the Trio Alskarno submit a skilful Risley act; the Three Sisters Hayden, character comediennes, get well-merited applause; Fred Hallam, comedian, and the Venola Bros., comedy gymnasts, complete the "show."

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Starring here are the Marcellas in a comedy juggling act, which creates boisterous laughter. Very popular are Corman's Juveniles, whose scena, entitled *Xmas Eve*, is excellently done; and another turn which hits the popular fancy is that of the Two Downs, speciality dancers. Ethel Payne, a ballad vocalist of merit, delights her hearers; and Vere and Royal submit a very amusing comedy act; Claremont and Victor, comedy acrobats, and Downey's Living Pictures make up a very entertaining programme.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—This house has been packed throughout the week, the attraction being Auguste Van Biene and company in *The Broken Melody*. Van Biene acts excellently as Paul Borinski, and delights the audience with his fine 'cello solos. Miss Lena Burnleigh makes a very pathetic Mabel, and Miss Rosemary Lees is well suited in the part of the Duchess. Mr. Henry Ludlow does well as Ivanoff; whilst Mr. T. G. Haynes is a very amusing Mortimer. Mr. Archie Selwyn playing with effect as the Hon. Richard Spinnaker.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole.—Wizard and Irene Stone are topping the bill this week with a motor-cycle sensation, "The Globe of Life." Will Souls, laughing comedian; Winnie Cottrell, male impersonator; Parker and Parr, novelty duettists; Eunice Bell, ballad vocalist; J. H. McCann, comedian and roller skater; Alec Thomas, negro comedian; Max Merlin, the contortionist; the Bioscope, with new pictures; and the Mezzettia, on the triple bars, also contribute to the entertainment.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's chief company is here this week with *Lady Madcap*. In the title-rôle Miss Isabel Dillon sings delightfully; Susan is brightly played by Miss Ethel Beech, whose dainty dancing wins much applause; Mr. Jules Charmettes is excellent as Count de St. Hubert, his French version of popular songs gaining for him encores nightly; Mr. B. Russell as Bill uses his fine voice to the best advantage; Mr. Harold Parkes contributes a clever character study of Oroya Brown; and Mr. Geo. Whillis is exceedingly comical as Corporal Ham.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company occupies the boards this week with *Public Opinion*. The testy Spencer Traughton is a clever characterisation by Mr. Charles Harley; the pomposity and querulousness of the Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley are capitally depicted by Mr. Fred Lewis; Mr. Douglas Greet is exceedingly comical as Viscount Poffley; Mr. Percy Marshall is excellent as Horace Wibsey; and Lord Percy Kilgour is well played by Mr. Ashton Pearce; Miss Connie Dene is natural and charming as Phyllis Dagenham; Miss Nancy Beresford is effective as Pansy Bligh; Miss Violet Harley is very successful as the aggressive Charlotte; and the good-natured, effusive Lady Dina Caldershaw is an enjoyable interpretation by Miss Florence Hamer.

Britannia Pier Pavilion. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mlle. Lumier, in her fine spectacle *The Fairy Grotto*, and kaleidoscopic dances, is greatly enjoyed; Rappo and Ella, in their wonderful equilibrist act, gain enthusiastic applause, Kate Gourlay, character comedienne and buck dancer; the Llewellyns, Australian operatic vocalists; Aline Sudbury, a dainty little ballad singer; Miss Eva Kelland, the Australian girl in song scena, *Farewell, my little Bushmate*; Hal Brough, the Antipodean comedian; and A. B. Houghton, trick pianist, also contribute pleasing items to a capital programme.

Wellington Pier Pavilion. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Emlyn Jones and his quartette of ladies provide a most enjoyable international vocal scena; Frank Royce succeeds as a character comedian; Grace Logan sings and dances charmingly; Helen Charles provides a pleasant drawing-room entertainment; Gus Hindell interests with song and story; Welda and Wynne give an amusing juggling act; Cinizelli evokes laughter as the silent jester; and Vernando contributes a novel ventriloquial act.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The newcomers for the week are Pietro, the human serpent, an extraordinary contortionist; the Barbusio Bros., who give a clever show as hand and head equilibrists; Miss Fanny Wentworth, the society entertainer; and the John Bristons, comedy acrobats and cyclists. Other participants in a capital programme are well received.

GREENOCK. — Alexandra Theatre. — Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan. — Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is playing *The Private Secretary* here this week. Mr. Donald Price-Evans is very amusing as the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. Hargreaves is an entertaining Mr. Cattermole; and Mr. Randolfe Reade is well suited as Douglas Cattermole; Mr. W. T. Elworthy makes an excellent Marsland, and Mr. James P. E. Hussey ably fills the rôle of Harry Marsland; Mr. Vivian Gilbert, as Gibson, deserves praise; Mrs. Alfred Davies enacts Miss Ashford successfully, and the part of Mrs. Stead is nicely taken by Miss Cecily Wade; Miss Beth Elliot is a charming Eva Webster, and the same may be said of Miss Dora Gray, who plays Edith Marsland as well as ever.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The above theatre reopened for the season on Monday evening. During the recess the house has been entirely overhauled, re-decorated, re-seated, and now presents a very handsome appearance. The Four Burnells appear in an amusing act, entitled *On the Links*, and other good items are Will Rayne & Co., in an act entitled *The Motor Maniac*; Sisters Lytton, vocalists; R. T. Meikle, baritone vocalist; Brothers Onda, in a triple bar act; Selbo, juggler; and Ewart and Bryan, song and dance artists. The entertainment is concluded by a cinematograph display.

Pavilion Theatre. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The principal turn here this week is given by Lily Morris, who sings very pleasingly. Other good turns are Sterling and Love, in a *Domestic Musical Squabble*; Raie Walters, comedienne; Helms and Cozens in a comedy sketch, entitled *The Doctor and the Patient*; Annie Laurie, comedienne and dancer; and Nat. Watkins, comedian. An excellent Pavoscope exhibition is also given.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—*As Midnight Chimes*, which has appeared here, is a drama of the domestic order, but nevertheless embraces many thrilling scenes. Special interest is taken in the appearance of the well-known comedian, Witty Wattie Walton, who represents the comedy character, Tat Spavvin. His droll style is admirably suited to the part. As the gentleman smuggler, Luke Dezzard, Mr. Eric Hudson fulfils all requirements, and his unwilling accomplice, Ezra Gamble, is satisfactorily portrayed by Mr. Herbert Belmore.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Two exceptionally good acrobatic turns have been seen here this week. The Four Cattaneos gave a very smart display, and are particularly agile performers; and Wild, Willie, and West introduced gymnastics in novel style. Attired as navvies, and with appropriate scenery, they cause much amusement. Harwood's Juveniles, a talented troupe of youngsters, appear with success in *The Children's Christmas Eve*; the programme also includes Mark Merry, comedian; Violet Morgan, impersonator; the Sisters Edwardes, vocalists and dancers; Whimsical Walker in *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; and Ernesto, juggler.

The Empire, Cleethorpes.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. M. Baker.—Miss Billie Barlow has more than delighted audiences this week with her up-to-date songs and engaging style; Miss Jennie Sydney, a vocalist and dancer, also scored a success; and the musical turn of Mdlle. Josephine is highly appreciated; Barney Vox gives a distinctively original ventriloquial turn; Carl Vernon presents new feats of magic; Signor Spes is an expert cyclist; the Sisters Selwyn submit pleasing songs and dances; and Harry Bickley is a successful eccentric comedian.

HALIFAX.—The Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—After a brief absence, the versatile character-actor, Harry Starr, has returned with the ever-popular comedy-drama, *Otto the Outcast*, which is doing capital business here this week. Mr. Starr acts and sings buoyantly, and gives remarkable impersonations of Napoleon and Nelson. His efforts are well succeeded by Mr. Edwin Firth in the villainous rôles of the detective and quack; Mr. Wm. Miller plays the character of Daddy Bruneau with his old vigour; and the quips and gags of Mr. Fred W. Graham are funny.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling. — This week the bewitching American comedienne, Miss Lil Hawthorne, is making her first bow before a Halifax audience here, and, judging by the tumultuous applause she evokes by her delightful singing of "Don't cry, little girl," "My Cosy Caravan," and "Take it and give to the baby," we should seen much of this popular artist in the near future. Mr. Edward Cranston is making his initial appearance with the racing sketch, *Terry*, in which he gives a most praiseworthy representation of the title-rôle; Mlle. Olive is particularly clever in a juggling turn; a very diverting episode is entitled *Fun in a Chinese Wash-house*, in which Ah Ding and Ah Did cleverly participate; Chas. Norton vividly mimics the stars of the variety profession; Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice are exceptionally brilliant instrumentalists; and the Dorian Trio are favourably received for their acrobatic feats.

HANLEY.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is paying a welcome return visit in *The Fatal Wedding*. The piece is nicely staged and cleverly enacted. Miss Leah Marlborough plays with power and telling effect as Cora Williams; as Mabel Wilson, Miss Katherine Clarke proves most acceptable, her portrayal of the wronged wife being all that could be desired; Miss Madge McCalla, as Jessie, acts the part delightfully, and her general impersonation is admirable; Mr. Guy Hastings makes the most of the part of Robert Curtis; Howard Wilson finds a capital representative in Mr. W. Howard; Mr. Edward Morgan as Tolo causes roars of laughter; Miss Blanche Stanley makes a most desirable Bridget, and, as O'Reilly, Mr Jack Waring is particularly clever. The juveniles travelling with the company are seen in many specialities. Miss Madge McCalla sings nicely; Miss Ivy Westaby's rendering of a ballad is excellent; Miss Dolly McCalla also sings well.

The Grand, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—A capital programme is submitted to the patrons of this comfortable house this week. The Six Brothers Luck are seen in their screamingly funny sketches, *Blazes* and *Demon of the Cellar*, which are much appreciated. The Brothers Martine, in their comedy acrobatic act, contribute a turn of much excellence; Miss Daisy Dormer returns, and scores in her usual dainty and artistic manner; David Poole, in his ventriloquial entertainment, is always warmly welcomed; Wyndham and Waters are seen in a good sketch—viz., *The Professor and His Pupil*; the Four Jumels present a pretty musical turn, which proved most pleasing; Charles Russell sings his naval song well; Urbanora shows excellent moving pictures.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, and a very large audience welcomed it on Monday night. Mr. Morris Harvey gave a good performance as Mr. Popple; Mr. Herbert Dickeson made the most of Norman Popple; Mr. Augustin Symonds and Mr. Fred Allen were amusing as George Hennay and Henry Doring respectively; Mr. Fred Maguire sang well as Jacques Kenyon; and Mr. Tom May as Platt, and Miss Lulu Louden as Louise were both excellent. As the two wives (Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay) Miss Louie Rene and Miss Stella St. Audrie both deserve especial commendation; Miss Brickwell as La Bolero gave a creditable performance, and the smaller parts were suitably filled. The scenery was greatly admired. For the rest of the week *The Blue Moon* fills the bill.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The programme this week gives first place to the Martelloni Troupe of lady acrobats, whose performance is excellently done, and suitably appreciated; Mabel Thorne, a favourite low comedy artist, gains a host of new admirers; the novelty of the performance by Bros. Zampah, the one-legged acrobat marvels, is equalled by the dexterity with which it is carried out; Warren Doyle, a juvenile artist, excels in dance; the absurdity, *Sally's Dilemma*, by Bensley, Evans' London Sketch Co., with Miss Olive Lanty as Sally, keeps the audience in mirthful mood; Kendrick and Laura, vocalists; Arthur Gill, a yokel comedian; and some Bioscope pictures are also on the programme.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—For the first half of the week we had Mr. George Dance's company in *The Cingalee*, and soon after the performance commenced on Monday "House full" was announced. Miss Georgina Middleton filled the name-rôle very pleasingly, and sang acceptably; Mr. Cyril Dane played and sang well as the Hon. Harry Vereker; Mr. Jack Crichton fully deserved the applause he gained for his excellent work as Chambhuddy Ram, in which he was cleverly assisted by Miss Gladys Guy as Peggy Sabine. Mr. Hellier le Maistre as Boobhamba was thrice encored for his topical song; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards was in every way satisfactory as Bobbie Warren; and Mr. Carlyle Pritchard deserves notice as Myamgah. Mr. Grafton Williams was effective as Sir Peter Loftus; Miss Marjorie Clark was a pleasing Lady Patricia, her singing being very good; Miss Essie Perrin danced a graceful *pas-seul* in Act II., and filled the rôle of Angy. The Misses Kitty Stephens, Marie Hayden, Blanche Alleyne, and Laurie Lindsley were very commendable as the Tea Girls; and an emphatic word of praise is due to the excellent chorus and also to the orchestra, directed by Mr. Peter Fletcroft. The scenery is gorgeous. For the remainder of the week *The Orchid* paid a return visit

Hippodrome, Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—With Hastings full of visitors, crowded audiences fill this efficient theatre, where the programme is pleasingly varied. A good vocalist is found in Mr. Victor Crawford; Messrs. Hans and Lux are college chums of the cross-talk comedian type; Miss Marie Blythe is a pleasing contralto vocalist; some excellent pictures are shown by the Hippodrome Bioscope; Fred Keeton is extremely comic in both song and patter; very pretty dancers and duettists are the Sisters Cora; Mr. Fred Herbert, a topical vocalist of marked ability, is very poular; Fred Karno's Troupe of comedians introduce their laughable sketch, *Saturday to Monday*, and are most successful.

Beach Concert Pavilion. — Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—The Wallis Arthur company attract large audiences to listen with delight to the well-rendered ballads by Miss Ada Gaskill and the humorous patter and topical songs by the comedians, including Miss Winnie Harbor and the Messrs. George Blackmore, Bert Meredith, and Harry King.

Public Hall.—Mr. Charles Harrington is paying a welcome return visit with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. Carr makes an ideal Uncle Tom; and the part of Phineas Fletcher could not be better portrayed than by Mr. J. H. Renney; Mr. Leslie Beaufort gives a manly representation of George Harris; and Mr. Walter Langford is very good as Lawyer Marks; Mr. J. Henry Rogers is a strong and brutal Legree; Miss Hettie Johnson enacts the part of Eliza Harris with spirit and refinement; much amusement is caused by the mixture of shrewdness and cunning which Miss Annie Watson throws into the character of Topsy. Aunt Ophelia is well entrusted to Miss Jennie Malcolm; and Mrs. Carr makes a capital Aunt Chloe; Little Eva is very prettily taken by Little Minnie; and Miss Ethel Mildmay is very natural in the part of Cassy. The troupe is large, and includes cake-walkers, and bone soloists, and banjoists, and the whole performance is very popular.

A matinée concert took place at the Pier Pavilion on Tuesday, Miss Zena Dare and Miss Alice Holkander being the principal vocalists. Miss Dora Eshelby sang, and the programme also included Mr. Stanley Adams, a Canadian baritone, and Miss Cathleen Mayer, who introduced musical sketches at the piano.

Hastings Pier Pavilion. — Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The programme here is opened by H. B. Fernie's amusing comedietta, *The Fatal Bag*. The little piece hinges upon a case of jealousy, in which the three talented comedians, Mr. J. D. Hunter and the Misses Bayley create great amusement. The vocalists are Madame Annie Grew, contralto, and Miss Nellie Ganthony, the latter introducing some of her popular sketches at the piano. Mr. Charles Coborn, the famous comedian, is much applauded for his character songs. Miss Mabel Mavis is very expert on the musical glasses; an illuminated transformation dance is given by Miss Maud May Murray; Mr. Walter Payne's Photo-Bioscope concludes an excellent entertainment.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Henry E. Leigh and company are occupying the boards here with *The 'Varsity Belle*. The piece is extremely farcical, but Mr. James Danvers, as Professor Septimus gives an admirable character sketch; Theocritus Ward, as played by Mr. Edward Chester, is appropriately resolute; the two undergraduates are well represented by Messrs. Harley West and Roy Barraclough; a good rendering of Runyard is given by Mr. Frank Lilliput; Miss Josephine Ellis in the title-rôle is very dainty and charming; and Miss Nellie Dent, Miss Beatrice Egerton, and Miss Nellie Beacon all contribute to the success of the play.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. John F. Preston's company opened on Monday for the week with a performance of *Lady Godiva*. The well known version was on the whole well done. F. B. Woulfe gave a fine presentation of the part of Tom, of Coventry, and Miss Hilda Shirley played with much success as Lady Godiva. *Nell Gwynne* and *Jane Shore* are also down for performance.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The bill here includes Newhouse and Ward, a pair of highly diverting and daring cyclists; Miss Blanche Holt, comedienne; Halter and Ray, in a duologue; the Three Sisters Kilner, smart acrobatic dancers; the Brown and Kelly combination, in a screamingly funny sketch, *The Butler Knows*; Guy Ryder, whistler; Mdlle. Eldee, in a beautifully artistic performance, "Poses Plastique"; Boswell's circus, introducing some clever animals; and amusing pictures on the Biograph.

HULL. — Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Wm. Mollison achieved an instantaneous success in the rôle of Cyrus Blenkarn in the revival of *The Middleman* on Monday evening. The famous workshop scene was given its proper proportion, and Mr. Mollison's acting in it reached the highest points of art. The Middleman found an excellent representative in Mr. John Clyde, who presented the transition of character with much skill. Miss Evelyn McNay won the sympathy of the house by her reading of the part of Mary, and admirably seconded Mr. Mollison's efforts. *The Middleman* should meet with an equally good reception in all cities that it will visit, the presentation possessing so much merit.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Hall Caine's striking play, *The Eternal City*, is being enacted again at the Grand this week, and the company is well worthy of the play. A new Roma is presented in Miss Sara de Groot, who proves herself to be an artist with strong emotional bent. She quite caught the temperament of the ill-fated girl, and in her great scene aroused the enthusiasm of the house. The Baron Bonelli of Mr. D. Lewin Mannering was cast in conventional lines, and therefore met approval. The David Rossi was a picturesque conception in which dignity was not its least distinguished feature. The play is elaborately mounted.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. George Morton.—Sutton Vane's famous play, *The Span of Life*, is making its first appearance at this house, though by no means new to this city. The house applauded to the echo Miss Kitty Russell's Shrove Tuesday, and Mr. Walter Dale as Nutty Brown shared in that appreciation. The hero found a fine representative in Mr. Kyburn-Dellar, whilst Mr. Sanderson Moffatt acted the part of Dunston Leech in proper sardonic style. Miss Ella Wilmer was a typical heroine, and was well received. The human bridge, formed by the Almo Trio, an intrepid gymnastic troupe, created great excitement.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Dutch Daly, concertina soloist and funny story teller, and Rumbo Austin, with his amusing troupe of nippers, are the two principal turns here. Geoffreys and Benson, in a comedy sketch, *Spoofed*, create much amusement. Other good artists include Flo Wood, Harry Nelson, Ted Cowan, and Emil Amiel.

The Palace.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Vesta Tilley is responsible for many people being turned away nightly. She is singing four songs at each performance, but still the audience demand more. Albertus and Jessie Millar appear in a comic sketch, *A Scene at the Fair Grounds*; O. K. Sato is a really funny comedy juggler; Ian Colquhoun is possessed of a fine voice; Marie Weston is a nice singer and dainty dancer; McKinnon's Scottish Meisters make a welcome return visit, and Woodhouse and Wells (singers and dancers) and Myra Stanfield (comedienne) make themselves popular. Grais' Baboons complete the programme.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. Frank Bertram's *The Convict's Daughter* company is attracting large and enthusiastic audiences here this week. The artistic efforts of Mr. Frank Bertram as Michael Graham, Miss Nellie Clyde as Edith, and Mr. George Nelson Wallace as Frederick Neville are very highly appreciated, as testified by frequent outbursts of applause. Mr. G. Morton Williams as Jasper Thorn makes a capital villain, bringing out the darker shades of character vividly; Mr. Herbert M. King as Harold Trevelyan has a fine voice and bearing which are well suited to the portrayal of manliness and honesty; Miss Rose Carew, as Marion Thorn, depicts her part with fine judgment. Other praiseworthy impersonations are given by Mr. Sam Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan; Mr. Ashmore J. Vincent as Frank Harper; and Miss Phyllis Gibbon as Betty Hyne. The play is admirably staged.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers. — *A Woman's Past* is seen in Ilkeston for the first time this week, through the medium of Mr. H. F. Housden's company. To the pathetic part of Bessie, Miss Dorothy Wallace does justice; David Heath is capably presented by Mr. J. Myron-Howard; Mr. Housden himself is quite at home in the rôle of Clement Harper; Mr. David Phillips gives a good representation of Frank Dellanney, and with Miss Doris Cameron, as Dorothy Heath, introduces acceptable comic relief; Miss Irene Carrington exhibits ability as the adventuress, Clara Darrel; and Mr. Clifton Earle is effective as Uriah Craven.

INVERNESS.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Cameron Burgess.—Mr. George Stephenson's company opened here on Monday for three nights in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith as Mr. Crosbie is very successful; Mr. E. T. Sayers as the Alderman is clever and original; Mr. Flambert has just the right exponent in Mr. Douglas Munro; the part of Mr. Frank Frayne is well played by Mr. Frank H. Denton; Mr. Ernest Rivarz is good as Mr. Bogie; Miss Evelyn Howard acts well as Lady Hampshire; and other parts are adequately filled by Misses Stanley Ronalds, Maud Linden, Lena Graham, Marion Lewis, and Gertrude Manners.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—On Monday *Billy's Little Love Affair*, presented by Miss Katie Johnson and Mr. Frank G. Bayley's company, commenced a six night's engagement. Miss Johnson was seen to great advantage as Wilhelmina Marr; Miss Gladys Bartle Frere was of great assistance in the character of Lady Duncan; Mr. Frank Bayby as the sweetheart of Billy was earnest and effective; Mr. Orlando Barnett scored in the rôle of Jim Greaves; and the same may be said of Mr. Lemmon Warde as Sir Harry Harmon.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The revival of the system of two performances a night since Bank Holiday has resulted in success, in spite of the sultry weather. This week's bill of fare keeps up the high standard of the Hippodrome. The Ando Troupe of Japanese head the bill, and their marvellous juggling and unique acrobatic feats evoke loud applause; Franco Piper executes some surprising musical and juggling feats with four and five banjoes, a really clever and wonderful performance. Other turns include Jock Rae, a droll gymnast; Arthur Stacey, an eccentric vocalist; Carney and Armstrong, a couple of comedians in droll sketch called *Nero*; Arabella Allen, described as "The Dickens Girl"; Maxwell and Frances, who contribute a comedy act; and Agnes Molteno, a refined vocalist.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company is here with *The Conscript*. Mr. Harry Cullenford gives a manly rendering of Karl Truevitch; Mr. W. Steele is well placed as Ivan Manloff; Mr. Johnson plays with force as Paul Hardiski; Mr. William Head is good as Doggervitch; Mr. Tom Breen causes amusement as Tretch Trotoff, being ably assisted by Miss C. Meadows as Wanda Khoval; Mr. F. Bellwood makes a capable Maxim Fedka, alias The Ferret; Miss Lillian Ross gives a charming rendering of the part of Nadia Truevitch; Mrs. Chas. Wood is quite at home as Dame Katinka; and Little Karl is in the safe hands of Miss Cissie Reenan.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—The Moody-Manners Opera company received an enthusiastic welcome here on Monday night, when Gounod's *Faust* was presented. The performance was admirable in every respect and the chorus is particularly deserving of praise for the intelligent suggestion of life and reality they supplied to the scenes in which they took part. Miss Euriqueta Crichton has a fine voice, and her Marguerite was a careful and conscientious study; Mr. John Child, who is an old favourite, was never in better voice, and his Faust was an artistic triumph; Mr. Marshall Vincent's Mephistopheles was a strikingly fine display of sardonic humour; Mr. Frederick Erle was an excellent Valentine, and Miss V. Neville did well as Martha; whilst fascinating Miss Rosina Benyon received quite an ovation as Siebel, both her songs being tumultuously encored. Mr. Harrison Frewin is the conductor. The other operas being given this week are *Carmen*, *Cavalleria Rusticana* with *Pagliacci*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *La Traviata*, and *Lohengrin*.

Springfield Grounds.—Mr. Victor Stevens and his Premier Pierrot Party have now reached the sixth week of their engagement here. Mr. Alfred Cheesman, who has a fine tenor voice, is now with the company, and Mr. Alfred Harris presides at the piano in the place of Miss Neville.

Triangle Park.—The popular White Coons conclude their engagement here this week. Miss Carrie Tubb took a benefit on Wednesday, and Mr. Johnny Osborn's bespeak was set down for Friday night.

People's Park.—The attractive Stars of the West are still successful with their enjoyable and refined nightly programme.

**KIRKCAL

vocalist; there is a novel specialty by Edgar Rudden; and Pauline Zaro, comedienne, and Chas. Fanning, comedian, are other prominent names in a long and strong programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Belle Davis is again at this hall with her clever juveniles, and the entertainment is much enjoyed. Another popular line is Addie Dorina, whose impersonation of six characters in a comedy sketch is a remarkable example of quick-change business; Chas. R. Whittle figures among the purveyors of comedy; Denby and Dent are smart and amusing; and the ventriloquial entertainment by Gillin is on humorous lines and goes well. George Adams is a fine baritone vocalist; whilst Gena Manon, vocalist; and Ariel and Astarte, in a novel pot-pourri act, are amongst the best things in the programme.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business and General Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is presenting the drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*, here this week, the opening night being under the patronage of the Warwickshire and Leicestershire county cricket teams. The play, as is usual with Mr. Melville's productions, is staged and played in good style. Miss Beaumont Collins deserves high praise for her delineation of Barbara Wade; Mr. Wilson Gunning makes an excellent impression as Jack Livingstone; Mr. Gerald Jordan as the evil genius, Cuthbert Lumley, is seen to advantage; Mr. Charles Franmore is especially good as Farmer Meadows, and Miss Nannie Meade as Nellie Meadows acquits herself admirably; Miss Jessie Black is to be complimented on a portrayal of great merit as Constance Cornell; Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvey and Miss Lena Delphine as Tilly are both popular and clever in their respective parts; Mr. Charles Kean is good as Dr. Weston.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—An excellent reception is being accorded here to Mr. J. A. Campbell's capable company in the moral drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*, which is well staged. Miss Florence Creagh is very successful as Mary Haysel; Mr. Frederick Loyd shines with an excellent impersonation as Captain John Thornton; Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks plays well as Maria Haysel; Little Dot Moss, a versatile little lady, cleverly enacts the part of Hannah Spry, and Little Ivy Rocheforte is also praiseworthy as Eric Dugdale; Mr. Austin Milroy does full justice to the part of Stephen Haysel; the Rev. Alan Grey is in the safe hands of Mr. E. E. Clive; and both Miss Nellie Hook as Eliza Muggins and Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly score a success in the comedy parts.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The bill is topped here this week by the Ten Loonies in the mirth-provoking musical eccentricity, *Dotty*, which keeps the house in the merriest of moods. A charming comedienne is Miss Winifred Hare, who is possessed of a good voice, splendid costumes, and an attractive stage presence, which, combined with a delightful style, ensure for her a warm reception. Minnie Cunningham is another comedienne who deserves unstinted praise for a turn of exceptional merit. Rich and Rich are comedians who are always heartily welcomed, and their clever and amusing turn proves entertaining. Drew and Alders in their comedy bill-posting turn, evoke hearty laughter. Elsie Roby, "the slavey at the piano," is amusing. The Leonards are comedy duettists and dancers whose bright turn is well received. The Zanettos, oriental jugglers, do some very clever tricks. The Goltz Trio of globe and wire equilibrists give an excellent performance. The Sisters Pine are also entertaining as duettists.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth. — Lily Lena, a smart comedienne, heads th bill here, and is accorded an excellent reception. The Athlones in their classical poses and unique speciality act, are deserving of the highest praise. Playfair and Nikola are remarkably clever papierographists; and others who add to the enjoyment are the Cameroons in their comedy sketch, *The Lady Tourists*; the Dewars, comedians and dancers; Harry Roxby, a popular one-legged dancer and comedian; Kitty Willis, serio-comedienne and dancer; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with the usual excellent films.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—After a lapse of years, we again renew acquaintance with *Driven from Home*, a drama that was accorded a hearty welcome on Monday. Mr. Felix Pitt cleverly depicts the callous and selfish nature of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Percy Dawsone plays throughout with distinction as Willie, an outcast; Mr. Clement Wakefield, as Walter Hatherleigh, acts in manly style; Mr. Fred Sandy presents a good study of the rascally nephew, Geoffrey Waring; Mr. Harry Cornwall gives a convincing assumption of Jabez Thomas; the trials of Laura Raybrook do not fail to elicit sympathetic appreciation; Barbara Ashdown is well represented by Miss Florence Trevoir; and comedy relief is well supplied by Mr. A. E. Mann, who makes a happy-go-lucky sort of stable boy, and by Miss Evelyn Marrable.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The talented actors Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and their well-selected company are here again with the entertaining Irish musical costume-play *The Wearin' of the Green*. In Barney O'Hea Mr. Mackey finds a congenial rôle, which he fills with easy grace and rollicking good humour; and Mrs. Mackey as Norah McGrath plays with judgment and artistic reserve of power. The songs introduced by Mr. Charles Hanes in his personation of Shamus McDermot find great favour; the part of Mrs. McDermot is sympathetically rendered by Miss Adele Liddon; and Biddy McGinn is well portrayed by Miss Nina Flensberg, who sings and dances in a very bright and charming style. The bibulous Sergeant Yorke is capitally represented by Mr. John Neville; Connor Martin and Michael Kenny are cleverly characterised by Mr. David Macfarlane and Mr. Haughton Macaulay; and the Courtneys, father and son, have good exponents in Mr. H. Sainsbury and Mr. John Stuart. For Mr. Mackey's benefit on Friday evening *The Colleen Bawn* was on the bill.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King.—*When It Was Dark* attracted a good audience on Monday. Mr. Cyril Austen Lee plays the Rev. Basil Gortre finely and Mrs. Morton Powell must be commended as the vicar's daughter Helene. Mr. Morton Powell as Llewellyn and Mr. G. H. Pitt as Schwabe play the evil characters of the piece with great power; and Miss Laine Walker gives a brilliant performance as Gertrude Hunt. Mr. H. Heller is good as the Vicar; Mr. M. Wilson is amusing as Gadly; and Mr. G. Rammell makes an interesting figure of Spence.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—The Juggling Geraldos furnish a smart turn; the Vandinoff's sketching is exceedingly well done; and entertaining turns come from the Sisters Chester, T. B. Fayme Mabel La Blanche, Lambert and Glover, A. E. Clifford, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Under the direction of Mr. M. Russell Rosse an able company have this week revived the time-honoured *Our Boys*, and to the old comedy much patronage has been given. The Perkin Middlewick of Mr. Thomas Thorne was as fresh and delightful as ever; Mr. James Geldard's Charles was an eminently satisfactory portrait; Mr. Horace Pollock's Talbot proved particularly funny without the slightest approach towards burlesque; the Sir Geoffrey Champneys of Mr. Norman Clarke was carefully drawn; Miss Madge Flynn proved a pleasing heiress; the Mary Melrose of Miss Ida Phillips was marked by tact; and Miss Edith Hesketh made a humorous maid-of-all-work. The comedietta, *A Happy Pair*, rendered by Mr. Geldard and Miss Flynn, was the curtain-raiser.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—A return visit of *The Christian* has proved a good draw here during the week. Mr. Wentworth Croke's company presenting it was an excellent all-round one; Mr. Frank Tennant gave a brilliant interpretation of John Storm. A Glory-Quayle, full of charm and versatility, came from Miss Grace Chalmers, who did every justice to that exacting rôle; Mr. George R. Mountford was a success as Lord Robert Ure; the impersonation of Horatio Drake by Mr. Jackson Wilcox could hardly be improved on; Miss Vashti Wellbourne made a most favourable impression with her Polly Love; and a carefully-drawn Parson Quayle was submitted by Mr. Charles Hill. The production was marked by very elaborate scenic effects.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Worst Woman in London*, presented by Tom H. Taylor's company, has held the stage here this week. Miss Florence Dalton played with much effect in the title-rôle; Mr. George Gaisford as Jack Felton was conspicuously successful; Miss Elizabeth Watkins was winsome in the character of Ruth Milford; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers made the most of Vincent Lyle; the James Milford of Mr. C. R. Stone was deserving of praise; Mr. Willie Garvey caused a deal of fun with his Bob Goldfinch; a somewhat powerful type of ruined gambler was Mr. Leonard Booker's Philip Armstrong; and Miss Emily Kelsey made a good Matilda Parker.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Well-filled houses have nightly been attracted here by the varied and attractive programme. George Leyton occupies first place in a scena, entitled *Nelson's Name*, which wins the sympathies of the audience, and evokes rounds of applause. The Boccaccio Trio are undoubtedly clever instrumentalists and artistic songsters; Alma Obrey as a character comedienne instals herself immediately as a favourite; *The Hunt*, a comedy sketch play by Terry and Bentley, creates roars of laughter; Musical Silvio is original; and Bob Baxter is laughable; the Four Hearnes are clever gymnasts as well as being amusing; the Harrison Bros. have a deal of original patter; Minnie D'Aubyn is pleasing; and the Lyrioscope has some good pictures.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg. — Hill-Mitchelson's *The Assassin*, here this week, has received a large measure of public patronage. Mr. Augustine Knight, who brings the company, undertook the rôle of Prince Demetri, which he handled with skill; Miss Ella Vane in the name part was a complete success, her work being followed with the closest attention; a pathetic Ivan Ipanoff was offered by Mr. Edward E. Ashby; Miss Frances Waring showed much tenderness and discretion with her Nita; Mr. Georgina Hamilton made a hit as Connie Johnathan; Mr. Theo Balfour did well as Duke Carl; Mr. Jack Smith was a quaint Evangie; and Mr. Edward Jenner presented a manly Captain O'Neil.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A well-balanced company, sent by Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey, has given a delightful presentation of *The Village Blacksmith*, which comes here for the first time. The work has proved a great draw. Mr. Sam Livesey offered a picture of the title part, which it would be difficult to surpass; Mr. Joseph Carter made the character of Captain Leo as villainous as possible; Miss Maggie Edwards is deserving of much credit for her sweet Kate Strong; Ruth Parkins was most sympathetically portrayed by Miss Cassie Le Grande; Jeremiah and Sal Parkins were capitally undertaken by Mr. Thomas E. Marshall and Miss T. C. Livesey; and Mr. George V. Campbell proved particularly humorous as Billy Twigg.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—At the top of the bill are the Cratons, with humorous business that has provoked endless laughter; Rosina Casselli and her Mexican dogs make a most acceptable turn; Joe Peterman's musical production, *King of Sahara*, is eminently pleasing in his new creation, *The Synagogue*, Gus Harris, the Hebrew character delineator, is seen to much advantage; Tony Iveson as a comedy pianist and vocalist meets with a flattering reception; some smart work as an equilibrist and balancer is shown by Lombardy; the only Zarmo executes some clever and humorous juggling; Frank Leslie, Johnny Danvers, Fred Laud, and Frank Cass are also in the bill.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W Smith.—The Tuesday matinees here still prove very popular. Foremost on the bill this week is Arthur Elvey, a smart comedian, who, on this, his first appearance at the Parthenon, had a most cordial reception. His "up-to-date tipster" song caught on. Joe Humphreys pays a return visit, and makes a good impression with his latest ditty, "Actions speak louder than words"; the clog dancing of Young Igo calls forth great applause; Gladys Christoe is a sweet comedienne and vocalist; as comedians and dancers the Mountelds (Alf and Will) appear with distinction; and Alice Dainton dances in grand style.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. This week the "Royal" Stock company produced the detective sketch *Under Remand*, from the pens of Reginald Stockton and Eric Hudson. Mr. Percy Boucher was the Captain Mortimer; Mr. Sydney Grant displayed much ability in the "double," Sergeant Luke Holt and Jean Leroy; Mr. E. D. Allen did justice to Ben Burleigh; Ned Trueman was well handled by Mr. Harry Tresham; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood proved excellent as Mike Doolan; Leary Bob found in Mr. Robert Wilton an able exponent; Miss Sara Blumenthal, an experienced actress, was a finished type of old woman with her Biddy Higgins; Miss Florence Palmer played sweetly as Nellie Trueman; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood was eminently satisfactory in the rôle of Daphne Houghton.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—At the popular Southend resort this week the bill is headed by the Royal Tokio troupe of performers, whose turn is well appreciated; Little Tina comes in for much applause by reason of the ability she shows in her entertainment of song, story, and mimicry; Master Joe Conway for a juvenile comedian does well; some smart dancing is provided by Lillie Lassah; Cavalli gives an interesting ventriloquial show; and Stave's work as an eccentric musician is a good item.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Success has followed the new management of this popular hall, due undoubtedly to the fact that good programmes are submitted to the public. Heading that of this week are the Two Macs, a couple of particularly lively comedians, patterers, and dancers. Another attractive line is the smart boxing, wrestling, and club swinging show provided by Thompson's Topweights; Boden and Bell are a pair of taking juvenile vocalists and buck dancers; Charles Danks, an able comedian, with his dog "Woof," submits a pleasing turn; some well rendered songs come from the Sisters De Lacey; and others in the list are Flo Warner, burlesque artiste; and the Sisters Dorrel, duettists and dancers.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Hackenschmidt, the renowned wrestler, is in big type here this week, and has proved a great draw; Hal Godfrey and Co. have a merry sketch, entitled *A Very Bad Boy*, which has caused roars of laughter; the Ten Genis are admirable risley performers; George Formby, "the odd fellow from Lancashire," is a comedian with some excellent points; Ethel Walker, seated at the piano, displays great powers as a mimic; Starr and Leslie's turn with clever juggling, smart repartee, and neat vocalism, is well worth listening to; some popular songs come from James Toner, "the Belfast singing newspaper boy"; William Lee, Helen Bentley and Co., have an amusing sketch, *Mabel B.*; and some neat work as acrobats is performed by Pit and Cute.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Good business continues to follow Mr. Willmot's new management of this house. At the head of the bill this week is H. O. Wills, a comedian who scores with many taking songs; Walter Emmerson, standing six feet, keeps his audience in the best of humours, his "Another one off to America" provoking great laughter; some excellent singing comes from Renson and Waite, a comedy duo; Mdlle. Zelda shows remarkable expertness as a performer on musical novelties; Edwin Lambert and Emmie Hands go through a pleasing vocal scena; some smart singing and dancing emanates from May Zant and her juveniles; and the Bioscope has several excellent pictures.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Mr. M. Montgomery, of the Rotunda and other theatres, opened this place under a lease on Monday last. The old style of variety entertainment has been abandoned, and in future the "Royal" Stock Dramatic Company will produce sketches twice nightly. The subject this week was *Her Wedding Day*, from the pen of E. T. de Banzie. The theatre has recently been thoroughly cleaned and decorated, and presents a pretty appearance. The scenery is entirely new, and the company an able, all-round one. Consequently Mr. Montgomery should do well with his new venture. This is the second Stock Combination now in Liverpool.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—On Monday, for three nights, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company produced *The Blue Moon*. Mr. Alfred Clark in the part of Major Vivian Callabone was excellent; Mr. Alec Fraser did well as Capt. Jack Ormsby; Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne was effective as Bobbie Scot; Mr. Alfred Beers in the comical part of Moolraj caused roars of laughter; and Mr. Reginald Switz as Private James Taylor was far above the average. As Chandra Nil, Miss Clarice Lockstone won laurels, her voice being greatly admired; Miss Florence Imeson as Millicent Leroy showed marked ability. Mr. Martin Harvey and company appeared on Thursday.

PIER PAVILION.—Secretary, Mr. S. Hughes.—A record season is being experienced here, thousands attending nightly to hear the famous orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. A. W. Payne, A.R.C.M., Miss Effie Thomas being warmly received as the vocalist.

MESSRS. PERRY'S MINSTRELS are well patronised, a bone contest, which has attracted much attention, resulting in A. Stern taking first place and Billy Richardson being second. G. Codman was disqualified by the judge, Mr. Percy Parr.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Selwyn and Hermann.—The Pigmies are the chief attraction here, and, with a varied programme, concluding with dancing, the Hippodrome finds much favour.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Large audiences are this week welcoming the return visit of Mr. Wm. Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl*. As the dog-trainer, Jim Cheese, Mr. Wm. Cromwell gives a delightful sketch; as the American heiress, Elphin Haye, a capital performance is submitted by Miss Gertrude Simpson; Dick Wargrave finds a good exponent in Mr. Robt. Hyett; and equally successful is Miss Florence Wix as Liza Shoddam. Miss Nellie Grant is well placed as Mrs. Shimmering Black; and good sketches of character are presented by Messrs. Stanley Harrison (the Hon. Crewe Boodle) and A. E. Coleby (A. Bunker Bliss).

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The bill this week includes Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies; Geo. Antell, comedian; Hinton and Wooton, in a football match on bicycles; the Humels, riders; Iona Ginnett; H. Sims, vocalist; the Clayton twins; Silent Tate, and the Pygmies from Central Africa, &c.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The boards are held this week by Miss Rose Faith and company, in *No Cross, No Crown*. As Clare, Miss Faith has a part well suited to her talents; Mr. W. Carriden as Sir Francis Luttrell is eminently successful; Mr. H. De Vilie as the villain Austen Blake plays effectively; Mr. H Chapman as Professor Nebb, and Mr. F. Gresham as Dr. Ashby, are responsible for some funny scenes; Mr. C. George is capable as Haines; Miss Gwen Stewart as Mistress Gray gives a finished impersonation; Miss Rita Rosslyn as Priscilla is good; and Miss Ruby Sutherland as Doris efficient.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The patronage at this popular house has been excellent this week, and the management are to be congratulated upon the excellence of the bill. Gertrella gives her speciality new act, *In Cupid's Garden*, to the delight of the house; the Three Prestons provide a comedy sketch full of humour; Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie are successful in their musical comedy duologue, *Nursery Pets*; Harry Thurston, impersonator, hits off his characters to a nicety; Charles Clifford, the popular harpist, is excellent; Frank Sylvo, the tramp juggler, gets a good reception; and Frank Leo, the tired comedian, is literally carried off amid great applause. The Bioscope pictures are interesting. Rose Elliott, vocalist, was billed, but was absent through indisposition.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmundstone Shirra.—This theatre re-opened on Monday after complete re-decoration, which has been carried out in elaborate style in a scheme of cream and gold, backed by walls and draperies of rich crimson. Tip-up seats in the pit are also introduced, and the fireproof curtain has been embellished by pleasing decorations. The theatre is now up to date in every way, and can claim to be one of the most handsome in the country. Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company occupy the stage in Charles Klein's *The Lion and the Mouse*, a clever and engrossing play, admirably presented by the cast, and as admirably staged. The principal part—that of the "Lion"—is played with wonderful vigour by Mr. Leslie Carter, and the corresponding rôle of the "Mouse" is rendered so well—especially in the great third act — by Miss Christine Silver that she brought down the house on Monday, and made altogether a memorable success. Mr. Stephen Wentworth as Jefferson Ryder scores a distinct achievement, presenting the part quite naturally; and good performances are added by Mr. Richard Norton, Mr. J. W. Mackie, Mr. George Lyttleton, and Mr. John Wheatman. Among the ladies, Miss Dorrie Roberts is very pleasing as Kate, and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon acts cleverly as Mrs. Burkett Ryder. All the remaining rôles are in good hands, and the play as a whole is thoroughly enjoyable.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A very pleasing, but sparsely attended, performance of J. M. Barrie's play, *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*, was given here on Monday by a company headed by Mrs. Russ Whytal in the title-rôle. Mrs. Whytal's depiction of the lively humours of Mrs. Grey was capitally done, and very highly appreciated; and her unforced efforts were ably assisted by Mr. J. J. Bartlett as the Colonel; Miss Beatrice Bramah as Amy; Miss Lucy Verrier as the conspiratorial Leonora; Mr. Claude King, whose Stephen Rollo was a clever and unassuming piece of work; and Mr. A. W. Baskcomb, who gave an amusing idea of Cosmo Grey. The remaining parts were filled with proportionate success by Miss Ada Marius, Miss Ninon Dudley, and Miss Lilian Locke.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorbarn.—This theatre re-opened on Monday with Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company in *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Arthur Reynolds gave a very entertaining impersonation of the title-part, and was admirably assisted by Mr. E. Percy Rogers as Michael, and Miss Mary Hay as Aurora. Mr. Charles McLagan was also particularly amusing as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Cecil Burt made an excellent Mr. Crank, the magistrate; and Miss Hebe Bliss as Lady Bickenhall was very well received. All the songs and dances were well rendered, and the entire company combined to make a bright and entertaining show.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An old favourite, *The Indian Mutiny*, is here this week, played by Mr. Frank E. Burdett's talented company. Mr. Villiers Stanley is seen to great advantage as Nebu Singh, and Miss F. Melrose Millet presents a fine deniction of Ghuz-Nah, while Mr. George Steel is bold and soldierly as Lieut. Manley; Mr. Cyril Harrison makes the most of his chances as Captain Manley; Mr. John Davidson is satisfactory as Major Ingleby; and others worthy of praise are Mr. G. Birch as Ensign Blake, Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien, Miss Lillie Grey as the Major's wife, and Miss Agnes Kingston as their daughter Kate. The play is full of excitement, and admirably staged.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme here this week is headed by Emina Don and Ernest Munro, assisted by a black and white comedy team, in an excellent and amusing act; Laura Lorne and Nell Rene give a Lancashire singing sketch, *Capital v. Labour*, with success; the three Corpers are seen in a couple of well-chosen and effective song scenas; Ranji Sinji and Valeria present a series of Indian illusions; Kiaro gives a clever Continental speciality; Wallace Muirhead, the singing boiler-maker, is enjoyable; Ward and Davies offer a smart musical duologue; Earle and Melville are a pair of smart comedians; and Mike Cray submits a very good exhibition of eccentric juggling.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Messrs. Beresford and Moore's company occupy the stage here this week in an acceptable drama, entitled *A Rogue's Daughter*, which is not unknown to local playgoers. The principal parts are in the safe hands of Mr. Ray Gordon as Sir George Mynard; Mr. Frank V. Fenn as Frank Tyler; Mr. Richard Ferris as Colonel Foster; Miss Gertrude Stirroll as Lady Mynard (the title-rôle); and Miss Madge Devereux, who is particularly pleasing as Letty Grey. Miss Florence Gomer is also commendable as Dicky, the waif; while plenty of humour is provided by Mr. Robert W. Lynn as the unscrupulous Jew; Mr. E. Hall-Eldon as Dunnem; Mr. W. H. Moore as Gibbs; Mr. Eric Hargreaves as Crummles, the showman; and Miss Becky Ellister as Priscilla.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A good old play, *The Trumpet Call*, is offered here this week by Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company. Mr. Leonard Yorke is admirable as the heroic Cuthbert Cuthbertson, and Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill acts with fine discretion and sympathy as Constance, his wife. Mr. John Dennys plays the villainous Featherstone with skill, and is well supported by Miss Doris Gilham as Astrea. Others who figure to advantage in the course of the story are Mr. Charles F. Cooke, who is fine as Sergeant-Major Milligan; Miss Helena Rigby as Mrs. Wicklow; and Miss Nellie Lomas as Little Cuthbert. Excellent fun is contributed by Mr. Joe Bracewell (an old Manchester favourite) as Ginnifer, the showman; Mr. Freddie Bentley as Tommy Dutton, a very smart impersonation; and Miss Phyllis B. French as Levinia.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Lingford Carson's principal company are here this week in the well-known attraction, *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton and Miss Kate Hallam have the heroic parts in hand, and present them to perfection, while Mr. John J. Hooker is vigorous as the villain, and Mr. Edward Van Biene presents a typical impersonation of the Count de Foi. The remaining parts are all well filled, and the staging is elaborate and satisfactory.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The top sensation here this week is provided by the Three Small Heads, a curious exhibition of humanity. The Max Messaby Troupe of comic jugglers are marvellously expert; J. W. Hall, comedian, is highly popular; Gertrude Bradshaw sings well; the Tally-Ho Trio of comedians are a great vocal success; Edna Aug, American comedienne, adds to the entertainment; and other good turns are those of the Tupps, eccentric acrobats; Frank Darwin, actor vocalist; and Leonard and Francis, comedians. The Bioscope presents "The Prospectors," a story of the goldfields.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—An interesting and instructive exhibition of Ju-Jitsu is given here this week by Raku, said to be the "greatest exponent of the Japanese art of self-defence," and Miss Moto. Arthur Conquest appears with great success as "Chadi," the ape in a sketch entitled *The Sioux*; and a really smart acrobatic turn is given by the Pasquali Brothers, whose tricks are performed with neatness and finish; Alf Gibson, the immobile one, scores, as usual, with his quaint songs; the Carina Sisters offer a delightful artistic musical mélange; the Three Pirmans are clever and amusing on the triple bar, and the Haytors (Edie, Arthur, and Frank) present their oddity, *A Hot Time*. Other enjoyable turns are those of Tom Lloyd, comedian; Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers; and Natalia and Diana, aerial gymnasts. The Palace pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Arthur Roberts and company are to the front here this week in that laughable sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Another excellent turn is that of the Griffiths Brothers, whose burlesque wrestling is wonderfully well thought-out. Millie Payne, the new low-comedy Queen, makes a hit with quaint songs, very much on the lines of Sam Mayo; Fred Elton in his scena at the piano, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, is very clever and is well received; Tatten Hall sings some very funny songs, and Tilbury and Ford, in a musical sketch, are entertaining. "The Wreck of the Hesperus" (illustrated) is rendered in fine style by the choir and orchestra under the bâton of Mr. Alfred Haines, the musical director; the American Bioscope shows up-to-date pictures; and Sullivan's "O Hush thee, my baby," is sung by the choir. From last week the Four Lecussons, including Chris Lecusson, the Continental jockey, remain, their wonderful horsemanship being something to marvel at.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Doody and Wright, the Australian comiques, head the bill here this week, and meet with a hearty reception, their performance, especially the dancing, being particularly good; Les Rubens are excellent singers, and are much appreciated; Lottie Siegenberg is a pleasing singer and dancer; Grant and Allen are capital comedians; Flo Cecil is a first-rate dancer; Ouda and Astell go through an exceedingly clever and neat gymnastic performance; Maude Beaumont, burlesque actress, sings "Have you seen my soldier boy" with plenty of "go"; Frank Crouch, as an Hotel Manager, is very good; and Massona does some smart juggling. Animated pictures, as usual, complete the show.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Lingford Carson's striking play, *The Power of the Cross*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Hartwell J. Kirbv as Baron Cuzola is excellent, and Messrs. Harry C. Rutland and Royce Castleton are as good as Gerald and Leslie Fairfax. Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays well as the Adventuress; a pleasing performance is given of Blanche Kingsley by Miss May Grazer; and others who distinguish themselves are Miss Etta Turner, Miss Stanley Burt, and Messrs. Richard E. Eugent and J. Fred Tehaur. The staging is good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Stanley's Urchins are a good combination of talented juveniles, who meet with much success here this week. Mdlle. Du Roche sings ballads and operatic selections pleasingly; Major Thurgate's combination appears in an uproarious miscellaneous act entitled *Mystery Fair*; Permane's Bears are cleverly trained; an exhibition of surprising flexibility is given by Mdlle. Florizell; Bruce and Ross offer amusing patter and dances; Vere Brothers are very graceful and finished acrobats; Cailler exhibits wonderful strength in various feats; Bill Bailey sings comic songs; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Leoni Clarke heads the bill here this week with his wonderfully well-trained animals and birds. Claude Felmen's Beau-Ideal Juveniles are excellent in song, dance, and mimicing, and are well received. Calile and Walker are good comedy artistes; the Three Panamas are smart acrobats; the Dancing Gilberts are first rate; Blarney and Kennard cause much merriment with their cross talking; and other good turns are Florrie St. Roy, comedienne; Amy Elcock, comedienne; and Polo and Florence, society acrobats.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—A strong programme is provided here this week, and crowded houses are the rule. Sammy Shields, a capital Scotch comedian, heads the bill; Teddy Whittle, the Lancashire comedian, is deservedly a great favourite; Peggy Lyndon is a delightful musical entertainer; and good singing is contributed by Gertrude Fraser, contralto; Giovanni Raffo, the well-known tenor; Charles North, baritone; and W. H. Jackson is good at the piano.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin Leigh.—Mr. Mouillot's company played here the first three nights of the week, in the gaiety burlesque, *Faust Up-to-Date*. Miss Mimi Fisher was seen to advantage as Young Faust, and Miss Daisie Irving made a very captivating and piquant Marguerite, singing the numbers allotted to her charmingly, while encores were frequent. Miss May Davis was excellent as Siebel, Marguerite's would-be lover, and Miss Masie Riversdale was capital as Martha, her love-making with Mephistopheles, effectively represented by Mr. Roland Henry, being particularly funny. Mr. F. W. Bowes as Valentine was a decided success, and Mr. A. Gambier Melford as the Lord Chancellor was admirable. In their topical songs they created roars of laughter, and their re-appearance was repeatedly demanded. Other characters in the cast were satisfactorily sustained by Mr. Eric Stevenshier, Miss Nita Owen, Miss Lorrie Bacchus, Miss Vera Golda, and Miss Beatrice Menzies. For the rest of the week *The Duchess of Dantzic* was billed.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The leading turn this week has been Marie Lloyd, who has nightly received a tremendous ovation from crowded and enthusiastic audiences. Her songs have been vociferously encored, her contribution being at least four turns at each performance. The Four Olympian Stars supply an excellent turn, their efforts receiving due recognition, whilst May Martin, comedienne, has been remarkably well received. The Morton Comedy Trio elicit plenty of applause, and other entertaining contributors include Ella Lane, comedienne; Edgar Romaine, comedian; Sidney and Maud Wood, clever dancers and duettists; and an entertaining series of pictures.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—The programme at this place of entertainment is again a good all-round variety one, and the artists appearing have individually met with a most flattering reception. Horace White gives quite a novel and refined ventriloquial and musical act, which has been much appreciated. The Jansons are clever gymnasts, and Mario, a youthful juggler, is good. Miss Billie Burford is a smart comedienne, and the Casino Girls are a quintette of brass instrumentalists who play well. Hughes and Elliott are up-to-date duettists and dancers, and Winona and King, American speciality artists, are here once more. Winona proves herself as expert as of yore with the rifle.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds* company is again appearing here to crowded houses. Dick and Wally, the two vagrants, are cleverly played by Miss Jessie Zatman and Miss Violet Bazalgette; Mr. Henry Hare displays ability as George Thornton; Mr. Edward McLean is well suited as Captain Darville; Mr. Lionel Ellis presents a characteristic portrayal of Bill Mullins; Miss Violet Vivian gives due emphasis to the character of Biddy Mullins; and Miss Valerie Crespin acts in a sympathetic and pleasing manner as Marion Thornton.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is this week playing here in the drama *For Better or Worse*. Mr. Geo. E. Clive gives a thoughtful rendering of Capt. Hilliard; Mr. Scott Leighton is a callous Major Crawford; as Ned Earnshaw Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh plays a difficult rôle with skill; Mr. Willie Black presents a droll character study of Horatio P. Ranter; Mr. Owen Redmonde is an interesting Lieut. Dalrymple; Miss Marriott Watson a charming and sympathetic Olive Heathcote; Miss Chrisaie Dunbar a powerful Belle Baverstock; and Miss Nellie de Lacy a successful Dolly Delaney. Specialities are given by Miss Jennie Hallworth, Miss Nellie de Lacy, and Mr. Willie Black.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and

rôle of George Madison gives proof of ample histrionic ability; Mr. Kenneth Black is markedly good as Sir George Lancaster; Chas. Devereux has an apt exponent in Mr. Louis Hector; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne gives a capable rendering of sweet English girlhood in the opening scenes; the Lady Lancaster of Miss Octavia Noel is carefully impersonated; and the Mother Superior of Miss Barbara Gott calls for special mention. Welcome comedy relief is provided by Mr. Fred de Vere and Miss Denny Fitzherbert in their respective rôles as Timothy Tuttutt and Patty Lovejoy. The scenery and effects are exceptionally good.

NEW BRIGHTON.—Grand Tower Theatre.—An exceptionally attractive programme this week includes Miss Marie Riviers, Queen of Song; Duncan, great international club manipulator and juggler, who proves himself a master of his art; Miss Alma Curzon, comedienne and burlesque actress, and Marie de Paso, lightning clay modeller, who exhibits considerable skill, combined with marvellous speed. Lovers of the wizard's art find satisfaction in the performance of M. Henri Sardou and Mdlle. Sardou in their marvellous mystery entertainment. Zavan, the original comedy lamp-post man, causes much amusement, and the Towerscope shows a couple of capital new films.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Miss Hetty Jeffries' company in *The Curate* is appearing here to enthusiastic houses. Mr. Geoffrey Broughton as the Rev. John Audley is the central figure, and makes a stalwart representative of the Church militant. Miss Hetty Jeffries makes a roguish little Dick, and sings sweetly. Mr. Whitmore Ledger ably sustains the part of Gilbert Westward, and as Katina Vodski Miss Winifred Stuart presents a very fine picture of the Russian adventuress. Mr. Harry Edlin as Simon Peter Muggs and Miss Agnese d'Aragon as Mrs. Muggs are responsible for the comedy, in which they are supported by Mr. Frank Stuart (Sergt. Snipe). Miss Annie Stuart makes a capital May Verner, and a particularly good performance is that of Mr. T. Handley as Gregory Verner. *The Bells* was billed for Wednesday and Friday.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director Mr. O. Stoll.—Herbert J. Lloyd (the Diamond King) is the star turn here, and sings and juggles, and indulges in amusing antics; Brown and Le Clerq in *Black Justice* are popular; Sims and Sims are amusing musicians; Spot with his "Cake Walk Craze" is entertaining; Techow's Cats provide a smart performance; Helene and Emilon give a gymnastic turn that is novel and daring; the Glenroy troupe are smart dancers; and Edie King as Cinderella sings a dainty little song.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General Manager, Reginald Taylor.—*The Golden Ladder* is presented this week by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, and as it is over seventeen years since G. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett's drama was played here, it has the freshness of novelty. Miss Mary Austin acts with natural grace and feeling as Lillian Grant, and is intensely sympathetic in the prison scene; Mr. William Clayton plays with dignity and earnestness as the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. J. Milne Taylor as the refined villain, Michael Severn; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds as the Greek villain Peranza; and Mr. Fred Acton as the low villain, Jim Dixon, are clever and varied impersonations. Mr. Eric Thompson is good as the Malagasy servant Rao. Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby, and Mr. Joseph Rowlands as her loving husband, are most amusing. Miss Teresa Haynes as Mrs. Dixon, and Miss Fanny Williams as Prisoner No. 2, deserve commendation.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Miss Lillie Soutter, the famous character comedienne, who heads the bill this week, has achieved a deservedly big success here, her merry, piquant style and funny songs pleasing the audience, from stalls to gallery. Celeste repeats his wire and bâton-flourishing act; the Sisters Stratton gain applause as burlesque artists and dancers; the Two Kays, clever and pleasing vaudeville artists, are well received; Nelson and Thomas provide an amusing comic sketch, *On the Ra-Ta*; Walter Wallis, comedian, meets with a good reception; the Three Sisters Grosvenor furnish operatic selections; and the Palace pictures, with some good comic films, complete the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*The Trail of the Serpent* has been presented here this week by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly's company, and has had a cordial reception. The Sir Gerald Kingston of Mr. Henry P. Kenn is a good performance; and Mr. Bradford Crosby gives a satisfactory study of Gerald Kingston; Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly as Ralph Hammond gains well-merited applause; Mr. Vincent Kelway is clever as William Higgins; and Mr. Booth Conway makes a hit as Gipsy Jake. Miss Gladys Newcombe gives a capital impersonation of Rose Wilson; Miss Marie Barrett is well suited as Ethel Maynard; and Miss Nana Cameron gives prominence to the rôle of Rachel.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Will Goodwin, with *Repentance*, tops the bill here, and has had a hearty welcome. Messrs. Curtis and Vanity, the American comedy duo, present a smart act; the Saletos, acrobats and equilibrists, introduce a very clever performance; and the Sisters Redfern, vocalists, banjoists, and dancers, are well received. Miss Marie Yorke, comedienne, gives an enjoyable turn; Mr. Harry Walker, vocal comedian, goes well; and the Bio-Photoscope is always an important item on the bill of fare.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and an excellent company are appearing here this week to manifestly delighted audiences. On Monday evening *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* was rendered in a masterly manner. Mr. Norman appeared as Sir Geo. Sylvester, and acted with consummate skill; Mr. Francis Hope was admirable as the Rev. Mr. Blimboe; Mr. Dennis Cleugh was successful as the Earl of Hassenden; Mr. Ernest Cossant was good as Mr. Dent; Mr. Norman Leslie equally so as Mr. Castleton; and Mr. Charles Redforth as Quilton. Mr. Howard Brenan as Mr. Devereux, Mr. Chas. Casson Freer as Mr. Ward, Mr. Chris Curtis as Sir Robert Clifford, Mr. S. Wilkinson, jun., as Mills rendered able assistance in their respective characters; Miss Beatrice Wilson enacted the part of Lady Ursula exquisitely; Miss Sybil Ruskin deserves every praise as Dorothy Fenton; and the same may be said of Miss Hilda Gregory as Mrs. Fenton. The same piece was presented on Tuesday and Wednesday. *David Garrick* was announced for Thursday and Saturday, *Nell Gwynne of Drury Lane* for Friday, and *As You Like It* is to be presented this afternoon.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Mr. W. J. Churchill makes his initial appearance here, and has a capital reception; Margaret Broadfoote, comedienne, is also well received. Professor Fuller and his aerial wonder Astarte give a sensational performance; the McConnell Trio present a pleasing musical sketch; the Odeyne Spark is a pretty comedienne and dancer; the Zampas proves attractive as duettists and dancers; and Elly Adair as a soubrette and dancer is successful. Charles Gardiner scores as an eccentric comedian; and the Hippodrome Bioscope exhibit pleasing pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A well-filled house on Monday laughed immoderately at the comicalities of *The Spring Chicken*, and gave Mr. George Edwardes's company a warm reception. Miss Gertrude Glyn as Rosalie combines a pleasing voice with a vivacious manner; Miss Gertrude Gilliam gives a charming impersonation of Dulcie Babori; Miss Nellie Lonnon is a lively exponent of Emmy Sou; a humorous Mrs. Girdle is seen in Miss Irene Verona; and Miss Nancy Langtyre is altogether charming as the Baroness. Foremost among the fun-makers comes Mr. George Gregory, whose witticisms and antics as Mr. Girdle are a never-failing source of amusement; Mr. John Brabourne adds to the fun as Gustave Babori; and Mr. Harry Adnes offers a smart portraiture of a head waiter. Good work is also shown by Messrs. Frank Hector and Adrian Beaumont. The play is finely staged and dressed.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—*When London Sleeps* is capitally presented by Mr. Lester Collingwood's company this week. Mr. C. P. Wentworth endows Rodney Hayes with a rascality that is sufficiently pronounced; the David Engleheart of Mr. Louis Norman is a thoroughly earnest and manly portraiture; Mr. Chas. E. Sutton is an impressive solicitor; and in Mr. F. R. Thomas is seen an amusing Bob Jones. Mr. Frank Howard making a hit as Bertie Broomhead. Miss Mabel Scudamore plays Queenie Carruthers with the requisite pathetic touch; and Miss Bessie Frank acts charmingly as Carrie Jones. A powerful rendering of Hilda Carode is furnished by Miss Maud Yorke; and Miss Daisy Clifford earns distinction as the good-hearted Maudie.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The Raymond Animated Picture Co. gives a fine series of films, being ably assisted by the singing of Mr. Lester King.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Mr. Frank Danby is presenting here the musical comedy sketch *The Chauffeur*, in which he is assisted by Messrs. W. J. Manning, Walter Nugent, and Russon, and Misses Ethel Bryant and Esme Edwardes and a capable chorus. There are plenty of opportunities for fun, of which Danby makes the most. Described as the curious comic card, Carlton well deserves the description. Miss José Collins, who looks charming, possesses a sweet voice and is a pretty dancer; the Olive Trio succeed in imparting to the conventional song and dance turn something original and attractive; Josef Adelmann is a clever performer on the xylophone; Barnard's mannikins are a considerable improvement on the old style marionette show; the Bros. Durant are a comical pair of acrobats; Professor Therese, the comedy hypnotist, is to be highly commended; Fred Lincoln is a comic singer of ability; and some good films on the bioscope complete an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. B. Bryan.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company occupies the stage this week with *I Defy the World*. Mr. Percy Ballard gives an excellent interpretation of Leon Darville. The part of the Count de Beaulieu is capably presented by Mr. Chas. Wilton; Mr. Chas. Conway is responsible for a well-conceived study of Laroche; and Mr. Arthur Chisholm is good as Andre; Miss Violet Crauford submits a truthful portrayal of the faithless wife, Blanche Darville; Miss Rosie Dane plays well as Fauchette; and Miss Beatrice Sinclair's Pauline Delaporte is exceptionally well portrayed. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr. Chas. M. Julian and Miss Maud Lilian as Samuel and Maria Woozle.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A large audience assembled on Monday to witness the opening performance of *The Grip of Iron* by Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham's company. Mr. Fred Powell again sustained the part of Jagon in a powerful manner; Mr. G. Denham was successful in the humorous part of Loustalot, creating much merriment; as Paul Blanchard Mr. Wallace Curnock was excellent; and Mr. A. G. Polson Turner played Lorentz de Ribas in capital style; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood as Alphonse de Coucou, and Mr. J. Brittain as Dodot, are funny as the two detectives; and Mr. Norman Tracey is good as Robert de Belfort; Miss Muriel Inglis as Sophie Blanchard gives a capital representation; Miss Violet Ingram is capable as Marie Guerin; and Miss Rosabel Dodd is forcible as Cora Simmonet.

Colosseum.—General Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*Her Luck in London* is being performed here by Mr. G. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company. Mr. C. A. Leicester plays the part of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor in good style; Mr. Douglas Tremayne is mercurial as the Rev. Lionel Strong; Mr. G. Langdon is well suited to the part of Richard Lenowen; Mr. Tyrone Power is most effective as Stephen Harborne; and Mr. Bruce Clapham is a capital Algy; Mr. J. Telly Dillsen is responsible for the comedy as Jerry, and he is ably assisted by Miss Florrie Groves as Maud; Miss Mary Neil is delightful in her rendering of the part of Nellie Harborne; and Miss Frances Bruce is attractive as Lillian Harborne.

Hippodrome.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Collins and Rice, comedy artists, head the bill with song and dance; Miss Flo Hilton is well received in her latest successes; and Maude Mortimer renders her songs in a capital manner; Baker and Balfe are good in operatic selections on the xylophone; Kyoto is a weird contortionist; Miss May Geraldine a capable comedienne; Victor Travers an amusing comedian; and J. Hegarty a good whistler. The Dottoscope completes the programme.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—In possession here this week is Mr. R. A. P. Williams's company in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Michael Kemble impersonates Gaspard in a thoroughly realistic manner; to the Marquis de Corneville a spirited rendering is given by Mr. Piercy Watson; Mr. G. Edward Hall as the Baillie is intensely amusing, as is also Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo; Mr. Percy Martin essays with considerable success the part of Grenicheux; and Miss Mabel Spencer makes a sprightly Christophe; as Serpolette Miss Adela Harvey distinguishes herself by clever and vivacious acting; and Miss Kathleen Emmett as Germaine plays intelligently and sings delightfully.

PENZANCE.—St. John's Hall.—Mr. Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chatiell, are presenting *The Worst Woman in London* here this week, and attracting full houses. The play is capitally staged and remarkably well dressed, the many stirring scenes comprised in the four acts calling forth loud and enthusiastic plaudits. Miss Grace Murielle as Frances Vere acts the arduous rôle with the completeness of a finished actress; Mr. Ernest Hartington proves himself capable as Jack Felton; and Mr. Arthur Knight, in addition to the duties of business and stage-management, is successful as Phillip Armstrong. Ruth Milford is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Edith Knight; Mr. Sydney Claydon as Bob Goldfinch, and Mr. Fred L. Robinson as Jerry, supply the comedy element, in conjunction with Miss Marion Lawrence as Jane Nogood, and their combined efforts are provocative of much hearty laughter.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The Fair City is having a return visit this week of the famous comedy *Charley's Aunt*, and its success is more pronounced than ever. The rôle of Jack Chesney is probably the one which appeals more forcibly to the audience, and Mr. Hastings Lynn is excellent in his impersonation. Mr. Stanley Cook, who assumes the rôle of Lord Fancourt Babberley, is a continual source of amusement. Mr. Richard S. Mason is well placed as Charley Wykeham; Messrs. C. B. Leston and Walter Beaumont are suitable exponents of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney and Stephen Spettigue, and a more sedate college scout than Mr. Sydney Compton's Brassett could not be expected; Miss Lena McNaughton plays the stately rôle of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez with pleasing effect; Misses Lillian Lait and Kitty Carew are seen to considerable advantage as Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue, and Miss Gladys Storey is a charming Ela Delahay. *Fourchette & Co.*, a one-act play, is effectively rendered as a curtain raiser.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Herbert Hollister's company in *The Lights of London* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. G. Montague Lane is responsible for an excellent impersonation of Harold Armytage; Mrs. Jeannie Burgoyne does well as Bess; Mr. Raymond Thomas as Clifford Armytage shows marked ability; Mr. Sidney N. Hallows appears as Squire Armytage; Mr. Herbert Lewis is most amusing as Jarvis; and Mrs. Violet Temple is good as Mrs. Jarvis. Miss Renee Douglas as Shakespeare Jarvis; Mr. F. Dalton as Jim; and Mr. George Wallace as Philosopher Jack are also excellent.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Shulamite* is being staged at the Royal this week with Miss Lena Ashwell in the title-rôle. Miss Ashwell's powerful emotional acting appeals with irresistible force to all sections of the audience, and wins her the highest encomiums. Mr. Charles Weir as Simeon Krillet, the fanatical and bigoted Boer farmer, is superb; Mr. W. T. Lovell as Robert Waring gives a finished rendering of a man of honour wavering between love and duty; Mr. Reynolds Denniston as Jan Vanderberg makes a manly young farmer; Miss Mary Griffiths as Tante Anna Vanderberg undertakes a part requiring delicate and careful treatment with marked ability, and Miss Beryl Mercer as Memke, the Kaffir girl, evinces a close acquaintance with South African habits. The piece is preceded by a witty little curtain-raiser entitled *The Widow Woos*, in which Mr. Charles Weir and Miss Mary Griffiths had to bow their acknowledgments three times—a most gratifying reception for a curtain-raiser.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Mr. Percy Williams's company is appearing in Mr. W. T. McClellan's drama entitled *A Woman Adrift*. Mr. Alfred Brandon as Sir John Ingleby, Lord of the Manor, acts with becoming dignity; Mr. Walter Terriss is very good as Dr. Cameron, the family physician; Miss Ethel Kay as Cora Leigh, a released convict, is pathetic in the extreme, and Mr. Cecil A. Collins as Jibbs, a young coster, is well acquainted with the requirements of a low-comedy artist.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Fred Karno's troupe of comedians in *His Majesty's Guests* are an attraction different from that generally offered Metropole patrons, but the great success of the show amply justifies the experiment. Mr. George Hester as Sergeant Lightning causes roars of laughter; Mr. Frank Newton as Lord Basem is the possessor of a fine musical voice, and was heard to advantage in some good songs; and the Six Little Foreign Princes and Six Little Burglars bear no small share in an evening's hearty enjoyment.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager Mr. Jack Field.—An audience on the tip-toe of expectation illustrates the fact that John Lawson's *Humanity* sketch has lost none of its attractiveness. The Rohda Bros. are a pair of gymnasts of exceptional daring and ability; Allis and Cassati have a vocal act of distinct originality; Lilian Lowe is a ballad vocalist of magnificent range and power; Martin Conway takes well with the popular parts of the house; the Sisters Bartholomew are much above the average first turn; Miss Florence has a novel Dutch item; and Vernon's Bioscope presents an amusing film entitled "Mrs. Brown's Misfortunes."

Promenade Pier and Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Fresh from a great success at Torquay, Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Opera Singers are earning fresh laurels at Plymouth. Miss Ona Ashton has a bevy of catchy songs; Miss Gertrude Grant has a very attractive style and manner; Miss Alice Singleton is a graceful performer; Mr. G. Harker Holt is a conspicuous success, particularly in a duet with Miss Ashton; Mr. Frank Quinn is possessed of a fine voice, and Mr. Tom Heyworth is a very good comedian.

PORTH.—The Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Another great success is scored at the above this week. The Bouncing Dillons, in their comedy gymnastic performance, richly deserve commendation; Maddison Brothers, quaint American eccentrics, are great favourites, and keep the house in continuous roars of laughter; Zenora, equilibrist and hand jumper, is greatly appreciated, and well merits the applause he receives; Funny Beans, with his comical mechanical donkey, is exceptionally smart; Lack and Ford, comedy acrobats, give an excellent performance; Sisters Le Bas, a delightful pair of duettists and dancers, are well received; the Two Daniels are most amusing negro comedians; Frank Coyle scores a distinct success, his catchy songs being much admired; and some excellent pictures are presented on the Bioscope. During the week a bouncing competition is taking place, for which substantial prizes are offered.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—This week we have here Mr. George Musgrove's well-selected company with *The Prince of Pilsen*. Miss Millicent Marsden is well suited to the part of Mrs. Madison Cröker, singing her numbers with a go that is much appreciated; Miss Isa Bowman makes a dainty Nellie Wagner; Miss Nell Emerald is an exceedingly capable Sidonie, her singing and dancing gaining much applause; and Miss Lulu Evans charmingly plays Edith Adams. Mr. J. B. Fox, in the name-part, is most successful, his voice being heard to advantage; Mr. Martin Adeson is highly diverting as Hans Wagner; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold plays and sings with success as Lieut. Tom Wagner; and Mr. Lawrence Wensley is most amusing as the Earl of Shimpton.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Miss Winifred Chalmers and her company, including Mr. Henry L. Osmond, are here for the week, playing *The Master Criminal*. Mr. Henry L. Osmond acts powerfully in the title-rôle; Mr. Alexander Haviland spiritedly depicts the persecuted hero, Philip Manners; Ben Beaudy, of Scotland Yard, is successfully taken by Mr. Dunlop Stewart; Mr. Harry Cooke as the music-hall comedian, Tommy Dale, and Miss Mabel Tremere as Peggy Perks, are responsible for the lighter side of the drama; Mabel Manners is well impersonated by Miss Kate Blair; and Miss Winifred Chalmers gives an exceedingly clever portrayal of Cecile.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—An excellent programme is again submitted by the management here for this week. The Five Bogannys score immensely in the comedy acrobatic act, *The Lunatic Bakers*; Idalia May is very smart and versatile in her transformation dancing; George Rapley, burlesque comedian, meets with approval for his songs and patter; Ford and Hanson are most entertaining, and show much ability in their eccentric musical act; Alice Maple is a pleasing soubrette and dancer; Raynor and Reece are well received in their humorous singing and dancing; Effie White, kaleidoscopic dancer, gives an effective display with electrical effects; Professor Albini, with his mechanical musical talking head, creates much wonderment and amusement; the Sisters Tinsley are a capital pair of duettists and dancers; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope, with up-to-date amusing pictures, completes a capital bill.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Gilbert Heron's company is here this week with *The Superior Miss Pellender*, which has met with cordial approval. Miss Jessie Danvers is seen to advantage as Mrs. Pellender; and in the title-rôle Miss Jessie Belmore is distinctly successful; Edith has a good representative in Miss Enid Emilie; and Miss Muriel Meek makes a lively Nancy; Mr. Geo. Belmore as Noel is full of mischievous fun; and Mr. Gilbert Heron gives an admirable impersonation of Mr. Fisher. *Kit's Atonement*, a play in one act, by Gilbert Heron, precedes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—On Monday Mr. Jack Haddon's No. 1 company presented to a large and appreciative audience Mr. Walter Howard's drama *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Haddon admirably portrays the character of Captain Demetrius; and Mr. Cecil Melton as Ivan and Mr. Edward Avinal as Michael are excellent; Mr. G. Herbert plays the rôle of General Romanoff in a creditable manner; and Mr. Charles Liddon is popular as Wolf Marischia, the escaped convict; Miss Marie Rayner is a clever actress, and is all that could be desired as Luka Marischia; whilst Miss Elaine Vanbrugh makes a delightful Vera Vassiloff; Mr. Fred Haming as Alexis, Mr. Hal Forde as Peter Pouleki, and Miss Violet Lytton as Ogarita, contribute the humorous element, and received much applause; Mr. William Parkin as Nicholas, Mr. J. H. Ward as the Sentry, and Mr. F. Watson as the Orderly, capably fill their respective parts.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linedell.—At the head of the bill this week is the Silbon Family, whose miniature circus greatly pleases the audience; Gracie Graham makes a big hit with her cleverly-rendered songs; the Three Richards provide a skilful acrobatic act; the Rushworths gain hearty applause for their illustrated songs; and the Sisters Valli, instrumentalists and top-boot dancers, are accorded a good reception; Sheila McNeil is a pleasing Scotch comedienne, and King Leo a capital ventriloquist; Alfonzo the Tranka wonder uses his feet dexterously; and other good turns are those of Harley and Hardon, eccentric dancers, and Sonny Moss, comedian.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boofman.—A very large audience welcomed Mr. J. Hare's company in *A Destroyer of Men*. Mr. Hare as the exile has a character that suits him admirably; Mr. H. B. Lewis as the villain acts very impressively; and Mr. C. Bickell does well as the exiled son. Miss Irene Clifford, a talented actress, acts powerfully as the countess, and Miss M. Walsh ably takes the part of Vida, the rightful heiress. Miss A. Buckland and Mr. Ross Warner do well in humorous parts.

RAMSGATE.—Sanger's Amphitheatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Large audiences assembled at Ramsgate's old-established playhouse on the first three evenings of the week to witness performances of *The Freedom of Suzanne*, by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's talented company, the chief star of which is Miss Mabel Love, who, in the part of Suzanne Trevor gave a brilliant impersonation. Mr. Templar Powell made a capital Charles Trevor, and Mr. F. G. Thurstans did admirably in the part of Uncle Harding; Miss Annie Slaiman filled the rôle of Lady Trevor in first-rate fashion, and a similar description befits the manner in which Miss V. Ley played Lady Isabel. Miss D. Lart Mrs. Tustail, and Miss C. Mead Miss Minching. The other parts were carefully sustained. On Thursday Mr. Mouillot's company commenced a three nights' engagement in the musical play, *The Toreador*.

Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux; Secretary, Mr. G. Tyler.—At the palatial Pavilion the boards have this week been occupied by Mr. Hy. Swinerd's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. There have been big and appreciative audiences. Mr. Arthur Verne, a clever comedian, is a big success as Silas Crump; Miss Dorothy Desmond is a charming Dorothy Montrose; Mr. Walter Ashley makes an effective appearance as Capt. George Fielding; Mr. H. C. Ward contributes to the excellence of the reproduction as Capt. Edward Dudley; and Miss Marie Vere is admirable as Ruth Montrose. Musical specialities are introduced in the course of the show, and some good acrobatic dancing is introduced by the Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—Another capital house witnessed, on Monday night, a fine presentation of Rogers's *£1,000 Reward*, by Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company. The play was beautifully staged, the scenery and dresses being particularly good. As Madam Sanson Miss Daisy Halling gave a fine portrayal, her acting being full of power and pathos in the necessary passages. Miss Lyna Darlington was very good as Meg, and her fine voice was heard to great advantage in her two solos, which were vociferously encored. Miss Cissie Francis made a sprightly and thoroughly acceptable Kitty; and Mr. Chas. Rogers, jun., was equally successful as Dick Springthorpe, his acting being marked by refined comedy. Mr. Chas. Halling as Vincent Rainsworth was very good, his interpretation being exceptionally clever; and Mr. Frank Dallas also scored as Inspector Gilbert. Mr. John B. Murray made an excellent villain as Gilbert Lisle, his impersonation being very clever. Mr. C. Newton Cowling and Mr. Frank J. Pitt were quite up to the standard as Fred Ingleford, sen. and jun., and Mr. Edward De Vere was most amusing as Fighting Jeffs. The subordinate characters were all well sustained, and a very fine performance was thoroughly enjoyed by the crowded house.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. B. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's principal company is appearing this week in *Her One Great Sin*. The leading part of Grace Warhurst is effectively handled by Miss St. Albans, and Mr. J. L. Jackson represents Arnold Thornhill in able style; Mr. J. Beresford Innes gives a good rendering of the part of Reuben Warhurst; Miss Maudie Lambert is attractive as Little Gracie; Miss Phyllis Damain submits a life-like impersonation of a London flower seller; Mr. Fred Hodson is highly amusing as Jerry Jumble; and Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy Winpenny also contributes to the comedy element.

REDDITCH.—Public Hall.—Manager, Mr. W. Treadgold.—The season opened here on Saturday the 18th with *The Silver King*, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard. The performance was repeated on Monday evening. The artists gave the greatest satisfaction.

ROCHDALE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—Lingford Carson's No. 1 Répertoire company is here with a round of plays this week. On Monday *A Modern Adventuress* was given before a good house, the play proving interesting throughout. Mr. Morley Carroll was heard to advantage as William Delby; the persecuted hero, Harry Delby, was capitally impersonated by Mr. Sydney C. Cranston; Mr. Ernest J. Fare cleverly filled the part of Wallace Danton; Mr Charles Draycott made the most of Pietro Donelli; and Mr. Arthur Byron submitted a typical portrayal of the bluff and genial Yorkshireman, John Crompton; Miss Daisy Norman was a vivacious Sally Hodges; Miss Marie Robson infused much pathos in the part of Vivette Delby, and Miss Muriel Thompson acted with stirring effect as Violet Meredith. *The Ticket of Leave Man*, *The Octoroon*, and *The Heart of a Hero* are billed for production during the week.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—A strong programme is presented here this week. Jack and Evelyn top the bill with a cleverly acted sketch, *Come Into the Office*. Oliver Conroy has established himself a favourite comedian; and other turns are submitted by Cyrus and Maude, musical comedians; Vekeys, banjoists; Edie Gray and White Coons, vocalists; Reays, athletic equilibrists; Joe Oliver, the singing coon; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROCK FERRY.—Olympian Gardens.—Manager, Mr. Maynard Dakin.—The Adeler and Sutton pierrot entertainments are in the height of their popularity. This week Mr. Lauri Wylie displays his versatility in his mannikin impersonations of variety stars and presents a novel and acceptable item of the programme; Mr. Arthur Allrige, a tenor vocalist of more than average ability, has many admirers; Mr. Alec Kendall, a droll comedian, and Tom Percy, a humorous raconteur and vocalist, are among the principals; Mr. Jas. Lowe manipulates the Erard very skilfully, and Mr. Maynard Dakin, in addition to holding the managerial reins, contributes several popular numbers from his refined and inexhaustible repertory.

RUGBY.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—This week a good variety company is appearing. Mlle. Florence, the famous globe-walker, gives a clever exhibition; Abex well justifies his title of the Miniature Hercules; the Brothers Arnold are smart in their cabinet mystery; Hoozel is a smart ventriloquist; the Bendons are clever in their sketch; Alvar is a daring and able gymnast; Dale and D'Argan, comedy acrobatic conjurers, are good in their novelty act, *Le Café Magique*; and Harry Keeble, comedian, does well.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—Ryde has received this week a visit from Mr. Bannister Howard's company, which has given a brilliant representation of the popular musical comedy *Florodora*. Mr. Howard V. Cropton is especially to be commended for his bright acting in the part of Frank Abercoed, his singing being in every way admirable. Miss Daisy Lake is very successful in the part of Dolores; and Miss Dorothy Dempster makes a graceful and charming Angela Gilfain. The Lady Holyrood of Miss Rosa Sullivan is a delightful performance. Mr. Gus Danby takes the house completely by storm with his interpretation of Anthony Tweedlepunch; and Mr. Colin Johnstone draws a clever and amusing picture of Cyrus W. Gilfain.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—Mr. Robert Ganthony's company has been here during the opening portion of the past week, and has submitted a capital entertainment to excellent audiences; and *The Follies* paid one of their welcome visits on Wednesday; and the remaining nights of the week were occupied by *The Gaieties*.

The Grosvenor Ladies' Orchestra continue to appear to advantage in their open-air engagements throughout the week.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Traitor*, one of the latest dramas by Mr. B. Hill-Mitchelson, is this week being presented to good houses by a capable all-round company. The General-Manager, Mr. Stephen Scanlan, effectively sustains the title-rôle; Prince Rudolph is well played by Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson; Miss Ruth Sheppard as Zula, Miss Gertrude Bardsley as Countess Zeika, and Miss Katherine Vere as Elise Dupre are each excellent in their parts; Miss Isabelle Hunt makes a good impression by her portrayal of Lieut. Nicholas; and Mr. T. W. Hurst is a capable Captain Ross, R.N.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Porthenson.—Miss Dolly Harmer, who is a great favourite here, has had to respond to frequent recalls; Hallam and Stanton (Henry and Josephine) have an enjoyable sketch, *A Broken Journey*. Some comical juggling is cleverly done by Bonnetti and Corrie; *The Little Charwoman* is an amusing sketch by Hollos, Goldman and Company; and equally entertaining business includes Nellie Nora, society musical entertainer; Kate Lynd, comedienne; Akbar, expert on silver rings; Charley Dixon, comedian and dancer; Lillian Elfreda, clever mimic of well-known variety artists; and Marcus Boyle, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Le Diabelo looping the Devil's wheel on a bicycle is a sensational piece of work in a programme full of interesting items. The marvellous feats by the Pichels in their Risley act are much applauded. Mary M. Glenn sings well; Monty Walker, comedian, is well received. The other items are by Leon and Williams, in their comic act; Bonanzas, hand-balancing acrobats; Ariston Girls, vocalists and clever acrobatic dancers; Zano Bros., in comedy bar act; Weimars in amusing singing, musical, and speciality act, and Elge Monte, comedian.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. A. Whitehead; Business Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company opened here on Wednesday to a large and delighted audience. Mr. Wallace G. Court gives a powerful impersonation of Jack Frobisher; as Hankey Bannister Mr Lionel Gadsden masters his part well; Mr. Martin Pedler as Harry Dallas makes the most of his opportunities; Lord Marchmont has a capital exponent in Mr. Christopher, and Mr. A. Collyn Rolfe is conspicuously good as the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Maud Stuart gives a charming delineation of Lady Alethea Frobisher; Miss Bertha Francis as Lady Lucy Derenham is bright and girlish; as Lady Westerby Miss Olive Elton deserves much praise; Miss Kitty Lofting as Miss Mornington, Miss N. Blackford as the Duchess, and Miss Edna Earl as Lady Parchester all play with excellent effect.

Victoria Park.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. J. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—The good programme presented here has been well varied again, the company being well received by large audiences each night. Miss Beattie Witham has made another hit with her rendering of "When there isn't a girl about." Miss Ramsdale, as usual, works hard and is most successful with her illustrated songs. Mr. Skidmore furnishes an abundance of mirth, his comic songs being high

and the Pupil; Mr. Alf. Holt, American entertainer; Mr. Will Cornish, a talented comedy and instrumental performer; and Miss Sybil St. Elmo, a cultured soprano vocalist. In addition to these there is the American Bioscope with new pictures.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—To the great satisfaction of his many local friends, the genial Mr. Ralli has returned to the Grand as Resident-Manager, and he received cordial greetings on Monday night. The company engaged this week includes Miss Jessie Elvin and her sketch troupe, in *The Gipsy's Vengeance*; Miss Leah Arden, ballad and operatic vocalist; Mr. Baker E. Belphor, vocal comedian; Miss Maidee Scott, vocalist; Dick and Dorothy, duettists; and the Pallister Biograph, with comic and fanciful films.

CENTRAL HALL.—Animated pictures still continue to please the patrons of this hall, who are further entertained by the efforts of several variety artists.

SHREWSBURY.—FLORAL AND MUSICAL FETE.—The colossal open-air fête annually held in the beautiful Quarry Pleasure Grounds attached to the old town of Shrewsbury took place on Wednesday and Thursday last, and proved as successful as it has done for so many years past. The weather on Wednesday was charming, and the varied programme was carried out with the greatest possible success. The variety performances were first-class. Don Juan A. Caicedo, king of the high wire, paid a welcome return visit, and his wonderful feats were as skilfully executed as ever; the Wartenbergs, double foot jugglers and equilibrists, gave an effective and accomplished performance; the Gargani Trio, comic eccentric acrobats, worked hard and merited high praise; Mdlle. Rosa's admirably trained dogs were a pleasing feature, an amusing football match being a novel and popular item; the Cee Mee Troupe of flying trapeze artists gave a graceful and smart exhibition; the Bounding Pattersons, bar gymnasts, were remarkably smart, and the introduction of spring matting enabled them to contribute some clever novelties. Conn and Conrad are old favourites here, and their fun on the balanced pole vastly amused the crowd; Hardeen, the "Handcuff King," was here on a first visit, and he released himself from handcuffs, corded cabinet, and strait jacket in remarkably quick time; the graceful and wonderfully well-trained Kaufmann cyclists came on a return visit, their bright and highly attractive show having gained by the addition of one or two exceptionally clever feats; and the four Uniques gave a particularly smart perpendicular ladder show. Messrs. Spencer Bros. made successful balloon ascents—one of the "captive" ascents being in fact too successful, the breaking of a rope involving a fairly long journey, happily accomplished without mishap. The charming grounds, encircled by the finest avenues of lime trees in the kingdom, make Shrewsbury Quarry a capital place for pyrotechnics; and Messrs. Pain and Sons, of London, gave beautiful displays. Messrs. Anger and Bauer, London, who have given so much satisfaction in the past were again agents for the performers; Mr. E. R. Hollie acting as stage manager with his accustomed courtesy and efficiency. Messrs. Adnitt and Naunton, the general secretaries to the fête, may be deservedly congratulated upon its increasing success.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Human Hearts* forms the attraction here this week. Mr. Sydney Sarle acquits himself creditably as Titus Eels. The part of the hero is ably filled by Mr. George Rowlands; villain and villainess are ably sustained by Mr. Williams and Miss V. Fordyce; and Mr. Arthur Estcourt and Misses Minnie Silvester and Barbara Bateman are capable exponents of the other principal rôles. The Bioscope Pictures still continue their successful run, being both interesting and amusing.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Capital patronage is being given to the excellent Chinese musical comedy, *San Toy*, which is being presented by Mr. Mouillot, with a strong and capable company. Singing and dancing alike prove most exhilarating, the choruses being rendered in pleasing manner. Miss Bessie Allayne, in her rôle of San Toy, gives a talented portrayal, and her singing merits praise; Mr. Arthur Cartwright, too, sings well, and well impersonates Captain Bobby Preston; Mr. Hugh Webb is humorous as Yen How; the Emperor has in Mr. Percy Stevens a capital interpreter; Mr. Bert Edwardes as Li leaves nothing to be desired, his singing and dancing creating continuous applause; Miss Maude Rundell dances exceedingly well, and is admirable in her characterisation of Rose Tucker; and Miss Grace Rosaire, chief of the six little wives, is successful. All the remaining characters are well sustained.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. T. J. Bacon.—A capital programme is being submitted in the variety theatre. Professor Horace's troupe of performing dogs show careful and clever training; Ida Katrina, in her pretty song-scenas, meets with a good reception; as also does Ethel Dove, comedienne and clever dancer; the Kimberley Boys prove themselves to be talented eccentric comedians; Mlle. Lucretia is a capital burlesque artist, and dances exceptionally well; the studies from nature presented by La Diana meet with a distinct reception; and the Bioscope completes a capital entertainment. The Hippodrome still retains Lorenzo's Miniature Circus; while the Café Chantant programme is contributed by the Kursaal Koncert Kompany, both having good support.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—This week's attraction is proving most popular, Mr. Charles Macdona presenting the charming musical play, *The Toreador*, with complete success. The company is a strong and powerful one, all working with ardour, and throughout enchant appreciate audiences. The dresses and scenery are alike tasteful and magnificent. Singing and dancing both merit comment; whilst the choruses are rendered in capital style under the direction of Mr. Lin. Levalion. Mr. Harold Batt, who takes the rôle of Pettifer successfully, gains enthusiastic recognition for his singing and dancing; Mr. Ralph Lynn is good as Sir Archibald Slackett, being well supported by Mr. George Anstin as Augustus Traill; Messrs. Sydney Grenville, Henry Arthur, and Charles W. Anson all deserve mention for their respective portrayals; Mr. Walter Champney is a comedian who knows how to please, and his characterisation of Sammy Gigg is faultless; Miss Leah Howard is pleasing as Susan; Miss Eliza Earle well interprets Dora Selby; Miss Beatrice Grosvenor as the widow, Mrs. Malton Hoppings, is good; and Miss Nina Carlton is popular as Donna Teresa, singing with marked ability and power; Miss Mary Lewis is well suited as Nancy Staunton, and gives a dignified impersonation; and Miss Norah O'Neil's solo dance is well received.

AL FRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—The management are to be congratulated on producing such excellent entertainments, which are immensely enjoyed by huge crowds daily. The Urban Bioscope is one of the chief attractions; whilst the Bijou Orchestra contributes to the evident satisfaction of all. Last week's artists have been retained, and every item is deservedly applauded.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The support so liberally given by large and representative audiences to these refined entertainments is gratifying to Mr. Ballard Brown and his capable company, who are ardent in their endeavours to please. Mr. Findlay Dunn, who proved so successful earlier in the season, has been engaged for this week, and meets with a hearty reception.

THE HAPPY VALLEY.—Manager, Mr. Charles Osborne.—Chirgwin's Concert Party continues to draw enormous crowds here twice daily; Miss Beatrice Varley, Messrs. F. Harris, Harry Rose, Bert Dansie, Charles Wood, Charles Osborne, and Little Thomas are all huge favourites. Mr. Osborne's benefit on the 17th inst. was a great success.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Singleton.—A more than usually attractive entertainment is provided at the Opera House this week by the engagement of Mr. George Dance's principal company with *The Spring Chicken*. Miss Crissie Leonard is delightfully piquant and graceful in the part of Rosalie; Mr. Fred Payne in the character of Mr. Girdle has plenty of scope for comedy, scoring a notable success; Mr. J. S. Durant is highly diverting in the character of Barbori; Mr. Edwin Dodds as the head waiter is exceedingly amusing; Miss Nellie Kavanagh's interpretation of the cockney matron Mrs. Girdle leaves little to be desired; Miss Florence Lee is a vivacious exponent of Dulcie; and Miss May Gould dances a *pas seul* with exceptional grace.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—One of the most interesting items here is the gymnastic performance of the Five Lios Alfa Sisters. Other turns of exceptional merit are supplied by Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery, in their highly diverting sketch, entitled *The Would-be Actors*; and Harry Weldon, swell entertainer, a capital turn. The bill also includes Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist; Jack Pleasants, comedian; Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator; Cyrus Dare, child mimic; Elton and Edwin, banjo duo; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—The following excellent combination of variety artists is here:—The Three Zaracs, in their amusing triple horizontal bar sketch, entitled *Mashing the Barmaid*; Little Rose Pink, dainty comedienne; J. S. Scatter, comedian and dancer; the Katos, in their automatic theatre sketch; G. W. Nicholson, humorist; the Ladderites, in their marvellous ladder act; Ferris and Farnley, eccentric patter comedians; the Whitworth Cycling Girls, and Campkin, the tramp cyclist.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The latest American success, *Alaska; or Life in the Frozen North*, is being played to good houses by Mr. Hilliard Vox and company. The part of the heroic Skookum Jim is played by Mr. Vox in a breezy and forceful style; Mr. C. D. Pitt is seen to advantage as Ned Larson; and the half-breed, Baptiste, is capably performed by Mr. H. Grimson; Mr. Albert Rogers is responsible for a good deal of broad humour as Pompey Cæsar, and is ably supported by Miss E. Clarke as Topsy Samarintha, and Miss Leslie Wynne as the Widow Casey; Alaska, the faithful Indian, is powerfully portrayed by Miss G. Hastings-Walton; Jess Dalton is charmingly enacted by Miss E. Rainforth; the Widow's Mite has a clever exponent in Little Baby Rosie; and Mr. J. Ford is good as the Malumite Kid.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Capt. Bevan's Gordon Highlanders in lightning drills display wonderful precision in their marvellous evolutions; Binns and Binns, the musical vagabonds, are very successful comedians; as an illusionist Spearman Potts scores heavily; Lord, Murray, and Lord, punch-ball artists, make a palpable hit; and the coon songs of Esta Stella are rendered in good style; the remaining enjoyable turns are those of Sam Dalton, comedian; Johnny Gilmore, Australian comedian; Lilian Travelli, comedienne and dancer; and the ever-popular Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—The five-act sensational drama, *What Men Dare*, dealing with phases of Russian life, is being presented here this week by Miss Douglas and company. Miss Maud Buchanan in the rôle of Olga Levin displays sterling ability; Mr. Percy Norman as Fedor also scores heavily; Mr. Alfred Burrows as the imperturbable clerk, Nickolai, renders a good account of himself; Mr. A. Balfour Mackay as Ivan Boutoff displays skill as a delineator of character; Miss Douglas as Duba, the dumb woman, makes the most of a short part; and a sprightly Irish maid, Mary O'Brien, is well depicted by Miss Ida Mackay. Mr. E. A. Edwards is droll as the simpleton.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—An excellent all-round variety programme is presented this week. La Belle Lily and Albert top the bill, and give a clever and original gymnastic show; Miss Bessie Willow is an able vocalist; Nellie Dunbar sings and dances well; the Two Wambas give an amusing musical turn; Babs Lloyd, the child artist, is a distinct success; Rene and Smith are an acceptable turn; Alex. Fox, ventriloquist, and Nellie Van, comedienne and dancer, ably contribute; and the dancing of the famous Lennons receive a big ovation.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales, have been retained from last week, and are as heartily encored as ever; the other items on the programme include the Sisters Brenton, comediennes and dancers; Friscary, the hatter; Master Harry Butt, boy vocalist; Dene and Dawson, in the sketch *Stage Aspirants*; J. H. Greene, descriptive vocalist; Lillian Sivado, the aerial queen; the Dunlops in their cycling act; and the American Bioscope.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Leslie.—Mr. Thomas McKenzie presents Mr. E. Lockwood's company in the successful musical comedy *Sergeant Brue of the C Division* here this week, and a capital house welcomed this charming comedy on Monday. Mr. J. Harold Carson makes a capital Sergeant Brue, and Mr. Robert Selby does well as his son, Michael; Mr. F. Laceby makes the most of the Crawlborough magistrate, Mr. Cranky; and Mr. Albert James as Crookie Scrubs, a criminal, keeps the audience roaring at his funny sayings and antics. Miss Florence Spurgeon is a charming Aurora Brue, winning applause for her song "Under a Panama"; Miss Dora Taylor is a sprightly maid Daisy, and Miss Reydon Dallas completely captivates her listeners by her sweet voice and charming acting as Lady Bickenhall. Mr. H. Gedwin makes a typical Inspector Corringe; and the other parts are in capable hands.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—We are favoured this week with Mr. Frank Bateman's company in the interesting play, *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Miss Lizzie Montague, in the arduous rôle of Lola, displays much histrionic ability; Mr. S. Lomath makes a manly Frank; Mr. Harry Belfort is good as Horatio; Mr. Albert Guyon is well suited as the wastrel Abney; and Miss Louie Adair could not be improved on as Doris Fane, an actress. The remaining characters are in safe keeping, and the play is well mounted.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Wilmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—At the top of the bill here are Les Montaldos, exceedingly clever equilibrists, with some highly trained parrots and cockatoos. Others appearing are Fred Curran, comedian (an old favourite); Barrington, a good musician; the Three Royal Temples, who achieve a distinct success as operatic vocalists; the Sisters Silcott, very good vocalists and talented dancers; Dale and O'Malley, who cause much hilarity as comedians; and Mr. C. Once, who is again mystifying.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. James Willard has presented Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail* with marked success. Mr. Alfred Goddard gave an excellent portrayal of Harry Steyne, an engine driver; and Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, was admirably given by Mr. Fred G. Evison. Mr. Robert Greig capably filled the part of Leonard Royle; and Mr. Arthur Gilroy impersonated Hassan Padisha most effectively. Mr. H. Dobell Lyle as the signalman, Jasper Thornleigh, acted realistically; Miss Ada Oakley pleasingly presented the character of Mary Steyne; Lady Phyllis Eustace was charmingly played by Miss Phyllis Dailley; and Miss Nellie Sheffield was amusing in the character of Mary Brewer.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A company of all-round excellence is appearing here this week. The premier position is occupied by the Columbia trio in their operatic and humorous absurdity, which commanded much appreciation; Henderson, the blind musician, made a distinct hit, captivating everybody with his concertina solos; and the Brothers Obo, comedians, caused abundant laughter and achieved great success; a most pleasing act is that of Ara, Zebra, and Vora; and Carl Lynn gave some realistic imitations of animals. Fred Horsfall is a delightful Tyrolean vocalist; Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, was very pleasing; and Will Letter's songs were greeted with gratifying applause.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. L. Barry.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and his powerful company are appearing here this week in *A Wife's Triumph* and *Sapho*. Both plays are nicely mounted and excellently staged, and the artistes are deservedly applauded. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and Miss Ada Abbott, in the leading parts, each submit a fine piece of acting.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Florrie Gallimore is the star turn this week, and her reception is enthusiastic. Verno and Voyce win enthusiastic applause; Sid Cotterell and company in a sketch, entitled *The Substitute*, cause roars of laughter; the Baltus Troupe perform some marvellous acts; and Kahn and Kahn, magicians; Prof. R. Dunning, ventriloquist; Harry Wenburn, comedian; Josie Delaine, vocalist and dancer; along with the Bio-Photoscope, complete a good race-week programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Wm. Ainsworth.—Harry Cadle's *Casey's Court* tops the bill here, and the singing and antics of the company are greatly appreciated by crowded houses. Evelyn Taylor captivates her audience and wins enthusiastic applause; Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire mill girl, is in capital voice; the Seltina Troupe of acrobats give a good show; the Hartley Wonders, in a jumping speciality, are attractive; and Angeline, juggler; the Brothers Levett, vaulters, along with the Pictoscope, are included in a really good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A pleasing programme is submitted this week. The Bob Hanton Troupe head the bill in their clever acrobatic sketch, viz., *Jinks in the Jungle*; Wee Jessie sings and dances admirably, and on Monday met with the heartiest reception; Bugler Carr as an equilibrist is capital, several of his feats being new; Jack Crawley tells his stories well, and is a pleasing comedian; Jack Camp is excellent in his items; Maxford and O'Neill in their patter turn meet with a good reception; the Adderley Bros., instrumental mimics, etc., provide an interesting turn; the Sisters Brookes are a smart pair of comediane; and the pictures are good.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maud Lynton.—For this week we are favoured with a visit of Mr. Frank Ayrton and company with the drama, *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Charles Whitlock as Hadji Zambra gave a skilful impersonation; Mr. Albert Sefton as Mark Harley is capable; Mr. Frank Holyoake as Dr. Stephen Saunders is effective in his impersonation; and the same can be said of Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge, who, together with Miss Madge Seymour as Nora Donnelly, provides much of the humour.

SUNDERLAND. — AVENUE THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles E. Machin.—Mr. F. Douglas Wentworth's company is appearing here this week in *The Bauble Shop*. The central figure of the play (Lord Clivebrook) is in the able hands of Mr. Frederick Annerley, and his rendering of the part is a complete success. Mr. J. W. Henson gives a commendable impersonation of the Earl of Sarum; Mr. John Cecil capably fills the detestable character of Stoach, M.P.; and Mr. R. E. Evans is seen to advantage in the somewhat irresponsible rôle of the Hon. Charles Teviot; Miss Lily Bertram gives a refined rendering of Jessie Keber; Miss Renee De L'Estrode is a commendable Gussy; Miss Mary Cleveland is a pleasing Lady Kate Fennel; and the remaining characters are all ably portrayed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Hemingway.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company in *The London Fireman* is drawing crowded houses here this week. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gives a masterly impersonation of Hal Curtis, and Mr. Oliver Birrell infuses considerable power into the rôle of Viscount Fleming; as Ratty Mr. Edward L. Garside leaves little to be desired; Miss Nellie Shirley gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Ida Curtis; and as Grace Curtis Miss Florence M. Daly is excellent; Miss Nellie Waddington is pleasing as the Countess Fleming.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—The well-known protean actor, Mr. R. A. Roberts, heads the bill here, and is as popular as ever; the Pender Troupe in absurdity; Robb Gilmore, comedian; Reed Oetzmann Troupe, in amusing knockabout turn; De Nere and Kenwick, burlesque pictures on popular songs; the Continental Stiltwalkers; Les Valdos, in absurdity; and May Fallowfield, soubrette, complete the programme.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane's latest drama, *The Spider and the Fly*, opened a first visit to this town on Monday, being smartly presented to a crowded and enthusiastic audience by Messrs. E. Carpenter and Sydney Cooper's company, under the business direction of Mr. A. H. Hill. A strong feature of this production is the excellence of the scenery and staging, under the care of Mr. Fred Terriss. The part of Cyril Girdlestone is capably undertaken by Mr. Stanley Gordon; Miss Nina Vaughton must be commended for her delightful representation of Edith McAllister; Mr. H. C. Lansley is seen at his best as the village pastor; and the well-conceived part of David Strong is admirably presented by Mr. Frederick Ross. Villainy is well brought out by Mr. Ellis J. Preston as Welby Girdlestone and Miss Amy Venimore as Stella Gray. The comic relief is entrusted to Mr. Fred Terriss and Mr. Charles A. Preece, who, as Romulus Roe and Remus Roe respectively, succeed in keeping large houses in roars of hearty laughter. Miss Lucy Murray deserves special mention for her good work as Molly Blake.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company in *Bluebell in Fairyland* opened a week's engagement on Monday. Miss Lily Eyton in the name-part sings very sweetly; and Mr. Lawrence Emery is a commendable Dicky. Mr. Frank Lennard does well as a city merchant and the Sleepy King; and Miss Nell Raymond is a stately Queen and a charming Water Lily. The comic element is well sustained by Mr. Herbert Clark and Mr. Will L. Clement. Miss Haidee Fitch makes a capital Will-o'-the-Wisp; the Misses Maud Harris and Winnie Bronte are much applauded for their coon song and dance; and little Albert Mack's singing is received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Frank Coston is a typical King, and mention may also be made of Mr. Harold Goodman, Miss Dorothy Harcourt, Miss Lois Bernard, Mr. W. Leo, and Mr. Edgar Plinge.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Royal Strolling Players are the holiday attraction here this week, and are drawing packed houses nightly. Mr. Sydney James is an entertainer of exceptional talent, and his performance is marked by repeated applause, his ventriloquial interlude being very fine; Mr. G. W. Desmond does well in his coon songs, and introduces some clever step-dancing; and Miss Seymour James is very popular, her American clog dance with Mr. Desmond being encored at each performance. Mr. Alfred Wootton has a rich tenor voice, and renders a good répertoire of suitable songs in a very acceptable manner. Miss Clarice May is an efficient accompanist, and her solos are much appreciated.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Veronique* has been doing good business this week. Miss Nellie Wigley makes a great success of the title-rôle, and Mr. Douglas Phillips renews the excellent impression he made as Florestan. Mr. Ellis Holland and Miss Agnes Tandy display excellent comedy talents as the Coquenards, as does Miss Edith Devonshire as the Comtesse de Champ d'Azur. Mr. Tom Seymour as the bailiff and Miss Maud Leonard as Aunt Benoit; Miss Neste Laurel as Denise and Mr. Scott Cullen as Seraphim fully shared the favour of the audience; and the other minor characters were very creditably sustained by the Misses Ruth Messina, Lilian Chappell, Beatrice Maude, Pattie Hanbury, Mollie Windsor, Nancie Edwards; Messrs. Jack Kelly, Basil Reynold, Ben Barnes, Harry Gilpin, and James Davies.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—The season here is now at its height, and the vast and commodious auditorium is packed to its utmost capacity nightly. The bills are this week headed by Madame Marie Goodall, who proves to be a soprano of exceptional merit, her various renderings being heartily appreciated; Gale and Frank St. John provide another excellent turn, their clever versatile entertainment winning round after round of applause; Mdlle. Haydee's miniature theatre is both ingenious and clever; Tomps and Wells please in an amusing musical comedy act; Aileen and Doris Woods score by their duets and dances; and John Rose, double-voiced vocalist, also appears; Stanley's giant fountain and the Casino orchestra remain under engagement; and the evening's entertainment winds up with an admirable show of pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The drama *Life* commenced a three nights' engagement on Monday. Mr. Herbert Barrs gives a manly rendering as Jack Lockhart; Mr. E. Cheetham as Zac Crabbe, and Mr. Alf. Schwood as P.C. Nabbs provide humour. Mr. Ronald Grahame is highly successful as Sir Horace Lester, and Mr. H. Ashe is capable as Detective Blake, and Mr. A. B. Lyons does justice as Joe Pippel; Miss Dorothy Oswald portrays the part of Beatrice Ferrars capitally, and is ably supported by Miss Edna Hana as Ruth Thorpe; Miss Maidee Vincent is good as Jess; and Miss Ethel Bateman proves effective as Agnes Moslyn.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Five Musical Palmers are paying a return visit, and win well-merited applause with their clever musical performance; Rena and Rex are a smart comedy couple; Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham give a good comedy pot pourri act, *The Lady Caddie*; the Straus in a novelty perch act are very successful. Other items are Alf. Bishop, grotesque dancer; Miss Kathleen Kildare, Irish singing flower girl; and Miss Daisy Almer, dancer; and Miss May Francis, comedienne.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. An attractive programme is submitted here this week. Lottie Lennox heads the bill with her popular chorus songs; Shawlene is a capital effleur and mimic; Alice Blanford, "The Australian Nightingale," is very successful; O'Malley and Brown, comedians and dancers, meet with a good reception; Mdlle. Vonetta, quick-change artist, submits a most satisfactory turn; George C. Doughty and company are seen to advantage in their comedy sketch *Captain Cupid*; O'Gust proves himself remarkably clever; and the American Bioscope pictures are most interesting.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Miss Winifred Maude and company opened here this week with *The Sins of a City*. Mr. William Vane makes a capital Sandy McDonald; Mr. Leonard Harrison is well placed as Donald McIvor; Mr. Maurice Drew cleverly depicts the dual rôle of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh; Miss Jenny Hackett makes an amusing Midge; and as Seaweed Miss Winifred Maude is all that can be desired.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Prece.—The Milton Ray's company is here this week in a triple bill. In *A Rough Diamond* Mr. Arthur Milton gives a faithful portrayal of Cousin Joe; Mr. Harry Marlow is a dignified Sir William Evergreen; Mr. Fred Russell acts with restraint as Captain Blenheim; and as Lord and Lady Plato Mr. Joseph English and Miss Edie Dawson are well placed. Miss May Mulvie is a charming Marjorie. In the farcical episode, *Other People's Babies*, Mr. Harry Marlow as Mr. Poppleton and Miss May Manton as Mrs. Poppleton are responsible for convulsive laughter. The musical farce, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, is a conspicuous success, and Mr. Arthur Milton as Cherrible Chickington makes a big hit. His versatility knows no bounds, and his witty sayings and delightful singing win for him the highest encomiums. Especially successful is Miss Minnie Mulvey as Mrs. Chickington, a remark which also applies to Miss Hettie Lind as Maude Chickington. Mr. Fred Russell as Captain Fairweather and Mr. Joe English as Peter Pauley prove themselves accomplished comedians.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—One of the most wonderful turns here is Lady Julia, "the ape with the human hair." Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, wins many friends; and the Musical Keiths score well in their musical entertainment. Grace Bard is a really clever juvenile, and Liggins and Murlone are smart coloured entertainers; Percy Harman has a rich baritone voice; and Bishop and Hanlon are an original pair of comedians. The Royal Bioscope pictures are excellent.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Mr. Carr Loates's company in *At the World's Mercy* is doing excellent business here. Mr. H. W. Grant as Captain Frank Manley and Mr. Arthur L. Read as Jabez Barber both prove themselves capable artists in their respective parts; Morris Goldstein is ably sustained by Mr. Carr Loates; Mr. W. G. Irving is warmly appreciated for his capital rendering of Charlie Smart; Miss Isabel Singleton plays admirably the part of Alice Lloyd the heiress; and as Kitty Knott Miss Annie Hunter makes the most of her opportunities; well-merited applause is accorded to Miss Minnie Dallow in her portrayal of Rosie; and the part of Mrs. Rouke is well played by Miss Jennie Gilmour.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—The great attraction here is Ahrensmeyer, whose feats of hypnotism are extraordinary. Tokio is a Jap with unique powers of mimicry; Bertha Stuart sings Scotch character songs to perfection; Nellie Chandos is a dainty dancer; Arthur Boyne keeps the audience in good humour with his witticisms; and Linton performs some daring equilisbristic feats on the cable. Ruffell's pictures complete the programme.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—The new place of amusement at Carter's Green has decidedly caught on, and is drawing crowded houses each evening. Atlas and Vulcana, with Misses Gwen and Maud Atlas, give a most interesting and artistic performance, Miss Vulcana's poses being very striking; Geo. Brooks sings with great success, "The Captain told the Mate"; Nellie Farrell gives delightful renderings of Irish songs; Emmie Ames is a comedienne of much ability; Burley and Burley are funny comedians; Tom Collins and Tom Hughes sing capital songs; and Otto and Olga also provide a capital turn. The Hippodrome pictures are up-to-date and excellently produced.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—A return visit is being paid with *The Days of Cromwell*, and presented as it is, by Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company, is having a favourable reception. Mr. Henry Belding undertakes the rôle of Ironhand, and discharges his responsibility realistically; Sir Marsden Mardyke is represented by Mr. Robertson Foulis, in a manner which calls forth expressions so dear to the "heavy man"; a charming Ruby Avondale is depicted by Miss Gertrude Gilman; and the remainder of the cast is entrusted to capable artists.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—To judge from the reception accorded the talent here at both houses on Monday, good business was assured for the remainder of the week. The romantic episode, *My Lady Betty*, is one of the most successful sketches we have had here for some time, the representation of the characters being excellently carried out by Mr. Frank Elliston's company, which includes Mr. Elliston as Sir Geoffrey Warrender, Mr. Edward Morton as Mr. Beaufort, and Miss Nellie Stevenson in the dual rôle of My Lady Betty and Captain Montague. A sketch, *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, forms the medium for the introduction of some amusing comedy by Burgh, Hand, and Wise; an absurdity, *The Manager's Lunch*, by the Ringling Trio, causes the audience to roar with laughter; Tate and Tate, comedy Trampolin acrobats, perform some marvellous feats in somersaults; Arthur Slater has a pleasing reception on his return visit; Oakley and James give "a tit-bit of everything," which is well received; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are thoroughly interesting.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Dandies are paying another return visit here, and opened on Monday to a crowded house. Miss Lucie Caine was heard to great advantage in "Poor Wand'ring One." Miss Queenie Essex gained a decided encore for her rendering of "Why." Mr. Henry J. Corner's fine voice found plenty of scope in "All My World." Mr. H. Russon, a comedian of rare ability, brought down the house in his very comical scene, entitled *Hamlet*. Miss K. Augusta Davies proved an excellent accompanist. The picture shown by Mr. Frank Lens on the Bioscope met with approbation.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama is paying its annual visit here, and has been drawing large audiences nightly. Of the pictures it is impossible to speak too highly. Miss Daisy Graham's trained birds are marvellously clever and warmly received; Little Doretta, vocalist and acrobatic dancer, is a good turn, so, too, is Mr. Harry Stewart as a protean change artist; Kitty Woodford's American songs went well, and the Avondale Quartette deserves commendation; Leonard and Mac, two eccentric comedians, evoked much laughter with their songs and patter; Miss Woodford's Canine Circus and Orchestra is a turn out of the common; Messrs. William Stewart and Alfred Leonard proved excellent guides.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company, in the Russian melodrama, *A Beautiful Fiend*, are paying a welcome return visit. Miss V. St. Lawrence fills the title-rôle in an able and expressive manner; Mr. Montague Beaudyn creates an impression by his commanding presence as Ivan Paulovitch; the part of Count Fedor Harateff is finely presented by Mr. Tom Robertson; Mr. Albert Wray makes a decided hit with his pathetic representation of Sergius Strogoff; Miss Irene Munro renders the part of Nadine Karateff in a sweet and pleasing manner; Mr. T. Byron gives a fine touch to the rôle of Malachi; and much laughter is created by Mr. H. Oates and Miss Blanche Hill as Christopher Crackles and Patty Woodlands.

WEYMOUTH.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company was appearing for the first three nights this week in *The Orchid*, and was heartily received. Miss Poppy Wilkinson was successful as Lady Violet, and her song, "Little Mary," was loudly encored; Miss Hilda Vining was particularly good as Caroline Vokins; Miss Susie Brand and Miss Clara Beck as Zelie Rumbert and Thisbe were capital in their respective parts; and Miss Kitty Smythe was effective as the Countess. Mr. Harry Walsh was an irresistible Meakin, and kept the house in roars of laughter; and Mr. Charles Seymour as Mr. Chesterton played carefully and well, as also did Mr. Clifford Bing as Mr. Chesterton's nephew. Mr. Frank Manger as Dr. Faussett, Mr. Len Neville as Comte Raoul, and Mr. Geoffrey Berwick as Zaccary were all good in their respective parts. The scenery was remarkably fine, the piece was well dressed, and the chorus strong and capable. For Friday and Saturday *The Cingalee* was billed.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's juvenile musical comedy, or fairy spectacle, *Beauty and the Beast*, has been presented here

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, August 20,
the Comedy, with Music, in Three Acts, written and composed by Paul A. Rubens, and entitled
"MR. POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

"The comfort and convenience of the theatre's patrons will be a primary consideration, and no effort will be spared to reach and maintain the highest degree of efficiency in this respect." These wise sentences are to be found in the "foreword" issued by the directors of the Marlborough to the inhabitants of Holloway and its vicinity, and those gentlemen can trust their able representative, Mr. Murray Herriot, to see that their behests are carried out. He has made strenuous efforts to cool the atmosphere of the house during the prevailing torrid weather, and has succeeded beyond expectation. It was refreshing, indeed, to note on the night of our visit a big block of ice immediately in front of the stalls, and during the entr'actes an outdoor balcony overlooking that busy thoroughfare, the Holloway-road, provided a most agreeable smoking lounge. But the play's the thing; and here again it is pleasant to observe that the directors have made a wise choice of attractions. During the week large audiences have become acquainted with Freddy Popple, the protagonist—if we may use the term—in Mr. Paul A. Rubens's comedy, with music, *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*. The piece is being presented to great advantage, the services of Mr. G. P. Huntley being available in his original part. Dear, good-natured, stupid, clumsy Freddy stumbles across a good deal of philosophy in his speeches, and an evening in his company is a most exhilarating experience, even with the thermometer at something over 80deg. in the shade. Mr. Huntley is responsible for a line of character that convinces us by its truth to nature, and which has nothing of the obvious exaggerations of the dude, of which theatrical audiences are so heartily sick. The naïve simplicity of Freddy is delightful, and the complete unconsciousness of the comedian is delicious. An excellent representative of La Bolero is found in Miss Millie Legarde, who has been flitting lately from theatre to music hall, but now returns to musical comedy, with decided success. Miss Legarde sings charmingly, and not without a touch of sentiment, the song to Freddy in the second act, but wins her greatest triumph in "Ho, la, la, la!" to which tuneful and inspiriting number new topical verses have been added. Another number that roused the house to enthusiasm on the night to which we are now particularly referring was the duet between Platt (Freddy's groom and valet) and Louise (maid to La Bolero). The former character found a decidedly able representative in Mr. C. M. Daly; and Miss Nellie Hodson, by her piquancy and daintiness in her impersonation of Louise, added to the success of the comedy, not only by her valuable aid in this number, but in her "messenger-boy" song, which went exceedingly well. Miss Eva Kelly as Violet Brinton gave "O man from America" successfully; and Mr. Arthur Grover, with a voice of good quality, sang Jacques Kenyon's love-song in the last act with much fervour, but with indifferent enunciation. Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stevenson do all that is possible with the poor parts of George Hennay and Henry Doring; Mr. Sydney Courtney is amusing in the part of Lord Downe; Miss Kate Forster emphasises quite artistically the severity and matronly astonishment of the much-shocked Mrs. Doring; Miss Ella Daincourt is effective as Mrs. Hennay; and Alfred finds a capable exponent in Mr. J. Dauncey. The comedy is mounted in a most lavish and tasteful manner, and the performance goes with great smoothness under the musical direction of Mr. Julian Rutt and the stage-management of Mr. Maxwell Stewart.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, by Lillian Clare Cassidy, entitled
"IN HOLY (!) RUSSIA."

The affairs of Russia are so much to the front in these troubled times that a play dealing with life in the Muscovite empire is quite seasonable. *In Holy (!) Russia* is a very powerful and thrilling production, the interest being maintained from beginning to end. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is in all respects competent, which is an obvious advantage in a play requiring quick and decisive action. Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Richard Forrest provides a good picture of the English Guardsman who is rushed into convoying the Nihilist Renee Rubinoff into Russia as his wife. Count Gregori Petrolski, the people's friend, is ably rendered by Mr. Horace Butler; and Mr. Robert Cockcroft makes a presentable counterfeit Czar of Russia. The villainous Captain Michael Natolski is realistically played by Mr. Terence Nerney, and no one regrets that in the end he meets with his deserts in being deported to the salt mines of Siberia. The Nihilist leader, Lauria Steragoff, is performed with much dignity and manliness by Mr. Carl Rovinelli; and the Baron von Pleve, the Chief of the Russian Police, is undertaken with exceeding distinction by Mr. Joe Cuthbertson. Mr. Frank Copeland as Sir Harry Beresford, of the English Embassy, acts with refinement; and Mr. George Allen ably fulfils the part of Captain Walker. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy reserves for himself the character of Mickey Nolan, the Colonel's servant, in which he creates roars of laughter by his clever acting. As Catski Lavotski, the Russian Police spy, Miss Mavis Lee Anderson displays exceptional skill, and scores very highly. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as the heroine, Renee Rubinoff, creates a favourable impression, her versatility being well defined both as the escaped Nihilist and afterwards as the pseudo-American wife of Colonel Forrest. Mme. Natolski and Natalie Natolski are capably handled by Miss Alice Marsden and Miss Evie Norman. Miss Annie Dudley furnishes amusement as Mrs. Richard Forrest. The scenery and dresses are quite in accordance with the surroundings of the play.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Drama, by G. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled,
"MASTER AND MAN."

Good audiences continue to be attracted at this theatre during the season of melodrama, and of the many thrilling plays that have been presented here of late few have proved more popular than this stirring drama above named. It is a consistently strong piece throughout the four acts, and the scene at the ironworks is quite as effective as any devised recently in drama of this type. The company engaged is an able one, and includes several well-known names. Mr. Horace Hunter appears as Jack Walton, and plays in a breezy and manly fashion that carries all before him. Walton's wife, Hester, is charmingly portrayed by Miss Jessie Walter, who acts in a natural and earnest way, and compels sympathy by her gentle but forceful handling of the character. That capital actor, Charles Garry, as Jim Burleigh, submits a finished piece of work that calls for the highest praise. The villain of the play, Robert Carlton, is admirably handled by Mr. Alec Bradley, who is in fine form, his admirable embodiment adding greatly to the success of the play. A clever bit of character-drawing is that of Humpy Logan, which, as played by Mr. Joe Monkhouse, stands out prominently as one of the best things in the play. Mr. Jack Alcock is most amusing as Tom Honeywood, and another cause of hilarity is Mr. C. Lilly, who cuts a very droll figure as the dude Crispin St. Jones. Letty Lightfoot is brightly played by Miss Frances Day, and Miss Hazel Wood scores a distinct success as little Johnny Walton; Keziah Honeywood has a most acceptable representative in Miss Thalma Archer, who makes full use of her opportunities. The old acrobat and his partner are well represented by Messrs. C. Groce and Tom Stevens; while Mr. A. Burgess is good as Robins, the gamekeeper. Mr. H. Atkinson does well as Inspector Willett. The staging is quite adequate, and the scene at the forge very realistic. The orchestra, under Mr. G. F. Ford, were much applauded for their selections on the evening of our visit, and the applause was well merited.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Kennington Theatre is resounding with ceaseless peals of laughter every evening this week as Mr. George Graves gives his inimitable description of the Gazeka, the elusive little animal that may well rank as the mascot of André Messager's bright and sparkling comic opera *The Little Michus*. The piece is magnificently staged and admirably produced by Mr. George Edwardes' company, amongst the members of which are included several of the original cast. From start to finish the opera goes with a swing which speaks volumes for the loyal manner in which everyone in the company works, and the audience on Monday night was unstinted in its applause. The singing was first-class, the principal numbers being frequently encored; the dances were picturesque, the grouping was artistic, and the fun continuous. As General Des Ifs Mr. George Graves is, of course, the life and soul of the piece, and plays at his very best, his quaint drolleries and clever gags bubbling forth in a seemingly endless flow. Miss Thelma Raye and Miss Iris Hoey are winsome Little Michus, and prove themselves to be charming and accomplished actresses. An exceedingly clever impersonation of Bagnolet, the orderly, is given by Mr. Jack Carrot, a comedian of undoubted ability. Mr. George Miller is also very good as Pierré Michu, and his efforts are readily seconded by Miss Florence Parfrey as Madame Michu. Mr. W. T. Andrews makes a soldierly Gaston Rigaud, and Mr. Leonard Mackay is admirable as Aristide Vert, the perplexed and uncertain lover. Miss Vivien Talleur dances well during her brief appearance as Mlle. St. Cyr, and Miss Adeline Lester as the market woman and Mr. Willie Warde, Jun., as the market man, contribute in a large measure to the amusing features of the third act. The chorus is strong in numbers and distinctly good in vocalisation; the orchestration was of a high standard.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, August 20,
"THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM."

Mr. Frank Curzon provides a very excellent company this week under the auspices of Mr. George W. Lindsay, on a return visit to Noting Hill Gate in *The White Chrysanthemum*. The melodious music and delightful humour of the piece receive full justice at the hands of an exceptionally strong company. Mr. Horace Mills enacts the part of the invertebrate but resourceful Chippy, *alias* Lieut. Chippendale Belmont, to whom he imparts an air of original and natural drollery, and his rendering of the song "I wonder" is very clever and pointed. Mr. W. H. Rawlins as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, K.C.B., the choleric commander of the China Squadron, fits his part to a nicety, and in the topical song "Really, truly, can it be so?" he hits off the foibles of the present day in most diverting and agreeable fashion. Miss Gladys Elwey is a charming and vivacious Sibyl Cunningham, the O San of the title-rôle, and her songs, "The Butterfly and the Flower" and "The Flight of the Butterfly," are rendered not only with sweetness and charm, but with great dramatic fervour and expressiveness. *The White Chrysanthemum* is a prime favourite throughout. Miss Daisy Le Hay is a dainty, winsome, and captivating Betty Kenyon, and her rendition of the song-recitation "A Hint" is emphatically successful. Mr. F. Pope Stamper is a manly and handsome young naval officer as Lieut. Reginald Armitage, and his acting and singing are much appreciated, especially good being his rendition of the song of lament in the last act. As Sin Chong, Reggie's Chinese cook, Mr. O. E. Lennon sustains the lion's share of the work, and his indefatigable skill as a humorist and dancer helps the piece along materially to the goal of success. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., also repeats his excellent work as the irrepressible Private Perks, and does yeoman service in keeping the ball of fun continually rolling. Miss Katie Vesey dances gracefully as the American heiress Cornelia Vanderdecken, and an excellently well-drilled and sweet-voiced chorus aid the effect of the production. Mr. T. Reynolds undertakes the difficult duties of stage-manager creditably.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, August 20,
the Musical Comedy,
"THE NEW BARMAID."

After a somewhat lengthy absence, musical comedy again holds the boards at this theatre, in the shape of *The New Barmaid*, and the warmth of the welcome extended to Mr. C. Edwardes's well-selected company is strong evidence of the fact that Woolwich playgoers have by no means lost their taste for this kind of entertainment. Miss Amy Preston is a sprightly representative of the new barmaid, singing prettily and taking the trouble to act her lines as well as sing or speak them. Miss Violet Esmond makes a vivacious Dora Heather, and seems bubbling over with good spirits, which she has no difficulty in communicating to her audience; Miss Winifred Preston gives a commendably dignified rendering of Lady Moulton; and Miss Maude Nichols makes the most of her few opportunities as Brenda Louth. In the character of Captain Lovebury, Mr. Leslie Austin acts easily and naturally and sings several songs with good effect, a notable success being his rendering of that entitled "I love you, ma chérie." As William White, Mr. Alexander Loftus scores heavily, his clever acting and amusing mannerisms keeping the house in a continual ripple of laughter. A large portion of the work also falls on the shoulders of Mr. Charles Adeson, whose antics and patter as Bertie White are responsible for much amusement, and whose rendering of a favourite number—"A little bit of sugar for the bird"—was one of the hits of the evening. Mr. James Grant gives a good portrayal of the fire-eating Colonel; and Mr. W. E. Chewd extracts a lot of fun from the part of the comic Frenchman. The excellent dancing of the Star Trio is one of the features of the performance.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Fred Melville, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

Mr. Melville is a dramatist who always manages to hit the public taste, and large houses are being attracted this week to the Brixton Theatre, where a visit is being paid by *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. The play is mounted in a lavish manner, and an exceptionally powerful company is engaged. Miss Beatrice Homer gives an excellent reading and a clever study of the Ugliest Woman. A manly, straightforward, and convincing performance is that of Mr. Philip Darien as Jack Merriman. Mr. Leyton Cancellor gives a finished and a really good interpretation of the unscrupulous Hubert Gold, and receives excellent support in his villainy from Mr. Charles Barrett as Antonio Luchesi, who gives a clever conception of an Italian; and Miss Nell Oliver as Rose Courteney, who acts remarkably well an unthankful character; Mr. Allan Devonport gives a good representation of the gambling and drink-sodden artist, Tom Redvers. The comedy characters of Tubby Herrick and Aggie Brown are in the capable hands of Mr. Tubby Edlin, who is a born comedian, and Miss Nellie Jackson, and cause the audience to indulge in hearty laughter whenever they appear. A very clever and realistic portrait of a London "hooligan" is presented by Mr. Wallace Aston; Dr. Carr is sympathetically played by Mr. Leonard Thackeray; and Miss Margaret Watson gives an impressive portrayal of Morita, an Italian girl. The smaller but indispensable character of Griffiths, purser of s.s. Osprey, is brought into prominence by the excellent acting of Mr. Cecil de Lee. The minor parts are in capable hands. Mr. Tubby Edlin is the courteous general-manager of the company. A beauty competition was arranged for last night (Friday), when Mr. Melville offered prizes for the handsomest lady in Brixton.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."

In booking Mr. James Willard's company to appear at the Lyric this week in the spectacular drama *A Woman's Pluck* Mr. Jennings is to be congratulated. The Lyric patrons were in raptures on the night of our visit, and a full house during the week was ensured. Miss Grace Lester takes the leading part with considerable dash and vigour, and as Grace Daremont greatly pleases her audiences, being rewarded on Monday by the presentation of a bouquet. Mr. Austin Mortimer as Dick Darnell, the villain, is also very successful. As Winston Dale, Mr. Harry T. Wood proves himself an artist of ability; and Miss Violet Carr makes an exceedingly pathetic and winsome Jessie Pope. A word of praise is also due to Mr. Harry Emmerson as Mathew Pope and to Miss Elsie Maitland as Mrs. Pope, both of whom exhibit pathos of a high order. Mr. Fred Norburn, in the dual characters of Mark Scanlon and The Tiger, forcibly impresses the onlookers. A clever light comedy character-sketch is given by Mr. John Campling as General Daredevil, and he is ably assisted in his mirth-making by Miss Helen Elmar as his wife, and Miss Tina Shaw as his precocious grandson. Mr. Frank Etherbridge as Sir Noel Fordyce also makes a decided hit.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, August 20,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"KITTY GREY."

Peckham is favoured this week with a return visit from that silver-voiced and fascinating little lady *Kitty Grey*, and it is small wonder that, despite the heat, large audiences are assembling to welcome so popular a personage. Mr. George Stephenson's company gives an admirably smooth and good all-round rendering of the musical comedy, all the parts down to the smallest being excellently filled. Miss Hilda Guiver, who invests her rôle with great dramatic abilities, looks very handsome as Kitty Grey, using her powerful voice to great effect, and scoring well in her songs, "The powder-puff" and "Round and round." Miss Marie West, in the more subdued character of Lady Binfield, looks charming and plays capitally as the sorely-tried wife, singing very sweetly "The bamboo hut" and "In a quiet little country town." Mr. Lauri Lisle is very quaint as the lady-killing little King of Illyria, and scores well with his topical song "The blue moon in the sky." Mr. J. Knox-Orde makes a good-looking Sir John Binfield, and sings very nicely. Miss Nellie Laurine gives an excellent character-sketch as the theatrical dresser, Mrs. Bright; and Mr. Leslie Steward causes roars of laughter by his comicalities as the eccentric sprig of nobility, Lord Plantagenet also proving himself an agile dancer. Miss Gertrude Page makes the most of her opportunities as Sadie de Poulson. The remaining characters are all in good hands, and the chorus is remarkably efficient, the scenery and effects being also quite beyond reproach. The orchestra is under the skilful bâton of Mr. Forbes Russell, and Mr. J. MacCabe fulfils his duties admirably as business-manager. The stage-management of the piece reflects the greatest credit on Mr. P. Allerton Turner, who is entrusted with this important duty.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

Mr. Frederick Melville's four-act drama *Between Two Women* is just of the order calculated to interest a Dalston audience. Exciting incidents abounding, the attention of the audience is secured from start to finish, while the engrossed crowd disregards no chance of duly encouraging the best actors—or those who are fortunate enough to have the best parts—in their most telling scenes. Mr. Stephen Langton as Harry Millard is provided with a part in which he is seen to advantage. Miss Molly Malone as the tender and loving Violet Thornton and Miss Winifred Pearson as the wicked Carmen de Savereaux manage to portray these well-contrasted characters with care and finish. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is capable as the Rev. Philip Carton; Mr. Ernest Walton does well in a totally different class of character—that of Bill Barge; Mr. Nevill Graham is a sufficiently authoritative shop-manager; and Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack Pringle (who is always in trouble) and Miss Lilian Earle as Polly Popp (who is the cause of most of his cares) provide opportunity for a good deal of laughter. Other members of Mr. Melville's excellent company include Miss Nellie Watson, Miss Lottie Manville, Miss Margaret Waller, and Miss Lulu Bowes, and Messrs Walter Thornton, J. P. Kennedy, Watkin Wynne, W. Hooker, W. Herberts, J. Clarke, R. Yorke, and Frederick May.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"THE STREETS OF LONDON."

Good houses have been attracted to the Kingston Theatre this week by the production of the above popular melodrama. Mr. Frank Harding's company is a thoroughly capable one, and not the least successful member thereof is Mr. Harding himself, who plays the scheming Gideon Bloodgood with considerable success. Mr. Maitland Marler achieves a distinct success as Badger; and Mr. Edwin Bennett gives a good account of himself in the part of Captain Fairweather. Mr. Philip Knox and Mr. A. Eldred also give sympathetic portrayals of their respective parts of Mark Livingstone and Paul. The low comedy work of the drama is ably sustained by Mr. E. Coleman and Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem as Mr. and Mrs. Puffy respectively, and by Miss Helen Anderson as their precocious offspring, Dan. The play is capitally presented in the matter of scenery and dresses.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn, entitled
"THE COAL KING."

Messrs. Polini and Maitland present this drama, which is a striking picture of colliery life in Lancashire, and it meets with entire approval, enthusiastic applause coming from all parts of a crowded house. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland as Tom Roberts is to be congratulated on an excellent and consistent piece of work. Mr. Gilbert Fenn plays with power and effect as Sir Reginald Harford, J.P. (the Coal King); Mr. Escott Robson presents an admirable study of Walter Harford; Mr. Alfred Terris is very good as Jim Williams; and the same remark applies to Mr. Alfred Claude Clarke as Dick Shirley. Mr. John Coghlan as Seth Baker, Mr. Harry Stock as Ned Jenkins, and Mr. Harry Nelson as Jack Brown are all well placed. Mr. Louis Stanford is a capital James, and Mr. Fabian Lock makes an effective Detective Saxby. Miss Evelyn North is admirable as Mrs. Baker; Miss Sinna St. Cloud acts well as Mad Ann; Miss Sybil Coghlan is bright and attractive as Araminta Green; and Miss Gertrude Valentine cleverly depicts the varying moods of Grace Shirley, playing in a charmingly sympathetic manner throughout.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in Walter Melville's drama *The Female Swindler* appeals strongly to the habitués of this theatre, who were in great force on Monday. Headed by Miss Gracie E. Leslie in the character which gives the piece its name, the company works together with a will, and achieves great success. Miss Leslie very ably portrays a difficult and complex character in which guilt and remorse alternate, and gallery and pit are indeed glad when in the end the charming Lu Valroy resolves on the better path. Mr. Joseph Millane, in a Sherlock Holmes' part, plays with power; Mr. Wilfred Cheetham as Geoffrey Warden does admirable work, fully realising the part; Mr. John Belton as Abraham Mikestein also plays well; Mr. Henry Wright as an assistant detective very cleverly assumes his numerous disguises; Miss Mary Dawson makes a pretty maid-servant; James Oliver, a retired merchant, is carefully presented by Mr. A. Kenyon Gray; as May Andrews, Miss Florrie Kelsey quite captivates the house; and Mr. Guy P. Ellis makes a manly Harold Travers.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones and Henry Herman, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

This fine drama is achieving great success at the New Prince's Theatre, and is being admirably presented by G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company of talented players. Mr. Herbert Ford's portrayal of the much-tried Wilfred Denver is powerful. His earnest and impassioned manner earns for him considerable applause. As Nellie Denver, Miss Victoria Addison is sweet and attractive, and quickly wins her way into the hearts of her audience. Mr. Tom Paulton plays the faithful Daniel Jaikes in a capital manner; and Miss Jessie Apted makes an engaging Cissy. Mr. Charles Baird gives a masterly representation of the Spider; as the weak and weedy Henry Corkett Mr. Claud Vernon is well fitted with a part; and as the rascally Elijah Combe, Mr. Henry Osman's make-up is excellent, and his delineation of the character could not be surpassed. As the burly Cripps Mr. Charles H. Fenton gives a careful study; Mr. Allan Jeayes is excellent as the ill-fated Geoffrey Ware; and Mr. Arthur J. Rooke makes a capital detective of Samuel Baxter. Mr. Charles Birch is good as Frank Selwyn; and as the garrulous Mr. Parkyn Mr. Percy Stone wins golden opinions. Messrs. S. Bingham and S. Hatchway ably sustain the rôles of Binks and Bronson; and Mr. John Randall is good as Gaffer Pottle. Miss Viola Holland gives a capable rendering of the part of Olive Skinner; and Miss Amy Wood creates amusement by her quaintness as Tabitha Darden. Miss Margaret Rooke makes an attractive Susie.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
for the first time in London, the Historic and Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank M. Thorne, entitled
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

Napoleon ..... Mr. Hugh Montgomery
Colonel Lavarennes ....Mr. Henry Earlesmere
Colonel Jules Meuron ..... Mr. Phil Harper
Paul Laczinska ..... Mr. Bartlett Garth
Pierre Pomponnet ..... Mr. Frank M. Thorne
Sergeant Choupin ..... Mr. Albert Sinclair
Marshal Bessieres ..... Mr. R. W. Ellis
Marshal Davout ..... Mr. T. A. Jones
Monsieur Fouche ..... Mr. G. Acton Dix
Garbois ..... Mr. Wilson Brown
Claude ..... Mr. Thomas Wheeler
Courier ..... Mr. D. Anderson
Marie Walewska ..... Miss Leslie Warner
Mlle. Leonie Marboeuf .... Miss Maud Russell
Marcelle Choupin ..... Miss Marie Harcourt
Mère Dumont ..... Miss Florence Thorne
Lisette ..... Miss Adelaide Cromer

Makers of plays evidently have a decided partiality for the character of Napoleon I., many writers for the stage introducing him more or less prominently into their works. He is, of course, the central figure in the romantic and historical drama, *Napoleon the Great*—first produced at Preston on Aug. 29, 1904—a well-written and exciting play that proved much to the liking of West Londoners on Monday evening. The first scene takes place outside an old inn at Villeneuve, and we witness Napoleon's victorious return from Austria. A Polish fanatic, Paul Laczinska, aided by one of Napoleon's own officers, Colonel Lavarennes, plots to kill the Emperor while staying for the night at the inn, but Paul's wife, Marie Walewska, who has apparently previously been of service to Napoleon, determines to frustrate her husband's plan. She warns Napoleon of his danger, and he accepts the proffered hospitality of Madame Marboeuf, whose daughter, Leonie, is affianced to Colonel Jules Meuron, a young officer whose father had years since saved the Emperor's life. Laczinska is arrested, but manages to escape, and in the next act, on the outskirts of the forest of Fontainebleau, he kills an aged and wounded soldier, and dons his uniform. The man he has slain bears a striking likeness to Laczinska, and his body being found, it is thought the Emperor's would-be murderer is dead. Napoleon is greatly displeased at his escape, and gives the Minister of Police, Fouche, to understand that if his enemies are not brought to justice a more capable man must take his place. Fouche then consents, to Lavarennes's plan, which is that Meuron—whom he is anxious to get out of the way, as he wishes to wed Leonie—shall appear to be concerned with the Emperor's assassination. A paper is left on the ground addressed to Meuron which will prove him to be a traitor. Leonie picks it up, and of course conveys it to her lover. Meuron is charged with being implicated in a conspiracy against the Emperor, but Napoleon will not believe a word against the gallant young soldier until the paper is found in his pocket, when he orders his arrest at once, and he is condemned to death. Leonie's pleading for her sweetheart's life is of no avail for a time, but the Emperor finally relents, and Meuron's sentence is altered to imprisonment for life. This is not at all to the liking of Lavarennes, who forges the Emperor's signature to the death warrant, but Meuron manages to escape from prison, the bullets from the guards' muskets being extracted by Pierre Pomponnet, Meuron's foster-brother. Marie Walewska has recognised her husband when he turns up again by a ring on his finger, but promises not to disclose his identity if he will clear Meuron—he having overheard Lavarennes's plot. In the last act Napoleon comes to visit the fair Marie, for whom he has conceived a violent passion. He has previously, however, told her she can never be the Empress, and although she loathes her husband and would make any sacrifice for Napoleon, she is not inclined to be his mistress. Laczinska is hidden inside a secret panel, and whilst Marie is absent from the room makes another attempt on the Emperor's life. Meuron, also concealed in the apartment, stays the knife of the murderer; the villainy of Lavarennes is disclosed; and with his death and that of Laczinska the drama ends, Meuron, of course, being reinstated in the good graces of the Emperor and restored again to his faithful Leonie.

The company responsible for the representation of the play, Messrs. Granville and Thorne's, is an excellent all-round one, especially to be commended being Mr. Hugh Montgomery for his impressive and finished impersonation of the important part of Napoleon. Particularly good was the actor in the scene where the Emperor declares his passion for Marie Walewska, but throughout the portrayal was excellent, facial expression, elocution, and bearing alike being admirable. Another striking performance was the Paul Laczinska of Mr. Bartlett Garth, the despair of the Polish fanatic in the last act, where he is caught like a rat in a trap, being a realistic and thrilling piece of acting. The scoundrelly Colonel Lavarennes was enacted by Mr. Henry Earlesmere in a convincing and easy fashion; and Mr. Phil Harper was excellent as Colonel Jules Meuron. The important rôle of Marie Walewska had full justice done to it by Miss Leslie Warner, the actress playing with an enthusiasm and earnestness that cannot be overpraised; and Miss Maud Russell was entirely satisfactory as Leonie Marboeuf, being particularly good in the scene where she pleads with the Emperor for her lover's life. The author, Mr. Frank M. Thorne, has written plenty of amusing lines, and supplied himself with a fine comedy part in that of the timid drummer, Pierre Pomponnet. Screamingly funny was the scene where the chain-mail that he has made for the Emperor is tested on his own body, and his portrayal throughout was a most mirth-provoking one. He received admirable support from Miss Marie Harcourt, a bonny and buxom vivandière, and two other impersonations that made for hearty laughter were the Sergeant Choupin of Mr. Albert Sinclair—an admirable performance throughout—and the Mère Dumont of Miss Florence Thorne. The other parts were all ably enacted, and the scenery and costumes call for commendation.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, August 20,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, entitled
"HUMAN NATURE."

A capital interpretation of the Drury Lane drama *Human Nature* is this week being given at the Standard, Shoreditch. The capable body of players engaged for the present stock season take full advantage of every opportunity offered, and supply a performance of high worth. Mr. Ashley Page ably supports the rôle of Captain Temple, and plays with considerable force and spirit; Mr. Tom Taylor gives a perfect portrayal of the scheming solicitor Matthew Hawker; and Mr. Alfred Harding carefully paints the vindictive nature of Paul de Vigne. Mr. John Brownson sustains with sufficient force the part of Stephen Mardyke; whilst Mr. C. A. Chandler does all that is possible with the part of the Rev. Arthur Lulworth. Considerable merriment is caused by Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Horatio Spofkins. He makes the most of every opportunity, and is ably and substantially assisted in the lighter scenes by Miss Mattie Everett as Maggie Wilkins. Mr. John Sargent has a capital "make-up" as Joe Lambkin, and depicts the nature of the rougher class of man to perfection. Miss W. Williamson plays with considerable pathos as Dick, a waif; and a commendable performance is also given by Master Frank Brownson as Frank, Temple's child. Miss Georgie de Lara proves effective as Cora Grey; and Miss Maggie Lindsay's clever characteristic sketch as Mrs. Lambkin is all that could be desired. Miss Amy B. Ellis is good as Mrs. Lulworth; Miss Marion Denvil plays with feeling as Nellie Tempie, and is highly acceptable in the part. The minor characters are adequately supported, and the scenery and effects are worthy of special mention.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Play, adapted by S. Comyns Carr from Dickens's Novel, entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

Playgoers at Fulham this week are having an exceptional treat in the shape of a visit by Mr. Bannister Howard's company in the version of *Oliver Twist* as played by Mr. Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's Theatre. The company is one of unusual excellence, and the staging and scenery leave nothing to be desired. Mr. Stanley Drewitt essays the difficult and exacting part of the horrible old Jew, Fagin, and well deserves the applause he wins. It is a powerful study of a terrible and repulsive character, and Mr. Drewitt plays it with splendid force and a variety of subtle touches. Mr. James Skea is a capital representative of Bill Sikes; the part suits his fine physique to a nicety, and he portrays the leonine strength and ferocity of the man with great success. Mr. Charlie Clark as the Dodger, Mr. R. C. Hunter as Charley Bates, and Mr. A. Klein as Barney, with Mr. J. Johns as Chitling, make an amusing quartette in the rôles of Fagin's pupils. Mr. Fred Penley as Mr. Brownlow is a delightful old gentleman, and both he and Mr. W. H. Rotheram as Mr. Grimwig seem to have stepped bodily out of Dickens. Mr. Rotheram is also responsible for the part of Monks, and plays it well and strongly. Mr. Paige Lawrence is manly and bright as Harry Maylie; Mr. Edward Walsh is very good as Bumble, and Messrs. Appleby and Williams are amusing at the servants Giles and Brittles. Miss Dorothy Marsdin makes a very good representative of Oliver, and acts cleverly. Miss Lingham is a painstaking Mrs. Maylie, and Miss Dorothy Mayhew as Rose Maylie looks wholly delightful as an Early Victorian maiden, while her acting is no less charming than her looks. The part of the ill-fated Nancy is assumed by Miss Edith Anton Laing, who plays the part with rare skill and power. All the members of the large cast are fully competent, and it is not often one finds a touring company so strong at all points.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Aug. 20,
the Romantic Drama, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

The Standard Star Company is still at this popular South London house, and despite the hot weather capital audiences are flocking to witness the exciting and well-written drama *A Warning to Women*. The part of the heroine, Moira Kennion, is artistically and sympathetically played by Miss Olge Audre. Miss Audre has an arduous rôle to play, but the different phases in the complex character of the woman who is more sinned against than sinning are admirably depicted. Mr. J. C. Aubrey as the grim, relentless Dr. Marcus Dread scores a great success by his impressive acting. Mr. Roy Redgrave is a picturesque figure as Shaun, a wandering Irish minstrel, and acts with much intelligence. Mr. Jack Denton is very good as the young but good-hearted swell, Lord Eversleigh. Miss Eva Dare is bright and pathetic as occasion serves as Sheila Kennion. Mr. George Villiers scores a great success as a foolish Frenchman, Ferdinand de Joules. Mr. H. C. Cooper is a duly impressive Rev. Emmanuel Wallace; and Mr. W. Lawrence looks handsome and scores well in the first act as the blind Fergus McNaughton. Miss Marion Turner deserves praise for her spirited acting as Hildred. Mr. Herbert Woodin is amusing as Mike McQauds; Mr. Frank Lister acts with much pathos as the old squire, Kennion, and is the recipient of great applause throughout the evening. Miss Jennie Marks acts well as the crippled Myles O'More; Miss Ruth Zillwood makes the most of her part as Molly O'More. The piece is very well mounted, and the whole production is evidently in great favour with the good folks of Rotherhithe.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

JULY 2. *The Woman that Gambles*, drama, in four acts, by S. Buchanan Rogerson (originally produced at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, Jan. 29, 1906)—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.

„ 2. *Le Passé*, comedy, in four acts, by Georges de Porto-Riche (originally produced at the Paris Odéon on Dec. 30, 1897) (Mlle. Marthe Brandès' season)—Royalty.

„ 5. *Francillon*, play by Alexandre Dumas *fils* (originally produced at the Comédie-Française on Jan. 17, 1887) (Mlle. Marthe Brandès' season)—Royalty.

„ 6. *Gruesome Grange; or, The Banished Earl*, blood-curdling tragedy, Act I., written by Captain Robert Marshall; Act II., by Anthony Hope; Act III., by Comyns Carr (Actors' Orphanage Fête)—Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park.

„ 6. *L'Espionne* (originally known as *Dora*), comedy, by Victorien Sardou (originally produced at the Paris Vaudeville Jan. 22, 1877 (English version by Clement Scott and B. C. Stephenson, known as *Diplomacy*, produced at the old Prince of Wales's Theatre, Tottenham-street, Jan. 12, 1878) (Mlle. Marthe Brandès' season)—Royalty.

„ 9. *La Bascule*, comedy, in four acts, by Maurice Donnay (originally produced at the Paris Gymnase on Dec. 31, 1901) (M. Félix Huguenet, Mlle. Gabrielle Dorziat)—Royalty.

„ 10. *The Escape of John Merchant*, play, in one act, by Philip Gibbs and Cosmo Hamilton—Duke of York's.

„ 12. *Chapeau*, piece, in one act, by Marc Sonal—Royalty.

„ 12. *Petit Chagrin*, comedy, in three acts, by Maurice Vaucaire (Mlle. Marthe Regnier's season)—Royalty.

„ 14. *Petite Peste*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Romain Coolus (originally produced at the Paris Vaudeville on Jan. 13, 1905) (Mlle. Marthe Regnier)—Royalty.

„ 16. *La Petite Fonctionnaire*, comedy, by Alfred Capus (Mlle. Jeanne Thomassin and M. Galipaux)—Royalty.

„ 16. *The Prince Chap*, play, in three acts, by Mr. E. W. Peple, originally produced in America—Criterion.

„ 18. *La Chance du Mari*, comedy, in one act, by G. A. de Caillavet and Robert de Flers (Mlle. Jeanne Thomassin, M. Félix Galipaux)—Royalty.

„ 18. *Agence Dramatique*, by Félix Galipaux and Petit Margin—Royalty.

„ 19. *The Bielostock Massacre*, tragedy, in five acts, in Yiddish, by John Jackson—Pavilion.

„ 23. *The Love that Women Desire*, drama, in four acts, by G. Carlton Wallace (originally produced at Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs., on July 24, 1905)—Grand, Islington.

„ 23. *A Warning to Women*, drama, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill (originally produced at the Lyceum Theatre, Eccles, on May 28, 1906)—Theatre Royal, Stratford.

„ 23. *L'Enquête*, piece, in two acts, by George Henriot (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 23. *Boubourouche*, piece, in two acts, by Georges Courteline (originally produced at the Menus-Plaisirs (Théâtre Libre), Paris, on April 27, 1893) (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 23. *Une Vieille Renommée*, farce, by M. A. Athys (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 25. *Down Our Alley*, coster story, in three scenes, adapted by Arthur Bourchier, from Anatole France's play, *Crainquebille*—Garrick.

„ 25. *Depuis Six Mois*, comedietta, by M. Max Maurey (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 25. *Asile de Nuit*, comedietta, by Max Maurey (the original of *The Pertikler Pet*, which was adapted by Edward Knoblauch and produced by Mr. Cyril Maude at the opening of his season at the Waldorf on Jan. 17, 1906) (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 25. *Discipline*, piece, in two acts, by Franz von Conring, translated from the German by Jean Thorl (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

„ 27. *L'Honneur*, play, in four acts, adapted from Hermann Sudermann's German play *Die Ehre* (M. Antoine's season)—Royalty.

REVIVALS.

JULY 2. *Mirette*, comic opera, in three acts, founded on the French of Michel Carré, English lyrics by Fred C. Weatherly, English dialogue by the late Harry Greenbank, new version with new lyrics by Adrian Ross, music by André Messager (originally produced by the late Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte at the Savoy Theatre on July 3, 1894) (revived by amateurs)—Scala Theatre.

„ 9. *You Never Can Tell*, farce, in three acts, by George Bernard Shaw (originally produced at the Strand Theatre on May 2, 1900)—Court.

„ 25. *Monsieur de Paris*, play, in one act, by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova (originally produced at the Royalty, April 16, 1896)—Garrick.

PROVINCES.

JULY 2. *The Girl Next Door*, musical farcical comedy, in two acts, written by Walter Flint — Brighton Aquarium Theatre.

„ 2. *The Warwick Pageant*, commemorating the 1000th anniversary of the conquest of Mercia by Queen Ethelfleda, arranged by Louis N. Parker, and produced in the grounds of Warwick Castle.

„ 9. *Her Nameless Child*, drama, in four acts, by Madge Duckworth and Ridgewood Barrie—Theatre Metropole, Devonport.

„ 12. *Lady Lucy*, musical comedy, in three acts, by Frederick Jarman—Opera House, Weymouth.

„ 16. *The Illustrious Stranger*, comic opera, in two acts, libretto by Maurice Hardinge—Theatre Royal, Dover.

„ 16. *Handsome Jim*, play, in four acts, by Malcolm Watson—Theatre Royal, Margate.

„ 19. *In the Arena*, duologue, by Arthur Holmes Gore—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

PARIS.

July 5. *La Fontaine de Jouvence*, mythological comedy, in two acts, by M. Emile Bergerat—Comédie-Française.

„ 9. *Le Prétexte*, comedy, in two acts, by M. Daniel Riche—Comédie-Française.

BERLIN.

July 2. *Sherlock Holmes*, detective-comedy, in four acts, drawn from Conan Doyle, by F. Bonn—Berliner.

„ 2. *Unsere Käte*, three-act comedy, by H. H. Davies—Lustspielhaus.

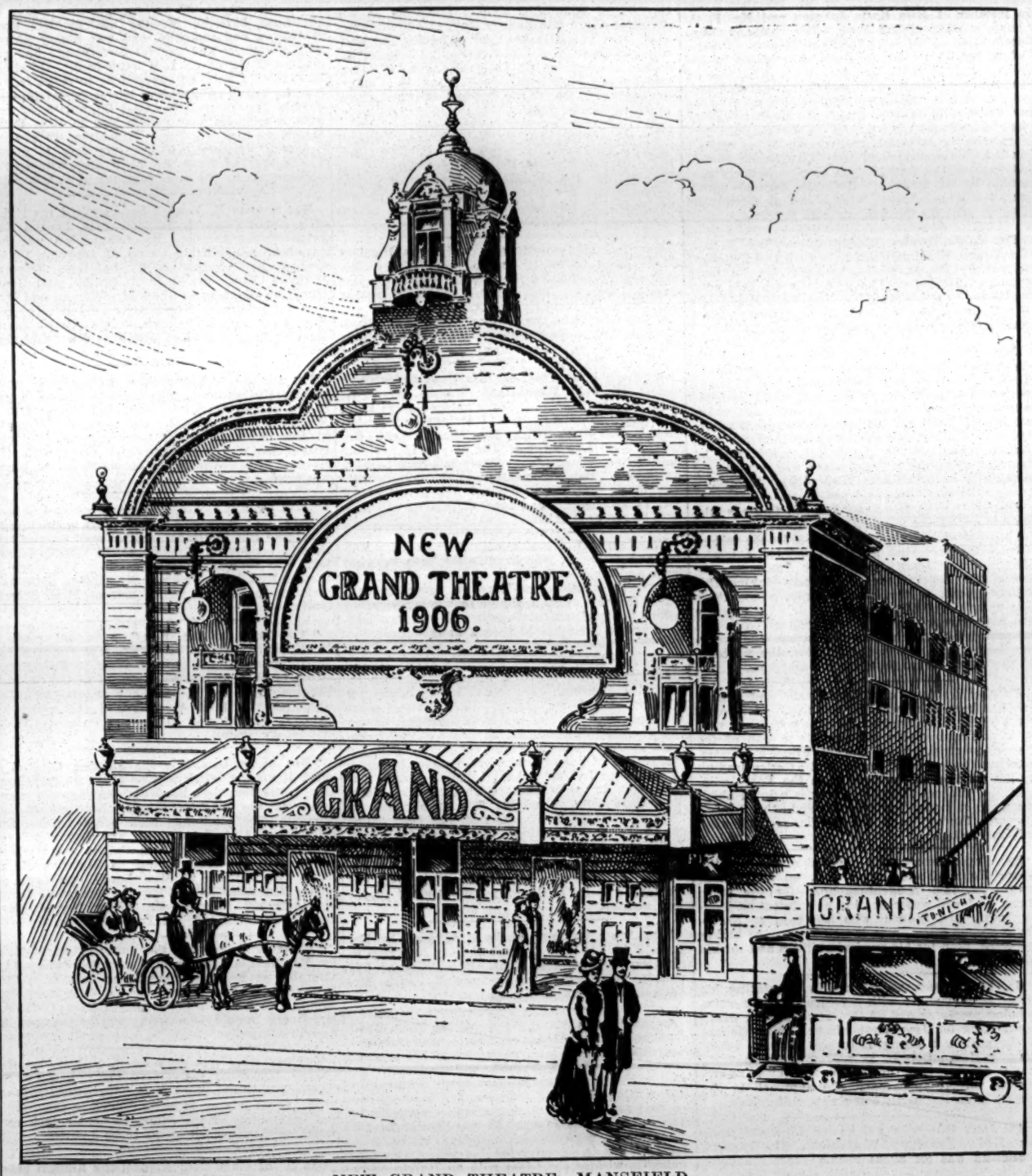
„ 5. *Berlin in Omnibus*, two-act burlesque, by L. Ely—Apollo.

„ 21. *Adele*, play, in four acts, by H. Abt—Carl Weiss.

THE NEW GRAND, MANSFIELD.

The above building was erected by Mr. F. Houghton, contractor, of Mansfield, the architect being Mr. T. V. Woodham, of Nottingham. It is of brick and stone, and will hold 1,500. The seating and upholstering is by the famous firm of Dean; the house is lighted throughout by electricity, and is arranged as follows:—Two boxes, stalls, dress circle, pit, and gallery. There are no pillars, and every seat commands clear view of stage. The theatre has nine exits direct to the street, and three separate entrances. There are six dressing-rooms, each 30ft. long and 10ft. wide, four refreshment rooms, lounge and crush rooms, and general offices. The building is 130ft. deep by 65ft. wide. The stage is 38ft. deep by 65ft. wide. Large dock doors open direct to street. The height to flies is 42ft., and the opening is 30ft. by 20ft. The scenery has been painted by Mr. George Collier, jun.

The building is in the main street in the centre of the town, and electric trams pass the doors, connecting up all surrounding districts. There are plush tip-up chairs in the dress circle and stalls and plain tip-up seats in the pit. The theatre will be booked in conjunction with the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, the proprietor of both houses being Captain Clayton. The general-manager is Mr. Edward Gray, who has for five years been the popular acting-manager of the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. The theatre will be opened in September. The front of the house will be illuminated by three large flare arc lamps, and there will be seventy-two incandescent lamps under the portico, which is 12ft. deep, and extends along the whole width of the front. The building is completely isolated, having a 15ft. roadway on both sides and a 60ft. roadway in front. At the back is a lawn with shaded walks about 200ft. square, which will be laid out as ornamental gardens; and here in the summer months an open-air theatre will be erected. Four complete fire installations have been supplied.



NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.

PROPRIETOR, CAPTAIN CLAYTON. ARCHITECT, MR. T. V. WOODHOUSE.

PRESENTATION.—A merry party assembled at the festive board in the Queen Anne room of the Carlton Hotel, Sheffield, on the 17th inst., and did full justice to the recherché supper provided by the new manager, Mr. T. S. Carter, late of the Theatre Royal. The *pièce de résistance*, however, of the evening was the presentation to Mr. A. Daniel Burton, of the Burton Gala Agency, with a useful portmanteau, a dressing-case, and an illuminated address, these gifts being supplemented by a silver tea-service for Mrs. Burton. Mr. Harry Dunlop, of the Dunlops, in making the presentations, eloquently voiced the private sentiments of the subscribers; and Mr. A. D. Burton returned thanks for himself and wife in a few feeling words. Toasts and songs followed; and a delightful evening was spent. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. A. Daniel Burton, Mr. and Mrs. Dunlop, Mr. Silvo, the Ardells, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knott, the Hamiltons, Mr. Harry Burton, Le Phred, the Browns, Prof. De Lyle, and Mr. De Cora. A vote of thanks to Mr. T. S. Carter, "mine host," ended the pleasant proceedings.

MISS GRACE E. LESLIE, the popular melodramatic actress, is anxious to deny that she is in any way connected with the Mrs. Grace Leslie mentioned in a case tried at the Tower Bridge Police Court last week.

MISS IDA MILLAIS' *No Man's Land* company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, will pay its ninth visit to the Alexandra, Sheffield, next week. Although the piece has been on the road so long, it is well booked through 1907.

CIBBER ON BETTERTON.

Betterton, says Colley Cibber in his "Apology," was an Actor, as Shakespear was an Author, both without Competitors! form'd for the mutual Assistance and Illustration of each others Genius! How Shakespear wrote, all Men who have a Taste for Nature may read and know—but with what higher Rapture would he still be *read* could they conceive how Betterton *play'd* him! Then might they know the one was born alone to speak what the other only knew to write! Pity it is that the momentary Beauties flowing from an harmonious Elocution cannot, like those of Poetry, be their own Record! That the animated Graces of the Player can live no longer than the instant Breath and Motion that presents them, or at best can but faintly glimmer through the Memory or imperfect Attestation of a few surviving Spectators. Could *how* Betterton spoke be as easily known as *what* he spoke, then might you see the Muse of Shakespear in her Triumph, with all her Beauties in their best Array rising into real Life and charming her Beholders. But alas! since all this is so far out of the reach of Description, how shall I shew you Betterton? Should I therefore tell you that all the *Othellos, Hamlets, Hotspurs, Mackbeths*, and *Brutus's* whom you may have seen since his Time, have fallen far short of him; this still would give you no Idea of his particular Excellence. Let us see then what a particular Comparison may do! whether that may yet draw him nearer to you?

You have seen a *Hamlet* perhaps, who, on the first Appearance of his Father's Spirit, has thrown himself into all the straining Vociferation requisite to express Rage and Fury, and the House has thunder'd with Applause; tho' the mis-guided Actor was all the while (as Shakespear terms it) tearing a Passion into Rags—I am the more bold to offer you this particular Instance, because the late Mr. Addison, while I sate by him to see this Scene acted, made the same Observation, asking me, with some Surprize, if I thought *Hamlet* should be in so violent a Passion with the Ghost, which, tho' it might have astonish'd, it had not provok'd him? for you may observe that in this beautiful Speech the Passion never rises beyond an almost breathless Astonishment, or an Impatience, limited by filial Reverence, to enquire into the suspected Wrongs that may have rais'd him from his peaceful Tomb! and a Desire to know what a Spirit so seemingly distrest might wish or enjoin a sorrowful Son to execute towards his future Quiet in the Grave? This was the Light into which Betterton threw this Scene; which he open'd with a Pause of mute Amazement! then rising slowly to a solemn, trembling Voice, he made the Ghost equally terrible to the Spectator as to himself! and in the descriptive Part of the natural Emotions which the ghastly Vision gave him, the boldness of his Expostulation was still govern'd by Decency, manly, but not braving; his Voice never rising into that seeming Outrage or wild Defiance of what he naturally rever'd. But alas! to preserve this medium, between mouthing and meaning too little, to keep the Attention more pleasingly awake by a temper'd Spirit than by meer Vehemence of Voice, is of all the Masterstrokes of an Actor the most difficult to reach. In this none have yet equall'd Betterton. But I am unwilling to shew his Superiority only by recounting the Errors of those who now cannot answer to them, let their farther Failings therefore be forgotten! or rather, shall I in some measure excuse them? For I am not yet sure that they might not be as much owing to the false Judgment of the Spectator as the Actor. While the Million are so apt to be transported when the Drum of their Ear is so roundly rattled; while they take the Life of Elocution to lie in the Strength of the Lungs, it is no wonder the Actor, whose end is Applause, should be also tempted at this easy rate to excite it. Shall I go a little farther? and allow that this Extreme is more pardonable than its opposite Error? I mean that dangerous Affectation of the Monotone, or solemn Sameness of Pronounciation, which, to my Ear, is insupportable for of all Faults that so frequently pass upon the Vulgar, that of Flatness will have the fewest Admirers. That this is an Error of ancient standing seems evident by what *Hamlet* says, in his Instruction to the Players, *viz.*

Be not too tame, neither, &c.

The Actor, doubtless, is as strongly ty'd down to the Rules of *Horace* as the Writer.

Si vis me flere, dolendum est
Primum ipsi tibi——

He that feels not himself the Passion he would raise, will talk to a sleeping Audience: But this never was the Fault of Betterton; and it has often amaz'd me to see those who soon came after him throw out, in some Parts of a Character, a just and graceful Spirit which Betterton himself could not but have applauded. And yet in the equally shining Passages of the same Character have heavily dragg'd the Sentiment along like a dead Weight, with a long-ton'd Voice and absent Eye, as if they had fairly forgot what they were about: If you have never made this Observation, I am contented you should not know where to apply it.

A farther Excellence in Betterton was, that he could vary his Spirit to the different Characters he acted. Those wild impatient Starts, that fierce and flashing Fire, which he threw into *Hotspur*, never came from the unruffled Temper of his *Brutus* (for I have more than once seen a *Brutus* as warm as *Hotspur*): when the Betterton *Brutus* was provok'd in his Dispute with *Cassius*, his Spirit flew only to his Eye; his steady Look alone supply'd that Terror which he disdain'd an Intemperance in his Voice should rise to. Thus, with a settled Dignity of Contempt, like an unheeding Rock he repelled upon himself the Foam of *Cassius*. Perhaps the very Words of Shakespear will better let you into my Meaning:

Must I give way and room to your rash Choler?
Shall I be frighted when a Madman stares?

And a little after,

There is no Terror, Cassius, *in your Looks!* &c. Not but in some part of this Scene, where he reproaches *Cassius*, his Temper is not under this Suppression, but opens into that Warmth which becomes a Man of Virtue; yet this is that *Hasty Spark* of Anger which *Brutus* himself endeavours to excuse.

But with whatever strength of Nature we see the Poet shew at once the Philosopher and the Heroe, yet the Image of the Actor's Excellence will be still imperfect to you unless Language could put Colours in our Words to paint the Voice with.

Et, si vis similem pingere, pinge sonum, is enjoyning an impossibility. The most that a Vanduke can arrive at, is to make his Portraits of great Persons seem to *think;* a Shakespear goes farther yet, and tells you *what* his Pictures thought; a Betterton steps beyond 'em both, and calls them from the Grave to breathe and be themselves again in Feature, Speech, and Motion.

There cannot be a stronger Proof of the Charms of harmonious Elocution than the many even unnatural Scenes and Flights of the false Sublime it has lifted into Applause. In what Raptures have I seen an Audience at the furious Fustian and turgid Rants in Nat. Lee's *Alexander the Great!* For though I can allow this Play a few great Beauties, yet it is not without its extravagant Blemishes. Every Play of the same Author has more or less of them. Let me give you a Sample from this. *Alexander*, in a full crowd of Courtiers, without being occasionally call'd or provok'd to it, falls into this Rhapsody of Vain-glory.

Can none remember? Yes, I know all must!

And therefore they shall know it again.

When Glory, like the dazzling Eagle, stood
Perch'd on my Beaver, in the Granic Flood,
When Fortune's Self my Standard trembling bore,
And the pale Fates stood frighted on the Shore,
When the Immortals on the Billows rode,
And I myself appear'd the leading God.

When these flowing Numbers came from the Mouth of a Betterton the Multitude no more desired Sense to them than our musical *Connoisseurs* think it essential in the celebrate Airs of an *Italian* Opera. Where, then, must have lain the Charm that once made the Publick so partial to this Tragedy? Why plainly, in the Grace and Harmony of the Actor's Utterance. For the Actor himself is not accountable for the false Poetry of his Author; That the Hearer is to judge of; if it passes upon him, the Actor can have no Quarrel to it; who, if the Periods given him are round, smooth, spirited, and high-sounding, even in a false Passion, must throw out the same Fire and Grace as may be required in one justly rising from Nature; where those his Excellencies will then be only more pleasing in proportion to the Taste of his Hearer. And I am of opinion that to the extraordinary Success of this very Play we may impute the Corruption of so many Actors and Tragick Writers, as were immediately misled by it. The unskilful Actor who imagin'd all the Merit of delivering those blazing Rants lay only in the Strength and strain'd Exertion of the Voice, began to tear his Lungs upon every false or slight Occasion to arrive at the same Applause.

GAIETY THEATRE COMPANY.

At the annual meeting of the Gaiety Theatre Company, Limited, at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday, Mr. George Edwardes, in his speech as chairman, said the receipts for the year under consideration were £93,457, as against £81,134 in 1904-5, showing an increase of £12,323. The gross profit of the year was £17,196, as against £9,651, showing an increase of £7,545. Instead of paying a larger dividend than 15 per cent. we propose to write down the asset known as stage properties by £6,200 more than last year. In order to get this addition of £12,323 we had to expend £5,374 more on the stage; but we saved in general expenses £796, on rents, rates, and taxes £97, and on advertising and bill-posting £403, making in all £1,287. The printing and stationery is £115 18s. 10d. less, the cost of electric lighting is £109 less, while the alterations and repairs are £317 more. We are getting the new piece ready, and hope shortly to produce it. It is a somewhat different class of entertainment from what we have been doing here, and I think we want change.

Mr. A. G. Mackenzie seconded the motion, and remarked that a good deal had been heard lately of the bitter cry of the middle classes, and they had only to look at the various reports of hotels, theatres, and caterers for public amusement of all kinds to see that they had not been doing nearly so well as formerly. People were spending about 10 per cent. less than they were a few years ago. They had a shilling income-tax to pay, and in very many cases there was not another shilling in the £ to provide for amusements. Considering all these things, he thought this company had done remarkably well.

Mr. Keevil thought the accounts presented showed that they could afford to pay a dividend at the rate of 20 per cent., and he asked the chairman if he would accept an amendment to increase the amount the board recommended.

The Chairman said he could not accept any such proposition.

A Shareholder said he would like to congratulate the board on the improved position shown, and said he was especially pleased to see they had got a leasehold redemption policy. In his opinion nothing was better calculated to improve the price of the shares on the market than the knowledge that the capital would be intact at the end of the lease.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Charles Martin moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors for their services.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Dingwall and unanimously passed.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, said this was the first company he had ever become manager of in London, and the Gaiety always occupied first place in his consideration.

"AMASIS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—The attention of our client, Mr. Frederick Fenn, has been drawn to the letter from Mr. W. Gunn-Gwennet appearing in a recent issue of your journal, in which Mr. Gwennet insinuates that the plot, construction, and scenes, and even some of the lines, of Mr. Fenn's comic opera *Amasis* have been plagarised from an unpublished piece of his.

Our client instructs us that he has never, until a few days ago, ever heard of the existence even of Mr. Gwennet's play, nor has he ever seen the manuscript thereof, and any similarities which Mr. Gwennet alleges exist must, therefore, be merely pure coincidence; but Mr. Fenn cannot agree that they are "astounding" or "astonishing," having regard to the subject-matter of the two plays being the same, viz., ancient Egypt.

We have written to Mr. Gwennet for a retraction of, and an apology for, his libellous and utterly unfounded insinuations; and meanwhile, as you have published Mr. Gwennet's letter, we must ask you, in justice to Mr. Fenn, to kindly give equal prominence to this letter in the next issue of your journal.—We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

Aug. 23. BRANDON AND NICHOLSON.

MISS MABEL SEALBY is now playing Miss Maudie Darrell's part in *The Beauty of Bath* at the Aldwych Theatre.

PRESENTATION.—On the stage of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on Tuesday night, the theatre staff presented to Mr. J. Fred Watson, the energetic and genial manager, a gold-mounted umbrella as a mark of their esteem and regard. Mr. C. S. Radcliffe, the secretary of the company, made the presentation on behalf of the staff, and the managing-director, in the course of a few remarks, testified to the fact that Mr. Watson had the full confidence of the directors, and said he was pleased to see that he had the goodwill of the staff.

MANY members of the profession will learn with regret of the sudden death at Blackpool last week of Mrs. Ralph Rushton, the wife of the proprietor of the Park Hotel, where for the last quarter of a century the leading dramatic and variety artists have been accustomed to stay. Mrs. Rushton, who was a most popular lady, and won the esteem of all visitors and residents in the town, where she had resided for about thirty years, had for some time been subject to heart disease and complications, and about noon on the 14th inst. there was a sudden and startling change. The family physician was hurriedly summoned, but, despite the best attention, she gradually sank. The funeral, which took place at Blackpool Cemetery, was largely attended, the wreaths including one from Mr. George Scott, the manager of the Alhambra, who was staying at the hotel on his holiday at the time the sad event occurred. Floral tributes were also sent by Mr. T. Sergenson, owner of the Grand Theatre, Blackpool; and by Mr. G. H. Harrop, general-manager of the Palace and the Tower Circus.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, in an article on "Sleep and Sleeplessness" in *P.T.O.*, says that he was awakened at two o'clock regularly for the last few weeks. "It is the price I have had to pay," says Mr. O'Connor, "for the anxiety and worry of carrying the Musical Copyright Bill into law. I paid the price willingly enough." Few of those who benefit by the passing of the Bill are aware how much tact, energy, and perseverance, besides an intimate knowledge of the House of Commons, are needed in the pilotage of a measure of this sort through the House.

Mr. James Welch and Miss Audrey Ford were married on Saturday. Miss Ford, whose real name is Miss May Fisher, is the daughter of the popular comedienne Miss Lottie Venne (Mrs. Walter H. Fisher), and appeared with Mr. Welch, we may recall, in the production of Mr. Hugh Morton's farce *Glittering Gloria* at Wyndham's in the July of 1903, when she created an agreeable impression in the character of Dorothy Kenworthy.

Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, and Mr. Pinero were the guests of the King at luncheon at Marienbad on Monday. Among others staying at Marienbad are Mme. Yvette Guilbert, Mme. Saharet, and Miss Miriam Clements. There are, of course, besides, a great number of Viennese "stars," among them Frl. Mizi Günther and Herr Trenmann, who on Monday last were most heartily applauded by His Majesty King Edward, who greatly enjoyed the performance of *Die Lustige Witwe*, manifesting his delight with the singularly fascinating and "catchy" music by Herr Lehar and the exhilarating libretto.

Miss Dot Stephens has been discharged from the Wolverhampton Hospital, and is seeking convalescence at Margate. Despite the terrible ordeal through which she has passed, Miss Stephens is very cheerful, and expresses the most profound gratitude towards those who have hastened to help her in her misfortune. "I do not seem to gain much strength lately," she says, "but perhaps dear old Margate will pull me round again. How I long to walk, but I must be patient. It seems so funny not to be playing, and I get the 'blues' rather when I pass the 'theatre,' but never mind, I can only thank God for sparing my life."

Miss Stephens, who has made a wonderful recovery, is loud in praise of the authorities at the Woverhampton Hospital, where she has lain since the day of the accident. "They have treated me splendidly," she said, "and I don't know how to express my thanks. Dr. Dent performed a wonderful operation, and there is no doubt he saved my life. And as for the matron—well, there, she is the most womanly woman I have ever met."

When Miss Stephens recovered consciousness at the hospital she was informed that she had had "rather a bad accident" by Dr. Dent, who added that he would have to take her foot off. "All right," do what you like," was the plucky reply. "Shall I be able to walk?" "Yes, I think so," said the doctor. "That is all I want to know," said Miss Stephens, "go ahead." The plucky lady, despite the sad nature of the accident, is not despondent. "I sometimes forget my foot is taken off, and I will start up to walk," she said, with a laugh. "Of course, I shall be able to walk. Several London firms have offered to supply me with artificial limbs gratis. I am glad I shall be able to walk."

The final meeting of the committee who had charge of the Birmingham theatrical and music hall sports this year took place at the Woolpack Hotel, Moor-street, on Tuesday, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. E. Margoschis. On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. McManus, the proceeds were thus allocated:—Birmingham Children's Hospital (Bed Fund) £150, Birmingham General Hospital £25, Birmingham Queen's Hospital £25, Birmingham General Dispensary £25, Birmingham Eye Hospital £20, Birmingham Military Veterans £20, Birmingham Lying-in Hospital £20, Birmingham Orthopædic Hospital £10, Birmingham Ear and Throat Hospital £10, Birmingham Skin Hospital £10, Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital £10, Birmingham Police-aid Clothes Association £10, Music Hall Home £10, Music Hall Benevolent Fund £10, Moseley Convalescent Home £10, Birmingham Crippled Children's Union £10, Women's Hospital £10, Blackwell Sanatorium £5, Actors' Benevolent Home £5, Actors' Orphanage £5.

The formal delivery of the decision in the appeal by Mr. Albany Ward, the lessee of the Empire Theatre, Oxford, against the refusal of the city magistrates to grant a licence was made at the adjourned Court of Quarter Sessions for the city of Oxford held for the purpose on Saturday. The matter had been left for three weeks to enable Mr. Ward to take time to consider the judgment of the Recorder, which he foreshadowed at the sessions held on July 28, that the appeal from the justices' decision must fail on a technical objection which was urged by the counsel for the magistrates.

It was stated on behalf of the appellant that it had been decided not to ask the Recorder to state a case, but to abide by his decision. A postponement of the decision for two months was, however, requested, as an application had been made to the Divisional Court to grant a rule nisi, on the grounds that certain magistrates who were on the bench when the licence was refused should not have sat, as they were members of the Watch Committee, and had previously voted against granting it; and also that when once a licence had been granted the conditions could not be altered by granting it for one year. The justices had nothing before them but the report of the Watch Committee, of which body Alderman Lucas, a director of the other theatre in the city, was vice-chairman, but he did not adjudicate at the refusal. The Recorder said he could not accede to the request for postponement, and the appellant must pay the taxed costs.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Homewood (Miss Joan Blair) are returning from South Africa by the Walmer Castle, due on Saturday next. They have been kindly released by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler in order that they may resume their positions in Mr. E. S. Willard's company, and leave England again on Sept. 14—Mr. Homewood for his fifth and Mrs. Homewood for her third American trip.

A new one-act play, entitled *La Marseillaise*, by Frank E. Potter, will be produced by Mr. Arthur Carlton at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, on Sept. 6. The action takes place in the Bastille during the night and early morning preceding the outbreak of the Revolution. Rouget de L'Isle (the author of the world-famous revolutionary song which gives the play its name) is deftly woven into the plot, and will be played by Mr. Arthur Carlton himself, supported by Mrs. Carlton as the wife Marthe. In most plays dealing with the French Revolution the sympathy is all on the side of the "aristocrats," but the new piece has a pro-revolutionary hero, and should mark an interesting departure.

Mr. F. R. Benson's "South" Shakespearean Co., which commenced its autumn tour at Hunstanton on Aug. 6, has since been drawing large audiences at the East Coast towns, in spite of the hot weather. They now proceed to Scotland for a two months' tour.

Mr. Geo. Edwardes's next production at Daly's, the music of which is by M. Hugo Felix and the libretto by Captain Basil Hood, is now being actively rehearsed for presentation at the end of next month. A welcome feature of the new musical piece, which is based on Sardou's *Les Merveilleuses*, will be the reappearance of Miss Evie Greene, whose return to the London stage has been too long delayed. Other exponents of the ladies of the Directoire will be found in Miss Mariette Sully, Miss Denise Orme, and Miss Gabrielle Ray, and Messrs. Robert Evett, Louis Bradfield, Fred Kaye, W. H. Berry, George Graves, and Willie Warde will also appear in the new play.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *Florodora* will visit the Kennington Theatre next week. The exceptionally strong cast includes Mr. Daly Cooper as Tweedlepunch, Miss Edith Housley, who played Lady Holyrood in London with such marked success, clever tiny Miss Nellie Bowman as Angela, Miss Violet Gratzice as Dolores, and Mr. R. Courtier Dutton as Abercoed. Mr. Howard's company with *Oliver Twist* will be at the Brixton next week.

The second week of the Hutchison season at the West Pier, Brighton, proved most successful, the plays presented being *Cousin Kate* and *On the Love Path*. For this, the third week, Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison are producing *A Bit of Old Chelsea* and *A Country Mouse*, with Miss Annie Hughes in her original parts. R. C. Carton's clever farce *Public Opinion*, which has now a sub-title of *Pansy's Breach of Promise Case*, will furnish the attraction for the fourth week, Miss Emma Hutchison heading the cast.

A plucky rescue from drowning was effected at St. Leonard's on Saturday by Mr. Brember Wills, a member of Miss Katie Johnson and Mr. F. G. Bayly's *Billy's Little Love Affair* company, then performing at the local Pavilion Theatre. A lady, whilst bathing, was carried out of her depth by the heavy ground swell, and Mr. Wills, who was on the beach at the time, at once swam out and succeeded in bringing her to shore in an unconscious condition. He at once made off; but his bravery had not escaped notice, and at the matinée performance the orchestra greeted him on his appearance with the strains of the "Conquering Hero." At the evening performance he was publicly presented by Mr. Monckton Hoffe, the business-manager, for Mrs. Johnson, with a box of everlasting flowers, sent by the lady he had rescued.

The King's Theatre, Westgate-street, Cardiff, with the Grand Hotel adjoining, is to be sold in September by Messrs. Gottwaltz and Perry at their property sale-rooms. The properties are held upon leases for 99 years from 1885 and 1887 respectively, the theatre being let upon lease which yields a present profit rental of £450 per annum.

Mrs. Michael Gunn has rearranged and redecorated all the dressing-rooms at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, and has also devised for lady patrons a luxurious tea saloon, roomy and spacious, and artistically decorated in green and white, while palm trees and delicately tinted glass relieve the eye. This thoughtful provision for their comfort will no doubt be thoroughly appreciated by the lady playgoers of Dublin, and will increase the popularity of this already most popular theatre.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the proprietors of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, on Sept. 22 will inaugurate matinées for the various attractions presented at their premier Leicester theatre. Mr. Henry Dundas, the business-manager of the Opera House, is already making this widely known in the hunting shire, where there is a great population who will no doubt appreciate the enterprise of the new management. Tea will be provided for their country visitors, and Saturday being market day at Leicester, the matinées at the Opera House should prove a success.

An effective form of advertisement and a good one has been introduced to the East-End theatregoers by Mr. Clarence Sounes. The novelty consists of a post-card giving on one side a map of the district surrounding his elegant Prince's Theatre, showing the principal roads and arteries leading to the position of the theatre in the East India-road. A sentence full of meaning is printed above the map; it reads, "All roads lead to the Prince's Theatre, Poplar," and the public are following this instruction.

Mr. Frank Seddon, the musical director of the Opera House, Northampton, has, we understand, been appointed resident-manager for the same house, and will commence his new duties on Monday next. Mr. Seddon, who has been in Northampton some three years, is well known and highly respected, both for his musical abilities and for his courtesy.

Mr. Louis Calvert's wisdom in augurating his career as a manager with a return to comic opera is being amply proved at the New Theatre, where the booking for *Amasis* extends well on to the end of the year, and money is turned away at nearly every performance. It is well to note that St. Martin's-lane, where the road was "up," is resuming its normal appearance, the approach to the theatre from the north being now quite clear.

Mr. John Bayliss, a well-known Liverpool musician, died on Tuesday at Morecambe. The deceased gentleman was for about twenty years conductor of the orchestra at the now closed Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, and was exceedingly popular. During the last three summer seasons he held a similar position at the central Pier Pavilion, Morecambe. When Terry's Theatre, Strand, was opened Mr. Bayliss was appointed leader of the orchestra. He wrote the music for the brilliantly successful pantomimes which for many years were produced at the Prince of Wales's, Liverpool. Mr. Bayliss, who had passed his fifty-ninth year, was buried on Thursday at Kirkdale Cemetery, Liverpool.

Miss Margaret Ashton, acting under the strict orders of her medical adviser, has been compelled to cancel her immediate engagements. The charming American soprano, who has been urged by her doctor to take a sea voyage and complete rest, was fortunate enough to secure, at the last moment, a state cabin on the Majestic, and sailed this week for New York, whence she will proceed to her home in Denver. She hopes that with the complete change and rest she will be able to resume her European engagements towards the end of the year.

Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's revival of *Claudian*, which created such a great sensation on its last tour, starts again on Monday next at the Royal Opera House, Leicester. During the summer vacation new scenery has been built, the large wardrobe entirely renewed, and more pictorial printing added to the already extensive plant by Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd. The tour, which includes many of the large towns, runs till Whitsuntide, 1907, Mr. Chute having secured the company for that date at Bristol.

Miss Marie Studholme has been engaged by Mr. Seymour Hicks for his revival of *Alice in Wonderland* early in December at a theatre not yet decided upon. Later on Miss Studholme will enact the title-rôle of Mr. Hicks's new comedy *Everyone's Darling*, upon which he is now engaged. The autumn of next year will find the charming comedienne on tour with her own company, which will be run in association with Mr. Hicks.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier has finally decided upon Thursday next for the production of *The Morals of Marcus* at the Garrick. The cast is headed by Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, who will play the interesting Marcus, and the other parts will be presented by Messrs. Julian L'Estrange, Sydney Valentine, Charles V. France, and Wilfred Forster, and Misses Lillah McCarthy, Helen Rous, Olivia Glynne, Sadie Jerome, Marianne Caldwell, Sybil Audrey, Gordon Walker, Valerie Salberg, and Alexandra Carlisle. The first act takes place in a cottage at Surbiton, and the rest of the piece passes in London.

Mr. Fred Bulmer has taken over from Miss Nettie Ware the very successful drama *When Woman Hates*, and is sending out a specially selected company. The production will be elaborate, and the author, Mr. Wm. Hibbert, is now assisting in the preparation. Many of the best provincial theatres have been booked.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has acquired the rights of the romantic costume play by Denis Cleugh and C. Duncan Jones, entitled *Robin Hood, or the Outlaw of Sherwood Forest*, and will shortly produce the piece. The part of Maid Marian will be played by Miss Beatrice Wilson.

Mr. Cecil A. Collins, who has just terminated 13 weeks' stock season with Mr. Percy Williams at Plymouth, has been re-engaged by Mr. Beerbohm Tree to play Bill Sikes in *Oliver Twist* in his forthcoming autumn tour.

"When London Sleeps" opened to a large house on Monday night at the Grand, Nottingham, when a highly attractive addition was made to the already strong cast by the appearance of Mr. Lester Collingwood, who temporarily resumed his well-known and admirably artistic rendering of the character of Captain Rodney Haynes. Mr. Collingwood is an indefatigable worker, having the business management of this company as well as the entire management of the Alexandra, Birmingham, to look after. Mr. Fred Bernardo is stage-manager, and Mr. Frank Howard acting-manager for *When London Sleeps*.

The Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, will reopen for the autumn season on Monday. Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, the managing-director, has arranged for the appearance of many West-End successes, and has in preparation the tenth annual Alexandra Theatre pantomime, which will be entitled *Dick Whittington*.

Mr. Richard Flanagan will produce on Monday, Sept. 10, a romantic drama, adapted by Mr. William Palmer from Sir Walter Scott's popular novel "Ivanhoe." The principal parts will be cast as follows:—Ivanhoe, Mr. A. Caton Woodville, jun.; Prince John, Mr. James Berry; The Black Knight, Mr. Herbert Dansey; Sir Brian de Bois Guilbert, Mr. H. Gomer May; Sir Reginald Front de Bœuf, Mr. Victor Rae; Locksley, Mr. J. H. Troughton; Friar Tuck, Mr. Harrison Brockbank; Cedric, Mr. John Wainwright; Wamba, Mr. J. H. Atkinson; Isaac of York, Mr. Charles Garry; Lady Rowena. Miss Katherine Harrington; Elgitha, Mrs. Wilson Holt; Ulrica, Miss Minnie Webb; Rebecca, Miss Dora Barton. The play is in five acts and thirteen scenes. The scenery has been painted by Messrs. Hugh Freemantle and William Palmer. The music has been composed and arranged by Mr. Yorke Sheffield, and over 100 persons will take part in the production.

Mr. Norman V. Norman, with Miss Beatrice Wilson and company, who have lately been drawing large audiences in the South of England, broke all records at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday with *David Garrick*, every available seat being occupied before the performance began, and over two hundred people having to be turned away.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shepherd (Miss Helena Head) are among the most successful English invaders of America. They sailed last Saturday for a return visit to the United States, having spent the summer, with their one little daughter, among the Devonshire moors. Mr. Shepherd is under contract to Mr. Fiske—in whose company he played last season in *Monna Vanna* and *Thérèse Raquin*—to create an important part in Mrs. Fiske's new production at the Manhattan Theatre, New York. Miss Head, who played her first engagement on "the other side" two years ago, has been called one of the most charming Rosalinds on the stage. Portia was another of her many successes.

Mr. Tom Craven's play, *The Wife and the Woman*, will be produced in the United States next autumn.

Miss Annie Windsor has been engaged by Mr. Lewis Waller to play the part of Lucy Rellerton in *Monsieur Beaucaire* on tour. Miss Windsor has already played the part successfully with Mr. Norman MacOwan in his spring tour.

Signor Valenza, the conductor of the Town Band at Shanghai, was born at Naples, and received from his father—a talented musician—his musical education as pianist, harpist, and composer. He went to India with a first-class opera company in 1883, visiting Simla and Calcutta, and finally going on tour as conductor of an operatic company to Burma, China, and Japan. He was then appointed conductor of a philharmonic society at Batavia. Then he was in Calcutta for five years; and subsequently wielded the *bâton* with an Italian opera company in Greece and Turkey. After conducting with the Arthur Rousbey and Carl Rosa companies in London, Signor Valenza went to Shanghai, where he has held the above appointment for five years. He has conducted all kinds of orchestras, from that of grand opera to a music-hall show, and his repertory of all kinds of theatrical productions includes over a hundred pieces and a number of musical comedies. Signor Valenza has had several offers to remain in England, but has not yet decided whether he will stay in this country.

Miss Zena Dare, who is winning so many laurels by her exquisite singing and dancing as the heroine of *The Beauty of Bath* at the Aldwych, will, at Christmas, take up the rôle of Peter Pan on a tour of Mr. Barrie's charming piece. Simultaneously *Peter Pan* will again be revived at the Duke of York's.

"Peter's Mother," the play in which Miss Marion Terry is to make her welcome reappearance, will be produced by Mr. Otho Stuart at Wyndham's on Sept. 12. In the cast of Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's piece will also be found Miss Dolores Drummond, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. Alfred Bucklaw, Mr. E. W. Garden, and Mr. Fred Kerr. A contrast will be obtained by the production the same evening of a grim one-act play by Mr. C. Hamilton, entitled *The Sixth Commandment*, the characters in which will be played by Miss Madge McIntosh, Mrs. Edward Saker, Mr. Percival Stevens, and Mr. Walter Hampden.

Miss Marie Hanbury's friends will hear with regret that she has been very seriously ill, and on Sunday last underwent an operation at the hands of Dr. Fothergill, the Manchester specialist. Although progressing as favourably as can be expected, it will be several weeks before she will be strong enough to fulfil her professional engagements; and in consequence the autumn tour of *A Woman's Past*, in which she was to appear in her original creation of Bessie, has been postponed for a time. We wish Miss Hanbury a speedy return to health and strength.

Mr. Otho Stuart is making elaborate preparations for the revival of *Tristram and Iseult*, which is due at the Adelphi on Sept. 4, and two of the scenes will be found to be of unusual splendour. At Christmas matinées will be given of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the revival of which met with such a favourable reception last year. *Tristram and Iseult*, if it justifies the hopes formed of its success, will be then presented in the evening.

"Lady Kinton's Necklace" is the title of Servais Le Roy's mystical play due for production in a few weeks, and in which Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco will play principal parts, supported by one of the finest all-round companies it is possible to gather together. The entertainment will be of three hours' duration, and will not be a variety show. Magic and mystery will play an important part in the attraction, but comedy will be given every chance. An interesting story will bind together many of Servais Le Roy's masterpieces in the way of illusions, conjuring, &c., and the venture will form one of the most novel enterprises of recent times. Offers for spring dates are very numerous, and the show is booking well ahead. The general manager—Mr. W. Scott Phipp—has everything well in hand.

We regret to have to state that Mr. Charles Lockwood—late manager for Mr. John Peachey's *An English Violet* company—passed away at his house in Wolverton Gardens, Hammersmith, on Wednesday. Mr. Lockwood was cousin to the late Miss Sophie Larkin, and was manager for several tours for Mr. Herbert Shelley. A kind and courteous man, he will be deeply mourned by his many friends.

Mr. H. M. S. McLellan, who is staying at Eastbourne, witnessed the performance of his play *On the Love Path* on Monday last by Mr. Percy Hutchison and company, and was highly pleased with the entire and general performance and production of the play. In a letter to Mr. Hutchison he says: "I have no suggestions to make regarding the acting of my play, let me repeat that the general performance was most interesting to me." This is certainly very satisfactory to Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison, as authors, generally speaking, are not very easy to please. The author of *Leah Kleschna* also witnessed a performance by the same company of *Cousin Kate*.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has acquired the rights of a costume comedy in three acts, by the Rev. Frederick Langbridge. Mr. Langbridge, who has just been appointed a Canon of Limerick Cathedral, is part author with the Rev. Freeman Wills of *The Only Way*, *After All*, and *Count Hannibal* (the play in which Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson have been so successful). The new play deals with an episode in the life of James Edward Francis Stuart, known as the "Old Pretender."

The Adelphi Theatre reaches its hundredth anniversary this autumn. When it was opened in 1806 it was called the Sans Pareil, and belonged to a Mr. Scott, whose daughter was a pillar of strength to the theatre, for she not only combined the representation of the principal parts with the duties of *première danseuse*, but wrote all the pieces produced.

"Her Luck in London," a drama which has been prosecuting a successful tour since its production at Blackpool last November, will be seen for the first time in London on Monday, at the Grand, Islington. The company travelling with the piece is that of Miss Mary Neil and Mr. George Kirk, and includes the clever young actress Miss Florrie Groves.

"The Lord of the Last," a two-act musical farce, which received its first representation at Worthing on Thursday, will come to London on Monday, where it will be presented at the Camden Theatre. The new piece—the book and lyrics of which are by Fred A. Ellis and the music by Percival Knight and Denham Harrison—will be elaborately staged.

"The Sweet Girl" is the alluring title of a musical comedy which will be given its first English production by Miss Claudia Lasell's company at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Monday. The piece has been adapted from the original of Alex. Landesburg and Leo Stein, by A. Demain Grange, William Caine, and Herbert Cottesmore, the music being by Heinrich Reinhardt. In addition to Miss Lasell, the cast includes Miss Alice Lethbridge, Mr. George de Lara, Mr. Algernon Newark, Mr. Lister Marrah, Mr. Leonard Russell, and Mr. Fred Eastman.

"Geoffrey Stirling," the powerful adaptation by Mr. Neville Lynn which attracted favourable attention on its production at the Fulham in the December of 1904, commences a long tour on Monday week at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham. Mr. Henry Doughty's company will be engaged in its representation.

Mr. Bannister Howard's opening of the Castle Theatre, Richmond, redecorated and in many ways improved, will take place on Monday with *Sergeant Brue*. Great interest is being excited in the event, and the success of the enterprise under such experienced management seems to be assured.

One of the songs from *Mizpah*, the Biblical play written by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Luscombe Searelle, which has had such a pronounced success in America, has been published by M. Witmark and Son. It is entitled "The night wind sighs unto the rose," both words and melody being by Mr. Searelle, who wrote much of the dialogue and all the music of the play. The ballad, which is written throughout in the key of E flat, has a pretty and dramatic tune which well matches the beauty of the lines, while the accompaniment is remarkably effective.

Mrs. Langtry has had remarkable success on the turf this week at Folkestone, where "Mr. Jersey's" horses twice headed the list on Wednesday. In the Kent handicap her three-year-old Aurina was first past the post, and the Hythe Juvenile Maiden Plate was won by Petchora, another of Mrs. Langtry's horses. Her well-known five-year-old Vergia, who has done the popular actress good service, also scored a minor success, running third in the Romney High-Weight Handicap.

Mr. H. A. Jones is rehearsing his new play *The Hypocrites* at the Hudson Theatre, New York, where Mr. Charles Frohman will produce it next week, with Miss Jessie Milward in the leading female rôle. The piece will resemble Mr. Anthony Trollope's novels in having for its material the "county society" in a small English town. Mr. Jones still complains that the drama in England is "choked with musical comedy."

Mme. Mathilde Marchesi, the famous teacher of singing, has received the gold medal for music, art, and science from the King's own hands. His Majesty, who has always shown especial favour towards members of the musical profession, has recently acquired a plaque in silver of Mme. Clara Butt, made by Mr. P. F. Hedley. It is exhibited at Ashton's Royal Agency, where replicas may be obtained.

Mr. Lewis Waller was fined £5 at Diss Petty Sessions on Wednesday, for driving a motor-car too fast at Scole, near Diss. The police estimated his speed at twenty-six miles an hour

Mr. Charles Macdona's special company in *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, which is playing at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, this week, has been very successful in spite of the hot weather. The house on Monday night was packed to the doors, and the company was received with genuine and marked enthusiasm. Mr. G. P. Huntley had an "extra special" reception, and Miss Millie Legarde in Miss Ethel Irving's part, Miss Kate Forster who follows Miss Marie Illington, Miss Eva Kelly and Miss Nellie Hodson were warmly applauded. This company is the last and most important that Mr. Macdona has dispatched to the provinces this autumn. The other "Popple" provincial company appears at Kingston next week. Mr. Macdona has decided to revive with a very strong company and at least one particular star, that very funny farcical comedy *A Night Out*. A tour is being booked from Christmas next. He has also arranged to take over the entire rights from Mr. Dance of *The Chinese Honeymoon*. The principal company will also re-open under Mr. Macdona's management at Christmas. That delightful musical comedy from the Criterion Theatre, *The White Chrysanthemum*, has scored a huge success. All Mr. Macdona's other enterprises are doing exceptionally well.

Mr. Ben Greet and company will open Mr. Bannister Howard's season at the Crystal Palace on Sept. 17 with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Thenceforward a remarkable list of attractions will be furnished in the theatre in the Palace, which came under Mr. Howard's management last February.

Mr. E. A. W. Rodrigo, the Cingalese composer, whose adaptation of old Indian airs added so greatly to the attractiveness of Miss Ruth St. Denis's recent matinées at the Aldwych Theatre, has just published a spirited march, entitled "Caffrinha." It has been played with great success at the Crystal Palace by Mr. Herbert Godfrey's band. Mr. Rodrigo is an entirely self-taught musician, who has made his mark in Ceylon as the popular conductor of a Cingalese band. He scores his own music, and has trained the "boys" in his band—over twenty in number—to play exceedingly well. They all appear in native costume, making a striking contrast to their leader in smart European clothes.

Discipline behind the scenes is a feature of modern management. Smoking, it is needless to say, is strictly forbidden, but a certain popular manager has evidently determined to show his employees the road to perfection. The following notice appeared on the call-board of a West-End theatre this week—"Any member of the staff coughing or sneezing on the stage during a performance renders himself liable to instant dismissal." If the same rule could be enforced in the front of the house—at public meetings and in churches as well as at the theatre—it would revolutionise the manners of audiences.

The terms of the will of the late J. L. Toole are already made known. Its provisions include a bequest of £2000 to Mr. E. J. Lowne, who thus receives an acknowledgment of constant and faithful service in the capacity of a trusted business manager and an esteemed friend. £2000 is also left to Mr. Toole's sister and his deceased wife's sister, and to his friend Shelton £1000 is bequeathed. Mrs. Billington and Mrs. Routledge each receive the sum of £500, and to Sir Henry Irving's sons £400 each is left.

A number of old friends and stage attendants benefit by smaller amounts and by articles from his rich collection of stage properties and theatrical literature and autographed portraits. The value of the estate will not be known until the sale of the effects at Mr. Toole's Maida Vale house has been carried out in accordance with his instructions, but the residuary legatee will benefit by the addition of £4000, which was originally bequeathed to Sir Henry Irving, and which, in consequence of the death of his old friend, will revert to the estate.

The English Drama Society, who gave agreeable representations of three of the Chester plays last June, have, through their secretary, Mr. Nugent Moncke, approached the Chester Archæological Society, with the view of furthering a reproduction of these plays in the city of their birth. The Council of the Chester Archæological Society have constituted a committee for the purpose, and it is hoped that the performance may take place at Whitsuntide.

The licence of the Public Hall, Redditch, which is extensively utilised for dramatic and musical performances, was granted on Wednesday, 15th inst., to Mr. W. Predgold.

The translation of *Sherlock Holmes* has reached its fiftieth performance at the Berliner Theatre, Berlin, with Herr Bonn in the name-part. It proved a splendid advertisement for the piece that the Crown Prince not only attended the performance twice, but on the second occasion filled the stalls with the soldiers of his company, treating them in the entr'acte to beer and sandwiches in the theatre garden.

A German version of Mr. Pinero's comedy *A Wife Without a Smile* met with a cordial reception on its production a week ago at the Trianon, Berlin, and is still holding the boards there. The translation is called *Die Frau ohne Lächeln*.

Summer holidays at the Apollo Theatre have now come to an end, and every member of the original cast of *The Dairymaids* is back, greatly invigorated for the season of continued success which lies before them. Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Florence Smithson, Miss Gracie Leigh, Mr. Dan Rolyat, Mr. Walter Passmore, Mr. Ambrose Manning, Miss Phyllis Broughton, and Miss Agnes Fraser are all working with added zeal to delight the large audiences which are nightly attracted.

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks, agreeably combining work and play, are spending a portion of their vacation in Dublin, where they opened on Monday night last with *The Catch of the Season* at the Theatre Royal. The house was packed to its utmost capacity, and all the reserved seats for next week have been sold. Among the new numbers introduced into the popular musical play a "Geographical" song sung by Miss Terriss was an instantaneous success.

The highly dramatic play of *The Jewish Hamlet* was again repeated on Monday evening at the Pavilion Theatre by the talented members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company. An interesting feature was the artistic interpretation of Avigdor (the Yiddish Hamlet) by Mr. Henry Ginsburg, who received an enthusiastic reception from the crowded house, while the remaining parts were capably portrayed by Messrs. Isaacowitch, J. Fineberg, J. Scherman, Goldsmith, Schilling, Streng, Rosenfeld, Mesdames F. Waxman, Goldstein, J. Kayzer, and Rubenstein. During the week *David's Violin*, *Bar Cochba*, *Hyman in America*, *The Good Counsellor*, and *The Bells* have been played.

The staff of the Theatre Royal, Halifax, took their annual outing on Sunday, Llandudno, the beautiful North Wales watering place, being selected for the purpose. Blessed with magnificent weather, the party journeyed by train from Halifax to Liverpool, where they boarded La Marguerite, which set sail at 10.45. A drive round Ormes Head was subsequently enjoyed, and after partaking of dinner and tea a departure was made at 7 o'clock, Halifax being reached at 11.10 p.m.

MR. CARNEGIE AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie laid the memorial stone of the King's Theatre, Leven-street, Edinburgh, last Saturday. The new theatre is to be opened in December. In the spacious galleries and pit a large company assembled to witness the ceremony. The memorial stone was placed on the box space of the grand circle on the O.P. side, and here on an improvised platform were seated the chairman, Mr. R. C. Buchanan, and other directors of the Edinburgh Construction Company (Limited), the proprietors of the theatre, Dr. Carnegie, Provost Mackie, Leith, Councillor Cameron, and Dr. Hew Morrison.

The CHAIRMAN said they were met to witness a performance—an episode in one act—such as was seldom seen within the walls of a theatre. He felt proud that the aims to which his fellow-directors and himself had set themselves were within measurable distance of realisation. They had endeavoured to formulate a scheme whereby the capital of Scotland might have a theatre worthy of the best and the greatest dramatic traditions of the past. They meant to put all their energies into the work. It was a work on a high plane of action, an ambitious plane of action—action that sought to place within reach of the public of Edinburgh and of the many visitors to that beautiful city a continuous series of the dramatic works of the dramatists of the past, of the dramatists of the day, and of the dramatists yet unborn. It was perhaps natural that in such a theatre as that the feeling should be prompted that standing, as it did, in Scotland's capital, it was to be regarded as a National theatre. The plea for a National theatre had had the support of all men and women who acknowledged the high destiny of the drama, the late Sir Henry Irving being foremost among them. If that theatre might lay claim to the title "National," it would be because it would be run on the lines on which a National theatre would be run. The ideals would be all that constituted what was purest in art and elevating in entertainment.

A jar containing current coins and newspapers was then placed in the stone, which, on being lowered into position, was laid by Mr. Carnegie, who pronounced it "well and truly laid."

Mr. CARNEGIE then gave an address on the drama. He said:—It is some forty years since I was within the walls of a theatre in Edinburgh. Well do I remember that I then heard and saw one of the greatest dramatic treats I have ever had, and I have had many rare nights listening to good plays. Charles Webster played Sir Pertinax MacSycophant in Macklin's *Man of the World*. I hope it will be often repeated in this house. Many are the lessons for life I have received from the theatre. My first knowledge of Shakespeare came from attending a theatre and seeing his plays performed. I had not read his works. As telegraph messenger boy it was my duty to deliver telegrams to the manager of our Pittsburg theatre. We boys made it a practice to ask the gatekeeper if we might slip upstairs to the gallery, which privilege was accorded. In this way the works of Shakespeare were revealed to me.

What is the mission of the drama? We have the answer in the master's words—"both at the first and now, was and is, to hold, as 'twere, the mirror up to nature, to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure." The highest and best are now grateful for knowing men and women of the actors' profession. In each of the two branches of our race we have had in our day one who stood out among his fellows. Our American, Joe Jefferson, was one of the sweetest and purest characters it has ever been my fortune to know or hear of, a friend who did one good, a model of all the virtues. I do not know a gentler, purer, character than the delineator of Rip Van Winkle; and your Irving, crossing the ocean so often with him, it was my privilege to know him well. He, too, was in every respect a man whom all delighted to honour, and we have living in the profession to-day men and women of the same character whom it were invidious to mention. It is a far cry from burnt ears to Westminster Abbey, where Irving lies with Garrick, distinguished members of what is now recognised as an honoured profession. The theatre has come to stay, and it devolves upon us to avail ourselves of its tremendous power for good, and support it wherein it is worthy. Subventions to the drama and the opera are not favoured by our race: we know nothing of the subsidised theatre or opera, but since our Governments fail to support either, the duty appeals with greater force to the citizen. The best way for good people to aid and improve the theatre is to patronise it as often as a good play is produced, and avoid it when a bad one is offered. The appeal for aid to a bazaar rarely fails, I am told, on this side of the Atlantic. When a manager of a theatre like this—which is on Marlowe's lines, who laboured to exalt the stage—makes his appeal to the community on behalf of a standard good play, or of a pleasing spectacle for the children, such as has been taking New York by storm, the work of our talented fellow-countryman, Mr. Barrie, the man or woman of good position in Edinburgh should consider it a duty to patronise these and to induce others to do so. Purchasing a number of tickets and sending them to their poorer neighbours and their children is a sound exercise of generosity, a good use of surplus wealth. There is no pauperisation in this, no taint of charity. This is the legitimate reward which the manager has the right to expect at your hands. *Peter Pan* has just run continuously in New York the whole season, and the theatre was only closed owing to the summer heat. It is to start again when the heat is over.

I hope it will be so in Edinburgh, for it is a delight to children rarely equalled, and so with the cycle of Shakespearian plays promised at the inauguration of this theatre. If parents will see that their sons and daughters attend this cycle, more than one of their children is likely to look back in after life, as I do, to the revelation of Shakespeare as one of the controlling forces in his life for good. Ladies and gentlemen, I am greatly pleased to appear upon this occasion, because I have a note from the Lord Provost of Glasgow, stating that the proprietors and managers of this new theatre have done much for the elevation of the drama in Glasgow. Your sons and daughters who prefer to spend their shillings to see and hear plays of Shakespeare instead of squandering them upon lower things, are not likely to give you trouble in after life. Books laden with good fruit, which are sealed to the multitude, will have been opened to them, which cannot fail to affect their character and their tastes. I ask you then, citizens of Edinburgh, to consider the King's Theatre an institution worthy of your support, because it has the power, if sustained by you, to lead men and women into a higher atmosphere. I shall watch the future of this theatre with deepest interest. It is here somewhat in the nature of an experiment, but one which, as a fellow-burgess, I commend to all the good, generous, public-spirited citizens of the Metropolis. I lay this memorial stone, saying to my fellow-citizens of Edinburgh, in the words of Hamlet and Polonius, "'See the players well bestowed." Polonius—"I will use them according to their desert." Hamlet—"Much better, man, use every man after his desert, and who shall scape whipping? Use them after your own honour and dignity."

THE initial performance at Tower's Hall, a new place of amusement in Sheerness, is announced for Wednesday and Thursday, when *Two Little Vagabonds* will be presented under the direction of Messrs. Henry Chappell and G. W. Bowes.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, AUG. 23.—The position of manager of the Opera is an enviable one, and it, therefore, is not surprising that M. Gailhard, now at the head of that establishment, should cling to his post with all his might. But will he retain it? It is doubtful. Every seven years the "privilege"—as it is called here—to manage the Opera has to be renewed, and for the last twenty years M. Gailhard has retained the post. The seven years will soon come to an end again, and a large portion of the Paris public are now clamouring for a new manager. Not only are they displeased with the choice of new works produced at the Opera, but they are expressing their surprise that an institution which receives an annual subsidy from the State of £32,000 should at the end of every year show a deficit of £8,000. This figure has never varied. Many candidates have come forward to replace M. Gailhard, among them the brothers Isola, M. Gunzbaung, &c., none of whom, however, have much chance. The only serious candidates are M. Broussan and M. Messager; and of these two the former is decidedly the favourite. M. Messager is a first-class musician, a charmingly versatile composer; and his qualities of chef d'orchestre are justly appreciated. What we, however, require at the Opera is someone like M. Albert Carré, who, in addition to an artistic temperament, has had considerable experience in theatrical management. Such a man is M. Broussan. Remarkably gifted, highly intelligent, he was appointed director of the Lyons Opera, where he performed wonders. He changed the whole répertoire, brought out new operas, mounted the *Trilogy;* and the Lyons public who had ceased to patronise the house flocked there in numbers, with the result that the Lyons Opera, which, for a quarter of a century had lost money every year, became a paying concern. M. Broussan is very strongly backed, and his nomination as M. Gailhard's successor more than probable.

THE trouble about *Le Foyer* is still not at an end. M. Claretie remains obdurate, and M. Mirbeau obstinate. M. Guitry, the manager of the Renaissance, not being—like M. Claretie—a member of the Académie Française, and not having such a rooted respect for that august body, is quite prepared to produce *Le Foyer* in its present form, and it is more than likely that it will see the footlights at that house.

THE dispute, to which reference has already been made in these columns, between MM. Clèves and Larochelle, managers of the Porte-Saint-Martin, and the Authors' Society threatens to take an acute form. These gentlemen refuse to pay to the Society any royalties on *Cinderella*, alleging that the private arrangements they made with the English authors dispense them from having recourse to the Society's services, which in this case would become somewhat onerous. But the Society has a heavy hand. It does not allow anybody to disobey its rules; and when at the end of the year the treaty between the Porte-Saint-Martin and the Authors' Society expires it is more than probable that it will not be renewed. We would then witness a repetition of what occurred when the Folies-Dramatiques rebelled against the Society. On the other hand, it is said that the difference between the Porte-Saint-Martin and the Authors' Society is due to other causes, and has nothing to do with *Cinderella*. This, however, appears doubtful.

M. DECORI's new play, *Jean Chouan*, is in active rehearsal at the Théâtre de la Gaîté. The scene of the play is laid in Laval, in the year 1793, with the exception of the fourth tableau, which takes place in Coblentz. The author, an able actor, who for many years was at the Ambigu, will interpret the principal rôle. The other parts will be impersonated by Mlle. Bouchetal, Mlle. Kerwich, Mlle. Barra, M. Péricaud, M. Gravier, M. Renot, and M. Céalis.

"LA TIMBALE" is the title of a four-act piece by MM. Vandérem and Lenotre which Mme. Réjane has just accepted. It will be produced after *Le Vieil Homme*, by M. de Porto-Riche, and a comedy by M. Capus.

I AM sorry to have to record the death of M. Alphonse Herman, who from 1892 to 1903 was chef d'orchestre at the Ambigu. He had written the music for all the dramas produced there during that period: *Les Deux Gasses, Gigolette, Les Chouans*, &c., and he was also the author of many overtures and songs that enjoyed a certain popularity.

AT Cluny the rehearsals have begun of the piece that is to follow *Les Francs-Maçons*, which has reached its 450th performance. It is a vaudeville by MM. Hugues Delarme and Gally, wherein M. Valot, the creator of the rôle of Lapudeur, will play a leading part. M. Perret, a new arrival from Lyons, will make his début therein.

M. GERNIER intends to inaugurate his theatre with *La Vie Publique*, which under his management at the Renaissance secured such a great success. The author, M. Fabre, has changed several scenes that dragged a little, and cut down some of the speeches that were somewhat too verbose. M. Gernier will, of course, appear again in the principal character, and the rôle of Astrand has been entrusted to that excellent actor, M. Zanvier.

MM. LOUIS DECORI AND MAURICE LEFEVRE have written a five-act comedy, *La Part du Feu*, that will be given at the Théâtre Antoine. We are told that it has been adapted for the English stage, and will be produced in London, with Miss Marie Tempest in the chief rôle.

THIS is the list of the new plays to be produced here this season:—

AT the Comédie Française: *La Courtisane*, by Arnyvelde. *La Réveuse*, by MM. Henri Kistemackers and E. Delard. *Chacun sa Vie*, by MM. Gustave Guiches and P. B. Gheusi. *L'Ecran Crisé*, by M. Henry Bordeaux. *Potiche*, by Henri Bataille. *La Furie*, by Jules Bois. *Son Bonheur* by Romain Caolus. *Les Deux Familles*, by Emile Fabre. *Claire Fresneau*, by Paul and Victor Margueritte. *Electre*, by Emile Poizat.

AT the Variétés: *Paris—New York*, by Emmanuel Arène and Francis de Croisset. *Miquette*, by De Flers and Caillavet.

AT the Gymnase: *Le Voleur*, by Henri Bernstein. *Le Goût du Vice*, by Henri Lavedan. *Joujou Tragique*, by Mme. Jehanne d'Orliac. *L'Irrégulière*, by Edmond Sée.

AT the Vaudeville: *La Femme Artiste*, by H. Bataille. *Le Nid*, by Michel Provins.

AT the Odéon: *La Faute de l'Abbé Mouret*, by Alfred Bruneau. *Jules César*, by L. de Gramont. *Une Fantaisie*, by Albert Guinon and A. Bouchinet. *La Maison des Juges*, by G. Leroux. *Ramuntcho*, by Pierre Loti. *Florise Bonheur*, by G. Mitchell and G. Baschet.

AT the Gaîté: *Vidocq*, by C. Bergerat. *Chantecler*, by E. Rostand. *Jean Chouan*, by M. Decori.

AT the Bouffes: *Petit Léon*, by G. de Buysieulx and Roger Marx. *Le Cœur de Sylvie*, by G. Nigaud.

AT the Renaissance: *Les Passagers*, by A. Capus.

AT the Antoine: *Le Lien*, by L. Descaves. *Ddquerette*, by Maurice Donnay. *La Maison du Bonheur*, by Emile Favre.

AT the Sarah Bernhardt: *La Nuit Perverse*, by Réné Fraudet. *Sainte Thérèse*, by Catelle Mendès. *Les Bouffons*, by M. Zamacois.

AT the Réjane: *Le Vieil Homme*, by G. de Porto-Riche. *La Timbale*, by Vandérem and Lenotre.

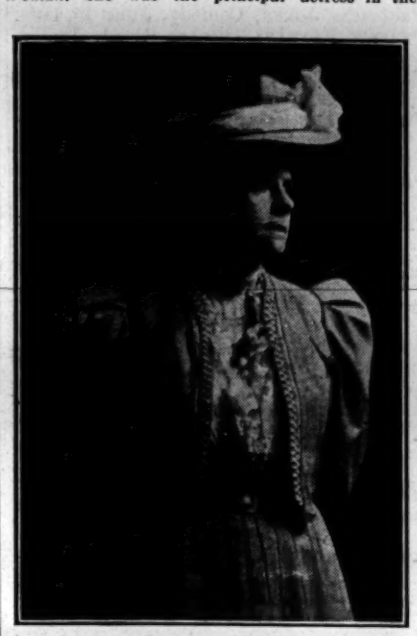
"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR THE ERA.)

MISS ALMA MURRAY.

Miss Alma Murray, who is the daughter of the well-remembered Leigh Murray, is the wife of Mr. Alfred Forman, the translator of Wagner's "books." She is a very fine elocutionist, and one of our best teachers of acting. She first appeared when a child at the Olympic Theatre as Saccharissa in Mr. W. S. Gilbert's play *The Princess*. From 1879 to '81 she was with the late Henry Irving at the Lyceum, as Julie de Mortemar in *Richelieu*, Jessica and Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*, Annette in *The Bells*, Julie in *The Lyons Mail*, and Daisy and Ruby in Pinero's *Daisy's Escape* and *Bygones*. From 1881 to '83 she was with Messrs. James and Thorne at the Vaudeville, chiefly in old comedies. She appeared as Sophia in *The Road to Ruin*, Julia in *The Rivals*, Grace Harkaway in *London Assurance* and Clara Douglas in *Money*. Her Kate Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer* was seen later at the Olympic. From 1883 to '94 she appeared at the Adelphi, Olympic, Drury Lane, Princess's, Prince of Wales's, Strand, Globe, &c., principally in melodrama, romantic drama, and comedy-drama. From 1894 to '95 her appearances were:—Avenue Theatre, Raina Petkoff in G. B. Shaw's *Arms and the Man*, and Comedy Theatre, Mrs. Silvester in Sydney Grundy's *New Woman*. She was the principal actress in the



MISS ALMA MURRAY.

Shelley and Browning performances, playing Beatrice in *The Cenci*. She was seen as Juliet at Edinburgh in 1884, and at the Metropole, Camberwell, in 1897. Her first appearance on the provincial concert platform was made at Liverpool in 1899. She recited at the opening of the Colston Hall, Bristol, in 1900; and subsequently appeared with Mr. John Hare at the Criterion Theatre as Clarissa in Louis N. Parker's *The Sequel*, and at the Pavilion Theatre as Marion Grey in Mr. G. R. Sims's *Woman from Gaol*. In 1905 she appeared at His Majesty's under Mr. Tree's management as Mrs. Maylie in *Oliver Twist*. Her last appearance in the large provincial towns was as Pauline in *Called Back*, by Hugh Conway and Comyns Carr.

THE PROMENADE CONCERTS.

On Tuesday evening, at Queen's Hall, the first novelty of the present season was given in an orchestral suite, arranged from the music to Gozzi's "Turandot," by Signor Ferruccio Busoni. The suite, which was heard for the first time in England on Tuesday evening, is based on the comedy of Gozzi, and relates how Turandot, the Chinese Princess, asks all suitors for her hand to correctly answer riddles. All fail, and are beheaded, until one, Kalaf, a Prince of Astrachan, appears, is quite equal to the occasion, and answers all her riddles; they therefore marry and live happy ever after. Such is the story, and Signor Busoni, in his composition, has given full effect to the Eastern colouring which is both quaint and imaginative, the combination of Oriental with Western ideas being most successful. Signor Busoni's suite is in six movements; in some respects a lesser number would have greatly added to the general effect. Mr. Wood's orchestra admirably interpreted the work, which, owing to its gifted composer, was received with respect by the large audience, without, however, any special enthusiasm. Included also in the programme was Richard Strauss's Symphonic Poem, "Don Juan," Mendelssohn's Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Mozart's Concertante Symphony in E flat for violin and viola, in which Mr. Henry Verbrugghen and Mr. S. L. Wertheim greatly distinguished themselves as the soloists; Wagner's "Runzi" overture, Rossini's overture, "La Gazza Ladra," and "Minuet des Follette," "Danse des Sylphes," and "Marche Hongroise" from Berlioz's *Faust*.

The vocalists were Miss Maud Santley and Mr. W. A. Peterkin, the former artist singing "Non più di fiori" from Mozart's opera *La Clemenza di Tito*, with the Corno de Basseto obbligato, cleverly played by Mr. F. Gomez. Mr. Peterkin sang with great spirit Sullivan's "Ho! Jolly Jenkins," from his opera *Ivanhoe*.

At Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening Mozart's Symphony in G flat was the first item in the concert. This fine work, the opening Adagio of which somewhat resembles Beethoven, was played by Mr. Wood's band with great care and artistic finish, their efforts being heartily recognised by the large audience present. Another fine performance by the orchestra was in Schubert's immortal Unfinished Symphony, "which time cannot wither nor custom stale its infinite variety"; indeed, forty years have not diminished the interest the musical public take in this noble fragment. Other works given by the band were the Serenade from "The Childhood of Christ" (Berlioz), Humperdinck's "Dream-Pantomime" from *Hänsel und Gretel*, Bizet's overture "Patrie," Berlioz's march "Les Troyens," and the overture to "Il Barbiere di Seviglia" (Rossini). Miss Ethel Leginska (a pupil of the celebrated Leschetizky) displayed great ability in Hensett's Pianoforte Concerto in F minor. It was the young lady's first appearance at the Promenade Concerts, and her skill and admirable technique were rewarded by most hearty applause. Miss Perceval Allen and Mr. Charles Knowles were the vocalists.

THE Spa, Whitby, has entered upon a new lease of life under the energetic management of Mr. W. Payne Seddon. Performances are now given four times a day by the Caledonian Boys' Band and various entertainers in the new glass pavilion, and the theatre is being visited by a succession of good companies, the attendance being over double that of any previous season. The Gordon Highlanders drew record gates last week, and this week Mr. Edward Terry, *The Walls of Jericho*, the Jamaica Choir, and Mr. Bert Coote's children are the attractions.

GARRICK AND HIS ENEMIES.

Mr. H. B. Irving's third instalment in the *Fortnightly Review*, of his essay on "The English Stage in the Eighteenth Century" is so admirable, that we regret being only able to insert its essence. "When we turn to the other side of Garrick's career," says Mr. Irving, "that of a manager of a theatre, for thirty years joint-manager of Drury-lane, the story wears a different aspect. In spite of his triumphs as an artist, in spite of the success of his management, the wealth and prosperity his calling brought him, the reader of his biography cannot fail to be surprised, astonished, indignant at the worries and mortifications that made the player's life as a theatrical manager anxious and miserable. Never was a man so tried, so ill-treated, so badgered and worried by players, authors, critics, even by those who called themselves his friends. . . . Courted and caressed by the greatest in the land on one side, he was every now and then rudely reminded that he belonged to what some were pleased to consider an inferior and despised calling, and was held fair game for persecution and insult at the hands of all sorts and conditions of men. When a member of this calling was seen to be brilliantly successful, popular, and admired, and, above all, rich and prosperous, envy filled the breasts of less prosperous persons who held themselves to be vastly superior to mere players, rage stirred up the bile of incompetent playwrights whose wretched dramas the player had dared to reject, a desire to pull down what they had set up seized hold of the more malicious part of their audience; and so the most unworthy cause, the most human infirmity, the most trivial error would be seized upon as a weapon with which to strike at the unprotected player. Fully allowing for their very venial imperfections of character, humanity has seldom displayed itself in more odious colours than in its treatment of David Garrick and Mrs. Siddons at certain periods of their careers; success was dearly bought that could bring with it such ignoble treatment, such undeserved humiliation. . . .

"Dr. Johnson's disparagement of play-acting may be allowed to pass; being short-sighted and hard of hearing, the doctor could hardly have been in a position to appreciate the full significance of what was passing on a stage; but his personal treatment of Garrick is difficult to explain on any other ground than that of rather unworthy jealousy. The friendship that Garrick had showed him in producing, to the best of his ability the Sage's unendurable tragedy of *Irene* was poorly repaid by the ill-natured picture Johnson drew of his friend in No. 200 of the *Rambler*, a number published on the very morning that Garrick, always sensitive and nervous, was to make his first appearance in a new part. The spiteful depreciation of Garrick in the character of Prospero is in no worse taste than the self-glorification of Johnson as the rugged Asper. That Johnson should have been a little envious of the wealth that was being accumulated by his old friend is natural; they had started life together; Garrick, the more energetic of the two, had outstripped the indolent Johnson in the acquisition of the good things of this world; but, as Leslie Stephen wrote, 'a grave moral philosopher has no right to look askance at the rewards which fashion lavishes upon men of lighter and less lasting merit which he professes to despise.' Johnson's depreciation of acting is ignorant and unfeeling—the utterance of a Philistine; his behaviour to Garrick, in more ways than one, grudging and ungenerous; he was not philosopher enough to accept with equanimity either the failure of his own tedious play or the success of his old schoolfellow. Throughout Johnson's life, by the side of occasional commendation of Garrick, runs a constant stream of depreciation of the man and unjust ridicule of his art.

"Smollett's conduct towards Garrick is a good specimen of the kind of treatment the actor had to endure from a celebrated man. Garrick had politely and with the usual protestations of regret, rejected a bad play of Smollett's called the *Regicide*. In 'Roderick Random,' the author takes his revenge by drawing a portrait of Garrick under the significant name of Mr. Marmozet; thus he writes:—

> 'It is not for the qualities of his heart that this little parasite is invited to the tables of dukes and lords, who hire cooks for his entertainment; his avarice they see not, his ingratitude they feel not, his hypocrisy accommodates itself to their humours, and is of consequence pleasing; but he is chiefly courted for his buffoonery, and will be admitted into the choicest parties for his talent of mimicking Punch and his wife Joan.'

"This attack appeared in 1748; but in 1757 we find Smollett, in his 'History of England,' lauding Garrick to the skies for his genius as an actor and the service which as a manager he had done the English stage. What had occurred in the interval to bring about this sudden change from venomous attack to glowing panegyric? Why, in January of 1757, Garrick had produced at Drury-lane a patriotic farce of Smollett's called *Reprisal; or, The Tars of Old England*, and paid him well for it. From that moment Smollett was his contrite friend.

"Garrick's biography teems with unpleasant experiences of this kind. He procures from Mr. Pelham the Minister, by his influence, and his influence alone, a pension for Ralph the historian; but because he will not perform Ralph's wretched plays, all gratitude is forgotten, and Ralph attacks the actor in a pamphlet in which he holds Garrick responsible for the present deplorable state of a theatre that rejects the masterpieces of Mr. Ralph. It should be added that a play of Ralph's, called *The Astrologer*, had been produced in 1744, and on the second night of its run the theatre had to be closed for want of an audience.

"Again, Garrick helps with money one Hiffernan, an Irish adventurer, and allows a play of his to be put on at Drury-lane; but it is so unsuccessful that it convinces everybody but the author of his utter incapacity to please an audience. Thereupon Hiffernan writes and threatens to publish what Davies described as a 'bloody libel' on the private character of Garrick. As the name of his wife was concerned in the libel, Garrick, on hearing of Hiffernan's intention, paid the blackmailer to suppress it.

"Dodsley, Hawkins, Mrs. Griffith, and many another author whose merit neither Garrick nor anybody else could perceive, vented their spleen against the manager by ascribing to all manner of unworthy motives his rejection of their plays. The case of the poet Churchill is interesting. In 1761 this very irregular clergyman woke to find himself famous by the publication of his poem the *Rosciad*, a dramatic review in satirical verse of all the leading actors of the day. Small wonder that its publication caused a panic among the players, for some of them were scourged cruelly, their imperfections ruthlessly exposed in cutting verses.

"With the members of his own calling Garrick paid the penalty of extraordinary success by encountering jealousy and hostility open and avowed, treacherous and clandestine; but it never amounted to much, nor very seriously disturbed his peace of mind, with one exception, and that exception Samuel Foote. This ill-natured humourist was a perpetual thorn in the side of Garrick. . . . Foote, at the Haymarket Theatre, invited the ready half-crowns of his patrons by performing pieces of his own composition, the characters in which were thinly disguised burlesques of well-known persons. Gratitude was a word unknown in the mimic's vocabulary; he might owe Garrick some hundreds of pounds, borrow his scenery, ask favours of him, place himself under all manner of obligations to the other's good nature; none of these considerations could deter him from wounding his benefactor's susceptibilities by holding him up to ridicule on the stage, scoffing behind his back at his so-called stinginess, pouring contempt on his acting and vilifying his character. Yet in the hour of his awful misfortune, when he had to defend himself against the vilest slander, Foote found no more loyal friend, no more faithful supporter, than David Garrick. . . .

"Garrick was not sufficiently straightforward and courageous in facing his enemies; he preferred to conciliate, to what he called 'finesse' with men whose ingratitude and baseness one would have wished to see him treat with the scorn and indignation they deserved; his diplomacy, on which he prided himself, only exasperated those on whom he practised it. His very good nature that made it so difficult for him to say 'No,' led him to dodge and procrastinate, until those he had not the determination to refuse were worn out and irritated. Garrick loved the notice of the great, the society of persons of rank. So did Dr. Johnson, but he had the courage to say so, whereas Garrick, in his heart delighted, would affect to be unconcerned at a royal command or a nobleman's invitation. Like many great men, he liked to be surrounded by flatterers and dependents, and as such persons are not to be found among men of superior worth, Garrick was reproached for encouraging the sycophancy of such an ignoble crew as the Kenricks, and Kellys, and Woodfalls.

"These were the great actor's failings. I have enumerated them because, without them, it is impossible to do justice to Garrick or his contemporaries; but they were failings in every sense venial and superficial, the natural imperfections of a human character. Had Garrick not been an extraordinarily successful player, an object of envy and resentment to bigoted and prejudiced minds, they would not have been so severely visited on him in his lifetime, and we should have heard less about them after his death. 'In the height of the public admiration for you,' wrote Mrs. Clive, who had acted and quarrelled with Garrick all her life, 'when you were never mentioned with any other appellation but *the* Garrick, the charming man, the fine fellow, the delightful creature, both by men and ladies; when they were admiring everything you did and everything you scribbled—at this time I was a living witness that they did not know, nor could they be sensible of half your perfections.' If Garrick were vain, ubiquitous, affected, economical in trifles, he was at heart good-natured, forgiving, and noble in his generosity. He gave with a lavish hand to those needy and distressed; they repaid him by treachery and ingratitude; he overlooked their trespass and gave again. No man better deserved his good fortune; no man less deserved the detraction, the envy, the malice that poisoned the cup of his happiness. He raised the dignity of the player, he improved the condition of the theatre, he was a generous and charitable man in the highest sense of the words, a devoted husband, an amiable and accomplished gentleman, in whom the vanity, the sensitiveness, the restlessness of the artist, obscured only from an unfriendly eye a heart that pitied and forgave, a hand ever ready to succour the afflicted, a gentle and a Christian spirit. Davies, who knew Garrick well, no fulsome eulogist, closes his life of the great actor with these words: 'No man of his profession had ever been so much the object of admiration; few men were ever more beloved; nor was any man better formed to adorn society, or more sincerely disposed and qualified to serve mankind, than David Garrick.'"

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, JULY 9.—The only change for the last fortnight has been the going of the Royal Comic Opera Company from, and the coming of Mr. William Collier and his complete American company to, Her Majesty's Theatre. *On the Quiet* is a cleverly-written farce-comedy with some serious situation presaging trouble, if the dramatic inevitable is not bound to occur. Mr. Collier has a brisk method and an easy, experienced style. Robert Ridgeway is loaded up with strong lines of the American "get back" calibre, and Mr. Collier makes every one of them tell. Miss Mabel Tagliaferro is a *petite comédienne* with little to do but be loving and lovable. But the lady is sweet and all that the author could possibly require or demand. Two handsome actresses, Misses Grace Hansell (Phœbe Ridgeway) and Amy Stanley (the Duchess of Carbondale) are welcome in the picture. The Duke of Carbondale could not possibly have a better portrayer than Mr. Grant Stewart, and a most enjoyable parson was the Rev. Dr. Walcott as pictured by Mr. Charles Poore. The genial old Judge Ridgeway gave Mr. John Saville every opportunity for impressing the audience, and he gripped them all. The scenery, especially the capital one of the yacht cabin and deck, was good.

MR. BLAND HOLT is still running *In Sight of St. Paul's* at the Royal, and the pictures of English life are of absorbing interest, as is also the story, but these give way to *With Flying Colours*, for which Mr. John Brunton is painting some special naval scenery.

THE TIVOLI has Mr. Harry Rickards's big bill, the names including Little Cliff, the wonderful boy comedian, Leyton and Kendall, Maud Faning, Brinn, Miss Nita Leete and pictures, Larola the excruciator, George Bentley, Tom Dawson, Arthur Elliott, Blake and Granby, Irving Sayles, and others, to be added to on the 14th by Vasco, and Alexander and Bertie.

SYDNEY, JULY 17.—*With Flying Colours* delighted Mr. Bland Holt's many patrons at the Royal, and the romantic story will be told to full houses for some time to come. The mounting is perfect, and the rapid movement and strenuous acting give full money's worth to the onlookers and plenty of work to the participants. The full strength of Mr. Bland Holt's company is spread over the long list of characters, the chief interpreters being Miss Frances Ross, Miss Harrie Neland, Mr. Walter Baker, Mr. Albert Norman, Mr. Arthur Styan, and Mr. Charles Brown. The laughter is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Bland Holt.

"ON THE QUIET" should not need removal or replacement, but Mr. J. C. Williamson announces that the Collier Comedy Company will stage *The Dictator* on the 21st. To-morrow afternoon the boys of the training ship Sobraon are invited by Mr. Williamson to enjoy *On the Quiet*.

THE Royal Comic Opera Company had to postpone its Adelaide opening for a week owing to the threatened appendecital operation on Mr. Reginald Roberts. That has been averted, and Mr. Roberts is now on his way to join his comrades in South Australia.

THE Tivoli welcomed two new and excellent "turns" on Saturday, the 14th. Vasco, called the mad musician, proved himself anything but mad in his manipulation of a large number of musical instruments. His is a distinctly clever performance. Alexander and Bertie are powerful gymnasts, and give an attractive show. Their trapeze work is startling, but graceful and artistic. The rest of Mr. Harry Rickard's company include Little Cliff, Binn, Larola, Nita Leete, Maud Faning, and Rose Cabani.

BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL'S Circus without horses fulfils all expectations, the latest comer being Miss Freda Cuthbert, an intrepid lion tamer.

A NEW and original drama by Charles Whitterd, entitled *Secrets of London Society*, was produced at the Dalston Theatre, N., on Friday, August 17, for copyright purposes.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Picking up the Pieces, Court, Nov. 14, 1882.
Pickles, Theatre Royal Preston, March 15, 1879.
Picklock of Paris, Effingham, Oct. 27, 1866.
Pick-me-Up, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Sept. 18, 1882.
Pickpocket, The, Globe, April 24, 1886.
Pickwick, Lyceum, Oct. 23, 1871.
Picture Dealer, Ladbroke Hall, June 30, 1892.
Piel Castle in the Olden Times, Theatre Royal, Barrow, Sept. 19, 1873.
Pierrot's Dream, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, March 17, 1893.
Pierrot's Life, Prince of Wales's, Jan. 8, 1897.
Pietra, Haymarket, Dec. 7, 1868.
Pietro Wilkini, Shoreham, Aug. 18, 1870.
Piff Paff, Criterion, Jan. 31, 1876.
Pike O'Callaghan, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Sept. 29, 1868.
Pilate, Bayswater, July 30, 1900.
Pilgrim of Love, Haymarket, April 9, 1860.
Pilgrims; or, The World Between Them, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Aug. 18, 1884.
Pilgrim's Progress, Olympic, June 10, 1896.
Pillars of Society, Opéra Comique, July 17, 1889.
Pimple the Pirate, Woolwich, Dec. 10, 1885.
Pim Pom, Princess's, Glasgow, Feb. 21, 1890.
Pinder Singh, Royal Alfred, Oct. 10, 1868.
Pink Dominoes, Criterion, March 31, 1877.
Pink Letter, Theatre Royal, Maidenhead, Jan. 27, 1898.
Pioneers of America, Lyceum, Oct. 22, 1860.
Piper of Hamelin, Queen's, Manchester, Nov. 16, 1882.
Pipkin's Rustic Retreat, Adelphi, Jan. 18, 1866.
Pip's Patron, Beccles, Jan. 26, 1892.
Pirate's Love, Grecian, Sept. 10, 1860.
Pirates of Penzance, Bijou, Penzance, Dec. 30, 1879.
Pirate's Wife, Newcastle, April 16, 1870.
Pirate, The, Assembly Rooms, Dec. 8, 1871.
Piratical Pirate of the Precipitous Precipice, Crystal Palace, Aug. 1, 1863.
Pirates of Putney, Royalty, Aug. 31, 1863.
Pirithous, New Royalty, April 13, 1865.
Pish O'Pogue, Amphitheatre, South Shields, May 22, 1876.
Pitman's Daughter, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, May 12, 1879.
Pit's Mouth, Dunstable, Aug. 24, 1895.
Pity, New Cross Public Hall, Nov. 18, 1882.
Pity is Akin to Love, Olympic, Sept. 8, 1888.
Pity of It, Ealing, April 15, 1896.
Pity Poddlechock, Alexandra, Liverpool, June 27, 1881.
Pity the Sorrows of a Poor Old Man, Pizarro, Strand, 1862.
City of London, Jan. 22, 1866.
Plague, The, Edinburgh, Oct. 16, 1896.
Plain English, Holborn, Sept. 25, 1869.
Planter, The, Prince of Wales's, Oct. 31, 1891.
Platonic Attachment, Ealing, Feb. 20, 1889.
Platonic Attachments, Princess's, Sept. 28, 1850.
Platonic Friendship, Drury Lane, March 17, 1898.
Play, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 15, 1868.
Play Actress, Grand, Jan. 28, 1896.
Played and Lost, Theatre Royal, North Shields, Aug. 1, 1887.
Play in Little, A, Shaftesbury, June 2, 1892.
Player Queen, Theatre Royal, Bath, Nov. 21, 1892.
Playing First Fiddle, Adelphi, April 1, 1850.
Playing Loo Loo, Grecian, May 8, 1871.
Playing the Game, Strand, June 12, 1896.
Playing with Fire, Theatre Royal, Manchester, June 3, 1861.
Playmates, Theatre Royal, Stratford, Aug. 13, 1888.
Play's the Thing, Athenæum, Jan. 28, 1889.
Pleasant Hour, Pullan's, Bradford, Sept. 6, 1878.
Pleasure, Drury Lane, Sept. 3, 1887.
Please to Remember the Grotto, St. James's, Dec. 26, 1865.
Plebeians, Vaudeville, Jan. 12, 1886.
Plebeian, The, Vaudeville, July 28, 1891.
Plot and Passion, Olympic, Oct. 17, 1853.
Plot of His Story, Garrick, Dec. 15, 1899.
Plowdens, The, Prince of Wales's, March 8, 1892.
Pluck: A Story of £50,000, Drury Lane, Aug. 5, 1882.
Plucky Nancy, Kilburn, March 16, 1889.
Plucky Parthenia, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Feb. 26, 1874.
Plunge in the Dark, Sadler's Wells, March 26, 1888.
Plunger, The, Ladbroke Hall, Oct. 24, 1888.
Pluto; or, Little Orpheus and His Lute, Royalty, Dec. 26, 1881.
Poacher Bill, Britannia, April 1, 1872.
Pocahontas, Empire, Dec. 26, 1884.
Poet and Puppets, Comedy, May 19, 1892.
Poetical Proposal, Globe, March 20, 1872.
Poetry and Poison, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Sept. 11, 1876.
Poet's Dream, Glasgow, Feb. 18, 1898.
Poet's Slave, Olympic, Feb. 25, 1850.
Poet, The, Vaudeville, Jan. 4, 1889.
Point of Law, Park, March 26, 1881.
Pointsman, The, Olympic, Aug. 29, 1887.
Poison Doctor of Paris, Theatre Royal, Southampton, Oct. 31, 1870.
Poisoned Cup, Theatre Royal, Weymouth, Jan. 13, 1869.
Poisoner of Milan, Theatre Royal, Darwen, Nov. 7, 1898.
Poison Flower, Vaudeville, June 15, 1891.
Policeman, Terry's, Nov. 1, 1888.
Policeman, The, Ealing, Jan. 12, 1887.
Policy, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 13, 1871.
Policy of the Ostrich, Terry's, Jan. 22, 1900.
Polish Jew, Grecian, March 4, 1872.
Political Pair, Llandudno, May 15, 1899.
Polka, The, Ladbroke Hall, March 19, 1895.
Poll and Partner Joe, St. James's, May 6, 1871.
Polly, Novelty, Oct. 4, 1884.
Polly's Birthday, Gaiety, March 3, 1884.
Polly's Luck, St. George's Hall, Oct. 9, 1900.
Polly's Venture, Gaiety, Aug. 9, 1888.
Polyphomus, St. George's, Nov. 15, 1872.
Pom, Royalty, March 25, 1876.
Pomona, East London, Jan. 13, 1877.
Pompadour, Haymarket, March 31, 1888.
Ponsonby Hall, Wolverhampton, Oct. 10, 1892.
Poor Cousin Walter, Strand, April 11, 1850.
Poor Em'ly, Theatre Royal, Southampton, Oct. 10, 1870.
Poor Girl's Temptations, City, March 1, 1858.
Poor Humanity, Surrey, April 11, 1868.
Poor Jack, Theatre Royal, Yarmouth, April 26, 1875.
Poor Jo, Theatre Royal, Southampton, Feb. 25, 1878.
Poor Jonathan, Prince of Wales's, June 15, 1893.
Poor Law Board, Opera House, Bolton, Oct. 25, 1875.
Poor Little Jo, Park, July 2, 1877.
Poor Lost Emily, Theatre Royal, Uxbridge, Dec. 5, 1870.
Poor Mignonette, Criterion, Aug. 2, 1892.
Poor Miss Finch, Lyceum, Sunderland, March 13, 1873.
Poor Mr. Potton, Vaudeville, Oct. 10, 1895.
Poor Needlewoman of London, Marylebone, June 14, 1858.
Poor Nell, Theatre Royal, Aberdeen, Nov. 18, 1872.
Poor Nobleman, St. James's, Nov. 11, 1861.
Poor Nobleman, St. James's, Nov. 14,
Poor of Liverpool, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Feb. 11, 1864.
Poor Old Perkins, Strand, Nov. 3, 1896.
Poor Parisheen, Britannia, Sept. 27, 1869.
Poor Piano, St. George's Hall, April 1, 1893.
Poor Player, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Sept. 22, 1884.
Poor Relations, Park, Aug. 27, 1879.
Poor Strollers, Adelphi, Jan. 16, 1858.
Poor Tommy, Opera House, Chatham, April 26, 1897.
Popocatapetl, Holborn, Dec. 18, 1872.
Poppleton's Predicaments, Royalty, July 21, 1870.
Popsy, Royalty, Oct. 4, 1880.
Porter of Havre, Princess's, Sept. 15, 1875.
Porter's Knot, Olympic, Dec. 2, 1858.
Portmanteau Predicament, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Aug. 31, 1881.
Portrait, The, Olympic, May 15, 1888.
Possession, St. George's Hall, Dec. 1, 1890.
Postal Card, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Feb. 13, 1871.
Post Boy, Strand, Oct. 31, 1860.
Postillion of Lonjumeau, Edinburgh, Dec. 10, 1893.
Posterity: An Operatic Andissipation, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, March 10, 1884.
Postheen Phewn, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, Feb. 19, 1872.
Postman, The, Strand, July 26, 1892.
Post Office Frauds, Blackburn, Oct. 24, 1870.
Postscript, Vaudeville, Aug. 24, 1889.
Postscript, The, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 14, 1888.
Pot of Money, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, March 15, 1881.
Pot Pourri, Coronet, April 3, 1899.
Poulet and Poulette, Gaiety, March 29, 1879.
Pounds, Shillings, and Pence, Kilburn, Jan. 18, 1892.
1899.
Poverty of Riches, Blackpool, April 7,
Powder and Shot, Basingstoke, Jan. 2, 1896.
Power and Principle, Strand, June 10, 1850.
Power and the Glory, Theatre Royal, Leeds, April 29, 1898.
Power of Conscience, Stalybridge, July 23, 1891.
Power of England, Imperial, June 17, 1885.
Power of Gold, Surrey, Feb. 19, 1870.
Power of Love, Prince of Wales's, March 6, 1888.
Power of the Heart, Lyceum, Sunderland, March 31, 1873.
Power of the Press, Glasgow, Aug. 3, 1896.
Practical Joker, Comedy, June 15, 1895.
Prairie Flower, Theatre Royal, Jersey, March 14, 1895.
Prancing Girl, Prince of Wales's, Nov. 26, 1891.
Prayer, The, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Sept. 1, 1898.
Preciosa, Drury Lane, July 4, 1881.
Preciosita, St. George's Hall, July 4, 1893.
Preference Bond, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Aug. 15, 1887.
'Prentice Pillar, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Feb. 13, 1895.
Prescribed, Bayswater, April 22, 1889.
Presence of Mind, Princess's, Edinburgh, Aug. 19, 1881.
President, The, Maidenhead, Oct. 19, 1896.
Presumptive Evidence, Princess's, May 10, 1869.
Pretence, St. George's Hall, May 7, 1890.
Pretender, Princess's, May 27, 1876.
Pretty Bequest, St. George's Hall, June 29, 1885.
Pretty Druidess, Charing Cross, June 19, 1869.
Pretty Esmerelda and Captain Phœbus of Ours, Gaiety, April 2, 1879.
Pretty Horsebreaker, Adelphi, July 15, 1861.
Pretty Mollie Barrington, St. Leonards, June 6, 1892.
Pretty Perfumeress, Alhambra, May 18, 1874.
Pretty Piece of Business, Criterion, Oct. 5, 1899.
Pretty Piece of Business, Haymarket, Nov. 12, 1853.
Pretty Poll, St. James's, Jan. 8, 1876.
Pretty Polly, Theatre Royal, Colchester, April 26, 1900.
Pretty Predicaments, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Nov. 27, 1876.
Previous Engagement, Avenue, Nov. 22, 1900.
Price of Empire, St. James's, Feb. 18, 1896.
Price of Existence, Britannia, Dec. 18, 1872.
Price of Peace, Drury Lane, Sept. 20, 1900.
Pride, Vaudeville, April 22, 1874.
Pride of the Family, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Sept. 9, 1878.
Pride; or, The Usurer's Daughter, Pavilion, May 20, 1872.
Priest Hunter, Queen's, Manchester, April 3, 1893.
Priest or Painter, Olympic, July 11, 1884.
Prima Donna, Princess's, Sept. 18, 1852.
Primrose Farm, Grecian, July 12, 1871.
Primrose Path, Vaudeville, May 11, 1892.
Prince Amabel, St. James's, May 5, 1862.
Prince and the Pauper, Gaiety, April 12, 1890.
Prince Camaralzaman, Olympic, Aug. 13, 1865.
Prince Charles Edward Stuart, R.E. Rooms, Paisley, Oct. 12, 1868.
Prince Cherrystar, Theatre Royal, Hereford, Oct. 25, 1893.
Prince for an Hour, Princess's, March 24, 1856.
Prince Karatoff, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Dec. 2, 1892.
Prince Karl, Lyceum, Oct. 19, 1888.
Prince Love, Philharmonic, Dec. 26, 1870.
Prince Methusalem, Folies, May 19, 1883.
Prince of Borneo, Strand, Oct. 5, 1899.
Prince of Darkness, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Dec. 14, 1896.
Prince of Egypt, Theatre Royal, Richmond, Aug. 21, 1882.
Prince of Mischance, Southampton, Oct. 7, 1897.
Prince of Sauerkrautenberg, St. George's Hall, March 7, 1895.
Prince of Wales's Visit, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Oct. 22, 1869.
Prince Otto, Harrogate, March 24, 1888.
Prince Pedrillo, Nottingham, Nov. 25, 1893.
Prince Pippo, Alexandra, Dec. 26, 1866.
Prince Prettypet and the Butterfly, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1854.
Prince Sohobazar, Kilburn, Dec. 11, 1885.
Princess Amaswazee, Eastbourne, April 15, 1895.
Princess and the Butterfly, St. James's, March 29, 1897.
Princess Carlo's Plot, Novelty, Jan. 31, 1887.
Princess Charming, Woolwich, Dec. 26, 1877.
Princess Diana, Theatre Royal, Hull, Feb. 4, 1889.
Princess George, Prince's, Jan. 20, 1885.

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA COMPANY.

In marked contrast to the music of Mozart heard on Thursday night were the two examples of the modern Italian school, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, performed on Friday, Aug. 17. A new-comer, Miss Enriquita Crichton, appeared as Santuzza in the first opera. It will be remembered, no doubt, that Miss Crichton achieved considerable success by her creation of the part of Ingibjora in Mr. Nicholas Gatty's remarkable opera *Greysteel*, and therefore much was expected in her performance of the unhappy peasant girl by the audience on Friday night, and in this they certainly were not disappointed. Miss Crichton's reading of the part contained all the characteristics of a fine actress as well as vocalist; not a point was missed in the more dramatic situations. In this respect Miss Crichton's Santuzza much resembles Madame Calvé's rendering, and the young artist could certainly not follow a better example. Mr. John Child as Turiddu sang with more freedom and intensity than on the last occasion, and Mr. Marshall Vincent made an excellent Alfio. The music of Lola was admirably sung by Miss M. Wilcocks, while Miss Arnold again appeared with success in the character of Lucia. Both chorus and orchestra were excellent, and a good account was given of the famous Intermezzo.

In Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* Miss Ada Davies made her first appearance this season as Nedda. Miss Davies has a pure and pleasing soprano voice, and although slightly nervous, made a most favourable impression. As Canio Mr. Charles Carter repeated an excellent performance, giving a most dramatic rendering of the great scena "On with the Motley." Mr. William Dever was again responsible for the part of Tonio, and Mr. V. Brodo for Beppo; while Mr. Lewys James made the most of the small part of Silvio. The chorus was again most effective, and Signor Sapio, who conducted both operas, secured good results from the orchestra.

Last Saturday evening Wagner's *Lohengrin* attracted a large audience. In many respects the cast was the same as on a former occasion, Madame Fanny Moody making a sympathetic Elsa, and Miss Toni Seiter a dramatic Ortrud. Mr. Joseph O'Mara proved a capital Lohengrin; he has sung this part before in the present season, but not to Madame Moody's Elsa, and this constituted a most attractive feature of Saturday's performance. Mr. Charles Manners again made a most dignified king, and Mr. Lewys James a manly Telramund. Great earnestness and intelligence marked the representation, which warmly deserved the frequent and hearty applause. Herr Richard Eckhold conducted, and at the conclusion was called on with the principal artists.

In the afternoon, at the matinée, *Lucia di Lammermoor* was given, Madame De Vere repeating her excellent embodiment of the unhappy Lucy Ashton with the same success as on the first performance, the principal change in the cast being a fresh Edgar in the person of Mr. Wilson Pembroke, who sang the music of the part admirably. Mr. Magrath appeared as Bide the Bent, and the rest of the cast was adequately filled.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held last Tuesday; there were present Mr. M. R. Morand (in the chair), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Beatrice Lamb, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Walter Russell, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The Hon. Solicitors reported that they had written a letter for a member making a claim for monies owing, and they had also advised a member upon a point submitted. Helena May Parsons was nominated for election.

The secretary reported that the first of the series of provincial meetings, which it is hoped will be convened by commissioners while on tour, was held at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 16th inst., when Mr. H. B. Irving, a vice-president of the Association, took the chair. The Secretary stated that he had sent the following telegram to Mr. Irving on the occasion: "Please accept thanks for your kindness in presiding at the initial meeting, and also thank Miss Georgina Hamilton for inaugurating the series which will, I trust, result in great and lasting benefits to the Actors' Association.—Charles Cruikshanks, Secretary." The Council desired the Secretary to express their personal thanks to Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Georgina Hamilton, and to congratulate them upon the result of their efforts.

The chairman read a letter from the president of the Actors' Benevolent Fund of South Africa, in which Mr. James Nelson was exonerated from all blame that may have been attached to him in connection with the engagement of artists, inasmuch as he was not financially responsible.

In connection with the meeting of the members to consider the questions involved in the proposed "Irving Memorial," the Secretary reported that he had, since the date of the last meeting, received letters on the subject from Miss Ellen Terry and Mr. F. R. Benson, Vice-Presidents of the A.A. Mr. Arthur Collins had graciously placed the saloon of the Drury Lane Theatre at the disposal of the Council, and the meeting would therefore be held at that place on Monday, Oct. 1, at 11 o'clock.

The secretary announced that the fifth bi-monthy meeting of the members would be held in the saloon of the Association on Thursday, Sept. 13, at 2.30, when Miss Beatrice Lamb would address the assemblage. The Secretary announced that he had, by direction of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, circularised the members of the Association whose subscriptions for the current year were unpaid, with the exception of those ladies and gentlemen who were abroad fulfilling engagements. Percy Northcote, Esq., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., 101, Jermyn-street, St. James's, was elected as an Honorary Medical Officer to the Association. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Craigie, which took place on the 18th inst., was attended by a distinguished assembly. A solemn High Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm-street, at which the American Ambassador and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid were present. The crowded congregation also included Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, and Mrs. W. K. Clifford. The coffin, which had lain throughout beneath a pall and surrounded by wreaths, was subsequently conveyed to St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green, where the Right Rev. Monsignor Brown, Vicar-General of Southwark, officiated at the burial service. The coffin bore the inscription: "Pearl Mary Teresa Craigie. Born Chelsea, Mass., U.S., Nov. 3rd, 1867. Died London, Aug. 13th, 1906. R.I.P." Among the numerous floral offerings were wreaths from Lady Bancroft, Mr. George Alexander, Captain Robert Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, and the O.P. Club.

Mr. George Alexander, writing from the Engadine, has corrected the statement in a daily paper with regard to the late dramatist's play of *The Ambassador*, which he produced at the St. James's in 1898. Mr. Alexander writes:—"Will you permit me to say that Mrs. Craigie's play, *The Ambassador*, was received with unqualified praise by the entire Press and public, and gained much 'more than moderate applause'? It enjoyed a remarkable and highly lucrative run of over 200 performances at the St. James's Theatre, and was played by me with great success in the principal cities of the United Kingdom."

ON THE ROAD, AUG. 27.

A Knight Errant.—T. R., Preston.
An Actor's Romance.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Are You a Mason?—Aldershot.
As Midnight Chimes.—Star T., Liverpool.
At Cripple Creek.—Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Peterborough.
Bandmann-Palmer (Mrs.).—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Colchester and Clacton.
Benson, F. F. (S.).—N. Berwick and St. Andrews.
Between Two Women.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Breed of the Treshams.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, N. Shields.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Dublin.
Charley's Aunt.—H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Barnstaple and Camborne.
Christian, The.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Christian, The (Howard).—King's Lynn.
City of Sin.—Court T., Warrington.
Claudian.—O. H., Leicester.
Coal King.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Conscript, The.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Convict's Daughter.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Country Girl (S.).—Lowestoft.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Grange and Workington.
Country Mouse.—Dover.
Cousin Kate.—Dover.
Dandy Doctor.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Days of Cromwell.—Coatbridge and Motherwell.
D'Oyly Carte.—Grand T., Southampton.
Driven from Home.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Bournemouth and Folkestone.
Earl and the Girl (No. 1).—Sunderland.
Earl and the Girl (No. 2).—Grand T., Woolwich.
Earl and the Girl (No. 3).—T. R., York.
Eternal City (Howard).—O. H., Clacton.
Executioner's Daughter.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Face at the Window.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Facing the Music.—Aberystwyth.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—T. R., Yarmouth.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—New Prince's T., Poplar.
Faust Up-to-date.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Female Swindler.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Isle of Wight.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—O. H., Cork.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Kennington Theatre.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Margate.
French Spy.—Coliseum T., Oldham.
Gay Parisienne.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Geisha, The.—Exeter.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Blackpool.
Girl on the Stage.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Golden Ladder.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Great Wilderness.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Held Apart.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Held in Bondage.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
Her Lost Self.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
Her Luck in London.—Grand T., Islington.
Her One Great Sin.—Royalty T., Chester.
His House in Order (N.).—Grand T., Derby.
His House in Order (S.).—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Honour Thy Father.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Eastbourne.
I Defy the World.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
Indian Mutiny.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Kitty Grey.—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Otley and Pontefract.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Tunbridge and Eastbourne.
La Poupée (Levilly).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Lights o' London.—Broadway T., New Cross.
Lion and the Mouse.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Little Breadwinner.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Little Michus (Edwardes').—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
Little Michus (S.).—Southport.
London Firemen.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Luck of Life.—Victoria T., West Stanley.
Lucky Durham.—West London Theatre.
Man and Wife.—T. R., Croydon.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Marriage of Kitty.—Lytham and Kendal.
Midnight Mail.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Rochdale.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Monte Cristo.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Mr. Hopkinson.—Torquay.
Mr. Popple.—A. T., Yarmouth.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Kingston-on-Thames.
Napoleon the Great.—New Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
New Barmaid.—Grand T., Croydon.
New Clown.—County Theatre, Bedford.
No Man's Land.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Norman V. Norman.—Pavilion, Southend.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Brixton Theatre.
On the Love Path.—Dover.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Orchid (S.).—Dover.
Otto the Outcast.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Edmonton.
Price of Her Soul.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss's).—T. R., South Shields.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Plymouth.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Prodigal Son.—Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.
Proof.—Opera House, Coventry.
Public Opinion.—Brighton.
Queen of Villainy.—Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.
Revenge.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Royal Divorce.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Sailors of the King.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Saturday to Monday.—Dover.
Shadow of Crime.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Shulamite.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Sign of the Cross.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Silver King (N.) (Polini).—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Silver King (S.).—Grand T., Hull.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—T. R., Worthing.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Swadlincote and Ashby.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Metropole T., Birmingham
Sins of a City.—Queen's T., Longton.
Spider and the Fly.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Douglas.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Swiss Express.—O. H., Northampton.
Temptress, The.—King's T., Cardiff.
Terry, Edward.—Spa Theatre, Scarborough.
Three Little Maids (N.).—Manchester.
Three Little Maids (S.).—W. Kirby and Lytham.
Throne of Terror.—O. H., Workington.
Toreador.—Brighton.
Toreador (Macdona).—Herne Bay and Sevenoaks.
Traitor Prince.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Traitor, The.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Trip to the Highlands.—Grand T., Edinburgh.
Trumpet Call.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Two Hussars.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Under the Russian Flag.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Veronique (N.).—Manchester.
Veronique (S.).—Southend.
Village Blacksmith.—Empire T., Oldham.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Theatre Royal, York.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Empire T., Dundee.
Warning to Women.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Way of the World.—P. O. W. Theatre, Mexboro'.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Stockport.
When London Sleeps.—Prince's T., Bradford.
When Woman Hates.—Theatre Royal, N. Shields.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—Tunbridge Wells.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Wolverhampton.
Woulfe Repertoire (A.).—T. R., Barnsley.
Worst Woman in London.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Wrecker of Men.—Victoria T., West Stanley.
£1000 Reward.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
10.30 Down Express.—Metropole T., Glasgow.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. R. S.—*The novel entitled "Ready-Money Mortiboy" was dramatised by its authors, Walter Besant and James Rice, and was produced at the Court Theatre under that title on March 12, 1874.*

JACK.—*The play you refer to is* Walker, London, *by J. M. Barrie, which was produced at Toole's Theatre on Feb. 25, 1892.*

M. A.—*When* Betsy *was first played at the Criterion Theatre on Aug. 6, 1879, Miss Lottie Venne appeared in the title-rôle, W. J. Hill as Alexander Birkett; Lytton Sothern, Adolphus Birkett; H. Standing, Redmond McManus; George Giddens, Richard Talbot; A. Maltby, Sam Dawson; Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Birkett; Miss M. Rorke, Mrs. McManus; and Miss M. Taylor, Nellie Bassett.*

JO.—*It was first sung in London by the late Miss Bessie Bonehill.*

MAC.—*At Drury-lane, 1883-84, the pantomime was* Cinderella; *and in 1884-85,* Whittington.

F. W. BROWN.—*Write to Mr. Max Eliot, 3, Queen's Gate-terrace, London, S.W.*

MIKE.—As You Like It *was revived by Messrs. John Hare and W. H. Kendal at the St. James's Theatre on Feb. 21, 1885.*

JUDGE.—*Neither the gentlemen you mention nor any of his fellow-actors could possibly undertake to read every play sent in to them indiscriminately, but if you desire to write to Mr. Cecil Barth, a letter addressed to our office would be sure to reach him. We do not give private addresses.*

EVA (Southport).—*Sir Walter Parratt.*

F. RANKIN.—*The first and fourth in your list have been adapted into English. We are not certain about the second and third.*

W. FOYE.—*Your question involves too much search.*

INQUIRER.—"*John Bull in the china shop*" (*by Albert Hall and Orlando Powell*), *sung by Charles Godfrey, was produced in 1897, and is published by Charles Sheard and Co.*

J. COLLIER (Flixton).—*Why not write to the management of the Theatre Royal, Manchester. They would be pleased to give you the information.*

HAROLD (Catford).—*The lady's maiden name was Wood.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HARVEY.—Aug. 19, at Birkdale, wife of Charley Harvey, of a fine boy. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

ABRAHAM—BALDWIN.—Aug. 9, at Northampton, Ebenezer Abraham (Uncle Abe), of the Garibaldi, Swan-street, to Sophia Baldwin, mother of Harry Baldwin, late Barnum and Bailey's. American papers please copy.

WELCH—FISHER.—Aug. 18, James Welch to Amy Fisher (Audrey Ford).

DEATHS.

BAYLISS.—Aug. 21, at Morecambe, aged 59, John Bayliss, Musical Director, Central Pier, late Musical Director Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool.

BREWSTER-SHINTON.—On the 23rd inst., at her residence, 123, Sweetman-road, Wolverhampton, after a long and painful illness, the dearly-beloved and devoted mother of John B. Shinton ("The Price of Her Soul" Co.), aged 75.

KAY.—Mary Kay, professionally known as Pattie Barrington, of the Barringtons (Fred and Pattie), passed away July 22, '06, age 34, at Southport.

O'NEILL.—On Aug. 21, at 60, Carville-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Thomas William (Billy), age 3, the dearly-beloved son of Tom and Emmie O'Neill (Maxford and O'Neill). Sadly mourned by his sorrowing father and mother.

IN MEMORIAM.

EVANS.—In memory of Harry Evans, died Aug. 16, '05. Husband of Julia Evans; father of Harry and Julie Henrietta Evans. Foreign papers please copy.

SWALLOW.—In loving memory of William Charles Swallow, who departed this life Aug. 23, 1900. Never forgotten by his loving mother, sisters, and brothers.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Evan Good, for so many years our correspondent at Newcastle and Gateshead, has been appointed assistant manager at the Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Before taking up his departure, he was the recipient of a handsome silver cigarette case from the members of the North Durham Rugby F.C., of which club Mr. Good was an enthusiastic member.

MR. GEORGE DANCE'S company is this week making a welcome re-appearance at the Grand Theatre, Southampton, in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, Miss May Glenn being conspicuously successful in the title-rôle. Mr. Steve Fitzgerald is exceedingly humorous as Papillon, and is responsible for the excellent stage-management. Mr. Gilbert Yorke gives a good study of Napoleon; and Miss Buena Bent plays prettily as Lisette. The chorus is excellent.

HOW TO KEEP COOL.

We strongly recommend all who suffer from the prevailing heat to add a few drops of Condy's Fluid to the Daily Bath or Foot Bath.

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Beddell, Mr. Chas.
Bell, Mr. Percy
Belmore, Mr. Lionel
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Bray, Mr. Tim
Breton Troupe
Bridge, Mr. F. S.
Brookman, Mr. Harry
Brown-Potter, Mrs.
Brownson, Mr. J. H.
Bull, Mr. Gordon K.
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Burnett, Prof.
Butterflies, Misses
Callahan, Mr. G. W.
Carlisle, Miss Ettie
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Cartwright, Mr. & Mr. A
Charles, Miss Helen
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Elvo, Mr. James
Estelle, Miss Elma
Faley, Mr. Frank
Forster, Mr. W.
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Fossett, Mrs.
Frances, Miss Emma
Francis, Mr. Alec B.
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gilbert, Miss Gertrude
Glenister, Mr. Lionel
Glynn Mr. O'Rourke
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur E.
Godfrey, Mr. Hal
Graham, Mr. Rowland
Gretches, Miss Maggie
Grossmith, Mr. Geo.
Harcourt, Miss Daisy
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Martin, Miss Sylvia
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McAllister, Mr. H. V
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Meredith, Miss P.
Milian, Mr. Max
Miller, Mr. St. Aubyn
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Morritt, Mr. Chas.
Mysto, Mr. Carl
Nash, Miss G. E.
Natalia, Madame
Neilson, Mr. Harold V.
Nelson, Mr. Frank
Nichols, Mr. Harker
O'Connor, Mr. Robt.
Pate, Miss Mabel
Paull, Mrs. Wm.
Percy, Mr. Saville
Pettigrove, Mr. T.
Phydora, Mr. Chas.
Pierce, Mr. Frank
Pitt, Mr. Ford
Plumpton, Mrs. E. A.
Primrose, Mr. Harry
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Prinz, Mr. Chas.
Radford, Miss Wanda
Randall, Miss Nellie
Rawson, Mrs. T. W.
Ray and Ransford
Reiff, Miss Tina
Reyner, Mr. Harold
Robertson, Mr.
Robins, Mr. Wal
Robson, Mr. G.
Rogers, Mr. Frank
Rolands, The Three
Rorke, Miss Kate
Rossi, Mr. Chas.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Kennedy
Rutley, Mr. Bert A.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Scott, Master Willie
Searelle, Mr. Luscombe
Sedgwick, Mr. W.
Silvinie, Miss Gladys
Skater, Mr. Charlton
Smith, Mr. A. E.
Sparks, The Two
"Soros"
Strenge, Mr. George
Studt, Mrs. J.
Svengali, Mr. Lorenz
Taft, Mr. Harry
Tempest, Mr. F. M. V
Testo, Mr. Felix
Thornton, Miss N.
Transfield, Mr. Tom
Traverner, Mr. G. W.
Tweedale, Mr. R. C.
Van-Biene, Mr. A.
"Vasco"
Vokes, Mr. W.
Venne, Miss Lottie
Waldon, Mr. Max
Walpole, Mr. E.
Ward, Mr. H.
Warren, Mr. Brooke
Warren, Miss Lillian
Williams, Mr. R.
Yelding Trio
Zednas, The Three
Zedora, Mr. Leo
Zélie de Lussan, Mlle.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Alice de Winton—Saturday, Aug. 25.
Alice Barth—Saturday, Aug. 25.
Leonard Robson—Saturday, Aug. 25.
Helen Mathers—Sunday, Aug. 26.
J. L. Graydon—Sunday, Aug. 26.
Fred Earle—Sunday, Aug. 26.
Miriam Holt—Sunday, Aug. 26.
Dorothy Vicott—Sunday, Aug. 26.
Daisy Morell—Sunday, Aug. 26.
J. H. Harrold—Sunday, Aug. 26.
Connie Leon—Monday, Aug. 27.
Maurice De Frece—Monday, Aug. 27.
Jack Pleasants—Monday, Aug. 27.
Herbert H. Cullum—Monday, Aug. 27.
Mara Collings—Monday, Aug. 27.
Nina Blake Adams—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Lalla Selbini—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Nellie Christie—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Nina Blake Adams—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Buckstone Clair—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Alice Chaplin—Tuesday, Aug. 28.
Kate Santley—Wednesday, Aug. 29.
Charles Dalton—Wednesday, Aug. 29.
Grace Henderson—Wednesday, Aug. 29.
Frank Lawton—Thursday, Aug. 30.
Harry Pleon—Friday, Aug. 31.

A NEW play, by Frank Adair, called *Held Apart*, will be produced by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on Monday, and will subsequently go on tour. The piece will be elaborately mounted. Great pains have been taken in selecting a first-class company.

PRESENTATION.—At the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, on the 15th inst., owing to the great success of *An Actor's Romance*, Miss Lillian Beszant and Miss Florence Nelson were presented with huge shower bouquets, and a large box of chocolates to little Marion Ryder, who scored a great success in the child part of Phillis Davenport.

ONE night last week at Mexborough during the scene in *£1000 Reward*, in which Detective Rainsworth threatens to annihilate his enemies by means of a bomb, which finally turns out to be only an indiarubber ball, the town supply of electric light failed, leaving the Prince of Wales's Theatre in darkness. The scene was continued in an impressive half light supplied by occasional candles, for about a quarter of an hour, when the current was restored, but the incident served to emphasise the good temper of a crowded audience who were palpably in a mood to make allowance for far more disastrous occurrences, such was their enjoyment of the drama. The success of the piece may be gauged by the fact that over 30 dozen photo postcards of Miss Halling, who plays Madam Sanson, were sold in front of the house during the week.

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"The Era" Almanack and Annual ("Era" Office, 1s.), a copy of which lies before me, is an invaluable publication for those who wish to have stage records by them. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, lists of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres during 1905, and also of plays produced in the provinces. Further, we have lists of the new plays and revivals produced at the principal Paris and Berlin theatres. "The Era" Almanack has been regularly issued since 1868, when is was compiled by Edward Laman Blanchard, a comedian whose fascinating life was recorded by Clement Scott. The Almanack closes with an illustrated list of those members of the profession who died during the course of last year, headed, naturally, by Henry Irving. Amongst the other names are those of William Rignold, Frank Celli, Ada Neilson, and Minnie Mario. There is an added pathos in the deaths of those who were so long bodily before the public, and the ringing down of the last curtain seems to have added significance.—T. P.'s Weekly, Jan. 26.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1906.

OLD AND NEW BURLESQUE.

Though *Aladdin* is to be the next novelty at the Gaiety Theatre, and the entertainment will be denominated a "burlesque," we must expect to find it considerably different from the old Gaiety burlesques, both in conception and detail. The fact is, no one can say exactly what a "burlesque" is. The title covers a great deal of ground, from BEAUMONT and FLETCHER'S *Knight of the Burning Pestle*, which burlesqued the romances of chivalry, down to the later Gaiety burlesques, the chief features of which were the extraordinary achievements of the leading artists, and the immense amount of "gag" and business which they introduced.

The essential property of a genuine burlesque is that it turns a serious idea into ridicule by associating it with absurdities. In *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, produced in 1611, the hero, Ralph, a grocer's apprentice, turns knight-errant, like Don Quixote, and thus travesties the romances of chivalry. FIELDING'S *Tom Thumb* is a burlesque tragedy, in which not only the spirit, but the blank verse vehicle is ridiculed. The same line was taken by PLANCHE in his very literary and long since "old-fashioned" works. From 1831 to 1865 was the PLANCHE period; between 1865 and 1885 flourished F. C. BURNAND, H. J. BYRON, and ROBERT REECE. We can hardly class Mr. W. S. GILBERT amongst the burlesque writers. The 1865-1885 burlesque was a more or less mechanical product; and Mr. GILBERT'S travesties of *Elisir d'Amore*, *Fille du Regiment*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Norma*, and *Robert le Diable* were merely clever exercises which were to prepare the great Savoyard for the subtler and more intellectual humours of his librettoes. But the trio above mentioned were practised workmen who "turned out" burlesques of any serious theme by a process which was more or less fixed and mechanical. The plot of any well-known play was taken, and retold, with comic characters in the place of the originals, rhymed verse, embellished with puns, instead of dialogue, and the whole interspersed with lyrics sung to the popular music-hall airs of the day. The 1865 to 1885 burlesque period owed a great deal indeed to comic song-tunes.

The explanation of the popularity of the '65-'85 burlesque is to be found in the craving which exists at all times in a large majority of playgoers for an entertainment which is sufficiently disconnected not to make it necessary to follow a "story," and simply aims at supplying diversion—in short, a variety entertainment thinly disguised in the dramatic form. At the commencement, burlesque was refined, "scholarly," and literary. Next, it broadened, and became more "popular." And then we come to the period when the author's work was insignificant, compared to that supplied by the leading artists.

The phenomena of public favour are inexplicable. How can we account for the fact that people of the same nationality successively adored and subsequently scorned (1) the refined literary burlesques of the PLANCHE period, and (2) the pun-flavoured absurdities of the succeeding epoch? Here are some lines from a burlesque of the pun period:

A river! I debate with myself *wedder*
I'll end my *tale* with a sensation *header*
From a small boat. It could not clear the weeds;
One cannot make *an oar way* through these *s(weeds)*.
Why should I live? Alas, from me forlorn
Each lad turns on his heel to show his (s) corn.

Here very alert and watchful attention is needed, or else the precious gems with which the verse is studded will be lost. It seems incredible to us at the present day that whole auditoriums-full of average playgoers could be found sufficiently ardent in pun-detection to derive delight from such lines as the above. But we have to remember that it was not on its "literary merit" alone that the burlesque of the Middle Period depended. It was, even then, mainly a "question of artists." When BURNAND'S *Black-Eyed Susan* was produced in 1866 at the Royalty, with FRED DEWAR as Captain Crosstree, CHARLES WYNDHAM as a Deal smuggler, Miss OLIVER as Susan, Miss NELLIE BROMLEY as Dolly Mayflower, and E. DANVERS as Dame Hatley, the personal element was already a strong factor of the success of a burlesque. In the cast of BROUGH'S *Perdita* at the Lyceum in 1856 we find included such artists as Miss MARIE WILTON and Mr. J. L. TOOLE; and the names of CHIPPENDALE, COMPTON, C. COGHLAN, and KATE TERRY appear on the Haymarket bills of burlesque about the same period. Burlesque had the advantage of being pretty much a "go-as-you-please" entertainment. Individual attraction, the magnetism of natural drollery, high spirits, personal comeliness, and dancing and singing ability, made a direct appeal to the audience, even though the personal appeal was trammelled to a certain extent by the literary pretension of the author's lines. As time went on the pun fell into disrepute, and the onus of amusement rested chiefly upon the artists. Who that saw *Little Jack Sheppard* at the Gaiety remembers anything of the "book"? All our recollections are of FRED LESLIE, NELLIE FARREN, and DAVID JAMES. It was not that the pieces were not cleverly written—"RICHARD HENRY'S" *Monte Cristo, Junior*, was a proof to the contrary—but it had become the fashion to place most importance on the "creations," the "business," and the songs and dances of the principals. And the same may be said of Messrs. SIMS and PETTITT'S *Faust Up to Date*, with Mr. E. J. LONNEN'S Mephistopheles and Miss FLORENCE ST. JOHN'S Marguerite, though, by the way, the book contained some very well concocted puns. With the advent of "ADRIAN ROSS" as a collaborator with Mr. J. L. SHINE in *Joan of Arc*, produced at the Opéra Comique in 1891, we approach the era of the musical play. *Ruy Blas, Guy Fawkes, Esq.*, and *Cinder-Ellen Up Too Late* were to carry on the tradition for a time; but burlesque was on its last legs, and, with the departure from the scene of the popular idols who had kept it going it subsided for all practical purposes, attempted revivals being only moderately successful. We may be certain that Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'S *Aladdin* will be written and arranged to suit the taste of the times, and will be "up to date" in the exact sense of the term.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Amount already acknowledged..	£437	10	1
Collected by Mr. Fred Bowyer from a few "Savages" and Friends	2	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manners ..	0	10	0
Flora Flanaghan	1	1	0
Algernon W. Lee	0	5	0
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Mr. Rosenberg	0	5	0
Mrs. Themans	0	2	6
Mrs. Campbell	0	2	0
Miss Forster	0	2	0
Total	£446	15	1

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"SPATZENLIEBE,"

Comedy, in Four Acts, by L. Artus,
Produced at the Lustspeilhaus, Aug. 15, 1906.

Claude	HERR WALDEN
Margot	FRAU WALDEN
Lemercier	HERR BECKMANN
Sophie	FRAULEIN FROST
De Pontivon	HERR WALTER
Frau de Pontivon	FRAULEIN HILLER
Hugnette	FRAULEIN WENDT
Martinac	HERR RITTER
Nadia	FRAULEIN LIMBURG
Arlette	FRAULEIN KUHN
Miss Maud	FRAULEIN EULER
Threse	FRAULEIN WILHELMI
John	HERR FRIEDENWALD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, AUG. 23.—A cordial reception was accorded to this piece, adapted from the French by an unmentioned author. It is not particularly original, and its four acts are a trifle too spun out, but it serves to pass an evening in a dearth of novelties, and our city being full of tourists at the present moment it will no doubt enjoy a certain measure of popularity. The plot is narrated in a few words. Claude Latournelle, the hero, has been the sport of woman and her willing slave from boyhood to ripe middle-age. He cannot resist any single member of the fair sex, and finds himself in the dilemma of choosing between the girl he loves and wants to marry and the mistress he loves and is loath to part from. He marries Hugnette finally, but his old weaknesses overmaster him, and the marriage later on is dissolved. After many misunderstandings and complications, the wedded pair become reconciled again, Claude swearing to turn over a new leaf. The dialogue is bright and at times witty, which atones for paucity of plot and several exaggerations. As to the acting, it was capital, Berlin's old favourite, Harry Walden, taking the chief rôle, while his pretty wife—formerly a member of the Residenz Theatre under the name of Frieda Wagen—gave the part of Margot. Fräulein Wendt gave the rôle of Hugnette with much natural drollery, gaining a good deal of well-earned applause.

THREE one-act farces from the French were produced at the Kleines Theatre on its recent re-opening, Courteline's *Mimensiege* and *Das Trottoir Roulant*, both translated by Siegfried Triebitsch, and *La Chance de Mari*, by MM. De Flers and De Caillavet, adapted under the name of *Diplomatie in der Ehe*, by Gertrud Leow. All three failed somewhat in their desired effect, the audience of the Kleines being accustomed to heavier diet—witness the enormously long run of Gorki's *Nachtasgl* on that stage. The second-mentioned piece made the greatest hit. It was given here some ten years ago with success, and being well and vivaciously acted, it was heartily applauded on its second appearance also.

AN interesting experiment was the season of the Italian Children's Company, under the management of Professor Guerra, who, I am told, runs the undertaking purely on the grounds of philanthropy. The whole company comprises nearly thirty children, in age from ten to fifteen, and, being natural artists, the effect is as pretty as it is quaint. Whether the voices will be able to stand the strain put upon them is another matter. The opening performance was that of *Il Barbier di Sevillia*, in which a certain little Signorina Lewi (on one side she has obviously German blood) made a sensation as Rosina. With all her fifteen years she is a thorough artist to her finger tips, and her voice and the management of it astonished her hearers. Several other operatic works were given during the season of these clever juveniles, but *The Barber* remained the most popular.

THE Residenz re-opened on Saturday with a revival of Hennequin and Bilhaud's successful farce *Die Höhle des Loewen*. Herr Alexander, the manager, and Berlin's favourite comedian, gave his own clever and highly humorous rendering of Gaston, gaining the customary storm of applause. The theatre, by the way, has been painted and otherwise beautified throughout during the holidays. The new season will bring many novelties and a few important changes and additions with it. Among the new theatres the one of most consequence in the Neue Schauspielhaus, of which imposing building in Nollendorf Platz, W., I have already written. We watch its rapid progress with interest; it is to be completed in several months, and the Mozart Hall—the concert-room which is part of the comprehensive structure—will be ready for opening by October. Fine in and out-door restaurants are also adjoining, all the features being in the same handsome style. Herr Haim, the manager of the Neue Schauspielhaus, has got together a thoroughly efficient company, among whom are some of Berlin's first artists. He himself is an actor of merit and an experienced and popular manager.

AT the new Royal Opera (Krolls) Frau Metzger-Froitzheim commenced a season. Her initial performance was that of Carmen—a rôle which suits her beautiful voice to perfection. The rendering was artistic in every point down to the smallest detail, and well deserved the applause it met with. Herr Kunwald conducted in his customary able manner, but he had the utmost difficulty to cover the deficiencies of the inadequate chorus.

THE Royal Opera opened last week after the usual summer holidays of eight weeks' duration. For the opening performance Wagner's *Rheingold* had been selected—a scarcely judicious choice, several of the cast being obviously unused to harness. Herr von Strauss conducted, and had all his work cut out for him. That the house was well filled and that the audience were enthusiastic are facts that go without saying, especially when it is borne in mind that a large percentage of seats in our Royal theatres is filled by non-payers, Government and Court officials.

A GREAT and well-merited success was achieved by the recent revival of Goldmark's delightful little opera *Das Herinchen aur Herc* (the *Cricket on the Hearth*) at the New Royal Opera. Dr. Kunwald was compelled to repeat several of the numbers, and the house was closely packed with most appreciative listeners. The effective tableaux at the end did not fail to make their usual impression, being extremely well set.

HERR LEO BLECH has been engaged as one of the conductors at the Royal Opera. He is, in the nature of things, a good musician all round, and has already made a name as composer of light opera. Blech's pretty little one-act work *Das war ich* was produced with decided success at the Royal Dresden and Berlin Opera Houses two seasons ago—being at the time fully detailed in your columns—and *Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind* (a fairy opera of taking melodies and skilful instrumentation) ran at the New Royal Opera for some time.

COUNTESS PROKESCH—a famous actress better known under her maiden name of Frederike Gossmann—died very suddenly at Gnumden last week. She was well known and much esteemed both in Berlin and Vienna.

AT Marlborough-street Police-court on Tuesday, Mr. Helmsley, of the St. James's Theatre, applied on behalf of Mr. George Alexander for the renewal of a licence permitting Miss Byrne, aged 12, to continue as understudy to Miss Iris Hawkins, playing in *His House in Order*. There being no objection on the part of the police, Mr. Denman renewed the licence.

"SEASHELL," a pretty song by H. E. Pether and Percy Edgar, has been in very great request at Douglas, thanks to the delightful rendering by Miss Mabel La Blanche.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Room has been found at the Hippodrome this week for the infusion of a number of fresh turns into a programme already well stocked with talent. A place of the first importance must be given to a Russian equestrian named Gudzow, who submits a series of thrilling feats of horsemanship. He assumes all sorts of positions on the back of his steed, picking up pieces of paper with the greatest ease while careering round the ring at an excessive speed. Later he attaches his foot to the stirrup, and falling from his horse is dragged along the ground round and round the ring, the impression he creates upon an audience accustomed to exciting scenes being a distinctly sensational one. How he manages to escape the hoofs of his galloping horse and to return uninjured to his saddle is a mystery which lovers of the hunting-field would find it invaluable to solve.

The Leamy Troupe of gymnasts go through some new evolutions on the trapeze and flying rings, each lady performing feats of muscular skill and intrepidity, while another fair member of the troupe varies the proceedings by making ascents by means of a rope to the dome of the building, descending with graceful ease and deliberation. All their feats are warmly cheered, special favour being shown towards the skill with which one of the ladies hanging by her teeth to a rope held in the same manner by her partner revolves with bewildering rapidity.

A return is this week made of the Willé Brothers, whose balancing feats prove as exciting as ever, the audience being thrilled with admiration as the intrepid performer assumes all sorts of positions on his precarious perch. A ladder is also brought into requisition, at the apex of which the daring artist holds himself up on one hand, while the ladder is sustained on the foot of the bearer, to whose skill in equipoise much of the credit of the performance belongs. Abdullah's Arabs have a fine field for their diversions in the arena of the handsome house, and their ground tumbling and pyramid building are very invigorating. Each performer has his own special accomplishment in the way of handsprings and somersaults, and is greeted with loud cries, either of encouragement or otherwise, by his comrades. The pyramid building of the troupe is as graceful as of yore, and the way in which one stalwart member of the band bears up no less than nine of his companions in picturesque array is wonderful.

The monkey tribe is adequately represented on the stage, where Galletti's marvellous apes enact a number of episodes distinguished by rich comicality. The fun begins as soon as a couple of combative monkeys enter in a hansom cab drawn by a dog, and grows very hilarious when the animals are persuaded to extract the tune of "The Old Folks at Home" from a number of bells, the intervals of which are relieved by the pranks of the players, who engage in a set-to on the slightest provocation. A sulky race with similarly droll interludes is also indulged in, and the representation of a hairdresser's, in which the customer is subjected to all kinds of indignities, ends with both the barber and his client removing their coats preparatory to a prospective encounter. The animals act apparently without any promptings from their trainer, who is heartily to be congratulated upon the way in which he has developed the sense of humour in his sagacious pets. Another new arrival is found in the Althoffs, who elicit roars of laughter for their comical act, while their trio at the end, in which cornets and trombone figure, is effectively played.

Continued success attends the efforts at merry-making on the part of the Harmony Four, whose eccentricities are welded with melody in a manner which is well appreciated, and Buddha's Blackboard remains to excite feelings of the utmost wonderment, admiration being also created for the witty replies that appear on the mystic panel. The Kauffman Troupe of lady cyclists continue to wheel their graceful way and perform rare feats of skill and daring; the Sisters Klos exhibit cleverness on prettily-decorated flying rings; Mlle. Doris is seen again in her finished act on horseback; Mr. Alf. Daniels provides a most amusing interlude; the American Bioscope numbers exquisitely coloured views of Japan rapids among its various films; and the bill is also contributed to by the Jack Theo Trio, equilibrists; and Lavater Lee and mule. *The Flood* retains its place at the end of the programme and is a source of exhilaration and wonderment. Mr. Colin Hazlewood now plays the part of the lively Wilkins in a droll fashion, and Mr. Hal Forde invests the bridegroom with an agreeably light touch that ingratiates him in favour. Miss Simeta Marsden has sufficient to do in the part of the heroine to reveal a musical voice and considerable dramatic attainments; Mr. Cecil Morton York is the "heavy villain" to the life, and Miss Aimee Roberts and Mr. J. Windham Guise contribute creditably to the incidental portion of the sketch, of which the country dance by Tiller's Eight Snowdrops is a pleasing feature. The representation of the rushing torrent is terribly realistic, and concludes one of the most remarkable productions with which Mr. Frank Parker has ever been associated. The elaborate programme of music rendered by the Hippodrome Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Clarence C. Corri is bright and agreeable throughout, and is invaluable to the effect of the various acts.

MR. HARRY BRETT, who is again touring with Mr. Albert Chevalier, is experiencing much gratification in the success of his latest song, entitled "I haven't the time to spare," which is written and composed by himself. Mr. Brett is the author of "Our 'Armonic Club."

THE following gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Association recently:—Albert De Breen, of "The De Breens," John Lloyd Thomas, of "The Harmony Four," and Frank Keegan, comedy cyclist. Terrier George Preston presided.

CHARLES SMITH, 20, Herbert Holmes, 19, and John Dyer, 16, were charged on Monday with assaulting the police. Police-sergeant 10 E stated that on Saturday night he was called to quell a disturbance in the gallery of the Middlesex. He found the prisoners and several others shouting and swearing, and when he endeavoured to restore order he was attacked by about a dozen of them. He attempted to arrest Holmes, who struck him in the right eye, and two or three others whom he caught hold of were dragged away. Finally he arrested Smith, whereupon Dyer made a running kick at him, which he only avoided by releasing Smith and jumping down some stairs. He next took Dyer into custody, and succeeded in getting him to the station. Holmes and Smith were afterwards brought in by other officers, and the former said, "If I am fined there is plenty of money in the gang to pay." Police-constable 244 E stated that on the way to the station Holmes tripped him up, and struck him in the face. He then ran away, but was stopped by another officer. Mr. J. L. Graydon, the proprietor of the Middlesex, said the prisoners were a constant terror to the place, and they had been refused admission over and over again. There was a terrible scene outside the house on Saturday night, and the witness had to send a messenger in a cab for police assistance. Holmes was sentenced to two months' hard labour, and Smith and Dyer to one month each.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

A PANTOMIMIST'S STORY.

The late Mr. David James used to tell a capital story, a bit of Whitechapel romance, about one Garente, a famous pantomimist, and Harry Carles, a clown, which Mr. J. L. Hatton repeats in his most interesting reminiscences of the late Mr. J. L. Toole.

"Old Garente," as they called him, was a famous East-end pantomimist, and a friend of Harry Carles, the well-known English clown, who had settled in Italy.

"Garente had taken several English pantomimists as attractions on his Continental tours. Among them was a certain East Ender, who on his return related to his admiring friends many strange and curious adventures. He had the gift of imagination, and his hearers mostly had every desire to assist him in making his points. In a Whitechapel smoke-room, favoured by a select and regular company, he had a chair of his own, and was always willing to narrate his continental experiences, and his friends were never tired of listening to them. There was one story in particular which they more especially enjoyed. They always drew him promptly for this for the benefit of any new friend, and however often he related it they never called it old, and the prologue of the draw was often in itself amusing enough.

"One of the company would remark: 'You know Italy, mate?'

"'Rarther!' he would answer.

"'Wonderful country?'

"'I should think it was!'

"'You were there with old Garente?'

"'I was, mate;' and so on, until at last some other drawer would ask, 'Did you ever cross the Alps?'

"'Did I ever what?"

"'Cross the Alps?'

"'Why, it was a-crossing the Arlps as me and Garente had the 'otiest adventure of all as occurred to us.'

"'Tell us about it,' the questioner would say in a spirit of inquiry, as if he had not heard the story a hundred times. Then the pantomimist would remove his pipe from his lips and relate his affair with the bandits.

"'We had had good business,' he would say, 'very good business, and old Garente stuck to the bag—oh, he was the dooce to stick to the bag, old Garente! He always carried his money in a bag and never parted with it—a closish chap, like all them furriners, never wasted a coin on extra drinks, nor nothing in the way of good fellowship! Well, we was a-going along all right, a-crossing the Arlps, when all of a suddent we thought we hears military music. We stops and listens, and old Garente, he becomes most uncomfortable, a-listening with all his might. We all listens likewise, and we hears far off in the distance the sound of a band, paying a regular bandit's march, the sort of music as you've all heard no doubt at old Drury in *Timour the Tartar*, a regular bandit's march—*Taratar, taratar taratara thrum, thrum. Thrum! Taratar, taratar, taratar, tarata! Sshsh—sshsh. Thrum!*' (imitating the well-known march from *Timour*, cymbals, drums, and the rest). 'We was not listenin' more than ten minutes when they comes round a bend of the Arlps, a reg'lar army, all a-glittering on prancing 'osses, with flags and banners a-waving, and in front a band of at least fifty performers, with silver trumpets, and cymbals, and side-drums, and the entire rig out. It was a grand sight, in them spotless mountains, the 'osses a-prancin', and all of 'em with saddle-cloths embroidered with gold and silver, and the army a-comin' on behind the band, with sabres a-flashin' in the sun, and marchin' orderly as if they was Hinglish 'Orse Guards, but, of course, differently dressed—turbans and simytars, and gold lace, and jewels on the bridles of the 'osses; and, well there, such a turn-out as would have been a honour to any country, and to tell you the truth, *Timour the Tartar* weren't in it with 'em, grand as *Timour* were when I see it in its glory. And the band comes blazing on, in all its splendour—*Taratar, taratar taratara, thrum, thrum. Thrum! Taratar, taratar, taratar—taratar taratar! Sshsh, sshsh. Thrum!* Old Garente says, "Hide, boys, hide," says he. He knowed what they was, and what we'd got to expect. Well, we hides like a shot, we vamooches behind a rock; but the heagle eyes of them bandits, they was on us, make no mistake, they'd been on us no doubt all the time; and they dooced soon 'auls us out. "Halt! halt!" says the chief, first in Italian, and then in Hinglish. "Right about," he says. "Forward for the bandit's cave!" And they turns, and off we was marched, the band a-playin' as before, and old Garente a-trying to hide the bag under his cloak, but it weren't no go; besides, what was the good of the bag when our lives weren't worth a hour's purchase? Well, at larst we come to the bandit's cave.'

"Here one of the listeners would ask what sort of a cave it was; the narrator expected questions, and was always prepared for them.

"'Oh, the regler thing,' he would say, 'the regular bandit's cave—blood and bones and all that sort of thing about—Turkey carpets, silver shields, drinking cups, and gold tables—the regler thing! We was in a pretty funk, I can tell you, when all of a sudden Garente's brother, who'd been a-hyeing the bandit-chief a long time—and I'd begun to notice it—all of a sudden he looks the chief in the eye, turns a flip-flap, and shouts, "Oh! here we are! Why, its Harry Carles!" And blest if it won't. It was Harry Carles, the clown as had guv' up the show business and settled down into a bandit chief; and here he was with all his army, on the march! Well, I needn't say as they not only spared our lives, but they was awful good to old Garente as an old pal of the chief's; they let him keep his bag; and what is more, a lot of 'em dismounts and they puts us on their 'osses, and marches off—*Taratar, taratar taratar, thrum, thrum. Thrum! Taratar, taratar, taratar—taratar taratar! Sshsh, sshsh. Thrum!* right to the bandit's palace, where they entertained us. Well, I fails for language to tell you how they entertained us. Every kind of luxury, champagne—well, we could have swum in it if we'd wanted—dancing girls with coins a-hung round their necks, and Turkish trousers above their ankles, and Lord! such eyes they had! And it was more like a dream than anything earthly; and as for the palace in a general way, the palace of *Timour the Tartar* was a fool to it.'"

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs. Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the patenting of inventions:—

6917.—Emergency-exit fastenings. Patentee, W. H. Tonks, 201, Moseley-street, Birmingham. This invention relates to one end of a crush-bar which is pivotally connected to a knob formed with the double bevel pinion on its inner end and capable of angular rotation in a horizontal plane about the axis of the pinion. Pressure on the crush-bar rotates the pinion, and, through the toothed levers, withdraws the bolts. The lower bolt is made heavier than the upper so as to cause the bolts to return automatically to locking position. In a modification the knob is made to slide inwards, its upper portion being provided with teeth for operating the bolts. Rollers are provided for limiting the outward movement and to prevent unbolting from the outside.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Marie Tempest has accepted for a limited period an engagement at the Palace Theatre, where she will "fill in" prior to her appearance in Mr. Alfred Sutro's new piece, specially written for her, and to be produced by Mr. Charles Frohman. By this engagement Mr. Butt adds another distinguished theatrical name to the long list of those who have appeared on the boards of the beautiful house in Shaftesbury-avenue, including Mrs. Tree, Mr. Charles Warner, Mr. Lal Brough, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Harry Paulton, and Mrs. Brown Potter. Miss Tempest will appear about the middle of September, and will sing four numbers—two accompanied by the orchestra and two at the piano.

Mr. E. A. Pickering, who was a few years ago a very popular acting-manager at the Alhambra with Mr. Dundas Slater, has resigned his position as manager of the Tivoli, Cape Town, and it is understood has accepted an appointment under Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre. Mr. Pickering is now on the voyage home.

Mr. and Mrs. William Francis and Mr. and Mrs. David Day left Euston at noon yesterday (Friday) for Liverpool, there to embark on the White Star liner Celtic, bound for New York. The members of the party will be absent about four weeks. Their visit will partake largely of the nature of a family re-union, and will give them an opportunity of congratulating their sons on the rapid strides made by the firm in the United States. Both Mr. Fred Day and Mr. William Francis *fils* will be afforded some relaxation from the strenuous labours connected therewith.

There will be a private view of the Empire, Camberwell (the converted Metropole Theatre) on Wednesday afternoon next, when Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the managing-director of the syndicate that have acquired the house, will welcome a large number of professional friends and the Press. It has been generally stated that the Metropole was the first of the suburban theatres. This is not the case, both the Lyric, Hammersmith, and the Grand, Islington, preceding it by a number of years.

Mr. Arthur L. Edwards, who has been appointed assistant-manager and treasurer at the Oxford, has had a large and varied experience as an entertainer, both on the concert and operatic stage. He was very popular in Australia and New Zealand before he set sail for this country in 1901. "Down under," he played several of the tenor rôles in Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and sang both at concerts and oratorios. On his arrival in London he found much favour on the concert platform, where his artistic singing gave considerable pleasure.

One day during their summer vacation Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant were seated in a summer-house in an old-fashioned garden when they saw coming towards them a very curious creature. In the distance it seemed to be a man with the head of an animal. "What on earth is this?" asked Maskelyne. "Perhaps it's a daylight ghost," suggested Mr. Devant. An explanation was soon forthcoming. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was being performed by some pastoral players in the adjoining grounds, and Bottom had lost his way. The incident gave the two magicians an idea for a new and bewildering play, in which there is a summer-house haunted by several ghosts, who appear and disappear even when they are surrounded by members of the audience. The play, which will be produced at St. George's Hall on Sept. 3, is appropriately entitled *Daylight Ghosts*.

Mr. and Mrs. Bransby Williams were sitting in the stalls enjoying the entertainment at the Tivoli on Monday, when the well-known and popular impersonator of characters from the novels of Charles Dickens was appealed to by the management to get them out of a difficulty. Mr. Harry Lauder's sudden indisposition prevented his appearance, and though Mr. Whit Cunliffe had been secured in his place, that favourite comic singer could only give seven minutes of his time. As Mr. Lauder's turn occupies twenty minutes a hiatus was threatened; but the timely aid of Mr. Bransby Williams prevented this. The young actor gave several imitations of stars of the legitimate, and his selections included Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who was in a private box, and highly appreciated the mimicry of himself.

The effect of the passing of the long-delayed Copyright Bill is noticed by the activity on the part of the music publishers. M. Witmark and Sons have been holding back their special "plums" and novelties pending the efforts for protection of their property. Now that the much-desired Bill has passed they are bringing out their latest American hits, and have some decided novelty songs to offer to their professional friends.

Miss Rachel Lowe had a narrow escape from what might have been a very serious accident in Wolverhampton on Tuesday. As she was crossing a street she was run into by a bicyclist and thrown nearly under the wheels of an advancing cable car. Happily the car was stopped at the critical moment. As it was, Miss Lowe sustained a severe nervous shock, but appeared at the Empire as usual, and scored an immense success with her latest novelty, "The Progressive Woman." Miss Lowe will spend next week at her Paris house, reopening on Sept. 3 on the Moss and Stoll tour at Hull.

Misses Ella and Dacia Hope, who are to make their début on the variety stage on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Colchester (one of the Walter De Frece houses), are natives of Blackpool, in which famous seaside resort Ella has shown much versatility by playing with amateurs such different rôles as Yum Yum (*The Mikado*), Serpolette (*Les Cloches*), Lucy (*Dream Faces*), Phyllis (*Iolanthe*), and Lady Harding in *The Idler*. She has a charming voice of considerable range, and is an excellent mimic. Dacia, her partner, besides being a high-class vocalist, is also a clever comedienne, and recently won warm encomiums for the winsome manner in which she played O Mimosa San in *The Geisha* for a week at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

Happy Fanny Fields sailed for England last Saturday, having spent her summer holidays in New York, and will return to work with restored health and energy, new songs, and up-to-date patter. The merry little Yankee-Dutch girl goes into pantomime at Liverpool next Christmas. She has had many tempting offers to remain on "the other side," but playing in America, with Sunday performances and long jumps, is too much like working to suit her "Serene Happiness."

Mr. Sydney Hyman will depart for America by the s.s. New York from Southampton on Saturday, Sept. 8. He will combine business with pleasure, and secure some new attractions for the Hyman enterprises on the Rand and at the Cape.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Lucas, who opened in Johannesburg at the beginning of this month, were very popular with their fellow-passengers on the long journey from Southampton to South Africa. A fancy dress ball was given on board. Mr. Lucas hid his identity in the disguise of a country bumpkin, and his clever little wife appeared as Topsy, taking the first prize for a specially made costume. A concert was also given, in which the two Dickensonians took an active part, over £8 being collected for the benefit of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. Mr. Joe O'Gorman went out by the same ship, and as the passenger list also included the names of Miss Jessica Grace, Brothers O'Gorman, and Messrs. Robbins and Collier, there was no lack of professional talent.

A company has been registered to "acquire the freehold property known as the Palace-by-the-Sea Theatre, Clacton, and the business carried on there by H. Ford. There is to be no initial public issue. The first directors are Messrs. P. W. Willard, G. Atherton, A. R. Dean, J. B. Rowell, and H. Hooper. Mr. P. W. Willard is the managing director.

A novel burlesque skit on the "Back to the Land" topic, entitled *The Land Grabbers*, was produced at the Hippodrome, Hulme, on Aug. 15. It was immediately booked by Mr. Broadhead, and is now being successfully presented on his tour, topping the bill at the King's Theatre, Longsight, next week. It has proved a big laughing success at Ashton, and should make a big hit in town.

The new Eastbourne Hipprodrome company has been registered with a capital of £12,000 in £1 shares. The company adopts an agreement with Florence A. Winter for the acquisition of the freehold premises known as the Hippodrome, Eastbourne. There will be no initial public issue.

Mr. John Bayliss, musical director of the Morecambe Central Pier, died on Tuesday morning after a brief illness. Mr. Bayliss, who had reached the age of fifty-nine, was a well-known musical man, for many years connected with the orchestra of the old Prince of Wales, Liverpool, and filled several London engagements.

The building of the new Hippodrome at Belfast has commenced. It is understood that several cross-Channel and Belfast people are interested in the project. The site adjoins the Palace in Great Victoria street, and the building will be worthy of the city.

At the second performance at the Belfast Palace on Saturday evening an interesting extra turn was supplied when Raku, the famous Japanese wrestler, was presented with a handsome gold watch in recognition of his gallantry in saving a man from drowning in the Lagan at the Queen's Bridge on the 17th inst. Raku was walking over the Queen's Bridge on Friday afternoon, when he saw a man in the water. He immediately divested himself of his coat, jumped into the river, and succeeded in keeping the man's head above water until a ferry-boat came to the rescue.

Mr. Harris, the manager of the Palace, in making the presentation, said he had been asked on behalf of the subscribers to hand over the gold watch as a token of appreciation of Mr. Raku's heroic conduct. He (Mr. Harris) was sure he was only expressing the sentiments of the audience when he hoped that the famous wrestler would be long spared to wear it. Mr. Raku's manager, in reply, returned thanks, and said Raku desired him to say that he had only done what any Britisher or Japanese would have done—namely, gone to the assistance of a man who was in danger of losing his life.

Before the Sheffield Licensing Magistrates last week at the Court House, a formal application for a public dancing, music and singing licence for a house to be called the Tivoli Music Hall, in Burton-st, Owlerton, was made by Mr. A. Muir Wilson. Mr. Muir Wilson had previously proffered the application on July 4 on behalf of Mr. J. C. Brothwell, of Burton-street. The chairman informed Mr. Muir Wilson that he and his colleagues had visited the premises, and had come to the conclusion that the place was utterly unsuitable for such a licence, and refused to grant one.

Mr. J. W. Rowley's name was unfortunately omitted from our report of the Bradford Empire for the week commencing the 13th inst., when the well-known Yorkshire comedian was on the top of the bill.

Mr. Leo Fritz, the well-known and popular variety agent, is, owing to the very big increase of his provincial business, transferring the same to Leeds, making the Yorkshire metropolis his centre. His new office is at 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds.

Miss Lil Hawthorne made her first appearance in Halifax last Monday, starring at the Theatre Royal, the Press being loud in their praise of her artistic abilities. Miss Hawthorne has filled in most of the time she should have played at the London Coliseum; and Glasgow, Dublin, and Liverpool follow Halifax.

Miss Emma Don was unfortunate enough to lose, on her journey from Southampton to Birmingham, her large basket and a hat box containing all her private clothing and papers.

Miss Ray Ford has undergone a very serious nasal operation under the treatment of Dr. Haring, of Manchester. She is making an excellent recovery.

Meiер and Mora will present at the Surrey Theatre next week for the first time in England their latest scenic production, introducing a novel pot-pourri entertainment on board ship. When the show was first produced in South Africa a few months ago its success was instantaneous.

Miss Lillian Doreen has been singing with much success J. F. Lambe and H. E. Pether's song, "The bonny brier bush." The former has supplied the lady with an original monologue.

Miss Daisy Jerome's latest number, "My Lady Vi, let me hold you in my arms again," by Percy Edgar, has been secured for publication by Mr. David Day.

Miss Bessie Butt, who became such a popular dancer in the productions at the Coliseum, was unable to work at the Granville this week owing to a slight injury to her knee, caused through a "banana fall." She will, however, resume work on Monday at Stratford.

That clever writer, R. P. Weston, has collaborated with Maurice Scott in a song, entitled "Come down from your pedestal." It has been accepted for publication by the Charing Cross-road firm.

Mdlle. Renée, the charming and talented daughter of Virto, the instrumentalist, who used to be known as Little Irene, is fulfilling the promise of her early youth, and displaying to great advantage her hereditary gifts, which have been finely cultivated. She is this week winning golden opinions at the Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

The Dayton family of acrobats, who are repeating their successes on the Continent, return to old England in December.

Miss Rosa Adams, the daughter of Harry Adams, the well-known song writer, had an unpleasant experience and a narrow escape of a night in the open in the neighbourhood of Colchester at the close of Sunday last. The young lady set out alone to visit Lexden Springs, a spot surrounded by acres of corn land, and, mistaking a path, wandered on and on, not meeting a soul of whom to inquire the way. She retraced her steps, but darkness came on, and she next tried to make for the lights of the town, but tall hedges and broad dykes prevented her. At length she espied a single glimmer, and groping her way through a quickset and across some marshy land, it proved to be a light on the railway. She climbed the steep embankment and by running along the six-foot way at length reached Colchester Station. She was very much frightened by the adventure, but after a thorough rest was enabled to open on the Monday at the Hippodrome with her accustomed vivacity and go.

Mr. G. Rhodes Parry resigned his position at the Palace, Manchester, on July 28, to take over the district management of the De Frece circuit, which is so rapidly growing, and of which the headquarters are 178, Charing Cross-road.

Mr. Parry was married on July 28 at the Cathedral, Manchester, to Miss Lena M'Gown, of Sale, Cheshire. He received a handsome present of a solid silver tea and coffee service and tray from the patrons of the Palace; and the staff of that house presented him with a very serviceable case of cutlery.

Mr. G. H. Chirgwin spent a most enjoyable time last week at Portobello, near Edinburgh, in wild sea-bird shooting and fishing. He has left his family at the popular seaside resort, and picks them up on his journey from Glasgow to Hull.

Mr. Jack Woolf, the energetic and ever-alert manager of the Queen's, Poplar, has induced the North London Railway Company to run an extra late train at 11.30 p.m. from Poplar to Bow and Bromley and neighbourhood. This will greatly benefit the patrons of the Queen's who hail from further east than Poplar.

An excellent picture of the late Mr. J. L. Toole is exhibited in the window of Messrs. Müller and Co., of 62, Strand. It is from the artistic brush of Mr. Ernest Stuart, who has been very successful with portraits both of the variety and theatrical profession. The painter has caught the lamented comedian, who is wearing a grey hat, in a very contented frame of mind, and the fine expressive mouth seems to be just breaking into a smile. Mr. Stuart is really a marine painter of considerable gifts, but he makes a hobby of portraits, and his likeness of dear old Johnnie has been much praised by friends and relatives alike.

Mr. Campbell Rae-Brown, who has returned to town for the rehearsals of his *Kissing-Cup* musical comedy sketch, tells an amusing story in connection with *The Express Baby*, now being played at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue. The much-admired and splendidly-realistic replica of an infant was especially made for this piece by Mr. "Willie" Clarkson, but on the way down to Brighton, where *The Express Baby* was produced, some hitch occurred in the transit of the box containing the infant from the station to the theatre. The mail-cart, Mr. Frank Esmond, the mean old aunt, and, of course, Miss Edith Evelyn, were in evidence, but no baby!

In ten minutes the company was down to appear. "Mr. Esmond, you can't go to the station," said Miss Evelyn, "but you must go and borrow a baby from somewhere." So off went Esmond, his teeth set in determination, to find a baby. In five minutes he was back, carrying in his arms a *real live one!* the mother from whom he had stolen it, and whom he had discovered at the pit entrance, in hot pursuit. This lady, however, yielding to the persuasions of Miss Evelyn, was soon pacified, and stood at the wings while her little one made its first appearance on the boards. So well did it behave in Mr. Esmond's arms that no one discovered it was not a dummy.

The London Pavilion and the Palace Theatre cricket teams will play a match on Wednesday. This is always an interesting fixture, and both elevens are very keen on winning. It is to be hoped that the weather will be propitious, and that a draw will be avoided.

The Water Rats enjoyed their up-river outing on Sunday, when a party of a hundred were conveyed by launch from Windsor to Marlow and back. The train journey to the Royal town was by saloon carriages, leaving Waterloo at 9.45 a.m.

Lieut. Alsini, the popular magician, who was a few weeks since at the top of the bill at a theatre in the South, and unable to appear through a fall, has now completely recovered, and has been making a great success in the provinces with his "Queen of Sheba." He is due on Monday at the Metropolitan with his "Lady in Black" mystery.

The following artists will leave Southampton per the Kenilworth Castle, to-day, Saturday, to fulfil engagements with Messrs. Hyman in South Africa:—Miss Kitty Loftus, Mr. Ted E. Box, Mr. A. D. Robbins, Miss Miniature Marie, and Mr. William Gourlay ("the Scarecrow"). Amongst those arriving home from the Cape on the same day are:—Mr. Austen Boyd and Miss Trixie Gilfain, Collins and Hawley, Miss Yolande Noble, Mr. John E. Coyle, and Mdlle. Alexia.

Miss Katie Lawrence will produce immediately a new song, by Richard Elton and Denham Harrison, entitled "Lies! Lies! Lies!" This popular lady will appear at the Middlesex and the Palace, Camberwell, on Monday, Sept. 3.

Mr. Tom Costello, having now entirely recovered from his recent serious illness, wishes to thank his many friends for their letters of sympathy and their kindnesses during his indisposition.

Mr. Walter Bentley, the energetic agent, through increase of business, has augmented his staff and removed to more convenient and roomy offices at Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand.

Miss Constance Moxon produces her new monologue, "A Toff for Ten Minutes," at the Chelsea Palace on Monday.

Mr. Ernie Mayne, who has bottomed the bills all round the Stoll London Empires, is leaving town for eight weeks. He has been secured by Mr. Stoll until 1910. Christmas will see him at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, playing Idle Jack in *Dick Whittington*.

The staff of the Queen's Palace, Poplar, will take their annual outing on Sunday, when a party of nearly fifty strong, in charge of Mr. Morris Abrahams, will journey in brakes to St. Margaret's, Herts.

"The Scarleteers," including Miss Lilian Sanders, Miss Rosa Mellish, Miss Daisy May, Mr. Alex. B. Gilbert, and Mr. Charles Hinchliff, have been delighting crowded audiences in the Cafe Chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace during the week. Mr. Bannister Howard has secured a most attractive programme for next week. The many turns will include Mr. Frank Lawton in his speciality whistling and bone act; Mlle. Ameda, hand-balancing and foot equilibrist; Jack and May McKenzie, variety entertainers; Joan Deering, vocalist and violinist; and Walter Grace, the septuagenarian tenor.

Mr. Tom Costello produces immediately a comic song, entitled "The ten-bob rise; or, My Old Pal Joe." It is by Edgar Bateman and Bennett Scott, and has already been issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

Mr. Sydney Stone, a clever singer hailing from the States, will shortly be seen in town in original songs and "business," notably ditties entitled "Sweethearts" and "I would like to marry you," which Mr. David Day has published. The young artist's advent on the London stage will be watched with great interest.

Mr. Jack Lorimer (who on the 21st inst. celebrated the first anniversary of his marriage with the daughter of Will Mitcham and Maud Ross) has been greatly delighted by the great hit made at the Holborn Empire, the Brixton Empress, and the Middlesex by his young sister, Miss Ina Lorimer. The promising artist returns to school in Scotland immediately, and will make her reappearance on the London boards in June next.

The Narow Brothers, who, it is unnecessary perhaps to state, have broad views of their responsibilities in the direction of comedy, are exploiting a very novel act, which has been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll for a dozen Empires and for the London Hippodrome. Other proprietors who have secured it for their stages include Messrs. Frank Macnaghten, E. Dottridge, Albert Bushell, Jesse Sparrow, W. C. Horner, J. F. Elliston, C. E. Elphinstone, J. C. Whiteman, Samuel Lloyd, H. J. Worswick, W. B. Broadhead, and Captain Warren Wright.

Mr. John Smith placed on the market on the 19th the 286th publication issued by Messrs. Francis and Day in their series of "Sixpenny Pops." It is "In Chicago," described as "Canned by Edgar Bateman, and labelled by J. Airlie Dix." The ditty has been received with great favour, notably at the Empire Theatre, Leicester-square, being sung there by Mr. R. Huntly.

"Medley" Barrett, the well-known mime and writer for the variety profession who has during the current season been delighting the countless visitors to Scarborough as principal comedian to Catlin's Pierrots, had upwards of 7,000 persons present on the occasion of his benefit on Thursday in last week. His "Golliwog" song is in much demand.

In the cast of *The Earthquake*, which is to sound the last word in sensational productions at the London Hippodrome, will be found Messrs. Cecil Morton York, Windham Guise, Hal Forde, and Miss Simeta Marsden. The two first-named gentlemen have been leading members of the dramatic representations at the house almost from the commencement of its career.

Mr. Herbert Shelley has been playing his new one-act drama, *Dan the Outlaw*, to crowded and enthusiastic audiences at Blackburn. He is receiving contracts for this entertainment running to the end of 1908—ample proof of its popularity.

Duncan and Godfrey, the popular coster sketch couple, sailed yesterday per s.s. Orient for Australia under a contract made by Messrs. Pacey and Reeves with Mr. Harry Rickards.

Mr. George Brooks is letter-perfect in a song called "Jack of All Trades—Master of None," one of the best examples of the comic writing of Fred W. Leigh, the author, who, in conjunction with H. E. Pether and Miss Vesta Victoria, set nearly all America singing "Waiting at the church." Mr. Leigh is away enjoying his holidays at the present time.

A most interesting exhibition of Ju-jitsu will be given at the Hackney Empire next week by Raku, who has just finished his engagement as instructor to the London Police and to the Army gymnastic staff at Aldershot. Raku makes his show particularly interesting by practical examples of how to defend oneself against roughs, and his assistant, Miss Moto, at the same time demonstrates how a frail girl may come out triumphant after a bout with a garrotter. Raku has appeared three times before His Majesty.

A plucky rescue of a lad from the Serpentine was effected on Saturday by "Le Domino Rouge," who made her first appearance at the Palace Theatre on Monday night. Two boys were rowing at the west end of the Serpentine, when the younger one, aged twelve, fell into the water. Without a moment's hesitation "Le Domino Rouge," who was driving by, sprang from her carriage and dived in. A bold, quick stroke brought her to the sinking lad, whom she was conveying in safety to the shore when a boatman came to her assistance. The boy suffered from nothing more than fright.

The regular meeting of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons was held on Friday, the 17th, at the Town Hall, King's-road. In consequence of so many of the regularly appointed officers being away, the Lodge assumed a somewhat cosmopolitan character, and was constituted in the following manner:—Bro. Wolfe S. Lyon (treasurer) as W.M., Bro. John Worth (G.A.P. of England) as I.P.M., Bro. G. H. Dyball as S.W., Bro. Douglas White as J.W., Bro. Harry Cox (Earl's Court Lodge) as S.D., Bro. Harry Bawn as J.D., Bro. W. F. K. Walton as I.G., Bro. Angelo Asher as organist, Bro. Fred Clay as D.C., and Bro. C. J. Doughty as secretary. A letter of regret, stating inability to be present, was received from Bro. Serpentello, who has been fulfilling an engagement in New York. Bro. Serpentello is the S.W. of the Chelsea Lodge. There was a good attendance, the visitors including Messrs. Bigny, Mayville, Fred McNaughton, F. H. Pedgrift, Primavesi, Leo Tell, Albert Christian, Fred Farren, Geo. Gilbey, Jimmy Prior, Geo. Grahame, J. Neiman, B. J. Whiteley, Ernest Rees, F. W. Phillips, J. J. Orr, Aguzzi, Harry Cox, and Ervin S. Hubbard, a P.M. of the Hiram Lodge, Washington.

Messrs. Ernest Rees, Jacob Neiman, and Benjamin Whiteley (of the Five Whiteleys) were initiated into the Order; and Messrs. Pryer, Farren, Tell, and Herbert Heriot Hill were passed to the second degree. Bro. Worth, at the request of the acting W.M., delivered the charge to the initiates in a most impressive manner. Subsequently the members and their friends adjourned for refreshments to the Chelsea Hotel, in which are many historical relics of old Chelsea, including the armchair always used by Carlyle when visiting there. Letters and telegrams were received from many members, including Messrs. J. W. Matthews and Albert Le Fre; also from two of the members in America—Serpentello and Mike Morris.

Miss Ada Reeve, who is adding to the gaiety of perspiring citizens at the Tivoli, will appear at the Paragon on Monday, heading a strong company which includes Mr. Wilkie Bard and Mr. Tom Foy. The popular soubrette will be on quite familiar ground, as she scored a very great success at the Mile End-road house when in her teens, and as a kiddy learnt her art at the Pavilion Theatre just up the road.

Owing to the success of Swan and Vesta in their new production, *In Nelson's Days*, at Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, they were immediately secured for a twelve months' tour of India and China by Mr. Leo Montague, English representative for Mr. D. Gardner Brown. They leave Victoria on Monday next, and return to England in August, 1907, to open at the Gaiety, Brum.

Maudie Francis, the daughter of Mr. Watson Francis, manager of the Empress, Brixton, a pretty, dark-eyed child of ten years old, accompanied by a lady, appeared at Old-street Police Court on Saturday last with Mr. David Hart, manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend, her agent, to apply for a licence to perform during the week at the Foresters'. It transpired that the child was to appear twice in the evening—two houses a night—and was engaged in singing and dancing. Mr. Biron remarked that the Act required an interval of four hours between each performance.

Mr. David Hart contended that that only applied to theatres when matinées of such performances as pantomimes took place, and the child was engaged on the stage for some two or three hours. The performances in a music hall, even on the two-houses-a-night system, were close together. Mr. Biron, having considered the point during an interval, said that (without expressing any opinion upon it) he would grant the licence for the child.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow has accepted the invitation of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund to become a vice-president of that society, in place of the late Mr. Frank Weeks.

The London meeting of the International Artistes' Lodge was held on Sunday, Aug. 19. The chairman was elected and the meeting opened at 7.30 p.m. The members present were 1,312, 1,354, 487, 202, 388, 876, 382, 305, 1591, 100, and five guests. The minutes were then read and adopted unanimously. A letter was read from brother Voyce with reference to his accepting the position of representative of the International Artistes' Lodge in the case between Collins and Hart and Messrs. Cadle Bros. Brother Voyce stated that he would be in London on Sept. 2, and it was proposed and passed by the meeting that he and Messrs. Cadle Bros. should be communicated with.

At the previous meeting of the I.A.L. it was agreed to hold a conference of members of the Executive Committee of the V.A.F. and I.A.L., and all except the members concerned were asked to kindly retire. Both parties then assembled for the conference.

The gist of the important and far-reaching affiliation scheme between the V.A.F. and the I.A.L. is contained in Article 3, which, as passed at last Sunday's meeting, reads as follows:—"The International Artists' Lodge extends to the Variety Artists' Federation the option of having legal advice and protection for Variety Artists' Federation members on the Continent exercised through the Legal Protection Committee and solicitors of the International Artists' Lodge. Costs of litigation, if any, to be borne by the Variety Artists' Federation. The Variety Artists' Federation extends to the International Artists' Lodge the option of having legal protection for International Artists' Lodge members in Great Britain and Ireland exercised through Legal Protection Committees and solicitors of the Variety Artists' Federation, costs of litigation, if any, to be borne by the International Artists' Lodge. The members of either society requiring legal advice or protection must be qualified under the rules and regulations of the organisations to which they belong."

This article will, of course, be remodelled should a change in the constitution of either organisation demand any modification. Brother William Berol, the delegate of the Variety Artists' Federation to the general meeting of the International Artists' Lodge, recently held in Berlin, goes to the States as the special delegate of the Variety Artists' Federation to approach the White Rats of America for the purpose of forming a similar coalition with them, and it is confidently hoped that what he has achieved in Berlin he will accomplish in New York.

Dr. Walford Bodie has again opened in London, and has repeated his former triumphs at the Stratford Empire this week. Despite the record tropical weather, he has been packing the place nightly at both houses. Huge crowds wait at the stage-door nightly at the close of the performance, and Dr. Bodie is lustily cheered as he drives away in his carriage. Mr. Stoll has specially arranged to send the Doctor to the Coliseum, Glasgow, for one week on Monday next. He then returns again to London for a long run.

Mr. Gilbert Wells, the author of "Varmer Giles" (so successfully sung by Mr. George Bastow) and countless other successful songs, will be married on Friday next, the 31st inst., to Miss C. M. Nichols, a lady unconnected with the profession. The ceremony will take place at Christ Church, Brixton Road.

Miss Ethel Netherton, who has recently seceded from musical comedy in order to delight variety audiences as an exceedingly smart male impersonator, is a native of Plymouth. She received her early musical training under the direction of the late Mr. John Hele (then borough organist of that town), and made her first appearance in public at the early age of eight, when she sang solos at the Guildhall, Plymouth, before an audience of 3,000 people. She also had the honour of singing a solo before our present King, then Prince of Wales; this was followed by a long course of studies abroad, notably at Paris and Milan.

On her return to her native town she was seen by Mr. Frederick Mouillot's general manager, and promptly secured by him for musical comedy. She created the part of Lili in *The Transit of Venus*, and has played many leading rôles, notably Winifred Grey in *The Runaway Girl*, Bessie Brent in *The Shop Girl*, Dora Wemyss and La Favorita in *The Circus Girl*, O Mimosa San and Molly Seamour in *The Geisha*, and Maia in *The Greek Slave*. Her last appearance in musical comedy was in the part of Nancy in Mr. George Edwardes' *Toreador*. Mr. Harry Leamar, the musical and dramatic agent, 157, Strand, is at present busy booking her.

The secretary of the Music-Hall Benevolent Fund has received as a donation in aid the sum of £10 from Mr. Harry Calver, being part proceeds of the Birmingham theatrical charity sports.

Mr. Joe O'Gorman has also written to say that on his outward journey to South Africa he, assisted by Messrs. Robins and Collier, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, his wife, Jessica Grace, and his two sons, the O'Gorman Bros., gave three concerts on board. At the last of these he obtained the captain's permission to make a collection in aid of the M.H.B.F. The sum of £8 5s was subscribed and handed over to Commander Brown, of the R.M.S. Walmer Castle. The thanks of the president and committee are publicly given to Mr. Calver and Mr. O'Gorman and the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly assisted on these occasions.

The 477th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. George Gray (in the chair), Harry Blake, H. Griff, Fred McNaughton, Fred Neiman, George Preston, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them dealt with. Cases of refunds and lost luggage were considered, and the secretary reported the receipt from the Ocean Accident Company of a sum of £19 odd in settlement of various insurance claims. The secretary's statement of accounts for the week ending August 18 showed the addition of twenty-two new members, while the receipts were £28 18s. 9d. and the expenditure £14 4s. 9½d. The hon. treasurer's cash account was also received.

A communication was read from Mr. G. W. Gerald (the agent in Paris) stating that the concession which he had succeeded in obtaining was that of individual second-class travelling at third-class rate. It would be necessary for artists before obtaining the voucher to produce their contracts for the engagements to which they were proceeding. The secretary announced that arrangements for securing the same privilege for the journey from London to Paris were in hand. It was decided to present Mr. W. H. Clemart, the vice-chairman of the committee, with a type-writer, in acknowledgment of services rendered to the Association during the absence of the secretary on holiday last year. It was resolved that a letter be addressed to those members of the executive who had been in town and had not attended the requisite number of meetings, intimating that their resignations would be accepted.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE TIVOLI.

Miss Somebody from Somewhere—otherwise London's favourite comedienne, Miss Ada Reeve, just home from South Africa—came to the Tivoli on Monday, and, notwithstanding the tropical heat, packed the house from floor to ceiling. We see too little in this gay metropolis of ours of the charming Ada, who has distinguished herself in many forms of theatrical and music hall art. No actress that we could name sings a song with such a real appreciation of its witty points, such crystal-clear enunciation, or with such piquancy, and the house rapturously applauded Miss Reeve, many of them no doubt remembering her triumphs at the old Gaiety in musical comedy. She has been well fitted with songs. "Born, not made," we heard at her last engagement in a variety theatre; but "June," with a dainty dance to conclude, and "Auntie sent me marketing" are quite new; and so is "If the world were ruled by girls." This song made an immediate hit, the audience being quick to seize on points so deftly put by the singer. The verses treat the "suffragette" question in quite the ironic vein, and discuss with amusing raillery the results that might arise if we were dependent upon women as M.P.'s, policemen, doctors, soldiers, postmen, firemen, and burglars. A lady letter-carrier might be charged with tampering with "the mails"; the extinction of fire might be sadly interfered with by a lavish display of "hose"; and the number of cases in the police courts would go up enormously if "Bobby" were to be represented by a cherry-cheeked, blue-eyed maid. "Born, not made," describes a number of quixotic personages who ignore the chastening influence of experience in their conduct of life. Miss Reeve is certainly the strongest attraction that has been at the Tivoli for some time, and she was never more popular than now.

Early in the evening Mr. Tom Woottwell tells, in his own inimitably funny and artless way, the story of "The little shirt my mother made for me," an idyll of filial affection that exerts considerable effect upon the springs of laughter. Later Mr. Tom Costello, with a perfectly wonderful make-up as a tramp, narrates the adventures of the wastrel upon whom fortune in the shape of a generous friend has bestowed a ten-pound note. A dosser's rags and the "flimsy" do not exactly correspond, and Mr. Costello's account of the tribulations and trials endured by its possessor in his endeavours to change it is very funny. Eventually he tries to pay an imagined debt of two shillings to Jim; but Jim, in the language of the Cockney, is not "taking any," and makes it very warm for the ragged-looking individual, who he thinks is trying to take advantage of his innocence. A very fine bit of character work is Mr. Costello's tramp—worthy, indeed, of his very high reputation.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar, looking very handsome in pink silk, shows the great range of her voice by imitating a double-voiced singer, and also is responsible for a capital piece of mimicry in her impersonation of a German soubrette. Miss Dagmar likewise amuses as a patterist, several of her wheezes rousing the laughter of the house. She winds up her turn by some excellent jodelling, of which vocal exercise she is a past mistress. Miss Lena Verdi is worthy of a much better song than "On the pier at Brighton." She should be immediately fitted with something which would give her a chance of displaying her comedy gifts. She is responsible for some excellent imitations of music-hall stars, which bring down the house. Miss Nellie Wallace moves her listeners to laughter by her odd appearance when singing "Where are you going to, my pretty maid?" We will not attempt to describe how the favourite low comedienne arrays herself. Her appearance is altogether a marvellous study in unrelieved, but droll, ugliness.

Mr. Tom Edwards, in hunting costume, gives an entirely new show in ventriloquism, and his "young father" with his "first"—an infant with a resolute and continuous wail—is a study in domestic felicity which keeps the house in a roar. The return of Mr. Russell Wallett, the lady in black, is decidedly welcome, and his imitation of a serenade given by a lover with a bad cold is as clever as ever. Mr. Wallett's lecture to the dear girls is also worth going a long way to hear. Miss Annie Purcell pleases with her pretty number "Glowworm"; Miss Alice Hollander hushes the house to silence and rouses it to applause by singing an "Ave Maria" of Mascheroni's; and heavy demands are made upon Mr. Harry Fragson's good nature. He is as popular as ever, especially in "He received me most politely." Mr. Harry Lauder and the Three Laurels are also in the list. The former gentleman was, however, unable to answer to his number on Monday, and his place was taken at short notice by Mr. Whit Cunliffe, who sang "It's a different girl again," and Mr. Bransby Williams, who gave his excellent imitations of Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and the late Sir Henry Irving as Shylock. Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has just returned from his holiday in Dorset, was warmly welcomed by a number of friends on Monday. Mr. James Howell, the popular acting-manager, has been ably officiating during his absence.

THE PALACE.

The art of mystification is also the art of advertisement, but Le Domino Rouge, who masks her identity at the Palace, is much too clever to need such adventitious aid as the puff preliminary which her well-concealed anonymity has given her. To the large number who will inevitably be drawn to the fine variety house in Shaftesbury-avenue by her clever and attractive entertainment neither her name nor her nationality will matter much, for art is truly cosmopolitan, and a dancer of such unique attainments would win popularity even under the prosaic name of Smith. Report has it that "Le Domino Rouge" has made a great success across the pond in her mystic mirror dance. With the upper part of her face veiled and her figure swathed in a shawl of flaming scarlet, which left one shoulder bare, Miss Anonyma burst upon the vision of a darkened house on Monday, and in the red glare thrown upon the stage figured in tip-toe waltz with variations, dancing in front of a number of mirrors—placed at different angles, in which her supple and sinuous form was many times reflected. By an ingenious contrivance, probably worked by electricity, the mirrors disappeared, and within the frames half a dozen ballerine, prettily costumed, disported themselves, their divertissement quite harmonising with the wonderful toe dancing of their veiled leader, without any attempt being made on their part to rival her *tour de force*. The variety and charm of the turn were increased when the dancing of the girls was repeated in front of the mirrors. "Le Domino Rouge" concluded her turn with the wild whirl of a sort of cachuca, and her style in her final solo was decidedly Moorish in more senses than one. There is no doubt that Mr. Alfred Butt has secured a very great attraction in this young and gifted terpsichorean, and the stage lighting and effects are quite Rembrandtesque in their effect.

Another new-comer to the Palace on Monday was Mr. Fred Wright, jun., who has just finished an engagement with Mr. George Edwardes as Wun-Hi—his brother Huntley's original part—in the revival of *The Geisha* at Daly's Theatre. By Mr. Edwardes's permission, Mr. Wright is enabled to introduce the Celestial's well-known number, "Chin-Chin Chinaman" in the Japanese opera, and "The Wonderful English Pot" from *The Cingalee*. In both of these selections the young comedian seemed to be more at home than in the rather weak "Tired of being respectable," in which he was handicapped by obvious nervousness. Mr. Wright's clever dancing brought down the house, and when more used to his surroundings, he should do extremely well as a variety turn.

The broad humour and extravagance of *The Mumming Birds* have evoked laughter in variety houses all over the United Kingdom, and the hilarious proceedings of Mr. Fred Karno's troupe of comedians receive the heartiest encouragement in Shaftesbury-avenue. The inebriated swell who reminds one very strongly of a popular Bohemian and sporting pressman now with the majority, excites as much laughter as when the amusing skit on a music-hall performance was first given at a suburban variety theatre, and the "human boy," as Mr. Chadband would certainly call him, is just as humorously played. We are precluded from giving the names of the cast, as they are not printed on the programme, but the topical vocalist, the Swiss "nightingale," the prestidigitateur, the rustic glee party, the saucy serio, and the wrestler are all funny, and enter heartily into the pleasant conspiracy of mirth.

Miss Maud Courtney's coon love song is made into a duet by the help of "The Mysterious Mr. C," who uses his falsetto notes very effectively, singing from the dress circle. But why the mystery? Mr. Fred Niblo does not vary his lectures very much, but his discussion on the form of the mere male raises much laughter, and proves that Burns had some solid basis for his assertion that Nature tried her 'prentice hand on man, and "then she made the lasses O!"

The fun in the early portion of the programme finds a welcome stimulant in the shape of Mr. Campbell Rae-Brown's amusing sketch *The Express Baby*. The pleasant and diverting imbroglio is cleverly and divertingly presented by Miss Edith Evelyn as Mrs. Rippleton and Mr. Frank Esmond (who, by the way, handles the infant capitally), and Miss Kitty Dease is effective as Aunt Alexandra. Other turns in the bill include Miss Lily Flexmore, a wonderful dancer; the Brothers Hayes, comedians and dancers; Gladys Archbutt, speciality dancer; Ray Wallace, mimic; the Philippi Brothers, acrobatic equilibriste; the Westwoods, expert and comedy cyclists; and Lucette de Verly, the chic Parisienne, who is fulfilling her last week.

The latest Bioscope pictures include the sensational collision between a couple of locomotives travelling at sixty miles an hour on Brighton Beach, America, an arranged affair, witnessed by nearly 100,000 people. Mr. Herman Finck, whose excellent orchestra play Nicolai's pretty overture to *The Merry Wives of Windsor* in the course of the entertainment, has arranged appropriate effects for the two engines approaching each other from different directions and the final catastrophe. During Mr. Alfred Butt's absence on the Continent, his position is being filled by Mr. Fitzroy Gardner with tact and courtesy.

THE ALHAMBRA.

We are getting quite classical on the stage nowadays. Mr. Frederick Fenn, at the New Theatre, is telling us all about the sacred cats of ancient Egypt, while the Alhambra management, in their ballet *L'Amour*, take us back over two thousand years, and attempt to revive the glories of an empire whose history extended even beyond the period when letters were invented. What in our youth would be called a symposium upon a kingdom of great antiquity is not necessary here, although, forsooth, one feels disposed to do something of the sort after gazing at Assyrian basreliefs one minute and dodging an excessively modern motor-'bus the next! But this new ballet is a thing to be seen and admired. The story it tells brings to one's mind recollections of the fairy tales of childhood; in fact, it is really a fairy tale. The love affairs of Prince Nashar and the wooing by several suitors of King Darius's beautiful daughter Niletta are followed with great interest. And it is all so poetically inspiring and so pleasingly fantastic that one does not want the picture spoiled by carping references to historical truth. Signorina Maria Bordin is, in the present instance, the much-sought-after Princess, and although she doesn't speak a word, there is sufficient eloquence in her dancing to enable the spectators to read the meaning of her movements. Whether she is engaged in a merry, giddy whirl, or in slower and more dignified steps, her motions are ever as graceful as they are rythmical. It is clever pantomimic acting that we get, too, from Signor Alfredo Curti as Prince Nashar, M. Henri Frielli as Darius, and Signor Giovani Rosi as the High Priest, while a word of praise is due to Signorina Enrica Varasi for her "sacred dances." One cannot fail to admire the beautiful tableaux of the temple and the palace, and the entrancing *tout ensemble* presented by the whole company, from Signorina Bordin down to the warlike ladies who carry javelins and the dainty maidens with their shields of flowers.

There is variety of species in Perzina's performing animals, and we can well believe that no small degree of ingenuity must have been required to develop the intelligence of the different members of this somwhat mixed assemblage. The monkeys are the most amusing, and to watch one of them riding on the back of a terrier, and clinging to the dog with wonderful tenacity, is in itself a source of laughter. Then there are the highly cultured representatives of the parrot tribe, agile cats, and a "bunny" who isn't bashful. A vocalist whose notes fall upon one's ears like the soothing rippling of waters is Miss Fatmah Diard, the American prima donna, in whose singing there is tuneful expression and range and depth of feeling. For hilarious knockabout comedy one can always look to the Craggs, and their below-deck act, in which all the gentlemen are, for the time being, stewards, and one, a particularly green specimen, is exceedingly funny. They are amazingly smart acrobats, and a *coup-de-main* takes the form of one man laying, back to the ground, with his feet in the air, and another standing upon the upturned boots, executing a somersault, and alighting with wonderful precision on his former position. The Amoros Sisters are seen in an attractive novel act. One lady performs triple dislocations from a trapeze, and the feats of the other are scarcely less startling, notably her eye-bewildering side jumps. Remarkable gymnastic exercises, the easy gliding in mid-air from one horizontal bar to another, the springing up from a "bounding bed" and turning continuous somersaults, and a number of other original acts constitute the "business" of Tony Wilson and Heloise, and extremely acceptable business it is to the audience. The Bellong Brothers understand the science of balancing the human body on wheels, and their cycling act gives evidence of much adroitness, resource, and physical strength. The Alhambra would not be the Alhambra now without the magnificent Urbanora pictures. At the moment we are being shown the London Scottish on their march to Culloden battlefield and the manœuvres that take place in the neighbourhood. These are most realistic and cleverly arranged, as are also the series depicting the troubles of a husband while his wife was away from home, and the flight of the convict. The brilliant, the sparkling, and exciitingly gay *Parisiana* is still with us, and its scenic splendours, lovely dresses, fascinating dances, and enchanting music still draw laudatory exclamations from the spectators.

As a result of the sale of Mr. George Leyton's songs in Gateshead recently, Mr. Joe May, of the King's Theatre, has handed over to Mr. James Passmore, Gateshead's Crimean veteran, the sum of £8 2s. 9d.

Fred and Lillie Monckton, who are fast booking into 1907 with their musical sketch, *What Railing Did*," have just acquired the sole rights of another screamer, bearing the excellent title *Who from Wych?*, which they intend to produce shortly.

CHAT WITH MR. ALFRED BUTT.

(By our own Commissioner.)

"Ever since I became manager I have recognised that London is now so well supplied with amusements of all kinds that the public every day are becoming more particular than they were a few years ago, and where one attraction used to be sufficient several are now required."

This statement comes from Mr. Alfred Butt, who, nearly two years ago, succeeded to the management of the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, on the death of Mr. Charles Morton.

Let Mr. Butt continue. "That is why I determined to go to America, where my trip fully repaid the trouble and expense involved. I can assure you that there is a vast difference between the American vaudeville stage and the English. A large number of the acts that have made big successes in the States might not attain the slightest degree of success here, and at the same time many of our attractions would not be understood in the land of the Stars and Stripes. On the other hand, there is a great number of really good acts, principally sketches, to be seen in America, and several of these are under contract to appear at the Palace Theatre."

"And lately, Mr. Butt, you have been bringing actors and actresses from the legitimate theatres to your music hall."

"I have had very good reason for doing so, in consequence of the scarcity of suitable variety artists. There is now quite a field for actors and

[*Photo. by Langfier.*

MR. ALFRED BUTT.

actresses to fill in their time between their engagements at the variety establishments, with profit to themselves and advantage to the music halls. In most cases they are able to give a form of entertainment that provides a distinct change. Thus, we had Miss Lottie Venne in *The New Regime*, Miss Millie Legarde in "Won't you come and spoon with me?" Miss Kate Cutler and Mr. Arthur Playfair in *Hero and Heroine*, Miss Carrie Moore in *The Dairymaids*, and my latest acquisition is Mr. Fred Wright, jun., in a Chinese song."

The way in which Mr. Butt first became connected with the Palace Theatre is worth recording. After leaving school he took up accountancy, and some eight years ago, while engaged in the liquidation of a big company in Huntingdonshire, he met one of the directors of the Palace Company who happened to hear of the kind of work with which he was associated, and asked him if he would accept the secretaryship of the Shaftesbury-avenue hall. Going before the board of directors, Mr. Butt made them quite a sporting offer. They judged by his appearance that he was much younger than was actually the case, and thought that this might be a barrier in the way of appointing him. However, Mr. Butt offered to take up the position for three months, no question of salary to be considered until the end of that period, and if they then came to the conclusion that he was unsuitable for the post he would not even ask for the quarter's remuneration. The result was eminently satisfactory to both parties, and Mr. Butt was retained. At that time Mr. Philip Yorke was the assistant-manager, and when he resigned the late Mr. Morton placed the vacancy at the disposal of Mr. Butt, who was, however, still to remain secretary and treasurer. A little later he was made business-manager.

Replying to a question as to the management of an important theatre like the Palace, Mr. Butt remarks: "All matters concerned with the organisation in its many phases have to be attended to during the daytime. Outsiders have no idea of the time and trouble which must be expended in this direction if a place of entertainment is to be properly conducted. Even the most insignificant number on our programme is not allowed to be presented to the public until we have been assured that it is all it should be.

"So far as the Palace is concerned," he goes on, "I think we are in a unique position, inasmuch as, in the first instance, a large proportion of our patrons will not visit the ordinary music halls; and, secondly, we are able to engage so many high-class artists who could not advantageously be seen elsewhere. I am a great believer, however, in music halls working together. There is undoubtedly a sufficient number of the variety-loving public to enable all the vaudeville houses to do good business."

"What are your views on the sketch question?"

"Well, as that is a subject which only affects the Palace in a very small degree, sketches rarely being an important item of our programme, it would be, perhaps, unfair to say anything beyond mentioning that I think the ideal system is that in vogue in America, where managers and proprietors pay £100 a year for an entertainment licence which permits of all kinds of performances being given, provided the public safety is assured."

One disadvantage of an extremely youthful exterior was brought home very forcibly to Mr. Butt a little while back. A gentleman was shown up to his office, and, seeing him for the first time, exclaimed, "No, no; I want to see your father." On receiving from Mr. Butt an assurance that his father was not connected with the profession, the stranger remarked, "Well, then, it must be your elder brother that I want to see."

THE EMPIRE (OXFORD) LICENCE.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—I did not say that Ald. Lucas *adjudicated* in the Empire case; indeed, I put a saving clause in my letter, and said I believed him too fair-minded a man to do so. He, however, was in Court; and sat so near the Bench that many people, including the reporters, thought he was "on it." (I mean the Bench, not the licence.) The source of the statement was the whole of the Oxford Press for June 9 last; and as Ald. Lucas never troubled to issue a disclaimer until a long time after, he and them must accept the blame.—Yours faithfully, H. A.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The hottest day of the year had no deterrent effect on variety lovers in South London, who crowded into the popular hall on Wednesday in almost their usual overwhelming numbers. The sketch of the week well matches the weather, and keeps the audience in a state of continual warmth by its exciting incidents. It is entitled *Balaclava*, and is written by Mr. Harry Bruce, an actor who has long been associated with melodrama on the regular stage. Bound up with the episode of the historic charge of the Light Brigade is the story of a young trooper who has been found asleep at his post. He is sentenced to death, but it is afterwards revealed that he had succumbed to a drug placed within his reach by the villain. The colonel of the regiment decides that the accused is innocent, but although he leaves the prisoner temporarily in the safe keeping of an Irish sergeant, the villain is permitted to drag him forth to be shot, and it is only by the return of the Colonel that the tragedy is averted and the villain disgraced. Subsequently the fateful order to take the Russian guns arrives, and the charge is made, the first to surmount the enemy's fort being the young trooper and a devoted youngster, who turns out to be his betrothed, who has disguised herself as a boy and joined her lover's regiment. Each of the brave assailants is engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter by at least two of the burly Russians until, amid the thunder of cannon and the flashing of fire, all that is left of the British regiment arrives to the rescue. Mr. Harry Bruce acts with indomitable spirit and energy as the falsely-accused trooper, and Mr. Robert Purdie (the head of the company) looks a veritable Lord Roberts in the part of the Colonel, and makes his voice ring with quite the military note.

Humour plays an important part in the sketch *A Queer Customer*, with which Messrs. Johnson and Bert are associated. The antics indulged in by an eccentric individual outside a wayside inn are very ludicrous, and require the exercise of no inconsiderable skill. The gentleman who plays the hotel proprietor is very smart, and the act is amply applauded. Mr. Sam Mayo obtains a hearty welcome when he appears as a Chinaman, whose sallow complexion increases the effect of immobility for which the comedian is renowned. Much fun is caused by the song, which is renewed when the favourite comedian appears in the well-known "ulster" to sing, with all-unchanging countenance, a ditty to which the last line gives a comical finish.

Miss Elsa Joel displays her brilliant voice in a popular excerpt from *Carmen*, the melodious intricacies of which are charmingly rendered. Miss Joel then proceeds to delight the audience with some impersonations, the first being an imitation of a French serenade by a Parisienne, and the same lady singing "Because I love you," in the rendering of which there is no little humour. An English contralto singing "Queen of the Earth" is given with such effect as to arouse a storm of applause, in response to which the clever cantatrice, who scores quite the hit of the evening, gives an imitation of a coster singing "I can't tell why I love you." It is a concession to popular demand for a cultivated ballad vocalist to put her talents to the purposes of burlesque, but Miss Joel managed to sing her various excerpts with such skill as to leave the excellence of her vocal powers undiminished.

Parodies at the piano are furnished by Mr. Burt Shepard, who satirises the hackneyed ballad "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" with his customary drollery, and also turns the song "'Neath the shade of the old apple-tree" to the purposes of laughter, of which he obtains a liberal allowance. The Sisters Lavender, handsomely costumed, win all hearts by their pretty singing and dainty dancing; and Miss Lilian Watson develops a distinctly comic vein in her songs of "Night Duty," and completely proves her ability as a low comedienne by her rendering of "The day that I got married," in which the vagaries of domestic infelicity are many and varied. Mr. Charles Dillon has a peculiar appearance and a funny method in "I'll see what I can do"; and the pictures shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope are greatly enjoyed. Mr. William Payne is the new manager at the old-established hall in the London-road, and Mr. Charles E. Howells ably conducts the orchestra.

DR. BODIE AT STRATFORD.

The Stratford Empire has been packed nightly this week, and local report puts this happy state of affairs mainly to the credit of Dr. Walford Bodie, described on the programme as the Electric Wizard. That title would certainly be confirmed by everybody who has witnessed his extraordinary feats. The present is the doctor's fifth visit to London, but it is his first appearance in Stratford, although, as he informed the local music-hall habitués, it would not be the last. Bodie, who is particularly jubilant over his triumph in a case at Leeds Assizes, where he sued a local nurse, starts his act with an introductory statement. Then he goes on to show how he can defy the forces of electricity, by, at his own computation, passing three million volts (high frequency) through his body. He creates roars of laughter as he practises his electrical experiments on some half-dozen men, who dance and shriek and assume all manner of ridiculous postures under the shocks. Then he enters upon the more serious portion of his show by bringing before the footlights several of his former patients who have been successfully treated by him. Of these, Miss Flo Bedford, of 24, President-street, King's-square, Islington, is one. She is seventeen years of age, and suffered from curvature of the spine, for six years having to wear a belt. So serious did her condition become that for two years previous to seeing Dr. Bodie she wore the belt night and day. She was discharged, we are told, from two of the leading hospitals as hopeless and incurable. Dr. Bodie treated her on a previous visit to London, and she is now as perfect as a human being can reasonably expect to be. Another of the healed who came forward to testify to the doctor's skill was a boy of five, who suffered from spinal disease, and was cured by Bodie's electrical treatment. On the night of our visit two or three new patients were carried upon the stage to be relieved of their bodily afflictions. There was, for instance, an Ilford child of five years of age, whose right leg was withered and useless and paralytic. Bloodless surgery—electricity—Dr. Bodie—and the boy ran joyously to the wings. A case which was said to be of special interest to Stratford people was that of a local girl, eight years old, who could neither stand nor walk. She appeared to be little more than skin and bone. The audience were informed that she was a particularly difficult subject for treatment, as her feet and arms and spine were affected. But, apparently, it is these awkward cases that Dr. Bodie delights in curing, or attempting to cure. The result in the present instance seemed highly satisfactory, and loud applause greeted the successful termination of the doctor's quick remedial efforts. Outside the theatre, as the audience had filed out and the doors were closed, a crowd of people waited to get a glimpse of the doctor as he walked to his carriage, and he was heartily greeted as he strode through the human avenue kept clear by the police.

Mr. Tom Leamore has met with a serious accident. On Monday night while opening some wine the bottle burst and jagged one of the fingers to the bone. Mr. Leamore has been compelled to keep to his room owing to the loss of blood. Doctor Arnott, of Brixton, who has been attending him, said it would be at least another week before he could work, but as he is booked to open at the Opera House and Empire, York, he will resume business on Monday.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Mr. Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, is ever on the alert for something new, and on Monday evening at the Holborn Empire he produced, for the first time before a British audience, a novel and surprisingly mystical act, entitled *The Bridal Chamber*. A huge oblong frame is wheeled on to the stage. It is seen to be perfectly empty. Curtains are then drawn all around it; a few seconds later they are separated, and reveal a completely furnished bedroom, containing a bed, with pillows, sheets, bedding, &c., reclining upon which, in her night attire, is the handsome bride. The illusion was effected with amazing rapidity, and, watch the stage as one might, it was not possible to detect the bed or the lady being placed in the receptacle. The same lady, Miss Emeline d'Alton, assists Mr. Hertz in other of his magical doings. In another scene she is apparently hypnotised by Mr. Hertz, and, in a state of trance, laid upon the floor. Then, at his will, she gradually rises from the ground, her body all the while remaining stiff and straight. These are only two out of a number of exceedingly interesting feats of illusion and legerdemain. Mention should be made of the marvellous blackboard upon which is written by an unseen hand answers to questions put to it by members of the audience. Carl Hertz's "show" is of the kind that sets one thinking. Mr. Frank Seeley, quaint in mannerism and in his method of delivery, has a host of funny ideas to offer in his song, "I had to go back and change it"; and Miss Edie Veno gains great favour for her tuneful singing and her graceful dancing.

From Mr. V. L. Granville we get a couple of artistic character impersonations. His first is Wilfrid Denver, in *The Silver King*, and a very realistic performance it is. We are brought face to face with that picturesque personality, and dramatic expression and utterance tell the tale of the conscience-stricken soul, of the man whose nights have been a hideous nightmare by reason of a false belief that he has committed murder. Exit the Silver King—enter Svengali. It is Svengali of the vicious, deformed mind, Svengali of the revengeful, scheming mind, Svengali, the creepy, evil thing. It is scholarly, thoughtful, cultured acting, and Mr. Granville thoroughly deserves all the praise that is showered upon him. Mr. Alf. Lester and company have an exceedingly amusing trifle in *A Scene-shifter's Romance*. A young lady appears before the footlights, and starts to sing a pretty song. Before she has got through the first verse, she is disturbed by the loud clanging of scene rods, which are flung upon the floor. Then there enters the cause of the noise, a stage-labourer carrying a heavy piece of scenic workmanship, which he drops in the most careless manner. A laughable conversation between the two ensues. The scene-shifter tells of his blighted hopes, how eighteen years ago he had visited the playhouse to enact the rôle of Hamlet, and to become a shining star, and had been a stage-hand ever since! Then he endeavours to instil into the lady's mind what a "hartiste" should do in order to ensure success. His generosity does not end there. His warm heart goes out to the fair creature, and matrimony is suggested. "Wot price a double turn on the 'alls?" The piece is capitally acted, and the duologue is punctuated with roars of laughter.

The Six Colbergs, juvenile musical prodigies, come in for a goodly share of attention from the audience. They display their talents upon various musical instruments, and the smallest member of the troupe makes an intensely comical conductor. Miss Rosie Archer is a versatile comedienne. Her imitations of Miss Vesta Victoria, Mr. Harry Lauder in "Stop yer ticklin', Jock," and Miss Kate Carney in "'Liza Johnson," are amongst the best of the kind that we have heard. The Brothers Hayes are seen and admired in a series of table dances executed in smart and lively style. Messrs. Goggin and Davis treat the house to a comic acrobatic act, their skill and agility being highly praiseworthy. Miss Flo Challis, in a handsome and becoming deep blue gown, sings the praises of "The boy in navy blue," her vocalism being distinctly good. Mr. Dan Crawley, a comedian in whose business one may always look for character and humour, has a diverting ditty in "Father keeps on doing it"; and the New York Nippers furnish an entertaining sketch in *Bedtime*, their frolics creating uproarious merriment. A number of attractive pictures, a few illustrative of the methods by which we obtain our ice supply, are exhibited by the Bioscope.

MISS CISSIE CURLETTE IN DOUGLAS.

The newest and most welcome turn in the Opera House is that of Miss Cissie Curlette, a mimic artiste of great natural talent, whose imitations of the denizens of the farmyard still continue to delight large audiences. There is a refreshing absence of coarseness or vulgarity in this new entertainment; it is full of piquant charm, and is an unique rôle for the comedienne. Miss Curlette is a vocalist of considerable attainment, and her ballad singing is as charming as her mimicry. A bright, vivacious actress, she grips her hearers from the outset, and she gets all the humour possible out of the situation. The adventures of "Farmer Giles," sung with the quaint broad accent of the Devonshire farmer, exhibits a new feature of the artist's capabilities. Miss Curlette is a welcome addition to the variety stage; she has made enormous strides since her first appearance some 18 months ago, and a recent South African tour has still further enhanced her value as a first-class artist.—*Mona's Herald*, Aug. 15, 1906.

"IN NELSON'S DAYS."

In Nelson's Days is the title of a musical comedy extravaganza produced on Monday at the Queen's, Poplar, by Swan and Vesta. A youth, dressed in the costume of the gallant young man about town of the period, is making love to a pretty girl, who, although from her heart she thoroughly reciprocates his affection, pretends that his suit is vain, and that she doesn't care for him at all. She tells him that she wants a man who will brave the battle and the breeze—in short, that she has a partiality for sailors. He goes away, and while he is absent she dances merrily and sings a song, "Not just yet." The young gentleman returns, disguised as an able seaman of the old-fashioned type. Then there is a good deal of fun. She tells him that she will go and find a captain for him, and a few minutes later comes back herself attired somewhat similarly to the pantomime naval officer impersonated by the principal "boy." She insists on making him resemble as much as possible a sailing-ship. He lays at full length on the floor and the lady fastens a mast upon his back. The "ship" rocks as though it were assailed by a boisterous sea, and the Captain's attempts to stand on deck are not altogether appreciated by the improvised "vessel." The extravaganza is laughable and well acted withal. Mr. Bert Swan contrives to be serious and lover-like at one time in the earlier part of the sketch, and rollicking and breezy at another time, when he essays the character of a jack-tar. His songs, "Tell me that beautiful story" and "The life of a sailor," are effectively rendered, and he dances in a smart and lively fashion. Miss Marie Vesta shines as a burlesque actress in the rôle of the girl, and she, too, proves to be skilful in the light fantastic line. Her rendering of the lyric, "Not just yet" and her duet, "The captain and the ship," with her partner, are pleasing vocal items.

The latest contributions to the "Fred Locke" Fund notified by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, are as follows:—Andrew Campbell, 5s.; Walter Purvis (219), 5s.; and R. L. Aim, 2s.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR SEPTEMBER.

ENGLAND.

Sept. 1. Chorley (27,000)
Sept. 1. Delph (Salford)
Sept. 1. Gorton (Manchester)
Sept. 1. Halton (Leeds)
Sept. 1. Killamarsh (3,211)
Sept. 1. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
Sept. 1. Southgate (15,000)
Sept. 3. Alverthorpe Feast (12,000)
Sept. 3. Armley Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 3. Farnley Feast (4,000)
Sept. 3. Farsley Feast (6,000)
Sept. 3. Kilmington (3,000)
Sept. 3. Oldbury (25,200)
Sept. 3. Oxford (49,400)
Sept. 3. Wednesbury (26,500)
Sept. 4. Aldborough (Yorks.) (2,000)
Sept. 4. Barnet (8,000)
Sept. 4. Crewkerne (4,300)
Sept. 4. Great Horton Feast
Sept. 5. Fakenham (200)
Sept. 5. Northallerton (4,000)
Sept. 6. Maldon (5,600)
Sept. 6. Nantwich (7,700)
Sept. 7. Churwell Feast
Sept. 8. Blandford (6,300)
Sept. 8. Chapel Town Feast
Sept. 8. Cromford (Buxton) (1,056)
Sept. 8. Exeter (47,000)
Sept. 8. Matlock (7,300)
Sept. 8. Meltham (Huddersfield) (1,200)
Sept. 8. Openshaw (Manchester)
Sept. 8. Ormskirk (7,000)
Sept. 8. Swinton and Pendlebury
Sept. 8. Wirkworth (5,000)
Sept. 8. Witton (Northwich) (12,000)
Sept. 10. Ardsley Feast (5,700)
Sept. 10. Congresbury (1,700)
Sept. 10. Glastonbury (4,000)
Sept. 10. Holbeck Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 10. Sandal Feast (Wakefield)
Sept. 10. Thorner Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 11. Barnoldswick (7,400)
Sept. 11. Brentford (15,200)
Sept. 11. Wareham (2,000)
Sept. 12. Broadway (Soms.) (500)
Sept. 12. Buxton (5,000)
Sept. 12. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
Sept. 12. Morchard Bishop (1,100)
Sept. 13. Swindon (45,000)
Sept. 13. Tideswell (2,600)
Sept. 13. Tupton (2,000)
Sept. 13. Woodthorpe (1,000)
Sept. 15. Alford (2,500)
Sept. 15. Batley Feast (20,000)
Sept. 15. Blackheath (London)
Sept. 15. Boston (15,700)
Sept. 15. Haltwistle (12,000)
Sept. 15. Langwith (500)
Sept. 15. Pend (Bucks) (400)
Sept. 17. Barnstaple (14,000)
Sept. 17. Farnworth (25,000)
Sept. 17. Hemel Hempstead (11,300)
Sept. 17. Ilkley Feast (8,000)
Sept. 17. March (7,600)
Sept. 17. Newcastle (Staffs.) (20,000)
Sept. 17. Second Lee Fair
Sept. 17. Sidmouth (4,000)
Sept. 18. Bury (60,000)
Sept. 18. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
Sept. 18. Ware (5,900)
Sept. 19. Amersham (3,000)
Sept. 19. Atherstone (5,000)
Sept. 19. Beaminster (2,000)
Sept. 19. Sidbury (200)
Sept. 19. Staines (6,700)
Sept. 19. Worcester (44,000)
Sept. 21. Backwell (1,000)
Sept. 21. Lewes (11,300)
Sept. 21. Longtown (300)
Sept. 21. Reading (60,000)
Sept. 22. Bowdon (Manchester) (2,800)
Sept. 22. Bridgwater (15,200)
Sept. 22. Bude (1,059)
Sept. 22. Bugsworth (Stockport) (400)
Sept. 22. Hayfield (Stockport) (3,000)
Sept. 22. Iron Acton (1,000)
Sept. 22. New Mills (Stockport) (6,000)
Sept. 22. Normanton (South) (5,000)
Sept. 22. Paisley Bridge (3,200)
Sept. 22. Ratcliffe
Sept. 22. Rushden (12,500)
Sept. 22. Stockport (83,000)
Sept. 22. Uttoxeter (5,200)
Sept. 24. Brierley Hill (12,000)
Sept. 24. Heyford (800)
Sept. 24. Idle Feast (Bradford) (8,000)
Sept. 24. Woodhouse Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 25. Arundel (2,800)
Sept. 25. Ashby-de-la-Zouche (4,700)
Sept. 25. Cambridge (38,400)
Sept. 25. Chertsey (12,806)
Sept. 25. Haslemere (1,000)
Sept. 25. Long Sutton (2,400)
Sept. 25. Pickering (3,500)
Sept. 25. Wooton-under-Edge (2,200)
Sept. 26. Hartland (1,800)
Sept. 26. High Wycombe (16,000)
Sept. 26. Moreton (Dorset) (400)
Sept. 26. Over (Cheshire) (6,200)
Sept. 26. Solihull (3,800)
Sept. 26. Spalding (9,400)
Sept. 27. Birmingham (522,182)
Sept. 27. Todmorden (25,400)
Sept. 28. Chesham (7,300)
Sept. 28. Eleven Lane Ends Feast
Sept. 28. Long Stratton (600)
Sept. 28. Studley (Ripon) (200)
Sept. 29. Alton (5,590)
Sept. 29. Ampthill (2,200)
Sept. 29. Bracknell (2,200)
Sept. 29. Cranbrooke (3,500)
Sept. 29. Dorchester (9,500)
Sept. 29. Hanbury (900)
Sept. 29. Uxbridge (8,600)
Sept. 29. Wallingford (3,000)

SCOTLAND.

Sept. 17. Aberdeen (153,108)
Sept. 18. Moss of Balloch (612)
Sept. 19. Ayr (27,531)
Sept. 20. Castle Douglas (3,018)
Sept. 25. Dumfries (18,680)
Sept. 26. Frazerburgh (8,998)
Sept. 29. Cupar (Fife) (4,511)
Sept. 29. Sinclair Town

WALES.

Sept. 3. Aberavon (7,000)
Sept. 12. Blaenavon (12,000)
Sept. 13. Neath (14,000)
Sept. 18. Brynmawr (7,000)
Sept. 20. Tredegar (18,000)
Sept. 22. Abergavenny
Sept. 22. Llandudno (7,000)
Sept. 26. Cowbridge (1,000)
Sept. 29. Fishguard (2,000)
Sept. 29. Llanelly (23,000)
Sept. 29. Llanfyllion (2,000)
Sept. 29. Maestag (11,000)

The conclusion of Mitcham Fair was marked by great public enthusiasm. Never before within living memory has there been so great a crowd of eager visitors, and the general opinion is that its popularity has been so clearly demonstrated that even the Conservators must admit their error of judgment and bow to the will of the people.

That it is a people's question is becoming more and more evident. The *Croydon Citizen*, a popular democratic paper, speaks in no uncertain voice. In truth, the boldest utterances of the accredited champions of the showmen "pale their ineffectual fires" before the red-hot words of the editor of the *Croydon Citizen*. He says:—"Mitcham has insisted upon holding its fair; and Mitcham, we think, is right. Not everyone cares about merry-go-rounds, cocoa-nut shies, exhibitions of abnormally fat women and extraordinary diminutive men, and all the other wild excitements of these nomadic events, but the particular taste of individuals in the matter of enjoyment is scarcely the point at issue. What is at stake is the right of the people of Mitcham, Croydon, Beddington, Wallington, &c., to the free and uninterrupted use of the common, threatened as it is by the action in this and other matters of the Conservators. For, observe, the Conservators have not proved, nor essayed to prove, that the holding of a fair endangers life and limb, or interferes with the right of the public to enjoy this open space, while the playing of golf does. Yet, though they have, by special resolution, permitted the golf, they have arbitrarily forbidden the fair. Upon the strength of their resolution with reference to the former, indeed, a joint-stock company has been floated, the shares of which no doubt pay well enough and have acquired a marketable value.

"In other words, property in the common has been created and presented by these custodians of the public rights to a group of private individuals. On the other hand, the fair, which goes back to the spacious days of Queen Elizabeth, and involves the livelihood of a humble but particularly harmless class of men, is prohibited. Why this distinction of persons? and what right have these Conservators to obsequiously permit in the one case what they autocratically deny in the other?"

And again:—"Have the Conservators conscientious objections to fairs? While they play golf, do they object to roundabouts on principle? Is it the inherent and well-known Puritanism of Mr. Alderman Foss that leads him to adopt such a 'what-I-have-said-I-have-said' attitude to these humble showmen? We can scarcely think so, and can only suppose that it is another case of truckling to the classes on the part of those appointed to look after the public interest. Mitcham fair has, apparently, given offence merely because it is organised by the poor for the poor. To say that the site is inconvenient is beside the question. The organisers of the fête have offered to go to any other part of the common that the authorities may deem more suitable. But no notice has been taken of this offer, partly because the other available sites would interfere with the golfers, and also because the Conservators clearly meant to put the fair down in any event."

We have often in these columns referred to the great importance of guiding public opinion and feeding the Press with accurate information and statistics regarding the show business. In many instances this has been shown to be the saving of the business. Mitcham is our latest example of the importance of letting everybody know the justice of the showmen's plea for trade defence. When the local authorities last Easter began their overt scheme—all unknown to the great majority of the people—to abolish the fair, the local Press either agreed with the proposal or assumed a non-committal attitude—"waiting to see how the wind would blow." Now the very first thing the Guild did was to send to the Press the showmen's view of the matter, and by circular letter and personal intercourse with the leaders of the people at Mitcham aroused public interest. The response of the Press and the people was instant and magnificent, and the climax was reached when at the mass meeting on the fair Sunday five thousand people voted for the retention of the fair. But all this meant hard work and expert talent and experience. In this connection one incident alone will exemplify the need for organised and efficient work to meet any emergency. A misleading paragraph—evidently inspired by the Conservators—went the round of the Press, announcing that there would be "no fair at Mitcham." In less than an hour from the office of *The Era* over fifty circular letters were sent to the editors of all the London papers and to the Press agencies, giving an official contradiction to the misleading paragraph, and informing the Press and public that the Home Secretary had refused to abolish the fair, and that the Mitcham Fair would be held as usual.

This was duly signed by the officials of the Guild, and at once fixed public attention upon the fight to retain the fair.

We gave last week the gratifying result of this work in the unanimous voice of the Press as favourable to the showmen's cause. We venture to add this week the opinion of the local Press, and to add that it is quite evident that the people of Mitcham will be guided by the local Press to defend their common rights. It is evident that the *Croydon Citizen* has a clear grasp of the situation, and that larger issues will be put before the electorate.

Speaking of the deprivation of the people's rights on the use of the common—as illustrated in the fair dispute—the leader continues with this warning to the Board of Conservators:—

"We do not think they will succeed. Not for the first time the whole of the inhabitants of Mitcham are unanimously against them; and even Mr. Alderman Foss will find the coercion of a whole population a task beyond his strength. It is doubtful if the Conservators have even the law behind them, for they base their interference upon the right to levy tolls for the booths and pitches which they allege they have acquired by purchase. The right to levy a toll, argues Mr. Deputy Millar Wilkinson (who, by-the-bye, is not a Conservator in the full sense of the word, and sits upon the board only by sufferance as an act of courtesy to the City Corporation, which has assisted in the past with funds for the preservation of the common), gives them the power to accept or refuse spaces for the booths. But we doubt if this is sound law, and whether the right so acquired enables the holders to override the privileges of the Mitcham people under the charter they hold. It is one thing to be able to charge a rent or toll for the pitches occupied, it is quite another to decline to let them to those who have a prescriptive right to organise a fair upon them.

"Whatever view, however, may be taken of the legal question, it is clear that the Home Office is not going to interfere, and without such assistance it is not easy to see how the small body which constitutes the Board of Conservators is going to put its Czar-like decree into force.

"Nor have they only the public opinion of Mitcham to take into account. There are Croydon, Beddington, and Wallington, too, to be considered, and although these districts may not be so closely concerned in the holding of the fair as Mitcham appears to be, popular opinion in them is none too pleased with the behaviour of the Conservators in giving away a large part of this open space to the exclusive use of a few purse-proud golfers. There is a very strong feeling growing up against the present Board for its mismanagement of this important trust, and unless we mistake the signs of the times, public opinion after this fresh proof of ineptitude and partiality will need very little urging to make a clean sweep of the present Conservators, and to replace them by a set of men who will take a far broader view of the duty committed to their charge. After all the Conservators are the servants and not the masters of the public."

The Conservators are quite determined to persevere in their determination to claim authority to stop the Fair at Mitcham, despite the fact that the people—whom they are appointed to serve, desire its continuance. The trial of their legal position will come before the High Court of Justice. Writs, at the instance of the Conservators, have been served upon three representative tenants of the Fair Green at the last fair. Mr. Alfred Ball, showman, Mr. Charles Hill, roundabout proprietor, and Mr. F. Wilson, stallholder and amusement caterers. The writs were returnable for Aug. 22, but as considerable time will be required to prepare the case for the showmen, Mr. T. Watson Wright, solicitor to the Guild, has arranged to have the case in the list either for November or February next. It is of the utmost importance to have a clear decision as to the presumed right of local authorities to over-ride the statutory law of the land.

We can well imagine that the Home Secretary will want to know why his deliberate decision was disregarded.

The Guild came to London and began its beneficent work only just in time. What will those showmen do now who have hitherto refused to join and subscribe? After the success with the London County Council over living vans, and the defeat of the bad bye-laws proposed by the Middlesex County Council, and now the triumph of Mitcham, the Guild has proved its usefulness. What showman now can hesitate about throwing in his lot with the Guild? As regards financial support, it is high time they realised the warning words of George Sanger, their veteran leader and president of the Guild. He said at their last meeting in the Agricultural Hall: "I will hold office on one condition, that is, if—and only if—you put your hands down into your pockets and support the funds as you ought to do."

We are glad to hear that the tenants at Mitcham gave liberally to a special subscription list. This was right and necessary, for until the Guild is much wealthier than at present local fairs must be defended at the cost of the people using the fairs. The Guild has more than enough to do financially with Parliamentary defence and public propaganda work. The Guild executive is still waiting for the guarantee fund of £300 a year for Parliamentary work alone. This will mean that all lessees and proprietors must give in proportion to their capital in the business, and that every stallholder and trader must subscribe. The need is urgent, and the work must be continued.

A conspicuous figure on the fair-grounds of the Midland and Shropshire rounds is Harduck, the handcuff king and gaol breaker. In a recent interview with our Midland correspondent he gave the following notes of his interesting life:—Born at Brooklyn, U.S.A., twenty-five years ago, the son of Inspector Harduck of the Secret Service Police, he early in life began to study handcuffs and criminal irons. As a boy he delighted in mastering their secrets, and became famous as an expert in the art of extricating himself from all kinds of manacles. Six years ago he came to England and opened at the King's Music Hall, Liverpool, with his marvellous exhibition. Here he startled the town by escaping from a skeleton straight jacket brought from Rainhill Asylum. He then went on tour with his marquee through Scotland and Ireland. Crossing over to the Continent with a specially organised variety company of his own, he travelled France and Germany.

A striking illustration of the power of showland to draw within its borders men specially gifted with talent, the Handcuff King is now on his triumphant tour of the English fairs. He offers at each show £10 if he fails to release himself from any regulation handcuffs or criminal irons. He also effects his escape from all kinds of queer prisons—coffins, barrels, tin trunks, &c.—and he assured our correspondent that no contrivance, patent or otherwise, could hold him.

Mr. Stroud, the lessee of the fairground at Horsham, at his own expense fought the would-be abolisher of the fair, and in the High Court won a signal victory, the judge refusing to grant an injunction against the fair. We confidently anticipate that Mr. Stroud will hear no more about it. At Horsham it was one man against a thousand, and although one man can become a thorn in the flesh to a whole town, sound sense and justice is found to win in the end against prejudice and selfish fluster.

Sanger's hippodrome and menagerie was at Hastings on Friday last week, and attracted large and interested audiences. The Fondants, wire equilibrists, gave a clever turn, and Sanger's famous troupe of elephants supplied a remarkable exhibition of animal training. Pimpo's jumping and clown dogs and Hoffmann's marvel pony were also very entertaining. In the spectacle *Nero, or, The Sports of Ancient Rome* some intricate equestrian manœuvres were executed, and Cyclo gave an exhibition of strength. Miss Lina, on her horse Hawkcombe, gave a pleasing feat of horsewomanship, and daring riding was displayed by M. Roberts. The Maro troupe of acrobatic equestrians were very interesting, as was the comic business of the clown Pimpo. The Airlees, flying dudes, gave a good trapeze act; and the bill included the Courier of St. Petersburg; Zampo, the bounding wonder; and British tars at practice.

Subscriptions to the Showmen's Guild Fund, 1906.—Per Mr. Mitchell:—Wm. Mitchell, sen., £1 1s.; Joe Delaney, 10s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. Block, 10s.; and T. Slater, 5s.

At Astwood Bank Great Temperance Fete were Mr. Thomas Scott, of Worcester, with steam galloping-horses, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, striker, cokernuts, &c.; also varieties and stalls by Messrs. Embling, Smith, Lewis, and Bullock. At the Assembly Room, Astwood Bank, the great American Bazaar Company has been doing capital business.

At Booley were Herberts' roundabouts, swing-boats, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, &c.

Showmen and others should take note of Studley Mop Sept. 28. Studley is a large village in Warwickshire, four miles from Alcester, three miles from Redditch, and twelve miles from Stratford-on-Avon. The chief industry is the manufacture of needles, fishing-tackle, &c. The population is 2765.

At Eagle Davis's novelty exhibition, High-street, Merthyr, Bunce, the pig man, is exhibiting to large houses nightly.

The Yorkshire holidays and local feasts are now in full swing. Upon this excellent round are the well-known concerns of Monte Brothers, Relph and Pedley, E. Farrar, Rhodes, Testo, Hastings, Tuby, Crighton, Gibson, Westray, Dennis, Blakey, the Waddingtons, the Marshalls, the Redfearns, the Howdens, the Collins's, Seeds, Morleys, and all the host of Yorkshire caterers.

Pudsey Feast had for its entertainment Relph and Pedley's Excelsior coliseum of variety and cinematography, Tuby and Son's similar concern, Professor Gibson, the occult demonstrator in black and white magic; Hastings's two ground booths, Westray's freaks, and Blakey in feats of strength. Howden and Son's two machines—the motor-track and the Japanese air-ship, "The Wheely-Whirly," Redfearn's motors, Relph and Pedley's "Whirling the Whirl," P. Collins's ostriches, Corrigan's steam swings, Waddington's steam yachts and manual swings, and highfliers by Messrs. Redfearn, Morley, Casey, and Hutchinson; rifle saloons by Messrs. Ratcliffe, C. Burgess, Casey and Lever; bazaars by Messrs. Gledstone, Howorth, and Seed. Variety and throwing games by Messrs. Illingworth, Burgess, Redfearn, While, Vanner, and twenty other caterers.

At Morley, for the Feast-time, were Farrar's theatre of living pictures and varieties, Westray's two exhibitions, Professor Watson and school of athletes, Waddington's three machine sets—the motors, steam yachts, and ostriches—Morley's steam swings, and Proctor and Morley's highfliers, the rifle saloons of Messrs. Lever and Jameson, and some fifty more fair-ground novelties and varieties.

Horsforth kept its Feast with the following shows, machines, and fair-ground novelties:—Rhodes, portable Theatre Royal; H. Testo's cinematograph; Wm. Murphy's motor-cars; swings and highfliers by Messrs. Morley, Casey, Gledstone, and Hutchinson; bazaars by Gledstone, rifle galleries by Casey and Ratcliffe, all the fun of the fair by Messrs. Powell, Baines, Illingworth, Stewart, H. Powell, Hutchinson, Gledstone, and many others.

Preparations are being made energetically for the big Fair and Carnival at Olympia at Christmas. Nearly all the gallery has been let to well-known purveyors of "All the fun of the Fair." On the ground floor several important concessions have been disposed of to English showmen, notwithstanding the reservations for several big novelties from Coney Island. One of the most interesting side-shows will undoubtedly be Hales' Tours of the World. Though of American origin, it is being built in England at a cost of £2,000. Messrs. Warings are furnishing the two full-sized Pullman cars which are used in this exhibit in the latest approved style. Those who have enjoyed the "Lighthouse Helter-Skelter" at Earl's Court, will be able to revel in the same pastime at Olympia, when the doors of the "Mammoth Fun City" are thrown open to the public. Two great American aerial acts have been secured, and George Hackenschmidt will be found among the attractions of the opening week.

The Wakes at Great Harwood were in the capable hands (as regards amusements) of Messrs. Starkie, Holland, Hughes, Howarth, Taylor, Stanley, Gullagher, Forshaw, Ingham, and Martin.

Mr. Alf. Ball, with the Royal Bioscope, is at Crayford doing splendid business. One night this week, with his usual generosity, he gave a benefit performance for the Handcross Vanguard Disaster Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

At Malpas Fair on Tuesday were Mander's cinematographs, Pedlar McMahon's boxing and athletics, Miss Maggie Collins's gallopers, Beach's steam horses, Miss Collins's steam swings, Collins's and Beach's big boats, swings, and Winchester ranges, Grainger's rifle saloon, Beach's cartwheels, and Hampton Handcock's show.

Leith Flower Show and Sports took place on the 17th and 18th inst, in Victoria Park, Newhaven-road, Leith. No living carriage was allowed this year. Present were the shows of Messrs. Johnston, Freman, Broshley, Emma J. Danson, Edmunds, Smith, Stringfellow, Russel, and John Wilmot, jun. The ground was under the personal management of Mr. Walter Wilmot.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. H. (Co. Durham).—*Shall at all times be glad to hear from you and from the round you travel. You have been too long silent.*

W. B.—*The next step in the defence of the people's Fair at Mitcham will be a huge petition to the Home Office in favour of retaining the Fair.*

I. M. (Blackburn).—*The syndicate to which you refer appears to be all right. Will, however, make definite inquiries and let you know.*

Prof. L. (F.O.S.).—*How did your matter end?*

Anxious Father.—*The Children's (Vagrants) Bill will have to take its chance in the ballot for next Session. We will watch its advent.*

AMUSEMENTS IN NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The boards of this splendidly managed theatre are occupied this week by Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company, which is attracting well-filled houses with *Captain Swift*, and an all round good representation of this popular play from the pen of Mr. Haddon Chambers is given. A fine portrayal of the title-rôle is given by Mr. Ernest E. Norris, whose direct and forceful methods are well suited to the part. He is excellently supported by Mr. Walter Gregory, who acts breezily as Gardiner, and Miss Elizabeth Watson as Mrs. Seabrook. Other parts are in the able care of Mr. A. J. Harding, Mr. W. Burgess Barrett, Mr. Norman Clark, Mr. Michael Dwyer, Mr. Clarence Pelham, Miss Nora Dwyer, Miss Lillian Revell, and Miss Jessamine Newcombe.

Tyne Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company present *The Silver King* this week, and it was cordially welcomed on the opening night by a large and delighted audience. Mr. Fred D. Davis sustained the leading part of Wilfred Denver with great dramatic skill and energy; Mr. Edward J. George, who had a cordial reception, infused plenty of humour into the part of Daniel Jaikes; Miss Daisy Scudamore as Nellie Denver won the warm sympathy of the whole house. A delightful little Cissy was presented by Miss Flossie H. Davis. Mr. H. G. Lowther (the Spider) and Miss Dorothy Radford (Olive Skinner) in their respective parts each did yeoman service.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company with *Two Little Sailor Boys* provide the fare at this popular house this week. The play contains an abundance of pathetic, thrilling, and humorous incidents, and those present on Monday evening showed their appreciation in no uncertain manner. Miss Madge Steele as Lola Grey is seen to great advantage; Mr. Jerrold Heather makes a capital Noel Tregarthen, and Mr. W. H. Hallatt fills the rôle of Captain Tom Yorke ably; and as the two little sailor boys Miss May Day and Miss Ethel F. Greene show much ability

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*Sentenced for Life*, the convict drama, is appearing here this week, and on Monday evening was played with great success to a well-filled house. Percy McGentle, as impersonated by Mr. James A. Firth, convulsed the audience with laughter with his genial humour. He was well supported by Mr. Arthur Keand and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd as the two comical convicts; Mr. Edward E. Louis made a manly Lieutenant Roy Stillwell, and Miss Madge Douglas was greatly admired as Adele Gray.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Thornton.—So great was the success which attended the visit of Fred Karno's company in *Moses and Sons* last week that the management have extended the engagement for another week. Mr. Fred Kitchen was unable to appear, owing to slight indisposition, in the part of Perkins, but an able deputy was provided in Mr. A. Bruno, who sustained the part in an admirable manner, and provoked much merriment. The rest of the company all worked together in a manner that left nothing to be desired. Marie Kendall's beautiful costumes and lively songs are of a high order. Terry and Lambert in their character-sketch, *The Cobbler and His Wife*, are a great success; and others included in the bill are Eric, ventriloquist; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; Canary Company in a merry pantomimic incident; Frank Lynne, funny mantograph, and Pierce and Maizee in a costume singing act.

Pavilion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Fioretti and Elby, who are top of the bill this week, perform some remarkable bounding feats; Wilbur Hill and Willete Whitaker give a capital musical speciality, and are a popular turn, their songs and selections on the banjo being encored time after time. The Waldrons in their production *Our Sammy*, obtain a gratifying reception; Miss Katie Marsh as an actress, vocalist, and dancer is greatly admired; Fred Cary, a comedian of originality, receives numerous encores; and John P. Dane, comedian; the Brontes, comedy duologue; Sidney Dolf, comedian; Mountford and Walsh, society entertainers, and the Barrascope complete the bill, which has drawn bumper houses.

Miss Victoria Monks, who has been taking a little holiday in Paris, accompanied by her husband, Mr. Carl Hooper, returned to the Oxford this week. She is making a hit with the reply to her popular song, "Give my regards to Leicester-square," and wears a smart Parisian frock of the deepest pansy satin, with a wide border of violets round the short skirt, an underdress of paler tint, and a cap composed of the same flowers.

There is not a little excitement, before and behind the scenes, in Mr. Harry Tate's new sketch, *Gardening*, at the Oxford, for a motor is driven into the middle of the stage, causing havoc in the garden and roars of laughter from the audience. The farce is played in a very pretty setting, and "Harry" is as skilful with the scythe, rake, and spade as he proved himself with the fishing-rod.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Chaplain Showmen's Guild.
(Copyright.)

"A SHOWMAN DETECTIVE."

In the days of long ago, when George Wombwell, the father of menageries, was building up the reputation which still remains his, that of the greatest of all wild beast experts, it was only natural that, even in the early days of his success, he had many rivals. Among these must be reckoned James Hilton, whose menagerie (though smaller than Wombwell's) obtained considerable popularity and success. Historically, Hilton's wild beast show is only known as being the progenitor of the afterwards famous Manders menagerie.

My story is concerned with the very early days of Hilton's menagerie, at the time when James Lee (a man of almost equal ability with his brother, the more celebrated Nelson Lee) was manager of the show. The mystery of the terrible tragedy of this tale of showman life would have remained unsolved but for the genius of James Lee.

The menagerie was located at Taunton, and just as the show was being closed for the night, a travel-stained stranger, apparently a seaman, mounted the steps of the front and accosted Lee. "If you happen to be short-handed, Mister, and would like a rough, handy sort of man like myself to look after the animals and make himself useful, I should be glad of the job."

Now it did happen that the menagerie was in pressing need of two more workers, and Lee, after measuring the man up in his mind and being satisfied with his first impression, said very heartily:—

"Yes, my man, if you don't mind serving a sort of short apprenticeship, we can find you work."

"Thank you, sir."

Then Lee, remembering some of his own hard experiences on the road and guessing that the man was hard pressed by poverty, gave him a couple of shillings with the remark—"Get yourself some supper and a bed, and begin work to-morrow morning at eight."

That was the introduction of William Beaver, afterwards known throughout Showland as "Sailor Bill," to the menagerie and to the comradeship of the wandering Bohemians on the road. Beaver proved an immense acquisition, for he had that magnetic attraction (which but few men possess) that makes it possible for its possessor to control with a glance and pacify with a touch of the hand the most turbulent and unmanageable animals.

The rivalry between the menageries then on the road was very keen, and it was a tremendous feather in the cap of James Lee when he secured for Hilton's a really large specimen of the ourang-outang, the giant ape of Borneo. This valuable animal was placed in the care of Beaver; in fact, no one else dare go near the ferocious creature.

Shortly after the arrival of the huge Simian (whilst the show was located at Bristol) James Lee engaged another hand, a youth named Joseph Bond. It was out of sheer pity that James Lee found him employment about the show. There was just that little touch of romance about young Bond that irresistibly appealed to the heart of James Lee. He was the boy, so often realised in romance and sometimes in actual life, so smitten with the love of the show that, with or without the consent of parents or friends, determines to become a travelling showman. It was not difficult to see that he was masquerading under the name "Bond," and probably belonged to some well-to-do family, and was most evidently well educated and refined.

Now a curious thing happened; perhaps it was owing to those secret springs of antagonism that perplex us in human life: William Beaver, the trainer, conceived a violent dislike to the gentle youth, James Lee's latest protégé, and almost from the beginning set to work to make things difficult for young Bond. Lee was quick to notice this, and took Beaver to task for it, and for a time he restrained the exhibition of his antipathy for the newcomer.

Between the latest importation—the ourang-outang—and William Beaver there had grown up an immense affection. So great and absorbing was this attachment of the monkey for the man that Beaver was able to enter with impunity the cage of the powerful brute and make it go through a sort of performance which in those far-away days was regarded as most marvellous. This singular ability with the animal made Beaver an indispensable part of the show, and unfortunately so fed his vanity and self-importance that Lee at times found it extremely difficult to tolerate Beaver's arrogance and to retain his services.

Towards the end of the season at Bristol, a quarrel took place between Beaver and young Bond. This quarrel would have ended in a fight between the two (unequal as the younger man was for the fray) but for the intervention of James Lee, the manager.

Sternly rebuking the older man and sending Bond for a time out of the show, Lee said—"Now let us have no more of this senseless jealousy. You forget that when you came to us you were just as much an object of pity as the youngster. We gave you a chance, and we have given Bond a chance, and valuable as your services are, we shall not allow you to dictate who shall or who shall not be employed about the menagerie. Every man to his own graft, Sailor Bill. You are all right with animals, but to run a show like this men with brains as well as physical power are needed. Let us have no more of this senseless bickering."

Sailor Bill took this kindly-meant straight talk with a frown, and muttered something to the effect, "Well, let him look out. I suppose he's a swell, and therefore better thought of than us common chaps."

Of the reply Lee took no notice; but Hilton, the proprietor, was a keenly-interested spectator of the scene, and said to Lee, "I don't like Sailor Bill's humour at all. He's just the sort of chap that would do a man a bad turn."

"No," answered Lee, reflectively. "He's got a vile temper; but it's all froth. His heart is good at bottom."

"Did you hear how the big monkey shook the cage and wanted to get at young Joe when he and Bill were quarrelling?"

"I heard the brute good enough; but did not turn round to notice its capers."

"Well, I should not like to quarrel with Sailor Bill, and then for the monkey to get loose. I know it would go like mad for an enemy of Beaver's."

That was the end of the matter for the time, except that at the performance that night Sailor Bill was noticed to be carrying more drink than was good for him, and that the great ape displayed more than usual affection and docility towards its keeper.

* * * * * *

It was a terrible crime—a most brutal murder. The murderer in his insensate fury had torn and mutilated the body of his victim in a way that beggared description. The murdered man was Joseph Bond, and the scene of the tragedy was the narrow sleeping-compartment of one of the caravans. The fell deed was done in the dead of the night after the quarrel between Beaver and Bond.

Everybody about the menagerie remembered the quarrel now. The effect was so terrible that every man at once sprung to the obvious cause, and a thrill of righteous horror and wrath went round the show, and every man's face said "This is Sailor Bill's revenge."

Both Hilton and Lee were distraught with the agony of the terrible blow that had fallen upon

them—for both of them, in common with the rest of the people about the show, loved the poor done-to-death youth. The police were soon on the spot, and every care was taken to immediately investigate the strange and gruesome details of the murder.

The quarrel between Beaver and Bond had to come out, and this, of course, was damning suspicion against Beaver. Away to Beaver's lodgings went the police, only to find that he had not slept there, but had packed his things in a hurry late at night, and had said that he was catching the boat to Liverpool. This, too, was a further cause of suspicion against him.

The police were so sure of their man that no effort was made from that point forward to trace any other possible clue or to view the crime in any other light than murder of the most common and brutal kind. "Oh, he's a big brute of a sailor, and we know what sort of men these tramp sailors are. It's a quarrel, and then out with a knife, and red murder is the finish of the row."

With but one exception, and at first he hardly dared to speak his mind, the whole body of showmen were at one with the police and public opinion. The exception was James Lee.

"No," he mused, "I think I know human nature too well to have made so big a mistake in my judgment of character. I can't quite bring myself to believe that Beaver was capable of so brutal a crime. His running away is dead against him. There are curious things about the crime that in the interests of justice ought to be cleared up. The first thing, however, is to find Beaver?"

The police found Beaver, and sooner than they anticipated, for he turned up at the show the day after the murder and to everybody's surprise said, "Send for the police. I have heard that they want me. No," he continued, "don't look at me like that," and here he broke down and wept as only strong men can weep. "I did not murder Joseph Bond. God knows that I am free from that horrid deed, however black it looks against me."

"Why did you run away the night of the murder?" was the stern question of James Lee.

"Well, the answer's a bit suspicious, but it's the truth—I was afraid and ashamed of myself—afraid that my temper might lead me into trouble, and deeply ashamed with my conduct and ingratitude towards you who had stood in as my friend in the past. In fact, sir, whether you believe it or not, I made up my mind to clear out and go back to sea again, because I felt that I had forfeited your respect."

"Yes, yes," said Lee, "I can quite understand that; but why didn't you go to Liverpool, as you left word you were going to do at your lodgings?"

"Well, that's simple enough to answer. I just missed the boat, and then determined that I'd walk to Cardiff and get a ship there. On my way (so quick does bad news travel) I was overtaken by the news of poor Joe's murder. I sat down by the roadside and thought it all out. Why, of course, I knew that our quarrel would fasten suspicion on me. It was a big struggle, I can tell you, to turn back and face it out; yet you see I've done it—I've done it!"

"And that's a big point in your favour, Beaver," was James Lee's grave reply. Then, speaking to Hilton and the show people, Lee added, "Every man in England is held to be innocent until he has had a fair trial and has been found guilty of the crime laid at his door. I, for one, will say but this at this moment—I am favourably inclined to believe Sailor Bill's straightforward tale; yet a most horrible crime has been committed. He is suspected of that crime, and must be tried for it. I, for one, will, until positive proof is given, hold him innocent, and will strain every nerve to help him."

"Yes," exclaimed Hilton, "I'm with Lee in this matter. It's a most horrible murder; but I will not judge Beaver unheard. Of course, Beaver must give himself up to the police, but we will do all we can to clear up the mystery of the crime; and you shall have all legal assistance in your defence."

Again poor Sailor Bill broke down, and his emotion was pitiful to see.

Then it was that a curious thing happened—the great monkey, the ourang-outang, began a violent shaking of its cage and to cry aloud and to roar in terrible grief. This extraordinary sympathy of the animal with its keeper Beaver drew all eyes to the cage, and as they watched they saw the monkey place its long fingers through the bars of the cage and deliberately extract the linch-pin of the heavy iron cross-bar that fastened the door of the den. Before anyone could intervene the monkey was standing by Beaver's side and lavishing upon him almost human affection and quite intelligent sympathy. This astonishing climax to the extraordinary scene set James Lee thinking. "Take the monkey quietly back to its den, Beaver. We must have the police for an experiment I want to make."

A messenger soon brought the chief constable of Bristol to the menagerie, and with him two officers.

"Here," said Lee, "is the man you suspect of the murder. He has returned, and is, we think, able to explain his absence. I ask you before sending him away to give me a private interview in order that I may lay before you important evidence relating to the terrible deed."

"Certainly, certainly, sir," answered the chief constable. "As the man has surrendered to the police we will comply with any reasonable request that may tend to elucidate the mystery surrounding the crime."

"Yes, sir, the crime will prove a bigger mystery than we anticipated, and it is to clear up some aspects of that mystery that I venture to claim your assistance" was Lee's remark, as he led the chief of police to Hilton's living-carriage.

Here it was that Hilton, Lee, and the chief constable conferred for quite twenty anxious minutes. The result of that conference was seen in the despatch of Beaver in a closed carriage to the police-station in charge of the police and the absolute secrecy observed in the matter, for the news was not allowed to go forth that the suspected man was in custody.

* * * * *

In the dead of the night a curious thing was done in Hilton's menagerie—a weird midnight experiment in criminal investigation, such an experiment as never before or since has been essayed. Standing behind a screen at the end of the show, near to the living carriage, were the chief constable of Bristol, and with him the Mayor of the city, and Hilton and James Lee.

With James Lee evidently rested the working out of the problem before them. To the show at this solemn hour of the night William Beaver was brought, and silently took up his place by the screen.

For the purpose of his carefully planned experiment, James Lee had attired himself in a suit of the murdered man's clothes.

Lighting up one of the grease-pot flares of those days the two men—Lee and Beaver—went towards the den of the giant ape. Fixing the light to the ring pole Beaver and Lee (in the character of the dead man) went through all over again the too well remembered incidents and violent words of the quarrel.

Then Lee went away, taking the exact road to the sleeping compartment of Joseph Bond.

Beaver went behind the screen to await his next cue in the weird drama of the night.

With the exit of Lea, the giant ape, with the rapidity and decision of a set purpose, was seen by the all-intent watchers to stretch his long arm through the bars and to lift the cross-bar and slip out of the den. The huge beast did not touch the ground, but clambered along the top of the dens, holding a firm grip of the bars of each den as he passed them. When at last he reached the side door through which Lee had made his dramatic exit as Bond, then it was that he touched the ground.

No sooner was the silent-footed creature outside than the watchers were folowing close upon his track.

The monkey made a straight course for the sleeping berth in the van where the unfortunate Bond had met his death.

James Lee, the detective of the moment, had left nothing to chance. In the sleeping-berth was a life-sized figure. The horrid creature was seen to lift the large ventilator in the roof of the caravan and to slip down upon the bed, and again with the figure was the tragedy of dumb animal hatred and malignity enacted. Hilton, who had come prepared and with his mind fully made up what to do, shot the monkey dead when with his terribly claw-like fingers he was grasping the throat of the figure.

Measurement was taken of the monkey's hands, and these fitted exactly to the terrible death-marks on poor Bond's throat—a piece of evidence of the greatest corroborative value to the vindication of William Beaver and testifying to the remarkable ability of James Lee, to whose other titles, well earned and well worn, was added that of "The Showman Detective."

"OLIVER TWIST, or, THE THIEF-MAKER."

A Sketch, in Three Scenes,
Produced at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday, August 20.

Fagin .....MR. ROLLO BALMAIN
Bill Sykes .....MR. ARTHUR ST. JOHN
Mr. Brownlow .....MR. LOUIS GORDON
The Artful Dodger .....MR. GEO. FLETCHER
Charley Bates .....MR. F. TRAVERS
Police Officer .....MR. LUKE WILLING
Oliver Twist .....MISS EMMIE ORFORD
Nancy .....MISS SARA MIGNON

More Dickens! This time he comes in very acceptable shape in Mr. Rollo Balmain's sketch. Scene 1 shows us Fagin's den—a weird-looking underground apartment in which one can imagine all manner of villainous plans being invented. The conversation between the lovable Jew and the amiable Sykes and the others is centred mainly round the subject of the disappearance of Oliver Twist. Bill, of course, deplores the loss of the boy because the latter had such an extremely neat little figure which might have been made for the burglary business. How well could the boy creep through small openings where the bulky Sykes scarcely had as much as a look-in! Fagin, too, indulges in lamentations, for Oliver's absence means a loss of revenue to him. "And he was just getting nicely into the pizness, ma tear!" But the lamentations soon give way to a festival of rejoicings, for the wanderer is brought back to the fold. How welcome he is made! No wonder, for he has some books and a five-pound note which a kind gentleman entrusted to what was intended to be his temporary keeping. He is quickly dispossessed of these, and is only saved from ill-treatment by the intervention of Nancy. He tries to escape, but the others are too alert and fleet of foot for him. Then he is marched off to assist Sykes in the cracking of a crib. The venture proves unsuccessful. Oliver is wounded by a shot, and Bill and his confederates are compelled to decamp hastily. We next see Oliver in the garden of Mr. Brownlow's house, in which the burglary had been attempted. The good-hearted gentleman is taking a kindly interest in the lad's welfare, and Oliver confides in him the story of his unhappy life. Nancy appears later, and Mr. Brownlow offers to find a means of removing her from her evil companions, but Nancy declines. All she cares about is that Oliver is being well looked after. Fagin creeps into the garden while they are speaking, and overhears Nancy's indictment of himself and his associates. He vows revenge. Mr. Brownlow leaves Oliver alone for awhile, and an attempt by the Jew to kidnap the boy is frustrated. The final scene takes us back to Fagin's den. Nancy is charged by the keeper thereof with betraying them to the police. When Bill Sykes returns Fagin incites him to take a terrible revenge upon the girl, and there is a violent quarrel, which terminates with the death of Nancy. Finding that he has been duped by Fagin, Sykes turns his attention to that worthy, and with the aid of his club makes himself a worthy candidate for hempen honours. The curtain goes down on his arrest.

The little piece is presented in an admirable fashion. From Mr. Rollo Balmain we get a skilful portrayal of the odious character of the Jew. His acting of Fagin is studied and exact in every particular, and altogether it is a highly praiseworthy piece of work. Miss Sara Mignon appears as the unhappy, ill-treated Nancy—Nancy, with the good moral instincts of a woman, even in evil surroundings, and bound fast by that peculiar feminine code of honour to the objectionable Bill Sykes—and the part in its varying phases is excellently played. Mr. Arthur St. John furnishes a sound representation of the sturdy, loud-mouthed burglar; and Mr. George Fletcher as the Artful Dodger and Mr. F. Travers as Charley Bates adequately fulfil the requirements of their characters. Miss Emmie Orford is a pathetic figure, and is, moreover, convincingly earnest, as Oliver Twist; and the Brownlow of Mr. Louis Gordon brings before us the pleasing picture of a warm-hearted, amiable, and generous gentleman. The whole production has received great praise locally.

CHARLES COLLETTE will appear at the Britannia Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth, on Monday and twice daily next week in his musical patter sketches, *Hard Luck* and *Travellers' Yarns*, as well as in his farce-duologue *Tea for Two*, in which he was so successful at the London Pavilion. Mr. Collette will be supported by the clever young actress Joan Derry.

WALNEY ISLAND.—James Dunn's Park Pierrots.—Proprietors, Bliss and Bliss.—Mr. Frank Probin is a favourite here in baritone songs; Louis Kerno is a clever coon singer; Arthur Holland goes well and Prete is a clever ventriloquist; and Mr. Norman Lee is an immensely popular pianist; while George and Leo Bliss are a smart and clever pair of comedians. The Park is illuminated with electric lights, and is well patronised.

MISS JESSIE PRESTON produced on Monday at the Metropolitan a highly successful "Reply" to Mr. Harry Lauder's "Ma Scotch Bluebell," which proved such a "hit" that the audience would not be satisfied until she gave an encore dance. Strange to say, Miss Preston follows Mr. Lauder on the programme.

LE DOMINO ROUGE, the most important new turn at the Palace Theatre this week, is dressed, as her name suggests, in vivid scarlet. Her stiff velvet hat is coquettishly tilted over the red lace scarf that covers her mask and is twisted round her hair, with a bunch of flowers of the same brilliant hue behind the left ear. Her dress itself is composed of an embroidered silk shawl, leaving one shoulder bare, and clasped at the breast by a diamond bird. The eight pretty girls who accompany her amazing toe dance with a series of less elaborate steps are dressed in white silk, with touches of canary yellow, glittering and tinkling with big golden sequins.

MR. EDWIN J. BRETT and Miss Emmeline Orford have specially commissioned Mr. Charles D. Hickman to supply them with a new sketch. Mr. Hickman is part-author of *Love Germs* for the Smythsons, and *Nursery Pets* for Tom Fancourt and Jennie Ruble.

THE HIPPODROME WAYZGOOSE.

FRONT OF HOUSE OUTING.

Mr. Fred Trussell is invariably to the fore in looking after everybody's welfare. His annual wayzgoose in the interests of his staff is particularly paid attention to. He is, we need hardly say so, father to all his trusted adherents, and as each year goes round, so does Fred Trussell "go one better." This year's annual outing was a singularly happy one, and went off without a hitch. The party, numbering about sixty, journeyed from Waterloo to Portsmouth Town last Sunday (August 19), and from thence to the Esplanade Hotel, Southsea. On the journey down light refreshments were served "on board," as the Americans say, and these, we understand, were most enjoyable, as they were taken together with harmless pastimes. Luncheon was promptly served at one o'clock, and consisted of a most delicate and appetising spread of

Lobster. Mayonnaise of Salmon.
Roast Beef.
Lamb and Mint Sauce.
York Ham. Veal and Ham Pie.
Potatoes, &c.
Cheese and Salad.
Ale, Claret, Mineral Waters, &c.

There was no speech-making on this occasion, the interesting remarks from the various heads of departments being reserved for a later period. Meanwhile, some very diverting sports were indulged in—some on shore and some on board the boat. Two members of the party—Messrs. Currie and Groombridge—competed in a walking match, the distance being 100 yards, for a large purse. This was won, after a sharp tussle, by Mr. Currie, who was immediately hero of the happy party and, be it mentioned, for the whole of the day among his circle of friends. On board the special boat to Ryde there were various other sports, and on landing carriage drives to places of interest were indulged in. At 6 p.m. the whole company assembled for dinner at the Esplanade Hotel. Here it was that Mr. Fred Trussell not only proved himself a spendid organiser, but a most interesting and instructive tutor, on the question of loyalty. The latter was particularly applied when he proposed "The health of His Majesty the King and the Royal Family." Mr. Trussell also proposed "The London Hippodrome" and "The Directors" as subsequent toasts. Dinner consisted of

Roast Beef. Horseradish Sauce.
Boiled Leg of Mutton. Caper Sauce.
Roast Veal and Bacon.
Potatoes. French Beans, &c.
Fruit Tarts. Custards. Blancmanges.
Cheese and Salad.
Ale, Claret, Mineral Waters.

Many congratulatory telegrams were read from Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, &c. There were other toasts proposed by Mr. Chas. Richards and Mr. Dave Thompson, while Mr. Harry C. Wild and Mr. Arthur C. Hicks jointly responded to that of "The London Hippodrome." Then came "The Ladies," by the chairman, and, finally, "The Visitors," to which Mr. Lavater Lee, the Hippodrome droll, responded most amusingly; and afterwards Mr. Willie Trussell, manager of the Palace Theatre, Southampton, had a few words to say regarding his presence as a visitor. Much regret was felt at the enforced absence of Mr. Frank Parker, the stage and equestrian director of the Hippodrome, owing to overpressure of work occasioned by his having to superintend rehearsals for his new and gigantic show, *The Earthquake*. Mr. Henry W. Garrick, Press manager, Mr. J. Collard, several newspaper representatives, and other personal friends of the "family," were also present.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

"THE tipping system" is still engaging the attention of the music-hall artists, and the discussion which has taken place has produced several noteworthy suggestions. One is that a box be provided and placed under the control of the stage manager in the hall or other convenient place, and that artists who wish to tip give what they choose and when they choose. Another suggestion is that artists send a yearly contribution to the Benevolent Funds of the Stage Employees Society, and the sums named are from 10s. to £2 each, according to the special services rendered and the salary of the artists. Assuming that the artist would have the right to recommend employees in need for assistance from the fund, this proposal has much to commend it, as it follows that the fund would be wisely administered and help those who need help most. There is, however, a strong feeling to entirely abolish "tipping," and it is reported that Mr. George Gray, "The Fighting Parson," has already announced his intention to refrain, in future, from giving any tips. Should Mr. Gray's action be generally adopted, the members of the working staff in music-halls would find it to their interests to reconsider the conditions of their employment and endeavour to place themselves in a more certain and dignified position.

MR. A. E. WOOD is with Mr. H. B. Irving as master carpenter. It is undecided whether Mr. Irving will take any member of the stage staff to America. On this point it may be well to point out that while difficulties would probably arise in the case of workmen employed under contract to accompany a theatrical company to America, no trouble need be anticipated, providing each workmen are members of the National Association of Theatrical Employees. The American Alliance of Stage Employees only invokes the Klien Contract Labour Law against non-members of a Theatrical Protective Association, and it has come to a friendly understanding with the British organisation.

A MEETING of the carpenters' branch of the N.A.T.E. will be held on Sunday evening, at 8.30, in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's Lane. Several important items will come up for consideration, and all members are urged to attend.

A MEETING of representatives of the London branches of the N.A.T.E. has been held during the week to consider proposals with regard to the annual concert in aid of the benevolent funds of the society. It has been suggested that any donations received from patrons of the concert be placed to the credit of the National Open Benevolent Fund and that the subscribers be afforded the right of recommending applicants for assistance from that fund. It is thought desirable that an effort should be made to build up this open fund, and at the same time avoid the misapprehension that the society accepts donations from non-members towards its ordinary funds.

AT Westminster on Monday Mr. John Troutbeck held an inquest on George Ford, forty-four, a carpenter, lately living at Thrush-street, Manor-place, Walworth. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased man was employed at the Apollo Theatre, and on Thursday, the 16th, while working at his bench beneath the stage, he suddenly collapsed and fell to the floor. He was taken to the hospital, where he died a few hours after admission. Dr. Reed, house physician, said there was a fracture of the skull on the right side, and on the opposite side there was a large effusion of blood on the brain. The man had fallen down in a fit, and had struck his head, causing the fracture. The master carpenter at the theatre said the deceased man did not strike his head with any force. Dr. Reed pointed out that the man's skull was abnormally thin, and a light blow would fracture it. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys. — Mr. Louis Calvert's splendid company is here playing the ever-popular *Sunday* to full houses. The title-part is exquisitely played by Miss Emilie Polini, who receives unstinted applause for her rendering of the character; the four far-western "boys," over whose household Sunday rules, are effectively acted by Mr. William Lockhart as the gruff Towzer, Mr. Sidney Rennef as the fatherly Davy, Mr. Cecil Yapp as the kindly Lively, and Mr. Arthur Vezin as Sunday's country lover, Jacky. Mr. Leonard Pagden gives a fine impersonation of Colonel Brinthorpe, and Mr. G. Wallace Johnstone is also good as the unscrupulous Arthur Brinthorpe. Miss Muriel Pope as a Nun, and Miss M'Aimée Murray as Mrs. Naresby, give natural representations of pleasing characters. Tom Oxley is a fine part, well played by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas, and a highly satisfactory cast is completed by Mr. Ernest Harrison as the Abbot.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie. —Good performances of *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* are being given here this week by Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company. The part of Captain Mowbray is taken by Mr. Yorke Stephens, who fills the rôle with a quiet, easy grace that is admirable; Miss May Straker is seen to advantage in the part of Isabel Kirke, her acting being natural and affecting to a degree; Mr. W. Brisco Owen bears himself well in the difficult part of Lieutenant David Cairn; and an excellent bit of character work is contributed by Mr. Maitland Dicker as Colonel Jardine; Miss Frances Vine is highly amusing as the frivolous Mrs. Gorringe; in striking contrast is Miss Esther Royal's portrayal of Mrs. Jardine, the strong-minded hostess; the Detective is well represented by Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson; and the parts of the Footman and Miss Potts are ably filled by Mr. Lawrence J. White and Miss Isabel Fladgate. The comedietta entitled *Uncle Joseph* is the curtain-raiser.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane. —Mr. C. P. Levilly's company, in the second week of the engagement, is giving *Amorelle*, which drew a crowded house on Monday. As the vivacious heroine Miss Stella Gastelle has a part that affords her unlimited opportunities, and in acting, singing, and dancing she displays her talent and versatility in a manner that captivates the audience. Mr. W. H. Powell is now the Dr. Napoleon Crow, and gives an exposition of eccentric comedy that is most amusing; Miss Kitty Cavendish as Lesbia acts with much ability, and her songs are charmingly rendered; Miss Avis Grahame makes a humorous Marina, and some clever dances are contributed by Miss Mabel Fairchild; Mr. Manfred Russell's Jules is a creditable performance; as Francois Mr. Frederick Hobbs gets his best chance in the last act with the dashing military song, in which he makes a hit; Mr. William Griffin plays the Count de Cideaux with good effect; as the old sailor, Father Dotard, Mr. Fred Seymour gives a clever performance; Mr. Aubrey Carr as Alphonse, and Mr. George Paulton as a Banker, lends able support.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascart.—Mr. J .W. Whitbread's company, in a round of Irish plays, opened on Monday with the romantic drama, *Lord Edward, or '98*, Mr. Robert Faulkner being in the title-part. He acquitted himself in his well-known style, and gained admiration for his manly rendering. Mr. Dane Clarke, who directs the tour, as the informer, Francis Magan, brought down the wrath of the house for his embodiment of stage villainy; Mr. Ion Ireland as Francis Higgins did well; Mr. James O'Brien as Thady, in acting and singing repeated former successes; and Mr. James Daly as Neilson, Mr. Henry Richardson as Tony. Mr. Charles Boyle as General Hotche, Mr. Henry Forrest as Major Sirr, and Mr. G. Nolan as Major Swan, all lent valued aid in the performance; Miss Cecilia Dare as Pamela, acted with sympathy; Miss Mollie Miller as Edward was admired in this juvenile part, and the Katey of Miss Monica Kelly was very sprightly. The playing of the Lord Edward Brass Band added to the interest of the representation.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Miss Annie Bell's company is appearing this week in *Sapho*, a new version of Daudet's celebrated French novel by Birkett Winning. Miss Bell, who portrays the title-rôle, does not belie her high reputation; Jean Gausin is in the hands of Mr. Sidney Arnold, who plays this part with more than ordinary success; Cesaire is also capably presented by Mr. George Autley; Little Miss Graham as Joseph is all that could be wished; the acting of Pringle Roberts as Flamond is most impressive and convincing; and Mr. H. Langford as Caroudal, and Mr. Charles Merrion as Dechelette, ably portrayed two elderly roués.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—*The Throne of Terror* is this week ably interpreted by a company under the direction of Mr. William J. Miller. Mr. Miller is quite equal to the part of Robespierre; Mr. Roy Milton is powerful as Captain Eugène de Lisle; and the Comte de Roquefort is well played by Mr. Frank Fuller; Miss Katherine Maude Davies succeeds in evoking the sympathy of the audience as Marguerite; Miss Ethel Lanyon Maude effectively sustains the character of Victorine; and the comedy parts are in the capable keeping of Mr. Bert Ellis as Goujou, and Miss Eva Norman as Peppietta. The drama was very well staged.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Messrs. C. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company is providing the attraction here in *The Blind Foundling*, written by Mr. Phelps, who appears in the part of Gerald Dalton, and gives a clever performance; Mr. Alfred G. Fry is a forcible Mark Redman; Mr. Harry Tilbury, a funny Dick Dobbins, contributing several songs; and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie also ably assists with songs and humour; as Fairy, the blind foundling, Miss Mabel Hall gives a clever and pathetic performance; Miss Belle Tilbury acts with fine effect as Isabel; and Mr. Bernard Webb as Jasper Waterford, Mr. Frank Harvey as Parson Ray, Miss Arline T. George as a Gipsy, and Miss Amy Dalby as Viola are all well placed.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The attraction here this week is the successful drama *The Mysteries of London*, which is under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery. Mr. Alfred D. Adams as Victor presents a good picture of the scientific assassin, and Miss Laurie A. Pardie is seen to advantage as Lena North.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Chirgwin is the principal attraction here, and the white-eyed one rattles on with jokes and puns, and an occasional sly dig at our local fads. His musical items are heartily enjoyed, and, of course, "The Blind Boy" is asked for, and played. Lockhart's elephants, under the guidance of Captain Taylor, give a very clever performance. Two strongly contrasted human beings are on view here, viz., Henri Cot, the French giant, and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget. Mabel Bardine and company appear in a taking sketch, *Nell of the Halls*. Harrigan and Holt, as before, shine in patter and dancing; Jean Seul's mystery turn is cleverly worked; Atroy is a smart juggler and hoop manipulator; Violi's musical items are highly popular; and Algernon J. Hicks gives several neat impersonations of Dickens's characters.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors Moss' Empires, Limited, and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Great counter attractions in no way diminish the patronage bestowed on this popular place of amusement. Frank and Jen Latona (great Glasgow favourites) top the bill, and their amusing sketch, *The Musical Slavey*, meets with a great reception; a clever entertainment is given by Carrie Laurie and her juveniles; Woodward and Walton are clever exponents of sand dancing, and the Three Behans are smart comedy artists and dancers; Charles Unthan, the armless wonder; Ruby Dahl, in her latest novelty, *The Merry Mannikins*; Arthur Albert, comedian; Alburtus and Bartram, club jugglers; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright, in musical comedy; and the Hippodrome series of animated pictures, make other acceptable turns.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Morris and company appear in a scena, *The Lost Coon*, with lots of lively singing, dancing, and fun included; Ernest Montefiore and company present a dramatic and pathetic playlet, *The Little Colonel*, which takes well; Fred Russell, with the aid of Coster Joe, provides one of the best ventriloquial turns going; Chummie La Mara sings her songs with lots of dash and style; and Maud Esmond also scores well; Will Sergeant's speciality song is very successful; the Five Saxonians in a musical turn; Eugénie Fougère, chanteuse; and Carlo Bianchi, equilibrist, complete an excellent programme.

COLISSEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The bill here is a first-rate one from every point of view. The Boissetts and company are seen in the humorous *A Trip to the Continent*; Harriett Vernon as the Lilac Girl is a big draw, her fine costumes and her well-rendered ditties winning universal admiration; the Fisher Opera Trio, in an excerpt from Faust, please lovers of music; the singing of Charles Robinson is excellent; MacDonald and Huntingdon are capital American singers and dancers; and the eccentric musical turn of the Three Albions finds many admirers; Stuart and Stuart are successful comedy artists; the illustrative walks of Will English are amusing; and the Bioscope is deserving of mention.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Fred Locke's amusing extravaganza called *The Trippers* is being presented here this week by Charles Majilton's company. Mabel Hind is an acceptable comedienne; Will Lytton displays versatility; the Akimotos, Japanese troupe of acrobats, do some astonishing feats of strength and balancing; Billy Williams, Australian comedian, provides an excellent entertainment; the original Cecilias are clever performers on various instruments; the patter of Williams and Warden rattles on to a laughing accompaniment; the Seven Zerbinis present a brilliant spectacular and musical display; Harry Brown is a coloured comedian whose singing, dancing, and fun are much applauded; and the Palacescope completes a pleasant programme.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. Ada Fawn, comedienne and vocalist, is at the top of the bill; the Cullane Comedy Trio are specially favoured; Mulvey and Miriam, in an amusing comedy act, are successful; and other attractions include Chas. Lestre, juggler; Chas. Serra, statuary equilibrist; Bertha Winder, clog dancer; Two Paolias, athletic specialists; Maggie Binnie, vocalist; Tom Moore, comedian and vocalist; and the Bioscope.

AMUSEMENTS IN EDINBURGH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A most cordial and demonstrative reception by a large audience greeted Mr. H. B. Irving on Monday evening, when he appeared with Miss Dorothea Baird and a special company in Mr. Stephen Phillips' poem-play, *Paolo and Francesca*. The work has not hitherto been seen in Edinburgh, and increased interest was therefore manifested in the production of this tragic story, told as it is with striking simplicity in rhythmic language of singular beauty. Mr. Irving did every justice to the rôle of Giovanni Malatesta, to which his personality and talents enabled him to give a most impressive interpretation. Miss Baird was exquisitely tender as the child-like Francesca; and the sterner character of Lucrezia was well sustained by Miss Maud Hilton, who rendered with great effect some of the finest lines in the play. The Paolo of Mr. E. Harcourt Williams was marked by manly dignity and sympathetic appreciation of the part; Miss Ada Mellon as the blind and aged Angela was powerful in the description of her prophetic dream; and able support was contributed by Mr. F. Tyars, Mr. T. Reynolds, and Mr. Charles Dodsworth, as Corrado, Marco, and old Pulci respectively; as well as by Miss Nannie Bennett as Tessa and Miss Elaine Inescourt as Nita. On Saturday evening Mr. Irving appears in *The Lyons Mail*.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull.—Playgoers may congratulate themselves on the revival of *Faust Up-to-Date*, happily brought this week to Edinburgh by an admirable company under the management of Mr. F. J. Harris. The humour of this spirited burlesque is well carried through by Mr. Herbert Sparling in the rôle of Mephistopheles, who fires off innumerable political gags and topical allusions with the happiest effect. Miss Eda Mardy is charming as Marguerite, and gives distinction to the part both by her acting and singing. Some most amusing comedy is contributed by Mr. Stephen Adeson as the Lord Chancellor, and Mr. Fred Winn gets unlimited fun out of an irresistibly entertaining personation of Valentine. Miss Moyra Sackville, as the rejuvenated Faust, acts with great vivacity, adding dainty dancing to sweet singing; the somewhat broad comedy character of Martha is successfully undertaken by Miss Marie Shiels; and minor parts are all well filled. A large and efficient chorus does full justice to the attractive music, while the nimble work of a clever troupe of dancers increases the attractions of a delightful performance.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—Miss Annie Abbot is quite a magnetic attraction at the head of this week's bill. She cannot be lifted herself by the strongest man; yet she not only lifts ten men, and more, but easily draws a full house. So much may be accomplished by a little bit of science in the right place. Alexandre and Hughes provide another strong turn, their clever concertina playing and really good patter maintaining their assured popularity. Mr. Ludwig Amann's impersonations of notabilities are, if possible, better than ever. Messrs Mark Melford & Co. appear to advantage in the quietly humorous sketch *Only a Wedding*; and another amusing sketch, entitled *Watch the Chalk*, is rattled through in an agreeably boisterous fashion by Goodfellow and Gregson, assisted by Mr. Bert Wade. The Barowsky Trio introduce some novelty, as well as smartness, into their excellent acrobatic display; Rezene and Robini, trapeze and knockabout artists, also give a good performance; Mr. C. J. Johnson, a coloured comedian, finds great favour with the audience for his nimble dancing in cake-walk style; while a second good dancer is found in Mr. Josh Dixon, whose efforts are in many ways reminiscent of the late Dan Leno. Mr. George Reeves, comedian, and Miss Rosie Bartlett, comedienne, both contribute pleasing turns; and a series of good pictures is exhibited by the American bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—*The Scarlet Clue*, a sensational drama, is presented here this week by Miss Grace Warner's company. Mr. George Gordon, as Michael Stanton, a swell mobsman, plays with powerful realism. Miss Grace Warner in the part of Sal Scarlet shows fine dramatic power and artistic skill. In the dual rôle of the twin brothers Mr. Reginald Brown gives a clever study; Mr. Arthur Page contributes a capital character sketch of Crazy Jim; and Mr. J. L. Leigh as Billy the Rotter supplies most of the comic business. Miss Hilda Herne makes a sweet and attractive Elsie Dane; Little Violet Palfrey as Little Polly acts in a delightfully natural manner; Miss M. Stamer as Miss Edmond and Mr. S. Brien as Edward Croker give excellent impersonations.

NEW MUSIC.

"Good-bye, girlie, I must go," is written by Messrs. Charlesworth and Clifton Bingham, and set to music by Edward St. Quentin, the publishers being W. Morley and Co., Great Portland-street, W. The song has considerable merit. It is supposed to be the farewell of a young soldier just called to the front. The lover is clearly brave and manly, and tries to cheer up the maiden he is leaving in sorrow. The music is quite appropriate, being a mixture of martial and sentimental strains, and we fancy, if sung with spirit in a popular music hall, it could not fail to gain an enthusiastic reception. The chorus is also just the kind of music to rouse the public. We therefore predict a future success for "Good-bye, girlie."

MR. CHARLES MCCONNELL has been elected a member of the Stockwell Angling Society. This flourishing body, which includes amongst its numbers so many well known professionals, is on the look out for some good private water.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.

"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES.

"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

MR. EDWARD TERRY.

"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

MR. FRANK CURZON.

"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.

"I think the list will be immensely useful."

MR. SYDNEY GRUNDY.

"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should not be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.

"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.

"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

MR. JUSTIN HUNTLY McCARTHY.

"I have watched with the greatest interest the progress of your alphabetical list of the plays published during the last half of the nineteenth century. It is a most useful undertaking, and when it appears in volume form it must prove of great value to all who are concerned with the drama."

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.

"The list of plays will be very interesting and useful when published in complete form. The etiquette of the profession apparently still allows of novelists' titles being used by playwrights. Thus, *The Master*, which will appear in your list as a play by somebody else, is the name of a book of mine; while the new play, *Noah's Ark*, has the same title as a shorter story of mine."

MR. ARTHUR LAW.

"The publication in *The Era* of a list of plays produced during the fifty years, 1850-1900, is an excellent idea, and will be most useful to authors who may be in doubt as to their right to a certain title. When it is issued in book form I shall be very glad to possess a copy."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

MR. TOM GALLON.

"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. HAROLD MONTAGUE.

"I think the idea of printing a list of plays produced during the last fifty years an excellent one. It should be of great value to authors."

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.

"The list of produced plays was not merely a happy thought, for the same idea has probably occurred to many, though until *The Era* carried it out no one took the pains to collect and publish such a truly valuable record.

"Managers, dramatists, as well as would-be authors, will henceforward have a long list of titles to refer to, and there will be neither reason nor excuse for encroaching on pre-existing copyright in play titles. What a lot of trouble it should save us all!"

MR. WALTER MELVILLE.

"I think it shows great enterprise on the part of your journal, and likely to prove most useful and at the same time interesting to the general profession."

MR. ARTHUR MORRISON.

"The list you are publishing will be a most valuable work of reference to everybody taking an interest in the stage, and I have no doubt that when it is published as a book you will find its success warrant you in issuing fresh editions from time to time, with the information brought to date in each case."

MR. J. J. DILLEY.

"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary. *Cousin Grace* has not been included. This is a little piece from the French, played at a matinée performance at the Gaiety Theatre, Dec. 4, 1884."

MR. COSMO HAMILTON.

"I think that your new feature is an excellent and most useful one. A list of plays produced during fifty years is interesting not only to the playgoer, but essentially so to the manager and the playwright. They will only have to consult it to be sure that a title has not been used before."

MR. CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD.

"My attention has been called to your list of plays produced between 1850-1900. I have no doubt it will prove interesting and useful to many."

MR. F. FRANKFORT MOORE.

"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.

"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your paper, be invaluable."

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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The Publisher,
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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 28, Feb 4, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 29, Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Feb. 18, March 4, 11, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 13, Oct. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3 (six nights each).
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
April 22, May 13, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 10,
onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15,
onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 15, to precede Hippodrome season, Nov. 5 to Xmas. W. Payne Seddon, The Spa, Whitby.

THEATRES ROYAL, BILSTON and WEDNESBURY. Both Theatres entirely re-decorated; electric light installed; advertising methods up-to-date.
WANTED, Attractions, Dramatic and Musical, Nov. 5 (?), 12, 19, 26, also Dec. 3 and 10, onwards, with exceptions. Good Panto., first in.
Battersby, T. R., Bilston.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, from Oct. 1, onwards, First-Class Attractions only.
Pantomimes for Christmas (two weeks).

Fred C. Dew.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 3 and 10 also the following Good Dates, vacant at Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd, Sept. 17, Nov. 5, 12, 26. Apply, Will Smithson, T. R., Merthyr.

WANTED, only Best Companies, for Coliseum, Aberystwith, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, onwards.
Wire, Phillips.

WANTED, Companies, for Paisley and Perth Theatres, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 26, and onwards. Apply,
J. H. Savile,
Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Good Companies, Victoria Theatre, Sacriston, Sept. 10, onwards; also Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 29, for King's Theatre, Murton, Durham.
W. A. Brickstone, Lessee and Manager, Murton.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, good Companies, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 22, 29.
A. D. Vernon.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, through obliging Mr. Barth, First-class Attraction, Nov. 19. Musical preferred; also vacant, Dec. 17, Jan. 28, March 25 (Race Week), April 22 (Fair Week). Address, Frank King. Silence polite negative.

Mr. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FALMOUTH,
Oct. 22 (?), 29 (?), Nov. 19 (?), Dec. 10, 17.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Sept. 24, Nov. 8, 9, 10, Nov. 12, 13, 14, Dec. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, P. of W. T., Nuneaton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies,
for few remaining Dates.
Vacant Sept. 17, Oct. 15.
Address as above.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, and on.
Address,
C. M. Julian, Grand, Walsall.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
for
Dec. 10.

Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for large town in Midlands, First-Class Companies, last three nights each week preferred; best terms given. Particulars, &c., to Box 3,597, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aug. 29 (two nights), Sept. 3 (three nights), and 24, height of season. Wire, Phillips, Runnacleave Theatre, Ilfracombe.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Sept. 17.
Also Vacant, Oct. 1.
Address, Gerald Harding.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS
(the West End Theatre of Hastings).
Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Nov. 5, onwards. Apply, Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-st., London.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Under the direction of Edward Michael.
WANTED, Musical or High-Class Comedy Company, for Sept. 20, 21, 22; excellent season date. Unexpectedly open. No dramas.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, Feb. 4, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Vacant Sept. 3, onward.
Good Pantomime Required Xmas.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Aug. 27, onward (three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Aug. 30, Sept. 27, onward (last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 22, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Sept. 3.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Aug. 27, Oct. 8, onward.

All Communications,
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, for North Wales Tour, October, November, and December next,
First-class
Operatic,
Theatrical,
and
Dramatic
Companies,
or
any
Big
Combination.

Share or certainty.

Nothing too Big.

Send full particulars
to
Howard Lees,
General Manager,
Queen's Palace,
Rhyl.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
Acknowledged to be the Leading Theatre in Barrow.
WANTED, Companies,
Bookings include "The Walls of Jericho," "The Lion and the Mouse," "The Marriage of Kitty," "The Bauble Shop," "The Freedom of Suzanne," "Cousin Kate," "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Private Secretary," "The Eternal City," "Wearin' o' th' Green," "The Woman Who Gambles," "The Prodigal Parson," "The Poor must Live," "Romany's Revenge," "I Defy the World," "Sailors of the King," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Honour Thy Father," "Prince of Pilsen," "Three Little Maids," Native Choir from Jamaica, "La Poupée," "Florodora," "Sergeant Brue," &c. Only Vacant Autumn Dates Oct. 29, Dec. 3, and Special Alteration for Xmas, four or five nights, and matinées.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions (twice nightly), March 18, April 8, 15, May 6, 27, June 8, onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
Wanted, Musical and Dramatic Shows (once nightly), April 29, May 27, June 3, 10, onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Wanted, Musical Shows and Dramatic Attractions of High Quality, March 4, 11, 18, May 13, onwards.

All applications must be accompanied by particulars of cast, printing, and scenery, and be addressed to Drama Department, Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Sheffield.

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Companies, Musical preferred, Oct. 8 and 15. Now booking Season 1907, only big Attractions entertained, for which substantial guarantees can be given. Apply, re bookings, Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-street, London,.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Oct. 1, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, recognised Musical Comedy or other High-class Attraction (no dramas). Fred Granville, T. R., Stockton.

WANTED, Special Attraction,
Oct. 22,
owing to transfer.
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport.

BORO' THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, Attractions (non-dramatic), rental only. Address, for terms and conditions, Horace Lee, Theatre, Royal.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies for Oct. 15, Nov. 26, Dec. 10 and 17. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Sept. 24, unexpectedly vacant.
Wire, Domville, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Comedy Attraction, for Nov. 5, Vacant through transfer.
Address, Harry Yorke, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Under the direction of Edward Michael.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant Sept. 3, 10 (six nights each), and 17 and 24 (three nights each).

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 3, 17.
Required, Big Attraction for Christmas and New Year's weeks.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 5 and 25.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
for Oct. 1, 8, and 29.
Apply,
Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, for Opera House, Dunfermline, High-class Attractions, Sept. 10, Oct. 1 (Holiday date), Oct. 22. W. E. Potts.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

WANTED, for Boro' Theatre, Heywood, good Companies, weeks of Sept. 3 (opening week), 10, 17, 24, and Oct. and Nov. dates; also Panto. for Christmas or New Year's week; extensive stage alterations during vacation. Albert Jones,

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, good Attractions, Musical preferred. Sept. 24, on, with exceptions, three nights each town. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Visited and re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above,
Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Dec. 3 and 17, and Jan. 7.
Amongst others, the following list of companies are booked and pencilled for the ensuing season, viz., "Dare-Devil Dorothy," "The Conscript," "After the Ball," "Monte Cristo," "Lucky Liza," Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Walter Reynolds' "Mr. Smith," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (5th visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Fredk. Mouillot's Co. in "Faust Up-to-date," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes, "Goody Two-Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Cos. in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique," &c., &c. Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

VICTORIA THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, through cancelling, First-class Companies, Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, and onwards.
Apply, George Fox.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Sept. 3, 17, 24.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
R. C. Buchanan,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 22. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Tom Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31,
Jan. 21, March 11.
Douglas Bruce, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production,
Oct. 15 and Nov. 5.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Nov. 26, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Managers of Good Theatres to send vacant dates for this sure attraction. New scenery, new printing, new specialities. Everything up to date.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
A big success at Crown, Peckham. Refer Mr. Paget. The entire production carried. First-class company. Big plant of printing. Everything of the best. Charles Harrington as Admiral Drake. Vac. Sept. 2 (to oblige Mr. Bennet), Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 19. Charles Harrington, Lyceum, Ipswich.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.,
in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this year.
Chalmers Mackey, this, New Gaiety T., Leith; next, Kirkcaldy and Falkirk (3 nights each).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 1, 15, 22.

J. W. Cordiner, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
See Companies advertisement, page 2.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S COMPANY.
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
Another Triumph at Preston.
Last week £309 12s. 2d. gross.
WANTED, Sept. 3, between G., Islington, and Aston; Sept. 24, between Smethwick and Grimsby; also Xmas, through cancelling T. R., Sunderland.
Must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms.
George Kirk.

"THE SILVER KING."
Vacant Date, Nov. 26.
also few dates in Spring.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as Fiend.
By arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard this company can play anywhere except London.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas, and New Year. Montague Beaudyn,
Next, Royal Princess's, Glasgow.

Mr. WILLIAM MOLLISON,
in
"BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH
and "THE MIDDLEMAN."
WANTED, Oct. 8 and 15, also Xmas Week
Archie W. Chappell, this, Theatre R., Hull; next, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

Mr. H. HAMILTON STEWART,
by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman,
Presents
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
The only Company Touring.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Dec. 31. Address,
Walter J. Bayliss, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 1, 15, 22. Dec. 10 and 24.
Address,
C. M. Julian, Aug. 27, G., Walsall.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S COMPANY in
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro.
WANTED, owing to Great Success of Summer Tour, dates, on, from Sept. 10 (with exceptions). Piece re-booked wherever played. Attractive printing and scenery; First-class Company. Wire Saturday, Opera House, Cork; Aug. 27, Grand, Swansea; to Maude McIntosh.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for
"DARKNESS,"
Suggested by
"When it was Dark."
"When it was Dark."

Manager Fred Morgan,
of the
Theatre Royal, Norwich,
says:—
"As good a play as "The Sign of the Cross." There is a fortune in it. I cannot see how it can fail."

This unsolicited expression of opinion comes from a manager who for over a quarter of a century has been associated with the highest forms of dramatic art, and whose wide experience and vast knowledge make his opinion of great value.

What Higher Recommendation is Possible?

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

Manager Francis Laidler,
of the Prince's Theatre, Bradford,
said:—
"A fine play. Will make a lot of money."
Manager C. Imeson,
of the
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough,
said:—
"Delighted with it. A great play."
Manager E. Shirrah,
Theatre Royal, Manchester,
said:—
"There are great moments in the play."
Manager Eastwood,
Colosseum Theatre, Oldham,
said:—
"A fine play. Beautiful."
Manager Hardy,
Theatre Royal, Rotherham,
says:—
"Not only my circle, but my pit and gallery have been alike in their verdict. It is one of the most interesting stories they have ever had the pleasure of witnessing."

But One Opinion
in all
Classes of Theatres,
"A great play."

Write to
Bristol.

Ask
Chatham.

Enquire of
Great Yarmouth.

Refer
Sheffield, Stockport, Rochdale, Bury, Crewe, or any Theatre Visited.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."

The Press on this Great Play.
Bristol Magpie:—
"When it was Dark" is a play in ten thousand."
Independent.
A play equal to "The Sign of the Cross."
Mercury.
Its conception is clever and strikingly original, and the experience is a tense revelation in dramatic art.—Bristol.
The Magpie.
To those who would acquire the beauty of a great thought, "When it was Dark" will supply it.—Bristol.
The Times.
It is a play that is bound to make one think. It has a wonderful depth, a wonderful hold upon the audience, and it was set forth at the Theatre Royal last night with such a completeness and vividness of colouring that, whilst it was at times weird, it at others inspired awe. The acting and mounting reaches a standard which has never been excelled, and rarely equalled, at the Theatre Royal, for many years at any rate.—Bristol.
The Guardian.
It cannot be seriously urged that there is anground for an opinion other than that the play is a most remarkable one, and that it is admirably conceived, and is as educative as it is interesting.—Crewe.
Midland Telegraph.
A more remarkable, brilliantly-conceived, interesting, and, in a great measure, educative play one has not seen for many a day.

Further expressions
from the Press of
Oldham, Bolton, Bradford, Chatham,
Middlesbrough, Burton, &c., &c.
A great thought.
A play which will live for years.
A bold, but meritorious effort, to lift dramatic art to its true level.
All should see this wonderful play, which will do much good.
Appeals with intensity to all sections of the community.
Nothing so daring, so original, so enthralling, has been seen on the stage before.
Other plays dealing with religious questions have been written before, but none have approached this in grandeur of conception.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"A play in ten thousand."

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"A play equal to 'The Sign of the Cross.'"

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"There is a fortune in it."

Managers
Managers
are earnestly requested to verify these statements for themselves. A letter to any of the authorities quoted will satisfy them that
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"Is a play in ten thousand,"
and that
"There is a fortune in it."

This Play
Will Prove an Attraction in
No. 1 Theatres
and in
Dramatic Houses
Alike.

Once in every
Ten or Twenty Years
a Great Play comes along
which Appeals to all Classes,
Creates a Sensation,
and
Packs all Theatres.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
is
such a one.

Book it.
Book it.
Book it.

Vacant.
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 12, 19, 26.

Morton Powell, Theatre Royal, Nuneaton.

"THE COAL KING."
Great Attraction.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 5 and 19, also a few Vacant Dates in Spring.
Address, Polini and Maitland,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 1, 15, and 22, on. Address,
Stuart Cleveland, 24, Kent-st., Fleetwood.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15 (to follow third visit to Alexandra, Hull), also Nov. 12, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Edward Marris, Prince's, Bristol.

THEATRES WANTED.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Cast of Fifteen experienced Artists, headed by Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Lillian Rose as Nadia.
Bookings include:—
Derby,
St. Helens,
Sheffield (Royal),
Bradford (Prince's),
Scarborough (Royal),
Newcastle (Grand),
Hull (Alex),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Dewsbury, Mexborough, Luton, Rotherham, Leeds, Lincoln, Barrow, Walsall, Castleford, Oldham, Barnsley, Yarmouth, Swansea, Burnley, Salford, &c
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Striking Pictorials by McCaw.
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.

WANTED, Aug. 27 (through disappointment), Sept. 10 (Lancs. or Yorks.), to follow Scarborough, Sept. 17 (to precede Lincoln), Oct. 22 (Wales), Nov. 5, 26.
Refer the following managers for opinion:—
J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury;
M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens;
T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby;
J. E. B. Beaumont, Esq., Sheffield;
F. Laidler, Esq., Bradford;
L. Carson, Esq., Liverpool;
Wm. Morton, Esq., Hull.
Who will say:
A strong show, exceedingly well cast, and does good business.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
"The Conscript," specially selected for T. R., Leeds, Aug. 6.
Entirely revised with important changes.
Address all communications,
This week, Royal, Jarrow.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
A Brilliant Play.
A Brilliant Company,
Brilliant Business.
Refer,
T. R., Aston; Palace, Newcastle; Prince's, Poplar; T. R., Sunderland; T. R., Aldershot; T. R., Bristol.
Vacant
Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10.
MORTON POWELL, P. of W. T., Nuneaton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
the Greatest of all
Domestic Dramas.
Playing to Phenomenal Business everywhere.
Vacant
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3.
MORTON POWELL, P. of W. T., Nuneaton.

"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
"HER LOST SELF."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Xmas, Dec. 31. Miss FRANCES DELAVAL, O. H., Middlesbrough.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, and certain moneymaker, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1. FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, also Good Theatre for Christmas.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Sept. 17, 24, North or Midlands.
Address, T. ARTHUR JONES, O. H., Perth.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 21, and on, for the above magnificent aggregation of splendour and talent, to follow production, Grand, Derby. Nothing spared to command success. Unrivalled cast. Gorgeous scenery and dressing. List of cast on application.
FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the Great Domestic Drama by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, for the above Attraction, Oct. 8, Oct. 8.
Address, FRANK LINDO,
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Sept. 3 (Manchester district), Oct. 8 and 15, Big Business, Lincoln, "East Lynne." Special Scenery for both plays. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Gainsboro'.
Monday, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

FRED GRANVILLE'S COMPANIES.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, 29.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Sept. 13, 14, 15, "Are You a Mason" (South Coast); also First-class Theatres for Important Attractions required for Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, Nov. 5, and onward. Communicate, CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury avenue, W.

MR. WILLIAM GREET'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Sept. 24, for "The Shulamite," in the Midlands or North. Address,
ALEXANDER TELFORD, Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Sept. 17, for this great play, now going stronger than ever; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade. Wire,
F. G. KIMBERLEY, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND CO., twentieth week of Tour with "FACING THE MUSIC."
Managers' universal opinions: Funnier than "Charley's Aunt." Return dates offered.
WANTED, Oct. 1 and 29, Nov. 5, and on, with exceptions. Aug. 27, Aberystwyth (three); Prince's, Llandudno (three).

No. 1. "OUR BOYS" and "CASTE."
WANTED, Sept. 10, to follow Broadway, Deptford, Oct. 1, 8, and 15. CHARLES OTLEY, Champion-grove, Denmark Hill, S.E.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Nov. 26 and Christmas Week, "THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER," Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19.

EUGENE BERTRAM, G. T., West Hartlepool.

MR. JAMES STILLWELL AND CO. in
"THE KING'S SECRET."
the great Anglo-Egyptian Melodrama.
WANTED, Xmas, and on, with exceptions. Re dates, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, 2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

MESSRS. STILLWELL AND TEULON'S CO.
"THE BRANDED WOMAN."
WANTED, unexpectedly vacant, Sept. 10, (through closing of Empire, Oxford), Oct. 22, Xmas. JAMES STILWELL, P., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, "The Silent Witness," Unexpectedly vacant Monday, Aug. 27. Wire, wire, wire. NEVILLE, 17, Brunswick-st., Runcorn.

WANTED, Sept. 3, for Thomas Thorne and Company, to follow Newcastle, "Our Boys" or Repertory. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, Court T., Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Gipsy Jack" and "The Seesaw of Life," Sept. 24, and onward, with exceptions. Apply,
HENRY BEDFORD, 99, Halton-road, London, N.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 24 and Oct. 8.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Opera H., Northampton.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
DORA DENCH and POWERFUL COMPANY.
Excellent Business, T. R., Cardiff (third visit)
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, 24, Oct., and Xmas. Good Holiday Attraction.
Wire or write, DENCH, T. R., Cardiff.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Oct. 1, 8, and 15, also New Year, for this funny show.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., Darwen.

"THE TRAITOR." E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Production.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre R., Scarboro'.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 20 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vac. Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, 31.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

ALFRED R. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, Best Theatres, for this great Attraction, more successful than ever.
Vacant Nov. 12, 19, and Dec. 3, also Dec. 24 and 31.
Few Spring and Autumn Dates 1907 open.
New Special Scenery; a really Splendid Production.

Aug. 27, T. R., HULL (third visit).

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Sept. 24 (London or South), Oct. 22 (London or Midlands)
H. HOLLISTER, to-day, Tunbridge Wells;
Monday, Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for the above Record-breaker, Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
to precede and follow T. R., Stratford.
All Drama Records broken at T. R., Hyde.
Refer Fred Granville, Esq.
Miss GEORGETTE THIERRY as NINON.
HARRY FOXWELL, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 19, and Spring. WYN WEAVER, 10, King-st., W.C.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15 (to follow third visit to Alexandra, Hull), also Nov. 12, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. EDWARD MARRIS, Prince's, Bristol.

"SAINTS AND SINNERS." "MIDDLEMAN."
Miss Elaine Verner and Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

BEAUDYN AND CROWE'S COMPANY.
"THE WAY OF THE WORLD."
Cast includes Miss Sidney Crowe.
Stud of Racehorses and Midget Ponies Travelled.
Eighty-fifth Consecutive Week of Tour.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 22, on, with exceptions; also Xmas and New Year.
HERBERT SKARDON, to-day, Alex., Sheffield (return); next, P. O. W., Mexboro'.

WANTED, Dec. 24 onwards, with exceptions.
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Entirely new scenery.
Entirely new uniforms.
The best company that has ever toured with the play.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15,
Mr Samuel James's
Grand Revival of
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."
Address,
F. S JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, 26,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Gigantic Success,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Absolutely everything carried.
Aug. 27, Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
for this elaborately mounted, dressed, and played Drama,
Sept. 24 in or near London;
Sept. 24, in or near London;
also,
Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 12, 26, and on.
Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 12, 26, and on.
Everything carried. Eighteen Artists.
Excellent Printing, &c.
FRANK BATEMAN, Theatre Royal, Aston.

WANTED, Good Theatres for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 14, 21,
Feb. 4 and 11.
Only Theatres having large Stage and large holding capacity can be entertained for this mammoth production.
Add., JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, precede Portsmouth.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, N. Shields.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 22, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, N. Shields.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 15, 29, and on, with exceptions. Wire for Sept. 10, E. SURREY, to-day, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy; next, O. H., Burton.

Special Revival of the Well-known Moneymaker,
"JUDY."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 1, on, with Exceptions.
Address, GEO. KIRK,
This, Col., Oldham; next, Grand Theatre, N.

"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY"
Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's Company, including Miss Edith Blande.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S Agency,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
by Sutton Vane.
MR. ARTHUR CARLTON'S CO.
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, on. Address,
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S Agency,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

MOHAMED'S MONSTER VAUDEVILLE COMBINATION, "JEW'S REVENGE" SKETCH.
Genuine Chinese Ten Star Turns.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Music Halls, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, on. DUSE MOHAMED, C/o Albemarle Agency, 157, Strand.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas, on,
GEORGE DENHAM,
T. R., Castleford.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
"FLORODORA,"
Oct. 15, 22, 29.
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Sept. 13, 17, Nov. 1 (three nights each), Dec. 31, and various onwards.
Address, WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-second Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., '07.
WANTED, Sept. 3. Wire for Sept. 3, Sept. 3 (between London and Manchester), Sept. 17, Oct. 22 (through obliging).
FRANK AYRTON, Theatre Royal, Edmonton.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

Special Notice. — Owing to the enormous success achieved by The Native Choir from Jamaica (ten coloured Artists), specially brought to this country by Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G., they will extend their stay in England until Dec. 15 next.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c. Vacant Dates, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, and onwards.
A novel and artistic entertainment. A sensation everywhere. Native costume, camp dress for Sunday Concerts, and evening dress. Splendid lithos, framed photographs (three kinds), postcards (four kinds), &c. Heartily complimented by Earl Roberts, Lord Derby, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, &c.
This week, Spa, Whitby; next week, Bridlington; Sept. 3, Broadway Theatre, London.
Last week, at North Pier, Blackpool (second visit), played to 32,000 people.
A record for this popular Pier.
For full particulars, Press opinions, &c., apply Sole Agents, Messrs. JONES and DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, and 14, Dale-street, Liverpool.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."
Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 1, for the most successful Variety Combination on the Road. Last week at Hartlepool turned money away nightly. Refer Mr. Harry Burns. This week, at Empire, Greenock, another record week. Refer Manager, Skevington.
Address, next week, Hippodrome, Darlington.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, following Artists for Autumn Tour of First-class Play:—
Gentleman; for sort of Fagin character, clean make-up;
Intense Emotional Character, à la Silver King;
Breezy Old Man;
Juvenile Lead;
Juvenile, careless good-tempered rogue.
Ladies, for Heroine, must be young and pretty, and rather petite; Comedy Maid (clean), to sing and dance.
Send latest references, &c., state salary, and other useful particulars, to save time. Height of all not to exceed 5ft. 7in. Box 3,607, "The Era."

WANTED, a Full Dramatic Company, for Maurice Bandmann's Season in the East and Mediterranean, commencing about November. Write full particulars and photos.,
KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

WANTED, for Bandmann Tour of Musical Comedy in the Mediterranean and the East, Principal Soprano, two Comedians, also Artists for other parts and Choristers. Write full particulars, with photo., to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

WANTED, for Mr. Percy Williams' "Home, Sweet Home," Fit-up Tour, six weeks certain, and the run, First-Class Leading Man, also Heavy Man, Light Comedian, strong Character Old Man, and two good responsible Gentlemen; Tour starts Oct. 1; rehearse Sept. 24. Experienced Artists only need apply. Send full particulars and photo. where not known, together with lowest terms.
ERNEST GRANT, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, immediately, several Artists to complete Author-Actor's Company; short pieces, dramatic and musical. DYMOND STUCKEY, Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, Petite Lady or Child, for Willie Carlyle, &c., in repertoire, able to sing and dance preferred, refinement more essential than experience. Photographs, particulars, Mr. WM. DOBELL, Mechanics' Institute, Otley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, a Beautiful Lady for "Cleopatra," in Big Production. A beginner with brains could be entertained. A few Novices for Understudies; Lady Dancers. Address, with photo., DUSE MOHAMED, c/o Albemarle Agency, 157, Strand.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, for Above, Gentleman, for Aristocratic Old Man, to double light comedy (both parts small, but important), and to take charge of transport (one load). Rehearse Manchester, Sept. 4. Full particulars as to terms, refs., &c., in first letter, to J. W. CORDINER, T. R., Merthyr.

WANTED, good Actor, to double Colonel and Banker (small parts), height not less than 5ft. 9in; rehearse immediately. Fullest particulars, EDWARD SURREY, 94, Moor-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, "Life's Sweetest Sins," Gentleman, Small Showy Juvenile, open Sept. 3. Terms (long tour), photos., and refs., with addresses, absolutely essential. T. ARTHUR JONES, O. H., Perth.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Man, Light Comedy Juv., to double Small Heavy, also Heavy Lady; all must have clear, powerful voices, and dress well on and off. Age, height, photos. essential. Lowest terms, references, long tour.
STANLEY CARLTON, T. R. Stockton.

WANTED, a good Juvenile Lead, Heavy and Light Comedian, to open Sept. 3. Sketches. Letters only. Lowest terms, &c., FRANK HARDIE, Bernard House, Bernard-street, Russell-square.

WANTED, a Smart Actor (Juvenile), a Good Knockabout Pantomimist (one who can speak preferred), and Baggage and Property Man to play small part. Apply at once, E. EDMUNDS, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman and Lady, for Elliston's Sketch Company; rehearse Attercliffe, Aug. 29; open Monday, Sept. 3. Silence polite negative. Address, LONNEN MEADOWS, Palace, Attercliffe.

"THE BROKEN MELODY."
WANTED, Comedian, for Mortimer, to Open Sept. 3. Apply, with lowest terms, refs., &c., AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, T. Royal, Rotherham.

WANTED, good Comedian and Juvenile Gentleman.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, Gentlemen, for Small Parts, for Paris.
SHEREK and BRAFF, 10, Leicester-place, W.C.

WANTED, for Sketch, Character-Actor, for Buster in "Right's Right," one who has played part preferred. ADDERLEY HOWARD, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Gentleman and Lady to play Small Parts. NORMAN V. NORMAN,
Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, good, responsible Man, about 5ft. 9in.; also Chambermaid. Full particulars and photos. to MONTAGUE BEAUDIN, Princess's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen, to play good parts in sketches; good introduction for those wishing to adopt profession; thorough tuition guaranteed. Premium required; small salary given. Apply, IVAN CARLYLE, 87, Talgarth-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, two Handsome Ladies, as Models in Sculpture Scene in "Sally in Our Alley," and Juvenile Lady to play Edith Thornton. Rehearse London, Sept. 4, open Sept. 10 for one week, may be longer. Send photos. and full particulars to CISSIE LAWSON, Palace, Bristol.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately and at Xmas, Acrobatic Dancers. Age, height, ladies' photos., references, lowest terms. Good Quartette or Trio may write. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies. Apply Tuesday and Thursday next, 2 to 3. EDWARD CRANSTON, Second Floor, Rule's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, at Once, Good Amateurs, Lady and Gentleman for a Music Hall Production; must be good. Write, STIDDER and NORTON, next week, Surrey and Standard; or 66, Clovelly-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, Acrobatic and Step Dancers, also young Girls, to learn Dancing. Apply, MADAM BERTIER, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, pretty refined intelligent Girl, for Magical Act. Stage experience unnecessary. Must give time for rehearsals. Photo., age, terms, &c., ILLUSIONIST, 10, Crieff-road, Wandsworth Common.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette. Pier Pavilion, Skegness. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Mabel May, Child Actress, Disengaged Sept. (town only).
143, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Engagement by Comedienne, Instrumentalist (Cornet, Banjo, Mandoline, English Concertina, and Piano), young and experienced; good appearance; can play parts. Box 3,621, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists in all Lines,
and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl, also Specialities, for Tour and Xmas. Full particulars, lowest terms, photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Good Singing Comedians, for Humphrey E. Brammall's Grand Crystal Palace Pantomime. State lowest terms and particulars to J. S. CHILDS, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Principal Boy, Dame. Letters only. Full particulars, photograph, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8A, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-rd.

WANTED, for Paisley Pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," Dame, Baron, two good Knockabouts, Second Boy and Girl (pair good Sisters, duettists and dancers), and Principal Girl and Title-rôle (strong forte dancing). Terms and references, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

Say where can be seen working next fortnight.

WANTED, First-class Artists, for following parts:—Cinderella, Dandini, Buttons, Sisters, Broker's Men, Abanazar, Twankey, Emperor (first-class vocalist); also vacancies for 40 Chorus Ladies. Terms, refs., photos., where working during next four weeks, JAZON, 11, St. Androw-rd., Anfield, Liverpool. Mark envelopes, "Panto."

WANTED, for Pantomime, Artists all Lines, also tall handsome Chorus Ladies, with voices. Apply, SINCLAIR, 118, Kennington-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Thirty Chorus Ladies, for Provincial Pantomime, height 5ft. 6in.; also three good Acrobatic Dancers.

Apply, COOPER, Empire, Douglas, next two weeks.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Dolly and Madge McCalla, expert and experienced Juveniles. Last season "Babes," Camden Theatre. Aug. 27, Prince's, Poplar.

WANTED, Known, Leo Trainor, "A Brilliant Dame," Liberty Pantomime, big success last year Fred Granville's "Forty Thieves." Only good offers entertained. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Panto., Two Roses at Liberty, second boy and girl, and Rose Carlo, boy or comedy parts, with good novel speciality. All letters, STEBBINGS, Manchester.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement, by Solo and Orchestral Harpist (father of Marie Hall, Violinist). Address, E. HALL, 2, Brookland-road, Llandrindod Wells.

WANTED, Known, Flo Melville, Burlesque Artist and Comedienne, at Liberty Pantomime, Principal Girl or Second Boy. Pav., Leicester.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, at once, good sharp Scenic Artist, if suitable, permanent situation. Apply by letter, with specimen, stating terms, SYKES'S Scenic Studios, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters pro tem., Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Contracts, Repainting, &c.; experienced, quick. Moderate charges. Address, W. HENRY, 5, Homer House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known.—We supply Effective Scenery and Properties of all Kinds, cheap. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, completing special contract, at Liberty for Sept. Refs. excellent. Address, 1, New Church-street, Radcliffe, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mr. K. J. McLennan, Scenic Artist, can now undertake Special Scenery, Contract or Engagement. Address, Box 3,615, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Manager, for Animated Picture and Variety Co., Tour, 1906-7, commencing Sept. 24; preference to one who could do a turn. Only those whose references will bear strictest investigation are advised to apply. State experience and salary expected by letter only to MANAGER, 2, Hopechambers, Leather-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, an Acting-Manager, for a Music Hall; must be used to twice nightly system, must have good experience and references; provincial preferred. Apply, stating age, full references, salary required, to
Box 3,631, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Advance Representative, for First-class Theatre Show; one who can interview gentlemen, is capable of opening up fresh ground, and not afraid of work. Originality, enterprise, sobriety, and refinement essential. "Bar performers" save stamps. Applicants please note that they would not be required to accompany local bill-inspectors on rounds, nor exercise any such ante-diluvian and mistaken methods. To a worker, this would be a comfortable engagement, and vice versa. State salary required, age, and very latest references, to Box 3,606, "The Era."

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, First-class Stage-Manager. Apply immediately,
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Assistant Stage Manager, for Autumn Tour of First-class Play; one who is well up in all technicalities, and can double two small parts and understudy principals preferred. State age, height, salary required, last references, &c., to Box 3,605, "The Era."

WANTED, Manager, for a First-Class Suburban Music Hall, must be thoroughly experienced; good salary and benefit to energetic man. Apply by letter to Box 3,602, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to assist Manager and play small part, Musical Comedy; small premium, returnable as salary. Box 3,624, "The Era."

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, smart, energetic, and experienced Advance Agent; also First-class Carpenter, capable of playing small part, and thoroughly experienced in Fit-up work. Send full particulars, latest references, and lowest terms, PERCY WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, Youth, smart and well dressed, to learn duties Acting-Management; live with proprietor; give services. CRANE, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Young Man as Advance, one able to play piano a little preferred. BANVARD, Cahirconlish, Co. Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, good Agent, Effect Worker, and Window Biller.
MANAGER, Pictures, Drill Hall, Derby.

WANTED, a good Property Man; must be thoroughly used to Portable Theatres. Open at once. Salaries, VIOLA JENNINGS, Theatre, Stratford on-Avon.

WANTED, Young Man, to do Advance Agent, drive pony and trap. Write, Dingwall P.O. T. PINDER, Circus.

WANTED, for Tour, to commence Oct. 1, First-class Carpenter, also Baggage Man; both must be capable of small parts, and willing and obliging. Quarrelsome people save stamps. State age, height, salary, last three references, &c., to Box 3,604, "The Era."

WANTED, good Stage Carpenter, bench hand. Apply, with references and wages required, to MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

C. W. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Good, Smart, Reliable Men, for Staff, good bill men indispensable. Age, references, terms, J. POOLE, Palace T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Manager or Acting-Manager, touring or resident; experienced Theatre and Music Hall, Bars, Bookings, &c.; good references. Box 3,623, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, smart, young, experienced Business Manager requires change, Theatres or Music Halls, Resident or Touring; first-class references. Box 3,617, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, George F. Gettler, Disengaged, Business or Advance Management, Resident or Tour. Concluding to-night, successful season as Acting-Manager, Palace, Bridlington. Late W. W. Kelly, Esq.'s, "Royal Divorce" Co., &c. Wire or write, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Position, as Act., Assistant, Stage, or Advertising Manager, Varieties or Theatre; good refs. Open Sept. 3, '06. Apply, MANAGER, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, offers, Advance Agent, six years agent Joseph Poole's Myriorama; good references. ERNEST LLOYD, 200, Manor-place, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Walford, the Working Agent, at Liberty Sept. 3. Excellent references. Wire, Theatre, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Permanency, Practical Electrician, first-class references; used to gas heating every branch, own repairs, arcs, bars. Apply, Box 3,599, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Practical Stage Carpenter (Resident). Bench Hand, own tools, age 32, abstainer. Wire or write, H. L., 11, Little Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Situation as Billposter or Bill Inspector; good references; competent in either. Address, R. H. G., 42, Albert-st., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Bill Poster, young man requires situation; good refs. Apply, S. H. VERRELL, 97, Park End, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED, a Situation, as First-class Hall or Theatre Keeper, fourteen years' experience, Sergt.-Instructor to Urban District Council Fire Brigade; could take charge of staff,
Apply, P. F. W.,
"Free Press" Office, Spalding.

WANTED, by experienced Wardrobe Mistress, Re-engagement. Worked for F. R. Benson. Pantomime, or travelling with children. Address, 29, Oxford-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Young Lady knowing many Professionals, Situation, as useful maid (home or travel), very small salary if with congenial lady. Box 3,611, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady's Maid, good dressmaker, quick dresser, able to assist show, height 5ft. 3½in. Address, R., 476, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, by Youth, 20, smart, willing, place in Music Warehouse or Instrument Factory, fair education; good musician. 276, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation as Assistant to Artist. G. P., 18, Wingfield-street, Peckham.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation as Groom; can play Comedy if required. R. B., 7, Maxted-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by Young Man, age 20, who has liking for Stage, position as Assistant, &c.; no previous experience. 19, Languard-road, Eastney, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Lady, Day or Evening Employment; highest references.
Box 3,603, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, No. 1 Tour, First-class Musical Director, Baritone for small company, and two Bass Choristers; also Pantomime Artists and Show Ladies. Apply immediately, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, winter season, Deputy Conductor (Violin) and Band of twelve first-class musicians. Apply with lowest terms and references to AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, for Tour of First-class Play, Conductor, pianist-violinist, with up-to-date ideas; one who can immediately compose and orchestrate music for drama. State terms for latter, weekly salary required, age, latest references, &c., to Box 3,608, "The Era."

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED, First-Class Violinist, as Leader, permanency. Apply, with terms, references, and full particulars, ALBERT C. DUNCAN.

WANTED, at once, competent First Violin, used to Variety, permanency. Terms, refs. SYDNEY DAVIES, Conductor, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, Second Violin, combine brass, Double Bass or Bombardon, Flute and Piccolo, Drums and Effects. Apply, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.
WANTED, Second Violin.
Full particulars, terms, age, &c.,
G. R. Chapman.

"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
Will Managers ask Fred Gould's opinion of this play?
Business for Friday and Saturday Guaranteed Big!
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Xmas. and New Year.
Fred C. Somerfield, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

WANTED, First Violin Rép., 'Cello, First Cornet, Drums, Pavilion Variety Theatre, Greenock. Terms and refs. to Galpin, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First Violinist, Open Sept. 3.
Permanency suitable man.
V. C. White, Musical Director, Hippo., Norwich.

WANTED, First Violin, for Theatre Royal, Darwen. Full particulars and lowest salary to F. J. Robinson, T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, for three weeks, from Sept. 1, Violin, Piano, and Cornet, must be competent. Royal Magnets, Idris Temperance Hotel, Barmouth, N. Wales.

WANTED, Solo Cornet Player, as an Attendant in a County Asylum; salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, together with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; single man.
Apply, with testimonials,
W. Grainger, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, for good Circus, Solo Cornet, 32s. 6d.; Solo Trombone, 30s. Musicians used to Circus business need only apply. Cook, Stag Inn, Woodhouse, Sheffield.

WANTED, First-Class Cornet Player, immediately. Wire,
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Experienced Cornet, open Monday next.
Wire,
Horgan,
Opera House, Cork.

WANTED, Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies), or Trio, must be competent. Enclose photo. and state terms, three performances daily and two Sundays. Address, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, B flat Clarionet and Cornet, for Pitching in West-End London. Terms, shares. Can join at once; permanency. B. M., 28 Lisson-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, for four weeks, good Clarionet, used to Variety. State age, refs., and lowest terms. Musical Director, Grand Hall, Margate.

WANTED, immediately for Municipal Orchestra, First-Class Solo Clarionet. Age, terms, references, experience to Joseph Sainton, Huntley Hall, Clacton-on-Sea.

C. W. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to Open Sept. 3, Trombone, wear uniform, assist with fittings. Apply, stating age, refs., and terms, J. Poole, P. T., Gloucester.

WANTED, Smart Young 'Cellists, for White Star Line,
Mediterranean Service,
Musical Duties only, Second-class Berths, and Saloon Accommodation.
State age, and references as to ability and character, C. W. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

EASTBOURNE MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, October next, Solo 'Cello, combine clarionet or other instrument, for military band. Permanency. Apply, stating salary, with not more than two references, to Theo. Ward, Town Hall, Eastbourne.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist and Pianist, (Ladies), Experienced in Orchestra and Solo, for high-class café, permanecy if suitable, for end of September. State terms, age, and reference, Box 3,626, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Oboist, to commence Sept. 3. Terms and references to Ambrose Massett, Musical Director, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, First-class Flute and Piccolo Player, thoroughly experienced in high-class orchestral work, young and good appearance essential, soloist. State lowest terms, age, and reference; permanency to suitable man. Box 3,625, "The Era."

WANTED, good Flute, for Variety, near Manchester, or for Hotel, Douglas, open Monday, for two weeks. Wire, Flautist, Villiers Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, to open Sept. 3, Pianist (Violin to conduct), Cornet, Drums, and Piccolo (Piccolo and Flautist combined). Apply, with full particulars, copies of references, at once, for permanent situation, to Councillor Hall, Proprietor of the Tivoli Music Hall, South Shields, to his private address, Imperial Hotel, South Shields.

WANTED, Pianist, Open at Once. Lowest terms and references to John Holman, jun., Palace, Tottenham, London, N.

WANTED, a Lady Pianist, for Smoke-room; good singer, sight-reader. Apply, with photo., references, J. Harris, Victoria Hotel, Maesteg, S. Wales.

WANTED, good Pianist, used to Variety, open Empire, Greenock, immediately. Terms and refs., Maitland Lacey, Musical Director.

WANTED, to open Sept. 3, Good Drummer, with Effects, permanency if suitable. Terms, age, and references to Chas. Elphinstone, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Musicians, Reliable, Sober, and at reasonable figure, to open Monday next. Wire, Aubrey, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin, must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Full Band; must be First-class Musicians; to open Sept. 3.
References,
Murgatroyd, Palace Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Bijou Orchestra, for High-class Restaurant and Ladies' Café, in the Provinces at the beginning of October; three or four performers. Terms must be moderate, and based on a four-weekly engagement.
Reply, giving full particulars, to
412, Sell's Advertising Offices,
London, E.C.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Variety Conductor (Violinist), London or suburban; good répertoire. Conductor, Box 3,553, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor, Shop, by First-class Man, young, steady, variety or dramatic, London preferred. Quaver, 14, Percy-st., Tynemouth.

WANTED, Known, Smart young Musical Director, brilliant pianist, compose, arrange, &c., at Liberty in few days; only first-class Theatre or Variety offers invited. Box 3,598, "The Era."

WANTED, by Bachelor of Music, Oxford, experienced, Engagement, Musical Director, Pianist Conductor, Chorus Trainer. Best refs. Musgac, 24, Formosa-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor or Leader (Violin), at Liberty Monday; double handed if required. Percy Swift, Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director (Violinist), with Orchestra, will be Disengaged Sept. 24; thoroughly experienced in Variety Business; excellent répertoire; good refs. Musical-Director, Grand Hall, Margate.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Musical Director, Leader, or First Violin; good répertoire. Highest Refs. Add., Wilfred Ball, Villiers Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, Brilliant Young Composer requires commission to write the music of, and conduct, an Xmas Pantomime. Write, Harding, 58, Harvist-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, Re-engagement, First Violin, experienced, in Ladies' Orchestra. Box 3,571, "The Era."

WANTED, Autumn Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), hotel, restaurant, or tea rooms; extensive répertoire, popular music. Box 3,567, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double-handed Musician (Violin, Clarionet), E flat if required; experienced any business. Rudolf Boehnke, 12, Higher Gunstone, Bideford.

WANTED, immediately, Re-engagement as Second Violin, Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. Burbridge, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, for Violin, any business, in or near Birmingham. Address, C. Hancox, 7, Temple-street, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, R. Tripp, Solo Cornet, Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes, will be at Liberty Sept. 10; thoroughly experienced, competent, reliable.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, Theatre or Hall, young and reliable; good references. Wire or write, Violinist, No. 8, Gas-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, for Cornet, any business.
Wm. Fletcher, 95, Hornby-st., Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, by good Second Cornet, professional Engagement; experienced and reliable. Address, A. Hampton, High-street, Tisbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Musicians, First Clarionet and First Cornet; have only played in First-class Orchestras, under Conductors Gustav Mahler, Richard Strauss, Safonaff, Felix Motti, Weingartner, &c. Will interview personally, any morning before 12. Apply, Beethoven, Post Office, 87-89, Hammersmith-road, W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Clarionettist. Open for Engagements. Address, W. J. Matthews, 25, Hayter-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, eleven years' experience, situation, willing to do any other work; branch of music trade preferred. Box 3,622, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet. References.
Clarionet, 38, Jessica-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, through misunderstanding; experienced; excellent testimonials. F. A. Brewer, c/o Mr. Dawson, 186, Sussex-rd., Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Clarionet, any business; shares or wages; at Liberty Sept. 15. Address, J. Grub, 13, London-road, Buxton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Clarionet, string or military. G. Fowlis, 7, Brisbane-street, Greenock.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any business. Apply, Bassist, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Eng., as String Bass, London preferred; last situation twelve years. Refs. if required. W. Jacques, Orchestra, New Grand, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass and Tuba. H. Stembridge thanks Mr. Geo. Musgrove for an engagement extending over eight years, and, consequent to the termination of his management, is now at liberty. 34, Oxberry-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class Trombone, Re-engagement, in good Orchestra, well up in Variety business. Chas. MacCallaugh, 9, Salisbury-terrace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone or Euphonium, good soloist; 10th season L.C.C. Band. Hector Smith, 88, Moray-road, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Soloist, combine Trombone, any business; excellent references, at Lib. Sept. 8. George Gruber, 26, Kingsmead-terrace, Bath.

WANTED, Known, B B flat Bombardon, open; Military experience; good reader. Apply, Saunders, Bombardon, Library, College Green, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horn, first-class, late Royal French Opera, the Hague, Disengaged Sept. 16. Rebattu, 65, St. Hilda-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Lady 'Cellist (A.R.C.M., Silver Med.). Newcombe, 11, West-square, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, First-Class 'Cellist, at Lib. Address,
A. G., Box 3,620, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Experienced, Engagement, Disengaged at end of September. Box 3,613, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, as Viola; good experience and first-class references. W. H. White, 103, Upper Cliff-rd, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement or Deputising as Viola, Theatre, or Hall, at Lib. Sept. 3. Littlewood, Derby Castle Orchestra, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe, Cornet, and Drums, together or separate, London preferred. Dis. Sept. 1. 29, Rosefield-st., Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboist, any business; good references; Disengaged Sept. 9. Mr. Oboe, 8, Thanet-road, Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19.
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute, First-class, long experience, theatre work, varieties, &c., thoroughly capable, sobriety, efficiency guaranteed. Terms, Flautist, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable Flautist and Double Bass, together or separate.
T. Clements, Empire, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo and 'Cello (two ladies), Disengaged Aug. 26; well experienced. Address, L., 2, County-grove, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Author-Composer (Pianist), any capacity, First-class Numbers on hand; publishers, agents preferred, London only. Fred Godfrey, The Den Concert Party, Teignmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Arranger, through season terminating; exper. Var., Dram. Bus., Orch., or Self; refs.; steady, reliable. Pianist, 118, W. Princess-street, Helensburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, orchestral, combine either second violin or first clarionet, experienced, all lines. Somers, 45, Kenn-rd., Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, by talented Youth, good accompanist and reader, brilliant soloist, any business. H. Jordan, Winstanley-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by J. Conolly (Pianist), and E. Conolly (Violinist), any business; both sight readers; thoroughly reliable. 8, Botany, off High-street, Tonbridge.

WANTED, Known, Double Drummer, at Lib; competent and reliable; any business. Drums, 10, Cadogan-st., Sloane-sq., London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply Secretary, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, open to accept engagements. Double bass and 'cellist please write. Conductress, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Vorzanger's Blue Austrian Band, Open for Sunday Concerts; highest testimonials. Herr Vorzanger, 53, Philpot-st., E.C.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Smith, Old English Orchestra, combine vocalists, Disengaged Sept. Address, Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Thos. Benn's Famous Orchestra, engaged till end of season, Grand Hotel, Scarborough. At Liberty for Winter Season. Excellent répertoire. Apply, Thos. Benn, Musical Director.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. Williams, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. Jesson, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. Lees, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. Bartley, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Robert Fossett and Sons, for Circus Department, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., First-class Circus Company, Star Artists in all Branches, Male and Female, Equestrians, Haute Ecole Riders, Good Troupes of Acrobats, Scene Act Riders, Tumbling Clowns, Novelties of a First-class Character, commencing Dec. 22, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4. Best Circus Ring in London. Address all communications to R. Fossett and Son, The Farm, Ravensthorpe, Northampton, or Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N. Please give time for re-direction of letters. All Artists having no intention of fulfilling engagements save stamps.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, for about the middle of October, all kinds of Novelties, every description.
Please apply as above.

WANTED, Circus Artists, also Double Singing Turn, twelve weeks' engt.; also cornet and euphonium players. Lowest terms, Walsh, Manager, Grand Circus, Mon., Ballinamallard, Tues., Belcoe, Wed., Swanlin Bar.

WANTED, Good Riders, for Mr. Humphrey E. Brammall's Christmas Circus, at the Crystal Palace. Send full particulars to J. S. Childs, 67a, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Useful Single-handed Ground Acts, Knockabout Clowns, also Good Juggling Act. Join at once. Dennis, Circus, West Houghton, Bolton, Lancs.

WANTED, for Johnson's Variety Circus, a good Ground Act or a Wire Performer. Those used to Fair business preferred; long engagement to suitable people. Sarah Johnson, Post Office, Fauldhouse, N.B.

WANTED, Two Girls, with slight knowledge of gymnastics or juggling. Apply, stating age, full particulars, with photo., Box 3,614, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Youth, age about 13 or 14, for Acrobatic Work; one who can tumble preferred. Apply, J. Zaro, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, for Sir R. Fossett's Circus, good sober Tentmaster and good respectable Grooms. Apply, R. Fossett, Ravensthorpe, Northampton.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Giles's Refined Circus Company will shortly be at Liberty; same making a Big Success at the Hippodrome, Llandudno. Address, H. Giles, Hippodrome,, Circus, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Agents, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 19, on, with exceptions.
Address till Oct. 15,
Miss Ella's Lions,
Circo Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

WANTED, Known, Frank Anderson (Handy Andy), Eccentric Knockabout, Tumbling, Talking Clown, Entrées, including his two Comical Donkeys, Liberty. 41, Lavan-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, that Zampo and Clown, with their Novelty Number, have been specially retained for the Royal Agricultural Hall. Now on Tour with Lord John Sanger's, Limited.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bar Experts, vacant Aug. 27, on. Wire or write for Monday. 10, Fillwood-rd., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, by Mons. Bellini, Continental Equilibrist and Aerial Gymnast, at Liberty for Panto. Booked right up. 36, Verdon-st., Cheetham, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, greatest of all Comedy Bar Acts, Vacant Monday, also Sept. 3. 24, Brook-street, Preston.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, Aug. 27. Wire, Hippodrome, Queen's Park; after Sat., King-st., Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, by two Young Men, Engagement in Comedy Bar Act or Acrobatic Speciality. Will Millar, 174, Snowdon-street, Glasgow, S.S.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Artists of Every Description.
Artists of Every Description.
Artists of Every Description.
Good Tops required for Immediate Dates.
Price no object to those who can draw.
Send full list of bookings to the
Energetic Agent,
Walter Bentley,
Walter Bentley,
Walter Bentley,
Walter Bentley,
Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand.
Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand.
Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand.
Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand.
Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London."
Telephone, 12706 Central.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

PALACE, BRIDLINGTON.
WANTED, Monday next, onwards, Sketch Artists doing single turns. Comedy Musical Specialities and Vocalists. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, Star Variety Artists, Sept. 3, onwards. Terms, Bookings,
Edgar Stebbings,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Stebbings." Telephone, 09261.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Sept. 3, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Aug. 27, and onwards. Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Sept. 3 and 10, for Hippodrome, Barrow, Variety Artists and Specialities, R. Silvester, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 3 and on, for the North; absolute lowest terms. Drew Bayley, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 27, and later. Big acts on shares or salary.
A. Aubrey, Manager, Hip., Cambridge.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and later. Good combinations with star attractions entertained. Aubrey, Manager, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, including Sketch, for Sept. 3 and 17. Share or certainty. Havelock, 380, High-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, new to Barnsley, for Sept. 3 and 10, to support Dr. Carl Hermann's Big Transatlantic Aggregations.
Address, with lowest combination price,
Dr. Carl Hermann, Hermann's Hippo., Llandudno.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 3, onwards, for Hippodrome, Castleford. Thanks to those who have written; impossible to answer all. Write again, Smalley and Mattinson, 10, Welbeck-street, Castleford.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 3, onwards.
Wm. B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. Frank Lynne, Empire Palace, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, also Bioscope, to open Monday Assembly Rooms, Whitstable-on-Sea. Wire, Dempsey, Oddfellows' Hall, Canterbury.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, onwards, Star Artists, all Lines. State absolute lowest, once nightly, J. Cummings, Waverley Hotel, Duns, N.B.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object, but talent. All clients keep me posted.

WANTED, Artists, of all Kinds. Also, will anyone knowing the address of Three Deveres and Kempton and Murdoch kindly write,
Dalton's Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester?

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, and on. Saphrini, Palace, Boston. Call Monday. Le Diabelo, Billy Ross and Co., Zavan, Marie De Paso, Alf Bishop, Rene and Rex, The Dewars, Maisey Adair and her Piccaninnies.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address, to Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Aug. 27. Send lowest terms and bookings, Fred Durham's Agency, 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 3, onwards; also goo dCombinations for Oct., Nov., and Dec. Write, Prichard, Palace, Oldbury.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, Smith and Lee.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Mon., 2.0, for Tokio Troupe, F. Hallam, Babs Lloyd, Victorian Boys, J. Hennessy, Pirmans, Bob Hartley, Doris Dene, Vernon's Bioscope.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, Closed for Alterations, reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Fell. Wanted, Star Turns.

RAMSGATE.
SANGERS' AMPHITHEATRE.
WANTED, Known,
All Dates filled this year.
Henry Bowman, Lessee and Manager.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Stars, Tops, Bottoms.
Lowest terms. Manager.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, and Novelties. Send vacancies and bookings, Dave Barnard, Variety Agent.
Note new offices, 24, Islington, Liverpool.
D. B. has no representatives.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once. Silence a polite negative. Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract. Call for Monday: Taro Myaki, W. J. Ashcrof, Little Colonel, Jackley Trio, Davenports, Scaller, J. H. Bowman, Pictures. H. L. Skivington.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Refined Variety Turns, for Hippodrome season,
Nov. 5 to Xmas.
W. Payne Seddon, Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, Big Star Turn, with own Combination, one week, Nov. 12. Address,
Harry Yorke, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, Variety Talent, Sept. 3, onwards, for South Wales, Newcastle, &c., 21 acts booked this week. Lowest first. J. Arnold, Variety Agent, G.P.O., Merthyr.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, &c., Sept. 3, on, North and South.
Martino, 51, North-street, Scarboro'.

WANTED, for Liverpool, October, and onwards, attractions. J. S. Childs, 67a, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
For Immediate and Future Dates.
Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
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Manchester.
Manchester.
Telephone 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, Henry Kemble.

WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24, and onward, Big Specialities Animal Shows,
Jugglers, Dancers, Bar Acts,
Illusions;
must be refined or useless.
Lithos., open time, and lowest terms, to
Henry Kemble.

WANTED, for Empire, Merthyr, Sept. 10, onward, Specialities, all Lines. Seltinas, Mayos, Almon, Benson and Burley write. Sterling, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, all Classes of Acts, immediate and onwards. Full list of bookings and absolute lowest in the first instance, or no notice taken of application.
Harry Burns's Agency, Established 1895,
Sole Proprietor, Harry Burns.
Coms., Head Office, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Telephones 0231 and 0231a.

JESS VERNO'S AGENCY.
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Big Acts, and Artists in all Lines, Aug. 27, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal. Wanted, for Panto., Good Principal Boy, and First-class Comedian for Abanazar.

WANTED, Oct. 8, Top of Bill, Variety Acts, all Kinds. Artists working West and South Wales can have two weeks near. Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol. Tele. address, "Fêtes, Bristol."

WANTED, Pierrot Combinations, Specialities, &c., share terms; also good combination at liberty Monday, on share or certainty. Yates, Hart-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, recognised Concert Party, for Isle of Wight, Sept. 3 (week). Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-street, London. 'Phone 6534 Gerrard.

WANTED, First-class Picture Show; must be thoroughly up to date, talking and effects. Communicate at once,
with full particulars, terms, &c.,
Albert Johnstone,
G.P.O., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Young Ladies, Troupe and Single Dancers, for the Continent.
Sherek and Braff, 10, Leicester-place, W.C.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL, PAISLEY.
Lessee, J. H. Savile; Manager, Delno Fritz.
WANTED, for Sept. 3, Comedienne; Sept. 10, and onwards, Variety Acts of all Kinds.
Lowest terms to Delno Fritz.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, Double Turns, Sept. 3, on, absolutely lowest price, &c. Box 3,630, "The Era."

WANTED, Several Smart Girls, over 14, for Sketch, "The Little Papooses." Apply to Mr. Sinclair, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Knockabout Pantomimists, those used to Sketches preferred; long engagement to the right people. Address, Bob Hutt, 131, Strathleven-road, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, for probable Vacancies, Comedians, Dancers, Chorus Ladies, Pianist, Agent, Baggage, Clever Children, to rehearse Aug. 27. Ramsdale, P. H., Whittlesea, Cambs.

WANTED, First-Class Comedian and Specialities, open Monday.
Lee and Arden, Arcadia, Dunoon, N.B.

WANTED, a refined Pair of Comedians, or Two Good Single Turns, for Sept. 17 and 24, if suitable. 18 weeks next season and tour. Write lowest terms to Bliss and Bliss, Walney, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Six Smart Athletic Young Fellows, to super in Music Hall Production, commence matinée Monday. Experience unnecessary. Call to-day (side-door), 23, Islington-green (opposite Collins's Music Hall).

WANTED, at Once, Good Tumbler and Knockabout Pantomimist;
also Good Carpenter.
Apply, John Leopold, jun., 3, Bearton-road, Hitchin, Herts.

WANTED, a First-class Animated Picture Show, 1½ to 2 hours' show, gas, six weeks, and tour to follow, absolute lowest, to open at once; also Good Pianist. Manager, Mona Hotel, Rhyl.

WANTED, Bioscope, must be First-Class, have latest Pictures, open Sept. 3, near Manchester; tour if suitable. Crane, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Lecturer and Effect Worker, for Animated Picture Tour, commencing Sept. 24. State wages and full particulars to Pictures, 2 Hope-chambers, Leather-lane, Dale-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Operator who understands the fixing of Electric Cables and Displaying Views through Lantern or Bioscope, to take charge of plant. Apply personally, Saturday, Illumo Advertising Co., 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Operator (Electric), for Tour, 1906-7, commencing Sept. 24; must be thoroughly experienced. Send full particulars, wages, and copy of reference to THE PARISIAN PICTURE CO., 2, Hope-chambers, Leather-lane, Dale-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Cinématograph Worker, one who knows his business, as I have resolved not to train any more for other people's use. Address, with terms, E. LAWRENCE, Market-place, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

WANTED, competent First-class Operators, for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes.
Letters, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, a Good Bioscope Operator; permanent job, good wages. Will one of the old boys write to JACK BARNES, Theatre, Smethwick.

WANTED, reliable Operator, to open at once on alternating current. State lowest salary, reference; must be abstainer. PALLISTER, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Good Operator, for Paul's Bioscope Machine. Apply,
HART, Boleyn Tavern, Barking-road.

WANTED, good Practical Cinématograph Operator. Full particulars,
MANAGER, Pictures, Drill Hall, Derby.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Incomparable
MLLE. VON ETTA,
Lady Illusionist
and Lightning Change Artist,
Making a genuine artistic success this week at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.
Sensational Illusions.
Gorgeous Electric Fit-up.
Elaborate Costumes.
Beauty, Grace, and Talent Combined.
Wonderful Productions,
Smart Assistants,
A Bewildered and Baffled Audience.
Now ready awaiting production at London Hippodrome, during forthcoming engagement.
The greatest Chamber Illusion of modern times.
Away from anything ever attempted.
Vacant Sept. 3, 10, 17, and 24, also Dec. 24 and 31, only vacant dates until 1908.
Wire or write for this big Top of Bill Act, to T. M. PAUL, H. M. T., Walsall; next week, Emp., Dudley.

WANTED, by Ruby Bijou, the daintiest of dancers and the best barefooted dancer on the Halls, Sept. 3 and 10. Offers, Pier Pav., Hastings; after Sept. 1, 23, Seymour-flats, Euston-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Renée, in her Refined Drawing-room Musical Act, Disengaged Sept. 3 and 10. This week, Tivoli, Barrow; next week, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday, Sept. 3, and onwards, by Queenie Lo Lo, Gymnast and Teeth Expert, and Princess Ena, Contortionist and Dancer. Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known. Lilith, the greatest Mystery of Modern Times, and Lilian Warren, the popular Pictorial Songstress, Lib. Sept. 3, only vacant date this year. Starring with enormous success. Next, Hippo., Blackpool. All coms., Mrs. FRED HARCOURT.

WANTED, Sept. 3, or onwards, by Jack Sheppard, World's greatest Handcuff King and Jail Breaker; also great Trunk Mystery (Houdini's greatest rival); big top sure. Wire or write, Monday, 27th, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Leo Fallowfield, Comedian, vacant Sept. 10. Panto. booked, Grand, Islington; also Macnaghten Tour, return. Winter Gardens, Clacton.

WANTED, Known, Harry Vernon, Baritone and Descriptive Vocalist, at Liberty Oct. 15; also open for Panto., 1906-7. Now tenth week, Principal Baritone, the Original Scottish White Coons, St. Andrews, N.B. References, Gilbert Payne, Esq.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian with the Corkscrew Dance. Wire, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, by T. P. Carroll, Comedian and Dancer, Monday next, Aug. 27, also Sept. 3. Wire, Palace Theatre, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Jimmy Shields, Comedian, Monday next, also Sept. 3, 10, 17. Wire, 167 St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Tom Odlin, Comedian, at Liberty, Aug. 27 and Sept. 3. C/o Marine Hotel, Seaton Carew Pierrots.

WANTED, Known, Master Gicardo, Marvellous Boy Juggler and Acrobat, a great novelty, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent, Sept. 3; Palace, Glasgow, Sept. 10, at Liberty Sept. 17, on. Coms., G. GICARDO, 19, George-street, Euston-road, N.W.

WANTED, Aug. 27, wire Hippodrome, Oldham, Kyoto, the Original Comedy Versatile Japanese Speciality; also May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne; enormous success. Wire.

WANTED, by Mlle. Lillian and Agouste, Comedy Contortionists; also Mons. Savaro, Bird Imitator, required Sept. 3. Communicate, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Floria, Equilibrist of Strength on the Wire, finished tournée S. Amerique, first time England. Lithos., &c., Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Conjurers, and Jugglers, singles and doubles; Al Fresco or Halls. Wire, Standard, Pimlico.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold. Meeting with Great Success.
through Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, Liberty Oct. 1, 8, 15; also Panto., Parts and Speciality. Coms., c/o DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians, at Liberty Sept. 10, onwards, also for Panto. Last Xmas, A. E. Smith's "Aladdin." Communications, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Haydn Opera Singers (Costume), Sept. 10, 17, 24; large Répertoire; re-engaged Exhibition, Limerick, increased salary. 34, Thomas-street, Limerick.

WANTED, Known, Heath and Wright, Operatic Burlesque Sketch, "Alfio's Revenge," Vac. Sept. 3, on. 4, St. John's House, Kirkgate, Perth.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free Sept. World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, the Three Cheers, "Dick Whittington" scena; real talking Cat; special scenery; Chimes; Vacant Sept. 3, 17. Write, CHEERS, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, Watsons, of Vocal, Musical, and Comedy fame, enormous success of new business and inventions. Thanks for letters. Only vacancies this year, Sept. 24, Oct. 8 and 15. Monday, Hippo., Coventry.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, &c. Permanent, 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Sept. 10 and 24, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, Liverpool or Ireland preferred; highly successful, refined, Novelty Act. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Sept. 3, by Gilroy (Vent.), and Boston (Bioscope), two sure draws. Sixth week Lee and Arden's Al Fresco, where write.

WANTED, Known, Kriss, Scotch Ventriloquist, Vacant Sept. 10, 17, 24, two acts if required. Lithos. Wire or write, Troon, N.B.

WANTED, Known, "Rejected Remounts," "Rorke's Drift," and "Jerry and Jolly," Vac. Sept. 3 and 10, Oct. 22 and 29, Nov. 19 and 26. C. GINNETT, JUN., 59, Nichols-sq., Hackney-road.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Good Halls, Midlands preferred, Sept. 3 and later, for Ernest Havelock's Grand Variety Company. Wire, 380, High-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Most Refined and Elaborately-Staged Animal Act Worked by a Lady, including the Great Football Team, the Masterpiece, the Goal-keeper, through Barring and Closing, is Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and four other dates, first-class halls, fêtes, and picture entertainments. 7, Billiard-place, Claremont Hill, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Monday, Chard's Dogs, Wire Fête Grounds, Llanelly; leave Saturday night. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Robert Gilbert's Dogs and Cats conclude return Hippo., Lowestoft and Yarmouth, Aug. 27, return Pier Pav., Clacton; Lib. Sept. 10, on, with exceptions. Success of diving Fireman.

WANTED, by young man, 21, experienced, smart, willing, and steady, Engagement as Comical Assistant in some Music Hall Act, to combine with Baggage and keep Props in repair; or could take comedy part in Sketch. Permanency considered before high wages. FARMER, 103A, Garrison-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Music Hall Pantomimist, Comedy, &c. Box 3,619, "The Era."

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, important, that the next meeting of the British
Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union
will be held at
The Market Hotel, Oldham,
on Tuesday, Aug. 28,
at 2.30 p.m.,
when all members are requested to attend.
Signed, T. HURST, Sec.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheap est market.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know,
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is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the world, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. Most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red,"
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel,
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, &c., Paintings or Posters, Shares or Certainty, also Tattooer, Lady Delineator, Phrenologist, Spaces to Let for Automatic Machines, &c. Note the position. Mrs. PRIEST, or Manager, Exhibition, No. 7, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply,
OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks. Good Midget Show wanted. I can book you for ten weeks. HUMBER'S Art Waxwork, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Good Show, with Flash, open Monday, splendid Large Shop, cream position. Wire, EAGLE DAVIS Exhibition, High-street, Merthyr Tydvil, Wales.

WANTED, Educated Lady, to train as understudy to First-class Character Reader.
Box 3,616, "The Era."

WANTED, Doorsman, for Novelty Exhibition; also Respectable Youth wanted; can join immediately. Mrs. PRIEST, or MANAGER, Exhibition, 7, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, Several Useful Men, used to Cinématograph Show; also Experienced Operator; must be used to fair ground business; constant shop to the right people. PRESIDENT KEMP, Wakes Ground, Eccles, Manchester.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope, two Knockabout Comedians, preference given to those that can do acrobatic or legmania table business; long engagement to suitable people. State lowest terms and full particulars of act in first letter.
Silence polite negative.

WANTED, Young Man, to sing to Illustrated Songs, used to travelling shows, must be steady, willing, and have good voice. Old servants who have found the big screw not always there write in. LAWRENCE, Market Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

WANTED, a Man or Man and Wife, for Stamp Photos. Shops, permanency to right people. Address, MANAGER, Studio, 1, Gallowgate, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, smart Young Woman, for Shooting Range Shop Business; permanent situation to suitable girl. Mrs. PRIEST, Exhibition, 7, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Arthur Campbell and wife (Paraders), terminate over 18 months' engagement with Messrs. Relph and Pedley on Wed. at Pudsey, three shops in eight years; refs. if required. Poste Restante, Pudsey, Yorks.

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and Unredeemed Pledges.
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WANTED, Known, GRAND INDUSTRIAL TRADES EXHIBITION will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. Spaces to Let, for working exhibits, novelties &c Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. It is anticipated we shall get from 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily.

WANTED, Known, Barking Philanthropic Fête, Aug. 30. To Let, Spaces, for Stalls, Shows. PRINT, Fair Field, Queen-st., Warley, Essex.

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the great Amusement Palace,
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MAMMOTH FUN CITY.
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Free Circus,
Free Circus,
Free Aerial Shows,
Free Aerial Shows,
Free Vaudeville,
Free Vaudeville,
Free Dancing Room.
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ALL ROUND THE CLOCK
(from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.)
FOR SIXPENCE.
FOR SIXPENCE.
Space will be allotted to approved Side Shows and Exhibits.
For Prospectus and Plans write to The Secretary,
THE FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
FAIR AND CARNIVAL,
10, Leicester-place, London, W.C.

FALKIRK TRYST, STENHOUSEMUIR.
commencing Sept. 7, until 11th.
WANTED, Known, Ground to let.
Apply, FAULKNER'S Bioscope,
Anderson-lane, Lochee, by Dundee.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, Novelty Exhibition and Xmas Carnival, Public Hall, Ipswich, Dec. 17, 30, 1906, Wire and Engraving, Jewellery, Handkerchief Embroiderer, &c.; also wanted, Good Side-shows. Share or salary. MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

AYR RACES.
WANTED, Known, Ground to Let for above Fair, no ground reserved unless deposit paid. Applications in writing, small stalls rent in advance. GEORGE GREEN, Public Park, Troon; or Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, in James's Waxwork and Variety Exhibition; suit Medical Electrician or others. Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Spaces in Exhibitions, Bazaars, &c., now and onwards, for New Illusion, Water Nymph. Beware of bad copies. Particulars, JACK LEONARD, 17, More-street, Blackpool South.

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Ring Up, Wire, or Write to
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WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle square, London.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines every description supplied; best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington. Est. 1887.

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The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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THE PUBLISHER, The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

MOSS' EMPIRES, Ltd. & STOLL COMPANIES

(Moss Thornton & Stoll Theatres, Amalgamated.) WORKING IN CONJUNCTION. (Including the London Coliseum, Ltd.)

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Managing Director: OSWALD STOLL. INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Assisting Director and Chief of Staff: FRANK ALLEN.

Telephone:—1399 Gerrard. Wires:—"Twigsome, London."

CALLS FOR MONDAY, AUG. 27, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

The Althoffs, Sisters Klos, Galetti's Monkeys, Brothers Griffiths, Kaufmanns, Leamy Troupe, Wille Brothers, Henry Taylor Trio, Gudzow, Abdullah Arabs, Alf Daniels, Buddha's Blackboards, Lavater Lee, Bioscope, Lloyd Langdon.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
The Boissets, Steve McCarthy, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Frank Lynne, Esta Stella, Bioscope, Johnny Gilmore, Ruby Dahl, Ethel Walker, Marie Kendall, Eadie and Ramsden.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Lil Hawthorne, Leonard and Frances, Bioscope, C. J. Johnson, Annie Abbott, Ludwig Amann, Albertus and Bartram, Darktown Entertainers, George Reeves, Alexandre and Hughes.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
"The Globe of Life," Rezene and Robini, Rosie Bartlett, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw, Poole and Poole, Paulinetti and Piquo, Harrigan and Holt, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, Bioscope.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Dr. Bodie, Arthur Kenny, Bioscope, Atroy, Violi, Goodfellow and Gregson, Josh Dixon, Alice Blandford, Mooney and Holbein.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Randall, Flo. D'Orville, Binns and Binns, Stella Troupe, Jean Seul, Monte Myro Troupe, Nettie Starr, Smythson Comedy Co., Grais Baboons, Leonard Fletcher.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chirgwin, the Picquays, Doherty Sisters, Will Cornish, R. H. Douglass, Bioscope, Sybil St. Elmo, Barton and Ashley, George Adams.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Florence Esdaile, Marba and Verity, Ian Colquhoun, Duncan's Dogs, Bioscope, Woodhouse and Wells, Albertus and Millar, Three Sisters Sprightley, Scottish Meisters.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Vesta Tilley, Boy Glen, the Seddons, Ryder Slone, Millie Payne, Bioscope, J. A. Wilson, Helen Ford, Conn and Conrad.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moses and Son," Marion Scott, Les Bastiens, Will Poluski, jun., Grisse Bros., Madge Osmond, Bioscope, Di Paci Duo, Bros. Redmond.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Pit and Cute, Jacques Inaudi, Harry Freeman, Ted and May Hopkins, Lilian Les, Bioscope, May Mars, Lottie Govell, the Poluskis.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Doughty's "Captain Cupid" Co., O. K. Sato, Ruby and Laws, Jose Collins, Tom Parker, Starr and Leslie, Ned Graydon, Lady Mansel's Juveniles.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
George Lashwood, Lambert and Robinson, Herbert Clifton, Keno, Welch, and Montrose, "My Gollywog" Co., Tilbury and Forde, Cambrian Trio, Marie Reeve, Bioscope, Leo. Stormont.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Cot and Colibri, Harry Hayton, Kent and Keith, Melody Makers, Norman and Leonard Trio, Mabel Bardine and Co., Imperial Russians, Brown and Robinson, Bioscope, "Moving In."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Kate Carney and Co., in "Brighton Promenade," George Formby, Fred Russell, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Barowsky Trio, Raku.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Ginnett's Remounts, Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Tschernoff's Dogs, Die Obersteirer Troupe, Dorothy L. Clarke.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Lily Langtry, Nat Clifford, Gwennie Hasto, Rosa Naynon, Carrie Joy, Bennett and Martell, Clarice Netta, J. H. Milburn, Harry Roxbury and Co.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The McNaughtons, Park's Eton Boys, Alice Lloyd, Mdlle de Dio, Jake Friedman, Forest and King, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope, Bessie Butt.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Willie Edouin, Griff, Sutcliffe Family, Max Yorke, the Mayvilles, Jack Lorrimer, Debreans, the Mackweys, Nelson's Newsboys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Billy Tucker, Hanvaar and Lee, Stelling and Revell, Bros. Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Three Albions, Colby and May.

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Cinématograph Exhibition, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Spry and Monti, Bisera Troupe, Harris and Worth, Harry Grey, Marvelle and Abdy, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Florence St. John, Lupino Bros., Nipper Lane, Fox and Melville, Chas. Pastor, Peppo's Monkeys, Billy Hobbs, J. P. Ling, Carabet's Dogs.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Neil Kenyon, Glenroy Troupe, Helene and Emilon Brown and Le Clerq Co., Techow's Cats, Edie King, Herbert Lloyd, Spot, Simms and Simms, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Harmony Four, Fred Lincoln, Durant Bros., Barnard's Marionettes, Carlton, Olive Trio, Adelmann, O'Gust, Therese Bros., Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Frank and Jen Latona, Bioscope, O'Malley and Brown, Goltz Trio, Minnie Cunningham, Picton and Roxborough, Rich and Rich, Clarke and Glenny, Elsie Robey, Peggy Pryde.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Winifred Hare, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Ten Genis, Zanettos, Drew and Alders, Sisters Pine, The Leonards, T. E. Dunville, Bros. Egbert.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

CLOSED FOR SUMMER VACATION.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Harriett Vernon, Dot Hardy, Orpheus, Vernando, Walton and Lester, Georgina Leonard, Bioscope, Edith Courteney, Spry and Austin.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Mark Melford and Co., Stuart and Stuart, Sanford and Lyons, Irene Rose, C. H. Unthan, Sisters Rosedale, Albert Le Fre, Jas. H. Jee.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Duchess of Tooting," Eric, Pierce and Maizee, Bioscope, Datas, Terry and Lambert

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Marguerite Broadfoote, Clive Watts, Wakeman Quartette, Pictures, Talbot and Pierce, Chas. Ulrick, Montague Bros., Bert Williams.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Pilu, Beau Ideal Troupe, Rose Finnette, Bioscope, Ernie Mayne, Melba Sisters, Bernar's Fantoches, Sammy Shields.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Sisters Redfern, Lugio's Serenaders, Pat Carey, the Allisons, Ajax, Ruth Lytton, J. C. Kurry, Harry Marte, Carr and Rose, Cissie Dryden, Andy Burn, Voldam Bros., Eric Graham, Bioscope, Ernest Rees, "Barmaids."

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
First Performance: "Nici," Ernest Rees, Lily Morris, Bioscope, Howard and Collinson, Fitzroys, Ethel Newman, Stewart and Morgan, Five Whiteleys, Fred Neiman, Flying Eugenes. Second Performance: "Nici," Harry Marte, Lily Morris, Bioscope, Howard and Collinson, Fitzroys, Ernest Rees, Stewart and Morgan, Fred Neiman, Frank and Free, Flying Eugenes.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens in October next. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"DEAR LITTLE BOY NEXT DOOR,"
"SNOWFLAKES."

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"BARNEY, YOU'RE FULL OF BLARNEY."

POPULAR CHORUS SONGS:

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"KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE,"
"BARBADOES,"
"JUST A LITTLE ROCKING-CHAIR AND YOU,"
"WHAT HAS THE NIGHT-TIME TO DO WITH THE GIRL?"
"GOOD-BYE, MY LITTLE LONDON GIRL."

FOUR GREAT COON SONGS:

"GOOD-NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT,"
"SYMPATHY,"
"AIN'T YOU GOING TO SAY 'HOW DO?"
"CAN'T YOU FIND A SWEETHEART OF YOUR OWN?"

FOUR GREAT HUMOROUS SONGS:

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"A DIFFERENT GIRL AGAIN,"
"ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?"
"FATHER'S BOX OF TOOLS."

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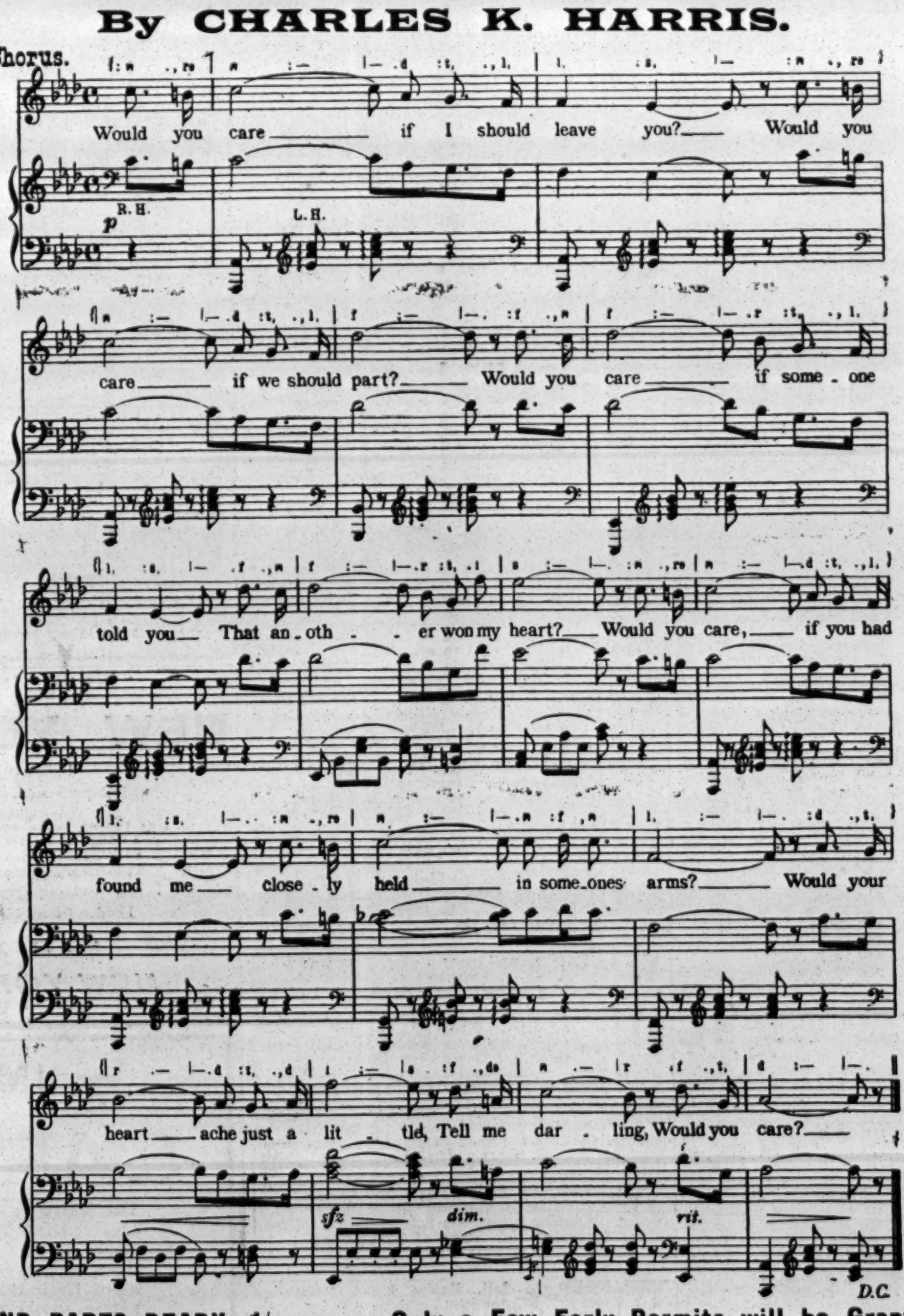

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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, AND DISTRICT.
MR. ALAN W. YOUNG,
Empire Theatre, Liverpool.

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, AND DISTRICT.
MR. S. GETHING,
Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, HULL, BRADFORD, AND DISTRICT.
MR. T. GERALD MORTON,
Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, AND DISTRICT.
MR. HATTON WHARTON,
Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.
MR. W. LEA,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

Co-operative Offices:
CRANBOURN MANSIONS,
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THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, AUG. 27, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Haley's Juveniles, Sisters Hall, Tom E. Hughes, C. Heney and Co., Hayman and Franklin, Foreman and Fannan, Tiny Arnold, Fioretti and Ely, Pictures, Rosina Casselli.

HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Radford and Valentine, Rita Bell, J. P. Dane, E. Amiel, Fred Land, Joe Reichen, Tom Lloyd, Ted Cowan, Harry Thurston, Sidney Dolf, Pictures, Three Rainats.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Fany Wentworth, Will Lytton, Marie Wilton, Du Gros Trio, Baltus Troupe, Lillie Soutter, Tom Moore, Mollie Doon, Pictures, W. Sloan and Co.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINCHAM.
Messrs. Pringle and Piddock, Just and Wise, Prince Kuroki, Martine and Son, Lily Lena, Mountford and Walsh, B. Troba, Lombardy, Frank Cass, Evelyn Taylor, Tony Iveson, Pictures, Dandy George.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Alice Pierce, L. B. Athol, George Prince, Will Godwin, Columbia Trio, F. Fuller and Co., Narow Bros., Mabel Hind, Pictures, Hartley, "Three of a Kind."

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Commencing Sept. 1.
Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Jack Rae, De Lommes, Waltons, F. De Marce, Adams and Ward, Four Maisonas, Toreadors, Henry Helme, Pictures, Delaur Trio.

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Grand Variety Company.

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.
Grand Variety Company.

HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS.
Grand Variety Company.

Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

All Artists must carry Band Parts for Full Band.

All communications to be addressed to the London Office,

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N B.—Interviewed by appointment only.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Aug. 27, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Lily Burnand, Les Reubens, Sam Dalton, Mlle. Thelma, Annie Laurie, Bros. Webb, Janet H. Reynolds, Gilbert Girard, Lilian Trevelli, Nat Watkins, Alma, Abdullah and Suberbe.
GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Billie Barlow, Will Sergeant, Mlle. Zelda, Maud Esmond, Three Sisters Slater, Chummie La Mara, Pavoscope, Angeline, Hallam and Stanton.
All bill matter must be sent to Gasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Call for Monday, Aug. 27, 1906.
Johnny Danvers, Menhisto, Kloet, Sisters Silcott, Bane and Hope, Herbert Cyril, Halma, A. Wyndham and Co.
Address, Manager, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

RICHARD BALL, deceased.
IF LIZZIE WITCHER, formerly of 4, Woburn-street, Bloomsbury, London, and her children will apply to the undersigned they will hear of something to their advantage. Dated this 21st day of August, 1906. Fred G. Allen, Town Hall-square, Portsmouth. Solicitor.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
Mr. W. SMITH begs to notify to the Music Hall Profession that he has removed his Offices from Laurence Pountney Hill, City, to 17, Craven-street, Charing Cross, W.C., where he will be pleased to see old and new clients who require financial assistance.

THE FIFTH GREAT CLOG-DANCING CONTEST for the Championship of the World, for the Title and the New Champion Jewelled Belt and other Prizes, takes place on Sept. 24, 6 Nights and Matinée, in Manchester. 15 Steps and Shuffle, the Winner to Keep the Belt as his Absolute Property. Entrance 5s. Forms on application to A. Newton, for J. H. Wood, 92, Mornington-st., C.O.M., Manchester.

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The following Artists appear during the season:—
The Falcons, Miss Edie Cameron,
J. H. Crew, Harry Barker,
Leslie Reed, Ernest D'Almaine.
Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Cascili and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt,
Abel and Welsh.

Syd Beckett, Pianist and Accompanist.
Harry Barker, Acting-Manager.
Harry Bartlett, Stage Manager.

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Telegraphic Address, "Macnaghten, Sheffield." Telephone No. 3449, Sheffield.

Accountants: Messrs. HARDY, LAWTON and MOULSON, York-street, Sheffield.

CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, AUG. 27, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Jessie Elvin and Co., Kavados, Leah Arden, Zasma, Flo Melville, Letine, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Arthur Slater, Sisters Aindow, Claver and Piccolo, Chas. Sloman, Gladenbecks, Gracie Moore, Sinclair and Whiteford, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Moule, Nicholls and Co., Harry Roxby, Burns and Bentley, The Eldines, Kitty Whillis, Bert and Dora, Pallister's Bioscope, Maude Vera.

PALACE, BATH.
Zaro and Arno, Playfair and Nikola, Motramos, Tod Lowan, Beattie and Blanch, Maidie Scott, Lambert and Glover, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Gracie Grahame, Franko Midgets, Wat Tyler, Vandinoff, Beatrice Bonnie, Stylo, Oakley and James, T. B. Fayme, Dronza, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Elliotts and Savonas, The Athlones, Baroux and Bion, Daisy Martell, Tom Yorke, Vay's Juveniles, Will Johnson, Raymond's Bio-Talbleaux, Mark Leslie.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Closed for alterations.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Fred Earle, Ada Parker, Wynford Bros., Moon and Moris, A. E. Clifford, Francis and Alfred, Alice Ormonde, Sisters Chester, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
De Biere, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Queenie May, Three Seabournes, Florence Yaymen, Harry Anderson, Gallagher and Hild, George Collins, Davis and Gledhill.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
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THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"Broken Melody."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Picture Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
"The Love that Women Desire."

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
"A Warning to Women."

LONDON DISTRICT.
General Manager, Mr. FREDERIC BAUGH.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Telegrams, "Stageyness," London.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday at 12 o'clock.

PALACE, BOW.
Matinée every Monday.
Valvero, John Holland and Co., Susie and Protti, George Bendon, Vaudeville Co., Pat Carey, Maudie Francis, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Teresa De Silva, Diana Hope Co.

THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Yankee Doodle Girls, The Cromwells, Geo. Victor, The Two Sprees, Albano Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Two Bouncing Dillons, Joe Dale, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co., Algernon Sims and Co., Illustrated Songs, Herbert Rule.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Virto, Bros. Ashley, Three Rubys, The Raies, Bob Hutt and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Harry Zetter, Eight Sunrays, The Players, Marie Kean, Stidder and Dunbar, Sisters Johnmans.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Allsopp and Beckwith, Ted Saunders, Ralston Boys, Wilton Heriot and Co., The Melroses, Grace Langley, Roy Cochrane and Co., Vera Mayne, Jessie Burnett, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Duncan and Brasque, Scottie's Waifs and Strays, Whizzing the Whirl.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Harry Champion, Sivronas, Meier and Mora, Three Gregsons, Rosie Archer, Carle Verdo, Ernest Rees, Percy Murray and Co., Lizzie Daniels, Geo. Brooks, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

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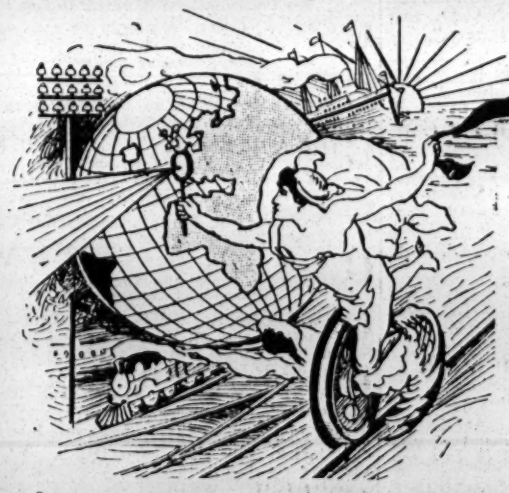

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SCENE 3.—Outside of miner's cottage. Miner seated, playing violin; daughter standing beside him, sewing. Enter artist—introduction to father—asking permission to visit—father hesitates—asks them to come inside and talk about it.

SCENE 4.—Interior of cottage. Father, after some consideration and talk with them, forbids the acquaintance. Affecting parting of the lovers rudely interrupted by the father.

SCENE 5.—Outside of cottage—moonlight—elopement.

SCENE 6.—The same morning: Father's search for his daughter—finds letter—tears it up in rage—disowns her.

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SCENE 11.—The Rescue.

SCENE 12.—In hospital. Daughter, hearing of the disaster, hastens to the hospital, to which her father has been taken, but the old man is obdurate—refuses to see her or accept her gifts.

SCENE 13.—A country lane. Motor car draws up. Artist, child and wife alight and walk towards cottage.

SCENE 14.—Another view of the miner's cottage. The miner, convalescent, is seated outside, a nurse in attendance. Miner looks very helpless and despondent—asks for his violin—fruitless attempts to play—vision of his daughter, which fades away as he looks round.

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ALFONZO, Equilibrist, Now Playing Broadhead Tour, Vacant Oct. 22, onwards. Com., This, Hippo., Preston; next, Hippo., Bury.

ALLSOPP and BEKWITH, This week, Foresters. Monday, Aug. 27, Sadler's Wells.

ALVANTEE, King of the Slanting Wire, Great Success, at Eastham Gardens, Cheshire. Lib. in Sept. Aubrey, gymnast, write.

ANTILL, GEO. I Lead, Others Follow. Last week, Empire, Portsmouth, the Absolute Hit, Hip., Lowestoft. Mon., Hip., Ipswich.

ARCHBUTT, GLADYS, The Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, Third Visit; Next Week, The Palace, and P., Tottenham.

ARIEL and ASTARTE, Smartest of all Gymnastic Acts; Aug. 27, P., Attercliffe; lib., 10th and 17th Sept.

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ATTWOOD, HAPPY, Benefit, Aug. 29, 1906. Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes.

AUBREY, STAN, Eccentric Comedian. The Man with the Legs. The Middlesex. Aug. 27, Palace, Hammersmith.

BADDOW, Ventriloquist, Clement's Entertainers, The Lawn, Skegness.

BAKER, CHRIS, the New Star Comedian. Opens at London Halls Oct. 15 at Palace, Bow. Address, Pavilion Cadets, Maidenhead.

BANDON, SID, Aug. 27, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

BARLOW, HARRY, Principal Baritone, Filey, late Royal Welsh Quartet, at Lib. Oct. 1, on; also Panto. 4, Mitford-st., Filey.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, "Are we downhearted? No." Hippodrome, Eastbourne, or Tom Shaw.

BARTHOLOMEW SISTERS. Different from all other Sister Turns, P., Plymouth; 27th, P., Bristol.

BARTLETT, ROSIE, Empire, Edinburgh. Next, Empire, Glasgow.

BAYNE and HOPE (RONALD and EVELYN), in "An Emperor's Divorce," Aug. 27, Palace, Glasgow.

BELL, CHARLES H., is Moving In with "The Skirmishers," Herbert Darnley's Co., next week, Olympia, Liverpool.

BELLA and BIJOU, Society Entertainers. Aug. 27, Empire, Swansea.

BELLA, MISS PATTIE, Charming Com, Sept. 3, Roscommon, Liverpool. Vac., Prin. Boy or Girl. Com., 13, Canterbury-st, L'pool.

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BLOUNT, ARTHUR, BLOUNT, Popular Patter Comedian. Vacant Monday. Record Receptions Brighton Aquarium.

BLYTHE, MARIE, The Popular Contralto. Aug. 27, Hippo., Eastbourne. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.

BODEY BROS., Comedy Triple Bar Act. Wire for Monday, 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists. This, Hip., Accrington; next, Grand, Clapham. G. Foster.

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BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. Aug. 27, Parthenon, Liverpool. Panto. Settled.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BUCKINGHAM, STEVE, is buchin' 'em up this week at the Arcadia, Dunoon, N.B. Vacant Dates.

BUDDEN, EDGAR, Big Success Hip., Leeds; Monday, Hip., Yarmouth. Permanent address, 23, St. Ann's-road, Brixton.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

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CONQUEST, FRED, "The Freak's Revenge." Kenilworth, Worcester Villas, Hove.

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COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian. Vac. Panto, Dame. Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

COOLVILLES, THE (NANCY and EDIE). Aug. 27, Winter Gardens, Southport. Sole agents, Laurie Graydon's Agency.

CORA, SISTERS, This, Hippo., Hastings. 27th, Hippo., Wigan. Vac., through halls closing, Sept. 3 and 10. Success everywhere.

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CURRAN, FRED, Starring Wilmott Circuit. Monday, Warrington. November, Australia. Geo. Foster.

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DAGODETS, THE (Mr. and Mrs. A. Aiston), own Pierrots. Chester, Prestatyn. Coms. to Pierrot Villa, Prestatyn, N. Wales.

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Yours faithfully, LIZZIE CHAMBERS.

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
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Faithfully yours, HELENA MILLAIS.

"Milanje," 3, Preston-road, Westcliffe-on-Sea.
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St James's Gazette.

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EARLY TRAINS.
The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.
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FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

PRINCESS IDA, Savoy, Jan. 5, 1884.
PRINCESS LIZA'S FAIRY, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, June 3, 1893.
PRINCESS OF ORANGE, Lyceum, Dec. 2, 1896.
PRINCESS OF PARMESAN, Matinée, Feb. 21, 1898.
PRINCESS OF THE PEARL ISLAND, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1866.
PRINCESS OF TREBIZONDE, Gaiety, April 16, 1870.
PRINCESS PRIMROSE, Olympic, June 13, 1866.
PRINCESS'S IDEA, Westminster Town Hall, May 6, 1892.
PRINCESSES IN THE TOWER, Olympic, Sept. 2, 1850.
PRINCESS TARAKANOFF, Prince of Wales's, July 29, 1897.
PRINCESS, THE, Olympic, Jan. 8, 1870.
PRINCESS TOTO, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, July 1, 1876.
PRINCESS VERITA, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Oct. 7, 1896.
PRINCIPAL BOY, Liverpool, June 5, 1899.
PRISONERS AT THE BAR, Alexandra, Liverpool, June 17, 1878.
PRISONER OF TOULON, Drury Lane, March 2, 1868.
PRISONER OF ZENDA, St. James's, Jan. 7, 1896.
PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 1, 1870.
PRIVATE DETECTIVE, St. George's Hall, April 1, 1886.
PRIVATE ENQUIRY, Adelphi, March 24, 1862.
PRIVATEER'S VENTURE, Victoria, June 5, 1876.
PRIVATE INQUIRY, Opera House, Leicester, Nov. 25, 1890.
PRIVATE LIFE, Lyric, Ealing, July 1, 1882.
PRIVATE SECRETARY, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Nov. 14, 1883.
PRIVATE VIEW, St. George's Hall, June 6, 1893.
PRIVATE WIRE, Savoy, March 31, 1883.
PRIZES AND BLANKS, Ladbroke Hall, June 29, 1885.
PROCLAIMED, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, Oct. 29, 1886.
PRODIGAL DAUGHTER, Drury Lane, Sept. 17, 1892.
PRODIGAL FATHER, Oxford, Jan. 25, 1897.
PRODIGAL PARSON, Salford, March 24, 1898.
PRODIGAL SON, Liverpool, March 18, 1896.
PROFESSIONAL BEAUTY, Imperial, June 1, 1880.
PROFESSOR, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, May 31, 1894.
PROFESSOR OF WHAT? St. James's, Oct. 6, 1866.
PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY, Comedy, June 25, 1894.
PROFESSOR'S WOOING, Royalty, Feb. 5, 1887.
PROFESSOR, THE, Theatre Royal, Norwich, March 12, 1868.
PROFLIGATE, Garrick, April 24, 1889.
PROGRESS, Globe, Sept. 18, 1869.
PROMETHEUS, New Royalty, Dec. 23, 1865.
PROMISE, A, Globe, Oct. 29, 1889.
PROMISED IN PIQUE, Gaiety, April 6, 1885.
PROMISED LAND, Grecian, Sept. 13, 1875.
PROMISE OF MAY, Globe, Nov. 11, 1882.
PROMPTER'S BOX, Adelphi, March 23, 1870.
PROOF; OR, A CELEBRATED CASE, Adelphi, April 20, 1878.
PROOF POSITIVE, Opéra Comique, Oct. 16, 1875.
PROPHET, THE, Court, Liverpool, March 2, 1892.
PROPOSALS, Vaudeville, Dec. 15, 1887.
PROSCRIBED ROYALIST, Opera House, Leicester, Aug. 1, 1881.
PROSPERO, Imperial, Dec. 26, 1883.
PROTECTOR ET PROTEGE, Royalty, March 29, 1888.
PROVED TRUE, Sadler's Wells, May 7, 1883.
PRUDES AND PROS, St. George's Hall, June 20, 1891.
PRUDE'S PROGRESS, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, May 16, 1895.
PUBLISHER, THE, Opera House, Cork, June 18, 1900.
PUCK, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Aug. 13, 1883.
PUCK; OR, THE LASS O' MOORSIDE, Shepherd's Bush, July 31, 1884.
PUDDENHEAD WILSON, Elephant and Castle, April 5, 1895.
PUMP, THE, Toole's, March 27, 1886.
PUNCH, Vaudeville, May 26, 1881.
PUNCH AND FUN, Sadler's Wells, June 9, 1862.
PUNCH AND JUDY, Savoy, June 8, 1893.
PUNCHBOWL, THE, Novelty, June 18, 1887.
PUNCHINELLO, Her Majesty's, Dec. 28, 1864.
PUNCTURED, Strand, Aug. 28, 1900.
P.U.P., Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Sept. 3, 1883.
PUPPETS, Criterion, July 20, 1893.
PURE AS DRIVEN SNOW, Britannia, Nov. 17, 1869.
PURE AS SNOW, Theatre Royal, Bradford, April 9, 1878.
PURE GOLD, Sadler's Wells, Nov. 9, 1868.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*Charley's Aunt* is as fully appreciated as ever. Mr. Stanley Cooke gives a really admirable impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. C. B. Keston as Colonel Chesney, Mr. Walter Beaumont as Stephen Spettique, Mr. Hastings Lynn as Jack Chesney, Mr. Richard B. Mason as Charley Wykeham, and Mr. Sydney Compton as Brassett all work admirably together; while Miss Lena McNaughton makes a handsome and stately Donna Lucia, and Miss Lillian Lait and Miss Kity Carew are charming in the parts of Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettique. Miss Gladys Storey is an attractive Ela Delahay. The piece is exceedingly well staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Madame Laurie's Children give a delightful performance in *The Kindergarten* act, and the Reed Oetzmann troupe show unflagging vivacity and exuberant humour in their pantomimic sketch, *On Tour in the Tyrol*. M. and Mlle. Sardou are singularly skilful exponents of the occult art, and Mr. George Helm and Miss Emmie Cozens appear with success in a highly amusing comedietta, *The Doctor and the Patient*. Among the other clever artists in the programme are Mr. E. J. Sheldon, a capital comedian; Miss Gertrude Moore, who sings and dances remarkably well; Miss Marie Rivers, an agreeable vocalist; Mr. Cliffe Dover, a good eccentric comedian and dancer; and Selby and Myers, a pair of superior comedians.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company in *The Rich and Poor of London* is here this week on a special return visit. Mr. Dench himself gives a realistic representation of Spider Jack; Miss Dora Dench as May Braithwaite speedily becomes a favourite; Miss Emily Woodleigh admirably sustains the character of Auntie Scrimp; Miss V. Lesborough makes a capable Ruby Redgrave; Miss Sybil Viney is an amusing Polly Philpot; Mr. Graham Arthurs is responsible for a faithful portrayal of Doctor Morton; Mr. Cole Aspinal could scarcely be better placed than as Mark Grabbem; and Mr. F. Danner made a capital Earl of Ravenswood.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Lyons; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. E. Williams.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is playing *Are You a Mason?* here. Mr. Howard L. Tracey's Frank is one of the successes of the performance; and Mr. Ernest Cossart impersonates George Fisher with good results, his make-up as the young milliner being good. Mr. E. H. Paterson, who is also general-manager, as Amos Bloodgood causes considerable fun; and as Hamilton Travers, Mr. Fred Jacques is clever; whilst Mr. Dare Austin's Ernest Morrison is ably played. As John Halton, Mr. Edwin Millins does well; Miss Adelaide Grace as the distrusting mother-in-law is capital; and Miss Mabel Younge's Eva is a meritorious performance. Misses Babs Stuart, Madge Merrique, Dora F. Harvey, and Minnie Rayner make the most of their small but necessary rôles. Mr. Othniel Grahame is acting-manager to the company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—*The Great Awakening* is being presented here this week by Miss Maud Hildyard and company. The evil propensities of Lola Selby are portrayed in a thorough manner by Miss Maud Hildyard, who exercises the feminine wiles of the character effectively, and displays at times great tragic intensity. Mr. C. Vivian forcibly presents the part of James Selby, an escaped convict; Mr. Chas. E. Linney is expert in delineating the worst traits of a vicious man; Mr. Bernard Copping doubles the parts of the old baronet, Merton, and his son Jack, the fierce madness of the latter in the later acts being admirably done; Mr. Herbert Evelyn is vigorous in the portrayal of a much-wronged young Captain, the lover of Molly Merton, a part well played by Miss Doris Rigby, who is amiable and sympathetic. The comic element is fully developed in the hands of Miss Isa Billington and Mr. Willie Scott. The mounting of the piece is effective.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—At the Hippodrome Cailler, a man of splendid physique, does some great feats of strength. Lil O'Gorman is a smart comedienne and a graceful dancer. Charles Somers, comedian, provokes considerable mirth; and Bruce and Ross are a droll pair, who combine with their absurdities considerable ability as acrobats and dancers. In Madam Constance Bellamy the audience recognise an old favourite of the operatic stage, and her fine singing is loudly applauded. The Betsons, who describe themselves as "mad cyclists in the drawing-room," give an entertainment of a novel character, and provoked roars of laughter. Lorne and Rene, two charming ladies, won favour by their song scena *Capital and Labour*. In the second part both ladies displayed great ability as vocalists, and the turn is both novel and pleasing. The Silbon Family present their miniature circus, introducing a couple of smart ponies, a dog, and several cats, which are well trained and sagacious. The Schiavonys are a party of exceedingly smart acrobats (five in number), who perform some marvellous feats of skill and daring. Miss Ella, a young lady of wonderful strength, catches two members of the party, one on each hand, while somersaulting, and carries them round the stage. The butler is a wonderfully clever gymnast, and is screamingly funny. The bioscope pictures are very amusing.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten.—This week there is a return to "Picture Entertainments," with Mr. Baker E. Belphor as vocalist.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A well-balanced programme is presented here this week, the premier position being occupied by a diverting farcical comedy entitled *Kiss Your Father*, in which that excellent comedian Mr. Lonnon Meadows sustains the part of Felix O'Callaghan in mirth-provoking style. Other parts are well filled by Messrs. Lewis Leslie, J. W. Wilkinson, W. Dunlop, Miss Ada Tilley, and Miss L. Leslie. Ariel and Astarte (lady and gentleman) give a clever and smart exhibition on the horizontal bars and swinging trapeze; Miss Maud Beaumont is a dashing burlesque actress, and sings her songs in winsome manner; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures are well received; a very entertaining turn is furnished by Captain Devereux's splendidly trained dogs; Mr. W. H. Downs, coloured ballad vocalist, is a favourite with his well-rendered songs; the Bros. Harrison, comedians and dancers, and Mr. Jack Crawley, American comedian, complete the bill.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—This week Mr. Edward Marris' No. 1 company, under the direction of Mr. W. H. Kirkby, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is delighting Ayr theatre-goers. Mr. W. H. Kirkby as Martin Blabbé is irresistible in his humour, and is well supported. The Stanton Ashleigh of Mr. E. H. Bertram is manly; Freddy Ashleigh, as played by Miss Millie Gordon, is particularly smart and pleasing. Mr. Douglas B. Watson gives a clever interpretation of the Florida fruit grower; Mr. J. Templar Ellis does capable work as Lem Lee; Old Joe, the negro servant, had a good exponent in Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber; and Mr. Dan Dane made an admirable detective; Miss Molly Hackett as Lulu (Somebody's Sweetheart) dances, acts, and sings winsomely and sweetly, making herself very popular; Zora is made appropriately fascinating by Miss Cordelia Knight; Mrs. Ainslie is well played by Miss Norah Melton; and the two barmaids, Molly and Kitty, are capably presented by Miss Rosie Chandler and Miss Dolly Payne.

LOW GREEN.—Ernest Hampson's Pierrots continue to attract large and fashionable audiences. In addition to the strong combination, the open-air cinematograph has proved an excellent draw. Mr. F. H. Dundas is still a favourite with his continual change of songs; Messrs. Giddings and Mannialing some pleasing songs; Mr. Chas. Champney is a vocalist of no mean merit; whilst Messrs. Kent and Heyes also appear. Mr. Arthur Sherwin is the efficient pianist.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—On Tuesday and Wednesday Mr. Charles Macdona's talented company attracted large audiences to witness *A Chinese Honeymoon* on its third visit here. Considerable interest attaches to Miss Kitty Clayton's delightfully clever rendering of Fi Fi, the much-maligned waitress; Mrs. Pineapple was capably handled by Miss Florence Wilton, who certainly deserved the applause extended to her for several popular items; Miss Frances Olgar, though undertaking the part of Princess Soo Soo at short notice, did exceedingly well; Miss May Davis and Miss Louie Love were the Princess's charming maids of honour; and the Misses Dulcie Greatwich and Sybil Ross ably enacted the coquettish bridesmaids. Miss Alma Bolton excelled as the ubiquitous and domineering official mother-in-law; Mr. James Wilson has a fine voice, and gave a creditable portryal of the mighty Emperor; Mr. Lindsay Harman as Pineapple created plenty of fun, eliciting applause for his rendering of the "Happy Land"; Mr. Edwyn Sykes worked hard as the quaint Chinese Admiral; and Mr. Louis Ashmeade as the relentless Lord Chancellor and Mr. C. P. Howard as Tom Hatherton satisfactorily undertook their respective parts.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—*Monte Cristo* is being presented here. Mr. Junius Booth plays the mysterious Count with all the necessary force and intensity; Miss Claire Elstob is winning and graceful as Mercedes; the M. Noirtier of Mr. E. H. Templeton and the Baron Danglars of Mr. Bert Elvin are both well done; Mr. C. W. Crowe plays strongly as General Fernand Mondego; and the M. Villeport of Mr. Walter Huron is capital. Miss Emma Robberds as La Carconte is particularly good, and Mr. Leonard Marshall is an acceptable Lieut. Albert de Morcerf.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Howard Cochran is here this week with *The Marriage of Kitty* company. He himself, as Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart., is extremely good and versatile, and in the title-rôle Miss Aida Jenoure secures an artistic triumph; Mr. Cecil Wilford is capital as John Travers, and Mme. de Semiano is cleverly portrayed by Miss Betty Castle. A curtain-raiser, *A Proposal*, sustained by Miss Gladys Dare and Mr. Colet Dare, precedes the above.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The McConnell Trio gave a funny musical sketch entitled *A Musical Mistake*; Harry Conlin has a capital budget of songs; Frank Maura does some clever tricks; Bert Woodward is an expert at cycling feats; Eily Adair proves a clever dancer, as also does Rosie Coleman; Miss Cura, in a trapeze act, and Vernon's Bioscope complete the programme.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The regular autumn season commenced on Monday with a capital all-round representation of *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Jessie Yatman and Miss Violet Bazalgette as Dick and Wally each score in their respective rôles; Marion Thornton is enacted with care and no little power by Miss Valerie Crespin; Mr. John Macfarlane fulfils all requirements as George Thornton; Capt. Darville is well impersonated by Mr. Edward McLean; and Bill and Biddy Mullins find a couple of typical representatives in Mr. Lionel Ellis and Miss Violet Vivian.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Certainly one of the best and most amusing musical comedy acts is that given by Tom and Marie Motramo, who are scoring a big success here this week; Zaro and Arno are applauded in their clever and funny bar act; Tod Lowan is a comedian who gains hearty applause; Playfair and Nikola, papierographists, present an uncommon interlude; Madie Scott, comedienne, wins her way quickly into the hearts of the audience; Lambert and Glover's farcical dialogue goes well; Beattie and Blanche, duettists and dancers, are another pair of performers that add to the pleasure of the house; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux are interesting.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Robert Courtneige's company opened here on Monday in *The Blue Moon*. No greater success could have been achieved than that gained by Miss Florence Smithson—a delightful actress—who furnished an exceedingly charming impersonation of Chandra Nil, the Burmese singing girl. Mr. Bert Gilbert was simply inimitable as Private Charles Taylor, and as the Indian juggler, Moolraj, Mr. Edward Lewis was decidedly amusing, creating roars of laughter. As the gallant Major Vivian Callabone, Mr. Leslie Gaze was thoroughly convincing; and Mr. Herbert Clayton made a manly Captain Jack Ormsby. Miss Lulu Valli must be congratulated on her vivacious interpretation of Millicent Leroy; and a dainty and graceful impersonation of Evelyn Ormsby was furnished by Miss Daisy Revell; Miss Mabel Lorrell was an excellent Lady Brabasham and Mr. Thos. Holding a dignified Prince Badahur. Mr. George Mudie, jun., as Bobbie Scott sang well.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief feature of this week's bill is the production of the pantomime-sketch, *The Sioux*, by Mr. Arthur Conquest and his sketch combination. Mr. Conquest's impersonation of Chadi, the ape, is undoubtedly the most realistic impersonation of an animal ever seen here. Another feature is the performance of Lockhart's elephants, introduced by Captain Taylor. The Three Zaracs appear to advantage in their comedy triple bar act; and Mr. Barney Armstrong's comic songs have been hugely enjoyed. The Ludderites appear in their astounding performance; and others appearing are Massina, a clever juggler; the Sisters Dixon, duettists; Miss Lena Brunton, comedienne and mimic, and the Palace pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Mark Melford, supported by a most capable company, heads the bill here with *Only a Wedding*. Mr. James H. Jee performs some difficult feats on the wire; Mr. Albert Le Fre is a droll comedian and agile dancer; the extraordinary feats of Mr. G. H. Unthan, the armless wonder, occasion vast surprise; and much praise is due to Sanford and Lyons, expert dancers. The Sisters Rosedale are charming duettists and dancers; and Miss Irene Rose is aptly described as a clever dancer. The bill is completed by Stuart and Stuart, comedy artists.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Douns.—Under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, jun., this week the Alhambra Dramatic Company present the funny farcical sketch *The Barber*, which on Monday drew good houses at each performance. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever actress, furnished an exceedingly charming impersonation of Marion Fancourt; and Mr. Herbert Cecil as the young lover, Arthur Parr, was decidedly successful; Mr. W. G. Wesley kept the fun going merrily with his impersonation of Henry Horner, being ably assisted by Miss Effie Macintosh, who furnished a vivacious interpretation of Harriette. Mr. Horace Denton must be commended for his clever impersonation of Francois Peroli; and Mr. J. F. Pearce was the Irishman Jack O'Brien to the life; Mr. Cyril Grier and Mr. H. Arnold Allen were admirable as Mr. Carter and Tommy. Mr. Herbert Cecil was responsible for the admirable stage management.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—This week Mr. Charles Verney's company is presenting *The Coal King* here. Mr. Angus Alexander is powerful as Walter Harford, and Mr. Alec Alexander makes a capital Tom Roberts. The Grace Shirley of Miss Olive Lloyd is a highly commendable piece of work. Miss Florence Mitchell proves very successful as Mad Ann, and Mr. Tod Squires is amusing as Jem Williams.

AL-FRESCO PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. H. Battersby; Musical-Director, Mr. Bertram Brennan.—This week sees the close of the season at the Pavilion. A capital programme is provided by the Imperial Pierrots and the Imperial Quartette.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Monillot's company opened here on Monday in the ever popular musical comedy *The Geisha*. A crowded house witnessed an excellent representation, in which Miss Lydia Bland was prominent with a charming rendering of O. Mimosa

San; Miss Edith Adeson was a bewitching Molly Seymour; the French interpreter was admirably played by Miss Doris Langdon; and Miss Winifred Knightly gave a fine portrayal of Lady Constance Knightly gave a fine portrayal of Lady Constance Wynn; Mr. Edward Kipling's performance of Wun Hi was irresistibly funny; Mr. J. H. Booth was an unexceptionable Marquis Imari, and Messrs. Wilfred Heath, F. Pollard, William Strong, and Squire were efficient as the four naval officers. Miss Emily Lovell was a good Tom Stanley, and remaining parts were in adequate hands. For Friday *A Greek Slave* was billed.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Bastow, the popular comedian, is a leading attraction. The Eight Lancashire Lads sing and dance themselves into favour, and Donaldson Brothers and Ardel make a success in *A Zoological Comedy*. Mr. Austin Rudd, an excellent comedian, is renewing previous success, and a capital company also includes Haig and Wovel, comedians and acrobats; Professor Vox, ventriloquist; Miss Nora Emerald, soubrette; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Huntley.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Hilliard Vox and company in the latest American success, *Alaska*, a play which is receiving good patronage. Mr. Hilliard Vox as Skookum Jim is seen to great advantage, his acting being very warmly applauded. As Ned Larson Mr. C. D. Pitt is admirably placed, whilst Mr. Bevan Penton gives a capable rendering of Father Bernard; Mr. M. Crimson's interpretation of Baptiste, the half-breed, is also worthy of mention. The sympathy and appreciation of the audience is early won by Miss Ethel Rainforth as Jess Dalton, and Miss G. Hastings Walton is warmly received in her efforts as Alaska. Merriment is caused by Mr. Albert Rogers as Pompey Cæsar. The juveniles, Miss E. Clarke as Topsy and little Baby Rosie as the Widow's Mite, do exceedingly well, and contribute in no small measure towards the success of the production.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—*Leah Kleschna* is here. Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh have a strong company. Miss Bessie Rignold plays Leah with great power, and Mr. W. F. Grant, an Australian actor, acts finely in the part of Sylvaine. Kleschna is in the hands of Mr. Paul Belmore, whose portrayal of this difficult part is excellent, and as Raoul Berton, Mr. Hamilton Deane is excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. John B. Shinton's company in *The Price of Her Soul* is proving a powerful attraction here. Chief amongst a capital company may be mentioned Mr. Shinton himself, who, in the part of Lord Rolfe Mandeville, V.C., is admirable, and Miss Ada Ryder, who gives a powerful representation of the Countess Mary Steinmetz.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The extended engagement over the present week of the musical Savonas and the cycling Elliotts has given much satisfaction to the patrons of this house. Excellent performers also in the company are Will Vay's juveniles; the Athlones, society athletes; Will Johnson, who is known as "the lively comedian"; Baroux and Bion, eccentric acrobats; Tom Yorke, comedian; Daisy Martell, dancer; and Mark Leslie, coon artist. Raymond's biograph is still showing excellent pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson have commenced their autumn tour here with *Dorothy o' the Hall*. Miss Neilson's performance affords the audience great delight; Mr. Fred Terry is a gallant Sir John Manners, and Mr. J. Carter-Edwards works hard and successfully as Sir George Vernon; Mr. Horace Hodges contributes an excellent portrayal of Perkin; Sir Malcolm Vernon is made sufficiently repulsive by Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw; Mr. Frederick Groves carefully embodies the Earl of Rutland; Mr. D. J. Williams acquits himself satisfactorily as Lord Burleigh; and the part of Sir Wiliam St. Loe is in the experienced and able hands of Mr. Malcolm Cherry. Both Miss Miriam Lewes (Queen Elizabeth) and Miss Lilias Waldegrave (Queen Mary) give proofs of histrionic skill; and Misses Claire Pauncefort, Mary Mackenzie, and Marion Sterling are good in small parts. The staging and dresses are admirable.

GRAND THEATRE. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Girl from Kay's*, as enacted by Mr. George Dance's company, is paying us a return visit here this week. A capital Max Hoggenheimer is Mr. Arthur Stigant, whose topical songs are loudly encored; Harry Gordon has a capable exponent in Mr. Herbert Franklyn, and Mr. Tom Shelford hits off exactly the inanity of Percy Fitzthistle. Miss Nancy Hervyn sings and dances well as Winnie Harborough; and Miss Amy Grey, who possesses a charming voice, is a dainty and winsome Norah Chalmers. The other parts are in efficient hands, and the strong and tuneful chorus is under the direction of Mr. Basil Horsfall. Mr. T. Hopcutt is the business manager of the company.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Yukio Tani, the wrestler, continues to top the bill here; Miss S. Whallen, a diverting extempore vocalist, is retained from last week; the newcomers are Hermon Melot, French conjurer; Will Walton, comedian; Morris Cronin, with his wonderful troupe of modern jugglers; Mlle. Haydee, with her miniature vaudeville theatre; the Martelli Troupe of lady acrobats; the Quartos, in their sketch *The Morning Mail*; the Dumonds, in a musical act; the McNulty Sisters, singers and dancers; and Richard Corbin, with his performing dogs. Vernon's Bioscope is still here.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—J. W. Hall, who makes a welcome reappearance here this week and occupies the place of honour on the programme; Ike Scott and Son, comedians; and F. V. St. Clair, up-to-date vocalist, are retained from last week. Harry Weldon, the "swell" comedian, scores a great success; the contributions of the Camerons in the sketch *The Plough Boy and the Lady Guide*; Lillian Warren, vocalist; Gus Merriman, eccentric musician; Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; H. Pawson, illusionist; the Cheshire Sketch company; Rita and Roma, speciality artists; and the Miniature Florry are also cordially received.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION. — General Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The wonderfully successful ballet, *In Sunny Spain*, has been performed here twice daily for several weeks, and is now more popular than ever. The variety programme still remains unchanged.

TOWER CIRCUS.—General Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop.—The new arrivals include Morasso, American jockey; the Joskarys, comedy acrobats; the Larails, gymnasts; the Lecussons, with fine expositions of horsemanship; the Four Holloways, acrobatic wire artists; and Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, famous trick cyclists. Besides these are the Kellinos, acrobats; the Musical Johnstons; the Novellos, in their spectacular equilibristic act; August and September, comedians; and the Famous Finneys, expert swimmers, all of whom are favourites.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Mr. Douglas Wentworth's company has been presenting here *The Bauble Shop*. Mr. Frederick Annerley undertook the part of Lord Olivebrook, and gave a fine portrayal; Mr. John Cecil as Mr. Stoack, M.P., was seen to advantage; and the Earl of Sarum, in the hands of Mr. J. K. Henson, was a successful performance; Miss Lily Bertram as Jessie scored a pronounced success.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Mr. George E. Good continues in possession, and submits a fine series of pictures, together with good variety turns, which are drawing good houses. The new arrivals this week are Vere and Royall, comedy artists; Sylverto, juggler; and Fred Weston, character comedian.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—This week Mr. Samuel James's company is presenting the drama *As Good as Gold* to large audiences. Of the principal characters, Miss Gertrude Bonser gives a delightful rendering of the part of the heroine, Nora Williams, making the most of many exacting situations; Lieut. Jack Stanton is finely portrayed by Mr. Wm. Heilbroun; Mr. Eric Hudson renders the difficult part of Sir Richard Wharncliffe (the villain) with much effect; and Miss Marie McAuley is successful as Kate D'Arville.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Tina Clementa tops the bill here with her highly trained horse and greyhounds. Other turns are Bijou Russell, a sprightly coon singer and sand dancer; Herbert La Martine, eccentric dancer and bâton manipulator; Thos. E. Finglass, coon singer; Gus Harris, with his vocal scena, *The Synagogue*; Lily Black, a charming comedienne; Lily Vane, descriptive vocalist; Yorkshire Tom, animal mimic; Warden Reed and Co. in a laughable sketch, *Married or Photographed*; Chas. F. Best in an original comedy act, *MacBunker, the Mountebank*; Terry and Bentley, and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The boards are occupied this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company in the Hindoo drama *A Traitor Prince*. The play is full of stirring incidents, and the part of Lala Vane is sweetly portrayed by Miss Rose Routledge. The bulk of the work falls on Mr. G. M. Montanini as Prince Rao, who sustains the character with great energy throughout, and is ably assisted by Miss Nesta Sandford as Vashti. Mr. Edmond O'Grady makes an amusing Billy Bright; and Miss Kitty Thomas is a vivacious Pansy Blossom. Mr. Victor Rae is seen to advantage in the character of Cara, playing the part with calm deliberation. Other characters in the piece are well placed.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Eugene Stratton, in his delightful coon imitations and dancing, is heading the bill here this week. The Gotham Comedy Quartette give their contribution in a most attractive manner; the Bensons are great favourites in their vocal efforts; an amusing musical comedy sketch, entitled *On the Links*, is given by the Four Burnells; the Sisters Terry, baby mimics and comediennes; and Allis and Casatti win much applause; as does Little Dando, comedian in miniature; and the Calcotts, musical entertainers. The Hippodrome pictures conclude a good bill of fare.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—At the top of the bill here we have Le Diabelo, who loops the devil's wheel; Billy Ross and Co. in their Irish comedy act, *The Hot Member*, makes the audience roar with laughter. Zavan is well received in his contortion act; Maisey Adair is very good with her piccaninnies, and Marie de Pasco, lightning clay modeller, and the Dewars (Rena and Rex) conclude an excellent show.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. D. Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—A second return visit is being paid this week by Mr. George Dance's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. The part of Catherine is played by Miss May Glen with vivacity, and she sings admirably; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald as Papillon gives a humorous representation; the Lefebre of Mr. Ernest Torrence is capital; and the Napoleon of Mr. Gilbert Yorke is a clever character sketch. All the other parts are capably filled.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—Mr. J. T. West's animated picture exhibition continues to attract crowded houses nightly. Numerous additions are being added this week, including "Our Ice Supply" and "The Prospectors," which are very popular. Interludes are supplied by Miss Jessie Mayell, a clever reciter, and Mme. Aunette, whose singing gains loud applause.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*The Dairymaids* has paid us its first visit. The scenic effects are charming, the costumes are dainty, and there is little doubt of the success of Mr. Robert Courtneidge's venture in the provinces. Miss Edith Blanche fills the part of Lady Brudenell finely, and Sam and Lieut. Frank are well played by Messrs. E. S. Staples and Geo. Desmond. They contribute immensely to the uproarious fun of the piece. Mr. Frank Greene is very good as Captain Fred Leverton; as Dr. O'Bryné Mr. Clarence Blakiston is humorous; Mr. Harry Dent's funny performance of Joe Mivens adds greatly to his reputation; Miss Violet Lloyd is charming as Peggy; and her sister Winifred is represented brightly and smartly by Miss Rhoda Gordon. There is much grace in Miss Beryl Vaudrey's assumption of Hélène, and she scores in the pretty "Wild-rose" song. Miss Madge Avery's Miss Penelope Pyechase is a capital character-study, and Miss Nellie Beryl's Eliza is full of humour. The Farm Hands, Dairymaids, and Academy Girls are a bevy of very charming young ladies, and their work in the pretty gymnasium scene in conjunction with the attractive Sandow-Gibson Girls is a great feature of the production.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Lester Collingwood is presenting here the sensational drama *When London Sleeps*. It is realistically staged. Mr. C. P. Wentworth in forcible and telling style portrays Captain Rodney Haynes, and Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queenie Carruthers acts with much power. Mr. Sam Arthur is effective as David Engleheart; Miss Maud York fills the part of Hilda Carode with much ability; Mr. C. E. Sutton as Mr. Furnaby Fuller and Mr. H. Barham as Mark Blackwood are both good. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr D'Arcy Kelway as Sammy Blyth, Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead, and Miss Bessie Frank as Carrie Jones. The character of Bob Jones fits Mr. F. E. Thomas well, and Mrs. Edgar Colona as Bob's Missus is good.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Miss Vesta Tilley is here on a return visit, as bright and popular as ever; Millie Payne's turn is distinctly entertaining; and Jas. A. Wilson with his quaint dog Towser again affords much amusement. With their comedy juggling the Seddons once more provide an enjoyable turn; Boy Glenn with his good voice and funny stories is on a return visit; Ryder Slone in his "Policeman and Burglar" song scena introduces novel features; as the Noiseless Burglars Conn and Conrad are very amusing; Helen Ford's ballads are daintily rendered; and some fine pictures are shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—A feature of the entertainment here this week is the re-appearance of that strange and weird mechanical novelty, "Dronza," the talking head, which is perplexing in the extreme; the Franks' Midgets furnish a novelty in conjuring; Wat Tyler provides a good vocal character turn; some very clever and wonderfully rapid picture painting is accomplished by Vandinoff; Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne, does an acceptable turn; Stylo's hoop manipulating is clever; Oakley and James provide a funny turn; James F. B. Fayme is to the fore with his excellent comedy; Gracie Grahame, a charming comedienne, too, is again winning golden opinions; and the pictures shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux afford keen enjoyment.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. S. Carter.—The New Century Company's Animated Pictures continue very attractive here, and the vocalism of Miss Ducie Saunderson affords additional satisfaction.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—Additional features in the way of clever equilibristic work by Le Brun and juggling by Irene add to the usual attractions of this well patronised resort.

BRIDLINGTON.—SPA THEATRE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Mr. Arthur Law's new comedy *Three Blind Mice* was the attraction the first half of the week, and was performed by an excellent company. Mr. Wilfred Draycott as Julian Scheckburgh gave a fine exposition of the character of the middle-aged, but lovable, godfather; Mr. Compton Coutts was very amusing as Lavender; and so was Mr. Fredk. Lloyd as Mr. Guest; Mr. Max Leeds as the "knowing" Ricketts was admirable; and Mr. Duncan Bruce made a fine footman. Miss May Palfrey was a charming Marjorie Lovel, and was warmly applauded for her sweetly innocent rendering of the part of the young maiden with too many lovers; Miss Granville gave just the right tone to Lady Marrable; and Miss Mary Barton was equally good as the lackadaisical Lady Clarisforder. Miss Annie Hill was very effective as the governess, Miss Tippings; and Miss Dorothy Edwards as Jessop, Miss Florence Harwood as Miss Jolliffe, and Miss Sheba Brozel as Polly were all good. The curtain-raiser was Mr. Weedon Grossmith's *What an Escape*, effectively played by Miss Annie Hill as Mrs. Raldon, Miss Florence Harwood as Drage, and Mr. Fredk. Lloyd as Mr. Spowling.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The patrons of the Grand Pavilion have had a great treat in the engagement of the native choir from Jamaica, a company of coloured ladies and gentlemen who have been giving concerts, consisting of native songs and plantation choruses, in which they show remarkable talent as vocalists and entertainers. Each member of the combination is a thorough artist, and the beautifully harmonised choruses as well as the various solos have delighted large audiences. In the Floral Pavilion Herr Sigmund Wintermitz and his Royal Viennese Orchestra continue their excellent promenade concerts, and on Wednesday Herr Winternitz was accorded a benefit, when there was an illuminated gala performance, and a host of talent assisted in honouring the popular conductor.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—This week the vocalist at Herr Simon Wurm's promenade concerts is Miss Marie Stiven, a fine contralto, whose songs are always re-demanded. The Strolling Players still continue a great attraction, the humorous duets of Miss Madeline Rossiter and Mr. Johnson are cleverly done, and their dances are very smart. Mr. Helmsley, a new addition to the troupe, is a capital imitator of juvenile voices, and his patter is smart. The Players took their benefit on Saturday, when they gave a good programme before a large audience. Monday was a grand gala night, the grounds being finely illuminated, and a special firework display by Messrs. Pain and Sons attracted some thousands of visitors.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The marvellous Howards, in their wonderful mind-reading entertainment, are the stars this week. Gray and Weston play some smart sketches; Miss Clarice Raynor, a lady with a remarkable voice, sings excellent songs; Miss Lilian Swado gives a clever gymnastic turn; and Harry Lead is a good comedian. J. W. Delmar, conjuror and ventriloquist, is well received; and Mr. Hubner's animated pictures are always good.

SUMMER GARDENS. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Friday night, the 24th ult., was set apart for the benefit of Mr. Charles Danton, when a special programme was provided, and this popular artist was rewarded with a big audience to testify to the esteem in which he is held. This week the Waterloo Pierrots give some new programmes. Thursday night was set apart for the benefit of that popular comedian, Mr. Geo. Hyan.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with *The Toreador*. Mr. Harry Buss gave a highly amusing impersonation of Sammy Gigg; Mr. Fred Fowler achieved great success as Pettifer, and was warmly applauded for his dancing; Mr. Howard Cridland's Sir Archibald Slackett was a humorous impersonation; Miss Katie May made a delightful Dora Selby; Miss Rose was highly effective as Nancy Staunton; Miss Zoe Gilfillan was an attractive Mrs. Malton Hoppings; Miss Vera Vallis made a vivacious Susan; Miss Florence Burdett acquitted herself admirably as Donna Teresa; Mr. H. M. White was well suited as Carajolo; and the remaining characters were ably sustained. The choruses were well sung, and Mr. George Saker carried out the duties of musical director.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Augustine Knight and company are here this week with *The Assassin*. Mr. Knight gives a masterly portrayal of Prince Demetri; Miss Ella Vane as the Countess Wanda displays powerful acting; Mr. Edward E. Ashby is an admirable Ivan Spanoff; Miss Francis Waring makes an excellent Lita; Mr. Theo Balfour is convincing as Duke Karl; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is an entertaining Baron Alphonse; Mr. Tom Taylor affords much amusement as Peter; and Miss Georgina Hamilton acts with great charm as Connie Jonathan.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—Marie Lloyd is the great attraction here this week, and wins enthusiastic applause with her latest successes; Max Milian is very amusing in his pot-pourri act; the Silvertons are accomplished coloured vocalists and dancers; Ella Lane is a charming comedienne and graceful dancer; Clemart gives a capital ventriloquial entertainment; Jack Foley is a pleasing comedian; Cruikshank is well received; Louie Hurman, comedienne and burlesque actress, wins hearty applause; Burke and McVoy appear in an amusing acrobatic act; Percival and Morley are excellent in a comedy duologue, *Turtle Doves*; Luis Hardt performs astonishing feats of strength; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital company is here this week. Clarisse Heney and company are highly successful in the sketch *Counsel's Opinion*; Tiny Arnold is warmly applauded for her songs and dancing; Haley's Juveniles, including Dot and Spot, tiny vocalists, are well received in their carnival scena; Rosina Casselli and her highly trained troupe of Mexican dogs submit a capital turn; the Sisters Hall are refined vocalists; Fioretti and Elly are skilful speciality jumpers; Tom E. Hughes is a clever character comedian; Hayman and Franklin, Hebrew impersonators, are effective in *A Matrimonial Agency*; Foreman and Fannan, the "millionaires," are entertaining; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company are here this week with *Public Opinion; or, Pansy's Breach of Promise Case!* Miss Nancy Beresford gives a charming impersonation of Pansy Bligh; Miss Emma Hutchison achieves great success as Lady Diana Caldershaw; Mr. Charles Harley is artistic as Spencer Traughton, C.B.; Mr. Percy Marshall's Horace Wibley, Mr. Fred Lewis's Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley, and Mr. Douglas Hamilton's Sir Babington Mulley are capitally played; and Miss Connie Dene as Phyllis Dagenham and Miss Violet Harley as Charlotte also merit praise.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company are here this week with *In the King's Name*. Mr. Mark Blow gives a masterly portrayal of Wild Darrell; Mr. Wellesley Draper submits a clever enactment of the Earl of Rockingham; Mr. Arthur Elwyn is highly successful as Gerald Winter; Miss Mary Thorne is a graceful and winsome Lady Alice Vernon; Miss Mabel Mannering sustains the part of the Countess very effectively; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily represented. The play is admirably staged.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Mr. Harry Ward's variety company contributes the bill-of-fare here this week. Miss Nellie Atherton is an accomplished vocalist; Mr. Jock McKay, the original Scotch comedian, evokes hearty laughter; Mlle. Dora's oboe solos are warmly appreciated; and Mr. Alf Cawthorn, eccentric comedian and speciality dancer, achieves much success.

HOVE TOWN HALL.—An excellent series of interesting and amusing pictures is given here this week by Mr. W. F. Jury's Imperial Bioscope. Musical Ritter and Mr. Arthur Lonsdale submit pleasing vocal contributions.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—A full house was attracted on Monday by Mr. Edward Marris's company in *The Dandy Doctor*. The amusing play is staged with liberality, and the company is a competent one all round. Miss Florence Smithers presents a clever and amusing study of Jane, the general servant, scoring, with Mr. Marris, in a burlesque drama; Mr. Marris is decidedly smart as Melchisadeck Brown (a tinned meat millionaire); Mr. Herbert Pease as Colonel Pendred makes the most of his opportunities, and obtains considerable applause for his singing; Mr. Ion Maxwell is well placed as Arthur Vandyke, a smart young doctor; Mr. Leslie Martin is amusing as Bertie Bollingbroke; Miss Elfie Vincent is decidedly pleasing as Ivy Pendred; Miss Dolly Payne makes a smart Henson, the doctor's Buttons; and other parts are taken commendably by Mr. Dalton Dane, Mr. John Birtles, Miss Ethel Dunker, Miss Belle Hamilton, Miss Rosie Chandler, and Miss Marie Gerrard. A clever dance is introduced by Miss Rosie Chandler, and pleasing specialities of song and dance are given by the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette. The chorus is tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. George Jenkinson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—The successful drama *The Spider and the Fly* is attracting good houses here, the play being well staged and excellently played by Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and Sidney Cooper's company. Miss Amy Venimore and Miss Nina Vaughton both present very effective expositions of the contrasting parts of Stella Gray and Edith McAllister; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts in excellent style as Cyril Girdlestone; Mr. Ellis I. Preston is deserving of much credit for his impersonation of Willy Girdlestone; Mr. H. C. Lanceley makes a lovable clergyman of the Rev. Mr. McAllister; Mr. Frederick Ross is manly and convincing as David Strong; and the two Roes are capitally played by Mr. Fred Terriss and Mr. Charles A. Preece. The comic part of Molly Blake is made both amusing and interesting by Miss Lucy Murray; Miss Ada Palmer scores with a clever character study of Jane Ellen Scriven; and Miss Marjorie May is sufficiently pathetic as the boy Flipps. The mechanical scenes of the secret cells in the old moat house are cleverly arranged, and the police motor-boat scene on the Thames is effective.

NEW PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Mr. John Lawson heads the bill with his celebrated sketch *Humanity*, and, as usual, it is warmly applauded. Grey and Parry amuse with their comedy burlesque *Acrobats Past and Present*; the Sisters Bartholomew are pleasing duettists and dancers; Martin Conway, comedian, obtains applause; Lilian Lowe, an exceptionally clever vocalist, presents a pleasing turn; Rohda Brothers score with their gymnastic act; Miss Florence, Dutch impersonator and mimic, is highly successful; and an effective display of animated pictures concludes the entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Arthur Rigby, comedian, heads the programme, and obtains considerable appreciation; Colie Grant and Mamie Grant, American octoroons, amuse all parts of the house with their sketch *A Georgia Flirtation*; H. E. High does some smart roller skating; Blanch Albini is a pleasing burlesque artist; Francis and Melli, musical acrobatic comedians, obtain appreciation; My Fancy is much applauded for her clever sand dancing; Milner Verren is successful as a tenor vocalist; the Mahomed Ben Mahomed troupe of Arabs (eight in number) do a smart acrobatic and bounding act; and the performance concludes with some new animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, under the general management of Mr. Cecil Edgar, are playing *East Lynne* here. Miss Julie Kennard is very successful as Lady Isabel. The Captain Levison of Mr. Erie Mayne stands out as a clever piece of work. Archibald Carlyle is played with much power, and fine comedy business is done by Mr. Alfred Tate as P.C. Bullock, Mr. C. C. Grattan as Justice Hare, and Mr. Cyril Hayward as Lawyer Dill. Miss Ethel Hardacre makes an excellent Cornelia Carlyle, and Barbara Hare is well represented by Miss Ethel Saville. Remaining parts are capably sustained by Mr. Spencer Goodwin as Lord Mountsevern, Mr. E. Massingham as Richard Hare, Miss Katherine Bryan as Lady Mountsevern, Miss Ida Heron as Joyce, and Miss Jessie Bayes as Little Willie doing good work.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Good houses are here being entertained by the Theatroscope and Vaudeville company. Interesting and up-to-date pictures are shown, interspersed with variety turns of no mean order, including Superba, who gives a series of remarkable quick-changes; the Alberta troupe of acrobats are highly appreciated; Higgins and Murlone ably sing duets; Chris Martin is a good character comedian; and Flo Warner, comedienne, is cordially received.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—An exceptionally good bill is provided here this week, and much appreciation is gained. Miss Addie Dorina, a clever actress, in her quick-change performance *How It Was Done*, ably assisted by Mr. Pat Waddock, fairly brings down the house. Mr. Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice give a clever performance on the harp and saxophone; and Ruby Lorton pleases with her sweet voice. Lucia and Viata are smart on the tight wire; Collins and Rice are very fine as comedy artists; and W. B. Raby is encored for his song "Angeline." La Belle Nello give a pleasing and graceful contortionist and posing performance; and the performing parrots, cockatoos, and macaws of Albertine Melich are received with rounds of applause.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Miss Bouwin Carlton's company is paying a return visit with *The Plucky Nipper*. In the name part Miss Bouwin Carlton appears with much success. She is well assisted by Mr. Douglas Campbell (in the humorous situations) as Tommy Atkins; Mr. Edward Stream finds a congenial rôle as Captain Frank Leslie; and Mr. Fred Rivers as Richard Vanbrugh, by his realisation of stage villainy, rouses the anger of the audience; Mr. Charles Cameron and Mr. Claud Kingston do well as Col. Fenwick and Henry Paget respectively; a fine piece of character work is given by Mr. Edward Surrey as Bill Burgess; Miss Evelyn Derwent is pleasing and effective as Ina Fenwick, the heroine; and Miss Kitty Maynard gives a pathetic representation of Daisy Paget.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford. — *Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush* is here with Mr. Tom Mollison's company. Mr. Mollison is at the head of the cast with his clever portrayal of the dour old Scot Lachlan Campbell; Mr. Alec F. Thompson is particularly amusing in his capital impersonation of the "posty"; Mr. John Clyde invests the character of John Maclure with many fine touches; Mr. Durward Lely makes the rôle of the Rev. Mr. Carmichael a conspicuous success; and as Tammas Mitchell Mr. Kendal Chalmers most creditably acquits himself of the difficulties of this part. Miss Evelyn McNay as Flora presents a charming and unaffected delineation; and Miss Alice Frances as Kate Carnegie quite captivates the audience by her sweet and unassuming interpretation.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*The Temptress* is the drama at this house, and is presented most creditably by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company. The appearance in the piece of Miss Lydia Donovan as Stella, the temptress, makes its popularity assured, as Miss Donovan's clever portrayals are always appreciated by Cardiffians. Mr. Weldon Atherstone as Lucas Denbigh works extremely hard; Philip Welford has a reliable exponent in Mr. Wallace Campbell; and Miss Gracie Jones as Marion is particularly suited to the part. The comedy is chiefly supplied by Mr. W. P. Sheen as Bob Tanner.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The one and only George Robey is delighting the Empire audiences this week with his clever comedy. The charming vocalist, Ethel Haydon, is a most delightful turn; Stelling and Nevell prove a couple of daring comedians on the bar; the Bros. Lang are most diverting in their knockabout business; and Colley and May provide a novel performance as the ventriloquist and the doll. Other capital turns are rendered by Hanvarr and Lee, a remarkably smart couple of jugglers; Billy Tucker, the champion ball puncher; the Three Albions, novelty musicians; Bouverie Pleydell, comedienne; and the amusing American Bioscope.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company is here in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Mr. Macowan, who appeared in the title-rôle, acted throughout with grace and skill, and his fine presence added considerably to the effect of his performance. As Lady Mary Carlisle Miss Violet Sterne created a most favourable impression, her charming style and skilful handling of the part gaining the sympathy and applause of the house. The Duke of Winterset had a forcible and clever representative in Mr. Murray Hathorn. Mr. F. Ramsay Forman contributed a capital bit of acting as Captain Badger, and Miss Emile Leslie made a delightful Lucy Rollerton. The remaining characters were all in safe hands.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Mr. Hy. Masterman.—A first visit of Messrs. E. H. Knight and G. Denham's company with *The Grip of Iron* is giving unqualified satisfaction. Mr. Fred Powell's delineation of the brutal Simmonet is full of histrionic ability; Mr. Wallace Curnock as Paul Blanchard is excellent, and Loustalot, the amusing Smiler, could not be better depicted than by Mr. George Denham; Robert de Belfort is played by Mr. Norman Tracey, while the old and new school detectives, Dodot and Cocone, find versatile representatives in Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood and Mr. John Brittain; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner merits praise for his careful impersonation of Lorentz de Ridos; Miss Muriel Inglis is charmingly impressive in the part of Sophie Blanchard, and Miss Rosabel Dodd is an excellent Cora Simonet; Miss Violet Ingram ably sustains the part of Marie Guerin, and Miss Cissie Mayes is good as Barbette.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Mattinson; Business-Manager, Mr. Seth Smalley.—The chief item on the programme here this week is the Five Musical Palmers, who give a most enjoyable performance; Cinizelli is very amusing as The Silent Jester; Daisy Almers sings and dances well; Mark Lane is a clever comedian; the Two Roses are good singers; Spring and Spring Barrel Jumpers are well received; Vesta Fay impersonates with good effect some entertaining male characters; Brooke's Bioscope proves of interest to the audience, and Gracie Logan, Nellie Duval, and Mons. Alvo do well in their respective turns.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Enthusiastic audiences are this week enjoying *The Female Swindler*, an exciting drama by Walter Melville, which is staged in admirable style by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company. Miss Grace E. Leslie in the title-rôle is excellent; Mr. Joseph Millane gives a powerful representation of John Coulson, whose ambitious assistant, Billy Binks, is played in lively fashion by Mr. Henry Wright; Mr. Wilford Cheetham is sufficiently villainous as Geoffrey Warden, alias Captain Stanton; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray is a natural James Oliver; and Miss Florrie Kelsey a pleasing May Andrews.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Paul Martinetti and his pantomime company continue from last week, and for over half an hour keep the audience in one roar of laughter by their representation of *A Terrible Night*. Walter King proves himself one of the most amusing patter comedians heard here for some time past; Nellie Gannon still knows how to sing an Irish song; Peggy Fame, the girl in grey without a smile, scores with "Nobody there but me"; Minnie Wren and Dick Graham are well liked; and Harry Wright's topical song, "Items of the Day," goes better than ever.

Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Henry Carlton and company remain here, their contribution to this week's programme being the military absurdity, *Obliging a Lady*. Cissie Astbury is a neat dancer, and Billy French a clever one. Raynor and

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company opened here on Monday with *The Days of Cromwell*, and the house was crowded in all parts. Mr. Henry Belding proves a master-hand in the rôle of Ironhand, the avenger; Mr. Robertson Foulis capably delineates the character of Sir Marsden Mardyke; Mr. Howard Hardy proves an excellent exponent of Matthew Mardyke; and Shadrack Shadwell is cleverly undertaken by Mr. T. R. White. Miss Gertrude Gilman shows great capabilities as Ruby Avondale; Miss Annie Clunn humorously enacts Betsy; and Mrs. Shadwell has a good representative in Miss May Bracey. Mr. R. A. P. Williams's company appear on the last three days of this week in *Les Cloches de Corneville*.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) company came here on Monday for three nights, opening with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Mr. Henry Herbert played Falstaff with an ease which was delightful to watch, and his make-up was extremely good. Mr. Reginald Davis displayed wonderful aptitude in the rôle of Dr. Caius; and Mr. Ross Shore was conspicuous in the rather minor part of the host of the Garter Inn. Mr. E. Spencer Geach played the extravagantly jealous Ford to perfection; and prominent among the other male artists may be mentioned Mr. Charles Francis, Mr. Gerald Ames, Mr. Phillip Merivale, Mr. Esmé Filmer, Mr. Henry Morrell, Mr. Mark Draper, Mr. Hodgkins, Mr. Gerald, and Mr. Lionel Bevans. Miss Rosa Burgess was distinctly clever as Mistress Quickly; Miss Dorothy Green and Miss Mary Webb were particularly vivacious as "the wives"; whilst Miss Louise Graeme was both pretty and graceful as Sweet Anne Page. *She Stoops to Conquer* was given on Tuesday, *Macbeth* on Wednesday, and for the matinée *As You Like It*. The last half of the week was devoted to *The Eternal City*, as presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—This week's bill is headed by the Morton Trio, who are given a big reception. Alice Maydue naturally catches the audience with her droll patter; and Thornbury displays a great aptitude for lightning sketches. Ella and Dacio Hope, who this week make their début on any stage in a professional capacity, showed unmistakably that they are possessed of real talent; the former is an admirable mimic, and will undoubtedly shine as a low comedy artist, whilst the latter is a soprano with a capital range, and sings in a cultured style which brought down the house on her opening night. Carson Hicks dances cleverly; and May Pritchard is a popular comedienne. The pictures are extremely good this week.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—This theatre was opened for the season on Monday evening last, when a house crowded from floor to ceiling greeted Mr. Arnold Bell and his répertoire company in *Ben-My-Chree*. Mr. Bell's Dan Mylrea was an exceptionally clever performance, and as Ewan Mylrea Mr. Guy Morville was well placed; Mr. W. G. Gregory as the Deemster was entirely satisfactory, and Mr. Cuthbert Imrie gave a careful rendering of the Bishop of Man. Miss L. Earle was the recipient of well-deserved applause for her able portrayal of Mona Mylrea, and the remaining characters were well filled by the other members of the company. *Ben-My-Chree* was repeated on Wednesday and Saturday, and *Called Back* was billed for Tuesday night.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company occupies the boards here this week in the musical comedy, *Florodora*. Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood was capital, singing her songs in a humorous and taking manner; as Dolores, Miss Josephine O'Sullivan, who possesses a powerful and sweet voice, was most successful; Mr. A. E. Passmore was very funny in the part of Anthony Tweedlepunch, his jokes and fooling being heartily relished; Mr. Allen Morris as Frank Abercoed pleased all; Miss Lily Gullick as Angeld Gilfain scored a success in her songs; and Mr. H. St. John as Captain Arthur Donegal was quite satisfactory. The chorus was very good. The staging was excellent, and the orchestra, under J. C. Hahn, worked well.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A large house gathered on Monday to witness Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's No. 1 company in *Proof*. Keen interest is evinced throughout, especially in Scene 3. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gives a manly rendering of Pierre Lorance; Mr. W. J. Butler submits a capital piece of acting as Lazare; Mr. Wilfred Bailey keeps the audience amused as Chamboran; Miss Beatrice Shirley is seen to advantage in the dual rôle of Madeline and Adrienne.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Very prominent in a capital programme this week appear the Ten Dixey Girls in a charming vocal scena, *The Silver Moon*; the various solos are capitally rendered, backed up by a strong chorus and some excellent dancing; Horace Whitley delights the audience as a comedian in some enjoyable Irish songs; the Four Watsons as accomplished vocalists and instrumentalists give some capital renderings; Anthony entirely mystifies his audience in some exceedingly clever tricks; May Bass is a clever comedienne and dancer; Percival is a splendid pianist; and Ryan and Hall are speciality artists; the usual set of animated pictures concluding the performance.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's dramatic company is drawing capital houses here this week. On Monday *Hamlet* was played to an enthusiastic house. Mr. Allan Wilkie was seen to advantage in the title-rôle, acting with much dramatic power. Miss Ine Cameron gave a finished rendering of Ophelia; Miss Eily O'Dempsey acted with stateliness and dignity the rôle of the Queen of Denmark; and Miss Ruth Nightingale was suitably placed as the Player Queen. Mr. G. Alexander Marsh submitted an excellent representation of Laertes; Mr. Aubrey Mather's portrayal of Claudius was good; Mr. T. Coleman gave a capable rendition of Polonius; and Mr. Wilton Ross as Horatio sustained his part in a thoroughly capable manner. Mr. Ian Fleming as Rosencrantz, Mr. Ernest Digges as Guilderstern, and Mr. Gordon Wingate as Osric did well. *The Lady of Lyons*, *David Garrick*, *The Bells*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *Robert Macaire*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* are also in the répertoire.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. G. Edwardes is presenting Mr. Alexander Loftus and company in *The New Barmaid* at the Grand. Mr. Charles Adeson's efforts are rightly directed in the rôle of Bertie White; Mr. Alexander Loftus is in his glory as the whimsical William White; Mr. Leslie Austin wins approbation in the part of Captain Lovebury; Mr. James Grant is well placed as Colonel Claymore; Mr. W. E. Chewd is clever as M. Bonsor; and minor rôles are admirably sustained by Messrs. G. Roslyn, M. Neville, John Cole, and F. Collins. Miss Grafton deserves praise for her rendering of Braddy; Miss Winifred Preston is a brilliant Lady Moulton; Miss Violet Osmund makes a pleasing Dora Heather; Miss Maude Nichols is seen to advantage as Brenda Louth; and Miss Amy Preston is a bright and charming Ethel Joy. The dances by the Star Trio are cordially applauded. Mr. Lawson Lambert is winning golden opinions by his able management.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is here in *Her Fatal Past*. Mr. George M. Newall gives a scholarly performance as Mark Desmond; Mr. Victor Rowland is commendable as Leonard Fernside; Mr. Wilson Coleman carefully handles the rôle of Gilbert Fernside; and Mr. Claude Paget is quaint as Reuben Treadaway. It would be difficult to find more suitable representatives of Dickey Bird and Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs than Mr. Edward Sydney and Mr. T. Edward Ward. The latter is never at a loss, and Mr. Sydney keeps the house in hearty merriment. Miss Ward proves herself a capable emotional actress as Honor Symes; Miss Adeline Raby is good in the dual rôles of Ruth Fernside and Bella de Lara; Miss Gertie Reid is a lively Kitty; and Miss Audrey Sutherland makes a favourable impression as Leonard.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The Three Prestons bring down the house here in their amusing sketch, *The Liftman's Rise*; Rosy Revel is a droll comedienne; the Roma troupe of lady jugglers submit an interesting turn; Daisy Davidson, New Zealand soprano, gains applause; George Ridgwell is an admirable character vocalist; Oswald Williams, American illusionist, contributes a turn which is full of mystery; Belle Braham, pictorial songstress, is successful in her latest items; Cosgrove and Burns are entertaining comedy artists; Herbert Shelley makes a sensational hit in his one-act quick-change drama, *Dan, the Outlaw*; and the sketch, *Our Curate*, is enacted with dramatic effect by Fred Eustace and company.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Variety is the order of the week here, Will Rain and company head the bill with their novelty, *Motor Maniac*, which is illustrated by the Bellograph; the Continental "stilt-walkers" are very amusing; Arthur Stacey, comedian, adds pleasure to the entertainment; Miss Louise Hall sings illustrated songs with great effect; the Bros. Onda give a funny nautical act; Wallau the boy juggler is a wonder; some fine sand-dancing is supplied by Stevens and Rennior; the Pender Troupe perform a clever sketch, *Hands Up*; and the Bellograph shows some of the latest pictures.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Dickie Clare and company occupy the boards here this week in a farcical absurdity, *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Clare, a comedian of exceptional ability, is heard to advantage as Silas Slim; Mr. Leonard Maitland, in his portrayal of a "dude" part, causes roars of laughter; Mr. T. W. Benson as Peter Pettitoe is excellent; Mr. Dan Ryan shows ability as Biffins; Messrs. A. W. Thompson, George Minto, James Quinn, and Bert Collins, in the minor parts, are worthy of commendation. Miss Madge Bourne as Lucky Liza deserves all praise, singing and dancing with good taste. Another good interpretation is that of Miss Vesta Browne as Virgina Blatherwick; whilst Miss Belle Russell as Marie Pettitoe fills the part adequately. A pleasing feature is the dainty dancing and singing of the Astor Trio.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton. — Mr George Alexander's company is here in *His House in Order*. The Nina of Miss Jean Sterling MacKinley is a finely finished assumption; the Hilary Jesson of Mr. Stanley T. Ewart is an outstanding feature, being thoroughly sound and effective; Mr. J. Howard Pearce is Filmer Jesson is in every sense successful; and Mr. Lloyd Lowndes is entirely satisfactory as Major Maurewarde. Geraldine is capably depicted by Miss Elaine Steddall; and the parts of Sir Daniel and Lady Ridgeley and Pryce Ridgeley receive ample justice at the hands of Mr. George Fitzgerald, Miss Augusta Haviland, and Mr. E. R. Hollway. Mr. R. Besant and Mr. J. Douglas Campbell as Harding and Forsham are very good; and Mr. Luke Forster is to be heartily congratulated upon his portrayal of Dr. Dilnott. The Derek of Miss Moyna Bill deserves special mention; and the French governess is vivaciously played by Mlle. Eva Grand.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—A pantomimical sketch by Chas. Vandyke and company, entitled *Sensations*, causes much amusement here, and cannot fail to please; Strong and Mainze are very entertaining in their Continental cannon act; Billy Farrell is a capital coon comedian, and creates much hearty laughter; Tony is a very acceptable whistler; Adderley Bros. are clever instrumental mimics; Johnny Worman, comedian, is entertaining; Madge Daly is a pleasing comedienne; and the Palace Bioscope is, as usual, well to the fore.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—The world-famed Yamamoto and Koyoshi, said to be the most wonderful performers Japan has yet produced, head the programme here, and the nature and quality of their entertainment evoke the utmost enthusiasm. Bosanquet presents a musical scena, in which he introduces the singing violin and his wonderful Bosanquephone, affording to the hearers considerable delight, which finds reflection in the applause accorded. Unquestionably out of the ordinary is Mlle. de Rose, the lady baritone vocalist; the Three Whirligigs prove diverting to the last degree in their *Fun in a Kitchen*; J. H. Hawtrey shows his capabilities as an actor-vocalist; and a humourist of considerable excellence is present in Chas. R. Whittle; Carl Lynn justifies his nomenclature of the King of Animal Mimics; and the Walfords do astonishing work as equilibrists.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—Trick and Trixie prove sufficiently entertaining with a mixture of humorous dialogue, knockabout and acrobatic tricks, singing, instrumental music, and clever dancing; juggling, varied and skilful, is supplied by Chas. Lestree; Madeline and Fedora Kay may be commended for their merits as vaudeville artists, and also for their admirable scena, *The Nightingale*; charming Pollo Jerome acquits herself on the trapeze in a fashion highly creditable; Hector and Sultan evinced excellence as acrobats and grotesque comedians; Renson and Waite (comedy duettists), Miss Sadie Simpson (comedienne and coon artist), Denby and Dent (in a novel up-to-date comedy act), and the Bioscope complete the programme.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Chapman.—*Rogues of the Turf* proved a powerful attraction on Monday. Miss Mabelle F. Barlow is most effective in the rôle of Marion; Miss Hilda Shirley is meritorious as Nellie Flaxman; a pretty song is acceptably rendered by Miss Madge Palmer, a chic Phyllis; Mr. Conrad Heywood is well chosen to represent Sir Gerald Heathcote; and Mr. Dan F. Roe is equal to the demands made upon him as Arthur Somerton. The Captain Dudley Clifton of Mr. George Harvard is vigorous; and Mr. H. Marco is well placed as Moses Solomons. Mr. Harry Custins and Mr. F. Rawson Buckley are both smart in their respective assumptions of Sam and Joe Flaxman.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company, Ltd; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—Mr. Alfred Hemming is presenting *The Spring Chicken* here this week. The audiences have been large and enthusiastic. Miss Chrissie Leonard was very successful as Rosalie; Mr. J. S. Durant made much entertainment out of Gustave Babori; Mr. Harry Averill was artistically funny as Boniface; and Mr. George Dance's company is generally most efficient.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*The Prodigal Son*, from Old Drury, finely played by Mr. Arthur Collins's company, and produced under the personal direction of the author, has crowded the Gaiety. Miss Lily Hall Caine's beautiful impersonation of Thora was thoroughly appreciated; Miss Alma Murray, with the genius of heredity, did complete justice to her part; Miss Cecil Cromwell was dramatically imposing as Helga; Mr. Henry George gave a powerful performance of Stephen; Mr. Norman Partridge was most artistic as Oscar; and Mr. Henry Renouf, as Magnus, was forceful. The scenery was beautiful.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.—Mr. Ernest Shand appears for one week more, and crowds welcome his performance; the Violas, white Mahatmas; Vivians, the dancing girl; and Ben Albert, the comedian, are worth witnessing. Their work is sincere and novel. Vernon's Bioscope, which is a feature here, is quite up to date. The other attractions are dance carnivals and fancy dress competitions, for which valuable prizes are offered.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. J. Kelly.—For the pleasure of countless thousands Miss Florrie Forde remains another week at this popular place of amusement. The new turns are Mr. Percy Honri, who manipulates the concertina so as to make it a power in the world of melody. Craig, Rose, and Craig, gymnastic experts, make a welcome appearance. Other pleasing turns are the Marion Sisters, Miss Maud Edwardes, and the Castle Bioscope, also dancing in the magnificent ball room to the strains of Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Managing-Director, Mr. F. J. Connor.—The new turns include Hoppit, Tony, and Terry, the nucleus of a coster circus, who are really clever; Herr Adeson's performing fox terriers make for success; Miss Victoria Dagmar gives a fine exhibition on the horizontal bar, and the clowns are funny.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—An exceedingly clever representation of *Cousin Kate* was given on Monday by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's principal company. To that talented actress, Miss Lilias Earle, in the title-rôle, was sweet and lovable. Mr. Hutchison made a delightful Heath Desmonde; the unpleasant qualities of the Rev. James Bartlett were quietly emphasised by the clever acting of Mr. Ernest Cox, and Mr. S. Irwin Barrett was natural, if not quite boyish enough, as Bobby Spencer; Mrs. Spencer received admirable treatment at the hands of Miss Amy Coleman, and Miss Margaret Marshall did the little she had to do as Jane excellently; Miss Hilda Honiss played the part of Amy Spencer with charming demureness. On Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the same company presented the new comedy, *On the Love Path*, and on Thursday *The Orchid* was staged by Mr. George Dance's company.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—High-class variety is attracting much patronage this week. Aileen and Doris Woods, New Zealand twins, win much popularity; Miss Alice Braunstein has a charming voice and a most pleasing style; Mr. Alf Daniels is an expert banjoist; Miss Maud Fitz-Stubbs an undoubtedly clever pianist; Mr. Fred Daniels has humorous songs; and Mr. F. C. Hennequin must be highly complimented on his dramatic recitals and character sketches.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—*The Catch of the Season*, which entered on its second week here on Monday night, continues to attract large and appreciative audiences. The welcome accorded Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss must be most gratifying to these popular artists; and the other members of this excellent company repeat their success of last week.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is appearing here this week in *A Girl on the Stage*, which is enthusiastically received by large audiences. Mr. Lennox Pawle has ample scope to display his versatile abilities, and is irresistibly funny as Lord Sanctobury. Miss Queenie Leighton gives a delightful presentment of Miss Molly Montrose, rendering her vocal numbers in a manner which wins for her unstinted applause. The part of Algernon Southdown is played with much humour by Mr. Arthur Longley; and the Misses Fanny Dango and Valli Valli are exceedingly good as the Ladies Isabel and Dorothy Congress. Broad comedy is provided by Mr. John Humphries as Shingle; and Miss Hazel Saqui is admirable in the rôle of Letty. Alderman Briggs has a capital exponent in Mr. Colin Coop, and Miss Julita Dumas as Lady Agness and Miss Nellie Johnston as Lady Rose are both successful in their respective rôles. The smaller parts are all in good hands, and the play is staged with taste and liberality.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—A series of military amateur performances, in conjunction with the Irish Theatrical Club, is taking place here this week on behalf of the Army and Navy Veterans' Association, and on Monday night Mr. Hubert Henry Davies' play, *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* was presented before a large audience.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh. — The management of this establishment have catered well for their patrons here this week, the principal attraction being the ever-welcome Harriett Vernon, who is vociferously applauded for her admirably rendered songs. Orpheus is an accomplished musician, and achieves conspicuous success; and Spry and Austin are as diverting as ever. Walton and Lester, "World's Worst Wizards," are responsible for a laughable turn; and Dot Harvey, a clever low comedy artist, wins warm applause. Vernando scores heavily as a ventriloquist; and Georgina Leonard is a comedienne of more than ordinary merit. Edith Courtney's excellent voice is heard to advantage in several ballads; and Pat Connolly, champion wrestler; and the Empire Pictures, complete the bill.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—An excellent all-round company is headed by an old Dublin favourite in the person of J. W. Rowley, who admirably sustains his reputation as a comedian, and is encored nightly. Another highly successful artist is Ormond Penstone, conjurer and illusionist, whose smart turn elicits applause. The Dean Tribune company's sketch, *Applicants*, creates hearty laughter; and Mlle. Renée plays a number of musical instruments to perfection. The Henriques are clever and amusing in a comedy acrobatic act; and Ailsa Douglas delights all with her vocalism. Walter Stanley is a capital comedian, and scores successfully; Rose Gené is a pleasing ballad vocalist; and the Bioscope pictures are, as usual, a capital series.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—At this pleasant resort "the Smart Set" entertainers are once more drawing large crowds. The vocalists for the week are Miss Lena Hutchings, soprano; Mr. Lionel Atwill, bass; Miss Hilda Light, soprano; Mr. Arthur Court, tenor; and their songs and duets are highly appreciated. Miss Georgie Martin, comedienne, is as charming as ever; and Mr. Walter George is a genial humorist and mimic, who seems never to tire of responding to the demands of the delighted audience; the Bioscope pictures are also interesting.

ROUND ROOM, ROTUNDA.—The Irish Animated Photo. Co. are still here, and drawing packed houses daily.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The artists appearing here include Alice Ashworth, soprano vocalist; Rex and Graham, living marionettes; Little Dandy, character comedian; Louie Rex, serio and dancer; and Rex Graham, comedian and dancer.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—Walter Davison, ventriloquist; Will Victor, versatile comedian; Sisters Du Barrie, duettists and dancers; Marion Wilson, comedienne; Kitty Seymour, coon vocalist and dancer; and Daisy Reddy, vocalist, are appearing here.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*A Rogue's Daughter*, now paying a first visit here, is well received. Mr. Roy Gordon gave a characteristic rendering of Sir George Mynard; Miss Gertrude Sterroll as Lady Mynard played a difficult part gracefully; Mr. Frank V. Fenn as Frank Tyler fetched the popular parts of the house with his telling style; Mr. Richard Ferris acted the cool, calculating villain Colonel Foster in an excellent manner; Mr. E. Hall Eldon as Ebenezer Dunnem and Miss Beckie Elliston as Priscilla Jenkins supplied the comedy element to everybody's satisfaction; and Miss Madge Devereux was sufficiently sympathetic as the much wronged Letty Grey. Miss Florence Gomer being successful as the waif Dicky.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Mlle. Von Etta, a lady illusionist and quick change artist, takes premier honours this week. Edna Latonne is a singer of sensible songs; Wragge and Wragge are military athletes of the first order; Mulvey and Miriam in a comedy act, *In the Studio*, are a most engaging turn; the Sisters Daventry, coon vocalists; the Two Neros, tumblers; and the Empire Pictures all help to make up a good bill.

DUMFRIES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. E. Potts; Manager, Payne Seddon, Esq.—For six nights Mr. George Stephenson is presenting here *The Night of the Party*. The principal part is sustained by Miss Evelyn Howard, an ideal Lady Hampshire; Miss Lena Graham plays with acceptance as Mrs. Young; Miss Stanley Ronalds is very good as Gipsy Vandeller; and Miss Maud Linden smart as Pauline. Mr. Frank H. Denton is a great success as Mr. Frank Frayne; Mr. Sebastian Smith was very well received as Mr. Crosbie; and Mr. Douglas Munro does full justice to the part of Mr. Flambert.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A large and appreciative audience welcomed the reproduction of the delightfully breezy comedy, *Beauty and the Barge*, on Monday evening. Mr. Blake Adams again appeared as the amorous Captain Barley; his make-up, actions, and gait being excellent. Miss May Fairclough made a vivacious Ethel Smedley; Miss Mary Pemberton was a bright Lucy Dallas, and Miss Ruby Wyndham was excellent as Mrs. Baldwin. Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs. Porter played with much humour and tact; Mr. Walter Pemberton impersonated the peppery Major Smedley to perfection; Mr. Charles White was a capital John Dibbs; Mr. Fred Knight a most comical Tom Codd, and Mr. Thomas Pauncefort exceedingly effective as Augustus the "third hand." The parts of Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N., and Herbert Manners were nicely played by Mr. Edward Coventry and Mr. Aubrey Maillalieu respectively. The pretty playlet, Jerry and a Sunbeam, preceded, Mr. Maillalieu and Miss Pemberton appearing effectively in the title rôles. A very effective and pretty new act drop, painted by Mr. H. Fowler Hogg, was shown for the first time this week, and was much admired.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Charles Majilton and his able company again hold the boards here, and submit *The Plumber* and *The Trippers* to large houses. *The Plumber* was given on Monday evening, and for genuine fun it would be hard to beat. Mr. Charles Majilton as Doctor Felix Syrup simply revelled in the part, while as Benjamin Butterant, the Plumber, Mr. Jim Bond could not be improved upon. Miss Maddie Majilton as Daisy, the maid slavey, made a big hit, and all the other parts were in excellent keeping. Several songs of an appropriate nature are introduced, and the entertainment from start to finish is very enjoyable.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. R. J. Dexter.—The Gondolier Glee Singers are topliners, and their harmonious singing of a number of songs is very pleasing. Brady and Johnson present a very amusing sketch, the scene of which is laid in Paris. Little Vio-Lette is a juvenile marvel possessed of a strong and sweet voice. A capital turn is that of Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist, who gives a dramatic rendering of "Dreams." The Cavalottis present a pleasing musical act, in which they introduce a great number of instruments. Ross and Gordon, duettists; Daisy Ray, coon impersonator; the Falcons, acrobats; May Fallowfield, a dainty comedienne; and the Bioscope complete a varied and attractive programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Miss Grace Warner's company is appearing here in *The Scarlet Clue*. The drama is adequately staged, and the company is a very strong one. Miss Warner plays the principal part of Sal Scarlet, of Houndsditch, very powerfully, her delineation of the drunken, dissolute, and revengeful creature being a work of art. Mr. George Gordon as Michael Stanton, the villain, gives a good performance; Mr. Reginald Brown as Jack Esmond, the hero, is successful; and Miss Violet Palfrey as little Polly acts very prettily.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mr. George Dance's principal company appeared here for the first three evenings of the week in the *Orchid*. Miss Gladys Ward is a graceful and charming Josephine Zaccary, singing and dancing in a most artistic manner; Miss Dorothy Firmin, a dainty and pretty Lady Violet; Miss Emily Stevens invested the part of Caroline Vokins with a rich humour, some popular numbers also falling to her lot; Miss Ethel Holdsworth, of pretty face and handsome figure, made a dignified and appropriate Countess Anstruther; Miss Florence Wakeman a very effective Zelie; and Miss Constance Hamilton a satisfactory Thisbe. Mr. Colin Campbell as Meakin was excellent; Mr. Sinclair Holden and Mr. H. Bullock-Webster did capital work in their respective parts, Guy and Dr. Faussett; Mr. Richard Nainby was a brisk animated Comte Raoul; Mr. J. R. Val a clever dancer and a good Zaccary; and Mr. Stenton Liddard a quietly effective Mr. Chesterton. M. Jean Desormes was the able conductor. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company completes the week here with performances of *The Country Mouse* and *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, with Miss Annie Hughes in the cast.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Mouillot's company appeared here for three nights in *San Toy*. Miss Bessie Allayne sings well, and was attractive in the title-rôle; to Miss Lottie Sergeant must be given unstinted praise for an interesting and pleasing performance as Miss Dudley; Miss Irene Lavington made a good Poppy; Miss Maud Rundell as Rose Tucker contributed an agile dance; Miss Winifred Howard was a commanding Ko-Fan; and Miss Grace Rosaire a pretty Tug Sli; and Mr. Bert Edwards as Li provided much amusement. Fine work is contributed by Mr. Hugh Webb, a distinct, polished, and pleasing Yen How; Mr. Arthur Cartwright made a captivating Capt. Bobby; Mr. Percy Stevens an amusing Emperor; Mr. James Williamson a capable Fo Hop; Mr. Robert Rivers an energetic Sir Bingo; Mr. F. Taylor a satisfactory Lieutenant Tucker; and smaller parts were in good hands. The orchestra was under the direction of Mr. H. Sullivan-Brooke. Mr. E. Lockwood's company appeared here on Thursday in *Sergeant Brue*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—At the top of the bill here is Peter Gotz, a young and powerful wrestler; Miss Ivey Roze and Mr. Frank Calvert contribute a popular and amusing turn; Messrs. Barret and Knowles are a couple of clever comedians who keep the house in excellent humour; Miss Marie Blythe is a favourite as a contralto vocalist; Kisbey has very funny patter; Miss Adey Spencer possesses a pretty voice, and dances neatly; Hughes and Elliot are sprightly sand dancers; and the pictures complete the bill.

THE FLORAL HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—The fête of Saturday evening last was an unqualified success here. Mr. Norfolk Megone's grand orchestra carried out a very interesting programme. Miss Eleanor Felix achieved great success as a vocalist, and a capital display of fireworks by Messrs. Pain and Son concluded the programme.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is playing in *The Drama of Life* here this week. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton interprets the part of Harry Beech in capital style, being most ably assisted by Miss Kate Hallam as "Sylvia"; the acting of Mr. John J. Hooker as Walter Beech, the villain, is deserving of great praise; Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde and Miss Florence French as Lady Wilde are clever in their comedy work; and little Miss Elsie May as Master Robert Beech is intelligent.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—A very enjoyable performance of Mr. Thomas Raceward's romantic play *Sunday*, an idyll of the Far West, is given here this week by a well-selected company under the direction of Mr. Louis Calvert. Miss Emelie Polini appears in the title-part, which she renders with delightful freshness, creating a most favourable impression. Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jack have able representatives in Messrs. W. Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, Cecil Yapp, and Arthur Vezin. Miss Muriel Pope is quite realistic as the Nun; and Miss McAimee Murray is decidedly good as Mrs. Naresby. Mr. Leonard Pagden plays the part of Colonel Brinthorpe in spirited fashion; an excellent portrait of Tom Oxley is presented by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; and Mr. G. Wallace Johnston characterises his impersonation of Arthur Brinthorpe cleverly.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The popularity of *La Poupée* is again shown this week, crowded audiences having been attracted to the Lyceum to see Audran's opera represented by Mr. C. P. Levilly's company. Miss Stella Gastelle, so long associated with the part of Alesia, plays with undiminished charm and vivacity, and sings with cultured taste. Mr. W. H. Powell, as the toy-maker, creates abundant fun. His impersonation is humorous and effective, and the audience applaud his efforts in unstinted fashion. The Lancelot of Mr. Manfred Russell is bright and amusing, and he uses his fine tenor to advantage; Mr. Frederick Hobbs is a stately Father Maxime, and his singing gives great pleasure. His masterly rendering of "A Jovial Monk am I" receives the deserved tribute of a triple recall. The Balthazar of Mr. Vernon Reed, the Baron Chanterelle of Mr. William Griffin, and the truly comic Loremois of Mr. Fred Seymour are alike admirable. Miss Avis Grahame is an agreeable Madame Hilarius, and Miss Kitty Cavendish is *chic* as Henri. The chorus-singing is firm and vigorous, a quartet party being particularly good. Miss Edie Oakes, Miss Adelina Burgon, and Miss Lola Trevor evoke an enthusiastic encore for their pretty dancing, as the three dolls; and the mounting of the piece, with new scenery and dresses, is excellent.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The successful musical comedy, *A Trip to the Highlands*, is once more here, and the principals, one and all, repeat their former triumph. Mr. Wal Croft as The McMutchin and Mr. Joseph B. Montague as Timmins keep the fun going with great zest and humour; Mr. Frank Barclay, Mr. Gus Wheatman, Mr. Arthur Poole, and Mr. W. Smith also score again in their respective parts; and among the ladies Miss Millie Engler, Miss Maisie Ellinger, Miss Millie Durdette, and Miss Kitty Clinton sustain the leading feminine rôles with charm and success. The chorus, the dancing, and the *mise-en-scène* are irreproachable.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—A noteworthy feature of the programme here this week is the sketch by two young performers, Eadie and Ramsden. The lady is graceful and pretety, and sings with marked taste, and the gentleman is a nimble dancer and acrobat, and a very capable pianist. The reception of the artists is enthusiastic. Miss Ethel Walker, in an unconventional musical act, demonstrates her ability as singer and player; Miss Ruby Dahl, assisted by her "merry manikins," gives a clever sketch; Mr. Steve McCarthy's dancing secures for him a hearty recall; Mr. Johnny Gilmour amuses with song and patter; Rita Stella's coon songs and charming dancing are received with delight; Lord Murray and Lord display their proficiency in the handling of Indian clubs and in boxing; Mr. Frank Lynne causes roars of laughter by his entertaining rendering of droll songs; Miss Marie Kendall's forceful style appeals strongly to the audience, who recall her again and again; the Boisset Troupe, exhilarating as ever in their time-honoured sketch, *The Bricklayers*, evoke shouts of laughter; and the American Bioscope completes an admirable bill of fare.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Mouillot's chief company is here this week in *The Geisha*, and is again drawing crowded and appreciative audiences. Miss Louie Collier as O Mimosa San is very sweet, and her singing gains constant recalls; Miss Florrie Saunders, who plays the part of Molly Seymour, with verve and vivacity, was in excellent voice, and was repeatedly encored; Miss Violet Kenyon as O-Juliette Diamante, and Miss Aubrey Ashton

Under the Russian Flag, presented by Mr. Jack Haddon's company, forms the attraction at this house. Mr. Haddon presents a very striking picture of Capt. Demetrius; Mr. Chas. Liddon's depiction of Wolf Marischka is vivid and powerful; a very amusing figure is Peter Poluski, as portrayed by Mr. Hal Forde; Mr. Fred Haming as Alexis also causes much laughter; Mr. Edward Avinal as the villain Michael Romanoff does justice to the rôle; and Mr. Cecil Melton plays the part of Ivan Romanoff with much dramatic skill. Miss Marie Rayner is to be commended for a capital representation of Luko Marischka; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh impersonates Vera Vassiloff cleverly; and Miss Violet Lytton is successful as Ogarita.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Glasgow theatregoers are this week having their first opportunity of seeing Mr. Stephen Phillips' beautiful play *Paolo and Francesca*, and as the cast includes Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird, the warm welcome accorded the play and the players is fully justified. As Giovanni Malatesta Mr. H. B. Irving has a part that affords him the fullest scope for that intense and powerful acting of which he has so often proved himself a master, and the many and varying moods of the part are shown with a power that enthrals the audience. Mr. E. Harcourt as the youthful Paolo is excellent, and his love scenes are particularly fine. Miss Dorothea Baird ably depicts the growing love of Francesca, and her acting reaches a high point in the poetic love scene in the garden. Miss Maud Milton makes a striking figure as the jealous Lucrezia, and Miss Ada Mellon's fine voice is impressive in the prophecies of Angela. Miss Elaine Inescourt as Nita and Miss Nannie Bennett as Tessa are of much value. A feature of the performance is the appearance of several of Sir Henry Irving's supporters, notably Mr. Chas. Dodsworth, Mr. Frank Tyars, and Mr. J. Archer. The play is magnificently staged. On Thursday Mr. H. B. Irving was seen in the dual rôle in *The Lyons Mail*, so long associated with his father's name and fame.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company in that favourite old farcical comedy, *The Private Secretary* is occupying the boards here this week. Although now on its twenty-second year's tour, the piece has lost none of its old merriment and spirited animation. The Rev. Robert Spalding is in the able hands of Mr. Donald Price-Evans, who is untiring in his efforts to amuse, and who plays the part to excellent advantage. As Mr. Cattermole, Mr. W. Hargreaves succeeds in keeping the audience in a continual ripple of mirth from rise till fall of curtain. Douglas Cattermole (the masquerader) is ably delivered by Mr. Randolph Reade; Mr. Jas. P. Hussey makes an admirable Harry Marsland; Mr. W. T. Elworthy as his father is also above the average; while that amusing personage Mr. Sidney Gibson is left to Mr. Vivian Gilbert, whose talent is highly appreciated by the audience. The feminine parts are excellently filled. The acting of Miss Dora Gray as Edith Marsland is much admired, while as Eva Webster Miss Beth Elliott makes a decided hit. The spiritualistic Miss Ashford is capably portrayed by Mrs. Alfred Davis, while the part of Mrs. Stead could not be in better hands than those of Miss Cecily Wade. The other parts are ably filled. The piece is preceded by a one-act farce of Mr. Jas. Street's, entitled *My American Admirer*, in which the Misses Elliott and Wade and Messrs. Elworthy and Hussey receive the unstinted applause of large audiences.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is here in *Faust Up-to-Date*, and is securing good audiences. To most patrons the burlesque is entirely new. Praise is due to Mr. Herbert Sparling for his clever rendering of Mephistopheles. He was suffering from severe hoarseness on the opening night, and the strain was very heavy, yet his songs, dances, and "business" were distinctly enjoyed. As Valentine, Mr. Fred Winn was very successful, carrying off the boisterous fun of the part with much go, and excelling in eccentric dancing. Mr. Vivian Aubrey as Old Faust made much of the little work he had to do in the opening scene, and the Lord Chancellor of Mr. Stephen Adeson once again demonstrated that artist's cleverness. Miss Marie Shields was very clever in the rôle of Martha, and was at once a favourite. The Faust of Miss Moyra Sackville was a dashing impersonation. Her solos were beautifully sung. As Marguerite, Miss Eda Mardy vocalised charmingly, and in the "Jewel Song" her rich soprano delighted everyone. Encores were frequent and well deserved, and her acting was of a high order. The Siebel, Wagner, and Vivandiere of Miss Luna Love, Miss Iris Roy, and Miss Beryl Ford were good both in acting and singing. As Elsa, Miss Amy Payne charmed the house by her finished dancing, and was recalled. The other characters were all well performed, the chorus and orchestra and the scenery and staging being bright and effective.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—*The Beast and the Beauty* is being presented here. Mr. Milton Rosmer portrays Jack Barrymore with versatile talent; Miss Alice Bowes acts charmingly as Violet; the Henry Denver of Mr. Bernard Mervyn is a finished performance, and the splendid physique of Mr. George Harvard is well suited to the depiction of Ned Samson; Delilah Vane is handsomely represented by Miss Daisy Gwynne; Mr. William C. Passmore gives a decided touch of character to the rôle of the Carl of Loman; the Tom Chicken of Mr. Harry Talbot is an amusing study; and the Dick Soams of Mr. Harry Wimpenny is excellent, the parts of Mr. Sharp and Father Paul being well filled by Messrs. George Belmore and Stanley Vivian. Misses Mollie Williams and Mamie Rendle are smart as the Housemaids, and in the boxing scene Messrs. Bill Ruggles, Tom Franks, James Neal, Will Costa, and Ben Howard take part with credit.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*A Beautiful Fiend* is being presented here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company with admirable results. Miss V. St. Lawrance as Wanda Lubinoff acts with well-sustained effort; and Tom Robertson as Count Haratiff makes an able second in villainy. Mr. Montague Beaudyn is a manly Ivan Paulovich, Sergious Strogoff, and Nadine Haratiff are sympathetically played by Mr. Abbert Wray and Miss Irene Munro. Malachi is ably enacted by Tommy Byron. Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles and Miss Blanche Hill as Patty Woodlands supply agreeable comedy relief.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Horace Stanley and his company are here this week with *The 10.30 Down Express*, in which Mr. Stanley sustains the part of Sam Wagstaffe with great success; ably assisted in by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts. Mr. Charles Burdon as James Juderwick, gives a vigorous rendering. Mr. George Beverly as Jack O'Malley makes a manly hero, and Miss Elsie Capell as Bessie Leigh is a pleasing heroine. Mr. Alaric Burton as Cuthbert Leigh acts with dignity, and Miss Evelyn M. Walton as Letitia Leigh depicts an elderly spinster with comical effectiveness. Miss Josephine Lee combines tragedy and comedy in her representation of the deserted wife. Mr. Tom Roydan as Seth Coombs is forcible. Mr. Edwin Clark as the detective is natural.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Miss Annie Bell and company in *Sapho*, after a successful week at the Royal Princess's, have moved down here and are introducing this striking play to Govan playgoers.

NEW GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The management here have contrived to successfully condense *The Shaughraun*, and a very creditable performance is given by the Gaiety stock company. Mr. T. C. Conover is a clever and entertaining Conn, and Miss Mattie Crawfurd makes a handsome Moya. Miss Laurie A. Pardy and Miss Marie de Roos are seen as Arte O'Neill and Celaine Ffolliot, and Robert Ffolliot is ably acted by Mr. Horace Booth. Mr. A. D. Adams is first-rate as Captain Molyneux. The genial parish priest is well played by Mr. H. Hesselgrave. Mr. Wilton Reed is an effective Corry Kinchella, and Harvey Duff is enacted with grim effect by Mr. A. H. Clarke. Miss Jenny McIntyre is humorous as Conn's mother.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Miss Lil Hawthorne is again the star here, and her melodious songs are highly popular, the gipsy scena being specially attractive. Alexandre and Hughes are a couple of comedy musicians who always have a warm welcome here, and their business is smart and up to date. Annie Abbott, the Georgia magnet, displays her curious skill. Alburtus and Bartram are exceedingly expert in club swinging. Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian and cake walker, is a favourite. Ludwig Amann's life-like imitations of famous men evoke hearty applause. The Darktown Entertainers, George Reeves, and Leonard and Francis complete a good company.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Alexander and Hughes give an amusing and clever musical turn here and meet with great success. Rosie Bartlett with her songs has a hearty recall. Harrigan and Holt are a smart pair of comedians who dance exceptionally well. Regene and Robini are as comical as ever; and Paulinetti and Piquo supply a smart performance on the Horizontal bar. Poole and Poole, comedy duo, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco in a humorous sketch, *Returning from the Ball*; Frank Darwen, actor vocalist; and Gertrude Bradshaw, a pleasing singer, ably assisted a successful performance. "The Globe of Life" has also been shown here, and the daring cycling performance of Wizard and Irene Stone was heartily applauded.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Lily Burnand comes provided with several very good songs, which she renders admirably. Alma, Abdullah, and Superbe do their wonderful electrical turn, which is specially well received. Gilbert Girard's imitations are life-like, and he made a distinct hit. The Bros. Webb are musicians of ability, and their turn is very enjoyable. Hallam and Stanton appear in the musical comedietta, *A Broken Journey*, a smart and attractive item. Mdlle. Thelma, clay modeller; Les Rubens, operatic vocalists; Annie Laurie, dainty comedienne and dancer; Nat Watkins and Sam Dalton in their respective turns; and Lilian Travelli, comedienne, complete a first-rate company.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Dr. Walford Bodie heads the bill here this week. His performance is as big a draw as ever, judging from the crowded house which greeted him on Monday evening. After going through some amusing electrical experiments with members of the audience as subjects, he completes his turns by treating paralytic children discharged from the local hospital as incurable. Judging from the way his patients are able to walk off the stage, his treatment is highly successful. James Mooney and Ida Holbein are an exceedingly clever and humorous pair. Josh Dixon is a comedian of outstanding merit. Goodfellow and Gregson give a highly amusing sketch, entitled *Watch the Chalk*; Violi is a clever lady instrumentalist and singer; Atray, juggler and hoop manipulator; Arthur Kenny, sensational cyclist; and Alice Blandford, New Zealand Nightingale, all win well-merited applause.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Mr. Johnny Danvers, comedian and dancer, tops the bill here and justifies the selection, his humorous songs being thoroughly appreciated. Harry Brown, coloured comedian, makes a good impression, his eccentricities evoking great laughter. Another notable item is provided by Albert Wyndham and company in the Shakespearian sketch, *Prince Arthur*, in which Miss Ivy Millais is seen to advantage. The company includes the Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers; Mephisto, contortionist; Halma, juggler; Mdlle. Kloct, in picturesque poses; Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope, in the historical duologue, *The Emperor's Divorce*; Tom Davies and company, sketch artists; and the Bioscope with a fine set of pictures.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Tom Edmonds, boxer, tops the bill here, meeting all local aspirants in the "noble art." He is well received, his boxing being decidedly smart. A clever turn is done by Russell Car, military ventriloquist; and Kendrick and Laura are expert society entertainers; John Ross, double-voiced vocalist, is heard to advantage in up-to-date songs. Other members of the company are Mabel Kessler, soprano, and post-born soloist; Kanlo Bros. in sketch, *A Scotsman's Dilemma in Hyde Park*; and Lukos, man monkey. The Queen's Bioscope shows some new and interesting pictures.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mlle. Florence and a company of excellent artists are drawing large houses here this week. Polly Adula greatly pleases with her abilities as a vocalist and dancer; Bros. Arnold are exceedingly clever as illusionists; and Dale and D'Argan appear with success as comedy acrobatic conjurers. Mlle. Florence gives a fine performance on the rolling globe and bottles, and wins applause with her sensational feat of descending a staircase 15ft. high on the rolling globe; the Dana Girls are pleasing duettists and dancers; Harry Keeble scores as an eccentric comedian; the Bendons do well in their impersonations of "That's how they say good-night"; Hoozee provides a good turn as ventriloquist; and Alvar is smart as a gymnast. Abex shows marvellous strength, lifting a motor car and four passengers with comparative ease.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The company is this week headed by George French, comedian; and the next important turn is Rebla the tramp juggler; Edney and Wade are good vocalists and dancers; Sheila McNeil is entertaining as a Scotch comedienne; Lack and Ford present a clever comedy acrobatic performance; J. F. Sterling is a neat comedian and dancer; Linton gives a good equilibristic act; the Cashens are champion step dancers; Mr. Frank Wood has a sweet tenor voice; and the Bioscope is again a feature of the performances.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Mr. John V. Gordon's company occupies the boards here for three nights with *The Best Woman in the World*. The play is well-staged, and Mr. Gordon has selected a competent company. Mr. Arthur Curzon submits a sound representation of Capt. Sir Arthur Langley. Mr. Basil Mitchell figures prominently as the villain Capt. Dudley Stewart. Mr. Wilson Roberts is a capital Hon. Herbert FitzHerbert, and his singing earned well-deserved encores. Mr. John V. Gordon keeps the house in hearty laughter by his humorous portrayal of Solomon Isaacs. Mr. Henry Deane is an excellent Rev. John Wilson, and Mr. Joseph W. Boyling is successful as Richard Thorp. Miss Lily Annesley in the trying rôle of Muriel Clifford acts with cleverness. Miss Phyllis Elton is a fascinating Frixie McKinby. Miss Lelia Drummond plays charmingly the part of Grace Beale and Miss Maggie French is a clever Mary. For the latter part of the week "Geoffrey Stirling" was announced.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD. — General Manager, Mr. David Hart. — Les Voces, operatic soloists and duettists, have been specially engaged for the week, and have done well; Will Farrell is a favourite express comedian, and May Terriss a charming burlesque actress; Fred Collins is a good Scotch character-comedian, Maudie Ford a dainty comedienne and dancer, the Two Jays are unique comedians, and Harry and May Kent, the clever comedy artists, score highly in their amusing comedy absurdity, *The Grass Widower*.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* has been introduced to Yarmouth audiences this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company. In the title-rôle Mr. G. P. Huntley is inimitable, depicting the simple, good-natured Freddy Popple with a quiet gravity which is irresistibly comic, and winning hearty applause for his effectively sung songs. Miss Millie Legarde is excellent as La Bolero, her singing of the many good numbers incidental to the part being animated and expressive, and many encores reward her efforts. Platt and Louise are in the capable hands of Mr. C. M. Daly and Miss Nellie Hodson, the two working excellently together in both song and dance. Mr. Sydney Young as George Hennay, and Mr. James Stevenson as Henry Doring, are most amusing; and their wives are capitally contrasted by Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt. Norman Popple is well played by Mr. Basil S. Foster; and Jaques Kenyon finds an able representative in Mr. Arthur Grover. Violet Brinton is charmingly represented by Miss Eva Kelly, who quickly sings and dances her way into favour. The choruses are spiritedly sung, and the scenery and dresses are excellent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company is here with the successful play. *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*. Mr. Reginald Dance depicts the suave, satirical Mr. Vanderveldt most successfully; and Miss Gladys Mason is light, airy, and fascinating as Lady Clarice Howland. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton is earnest and manly as Colonel Rayner; Mr. Edward Coutts is excellent as Lord Woolham; and the Rev. Hubert Langston is admirably depicted by Mr. George Percy. Aggie Coles is charmingly played by Miss Eve Titheradge; and Miss Mary Weigall is an austere Marchioness. Other parts are well filled.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The famous comedian Mr. Charles Collette is here this week, and presents his humorous monologue, *Hard Luck*. He also joins with Miss Joan Derby in a bright little sketch, *Tea for Two*. A long programme also includes Ford and Hanson, musical millionaires; Hal Brough, antipodean comedian; Marco, boy magician; Mlle. Lumière, kaleidoscopic dancer; Busie and Hurst, in *The Wrong Flat*; Rosie Loader, the slavey at the piano; the Lilewellyns, operatic vocalists; Mme. H. E. Angless' Ladies' Pompadour Band, and the Britanniscope.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The Four Athos give an exceedingly clever show as head acrobats and ball manipulators; Harry Sims amuses as a comedian; Kloof and Ramsay give an original musical burlesque scena; George Brown, the Yorkshire comedian, submits an enjoyable turn; the Clayton Twins, Harriet Wood and Annine Willis, take part in a screamingly funny sketch, *Pepper and Salt*; Norah Donne sings prettily and dances gracefully; Helen Charles contributes a pleasing drawing-room entertainment; and Emlyn Jones and ladies' quartette are most successful in their international vocal scena.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The great attraction for the week is the appearance of the "Pygmies," who excite an enormous amount of wonder and interest. The Frantz troupe of acrobats supply a remarkably clever show, and are recalled each evening. Other artists appearing are Carr Bros., comedians; Edie Gray and her white coons; John Gelding, equestrian; Edgar Budden, roller skate dancer; Babusio Bros., equilibrists; J. H. Culeen, champion boy rider; Miss Ioni Gillett, equestrienne; and Hinton and Wooton, in a football match on bicycles. The Walrus Hunt still continues its amusing course; Rabbit causes roars of laughter as clown; and fresh pictures are shown on the bioscope.

CHAPPELL'S CONCERT COMPANY.—The newcomers are Mlle. Sylvesto, who gives an exceedingly good turn as a contortionist; and Carl Howard, who glories in the title of the crazy conjurer. Other artists appearing are J. H. Crew, eccentric; Clyo and Rochelle, comedian and soubrette; Brothers Hannaway, cross-talkers and dancers; Minnie Leverents, ballad vocalist; Bernard and Weston, the argumentative gents; Harry Barker, versatile artist; the Nettas, harmony duo; the Sisters Hula, vocalists and dancers; Fred Dice, descriptive vocalist; Amy Allnutt, comedienne; Leslie Reed, comedian; Ada Victor, vocalist and dancer; and Will Netta, baritone vocalist.

GREENOCK. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. William Greet's company is here this week with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. Frank E. Petley makes a convincing Marcus Superbus; Mr. C. Yorke is an excellent exponent of Nero; and other parts are well filled by Mr. Charles Aldred, Mr. J. Wetherall, Mr. Frank Wood, Mr. Harry Jones, Mr. Thurston Harris, Mr. Roy Cushing, and Mr. E. Yaldwin. Miss Marie Leonhard is all that could be desired as Mercia; and the other characters are in safe hands. The singing of the chorus is very good, and the scenery and dresses are beautiful.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The bill here is headed by Taro Myaki, the Japanese ju-jitsu wrestler, and his turn, which is very clever, is much appreciated. The Jackley Trio, acrobats; Ernest Montefiore and company, with a sketch, *The Little Colonel*; the Davenports, lightning magicians and illusionists; W. J. Ashcroft, comedian; J. H. Bowman, Transatlantic speciality performer; and J. C. Scatler, comedian and dancer, are also in the bill, and provide first-class entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The principal turn here this week is given by Billie Barlow, the clever comedienne. Other good turns are provided by Mr. Will Sergeant, Anglo-American comedian; Mlle. Zelda, musical performer; Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Sisters Slater, banjoists and dancers; Chummie La Mara, comedienne; Angeline, juggler; and Janet Howard Reynolds, vocalist.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—This has been the annual opera week, and the programme has been provided by Mr. J. W. Turner's Opera Company. The week opened with the favourite *Maritana*, with Mr. Turner himself as Don Cæsar. He was accorded a great ovation, and his singing was admired as much as ever. An altogether charming Maritana was Miss Kitty Brownless, a soprano of considerable power and excellent expression. The Don Jose of Mr. Tom Griffiths, a baritone possessing wonderful evenness of tone and exceptional range, was also greatly appreciated. Mr. Sidney Clifford was as popular as ever as the King; and Miss Jessie Dennis represented Lazarillo. Other operas performed during the week were *The Lily of Killarney*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Waterman* (preceded by the fourth act of *Il Trovatore*), and *Faust*. Besides those already mentioned the following took prominent parts: Miss Addington, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Ethel Locker, Mr. F. J. Hargreave, Mr. R. Cummings, and Mr. John Ridding, who is a great favourite here.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Miss Ada Fawn has fully sustained her popularity here in her latest songs and old favourites. Professor Fuller's illusion, in which he causes his lady partner, Astarte, to float in the air, greatly puzzles the audience; a smart cycle act is given by the Marsumas; Vincent performs a novel table act; a capital vocal turn is given by Merton and Rydon; and an abundance of comedy is provided by Maxford and Niell, George Raper, and Will Daniels.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. M. Baker.—The Donatos, described as one-legged comedians, give a novel act, their jumping and dancing being really wonderful. A musical entertainment of a refined character is given by the Cecilias, their post-horn and cornet solos being especially admired. May and Theresa prove a couple of expert protean artists; Phinas and Aida give a clever gymnastic exhibition; and the programme also includes Charles Chard, comedian; Molly Woolstenholme, operatic balladist; and Annie Casey, comedienne.

HALIFAX.—THE GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is paying a welcome return visit here this week with *The Fatal Wedding*, which is drawing large and enthusiastic houses. Mr. Ernest Owtrim delights by the dramatic excellence of his portrayal of Mr. Wilson; the character of Robert Curtis is still in the safe-keeping of Mr. Herbert Humber, who gives a forcible representation of the mischief-maker; a worthy exponent of O'Reilly is found in Mr. Geo. Waring; and Mr. C. H. Hughes is quite at home as Toto. Miss Marjorie Lawrence is delightfully natural as Jessie, the "Little Mother," her assumption of maternal affection being very pleasing. A formidable Cora Williams is found in Miss Gertrude Harrison; while Miss Madge Haines is a discriminating Mabel Wilson. The specialities introduced by the "kiddies" are particularly good.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Carl Hertz (the mystifier) is the principal attraction here this week, with his new illusion, a full account of which appears on another page. Another leading turn is provided by Frank Danby and company in a musical comedy sketch *Chauffeur*, in which an admirably trained bevy of pretty girls sing finely, while the fun goes merrily with Mr. Danby in the centre. Bros. Dean are gifted dancers and are vociferously received. Mlle. Eldee, George Edney, Harry Wenburn, The Paolis, and Burg, Haug and Wise participate in a capital bill.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—*Human Hearts* is the attraction this week. The piece is presented by a capable company, and has a hearty reception. Mr. George Rowlands as Tom Logan contributes a manly portrayal; Mr. L. Williams is well placed as Fred Armsdale; as the nigger, Morse, Mr. Arthur Estcourt is seen to advantage; Mr. Edwin Palmer as Richard Markham plays in a creditable manner; as Deputy Western, Mr. Frith Leicester is all that could be desired; Jim Mason finds a capital representative in Mr. Sydney Sarl; Mr. Ben McDale is good as James Shaw, and Mike Corrigan is in the capable hands of Mr. Wynne Hammond. Miss Minnie Silvestre gives a smart interpretation; Jennie Logan is cleverly enacted by Miss V. Fordyce; Miss Bessie Palmer scores as Mrs. Sam Logan; little Freda Green, a clever child actress, is excellent as Gracie, and Miss Barbara Bateman gives an impressive impersonation of Jimmy Logan.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Alf Gibson heads the bill here, and is, as usual, successful. Florrie Gallimore sings her songs capitally, and is well received; the Waldrons in their comedy act, *The Silly Burglar*, are funny; the Tally Ho Trio have a hearty reception in their vocal efforts; Vermotte and Dionne contribute a thrilling turn on the triple bars; the Sisters Brand dance cleverly, and the Bros. Brooks are a capital pair of comedians. The animated pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—On Monday Mr. Martin Harvey appeared here in *Boy O'Carroll*. He had an enthusiastic reception, and was, as usual, excellent, and gave a very fine performnace. He had good support from a capable company. Miss Mary Rorke was very well placed as Lady Honoria Vere, and won golden opinions. Miss N. de Silva was amusing as the boy Paudheen, and Major Yarrington had an able exponent in Mr. C. J. Cameron. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd was good as Captain Hebblethwaite. Miss Bessie Elder is to be specially congratulated on her clever acting of Tabitha. The rest of the characters were well filled, and the mounting of the piece was greatly admired.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns. — Houses packed with appreciative audiences are the result of the bookings for this week. The Bros. O'Brien, who head the list, are vociferously encored for their clever and sensational bar performance. The Cullane Trio are old favourites, and in their comedy act, *The Ladies' School*, fairly bring down the house. Harry Nelson, another favourite, is as popular as ever. Cavalli, a Tyneside ventriloquist, is one of the most expert artists in that line that has visited here. Alfred and Son, balancers and tumblers, present a clever and neatly worked turn; Hicks' Clerks in their comedy and refined entertainment are on a return visit, and are to be congratulated upon the success attained, and Clarence Fenwick, a pleasing baritone, and some new films, are also attractive items.

HASTINGS. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Lady Madcap* was here for the first half of the week, and a good house assembled on Monday and greatly enjoyed the joyous abandon of this merry piece. Mr. Bay Russell, who filled the rôle of Bill Stratford, danced with much agility, and with Mr. James Graydon as Posh Jenkins, sang greatly to the satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Harold Parkes was very amusing as Oroya Brown. Mr. George Whillis was very alert as Corporal Ham, and as the Count M. Jules Charmette's singing was greatly liked. Miss Isabelle Dillon was a sprightly and roguish Lady Betty, and her songs and dancing won much well-deserved favour; Miss Ethel Beech was an excellent Susan, and danced some sprightly measures; Miss Elsa D'Usez made a charming Gwenny Holden, and Miss Gabrielle Leighton did well as Mrs. Layton. The ladies of the chorus sang and danced well, and were pleasingly dressed. The orchestra was directed by Mr. Leonard Leslie, and Mr. O. Marshall stage-managed as well as appeared in the cast as Lord Framlington. For the second part of the week, Mr. Fred Mouillot's company in *San Toy* paid a return visit.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—Miss Mollie Nolan, an attractive comedian, opens an excellent programme. Mons. Lozelle scores a success as a sensational gymnast; Miss Patty Yole is a refined vocalist and elegrant dancer; Edward E. Ford is a remarkably facial expert with a fund of original humour; a talented couple are found in Lytton and Bland, who introduce a very pretty little sketch; Leo. Dryden possesses an excellent voice; and the acrobatic performances of the Four Aces prove them comedians of exceptional ability; Sam Mitchello, comedian, receives a warm welcome. The Australian prima donna, Madam Ada Colley, submits delightful renderings of her songs, which are followed with great applause. An interesting comedy act is successfully gone through by George Regan and Fred Ryan; an Australian after-piece, *The Indian*, given by a troupe of comedians, is delightfully piquant and amusing. One of the most attractive items in the programme is the Hippodrome bioscope.

BEACH CONCERT PAVILION. — Manager, Mr. Geo. Blackmore.—The bright entertainment provided by the Wallis Arthur company has made it a firm favourite, and good business results. Mr. Chas. Marston hits the taste of his audience in the songs he submits, and Mr. George Blackmore deservedly keeps premier favourite. Miss Ada Gaskill is happy in her choice of ballads, and Miss Harbor scores a success with her songs. The choruses by the company are a very enlivening feature.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Interesting variety characterises the programme here this week. Miss Amy Atkins, a local lady vocalist, sings with much sweetness; some original juggling is shown by Primavesi; Mr. J. D. Hunter introduces some popular character songs, as well as taking the principal part in the amusing farce, *A Kiss in the Dark*. In this he is associated with Mr. Charles Hawker, and those excellent comediennes Miss Eva and Miss Blanche Bayley. Madame Marie Michele's ballads, rendered in a rich contralto voice, are very pleasing; a marionette circus is cleverly manipulated by the Sisters Petram; Mr. Fred Malburn gives a remarkable exhibition on novel musical instruments; and Miss Ruby Bijou is a graceful and artistic dancer.

ST. LEONARDS PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The Follies are holding the stage here this week. They amuse their audiences in a delightful manner. Mr. H. G. Pellissier contributes some clever and amusing selections on the piano; others of this little company who are equally successful are Mr. Lewis Sydney, Mr. Dan Everard, and the Misses Napier, Ethel Allandale, and Gwennie Mars.

ALEXANDRA PARK.—The Corporation Amusements Committee carried out an evening carnival and fancy dress dance on Wednesday. Prizes were given for the best costumes and the most original dresses. A variety company gave a performance on a special platform. The Sisters Russell rendered duets, Miss Murray sang and danced, Mr. Bert Forss gave a recital of comic pieces, and the Imperial Quartet sang glees and catches. There was a display of fireworks by Mr. W. F. Jury, and music was supplied by handbell ringers and a concertina band.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*Between Two Women* is being played here by Mr. Frederick Melville's company, which includes Mr. Watkin Wynne as the Earl of Millard, Mr. Stephen Langton as his wayward son Harry, and Mr. Godfrey Tearle a manly Philip Carton. Mr. Walter Thornton as Durwood, and Mr. Roland Yorke as Strangeways, make a pretty pair of villains, and their principal victim is sympathetically played by Miss Molly Malone as Violet. Miss Winifred Pearson is seen to advantage in the part of Carmen de Savereaux, and a deeply pathetic rendering of the rôle of the blind boy is supplied by Miss Lulu Bowes. Miss Lilian Earle as Polly, and Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack provide much humour.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The following artists are appearing here:—Hill and Whitaker, in a delightfully refreshing musical interlude; Miss Frances Haskoll with an attractive illustrated song turn; Boden and Bell, a couple of clever youngsters; Mlle. Olive, an accomplished lady juggler; Harding and Ah Sid, a pair of fine acrobats and burlesque jugglers, and Cribb and Cribb, grotesque acrobats. Some good pictures are shown on the Biograph.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Hall Caine's fine play, *The Manxman*, is paying us a return visit with Mr. Alfred B. Cross in the part of Pete. He gives a fine study of the character. Miss Minnie Watersford sustains the rôle of Kate acceptably, and Mr. J. Dillon's Cesar Cregeen is a very creditable performance.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King* is engaging the attention of the audience at this house. Mr. Herbert Ford gives a fine performance as Wilfrid Denver. The Jaikes is Mr. Tom Paulton, who meets with warm favour. The Spider is represented by Mr. Chas. Baird very commendably. Miss Victoria Addison is quite successful as Nellie Denver. The staging was adequate, and all the familiar episodes were well received.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail* has proved very acceptable to the Alexandra audiences, who each evening have received the efforts of the company with applause. Miss Phyllis Dailly as Lady Eustace won the sympathy of the house. Mr. Fred G. Evison proved himself a comedian of much resource. Mr. Alfred Goddard was excellent as Harry Steyne. Miss Ada Oakley invested her performance as Mary Steyne with many delicate feminine characteristics, and was well received. The play went well from start to finish.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Miss Millie Hylton, a big Hull panto favourite, makes a welcome reappearance in some excellent songs, in which she is ably assisted by Miss Decima Brooke. Zeta Gray and company appear in a musical comedietta entitled *The Lancashire Lass*, and other artists include Beatrice Worth, Sam Shipley, Sisters Desmond, Frank Leslie, Harry Luck, and Kroney Bros.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Chirgwin tops the bill here; Barton and Ashley are very smart in a comic interlude, *Canal Boat Sue*; the Picquays give a sensational "upside down" dance; Sybil St. Elmo is a delightful soprano; and other artists include George Adams, Will Cornish, and R. H. Douglas.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Miss Lilian Beszant's company is delighting large audiences here this week with *An Actor's Romance*. The rôle of Harold Davenport is portrayed with earnestness and conviction by Mr. E. Eardley Howard. The unscrupulous nature of Florence Hastings is cleverly depicted by Miss Florence Nelson, and the shady side of humanity is also excellently drawn by Mr. Cecil Fowler as Robert Livingstone; Mr. Harry Agar-Lyons renders a good account of himself as Jack Woodford, and Mr. Percy Warlow submits a capital character sketch as Ikey Isaacs. Miss Beatrice Hove makes a graceful

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—*After the Ball* is here this week, played by Mr. Charles Carey's company, which includes Mr. Percy Baverstock, who works hard and successfully as Colonel Joseph Menit. The part of Halliwell Menit is ably undertaken by Mr. Algernon W. Lee, his singing being a special feature. Mr. Buckstone Clair is well placed as the manservant Martin; and Mr. Norman Bowyer cleverly represents Dick Seymour. Miss Queenie Finnis puts plenty of brightness into her impersonation of Nellie Mather, and sings nicely; Miss Eva Ellis is pleasing as Ruth Gray; Miss Nellie James, who plays Kitty, is a capital dancer; and the rôle of Nancy is well depicted by Miss M. Sadie. The chorus is good, and the Gibson Girls add much to the success of the performance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—At the head of the bill here are Florence and Lillian in a clever musical act. Charles Bignell brings down the house; Little Rose Pink is an exceptional singer; Harry Bickley knows how to amuse his audience; and the Carls in a scene, *Fun in a Café*, do some smart acrobatic work. Gertie Gitana sings and dances nicely; and Zetta, lady wire-walker, is exceedingly smart. Walter Payne's animated pictures still prove an attraction.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A cordial and demonstrative welcome was accorded Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard on Monday by a crowded and distinguished audience, whose verdict on the new romantic comedy, *Brigadier Gerard*, was an entirely favourable one, calling forth a fervent message of thanks from the popular actor-manager at the close of the performance. His assumption of the title-rôle is artistic and convincing, every phase of a many-sided character being depicted with consummate finish. The Countess of Miss Evelyn Millard is a most charming and accomplished effort. As Napoleon Mr. A. E. George is very effective; Mr. Edward O'Neill gives an excellent presentation of the diplomat Talleyrand; Mr. Shiel Barry and Mr. Frank Cochrane do good service as agents in Talleyrand's employ; and amongst a group of striking military figures, Mr. J. H. Irvine, Mr. Eric Scott, Mr. Owen Roughwood, and Mr. Frank Woolfe merit special mention. A dramatic monologue, *Fortune's Fool*, in which Mr. Waller's abilities in a more serious vein are demonstrated, acts as curtain raiser. For three evenings and one matinée, *Monsieur Beaucaire* is the attraction, and has been enthusiastically received.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—An abridged version of the much-talked-of *Sapho* is being played here to good houses twice a night by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company. Miss Ada Abbott has the important part of Fanny Legrand, and displays conspicuous ability; Jean Gaussin, the peasant-lover, is most effectively presented by Mr. E. R. Abbott; a clever and amusing sketch of the voluble old rake, Uncle Cesaire, is to be credited to Mr. Douglas C. Phelps; Mr. W. H. Garbois is well-suited with his part of Déchelette; Mr. Edward Tring as Flamant depicts the felon with conviction; and other parts are played by Miss Louise Gilmore, Miss Kathleen Stewart, and Miss Marjory Tennant.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—*In Sight of St. Paul's* is the title of an acceptable drama which is being capitally presented here by Mr. Arthur Carlton's company. Mr. Ernest R. Allen plays the part of the wronged man Harcourt in able manner, his efforts being ably seconded by Miss Cissy Bellamy in a charming portrayal of the heroine. Mr. Arthur Armfield is particularly strong and effective as the evil-doer. A strong vein of humour runs through the story, and in this connection Mr. Wilton Bedford and Miss Amy Randolph make the most of numerous opportunities. Other leading parts are well and carefully acted by Mr. Robert Grant and Miss Amy Nettleton.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—There is no more popular merriment merchant than *Mark Sheridan*, and the breezy comedian is having another week of huge success; a remarkably fine example of canine intelligence is to be seen in Duncan's Dogs, the interesting turn at the bottom of the bill; the Scottish Meisters are here again, combining vocal ability and humorous interludes; an amusing comedy speciality is enacted by Alburtus and Jessie Millar; Woodhouse and Wells, with amusing talk and smart dancing, win much appreciation; the fine songs of Ian Colquhoun are much admired; that charming vocalist, Flo Esdaile, is again delighting her numerous admirers; the usual knockabout speciality is done by Marba and Verity; and the Three Sisters Sprightly again prove popular in song and dance.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—Radford and Valentine, the smart and amusing comedy jugglers, are a big line in the week's bill here, and their efforts generally are provocative of much merriment; there is a flying trapeze act, cleverly done by the Three Rainats; and Harry Thurston is clever in various impersonations. Comedians are numerous this week, and very entertaining. Ted Cowan, J. P. Dane, Fred Land, Sidney Dolf, and Joe Lloyd being particular favourites. Emil Amiel is a contortionist of remarkable flexibility; a performing dog show, engineered by J. Reichen, proves an interesting turn; and Rita Bell, the Dutch girl, makes a big hit.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Two clever juveniles, Ford and Barras, are making a big hit in a turn which includes singing, dancing, and bone solos; the Seven Zerbinis, excellent musicians, give an enjoyable turn; Helen Martin is to the fore with excellent vocal contributions; Billy Williams, the Australian comedian, is having a good time; Johnson and Pelham with their comedy act are vastly entertaining, as also are Welda and Wynne as comic jugglers. Forrest's Comedy Sketch Company provides ten minutes of uproarious merriment; that clever pair, Starr and Jerome, are pleasing with their vocal speciality; and Ida Ross is also a notable success.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren are successfully reviving *Claudian* here. To the play full justice is done by an excellent company, and the great earthquake scene is depicted in most realistic style. In the title-rôle Mr. Wm. Maclaren is seen at his best, his whole performance being conspicuously successful. He is well seconded by Miss Lily C. Bandmann (Mrs. Maclaren), who creates an excellent impression in the part of Almida; Mr. F. Owen Chambers gives a clever rendering of the part of Thariogalus; Mr. Laurence Kingsley is good as Agazil, and both Mr. Chal. T. Chaloner as Belos, and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa give capital impersonations; Mr. S. Brisco Farbridge, as the Holy Clement, pronounces the curse in the prologue with telling effect.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The attraction provided here this week is Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Power of the Cross*. As Baron Woulfe Curzote Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby is very effective; Miss Cissie St. Elmo is excellent as Rita Lascelles; Miss Stanley Burt does well as Margaret Seaton; Mr. Harry C. Rutland is capital as Gerald Fairfax; as is also Mr. Royce Carleton as Dr. Fairfax; Mr. A. J. Murray shines as the banker, David Kingsley; Miss May Grayce as Blanche Kingsley is meritorious; and Miss Etta Turner is good as Dolly Gray. The drama is well mounted.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The leading feature in this week's programme is the Harmony Four, who are meeting with well-deserved success; Carlton is a remarkably smart card manipulator and quaint jester; O'Gust, the French mimic, is always sure of a hearty reception here; *The Coon's Revelry*, presented by Barnard's Mannikins, is an entertaining feature; the Brothers Durant are mirth-provoking in their comedy novelty act; the Olive Trio of girl singers and dancers are smart; Fred Lincoln is a versatile comic singer; Professor Therese an amusing comedy hypnotist; Joseph Adelmann a brilliant xylophonist; and the American Bioscope is depicting in ten scenes "Black Beauty."

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Miss Jessie Elvin and company are the premier attraction here, and are presenting in good style the romantic sketch *A Gipsy's Revenge* and the burlesque comedy sketch *The Master, the Maid, and the Men*. The variety portion is contributed by Letine, who is the best female impersonator seen here; Kavados, a clever juggler; Zasma, a gymnast of ability; Leah Arden, an excellent ballad vocalist; Flo Melvile, a popular buresque artist; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with the usual entertaining films.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A good acting company, specially selected by the author, is presenting here Mr. Frederick Melville's strong play, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, not inaptly designated a whirlwind drama of surprises. The hero, George Madiston, is well represented by Mr. Henry Lonsdale; and the part of heroine is sympathetically played by Miss Nellie Bouser. Aided by the funny man, Timothy and his sweetheart Patty (respectively impersonated in a most amusing manner by Mr. Fred De Vere and Miss Denny Fitzherbert), the long-suffering lovers effectually circumvent the machinations of a whole quartette of villains, to wit, Charles Devereux, Sir George and Lady Lucretia Lancaster, and Geoffrey Broughton. This wicked syndicate is individually portrayed with full measure of success by Mr. Louis Hector, Mr. Kenneth Black, Miss Octavia Noel, and Mr. Leonard Maxwell. The small part of an aged rustic becomes a clever farcical sketch in the hands of Mr. Philip Renouf; and other minor rôles in a long cast are adequately filled; while Miss Barbara Gott fairly carries away her audience by an artistic and impressive rendering of the part of Mother Superior.

LEVEN.—TOWN HALL.—On Saturday night Mr. W. T. Rushbury's company produced *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and a well-filled house testified to the continued popularity of the drama. As Topsy, Miss Nellie Shannon scored a decided success; Miss Mabel Durham displayed considerable versatility and power in doubling the parts of Eliza and Cassy; Miss Lillian Murray was a sufficiently prim Ophelia; Miss Addie Burrows was effective as Mrs. Shelby; and Miss Midge Van de Peer made a very sweet and dainty little Eva. Uncle Tom was played to the life by Mr. C. H. Chivers; Mr. T. B. Brabazon was good as Phineas Fletcher and Simon Legree; Mr. W. A. Warren made an amusing Marks; Messrs. Edward Vivian and Fred Luard were successful as George Harris and George Shelby; and excellent support was given by the remaining members of the numerous company.—Mr. Jack Hamilton, manager of the Beach Concert Company, took a well-deserved benefit on Monday evening in the Town Hall. On Tuesday night the Hall was occupied by Mr. Mackenzie Murdoch's Merrymakers, who are always sure of a welcome here.

LLANDUDNO. — GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—*The Elder Miss Blossom*, by Ernest Hendrie and Metcalfe Wood, was presented here on Monday by the Kendals, the co-authors appearing as Christopher Blossom and Withers respectively, both fully sustaining their parts in capital style. Mr. Bassett Roe as Major Twenty-man did well; Miss Dorothy Moor Lane as Sophia Blossom was excellent; Mr. Kendal as Andrew Quick, and Mrs. Kendal as Dorothy Blossom, were, of course, excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—Mr. Dance's company has presented *The Girl from Kay's* for three nights this week. As Max Hoggenheimer Mr. J. W. Hopper was distinctly good, his up-to-date political songs being encored time after time; Mr. J. Hart as Frank was well placed; Joseph was safe in the hands of Mr. Claude Dampier; Miss Jessie Fraser as the girl from Kay's was very charming, her songs being well received; as Norah Chalmers Miss Marie Greenhouse was good; and Miss Irene Vere as Ellen showed skill and ability in her dancing. On Thursday *Facing the Music* was presented.

PIER PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. S. Hughes, jun.—The Royal American Bioscope continues to appeal to young and old alike. Upwards of 10,000 pictures are shown nightly, and with an entire change of programme weekly, this bijou theatre is a favourite rendezvous.

MESSRS PERRY'S HAPPY VALLEY MINSTRELS are fully retaining their reputation, and with Sam Atherton, Billy Richardson, M.P., and A. Stern as the star artists, give a thorough minstrel entertainment and that without a shadow of vulgarity. Mr. G. W. Codman, the pedestral dancer, has been added to the troupe.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Proprietor, Prof. W. Beaumont; Manager, Mr. W. F. Holt.—Mr. Holt as ventriloquist is good. The Mysterious Merry Magician and Hyam Long complete a good programme.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and his talented company are doing very well here this week in a round of Shakespearean and classical plays. On Monday evening *Hamlet* was staged, with Mr. Ian Maclaren in the title-rôle, in which he scored a very great success. Miss Edith Coleman was good as the Queen of Denmark, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert made a capital Ophelia; the parts of Polonius, Laertes, and Horatio were all well taken by Messrs. Gordon Phillott, Whitford Kane, and Alfred Grey respectively. Mr. Phillip Gordon was a good King of Denmark. *David Garrick, Twelfth Night, As You Like it, Merchant of Venice*, and *Othello* were also in the bill.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. George Dance's talented company are proving a strong attraction in a welcome return visit in *Veronique*. Mr. Douglas Phillips makes an impressive appearance as Florestan de Vallancourt, and Mr. Tom Seymour deserves praise for his enactment as the bailiff, Mons. Loustot. Seraphin finds a capable exponent in Mr. Scott Cullen, and a careful interpretation of Mons. Coquenard is submitted by Mr. Ellis Holland. Miss Agnes Tandy gives a pleasing rendering as Mdme. Coquenard, and the name part is delightfully performed by Miss Nellie Wigley, who is heard to distinct advantage in the several musical numbers allotted to her. The Countess de Champ d'Azur is suitably portrayed by Miss Edith Devonshire; Miss Maude Leonard leaves nothing to be desired as Aunt Benoit; and Miss Neste Laurel plays the part of Denice with marked ability. For the latter part of the week we have *A Country Girl*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week's bill includes Max Gruber and his performing elephant, horse, and pony; Raymond Trio, musical act; the Harnels, equestrians; Miss Lucretia, burlesque actress; the Bristons, comedy cyclists; Billy, the horse with the human brain; Little Bishop, and Shadow.

OLYMPIA GARDENS AND SPARROW-NEST PARK.—Mr. Paul Mills' entertainers, including J. G. Taylor, are attracting large audiences. Mr. Mills took his thirteenth annual benefit on Wednesday, the grounds being illuminated and special attractions provided for the occasion.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Miss Maggie Morton paid us a welcome return visit on Tuesday last with *Two Little Drummer Boys*, and succeeded again in delighting a crowded house. Miss Mabel Stevenson and Miss Marjory Armstrong were good in the title-rôles; and Mr. Walter Watts gave a meritorious study of the small part of Jim Barker. Messrs. Arthur Temple and F. Morton Wright with Miss Marie Angus, supply the comedy; and Mr. Walter Wray is capital as Captain Carsdale. Miss C. Clutterbuck and Miss Enid French are particularly good as Alma Kingsley and Margaret Rivers; and Mr. Ivor Langton deserves special commendation for his strong presentment of Captain George Darrell. Miss Inez Howard's company in *Tommy Atkins* was billed for Friday.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The Zaros, high-class acrobatic and tumbling artists, are giving a very fine exhibition here this week; the Sisters Transfield (Tina, Florrie, and Cissie), who are well known in the town, have a very hearty reception in their new musical act, being encored again and again; the three Sisters Kilner (Lily, Rose, and Violet), vocalists and acrobatic dancers, give a refined turn; Serpentello, the renowned contortionist and neck dislocater, and Dan Conroy, comedian, both get good receptions; Bertha Duckett, comedienne and dancer, is good; and Paul Pelham does well. Fresh films are shown on the bioscope.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company were here for three nights, commencing on Monday, with *The Freedom of Suzanne*, in which Miss Mabel Love appeared with pronounced success as Suzanne Trevor, gaining well-won encomiums by her bewitching performance. Mr. Templer Powell was admirable as her husband, Charles Trevor, cleverly emphasising all the points of an effective part. Miss Annie Stalman made a particularly good Lady Charlotte Trevor, the mother-in-law, and Mr. F. G. Thurstans was intensely amusing as Fitzroy Harding, Suzanne's uncle. Some good work was put in by Mr. Patrick Quill as Sir Horace Hatton, the family solicitor; and Miss Charlotte Mead as Miss Fanny Mincing, the heroine's companion, and Miss Violet Ley as Lady Isabel Bury, her friend, were excellent in their respective parts. The other characters in the cast were all satisfactorily filled. The comedy was preceded each evening by the one-act play *Mary's Secret*. For the remainder of the week there was a return visit of *The Walls of Jericho*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Mr. Arthur Roberts and his company take the leading place on the week's programme in the sketch, *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife*. The piece has caused roars of laughter, Mr. Arthur Roberts in the rôle of Fitzawful Smith being extremely funny. Capable support is given by Miss Lorna Treherne, Miss Topsy Sherlock, Miss Ruby Celeste, Miss Jessie Burgutz, and Mr. George P. Polson. Miss Rosie Lloyd, Mr. Charles Deane, and Miss Ella Retford help to make the programme a pleasing one, and Mr. Mark Henton is also on the list. Clown Barker and Miss Rozsitca have a wonderfully clever troupe of dogs, cats, monkeys, ponies, and donkeys, a small animal circus all remarkably well trained. Interesting pictures are shown by the Biograph.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—Gus Garrick, comedian, with his music hall titbits, heads the list this week, and is most amusing. Simosa San, in her juggling and balancing speciality, together with her performing pigeons, supplies a good turn; the Casino Girls, instrumentalists, are filling a second week's engagement, and the Itranes, gymnasts, acrobats, jugglers, and equilibrists, are clever; Cullen and Carthy, comedians, with Little Cluley, are amusing; Gladys Witton, contralto, sings well, and a capital show is given by Zanfretta and Napio, the musical eccentrics. Mr. Charles Evans, the manager, takes his annual benefit on Wednesday.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—*Dare Devil Dorothy* opened here on Monday to a large and appreciative audience. Miss Dorothy Desmonde in the title-rôle is very pleasing, while Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith and Mr. Arthur Verne as Silas Crump are excellent in their respective parts. Mr. Walter Ashley must be commended for his earnestness and success as George Fielding; and Mr. Henry C. Ward makes the most of the part of Captain Dudley; Miss Marie Vere renders valuable assistance as Ruth Montrose; and the dancing of Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake is greatly admired.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Crowe's company is this week playing here in *The Way of the World*. Mr. Herbert Skardon gives a highly capable interpretation of Cecil Montagu; Mr. Victor Gordon is sufficiently villainous to earn the execrations of the "gods." Mr. Clarence Temple gives a thoughtful rendering of Matthew Malyon. Miss Marie Fontaine is graceful and pleasing in the rôle of Kate Montague; as the adventuress, Adele de la Roche, Miss Sidney Crowe plays with great skill; Miss Laurie Deering is a charming Marion Fanshawe. The comedy element is cleverly provided by Mr. Augustus Hammond (Horatio Bluff) and Mr. Frank Stanley (Ned Montague), and they are ably assisted by Miss Violette Vivienne (Polly Bell).

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. F. Marriot-Watson's company is appearing here this week in the new drama *A False Wife*. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and Miss Florence E. Florence is a decided success in the title-part of Estelle de Luscan. Mr. George Langham as Sir Conlin has a thorough grasp of the rôle, and his assumption is entirely satisfactory; Miss Flo Morgan is good as Old Sal; and a clever representative of Bessie is found in Miss Minnie Leslie. Mr. F. Marriot-Watson is as good as ever as the French adventurer; and the part assigned to Mr. James Chippendale is sustained in a way that leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Annie Hylton as Agnes and Mr. Howard Barlow as George Mansfield supply excellent impersonations. The weird mystery *From Life to Death* is performed each evening, and the scenery and mechanical effects are all that could be desired.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*Her Lost Self* is powerfully presented here this week by Miss Frances Delaval and company, and large audiences fully appreciate the performance. Miss Florence Delaval is exceedingly good in the rôle of Philipine Marcel, as are also Mr. Cecil Gray as Wilfred Daventry, Mr. G. Osmond Tearle as Normand Esmond, and Mr. Geo. Lyttelton, jun., as Paul Kimberley. Mr. Fred Lillywhite does well as Victor; and Master Johnnie Johnson is exceedingly good as Snooks, a newspaper urchin. Other leading parts are ably taken by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny as "Moses," Mr. Horace Buckley as Tom, Mr. Tom Otley as the Masher, Miss Nell Ingram as Bridget, and Miss Min Johnson as Dorothy Daventry. Specialities are contributed during the performance by Tiny Carrie Johnson, who is claimed to be the smallest comedienne in the world.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—An interesting and varied programme is submitted here this week, and good houses are the rule. The star turn is *Dick Turpin*, in which Mr. R. A. Roberts plays five distinct characters and displays his undoubted talent as an actor. *Dick Turpin* was twice repeated, and the new sketch entitled *Ringing the Changes* was billed for the latter part of the week. The Tupps create roars of laughter in their comedy acrobatic act; and Fred Poplar proves a favourite as a comedian. Beatrice Willey provides some excellent singing; and Bob Hunt, comedian, does well. The other turns are provided by Belle Harcourt, vocalist; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Sisters St. Julien; and the bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Alf. Graham.—Paulton and Darley head the bill here this week, and give a remarkable display of trick cycling; Geoffreys and Benson cause roars of laughter in their sketch entitled *Spoofed*; as does Laurence Barclay with his songs and antics. Maude Mortimer, a dainty singer of catchy choruses, does well; and Walter Wade is an excellent vocalist. Arthur Briggs is a popular favourite; and Agnes and Arthur Lynch are clever singers. The other turns are provided by Raglas and bioscope.

MIDDLETON.—PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pardoe and Turner.—Mr. Charles Carte is playing here in *A Noble Brother*, and plays the rôle of Jerry the tramp, in which he has now appeared with unvarying success for more than 2,000 times, in his usual capital fashion. Miss Doris Brookes is charming as Nana Leigh; and Mr. A. A. Tomblin faithfully realises the character of Jack Elsworth. Miss Alice Ballard, Mr. Howard Thorne, and others make up a first-class list of artists.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams' company is this week appearing in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Percy Watson gives a capable rendering as the Marquis; Mr. Michael Kemble is equally good as Garford; Mr. Richard Martin is well suited to the part of the Bailie, Gobo being also cleverly played by Mr. G. E. Hall; and Mr. Percy Martin sings well in the rôle of Grenichaux. As Germaine, Miss Kathleen Emmett tunefully renders her various numbers; Miss Adela Harvey also sings well as Serpolette. On Thursday Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company appeared in *The Days of Cromwell*.

NEW BRIGHTON.—TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—The company this week includes Hilder Pagget, expert top boot dancer; C. W. Wolram, eccentric comedian; Miss Nellie Adrienne, a smart burlesque actress and whistler; Leon and Leoni, in a clever and attractive musical act entitled *Mirth and Music*; Lillie Le Breton, a graceful and daring trapeze artist; Marlow and Manton, in a novel and interesting sketch, *Other People's Babies*; Ada Clare, comedienne and dancer; and the Izons, in a lively comedy act, *Captain and Mate*.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Rinaldo Trio contribuate a clever and comical equilibrist act here. Their tricks, which are distinctly novel, are executed with precision and neatness, and the comedian of the party creates roars of laughter. The Great Northern Troupe do some national dances with skill and effect; the Two Errolls are popular in a comedy leaping act; Mr. Hesketh Meade is a capital baritone, and Miss Lily Currie sings well; Fred Dunstone's parodies on popular songs are amusing, and meet with well-deserved success; a sketch entitled *A Game for Two*, is performed by the Custances; and the ever-popular Pepiscope, with new pictures, concludes a most enjoyable entertainment.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—A visit is paid to this popular house this week by Mr. Wentworth Cooke's company in Hall Caine's powerful play *The Christian*. Glory Quayle is played with fine intelligence and dramatic power by Miss Grace Chalmers, a young and promising Scottish actress. A good study is given by Mr. Frank Tennant of John Storm; and skilfully treated are the characters of Lord Robert Ure and Horatio Drake by Mr. George R. Montford and Mr. Jackson Wilcox respectively. The Father Lamplugh of Mr. Edwin Ling and the Archdeacon Wealthy of Mr. Charles E. Dering in no small way tend to the success of the drama, which is well staged and received each evening with frequent applause from large audiences. Other parts excellently acted are Parson Quayle by Mr. Charles Hill, Polly Love by Miss Vashti Wellborne, and Mrs. Callendar by Miss Molly Hayden.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A popular attraction at this house this week is *Our Boys*, a delightfully human comedy, excellently played by Mr. Thomas Thorne and a well-chosen company. For nearly fourteen hundred nights now has Mr. Thorne filled the part of Perkin Middlewick, and with wonderful freshness and rare humour is the character-sketch of the butterman done. Very natural is the acting of Mr. Norman Clark as Sir Geoffrey Champneys, and Clarissa is played by Miss Rachel de Travers with charming grace. Mr. James Geldard as Charles, Mr. Horace Pollock as Talbot, and Miss Ida Phillips and Miss Madge Flynn as an heiress and a poor cousin respectively, all effectively aid in the success. *A Happy Pair* precedes.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—The initial visit to the city of Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. F. C. Somerfield's company in *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* was well received on Monday evening by a large and appreciative audience. As Elinor D'Arville Miss Marie Dagmar made the hit of the evening by her strenuous impersonation; Mr. F. C. Somerfield as Will Maynard was a decided success; and Mr. Roy Fortescue in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon was very realistic. The company as a whole was well balanced.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The realistic drama *The Conscript*, with Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company, proved on Monday that it was as popular as ever, despite its frequent visits. In the title-rôle Mr. Harry Cullenford acted with good effect; and Miss Lilian Ross gained much sympathy. The play was well staged.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Moss Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The premier position in this week's programme is worthily assigned to Harry Randall, whose entertainment, always bright and refreshing, has been received with hearty approval. Those merry musicians, Binns and Binns, are popular; Grais' Baboons perform wonders on the tight wire; Jean Seul is a successful magician. The Stella troupe of dancers, Nettie Starr (vocalist and dancer), the Monte-Myro troupe (sketch artists), Flo D'Orville (versatile comedienne), Charles Leonard Fletcher (actor), and Smithson's comedy company in *The Lie Alarm* make up a good programme.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Miss Alice Pierce's impressions of famous artists and characters have been carefully studied. *Three of a Kind*, a capital sketch, provokes much laughter; the Columbia Trio are a good musical turn; Mons. Hartley gives a clever juggling act; Fred Fuller and company are successful in the musical song "The Shoeblack's Dream"; the Narow Brothers, comic cyclists, are a great success; and L. B. Athol (comedian), Mabel Hurd (character comedienne), Will Godwin (actor vocalist), and George Prince make up an attractive programme

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company is producing *The Coal King*, which to this particular district is extremely interesting. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland as Tom Roberts gives a faithful interpretation of a characteristic part; Miss Gertrude Valentine is a great favourite in the part of Grace Shirley; and Mr. Lionel Thompson does well as the Coal King; whilst Mr. Escott Robson wins hearty applause in the part of Walter Harford. Mr. Frank Dalton as Shirley and Miss Sinna St. Clair as Mad Ann are both exceptionally good; and plenty of fun is caused by Jim Williams and his sweetheart Aramanta Green, the characters being admirably sustained by Miss Sybil Coughlan and Mr. Alfred Terris. The piece is appropriately mounted, and proves very attractive.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Miss Florence St. John and company in *My Milliner's Bill* provide first-class entertainment here; Nipper Lupino Lane sings and dances cleverly, and wins an encore; Billy Hobbs, coon singer, is warmly received; and J. P. Ling in a mimetic monologue is very amusing. Beppo's monkeys perform some feats that show clever training; Cabaret's dogs contribute original tricks; and Fox and Melville give acceptable illustrated songs. Chas. Pastor, an eccentric comedian, is well received; and the Lupino Brothers provide an entertaining turn.

NORTHAMPTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Messrs. Chas. and Fred Renad's famous pantomimical artists are here again in *The Swiss Express*, which is still running with unabated success. Mr. Charles Renad and Mr. Frederick Renad are as comical and agile as ever as the eccentric servants of Dr. Gull, a part which is now in the hands of Mr. Johnny McElroy, who is exceedingly amusing. Miss Ida Ernest is a bright and sprightly representative of Virginia, the bride, and receives an encore for her coon song and dance, in which she is assisted by the Edene quartette of vocalists and dancers, who also furnish some agreeable items.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Jack and Evelyn, "the Elite Entertainers," are two young artists who supply a very clever and high-class morceau, full of merriment and genuine fun, which gains great applause. The Three Sisters Geronde are an exceedingly attractive vocal trio, and their dancing is highly applauded; The Brothers Newport give a clever performance on the rings. Salida and Vone, Creole artists, please with song and dance. Dick's Comedy Five appear with success in a comedietta, *Happy School Times*. Frank Boyce, character comedian, is well received on his second visit this year. The Whitworth Cycling Girls give a racing display with specially geared machines. R. A. Speedwell produces paintings of well-known men with great fidelity and rapidity. Interesting subjects are well depicted in the Palace Pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Bulmer's company, with *Sentenced for Life*, has proved a capital attraction here this week. As Percy M'Gentle, Mr. James A. Firth proves himself an excellent comedian, keeping the audience in a merry mood; Messrs. Arthur Keand and Reg. Oldroyd also make a great hit as the Two Convicts; Mr. Edward E. Louis gives a clever impersonation of Lieutenant Roy Stillwell; Mr. E. Brancepeth Nevill ably sustains the part of Sir Wallace Stillwell; Mr. Ernest Vaughan capably undertakes the character of Captain Paul Derrick; and Mr. Morris Maud makes the most of the Rev. Martin Orris. As Adele Gray Miss Madge Douglas is worthy of the highest praise; Miss May Nelson is good as Kate Rennell; and Miss Mary Dalby gives a satisfactory rendering of Lady Stillwell.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The bill here includes Akimoto's Royal Yedo Japanese Troupe of equilibrists and balancers, who perform some marvellous feats; Picitt and Lizette, in *The Crazy Cook*, are highly successful; and the Brothers Zampah, the one-legged marvels, are very smart. Mr. Smiler Lee, comedian, has made a great hit; Miss Ada Kingsley, coon vocalist, is popular; Mr. Dan Noble, comedian, goes well; and the Bio-Photoscope is still a prominent itme on the bill of fare

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* is here this week. Capt. Mowbray has a capable exponent in Mr. Yorke Stephens; Miss Frances Vine is admirable as Mrs. Gorringe; Mr. Maitland Dicker is admirable as Colonel Jardine; and Miss Ethel Royal is excellent as Mrs. Jardine; Mr. W. Brisco Owen is successful as David Cairn; Miss May Straker is good as Isabel Kirk; and Miss Mabel Melba is efficient as Vickey Jardine. Miss Isobel Fladgate as Miss Potts, Mr. Reginald Walter as Jernigan, and Charles by Mr. Lawrence J. White gave excellent support. The curtain-raiser was *Uncle Joseph*, in which the characters were capitally rendered by Mr. Lawrence J. White, Mr. Edgar Steverson, and Miss Isobel Fladgate.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The Andos Japanese Troupe give an astonishing performance here. Mr. Frank Elliston and company pay a return visit in their amusing sketch, *Aunt Matilda;* the Folkestons are very comical in *Swimming the Channel;* Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford appear in a pleasing sketch, *Love Birds;* George Antill is a whimsical comedian; and the Two Bees are good on *Hiawatha Wedded*. Dan Thomas is a successful comedian; and Jessie Burnett, comedienne and dancer, is well received. The Hippo Bio shows some interesting pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Sweet Girl* was produced here on Monday. A detailed report will be found in another column.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in the drama *An Abandoned Woman* occupies the stage this week. Miss Georgette Thierry, in the name-part, is quite successful, being ably assisted by Mr. Bernard J. Liell as the masculine accomplice in her villainy. Mr. Wolston Foster makes a capital naval officer; Mr. George White realises to the full the character of Robert Saunders; Mr. J. George Gormly proves his capability as Sir Marmaduke Seaton; and Miss May Richardson, in her portrayal of Eleanor, is quite satisfactory. The comedy parts are well looked after by Messrs. Dan Gibbons and Will Glaze, and Miss Lily Beverley

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Scotch comedians are very popular just now, and Neil Kenyon can hold his own with any of them. His quaint style and dry humour command for him a good reception at every performance, and large audiences testify to their thorough enjoyment of his efforts. A turn that is always welcome at this house is Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq in the evergreen sketch *Black Justice*, and on the present occasion the acknowledgments of their auditors are as hearty as ever. Glenroy troupe of international dancers present an entertainment that is both graceful and pretty, and earn deserved encomiums from everybody; while Spot amuses with his exaggerated travesty of the cake-walk craze in his monologue *The Enchanted Coon*. In a very tasteful and charming performance as Cinderella Edie King demonstrates that she is a thorough artist; and Helene and Emilon give a performance in gymnastics that is both novel and of excellent quality. Techow's cats evidence the most skilful training, and provide a show that is very amusing and diverting; while Simms and Simms produce a first-class mixture of melody and gag and Herbert Lloyd is as skilful as ever in his well-known medley. The programme is completed by the Bioscope, upon which some excellent films are shown.

NUNEATON. — PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd. — Managing Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here with *When It Was Dark*. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee gives a capital impersonation of the Rev. Basil Gaitre; Mr. George Pitt as Constantine Schwabe is highly successful; Mr. Bryce Methven's conception of Sir Robert Llewellyn and Mr. Francis Cairns as Lucifer both meet with appreciation. In the rôle of Gertrude Hunt, Miss Laura Walker is a decided success. Mrs. Morton Powell makes a sympathetic Helena Byars; and Miss Bessie Ellis does well as Gracie. The remaining parts are well accounted for. The piece is well staged and dressed.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A large audience was present on Monday to witness Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey in the title-rôle gave a fine interpretation; Miss Maggie Edwards was charming and sympathetic as Kate; Mr. Joseph Carter played Capt. Leo in a forcible manner; and Lucas Marlow was well presented by Mr. Edwin Maydew. Miss Cassie Le Grande made an excellent Ruth Parkins; Miss Bertha Hanbury a capital Harry Strong; and Mr. George V. Campbell a humorous Billy Twigg. Jeremiah Parkins and Sal were capably delineated by Mr. Thos. E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey respectively.

COLOSSEUM.—General Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—The attraction here this week is *The French Spy*, played by Mr. Fred Benton and his powerful company. Mr. Richard Fulton is excellent as the gallant Capt. Sommers; Mr. Max Coutts represents the revengeful Count Romanoff in a capable manner; Miss Gertrude Evans as the Countess Andre gives a highly appreciated rendering; Miss A. Harrison Tate is good as Olga; and Miss Margaret Seymour effective as Julie.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—After being closed for decoration the theatre was opened on Monday evening with a programme of ten turns, at the head of which stand Newhouse and Ward, billed as the funniest cyclists ever seen. They provide a capital entertainment. At the other end comes Sable Fern, who sings her songs in fine style. Franco Piper is a marvellous trick banjoist, and the Schaffers are a good trio of athletes. Harry Rogerson keeps the house in good humour with his refined comedy act; Ferris and Farnley are a good pair of comedians; and Bonnettie and Corrie provide some eccentric juggling; Evelyn Lola, comedienne, sings and dances nicely; and Gus Arthur and Co. appear in a vocal scena, *Good-bye*. The Royal Dottoscope depicts England's naval nursery on the screen.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Tom and Neil give a capital exhibition of boxing, wrestling, and club swinging; Lillian, trick cyclist, is a smart performer on the wheel; the Fimans have a capital comedy creation, *In the Fire Station;* and Carney and Armstrong submit a good sketch. Minnie Halford is a dainty comedienne; Cissy Maude an attractive burlesque artist; and Dawson Dewick a popular entertainer. The Dottoscope is showing excellent pictures.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Staged here this week is *The Blind Foundling*, the company being that of Messrs. Charles H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury. Miss Belle Tilbury gives a sound and powerful impersonation of Isabel Dalton; a sweet and sympathetic assumption is submitted by Miss Amy Dalby as Viola Waterford. Miss Mabel Hall, a youthful actress, is to be complimented on her clever assumption of the rôle of Fairy, the blind foundling; and Miss Millie Doris scores by her vivacious and humorous portrayal of Winnie Dobbins. Mr. Charles H. Phelps makes a sterling Gerald Dalton; Parson Ray is well accounted for by Mr. Frank Harvey; Mr. Alfred G. Fry enacts Mark Redman powerfully; Jasper Waterford is made an interesting study by Mr. Bernard Webb; Mr. H. Tilbury is humorous and entertaining in his depiction of Dick Dobbins; and Mr. John Byron gives a capital interpretation of Algy Fitzcholomondly.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company, including Miss Marie Daventry, are here this week in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. Jones's clever impersonation of Captain Harold Marston is replete with stirring interest, and Mr. Oswald Douglas imparts all the requisite force and daring to the part of the unscrupulous Doctor Colbrooke, whose confederates are successfully placed in Mr. Robert Swain as Kimberley Coutts and Mr. Clem Horlock as Rev. Edward Grey. Mr. Edgar Morgan's amusing impersonation of Bob Tanner is thoroughly enjoyed, and his several encounters with Mr. Bertram Lee as Martin effect an agreeable diversion from the dramatic element. Mr. Ernest Dare is also suitably placed as Ernie Wodstone. Miss Mary Ainslie cleverly depicts the kindly interest of Fay Colbrooke for her friend. Miss Elsie Walton's lively Bess Brayson is hailed with approbation throughout, and Miss Marie Daventry's clever portrayal of Doreen Rivers marks her exceptional ability with pronounced effect.

PETERBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—*At Duty's Call* is well presented by Mr. John Gerant and company. Mr. Gerant acts the rôle of Harold Allison with marked ability; as Captain George Allison Mr. Harry Scott gives an effective rendering; the General Gordon of Mr. Ernest St. John, and the Terry O'Halloran of Mr. Harry Ugar are delineations which deserve warm praise; Mrs. Tilly Crammonde is well suited to the part of Dora Drummond; and Miss Beatrice Western is seen to advantage as Salema.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*The Prince of Pilsen* is the attraction here. Mr. Martin Adeson as Hans Wagner is very funny, and makes a great hit; Mr. Villiers Arnold's Lieutenant Tom Wagner is a typical seafaring man; Mr. J. B. Fox, as Otto, Prince of Pilsen, carries himself with courtly grace and dignity, and Mr. Lawrence Wensley as the Earl of Shrimpton is good. Miss Millicent Marsden occupies a prominent position as Madison Crocker; Miss Neil Emerald as Sodonie has a song of the "Sammy" type which "catches on" immensely; Miss Stella West makes a dignified Gibson girl, and Miss Eva Howard, who is undertaking Miss Isa Bowman's part as Nellie Wagner—the latter lady being indisposed—is deserving of hearty congratulation for her effective performance.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Man's Enemy* is being presented this week. Mr. Edward Lloyd as Harry Stanton gives a striking representation of the terrible effects of excessive drinking; Mr. Alfred Brandon as Tom Drake makes a most polished villain; Miss Beatrice Whitney as Drake's helpmate is very acceptable, and Miss Ethel Kay as Grace Lisle is heartily applauded.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*The Mysteries of the Thames* is here played by a capital company, in which Mr. F. Brook-Warren undertakes the part of Capt. Denbigh in commendable fashion; Miss Gwynne Warren fills a dual rôle requiring distinctive treatment most acceptably; Mr. Andrew Money enacts Richard Brandon most capably, and Mr. L. Montgomery is good as Bill Boser.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager Mr. Jack Field.—The Four Madcaps do some very smart dancing here; the Clarkes perform some clever selections on the banjo; the Musical Jees are loudly applauded in their sketch, *The Musical Smithy;* Vi Carlyle has an attractive little scena, introducing her song, "My Mountain Maid"; Muir and Bartlett are seen in a humorous sketch, entitled *A Clerical Complication*, and the Sages are a funny pair of burlesque artists. Others contributing to the entertainment are Frank Coyle, comedian, and Elsie Earle. Vernon's pictures are much admired.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Mr. Sydney James's Royal Strolling Players are engaged here this week. Mr. James himself is an artist of rare talent and ability, and wins hearty applause; Mr. Alfred Wootton, an excellent tenor singer, is deservedly encored; Mr. G. W. Desmond is a capable singer and clog dancer; Miss Seymour James sings and dances exceedingly well, and Miss Clarice May is a finished accompanist.

PORTH. — THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Heading the bill this week we have the famous Revell Troupe of acrobats, in their pantomime absurdity, *Mischief*, who give a creditable performance, and are enthusiastically received. Max Merlin, the human crocodile, deserves special mention for his admirable performance, and meets with a cordial reception; Will Souls, comedian, scores a distinct success, and richly merits the applause he receives; J. H. MacCann, as a comedian and roller skate dancer, is greatly appreciated; Parker and Parr, in their vocal comedy act, *Taffy and the Taff*, make a hit; Winnie Cottrell, refined comedienne and male impersonator, possesses an admirable voice, and is much appreciated; the Sisters Volbecque, clever comedy duettists, are entertaining, and are greeted with rounds of applause; Les Louberts, comedy acrobats, are really smart; the pictures shown on the new Bioscope are really good.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Lena Ashwell in *The Shulamite* is proving a powerful attraction here this week. Miss Ashwell plays her original part of Deborah Krillet with an intensity that held the audience spellbound, her portrayal of the unfortunate Deborah in the trying second and third acts being admirably sustained. Mr. Charles Weir as the bigoted Boer farmer, Simeon Krillet, gives a rugged and telling impersonation. Robert Waring is ably taken by Mr. W. T. Lovell, who in his part with all the needed vacillation. Mr. Reynolds Dennison does very well as the manly young farmer, Ian Vanderberg; Tante Anna Vanderberg is cleverly and convincingly enacted by Miss Mary Griffiths; and the Kaffir girl, Memke, is satisfactorily depicted by Miss Beryl Mercer. The drama is preceded by the curtain raiser, *The Widow Woos*, in which Mr. Charles Weir, Mr. Reynolds Dennison, Miss Mary Griffiths, and Miss Marcella Hudson appear to advantage.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The absorbing drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, is being presented here this week to full houses. Miss Beatrice Homer has a fine stage appearance, and her excellent impersonation of the title-rôle gains her much applause. Mr. Phillip Darien as Jack Merriman plays vigorously and well; the part of the heartless and callous Hubert Gold is acted by Mr. Seyton Cancellor with distinct success; Antonio Luchesi is ably taken by Mr. Charles Barrett. Miss Nell Oliver is convincing as the scheming Rose Courtenay, and Miss Margaret Watson powerfully portrays Morita. The comedy relief is well sustained by Mr. Tubby Edlin as Tubby Herrick, and Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown, both working in the interests of fun.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A company of all-round excellence is here this week. George Gilbey, a popular favourite at this hall, is well to the fore with his droll songs. Marie Weston, vocalist and speciality dancer, gains liberal applause for her really good step-dancing; Richard Williams is a banjoist of undoubted ability, and has quite an ovation for his agreeable selections; Harry Taft, whistling comedian, does an excellent turn, which is greatly appreciated; the Sisters Casselli, duettists and dancers, are a smart pair; Fyne and Hurley, speciality artists, are very diverting, and another capable turn is Verno and Voyce, popular singing comedians, with their latest successes. Tom Fancourt and Rubie worked hard in comedy act *Out of Barracks*, and the Two Madges, a praiseworthy pair of juvenile artists, and Payne's Pictures also appear.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Miss Alice Chapin's company is presenting *A Knight Errant* here this week, and a good reception has been accorded. Mr. Frederick Park gives a droll impersonation of the Duke of Cabreau; and Marguerite, his daughter, has an attractive representative in Miss Eirene Douglas. Mr. Harold Chapin acquits himself well as Count de Lantier; Miss Alice Chapin's embodiment of Helen Ferrier is pleasing and appropriately humorous; Mr. Harry Welchman in the rôle of Captain Perdue, causes much laughter, and gains a hearty encore for his excellent vocalism; Colonel D'Aubeterre is creditably delineated by Mr. Malcolm J. Cumming; Miss Paula Fernau capably fills the part of Madame Flaubert; and Miss Elsie Chapin is seen to advantage as Fanchette. The same artists also sustain the leading rôles in *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, which fully retains its power to amuse.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is performing *The Girl Who Lost her Character* here this week. Miss Evelyn Clyde as Molly Vernon wins the entire sympathy of the house; Mr. Edwin J. Collins gives a powerful impersonation of the Rev. Robert Everton; and Miss Ethel Bracewell makes a charming Rose Seymour. Mr. Frank Adair is to be congratulated on his conception of the difficult part of Capt. Geoffrey Caversham. Miss Lydia Mannington ably sustains the rôle of Marian Franklyn; Mr. George Mitchell well deserves the applause accorded for his delineation of James Sutton; and some delightful and refreshing comedy is supplied by Miss Daisy Maynard as Isabella Jones, and Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch. Mr. Clifford Rean is a smart detective; and Mr. C. W. Standing shows great dramatic ability as Jack England.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—A capital programme here this week includes Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, who provide the chief attraction with their genuinely amusing sketch, *The Would-be Actors*, which evokes hearty laughter. Carl Mysto astonishes the audience by his wonderful skill in escaping from handcuffs and manacles; Espinosa and Edwards appear in a new and very pleasing musical comedy and dancing act, *The Coon's Holiday;* the Elgars gain well-deserved applause for their operatic duets; Anna Kenwick, American comedienne and dancer, is received with favour; Will Freedo submits a clever display of dancing; the Sisters Russell are popular exponents of burlesque and low comedy; the Bonanzas give a daring acrobatic and hand-balancing performance; and the Zano Bros. supply a diverting turn on the horizontal bars. *Saved by Rover* is depicted on the bioscope.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert and company are paying a welcome return visit with *The Black Bishop*. The dual rôle of the twin sisters, Kate Marleigh and Marian Strathcoat, is admirably undertaken by Miss Jeannie Marquise; Miss Norah Caronne as Ruth Oldbury displays both grace and skill; Miss Grace Garside successfully infuses the lighter element into the part of Hannah Bruttlebut; and Little Dolly Collingham as Little Ruth also deserves a word of praise. Mrs. Alf. Collingham is a distinct success as Simeon Strathcoat; Mr. J. W. Ryder is a typical and amusing Capt. Keilcrift; and the important rôle of the Black Bishop is taken by Mr. J. Kingsley Roydan, who is painstaking.

RAMSGATE.—SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Large audiences assembled at this place of entertainment on the first three evenings of the week, when the attraction was *The Duchess of Dantzic*, presented in excellent style by Mr. George Dance's company. The feature of the play was the impersonation of Mme. Sans-Gêne by Miss Mary Young, whose clever acting and sweet singing won all hearts. Mr. Frank Bradley made a fine Napoleon; and Mr. C. B. Williams was in all respects admirable as Marechal Lefebvre, afterwards Duke of Dantzic. Mr. G. H. Curzon sustained the rôle of the Vicomte de Bethune in a manner which called for distinct praise; Mr. F. Attree was a delightful Papillon; Miss Gilpsy Dale was a pretty Renée de St. Mezard; and other parts were in capable hands. The singing, dancing, and staging were of a high standard of excellence. On Thursday Mr. Percy Hutchison and company appeared in the Haymarket comedy *On The Love Path*, and for Friday *Cousin Kate* was in the bill, with a repetition of the first-named play for Saturday.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—"Funnier than fifty pantomimes" is what is claimed for the musical pantomimical farce *His Majesty's Guests*, which Mr. Fred Karno's company has been staging here this week to big business. There is a good deal in the claim, for the audience at the "Pav." have been led to "larf consumedly" at the funniosities of Mr. George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning, and no wonder, for Mr. Hestor is exceedingly droll. The other members of the company perform their allotted parts in capable style. Mr. Frank Morton (Lord Easem) sings in splendid voice; and Miss Leonora Castelle is excellent as Lady Maud Easem; Messrs C. Usher (Miffin), C. Sewell (Mr. Minks), H. Howe (Bunker), and T. Manardo (acrobatic Selina) add much to the attractiveness of the show; Miss Sara Dudley is a charming Dolly; and Miss Kitty Brunton impersonates skilfully the character of the new woman, Miss Manley. The musical numbers are rendered with capital effect, and the knockabout business is decidedly smart and clever.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Herbert Ralland is presenting the popular comic opera, *La Poupée*, this week with great success. The opera is elaborately mounted and produced in excellent style. Mr. Harry Brayne is highly diverting as Hilarius; Mr. Arthur Cozens plays and sings effectively as Lancelot; Mr. Walter Balfour acts well as Father Maxime, and gains great applause for the ever-popular "Jovial Monk's" song; Miss Mysle Devine is an artistic Alesia; Miss Doris Dickens is a good Henri; Miss Edith Hunter is an amusing Madame Hilarius; and Mr. A. Dennis as Loremois, Mr. Fuller Allen as Baron Chanterelle, and Mr. E. Mooney as Balthazar do well.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Howard Lees.—The Six Brothers Luck appear in their mirth-provoking sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*, and the large audience is kept in shrieks of merriment. The Vichel troupe are admirable Risley artists, whose tricks are performed with neatness and finish; Harry Vardon presents a clever ventriloquial sketch; Edith St. Clair sings popular chorus songs; Winnie Scott, a pleasing comedienne, pays a return visit; Mattie Cheshire gives an excellent mimetic sketch; and Lottie Herod, soprano, contributes some well-known ballads. Sacco appeared on Monday evening after concluding a twenty-one days' fast, and was presented by the management with a gold medal.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—An excellent programme is presented this week. Alec Kendal is a highly entertaining comedian and dancer; Harry Herbert's comic songs meet with well-deserved encores; Arthur Aldridge is a tenor vocalist of considerable range and power; and Ferris Carlton, comedian, and Forshaw Kershaw, accompanist, complete. On Wednesday evening a complimentary benefit was accorded to Mr. Jack Macdermott, and a large audience testified their appreciation of his efforts as manager during the season. In addition to the programme for the week, the following assisted:—Edwin Adeler, W. S. Sutton, Arthur Sutcliffe (who met with a hearty reception), Charley Harvey, Mattie Cheshire, and Lottie Herod.

ROCHDALE. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Midnight Wedding* is in possession of the boards here this week. Mr. Alfred Paumier is conspicuous with an impassioned portrayal of Paul Valmar; Mr. Ulick Burke submits a clever impersonation of Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg; Mr. Clinton Baddeley is prominent with a powerful embodiment of Captain Rudolph Von Scarsbruck; and the humorous element is safely entrusted to Mr. James E. Page as Sergeant Max. Mr. Percy Compton as Corporal Otto, and Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobo. Miss Ada Champion deserves praise as the light-hearted Kathie; Miss Florence Hunt cleverly enacts the part of Satanella; and Miss Annie Saker delights audiences as Princess Astrea on Strelsburg and Second Lieut. Karl Helsburg.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Lee.—The reopening here was welcomed by large houses, a capital programme being submitted by the management. The Royal Tokio Troupe of "Japanese" performers are smart balancers and acrobats; and Miss Babs Lloyd as the "Baby Coon" had a hearty ovation. Bob Hartley, comedian and dancer; Joe Hennessey, club manipulator and juggler; Miss Doris Dene, descriptive comedienne; the Three Pirmans, in a pantomime act; the Royal Victorian Boys, dancers; Fred Hallam, comedian; and Vernon's Bioscope, complete a lengthy and enjoyable programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thos. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Atlas and Vulcana, with Gwen and Maud Atlas, give a remarkable exhibition of muscular strength; Miss Vulcana also poses with effect. Others turns include Joe Conway, the pocket comedian; Violet Morgan, speciality mimic; Gerald Mount, society entertainer; Mark Merry, in mirthful melancholy; Monto, in musical sketch; Harwood's Juveniles in a scene, *Christmas Eve;* and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—M. Auguste Van Biene and his company are occupying the boards here in *The Broken Melody*. M. Auguste Van Biene as Paul Borinski is the great attraction, and his "selections" are listened to with attention and delight. Mr. Henry Ludlow is a smart General Ivanoff, and Mr. Charles A. Morgan is seen to advantage as Dickson. Mr. T. P. Haynes scores heavily as Mortimer, and Mr. Lawrence Grove is deserving of mention as Beaujoir. Mr. Archie Selwyn as the Hon Richard Spinnaker and Mr. W. Thomson as Dr. Magrath are effective. Miss Rosemary Rees gives a strong portrayal of the Duchesse de Verviers; and Miss Rosie Lewis is a capable Mrs. Dickson. Miss Marguerita Gordon is very smart as Hon. Mrs. Spinnaker; and Miss Lena Burnleigh as Mabel gives a soul-stirring portrayal.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh. — Messrs. F. J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company is paying a return visit this week with *The Two Hussars*. Mr. Wilson Benge as Harry Halford repeats his former success, and is ably seconded by Mr. Fred Webb as Paul Villiers. Mr. Louis Nanton as Robert Gunn is very amusing; and as Sergeant McFinnie Mr. C. Paradise displays ability. Miss M. Danyers Smith is an excellent actress of charming presence; and as Molly Cutts Miss Lallah Rice is admirable.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—Ryde has this week been indebted to Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company for capital representations of *Bluebell in Fairyland*, which has been given to good houses. Miss Lily Eyton in the title-rôle quickly won all hearts; Mr. Lawrence Emery effectively impersonated Dicky; Miss Nell Raymond sang, and Miss Haidee Fitch danced excellently; Messrs. Herbert Clark and Will L. Clement were prominent with their funny business; and Mr. Frank Lennard submitted characteristic portrayals of Mr. Joplin and the Sleepy King. Especially good, too, was the singing of Master Albert Mack.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—The Scarlet Mr. E.'s have been here during the week, their entertainments meeting with excellent support. Miss Agnes Beckwith, whose exhibitions of swimming have delighted a great many throughout the summer, took her farewell benefit on Saturday.

TOWN HALL.—The Dandies, from the Coliseum, London, appeared here on Monday and Tuesday, their bright and entertaining programme meeting with evident appreciation. Miss Queenie Essex, Miss K. Augusta Davies, Miss Lucy Caine, and Messrs. Harry Russon and Henry J. Corner all appeared to advantage.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—The favourite detective drama, *£1,000 Reward*, drew a good house on Monday evening, when it commenced a week's engagement. Vincent Rainsworth, the up-to-day detective, was well-played by Mr. Charles Halling. Mr. John Murray forcibly portrayed Gilbert Lisle, and Fighting Jeffs was in the capable hands of Mr. Edward de Vere. The trying part of Madame Sanson is cleverly sustained by Miss Daisy Halling, and Miss Lynn Darlington as Meg is a great favourite, and gives much pleasure with her singing. Mr. Frank Dallas as Inspector Gilbert is very droll, and Mr. Frank J. Pitt and Mr. J. Newton Cowling, Mr. Charles Rogers, jun., and Miss C. Francis carefully sustain their various parts.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Miss Hetty King is here, and receives unbounded applause for her male impersonations; Sterling and Love (Leo and Addie) make their sketch, *A Domestic Musical Squabble*, most amusing; and a clever juggling novelty by Francisco is much applauded. Other turns include May Moodie, piccolo soloist; Joe Harwood, quaint comedian; Dan Filmer, eccentric comedian; Cotton Blossom, quartette, in drawing-room entertainment; Jessie Albini, comedienne; and Arley's Combination in clever gymnastic pot-pourri with smart dogs.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Cumberlands are very smart in their acrobatic cycling act. *The Belle of Barcelano* is the title of a musical-comedy sketch by Jack McKensie and company, introducing some very expert dancing. The programme also contains turns by Fredrica and her toy terriers and pony Dot; King Lea, funny ventriloquist; Rushworths, in illustrated song scenes; Maude Kaye, coon vocalist and smart dancer; Earle and Melville, patterers and dancers; and Howards (Ralph and Nellie), in comedy and melody.

SALISBURY.—VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Crowded audiences are patronising this popular place, great credit being due to the management for the liberal and refined entertainment that is provided. A good reception awaits Miss Beattie Witham, who provides several fine turns; Miss Ramsdale appeared again in one of her smartly executed dances; Miss Flora Macdonald, who possesses a powerful voice, secures several encores; Mr. Skidmore keeps the audience in a merry mood, his comic songs being enthusiastically received; Mr. Tom Walton provides an amusing song in "How to Love"; and Mr. William Dyar, Miss Searle, and Mr. Whitehouse (pianist) complete the company. A good set of local films on the Bioscope brings the evening to a close.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—This week Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is here in *The Blue Moon*, of which the Indian dresses are a special feature. Miss Clarice Lockstone ably fills the title-rôle, singing her many songs very sweetly; as Moolraj Mr. Alfred Beers is particularly funny in his juggling scene; the part of Private Taylor is ably filled by Mr. Reginald Switz, and nothing could exceed the energetic fashion in which he engages in a series of amusing antics; Mr. Arthur Soames acts most gracefully as the Prince; as Millicent Leroy Miss Florence Imeson is dainty; Miss Louie Lochner as Oma is quite native in her style; Mr. Alec Fraser as Captain Jack Ormsby meets with success; and Mr. Alfred Clarke is admirably suited for the part of Major Callabone. Mr. Carlton Mason ably wields the baton.

SPA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke. — The season's programme at this exceedingly popular place of amusement would hardly be complete were Mr. Edward Terry not to make his annual appearance. This week his company is here with *The Magistrate*. As Posket, Mr. Terry delighted the audience, who showed their appreciation of his efforts in a marked manner; Miss Agnes Knight as Agatha Posket was very clever; and Miss F. Glossop Harris ably sustained the part of Agatha's sister. Mr. Allan Pollock as Capt. Horace Vale was capital; Mr. J. Stansfield ably represented the hôtel proprietor; and Mr. R. Francis as Isadore the waiter, was all that could be desired. During the week *Sweet Lavender* and *Liberty Hall* were also given.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Hy. Mayhew; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—This week Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here in *Death or Glory Boys*. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson has a part that suits him exactly; Mr. Jerold Ord makes an irate Colonel; Mr. Fred Emery and Mr. Lancelot Usher act well in their respective parts; and Miss Violet Carlyle scores a distinct success as the charming heroine.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalists for the week are Miss Sara Spense, soprano, and Mr. H. Bradshaw, tenor, who both sing in first rate style; the Three Seymons are quite original in their juggling act; the Gelders also give a fine display of juggling; Miss Ivy Dene executes some capital movements in her dances; the Rizarelis on the double trapeze are very smart; Cyrus and Maude give an up-to-date musical turn with their performing donkey; Miss Lily Andrews's coon songs go well; the Recars are excellent acrobats; Percy Victor has a troupe of well-trained dog minstrels; Nelson Hardy gives a classical ventriloquial show with some life-like figures; and the Vernon Bioscope, Curtis Leo, juggler, Miss Ada Webb and her troupe of lady swimmers, and Mlle. Marie Levante's Orchestra of Ladies all contribute to a capital programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Although this building is undergoing complete transformation in accordance with the Licensing Justices' suggestions, yet the alterations do not interfere with the capital programme which Mr. Zalva is submitting weekly to his patrons. Mlle. Chloe Convere, and her performing horse, Kentucky Beau, give a turn that appeals to all lovers of animal training; Slippere, a blind musician, gives well-executed recitals on the piano and the 'cello; the Haverleys are clever song illustrators, and Martino does all that a contortionist can do with a novel scena; the St. John's in their musical turn are most entertaining; Ara, Zebra, and Vora submit a novel act illustrating Indian sports; Mlle. Gatley is a capital equilibrist; Claud Ohmy performs daring equestrian feats with well trained animals, and the Bioscope adds considerable interest to the programme.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Phil Herman and company are here with *Fritz*. The title part is enacted with great spirit by Mr. Phil Herman, whose versatility gives keen satisfaction; Mr. Hugh Carmichael is an excellent Colonel Crafton, and Gregory Graham is adequately represented by Mr. Ernest Keand; Mr. Harry F. Cave is satisfactory as Augustus, and Mr. Edward W. Cudd is excellent as Bowery Bill; Mr. J. Roberts is an amusing Judge Jellicoe, the Clerk of the Court being depicted by Mr. F. Littleton, Hans Schneider by Mr. Fred Dyson, and Mr. Jenkins by Mr. A. Johnson. Miss Adeline Zohle is a charming Katrina, her full rich voice being heard to advantage in the vocal numbers. Lena is prettily played by Miss Lou Langley, and Little Schneider has an agreeable exponent in Miss Doris Middleton.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. John Power's company is here this week in *For Wife and Home*. Ronald St. Pierre is vigorously played by Mr. Francis Everard; Mr. Power appears as Gaspard Lefarge, and effectively displays the villainy of the character; Henri St. Pierre is skilfully treated by Mr. T. A. Ellis. Another good part is the Abbé Latouche, as presented by Mr. A. Denne Mead. The humour of the play is supplied by Mr. George T. Greig as Picard. Rosette le Grand is charmingly played by Miss Clara Reid, and as Celeste le Grand Miss Constance Medwyn is seen to advantage; Miss Edith Leslie is a sprightly Lizette; Miss Clark Andrews does well as Miladi St. Pierre. The scenery is good.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Admirers of the work of Sir Conan Doyle assembled in force on Monday to welcome *Brigadier Gerard*, presented by Mr. Lewis Waller's company. Mr. Loring Fernie has the title-part, and looks the dashing hussar to the life, admirably depicting the mingled modesty, vanity, sangfroid, and reckless bravery of the character. Miss Beatrice Lindley is alike charming as the fascinating incognita of the inn and as the "grand lady" of the later scenes. A more graceful representative of the Countess de Roquelaire could not be desired. Mr. Arthur Somers is good as the Emperor; and Mr. George Mallett cleverly suggests the physical and mental characteristics of the crafty Talleyrand.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Geo. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett's popular drama, *The Golden Ladder*, is being played here this week by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. Vivian Edmonds's company. Miss Austin's Lillian Grant is a tender and sympathetic impersonation. Mr. William Clayton acts in a convincing manner as the chivalrous young clergyman, Frank Thornhill; Mr. J. Milne Taylor as Michael Severn, and Mr. Vivian Edmunds as Peranza, are a couple of picturesque scoundrels; and Mr. Fred Acton does well as Joe Dixon. Some good comedy scenes are acted with abundant humour by Mr. Joe Rowland as Sam Peckerby and Miss Nellie Graham, two old Sheffield pantomime favourites.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A good audience welcomed Miss Ida Millais's company on Monday in the favourite drama, *No Man's Land*. The leading characters are effectively supported by Miss Ida Millais, Mr. Henry Herne, Mr. Alfred Byron, Mr. Vernon L. Thomas, Mr. Frank Denis, Mrs. Mallalieu, and Miss Nancy Mitchel. The thrilling island and rescue scenes were, as usual, enthusiastically applauded.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The spacious auditorium of the Empire has been crowded twice nightly this week, the *pièce de résistance* being the brilliantly mounted and brightly performed musical comedy *Moses and Sons*, produced by the enterprising Mr. Fred Karno. The appearance of such a favourite as Mr. Fred Kitchen as the mirth-provoking caretaker ensures success. Miss Leah Morris, Miss Jenny Reeve, Miss Madge Rockingham, Mr. Herbert Landeck, and a large and well-dressed chorus give excellent support. Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., a diverting comedian; the Bros. Redmond, bar comedians; the Di Pace Brothers, mandolinists; Les Bastiens, acrobats;

on securing the services of such eminent artists as Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson for this week's programme. *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*, which was presented on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, was thoroughly portrayed and enthusiastically received. Mr. Norman displayed marked ability in the rôle of Sir George Sylvester, his impersonation being faultless; Mr. Dennis Cleugh was good as the Earl of Hassenden; and Mr. Francis Hope gave an excellent characterisation of the Rev. Mr. Blimboe. Mr. Dent found in Mr. Harold West an able interpreter; and Miss Sybil Ruskin was delightful as Dorothy Fenton. Miss Beatrice Wilson gave a really striking and forcible delineation of the difficult rôle of the Lady Ursula Barrington, and gained well-deserved encomiums. *Nell Gwyn of Drury Lane* was produced on Thursday, and *A Scrap of Paper* on Friday, *David Garrick* being presented to-night (Saturday).

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—These excellent concerts are in great demand, providing capital enjoyment for children. Vast crowds patronise the theatre daily, and are well satisfied with every item submitted. Professor Malvern, as a ventriloquist, gives evident delight, and Will Toole, comedian, is well received.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—The refined and high-class entertainments provided by Mr. Ballard Brown still attract immense and enthusiastic audiences, and excellent business is being done. A capital company of artists all work with vigour, and merit unstinted praise. Thursday evening was set aside for the benefit of Miss Pattie McCarthy, who has proved such a favourite this season.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. — Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—A large audience greeted Mr. George Dance's talented company on Monday, when the charming comic opera, *The Little Michus*, was presented for the second time here, with all the usual completeness of Mr. Dance's productions. Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Ethel Bryan were charming and vivacious exponents of the "Little Michus"; Mr. Foster Courtenay very cleverly enacted the rôle of General des Ifs, his display of comedy keeping the house in continuous merriment; the part of Gaston Riguad had a capital representative in Mr. William Everard; Mr. Gilbert Childs as Bagnolet, and Mr. R. Harcourt as Aristide Vert were highly humorous and successful; Miss Florence Hylton skilfully portrayed Madame Michu; Mr. Leon Simkin presented a capital study of Pierre Michu; and Mdlle. Marjorie executed some marvellous dances in the rôle of Mdlle. St. Cyr.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The following excellent company of variety artistes form the attraction at this popular hall. Nina Gordon, the Scottish mimic and society entertainer, whose versatility and charming vocalism are warmly applauded; McCann's dogs, a famous troupe of performing Irish terriers and champion leaping dogs; Stave, the electric comedy artiste; the Coolvilles (Nancy and Edie), vocalists and dancers; Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer; Harry Carsdale, farmyard linguist; Wal Robbins, black and white comedian; Calile and Walker, comedy artists; Mezzetti and Mora, in a comedy bar act; and the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—One of the principal items in the good all-round programme presented here this week is supplied by Lady Julia, the ape with a human brain. Another good turn is provided by Henri Bekker, conjuror, assisted by Mdlle. Maie. The programme includes Akbar, expert silver ring artist; Bella Leaburn, comedienne; the Brothers Obo, patter comedians; Jack Martin, actor-vocalist; Dolly Moore, juveile male impersonator; O'Connor and Brady in an eccentric absurdity; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—*The Prince of Pilsen* made its first appearance here on Monday. It is presented by Baron H. Harris's company. Mr. Harry Kilburn is very entertaining as Hans Wagner, the Cincinnati brewer, his never-failing humour always proving effective. The part of Mrs. Maddison Crocker is well sustained by Miss Sophie Harriss; and F. Crimp is popular as Carl Otto, the Prince of Pilsen. The Earl of Shrimpton of Mr. Bernard Russell is a creditable performance, and Nellie Wagner is ably enacted by Miss D. Grasdorff; the Lieut. Tom Wagner of Mr. R. Sydney is excellent, and Miss Florence Beech scores as Edith Adams; Miss Connie Leon does well as Sidonie; the Françoise of Mr. Ernest Gifford is laughable; Miss Mollie Wynne gives a good rendering of Jimmie; and Mr. G. W. Hulme appears to advantage as Sergeant Brie. The well-balanced chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able conductorship of Mr. Albert Vernon, and the scenery and costumes are magnificent.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Thompson.—The top of the bill is occupied by a new musical comedy entitled *The Duchess of Tooting*, written and composed by Mr. George Sheldon; Datas, the living encyclopædia, is still popular; a novel ventriloquial act is given by Eric; Terry and Lambert are seen to advantage in a series of character-sketches; a good dancing, singing, and change act is contributed by Pierce and Maizee; and Lottie Lonsdale, juvenile comedienne, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—After a long absence we have this week a reappearance of the new drama *The Span of Life*, carefully and well enacted by a company under the direction of Mr. Arthur Carlton. As the hero Richard Blunt, Mr. Kyburn Dellar gives an excellent portrayal or the rôle; while the part of the villain Dunstan Leech loses nothing in the hands of Mr. Sanderson Moffat. Miss Kitty Russell makes an efficient Shrove Tuesday. Miss Ella Wilmer pleases all with her natural enactment as Kate Heathcote. Cecil Gelf has a capable exponent in Miss Mary Moffat; and Mr. Walter Dale has a congenial rôle as Nutty Brown. The Almo trio work the human bridge scene cleverly and well merit the applause they receive.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Wilmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The most popular turn here this week is that submitted by the Bogganny's, whose clever acrobatic feats and comedy in the *Lunatic Bakers* is provocative of much hilarity. Doody and Wright are also very funny as Australian comiques. Mr. Walter Emmerson repeats his former success as a comedian. The Society Quartette are encored at every performance for their vocalism and smart dancing. Miss Rose Waller is a pleasing comedienne. Mr. G. W. Foster proves to be an excellent racouteur; and Mr. Charles Serra presents an original statuary act.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The appearance here of Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche and their company in *What the Butler Saw*, has attracted crowded audiences, who have been heartily amused and delighted with the representations. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink is exceedingly funny and caused abundant laughter. As Jack Barrington Mr. Charles Fawcett acts admirably, and Sir Charles Foden has an able representative in Mr. Raddick Anderson. Mr. Roy Byford impersonates the character of Professor Shale with much ability, and Miss Marie Dalton acts the part of Miss Foden with pleasing effect, whilst Miss Ada Blanche as Mrs. Barrington performs with a delightful charm that captivates everybody.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—A popular artiste here is Cissie Carlitte, whose delightful vocalism and clever mimicry have been a source of much pleasure to large audiences. The trunk mystery introduced by Cussac-Talma, assisted by Yeonne de Forge, is a most remarkable one. David Poole is highly amusing in his ventriloquial entertainment; Gray and Welford are mirth provoking in their display of comic boxing; Frank Newbury, the whistling comedian, is cordially greeted; the Three Missouris, burlesque acrobats and wrestlers, are distinctly funny; and Hector and Paulus, comedy acrobats, Myra Love, Australian comedienne, and Mignon "La Belle Musicienne, are received with gratifying approval.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Four Cattaneous head the bill in their wonderful acrobatic performance, which is truly wonderful; Johnny Walker, a comedian of much merit, is successful; Sibb and Sibb are trapezists of well-known ability; Cris is successful in a capital turn; Emma Don and her piccaninnies are seen in a most interesting turn; Fred Horsfall jodels cleverly, and is distinctly successful; Vosper's imitations are wonderful; May Marton sings her two songs admirably; and the pictures prove attractive.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress Miss Marode Lynton.—*A Mother's Love* is a drama that appeals to local playgoers, and a good audience was present on Monday when Mr. Fred L. Connynghame paid a return visit. Mr. Connynghame is easily the most popular of the cast, his impersonation of Matt Ruddock being of a high-class character. Another gentleman who helps in a large measure towards the success of the performance is Mr. Arthur E. Pringle, who as Geoffrey Mannering pleases the most critical. No one could have wished for a more pleasing performance than that of Winnie Wingate by Miss Rosa Mervyn. Mr. Arthur Mervyn in the clerical rôle of Paul Wingate found favour with his audience, and the rest of the cast prove their ability.

SUNDERLAND. — AVENUE THEATRE.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. William Greet's company, *The Earl and the Girl*, is paying us a welcome return visit here. As Jim Cheese, Mr. William Stephens is excellent, and causes constant roars of laughter by his witticisms; Mr. Arthur Harrold, a vocalist of considerable ability, does effective work as Dick Wargrave; and as the Hon. Crewe Boodle Mr. Percy E. Wright makes a decided hit; Miss Francis Earle introduces a great amount of vim into her performance as Elphin Haye, and her vocal efforts are worthy of special praise, and the bright acting of Miss Beatrice Anderson as Mrs. Shimmering Black is very noticeable; the part of Liza Shoddam is filled with vivacity by Miss Jennie Richards and Miss Gertrude Melville is a pleasing Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Mary Morison makes the most of her opportunities as Miss Virginia Bliss; Messrs. H. Courtin, Will Hindson, and Greene Taylor all capably fill their respective parts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company opened here on Monday in the new play by Mr. David Muskerry, entitled *The Dear Old Homeland*. A full account will be found in another column.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—Chief honours here this week go to Dinah Morris and company in a versatile scena, entitled *The Lost Coon*, in which some good dancing and singing are introduced. Wilson and Waring occupy a prominent position with their amusing duo *A Bit of Nonsense*. Others appearing are A. G. Spry, quaint comedian; Kalm and Khan, magicians; Oliver Conroy, comedian; Ross and Grayson, comedian; Prof. R. Dunning, ventriloquist; Victor Travers, eccentric; and an amusing episode on the Bioscope, entitled "Rough on the Fireman.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—*Driven from Home*, capitally staged, and cleverly performed by Mr. Andrew Melville's company, under the general management of Mr. Fred Sandy, is the attraction here this week, and was welcomed by a well-filled house on Monday. It would be a difficult matter to speak too highly of Miss Frances Ruttledge's effective and touching rendition of the dual rôle Laura Raybrook and the younger Walter, or of Mr. Percy Dawsone's fine study of the outcast Willie. In addition to his managerial duties, Mr. Frederick Sandy is seen to excellent advantage in the heavy part of Geoffrey Waring, and Mr. Felix Pitt must be commended on his work as Anthony Raybrook; while Mr. Clement Wakefield, as Walter Hatherleigh, and Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas, cleverly depict their respective parts. Miss Florence Trevoir is strikingly successful as Barbara Ashdown, and the comedy relief introduced by Mr. A. E. Mann as John Anderson and Miss Evelyn Marrable as Margaret is greatly appreciated.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett. This is Regatta week here, and the Motleys are providing good entertainment nightly to large audiences. Miss Lena Vere is a comedienne of ability, and uses it to the best advantage, and Mr. Sidney Leighton also does very well, his ventriloquial sketch being appreciated; Mr. Joseph Holland is a tenor of exceptional talent, and meets with great success, and Mr. Harker Nicholls's instrumental numbers are particularly admired; Mr. Llewellyn Evans has a good voice, and his efforts are frequently applauded.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The White Chrysanthemum* has been a great attraction here this week. Mr. W. H. Rawlins has made a hit in the part of the Admiral; and Mr. Horace Mills has been successful as Lieut. Beaumont, while Mr. F. Pope Stamper has done excellent work as Lieut. Hermitage. Mr. O. E. Lennon is responsible for no little amusement as the Chinese cook; and Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., is capital as one of the Royal Marines. Miss Gwladys Elvey is charming in the title-part; Miss Kate Vesey makes a fascinating American heiress; and Miss Daisy Le Hay is an attractive widow. Minor parts are well sustained by the Misses Delia Hunt, Mabel Champion, Florence Craigie, Estelle Vernon, May Daniel, Mary Preston, Ellaline Craigie, Stanley Cooper, R. O'Ferrall, Messrs. Gordon Thomas, E. J. Carlin, Michael Watson, Stanley Williams, Fred Meyers, A. L. Hayter, W. Thompson, R. Norman, H. Smith, and O. McKiernan. Mr. G. W. Lindsay is the manager, and Mr. T. Reynolds the stage-manager.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company is here in *The Orange Girl*. As Nell Gwyn Miss Dolly Elsworthy leaves little to be desired, and is ably assisted by Mr. C. Robinson (Charles II.); Mr. C. V. Percy (Duke of Buckingham); Mr. A. Howard (Dick Harraden); Miss A. Schrier (Lady Castlemaine); and Miss O. Rivers (Mother Gwyn). Mr. W. G. Webber, basso-profundo, is heartily appreciated; Mr. Arthur Croxon, a versatile entertainer, provides a most amusing turn; Stanley's Giant Fairy Fountain is as much a success as ever; and the Casino Orchestra under the baton of Mr. Henry Sprake please by their well-rendered selections.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—At the head of the bill here this week is Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog Pilu, who gives a marvellous performance; Claude Feldman's Beau-Ideal Troupe of clever juveniles in their vaudeville act are loudly applauded; Prof. Bernar's Fantoches are well received; the Melba Sisters prove popular; Sammy Shields makes a capital Scotch comedian; Rose Finette is decidedly smart; and Ernie Mayne creates roars of laughter; the American Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Alma Obrey is the star turn, and charms all with her vocalisation; Fred Curran is a quaint comedian and Minnie d'Aubyn a charming burlesque actress. Conan and Doyle are expert patterers and Bob Baxter a finished comedian; Hill and Lane are here with several specialities and Burley and Burley are clever comedy acrobats. Harry Cliff has a good voice; and the Royal Bioscope pictures are again a smart collection.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The depiction of the Britt-Nelson fight in animated pictures is proving an excellent attraction here. Kid Gwynn, American ball puncher, evokes loud applause; Mr. Cresswell Bernard in his character sketches from Dickens proves a big success; and the 'Frisco Girls in their songs and dances make a very favourable impression.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Kennedy's Komiks are on a return visit, and Little Hatch, Lenner and Wright, Street and Round, Sisters Dudley, and Harry Plowden all submit excellent turns. A most amusing sketch is providing—Tate's *Fishing*—and a specially excellent item is that presented by Yorick and Yorick, who display great ability; Mr. Fred Jones and Mr. Harry Smart give a clever display of wrestling; and a fine selection of animated pictures is given by the electric Theatrograph.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Player.—The attraction here this week consists of Messrs. Brown and Kelly's combination in *The Butler Knows*, a laughable sketch, which went well. A good turn was submitted by the Herald Comedy Four, who rendered some songs in fine style, gaining a well-deserved encore; and the audience laugh heartily at the knockabout absurdity of the Elves Comedy Trio. Spencer and Marks provide a good show; Miss Blanche Holt proves a success as the Dutch vocalist; Mr. Sid Bandon creates several encores with his character songs; Miss Marie Elsie gives an admirable turn; and the Hippodrome pictures are well up to the standard.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Mr. Frank Bertram this week presents *The Breed of the Treshams* here this week, with Mr. H. Tripp Edgar in the rôle of Reresby the Rat, a character which has an interpretation that is entirely satisfactory. Great skill is shown by Miss Celestine Bertram as Batty. Miss Florence Thressillian as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford renders the part with good taste and natural treatment. Mr. Cecil C. Klier is successful as the Hon. Francis Tresham, and Mr. Richard H. Greene gives effect to the character of Colonel Hungerford.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Francis, the cannon ball King, is once more here astonishing all, and he is assisted by "his satelite" Alfred, whose comedy eye play is irresistably funny. The simultaneous dancing by Moon and Morris is wonderfully clever and neatly done. The Wynford Brothers' display of jumping is marvellous; Mr. Fred Earle gains a flattering reception; and Alice Ormonde, comedienne, provides an attractive number. The banjo and vocal selections given by the Sisters Chester are pleasing; Raymond's Biotableaux are, as usual, good and attractive; Taking songs are rendered by A. E. Clifford, versatile vocalist; and the dancing by Chic. Ada Parker is exceptionally neat.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. George Dance's company paid a return visit here on Monday in *The Orchid*. Miss Poppy Wilkinson made a delightful Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Trilby Collier was charming as Josephine Zaccary; Miss Clara Beck gave an artistic representation of Thisbe; Zelie Rumbert found a clever exponent in Miss Sissie Brand; Miss Hilda Vining was praiseworthy as Caroline Vokins; and so, too, was Miss Kitty Smythe as the Countess Anstruther. Mr. Harry Walsh was the life and soul of the piece as Meakin; Mr. Clifford Bing was extremely ludicrous as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. Frank Manger made an excellent Dr. Ronald Faussett; Mr. Charles Seymour's interpretation of Mr. Aubrey Chesterton was decidedly good; Mr. Len Neville's portrayal of the Comte Raoul de Cassignat was entitled to the highest commendation; and Mr. Geoffery Berwick made quite a hit as Zaccary. *The Cingalee* company occupied the boards for the last three nights of the week.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Æolian Opera Singers are here once more, and scoring a big success. Miss Jennie Johns is applauded to the echo for her singing of "Mother"; Miss Florence Kay is loudly encored for her rendering of Tosti's "Goodbye"; Miss Rose Alderman's exceptional voice is heard to advantage in "Angel of my dreams"; Mr. Vivian Munro's song, "The world ruled by girls," is rendered most artistically; Mr. Charles Parker's singing of "Country, King, and Girl" meets with approbation; and as a mimic and ventriloquist, Mr. Richardson Taylor is a huge success. Mr. Frank Lens delights with some excellent pictures on the Bioscope.

WEST STANLEY.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. Tully.—This theatre opened on Monday under new management, with Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company in *The Luck of Life*. Mr. Harry Lloyd, Mr. Henry Loraine, and Mr. Ch. Belcliffe, as the three Nihilists, Michael Bazilovitz, Count Petroff, and Ivan Polowski, were responsible for some exceedingly good acting; Mr. Wilton Marsh as George Stanhope, a solicitor, was everything desirable; Mr. Harry T. Butler as Simon Stanley, Stanhope's clerk, is a refined and clever comedian; Miss Nita Langford plays well as Renée Bazilovitz; Mlle. de Beaudyn is capitally presented by Miss Kate Perowne; and Miss Marie Clavering as Countess Vlame, Miss Olive Brook as Vivienne, and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North played their respective rôles effectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mills is here this week with *A Wrecker of Men*. Risca Mallison is forcibly presented by Miss Dora Price; Mr. Milner Noble as Pharosophus, an Egyptian, does every credit to the rôle; Mr. Frederick Biron makes a decided hit as Jim Morley; Mr. Millar Anderson's Railton is a capital piece of acting; the part of Guise Strange was ably presented by Mr. Stanley Champion; Mr. William A. Armour makes a fine Reggie Verincourt, a plucky Johnnie; Mr. John Soden ably fills the dual rôle of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus; and Mr. Thompson Carruthers does well in the part of Eric Melville. Miss Cissy Podmore shows to advantage as Doris Melville; Miss Beatrice Reynolds creates some amusement by her funny portrayal of Vavasole Slopper; and the part of Marion Isaacs is well handled by Miss Gwendoline Talbot.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Mr. Joseph Poole's myriorama and variety company was the attraction secured for the reopening of the theatre on Monday. The entertainment, which is of a first-class character, was thoroughly enjoyed by the crowded audience. The myrioramic tableaux realistically depicted life in different parts of the world, the views of the Assouan Dam, the Bombardment of Port Arthur, and Venice being especially fine. Mr. Nat Abatt proved a very capable guide and raconteur. A capital variety company also formed part of the entertainment. Mlle. Juanita de Oliviera, with her performing cockatoos, gained much applause; the Veronas, in their songs and dances, were very pleasing; McAskell, comic conjurer, kept the audience in good humour; Miss May Finch in her song-scena was much admired; Felix Somers gave some striking facial impersonations of past and present celebrities; Silly Selby, the eccentric musical clown, was good; and the Paulasto Troupe in their novel creation, *Frolics in a Café Garden*, gave a clever acrobatic performance.

WHITBY.—THE SPA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week, Mr. Edward Terry and company appeared at this theatre in *Sweet Lavender*, *The Magistrate*, and *Liberty Hall*. Since the Spa has been leased by Mr. W. P. Seddon, as manager, the place has been extremely popular. There have been musical entertainments every day by first-class artists, besides other forms of entertainment. The Native Choir from Jamaica have proved a great success this week, their performances being full of charm and interest. For the first three nights of the week Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company in the successful play *The Walls of Jericho*, appeared at this theatre. Mr. A. E. Anson acts with great power as Jack Frobisher; Miss May Tavener makes a charming Lady Alethea; Mr. Alfred Barber as Hanky Bannister; Mr. Leslie Rea as Lord Drayton; and Mr. Cecil Warde as the Marquis of Steventon are excellent. Miss Marguerite Cellier as Lady Westerby; Miss Nona Wynne as Lady Lucy Derenham, and Miss Lillian Rogers as Miss Mornington were also equally pleasing. There were large audiences present on each occasion.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Clark.—This theatre opened for the season on the 24th ult. with Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in a two night's engagement, with *The Country Girl*. This week we are having a return visit of Mr. Harry Starr and company in the play *Carl the Clockmaker*. Mr. Starr again appears as Carl, and his performance is enjoyed as much as ever. Mr. Edwin Firth is well cast as Maurice Helmore, and Mr. Fred Graham is very humorous as Arthur Attwood. Mr. W. Hee works hard as Count Neiklevitch, and Mr. W. Miller is good as Norkey Nabbs. Miss Kate Norris is pleasing as Lena, and Madge Blundell enacts the part of Madge Ryder in a careful manner.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company is here this week with the remarkable drama, *The Traitor*. A large house assembled on Monday evening, and was deeply impressed by the powerful story unfolded by a capable company. Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is a fine figure as Prince Rudolph, and repeatedly wins the plaudits of the house; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as the Chief of Police and "the traitor" of the title-rôle acts brilliantly in an arduous rôle; Mr. P. W. Hurst as Captain Ross of England reveals himself as a capable artist; and Miss Isabel Hunt plays with success the emotional part of the young Lieutenant Nicholas. Messrs. Arthur McCullogh, Edward Lowrie, and Frank Sutherland are responsible for the comedy element, and made the most of the chances afforded them; Miss Maude Stuart renders much help to the lighter side of the piece by her delineation of Cen Cen, a Japanese girl; the handling of the part of Zula by Miss Ruth Shepherd is excellent and artistically restrained; Miss Rosalind Scott Watson is admirable in the part of the mysterious Countess Zicka; and Miss Katherine Vere plays prettily as a clever Parisienne who acts as a detective. The staging of *The Traitor* is exceptionally good, and the uniforms and dresses are elaborate.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is presenting *The Silver King*. The part of Wilfred Denver is powerfully represented by Mr. Fred D. Daviss; Mr. Edw. J. George capably expounds the part of Daniel Jaikes; Mr. L. St. George Lowther is admirable as "the Spider," and Mr. Arthur Wright capably represents the character of Elijah Combe. Nellie Denver is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Daisy Scudamore, and Miss Flossie Hale Daviss gives a natural interpretation of the part of Cissy. Miss Dorothy Radford does well as Olive Skinner; Miss Louie Hale is amusing as Tabitha Durden; and Miss Bessie Wright and Miss Mary Simpson are good as Susie and Mrs. Gamage respectively.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The Clement Trio, aerial comedy gymnasts, give a remarkably skilful performance; Musical Silvo produces music from glasses, silvo chimes, &c.; Charles Mildare is a clever whistler; and Mystery Gauze, a Canadian Indian artist, represents a female vocalist so faithfully as to totally deceive his audience. Other excellent turns are H. O. Wills, comedian; Takio, Japanese mimic; Harry Edson and well-trained dogs; the Sisters Cora, vocalists; the Brothers De Wynne, smart hand-balancers, &c.; and Horace Sade, speciality artist.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—After a long spell of variety entertainment, a week's visit from Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order* is proving highly acceptable, and Mr. Carlton's enterprise is finding generous acknowledgment at the hands of his numerous patrons. Mr. Frank Fenton and Miss Auriol Lee are the stars in a carefully-selected company, and the comedy receives adequate representation. As the wayward Nina, Miss Auriol Lee plays with delightful freedom, yet exercises a degree of restraint in the more emotional passages which serves to accentuate their force. The part of Hilary Jesson is sustained by Mr. Frank Fenton with complete success; Mr. Cyril Harcourt is well suited as the somewhat priggish politician Filmer Jesson; and Miss Carmen Woods is entertaining as the precocious Derek Jesson. Mr. Adam Alexander, Mrs. Kemmis, Miss Audrey Campbell, and Mr. George Silver make an interesting quartette of "Ridgeleys"; Mlle. Juliette Milo is a fascinating French governess; and Mr. Charles Tyrel justifies his selection for the part of the false friend, Major Maurewarde. The minor rôles are satisfactorily filled, and the comedy is superbly staged.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Large audiences have assembled to witness *The Throne of Terror*, which is effectively mounted. As Robespierre, Mr. William J. Miller plays with force and vigour; Mr. Roy Milton as the hero is quite successful; Mr. F. Fuller is excellent as the Comte; Miss K. Maude Davies is sympathetic as the heroine, and Miss Ethel Lanyan-Maude forms a fine contrast as the villainess. The entire cast is satisfactory.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company appeared here for the first three nights of this week with *The Silver King*, and money was turned away nightly. Mr. Horace E. Herbert gives a fine rendering of Wilfred Denver; Mr. Oswald Cray as the Spider is excellent; Miss B. Doyle gives a finished and pathetic delineation of Nellie Denver; little Madge Gillard and little Mildred Warde do beautifully as Cissie and Ned; Mr. Percy Foster could not be improved upon as Daniel Jaikes; Mr. A. Begbe is a typical detective as Baxter, and the remaining characters are suitably placed. On Thursday Mr. George Dance's company appeared in *The Duchess of Dantzic*.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls. — This week good houses have been attracted by Mr. E. W. Selman, character comedian; Rene and Smith (Nell and Jim), American speciality artists; Miss Nellie Dunbar, comedienne and dancer; Bush and Le Roy, in a comedy duologue, entitled *A Day Out*; Miss Sadie Bushell, contralto; and the pictures.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessee, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Dacre.—*The Earl and the Girl* has proved a strong attraction for the race week, and large audiences have been the rule. Miss May Yates secured hosts of admirers by her impersonation of Elphin Haye, which was at once natural and delightful. Mr. Thomas Kennard as Dick Wargrave was in every way a distinct success, giving a racy, humorous, and thoroughly enjoyable rendition of a popular rôle. Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese had ample opportunities to display his undoubted talents as a comedian of the first rank, and he lost no opportunity to cause amusement; Mr. Leslie Owen was satisfactory as Crewe Boodle, and Mr. Sam Lysons as Mr. Falk was infinitely amusing. Miss Kathleen Gerrard was a handsome Mrs. Shimmering Black, and much amusement was caused by Mr. Greville Hayes as A. Bunker Bliss.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—The Max Wesseley Troupe of jugglers are the great attraction this week, and are well received. Boyd and Gilfain are as clever as ever in their musical items, which are thoroughly appreciated. Tom Leamore causes amusement, and Bert Bowden is aptly styled a quaint comedian. The dancing of Lorna Doone is a special feature, and Will Letters has some smart stories. Evelyn Taylor's songs are well received, and Gena Manon is a favourite. The Empire Bioscope is still an attraction.

PRESENTATION.—On Friday of last week, at the Woolpack Hotel, Moor-street, Birmingham, Mr. P. D. Elbourne, resident-manager of Barrasford's Hippodrome, Birmingham, was the recipient of an illuminated address and a handsome cheque on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. A. W. Matcham (of the Empire) presided, and was supported by Messrs. Phil Rodway (of the Theatre Royal), E. Foster (of the Bordesley Palace), Newby (of Yarmouth), Bert Wilson, Wallis, Parkes (hon. treasurer), and T. H. O'Rorke (hon. secretary). Letters of apology and good wishes were read from Messrs. Lester Collingwood (of the Alexandra), J. F. Graham (of the Prince of Wales's), Joe Hubbard, Dr. Bodie, &c. The chairman, in a neat speech, voiced the feeling not alone of Mr. Elbourne's brother managers in the city, but of a large circle of friends, in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Elbourne many years of happiness. Mr. Elbourne suitably replied, and thanked one and all for the beautiful address and their kind wishes on behalf of his wife and himself.

EDISCOPE AND BARNUM'S PICTURES opened at the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, on Monday to a large audience. The variety turns included the Cedrics, clever jugglers; Lulu, the lady instrumentalist, with a very fine garden set; Queenie Vane, a good clog dancer; Vic. Verney, whistling comedian; Jessie Harper, the singing mill girl; Stilvo, on the stilts; the Ver Vains, duettists and dancers; Mons. Vela, on the wire; and Madeline Corlettie, in illustrated songs.

THE popular proprietors of the Queen's Theatre, Keighley, invited the French workmen who are on a visit to the town to witness the performance of *The Little Bread Winner* on Tuesday evening. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the theatre was crowded in every part.

DRAMATIC REVIVAL AT RICHMOND.

The theatrical star of Richmond has risen once again, and the historic town which for more than a year has languished without the drama came into possession of its own on Monday, when Mr. Bannister Howard reopened the Castle Assembly Rooms as a theatre. The house, which is hallowed by many theatrical traditions, was in years past a favourite resort, numerous stage celebrities, including no less a personage than Edmund Kean, having graced its boards. The Castle was succeeded by the new Richmond Theatre, which was some time since given over to variety, leaving the town unprovided with a temple of the drama. If a possibility exists of restoring the palmy days of the playhouse, Mr. Howard, who is a veritable prince among touring managers, and has at his command some of the finest productions travelling, is manifestly the man to do it. The theatre is within five minutes of the South Western station, whence a good service of trains connect it with neighbouring suburbs, whilst the District Railway is also within easy reach. It boasts a commodious balcony, fauteuils, stalls, and pit, and the seating capacity is laid out to the best advantage. Electric light has been installed, the stage enlarged, and many other improvements effected, and a feature of the house is an elegantly appointed ladies' lounge—not, however, entirely closed to members of the sterner sex—where refreshments are served throughout the evening. In order, as it were, to feel the pulse of the public, Mr. Howard proposes to open the theatre after next week on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, with a matinée on the Saturday.

A large and enthusiastic audience, representative of the best people in the town, assisted at the opening on Monday, when the attraction was *Sergeant Brue*, the quaintly amusing comedy by Owen Hall, with music by Liza Lehmann and lyrics by J. Hickory Wood, which set all London laughing so long and loudly after its production at the Strand in the summer of 1904.

Prolonged applause greeted the fall of the curtain on the first act, and when Mr. Bannister Howard stepped forward he was heartily greeted. "Allow me," he said, "personally to thank you for attending here on this very hot evening in such large numbers to give a send-off to my new venture. The question is, I think, Does Richmond require a theatre? It is wonderful that the town has been for such a long time without a playhouse, especially when one remembers what a very old theatrical town it is. I could tell some of my friends of the younger generation that in the year 1833 Edmund Kean made his last appearance at this little theatre. Some time since I was approached by an influential gentleman in this town, who asked me to come here and give the town a trial, so I have taken a temporary lease this autumn, and intend to give it a good chance. All I want is the goodwill and support of the public in my determination to present clean plays and good plays. I have prepared a satisfactory list for the coming autumn, including *Oliver Twist* and *The Eternal City*, by arrangement with Mr. Beerbohm Tree. Then there will be *A Country Mouse*, with Miss Annie Hughes, and afterwards will follow *The Earl and the Girl*, *The Silver King*, *Florodora*, *Bluebell in Fairyland*, *The Belle of New York*, *Public Opinion*, *The Christian*, *Charley's Aunt*, and many other first-class attractions. If I only succeed in getting your support, I have a promise from the Moody-Manners Opera Company to come in the spring. I have an option on the theatre for next year, and if I am supported I shall go ahead and try to revive again the successful days of the past. Although most of the leading stars

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

The play-going inhabitants of Holloway have had refreshingly light and bright fare this week at the Marlborough Theatre in *The Gay Parisienne*. The sprightly merry doings of that young lady and her confrères in the play never seem to pall upon one even with repetition, and goodly audiences—all things considered—have assembled nightly at the theatre mentioned. In this sultry weather people prefer that their entertainments should not be of the kind that harrow the feelings or are so "heavy" that their weight, figuratively speaking, makes one draw long breaths. Therefore, a lightsome piece like *The Gay Parisienne* is made especially welcome at this tropical season of the year, and its varying incidents, involving no great mental strain in their interpretation, and yet being pleasing to the eye, the ear, and the understanding. This musical comedy has been before the footlights for some considerable time, and there is not much doubt that it will hold the stage for a long period yet. The work of the company under review is adequate in every respect. There is a delightfully winsome and engaging Julie in Miss Evelyn Hughes, whose vivacity and light-heartedness in her acting and dancing cannot fail to disperse the gloom from the most morbid soul. As to the sober-minded and stern Mrs. Honeycomb, that very correct person is admirably portrayed by Miss Holford Berringer, while it is a very pretty and sweet Miss Honeycomb that we get from Miss Madge Soutter. Mr. T. Gideon Warren is to be commended for his representation of the short-tempered Major, whose irritableness and jerky fits are the cause of so much amusement. Mr. William Harman is seen in the rôle of that wonderful genius, Ebenezer, and the way in which Mr. Harman brings out the absurdity of the character and its ludicrous qualities is extremely diverting. A capital study of the German landlord, Hans, is furnished by Mr. J. Fitzjames, and Mr. Dutton Nicholls is effective as an American dude. Miss Ethel Ivimey is lively and comical as Ruth; and Mr. Bloomfield Jones, in the part of the German waiter, commands one's admiration for his smart dancing. The staging and mounting is, as one might suppose, on a scale of magnificence, there is a splendid chorus, aided by the Imperial Glee Singers, and the whole production goes with a merry swing from start to finish.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Play, by Charles Klein, entitled
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."

One of the most acceptable and interesting of the plays sent us from America, it will always remain somewhat of a mystery to us that the piece did not attain the success it deserved at the Duke of York's Theatre. It was unanimously approved by the London Press, but the public did not respond in sufficiently paying numbers. It is probable that the English cannot believe or understand the immense power wielded, for good or evil, by magnates in the U.S.A., and the change of locality to England does not, in our opinion, add to the probability of the subject. The atmosphere of the play is frankly American, and American it should remain. An undeniably able company has been provided by Mr. Walter Maxwell, under whose auspices the play is being presented, and on Monday evening *The Lion and the Mouse* met with an enthusiastic reception from a well satisfied house. Mr. Leslie Carter represents the millionaire, John Burkett Ryder, in capital fashion, his domineering manner being absolutely suited to the part. His son, Jefferson Ryder, is most pleasantly rendered by Mr. Stephen Wentworth, making him deservedly a favourite. An amusing picture of the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, the confidential secretary, is given by Mr. J. W. Mackie, and Mr. Herbert Chowne is good as the Rev. Pontifex Deetle. Mr. George Lyttleton plays pathetically as the ruined Mr. Rossmore; and Mr. Richard Norton is a spirited Mr. Stoll. Mr. John Wheatman is a praiseworthy Mr. Roberts, and Jorkins is well played by Mr. Arthur B. Murray. As Shirley Rossmore (the mouse), Miss Christine Silver, a young actress of great merit, creates an immense impression in the powerful scenes wherein she attacks John Burkett Ryde, and the audience readily recognise her undoubted ability. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon exactly grasps the part of the millionaire's timorous wife, and Miss Maude Townsend plays Mrs. Rossmore delicately. Miss Dorrie Roberts is a charming Kate Roberts, and Miss Marjorie Murray is a pert and chatty Vera Nesbitt. Miss Amy Boundaries is a prim Jane Deetle, and the Eudoxia of Miss Ethel Gordon is delightful. The scenery transferred from the Duke of York's Theatre is, of course, of the highest class.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, August 27,
the play, in Five Acts, adapted by J. Comyns Carr, from Dickens's novel, entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

A most successful visit is being paid by Mr. Bannister Howard's company in *Oliver Twist*. The company is a thoroughly capable one, and constant applause punctuated the performance during the evening. Mr. Stanley Drewitt is to be highly complimented on his performance of Fagin, of whom he draws a grim and realistic picture, showing the old Jew in all his varying phases. The Bill Sykes of Mr. James Shea is another capital performance. His fine physique suits the character admirably, and he portrays the housebreaker with all the necessary brutality and harshness. Mr. Fred Penley as Mr. Brownlow makes an ideal old gentleman; Mr. W. Rotherham must be congratulated upon his really fine interpretation of Monks and Mr. Grimwig, the contrast between the cowardly and cunning Monks and the good-natured and gouty Mr. Grimwig being strongly marked. Mr. Paige Lawrence is a handsome and manly Harry Maylie; Miss Dorothy Marsden scores as Oliver, playing the character with irresistible sweetness and charm; Miss N. Lingham is well placed as Mrs. Maylie; and Miss Dorothy Mayhew is a graceful and sympathetic Rose Maylie. The Nancy of Miss Edith Anton Laing is a clever performance, bringing out all the good points in the character. The Artful Dodger, Charlie Bates, Tom Chitling, and Barney are skilfully and artistically played by Mr. Charles Clark, Mr. R. C. Hunter, Mr. J. Johns, and Mr. Arthur Klion. The smaller rôles are in safe hands. A word of praise must be given to the mounting of the play, the scene of London Bridge being a remarkably fine set. Mr. Aubrey Hall is the courteous representative of Mr. Howard, and Mr. W. H. Rotherham is stage-manager.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
"ALICE SIT-BY-THE-FIRE."

Miss Russ Whytal and her company are appearing in Mr. J. M. Barrie's fanciful comedy of errors at the Coronet this week. This quaint yet sapient reflection on the difficulties which beset Anglo-Indians, who are perforce separated from their children, and compelled to meet them almost as strangers, is very cleverly interpreted by a most capable company, headed by Miss Russ Whytal in Miss Ellen Terry's part of Alice. Miss Whytal will be best remembered by the excellent service which she rendered under Mr. E. S. Willard's management as Effie in *The Professor's Love Story*, *The Cardinal*, and *The Middleman*. As Alice Grey, Miss Whytal makes a particularly sweet and attractive character of the impulsive, flyaway creature who is suddenly called upon to cope with the most difficult situations imaginable, by reason of her scant acquaintance with her children and her utter ignorance of their highly strung, sensitive, and imaginative natures. Her sweet, womanly way is admirably suited to the part, and her brief flashes of spirited animation are delightfully natural and effective. Mr. J. J. Bartlett is admirable as the bluff, kind-hearted old warrior Colonel Grey, who finds the nursery with his own baby the best club in London. Miss Beatrice Bramah essays the difficult part of the thoughtful, dreamy, unsophisticated, intensely earnest, self-absorbed Amy Grey with a great measure of success, and makes the most of some intensely-amusing situations. Mr. A. W. Bascomb is highly diverting as the young naval cadet who is highly diverting as the young naval cadet who so strongly objects to being kissed by his father, or anything in the nature of "bad form," but is affectionate and honest at heart. Mr. Claude King comes out of the ordeal of portraying the character of Stephen Rollo with flying colours, and presents a very pleasing and convincing portraiture of the part. Miss Lucie Verrier is well-suited as the strong-minded school-girl Leonora Dunbar; and Miss Ada Mavius as the self-assertive nurse and Miss Lilian Locke as Fanny, the lodging-house "slavey" (quite a little character-study in its way), are well in the picture. Messrs. Arthur Hardy and Fred Pemberton are the managers of the company, and Mr. H. R. Cooke undertakes the duties of stage-management.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Play by Sheikewitch, entitled
"REPENTANCE."

On Monday evening a large audience followed with undivided interest a representation of Sheikewitch's popular play, *Repentance*. The performance was complete and commendable in every detail. The talent displayed by the members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company was of a high order of excellence, and every opportunity the piece afforded was taken full advantage of by these clever artists. The exacting rôle of Samuel Reinholtz was ably filled by Mr. Goldsmith, who gave a powerful reading of the character, being particularly good in the last act. Mr. Streng illustrated the part of Moses Schpigelman with his usual capability; and Mr. Schilling, who possesses considerable humorous powers, and is a great favourite here, was very happy in his conception of Chazkel. Mr. Gusofsky made a manly and handsome Refoel Winegloss, and played with earnestness and effect; and Mr. Rosenfeld put in some good work as Reb Jacob. Much fervour and dramatic intensity was shown by Mme. R. Waxman in her superb personation of Rozalie; and Mme. Goldstein met with a favourable reception as Dveire. An admirable Maule was presented by Mme. J. Kayzer, who gave a very fine performance of the part. During the week, *The House of Jerusalem*, *Myer Josefovitch*, *Gabriel*, and *Hyman in America*, have been played with great success.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

The bill at the Fulham Theatre this week is filled by that highly moral drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. There are some clever artists in the company, and they give of their best. The most striking performance is undoubtedly that of Miss Beaumont Collins as Barbara Wade. It is a grim and realistic portrayal of the gradual fall of a woman, through drink, from happiness and prosperity to the very depths of degradation. Unpleasant as the subject matter is, one cannot stint praise for the extraordinarily powerful and moving impersonation of Miss Collins. Miss Nannie Meade plays the part of Nellie Meadows with all the needful abandon; and Miss Jessica Black provides an admirable contrast as Constance Cornell. A most attractive performance is that of Mr. Charles Franmore as the old farmer John Meadows, which is full of rich humour and real pathos. Mr. Wilson Gunning does well as Jack Livingstone; and Mr. Gerald Jordan makes a capable villain as Cuthbert Lumley. Messrs. Fred Withers and Charles Kean play well as Luke Ramsden and Dr. Weston. The comic relief is provided by Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvey and Miss Lena Delphine as Tilly Vane, and their efforts never fail to provoke laughter.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, by the late Sir Augustus Harris, Cecil Raleigh, and Henry Hamilton, entitled
"THE DERBY WINNER."

The above popular Drury Lane drama is being played here this week with great success. Mr. Roy Redgrave, a great favourite with the folks of Rotherhithe, makes a capital Earl of Desborough, and his impassioned style and dramatic acting earn for him considerable applause. Little Miss Florrie Green acts with much pathos, and gives a capital rendering of the part of Harold Viscount Fernside. Colonel Donnelly is well played by Mr. Henry C. Cooper; Mr. J. C. Aubrey gives an excellent impersonation of Madge Mostyn; Rupert Leigh, the dupe of Vivien Darville, is well rendered by Mr. Wingold Lawrence; and Mr. Jack Denton scores as the good-hearted army surgeon Captain Cyprian Streatfield, and extracts much fun out of the part. Mr. Frank Lister deserves praise for his spirited performance in the character of Joe Aylmer; Miss Olga Audre, who is a great favourite here, is well fitted for the part of Vivien Darville, and plays with her customary excellence. Miss Eva Dare makes a charming Maria Duchess of Milford, and is highly acceptable in the rôle. Miss Marion Turner is a pretty and pathetic Mary Aylmer; and Miss Hilda Franklin makes the best of the part of Muriel Countess of Desborough. The scenery and effects are excellent.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
a Drama, in Four Acts, by Mary Stafford Smith, entitled
"HER LOVE FOR HIM."

Richard Marsh .....Mr. Fred Morgan
George Hardy .....Mr. Arthur Bawtree
Jim Daw .....Mr. J. P. Dryden
Billie .....Miss Mary Stafford Smith
Fred Baxter .....Mr. Bert Morley
Zeke White .....Mr. Ashton Winslow
Bob Race .....Mr. J. E. Manning
Seth Rawlings .....Mr. Fred Ashton
Lord Robert Carrisbrook .....Mr. A. P. Kaye
Dr. Anson .....Mr. John Ward
Detective Scott .....Mr. David Reeve
Lola Denville .....Miss Minnie Grey
Maisie Bainbridge .....Miss May Seton
Carrie West .....Miss Nellie Fletcher

This play, which was produced here on Monday before a crowded house, is well written, and abounds with striking situations, that ending the second act being particularly effective. The first scene is a mining camp in California. Richard Marsh, a miner, has induced another named Fred Baxter to invest in a useless claim. Baxter, finding the claim not what it was represented to be, remonstrates. In the subsequent struggle he is stabbed, the result being that Marsh and his associate Jim Daw have to fly. At the Miner's Rest they meet George Hardy and his boy companion, Billy. Hardy is only too pleased to meet a countryman, and tells Marsh that he (Hardy) is en route for England to claim some estates to which he has succeeded. Jim Daw, having drawn off Billy, Marsh surprises and overcomes Hardy, renders him insensible, and robs him of his papers, the curtain falling on Marsh's escape, and Billy's discovery of foul play. Three years pass, and in the second act we find Marsh, with Daw as factotum, in possession of Hardy's estates, and ward to a charming girl, Lola Denville. Her coming-of-age is at hand, and, having squandered most of the property, Marsh conceives the idea of marrying Lola, who rejects the proposal with scorn. A steward has been advertised for, and the boy Billy applies on behalf of Hardy, who, of course, is known as Richard Marsh. As a result of the outrage perpetrated on him three years ago, Hardy is quite blind, and his memory a blank. Eventually, he and Billy are engaged, the latter as assistant steward. Then the false heir is introduced to the man he believed dead—a strong situation. In Act III. a love affair springs up between Lola and the steward. Other complications arise, but eventually things are straightened out through Billy's instrumentality. A successful operation is performed on Hardy, and all ends happily. The part of Billie is excellently portrayed by the authoress. She has several difficult scenes to handle, but succeeds admirably on each occasion; Mr. Arthur Bawtree, as the real Sir George Hardy, has a gentlemanly bearing, and is especially good in the scenes where he is supposed to be suffering from blindness. Lola Denville is sympathetically played by Miss Minnie Grey; Mr. Fred Morgan is effectively sardonic in the rôle of Richard Marsh; and Jim Daw has a humorous representative in Mr. J. P. Dryden. As Lord Carrisbrook Mr. A. P. Kaye is very amusing, and successfully resists any temptation to exaggerate. Miss May Seton has not much to do as the girlish Maisie Bainbridge, but contrives, nevertheless, to remain in the picture. Mr. Bert Morley and Mr. Ashton Winslow are commendable in smaller parts; and the other characters are in good hands. The play is picturesquely staged, and the incidental music is both pretty and appropriate.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"LUCKY DURHAM."

West Londoners have enjoyed a veritable dramatic treat this week by reason of the all-round excellence of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company in Wilson Barrett's last successful play *Lucky Durham*. In the title-rôle Mr. Edmund Kennedy has a part that stands out prominently, and its many possibilities were taken the fullest advantage of by that sterling actor. Alert, well groomed, and with a finely modulated voice, he instantly got a grip on the house, which seemed to increase with each successive act. Mr. Bailey's patrons are always lavish with their applause when merited, and in Mr. Kennedy's case it was quite justified. Mr. Robert Forsyth is duly reserved and dignified as Lord Mountfallon; Mr. A. E. Walker is quietly impressive as Mr. Vallerton; the Ben Verstein of Mr. W. F. Clitherow is a clever character study; Mr. W. V. Simmons-Lynn plays carefully as Arthur Walcome; and Mr. Arthur Leigh's portrayal of the Hon. Reginald Steighton is a well-nigh perfect one, by reason of his easy, confident bearing and natural aptitude for impersonation of this kind. As Mrs. Durham that experienced actress Miss Louisa Gourlay gives a display of womanly tenderness and motherly affection that is very touching; Miss Frances Wolviston is well suited as Lady Mountfallon; Miss Florence Dulhunty is easy and natural as the matter-of-fact Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Alice Esther Belmore sustains the rôle of Helen Vallerton with much charm of manner. The play is staged and mounted in faultless style, the scenery, which is carried by the company, providing a succession of elaborate sets.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Play by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Hardie and Von Leer's original company are presenting the above popular piece this week at the Dalston Theatre, and that full justice is done to the fine drama is proved by the rapt attention of the onlookers. The little vagabonds are represented by Miss May Hart as Dick and Miss Margaret Nybloc as Wally, the delicate nature of the latter being as well portrayed as the hearty health of the former. Mr. William Fazan as George Thornton, Miss Laura Hansen as his trouble-haunted wife, and Miss F. Russell Spiers as Barbara Scarth, his sister, help to maintain the interest of the piece, while Mr. Henry Watson as Captain Darville and Mr. Edmund Cuthbert as John Scarth add their quota to the more solid element of the production. Mr. John F. Traynor is entitled to special mention for an admirable character-sketch as Bill Mullins, the "gaffer" of a gang of thieves, among whom are Dido Bunce, represented by Mr. Ernest K. Nelson, and the Cough Drop, enacted with many touches of humour by Mr. Fred Archer. Miss Marie Pritchard is excellent as Biddy Mullins. Mr. Hugh Holliman raises a laugh or two as Joe Gargoyle, a sexton, and the cast also includes Mr. Jack Royal, Mr. Marston Moor, Mr. T. Blakeman, Mr. H. Buckland, Mr. J. Storm, Miss Muriel Clay, and Miss G. Bormond.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Musical Comedy,
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

A warm welcome was extended by an excellent audience on Monday to Mr. William Greet's company, which is appearing in the above-named popular musical comedy. The company is a thoroughly good one from all points of view, and the chorus is both tuneful and energetic. Miss Gertrude Simpson revels in the part of Elphin Haye, her bright acting and clever singing soon making her a firm favourite. Miss Florence Wix scores an undoubted success as 'Liza Shoddam, playing the character with decided individuality and singing with good expression. Miss Eva Bevington is a dashing Daisy Fallowfield, and makes a hit with her "photograph" song. Miss Helen Langton is a distinguished Virginia Bliss; and Miss Nellie Grant an awe-inspiring strong lady. In the rôle of Jim Cheese, the dog-trainer, Mr. William Cromwell finds full scope for his talent as a comedian, his clever facial play and whimsical gestures giving point to the most ordinary remarks, and his sayings and doings are accompanied by continuous laughter. Mr. Robert Hyett is responsible for a thoroughly good rendering of Dick Wargrave, acting naturally, and singing several favourite numbers with excellent effect. Mr. A. E. Coleby is sufficiently ferocious as Bunker Bliss; Mr. Frank Cane is amusingly loquacious as Downham; Mr. Stanley Harrison makes a typical English gentleman of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Arthur Cassidy causes considerable laughter as the Hebraic solicitor; and Mr. Fred W. Patrick makes the small part of the host of the Fallowfield Arms stand out as a clever character-study. The piece is well mounted and prettily dressed, and the lighting and general effects are good. A much appreciated item of the performance was the energetic and graceful dancing of Miss Nellie Lawrence.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Mr. Melville must have been highly gratified on Monday last at the enthusiastic reception accorded the excellent interpretation of the above drama, given by his talented stock company. As Dick Seymour, Mr. Ashley Page is deserving of high praise. He acts without exaggeration, and throughout the drama his forcible presentment is greatly appreciated. Mr. Tom Taylor supplies a pathetic portrayal of the old blind artist, Hugh Seymour, and meets with every success; and Mr. Alfred Harding gives great satisfaction as Alfonse Beaudet. Mr. John Sargent contributes a fine study of character as the "blood-thirsty" custodian of the flower-market, Caliban; Mr. C. A. Chandler is a droll Professor Sawter; and Mr. Johnny Chippendale plays with considerable humour as Charles Sawter. Mr. Frank Woodville is well placed as Phineas Collins; Mr. D. J. Hennessey does all that is possible with the part of Mark Parkins; and the Duc D'Arnac is well sustained by Mr. F. L. Lawrence. Miss Georgie de Lara gives a skilful rendering of Marcel Rigadout, ably depicting the deceitful nature of the wicked woman. Miss Mattie Everett is seen to advantage as Janet Marlow; Mme. Perinet is safe in the hands of Miss Maggie Lindsay; and Miss East Robertson, an old East-end favourite, enacts the part of La Colombe with considerable power. Too much cannot be said of the excellence of Miss Marion Denvil, who, as Mary Andrews, speaks her lines with heartfelt earnestness, and never fails to make a deep impression upon all. The minor characters are ably represented, and the scenic effects are admirable.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Theo Kremer, entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

Poplar has received *The Fatal Wedding* with much enthusiasm, and it is undoubtedly one of the finest productions of its kind that America has sent us. Mr. Bert Coote's company is a clever one, and all work with a will. As Howard Wilson Mr. Wilson Howard presents a faithful picture of the New York clubman, and his performance of the part leaves nothing to be desired. The Robert Curtis of Mr. Guy Hastings is just sufficiently wicked to tinge the character with the necessary villainy. Mr. Edward Morgan, as Toto, the French butler, causes much amusement, being ably seconded by Miss Blanche Stanley as Bridget. Mr. Jack Waring looks and acts well as O'Reilly, the jovial policeman; and Mr. Arthur Law Raynor is effective as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford. Mr. Walter Westwood, as the Janitor, Peter Schwartz, is quite successful; and Master Freddie Hockling as Frank, could scarcely be bettered. As the long-suffering wife, Mabel Wilson, Miss Katherine Clarke is excellent, speaking her lines with great clearness and deliberation; Miss Leah Marlborough does very well as Cora Williams, making an attractive adventuress; and Miss Madge McCalla as Jessie, "the little mother," gives a charming study of child character, and, in addition, brightens the piece with her songs. Master Walter Aubrey dances well; Miss Ivy Westaby has a powerful voice for a youngster; and Miss Winnie Crisp is a neat toe-dancer. The whole production is excellent, and is admirably staged.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."

The return visit to Stratford of Mr. James Willard's company, in *A Woman's Pluck*, is proving a strong attraction at the Theatre Royal this week. The piece is elaborately mounted, and a well-balanced cast has been engaged for its interpretation. Chief honours are carried off by Miss Grace Lester, who plays most consistently as the pugilistic Grace Dermont, and whose victorious bout with the gloves with the villainous Dick Darrell is highly relished by the "gods." Dick Darrell is portrayed with all the necessary suavity and cynicism by Mr. Austin Mortimer; and Mr. Harry T. Wood contributes a vigorous embodiment of Winston Dale. Mr. Fred Norburn exhibits much resource and ability in the dual rôle of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont; Mr. Frank Etheridge plays appropriately as Sir Noel Fordyce; and Mr. Harry Emmerson contributes a clever character-sketch of Matthew Pope. Mr. John Campling does well as Sir Roger Daredevil; and Mr. Dicky Bird is an entertaining Roger Pippin. Miss Violet Carr makes a very charming and tender Jessie Pope; Miss Elsie Maitland is excellent as Mrs. Pope; and Miss Helen Elmar plays with natural dignity as the conventional Lady Daredevil. Miss Nellie Freeland makes the most of her opportunities as Ophelia Pippin; and Miss Tina Shaw is very amusing as the precocious Bertie Daredevil. Remaining parts in a long cast are all in capable hands.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims, entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

The above drama is capitally acted here by the members of Mr. Herbert Hollister's company. Mr. Hollister gives a fine, powerful rendering of the difficult part of Seth Preene; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne's interpretation of Bess is a most attractive one; Miss Burgoyne has the advantage of a most pleasing personality, and this, combined with sympathetic acting, made her a warm favourite with the large audience assembled to witness the performance. Mr. G. Montague Lane is a manly and convincing Harold Armitage; Mr. Raymond Thomas as Clifford Armitage is clever and incisive; Mr. Herbert Lewis is a capital Jarvis; and is ably seconded by Miss Violet Temple and Miss Renee Douglas, a bright and amusing Shakspeare Jarvis. Mr. Sydney N. Hallows is an impressive Squire Armitage; Miss Constance Davey makes a charming Hetty Preene; Miss W. Eves is good as Sal; and the same may be said of Miss Mary Rose as Janet and Miss Hilda Wollard as Annie. The remaining members of the long cast are all well placed, especially Mr. George Wallace as Philosopher Jack, Mr. F. H. Waters as Percy de Vere, Mr. E. H. Dolby as Trotter, and little Rita Wallace, who gives a very natural rendering of Joe.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Musical Comedy, by Owen Hall, Composed by Leslie Stuart, with Lyrics by Boyd Jones and Paul Rubens, entitled
"FLORODORA."

The ever-welcome *Florodora* is given here this week with the greatest success by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company. This theatre is one of the most magnificent and richly-decorated on the South side of the Thames, and, under the management of Mr. Robert Arthur, is in a flourishing condition. The piece is handsomely dressed, and the exhilarating choruses are admirably rendered. Among the principal characters, that of Antony Tweedlepunch, is made agreeably prominent by Mr. Daley Cooper, whose eccentricities keep the merriment alive throughout the evening. His grotesque appearance and resourceful by-play are irresistible, and set the house constantly ringing with laughter. Mr. Jas. R. Tate is admirably suited with the part of Cyrus W. Gilfain, whose appearance on the scene is always welcome. Mr. R. Courtier Dutton as his manager, Frank Abercoed, sings with excellent expression, his cultured tenor voice being heard with especial pleasure in the tuneful "Dolores." Lady Holyrood has a captivating exponent in Miss Edith Housley, who renders her songs with admirable point, the popular "Tact" being replenished by many up-to-date topical verses. Miss Nellie Bowman acts charmingly as Angela Gilfain, and displaying her skill in dancing to the greatest advantage, and Miss Violet Gratzia uses her strong and cultivated voice with excellent effect as Dolores. Mr. Edwin Oxley makes a most impressive personage of Leandro; and Captain Arthur Donegal is gracefully presented at the hands of Mr. Harold Perry. Gilfain's clerks and their sweethearts render various choruses tunefully, the famous double sextet, "Tell me, pretty maiden," being vociferously cheered. Beauty and talent combine in the representation of the other parts and assist in the presentation of an entertainment which is delightful both to the eye and the ear.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Musical Comedy, in Three Acts,
Written and Composed by Paul A. Rubens, entitled
"MR. POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

Mr. Davey, the enterprising manager of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, has, amongst other capital bookings for the autumn, secured this tuneful and amusing production for a week's stay in the riverside town, and there was a numerous audience in the cosy little playhouse at the first performance on Monday evening. The play, which is tastefully mounted, received a most hearty reception, all the parts having been carefully filled by Mr. Chas. Macdona, by whom the company is controlled. Chief amongst the players is Mr. Morris Harvey, who appears in the title-rôle, and achieves a distinct success in it. Miss Mamie Brickwell makes a charming La Bolero, her singing being not the least pleasing feature of an admirable impersonation. Miss Claire Pridelle, who appears as Violet Brinton, is also successful in her musical efforts. Commendable notice is also deserved by Miss Stella St. Audrie as La Bolero's maid; and by Miss Louie René as Mrs. Doring. A successful impersonation of Norman Popple is given by Mr. Herbert Dickeson; and Mr. Tom Hay acquits himself well as Platt, the manservant. There is an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. H. R. Matthews, and a strong and carefully-trained chorus, each of which contributed materially to an undoubted success.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"THE TRAITOR."

Playgoers at Peckham this week are favoured with a visit from that exciting drama *The Traitor*. The piece is full of bomb-throwing, Anarchists' plots and assassinations, combined with the weird doings of secret societies. It thoroughly interests the audience, who give the production a hearty reception. Mr. Albert Ward, who is an old favourite at this house, supplies a fine rendering of the rôle of the reckless young Crown Prince Rudolph, and soon makes himself a great favourite. Mr. Horace Hunter shows to advantage as the grim and unscrupulous Chief of Police; Mr. Harry Gribben is a comical General Hertz, and in company with Mr. Brian Daly as Zoff materially contributes to the fun of the piece; Mr. Teddy Coleman is a jolly Jack Boult, and little Cen-Cen is nicely and captivatingly played by Miss Agnes Paulton. Mr. Raymond Wood is a bluff and hearty Captain Ross; Mr. C. Grose is good as Lieutenant Nicholas; Miss Kathleen Russell looks charming and plays with much feeling as Zula; Miss Florrie Harcourt is a dainty Elsie Dupree; and Miss Daisy Murch distinguishes herself as the adventuress Countess Zicka; Mr. E. Boddy is duly impressive as the Speaker of the Hidden Council.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts,
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Of the many brilliant autumn bookings made by Mr. Fred Fredericks for the elaborately redecorated Borough Theatre, the first visit to Stratford of Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Little Michus* will rank among the foremost. The mounting and dressing of the piece is lavish and artistic, and the capable cast includes Mr. George Graves in his original part of General des Ifs. No more diverting performance than his could be desired, his gags and witticisms provoking one continual ripple of mirth. As the little Michus, Blanche Marie and Marie Blanche, Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Thelma Raye are two sweetly pretty and graceful young ladies, their duet singing is delightful, and Miss Raye's vocal and violin contribution in the third act is vociferously encored. Mr. Leonard Mackay acts and sings in manly and pleasing style as Aristide Vert; and Mr. W. Talleur Andrews makes a gallant and soldierly Gaston Rigaud, besides winning much applause for his excellent vocalism. Mr. Jack Cannot works indefatigably and is always amusing as the General's servant, Bagnolet; Mr. George Miller as the stolid Pierre Michu contributes a decidedly clever performance; the marketing rustic is capitally played by Mr. Willie Warde, jun.; and Mr. Alec Worcester ably enacts a footman. Miss Florence Parfrey is most successful in her delineation of Mme. Michu; Miss Alice Oppitz scores heavily as Mme. Herpin; and the dances contributed by Miss V. Talleur as Mlle. St. Cyr are rapturously received. Minor parts are all carefully played, and the large and very competent chorus and augmented orchestra are skilfully directed by Mr. Harold Vicars. Mr. H. Adair Nelson is Mr. George Edwardes's courteous general-manager.

ACTORS' DAY.

In addition to those whose names have already been published, the following have promised their support on Actors' Day: Abrahams, Morris; Annerley, Frederick; Arleystan, Kitty; Arthur, F. Anderson; Ashwynne, Muriel; Ayrtoun, Margaret; Balleine, Cyril; Barrington, Rutland; Bellamy, Cissie; Beresford, Edmund; Beresford, Frank; Bond, Stephen; Bourne, Adeline; Brandrom, George A.; Broadley, Edward; Canninge, George; Canninge, Susanna; Carlton, Dorothy; Cassy, Alexander; Cavaliero, Blanche; Cavania, Margaret; Cavenagh, Lillie; Charles, Beckville; Clarens, Elise; Clark, Norman; Clay, Muriel; Clitherow, W. F.; Coates, Edwin; Coleman, Edith; Combe, Charles; Cooke, J. Y. F.; Court, Wallace G.; Croft, Wal; Cruikshanks, Edith; Cuthbert, Edith; Dawson, Ivo; Diard, Fatmah; Donovan, Jean; Dwyer, Michael; Dwyer, Norah; Dyson, Nellie; Edward, A. E. E.; Emden, Millie L.; Evelyn, Katie; Evelyn, Margaretta; Fitzgerald, Edith; Fraser, H. M.; Goodyer, Percy R.; Gordon, Ethel; Gregory, Walner; Green, Richard; Harding, A. J.; Harrington, Katherine; Hastings, Amy; Henderson, John; Henderson, Milly; Herbert, Joseph; Ingreville, Agnes; Jackson, Florence; James, Edith M.; Kemble, Eugenie; Kenion, Walter; Langley, Muriel; Ley, Violet; Lillywhite, Fred; Linay, Arthur; Linden, Marie; Lyons, Arthur; Lytton, Doris; McLaren, Rosetta; Main, James, jun.; Meads, E. F.; Milman, Rita; Murray, Marjorie; Newcombe, Jess; Ord, Jerrold; O'Sullivan, Clare; Relph, Mary; Rolfe, Arthur Collins; Roselle, Emmeline; Rosier, J. A.; Ross, Irene; Russell, Leila M.; Sandford, Nesta; Selwyn, Beatrice; Sheffield, Nellie; Sibley, Lucy; Stephson, C. A.; Traynor, John F.; Turner, Montague; Tyrell, J. H.; Van Biene, Auguste; Watson, Elizabeth; Whitling, Townsend; Wright, Hilda.

As it is, unfortunately, impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal, and forms for signature, will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Aug. 30.—The Sunday Closing Act, which is creating so much stir among Paris tradesmen, will also seriously affect the theatres. The delegates of the various syndicates (musicians, music-hall singers, actors, &c.) held a meeting a few days ago, wherein they expressed their satisfaction that by the new law they will have one day's rest every week. This satisfaction is not shared by the theatrical managers and music-hall proprietors, who have convened a meeting for Sept. 24 to discuss the matter. It should be remembered that, although the new law is commonly called "the Sunday Closing Act," establishments need not close on that day. In fact, they can keep open week days and Sundays, provided they give their employees a holiday once a week, replacing them, if they like, by others. It is this last clause which rouses the ire of the theatrical managers. "Our legislators," they say, "are talking nonsense. What do they mean by 'replacing'? How can one replace an actor? It is all very well for insignificant parts; but what about the 'stars'? They will never allow anyone else to play their rôles, if only for one night, and, what is worse, they will refuse to take a holiday and lose a night's pay. And then the public, too, is to be considered. Imagine the Paris theatres having to play one evening a week without either Gémier, Sarah Bernhardt, Mounet Sully, Guitry, Mlle. Brandès, &c. The modus of 'replacing,' therefore, is too silly to be carried out; and there remains no other way but to close the Paris houses on Monday nights, when the takings generally are least. But that would be a ruinous proceeding, for it would cost us about one-eighth of our receipts. No Paris house could stand this, burdened as we are with 10 per cent. poor tax. And what about the artists, especially the small ones? A man earning, say, £12 per month, can he afford to lose fifty-two nights' pay?" Thus speak the managers; and it will be interesting to see what attitude they will take up in respect to the new law, which, in a measure, will prove a hardship to them.

"TERRE D'ÉPOUVANTE" is the title of a three-act drama by MM. André de Lorde and Eugène Morel, to be produced at Antoine's this season. The scene of the work is laid in Martinique, at the time of the recent volcanic eruption.

THE Nouveautés will be the first house to reopen, and will revive *Florette et Patapon*. The first novelty there will be *N'avez vous rien à déclarer?* an amusing farce by MM. Pierre Véber and Maurice Hennequin.

CLUNY announces for Sept. 4 the *première* of *Mes oncles s'amusent*, a three-act farcical comedy by Hughes Delorme and F. Gally, wherein Mlle. Daveny will impersonate Paille de Riz.

IN the theatrical world here the fate that befell M. Henri Lavedan's play, *Le Lit*, in Nuremberg, has caused no little amusement. The work, under the title *Das Bett*, was brought out in that city, when the performances were stopped by the Censor. But the curious part of the story is that the piece had already been played five times before the authorities intervened. The public had never once protested during these representations, nor had there been any hostile comment in the press. It, therefore, had taken the Censor five nights before he discovered something objectionable in a piece which, probably, he never understood. No wonder French actors, who have been touring in Germany, invariably complain that in the Fatherland people are slow of comprehension.

IT is more than probable that M. Miranne will succeed to the post of chef d'orchestre at the Opera Comique, left vacant by M. Luigini's death. M. Miranne has for many years conducted the orchestra at the Marseille Opera, and the fact that he tendered his resignation a few days ago tends to confirm that he has been engaged by M. Carré.

M. ANDRE MESSAGER is putting the finishing touches to *Le Chandelier*, wherein—almost needless to say—Miss Mary Garden will sing the chief rôle. This is the second time Alfred de Musset's famous comedy has inspired a musician. Offenbach wrote a charming operette, founded on that story, which, under the name *La Chanson de Fortunio*, had a tremendous success in England. Englishmen of the last generation will remember the pretty melody to the words, "Si vous croyez que je vais dire Qui j'ose aimer," a melody of which the public grow so fond that it was transformed into a march, and, strange as it may seem, even into a waltz.

AMONG the pieces received at the Opera Comique are *Leone*, by the late Samuel Rousseau; and *Chiquito, le Joueur de Flute*, a lyric play in four acts, by M. Henri Cain, set to music by M. Jean Nauguès.

HAUPTMANN'S fine, but uncanny, play, *L'Assomption d'Hannele Mattern*, has tempted the composer, M. Camille Erlanger. MM. Thorel and de Gramont have condensed the story into a libretto in two parts and six tableaux, and the work will be ready for production next season. Erlanger does not seem quite the right sort of composer for such a mystic play, as, although he is a sound musician, he has scarcely the necessary temperament to translate Hauptmann into music. It requires a greater man to deal with such a work as *Hannele*.

AT the Comédie Française, July and August are delightful months for the juvenile members of the house. Most of the stars are on tour, or enjoying their holidays, and the young element has an opportunity of appearing in rôles which, at other times, are jealously held by Messieurs and Mesdames les Sociétaires. Thus, we had the pleasure of applauding Mlle. Francine Clary as Lisette in *Le Jeu de l'amour et du Lasard;* M. Croué impersonated Sganarelle in *Le Médecin malgré lui*, and Mlle. Mitzy-Dalti appeared as Fanny in M. Berr de Turigue's *Le Rez-de-chaussée*. They all acquitted themselves well of their task, and the not over-critical summer public found no fault with the performance.

IN order to prove that most operatic singers are of humble origin, a gentleman has taken the trouble of diving into the past of many well-known artists, and this is what he discovered: Villaret, who created *L'Africaine*, started life as a mechanic; Bosquin, to whom Massenet assigned the chief rôle in his *Marie-Magdeleine*, had been a cobbler; Faure, the great Faure, who retired with an immense fortune, and owns one of the finest art collections in France, held the post of organ blower at Notre Dame at a salary of £8 per month; Poullier was a cooper's assistant; Renard a blacksmith; Gueymard a ploughman; and Obin a notary's clerk. M. Alvarez's musical career began as second conductor in a military band; and M. Fugère eked out a slender living in a sculptor's studio.

THE new theatre, Cardiff, is rapidly approaching completion, and will be opened at the beginning of December.

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AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A return visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company with *The Spring Chicken* has been welcomed here. The Girdle of Mr. George Gregory forces from the audience continuous laughter, his topical songs and ready gags being hugely enjoyed. Miss Gertrude Glyn is the Rosalie, delightful and vivacious; Mr. John Brabourne, as the lively Gustave Babori, helps largely with the fun, along with Mr. Henry Adnes in the rôle of Felix. A charming Dulcie Babori comes from Miss Gertrude Gilliam; and the sprightly niece, Emmy Lou, presented by Miss Nellie Lonnen, proves highly satisfactory. An excellent Baroness Papouche is found in Miss Nancy Langtyre; the singing of Miss Irene Verona, as Mrs. Girdle, gains loud applause; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., comes in for a good share of the honours on account of his admirable dances and songs; and Mr. William Spray is a capital Stephen Henry.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*A Royal Divorce*, staged here this week, has paid forty-seven visits to Liverpool, but that it still proves a remarkable attraction is shown by the crowded audiences that have witnessed it on the present occasion. As usual, Miss Edith Cole has a cordial reception for her Josephine; Mr. Frederick Victor handles the part of Napoleon with his well-known skill; a capital Talleyrand is submitted by Mr. F. Joynson Powell; Miss Agnes Imlay ably sustains the part of Marie Louise; and as Stephanie Miss Clara Russell is charming; Mr. Graham Woods well deserves recognition for his Marquis de Beaumont; the character of General Augereau is done full justice to by Mr. Thomas Barry; Mr. Dennis Bryan makes the most of the innkeeper, Grimaud; and Miss Doris Invatis pleases as the little King of Rome.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*Two Little Sailor Boys*, brought by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company, is the attraction here this week. The title-rôles are pleasingly undertaken by Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances Green; Mr. Jerrold Heather makes a manly Commander Noel Tregarthen; Miss Blanche Steele acts with dramatic strength as Lola Grey; Miss Alice Defoe is a sweet Mildred Grey; a well-drawn Lieut. Kedstone comes from Mr. Ellerslie Pyne; every satisfaction is afforded by Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Captain Tom Yorke; and valuable help comes from Mr. Ambrose Horton, Mr. Oscar Power, Mr. Tom E. Sinclair, Mr. J. Court Harvard, and Miss Lizzie Chambers, an exceedingly amusing Lucy Wilson.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Mr. Leonard Dalrymple has this week presented here Mr. Edward Marris's company in *As Midnight Chimes*. The old favourite, Witty Wattie Walton, is the Tat Spavvin, a comical railway porter, whose antics provokes great laughter; Mr. Dalrymple does credit to himself with his Dave Stannard; Miss Mary Cambell shows much taste and discretion as Mary Stannard; a villainous Luke Dezzard is portrayed by Mr. Julian Preece; as Ezra Gamble Mr. Herbert Belmore's work proves very acceptable; Mr. Percy Maitland makes the most of Nat Wilson; a capital Detective Pollard is seen in Mr. Arthur J. Sanders; Miss Madge Beresford helps greatly with the comedy as Suzette; and Miss Dorothy Lupone shows much intelligence as Little Davy.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*In Holy Russia* is delighting audiences at this popular theatre this week as presented by Mr. J. Rico Cassidy's company. As the lively and rollicking Micky Nolan Mr. Cassidy is a host in himself, and at times carries the audience with him. His wife, an actress of high accomplishments, plays Renée with a dramatic intensity which it would be difficult to surpass; Mr. Arthur Stratton, as Colonel Forrest, is a capital type of an English soldier; the Sir Harry of Mr. Frank Copeland finds every acceptance; Mr. Joe Cuthbertson makes his Baron von Pleve stand out with striking prominence; and the Laurice Steragoff of Mr. Carl Rovinelli is handled with much earnestness. A satisfactory Madame Natolski comes from Miss Alice Marsden; and Miss Mavis Lee Anderson makes the most of Catska. Scenery and dresses are particularly fine.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Charles Baldwin's company of comedians in a sketch, entitled *Bank Clerks*, top the bill here this week, and cause a continuous roar of laughter. The Bros. Artois are decidedly clever as well as amusing, and their items were loudly applauded. The Three Royal Temples are vocalists of no mean merit; Kioto is a daring and clever equilibrist; and the Bros. Passmore are answerable for much laughter; and other artists who add to the evening's enjoyment are Lilian Rigby, Lambert and Hands, and Lillie Lassah.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Top of the bill here this week are Will. H. Sloan and company with their comical sketch, *The Plumber*, which arouses great laughter; the artistic work of Miss Fanny Wentworth, society entertainer, proves most acceptable, the popular comedienne being rewarded by hearty applause; the character-sketches of Lillie Soutter find ready acceptance; Marie Wilton is cordially greeted for her popular songs; Tom Moore, as a comedian, shows much ability; some excellent acrobatic work comes from the Baltus Troupe; Mollie Doon proves a dainty comedienne; roars of laughter follow the antics of the Du Gros Trio in their comical aerial act; and Will Lytton, comedian, also appears. The Wednesday matinées here are very popular.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—This cosy little hall continues to enjoy much public patronage. The programme this week is headed by the Crown Trio of speciality vocalists, who make a first appearance here; their singing is of a high order. The Brooklands (Marie and Mabel) are as popular as ever, and afford a deal of satisfaction with their songs and dances; Gracie Bard and Frank Dacre have a taking scena, *The Blind Girl;* Bert Ware renders several excellent songs; the expert dancing of Andy Fagan meets with every approval; and Alice Hanlon has some neat descriptive songs.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock company is doing good business here. This week *The Law and the Man*, a sketch with many good qualities, is presented. Mr. Percy Boucher causes much merriment with his Tom Dabney; Mr. Harry Tresham makes an admirable Will Waring; the Robert Galloway of Mr. Sydney Grant is a capital picture; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood brings his long experience to bear with advantage in the rôle of Inspector Birkett; Mr. Robert Wilton fills with every credit the part of Seth J. Hoskins; Miss Florence Palmer plays carefully as Nellie Laverock; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood, in the character of Cicely Waring, is seen to advantage.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost in this week's bill are the Villions, whose work as acrobatic cyclists is particularly clever. Whimisical Walker and company, assisted by the child actress, Frances Maddock, present a well-rendered sketch, entitled *Captain Hamilton, V.C.;* Bugler J. Carr distinguishes himself as an equilibrist and "musical puzzle"; the Boston Twins, with their patter, stories, and antics, keep everyone in the best of good humour; Molly Manion, a juvenile coon vocalist and dancer, does very well; Percy Hannan, a young baritone, possesses a useful voice; and J. Hegerty has many good points as an eccentric comedian. And the Bioscope shows a number of pleasing pictures.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The good programmes put on here are well repaying the new management. A novelty is this week at the head of the bill in Creamer and Braun's racing contest between a horse and a cyclist, an item which has proved a strong attraction. A return visit of Jack Camp, the able burlesque comedian, has been welcomed; Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats, go through some excellent work, their fifty back and forward somersaults being followed by loud applause; May Zant and her juveniles provide a neat turn; F. S. Hulme has several catchy songs; and Rose Harris, burlesque artist, also appears.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Henri Cot, the French giant, and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, are the big attraction here; Herbert Darnley's company of comedians cause shouts of laughter with their *Moving In;* an acceptable turn is provided by the Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers; Macdonald's Seven Melody-Makers have a capital act of music and comedy; Mabel Bardine and company submit a neat sketch in *Nell of the Halls;* Kent and Keith present a smart comedy act; the singing of Brown and Robinson is particularly good; the Norman-Leonard Trio are appreciated in their racy musical sketch, *The Itinerant;* and Harry Hayton is an able comedian.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—At the top of the bill here this week are the Lilian Bros., who give a pleasing entertainment as society acrobats and electric silver chain experts; Pete and Juno are funny coon vocalists, patterers, and dancers; a smart comedy turn is given by Bishop and Hanlon; Charles Banks, with his trained dog, "Woof," is extremely amusing; Miss Alexander Royal sings some pleasing songs; and Percy O'Reilly, comedian, also appears.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—So far gratifying success has followed the establishment of a stock dramatic company here. During the week *The Mysteries of London*, from the pen of Lewis Gilbert, has been the attraction.

"THE DEAR OLD HOMELAND."

A Melodrama, in Five Acts,
by Mr. David Muskerry,
Produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, on Monday, Aug. 27.

Roy Trevelyan .....MR. CHARLES O'CONNOR
Duncan Tremaine ....MR. HAROLD C. MACARTNEY
Father Gregory .....MR. A. TRAIL
Judd Harley .....MR. JOHN CULLEN
Rory Burke .....MR. NORMAN HALL
Hart .....MR. A. SPENCER
Gaffer Leyburn .....MR. WM. MYERS
Doreen Trevelyan .....MISS VIOLET HAMMERSLEY
Little Nell Trevelyan ....MISS COWLEY POLHILL
Molly Malone .....MISS CISSIE SUMMERS
Judith Tremaine .....MISS OLIVE FULTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Muskerry's new play has plenty of exciting incidents and much effective comedy relief. The story is built round the lives of a young married couple, Roy and Doreen Trevelyan, master and mistress of a fine old baronial home named Trevelyan Towers, in Cornwall. They have for neighbours Duncan Tremaine and his sister Judith. The former is an unprincipled gambler; Judith is a woman without shame. Both are jealous of the Trevelyans, Duncan having been an unsuccessful wooer of Doreen's, and Judith scheming to secure the love of Roy. They induce him to gamble and drink to such an extent that he soon squanders all his possessions. An old friend of Roy's, Father Gregory, on a visit from Australia, appears, and finally persuades the Trevelyans to accompany him on his return to the Antipodes and commence life afresh.

The second act finds Roy and Doreen out in Australia, where Roy, who has talent as a painter, sells a picture for £200. It is left on an easel in a garden, and Tremaine threatens to spoil Roy's great work by slashing it with a knife unless Doreen will kiss him. She rushes to save the picture, when Roy suddenly returns and sees her in Tremaine's arms. Doreen's position being misinterpreted by Roy, he casts his wife off.

In Act III. Roy is back again in his old ancestral home, downhearted and miserable. He intends to divorce his wife, and marry Judith for the sake of an heir to the estates. His old friend Father Gregory now pleads Doreen's cause. Roy sets off to to find his wife and make reparation. He is followed by Duncan and his sister, and in Act IV. we find Doreen's daughter sitting in an Australian farm singing of "The Dear Homeland." Roy, passing, stays to listen, and, overcome with emotion, enters and kneels by his daughter's side. On the conclusion of the song he embraces his child, telling her that he has come to take her mother and herself home again. Tremaine turns up at the farm bent on mischief, tells her of her husband's quest, and threatens that sooner than lose her he will murder her. A struggle takes place, but Roy comes to the help of his wife, to the total discomfiture of the villain.

The locale of the fifth and final act is at Trevelyan Towers. Judith decides to poison Doreen on her arrival, and places a deadly potion in a tea-cup. Duncan manages to change the position of the cups, and when Doreen's arrival is announced tea is offered to her by Judith, who takes the fatal cup herself and dies.

A capable company, under the direction of Mr. Geoffrey Fulton, works most assiduously to attain success. Mr. Charles O'Conner, who is entrusted with the part of Roy Trevelyan, plays with refined incisiveness and keen effect. The heavier rôle of Duncan Tremaine is judiciously dealt with by Mr. Harold C. Macartney in a painstaking and natural manner; a fine study of the rôle of Father Gregory is given by Mr. A. Trail; Mr. John Cullen's representation of Judd Harley is full of power and unction; Mr. Norman Hall as the rollicking Irish servant is highly amusing; Miss Violet Hammersley's portrayal of Doreen Trevelyan is pleasing and charming, in admirable taste, and leaves little to be desired; Miss Olive Fulton has a strong rôle to sustain as Judith Tremaine; her conception is admirable, and she comes through the ordeal with success, giving conclusive evidence of histrionic ability. Miss Cissie Summers, in the soubrette part of Molly Malone, adds a fair quota to the lighter comedy; Miss Cowley Polhill sustains the juvenile part of little Nell Trevelyan, singing "The Dear Homeland" very nicely; Mr. A. Spencer does all that is necessary as Hart; and Mr. Wm. Myers is successful as Gaffer Leyburn.

THE Deutsches Theatre, Berlin, announces some interesting novelties and revivals for the coming season. Among them are Leo Greiner's *Herzöge von Genua, Katherina von Armagnac*, by Vollmoeller, and *Ein Halber Held* (half a hero), by Dr. Herbert Eulenburg. Hugo von Hofmannsthal is also busy finishing a new drama which will be produced at this theatre some time in November. Neither the date nor the title is as yet decided upon.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE paid his third visit in twelve months to Workington last week with his well-known répertoire company, when he had the satisfaction of beating all his previous records. In fact, despite the hot weather, he is doing excellent business everywhere, and is booking return dates at each theatre he visits. He has now made another important addition to his cast in Miss Carrie Baillie, who will commence active work in a few weeks time.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The attraction this week is provided by Mr. George Stephenson's company in *Kitty Grey*. Miss Hilda Guiver, a favourite representeative of the rôle here, sings the songs and acts the part of the matchless Kitty in irreproachable form; and Miss Marie West plays daintily as Lady Binfield. Mr. Lauri Lisle is appreciated for his quaint style as the King of Illyria; Mr. J. Knox-Orde presents a fine-looking and expressive Sir John Binfield; Mr. Leslie Steward embellishes the rôle of Lord Plantagenet with many rare comicalities; Miss Nelly Lauraine gives a smart sketch of the dresser, Mrs. Bright; and Miss Gertrude Page realises her chances cleverly as Sadie de Poulson.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Sergeant Brue* is stationed here with Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company. Mr. Arthur Reynolds essays the title-rôle, and laughter at the indefatigable sergeant's efforts to secure position and fortune is general throughout the performance. Mr. Charles McLagan contributes largely to the fun as the grimy and oleaginous Scrubbs; Mr. Cecil Burt adds his quota to the absurdity of the situations as Mr. Crank, the magistrate; Mr. Percy Rogers brings the rôle of Michael Brue into distinguished prominence; Miss Mary Hay is blithe and musical and always successful as Aurora Brue; Miss Hebe Bliss makes the most of her opportunities for distinction as Lady Bickenhall; and Miss Mabel Keith as Mabel, Miss Marion Hargrave as Daisy, Mr. Ernest Mozar as Gerald Treherne, Mr. Cecil Hood as Inspector Gorringe, and Mr. Harry Soutar as Matthew Habisham shine in this well-equipped production.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris Felton.—*A Modern Adventuress* is starred here with Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company. Mr. Draycott scores in his powerful and engrossing portrayal of the sculptor, Donelli, which the audience highly appraise; Mr. Morley Carroll represents the banker, William Delby, in an even, polished style; Mr. Sydney C. Cranston, as the son and the hero of the piece, Harry Delby, furnishes the audience with many excellent reasons for the applause which is showered on him without stint; Mr. Ernest J. Fare stirs the most phlegmatic with his clever embodiment of the nephew, Wallace Danton; and Mr. Arthur Byron presents an engaging type of Yorkshireman, John Crompton to wit. Miss Muriel Thompson scores in a powerful and vivid manner as the guilty woman Violet Meredith; Miss Marie Robson presents a pathetic portrayal of Vivette Delby; and Miss Daisy Norman wins admiration for her vivacity as Sally Hodges. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was announced on Friday for the benefit of Mr. Charles Draycott, who was billed as Bob Brierley.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Sin of Her Childhood*, played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, is winning excellent patronage. Miss Florence Creagh, as the penitent Mary Haysel, provides a rich display of emotional acting; while in the prologue little Ivy Rochfort does justice to the rôle, acting later, and with pleasing intelligence, as Eric Dugdale. Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks acts as the dipsomaniac, Maria Haysel, with distinction and discretion; Mr. Austin Milroy portrays the callous nature of Stephen Haysel with much success; Mr. E. E. Clive acts as the noble-hearted Rev. Alan Grey in manly and impressive style; and Mr. Waller Spinner, who also acts as stage-manager, and Mr. Fredk. Loyd, who manages the front of the house for Mr. Campbell, are successful as Farmer Haysel and Captain Thornton respectively. Mr. Hugh Brady supplies the comic element as O'Reilly, supported by Miss Nellie Hook as Eliza Muggins; and little Dot Moss in the rôle of the "staunch little friend" captivates the audience.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Miss Winifred Chalmers' company are attracting full houses nightly in *A Woman's Revenge*. Miss Chalmers sustains the part of Mary Lonsdale with much grace, and to the manifest satisfaction of the audience; Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Frank Drummond secures the heartiest of receptions; Miss Kate Blair plays the adventuress, Mabel Wentworth, in fine style; little Mabel Ronald gains favour as the child Mary; Mr. Alexander Haviland proves his excellent ability as Robert Overstone; and Mr. W. P. Warburton as John Overstone, Mr. Harry Cooke as Dick Chilton, Mr. Dunlop Stewart as Jeptha Grimwade secure well-deserved approbation.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*No Wedding Bells For Her* proves an irresistible attraction here. It is performed by Mr. Frank Bateman's company, Mr. Bateman himself being most effective in his portraiture of the detective, Dick Denver. Miss Lizzie Montague in the central rôle, Lola Delaspierre, holds the audience completely in thrall; and Miss Louie Adair gives a winsome embodiment of Doris Fane. Miss Alice Mattin, Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. Louis Garton, Mr. Albert Guyon, Mr. Edward E. Lewis, Mr. Frank Davies, and Mr. Will Skelton all impress the audience.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—An excellent programme is submitted this week, the prominent item being Fred Ginnett and company in the dramatic episode *Dick Turpin*, which is well played and mounted. The Poluski Bros. and Harry Freeman keep the audience laughing, and are well encored; a return visit is paid by Ted and May Hopkins, whose Welsh humour is novel and entertaining; Lilian Lea is heard to advantage in her ballads; May Mars and Lottie Govell are charming comediennes; Jacques Inandi is a marvellous calculator; and Pit and Cute have a clever acrobatic display.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*The Bloomsbury Burglars*, in which Lew Lake appears as Nobbler, is entertaining large houses this week; the original Karnos also shine in their sketch *The Travellers' Rest*. The San Remo Girls are well applauded, as also are Curtis and Vanity for their dancing speciality. The Brothers Ethairien are eccentric comedians; Keith and Merson have a sketch, *The Meet;* and De Vere and Venwick, with their song pictures; Florence Schuberth, burlesque artist; George Rapley, and the Gaiety pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The big attraction here is a new operetta, *The Romany King*, produced by Messrs. Lempriere Pringle and J. C. Piddock and company. Mr. Pringle sings and acts the part of Lanetta, the Gipsy King, with success; Mr. Piddock gives a powerful performance of Count Castillian; Mr. M. Lloyd appears as Reuben; and Miss Beatrice Edwards is responsible for some good acting in the part of Cynthia. Dandy George and his dog Rosie are entertaining; Prince Kuroki is a smart Japanese magician; and other excellent turns are Lily Lena, Mountford and Walsh, Tony Iveson, B. Troba, Frank Cass, The Lombartos, Just and Wise, Evelyn Taylor, and Martine and Son.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*Captain Cupid*, an exceedingly smart comedy sketch, presented by G. C. Doughty and company, is highly appreciated; as also are Lady Mansel's Juveniles, who are on a return visit. Starr and Leslie are an amusing pair; Ruby and Laws have a smart quick-change sketch; Ned Grayton is an eccentric musician; Tom Parker is encored for his quaint songs and dances; and O. K. Gato, a comedy juggler, and Jose Collins, whose songs are loudly applauded, add to the success of the bill.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"WENN DIE BOMBE PLATZT,"
Musical Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Kren and Lippschitz, produced at the Thalia, Aug. 25, 1906.

Von Westphal .....HERR SONDERMANN
Frau von Westphal .....FRAU JUNKER-SCHATZ
Elly .....FRAULEIN BALLOT
Fritz Francke .....HERR THIELSCHER
Meiske .....HERR JUNKERMANN
Belfast .....HERR RIECK
Kitty .....FRAULEIN WEISE
Maud .....FRAULEIN HEIM
John .....HERR GRAHMUNG
James .....HERR DONATH
Minna .....FRAULEIN WARMOVINS
Kletike .....HERR HERMANN
Schutzmann .....HERR HAASE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30.—This piece has added another to Herr Thielscher's long list of triumphs, and it is not too much to say that without this clever comedian's efforts such a success would hardly have been possible. As it is, a long run is a safe prediction; the house was crowded with enthusiastic admirers of Herr Thielscher, and encores were demanded and accorded, while a quantity of flowers were handed up for him and his supporters. "When the bomb bursts" may be translated by "when the cat is out of the bag"; the significance is the same. Fritz Francke has married the daughter of Forstrat von Westphal, and has successfully managed to hide his profession from both Elly, his wife, and her aristocratic family. He travels about with her, finally settling down in Berlin, but one circumstance remains the same everywhere. Fritz is absent from his home every evening from ten to twelve. Naturally enough such a fact is calculated to breed suspicion and connubial dissonances, and the Benedict is forced into all sorts of holes and corners in the attempt to keep his secret. His mother-in-law, who has been reading detective stories, comes to the conclusion that Fritz is a burglar, one of the swell mob, or even a murderer, and she determines to track him down. How she does this must be seen to be appreciated; it would lose in the telling. Suffice to say that after having tried every available subterfuge, Fritz has no longer any lie ready, and the bomb bursts. He is a clown by profession—a clown of fame and attraction, belonging to Jonathan Belfast's Grand Troupe, and his affection for the life was too great to renounce it on his marriage. Fritz, moreover, is regarded in the troupe as the affianced husband of pretty little Kitty, a soubrette; his heart is as elastic as his muscles, and it seems he had flirted with Kitty as far as he could go. But all comes right in the end, and everyone is appeased. The music is particularly bright and melodious; it is the work of Herr Paul Lincke—one versed in such matters—and the couplets, which are topical and amusing, have been supplied by another experienced hand, Alfred Schoenfeld. That Herr Thielscher carries the piece on his shoulders has been already mentioned, but to Fräulein Weise (who sang and acted charmingly), Frau Junker-Schatz, Fräulein Ballot, Herren Junkermann, and Rieck must be accorded a large measure of commendation.

THE Royal Schauspielhaus has reopened, a number of classical dramas having already been given. Lessing's fine play, *Nathan der Weise*, Shakespeare's *Richard the Third*, and Kleist's *Prinz Friedrich von Homburg* are in the bill for this week, as well as the comedies, *Die Journalisten* and *Wie die Alten Sungen*. No novelties of importance are announced at either of our Royal theatres as yet. Herr von Woikowski, the composer of an operatic work, *Der lange Kerl*—already described in your columns—has just composed a two-act opera, entitled *Das Nothemd*, which will be given at the Royal Opera in the course of the season.

AT the Deutsch-American Theatre a new spectacular piece by the actor-manager, Herr Adolf Philipp, was produced last week with favourable results. The title is *Im Wilden Westen*, and the scene changes from the Prairies to Berlin and back again with fine impartiality. Herr Philipp plays with his customary humour the part of a cowboy, and is adequately supported. It is a potpourri of fun with touches of pathos sandwiched in, and the audience applauded everything in turn.

THE Kleines has gone back to its old repertory, including Gorki's *Kinder der Sonne, Hille Bobbe*, and Oscar Wilde's *Ein Idealer Gatte*. Bernard Shaw's satirical comedy, *You Never Can Tell*, is to be produced at this theatre before many weeks are past. Its German title is *Der Verlorne Vater* (the lost father).

NEWS comes from Vienna of an enthusiastic reception accorded at the Lustspiel Theatre to a new farce by MM. Stobitzer and Neal. It is in three acts, and bears the title of *Das Feigenblatt*. The authors were called after each act and loudly applauded.

THE Lessing Theatre—which reopened last week—is not announcing any new plays for the present, but contenting itself with old favourites, such as Hauptmann's *Pippa Tanzt, Der Biberpelz, Rosenmontag*, and Ibsen's *Volksfeind*. The Ibsen cycle will commence next month. *Traumulus* was revived on Sunday evening with a young Viennese actor, Karl Waldschütz, in the important rôle of the senior boy, Kurt von Nedlitz. He is an artist of much talent, and his sympathetic impersonation of the unfortunate hero gained him genuine applause. The other rôles were faultlessly rendered by Fräuleins Schiff and Eberty, and Herren Bassermann, Patry, Grunwald, and Marr.

HERR MAX REINHARDT'S new undertaking, the Intimes Theatre, is to open at the beginning of October. As its name implies, the theatre is small and bijou; it contains a Court box, and its prices will be high for Berlin. The plays to be given are in keeping with the character of the theatre, in a word, *intime*. Herr Reinhardt continues, of course, his management of the Deutsches at the same time.

THE Luisen reopened on Saturday under new management, with Ganghofer's romantic play, *Die Hochzeit von Valeni*. It is a piece that requires good acting to make it go, and the company at this enterprising little volk's theatre is a capital one all round. Every justice was done to the piece, and its reception was extremely cordial. The house was well filled with a "stamm" audience (habitués), who singled out old favourites such as Fräulein Albano, Herr Bach, and Herr Ruff for special applause, while the new manager, Herr Fischer, came in for his share also.

NOTWITHSTANDING all rumours to the contrary, Signora Duse is actively engaged in preparations for the coming season. A new company has been got together by her, in which a youthful actress, Clelia Zucchina by name, will prove a great acquisition, having quite unusual talent. The Duse company will go on tour through Italy, after that through Germany, but the Berlin theatre which will be honoured by the famous actress has yet to be made known. Signora Duse's repertory is to consist of only six plays, among them being a new one, entitled *The Pledged Word*, which was specially written for her by MM. Marco Praga and Grésac.

BJORNSON has just completed a new drama—a sequel to *Neber Unsere Kraft*, which had so long a run here a few seasons back. The title is *Knut-Herre*, and the plot is said to be satirical and almost malicious in its attack upon orthodoxy.

EUGEN GURA, King of Song, died at his villa on the Starnberg Lake, Bavaria, on Sunday last, after a long and painful illness. He was only sixty-three, but had not sung in public for some time. Herr Gura was engaged at the Court Opera at Munich, but it was as a lieder singer that he was best known. As an exponent of Carl Loewe's ballads he has never had an equal.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has decided that in future he will not issue any invitations to the Press for the first week of his productions. We do not therefore give any notice of the production of *The Morals of Marcus* at the Garrick on Thursday; but some idea of the piece may be gathered from the analysis of the novel which we print in another column.

MR. HALL CAINE, who is spending his days at Drury-lane, has been the guest of Mr. Arthur Collins at his house at Shepperton since the rehearsals of *The Bondman* began. Many managers and authors would be extremely glad to say goodbye to one another after a long day of hard work upon a production, but the author of *The Bondman* is an exceptional man, just as the producer at the Lane is an exceptional manager, and the result is mutual pleasure and satisfaction.

"THE WINTER'S TALE," upon which the curtain will rise at His Majesty's Theatre this evening, will make Mr. Tree's twelfth Shakespearean production. At the Haymarket Theatre three Shakespeare plays—*The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *Henry IV.*, Part 1—were produced under his management; and at His Majesty's, in addition to revivals of the Haymarket productions, Mr. Tree has already produced *Katherine and Petruchio*, Garrick's version of *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Julius Cæsar*, *King John*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Tempest*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, owing to unforeseen circumstances, has been obliged to alter the arrangement made to produce *The Corsican Brothers* at Edinburgh. Mr. Harvey's production of the fine old play will first be seen at the Birmingham Theatre Royal on or about Oct. 10.

MR. E. S. WILLARD will sail from Liverpool on Sept. 14 in the Allan Line s.s. Virginian, accompanied by the English members of his company. His season will open in Montreal, Canada, on Oct. 1, with the production of *Colonel Newcome*, the cast of which will include Mr. William Sauter (Clive Newcome), Mr. Ivan Simpson (Sir Barnes Newcome), Mr. A. S. Homewood (Fred Bayham), Mr. Charles Coombes (Arthur Pendennis), Mr. J. W. Lawrence (James Binney), Mr. Walter Edmunds (Lord Farintosh), Mr. H. Cane (Sir Thomas de Boots), Miss Marie Linden (Mme. de Florac), Miss Joan Blair (Mrs. Mackenzie), and Miss Ruth Barry. Mr. Willard will not confine his work to *Colonel Newcome*, but will also present *David Garrick* and *The Man Who Was*, *A Pair of Spectacles*, *The Professor's Love Story*, *Tom Pinch*, and *The Middleman*. His tour will take in the chief cities of Canada and the United States, including Toronto, Boston, Providence, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, St. Louis, Chicago, and Detroit, and will extend to the second week in April, 1907.

MRS. LANGTRY appeared at the Britannia Pier Pavilion, Great Yarmouth, on Wednesday evening, in the dramatic sketch *Between the Night and the Light*, playing with much sympathy and power. A large crowd cheered her, both on her way from the Queen's Hotel, where she was staying, to the pier, and again greeted her after her performance, making a lane through which she had to walk. She afterwards came on to the balcony at the hotel and bowed her acknowledgments.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has been appointed by the Board of Charity a trustee of the Royal Dramatic College, regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners of March 29, 1878.

MR. FRANK STANMORE, who will be remembered for his capital Artful Dodger in *Oliver Twist* at His Majesty's, is a Londoner who was educated at Rugby, and walked the hospitals some time before he walked the boards, having been a medical student at Charing Cross, with a leaning towards low comedy, no enthusiasm for the medical profession, and a great deal of superfluous energy. In those days he managed and edited a comic weekly, called "Bob Sawyer's Journal," that ran successfully for a couple of years. This clever actor started his stage career with ten shillings in his pocket, but his very first engagement carried with it a salary of £1 5s. in the contract, but it never "materialised." He was stranded in Lancashire, and still recollects how uncomfortable it is to sleep in a bathing-machine!

ONE of Mr. Stanmore's most amusing experiences was a grand performance that he gave in the Tottenham Court-road, for the edification of theatrical managers and agents. He had only just left Charing Cross Hospital, and his patrons were for the most part medical students. They wept loudly at the pathetic touches in his original plays, and all struck matches, at a given signal, whenever the lights were lowered. Mr. Frank Stanmore generally goes into pantomime, and is the author of a goodly number of "catchy" songs.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S company in *The Four Just Men*, adapted by George Warren from Edgar Wallace's story, will commence its tour at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8. Mr. Howard has secured the piece by arrangement with Mr. H. A. Saintsbury. Mr. Saintsbury is responsible for the production, and is playing Geo. Manfred, the leader of the four.

WHEN Mr. George Warren sat down to dramatise *The Four Just Men* he found himself in a difficulty. Prizes had been offered for a solution of a mystery in the book, and the third act of the play could not be written because nobody knew but the author exactly how the "villain" was killed. But Mr. Wallace had gone to Madrid to see the Royal wedding. When wired to, it was found that he had left for Portugal. Thence he was traced to Norway; and it was only last week that he was run to earth at Cowes, and Mr. Warren was enabled to finish his version.

"MRS. TEMPLE'S TELEGRAM," owing to unavoidable circumstances, will not be delivered at the Waldorf until Monday, Sept. 10. The principal characters in Messrs. Frank Wyatt and William Morris's play will be sustained by Messrs. Allan Aynesworth, William Morris, William Cheesman, Rudge Harding, and Misses Sybil Carlisle, Constance Hyem, Frances Wetherall, and Dido Drake. The farce will be preceded by *Liz*, a play in one act, by Richard Price and Frederick Fenn, the authors of *Op-o-me-Thumb*, the cast of which will comprise Misses Janet Adair, Haidee Wright, Dido Drake, May Allestree, and Frances Wetherall, Mr. Rudge Harding, and Master Herbert Holman.

MISS EDITH WYNNE-MATTHISON, who is playing Brangwaine in *Tristram and Iseult* at the Adelphi, recited as a child, but with no idea then of becoming an actress. She went on the stage about ten years ago, playing good parts from the very beginning of her singularly fortunate career. Mr. Ben Greet saw her act, and, recognising her great possibilities, promptly offered her an engagement in his company. This led, after many parts, to her memorable appearance in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's *Lackey's Carnival*, at the Duke of York's Theatre. Miss Wynne-Matthison achieved, more recently, a veritable triumph as *Everyman*, and won the hearts of American audiences, after her conquest of London, in the old morality play. She is the wife of Mr. C. Rann Kennedy, who comes of the same family of Cambridge scholars as Canon Kennedy and Mr. Justice Kennedy.

MISS ELLEN TERRY is assured of a resounding welcome this evening when she appears as Hermione in the revival at His Majesty's of *The Winter's Tale*, upon the preparation of which Mr. Tree has expended so much care and skill. Mr. Tree will witness the production, and leave tomorrow for Blackpool, where he will open his tour on the following evening.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR will not be seen in *The Prince Chap* at the Criterion. Some new scenes written into the part did not meet with Miss Freear's approval, and she consequently tendered her resignation, which was accepted by Mr. A. H. Canby with an expression of regret.

"THE ROYAL FLOWER," an adaptation by "Pem" of Alphonse Daudet's one-act piece, *L'Œillet Blanc*, was produced at the Coronet Theatre on Wednesday evening. The "period" is that of the French Revolution. A young *emigré* Marquis, to win favour with an *emigrée* Countess, risks capture by the Republican authorities by returning to France to fetch a white lily—in the original a carnation—from the garden of his former château. This is now inhabited by a Republican officer and his daughter; and the lily is a gift from the latter's sweetheart. However, touched by the graceful gallantry of the Marquis, she gives him the flower. They are surprised by her father, who yields to his daughter's supplications, and lets the Marquis escape, a too-zealous servant sending after him a bullet, which fortunately misses its mark. Miss Ninon Dudley as the fair Republicaine, Mrs. Russ-Whytal as the Marquis, and Mr. Claude King as the father of all give creditable and artistic performances.

IN connection with this production it is interesting to recal that a version of the same one-act French play by the late Clement Scott was produced at the Kilburn Town Hall in the February of 1886.

MASTER HAROLD TONGE, the youthful actor who is to play Mamillius in the revival of *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's this evening, was duly licensed by the magistrate at Marlborough-street on Saturday. The solicitor who made the application for the permit drew attention to the fact that the part of Mamillius was taken by Miss Ellen Terry fifty years ago, and it was a coincidence, he said, that she would now reappear in the same piece, this time taking the part of Hermione.

WE regret to hear that Miss Nannie Harding, late prima donna with the D'Oyly Carte companies, and well known in the provinces and Australia, was knocked down by a cyclist last week and lies rather badly hurt in the East Dulwich Infirmary.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON will produce a new play shortly at one of Mr. James's London theatres. Next year he will tour a well-known successful American play, and is booked at all the best drama houses in Great Britain.

VISITORS to the Crystal Palace, and particularly those living in the immediate neighbourhood of this popular place of entertainment, are fortunate in having so able and energetic a manager at the theatre as Mr. Bannister Howard. Playgoers may be pretty certain that the pieces at the Palace theatre during the season will be the very best that can be obtained, for Mr. Howard knows well that if a good entertainment is provided the people will give it their support. He has proved this by the success of the Cafe Chantant in the North Tower Gardens, and judging by the arrangements already made, the theatre should this year draw enormous audiences. It is well to remind the public that Mr. Howard will open his season on Sept. 17 with the Ben Greet Company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Besides flying matinées, arrangements have been made for a number of first-class companies to appear during the autumn, including *Are You a Mason?* *The Silver King*, *The Private Secretary*, *The Belle of New York*, *Four Just Men*, Norman V. Norman's company, *Charley's Aunt*, *Prince of Pilsen*, *Mr. Hopkinson*, *Florodora*, and *Sergeant Brue*. At Christmas the pantomime of *Aladdin* will be produced.

THE King's Theatre, Hoxton, reopened on Monday evening under the management of the well-known actor, Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich. During the closure the house has been entirely renovated and redecorated, and now presents a bright and pleasing interior. New scenery has been painted, a smart orchestra, under the direction of Mr. F. W. Hatley, engaged, and many improvements effected for the comfort of the patrons. The theatre will be worked on the two-houses-a-night plan, a weekly change of well-known and popular dramas being given by a stock company, including many local favourites. The opening piece was *Death or Glory Boys*, which was received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Harry Bristow is the stage-manager, and the front of the house is in the hands of Mr. Herbert Cole.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S excellent entertainment at the St. George's Hall is still drawing full houses. M. Gintaro's marvellous juggling arouses abundant enthusiasm; and the Burmese gong's magic sound still performs mysterious changes with consummate ease. *Dr. Hardly's Experiment* is a new illusion, in which the spectacle of a man taking his own head in his hands is presented. The phenomenon creates great consternation in the mind of a certain butler and servant, who imagine they are responsible for the catastrophe; and a similar effect is exercised in the audience, who experience many a thrill at the sight. C. Tamamoto performs his feats on a perpendicular rope with marvellous ease and grace, and wins loud applause. Mr. J. N. Maskelyne presents *The New Page*, in which a man, being enclosed, bound and manacled, in a box, manages to turn himself completely upside down. The mystery is nothing short of inexplicable, and baffles all efforts to penetrate. "Mental Magnetism," illustrated by Mr. David Devant, assisted by his sister Dora, is a performance that never fails to hold the audience enthralled, and is extremely popular. Mr. Barclay Gammon keeps the audience in hearty laughter with his humorous musical interlude; and *The Mascot Moth* concludes an entertainment which obtains the great success it righly deserves. On Monday a new magical play called *Daylight Ghosts* will be produced.

THE management of the Broadway Theatre have arranged a double bill for next week. The famous native choir of Jamaica is one attraction, and the other is the performance of *Our Boys*, by Mr. Charles Otley and company.

ANOTHER contributor to the ranks of the English aristocracy from those of the theatrical profession is shortly to be effected by the marriage early next month of Miss Camille Clifford with the Hon. Henry Lyndhurst Bruce, the eldest son of Lord Aberdare. Miss Clifford's chief claim rests upon her perfect embodiment of the idolised "Gibson Girl," and her photograph in that character is familiar to all. She moved London playgoers to enthusiasm two years ago by her beauty and the talent revealed in her performance in *The Prince of Pilsen*, in which she had previously captivated American audiences. Miss Clifford, whose childhood was spent variously in Antwerp, Christiania, and Nova Scotia, is not an American, her father being of Danish and Irish extraction, and her mother a Norwegian.

A TELEGRAM from New York, referring to the success of *The Hypocrites*, which was presented on Thursday evening at the Hudson Theatre in that city, says: "Great triumph. Unbounded enthusiasm. Twenty-two calls."

MISS ELLALINE TERRISS, who is appearing with Mr. Seymour Hicks at Dublin this week, presented the prizes at the East of Ireland Lawn Tennis Championship at Kingstown, on the 21st ult. A most enjoyable week of sport was also indulged in by the members of the company. On the Wednesday a cricket match was played against the Richmond Lunatic Asylum, the theatricals, after a most exciting finish, securing a victory by the narrow margin of one run. On the next day a golf match was played against Mr. Lewis Waller's company, in which each party won one match; while the Friday afternoon was set apart for a lawn tennis match.

MR. H. BEERBOHM TREE succeeds the late Mr. J. L. Toole as president of the Dickens Fellowship Dramatic Club. At the next performance of the club, which is fixed for Nov. 3, at the Cripplegate Theatre, a new Dickens play, called *The House of Dombey*, will be produced.

"ALADDIN" is to be produced at the Gaiety on Sept. 15, when an idealised representation of the Great Metropolis will be afforded. During the absence of Miss Gertie Millar, the title-rôle will be played by Miss Lily Elsie, whose dainty personality will adequately fit the character of the boyish hero. Miss Connie Ediss as the modern Slave of the Lamp will be suited with an effective part, and popular Gaiety favourites will combine to render a delightful account of Mr. George Edwardes' newest departure.

MR. A. CLIFTON ALDERSON, who is entering upon a long tour of *Held Apart; or, the Painted Woman*, a drama by Frank Adair, has mounted the piece superbly, every detail of the production being attended to with elaborate care. The scenes include those of a gambling saloon at an Australian mining encampment, the passenger deck of a steamship, and several picturesque Highland sets, all of which are represented with remarkable realism. The piece is packed with sensational incidents, and the popular parts of the Shakespeare Theatre, where it was produced this week, have overflowed with excitement, ringing cheers being bestowed on the various striking situations. Mr. Alderson plays the part of a bombastic and heartless miner, and gives a performance which is replete with subtle touches of humour and dramatic skill.

M. AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, during his recent visit to Bradford, received a request for a private interview from an unknown visitor. As he has so many similar requests, he referred the caller to his stage-manager, Mr. Selwyn, who, to his astonishment, found awaiting him a brawny and grimy son of toil, who stated that, having been out of work for eighteen weeks, he thought he would go on the stage, and applied to M. Van Biene for an engagement in *The Broken Melody*. M. Van Biene had regretfully to decline the profferred services.

A REPORT dealing with the fact that the performances at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, were attended by the general public has been issued by the Theatres Committee of the London County Council. It will be remembered that the question was raised a few months ago by the Theatrical Managers' Association, who pointed out that the Artillery Theatre, while being open to the public, was exempt from the Council's regulations. It would seem to be quite clear, the report states, that the Council had no jurisdiction in the matter, and no responsibility for the safety of the public attending the theatre. In the circumstances, the committee do not think the Council should take any further action in the matter. They point out, however, that, although a theatre might be well planned, it was impossible except by frequent inspection while a building was open to the public to ensure that the arrangements for preventing or minimising the danger from fire or panic were properly maintained. As far as they were aware, the Royal Artillery Theatre was the only theatre in London open to the public which was not subject to such inspection.

IN the Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday, before Registrar Linklater, the examination was concluded of Mr. E. G. Saunders, of Garrick-street, Covent Garden. The accounts showed an unsecured indebtedness of £3,626, against assets £25,454, thus leaving an estimated surplus of £20,545. In examination by the Assistant Official Receiver the debtor said he was admitted as a solicitor in 1886, but ceased to practise in 1889, and had since acted as a theatrical manager and proprietor.

PROBATE of the will of Señor Manuel Garcia, who died recently at the great age of 101, was granted on Thursday. The famous singing master left £4,362, and in the will appears the following sentence: "I declare my domicile to be English, and that I intend to live in that country for the remainder of my life."

MR. H. G. DUDLEY BENNETT has arranged for the appearance of Messrs. C. F. Renad's company, in *The Swiss Express*, for the re-opening of the Alexandra Theatre on Monday. The following week Mr. George Dance's *Girl from Kay's* company will be the attraction.

A SAD termination to the career of a talented performer was made at Dublin on Wednesday, when Mr. Harry Eversleigh, a member of Mr. Seymour Hicks's *Catch of the Season* company, was knocked down by a motor-car and fatally injured. Shortly before five o'clock he was crossing a road on his way to the Clontarf Baths, where he was in the habit of bathing during his visit to Dublin, when the car, the approach of which had been hidden by a tramcar, struck him, and dashed him violently to the ground. The Corporation Ambulance was summoned, and Mr. Eversleigh was conveyed to Mercer's Hospital, where it was found that life was extinct. Mr. Eversleigh was a vocalist of high ability, possessing a rich baritone voice, and was much esteemed by the members of the company, to whom the news of his tragic death caused a painful shock.

WE record with deep regret the death of Mr. Arthur Wellesley, which occurred at Brasted, Kent, on Sunday, after a long illness. The deceased was a talented actor, and appeared principally at the Gaiety. He gave up the theatrical profession upon coming into a legacy, and was afterwards associated with concert management, at which he was very successful. His services in connection with charity matinées, of which he organised many, were always readily given.

MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE will play the part of the butler, Wigson, in *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*, to be produced at the Waldorf Theatre on Sept. 10.

MR. O. E. LENNON is a great little comedian, for he can hardly boast of an inch over five feet. He has been on the stage for fifteen years, and is now acting the Chinese cook, Sin Chong, in Mr. Frank Curzon's *White Chrysanthemum* company on tour. The following story shows that this promising actor started his professional career without any previous knowledge of plays or parts, having only his own talent and energy to thank for being always in work. At the end of his first pantomime engagement, he was told that a certain provincial manager required an experienced actor to "play Spider"—of course, meaning the well-known part of the villain in *The Silver King*. Mr. Lennon promptly "wrote in." He said that he had just made a hit as a dog in pantomime, and he felt confident, although he had never seen it done, that he would be more than equal to acting a spider in melodrama.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS, casting superstition with regard to the fateful No. 13 to the winds, has fixed upon Thursday, Sept. 13, for the first performance of *The Bondman* at Drury Lane. In this respect he is supported by the eminent author's experience of good fortune attached to that number, Mr. Hall Caine having published four of his most successful works each on the 13th of the month, and one of them, which turned out to be his greatest financial success, had the baleful distinction of being brought out on a Friday. The scene of *The Bondman* alternates in the book between Iceland and the Isle of Man; but partly for the reason that the action of *The Prodigal Son* was laid in Iceland, one half of the locality of the new play will be changed to Sicily.

THE sheep that caused a mild sensation in last autumn's production will this year be rivalled by some prize Alderney cows, which will be milked on the stage. The milkmaid will be Miss Marjorie Day, a seventeen-year-old maiden, who was brought up in New Zealand. Miss Day milked a cow on a colonial farm when she was no more than eight years old, but she has as yet never performed the operation in public, and the hope she expresses that the animal will be thoroughly domesticated is quite natural under the circumstances.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday. There were present: Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Beatrice Lamb, and Kate Phillips; Messrs. Cecil Barth, F. Cremlin, M. R. Morand, A. B. Tapping, Spencer Trevor, Fredk. Volpe, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members on points submitted. Reference was made to a case which had been referred to arbitration, and it was agreed that if possible arrangements should be made to hold the necessary meeting some time the week after next.

A QUESTION concerning the alleged indebtedness of a member of the Association to certain members of a company lately touring was considered, and ultimately the correspondence was handed to the hon. solicitors, and they were requested to see into the dispute. Matters in difference between three members of the Association were referred to arbitration, and the three arbitrators being appointed, fixed the day for holding their meeting. Miss Ethel Wilson and George F. Reynolds were nominated for election, and Horace Lingard was nominated for reinstatement.

THE Commissioners Committee held a meeting at the offices of the Actors' Association on Monday last, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Cecil Barth, supported by Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Rose Matthews, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary read the monthly report of five of the commissioners, and received instructions to carry out certain suggestions made therein and deal with matters arising therefrom. Miss Rose Mathews raised a question as to the qualification of candidates; but hearing that the "Qualification and Registration" scheme was before the Council, desired that her question should remain in abeyance. Miss Georgina Hamilton's suggestion that members of the Council should attend provincial meetings to support the chair was referred to the Council for their consideration.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. M. R. Morand (in the chair), Miss Kate Phillips, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Various questions arising out of the work of the Commissioners were under consideration, and ultimately the secretary received instructions to deal with the matters in connection therewith. The secretary, in answer to queries, supplied the committee with details of the approximate expenditure for the remainder of the current year.

MR. A. WORTLEY DREWITT, the Harry Vereker of Geo. Dance's *Cingalee* company, is playing Mr. Maurice Farkoa's part of Yen in *See See*, at the Prince of Wales's.

MISS VIOLET BARTON ASTOR has been engaged by Mr. Lionel Glenister to play Millicent in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* on tour.

MR. GRAHAM HILL, the author of the powerful little drama *Between the Night and the Light*, in which Mrs. Langtry will appear in New York at the end of this month, took part in a sensational act on Monday night, in which a cab, a runaway horse, and a stone post also figured. Mr. Hill and his sister had been to Harrogate to see a performance of his piece, and arriving late at King's Cross, got into the first disengaged hansom. The horse was no sooner out of the station-yard than he took the bit between his teeth and bolted down the Euston-road at top speed. The traffic scattered right and left; but in endeavouring to turn out of the main thoroughfare the hansom cleared a motor-'bus with something under an inch to spare and crashed into a post at the corner of Ossulston-street. The horse was temporarily stopped by the impact, and secured before he could do further damage. Mr. Hill and his sister got off with nothing worse than a severe shaking; but one side of the hansom was a wreck, the wheel, springs, and lamp being broken, while the vehicle was only saved from utter collapse by the support of the friendly post and the assistance of the obliging crowd.

MISS LOTTIE VENNE has accepted a three-act comedy by Robert Ganthony, the entertainer, entitled *The First Mrs. Ridgeway*. The comedy has an excellent part for her, and a production is being arranged for at a West End theatre.

THE Moody-Manners Opera Company completed on Saturday last a most successful five weeks' season of grand opera in English at the Lyric Theatre. This week the company is enjoying a vacation, but it is not deserting London just yet, as it will open at the Kennington Theatre on Monday with *Tannhäuser*. The Kennington visit will be followed by a week at the Coronet and a week at the Camden. As the restrictions of the syndicate do not apply to the suburbs, Mr. Manners will be able to present *Carmen*, and intends to do so at least once each week. The first performance of the revival of Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet* will be given at the Coronet. Mlle. Zélie de Lussan will rejoin the company to sing Carmen.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, Miss N. de Silva, and company have commenced their tour amid the happiest auspices, playing to full houses last week at Buxton and Llandudno, and during this week at Harrogate, where records have been broken at the Opera House by the success of the company.

MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY and company will produce on Monday next, at the Cheltenham Opera House, a new play by Harry and Edward Paulton, entitled *Miles Carew*, *Highwayman*, under the supervision of Mr. Harry Paulton. Mr. Keightley will be the Sir Miles Carew, and will be assisted by Miss Haidée Gunn, Mr. Harry Crocker, and Miss Ethel Dane.

"THE ERA" penetrates into every civilised and uncivilised portion of the globe. We have just received a cheque of one guinea for the Dot Stephens Fund from a sympathiser at Sierra Leone, West Africa, who read the particulars of Dot Stephens' sad case.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL'S company, playing *The Lion and the Mouse*, has been very well received at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, this week. It is excellently acted and well staged, for the popular young manager evidently believes in attention being given to every detail. Mr. Leslie Carter makes a strong and characteristic "lion," and Miss Christine Silver is a charming "mouse." Mr. Maxwell—who, by the way, is billed as "introducing" instead of "presenting" Miss Silver—is to be congratulated on his leading lady. She has only been acting for three years, but such parts as Phœbe in *Quality Street*, Moira in *Little Mary*, and the title-rôle of *Merely Mary Ann*, have given exceptional opportunities for the development of her talent. At Christmas she goes to Manchester to play one of the principal parts in the revival of *Peter Pan*. Last year she was Peter's boy friend, Nibs, at the Duke of York's. Miss Silver, who had just left school when she first went on the stage, has received a great many tributes of admiration and gifts of friendship during the three weeks of the present tour, perhaps the most welcome being an extremely lively Aberdeen terrier, and the latest, an ivory charm in the shape of a mouse, on a thin gold chain. Of her three pretty frocks, quite the prettiest is exactly—this is a subtle touch—the colour of a mouse.

MR. H. CHANCE NEWTON has written for the *Free Lance* a clever and humorous "skit" about a critics' combine, pleasantly treating Mr. J. T. Grein's idea of a "London Association of Dramatic Critics." Mr. Newton has added to the "Rules" of the Association some burlesque precepts, in which he hits the weaknesses of a certain class of critics very hard indeed, Rule I. being "No dramatic critic to go to a first night proclaiming that he is 'bored' *before* the play starts; or that it is "awful to have to come to sit out this sort of thing." Nor shall he—unless first giving notice—remark in advance that he supposes "we are in for the usual commonplace rot!"

BOW-STREET Police-court was brightened on Wednesday by the presence of a number of smartly-arrayed girls and eager-looking boys, whose presence was explained by Mr. Harry Wilson, a solicitor, who had been instructed by the management of Drury Lane Theatre to apply for licences for these children from Aug. 30. The usual notice of the application had been given to the police, and the certificates of age were produced. The children would only be wanted on the stage about twenty minutes each evening, and would not be required to stay later than 9.45 p.m.

"HAVE they been on the stage before?" inquired Mr. Marsham. "Many of them have," was the reply. "Your worship is aware that every care is taken of them at the theatre. Dressing-rooms are set apart for them and matrons provided, and their education is looked after." Inspector Fitt intimated that the police had no objection to offer to the granting of the licences asked for, but said there was some question as to whether it was necessary to obtain permits at all for those who were over fourteen years of age. For some performances of an acrobatic character girls had to be licensed up to the age of sixteen, but the Commissioner of Police took the view that that requirement did not apply to children engaged for ordinary theatrical performances.

AFTER some discussion on this point and an examination of the Acts of Parliament, Mr. Marsham said he thought the police view of the matter was the right one. He asked those of the children who were over fourteen to sit down, and they all did so with the exception of seven boys and one girl. The latter said she would be fourteen on Friday. Mr. Marsham: Then you will not want a licence. I don't think a licence is necessary for any of them over fourteen. Inspector Fitt: The police do not ask that they should be licensed. Mr. Wilson said the licences had been applied for by the management in order that if there was any doubt about the law they might be on the safe side, but after what the magistrate had said he would ask for licences only for those under fourteen. Mr. Marsham made the necessary order.

MR. GEORGE SCHAEFFER, who produced *The Prince Chap* at the Criterion, sails for America on Saturday, when his part of Fritz and his duties as stage-manager will be assumed by Mr. Ivan Berlyn, last seen at this theatre in *The Girl from Maxim's*.

A COPYRIGHT performance of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play *The Hypocrites* was given last Thursday at the Grand Theatre, Hull, simultaneously with its first production in New York. The piece was really well played by the members of Messrs. Polini and Melford's *Silver King* company.

SO successful has been the respective tours of Miss Mabel Love and Miss Annie Hughes in *The Freedom of Suzanne* and *A Country Mouse* that Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison have made arrangements for an extension. Miss Mabel Love will finish on Dec. 15 at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, being fully booked up in the meantime; and Miss Annie Hughes will continue right through the autumn until required for Mr. Arthur Law's new play.

MME. CLARA BUTT has happily quite recovered from her recent indisposition, but will not make her reappearance in public until Oct. 13, when, in conjunction with her husband, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, she will give a concert at the Royal Albert Hall. Next year she goes to Australia.

MR. MASAHARU MATSUI, who combines the functions of Japanese playwright, dramatic critic, and editor, is in London studying our theatrical system, with a view to the establishment of a Japanese National Theatre, towards which £120,000 has already been subscribed. What impresses him most in English artists is their versatility. "No actor in Japan," he says, "except possibly the greatest, could successively impersonate such totally different parts as King John and Colonel Newcome, and pass indifferently from a classic to a modern répertoire."

THE drama in Japan, as elsewhere, is in a bad way. Since the death of Danjuro, dramatic art in that country has lost much of its prestige. Actors are divided into two schools—the traditionalists, who follow the precepts of Danjuro, but cannot infuse the mighty spirit and genius of the great actor into their parts; and the realists, of whom the leading apostles are Mme. Sada Yacco and Mr. Kawakami.

IN Japan, it appears, a critic is not considered as one whose duty is merely to comment upon a play. He is, in addition, held by all members of the profession as a friend, philosopher, and guide, as an opportune adviser of actor-managers, who, says Mr. Matsui, sorrowfully, being primarily business men, are often apt to give to art a secondary place in their productions. Some time ago a Japanese manager wished to limit admittance to his theatre to only one dramatic critic for each paper in Tokio. In Japan this was considered as a gross breach of etiquette, for the custom is for each paper to be represented at all performances by two, or even three, critics.

THERE was so much indignation evoked by the managerial attempt to "one paper, one critic," that the manager apologised to the critics, and matters were promptly set right again. As Mr. Matsui says, we manage things differently in England.

"THE SIN OF WILLIAM JACKSON."

New and Original Play,
by the Baroness Orczy and Montagu Barstow,
Produced on Tuesday, Aug. 28,
at the Lyric Theatre.

William Jackson ..... MR. ERNEST LEICESTER
Harry Valentine ..... MR. JOHN TRESAHAR
Tomaso Alfieri ..... MR. ROBERT PATEMAN
Harold Higgins ..... MR. HUBERT DRUCE
Mr. Chipps ..... MR. HARRY PARKER
Tom ..... MR. ARCHIBALD MCLEAN
George ..... MR. A. C. HARDIE
Jim ..... MR. E. H. BROOKE
Antonio ..... MR. HARVEY LONG
Mr. Smith ..... MR. E. S. PATLEY
Mr. Montgomery ..... MR. SPENCER CARPENTER
Mrs. Tomaso Alfieri ..... MISS RUTH MACKAY
Mrs. Tovey ..... MISS MINNIE GRIFFEN
'Liza ..... MISS ETHEL RAYNER
'Melia ..... MISS GERTRUDE DE BURGH
Annie Valentine ..... MISS NINA BOUCICAULT

The Baroness Orczy and Montagu Barstow have gone to the mean streets of Stepney for the locale and characters of their new play, which deals with the elemental passions as exhibited by people unrefined in speech, unrestrained in expression, and unhampered by what may be called *les convenances*. The play finds scarcely the right environment at the Lyric; but that it would enchain the interest of a popular audience there cannot be any doubt, and the conduct of its powerful second act is an example of dramatic construction of which even a master playwright would not be ashamed. We do not expect dialogue bristling with epigram from such characters as are chosen by the cultured pair of playwrights responsible for *The Sin of William Jackson* for the development of their theme; but the conversations and situations show considerable observation of the manners and speech of the lower classes, and though we may take exception to some of the comedy relief in a rather weak third act the play palpitates with interest throughout.

Annie Valentine, the wife of a drunken bookmaker, had, previous to her marriage, loved not wisely but too well William Jackson, a sailor, who, to protect Annie from insult had knocked down and accidentally killed a man. Indicted for the crime of manslaughter, William is sentenced to five years' penal servitude. At the opening of the play he seeks out Annie, who is living with her blackguard of a husband at Jubilee Rents, Stepney Green. As she explains to William, she was destitute, and found a father for their child in Valentine. "Is he kind to you?" earnestly inquires the old lover. Annie's sad face belies her words when she says, "Pretty well." Valentine, like most bullies, is irritated by the meek and silent submission of his wife—easily understandable in the circumstances—and finds metal more attractive in Mrs. Alfieri, the flashy and handsome wife of an Italian proprietor of a low restaurant, who had once been a circus performer. Mrs. Alf, as he calls her, has been invited to tea, and joins the Valentines and Mr. William Jackson. It is evident that her society is not congenial to the long-suffering Annie, who is soundly bullied for her lapses as a hostess by her husband, who is only prevented from striking her by Jackson.

The scene of the second act is Alfieri's restaurant, Heath Street, Stepney. Mrs. Alfieri, we discover, has other admirers besides the bookmaker, and one of them, Mr. Harold Higgins, a draper's assistant, woos her with his stock-in-trade, and succeeds in making arrangements for a nice quiet little supper. Alfievi will be going to Dover that evening, but this fiercely jealous Italian, who has the couple under observation, having seen his wife hand the latchkey to the foolish and infatuated draper, determines to stay and watch the course of events. There is no possibility of Mrs. Alfieri getting out to warn Higgins, but the situation is saved momentarily by William Jackson, who helps her by getting back the latchkey. Placing it on the counter, in her absence, he encounters the drunken Valentine, who had previously overheard Jackson proposing an elopement to Annie. Valentine takes up the latchkey, and informs Annie's old lover of his intention to come back and see Mrs. Alfieri when the restaurant is closed. He does so, and is stabbed to death by Alfieri with a stiletto, the murder taking place "off."

In the last act Annie, after hearing Mrs. Alfieri's account of William Jackson's sin in not warning Valentine of his danger, feels that she cannot accept his offer to go to Singapore, but as he is departing calls him back, and falls into his arms.

Miss Nina Boucicault has but little opportunity as Annie Valentine. It is a part of eloquent silence, but no actress on the stage could express mental torture or dumb grief with such wonderful gesture play as she. Annie is never roused to violent protest. There probably remains in her heart, in spite of a long course of cruelty, some feeling of gratitude to the man who gave her a home and respectability of a sort, brute though he be; and Miss Boucicault undoubtedly suggests this gratefulness by her fine and subtle rendering of a part that might easily become, in inartistic keeping, lurid or vulgar. There are many martyrs of the Annie Valentine type in the lower deeps of London life, and such realisation of gentle resignation is as rare as it is beautiful.

Mrs. Alfieri is in strong contrast to Annie Valentine; and the character of the frivolous, flashy woman, fond of admiration, brings to the forefront Miss Ruth Mackay, an actress who, seizing golden opportunity, as it were, with both hands, makes a most favourable impression. Miss Mackay's impersonation is lifelike, and at once established her reputation as a player of considerable gifts and real culture. Mr. John Tresahar does not flinch from the disagreeable nature of the part of the bullying bookmaker, Harry Valentine, and nothing could be better than his truthful picture of the terribly vulgar brute, whose swagger is so aptly expressed by his continual "That's my way—see!" Mr. Ernest Leicester, as William Jackson, presents a breezy hero of the true melodramatic type—a thought too refined, perhaps, in speech and bearing, but always tender and manly. Mr. Robert Pateman gives the true ring to the raging jealousy of the Italian, Alfieri, and the fierceness of his passion imparts the element of tragedy to the second act, in the success of which this fine actor shares largely. Mr. Hubert Druce, who produces the play, may be complimented on his capital comedy as the vulgar draper, Harold Higgins; and Mr. Harry Parker, as the undertaker, Chipps, may also be congratulated on his restraint in scenes not written in the best of taste. Chipps finds a sympathetic listener in Mrs. Tovey, a genuinely clever impersonation by Miss Minnie Griffen. Mr. Harvey Long's Antonio is effective; and clever thumb-nail sketches of characters of London life are presented by Mr. Archibald M'Lean as Tom; Mr. A. C. Hardie as George; Mr. E. H. Brooke as Jim; Mr. E. S. Patley as Mr. Smith; Mr. Spencer Carpenter as Mr. Montgomery; Miss Ethel Rayner as 'Liza; and Miss Gertrude de Burgh as 'Melia.

PRESENTATION. — After the performance at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, on the 24th ult., the staff assembled on the stage for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. Sidney Tolfree, who has retired from the position of assistant-manager, and also of acting-manager and secretary of the Tivoli, Ltd. The presentation, which took the form of a handsome silver cigar case, was made on behalf of the staff by Mr. J. H. Curry, managing-director, who spoke of the high esteem in which Mr. Tolfree was held, and also of their regret that he was leaving. Mr. Curry further presented Mr. Tolfree with a silver cigarette case and a cheque for a substantial amount, the gift of the management and a number of personal friends.

"THE LORD OF THE LAST."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
Book and Lyrics by Fred A. Ellis,
Music by Percival Knight and Denham Harrison.
Produced at the Camden Theatre,
on Monday, Aug. 27.

Sir Henry Ackerman, M.P... MR. H. C. MORTON
Lieut. Arthur Watson, R.N.. MR. SCROPE-QUENTIN
Hon. Algy Lasterlin .... MR. FORRESTER HARVEY
Professor Jenner ..... MR. EDWARD A. ROSE
Jackson ..... MR. ARTHUR RICKETTS
Pip ..... MR. HARRY EMERIC
Mr. Houlder ..... MR. GODFREY HUNTER
Madge Meredith ..... MISS PAULINE HAGUE
Duchess of Dooshire .... MISS MAUD HENDERSON
Marjorie Ackerman .... MISS NINA WESTERLEIGH
Millie Meredith ..... MISS DOLLY VARDEN
Mme. Jenner ..... MISS ELSA MILWARD
Martha ..... MISS DORA CHALLONER
Ethel Carstairs ..... MISS WINNIE MURRAY
Doris Forester ..... MISS ROSINA VOKES
Maude Sinclair ..... MISS LILY ATHERTON
Lottie Tenter ..... MISS MAY COLE
Muriel Gray ..... MISS BEATRICE MAY
Connis Beaumont ..... MISS ENID DASHWOOD
Mrs. Jones Jones ..... LOUIE TINSLEY

Mr. Fred Paul presented (by arrangement with Hardie and Von Leer) at the Camden Theatre on Monday evening a new musical comedy entitled *The Lord of the Last*, which is apparently destined for the provinces. It possesses some semblance of a plot, of which we get streaks now and then sandwiched between musical numbers, sentimental and comic, and variety business. The plot is somewhat incoherent, and the comic business of the most artless description. We are at a loss to understand the presence at Mme. Jenner's seminary in Paris—the garden of which forms the scene of the first act—of Sir Henry Ackerman, M.P., who has attained the position of one of the "upper" ten by making a fortune out of boots. Still, there the old bounder is, having his fling with the sweet girl pupils, and kicking up his heels as if he had no Parliamentary responsibilities whatever. It is the whim of this very frisky old widower to refuse the bestowal of the hand of his daughter Marjorie upon a young lieutenant of the Royal Navy, Arthur Watson, and he also employs some ingenuity in avoiding a matrimonial union with Mrs. Jones Jones, for whom he had evidently shown some partiality in his struggling days in the shop. He has had a passing flirtation with Madge Meredith, who turns up in the first act with a scheme for establishing a society of lady cobblers—a sort of sisterhood of St. Crispin—with Sir Henry as its first president. The gay old gentleman is coerced into acceptance of the position by Madge's threats of exposure of his "goings on"; and in the second act he is crowned with laurel and serenaded by the new guild, with Madge Meredith at its head. Sir Henry's infatuation for her is revived, and the curtain falls on their projected marriage, not, however, before matters have been set right between Marjorie and young Watson, a partner being found for the persistent Mrs. Jones Jones in Jackson, Sir Henry's melancholy valet. A slight underplot is concerned with the wooing of Madge Meredith's younger sister Millie by the Hon. Algy Lasterlin, an impossible member of the aristocracy, who is made to say at every possible opportunity that he "came over with the Percys, dontcherknow."

In the delineation of the part of Sir Henry Ackerman, M.P., who talks of schoolgirls as "little bits of fluff," Mr. H. C. Morton will do well to tone down his gesticulation and to restrain his restlessness. Mr. Scrope-Quentin's singing leaves much to be desired on the score of distinctness and intonation. He was much better, however, in the patriotic solo "A little bit of blue" than in the love song—with a melody of some distinction—which Watson sings to Marjorie in the first act. Mr. Arthur Ricketts evokes laughter by his efforts as the sad-faced valet Jackson with the cork foot, though it would be well for him to revise some of the ancient "wheezes" uttered by "the varlet" in the second act. Mr. Harry Emeric as Pip, a lovelorn page, is responsible for a smart dance in the second act, and in the first for some clever descriptive business, the success of which is shared by Miss Pauline Hague, who sings very sweetly a pretty number of the coon order. Miss Dollie Varden, with a little less susceptibility to posing, will do well as Millie Meredith, her voice being sweet and her dancing effective. Miss Louie Tinsley makes a decided hit as Mrs. Jones Jones—the very embodiment of drollery as a gushing and elderly aspirant for matrimony. Miss Tinsley is responsible for a drily humorous rendering of a really comic song in the second act, and though encores were taken with insufficient excuse on Monday, there was no doubt, in this instance, of the genuineness of the demand for a *bis*.

STOCKTON THEATRE FIRE.

A fire broke out at the Theatre Royal, Stockton, on Tuesday night, and was not extinguished until the building was entirely destroyed.

The drama, *A Life's Story*, had been performed by Mr. Stanley Carlton's Company, and at 10.40 the artists and the stage staff left by the stage door. Mr. Fred Granville, the lessee of the theatre, Mr. Berry, the manager, and Miss Dale, the manageress, after finishing their office business, departed by the front entrance at eleven o'clock. Mr. Berry, while on his way home, was overtaken by someone who told him the theatre was on fire. He returned, and upon opening the front pit entrance, saw the flames had got hold of the scenery on the stage. The fire brigade was summoned, but the water supply at the commencement was not very powerful. Within twenty minutes of the discovery of the fire the stage door fell in, and shortly afterwards the flames shot through the roof to a distance of several yards, the fire then passing to the centre of the theatre. At 11.35 the main roof and the gallery fell in, and ten minutes later the circle. Mr. Granville remembered that his valuable bull-dog was chained in one of the store-rooms, and with the assistance of a companion he rescued the animal.

The damage to the theatre premises is estimated at between £10,000 and £12,000. In addition, Mr. Granville had a large quantity of valuable scenery and stock stored in the building, including the whole of the scenery, effects, and dresses for the *Forty Thieves* pantomime, which he was to produce at the Grand Theatre, Derby, this year. This is valued at £1,000, and was completely destroyed. The losses of the theatre and Mr. Granville's scenery, etc., are largely covered by insurance.

Mr. Stanley Carlton had only had *A Life's Story* on the road for a few weeks, and he estimates his loss in scenery, costumes, etc., at about £400, totally uninsured.

BARON H. HARRISS and Miss Sophie Harriss, who are presenting *The Prince of Pilsen* on tour, entertained the principal members of their company to supper on Sunday last at the Royal Hotel, South Shields. Congratulations are forthcoming from all managers on the sumptuous and gorgeous manner in which the successful musical comedy is staged.

THE Brighton Theatre will be one hundred years old on Monday, Sept. 10 next, the first stone of the original house in the New-road being laid by Mr. John Brunton, father of Louise Countess of Craven, Sept. 10, 1806, in the presence of Mr. Hewitt Cobb and Sir Thomas Clarges, the owners. Afterwards a supper was partaken of at the New Inn (now the Clarence Hotel), North-street, Brighton.

"HER LUCK IN LONDON."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell,
Produced, for the first time in London, at the
Grand Theatre, Islington, on
Monday, Aug. 27.

Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor.. MR. C. A. LEICESTER
Richard Lenowen ..... MR. G. LANGDON
Rev. Lionel Strong .... MR. DOUGLAS TREMAYNE
Stephen Harborne ..... MR. TYRONE POWER
Algie Kircumbrie ..... MR. BRUCE CLAPHAM
Jerry Gotobed ..... MR. J. TELLY DILLSEN
Charlie Manders ..... MR. E. S. NUTTALL
Harry Fosdayne ..... MR. G. STONES
Harvey Tremayne ..... MR. W. WROE
Archer ..... MR. S. JACKSON
Mme. Gabrielle ..... MISS ADA ROSCOE
Lilian Harborne ..... MISS FRANCES BRUCE
Angelina Plantagenet .... MISS PAMELA HODSON
Maud Gladys Shovepenny.. MISS FLORRIE GROVES
Clara Sparkington ..... MISS DAISY MOSS
Tessie Glentowers ..... MISS QUENNIE LAMONT
Mimi Tersdale ..... MISS KITTY GERALD
Barmaid ..... MISS DORA WOODBERRY
Nellie Harborne ..... MISS MARY NEIL

Even those who do not sympathise with Mistress Nellie Harborne will admit that her luck in London was scarcely of the pleasantest. But the wonder is, considering the curiously complex character of this not unsophisticated country maiden, that she ever had any luck at all. Certainly, everybody who followed her distressing history will agree that, after all, the Fates were exceedingly good to her. The sad truth is that Nellie strayed from the paths of rectitude. The initial cause of her undoing is to be found in Act I., which is undoubtedly the best and most consistent part of Mr. Charles Darrell's story. Nellie's father, Stephen Harborne, is a tenant farmer whose wife has for years been leading a life of gaiety and wickedness in a vicious West-end atmosphere. Any other father, with half an eye and the fifth part of a brain, would not have acted as Stephen Harborne did—that is, he would not have taunted his daughter with repeated references to her mother's prostitution. Nellie is a pretty and vivacious girl, ever ready for a harmless flirtation, though it does seem that she is of rather a fickle temperament. At one time she engages the attention of the village curate, much to the annoyance of her straight-laced sister Lilian, who herself had designs in that direction; at another time she transfers her affections to the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor, a young Irishman. Sin comes to the farm in the person of Richard Lenowen, the proprietor of the Hilarity Lounge, Leicester-square, London. He offers to pay off the mortgage on the farm provided that Nellie will come to town with him. The price of her soul is to be £240, which will enable her father to retain possession of his holding. She declines; he presses the money upon her unconditionally; she accepts. He leaves the bank-notes and gold upon a table, along with a note, which proves sufficient to condemn the girl in the eyes of her father, who tells her to leave him for ever; no longer is she a daughter of his. Her protestations of innocence are not believed, and, moreover, they are refuted by Lenowen, who urges the girl to show her independence and go with him to London. Yes, she cries, she will go to that merry playground of the world, but—not with him. She will go alone. Act II. brings us to the aforesaid merry playground, and shows us the Hilarity Lounge, a convenient meeting-place for gilded idiots and what are called on the programme "evening stars." It would be pleasanter far to pass over this scene, and we will content ourselves with mentioning that here are to be found Nellie's mother, who goes by the name of Mme. Gabrielle, and whose identity is not recognised by the daughter; Nellie herself, nicknamed Saucy, and seemingly very much at home in her gay surroundings; the Hon. Fitzgerald; two ex-servants of Harborne's farm; and Lilian Harborne, who comes to reclaim her sister. Nellie and O'Connor quit the place together, and in the following scene, the Riverside Villa at Caversham, we find them a happy married couple. A reconciliation has taken place between Nellie and her father, who is also staying at the villa, as well as the curate, Lilian Harborne, and the two comic servants already referred to. The peacefulness of the little party is disturbed by the appearance of Richard Lenowen and Mme. Gabrielle, who come on a blackmailing expedition. It appears that O'Connor, in spite of his having discovered his wife in the Leicester-square brothel, is not aware that she bears other than a snow-white reputation. Nellie, previous to their marriage, had written a letter to him informing him of her past misdoings, and affording him an opportunity of release. This letter had been intercepted by Mme. Gabrielle (who still doesn't know that the girl is her own daughter), with the intention of using it later on. In the presence of all O'Connor is informed that his wife was formerly the mistress of Lenowen. He refuses at first to believe the statement, but Nellie herself attests to the truth of it. Then she is once more cast off, and, after more trying experiences in a Lambeth lodging-house, and subsequently at another house of infamy kept by Lenowen, the curtain goes down on the arrest of the latter and the reunion of all the lovers.

The play, which, by the way, was originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Castleford, on Jan. 1 of this year, is superbly mounted. As to the acting, Miss Mary Neil stands foremost for her portrayal of that incomprehensible piece of femininity whom the author has christened Nellie Harborne. There are some brilliant touches in Miss Neil's impersonation, and she gives ample evidence of the gift of versatility. Mr. Charles A. Leicester is seen in a praiseworthy study of a sturdy and proud Irishman; and Mr. G. Langdon acts with dramatic forcefulness and a certain degree of subtlety in the rôle of the blackguardly Richard Lenowen. Mr. Tyrone Power is commendable as the burly, short-tempered, and grief-stricken Stephen Harborne; and the Curate of Mr. Douglas Tremayne is presented in adequate fashion. Miss Frances Bruce admirably sustains the religious dignity and cold superiority of the unco guid Lilian Harborne; and Miss Ada Roscoe handles in able manner the part of the abandoned Mme. Gabrielle. The humorous element is well attended to by Mr. Bruce Clapham as a submerged Johnnie; and Mr. J. Telly Dillsen and Miss Florrie Groves as the farm servants.

"AMASIS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With regard to the letter in your last issue from Messrs. Brandon and Nicholson, Mr. Fenn's solicitors, will you kindly allow me space to deny their assertion that I sought the hospitality of your columns for the purpose of alleging that much of the matter in *Amasis* was plagiarised from a comic opera of my own? I confined myself entirely to drawing attention to some of the more prominent similarities embraced by the long arm of coincidence.

Mr. Fenn's solicitors also stated that they had written to me demanding a retractation of, and an apology for, my "libellous" statements, but they omitted to mention that two clear days prior to the date of their letter to you they were in receipt of my refusal to apologise.—Yours faithfully,

W. GUNN GWENNET,
196, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.
Aug. 27, 1906.

MISS ANNIE MARS has just taken up Miss Marie Dainton's part in *The Girl Behind the Counter* at Wyndham's, and will remain with the company on the subsequent tour of the highly successful piece.

"THE SWEET GIRL."

Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, adapted from the original of Alex. Landersberg and Leo Stein, by A. Demain Grange, William Caine, and Herbert Cottesmore. Music by Heinrich Rheinhardt, and additional music by K. Ernest Irving. Played for the first time on the English Stage at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Monday, Aug. 27.

Lola ..... MISS CLAUDIA LASELL
Fritzi Weyringer ..... MISS ALICE LETHBRIDGE
Countess Lizzi ..... MISS GRACE HUNTER
Elsa Weininger ..... MISS LELIA GORDON
Mina Perl ..... MISS MURIEL HARDING
Nina Jensch ..... MISS ADA WINGARD
Mizzi Diesch ..... MISS MERZA LEIDEN
Fanny Schaefer ..... MISS LILIAN LESLIE
Max Muller ..... MR. J. MURRAY MORRIS
Wilhelm Schmitt ..... MR. W. H. PAGE
Anthony Strauss ..... MR. ALGERNON NEWARK
Prosper Plewney ..... MR. GEORGE DE LARA
Florian Lierlich ..... MR. LEONARD RUSSELL
Dick Kenyon ..... MR. LISTER MORRAH
Count Leibenberg ..... MR. FRED EASTMAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"*The Sweet Girl* has come to stay." Such was the verdict from many of Monday night's audience, who had gathered to hear the adaptation from the German musical play, *Das Süsse Mädel*. From the first it was apparent that a new note had been struck in musical comedy. In the present day of musical "jingle" it is refreshing to find something on a higher plane, and this is especially noticeable in the music of Herr Heinrich Rheinhardt. Naturally, it savours of the German modern school. The melodies are bright, tuneful, and effective, some of the numbers being particularly fine. The song, "The Sweet Girl," from which the play takes its name, contains a delightfully haunting refrain, which long remains pleasantly in the memory. The adapters have done their work most efficiently, a continuous plot, with well-sketched characters, and an abundance of wholesome fun being the result of their efforts.

The action takes place first in Vienna, and afterwards in the mountains of the Austrian Tyrol. Mr. Harry Potts and Mr. Cecil E. Hicks's scenery drew forth many expressions of admiration; while the magnificent and picturesque costumes made a delightful feast for the eye.

The story is woven around the love of Lola, an American singer at a Viennese theatre, and Dick Kenyon, an impecunious composer of songs. Count Leibenberg, Dick's uncle, hearing of his nephew's passion for the fair American songstress, has come to Vienna with the intention of compelling him to marry his cousin, the Countess Lizzi. The night before the play commences Lola has, unknown to Dick, made an immense success with one of his songs, "The Sweet Girl." Act I. discovers the roof of Florian's studio, where Dick is staying to escape the unpleasant attentions of a writ-server. A bevy of students sing an opening chorus in spirited style, when they are joined by Lola, who, accedes to their request that she would give them the song with which all Vienna was ringing, and sings "The Sweet Girl." Count Leibenberg then arrives, and complications commence when Lola is introduced as the Baroness von Ebenstreit, a friend and patron, who has considerable influence over Dick. The Count suggests that she and her friends should visit him at his castle near Ischl, and assist in persuading Dick to marry his cousin, an invitation which Lola is not slow in accepting, though with different intentions.

Act II. opens with the arrival of the visitors at the castle. In his young days the Count had married a girl socially beneath him, and there was a child of the marriage whom he had never seen. Amongst the guests is Fritzi, the sweetheart of Florian, and the Count, mistakes her for a singer whom he had heard in Vienna. Fritzi is persuaded by her friends to humour him in this illusion, and all goes well until she is asked to sing the much-talked-of song. Naturally, her attempt is somewhat of a failure; but the scene is dramatically worked up by Lola appearing on the balcony, and giving the song in her own inimitable manner.

Act III. provides further complexities, all of which form a never-failing source of amusement. The writ-server arrives on the track of Dick, bringing with him also a letter to Prosper Plewney, the Count's secretary, informing him of the fact that he is the son of the Count. Lola obtains possession of this document, and by her adroit management of its contents secures the consent of the Count to her marriage with Dick.

Miss Claudia Lasell, who is making her first essay as an actress-manager, has got together an excellent cast. Her interpretation of the rôle of Lola is clever at all points. Gifted with a clear, melodious voice, Miss Lasell sprang at once into favour, and scored a veritable triumph by her rendering of the song, "The Sweet Girl," securing three recalls. Her arch method and crisp style is eminently suited to the part, and a soupçon of Americanism in her voice added a piquancy to an altogether fine performance. Her duet with the Count, called "Strolling in the Evening," and that with Prosper Plewney, descriptive of "A mock lesson in love-making," earned rapturous applause. Mr. Leonard Russell rendered yeoman service as Florian, singing with a vigour and earnestness that was accorded frequent recognition, his cultured voice being capitally suited in the songs "Palette and Brush" and "Ziller-Thaler-Thal." The graceful and artistic dancing of Miss Alice Lethbridge quite brought down the house, as also did a dance she shared with Mr. Algernon Newark. In her embodiment of Fritzi, Miss Lethbridge was the very essence of naïvete and liveliness. Miss Grace Hunter made an attractive and in every way charming Countess Lizzi. The appearance of Mr. Fred Eastman in his grotesque "make-up" as Count Leibenberg was the signal for an outburst of spontaneous merriment. Among the songs allotted to this versatile comedian one especially, entitled "William," a skit on William Tell, William Shakespeare, and the Kaiser, brought him a tremendous ovation. Mr. Lister Morrah essayed Dick Kenyon with conspicuous success. He was an ideal lover, his pleasant voice and easy style winning high encomiums. Mr. Algernon Newark made a palpable hit by his quaint drollery as Anthony Strauss, and his imitations of well-known actors secured appreciative acknowledgment. Mr. George de Lara was all activity and alertness in the part of Prosper Plewney, his topical song, "Make a little note on your cuff," going down with evident relish. Mr. W. H. Page submitted an entertaining sketch of a major-domo; and the art students were capitally represented by Misses Lelia Gordon, Muriel Harding, Ada Wingard, Merza Leiden, Lilian Leslie, and Mr. J. Murray Morris. The choruses were admirably given under the bâton of Mr. K. Ernest Irving, who is responsible for special additional music, and the stage-management was in the skilled hands of Mr. Reginald Rutter. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Herbert Cottesmore, who is to be congratulated on the success achieved.

"LADY TATTERS," a comedy-opera, by Herbert Leonard, the manager of the New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, with music by Walter Slaughter, was produced for copyright purposes at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, on the 24th ult.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Owing to a mistake in the programme you state that Mr. Alec. Bradley played Robert Carlton in *Master and Man* at the Camden Theatre last week. The name should have been, yours faithfully, RAYMOND WOOD

MARCUS'S MORALS.

It is difficult to decide if the *dénouement* of Mr. William J. Locke's novel, "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne"—upon which the new piece produced by Mr. Arthur Bourchier at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday evening, is founded—is a "happy" one or not. The two principal characters certainly marry; but whether they are likely to "live happily ever afterwards" is a question hardly to be answered. The tone of the tale is quaintly epicurean; and the sensuous spell cast by a "child of nature" from a Turkish harem over an elderly English literary man seems insufficient to compensate, in actual wedlock, for the emptiness of her mind and her absence of information. The *dénouement* is the more unsatisfying, as the *littérateur*, in his burst of sexual infatuation, lets slip the affection of a cultivated woman, who, apparently, would have been a real "mate" for him. But the tale is told with such an agreeable frankness, and such an adroit affectation of quaint bookishness, the incidents are so amusing, and the talk and descriptions are so piquant, that the impression, on the whole, is very agreeable.

The "story" runs as follows:—Sir Marcus Ordeyne, once usher in a private school, has inherited wealth and a baronetcy. He has maintained for years a platonic friendship with a Mrs. Judith Mainwaring, a lady who has been shamefully treated by a rascally husband, from whom she is separated. She lives in a flat in Tottenham Court-road; and Ordeyne, who moralises whimsically on everything, "as if he were a disconnected intelligence outside the universe," is ignorant of the fact that she nourishes a warm affection for him. Ordeyne is satisfied with tepid relations, which leave him full liberty to continue his favourite study of the "Morals of the Renaissance," his household consisting of a perfect valet and a female French cook. Into his life, however, by a chance encounter on a bench in a public garden, comes a young Turkish woman named Carlotta, who has been left "stranded" by an Englishman, who, having reached Southampton with her, has there committed suicide, and has sent her on to London alone. Ordeyne takes her into his home, and very comical are the results of his adoption of the beautiful waif, who, having been brought up in a harem, is absolutely artless, and, besides, is possessed of great beauty and audacity. Propinquity and the innocent freedoms of the lovely child of nature gradually turn the philosopher's head, and he finds himself passionately enamoured of his ward. A young and impulsive Italian named Sebastian Pasquale interferes with the course of affairs by making love to Carlotta. Pasquale tells Carlotta that Ordeyne is in love with Judith; and the latter begs the beautiful Turk to give Marcus up to her. Bewildered and beset, Carlotta runs away to Paris with Pasquale, and returns, after an interval, repentant and *enceinte*. Before this, however, Judith has confessed to Ordeyne that she has long loved him, and has realised that her passion is hopeless. The scamp who ruined her life now appears on the scene, reformed and repentant. He has become a religious worker in the East-end, and he offers Judith a Christian home with him. In despair, she accepts, and, feeling that he "has need" of her, goes to help him in his good work. Pasquale, who has enlisted, is killed in South Africa; and Ordeyne ultimately marries Carlotta, who "has now got a soul of her own, and means to make the most of it."

THE MOODY-MANNERS OPERA COMPANY.

The season of grand opera in English by the Moody-Manners company ended on Saturday evening last with a performance of Gounod's *Faust*, the cast including most of the principal artists who by their admirable efforts have rendered the present season memorable. Mme. Fanny Moody again invested the part of Marguerite with much charm and delightful vocalisation, being most ably supported by Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Faust. The talented Irish tenor was in fine voice, and his singing of the famous air "Hail, dwelling pure and holy" made even more than its customary impression. Another favourite singer, Mr. Lewys James, appeared as Valentine, and Miss Mildred Bryan as Siebel; while Miss Baker proved an excellent Martha. Mr. Charles Manners repeated his fine and popular performance of Mephistopheles, a part in which his great vocal ability and dignified bearing are displayed to the greatest advantage. The orchestra and chorus were again excellent, Herr Eckhold conducting with the utmost care and discretion. At the close of the performance, amidst great enthusiasm, and after the principal artists had appeared before the curtain several times, Mr. Manners, in response to repeated calls for a speech, came to the front and said: "I find it very difficult to put into words the great pleasure and satisfaction which it gives me to come before you here this evening and to tell you that, thanks to you, our season has been a great success." Mr. Manners also said: "It is on the public, and the public alone, that we must depend for our livelihood now and in the future." He thanked "the Press for the splendid way in which they have, without exception, done their utmost to encourage and help us." He also remarked that "it may interest you to know that at my first season at Covent Garden I made £450. We thought this a splendid start, and on the strength of it the next season we put between £150 and £200 a week more on our salary list. During the first season the band was very poor, but the second season it was much better, as it was mostly composed of Covent Garden players. Our second season we lost £1,200, and of course these figures do not include anything for the services of my wife or myself, my costumes, and scenery. I therefore arranged a season at Drury Lane, and called it 'National Opera in English.' I supplied all the costumes and scenery free, my wife and I gave our services. At the end of the season accountants went into the whole matter, and found a loss of between £5,000 and £6,000, and we issued a balance-sheet to the public. Two or three months ago I signed with Mr. Tom B. Davis to give a season at this theatre, and the day I signed I should have been pleased to have given the whole season over to anybody who would have taken it in hand, with the free use of my costumes and scenery, and services of my wife and myself; and, in addition to this, would have given him £1,000 to help him on his way. To my astonishment I find now that he would have made about £1,000. My great regret is that I did not spend the £1,000 in strengthening my performances where I know they are weak. But three months ago I should not have been warranted in doing this, as I had to remember that there was almost a certainty, judging from past experience, of losing £1,000 or £1,500; and more than this I could not afford. I have thought of forming the Opera Union. I do not want to form a union for the benefit of my wife or myself or my company. Thanks to our provincial friends we are, I am glad to say, independent. The Union has been brought into existence for the benefit of you who are lovers of opera in your own tongue. It is you who must decide whether it is to be a failure or a success. The matter rests in your hands, and there, with the fullest confidence, I gladly leave it."

PRESENTATION. — After the performance of *Between Two Women* at the Dalston Theatre on Saturday night, Mr. Moffitt, the stage-carpenter, who was leaving to go to the theatre in Lancashire, was presented by Mr. Sommers, on behalf of the stage hands, with a gold pin and silver pendant.

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—A big attraction here on Monday was provided by Mr. Forbes-Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott in *Hamlet*. Mr. Forbes-Robertson's depiction of the title-rôle is undoubtedly a very fine achievement, full of intellect and individuality, and Monday's audience showed its appreciation in hearty style. Miss Gertrude Elliott gave a touching delineation of Ophelia, being particularly successful in the later scenes, and she worthily shared the chief honours of the evening. Mr. Ian Robertson played the King with studious care; Miss Adeline Bourne was a dignified Queen; Mr. Charles Langley as Polonius acted with distinction; and Mr Hylton Allen was quite successful as Horatio; while all the remaining parts were suitably filled. The week's programme is varied by a performance of *Mice and Men*, and a production of *The Merchant of Venice*, in which Mr. Forbes-Robertson's appearance as Shylock is a feature of extraordinary interest.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A delightful performance of *Veronique* is to be seen here this week, played by George Dance's company. For a bright musical entertainment, packed as it is with fun, *Veronique* would be hard to beat, and nothing but praise can be expressed for all the principals and their spirited subordinates. Mr. Leslie Holland as Coquenard is extremely comic, his antics at times simply convulsing the house; and Mr. Fred Lyne is quite equal to the humorous possibilities of Leustot, the bailiff. As Veronique Miss Ruth Lincoln is always charming, and her singing is brisk and clear; Miss Ethel Negretti scores a distinct success, vocally and otherwise, as Agatha; and Miss Lena Maitland presents a clever depiction of the Countess, her song, "The Garden of Love," in the last act, being quite a feature of the evening. Mr. Roland Bottomley sings and acts very well as Florestan; and others who do well are Mr. Courtney Comber as Seraphin, Miss Gracie Sinclair as Denise, and Miss May Leslie as Aunt Benoit.

Gaiety Theatre. — Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Charles Macdona presents here this week the well-known and successful musical play *Three Little Maids*. A very pleasing performance is given by the company, which includes Miss Cora Lingard, Miss Daisy Sylverton, and Miss Eva Weigh as the pleasing central trio, the last-named being a Manchester actress who has made great progress lately and is particularly successful as Edna Branscombe. Miss Alice Rene makes a stately Lady St. Mallory; Miss Laura Wright is excellent as Gretchen; Mr. Walter Freear provides good fun as Cupid; Mr. Victor Kerr presents a good exposition of Lord Cheyne; and other good parts are well filled by Mr. Guy Williams, Mr. Charles Leverton, and Mr. Eric Barrington.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company is here in *The Trumpet Call*, which was seen last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

Metropole Theatre. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company is here this week in their popular sensational drama *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr. W. Ruddle Brown and Miss Nelly Howitt still appear successfully in the heroic parts; while the villainous business of the play is exploited vigorously by Mr. Juan de Alberti and Miss Evelyn Robson. Among others who distinguish themselves are Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Kretch, and Miss Bella Moody as Sally King. The play is altogether successful and well staged.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flangan.—The Midland Syndicate present here this week the musical comedy-drama *Life*, a very entertaining performance being given. Mr. Herbert Barrs fills the part of Jack Lockhart, the blacksmith, in manly style; and Miss Oswald presents a careful and sympathetic impersonation of Beatrice Ferrars, the deserted wife. Miss Maudie Vincent gives a clever rendering of Jess, the waif; Mr. A. B. Lyons is lively as Pippit; Mr. Ronald Grahame is sufficiently sinister as Sir Horace Lester; Mr. E. Cheetham presents a good idea of Zac Krabbe; and other parts are well filled by the remaining members of the cast.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A big attraction is offered here by Hardie and Von Leer's company in *For Life—and After*, a dramatised version of George R. Sims's recently-published novel of the same name. The play is distinctly powerful, and Monday's audience was highly appreciative of the cleverness of the cast. Mr. Vernon Sansbury is admirable as Richard Grey; and a very fine performance is that of Miss Grace Heywood, an accomplished actress, as Marion, his wife. Mr. Charles Osborne makes a formidable villain as Rube Hexham; and distinctly good performances are added by Mr. Sidney Vautier as O'Neil, the surgeon; Mr. Chris. Mason as Grimper, the showman; Miss Muriel Dean as Dora Grey; Miss Rosslyn Vayne as Loo Hexham; and Miss Edith Barwell as the lively Mrs. Grimper. All the remaining parts are well handled.

Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is here this week in Walter Melville's success, *The Worst Woman in London*. Miss Florence Dalton gives a forcible rendering of the title-part, and her efforts are ably supplemented by Mr. George Gaisford as Jack Felton, Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as Vincent Lyle, and Miss Elizabeth Watkins as Ruth Milford. Considerable interest is added by a large variety of subsidiary characters, well rendered by the remainder of the cast. The staging is on an elaborate scale, and entirely effective.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An exceptionally clever and entertaining turn here this week is that of Frank and Jen Latona, the musical tramp and slavey, who head the bill. Another popular turn is Peggy Pryde, whose comedy character songs are cleverly rendered. Besides these, O'Malley and Brown are a couple of clever knockabouts; the Goltz Trio give a wonderful performance on globes and the slack wire; Minnie Cunningham, comedienne, sings Irish songs very daintily; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright are excellent in their sketch entitled *Cockie*; Clarke and Glenny present their *Haunted House* sketch with success; Rich and Rich are a smart comic couple; and last, but not least, Elsie Roby gives her well-known comedy sketch *The Slavey at the Piano*. This excellent programme is supplemented by pictures on the Bioscope.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*The King of the Sahara*, a bright, brisk sketch, in three scenes, introducing pretty songs and dances, is staged here this week, and meets with considerable success. The company, which is excellent, includes Mr. Joe Peterman, the well-known creator of humorous Hebrew characters, Messrs. Charles Cleveland, C. Courtney Hylton, C. Thorne Ricketts, J. Learmouth, and the Misses Gladys Ward, Blanche Marian, and many others. Theo. Bouwmeester, the Dutch protean actor, is also here, and impersonates seven distinct characters in his sketch *Who is Guilty?* in a wonderfully clever manner. Will English, the real coon, manipulates his feet in fine style whilst dancing and burlesquing "walks," and is well received; Clara Walters is a smart and entertaining pianist; and other capital items are contributed by the Haytors, in their laughable oddity *Cabby and His Fare*; Farley, Rennie, and Farley in acrobatic speciality, *Fun in a Railway Station*; the Sisters Poole, comediennes and dancers; Edie Rivers, comedienne and dancer; and Phillips and Terry, in humorous playlet, *A Wonderful Invention*. Pictures complete.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The charming comedienne Miss Winifred Hare heads the bill here this week, and sings several taking songs in a delightful manner; T. E. Dunville is also to the front, and is vastly amusing with funny songs and funnier patter; the Zanettos provide a sensational juggling act; and a capital sketch, entitled *A Very Bad Boy*, with an eccentric dance introduced, is played well by Hal Godfrey and company. The Ten Genis are wonderful Risley performers, and are deservedly well received; and Drew and Alders are resourceful comedians and very clever dancers. Other excellent items are "The Wreck of the Hesperus," rendered by the choir and orchestra; the Leonards, good dancers; the Pine Sisters; glee by the choir, and a series of entertaining Bioscope pictures.

Tivoli. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Daisy Jerome, a clever comedienne, is the bright particular star here this week, and sings four songs in her usual taking manner; G. W. Hunter amuses with songs and patter; and a musical playlet entitled *A Reverie* is capitally presented by the Vivians. Excellent turns are also those of Jennie Lynwood, comedienne; Tee and Tee, musical eccentrics; and Edie Tennis and Gertie Launo in vocal scena *Chapters from Life*. Others who contribute good turns are Mark Tapley, comedian; Agnes Hanson, comedienne and dancer; and Ernest French, comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

King's, Longsight.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Land-Grabbers*, a burlesque parody skit, heads the bill here this week, and is presented in amusing style. Excellent turns are those of Stanley's Urchins, a troupe of good boy singers; the Three Thurbans, clever instrumentalists; the Panamas, acrobats and dancers; Blarney and Kennard, in comedy act, with clever dog; Mlle. Di Roche, soprano; Rappo and Ella; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocalists; and Bill Bailey, comedian. "A Message from the Sea" is depicted on the Bioscope.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Leoni Clarke and his remarkably well-trained animals are to the front here this week, and are much appreciated. Lion and Williams create no end of laughter in a very comic act; and the Kimberley Boys are good comedians. The Dancing Gilberts are smart dancers; Polo and Florence are clever acrobats; and Monty Walker is applauded for his mimetic and laughing songs. Mary M. Glenn, Scotch vocalist, sings well; Flo Hilton, male impersonator, is a big success; and Sonny Moss a good female impersonator. The pictures are excellent.

Hippodrome, Hulme.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manger, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Six Brothers Luck, in an absurdity entitled *Blazes*, are at the head of this week's bill, and cause much merriment. The Boccaccio Trio give a very fine turn, both vocal and instrumental, the mandoline playing of Signor Francia being highly appreciated; Mike Cray is a capital eccentric juggler; Ranjisinji and Valeria mystify with Indian magic; and the Vere Brothers are exceedingly smart gymnasts. Other good turns are given by Ward and Davis, in duologue; George Young, a clever blind instrumentalist; and Wallace Muirhead, vocalist. As usual, some enjoyable animated pictures are shown.

Rusholme Pavilion. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Old favourites are to the front here this week, including Fred Field, humorist; Jim Pullen, comedian; Gertrude Fraser, contralto; Charles North, baritone; Maude Hastings, soprano; Bernard Rowley, tenor; and W. H. Jackson, pianist.

MR. BOURCHIER'S EXPERIMENT.

Several of the leading London managers have been interviewed by the *Daily Telegraph* with reference to Mr. Arthur Bourchier's "new departure" of excluding the critics from his theatre for the first week of the run of a new piece. Mr. Tree says every manager must be the best judge of what should be done in the interests of his own theatre, and has a perfect right to act accordingly. He thinks that a well-considered article appearing a few days after a first performance would be of greater value as criticism and of greater service to art than one written under the conditions obtaining at the present day. But the public cannot be left out of the reckoning in a matter of this kind; and the public desires always to be kept informed on the news of the day. Mr. Tree is inclined to favour the appearance on the morning following the production of a new play of a brief record of the event—a mere report, indicating the nature of the piece, its effect upon the audience, its reception, and so forth. Then, if the play and its interpretation were deemed worthy of it, a more extended notice might be published a day or two later—an article answering fully to the description of a criticism and representing views duly and seriously considered.

Mr. Cyril Maude, without expressing any opinion as to the wisdom, or otherwise, of Mr. Bourchier's new departure, said that for a long time he had felt that, where comedy, at any rate, was concerned, it would be better if the judgment of the critics were formed a night or two after production. In works of the class in question it is the audience that makes the piece go. If the "laughs" get home, the effect is to stimulate greatly the actors and actresses engaged, and, the chances being that a comedy will go better after the initial nervousness of a first-night has worn off, it follows, in Mr. Maude's opinion, that favourable criticism of the performance is more likely to result.

Mr. George Edwardes would not on any account exclude critics from first nights. But he would like them to come always to one, if not more than one, rehearsal of the piece they are going to notice. Were he a member of the theatre-going public, he would take this view:—"Here was a piece produced last night, say, at the Garrick. Nobody knows whether it is good, bad, or indifferent, and I expect my paper to tell me all, or something, at any rate, about it. If I have to wait a week for that criticism, what happens? Probably this—that in the meantime I have heard remarks about the play from various people who have seen it. Is the management to suppose that these remarks are in every case going to induce me, as a member of the public, to pay my money at the box-office to see their production?" It is the public, Mr. Edwardes says, who have, after all, to be considered principally in a question of this kind. Theatrical managers are in much the same position from this standpoint as the owners and editors of newspapers. Both have to serve the public and give them what they want. Both depend equally upon the public. Mr. Edwardes is not of those who think that if a newspaper is not invited to criticise a piece the critic is not entitled to come to that theatre, by paying in the ordinary way, and afterwards to express his views of the production in print. As long as he behaves himself in the theatre, and writes an account which is not influenced by any personal animus, it would be unreasonable of a manager, in Mr. Edwardes's opinion, to object to criticism published under the circumstances described.

QUEEN'S OUTING.

"Eat, drink, and be merry" was the altogether admirable injunction printed on the programme, and it is safe to say that the fifty or so hearty souls who took part in the annual outing last Sunday of the staff of the Queen's Palace, Poplar, were most energetic in carrying out the said injunction in all its phases. Mr. Lewis Abrahams, a brother of Messrs. Frederick and Michael Abrahams, the proprietors of the Queen's, and Mr. Morris Abrahams, a younger member of the family and the secretary and assistant-manager of the hall, were in charge of the party, who, starting shortly after 9 a.m. from Poplar in a couple of brakes, reached their destination—St. Margaret's, Herts—some four hours later. It was a pleasant drive and a healthful one, and greatly conduced towards the creation of vigorous appetites, which made their influence felt upon an excellent dinner, served in first-rate style at the Pied Bull, Stanstead Abbotts, Ware. It was admitted on all hands that the proprietor of that hostelry, Mr. J. Lyndsell, was an able caterer.

Neither Mr. Michael Abrahams nor Mr. Jack Woolf, the manager, was able to join the company, the former because he was away at the seaside and the latter because of pressure of business. Mr. Lewis Abrahams, who assumed the office of chairman at the dinner tables, gave the usual loyal toasts, and then proceeded with the toast of "The Proprietors, Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams." These gentlemen, he said, always had a kindly thought for the welfare of the staff, and they regarded with keen satisfaction such a function as they were that day engaging in, for they realised that it did much to foster a good feeling between the employees. The toast being heartily honoured by the whole company, the chairman referred in eulogistic terms to Mr. Jack Woolf, the manager, who had, since the reopening of the Queen's, worked with persistent strenuousness for the best interests of all concerned. Mr. Woolf's health was drunk with musical honours.

The toast of "The Queen's Staff" was also proposed by the chairman. He was of opinion that the Messrs. Abrahams were supported in the conduct of their establishment by a very efficient body of men in all departments, and the prosperity of the hall was in itself a tribute to the excellent qualities of the staff. Everybody had shown a desire to loyally help Mr. Woolf and the proprietors, and that spirit of co-operation was of no small significance in the conduct of affairs. The toasts of "The Visitors" and "The Chairman" concluded the speech-making, after which the party separated, some taking steamer trips on the river Lea and others exploring the pretty countryside. A capital tea was partaken of at half-past five, and as the village clocks struck the hour of seven the homeward journey was commenced. Mr. A. H. Dent, the assistant-manager of the refreshment department of the Queen's, controlled the arrangements in connection with the outing—which from beginning to end proved most enjoyable—with the assistance of the stewards, Messrs. S. Barnett, F. Bentley, and E. J. Garritt, and Mr. F. Brown, the hon. secretary. Mr. Jack Abrahams, manager of the refreshment department, and his brothers, Mr. George and Mr. Benjamin Abrahams, also accompanied the beanfeasters.

POPLAR QUEEN'S PALACE OUTING.

PRESENTATION TO A THEATRICAL MANAGER.

A well-deserved tribute was paid on the 24th ult. to Mr. Joseph Potter, who for the past twenty-five years has watched over the destinies of the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, by the presentation before a crowded house of a beautifully illuminated address, together with an enlarged portrait of the recipient.

The address was as follows:—

"To Joseph Potter, Esq. We, the undersigned, in behalf of a large and influential committee of local gentlemen and theatrical managers formed in Warrington for the purpose, beg to convey to you our heartiest congratulations on the completion of twenty-five years' theatrical management in this town. We desire to express our appreciation of your efforts to promote the welfare of the community by providing an entertainment which has always been of an elevating and healthy moral tone. We also desire to express our admiration of you as a man, and one whose conduct, both public and private, has been beyond reproach, and has earned approbation by all classes, and we earnestly hope that you may long be spared to enjoy the well-earned reward of your many years' work in Warrington.—Signed in behalf of the committee, George Wright (chairman), John Lee (vice-chairman), Fred J. Reece (hon. secretary and treasurer).

An excellent portrait of Mr. Potter appears at the head of the address, and at the foot there are illustrations of the Royal Court and the Royal.

The presentations were made by the Mayor of Warrington (Alderman Bolton) and Mrs. Fred Willmot, the Mayor remarking that he and Mr. Potter had been friends for over forty years. Mr. Browne also spoke in high appreciation, and in reply Mr. Potter thanked the committee for getting up the testimonial. They had all worked very hard, and it was very kind of his friends to give him some return after twenty-five years' experience in the theatrical profession. With his partners he had endeavoured to give satisfaction, and had done the best he could to bring good companies to Warrington. He would bring them better still in future. He thanked them all sincerely. A long programme was gone through, excellent turns being provided by the Warrington Orchestral Society; Mr. F. J. Dell, tenor; the two Sparks, instrumentalists; Mr. H. Hindley Potter, elocutionist; Mr. Fred Willmot; Higgins and Malone; Kioto; the Milton Rays; "Lady Julia," Miss Issa Steel, vocalist; Bishop and Hanlon; Warrington Lyric Quartette; Percy Hannan; Harry Marlowe, and May Manton.

Miss Lottie Venne is likely to be seen shortly in a new part, having accepted a three-act comedy by Robert Ganthony, the entertainer, entitled *The First Mrs. Ridgeway*. The production at a West-End theatre is now being negotiated

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, July 24.—*The Dictator*, a farce-comedy melodrama written for Mr. William Collier, the American comedian, by Mr. Richard Harding Davis, followed *On the Quiet* at Her Majesty's on the 21st, and created hours of uproarious fun. Mr. J. C. Williamson, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, produced it, and it goes without saying that everything possible was done with it. Mr. Collier and every member of his company fits in with the author's inmost conceits, the result being a very funny story funnily told. Mr. Collier as Brooke Travers brims over with fun and terror, but is never tempted to exaggerate. He is ably assisted by Mr. Charles Jackson as the valet Simpson, whose fear of arrest is convincingly humorous. Miss Helena Collier, handsome and vigorous, is seen in an important part as Juanita; Miss Mabel Taliaferre is the *ingénue* Lucy Sheridan to the life; Mr. Grant Stewart makes General Campos an imposingly important personage; Mrs. Grace Hadsell and Mr. George Nash were the Mrs. and Colonel Bowie; and Mr. John Dean, Mr. Charles Poore, Mr. John Saville, and Mr. John Barrymore all play parts of more than ordinary importance, and play them capitally. It is a happy family of Thespians, and *The Dictator* will draw good business until it has to make way for Miss Tittell Brune on Aug. 4.

Mr. Bland Holt is satisfied with the popularity of *With Flying Colours*, for the play excites intense interest, and it will run until *In London Town* is ready for staging. Mr. Holt is bestowing especial attention on Mr. G. R. Sims' powerful drama.

The Tivoli welcomed Mr. Howard Hall, a fine baritone, and the Ixion Sisters, double song and dance artists; and cheered Miss Olive Lenton on her return. Mr. Harry Rickards has now a very strong company, embracing Little Cliff, Vasco, Brinn, Alexandra and Bertie, Lilieth Leyton and George Bentley, and others.

Bostock and Wombwell's big show has a novel sensation. Mr. Williams was hypnotised and buried six feet beneath the surface, where he is to remain 120 hours. Observation tubes are provided for a supervising committee.

The Lyceum and Athenæum have moving pictures and concert artists.

The Jubilee Singers are at the Centenary Hall, doing non-playgoers good by means of music and laughter.

Mr. Lewis De Groen is giving Saturday night concerts at the Town Hall, and has engaged Mr. Ernest E. P. Truman as solo organist. The Vice-Regal Band and picked vocalists give a fine entertainment.

Miss Marie Narelle had her northern tour sadly interrupted by the death of her mother on the 17th. Miss Narelle returned to Sydney for the funeral on the 18th, and she has now resumed the tour, leaving Newcastle to be visited on her return.

Messrs. William Holman, the well-known English actor, and Neville Mayman announce a non-scenic production of *The Hunchback* for the 25th at St. James's Hall.

Mr. J. F. Sheridan is raiding Queensland playgoers with *The Earl and the Girl*, *King Dodo*, and *Fun on the Bristol*.

MELBOURNE, July 17.—Princess's Theatre (Lessees, Messrs. Ward and Willoughby; Business-Manager, Mr. Frank Musgrove).—After a most successful run of four weeks, *The Man from Mexico* will be withdrawn on Friday evening, to make room for the comedy, *The Talk of the Town*. The Ward-Willoughby season has been a highly-successful one. On Saturday evening, the 28th inst., Mr. R. G. Knowles commences a short season at this theatre, an event which is being looked forward to with a great deal of interest, Mr. Knowles being an old favourite with Melbourne playgoers,

Her Majesty's Theatre (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—*The Squaw Man* is filling this theatre nightly. The powerful story of Western life is admirably told by Mr. Waldron and the capable company supporting him. The play is lavishly mounted. Under existing circumstances *The Squaw Man* should run for some time to come.

Theatre Royal (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant). — The exciting drama of Russian military life, *The Assassin*, evidently suits the palates of frequenters of the Theatre Royal. The house is nightly packed by enthusiastic audiences. Miss Duggan as Princess Wanda has a part which gives her plenty of scope, her acting, especially in the sensational scenes, reaching a high standard. *The Assassin* will only run for four more nights, *Dangerous Women* being in active rehearsal.

Opera House (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon). — "Getting along very nicely, thanks," is the smiling reply of Fred Aydon when questioned as to business at this popular theatre, and certainly the bill of fare provided just now is a particularly tasty one. Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler, in their laughable absurdity, *A Hero*, still continue the premier attraction; Seymour and Dupré contribute an interesting turn; Blake and Granby appear in a sketch, entitled *The Man in Possession*; Kelly and Agnes are popular favourites; while Fred Bluett, Nellie Kilburn, Tim Howard, Baby Watson, and a host of others give interesting turns. After a successful season at Geelong, West's Pictures and the Brescians opened for seven nights at Ballarat, where they met with a splendid reception. Mr. T. Lax astonished all with his marvellous performance on the piano, and is quickly becoming a popular favourite.

It must be a matter of satisfaction to the proprietors of Collins's to know that the noble front of their house will never be hidden from view by buildings facing it. By the new Act which deals with the preservation of air spaces, the historic green at Merrie Islington is safe for ever from the interference of the builder.

Miss Nellie Wallace, who will be journeying to New York to fulfil an engagement in February next, has secured some comic novelties from the pens of the foremost writers for the variety stage—notably, A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. The author of "The 'ouses in between" has also written one for the lady.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 3.

A Knight Errant.—T. R., Leamington.
After the Ball.—Royalty T., Barrow.
An Actor's Romance.—Court T., Bacup.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Ryde and Cowes.
As Midnight Chimes.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
At Cripple Creek.—Victoria T., Burnley.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Bandmann-Palmer (Mrs.).—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Camden T., N.W.
Benson, F. P. (S.).—Public Hall, Arbroath.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
Breed of the Treshams.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, Blythe.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Chatham.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Birmingham.
Charley's Aunt.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Penzance and Falmouth.
Christian, The.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Christian, The (Howard).—T. R., Castleford.
Claudian.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Coal King.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Conscript, The.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., Darwen.
Country Girl (N.).—Hastings and Eastbourne.
Country Girl (S.).—Southport.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Aberystwyth.
Country Mouse.—Yarmouth.
Cousin Kate.—Yarmouth.
Dandy Doctor.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Victoria T., Broughton.
D'Oyly Carte.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Driven from Home.—T. R., Bristol.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Tunbridge.
Earl and the Girl (No. 1).—Sheffield.
Earl and the Girl (No. 2).—Kingston.
Earl and the Girl (No. 3).—Lincoln.
Eternal City (Howard).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Executioner's Daughter.—T. R., Rotherham.
Facing the Music.—Whitby and Bridlington.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—O. H., Buxton.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Queen's T., Manchester.
Faust Up-to-date.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Female Swindler.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Littlehampton.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—T. R., Belfast.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
For Life and After.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Jersey.
French Spy.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Southend-on-Sea.
Gipsy Jack.—Theatre Royal, Thornley.
Golden Ladder.—P. O. W., Salford.
Great Awakening.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Held Apart.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Held in Bondage.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Her Fatal Past.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Her Lost Self.—Junction T., Manchester.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
His House in Order (N.)—O. H., Harrogate.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Bath.
Honour Thy Father.—Wedgewood T., Bursiem.
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Richmond.
I Defy the World.—Grand T., Chorley.
Indian Mutiny.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Kitty Grey.—H.M. T., Carlisle.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Horncastle an dSleaford.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Newcastle.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Folkestone and Southend.
La Poupee (Levilly).—H.M. T., Aberdeen.
La Poupee (Ralland).—O. H., Northampton.
Lights o' London.—T. R., Rugby.
Lion and the Mouse.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Little Michus (Edwardes').—T. R., Plymouth.
Little Michus (S.).—Yarmouth.
Love that Women Desire.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Luck of Life.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Lucky Durham.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Manxman.—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Marriage of Kitty.—Lytham and Kendal.
Midnight Mail.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Midnight Wedding.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Monte Cristo.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Moody-Manners (A).—Kennington Theatre.
Moody-Manners (B).—Llandudno.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Aldershot.
Mr. Popple.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Hastings and Margate.
Mr. Smith.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
No Man's Land.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Norman V. Norman.—Gorand T., Birmingham.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Ramsgate.
On the Love Path.—Yarmouth.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—T. R., Leeds.
Orchid (S.).—Derby.
Otto the Outcast.—Athenæum, Lancaster.
Price of Her Soul.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Prince of Pilsen (Harriss').—O. H., Coventry.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Prodigal Parson.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Prodigal Son.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Queen of Villainy.—Century T., Motherwell.
Public Opinion.—Dover.
Royal Divorce.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Revenge.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
Sailors of the King.—King's Theatre, Sutton.
Saturday to Monday.—Yarmouth.
Shadow of a Crime.—New T., Stanley.
Sherlock Holmes.—T. R., Preston.
Shulamite.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Silver King (Howard) (N.)—Cleckheaton and Ripon.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—O. H., Clacton.
Silver King (N.) (Polini).—Queen's O. H., Work-
Silver King (S.) (Polini).—O. H., Dudley.
Sign of the Cross.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
Silver King (N.) (Polini).—O. H., Dudley.
Silver King (S.) (Polini).—Queen's O. H., Workington.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Wakefield.
Sins of a City.—T. R., Leigh.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Falkirk and Kirkcaldy.
Spider and the Fly.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Stockport.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Sunday.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Swiss Express.—Alexandra Theatre, N.
Temptress, The.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Terry, Edward.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Nelson.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona).—Bridlington and Whitby.
Throne of Terror.—T. R,. Whitehaven.
Toreador.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Toreador (Macdona).—Boxhill and Colchester.
Traitor, The.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Trip to the Highlands.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Trumpet Call.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Two Hussars.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Glossop.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Borough T., Stratford.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Guildford and Maidenhead.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Metropole T., Devonport.
Under the Russian Flag.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Veronique (N.).—Dublin.
Veronique (S.).—Eastbourne.
Village Blacksmith.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—New Pavilion, Bridlington.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Dumfermline.
Warning to Women.—Queen's T., Longton.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Empire T., Dundee.
What the Butler Saw.—Spa T., Scarboro'.
When London Sleeps.—Royalty T., Chester.
When Woman Hates.—Theatre Royal, Blythe.
White Chrysanthemum (Curson).—T. R., Cardiff.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Reading.
Woulfe Repertoire.—Theatre Royal, Colne.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Sunderland.
Wrecker of Men.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Youngest of Three.—O. H., Weston-super-Mare.
£1000 Reward.—Pardoes T., Middleton.
10.30 Down Express.—Ayr and Kilmarnock.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. HITCHCOCK (Poplar).—*Yes. The late Mr. Wilson Barrett played* The Silver King *at the Lyceum during his season there on Nov. 20, 1899. The famous drama was, as you say, originally produced at the Princess's on Nov. 16, 1882. When Mr. Barrett opened the new and enlarged Olympic on Dec. 4, 1890, with* The People's Idol, *he followed this unsuccessful piece with a revival on Jan. 3, 1891, of* The Silver King, *which he reproduced also at the Adelphi on Jan. 21, 1902.*

A SIMPSON (Bristol).—*Yes.* A Little Ray of Sunshine *was revived by Mr. W. S. Penley for the reopening of the Novelty on May 24, 1900, which he much improved and rechristened Great Queen-street Theatre.*

CONSTANT READER.—*Most certainly it is necessary to have a licence from the Lord Chamberlain before your burlesque can be produced at a theatre or place licensed for the production of stage plays. The usual charge made by the Lord Chamberlain is two guineas for every stage play of three or more acts, and one guinea for every stage play of less than three acts. We need hardly tell you that your burlesque comes within the category of stage plays.*

CHARITY PERFORMANCE.—*You might obtain the information you require from the Dramatic Authors' Agency (Mrs. Douglas Cox), 22, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., or from French's, Southampton-street, Strand.*

W. H. F.—*We are not in the habit of giving the ages of professional people. To the true tale of years the public usually add largely, forgetting that many performers commence their careers as children. The comedian you mention has been on the stage over twenty-five years.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DAUNTON-SHAW.—On Aug. 27, wife of A. Daunton-Shaw, cyclist, of twins (daughters). All three doing well.

MARRIAGES.

FRANCE—STEWART.—Aug. 28, at the Parish Church, Fulham, Francis France (Frank H. France), to Edith Mary Walther (Edith Stewart), second daughter of Charles Stewart Walther.

ST. CLAIR—GREENFIELD.—Miss Annie E. Greenfield (Miss Alice Digby) to Mr. Alfred St. Clair.

DEATHS.

CUSHMAN.—Aug. 24, at 17, Franklin-road, Portslade, Sussex, Reuben Adcock Cushman, retired negro performer, formerly of the Snowdrop Minstrels, in his 64th year.

DESMOND.—In loving memory of my dear brother Jack, who lost his life Aug. 20, 1906, at Odessa, Russia, whilst endeavouring to save one of his shipmates from drowning. He gave his life for another. R.I.P. Deeply mourned by his mother, brothers, and aunt.—Brother Clive Watts.

EVERSLEIGH.—Aug. 29, Harry Eversleigh, actor, member of *The Catch of the Season* company. Killed at Dublin by a motor-car.

HARVEY.—Aug. 24, Edward, of the Harvey Boys. Will never be forgotten by his loving brothers, sisters, and uncle.

OTAILER.—Aug. 17, 1906, at Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A., of cancer, Mrs. Matty Otailer, eldest sister of T. Reed Pinaud.

RAFFERTY.—Aug. 24, at her residence in Clapham-road, Emily, wife of Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, formerly known on the variety stage as Emily Lovely.

SCHOFIELD.—Alfred Schofield, age 37, died Aug. 23, late violinist Theatre Royal, Leeds.

SULLIVAN.—Suddenly, at Manchester, of heart failure, Margaret, the beloved daughter of Kate and the late Mike Sullivan, and sister of Cissy Sullivan. R.I.P.

WELLESLEY.—Aug. 26, at the White Hart Inn, Brasted, Kent, after a protracted illness, Arthur Wellesley, actor, formerly of the Gaiety, late of Clement's Inn, Strand.

IN MEMORIAM.

HALL.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Frederick Tudor Hall (Funny Fred Hall), who departed this life Aug. 28, 1898. Never forgotten by his loving wife, Julia Hall.

HARVIE.—In loving memory of William François Harvie, equestrian, who departed this life Aug. 27, 1899. Gone, but not forgotten by his loving wife and family.

ROWLAND.—In loving memory of my dear father William Rowland, who died at 65, Loder-road, Brighton, Sept. 3, 1905. Deeply regretted by his wife, sons, and daughter. Mrs. E. Foote.

SAKER.—To the loved and sacred memory of Maria Saker, who passed away Sept. 1, 1902. Mama beloved ever.

SEYMOUR.—In loving memory of Katie Seymour, who fell asleep Sept. 7, 1903. Never forgotten by her friend, Florrie Robina (Mrs. Reed Pinaud).

SEYMOUR.—In memory of Katie Seymour, who died Sept. 7, 1903. Mourned by mother, sister, and brother.

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Zedora, Mr. Leo
Zélie de Lussan, Mlle.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Walter Joyce—Saturday, Sept. 1.
George P. Lester—Saturday, Sept. 1.
Edna May—Sunday, Sept. 2.
Isa Bowman—Sunday, Sept. 2.
George R. Sims—Sunday, Sept. 2.
Kitty Arleystan—Sunday, Sept. 2.
John Lawson—Monday, Sept. 3.
Vernon Bland—Monday, Sept. 3.
Harry Brayne—Monday, Sept. 3.
Princess Pauline—Monday, Sept. 3.
Ellis Carlyle—Monday, Sept. 3.
Kate Forster—Tuesday, September 4.
Fred Bulmer—Tuesday, Sept. 4.
Lester Collingwood—Tuesday, Sept. 4.
Esmé Beringer—Tuesday, Sept. 4.
Kate Forster—Tuesday, Sept. 4.
Marjorie Murray—Wednesday, Sept. 5.
H. Wallace Curnock—Wednesday, Sept. 5.
Anena Walton—Wednesday, Sept. 5.
Mrs. O'Brien (Carrie Julian)—Wednesday, Sept. 5.
Jack Boston—Wedneeday, Sept. 5.

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"COME AND BE A SOLDIER,"
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Sung by Miss HETTY KING.

"COME ALONG, MY LITTLE 'LIZA,"
Sung by ALEC HURLEY.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1906.

JOHNSON AND GARRICK.

Mr. H. B. IRVING, in his third article on "The English Stage in the Eighteenth Century," in the August number of the *Fortnightly Review*, alludes to the ungrateful and unjust treatment which DAVID GARRICK received from many of his contemporaries.

The facts which Mr. IRVING brings in support of his statements are, in the cases of most of the above persons, conclusive; and they are a distressing disclosure of the base passions by which a successful actor-manager is persecuted and harassed, even in the height of his success. We are inclined to demur, however, to Mr. IRVING'S inclusion of Dr. JOHNSON amongst GARRICK'S enemies. Almost all JOHNSON'S contemporaries appreciated his peculiar character, and forgave him his defects for the sake of his qualities. JOHNSON, indeed, seems to have been allowed in one department much the same licence that was permitted to FOOTE, whom he so much despised, in another. His rudeness was so notorious that things that would have made another man detested were taken, in JOHNSON, as "only pretty Fanny's way." His wit excused all. GARRICK himself said, "JOHNSON shakes the laughter out of you whether you will or no." JOHNSON endured life; GARRICK enjoyed it. JOHNSON was a hypochondriac, who, all his life, combated a habitual melancholy. If he envied the actor anything it was his cheerfulness. "GARRICK," he told BOSWELL, "was a very good man—the most cheerful man of his age." The actor was, by nature, absolutely self-sufficient. JOHNSON was perhaps only happy when in the society of his friends. He understood GARRICK'S character, and appreciated his good qualities. He bore witness to his liberality when all the meaner spirits of the day accused the actor-manager of stinginess. BOSWELL puts down JOHNSON'S prejudice against "players" to his defects of sight and hearing, to the failure of his tragedy, and to the prosperity of his old schoolfellow. But JOHNSON'S whole character and temperament were antipathetic to the drama. He had an analytic rather than a creative genius; he was utterly deficient in humour; and he was a man of books, not of observation. Now the whole art of play-writing and play-acting is based on instinctive intimacy with the world in general. GARRICK said very justly of JOHNSON, "When he lived much with the HERVEYS, and saw a good deal of what was passing in life, he wrote his 'London,' which is lively and easy; when he became more retired he gave us his 'Vanity of Human Wishes,' which is as hard as Greek." It was impossible that such a pair as GARRICK and JOHNSON should not disagree. But, at heart, they were friends. When GARRICK became joint patentee and manager of Drury Lane Theatre, JOHNSON wrote a grand prologue, which GARRICK probably considered laboured and pompous. When the actor-manager offered to produce his old friend's tragedy, *Irene*, and began to put it into shape by the necessary cuts and alterations, violent disputes took place between him and the author. GARRICK was thus hampered in his work of revision, which would doubtless have mitigated the failure of the play. Then JOHNSON, in his testy, combative way, was ever "saying things" which were reported to GARRICK. The literary labourer was genuinely convinced of the superiority of his own craft to the actor's. And when JOHNSON, with this belief in his own superiority, saw GARRICK flattered fulsomely by the greatest men of the time, he naturally felt annoyed. GARRICK, a poor talker, an inferior littérateur, and a doer rather than a thinker, praised to the top of his bent by such men as Lord MANSFIELD and Lord CHATHAM, was in his heart, perhaps, conscious of deficiencies, and respected in JOHNSON the qualities of depth, earnestness, and wit; and JOHNSON, contemptuous of labours which seemed to him futile and trivial, feeling how little happiness he enjoyed in comparison with GARRICK, was goaded occasionally into a sneer which was really only a symptom of suffering. It always hurt GARRICK that JOHNSON spoke so lightly of him; and when we think how easily GARRICK could have done without JOHNSON altogether, we find in this feeling a strong evidence of affection and respect. Each man seems to have appreciated the other's essential merit remarkably well. GARRICK, moreover, could afford to be generous. He had so many people eager to praise him that he could easily forgive JOHNSON'S splenetic outbursts and bigoted prejudices.

JOHNSON, with all his contempt for "players" as a class, had a warm admiration for GARRICK himself. "Sir," he said to BOSWELL on one occasion, "it is wonderful how little GARRICK assumes. Celebrated men have had their applause at a distance; but GARRICK had it dashed in his face, sounded in his ears, and went home every night with the plaudits of a thousand in his cranium. Then, Sir, GARRICK did not *find*, but *made*, his way to the tables and the levées of the great. And he had under him a numerous body of people, who, from fear of his power, hopes of his favour, and admiration of his talents, were constantly submissive to him. He advanced the dignity of his profession, and made a player a higher character. If all this had happened to me I should have had a couple of fellows, with long poles, walking before me to knock down everybody who stood in the way."

GARRICK, wistfully sorry that JOHNSON should speak of him lightly, mimicking him as saying "Davy has some convivial pleasantry about him, but 'tis a futile fellow!": JOHNSON, as Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS said, looking upon GARRICK as his property, and allowing no one to praise or blame him in his presence—are these not evidences of the genuine regard of each of the pair for the other? GARRICK, of course, comes off best in any comparison. JOHNSON was full of faults; GARRICK was, according to all testimony, remarkably free from failings and weaknesses. But if GARRICK understood and forgave JOHNSON, surely we can.

AT the Royal Court, Warrington, on Monday, Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company opened a six nights' engagement with the stirring drama, *A City of Sin*. Mr. Conrad Heywood acts with dramatic force as Paul Touraine, and Mr. H. W. Hatchman scores well as Mortain; Mr. W. H. Burton is good as Bertrand, and Mr. Charles H. Longden submits a clever sketch of Zep Barzon. Much mirth is caused by Mr. Wilfred Graham and Mr. Val W. Sully as two oppressed married men; Miss Edith Wallis displays histrionic abilities as Alice Bertrand; and the much-wronged Ilma is well-enacted by Miss Jenny Weston. Miss Polly Denville as Zayotte and Miss P. St. John as Chouette are a chic pair of newly-wed damsels. The staging is very effective.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

At the promenade concert on Thursday, Aug. 23, Dr. R. Vaughan Williams's "Norfolk Rhapsody" was the more important of the two novelties given. Dr. Williams, nephew of Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and afterwards at the Royal College of Music, where he received his training in composition under Sir Charles Stanford and Sir Hubert Parry; subsequently at Berlin he studied under Max Bruch. The "Norfolk Rhapsody," which is founded on five Norfolk folk-airs, opens with an adagio based on the melody "The Basket of Eggs." The other folk-tunes are "The Captain's Apprentice," remarkable for its melodious freedom; "A bold young sailor, he courted me"; "Ward, the Pirate," a very old naval ballad with a fine, bold air, which is quite in keeping with the subject; and "On Board a 93." On these themes Dr. Williams has produced an appropriate nautical spirit, as well as striking orchestral effects, which were admirably realised by the Queen's Hall band. The audience, greatly pleased with the Rhapsody, gave the composer a most hearty reception when he came on the platform. The other novelty was a Suite in F Major for oboe and strings, by Fini Henriques, of less interest than the former work. The suite contains a prelude, a rather pleasing intermezzo, and a quaint but slightly-written finale. Mr. Henri de Busscher was the soloist, and displayed no little skill and intelligence. The orchestra gave Beethoven's "Egmont" overture, two Hungarian Dances by Brahms, Wagner's Prelude *Die Meistersinger*, Smetana's symphonic poem "Vitava," and Liszt's Totentanz for piano and orchestra, Mr. Arthur Cooke giving a neat and finished rendering of the solo instrument. Mme. Eve Simony, from the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels, made her first appearance in England. She has a pure and flexible soprano voice, and was heard to great advantage in "Chamant Oiseau," Mr. Fransella playing the flute obbligato. The other vocalist was Mr. John Bardsley, who was well received by the large audience.

An immense audience assembled at Queen's Hall last Saturday, Aug. 25, and enjoyed an excellent and most varied programme, which included a new work by A. Liadoff entitled "Eight Russian Folk-songs" for orchestra. These were named "A Hymn Tune," "Christmas Song," "Lament," "Humorous Song," "Legend of the Birds," "Cradle Song," "Dancing Song," and "Village Dance." The songs were simple in character, with varied orchestral accompaniments, and no particular attempt made in the direction of any serious theme; therefore, there was no special artistic effect beyond the simple melodies. The best of the songs were the "Lament," with a somewhat sad refrain, and a lively dance song. As played by Mr. Wood's fine band, they evidently pleased the audience. Mr. Fransella's flute solos, Allegretto, and Romance, by Godard and Saint-Saëns, were charmingly played; and Miss Eve Simony gained great applause for her remarkable singing of Delibes' "Bell Song" from *Lakmé*. Mr. Alfred Kastner also was warmly greeted in his harp solos, Serenade and Mazurka-Caprice, of his own composition. In the Toreador Song from *Carmen*, Mr. William Higley was successful. Among a large number of familiar works, the orchestra admirably rendered J. S. Bach's Toccata in F, Brahms' Two Hungarian Dances, the overture to *Zampa*, Bizet's suite "L'Arlesienne," and Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance."

A large audience assembled at Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening, as, in addition to a most attractive programme, Mr. Wood introduced a new work by Reinhold Glière, not heard before in this country. The composer was born at Kieff in 1874, and he has studied under Janieff and Hippolitoff Ivanoff at the Conservatoire, Moscow, and the Symphony in E Flat, Op. 8, heard on Tuesday night, was composed in 1899, and first performed at Moscow three years after. The symphony created a most marked impression on the audience at Queen's Hall, not only for its clever orchestration and clear, interesting themes, but also for its bold and striking melodies. There are four movements in the symphony, in which certainly the charming Scherzo takes a prominent position. The Andante also shows evidence of care and finish in its composition; and the dashing Finale concluded a very remarkable work, in which the influence of Tschaikowsky can be observed, but not in mere slavish imitation. The Russian composer's work was admirably played by Mr. Wood's fine orchestra, which also greatly distingush themselves in Smetana's brilliant overture to *Die Verkanfte Braut*, given at the commencement of the concert. Other good performances by the band were in Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries" (*Die Walküre*), Auber's overture to *Le Cheval de Bronze*, and E. German's "Three Dances from *Henry VIII.*" The vocalists were Miss Florence Ballard, who sang "Ah! mon fils," from *Le Prophète*, with much distinction; and Mr. Henry Turnpenny, who deserved much praise for his able singing of Gounod's fine air "Lend me your aid," from *La Reine de Saba*. Mr. W. P. Southworth was the solo violoncellist; and Miss Marguerite de Forest-Anderson the solo flautist.

CRICKET.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls A.F.C. Played on Clifton Downs July 28. Arthur E. Bailey and Fred B. Nicholls bowled well for their respective sides. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Hare, b Nicholls, 4; E. Palmer, b Nicholls, 11; A. Cox, b O'Connor, 1; J. Aubrey, b Nicholls, 18; A. Hamlin, c and b Nicholls, 1; H. Belding, b O'Connor, 7; A. E. Bailey b Nicholls, 13; P. Hewlett, b O'Connor, 1; H. Edwards, b Nicholls 0; E. Belding, b Nicholls, 0; A. Mattock, not out, 0; extras, 9; total, 65.

Music Halls C.C.—J. Tyley, b Hare, 15; W. Meadows, b Bailey, 0; T. Neagh, b Bailey, 0; P. Reardon, b Bailey, 2; F. B. Nicholls, b Bailey, 19; J. Lacey, b Hare, 12; W. Hinden, lbw b Hare, 2; H. C. Douglas, b Bailey, 0; R. Cullen, b Hare, 0; F. Hansford, b Bailey, 0; E. Denton, not out, 3; extras, 13; total, 66.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band v. Weston-super-Mare Early Closers C.C. Played near Weston-super-Mare on Aug. 9. After the match an enjoyable smoking concert was arranged. Scores:—Bristol X.L.C.R., 63; Weston-super-Mare, 79.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Jack Leonard's XI. Played on Clifton Downs on Aug. 11. The match resulted in a win for the latter team, which scored 97 against 31. Jack Leonard batted and bowled well.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI. v. Miss Winifred Bradley's XI. Played near Clifton Downs on Aug. 11. Each side was composed of ladies. Miss Bradley's team scored 82 to the 45 of their opponents.

Jack Leonard's XI. v. Bristol Early Closers C.C. This match was played on Clifton Downs, Aug. 15, and resulted in a win for Mr. Leonard's team, who scored 127, the Bristol Early Closers being all out for 51.

"LIGHTS O' LONDON" Co. *v.* PETERBOROUGH. This match was played on the town ground on Tuesday, when a closely contested match resulted in a draw. Scores:—

Peterborough—157 for six wickets (innings declared). *Lights o' London*—172 for eight wickets. H. Hollister scored 72 for the actors.

MISS KITTY RAYBURN'S taking song, "Come and make love to me," by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Pether, has been dropped into *The Prince of Pilsen*, and, in the hands of Miss Nell Emerald, who enacts the part of Sidonie, the French maid, has proved a huge hit.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Aug. 27,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Frank Adair, entitled "HELD APART; OR, THE PAINTED WOMAN."

James Douglas ..... MR. A. CLIFTON ALDERSON
John Douglas ..... MR. JOHN HOOD
Captain Ford ..... MR. A. W. NORMAN
Hugh Trevor ..... MR. E. G. BATLEY
Andrew McPherson .... MR. ROBERT B. DRYSDALE
Sergeant Ritchie ..... MR. THOS. KIRKWOOD
David ..... MR. THOS. WEYMMS
Chief Inspector Lake ..... MR. CHARLES LOCKE
Mr. Childs ..... MR. LIONEL MONEY
Colonel Molyneux ..... MR. JOHN DANE
Mr. Lucas, M.P. ..... MR. ARTHUR LYNDON
Mr. Goldie ..... MR. H. W. SMITH
Dobson ..... MR. T. KEMP
Adam Peters ..... MR. WILL HARRIS
Sulky Bill ..... MR. RUPERT MANN
Nick ..... MR. G. BASTICK
The Chicken ..... MR. JOHN LOWE
Countess de Castro ..... MISS ETHYLE MURRAY
Lady Grant ..... MISS EMILY LEVETTEZ
Lily Granville-Stark .... MISS WINIFRED LOVE
Mrs. Briggs ..... MISS MILLIE FORD
Sybil Grey ..... MISS RUBY LONCRAINE

A full measure of sensational scenes is provided in the melodrama *Held Apart; or, the Painted Woman*, which was originally produced in four acts at the Shakespeare Theatre in the June of 1902. A new act has since been added, the drama starting in the Australian bush, where incidents which were formerly described in the dialogue are now depicted in action, and gives added colour to the play. The plot of the piece is mainly the same as that detailed in our notice of the first production, and many powerful situations are presented in the story of the desperado Jim Douglas, who forces a young girl to marry him in Australia against her will, but is almost immediately arrested for his past crimes, and sent to penal servitude. He is reported to have been killed in an attempt to escape, but turns up at his ancestral home in Scotland temporarily to wreck the happiness of his young wife, who has since married his half-brother. A prominent part in the piece is played by a pet snake, whose aid is successfully invoked in thwarting the villain.

The revised version has now been taken up by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson, who is appearing with his company. Mr. Alderson sustains the rôle of the scheming James Douglas, which he invests with a bombastic air of nonchalance that sits effectively upon him. The actor has a commanding physique, which lends impressiveness to "Captain Jim's" dastardly deeds, and his forcible acting is well combined with a deep and resonant voice and a brutal sneer that provokes the utmost contempt. A principal part in the piece is played by the amateur detective, Hugh Trevor, admirably enacted by Mr. E. G. Batley. The detective has a pleasant habit of assuming the accent and mannerisms of a languid "swell," which are realistically affected by Mr. Batley, whose every appearance is heartily welcomed. Dramatic skill is also displayed in the presentation of the part, and the thrilling lines it contains are delivered in a manner which invariably wins a rousing cheer. Miss Ruby Loncraine makes a prepossessing Sybil Grey, the doubly-wedded wife, whose pink cheeks have gained for her the sobriquet of "the Painted Woman." She gives a touching display of emotion as the young girl of the first act, and plays with confidence and finished skill in the subsequent strenuous scenes. The part of the Countess de Castro is ably played by Miss Ethyle Murray, who effectively portrays the vindictiveness and passion of the jealous-minded Creole, and delivers her lines with venomous emphasis. Mr. John Hood is a fine specimen of vigorous manliness as John Douglas, the Laird of Glenross, his elocution in the part being particularly to be praised; and Mr. A. W. Norman gives a dramatically effective rendering of Captain Ford, of the Australian Mounted Police. A pawky Scotsman is presented in the person of Andrew McPherson, drolly represented by Mr. Robert B. Drysdale, whose Scotch dialect sounds broader still in contrast to the cockney accent which Mr. Thomas Kirkwood as Sergeant Ritchie seems to affect, and the scenes in which these two are associated prove very amusing. Miss Millie Ford makes a matronly housekeeper; Miss Emily Levettez plays with every credit as Lady Grant, and Miss Winifred Love appears as her protegée. A capital performance of a rugged but good-hearted miner is given by Mr. Rupert Mann as Sulky Bill; Messrs. Charles Locke and Lionel Money are alert detectives; and the other parts in a long cast are well embodied. Full advantage is taken of the opportunities for picturesque scenery, several striking sets being revealed.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—The late SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

MR. TREE has recently been the means unconsciously of providing several residents of Wandsworth with unlimited firewood. A railway arch in the busy suburb is utilised for the purpose of storing scenery and stage properties of His Majesty's Theatre when not required for immediate use, and the other day it was discovered that a huge scene representative of Hades was missing. This scene was painted by Mr. Hawes Craven for the production of *Ulysses*, and to get the gloomy background black velvet was used instead of canvas. This "cloth" cost £300, and was retailed to Wandsworth ladies, by whom the velvet was used for articles of attire. Mr. Tree regards the matter in a very generous spirit. "Fancy," he said, "getting blouses from Hades. One woman, I believe, who had had many bits of carpentry work from that arch, proudly declared that she had not had a bit of firewood for twelve months from anybody but Mr. Tree."

MISS AMY CLEVERE, whose charming taste in dress and refined and piquant style combine to make her the favourite she is, has made a great impression on susceptible Islingtonians by her arch rendering of "Come down Lovers' Lane," by Mills and Scott; and the chorus of her ditty, "I'm sorry, but I can't come out," by Harrington and the late George Le Brunn, has been taken up nightly with great vigour. Both songs are published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. "LITTLE THOMAS," the famous corner-man of the disbanded Mohawk-Moore and Burgess Minstrels, has latterly been a source of unalloyed enjoyment to the thousands of visitors who flock to the Happy Valley concerts at Southend-on-Sea. Mr. Chas. Osborne is to be congratulated on the engagement, and Mr. Geo. Chirgwin on his perspicacity in securing the pitch and the services of Mr. Osborne as manager. The success of the venture has been overwhelming.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Pordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Amount already acknowledged..	£446	15	1
Collected by F. Tilsley, Chesterfield	2	13	6
C. Kenyon	1	1	0
Miss M. Gladys Storey	1	10	0
Westwood	0	1	0
Alfred Paumier	1	1	0
Madge Brownie	1	13	9
Charles B. B.	0	2	6
William Forbes	0	5	0
Herbert Hugh Harvey	0	2	6
O. S. H.	1	1	0
Ida Rozart	0	5	0
Total ..	£456	11	4

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas and his trusted lieutenant, Mr. A. F. Lovesy, have been successfully fighting the dog-days, and their programmes at the Camden Town palace of pleasure have drawn most appreciative audiences even with the thermometer at something over 80 deg. in the shade—a real and substantial testimony to the wisdom of liberal catering. In their weekly schemes of amusement the dramatic sketch takes an honoured place, and this item of the two hours' programme always commands the rapt attention of the frequenters, who dearly love a tabloid of melodrama. Such a production is *A Woman of the World*, presented by that experienced actor, Mr. George M. Marriott, and his popular wife, Miss Edith Finlay; and its story, well seasoned with love and larceny, has the house in its grip from the opening scene of a fancy dress ball until the close, when the villain, Ferdinand Santos, an alien, and his paltry confederate, Richard Seymour, alias Nelson Gwynn, are unmasked. Their machinations against the virtuous Gerald Lyle, a foolish young man seeing life, whom they induce to sign a cheque in his uncle's name, "just for a joke," are told in terse and forcible language, and the whole-hearted devotion of Clara Holmes, the chief villain's step-daughter, so powerfully depicted by Miss Edith Finlay, deeply touches the susceptibilities of gods and pit. Mr. G. M. Marriott plays with the requisite callousness and force the part of Santos; Mr. Sam Rhodes scores as a comic footman; and Mr. C. Wallington is effective as Gerald Lyle.

A duologue of a smart and entertaining kind is presented by the Meymotts, who have evidently come from the theatres. The mere male is one of those dashing, effervescent comedians possessing the true light comedy style as we used to know it in the palmy days of the Criterion, when Charles Wyndham, George Giddens, and W. J. Hill used to evoke peals of laughter by their impersonations in ingenious adaptations from the French. Mr. Meymott—if we may call him so—plays the part of a solicitor, whose study of a case is constantly interrupted by the playing of a piano in the next flat occupied by a young widow, who happens to be, quite unknowingly, of course, one of his clients. The two have a very droll war of words, but both become victims of the tender passion before the close of the duologue, which keeps the house laughing all the time, and winds up with an excellent duet. The lady of the Meymotts, who is, we are given to understand, the daughter of a Lancashire theatrical manager, is a charming actress, and decidedly smart in her comedy. The turn, which is new us, should be quite an acquisition to any music hall programme, the witty dialogue and smart acting making it very acceptable.

Grant and Allen, comedians, exploit some droll business with a pillar-post; Herbert Rule, a singer of the immovable and lugubrious type, has in "I don't know" a song that appeals strongly to the Bedfordians; Frank Seeley's burlesque edition of Cinderella (without the slippers of glass) is whimsical; and Marie Theckla sings acceptably, "All in a garden fair." Miss Nellie Adams, who gives songs at the piano, has some good notes in her voice, but her somewhat peculiar vocal production would be improved by scale practice. Her pianoforte accompaniments would also gain in value if played without a continuous use of the loud pedal. She sings "Idle dreams" with considerable success, and is warmly encored. A musical turn entirely to the tastes of the house is the banjo playing of Stanley and Greenop, who render with much spirit marches by Sousa and the popular melody "Eileen Alannah." Coon songs and dances need no better exponents than the Billy McClain Troupe, including Mdlle. Cordelia. These excellent and alert performers exploit a sketch, entitled *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*, which is an exceedingly lively example of plantation movement and melody. The Bioscope presents some excellent pictures. Mr. George Hatley directs a capital little band here.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. EDWARD SWANBOROUGH is to be seen on the front almost daily at Hove, where his health has much improved. He is anxious to be in harness again, and to greet his many friends at Chelsea, where he has made himself such a popular figure at the Palace in the King's-road.

MR. FRED BOWYER, the author of *The Little Stowaway*, was one of the passengers on the motor-'bus that caused severe injuries to several children in the Waterloo-road on Wednesday morning, and is suffering from a nasty wrench of the muscles of the arm, which he has to wear in a sling. He is being attended by Dr. Herbert Edwards, of Balham, and is happily able to see his friends at the Savage Club, of which he is a popular member.

THE London Hippodrome will be presenting on Monday a remarkable entertainment, entitled *The Earthquake*. In its realisation of a seismic upheaval it promises to far exceed in sensationalism the earthquake in *Claudian*, which caused many thrills in the "eighties" during the late Mr. Wilson Barrett's season at the Oxford-street house. The spectacle—for so it may be called—opens with "the city square, by morning, noon, and night," in its ordinary aspect, and in the second episode the entire place is seen in flames and succumbing to the devastation which has been so vividly described of late. The "tidal wave" is produced by the rush of thousands of tons of water into the arena, engulfing the city, and the fourth episode is an appalling scene of desolation. The mechanical effects are invented by Frank Parker.

THE cast of *The Earthquake*, which is written by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordovo, includes Mr. Cecil Morton York, an old favourite at the Hippodrome, as Ulysses T. Preston, an American millionaire; Mr. Hal Forde as Frank Preston; Mr. J. Windham Guise as Mick O'Sullivan, a policeman; Mr. Arthur Powell as Li Lung, a Chinese butler; Mr. Scott Craven as Father Dan, a Dominican friar; and Miss Simeta Marsden as Bessie, Frank Preston's sweetheart. The special music has been written by Mr. Clarence Corri.

A CURIOUS coincidence has occurred in connection with the next new production at the London Hippodrome, *The Earthquake*. Some fifteen months ago it was decided by Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, and Mr. Frank Parker—the famous producer—to have an earthquake as a successor to a flood. Nature has anticipated that object, and given to the world lurid realism and a terrible disaster. Strangely enough, Mr. Rudolph de Cordova and Mrs. Alicia Ramsay, the joint authors, who have furnished most of the "books" of the Hippodrome productions with extraordinary fidelity, conceived the idea of "the maniac in red," who at Valparaiso rushed through the streets saying that he was the Son of God, and announcing the approaching end of the world. The question of plagiarism, or even adaptation, of a current event is therefore impossible.

THE Harvard and Cambridge crews will be entertained at the Alhambra after the International Boat Race on Saturday next. Mlle. Anne Dancrey, who twelve months ago brought the haunting "Maxixe" from Paris to London, returns to the Alhambra with a budget of chansons aimed at the vanities of the hour. She opens on Monday.

MR. HOUCKE, former manager of the famous old Paris Hippodrome of the Avenue de l'Alma, and who was also for many years manager of the Nouveau-Cirque, has joined forces with Mr. Bostock, and now becomes co-director of the New Hippodrome, Rue Caulaincourt, Paris. Everyone who has been in business relations with Mr. Houcke will be rejoiced to hear the news, for he is certainly one of the most sympathetic, energetic, and go-ahead managers in the circus world. Someone bearing the same name has taken the management of the Nouveau-Cirque. Artists are requested to avoid confusion, and to bear in mind that Mr. Houcke, the present manager of the New Hippodrome, is the original and well-known former manager of the Old Hippodrome and the Nouveau-Cirque.

MR. LESTER BARRETT, looking in the pink of condition after his summer vacation—which was largely spent, we believe, in motoring—was, accompanied by Mrs. Barrett, among those who assembled at Euston shortly before noon on Friday in last week to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. David Day, and Mr. and Mrs. William Francis, on the occasion of their departure for New York. Quite a large gathering of private friends and well-known people connected with the variety stage were there, and the staff was otherwise well represented, there being present, besides Mr. John Smith (the manager), Mr. Charles Wilmott, Mr. William Eyke, Mr. Arthur Francis, Mr. Dan Alger, Mr. Edgar Bateman, and the firm's musical editor, Mr. Henry E. Pether. The "Sixpenny Pops" department was represented by Mr. R. Berridge. Mr. Warwick Williams was also present. Mrs. Day's tiny granddaughter was lifted up to the window to present that lady with a bunch of beautiful roses, and cheers were given for the voyagers as the "American Boat Special," with its two ponderous engines, glided from No. 6 platform.

GREAT transformations, by the way, are taking place in the New Hippodrome. A huge stage, which will be over 40yds. wide and 30yds. deep, is being erected. The electric installation is being completely overhauled. Money is being freely lavished on the improvements, and the re-opening of the Hippodrome will certainly be one of the events of the Paris theatrical season. The place will not be run on purely circus lines, but the greatest attractions will be secured both from America and Europe, and the programme offered to the Parisian public will be worthy of the traditions of the magnificent establishment.

WE very much regret to announce the death of Mrs. Pat Rafferty, the wife of the well-known comedian, which took place at her residence in Clapham-road on Friday of last week. Under the stage name of Emily Lovely the deceased lady was at one time widely known as a singer of Irish melodies. She retired about fourteen years ago, and has since been in an indifferent state of health. The funeral at Tooting Cemetery, on Tuesday, was largely attended. It will be some solace to Mr. Rafferty and his family in their sorrow to know that they have the sympathy not only of the members of the profession, but of a wide circle of friends outside it.

MISS EDITH STEWART was married to Mr. Frank H. France, on Tuesday last, at Fulham Parish Church. The wedding was a quiet one, but the happy couple received many presents and congratulations from friends both in and out of the profession. After a brief honeymoon at Shere, near Guildford, they resume the tour of the successful sketch *The 100 to 1 Chance* at Rochdale on Sept. 3.

MISS ARABELLA ALLEN'S turn has been going very strong at Hammersmith and Shoreditch this week. The pretty Dickens girl, who has not a vacant date until next April, has the gift of making herself as popular behind the scenes as she is behind the footlights. Without being superstitious, she never forgets to give a quaint bead horseshoe the place of honour on her dressing-table, carrying it with her from hall to hall. Most young actresses make a goodly show of telegrams round their mirrors, especially on the first night. At one time Miss Evie Greene was almost crowded out of her room by her big collection of golliwogs.

DR. WALFORD BODIE finished a highly successful week last Saturday at the Stratford Empire, amidst scenes of unbounded enthusiasm. This week he is repeating his former triumphs at the Coliseum, Glasgow, playing to packed houses nightly. He returns to London, opening at the New Cross Empire.

THE Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, re-opened on Monday with a strong and attractive programme. During the past month this popular hall has been in the hands of the painters and the furnishers, who have effected quite a transformation. The front of the galleries and circle and the ceiling and proscenium are embellished by an artistic blending of ivory white and gold, brightened with a beautiful panel in colours over the proscenium depicting Cupids and the Arts. Against the white and gold the crimson of the new wall covering and the heavy carpet which has been laid over the whole of the circle stands out in effective relief.

AN elaborate system of ventilation and a complete range of heating apparatus have been installed, and a novelty is introduced in the form of an electric light signal for the numbers of the items in place of the old changing cards. Tip-up chairs have been put in all round the circle—an improvement which will be greatly appreciated.

THE Gaiety is a most appropriate name for the new theatre of varieties which was opened in Blyth on Monday. The new house is the old Assembly Room remodelled, the floor being raked and the stage widened. Electric light has been installed, and the interior now looks dainty and bright with its warm colouring. The seating accommodation is about 600. The proprietor is Mr. J. Grantham, and the manager Mr. Snoudeni James.

THE house had a most successful opening on Saturday night, when two performances were given. After a few remarks from the management and the singing of the National Anthem, the various turns were submitted and enthusiastically received. The Comedy Four gave a capital dumb show; Miss Phillis Dagmar was responsible for some pleasing songs; Messrs. Russell and MacFarlane did well; Miss Pattie Chessman proved an accomplished flautist; Arrol, an expert in jugglery, was well received; and the Bioscope pictures projected by the Chrono machine were much appreciated.

MR. JOHN HITCHINS some weeks ago, whilst engaged with a sketch company playing at the Palace, Grimsby, was suddenly seized with illness, which developed into acute pneumonia. He was removed to the Grimsby Hospital, where for some time his life was despaired of, but, thanks to the care and attention of skilful doctors and nurses, the dreadful malady was arrested, and all danger averted. After his discharge from the hospital a few weeks' residence at the Woofindin Convalescent Home at Sheffield completed his recovery, and his many professional and other friends will be pleased to know that he is now fit and well, and ready to resume his part in the duologue *Husbands, Beware*, for which he has been specially retained by Miss Frances Ferina.

YOUNG FOX, the Blackpool shoeblack (who made a brave but unsuccessful attempt to rescue a boy who had been washed off the steps by a huge wave on the North Shore), has been appearing on the Hippodrome stage this week. F. V. St. Clair, who is appearing at that establishment, wrote a special song-poem on the incident, Mr. Manager Duignan got out special bills, and the little scena has been the talk of Blackpool. The recitation has been printed, and the proceeds will be handed over to the brave lad this (Saturday) evening by Mr. Duignan.

MLLE. KLOET, "the artist's model," whilst playing this week at the Palace, Glasgow, had a very narrow escape of being burnt to death. On Tuesday, at her private apartments, she was suddenly awakened about the middle of the night by the landlady's cries of "Fire!" Immediately leaving her bedchamber, she was greeted with shouts of "Quick, quick, everybody! Fire, fire!" On reaching the landings and steps she found the occupants of the house, amidst smoke and flames, but making successful endeavours to reach the street. When she arrived there in her night attire she found herself amidst firemen, fire-engines, and police. It was some time before she knew what had really happened, but on gaining consciousness she found that some kind soul had taken pity on her, and had wrapped her in a red tablecloth. The fire, which caused much damage, was got under by about 4 a.m. We hope that the shock to her system will not prevent her continuing her engagements. She opens next week with Mr. Barrasford, at Newcastle.

ON Wednesday Mr. Tom Atkinson, general-manager of the Morecambe Winter Gardens, took his first benefit. The first show was at 2.30, and the second at 7.15, which latter continued until one o'clock on Thursday morning. A stupendous programme was submitted, including a fancy dress carnival, in which Fred Karno's comedians and Marie San Toi's company assisted in the fun-making. Mr. Atkinson was the recipient of many congratulations, and he, in his turn, thanked his brother managers for "lending" him the excellent turns they did.

SO popular have become the entertainments at the Gorleston Pavilion, under the direction of Charles West and Tom Carney, that visitors have had great difficulty in getting into the building unless very early at the doors. That the twain have not yet lost their hold over the affections of visitors to the Norfolk coast—and both are old Yarmouth favourites—was evidenced on the occasion of Mr. Carney's benefit on Thursday, the 23rd inst. (and again on the 30th, when a similar function took place in honour of Mr. West), when hundreds upon hundreds of people were turned away.

MISS MILLIE HYLTON started a seventeen weeks' tour last week at the Empire, Leeds, and produced two new songs by Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, entitled "Little London Fairy" and "Zuyder Zee," both songs being a tremendous success. The chorus of the latter was sung with great enthusiasm by the audience. Miss Hylton is this week appearing at the Hippodrome, Hull, where she received quite an ovation on Monday night.

THE Winter Gardens, Morecambe, have resounded to the cadences of the sweetest music during the engagement there of the popular Savonas, who have exploited at this popular holiday resort their wonderful combination of harmony and spectacular display, *The Palace of Orpheus*, in which youth, beauty, and talent combine to take the senses captive.

MR. ARTHUR PRINCE, who is the prince of ventriloquists, started his career as a conjurer and illusionist, having always possessed the gift of "throwing his voice." He never practises, and his single dummy—Jim, the sailor boy—is as well-known in America as he is in London music halls. Mr. Prince has used Jim for twelve years, and makes up his face with real grease paint; but unfortunately, during one of his master's trips across the Atlantic, Jim's carefully-modelled head of papier-maché was crushed flat, and the young ventriloquist had to work for several hours—using his wife's white kid gloves for the repairs—to get it into shape for the first performance in New York. Mr. Arthur Prince, as most of our readers know, is the husband of Miss Ida René.

LE ROY, TALMA, AND BOSCO commence to-night a four weeks' season at the Alhambra, Paris, in which city they enjoy as much popularity as in any in Great Britain. Their recent tour of several home variety theatres has been an enormous success, and already the provinces are eagerly anticipating the mystical play, now being rapidly prepared, and in which will be introduced some entirely new and startling novelties.

EDDIE HARVEY'S is the first death of a member of the Variety Artists' Federation, and the first death levy of 6d. will amount to about £75. This fact in itself would be more than sufficient to justify the existence of this vigorous young association, which is making giant strides in the affections of the people's entertainers.

MR. JAMES DOUGHTY, the oldest clown alive in Great Britain, who has, for nearly thirty years, been a prominent attraction with his highly-trained troupe of dogs on the West Pier, and has had the honour of performing before the late Queen Victoria and his present Majesty, Edward VII., on several occasions, commemorated his eighty-eighth birthday on Tuesday by appearing once more in the motley at his trio of benefit entertainments kindly given by the management of the Pier Company. The veteran jester was almost pelted at the end of each show with showers of silver coins. His kindness in training his animals has won for him the first-class award of the R.S.P.C.A. Jem Doughty was in excellent condition, and at his residence received quite an ovation, which lasted till the shades of night had set in.

TWO notable changes were made in the "Urbanora" animated pictures at the Alhambra on Monday, when the stirring scenes of the bivouac of the London Scottish on the heath-clad hills of Culloden were supplemented by two new films of conspicuous quality. The first, "The Miner's Daughter," depicts all the incidents of a condensed melodrama, expressly arranged for this presentation; the second is the earliest pictorial records to hand of the Wellman Balloon Expedition to the North Pole, and includes the rescue of the passengers of the stranded Danish steamer, the temporary usurpation of the Danish island by Americans, and many other incidents of the seemingly impossible undertaking, only the barest details of which have as yet come over the cable.

ON the application of Mr. Hedderwick, representing the Theatrical Managers' Association, Mr. Marsham, the magistrate sitting at Bow-street, granted a summons on Tuesday against the Holborn Empire in respect of the production there of an alleged stage-play, entitled *Moses and Sons*.

MESSRS. JOHN P. HARRINGTON and Jas. W. Tate's tuneful, satirical topical song, "Skyland," will have a special production on Monday next in *The Belle of Mayfair* on tour, and will be rendered by Mr. Charles McNaughton (brother of Tom McNaughton), who plays the principal comedy part, and numerous auxiliaries. "Skyland" forms one of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "six-penny successes" series.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS sailed from Liverpool on Tuesday, per the s.s. Caronia, for a season in New York, and through our columns desires to say "au revoir" to his many friends in and out of the profession. He had a hearty send-off from the famous landing stage on the Mersey, and telegraphic messages of good-will came from all parts of the kingdom. Among those who wished him *bon voyage* and a prosperous time were members of the Blue Pigeon Society, formed during the last Liverpool pantomime season.

THE young actor, who will do homage to the genius of Dickens in America, has received the following flattering acrostic as a tribute to his talents:—

BRANSBY WILLIAMS.
B ill Sikes, Micawber, and Uriah Heep,
R are Daniel Peggotty—these you finely play,
A nd the old Grandfather. Treasured we will keep
N ames that are household words. And when, alas! away
S teams the Caronia, for fair winds we'll pray.
B right be the sky as you approach New York,
Y our genius the sole theme of universal talk.

W elcome back home! we cannot spare you long.
I mpatiently your friends pace landing stage,
L ook seawards for the ship so proud and strong,
L ifting you nearer to your rightful stage.
I n truth, our King but voiced the nation's thought
A s he congratulated you in Norfolk home.
M ay triumph upon triumph yet be brought
S afe to your shrine, near London's mighty dome!

—HELEN BRINCKMAN.

MISS CORA CASSELLI has secured a good Spanish number in "Nina mine," from the pens of the two Percys (Percy Edgar and Percy Ashdown).

SIR EDWARD MOSS'S AND MR. FRANK ALLEN'S private secretary, Mr. William Nokes, was presented on Friday, the 24th ult., with wedding gifts, which included a handsome silver epergne, a silver cake basket, and several pieces of fine china by the clerical staff of Moss's Empires and Stoll Companies. The presentation was made in the Publicity Department by Mr. Llewellyn Johns on behalf of his colleagues. Congratulations, however, were general.

MR. WILL CRACKLES deputised for Mr. Wilkie Bard at the Empress last week. The popular comedian was in his best form, and scored a great success.

MLLE. ADELINE GENEE returned on Wednesday to the cast of *Coppelia*, invigorated by a brief holiday. The popular danseuse twirled and pirouetted through the delightful opening waltz to an accompaniment of applause, and her command of the poetry of motion again enthralled her admirers.

MR. FRANK LYNNE has just sold to Messrs. Francis Day and Hunter a novelty song, entitled "Do, my Honey-dew" (a smoky serenade). It has been made a "free" song, and should be much sought after by artists who like pretty singing numbers.

THE latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1⅛; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; Empire (10s. paid), 1; London Pavilion Ordinary, 3⅛; London Pavilion Preference, 5; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empires, 4⅞; Moss' Empires 5 per cent. Preference, 3⅛; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 11; Tivoli, 6; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 14.

MR. EUGENE STRATTON has been persuaded by Mr. Sydney M. Hymas to present his entertainment at the Hyman halls in South Africa, and will sail for that country about the middle of December. 'Gene studied the nigger and his ways in the States. On the Rand he will not find the black so pleasant or so interesting.

MR. GEORGE ADNEY PAYNE'S letter in another column throws a lurid light on the practice of secret trade and "professional" commissions in the halls. The modern variety theatre, it must be remembered, is the development of the ancient sing-song, and some of the objectionable practices of the older institution still survive. It is Mr. Payne's determination to do his utmost to stamp them out; but his drastic ukase does not refer to the very common and—artists tell us—very necessary custom of "tipping" the staff behind the stage.

THE Camberwell Empire will open its doors to the public on Monday under the managing-directorship of Mr. Jesse Sparrow, who will have as his right-hand man Mr. Harry Bawn. Mr. Frank Hurst has been appointed director of the orchestra, and Mr. W. Nutt will stage-manage.

HACKENSCHMIDT, the young Russian lion, who was announced to appear at the Grand, Clapham, this week, has been indisposed. Mr. Walter Gibbons was fortunate enough to secure the services as a substitute of Mr. Joe Elvin and company, and in *Paying the Bill* they have kept Claphamites in roars of laughter.

GILLIN, a new humorous ventriloquist, will make his first appearance at the Palace on Oct. 15. The developments of the art of polyphony of late years would astonish its early exponents, such as Love, Woodin, Thurton, and Maccabe, could they revisit Mother Earth, and Gillin is said to be right up to date.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. James McCarthy, manager of the Britannia, who has just become engaged to Miss Lily Lassah. This clever young burlesque artist made a decided hit in the Hoxton pantomime last year, and has been engaged by Mr. Bannister Howard to appear as principal boy in the next Crystal Palace annual.

MR. CARTER LIVESEY AND MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY were unable to accept Mr. Alfred Butt's offer to open a week earlier at the Palace. They, however, commence a re-engagement there for three weeks, commencing Sept. 10.

MR. HARRY LAUDER is laid aside by an attack of laryngitis, which has prevented him from appearing at his engagements for the last fortnight.

MISS BILLIE BARLOW, the favourite burlesque actress, when recently appearing with her customary success at the Pavilion, Greenock, discovered that there was only one mere male in the bill. The stage, therefore, was almost an "Adamless Eden."

DON JUAN CAICEDO, who is now spending a pleasant holiday with his family at Bexhill, caused a decided sensation at the great Shrewsbury Fête last week. The King of the Wire performed at a height of 40ft., and the grace, skill, and intrepidity of his feats won for him most enthusiastic applause. He goes to the Manchester Hippodrome on the 10th inst., and has been secured as a star attraction for the Christmas and New Year season at the Agricultural Hall, where he will commence to funambulate on Saturday, Dec. 22.

THE skit on the "Back to the Land" topic, entitled *The Land Grabbers*, is the latest production of Messrs. Ward and Andrews, who have been complimented by the leader of the movement. There are ample opportunities for fun in such a concoction, and the authors have taken full advantage of them; the comedians do the rest, and the success achieved this week at the King's Theatre, Longsight, is great.

THE Sisters Levey (Adèle and May Lilian) in consequence of their success at the Queen's, Poplar, have been offered further dates by that astute manager, Mr. Jack Woolf, who is making things hum in the neighbourhood of the docks.

MR. REUBEN ADCOCK CUSHMAN, familiarly known thirty years ago—with his partner Dick Dean—in the music-hall profession—as a versatile and popular negro performer, died at his residence, 17, Franklin-road, Portslade, Sussex, on Friday, 24th ult., in his sixty-fourth year. He had for some years retired from the stage, and carried on the occupation of a licensed victualler. Early in life he married a sister of Fred Bullen, a well-known pianist, and commenced his career with the old Snowdrop Minstrels. He fulfilled many engagements at the Canterbury and Oxford, and was a great favourite in London, Brighton, Sheffield, Birmingham, and other towns. His eldest son, Mr. F. W. A. Cushman, a solicitor in Brighton and Portslade, with deceased's widow and daughters, were present at the interment in Portslade Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon. The Vicar of St. Andrew's Church read the Burial Service.

STROLLING during a recent holiday on to the beautifully-situated North Pier at Blackpool, the writer heard merry laughter proceeding from a large crowd seated round the outdoor pavilion, and found that Walter Graham, the human marionette, was exercising his humorous powers. He is just now finishing a three months' tour, and will bring his new scena, *King Neptune*, to the London Pavilion on Monday.

THAT sweet-voiced singer, Mr. G. H. Elliott, has acquired a song entitled "Maisie, I'm a-waiting; or, you ain't the gal for me," by Charles Wilmott, with music by Kennedy Russell. It has been accepted by Mr. David Day for publication. The last song purchased by Mr. David Day prior to his departure for America was J. F. Lambe's "The Bonnie Brier Bush," music by H. E. Pether.

MR. AUBREY HYMAN, one of the directors of the New Empire, Johannesburg, will arrive in London to-day, and expects to stay in England for about six months.

MR. J. J. FRUIN, secretary of the Music Hall Home, desires to acknowledge the receipt of a cheque value £10 from Mr. Harry Calver, hon. sec. of the Birmingham Charity Sports, this amount being the portion of the proceeds allotted to the Home.

MISS MARIE LLOYD paid a flying visit to the Hastings Pier Pavilion on Tuesday, and gave a selection from her popular songs before a crowded audience.

MENDEL, the blind pianist, is paying another return visit to Bournemouth Winter Gardens this week. On Tuesday evening, at the classical concert, he aroused tremendous enthusiasm, and was personally complimented by Mr. Dan Godfrey for his playing of Weber's "Grand Polonaise," arranged by the Abbé Liszt, accompanied by the full orchestra of about fifty performers, and conducted by Mr. Godfrey.

MR. GODFREY A. YATES, the well-known agent, owing to the big increase in his business, has taken offices in the centre of the city, near the new Tivoli and Central Hall, 29, Newington-chambers, Newington, Liverpool.

MR. HARRY S. HART, speciality and variety agent, has just returned from a Continental holiday, during which he had a most enjoyable time at Ostend, Blankenbergh, Brussels, Liege, and Paris. He spent the last five days amid the gaieties of Margate.

THE Narow Brothers, who possess broad views of their responsibilities in the direction of comedy, are exploiting a very novel act, which has been secured by Mr. Oswald Stoll for a dozen Empires and for the London Hippodrome. They are being pioneered by the up-to-date Will Dalton, of Dalton's Agency, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

THE Brewster Troupe, after a run of eight months on the Continent and South America, have again returned to the Continent, and are now fulfilling a return date at the Société Theatre, Bordeaux. They come back to England for pantomime with Messrs. Dottridge and Longden. Miss Kitty Brewster is cast for principal girl.

THE London Pavilion and the Palace cricket teams had a very pleasant game at Tufnell Park on Wednesday, when the former eleven won somewhat easily. There was some trepidation, however, among the friends of the Piccadilly-circus men when three of their best wickets went down for seven, the bowler being Wilson, a Cambridge University man. The tide of misfortune was, however, soon turned, and a victory by a hundred runs scored.

MEIER AND MORA have produced at the Surrey Theatre this week, for the first time in England, their novel ship scena. As the curtain rises there is disclosed to view a representation of the boat-deck and bridge of an ocean liner in a most realistic manner. "I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way," is the title of a song introduced by Miss Mora, whose clever acting and dancing brought down the house on Monday, her beautiful costumes being much admired. Mr. Meier's gentlemanly exhibition of athletic skill must also be seen to be appreciated. The show closes with a most striking novelty. The stage is darkened, a focus lime is thrown on Miss Mora, who mounts a pedestal and goes through a peculiar dance, at the same time touching different plates with her toes and playing "Rule Britannia" on the chimes. The show throughout was a genuine success.

THE London Meeting of the International Artists' Lodge was held on Sunday last at the Sovereign, St Martin's-lane, and drew a small attendance. A letter was read from the Batavia Line Steamship Co. informing the meeting that their representative will call and attend next Tuesday's committee meeting for the purpose of putting before it the concessions that the company is prepared to grant. The secretary informed the meeting that two copies of the petition regarding the quarantine for dogs had been sent from Berlin, and that one was to be sent to the Board of Agriculture and one to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. It was agreed that these matters be laid before the Executive Committee on Tuesday next.

A HIGHLY successful Entente Cordiale fête was held in the Victoria College Grounds, Jersey, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., when the band of the 47th Regiment of France visited the island. The grounds were brilliantly illuminated, and an excellent programme was gone through by the French band and that of the 1st East Surrey Regiment. Over 5000 people witnessed the fête, and the management of the Triangle Park closed their entertainment for that evening.

THE entire staff of the Colchester Hippodrome (one of the latest of the de Frece houses), together with the wives of the married men, in all numbering fifty persons, had their summer outing on Sunday last. The party travelled by brakes to Clacton-on-Sea by way of Bentley Golf Links and St. Osyth at an early hour, and did not reach Colchester again until midnight. Dinner and tea were served on the bowling green of the Warwick Castle Hotel. Sailing, boating, and swimming occupied the daylight hours, and with the twilight came music in plenty. Mr. James Hargreaves presided at the piano, in addition to which he rendered several songs of his own composition. Mr. Ben de Frece, the popular manager, showed unmistakably that he had not lost his cunning in the art of conjuring; and Mr. Ted Thomas, of the "Oxford, London," kept the fun at top speed with numerous songs in character, his rendering of "One-and-a-penny a day" sending the whole party into roars of laughter. The arrangements were most admirably carried out by Mr. Ben de Frece, whilst the treasury was administered by the talented conductor, Mr. James Hargreaves.

LES MOLASSO QUARTET, at the Hackney Empire on Monday, hail from Russia. There are two ladies and two gentlemen in the team, and on the Continent their act has caused a sensation, consisting as it does of a series of "cyclonic dances." English variety theatre frequenters are quite used by this time to the ordinary Russian dance. Les Molasso, however, bring with them quite a new order of things, for while their dancing is the fastest in the world their movements are always graceful, and compel admiration by their grace as well as dexterity. It is interesting to learn that Les Molasso have 102 awards in their possession, obtained on the score of their good looks and skill. A beautiful diamond star was the gift of the Czar, the superb bracelets worn by the ladies were a substantial tribute from Kaiser Wilhelm, and King Victor Emanuel of Italy sent Les Molasso a portrait of himself in a gold-mounted frame as a souvenir.

SO great a place have the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "sixpenny successes" already obtained in the affections of South African music-lovers, that a second large order for many thousands of copies has this week been received by the Berners-street firm through their sole African agents, the "Cape Times, Ltd.," which has been duly executed and dispatched, per Messrs. Ledger and Sons, of St. Mary Axe, to Cape Town this day (Saturday).

MESSRS. A. J. MILLS and Bennett Scott have just supplied the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. with a special new number, with the pretty title "Somebody cares for you." This charming love-song is acknowledged on all hands to be one of the finest compositions that has yet emanated from the gifted pens of Messrs. Mills and Scott, and should certainly be in great demand with principal boys for forthcoming annuals.

THE 478th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices on Tuesday, when Mr. Fred Neiman occupied the chair. There were also present Messrs. Frank Gerald, J. Alexander, Harry Griff, Fred Herbert, Geo. Preston, Jeff Vendome, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them dealt with. Mr. Biderton, of the Prospect Hotel, Douglas, was appointed agent for the Association in that town. A letter was read from Mr. Michael Nolan resigning his position on the committee, he having been elected on the executive of the V.A.F. The resignation was accepted with regret, and the succession to the vacancy of Mr. Harry Coulin was approved. Mr. Robert Marshall, of the Promenade, Douglas, I.O.M., was appointed hon. medical officer to the Association.

A LETTER was read from Mr. Harry Tate giving a satisfactory explanation of his absence from the meetings. With regard to other absentees, who had not acknowledged the secretary's communication, it was resolved that a registered letter be addressed to each, enclosing a copy of Rule 23, and stating that the committee would be glad of an answer, but that no reply would be considered as an indication of his desire to retire. The hon. treasurer presented his monthly financial statement, and the secretary's cash account, showing the addition of eighteen new members, the receipt of £25 3s., and the expenditure of £12 1s. 9½d., was also received.

CORDIAL good wishes will be extended to Mr. Douglas White, the hon. treasurer of the M.H.A.R.A., whose daughter is to be married on Tuesday next. On announcing at the committee meeting of the Association on Tuesday that he would be absent from their next week's deliberations, owing to that happy event, Mr. White was the recipient of many congratulations, and the hope was expressed that his daughter would have as good a husband as she had a father.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE SURREY.

To find thorough enjoyment and appreciation one has only to pay a visit to the Surrey, where an audience eager, responsive, and enthusiastic follows with keen interest each turn on the admirable programme provided by Mr. Frank Macnaghten for their entertainment. Harry Champion delights the house immensely with three of his lightning ditties, the favourite of the trio being "I see you've got the old brown hat on," which, sung in his droll and original style, evokes from his audience bursts of unbounded merriment. His other two, "Keep on, old girl, keep on," and "Father did look funny," score an ovation. Meier and Mora are smart American artists, who appear in a pretty set representing the deck of a yacht. They give an entertainment of rare merit, Mora leading with a tuneful coon song, "I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way," with its accompanying cake walk, full of grace, and thrilling in its tireless activity. Meier gives a demonstration of ball punching that raises the enthusiasm of the audience. It reaches a climax at the final combination of ball and bells. Carle Verdo, on bagpipes, sleigh bells, banjo, cornet, concertina, and other musical instruments, gives evidence of having mastered them all, his series of popular airs being chorused with gusto by his delighted hearers. Lizzie Daniels is a bright and merry soubrette; her pretty song, "In the shade," and skilful dancing early in the evening put the house into great good humour. George Brooks is extremely funny in his burlesque fireman's song, "That's what I heard as I sat by the fire," and provokes much mirth with "All Scotch." Rosie Archer, in her mimicry of favourite artists, hits off with marked effect and ability such favourites as Vesta Victoria, Gus Elen, and Harry Lauder. Ernest Rees is a very droll comedian, and in merry patter aptly attacks many of the foibles of the day. His medley recital, in which he names many well-known racehorses, is cleverly compiled, and wins him a hearty encore. The Sivronis, burlesque comedy artists, combine some screamingly funny business with good singing and clever acrobatism. The lady sings well, and is charmingly costumed in a variety of elegant gowns. Her partner is ludicrously funny, first in a bathing suit, and then in a burlesqued Highland costume, in which he evokes shrieks of laughter. An American dramette entitled *The Dandy Detective* is energetically played by Miss Carlotta De Yonson and her company .This episode of life in the bush tells how Risque Lincoln, the Black Hawk, and his gang are foiled in their attempt to rob the mail by the smartness of Kit Carson and his patrol, who capture some of the gang and follow the trail of the remainder to Mother Brady's drinking saloon, where the Black Hawk is awaiting the return of his followers, with his pretty daughter Tess. Black Hawk hears the troopers coming, and gets ready a poisoned glass of liquor to put an end to Kit Carson. Tess, however, finds that Kit is an "old pal" of her youth, and cleverly frustrates her father's plan. Kit has his suspicions that the gang is hiding in the shanty, and pretends to withdraw his men, leaving his little bugler Patch in hiding. The Hawk then reveals to his lieutenant, Yaller Jack, that Tess is not his daughter, but the child of Morgan, the chief of the detective force, whom he stole out of revenge, to train her as a thief, so that when she was convicted he might reveal her identity to her father. The little bugler overhears this; and, in attempting to escape, is caught by the Hawk, and is only saved from death by the intercession of Tess, who keeps the rascals at bay with her revolver. By clever disguises Kit, first as the meek parson, the Rev. Tobias, and afterwards as the Jew, Ikey Mo, gets into the gang's confidence, and is thus able to capture the whole of them. The Black Hawk, in attempting to escape, is shot by the troopers, and thus love is triumphant and villainy punished. In the title-rôle Mr. C. Douglas Carlile assumes a trio of characters with great versatility, and whether as the Dandy Detective, the Rev. Tobias, or as the sly old Jew, supplies a graphic series of character studies. Miss Carlotta De Yonson brings into vivid prominence the wild carelessness of a nature warped by her rough surroundings, but emphasises in clever fashion the underlying tenderness and devotion of true womanhood. Mr. Charles A. Carlile as the Hawk is remarkably good, and puts in some powerful work in the last scene. Messrs. Lee Gilbert as the bugler, J. Manton as two of the gang, and A. Whittaker as Yaller Jack, handle their parts carefully and well. A mad revel of fun and acrobatism is supplied by the Gregson's Comedy Troupe in their exhilarating act, *The Dummy*. They keep the ball of fun and frolic rolling merrily all the time, and win a series of well-earned recalls. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux entertain and interest the audience with the splendid picture, "Black Beauty, or Saved by the Intelligence of a Horse," and create much merriment in depicting "Brown's Fishing Excursion."

THE MIDDLESEX.

A distinctly novel act is furnished this week at the Middlesex by Mlle. Cordite and Buffalo. Both are attired in the rough and picturesque dress of the Wild West, and both are exceedingly skilful in the rope-spinning line. Mlle. Cordite, moreover, excels as a lassoo thrower. Her spinning of a rope 54ft. long is, perhaps, her most notable feat, and we are informed that no cowboy has been able to manipulate in like manner a rope longer than 50ft. She jumps backwards and forwards into and from the circles formed by her ropes in an astonishingly smart manner. Then we get imitations of a child's hoop, and the rapid formation of knots, and the changing of bands while the rope is making revolutions. A comedienne who pleases her audience with her refined verses and tuneful singing is Miss Dora Lyric. She has a very pretty number in "Your dada doesn't love you better than mine loves me." Miss Lyric can always rely upon a good reception. The agile Rozel is seen in a gymnastic act, which demonstrates his cleverness and daring; and the Sisters Vincent offer some agreeable duets and dances. "Mr. E." proves himself an entertaining lecturer. A number of magic-lantern pictures are thrown upon the screen, and Mr. E. discourses in irresponsible, though jocular, style, upon a variety of subjects, from Lady Godiva to Grace Darling. Then he relieves himself of a string of limericks, which are neatly and aptly turned.

Bright and sprightly is Miss Queenie Lawrence, gorgeously attired in a dream of a sparkling cream gown. "What makes me love you as I do?" is one of her songs, and when the question is addressed to a member of the orchestra there is a hearty outburst of laughter. On her second appearance she voices in her vivacious way the praises of one Sadie, a very lively girl about town. Mr. Harry Maxam contrives to be extremely amusing with his comedy turn; and Stacey and Williams furnish the house with many moments of merriment. Mr. Dick Cruikshank and company appear in the absurdity, *Bridget's Idea*, the moral of which is "how to gain the sympathy of your landlord when you are two years in arrears with the rent." The assumption of death on the part of Bridget's husband, and of both of them later, affords opportunities for ridiculous situations, and the humour of these is capitally presented by Mr. Cruikshank and his supporters in the sketch. Phillips and Merritt contribute some whimsical ideas to the evening's amusement, and their coon singing and dancing prove highly acceptable. Exceedingly diverting are the quaintly comical sayings and doings of the Lorrisons, and it would be difficult to find a more hilarious couple. The Five Whiteleys, the well-known Continental speciality artists, win hearty favour for their clever pot-pourri act; and Wyze and Atla are to be recommended as society entertainers.

Much excitement is centred around the wrestling combats of Mr. Arthur Norton, who is described on the programme as the 9-stone Græco-Roman champion of the world, and winner of the International Championship belt. Norton advertises a world challenge to men of his own weight, the conditions being that he will give £25 to any man not exceeding 9 stone who can defeat him in 15 minutes, and £5 to anyone whom he fails to throw in the same space of time; while a valuable silver cup is offered to any amateur not exceeding 9st. 4lb. who can last the number of minutes mentioned. On the evening of our visit to the Middlesex, Norton took on three wrestlers, and triumphed in each case, in spite of the fact that he could not have been as fresh to the work with the last two as he was with the first man. Fine form and great skill were shown by all the contestants, and it says much for Norton's strength and wrestling abilities that he was able to emerge victorious from all the bouts. Mr. Fred G. Brooke and Miss Dora Deane are presenting the sensational sketch, written by themselves, entitled *A Lost Woman*. Miss Dora Deane as Phyllis brings to her acting strong emotional gifts and tragic power; and Mr. Brooke makes full use of the opportunities of displaying his versatility in the part of Pierre Cousset, the detective. Mr. Hamilton Vaun as the deceived husband of Phyllis, Mr. Wesley Carker as the treacherous Felix Lascelles, Miss Irene Addison as the latter's confederate in crime, and Mr. Richard Weston as an artist fulfil the requirements of their various rôles in able manner. The new and attractive pictures shown by the New Bioscope find many admirers, and the series bearing the title of "The Holidays" is particularly praiseworthy.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Mr. E. W. James has secured an undoubted attraction in Mr. Alfred Lester, who appears here this week in the *Scene-Shifter's Lament*—a short résumé of which was given in our last week's notice of the Holborn Empire. Mr. Lester's plans for the rehabilitation of the fortunes of the house whose scenes he so deftly (?) shifts are ingenious and amusing. Whether the "grave-digger's" scene in *Hamlet* could be popularised on the lines he suggests may be open to question; but of one thing there can be *no* doubt, and that is the success of the little scena. After hearing and seeing the *Scene-Shifter*, it is easy to imagine that—as he says—a production of *Hamlet* must have been very different in Shakespearean times to what it is in the present day. Miss Scarisbrick lends valuable assistance in the *Lament*, which bristles with happy impromptus from commencement to end, and both artists were loudly acclaimed at the fall of the curtain on Monday. A little disappointment was shown in the house on Monday evening when the card of "Deputy" went up in place of the "Ongars," but when the substitute appeared in the charming personality of Miss Daisy Dormer, pleased surprise spread over all faces, and the enchanting soubrette instantly sang and danced herself into popular favour. Her two numbers, "I want a girl" and "Is it you, Mr. Brown?" were rendered with archness and vivacity, and being wedded to tuneful melodies gave immense satisfaction. Miss Dormer's triumph came, however, in her inimitable "Buck Dance," which thoroughly earned the tumult of applause accorded to it. The Ramlos appear in their "Whirl of humorous movements." The happily associated trio, after the "sensational" shooting of a duck, proceed to execute some of the most daring acrobating ever seen upon the stage, while a "Hackenschmidt" catch-as-catch-can wrestling incident upon the horizontal bars is irresistibly comic. The trio of "Squire," "Gamekeeper," and "Carrots" are wonderful gymnasts, and their performance is smart and funny. Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie—who, we are glad to find, has recovered from her recent indisposition, is heard with excellent effect in her two songs, "Will you be my Butterfly?" and Balfe's "I dreamt I dwelt in Marble Halls." The talented artist looks very handsome in her sky-blue costume of the Georgian period, and her reception is most hearty. The Two Walonells, Continental comedy gymnasts, are responsible for some remarkable back-twisting somersaulting executed with precision and without effort.

Miss Kitty Clover's comedy company is presenting the laughable sketch, entitled *Mr. There's Heir*. A young author, Mr. Charlie There (Mr. R. Courtney) is likely to be involved in a law-suit, owing to his brother disputing his father's will, under which he inherits £50,000. Through lack of funds to fee the lawyers, Charlie's chances of success are somewhat remote. However, without his knowledge, his faithful domestic, Sally Slops, a delightful low comedy character, finely played by Miss Kitty Clover, has purchased two tickets in the great Belgian Lottery, and at the moment when his fortunes appear to be at the lowest ebb, she learns that the lucky number 1035, which she had bought in his name, is the winner of the £500 prize. Sampson Samp (Mr. C. Alister), an eccentric solicitor, has, in the meantime, also seen the announcement, and introducing himself showers congratulations upon the lucky winner, who is, as yet, ignorant of his good fortune, and the fact that he has no recollection of having invested his money in the lottery only adds to his bewilderment. However, explanations follow, and in the end poor Sally Slop's share in the transaction is discovered and gratefully acknowledged by her master. His brother ultimately abandoning his opposition, Charles obtains his £50,000. The sketch is played with spirit and smartness by the little company, and is a decided success.

Mr. Theo Hardeen, "the world's greatest handcuff and trunk mystifier," assisted by Miss Trixy is giving his "Sensation of the Universe." In response to an invitation, on the night of our visit, some half-dozen handcuff experts invaded the stage and proceeded to secure the performer in a manner they each considered the most effective. Four pairs of handcuffs encircled his wrists, and to another pair, attached to his ankles, his hands were coupled. For a few moments Hardeen availed himself of the shelter of his cabinet, but almost instantly all five pairs of manacles were thrown upon the floor. The "experts" seemed considerably surprised, and exhibited genuine astonishment. An even more sensational incident was supplied by the aid of the trunk. Manacled—and sealed in a sack—the performer was placed therein, and securely locked and roped. Miss Trixy then smilingly invited the audience to watch closely. For a moment she disappeared behind the curtained cabinet, but almost instantly the drapery was withdrawn, and Hardeen was himself seen outside the still locked and corded trunk, from which, upon the attachments being severed, Miss Trixy emerged.

Mr. Johnny Dwyer, a favourite London comedian, is comic in his "Keep on havin' 'em," but preference must certainly be given to his second number, "My little wife." Here Mr. Dwyer is at his best, and has to bow to half a dozen recalls. Other turns contributing to a generous programme are Mr. Frank Cumminger, a most expert sand-dancer, who seems to thoroughly enjoy his own particular business, and Miss Gladys Hoxley, who gives her first song, "Baby Dreams," with much tender expression, while her second, "The Devil-may-care Brigade," goes with spirit and dash. The genial acting-manager, Mr. C. M. Lurring, is assiduous in looking after the comforts of the audience, and the excellent band, strongly reinforced, under Mr. W. Neale, renders a fine selection from *The Geisha*.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON.

It was in June, 1903, that—fresh from a brilliantly successful South African tour—the American *prima donna* soprano made her début in London at the Tivoli. How great was her success, and how rapidly she established herself as a popular favourite with the British public, the well-merited encomiums of the Press, the lavish praise of the critics, and the extensive nature of her engagements afforded ample and gratifying proof. Born in far-away Ohio, it was towards the end of the "nineties" that the charming operatic singer, who had studied under a famous Italian master, began her public career by playing many of the leading rôles in the famous and popular light operas of such composers as Audran, Offenbach, and Gilbert and Sullivan.

From light opera to vaudeville was a natural transition, and the winning personality and dramatic talents of the charming and accomplished singer speedily secured for her a foremost place in the vaudeville world. After a lengthy engagement at Koster and Bial's she travelled the Orpheum and other circuits. The combination of a voice of great compass and exquisite timbre, with the charm and culture of an artistic personality, won for her a name and a widespread popularity that time has served only to enhance. To the dramatic talent of the actress is added the natural brilliancy of a refined vocalism, as all who have heard her faultless rendition of Arditi's "L'Incantatrice," or of the exquisite "Jewel Song" from *Faust*, will readily agree. Her recent successes are too well known to need repetition. At the London Coliseum, the Oxford, and other

Photo. by Campbell Gray.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON.

West-end halls her well-known song-scenas have been a leading feature, and in her répertoire of famous march songs—so popular in the States—the charming cantatrice has repeatedly scored sensational triumphs. Among the most notable recognition of her talents may be mentioned the invitation to appear last year at the Royal Albert Hall on the occasion of the Nelson Centenary Concert.

So many engagements, entailing necessarily a vast amount of constant study, hard work, and mental strain, are, as every artist knows well, no mere holiday campaign. Sweet indeed are the triumphs and rich the reward which genius, allied with patience and perseverance, may attain; but there is a penalty which exhausted nature relentlessly exacts for efforts beyond the resources of the strongest of constitutions, as the sweet singer herself would be the first to admit. The charming soprano has been reluctantly compelled, by the imperative fiat of her medical advisers, to abandon many of her immediate engagements, and to take a sea voyage and complete rest. She goes—after a long absence—to her home in Denver, in mountainous and picturesque Colorado, whence she hopes to return towards the close of the autumn with renewed strength and health to fulfil her European engagements, and to repeat those innumerable successes which have won for her the esteem of the public and the position of an artist *de première qualité*.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

An excellent *menu* is provided by Mr. Kay Draco for his guests this week. The programme, which is ushered in by "The Millennium March," admirably performed by the orchestra, is begun by Mr. Clive Watts, as clever a comedian as he is dancer, who caused quite a mild sensation by his humour. Variety is further secured by the appearance of Charles Ulrick, billed as "the Barrel King," who does some wonderful balancing, and the act is received with enthusiasm. A distinctly excellent turn is the Wakeman Quartette, who produce some harmonious vocal effects. Perhaps the gem of their *répertoire* was Sullivan's "Lost Chord"—an altogether delightful performance—but "Killarney" and "On the Banks of Allan Water," were both well received. Quite charmingly, too, does Miss Nancy Bruce sing "Annie Laurie"; she possesses a singularly well-trained voice, and was heard to perfection in this selection.

There is a distinct air of novelty about Talbot and Pierce's speciality, *The Spider and the Fly*, and when it is stated that the Spider is a pert and pretty damsel who vocalises daintily, and the Fly is represented by the genus Man, who allows himself—quite pardonably—to be ensnared in the toils of the former, the plot can easily be grasped. The music of this little piece is quite of a high order. Especial mention may be made of the spirited finale, "Mine for Ever," admirably rendered by Talbot and Pierce. The interval is pleasingly filled by the orchestra's interpretation of "Raymond" (Ambroise Thomas), and Mr. F. R. Kinkee is to be highly complimented. Novelty in ventriloquism is somewhat rare, but Mr. Bert Williams claims this for his merry figures, and deserves it; his irrepressible Eton boy keeps the house in a ripple of merriment. The concluding item of the entertainment, in which a veteran figure sings of the "Village Bells," is capitally done.

Premier honours of the evening went to Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, who was called and recalled no less than seven times; indeed, she might be singing her "Nursery Rhyme" refrain yet, but for the fact that there was a second house waiting. Miss Broadfoote also sang a merry ditty pointing out the utter impossibility of existing without girls, and naïvely adding that but for them Man would be at a loss to dispose of his superfluous money; the audience appeared to agree with the talented artist, and she was cheered to the echo. The Montague Brothers gave a fine performance in *The Sculptor's Dream*; their show is wonderfully clever, and their classic poses *en blanc* beyond reproach. Vernon's Bioscope maintains its popularity, and urbane Mr. Kay Draco is "in front of the house"—a guarantee that all is well.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The continuance of brilliant sunshine and tropical heat out of doors, which usually prove detrimental to indoor amusements, seem to have no appreciable ill-effect on the attendance here, and Mr. Arthur J. Barclay is to be congratulated on "business" that would do credit to the coolest nights and the best theatrical seasons of the year. Indeed, the crowds at every performance have been of record-breaking numbers, while the enthusiasm of the audience is sometimes more suggestive of the "festive season" than of the dog-days. The most substantial item of this week's well-selected programme is the sensational episode *The Girl I Love*, played by Mr. Fred Maxwell, Miss Lois Du Cane, and their clever company. The little play, in three scenes, is full of dramatic incident, the "period" (to quote the programme) being "about 1840, when convicted criminals were transported and flogged for any breach of discipline," and occasionally, it would seem, without that excuse. The hero, Max Donovan, a private in one of the Highland regiments, is, in the first scene, accused of a murder committed by the villainous Captain Stephen Adair, transported to Australia, and mercilessly pursued by his enemy, who, seeking to compass the death of the man he hates, eventually meets his own. Mr. Frederick Maxwell as Max is a hero of the true Adelphi type so dear yet to the hearts of the less sophisticated playgoer, and he acts with a breezy freshness in the earlier scene that brings out in stronger contrast the misery of his punishment and his final triumph. Mr. Maxwell is cheered to the echo at every point. Miss Lois du Cane as Rose Adair acts with much charm, and, in the later scenes, declaims her more dramatic speeches with considerable power. Mr. Charles Levey is sufficiently villainous to meet the requirements of the "gods," who, while adoring virtue, dearly love to watch a thorough-paced villain at work. A capital character sketch of the old blind Grandad is supplied by Mr. Gerald Blake. Mr. Sam Harcourt appears as two Colonels—Adair and Grant—and plays both with equal effect. Mr. W. Bailey is a picturesque exponent of the convict Hogg, and speaks his lines with admirable point. Miss Louise Biddulph is pathetic and interesting as the hapless Bessie Donovan. Mention should be made of the flogging scene, which is almost painfully realistic. The piece is capitally mounted.

Something quite unique in the way of marionette performances is to be found in those of D'Arc. A perfect stage in miniature, effectively draped with scarlet hangings, illuminated by electric lights, revealed, and the dolls are extremely clever reproductions of well-known variety artists. The manner in which these figures are made to imitate the motions and gestures of such favourites as George Robey, Happy Fanny Fields, Eugène Fougère, George Lashwood, R. G. Knowles, and others, each apparently singing songs associated with these artists, is clever in the extreme. The turn is received with rapturous applause.

Mr. Charles Ridgewell is a quaint comedian with two good songs, the better of which, perhaps, is that dealing with mixed relations, with the refrain, "Who the dickens am I?" Miss Sylvia du Barry, a handsome lady from South America, is the possessor of a light soprano voice with some clear notes. Mr. Frank Harwood, an actor-vocalist, whose appearance and manner strangely suggest Mr. Seymour Hicks, sings in a fine voice "Will you love me in December as you do in May?" and an amusing ditty, "Rowing together," in which the superiority of the river at Hampton Court for "spooning" business is convincingly set forth. A very fine quartette of dancers are the Four American Belles, whose dances may be described as marvellous for dexterity and nimbleness. Another dancer of the evening is Miss Dolly Golden, who fascinates everyone with her widely contrasted styles, all equally good. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues to show attractive pictures. The stage-management of the whole evening is safe in the hands of Mr. John Grant.

THE BRITANNIA.

As is usual at this popular resort, the fare presented is excellent. We renew acquaintance with old Britannia stock favourites, like Mr. Algernon Syms and Mr. Fred Lawrence, in a thrilling dramatic sketch, *The Clash of Steel*. The ovation they receive is enthusiastic, and they are supported by an array of capable actors. The scenery and dresses are "first-class." A strikingly novel turn is presented by the Two Cromwells, comedy jugglers. The young lady gives a fine exhibition of skill, and whirls coats, hats, pots and pans through the air with remarkable accuracy, finishing with a good Indian club act. Mr. Joe Dale is an amusing comedian, who is warmly applauded. Quite a musical treat is given by the Albano troupe; their solos on numerous instruments prove them to be artists of the "first water." Mr. Edna Knollys uses a good voice to advantage in a series of illustrated songs. The Bouncing Dillons give a very clever gymnastic performance; in connection with this act a novel competition is presented, open to amateur "bouncers." Roars of laughter are caused by the amusing antics of the aspirants, who mostly are unable to hold their feet on the spring net, much less perform the seemingly simple tricks suggested. Mr. Herbert Rule, a quaint comedian, causes much laughter with his "diary" song; and the Sprees are a good comedy duo, and gain applause with their scena, "Twickenham Ferry." Mr. George Victor's vocal powers are heartily appreciated, and Miss Carlotta De Yonson and company appear in the great American detective dramette, *The Dandy Detective*. The piece is heartily applauded. The uniforms and dresses are excellent. Raymond's Bio Tableaux are much enjoyed, and the popularity of Mr. James McCarthy is remarkable. His painstaking efforts have won for him the admiration of all. Mr. Alf Lord directs operations with ability behind the scenes, and the orchestra has the able leadership of Mr. Carl Hamlin.

THE Apollo Theatre in Düsseldorf commences its eighth season under the direction of Mr. Glück to-day with a lightning programme. The house is newly painted, and some of the first rows of the "parquet" are replaced by small tables with chairs around, so that the public can partake of refreshments during the performance.

MESSRS. MELLOR AND LAWRANCE'S enormously popular song "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you" has "caught on" in America, and Messrs. Schubert Weber, and Fields, Col. Savage, and other American managers, are making a special feature of this number in important new Broadway productions with most gratifying results. The song is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., whose sole American agents are Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR will produce at the Tivoli on Monday a stirring new march song, entitled "When the band played the 'Men of Harlech'," written by Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, and published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.

MISS GLADYS MAVIUS has made an instantaneous and gratifying hit at the Empire, Islington, and her other engagements this week, with Harrington and Tate's "catchy" chorus song "Rosie is waiting."

LES FRASETTIS return to England to-day from the Hague to open on Monday at the pier, Hastings, after having made a great success all through Holland. They return there next year.

MR. HARRY LISTON has been in town this week booking engagements. He and his talented partner, Miss Lord Lumley, are now touring the Isle of Wight again. Their new comedy sketch *Cricket* has caught on immensely.

"THE BRIDAL CHAMBER."

CARL HERTZ'S NEW ILLUSION.

The new Theatre Royal, Halifax, was packed to suffocation on Monday, when Mr. Carl Hertz, the universal mystifier, presented his new and most masterly illusion, *The Bridal Chamber*, which met with unprecedented success. It is one of the most perplexing episodes ever given on the stage, and created quite a sensation. A platform about 10ft. square is wheeled on to the stage in full view of the audience, and turned round on all sides to show distinctly that there are no methods of concealment. The platform stands on wooden legs some 2ft. from the stage floor; curtains hang on all sides within reasonable distance of the floor, and to thoroughly convince his patrons that there are no trap-doors, Mr. Hertz passes a big bamboo stick continuously under the platform. Suddenly he pulls down the curtains and reveals a handsomely-equipped bedroom containing a solid wooden 7ft. bed and bedding upon which peacefully reclines a handsome bride, in the person of Miss Emmeline D'Alton. Mr. Hertz and his assistants lift the bedstead and its occupant on to the stage, and the bride, thus rudely awakened, jumps out of bed and hurriedly retires to the wings, leaving the audience in extreme wonderment as to how it was all carried out. The feat is all done in full light, away from any scenery, or without the aid of traps, glasses or mirrors, and the smartness with which it is performed thoroughly sustains Mr. Hertz's reputation as one of the cleverest of magicians. The audience, utterly astounded, remained for a while in silent astonishment and then broke into a tremendous cheer.

Another dexterous feat was "Belchazzar's Blackboard," which consists of an ordinary school-room blackboard covered with a piece of stiff cardboard. Questions are submitted by members of the audience, and are answered not only correctly, but very wittily, uproarious fun being aroused by the replies given to queries regarding local topics. Verily, "wonderful!" as Mr. Hertz ejaculates as he demonstrates beyond doubt that there is no connections between the board and its environment.

The next item was the production of beautiful flowers from an empty bowl which is finally converted into a lantern from which an enormous quantity of tape paper flows. This the performer whirls in the air when two white rabbits appear; he seats the rabbits together and only one remains, this is thrown into the air, the tape paper is placed in another bowl, a pistol shot fired, and three ducks jump out of the bowl.

The subject of another illusion was a large map which hung upon an horizontal bar. Flags of various nationalities are produced by Mr. Hertz, who rolls them up into a ball. He hurls it at the map which bursts open and shows Britannia, admirably impersonated by Miss D'Alton.

For an encore Hertz gave us another astonisher, in which he disguised himself as an Indian Rajah. Displaying to the audience a perfectly round basket and wicker-worked Sedan chair, the famous conjurer packs his painstaking lady-assistant into the basket, covering the whole with a red silk shawl. He then gets into the Sedan chair himself and pulls the door to. A policeman comes on the scene, and having his suspicions rushes to the basket, pulling off the shawl, and to his surprise the basket is empty. Seizing the chair he pulls open the door, and to his amazement finds a pretty principal boy. But the final surprise comes when the policeman, discarding his uniform, proves to be none other than the Indian Rajah (Mr. Hertz). Altogether Mr. Hertz provides such a succession of inexplicable illusions and with such lightning-like rapidity that one is bewildered. Record business may be safely predicted wherever Mr. Hertz may go, for all the week at Halifax has been a repetition of Monday night.

THE TERRIERS' OUTING.

The Terriers and their friends, numbering about seventy, had their second river outing of the season on Sunday last. The party included President Jesse Sparrow, Treasurer Douglas White, Solicitor G. P. R. Burgess, Trustee S. N. Salter, Fred. D. Harris, F. W. Penfold, G. V. O'Connolley, Leo. O'Connolley, Sam Bury, E. F. Moy, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Benn, S. Samuels, E. Martin, Leon and Will Bassett, H. Griff, F. Shelley, Percy Ford, Mr. and Mrs. E. Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Neiman, Forest and King, Mrs. Harry Leopold, Harry Kemp, W. S. Hill, Frank Hilbert, Mr. and Mrs. G. Nyman, Mr. and Mrs. Stalman, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Holmes, E. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gage, Charlie Gage, Fred Gage, Mrs. Charlie Jerome, Miss Collins, Jimmy Traynor, W. L. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. J. Moore, Miss Moore, Miss Potter, Fred. W. Millis, W. Jeapes, J. C. Moore, G. Saunders, Miss F. Daly, Miss Schofield, Harry Gait, Herbert Tear, E. C. Webb, Walter Norman, Charles Cornish, and Harry Lester, Secretary.

Journeying down from Waterloo by the 9.10 a.m. train, the party arrived at Hampton Court at 10. Photographs were then taken on board the "La Burgoine," and the merry party set sail on their journey to "Old Windsor," lunch being served en route. On arrival, comedy pictures were taken for the cinematograph by W. Jeapes, and sports were held, with the following results—viz., 100 Yards Running Handicap (for Terriers only), won by W. L. Murray: 1st prize, Massive Silver Cup, presented by Tom Leamore; 2nd, Fred Neiman: prize, a Vest to order, presented by George Nyman. 30 Yards Each Way Running Backwards Ladies' Race, won by Miss Schofield: 1st prize, Gold-plated Belt, presented by Griff; 2nd, Mrs. Nyman: Ladies' Silver-mounted Umbrella, presented by Harry Gage. 50 Yards Threading-the-Needle Race, won by Percy Ford (prize, Biscuit-box, presented by Fred Neiman) and Mrs. Nyman (prize, Silver Butter-dish and Knife, presented by L. and V. Bassett). Relay Race, won by Mrs. Willie Benn, W. L. Murray, and Charlie Gage: prizes—Lady, Silver Brush and Comb, presented by G. P. R. Burgess; Gents, Silver Matchboxes, presented by S. N. Salter and Jimmy Traynor. 50 Yards Ladies' Race, won by Miss Moore: prize, Lady's Gold-mounted Umbrella, presented by Douglas White. Egg-and-Spoon Race, won by Miss Collins: prize, a Splendid Set of China, presented by Jesse Sparrow. Cockfight, won by W. L. Murray: 1st prize, Box 100 Foreign Cigars, presented by E. C. Webb; 2nd, G. P. R. Burgess: prize, Massive Bronze Statue Figure, presented by Harry Bawn.

After a comedy wrestling-match between Griff and an Unknown Old Man with a Donkey-Barrow, the return journey was made, tea being served on board. Hampton Court was reached at 8, train departing 8.40, arriving at Waterloo 9.24. Everybody declared the day's outing to be another record. The musical portion of the programme was in the artistic keeping of Leon and Will Bassett, J. C. Moore, Walter Norman, W. L. Murray, Jimmy Traynor, and several others. The refreshment department was well looked after by W. Norman and C. Cornish, catering being in the excellent hands of Mr. J. Ucelli, of the Hôtel Boulogne, 27, Gerrard Street, W. Harry Lester, Secretary, was highly congratulated on the success of all his arrangements.

MR. FRED KARNO, who was originally a gymnast, is now both a theatrical manager and a variety impresario. He has made his speciality pantomime productions, and has excelled as a producer of the same. Each member of the Karno troupes has been carefully selected, and Mr. Karno's managerial acumen ensures that each sketch shall be carefully rehearsed and everything possible towards success secured.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The Hon. Chaplain and organiser of the Showmen's Guild (the Rev. T. Horne), finding that he can break away from his parish work this week-end for a few days, will visit the fairs and wakes in the Manchester district. He intends to address a mass meeting of showmen at Gorton wakes ground on Sunday next (to-morrow), Sept. 2. This gathering is for all travellers who work the fair-grounds. Men and women are invited—members and non-members (see advertisement). The object of the meeting is to make members and to fully explain the supreme importance of the work the Van-dwellers' Association is doing. The meeting is for full and frank discussion of the policy and work of the society, and we confidently anticipate that it will result in an enormous rally to the strength of the present trade protection society.

Mr. and Mrs. John Studt and their nephew have just returned from a flying visit to the United States, where they have been for the benefit of Mrs. Studt's health, her physician having recommended a sea voyage. They went out on the fine steamer Oceanic, of the White Star Line, had a pleasant passage, and saw whales, icebergs, and many other things to make the trip agreeable. On landing at New York they were met by Mr. and Mrs. James W. Bostock, who gave them a speedy and pleasant introduction to all things American, showing them the sights of this wonderful city and its surroundings. Genial James, who is a past-master as a guide and entertainer in foreign countries, was slightly handicapped by lameness from gout. Still, he managed to press into the short stay made by Mr. and Mrs. Studt as much sight-seeing as possible, taking them to Niagara Falls (462 miles away) and lots of other places of interest, not forgetting, of course, "the paramount feature for showpeople," Coney Island, where not only the enormous number of attractions, but the style, beauty, and originality of them thoroughly astonished the visitors; and when the whole was illuminated at night John could do nothing but throw up both hands and exclaim: "Well, well! Indeed to goodness, I never dreamt such things could be!" The party returned home on the Hamburg-American Co.'s latest addition, the magnificent steamer Kaiserin Auguste Victoria, greatly benefited by the outing, and have gone back to resume business in South Wales, with a fund of recollections of America that will serve them to think over and talk about for months to come.

Harmston's celebrated Circus of the East continues its triumphant tour of our far-away dependencies. At Singapore enormous houses nightly testified to the great popularity of Harmston's fine show. Diavolo "looping the loop" was the star turn, and his daring exhibition was as well appreciated at Singapore as in London. The Princess quartette of dancers provided an excellent number; the clowns Guillaume and "Baby," in their Spanish bull-fight act, were great favourites, and provoked roars of laughter. Jennie and the Pedro Brothers, Miss Nellie Harmston-Love, the Madelena Sisters, and Paul Rougal with his tigers all helped to make up a programme that was as good as it was lengthy.

Once more at Stradey Park, Llanelly, Messrs. Hy. Studt and Son have given a grand benefit fête and gala in aid of the Llanelly Hospital (of which, by the by, Mr. Studt is a life governor). The fête, which was held on Friday and Saturday of last week, was, as usual, a most successful one, and attended by thousands of people from all parts. There was also a very large array of amusement caterers on the ground, Messrs. Studt having two of their large machines. Messrs. W. Haggar and Sons' ever popular electric bioscope (the genial senior proprietor of which seems to be getting younger every day) and Messrs. Wadbrook's electrograph and variety exhibition were also present; with the shooters, cokernut shies, and Mollies of Messrs. David Boswell, John North, W. Evans, and a host of others, all doing exceedingly good business. On the open-air stage marvellously clever turns were given by the charming Mlle. Bartenelli, the wonderful contortionist, &c. We had seen Mlle. Bartenelli before, but on this occasion she by far excelled anything she had hitherto done. Lieut. Chard's dog circus was a most interesting show also. The Swift Trio of trick cyclists were very good, as were also the Les Louberts, acrobats.

At Kidwelly fair-ground this week and last Testo's very clever exhibition of marionettes and living pictures has been doing very good business. The show is a very clean and highly interesting one.

Shaw wakes this year was quite an average fair. The shows and machines were Layland's marionette theatre; T. Hurst's farmyard racers; Geoghegan's hurdle leapers; John Collins's wheely-whirly; and C. Marshall's motors. There was also a well-equipped crowd of amusement caterers with throwing games and variety stalls.

Drypool Feast (Hull) had a splendid array of machine novelties. Amongst these were Ben Howden and Son's (Aspland's) two sets, the motor-cars and the Japanese airship; W. Shipley's galloping horses; and Corrigan's steam swings. Minor novelties, shooting galleries, hand swings, cokers, and throwing games were provided by Messrs. Payne, Richards, Kelly, Hardy, Burgin, Jameson, Corrigan, and others.

At the Victoria Theatre, Evesham, this week, the following plays have been performed, viz., *Nicholas Nickleby, The Dumb Man of Manchester, In the Toils of the Tempter, The Butterfly, Under the British Flag*, and *Joan of Arc*.

At Overbury flower show were Mr. T. Scott's Newmarket galloping horses, from Worcester; park swings, egg and globe shooting, cokernut gardens, and other numerous attractions.

Coming events include sale of cart-horses and colts, &c., at Rock Farm, Inkberrow, Worcester, and the annual show and sale of horses at Stratford-on-Avon, Sept. 21; and a sale of horses at Cheltenham on Sept. 13.

At Pershore Flower Show were Mr. Thomas Scott's grand new set of steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, stalls, &c.

Pleasure fairs: Birmingham Fair, Sept. 27, 28, and 29; Birmingham to King's Norton, 5 miles. King's Norton Fair, Oct. 1; King's Norton to Alvechurch, 5 miles. Alvechurch Fair, Oct. 3; Alvechurch to Evesham, 19 miles. Evesham Mop, Oct. 5; Evesham to Alcester, 10 miles. Alcester Mop, Oct. 9; Alcester to Stratford-on-Avon, 8 miles. Stratford-on-Avon Bullroast, Oct. 12.

At Evesham we have had Mander's Grand Star Menagerie. A large number of people visited the show, owing to the son of the proprietor of the Fleece fair-ground volunteering to enter the cage, which contained two Siberian wolves, a bear, and a laughing hyæna.

Showmen, theatre companies, and all engaged in providing amusements, &c., for the people should make a note of the progressive town of Redditch. A new cycle factory, employing 1,000 hands, will shortly be finished; new streets are to be made shortly. Trade has been very good for some time, and some good first-class entertainments should do well here during the coming winter months.

The benefit performance for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Vanguard disaster at St. Mary's Cray, given by Prof. Alf. Ball, of bioscope exhibition fame, was a big success in every way. The proceeds towards the funds were £10 10s. The gentry of the village, headed by the vicar and party from the vicarage, attended the show. The entertainment consisted of a series of animated pictures, shown by the aid of the cinematograph and electric light. The subjects illustrated were "The American Train-Wreckers," "Two Little Waifs," and some Passion Play pictures. At the conclusion of the afternoon entertainment the Rev. E. Ball thanked the professor on behalf of the committee for his excellent entertainment and for the kindly sympathy which he had shown with the sufferers from the disaster by giving the entertainment on behalf of the fund. Sacred music was played during the passage of the Passion Play pictures.

The vicar of St. Mary Cray, in a letter to Mr. Ball, said:—Dear Mr. Ball,—A few lines to tell you how very pleased my party and myself were with your bioscope entertainment. We thought the views excellent. Those showing some of the scenes in the life of Our Blessed Lord were very realistic. Wishing you and your family every success with your pleasant and instructive entertainment."

Bakewell is in the heart of Derbyshire, and still remains a country town, with its markets and its great event, the annual fair.

This year's carnival was well maintained by Mack's freak exhibition, Twigdon's superb gondolas, Hall's motor-cars, swings, shooters, and cokers. The other amusement caterers were Messrs. Proctor, A. Hall Whiteley, Gaunt, and Peters.

Long Eaton feast, on the same circuit, had Holland's cinematograph, Martin's gondolas, steam horses, swings, big boat, and coker sheets, Cox's gallopers, Armstrong's swings; and shooters, cokers, gem horses, and varieties by Messrs. Chapman, Gaunt, Robinson, West, Bloomfield, Dexter, Ashmore, and others.

The old-established wakes were held at Long Eaton this week, and proved quite as popular as ever. Sunday brought the usual effort by the railwaymen for the Orphan Fund of the society, with parade at the parish church. Mr. Martin and his gondolas and motors. Mr. Holland's cinematograph and other shows, made a big collection of amusements. The movement to change the wakes to Bank Holiday week has proved abortive, showing that the old wakes have a big hold on the public. There was a large influx of visitors, and happily no accidents are recorded.

Several acceptable additions have recently been made to Sedgwick's well-known menagerie, which is now touring South Wales. On the 20th ult., while the menagerie was at Pontardulais, one of the thorough-bred lionesses gave birth to what are described as five "very handsome cubs," and this interesting event was followed by another on the following day, when at Brynamman, one of the leopards presented Messrs. Sedgwick with two "splendid cubs." One of the latter is a male and the other a female, and they are to be christened "Gomer" and "Arianwen" respectively.

The wakes at Oldham were held on the market ground, commencing on Thursday, the 23rd ult. Large numbers of visitors attended from the out districts, but there has been a greater exodus of the natives than ever. A good selection of amusements was provided, roundabouts being well to the fore. Amongst the shows were Capt. Payne's Bioscope, Clarke's classical entertainment, Payne's miniature horses, Clytie in second sight, &c., John Collins's motor cars, whirly-whirly, jumpers, and swing boats, Mitchell's botors and boats. Green's motors, Holland's horses and hurly-burly, and the helter-skelter, which also had a fair share of patronage. Amongst other amusements were cokernut sheets, Aunt Sallies, football practice, shooting galleries, &c.

Brandon Colliery Flower Show.—Roundabouts, Richardson, 60 h.p. motor-cars; G. Pinninger, steam gallopers. Circus, James Biddall, J. Cotterell's coliseum of pictures. Shows, Mrs. G. Payne's living pictures; H. Harris, wonder of wonders; Stewart, assault-at-arms; Reed, working mine models. Galleries, C. Robson, H. Harris, G. Pinninger. Emmas, &c., J. Smith, jun., M. Duggan, J. Veti, L. Deputon, W. Sedgmore, Jas. Millar, R. Mitchinson, R. Hancock. Swings, J. Taylor, G. Pinninger, W. Sedgmore, R. Hancock, and T. Hartshorn. Stalls, &c., too numerous to mention.

Castle Eden Colliery Sports.—Roundabouts, H. Carriss, mountain daisy jumpers; miniature horse, L. Rick. Galleries, J. Robinson, H. Carriss. Stalls, G. Halliday.

Tow Law Flower Show.—Roundabouts, Walker Hoadley, flying motors; G. Gray, juveniles' horses; J. Jackson, dapple jumpers. Shows, Caroll's mystic; W. Storey's wonderland; W. Wilson (late Cooper's). Galleries, Mrs. Kelly, Priestman, &c. Emmas, J. W. Gray, J. Jackson, T. O'Brian, and others.

Oldbury, one of the many busy industrial Black Country towns, is once more agog with the influx of the gaily-painted vans, &c., of the showman world. As I am penning this, there is a continuous stream of vans, machines, &c., all making for the old and usual wakes ground in Bromford-road. I notice there is still one of the old school, one of the many that years ago delighted me and thousands of others in boyhood days—that is Russell's steam circus, still looking as good as ever. Then we have the more elaborate and newer machines of the ever-popular Pat Collins, including farmyard roosters, whirling the whirl, helter-skelter, and many others. Also the famous "big" show and the "good" show, both run under the splendid management of the famous Collins.

By the look of things at present, this year's wake seems as if to surpass all others of previous times. The ground looks well laid out, and by the time *The Era* is in the hands of our showfolk friends, all will be sparkle and glitter, and I hope the business will be as bright as Mr. Collins' grounds look when lit up.

Application was made in the Dublin Court of Chancery on Tuesday by Mary Jane Keating, of Drumcairn House, Greystones, co. Wicklow, for an interlocutory order restraining Mr. W. Toft from erecting on the foreshore at Greystones any merry-go-round, shooting gallery, or other entertainment and for the immediate removal of same as it now exists, and from causing a nuisance by carrying on the trade or business connected therewith pending the trial of the action. Counsel for the plaintiff stated that the erections were within 15 yards of the plaintiff's house, and characterised the entertainment as an intolerable nuisance.

Defendant's counsel stated that his client was a minor, and that his father, William Toft, had carried on this business for several years. The place was verbally let to the defendant by Mr. Studdart, agent for Messrs. La Touche, and the letting would expire the first week in September. Counsel further stated that the plaintiff's interest in the house would expire on the 31st inst. He produced a document signed by several people in Greystones to the effect that the entertainment in question was satisfactorily and properly carried on, and said that the great majority of the Greystones inhabitants were in favour of the entertainment going on.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said that those persons representing the Messrs. La Touche, who let the premises, should be the persons proceeded against. Having regard to the brief occupation of each of the parties he did not see his way, at present, to grant an interlocutory injunction. His lordship thought that the responsible persons, resident in the neighbourhood, should be the plaintiffs to such proceedings. He would, at present, make no rule on the motion, and reserved the costs till the trial of the action. His lordship gave liberty to the plaintiff to add other parties as plaintiffs.

Cramlington (Northumberland).—Wal Murphy's 60 h.p. motor-cars, &c.; T. Toogood's gallery, shooter, Emmas; T. Newsome, swings, Emmas, cokernut sheets; H. Millar, cokernut sheets, stalls, &c.

The "World's Fair" at Islington will again be a feature of the Christmas entertainments of London. Mr. T. E. Read (son of the late Theophilus Read) will open the Royal Agricultural Hall on Christmas Eve, for the twenty-eighth consecutive year, with a colossal programme. The up-to-date attractions will embrace a grand free Continental circus, first-class company of star artists, with an entire change of programme weekly. Bostock and Wombwell's gigantic indoor Zoo, sensational aerial artists, and specialists, side-shows of every description, and a great variety of other amusements, will combine to form a unique entertainment at the popular price of sixpence. Spaces for first-class shows are now to be had on application to Mr. Read.

MISS CONSTANCE MOXON

IN "A TOFF FOR TEN MINUTES."

A pleasing musical monologue was seen for the first time at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, when Miss Constance Moxon produced a scena, entitled *A Toff for Ten Minutes*. The story, which has been written by Mr. Edgar Bateman, is not without interest. A poor chick-weed seller picks up in the street a silver card-case, and on going to an address which it contains, finds himself left alone in a handsome drawing-room, the family having gathered along with their guests in a large marquee in the garden. He looks around him, and admires the furniture, the grand piano, and ornaments, and then, after refreshing himself by a drink from the decanter which lies handy on a table, he sings a song about an unfortunate individual who cracked a crib and did a guy, and if it weren't for that he might have been a gentleman. The verses are sung by Miss Moxon, who makes a fairly satisfactory "man," with character and expression. Our chick-weed seller is tempted by the sight of a silver salver, and for a moment or two places it under his coat. However, his better nature triumphs, and he replaces the article. Then the vendor of bird food turns his attention to the piano, and treats us to what he calls a reminiscence, Constance Moxon, playing the accompaniment to the song, "You loved me once," the lines of which are rendered alternately in baritone and soprano. This vocal effort seems to take the fancy of the audience, who applaud loudly. The poor youth, who had hoped to receive a reward for bringing back the card-case to its rightful owner, leaves the drawing-room, but before doing so pays for his modest sip of wine by giving the pet canary some chick-weed gratis and free of charge.

The little act is an agreeable one of its kind, and affords Miss Moxon an opportunity for displaying that versatility which she undoubtedly possesses. *A Toff for Ten Minutes* should certainly find favour with variety audiences, especially if both the humour and the pathos of it be a little more intensified. The monologue is, however, well presented.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. H. (Co. Durham).—*Many thanks for most timely and interesting items of news and expressions of appreciation.*

Enquirer.—*No, there is no obligation on London members of the Guild to employ the London solicitor. Members can get what legal assistance they choose. See Rule 19.*

MR. ALF. BALL.

THE HERO OF MITCHAM FAIR.

We think that the present moment is the right time to tell the life-story of a typical showman—Mr. Ball. Born in 1864, the son of a well-known travelling auctioneer, "Handseller," at eighteen years of age he began in his father's line of business, holding his own licence, and working the markets and fairs on the great Midland and Southern rounds, and at that early age was extremely smart and able at his business.

Like many another showman, on his marriage, he was set up in business by his parents. The venture of Mr. and Mrs. Alf Ball's joint enterprise was a shooting gallery. This, with his wife's assistance, he worked in conjunction with the "handselling" business, and to these he speedily added novelty frames, and throwing games, taking markets as well as fairs. His next venture was the result of a visit he made whilst up in town to a famous academy of boxing. Besides being an athlete of considerable prowess, the doughty Alfred was a boxer of some repute in amateur circles. The "Man from the Midlands" had a friendly scrap with a professional at the boxing tournament, and so astonished the crowd that he was acclaimed as a splendid possibility for the middle-weight championship of England. This honour he ultimately achieved, defeating the holder of the belt, the famous Alf Mitchell, and to finish the tale of his prowess in the ring, he challenged Peter Jackson, the World's Champion, and held up against him for two hours, fighting forty rounds, even though early in the fight he had suffered the handicap of a broken arm.

This fame of his as the middle-weight champion naturally determined the sort of show that he must have, so we find "Prof. Ball and School of Boxers for a goodly number of years at all the great fairs, ranging from North to South."

To the boxing saloon he added another show (then a great draw), the Marvellous Atoms of Humanity, and exhibited them side by side. If not exactly the first to see the possibility of the cinématograph in its very earliest days, he certainly was the second man to introduce it in a show booth at the fair. He saw with the great Randall Williams, all the possibilities of the living picture, and exhibited pictures as an item in the programme of his other shows. For more than ten years past Mr. Ball has been the pioneer of the bioscope in all its tremendous advances and developments, and to-day the Royal Bioscope is the model and standard for all similar shows. But the travelling show does not exhaust all the enterprise of up-to-date Alf Ball. He is the proprietor of the Empire Theatre at Maidenhead, and the Royal Bioscope and Theatre of Varieties — three thousand pounds fit-up — including traction engine and electric light installation, with a company of artists, twelve in number. With Mr. Ball in all his work is closely identified his talented and most capable wife. Not herself a show lassie, she fell in love with the show lad, and the course of true love flowed smoothly; she married him, and has been ever since his right-hand man—the help-meet for him. The daughter of a railway contractor, her father built the line from Mottram to Glossop. Their eldest son, Mr. Wm. Ball, is now with them in the business, and is the lecturer and describer of the show. Having his father's "gift of tongues" we anticipate a brilliant career from the son of such parents. Not only is Alf Ball the Hero of the Fight for the defence of Mitcham Fair, but he is in another way a Mitcham Hero, and a Man of Fame in Lavenderland. Some twelve or more years ago Ball, then as now, visited Mitcham Fair. The show people in those days were allowed to camp on the "Three Kings' Common," in order that at the legal time for drawing on to the Fair Green they might be ready to do so. In those days the Conservators had a kind heart towards the Bohemians of the Road.

The shows and caravans were encamped on the Sunday night before the fair, and our hero had gone to town to visit friends. On his late return—after midnight—as he neared his movable dwelling, he was alarmed by the highly suspicious doings of a man breaking through the hedgeside. Ball watched, and the man seeing that further concealment was useless, came forward. "What's the game?" said Ball. The man made a plunge on the off-chance that the interrogator being a night bird, might also take a hand in the business. "Well, a mate and me hev just cracked a crib, and we thought that if we planted this bit of swag on the tailboard of one of them show vans, it might lead the slops off the scent." He showed Ball a clock. "So you and your pal have been burgling, eh? Which crib, show me?" Alf Ball was a man of quick action, and also of commanding presence. The burglar found that he had made a big mistake, but with the strong grip of the champion middle-weight boxer upon him, he had to do as he was told.

The crestfallen night hawk led Ball to the scene of the burglary (an old mansion that stands to this day), and he made the burglar disclose the hiding-place of the swag. He could not help it, the strong hand of necessity was upon him. "The man who could do" had him in the toils, and your professional bully and sneak has a wholesome dread of a man who can use Nature's weapons with precision and force. The end of the adventure was that Ball took the burglar to the police station and aided in the search for and the capture of burglar No. 2.

He received the warm thanks of the people of the burgled house, the special thanks of the Mitcham police, and more than that, the Chief of Scotland Yard sent for the hero of the adventure, and complimented him highly. Can we wonder that Alf Ball's name is one to conjure with at Mitcham, and that he is better known than the bellman, or that Mitcham Fair without Alf Ball would be as Hamlet without the moody Prince. Mr. Ball's brother, Elijah Ball, is a well-known traveller on the Yorkshire and Northern round. Another brother, Councillor John Ball, J.P., of Hanley, still follows in its settled form auctioneer and valuer, the itinerant craft of the founder of the family—Ball the "Handseller."

All through his life Mr. Alf Ball has been ready to champion (at his own cost and risk most times) the business and trade rights of the people of the fair ground.

He has been a subscriber since its foundation to the Vandweller Protection Society, and is a member of its working committee. Along with the Rev. T. Horne, he has taken infinite pains and given most valuable time in order to preserve the Fair at Mitcham, and at many other places his immediate action has been the means of preserving fairs.

[*Photo by Ransom, Orpington.*

MR. ALFRED BALL AND FAMILY (the Mitcham Hero).

OLDHAM WAKES.

Writing 100 years ago about the wakes at Oldham, "Rowbotham," the local historian, says in his "Annals":—

"August 26th.—Being Oldham Rushbearing Saturday, and a fine day, was very fully attended, and owing to the briskness of the Fustian business there were 8 Rush Carts.

"On Sunday, a fine day, and very throng, and Five Rush Carts, which was a thing uncommon, there was plenty of brewing with Familys which a short time since where very poor, besides notwithstanding the exhorbitant price of Butchers meat there was plenty of Beef and Cabbage, and jcy appeared in every countenance."

Our memory of the fair goes back forty-five years, and we, too, remember the rushbearing carts and the Merrie Morris dancers. We have witnessed the tremendous changes in the life of the people that the last fifty years of national progress have brought about.

The rush cart and the Morris Dancers still survive in certain of the more archaic corners of "Cotton Land," and at all "May Day Festivals" on the grand scale, such as May Day at Knutsford, the rushbearers and the Morris Dancers shod in "their wooden shoon" form an interesting feature.

Oldham has moved ahead since the days of the rush cart, and is to-day the pioneer city of the adventurous cheap tripper. Oldham has made more than one "City of Pleasure and perpetual Fair by the Sea." Oldham is the creator of Blackpool, and the chief benefactor of Douglas, Morecambe, Southport, Llandudno, Rhyl, and a dozen other seaside resorts. When Oldham sends forth its strenuous sons and daughters at the "resting time of the wakes," the hungry soul of a score of pleasure resorts at the sea, inland, and abroad, rejoices and is glad, for the day of their long expectation has come, and all is well with the company, housekeeper, and the caterers of amusement and recreation at the sea.

Think of it! This year (an abounding year of trade prosperity in the cotton-spinning districts) over half-a-million of money has been drawn out of thrift banks, going-off clubs, co-operative societies, and trade societies—not to be wasted, as the cheap-and-nasty critic imagines, in an orgie of pleasure and sensual excess, but to be well and wisely used by the worker. In the first place, for necessary rest and recuperation after fifty full weeks of grinding and exhausting toil; and in the second place for the replenishing of clothing and the necessities of home life.

Think of it, ye carping critics of the people's life! What a sum it looks to the jaundiced eye of the penny wise and pound foolish economist. Half a million of money! Yet, divide it amongst a million and more of people who have the spending and the enjoyment of it, and it remains still a marvel of economic fact and thrifty management.

Well, the heart and centre of "the going-off club movement" is Oldham, and this year from the Oldham district alone £200,000 has been drawn from the hard-won wage fund of the workers. This constitutes a record, and it reflects the highest possible credit upon the people concerned. But for the savings clubs, which are the very essence of thrift, many of them would not be able to secure that change of air and scenery so very necessary to rehabilitate a system enervated by a year's strenuous toil. Various calls would swallow up the small weekly contributions which are made to the funds, and at holiday time many would find themselves without the necessary facilities for a respite. All logical reasoning is opposed to the argument that people who exhibit sufficient thrift to save the whole year round would, in the course of a week, dissipate the fruits of this self-denial. A very cursory examination on the spot would soon dispel the fallacies. Tradesmen can speak of the few days preceding the holiday, when the funds are distributed, as among the most prosperous of the year, for with some of the money distributed articles of personal comfort are purchased or some desire for the improvement of the home gratified. Much of the money, too, is reinvested.

The augmented staff of railway porters who have been drawn from other towns stare open-eyed, and wonder when the exodus is going to cease. The railway companies, dealing as they do with over 100,000 excusionists, have to make their strongest effort to cope with it. Naturally they make big returns during wakes week, and it is to their advantage to compete with each other for business. Keen rivalry exists amongst them, and their special facilities of travelling are billed all over the town. Such demands on railways have inevitably cut the cost of travelling down to a minimum with the maximum of comfort. There is no other town in England perhaps where the population makes such a sudden and tremendous exit as in Oldham. Other towns and cities with larger populations seem to take their holidays at their leisure and go away at various periods during the season; but there are few places that approach Oldham in the number of people who leave on one day. To cope with such a gigantic task is herculean work on the part of

the railway companies, but experience of previous years shows that they do their work well, and all is got over in the best possible way.

But the Wakes holiday in Oldham is not confined entirely to the mill operative class, as outsiders so frequently imagine. People from the highest point of the social ladder to the lowest rung will pursue the hunt for pleasure; and perhaps at Blackpool, the Isle of Man, or some other pleasure spot an alderman, magistrate, or councillor will jog elbows with the humblest ratepayer and mill operative. The great leveller has been at work, and class distinction at the seaside are at a discount.

The Lancashire lass, with the throwing off of her shawl and clogs, has forgotten that she hails from "Owdham." Many a hard-earned penny has gone in the laying in of a costume with which to appear smart at the seaside. Of course, she has a perfect right to spend her savings as she desires, and one can trust her that none will be really wasted. Much may go in vain frivolities, and in satisfying idle wishes; but this, it must be remembered, is the only time when she gets her full share of the world's pleasures. It all has an end and a purpose, and contributes to make the holiday a complete success. As a matter of fact, much can be learned by others from the way in which the Lancashire mill operative conducts herself on holiday.

Altogether Lancashire working people on holiday are a delightful crowd. They can never be described as "downhearted," and though merry and full of the gaiety which means so much in favour of a holiday, they are always orderly, and gain the respect and admiration of everyone.

But, separate and apart from the million who travel, over a million toilers remain who cannot manage to save or afford to go to the sea. For this vast mass of human life the itinerant showman and novelty caterer provides, and the old historic fair-ground known as Tommyfield (the playground of Oldham lads and lassies from time immemorial) is the theatre of their effort.

On the eve of the fair, as we neared the main street and noted the trend of human life in the busy thoroughfares of the town, we were especially interested in the outward and visible signs of a whole town and people bent on taking a holiday.

The heart of a toil-worn people seeking rest—seeking not only rest from toil, but change, recreation, amusement, and some little joy of life. To the stay-at-home people "Tommyfield," even on the eve of the fair, was the "Mecca" of their pilgrimage.

On Saturday, however, the main fair day, you would have been puzzled to realise that any exodus had taken place at all. From every railway station thousands came in to the town, for it must be ever remembered that Oldham is easy of access to dozens of busy centres of life, and that "Owdham Wakes" is dear to the heart of Lancashire. To visit Tommyfield is a local duty as well as a never-failing delight.

By five o'clock the streets looked very lively, and as time wore on crowds continued to arrive by trams and trains till nearly eight o'clock. Then indeed Oldham presented an animated picture. Nothing was dull or monotonous, and the amount of business done must have been enormous. Of course, it was in Tommyfield the principal portion of the amusement was centred. There the usual fair was again held, its attractions this year being more novel and pleasing than we have seen for a good while. Variety was almost endless as far as progress was concerned, but the old time amusements which so delighted our ancestors seem to have been entirely lost sight of. There were gay charioteers after the Oriental fashion there in galore, but where was the rushcart and all its memorable associations? We know that old people would have very much preferred to see one there; it would have conjured up old thoughts; it would have brought them back to the past; but is the modern idea of recreation turned in another direction? It seems to be, and to meet the requirements of fashion modern inventions were requisitioned.

From seven o'clock till after eleven, Tommyfield was packed to the extreme, standing space being at a premium, while at times it was rendered difficult to retain a position owing to the crushing of the human surging mass which pressed on and on from one variety to another till all taking part in it had seen the different displays. And no sooner had they made the way clear than they were succeeded by an equally numerous throng, walking along speechless, all eyes on the alert and all minds centred on the attractions around. The effect was quite panoramic, and one standing at the end of any of the long unoccupied passages which marked the boundary between one set of amusements and another, and from there survey the multitude of faces, could witness a scene to delight the eye. With the brilliant light of the electric arcade lamps, and the glowing flames of the more modest gas, and the pleasing countenances of the throng, everything seemed in harmony and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves.

THE cinematograph shows were those of Messrs. Payne and Clarke. Haydn's second-sight show and the side-shows of Messrs. Ling and Payne completed the show list. The motor-car sets were those of Messrs. J. Collins, P. Collins, and William Mitchell, jun. John Green's switch, B. Mitchell's ostriches, and steam yachts by William Mitchell, sen., and J. Collins; whirly-whirlys by Holland and J. Collins, swings by J. Platt, gem horses by Hibbert, Chaplain, and Mercer; photo saloons by Gunthorpe and Barker, rifle saloons and bottle batteries by Aldis, Hughes, Martin, and Ludlow. The variety caterers included Messrs. Harrington, Ormerod, Mercer, and many others.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Guild Funds 1906:—Per Guild Secretary, T. Hartshorn 10s.; per Mr. Alfred Ball, F. Wilson 10s., J. Laing 5s., G. Holmes 5s., J. Manning 5s., S. Mayne 5s., C. Ive 5s.; per Mr. Whiting, Mrs. Harrington 10s., Mrs. Burton 5s., Mrs. Massey 5s.; per Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Thomas 5s., Mrs. Annie Jewell 5s.; per Mr. William Chaplain, H. Clayton 5s.

WE are glad to say that the Dean Memorial Monument was erected last week over the resting-place of the venerated showman leader in Witton (Northwich) Churchyard. We hope shortly to give our readers a photo of the memorial, with some interesting descriptive details.

STROOD Old Charter Fair follows Mitcham, and attracts a big crowd of shows and other fair-ground amusements. The principal attractions were the well-known concerns of Messrs. Alf. Ball, William Biddall, Lal Elliott, Swales Forrest, C. Hill, C. Bailey, G. Holmes, H. Bond, Andrews, Mayne, H. Forrest, Laing, Harvey, Mannings, T. Pettigrove, F. Wilson, Hewitt Peters, Edwards, Sanders, Knighton, H. Castle, and Mrs. Edwards. Strood is an example of what can be done when there is plenty of room. The fair is arranged as a vast quadrangle, with two full-length avenues of swings, machines, strikers, and gem horses; down the centre the big shows occupied the whole of one side of the square; the shooting galleries and side-shows another side; throwing games, dart and ring-boards another side; and the remaining side was entirely given over to coker shies and Emma sheets. The central avenues also displayed panorama and toy stalls, Japanese fish game, and other varieties.

FROM Strood the greater portion of the things go to Barnet for the Fair next Monday, and the rest go to Oxford for its famous Fair, Monday and Tuesday next. Mr. Alf. Ball takes private business with the Royal Bioscope at Aylesbury this week-end, then on to Oxford.

DEATH OF EDDIE HARVEY.

We regret to announce the death of Eddie Harvey, who was a sufferer from that dread disease, consumption, and passed away on Friday, the 24th ult., at his brother Dennis's flat, 41, De Laune Street, Kennington, at the early age of twenty-six. He had not worked with his brothers for the last three months, his place being taken by the youngest of the trio, Frank. Dennis was at Clacton-on-Sea when he received a wire intimating the serious condition of Eddie, and on reaching Liverpool Street Station on Thursday morning immediately drove in his trap to Tatsfield, near Westerham, Kent, where the invalid had been living, and took him back to his place where he died the next day.

The deceased performer, a native of Glasgow, was the younger of the two boys, known as the Harvey Midgets, who were brought out some sixteen or seventeen years ago by their uncle, Frank Folloy (formerly of Folloy and O'Neill, Irish comedians), in an entertainment known as *McGuinness's Kitchen*, their weights at that time being respectively 2st. 8lb. and 2st. 4lb. respectively. The pair worked with their uncle some six and a half years, until, indeed, an attack of paralysis put an end to his professional career. This misfortune threw the boys, then in their teens, on their own resources, and they were secured for the London Pavilion, where they appeared for eighteen weeks. They afterwards worked the London Syndicate halls for two years, followed by a couple of years on the Moss and Thornton Circuit. They went to Australia in 1902 under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards, and under the auspices of Mr. P. R. Dix, toured New Zealand. On the termination of their engagement there they went to South Africa. Throat trouble had developed in the deceased artist before the voyage to Australia, where his health much improved. He was again attacked, however, during his stay in Johannesburg, and very wisely he was landed at Madeira for a month's stay in that salubrious climate. The monotony of a solitary stay on the island was too much for the invalid, and he landed in England in a week after his brothers. He gradually got worse, and was unable to speak during the last few months that he fulfilled engagements in the sketch known as *The Fighting Dummy*.

The remains of the deceased were interred at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Kensal Green, on Wednesday, in the grave where lies the body of his mother. The cortége left De Laune Street, Kennington, at 12.20, and arrived at the place of

[*Photo by W. H. Stephens.*

THE LATE EDWARD HARVEY, OF THE HARVEY BROTHERS.

interment at 2 o'clock. The coffin was of polished oak, with massive brass mountings, and the plate bore the simple inscription:—

Edward Harvey,
Died 24th August, 1906; aged 26.
R.I.P.

The principal mourners were:—In the first carriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Harvey, Kate and Maggie (sisters), Frank Harvey (youngest brother), and Frank Folloy (uncle). In the second carriage, Walter and Jim (brothers-in-law), Manny Hart, Bob Baigle. In the third carriage were Miss Ray Maskell and two other ladies, and in private conveyances were the Three Laurels, and Messrs. Griff, Leo Tell, Morny Cash, and Harry Bancroft, representing the Variety Artistes' Federation.

At the cemetery many friends of the deceased gathered to pay a last tribute of respect, and the grave-side was covered with flowers. The senders of wreaths included Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Harvey, Frank Harvey, Frank Folloy (uncle), Katie and Maggie (sisters), Walter and Jim (brothers-in-law), Aunt Betsy, Cissie and Charlie (cousins), Aunt Annie, Willie Benn, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Conlin, The Florodora Girls, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, Mr. Don and Dulcie, Baby Ray, S. Aarons and Sons, Bert Burnell, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, V. L. Granville, "Bob," The Three Laurels, Fred Haile, W. Lee, D. Lexie, The Terriers' Association, The Variety Artistes' Federation, Alexandra Dagmar, Manny Hart, May Henderson, Lottie Stone.

The funeral arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. Theophilus Dunkley, of Westminster Bridge Road.

MUSIC-HALL COMMISSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I beg formally to notify, so far as concerns the Oxford, Tivoli, and other establishments which are under my direction, that no commissions, discounts, fees, loans, gifts, or other considerations are permitted to be received by any of the companies' employees from anyone who may supply goods to or have any business transactions with the companies.

Any breach of this rule will lead to the closing of business relations with any firm offering the same, and the instant dismissal of any employee receiving the same.—Yours truly,

G. ADNEY PAYNE
(Managing-Director).

1, Durham House-street, Strand,
Aug. 25.

PRESENTATION.—At the Brixton Theatre on Wednesday evening Mr. R. W. Allum, the acting-manager, on behalf of the management and staff, presented Mr. Harry Richardson, the *chef d'orchestre*, with a silver cigar-case, in token of their esteem and as an expression of regret on his retirement to take up an important position elsewhere. The presentation was made in the saloon of the theatre. Mr. Allum, in the course of a neat speech, expressed the hope that Mr. Richardson, in his new sphere, would always be top-scorer. Mr. Richardson returned thanks in a felicitous speech, and took the opportunity to introduce his successor, Mr. E. Moss, to the staff, and hoped they would be as loyal to him as they had been to their former chief.

PORTABLE THEATRES AND BUILDING BY-LAWS.

Judging by what we hear of Hemel Hempstead we might imagine it was in some out-of-the-world corner of the earth, and not within easy access of the heart of the world's life, mighty London. The question agitating the grave and reverend seigniors of its council is—theatre or no theatre? A permanent Temple of Thespis being out of the question, is it wise to admit a portable or travelling theatre?

The debate in the Town Council, which we reproduce from the local Press, is of wide interest.

The Highways and Works Committee reported that the magistrates had granted Mr. Whitmee, proprietor of the Eden Theatre, a licence for a temporary building to be erected. The committee had directed the Borough Surveyor to request Mr. Whitmee to submit plans before erecting the building.

Councillor Clarke submitted the report, and asked if Mr. Whitmee had sent any plans.

The Borough Surveyor: I received a letter from Mr. Ellis, Mr. Whitmee's solicitor, and he says the theatre is a building which does not require plans to be submitted. However, plans were afterwards received, with a letter which said that they had been sent as a matter of courtesy.

Councillor Herbert: Are they in accordance with the by-laws?

The Borough Surveyor: No.

Alderman Thompson: I have seen a report of a case where this matter was thrashed out, and it was decided that plans were not necessary for a temporary structure.

The Borough Surveyor: There was a case in reference to a structure for a circus, but I believe that was for one night only.

Councillor Bailey: The theatre is up now. A tenant of mine was ordered to remove a building he had put up, and I want all treated alike. I don't see why there should be a law for one and not another.

Councillor Clarke: It would be best to refer the matter back to the committee with power to act.

Councillor Denny: Does that mean taking counsel's opinion? It seems to me that we should know whether we are in the right or not.

The Chairman (Alderman Chennells): The Town Clerk will be here soon, and he will advise us.

Alderman Thompson: What does "with power to act" mean?

Councillor Clarke: If we are within our rights we should pull it down.

Councillor Denny: There was a case from Bovingdon just lately, but the building still stands.

Councillor Clarke: That was not ours.

Councillor Denny: Coming the bluff does not act always.

Councillor Clarke: It is not bluff. I am in sympathy with entertainment for the people, but we must see that they are in a safe building. At present we have had no case stated to us that plans are not required.

The Borough Surveyor: Mr. Ellis was asked to state a case at the last court, but he could not do so.

Councillor Bailey: That is where the bluff comes in.

Councillor Herbert having made a remark, it was decided to hold the matter over till the Town Clerk's arrival.

When Mr. Smeathman arrived he read Mr. Ellis's letter, and added that he had looked into the matter and was not aware of any case supporting the statement made by Mr. Ellis. His own opinion was that the building must be approved by the local authority, as it was more or less a permanent structure. It seemed to him that that class of building needed special restrictions. However, he would put the case before the Municipal Corporations' Association and get counsel's opinion.

Alderman Thompson: Of course, if anyone had shown opposition before the Bench the licence would not have been granted.

Alderman Gray: It had been refused, and no one thought it would be granted again.

The matter was then referred back to the committee for the purpose of receiving the reply to the Town Clerk's letter.

The Council of Hemel Hempstead did wisely and well in referring the matter of their power to the Town Clerk. We doubt not that the case governing all similar applications will be looked up by the Clerk.

The case of the Urban District Council of Nantyglo and Blaina (Wales) v. Edward Ebley, clearly shows that by-laws framed to regulate permanent buildings do not apply to portable erections, such as booths, tents, or shows. Another point also of vast importance was settled in that test case. That is, that no Parish or District Council has power to make by-laws, but must use the by-laws already in existence under the jurisdiction of the County Council.

It was proved that the County Council could not delegate power to make local by-laws to smaller governing bodies like Parish or District Councils.

This is of immense importance to travelling shows and theatres. Local bodies strain their powers, not to regulate shows and theatres, but to prohibit their erection. If Mr. Whitmee had been so ill-advised as to submit plans without any qualification he probably would have been prevented opening at all by the vexatious restrictions and conditions placed upon him and his theatre.

Hemel Hempstead is in the County of Hertford and the county by-laws provide for the "good order, rule, and government" of all places of public resort; and, over and above all that, the common and the statutory law of the land provides amply for all kinds of entertainments, so far as they touch public morals or public safety. Let the Solons of the Town Council leave something for their brethren of the County Council to do.

BLONDIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It has been stated by a contemporary that Blondin, the world-renowned tight-rope walker, was born at St. Omer, Pas-de-Calais, France, in 1822. That is incorrect, as the year of his birth was 1824.

I myself witnessed Blondin's wonderful performances on two occasions, once in Leipzig in 1881, and the other time years afterwards at the Aquarium, Westminster.

Blondin lies buried in Kensal Green Cemetery, the inscription on the fine brown granite tomb, containing a white marble medallion bust of the deceased, covered with glass, being as follows:—"In memory of Jean François Gravelet Blondin, who died at Niagara House, Ealing, February 22, 1897, in his 73rd year."

His wife is interred with him.—Yours faithfully,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, N.W.

MR. WILLIAM J. LOCKE, author of *The Morals of Marcus*, has just corrected the proofs of a new book, to be published shortly by Mr. John Lane. It bears the promising title of "The Beloved Vagabond." Mr. Locke, who attended all the rehearsals of his play at the Garrick, does not suffer from the intense nervousness that makes a first night positive torture to many playwrights.

ALBURGH regatta was held on Monday in fine weather. Stock's gallopers, Crichton's gallopers, Purchase's menagerie, Kibble's fine art exhibition, and a host of swings, shooting saloons, Emmas, stalls, &c. More people than ever known before attended the fair, and business was good.

MARIE WALFORD MEMORIAL.

"MYSTIC MARIE."

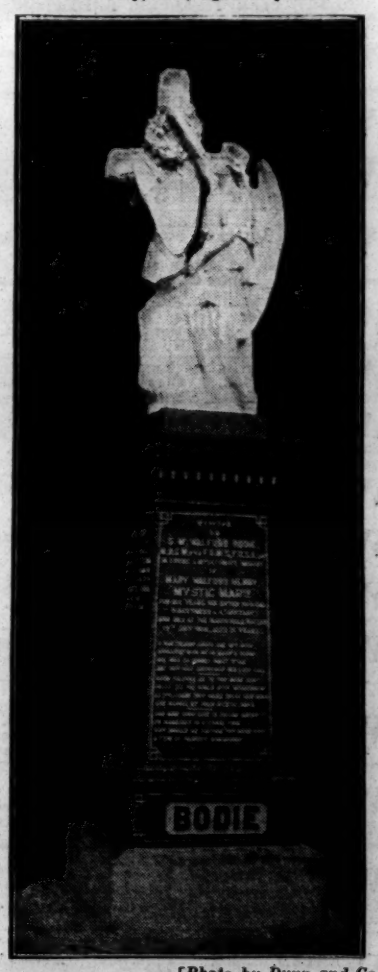
Messrs. William Boddie and Sons, the well-known sculptors and granite merchants, St. Clair-street, Aberdeen, have just finished a beautiful and artistic memorial to the order of Dr. Walford Bodie, which is to be erected in the Macduff Churchyard, in memory of his sister-in-law, Miss Mary Walford Henry, better known as "Mystic Marie," who used to appear along with Dr. Bodie at his performances in London and the provinces. Miss Marie died during the doctor's last visit to

MISS MARIE WALFORD.

Aberdeen, in her twenty-first year. The monument stands over 14ft. high, the top part being an exceedingly fine piece of workmanship by Professor Morescalchi, the famous Italian sculptor. The figure, which is life-sized, represents "Hope," and is carved out of a solid piece of white Sicilian marble and weighs over two tons. It takes the form of a cross with a scroll hanging over a lovely figure of an angel, whose features are beautifully moulded and life-like. She is represented placing a laurel wreath on the cross, and is undoubtedly one of the finest specimens of monumental architecture seen in the North for some time. We understand that the statue was carved as a labour of love by the professor, and has never been duplicated, and has been exhibited in several exhibitions. It undoubtedly reflects great credit on the sculptor as being a very fine work of art.

The figure stands on a granite monument over 8ft. high, consisting of two bases, die and cap. The bottom piece is 3ft. 6in. square, and finely axed. The second block measures 2ft. 11in. square by 1ft. 4in. high, with a rich carved moulding. The die is 4ft. 2in., the cap being 3ft. by 1ft. 5in. The last three stones are all polished. The cap is also richly moulded, with dentils cut round the four sides. Rubislaw Aberdeen granite has been used for the bottom parts of the monument, and all the stones are of the best colour and even texture. The inscription, which is deeply sunk in gilded letters, reads as follows:

Erected by
S. M. Walford Bodie,
M.D., C.M. U.S.A., F.R.M.S, F.R.S.A. London,
in loving and affectionate
memory of
MARY WALFORD HENRY,
"MYSTIC MARIE,"
for six years his gifted musical directress
and assistant,
who died at
The Manor House,
Macduff,
19th July, 1906, aged 21 years.



[*Photo by Dunn and Co.*

MEMORIAL TO MISS MARIE WALFORD (MYSTIC MARIE).

A ministering angel she has been;
Appeared with me in many a scene.
She was so humble 'midst it all,
And now has answered her last call.
Such talents as to you were sent
Filled all the world with wonderment;
As spellbound they would speak your praise
And marvel at your mystic ways.
And now your soul is called above
To mansions of eternal love.
Why should we sorrow? You were good—
A type of perfect womanhood.

Bodie is cut in raised letters on the second base, and stands out in bold relief. The monument will be erected in the Macduff Churchyard, where the deceased is buried, and will stand in the centre of the family vault, which has recently been constructed by Dr. Bodie for the Bodie and Henry families. It has been built by Mr. Robert Morrison, Macduff, and is one of the largest vaults in the North; it is 14ft. deep, 19ft. in length, and 9ft. wide. The walls are built of solid blocks of granite, and are 9ft. thick, the floor being finished with glazed bricks. The roof is covered with large stone slabs, with two massive iron doors supported by four strong iron girders; the foundation, which is laid in bricks to rest the monument on is 16ft. deep. The monument has been on view all this week, previous to being sent to Macduff, at the King-street showyard of Messrs. William Boddie and Sons, and has been visited by admiring crowds.

THE MACNAGHTEN WAYZGOOSE.

All on pleasure bent two hundred and sixty "merry souls," comprising Mr. Frank Macnaghten's London District Staff from the Palace, Bow, Foresters', Britannia, Sadler's Wells, and Surrey Theatres, could be seen in the early hours of a recent Sunday morning converging towards Liverpool Street Station where they all entrained at 10.25 a.m. in one of the G.E.R. Co.'s luxurious specials for Southend-on-Sea, which was reached in good time to allow for a stroll round to see the many attractions of this unique combination of an East and West End seaside resort.

All in good time, with appetites sharpened by the bracing air, the company assembled in the elegant hall of the Southend Kursaal to do justice to a menu that would have satisfied an epicure in dainty dishes, all served in a manner that has made the cuisine of the Southend Kursaal famous, and comprised the following:—

Soup.
Clear Ox Tail.
Joints.
Roast Lamb and Mint Sauce.
Roast Sirloin of Beef. Horseradish Sauce.
Yorkshire Pudding.
Boiled Leg of Mutton. Caper Sauce and Turnips.
Poultry.
Roast Fowl and Sausage.
Vegetables.
Baked and Boiled Potatoes, and all Vegetables in Season.
Sweets.
Macaroni Pudding, Greengage Tart, and Custards.
Cheese and Salads.

After the cloths were cleared a most convivial hour or two were spent, with Mr. Frederick Baugh in the chair, supported by Mr. C. Harvey, Mr. J. D. Kirkland, Mr. J. McCarthy, and Mr. C. Craig, when the following toast list was gone through and drunk with marked enthusiasm. "The Chief," Mr. Frank Macnaghten, proposed by the general-manager, Mr. Frederick Baugh; "Mr. Baugh," proposed by Mr. J. McCarthy; "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. Kirkland; "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Harvey; "Mr. Warren," the hon secretary, proposed by Mr. C. Craig. At 3 p.m. the entire company boarded a number of brakes, and thoroughly enjoyed a splendid drive around Southend, and returned to the Kursaal to tea at 5.30 p.m., when full justice was done to the splendid tea of rolls and butter, watercress, lettuce, shrimps, preserves, and Genoa, Madeira, and cherry cakes. It was rather late when the lengthy "Sports programme" was commenced in the Kursaal grounds, the greatest interest being manifested in the first item—a Tug-of-War between the Staffs of the five halls for a handsome Silver Cup, given by Mr. Fred Baugh, and medals for the winning team by Mr. Lew Lake. The Surrey team proved victorious, and proudly carried off the elegant trophy.

The remaining items on the programme—some of which had to be abandoned—were:—

50yds. Race for Married Ladies.
50yds. Race for Single Ladies.
100yds. Race Open Handicap for all Halls.
100yds. Race Open.
Egg and Spoon Race, Potato Race, Three-Legged Race, Sack Race, Monkey Race, Blindfold Race for Ladies, Blindfold Race for Gents.
100yds. Handicap Programme Boys' Race.
Match—Mr. F. Baugh v. Mr. Weaver, 100yds. for 5s., Mr. Baugh 35yds. start.
Match—Mr. J. Malchar v. Mr. C. Redgrave, 100yds. for 5s., Mr. J. Malchar 5yds. start.
Two Mile Cycle Race.
Half-Mile Open Race.

Mr. Con Weaver proved himself a most efficient property-master of the sports.

A full list of the winners will be published when the presentation of the prizes takes place.

The return journey to London at 9.25 p.m. landed all safely in London about 10.45, when a large number of the company adjourned to the Foresters' for a parting toast, and to tell all over again the many enjoyable incidents of a memorable and happy day's outing.

"THE DUCHESS OF TOOTING."

At the Empire Palace Theatre, South Shields, on Monday, a most successful musical comedy was produced, entitled *The Duchess of Tooting*, the words and lyrics being written and the music composed by Mr. Georg Sheldon. The book is smart and entertaining, and although the plot is not entirely original, it is full of ludicrous situations which keep the house continuously amused.

Charlie Cash, the son of Silas Cash, a wealthy manufacturer, marries Rosa Latour, an actress in the halls, who is also known as the Duchess of Tootsie, the title of one of her songs. Silas Cash, the father, falls into the mistake of supposing his son's bride to be the Duchess of Tooting, and visits his son for the purpose of giving him a wedding present of £10,000. Matters being complicated by his arrival, Fitzroy Fitzherbert, Charlie's friend, kindly consents to impersonate the Dowager Duchess. The real Duchess, however, comes upon the scene, and being much annoyed, is taking her luggage away from the hotel when Silas Cash enters, and seeing what he believes to be his daughter-in-law's name on the luggage, has the Duchess arrested by the gendarmes as a thief. She sees the sham Duchess, and breaking away from the gendarmes, pursues him, followed by the rest, and a general chase across the stage ensues, ending by Fitzherbert appearing dressed in his own clothes, and presenting the bride with a £10,000 cheque which he has got from Silas Cash, and with the usual explanations all ends happily.

Rosa Latour is charmingly portrayed by Miss Josie Bickford, her singing and dancing being applauded. Mr. Eric Delavere as Fitzroy Fitzherbert keeps the audience amused by his funny make-up as the Dowager Duchess. Mr. Henry Latimer is good as Charlie Cash, and Mr. Ernest Spalding as Silas Cash contributes towards the success of the play. Miss Dora Heritage as the Duchess of Tooting and Miss Ida Lawrence as Peter are both successful. A quartette of dancers and acrobats score heavily. The piece is well mounted, the dresses beautiful, and the music light and pretty, the band and chorus being ably conducted by the author and composer, Mr. Georg Sheldon.

ON the occasion of Mr. Billy Keene's benefit at the Town Hall, Portrush, on Aug. 24, Mr. Rowland Hill presented him with a handsome silver-mounted crocodile skin cigar-case, the artists presented him with a beautiful morocco leather pocket-book with suitable inscription, and to Mrs. Billy Keene was presented a large case of real Irish linen from Miss Daisy Morell (Mrs. Hill).

THE NEW EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

The Empires of the Metropolis will be added to on Monday next, when the old-established theatre at Camberwell, built by Mr. J. B. Mulholland some twelve years ago, will be re-opened as a music hall on the two-houses-a-night plan, a system of which it has already had a brief experience. The Metropole, as the house was formerly known, has been lavishly redecorated, and a sight of its handsome interior was given to a privileged few on Wednesday, when Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the managing-director of the company formed to carry on the enterprise, welcomed many friends and supporters. Mr. Sparrow has behind him the benefit of eight years of local popularity, gained at the Palace of Varieties opposite, and his ability to cater adequately for the wants of the neighbourhood render the success of the venture practically assured. The association in the management of Mr. Harry Bawn, a performer of wide renown, and an experienced manager, who is a director of the company, materially strengthens the chances of prosperity. The board of directors is completed by Mr. E. C. Webb, Mr. Percy Ford, and Miss Vesta Victoria. The solicitor to the company is Mr. G. P. R. Burgess, who acts in an honorary capacity for the Terriers' Association and the Music Hall Home. Mr. Percy Ford will fill the position of acting-manager.

The hall stands on an exceptionally fine site at the junction of Denmark Hill and Coldharbour-lane, and the electric cars, which will soon be running past the door, will open up a vast source of patronage in the rapidly-increasing residential districts of Dulwich; while the erection of the new King's College Hospital and the opening of Ruskin Park will increase the popularity of the immediate locality.

The effect of the new decorations is agreeably striking, no expense having apparently been spared to render the hall attractive. The highest credit is reflected on Mr. W. Nutt, the stage-manager, whose staff has carried out the work, under the supervision of Mr. Sparrow, with whom Mr. Nutt has had an association extending over many years. Crimson is the prevailing colour, relieved by hues of Antwerp blue and gold, the figure subjects, baskets of fruit and flowers, and Oriental designs being tastefully painted. The plush hangings are in peacock blue, and the seats are upholstered in the same colour. Attention will be attracted to the ceiling, upon which a design symbolical of the Empire has been painted, the blue sky being studded with golden stars. Wilton carpets of fine quality cover the floors. Stained glass is profusely used in the decorations, and when the house is lit up by electric lights the whole scene is very inspiring. New scenery from the practised brush of Mr. Richard Douglass has been provided, fine garden scenes and elegant interiors, &c., quite sustaining the artist's reputation. The orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Frank Hurst.

The company for the opening night consists of John F. Preston's company, in the racing episode, *Rogues of the Turf*, Edie Rivers, Little Tina, Grey and Parry, in their burlesque on *Acrobats, Past and Present*, Marguerite Hay, Will McIvor, Hamilton Hill, Marlow and Manton, Jack Wood, Elton and Edwin, and the Empire Pictures. There will also be a special production of an original vocal mélange, introducing songs and characteristic dances of two countries, entitled *Girls Will be Girls*, portrayed by Miss Mabel Bright and selected company.

Numerous friends looked in during the evening to assure Mr. Sparrow and his colleagues of their best wishes, among those present being the veteran Mr. George Burgess, Mr. Rob Cunningham, Mr. Joe Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Millis, Mr. Leon A. Bassett, Mr. J. J. Fruin, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Neiman, Mrs. Cliff Ryland, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cowper, Miss Lottie Lennox, Miss Nance Maries, Miss Dora Clifford, Mr. Jack Wayho and Miss Eva Hope, Mr. Harry Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gage, Mrs. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Cooke, Mr. E. C. Webb, Capt. Ben Woodger, and Messrs. Ernest Aplin, J. Gallimore Fox, Paul Valentine, Dave Cohen, Jeapes, John Moore, Will Crackles, V. Golden, Ted Delome, Tom Eugene, J. Wolff, and Ed. C. Webb. Selections on the pianoforte enlivened the evening, and the acoustics of the house were agreeably tested by Mr. W. L. Murray, who has hitherto won distinction as the winner of the Sandow gold statuette for his physical development, but on Wednesday gained honours for his singing in a pleasing tenor voice of "The Maid of the Mill" and "Alice, where art thou?"

REHEARSING "PINAFORE."

One Monday morning in 1899, says Mrs. Alec-Tweedie in her amusing book, "Behind the Footlights," when Mr. Gilbert, who was coming up to town to attend a rehearsal, asked me if I would care to see a rehearsal of *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

"Nothing I should like better," I replied, "for I have always understood that you and Mr. Pinero are the two most perfect stage-managers in England."

We drove to the stage door of the Savoy, whence down strange and dark stone stairs we made our way to the front of the auditorium itself. We crossed behind the footlights, passing through a small, unpretending iron door into the house, Mr. Gilbert leading the way to a side box, which at the moment was shrouded in darkness; he soon, however, pushed aside the white calico dust-sheets that hung before it, and after placing chairs for his wife and myself, and hoping we should be comfortable, departed. What a spectre that theatre was! Hanging from gallery to pit were dust-sheets, the stalls all covered up with brown holland wrappers, and gloom and darkness on all things. Verily a peep behind the scenes—which, more properly speaking, was before the scenes in this case—is like looking at a private house preparing for a spring cleaning.

Built out over what is ordinarily the orchestra was a wooden platform large enough to contain a piano, brilliantly played by a woman, beside whom sat the conductor of the orchestra, who was naturally the teacher of the chorus, and next to him the ordinary stage-manager, with a chair for Mr. Gilbert placed close by. The librettist, however, never sat on that chair. From 11.30 to 1.30—exactly two hours—he walked up and down in front of the stage, directing here, arranging there; one moment he was showing a man how to stand as a sailor, then how to clap his thighs in nautical style, and the next explaining to a woman how to curtsey, or telling a lover how to woo. Never have I seen anything more remarkable. In no sense a musician, Mr. Gilbert could hum any of the airs and show the company the minutest gesticulations at the same time. Be it understood they were already *word* and *music* perfect, and this was the second "stage rehearsal." He never bullied or worried any one, he quietly went up to a person, and in the most insinuating manner said:

"If I were you, I think I should do it like this."

And "this" was always so much better than their own performance that each actor quickly grasped the idea and copied the master. He even danced when necessary, to show them how to get the right number of steps in so as to land them at a certain spot at a certain time, explaining carefully:

"There are eight bars, and you must employ so many steps."

That hale and hearty veteran, Mr. G. B. Bigwood, looking none the worse for his forty-one years' connection with the Britannia Theatre, is, as is known to many, located at Gaiety House, facing Southend Pier, and many are the Hoxtonians who patronise his cigar-shop, in order to see once again one of their old idols.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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One Year	26s. 0d.	32s.

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The Publisher,
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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 28, Feb 4, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 29, Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Feb. 18, March 4, 11, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 13, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3 (six nights each).
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 26, May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Oct. 15, April 22, May 13, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Good Dramas, Musical Comedies, &c., Dec., on. Address, Herbert Vere.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, Oct. 22.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, Nov. 26.
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Sept. 20, 21, 22, three nights.
Apply, Edward Michael,
Theatre Royal, Margate.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Good, Sound Attractions (Comedy preferred), Brighton Season Dates, Oct. 8, and onwards, with exceptions.
Particulars, Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 10, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, and on.
W. E. Potts.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, through transferring date, Good Company, musical show preferred, Sept. 17; must be strong attraction.
Wire or write,
George E. Mudd, Business-Manager.

WANTED, for Opera House, Dunfermline, High-class Attractions, Sept. 10, Oct. 1 (Holiday date), Oct. 22. W. E. Potts.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Comedy Attraction, for Nov. 5, Vacant through transfer.
Address, Harry Yorke, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Oct. 8, 9, 10, unexpectedly vacant through obliging; good Comedy Company wanted; Dec. 6 also vacant. Apply, W. B. Redfern, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Dec. 3, 31, Jan. 17, on.
Clayton, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 28, on.
Clayton, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 26, Dec. 10 and 17. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, through obliging a Manager, First-Class Company for Sept. 17.
Rogers, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Musical Attractions, Sept. 24, on, with exceptions, three nights each town.
Apply, Chas. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 19 (?), Feb. 4 and 11, March 4 and 18 (Race week), April 25 (Fair week). Address, Frank King, Silence polite negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Company, for Sept. 17; only First-class Companies entertained. First-class Musical Comedy preferred. Communicate, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attractions, Dec. 10 and 17.
E. H. Page.

BORO' THEATRE, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, Attractions (non-dramatic). Rental only. Address, for terms and conditions, Horace Lee, Theatre Royal.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

GRAND THEATRES,
CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Oct. 29, on, Grand, Radcliffe; also Nov. 5, on, Grand, Chorley.
Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, March 11, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, March 25, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Vacant Sept. 17, onward.
(Can arrange Pantomime Production, Xmas.)

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Sept. 10, onward (three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Oct. 1, onward (last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 22 (?), Oct. 29, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Oct. 8, 15, 22, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.
All Communications,
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Dec. 3 and 17, and Jan. 7.
Amongst others, the following list of companies are booked and pencilled for the ensuing season, viz.:—"La Poupée," "After the Ball," "Monte Cristo," Durward Lely and Wm. Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Walter Reynold's "Mr. Smith," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Fredk. Mouillot's Company in "Faust Up-to-Date," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique," &c., &c. Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty. Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
Acknowledged to be the Leading Theatre in Barrow.
WANTED, Companies, Bookings include "The Walls of Jericho," "The Lion and the Mouse," "The Marriage of Kitty," "The Bauble Shop," "The Freedom of Suzanne," "Cousin Kate," "Monsieur Beaucaire," "The Private Secretary," "The Eternal City," "Wearin' o' th' Green," "The Woman Who Gambles," "The Prodigal Parson," "The Poor must Live," "Romany's Revenge," "I Defy the World," "Sailors of the King," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Honour Thy Father," "Prince of Pilsen," "Three Little Maids," Native Choir from Jamaica, "La Poupée," "Florodora," "Sergeant Brue," &c. Only Vacant Autumn Dates Oct. 29, Dec. 3, and Special Attraction for Xmas, four or five nights, and matinées.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred), Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 17.
James Bell.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, A1 Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, Oct. 22 (?), 29 (?), Nov. 19, Dec. 10-17.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Nov. 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Oct. 1 (?), 8 (?), 15, 22, and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager,
Sept. 3, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies, for few remaining Dates.
Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 19.
Address as above.

NORTH WALES.
WANTED, First-class Fit-up Attractions, for Principal Towns on Coast. Bookings and rebookings include "San Toy," "Belle of New York," "Charley's Aunt," "Sign of Cross," "Girl from Kay's," &c., &c. Only recognised companies entertained. Apply, Chas. Chaplin, Prince's T., Llandudno.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Musical preferred, for the weeks of Oct. 8 and Nov. 12. Two of the best weeks in the year. J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, for Sept. 2, Oct, First-Class Fit-up Companies.
J. Sykes, Victoria Hall, Abercarne, Mon.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Sept. 24, through obliging.
H. Masterman, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Oct. 15 and Nov. 5.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Nov. 26, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 1, 15, 22.
Wire, J. W. Cordiner, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
See Companies advertisement, page 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Dec. 3. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 22. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
Tom Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 21, March 11.
Douglas Bruce,
Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, 19, on. New Scenery, Printing, Specialities, &c.
"THE SAILORS OF THE KING."
Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 12. Refer to Mr. C. Paget, Crown, Peckham; Mr. Upton, Theatre, Colchester; &c. Charles Harrington, New Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Date (through transfer), Oct. 29. Chalmers Mackey, Empire Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Sept. 17 (owing to Stockton Fire), Oct. 15, Nov. 19, 26,
Mr. Samuel James's
Gigantic Success,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Mr. J. F. Elliston, of Bolton, writes:
Allow me to compliment you on the piece. As a rule I do not praise anything—not even my own; but I will be perfectly willing to give you another date, and a better one—a most unusual thing for me to do with drama.
Return dates at every theatre visited.
Mr. James has made a bold bid for success by sending out, regardless of expense, one of the most complete productions ever attempted, and the result is big business everywhere.
Address, F. S. Jennings, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Nov. 12 and 19, and Dec. 3, also Dec. 24 and 31.
Few Spring and Autumn Dates vacant, 1907.
New special scenery. A really Splendid Production.
More Successful than ever
Sept. 3, GRAND, WOLVERHAMPTON.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Sept. 24 (South), Oct. 22 (London or Midlands). Wire,
H. Hollister, Broadway Theatre, New Cross.

"THE SILVER KING."
Vacant Date, Nov. 26.
also few dates in Spring.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in Title-rôle.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Dec. 31, the only Company Touring.
Address, Walter J. Bayliss, Theatre R., Preston.

"THE COAL KING."
Great Attraction.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, also a few Vacant Dates in Spring.
Address, Polini and Maitland,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Known, a new Domestic Drama of Absorbing Interest. Will be produced in November next. Managers wanting a money-maker, remember this. Coms., F. Wybert Clive, this, Grand, Newcastle; next, Royal, Scarboro'.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Oct. 8 and 15 (?), Dec. 3, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, and 28.
Dickie Clare, Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres. Vacant Sept. 24 (through misunderstanding). Wire, John B. Shinton, to-day, Prince's, Blackburn; next, P., Accrington.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Sept. 17, for this great play, now going stronger than ever; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for Parade. Wire,
F. G. Kimberley, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

Mr. BERT COOTE'S SPECIAL CO., presenting
"OLD HEIDELBERG,"
with
Mr. ROBERT MINSTER.
Vacant Dec. 25, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Address,
Bert Coote, 150, Oxford-street, W.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as Fiend.
By arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard this company can play anywhere except London.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, and New Year. Montague Beaudyn,
Next, Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Sept. 10, for "The New Barmaid," through Mansfield Theatre not being complete. Loftus, T. R., Nottingham.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 22, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, to precede Portsmouth.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

WANTED, good Theatre, Xmas, for the great revival of the new "Man and Wife," Walter Howard's masterpiece. Coms., T. E. Ward, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 22 29, and Nov. 5. Add., Stuart Cleveland, Theatre R., Macclesfield.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, Nov. 12 and 19. Wire for Sept. 10 and 17. Beresford, this, O. H., Dudley; next, E. T., Cradley Heath.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
More Successful than Ever.
WANTED, Oct. 8 and 29. Henry Herne, today, Alexandra, Sheffield; next, Ashington.
WANTED, for "Rich and Poor of London," Miss Dora Dench as Nurse May, supported by First-Class Company, Sept. 17, 24, and Xmas.
Sidney Dench, New Palace Theatre, Swansea

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Representative, George Gordon Jefferson.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Arthur Carlton's Company,
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Mr. Howard Sturgess's Company, including Miss Edith Blande, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Miss Elaine Verner and Harding Thomas's Company,
Sept. 24 (North).
"THE KING'S SECRET,"
James Stillwell's Company,
Xmas, Spring, Various, on.
CHARLES MAJILTON'S SKETCH COMPANY,
Nov. 26, Various, on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
A. Hamilton Warden's Company,
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov., Various, on.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT,"
W. Reuben Payne's Company,
Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov., Various, on.
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON,"
By Arthur Jefferson.
Booked for the Moss and Stoll Tour.
Arrangements can be made through this office for touring various plays written by Max Goldberg. Complete Productions, Scenery, Properties, and Good Plants of Printing.
All Branches of Theatrical Business Transacted.
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 26, for this undoubtedly successful Attraction.
Cast includes:—
Mr. Harry Cullenford.
Mr. Walter Steele.
Mr. Chas. E. Johnson.
Mr. W. Cowell-Clarke.
Mr. Beckett Bowld.
Mr. F. H. Bellwood.
Mr. E. Rowland Ross.
Miss Connie Meadows.
Mrs. Chas. Wood.
Miss Lillian Ross.
&c., &c.
Wanted, Sept 10, Sept. 17, Oct. 22.
Wanted, Sept. 10, Sept. 17, Oct. 22.
Wanted, Sept. 10, Sept. 17, Oct. 22.
Bookings include:—
Hull (Alex),
Bradford (Prince's),
Liverpool (Queen's),
Sheffield (Royal),
Derby,
St. Helens,
Newcastle (Grand),
Portsmouth (Prince's),
Swindon, Jarrow, Mexborough, Barrow, Swansea, Castleford, Lincoln, Yarmouth, Rotherham, Leeds, Barnsley, Oldham, &c.
Special Scenic Effects by Egerton.
Unrivalled Plant of Startling Pictorials.
The entire Production Staged and Played on up-to-date Lines.
Refer. Refer. Refer.
Address,
This, Grand, Newcastle; next, Royal, Scarboro'.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
"FLORODORA,"
Oct. 15, 22, and 29,
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Sept. 13, 17, Nov. 1 (three nights each), Dec. 31, and various Spring Dates.
William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the most Popular Version on the Stage.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FANNY LE GRANDE.
Enormous Success Everywhere.
Wire for Sept. 24, wire.
Wire for Oct. 1, wire.
James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 29,
Nov. 12 (three nights),
Address,
Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, Opera House, Buxton.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 17.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 1, Xmas, New Year. Wire, Frances Delaval, O. H., Middlesbrough; next, Junction, Manchester.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Nov. 26 and Xmas week,
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
Vacant Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Bertram, Avenue T., Sunderland.

"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 8, 15, Nov. 19, and Spring. Wyn Weaver, O. H., Weston-super-Mare.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Sept. 17, 24, North or Midlands.
T. Arthur Jones, O. H., Paisley.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 28, and Feb. one or two Houses a night.
H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and H. Fineberg's Production.
WANTED, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, 12, 19,
E. Hill-Mitchelson, T. R., Hyde.

Special Revival of the Well-known Moneymaker, "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 9, on, with Exceptions.
Address, Geo. Kirk,
Next, Grand Theatre, N.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, Sept. 24 (to follow third visit to Palace, Newcastle). Wire, Edward Marris, to-day, Prince's, Bristol; next week, New Theatre, Oxford.

"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
Newcastle Papers Unanimous in their Verdict:—
A splendid play, full of exciting incidents and dramatic situations.—Real characters. Human men and women.
WANTED, Theatres, for Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Xmas, New Year.
Fred C. Somerfield, P. O. W., Mexborough.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 11, and on,
for really big pantomime production.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, various, onward, for this Sterling Costume Drama. Thanks Ch Machin, Esq., for Contract. W. J. Miller, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction, Good Theatres for Sept. 24 and Oct. 8.
Add., C. and F. Renad, Alex. T., Stoke Newington.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 17 and 24, for the record breaker, Henry L. Osmond Salt-ley, next, T. R., Shrewsbury.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Oct. 15, 22, and Dec. 24.
Address,
C. M. Julian, G., Chorley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 12, 19.
Enough has been said
by Managers and Press
on the merits of this Play
to convince all
it is an exceptional Attraction.
Managers
Desiring further particulars are
respectfully requested
to write to
any Theatre
we visit,
or Mr. Powell will be pleased to
furnish any details required.

"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
the Success of the Year.

MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
this Superb Attraction.
Again Managers are invited to
witness the Production,
or to
Write for References.
Vacant,
Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
this Sterling Domestic Play.
You Know It.
Verb. sap.
Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Sept. 10, 24, and Oct. 1. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money book this Splendid Production. Vac. Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring, Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres. CARSON, Keighley.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S COMPANY.
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
Another Triumph at Islington.
WANTED, Sept. 24, between Smethwick and Grimsby, also Xmas, through cancelling T.R., Sunderland.
Must be First-class Theatres, and give Equitable Terms.
GEORGE KIRK, Grand, Islington.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Sept. 10, Sept. 10, Sept. 10, unexpectedly vacant through destruction by fire of Theatre Royal, Stockton, also vacant Oct 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas, on.
GEORGE DENHAM,
This, Castleford; next, Seaham Harbour.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, through Stockton Fire, Oct. 1. E. HILL MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Theatres, for Various Attractions, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, Xmas, and New Year. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Oct. 22 and 29, unexpectedly vacant, also Dec. 3, onwards, with exceptions.

Refer C. H. Longden, Esq., Queen's, Leeds; Stanley Rogers, Esq., H. M. T., Carlisle; H. Taylor, Esq., J.P., Lyceum, Crewe; Fred Gould, Esq., Miners', Ashington.

Sept. 3,
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
"THE PERFECT LOVER,"
by Alfred Sutro.
WANTED, through transfer, Nov. 5 and 12, only vacant dates till March, 1907.
HAROLD V. NEILSON, Imperial Theatre, S.W.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, Sept. 24 (to follow third visit to Palace, Newcastle). Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, to-day, Prince's, Bristol; next week, New Theatre, Oxford.

Miss BONWIN CARLTON'S CO.,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17. Wire for Sept. 10. EDWARD SURREY, to-day, O. H., Burton (return); next, Carlton T., Saltley (third visit).

WANTED, for "An Actor's Romance," Sept. 10, 17, and 24. Wire, CHARLES DURIE, this, T. R., Hyde; next, Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Jan. 14 and 21, for Frank Denman Wood's successful Pantomime, "Dick Whittington," First-class Theatres only. Apply, FRANK DENMAN, Wood Court Theatre, Bacup.

GEORGE STEPHENSON'S
"NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
WANTED, Theatres, through obliging, Sept. 17 and 24; also Oct. 22 and 29, and Xmas week. Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 and 8, for the most successful Variety Combination on the road.
Wire, ONDA, Theatre Royal, York.

ROMAN SINGERS.
WANTED, Known, the Leading Concert Party unexpectedly vacant, Sept. 17, week through misunderstanding. Wire, wire, wire, "Benbrick, London." Write, BLANCHARD'S, 49, Charing Cross-mansions, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, a Full Dramatic Company, for Maurice Bandmann's Season in the East and Mediterranean, commencing about November. Write full particulars and photos., KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

WANTED, following Artists, for First-Class Tour, commencing Oct. 1:—
Fagin, character, clean make-up;
Wilfred Denver ("Silver King"), character;
Breezy Emotional Old Man;
Juvenile;
Juvenile Heavy;
Heroine (must be young, pretty, and not tall).
State where can be seen working, and all particulars to Box 3,657, "The Era."

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANY.
"THE FOUR JUST MEN."
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for the above. Photos., references, and all particulars, H. A. SAINTSBURY, Green Room Club, W.C.

"MAN'S ENEMY."
WANTED, owing to indisposition of Miss Constance Medwyn, a recognised Leading Lady for few weeks. JOHN POWER, T. R., Houghton, Co. Durham.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"MAN'S ENEMY."
WANTED, Artists disengaged to please write to JOHN POWER, T. R., Houghton, co. Durham.

WANTED.—Opportunity occurs for Amateur Lady to play small part at London Theatre. No previous experience necessary. Applicants must be young and possess some ability. Small salary. No agents. Box 3,662, "The Era."

W. H. HALLATT and WALTER HOWARD'S CO.
WANTED, for above, Good Bright Comedian, and Strong Responsible, for Military part. Rehearse Monday, Sept. 3, at Manchester. Open Sept. 17. All particulars,
WALTER HOWARD, 195, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Really First-class Juvenile Leading Gent. for Jean (through releasing), open Sept. 17. Address, stating exact height, age, last two references, enclose photo., &c., JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

WANTED, Young Juvenile Gentleman, not more than 5ft. 8in. in height, capable of doubling when required, rehearse Aberdare, Sept. 10. Age, photo., &c., GREEN and HINTON, P. H. T., Mountain Ash.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, at once, Young Juvenile Lead, for above. All particulars to LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Star, Liverpool; next week, Alexandra, Sheffield.

WANTED, immediately, for Town, recognised Leading Juvenile Actor, for Mark Desmond in "Her Fatal Past." Full particulars and photos. if not known personally, to T. E. WARD, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Powerful Leading Man, for "Her One Great Sin" Co.
J. LEICESTER-JACKSON, Grand, Rawtenstall.

"A ROGUE'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, good Responsible Man (two small parts), height 5ft. 8in, rehearse immediately. Fullest particulars, with photos., to Messrs. BERESFORD and MOORE, 38, Greaves-street, Cradley Heath.

"THE BELLE OF BARCELONA."
WANTED, Tall, Military-looking Gent., for President; sing preferred. Refs., &c., JACK MCKENZIE, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Talented Amateur Gentleman, to play small parts and understudy lead (in a first-class Company), small premium, returned in salary. STAGE-MANAGER, 58, St. John's-villas, Holloway, N.

WANTED, for "The Throne of Terror," a responsible Gentleman. Lowest terms, photos., full particulars, to W. J. MILLER, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Leading Man for Tour, to open at once.
FRED MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.
WANTED, First-Class Heavy Gentleman. All particulars to F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Tall Slim Young Character Actor, Age, terms, references, photo., ALFRED PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Leading Lady and Gentleman, for one month or five weeks; stock, seaside; rehearse Tuesday, must dress well on and off. Wire or write, THOMSON, Pelham House, Paignton.

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gent., for small parts in First-class Touring Co. No premium or fees; small salary after first month. Educated people only apply. Letters, BISSETT, 233, Cambridge-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Lady Amateur of Experience, also Gentleman for Small Parts; must not be tall; refinement essential, for Semi-professional Co. giving One-night Performances round London; evening rehearsals. Address, giving full particulars, to Box 3,646, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentleman and Lady, to play Small Parts.
NORMAN V. NORMAN, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Amateurs wishing to gain Experience, for Various Parts in Dramatic Co., Touring, Aristocratic Fit-ups; good appearance, refinement, and dress well essential. Photos., &c., MANAGER, 201, High-street, Aldeburgh.

WANTED, Pretty Young Lady and Gentlemanly Young Fellow, for Comedy Sketch, London. Photos., age, height, lowest terms, fullest particulars, COCHRANE, 6, Granville House, Rushcroft road, Brixton. Letters only.

WANTED, Beginners, two young Ladies can have appearance at a London performance under distinguished auspices. Terms, tickets. Address Box 3,653, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette. Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W

WANTED, by Young, Petite, Refined Lady, Engagement, good vocalist, excellent pianist, musical comedy or panto. Address, Box 3,659, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists in all Lines,
and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

FRED J. LITTLE and FRED DARCY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-Class Principal Boy, must sing and dance; Fairy Queen, good vocalist; Comedian, for Page; Musical-Director; Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen. Photos. and references must be sent in all cases. Full particulars to FRED J. LITTLE, T. R., Leeds.

WANTED, Ballet Ladies, for Panto. Apply 12 till 4, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Sussex House, Canning-crescent, High-st., Wood Green, N.

WANTED, Good-looking Chorus Girls, with good voices, for panto. tour; must be smart and good-looking. Apply, with photo. in tights, and stamped addressed envelope for reply, to FRANK DENMAN-WOOD, Court Theatre, Bacup.

DANCERS AND CHORUS LADIES.
WANTED, for Pantomime and Sketches. Apply by letter,
stating full particulars, and enclosing photograph, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Knockabout Pantomimists, for Water Pantomime. Age, height, full particulars, experience, &c., BURRELL, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Florence Leonard, High-class Soprano, vacant Panto. Fairy Queen, with Songs. Monday, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Flo Melville, Burlesque Artist and Comedienne, at Liberty Pantomime. Principal Girl or Second Boy. Palace, Bath.

WANTED, by Mons. Bellini, Continental Equilibrist and Aerial Gymnast,
At Liberty for Panto. At present Booked.
36, Verdon-street, Cheetham, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, two Young Men, Panto., willing to do anything; can tumble, work traps or boxing speciality. Write, SAVILLE, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Leo Trainor, "A Brilliant Dame," Liberty Pantomime, big success last year Fred Granville's "Forty Thieves." Only good offers entertained. Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Brothers Brooks, Comedians, &c., at Liberty for Pantomime, last six seasons Messrs. Dottridge and Longden, F. W. Warden, Esq., and Milton Bode, Esq. This, Grand, Hanley; Monday, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, George Lake-Grange, the Drury Lane Giant, at Liberty for Panto. Address, Clovelly, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Known, Lib., Christe, the Original Little Levite, part, in opening, and Clown and producer Original Tandem Act. 49, Willington-road, Stockwell.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, immediately, competent, reliable Scenic Artist, used to Contract Work. Terms, references, H. O. RICHARDSON, Queen's Theatre Studio, Leeds.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters pro tem., Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Known, Mr. K. J. McLennan Scenic Artist, can now undertake Special Scenery, Contract or Engagement. Address, Box 3,615, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, free, non-inflammable Scenery (inclusively), large or small, Contracts solicited, by the original Scenic Contractors of Manchester; Pantomimes a speciality. BOSTOCK, M.S.A.A., Studios, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, an experienced Pantomime Stage Manager, for coming season.
Address terms, references, to RICH. WALDON.

WANTED, a Stage Manager and Carpenter combined who will take a pride in his work. Apply, with latest references, by letter only, to Stage Department, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Acting-Manager.
Apply, stating age and salary required, and addresses for reference, to OSWALD STOLL, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, to open at once, Baggage Man, to play small part; must be 5ft. 10in. in height. Single, sober, respectable, and energetic man will find this a good, easy, and permanent berth. State wages required to
MANAGER, Ten Loonies,
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Scenic Artist and Carpenter combined. Full particulars,
J. LEICESTER-JACKSON, Grand, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, to Open Immediately, Wardrobe Mistress, able to cut, make, and alter; comfortable shop to person who is conscientious, and prefers to work in theatre, and not at home. Apply,
FRANK DENMAN-WOOD, Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Two Young Men, experienced in pulling down and putting up portable; also take Small Parts. LLOYD, 12, Bayley's New-street, Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Manager or Acting-Manager, touring or resident; experienced Theatre, Music Hall, Bars, Bookings &c. References, Box 3,649, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Position Required, Asst., Act., Advertising, or Stage Manager; age 36. Good refs. Apply, W. BAKER, Manager, Empire, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Engagement, by Langley Wyatt, late Business-Manager Moody-Manners, 1902-1905. Acting or Ahead. 112, Canterbury-rd., Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, Geo. Dobler, Acting-Management, Advertising Management, or Advance, any Business, home or abroad; 7 years E. H. Bostock, Esq, 5 years present position. Address, permanent, c/o 78, Joy-street, Belfast. N.B.—Allow time for redirection of letters, &c.

WANTED, by Practical Electrician, permanency, own repairs, First-class References; gas, limes, arcs, heating; willing to combine other duties. Apply, Box 3,645, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Resident, by Practical Carpenter, Theatre or Music Hall, tools, bench. Refs. Thanks for offers; still at Lib. H. L., 11, Little Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Position as Assistant by Young Man, 25, Joiner and Carpenter, with liking for stage; no previous experience; willing to make himself generally useful. R. H. MCCABE, 113, Judson-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Good Smart Baggage Man and Biller, also refined Serios. Photo. and references, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Situation as Bill Inspector or Billposter; competent in both; 10 years' reference; age 30. Apply, A. ROBERTS, 12, Devonshire-street, Holborn.

WANTED, by Billposter, Situation.
Apply by letter to
DENNETT, 13, Queen-street, Henley, Oxon.

WANTED, by a thoroughly experienced Billposter, sit. as Foreman or Branch Manager. Highest refs.; age 29 FRED LEES, 65, West North st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Situation as Bill Inspector or Billposter, age 29; good references. Address, R. H. S., 34, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Evening Employment in any capacity, Theatre or Music Hall; could attend matinées, middle aged, height 6ft. ALPHA, 6, Passmore-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lady, very expert Shorthand Typist, excellent experience, knowledge theatrical typing, wishes Engagement London theatre office or as Amanuensis to Professional; steady, swift, quick, exceptionally well educated; highest references. Box 3,635, "The Era."

WANTED, a Situation, as First-class Hall or Theatre Keeper, fourteen years' experience, Sergt.-Instructor to Urban District Council Fire Brigade; could take charge of staff.
Apply, P. F. W.,
"Free Press" Office, Spalding.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Conductor Shop, by First-Class Man, Young, Steady, Dramatic or Variety (Soloist); London preferred. QUAVER, 14, Percy-street, Tynemouth.

WANTED, a Musical Conductor (Piano) for North Country Theatre; must be steady, and well up in Business.
Apply, CONDUCTOR,
123, Warwick-street, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM,
FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant,
First Violin Player preferred.
Apply, stating age and height,
and enclosing copies of testimonials, to
the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
at the Asylum

MUSICIANS WANTED.

ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS, TENTING SEASON.
WANTED, Second Violin (combine Brass, for Parades), Flute and Piccolo, Double Drums. BANDMASTER, Sat., King's Lynn. Mon., Long Sutton, Norfolk.

WANTED, at Once, a Violinist (not Leader), for Engagement at the Cabin. Write to Mr. BOXHORN, 214, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, good First Violin, to open Monday, must be good performer. Wire lowest terms. A. COLLINSON, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

WANTED, at once, Pavilion Variety Theatre, Greenock, Conductor, Viola, First Clarionet. Lowest terms and refs. to GALPIN, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Solo Cornet and Trombone; join at once.
WHITEHURST, Leader, Gorseinon, Saturday;
Glen Heath, Monday; Rhesolfan, Tuesday.

WANTED, First Cornet, for London. Apply, stating wages required, and giving names and addresses for reference, to WILLIAM COLLINS, Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, First-class Cornet, used to Variety, Open Sept. 10; wear evening dress. Photo. and references, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Clarionet Player for Canada, to sail Oct. 5 next; passage paid.
Apply, CANADA, 16, South-terrace, Penzance.

WANTED, at Once, for Ramsgate Town Band, Good Sol Clarionet and Cornet. Shares. Address, HARRY YATES, Ship Inn, Harbour-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, to augment Band, for season commencing Sept. 17, Double Bass, Flute, and Piccolo, Drums and Effects. Terms (must be ow) and references, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Double Bass, late Orient or Union-Castle Liners. Letters only,
BANDMASTER,
R.M.S. Orontes, Tilbury Docks.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, good Trombone, steady and used to Variety, to open Monday, Sept. 10. Terms and refs. to COMPTON, Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Trombone, Good, for First-class Variety Theatre, one performance nightly; good salary. E. J. PRINCE'S, 222, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting, Ireland, good Euphonium, to join at once. Wire, METCALFE, Leader, Saturday, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

WANTED, 'Cellist, well up in Variety Business, steady. Age, and last two refs., FREDERICK BRAHAM, Musical Director, Regent Theatre, Salford.

C. W. POOLE'S NO. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to Open, Monday next, Flute and Piccolo, and Clarionet; must wear uniform and assist with fittings. Terms, age, and references to J. R. POOLE, Metropole Theatre, Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, Flute and Piccolo, commence Sept. 10, Dublin, assist with fittings when travelling. Address, MAYER, Theatre, Kilkenny.

WANTED, Flautist (Piccolo Soloist), also Viola, thoroughly experienced and smart in Varieties. Age, references, lowest terms, HENRY HINCHCLIFFE, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo, join Monday. Wire,
TIDSWELL, 127, Nelson-rd.-court, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Pianist, Cornet, First Violin (leader), Double Bass, to wear costume; must be used to variety, and read manuscript. Vocalists or soloists preferred. MANAGER, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, experienced Lady Pianist, also Violinist, at once, for Café in Ireland. State age, experience, and terms. Box 3,541, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Dramatic Pianist; young, reliable, and dress well; used to stock; long tour. J. B. CARRICKFORD, Town Hall, Ennistymon, Ireland.

WANTED, Pianist (combine other instrument preferred), permanency, to commence Sept. 10. Lowest terms, refs., SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Useful Man, to play Portable Harmonium; well up in Variety. Salary 25s., long engagement. MILLER'S Variety Show, Alnwick, Northumberland.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin, must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Small Brass Band, six performers, must be sober and reliable. Mark letters "Band." Address, OVENDA, Jury's Hotel, Dublin.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Concert Orchestral Conductor, with good Company or Corporation; excellent classical and popular répertoire; first-class testimonials. Box 3,636, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. James Swift (Leader and Deputy Conductor, ex British Guards' Orchestra), Ramsgate. 33, Adelaide-gardens, West Cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor or Leader by First-Class Musician, Composer, and Arranger, Theatre or Symphony; highest references. DIEHL, Violinist, Newtown, Malvern.

WANTED, Engagement, Leader or First Violin, Theatre or Variety Business; good references. C. E O'HALE, 16, Iris-street, Springfield-rd., Belfast.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Leader or First Violin, at Liberty to open Sept. 10, first-class refs.; any business. Address, E. HART, Pier Orchestra, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Musical-Director in First-Class Varieties or Theatre; highest credentials. Reply, Box 3,654, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday, as Conductor or Leader, Violin. Thanking Conductors for offers last week. PERCY SWIFT, Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Musical Director, Leader, or First Violin, good library; highest references. Address, WILFRED BALL, Villiers Hotel, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin; any Business; good refs. Address, W. VERNON, Violinist, Sanger's Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Autumn Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), hotel, restaurant, or tea rooms; extensive répertoire, popular music. Box 3,567, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, First Violin, experienced, in ladies' orchestra.
FORRESTER, 11, West-square, Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Violin, with First-class Répertoire of Classic Music; excellent reference; Theatre or Hall. ROBINSON, 27, Calder Vale-road, Burnley.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Engagement, First or Second; every experience; Disengaged Aug. 26. Box 3,634, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin; steady and reliable. Write, H. FORRMAN, 29, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, London, S.E.

WANTED, by good Violin, Engagement.
M. HORMANN,
3-4, Saville-street, Great Portland-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Second Violin, Theatre or Music Hall, permanency preferred; at Liberty at once. W. A. GEAR, 34, Crown-street, Shirley, Southampton.

WANTED, immediately, Re-engagement as Second Violin, Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. BURRIDGE, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, advanced amateur, seeks sit. Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs, for small salary. Address, VIOLINIST, 127A, Shacklewell-lane, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, either First or Second Violin, large experience West End Theatres. H. SANGSTER, 31, Park-st. Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, for Violin, any business, Composer and Arranger. Address, CHRIS HANCOX, Vernon-place, Vernon-rd., Stourport.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violinist; young, sober, and reliable, good references. VIOLINIST, 27, Fixby-avenue, Pye Nest, Halifax.

WANTED, Excellent First Violin, thoroughly experienced in standard works, young and good appearance essential. Lowest terms, permanency, reference, to Box 3,658, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Violin or Clarionet, age 26, Variety, Opera, and High-Class Concert music. RUDOLF BOEHNKE, 12, Higher Gunstone, Bideford.

WANTED, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, Solo Cornet, Trombone, and Drums; experienced performers. MUSICIAN, Box 3,643, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, Theatre or Varieties; thoroughly experienced; Disengaged Sept. 10. J. BURDICK, Imperial Viennese Band, New Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, in good Theatre or Variety, thoroughly experienced, competent, reliable, excellent refs. TRIPP, 46, Oole-rd., Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, immediate offers, Cornet and Piano (joint or separate); excellent references, reliable. Wire, BECKETT, Cremorne Tavern, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagements, by a First-class Cornet (solo), also by Violinist, and a Good Viola (combine violin), young, good experience in opera, symph., excellent references. Will be disengaged Sept. 30. Address, to be called for, C. COSTARD, Earl's Court Post Office.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Clarionet, any business; shares or wages; at Liberty Sept. 15. Address, J. GRUS, 13, London-road, Buxton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Disengaged Sept. 8, any business; distance no object. GEORGE, 19, Copse-road, Clevedon.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Clarionettist, at Liberty Sept. 10, Military or String. Address, H. C. GARNER, Solo Clarionet, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Double-bass Player, late of Moody-Manners; good references, 28 years of age, good appearance; Dis. Sept. 11. MASCARELLO, Spring Cottage, Queen-st., Bridlington.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Euphonium, Soloist, combine Trombone, any business; excellent references, at Lib. Sept. 8. GEORGE GRUBER, 26, Kingsmead-terrace, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Trombone, combine Euphonium, Double Bass, Bombardon, or Tuba; excellent references. BATES, Trombone, 51, Nora-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, or E flat Horn, any business. A., 113, Strathleven-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, at present Solo with A. E. Burtle, Esq. Liberty Oct. 1. A. BARR, Cambridge Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone and Cornet, together or separate; Liberty Sept. 15. HARRISON, Season Band, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Re-engagement by experienced Horn Player. First-class; late Royal Opera, Hague, Cardiff Exhibition, Hastings Corporation. REBATU, 65, St. Hilda-st., Bridlington.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, experienced, Lady, Engagement, Solos. Disengaged shortly.
'CELLO, Box 3,644, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19.
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Harpist, good, young gentleman, at Liberty for Pitching or other Business. HARPIST, 7, Bradley-place, Eastbank-street, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, as Flute; long experience, thoroughly capable; best references. O. H., 53, Sugden-road, Lavender hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Flute and Piccolo (Lady), experienced solo and orchestral. Address, T., 25, Cathles-road, S.W.

C. W. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to Open Monday next, Flute and Piccolo, and Clarionet; must wear uniform, and assist with fittings. Wire terms and age to J. R. POOLE, Metropole T., Hoyland, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Orchestral Pianist, Theatre, M. H. or Tour, Conductor or otherwise; references, Moody-Manners and others. Just finished Al-fresco. At Liberty Monday. COULTON, 6, Caledonia-road, Saltcoats.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement as Pianist, by N. Robinson, any business, Orchestral or self; excellent refs.; good reader; steady, reliable; any dis. 118, W. Prince's-st., Helensburgh.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Lady Pianist and 'Cellist, four years' experience Orchestral Solo work. K., 17, Lower Mount-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Orchestral or Soloist, experienced all Lines, at Liberty shortly. LILY ILIFFE, A.L.C.M., Orchestra, Northern Exhibition Syndicate, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, smart, young, thoroughly experienced and reliable. STANISLAUS, Post Office, Felixstowe.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, Orchestral, combine either, First Clarionet or Second Violin; experienced all Lines. SOMERS, 45, Kenn-road, Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Orchestral Drummer, experienced, any business; good refs. Mr. M. CONNOR, Dr., 173, Downham-rd., London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer. COCKRILL, Drummer, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Thos. Benn's Famous Orchestra, engaged till end of season, Grand Hotel, Scarborough. At Liberty for Winter Season. Excellent répertoire. Apply, THOS. BENN, Musical Director.

WANTED, Situation by First-Class Amateur Drummer, Single or Double, eight years' experience in first-class Band; Tympanist; good Baritone Vocalist, had considerable training; Clerk, nine years' experience, shorthand and typewriting; good references; would like to work above together. DRUMMER, 37, Albany-rd., Redruth.

WANTED, Engagement by Mdme. Smith's Old English Quartette of Lady Instrumentalists and Vocalists, Disengaged Sept. Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Winter Engagement, for Ladies' Band, three to six Talented Performers; excellent references. Disengaged Sept. 30. Address, CONDUCTRESS, Grand Hotel, Broadstairs.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9627 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Cromptonroad, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.

WANTED, for about the middle of October, all kinds of Novelties, every description. Please apply as above.

WANTED, for Giles's Circus, Llandudno, in Hippodrome Building, Sept. 3, onward. Riders with own horses and Artists suitable for Circus. Silence polite negative. Address, as above.

WANTED, for Galas and Halls, Sept. 10, South Wales, Wire and Rope Performers, Acrobats, Double Turns. Lithos., terms, WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Smart Young Acrobat, for well-known Troupe; good salary. Address. Box 3,661, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Man (single), able to do acrobatic shoulder-work, and good on his hands, and play comedy; also another one, with knowledge of acrobatics, and to play a funny part. Box 3,642, "The Era."

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, all Artists to Note, the above Hippo. will be dismantled, all Contracts cancelled. See other advertisement. Mrs. E. P. VEITCH, Proprietress, C. Algie, General-Manager.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Agents, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 19, on, with exceptions. Address till Oct. 15, Miss Ella's Lions, Circo Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, with riding dog, pigeon charmers, and foot equilibrists, Liberty from Monday next and October, with six acts, own horse, and good dresses. 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Clown, Agouste, Entrées, and his Two Comical Donkeys, at Liberty. Perm., 41, Lavan-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Sept. 24, by Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, with entertaining Dog Bobydazler. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Stock, Refined Gymnastic Speciality, vacant Dec. 24, onwards. Com., STEBBINGS, Manchester. Perm., 12, Seymour-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement by Tumbler, Head and Hand Balancer, Comedy Act preferred. Letters J. REID, 8, Govan-street, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Monday next, by Mlle. Lillian and Clown, Comedy Contortion Act; also Mons. Savaro, Siffleur. Wire offers. People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Zampo, and Clown's Novelty Act, Touring with Lord John Sanger's, Ltd. Exclusively engaged for Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, Equilibrists and Double Jugglers, vacant Monday next, also 10th. Wire, Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, equilibrists and acrobats, Sept. 3, 10. Wire, THORNE, King-street, Doncaster.

WANTED, by two Young Men, Engagement in Comedy Bar Act or Acrobatic Speciality. WILL MILLAR, 174, Snowdon-street, Glasgow, S.S.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Soc., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Star Variety Artists, Sept. 10, onwards. Terms, bookings, &c. Two Good Knockabouts for Pantomime. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester." Telephone, 09261.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Sept. 3, and onwards. Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Sept. 10, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Concert Artists (Novelty preferred), Ryde Pavilion, 21st and 22nd; also baggage man dresser. Photo., age, refs., to Mr. HARRY LISTON, P.O., Sandown, I.O.W.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY,
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GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY,

Residential Offices:
THE HIPPODROME,
SCARBOROUGH.

Telephone No. 288.
Telegraphic Address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."

WANTED, Sept. 10, on, the Biggest and Best Attractions, of every Description.

Also Specially Wanted, Sept. 24, on, for Hengler's, Glasgow, Attractions in all Lines; must be of the highest order.

Gesucht, Artisten jeden genre neu, fur Hengler's, Glasgow.

On demande Grande Attraction noveau pour Hengler's, Glasgow.

Quote Lowest Terms and Full List of Bookings,

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
The Hippodrome,
Scarborough.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, onwards, Star Artists all Lines. State absolute lowest; once nightly. J. CUMMINGS, The Cross, Chirnside, Berwickshire.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, for Special Week, Rehearse Monday, Artists, in all Lines, to complete cast for "Saturday Night in London." Lowest terms, MATT WILKINSON, Nechells Cottage, Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Sept. 3, onwards; also good combinations for Oct., Nov., and Dec. Write, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

PALACE, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. GEO. SAPHRINI.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Stars, on share or Salary. Oct. 1, 15, onward.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Sept. 10 and on, for the North; absolute lowest terms. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two words, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 15. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 10, and on; Good Combinations, with Star Attractions, entertained. Address, ALEC AUBREY, Hippodrome, Cambridge.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object, but talent. All clients keep me posted. Canary Troupe wire address. Contracts waiting. Good dumb show for Monday next wire.

TEMPERANCE HALL, MERTHYR.

WANTED, Artists, Novelties, Specialities, Sept. 10, onwards. Artists please note I book my own turns and work with no combination. Call Monday, Sept. 3; Mr. J. K. Reynolds and company in "Conscience" and "His Country's Curse," The Bradleys, Florence Inman, Mint and Mart, Bu Val, and the Biograph.—Signed, ISRAEL PRICE.

WANTED, through September, refined Al Fresco Artists (male). Photo., full particulars, R. A. MADDOX, Marine Pagoda, West Kirby.

WANTED, Artists for Yarmouth, Sept. 10, Apply quick. REEVES, Pacey and Reeves, 25, St. George's-road, Yarmouth.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE,
Proprietors, SMITH and Co.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday, 2 o'c., Daunton-Shaw Troupe, George French, Bonnetti and Corrie, Lil Hartley, Bruce and Ross, Harry Morriss, Mignon, Vernon's Bioscope.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Sept. 10, 17, 24,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, and Novelties. Send vacancies and bookings, DAVE BARNARD, Variety Agent. Note new offices, 24, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1114 Royal. D. B. has no representatives.

WANTED, Big Stars, Big Stars, Big Stars, Sept. 10, onwards; full up for small numbers. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.

WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once. Silence a polite negative. Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract. H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Monday, on, Combinations, Specialities, Comedian, for Pierrot Pitch; would buy dancers' dresses, suitable for Trio (Ladies). GATES, Hart-street, Liverpool.

NEW PAVILION, HOYLAKE,
Open all the Year Round.

WANTED, the Best of Talent, in all Lines. Price no object to turns with good drawing powers. Address, BILLY MOORE, Proprietor and Manager.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Variety Talent, on Share or Salary. Letters, in future, to be addressed SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Talent in all Lines, for the North and Ireland, three weeks.

CAVILL'S Agency,
127, Clapham-road, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical."

WANTED, Big Sensation, Top, Sept. 3, 10, Cambridge, Birmingham. Wire lowest percentage gross. Sisters, Couples wire lowest, DIAMONDE, Theatre, Windsor.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Sydney M. Hyman, who sails for America per the *New York* on Sept. 8, will be pleased to hear from a few Star Turns who would like to be booked in that country.
Address all communications, with photos., lithos., vacant dates, and terms, to SYDNEY M. HYMAN, Ltd., 29, Leicester-square, London, W.C. Telegrams "Domesday, London." Telephone, 2161 Gerrard.

WANTED, Big Star Turn, with own Combination, one week, Nov. 12. Address, HARRY YORKE, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, Star Turns, Sept. 10, onwards. HERBERT RAYMOND, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Star Turns.

GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency.
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

N.B.—Silence polite negative.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.

Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.

WILL SLEY,
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41, Oxford-street,
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Telephone 09144.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Sept. 24, and onward, Big Acts, Comedians, Ballad Vocalists, Jugglers, Animal Shows, &c.
Must be refined, or useless.
Call, Monday next, Sept. 3, for "The Globe of Life,"
Jack Martin,
Clarke and Glenney,
Adeline Yohle,
Three Tivoli Girls,
James Kurry,
Captain Ralston and Miss Frances,
Three Henriques,
The Greys,
The Cee Mee Troupe.
Artists please Note,
All Bill Matter to be sent in Fourteen Days prior to Opening.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Address, Saturday and Sunday, Lane Ends Hotel, Blackpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Star Acts in all Lines, nothing too big, for immediate and future dates. Send terms and bookings, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Sept. 10, Variety, Musical, Speciality Acts, S. Wales, Bristol district. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol. Telegrams, "Fêtes, Bristol," Telephone 2636X Nat.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, for South Wales; must be cheap, Sept., onward. STERLING, Palace, Porth, Wales.

WANTED, Acts of Every Description, Aug. 24, new to Oldbury. HECTOR and SULTAN, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Sensational Star Acts, sharing terms, Sept. 10, onwards; also Doubles; good business for good acts. TRANSFIELD'S Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Big Acts, Bigger the Better. Send full particulars and bookings to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Glasgow. AYTOUN'S Agency.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines, MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

DARLINGTON SATURDAY POPULAR TEMPERANCE CONCERTS,
commencing Oct. 20.

WANTED, Offers, for part or complete Programmes.
Full particulars and sample programmes to T. W. JOHNSON, Secretary, Grainger House, Victoria Embankment, Darlington.

WANTED, Anything and Everything that's good. Send lowest terms, vacant dates, and bookings, and lithos. (if any), to BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

Notice change of address.

WANTED, Good Combinations, with Good Picture Shows, for Sept. 10, '06, and onwards, for Hippo., Cambridge, Shares or Rental. Apply, PROPRIETOR, 77, Newmarket-road, Cambridge.

BRITANNIA, GLASGOW.
Greatest Success ever Known.

WANTED, Good Sisters, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, Doubles doing Singles, Clever Lady Gymnasts, Benders, and Contortionists. Comedy Instrumentalists, &c., write in. Terms low; hall small. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Good Al-fresco, First-rate Vocalists, Sketch Artists, Instrumentalists, open Monday; shares. Business sure. MANAGER, 1, Weststreet, Shoreham, Sussex.

WANTED, for Sept. 17, Comedy Sketch Team, must be new to Doncaster. Boston Twins write. GEORGE BURTON, 16, Salmon-street, South Shields.

WANTED, for Mr. Bert Coote's Special Music Hall Turns, about twelve girls; must be good dancers, young, and pretty. Good salary; engagement to begin September.
Apply personally, BERT COOTE, 150, Oxford-street.

WANTED, Two Smart, Attractive Girls, about 17 or 18, Instrumentalists and Spanish Dancers, to work in conjunction with a new refined Speciality Act. Address, H. W. WIELAND'S Agency, 16, St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Two Pretty Girls, about 12, for Cinematograph Pictures; must be very pretty. Also two Handsome Ladies. Terms, &c., Box 3,651, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Negro Boy, fourteen years of age, for long and comfortable engagement with Artist of repute; a well-behaved Boy wanting promotion on the Stage, and whose character will bear investigation, will find this a pleasant shop. Apply by letter, R., 3, Brixton-road.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Highland Piper.

SELKIRK,
Lincladen, Southdean-gardens, Southfields, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, all Artists to Notice.
The above Hippo. is now closed, and will be dismantled in due course; therefore all Artists holding Contracts for the coming seasons will be cancelled, owing to bad business. This is the second time this notice has appeared.
Signed,
Mrs. E. P. E. VEITCH, Proprietress,
C. ALGIE, General Manager.
Sept. 2, 1906.

WANTED, Big Star Comic Singer, Sept. 10, near Manchester, also Artists all Lines, Sept. 17, onwards. Address till Saturday night, WILL ONDA, Hippodrome, Darlington; next week, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Cheap, Comic Singer, for Monday next, to Wire. Kempton and Murdoch, Hall and Earle, and Raymond and Kurkamp wire addresses quick.
DALTON'S AGENCY,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Immediately, a Pair of Good Comedians. State age, height, lowest terms, long tour, LEVY, this, T. R., Bury; next, Theatre, Brighouse, Yorks.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Comedian, who can sing and dance well. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Vent., open Monday, Sept. 3; long engagement if suitable; no broken dates. MANAGER, 185, Ystrad-rd, Pentre, South Wales.

WANTED, Cinématograph, with good pictures, for two weeks, Sept. 10 and 17 (no electric light). State lowest first letter, and what pictures. C. BEANLAND, Summer Gardens, Bridlington.

WANTED, good Cinématograph, refined Pictures, up-to-date, Sept. 10, two weeks. Apply, CHARLES MILNER, Man., Catlin's Pierrots, Buxton. Arthur Burgone write.

WANTED, by the New Imperial Picture Co., Lecturer and Entertainer. Wire, Public Hall, West Kirby, Saturday.

WANTED, Operator, experienced lime, electric, assist billing, baggage, week each town; references, terms. COL. DYKE, Oddfellows' Hall, Kirkby Stephen.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, combine Advertising; open Sept. 3; own machine. State terms, refs., &c., to S. J. POWELL, Palace Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED by Ruby Bijou, Daintiest of Dancers and Best of Barefooted Dancers, Sept. 3 and 10. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Hastings; after Sat., 23, Seymour-flats, Euston-road, London.

WANTED, 6 or 12 nights, Monday next, by Alma Curzon, the Favourite Comedienne. Wire, 12, Wellington-road, Egremont, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Adrienne will in future be known as Nell Brough, Burlesque Artist and Siffleuse, vacant Sept. 3 and 10. 1, Salisbury-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, by Lester May, the New Comedian, that Fred Durham, Esq., saw my Turn Thursday, Aug. 24, and booked me this week at Palace, Bow. Tremendous Success. Sept. 3, Palace, Tottenham; to follow, Hounslow, Wolverhampton, Woolwich, Royal Albert, Surrey, Britannia, Sadler's Wells, Foresters', Dover, Sandgate, Leicester, Sheffield, &c., two dates at each of above; all booked by Fred Durham's Agency, to whom all communications must be made. DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Sept. 3 and 10, by Mr. Harry Lawton, the Celebrated Humorous Entertainer. 376 Performances, North Pier, Blackpool. "Better than ever."—Vide Press. Address, "Humorist," Wolverhampton. Tel., 0579.

WANTED, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King, assisted by Ruby Vesta, in Box Mystery. Big top of bill; sure draw; big success, Hippo., Cambridge. Vacant Sept. 10. Wire, Hoylake, next week.

WANTED, by T. P. Carroll, Comedian and Dancer. Monday next, Sept. 3, also 10 and 17. Wire, Palace Theatre, Boston.

WANTED, immediate dates for Piers or Tour, by Walter Howard, refined Comedian and Instrumentalist. Wire, 18, Boyson-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, by Leo Fallowfield, Comedian, Sept. 10, Billed by manager as Funniest Man in Clacton. Topping, re-engaged. Winter Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, in his speciality, the Cycling Monkey, Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8. 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, also 10, 17. Full then till April. JIMMY SHIELDS, Comedian, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Hesketh Meade, Baritone. Big Success, this, Carlisle, in "Village Blacksmith," with Animated Pictures. Next, Cen. Pier, Morecambe. Lib. Sept. 10.

WANTED, Known, Tom Baxendale, Comedian, at Liberty Sept. 10, third season here. Cutler's Pierrots, Walton-on-Naze.

WANTED, Known, Carl St. Clare, Phenomenal Male Soprano and Mimic, Liberty Sept.; would join Comedy Quartette. Coms., 19, Herschell-street, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Master Gicardo, Marvellous Boy Juggler and Acrobat, accomplishing some extraordinary feats in juggling. Monday next, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent; Palace, Glasgow, Sept. 10; at Liberty Sept. 17, on. Coms., G. GICARDO, Hippo., Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 15, by the Great Original Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer. The mysterious Japanese Box; a laughing and applauding hit. Also May Geraldine, a dainty dancing comedienne. Monday, Sept. 3, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Magician and Bioscope Operator, Oct. and onwards. 27, Minto-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist. Enormous hit at Alexander's Hippo., and highly complimented. Liberty Sept. 10. At the Hippo. last night one of the best turns was that of John Irvin, equilibrist. He has probably few equals, and the display he gave was deservedly applauded. Agent, HARRY LEAMAR, 157, Strand, London.

WANTED, Sept. 10 and 24, by Trick and Trixie, Comedy and Musical Artists, now starring Hippo., Dewsbury. 3rd, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, the St. Johns, Most Successful Musical Act, Hand-bell Playing and Dancing. Mondays, Sept. 3 and 17, wire, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Known, Bernard Noble, Comedian; Olive Veno, Dancer; want Monday. 9, Bond-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Sylverto, Juggler; also J. S. Torie, Vocalist and Musical Act; at Liberty Sept. 3, 10, one or both. This week, Hippo., Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success through Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, vacant Oct. 1, 8, and 15, also for Panto., parts and speciality. C/o DREW BAILEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Sept. 17, 24, onwards, by Astley Bros., Comedians and Patterers; also Panto. Last Xmas A. E. Smith's "Aladdin." Com., Fleetwood.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, and 17, by Tomps and Wells, Comedy Musical Act. Sure success. Wire or write, 337, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by Spencer and Marks, Speciality Comedians. Wire, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Monday next and Sept. 10, by Masie Adair and her Black and White Piccaninnies, including Frank and Austin, American Coloured Champion Buck and Wing Dancers, and the marvellous Boy Soprano, Albert Ashton. Wire, Palace, Boston. Monday, Opera House, York.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free Sept. World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Rezene and Robini, vacant Sept. 24, one week, only vacancy. Address, 1, Fulford-mansions, Fairmead-road, Holloway, LONDON, N.

WANTED, Known, the Famous Mysteries, Vacant Sept. 24; certainties or shares, with a guarantee. SMITH, Pavilion, Whitstable.

WANTED, Known, the Attillas, in their Original Sensational Gladiatorial Strength Act. Vacant Sept. 3. Wire, 195, Boaler-st, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Princess Gooma Troupe, at Liberty Sept. 9; 14 weeks' touring, Scotland, great success. TOM BROWN, 124, Cowcaddens Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Henry Giles (Frisky Gilleno) and his Company, thanks Alfred Selwyn, Esq., of Hippodrome, Llandudno, and Wakefield, for his courtesy and compliments during our engagements with him.

WANTED, Sept. 10, 24, on, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, huge success this week Northampton Pierrots. Next week, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. Everything up to date. That's all. Wire, GILROY, Arcadia, Dunoon.

WANTED, Known, Kriss, Ventriloquial Scotsman, vacant Sept. 17, 24, to follow Dundee. P.O., Leven, N.B.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Sept. 3 and 10, finished Ranelagh Gardens, Felixstowe. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Sept. 17 and 24, by Jessie Elvin, for her Successful Sketch, "A Gipsy's Revenge." Four Artists, three scenes, one full set carried. Next, Sadler's Wells, London.

WANTED, Sept. 3, onwards, by Brydge, Lor, and Brydge, for Vocal Comedy Sketch, also Single. 19, Walcot-square, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, Sept. 3, and 10, by Billy Ross. Combination Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage; starring Palace, Boston. Wire for draw.

WANTED, Dates, the Greatest Animal Act on Earth, Chard's Dog Circus; also that wonderful Performing Donkey Domino; 2 Great Acts, Liberty shortly. 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by Le Diabelo, Riding the Devil's Wheel, inside and outside, and Looping the Devil's Wheel. Vacant Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15. Playing this week to packed houses at Palace, Boston; Monday, Opera House, York.

WANTED, Known, Young Hackenschmidt, undisputed champion Boy Wrestler and Herculean Pose Artist in the world, sensational £100 challenge, open October, onwards; wrestling marvel of the age. Good Agent required. Permanent address, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, Girl 19 years of age, smart, experienced, wishes to join good Troupe, Variety or otherwise. Address, MAUD, care 120B, Balsall Heath-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for Le Clair, with Urban Bioscope, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Troupe of Dogs, Seventy Weeks, Big Success, Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Sept. 10, Bioscope Operator and Electric or Lime, ten years' experience. BENN, 6, Spring-gardens, Pontefract.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.

WANTED, Known, Meeting at Gorton Wakes, next Sunday, at 3.30, in Col. Clarke's Show, on Collins and Hurst's New Fair Ground, Gortonlane. The Rev. T. Horne will deliver an address on the "Work and Policy of the Van-dwellers' Society." All travellers welcome.
T. HURST,
Hon. Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red,"
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel,
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 6s. a gross, weighing 2¾oz.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, for Christmas, and on, the right spot for the Magic Mirrors. Proprietors of exhibitions, carnivals, &c., please note. First-class concerns only. Address, Box 3,566, "The Era."

WANTED, good Novelties, for Public Hall, Ipswich, Exhibition and Carnival, Dec. 17 to 30, 1906, two weeks, Midgets and good Animated Picture Show. Write, salary or shares. MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply. OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Living Novelties, every Description. best position in town. Lady palmist and tattooist. Write, FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Novelties or Living Freaks, on Salaries. OWEN BAGAN, 48, North-street, Belfast, or 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, at once, First-Class Freaks and Side Shows. Full particulars, printing, photos., posters, &c.

WANTED, Good Freaks, Living Novelties, open Sept. 10. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SIDE-SHOW.
WANTED, for Wolverhampton Exhibition, Sept. 25 to Oct. 5; must be a good one, novel, quiet, and without music.
Apply, with fullest particulars,
MANAGER, 120, Davenport-street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, a Quick Side Show and Palmist; usual sharing terms. Address, LESSEE, Revolving Tower Pavilion, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Suitable People, for Outside Parade, on Show.
Apply,
RANDALL WILLIAMS'S Great Show,
Feast Ground, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator.
Apply, MANAGER, Britannia,
Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Young Ladies, for Fancy Hall, &c., used to Exhibition Business.
Apply, DIRECTOR, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

GRAND CIRCUS, TENTING, IRELAND.
WANTED, at once, Useful Man and Wife, singing turn, and dancing, or young man, able to do one or more acts. Lowest terms for 12 weeks. Address, WALSH, Mon., Arvagh; Tues., Wed., Ballinalee, Drumlish, all County Longford.

WANTED, one or two Knockabouts, also two Female Paraders, those who can do an act inside preferred, long engagement to suitable people. Those who have been with us before, write us. BIDDALL'S Bioscope, this, Bradford; Mon. and Tues. next, Westbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Comedian and Planksman Pianist preferred; join at once. BERT HALL, Auction Mart, Saltaire, Shipley, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagements, Fêtes or Gardens, for Royal Punch and Judy and Dog Toby. Apply, Agent, 67, Bonsall-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, open for Engagements shortly, for Exhibitions or High-class Shops, good Doorsman and Lecturer. Address, Haunted Cabin, TOM SCOTT, South Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Purnell, Heath, and Purnell concluding Sept. 21 sixteen weeks' successful Promenade Concerts, open for Engagements first week in October and onwards. Showmen wanting good Paraders and Speciality workers write, best terms. PURNELL, HEATH, and PURNELL, The Beach, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

WANTED, Known, Indian Fakir's Illusionist, and Conjurer, vacant Sept. 10; paintings, photos, &c. Apply, BAGAN, Waxworks, 48, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Lancashire and District Auctioneers to Know that Simons, of 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch, has a Full Selection of Goods during the Season at the Albion Hotel, Blackpool.
Ring Up, Wire, or Write to
MR. S. L. SIMONS for appointment.

WANTED, to Sell, grand Pulman Living Carriage, Road or Rail, £65.
Apply,
Box 3,640, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Two Steam Horse Roundabouts, and One Bicycle Roundabout, with all Accessories, and Wagons for Travelling. For particulars apply by letter to "X. Y.," Reynell's Advertisement Offices, 44, Chancery-lane, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, every Description Supplied, Repaired, and Exchanged. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Working Models, &c., splendid assortment; returned from hire; Fortune, Character, Love Letter, Photo., &c. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Baines's Waxwork Exhibition will be Sold by Auction, in Premises, 52, Queen-street, Ramsgate, on Sept. 12 next. Write for full particulars. See next Saturday's "Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks Exhibition, complete, now showing, 65 figures, self-acting Organ, 20 Working Models, &c., Drapery, Curtains, Gas Fittings, Travelling Cases, Paintings, Pay Box, and quantity of Effects. Quick sale, £100, great bargain. STACEY, Showmen's Stores, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Black Art Cloth, Tables, Tub, &c., two Oil Paintings, cost £15, subject Conjuring; Big Drum, Side Drum. Best offer, must sell first come. DODD, Temple-row, Wrexham.

WANTED, a large sized Band Waggon, same style as Sequah, must be in first-class condition and cheap for cash. Address, ONEIDA CO., Jury's Hotel, Dublin.

WANTED, to Buy, good money taking Novelty or Freak Picture Entertainer, must be bargain. Address, JONES, 23, Abbey-gate, Leicester.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102a, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Roundabout and Circus Proprietors, that J. F. Macklin has to Let, a Field, in splendid position, for the above Business; also Ground to Let now, for his great September Fair at Folkestone, and Canterbury (Oct.). Terms moderate. Apply, 3, St. Peter-place, Canterbury, or to the Agent, W. WAGHORNE, Nelson House, Godington-road, Ashford, Kent, for full particulars.

WANTED, Known, GRAND INDUSTRIAL TRADES EXHIBITION will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. Spaces to Let, for working exhibits, novelties &c Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. It is anticipated we shall get from 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily.

CARNIVAL AND EXHIBITION,
PUBLIC HALL, IPSWICH.
Dec. 17 to 30, 1906, the best two weeks in year. Admission by Programme. Band in Attendance Daily.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, for Jewellery, Engraving, Stamps, or Monograms, Photography, Handkerchief Embroidering, Tattooing, Glass Blowing, Xmas Cards, &c. For plan and terms, MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen visiting S. Wales, the Fair Field, Ystradgynlais, to Let; good position, centre of town; tin works and collieries going well. Apply, BOWEN, Glen Villa, Ystradgynlais, Swansea.

AYR RACES.
WANTED, Known, Ground to Let for above Fair, no ground reserved unless deposit paid. Small stalls rent in advance. GEORGE GREEN, Public Park, Troon; or Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Folkestone and District, Grocers', Bakers', and Industrial Exhibition, Oct. 3 to 13, 1906. Apply, MANAGER, 18, Church-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Norwich and Eastern Counties Arts, Crafts, and Industrial Exhibition, Oct. 16 to Nov. 8, 1906. Apply, MANAGER, Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

ARCADIA DRILL HALL, PORTSMOUTH.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Games, Novelties, fifth season, open Dec. 1, six weeks. 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, for Shows, Roundabouts, &c., in the Market Yard, West Hartlepool. Apply to J. BEAUMONT.

WANTED, to Let, Space for Sweets, also Handkerchief Embroidery, for Sept. 17, on, in the Provincial Trades and Foods Touring Exhibition. THE MANAGER, 715, Abbeydale-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Space for Wire and Engraving, First-class Stock and Machine; also Space, Lady Palmist, Travelling Exhibition, Scotland preferred. WIRE KING, Pleasure Gardens, Kirn, Scotland.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

Sept. 1. Chorley (27,000)
Sept. 1. Delph (Salford)
Sept. 1. Gorton (Manchester)
Sept. 1. Halton (Leeds)
Sept. 1. Killamarsh (3,211)
Sept. 1. Leigh (Dorset) (400)
Sept. 1. Southgate (15,000)
Sept. 3. Alverthorpe Feast (12,000)
Sept. 3. Armley Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 3. Farnley Feast (4,000)
Sept. 3. Farsley Feast (6,000)
Sept. 3. Kilmington (3,000)
Sept. 3. Oldbury (25,200)
Sept. 3. Oxford (49,400)
Sept. 3. Wednesbury (26,500)
Sept. 4. Aldborough (Yorks.) (2,000)
Sept. 4. Barnet (8,000)
Sept. 4. Crewkerne (4,300)
Sept. 4. Great Horton Feast
Sept. 5. Fakenham (200)
Sept. 5. Northallerton (4,000)
Sept. 6. Maldon (5,600)
Sept. 6. Nantwich (7,700)
Sept. 7. Churwell Feast
Sept. 8. Blandford (6,300)
Sept. 8. Chapel Town Feast
Sept. 8. Cromford (Buxton) (1,056)
Sept. 8. Exeter (47,000)
Sept. 8. Matlock (7,300)
Sept. 8. Meltham (Huddersfield) (1,200)
Sept. 8. Openshaw (Manchester)
Sept. 8. Ormskirk (7,000)
Sept. 8. Swinton and Pendlebury
Sept. 8. Wirkworth (5,000)
Sept. 8. Witton (Northwich) (12,000)
Sept. 10. Ardsley Feast (6,700)
Sept. 10. Congresbury (1,700)
Sept. 10. Glastonbury (4,000)
Sept. 10. Holbeck Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 10. Sandal Feast (Wakefield)
Sept. 10. Thorner Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 11. Barnoldswick (7,400)
Sept. 11. Brentford (15,200)
Sept. 11. Wareham (2,000)
Sept. 12. Broadway (Soms.) (500)
Sept. 12. Buxton (5,000)
Sept. 12. Lambert Castle (Dorset)
Sept. 12. Morchard Bishop (1,100)
Sept. 13. Swindon (45,000)
Sept. 13. Tideswell (2,600)
Sept. 13. Tupton (2,000)
Sept. 13. Woodthorpe (1,000)
Sept. 15. Alford (2,500)
Sept. 15. Batley Feast (20,000)
Sept. 15. Blackheath (London)
Sept. 15. Boston (15,700)
Sept. 15. Haltwistle (12,000)
Sept. 15. Langwith (500)
Sept. 15. Pend (Bucks.) (400)
Sept. 17. Barnstaple (14,000)
Sept. 17. Farnworth (25,000)
Sept. 17. Hemel Hempstead (11,300)
Sept. 17. Ilkley Feast (8,000)
Sept. 17. March (7,600)
Sept. 17. Newcastle (Staffs.) (20,000)
Sept. 17. Second Lee Fair
Sept. 17. Sidmouth (4,000)
Sept. 18. Bury (60,000)
Sept. 18. Ottery St. Mary (3,500)
Sept. 18. Ware (5,900)
Sept. 19. Amersham (3,000)
Sept. 19. Atherstone (5,000)
Sept. 19. Beaminster (2,000)
Sept. 19. Sidbury (200)
Sept. 19. Staines (6,700)
Sept. 19. Worcester (44,000)
Sept. 21. Backwell (1,000)
Sept. 21. Lewes (11,300)
Sept. 21. Longtown (300)
Sept. 21. Reading (60,000)
Sept. 22. Bowdon (Manchester) (2,800)
Sept. 22. Bridgwater (15,200)
Sept. 22. Bude (1,059)
Sept. 22. Bugsworth (Stockport) (400)
Sept. 22. Hayfield (Stockport) (3,000)
Sept. 22. Iron Acton (1,000)
Sept. 22. New Mills (Stockport) (6,000)
Sept. 22. Normanton (South) (5,000)
Sept. 22. Pateley Bridge (3,200)
Sept. 22. Ratcliffe
Sept. 22. Rushden (12,500)
Sept. 22. Stockport (83,000)
Sept. 22. Uttoxeter (5,200)
Sept. 24. Brierley Hill (12,000)
Sept. 24. Heyford (800)
Sept. 24. Idle Feast (Bradford) (8,000)
Sept. 24. Woodhouse Feast (Leeds)
Sept. 25. Arundel (2,800)
Sept. 25. Ashby-de-la-Zouche (4,700)
Sept. 25. Cambridge (38,400)
Sept. 25. Chertsey (12,806)
Sept. 25. Haslemere (1,000)
Sept. 25. Long Sutton (2,400)
Sept. 25. Pickering (3,500)
Sept. 25. Wotton-under-Edge (2,200)
Sept. 26. Hartland (1,800)
Sept. 26. High Wycombe (16,000)
Sept. 26. Moreton (Dorset) (400)
Sept. 26. Over (Cheshire) (6,200)
Sept. 26. Solihull (3,800)
Sept. 26. Spalding (9,400)
Sept. 27. Birmingham (522,182)
Sept. 27. Todmorden (25,400)
Sept. 28. Chesham (7,300)
Sept. 28. Eleven Lane Ends Feast
Sept. 28. Long Stratton (600)
Sept. 28. Studley (Ripon) (200)
Sept. 29. Alton (5,590)
Sept. 29. Ampthill (2,200)
Sept. 29. Bracknell (2,200)
Sept. 29. Cranbrooke (3,500)
Sept. 29. Dorchester (9,500)
Sept. 29. Hanbury (900)
Sept. 29. Uxbridge (8,600)
Sept. 29. Wallingford (3,000)

SCOTLAND.

Sept. 17. Aberdeen (153,108)
Sept. 18. Moss of Balloch (612)
Sept. 19. Ayr (27,531)
Sept. 20. Castle Douglas (3,018)
Sept. 25. Dumfries (18,680)
Sept. 26. Frazerburgh (8,998)
Sept. 29. Cupar (Fife) (4,511)
Sept. 29. Sinclair Town

WALES.

Sept. 3. Aberavon (7,000)
Sept. 12. Blaenavon (12,000)
Sept. 13. Neath (14,000)
Sept. 18. Brynmawr (7,000)
Sept. 20. Tredegar (18,000)
Sept. 22. Abergavenny
Sept. 22. Llandudno (7,000)
Sept. 26. Cowbridge (1,000)
Sept. 29. Fishguard (2,000)
Sept. 29. Llanelly (23,000)
Sept. 29. Llanfyllion (2,000)
Sept. 29. Maestag (11,000)

WANTED, Known, the Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. E. Read (son of the late Theophilus Read), Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., will open this Stupendous Home of Amusement on Xmas Eve, for the Twenty-eighth Consecutive Year, with a Colossal Programme of Attractions, on a most Varied and Extensive, Up-to-date Scale, embracing Grand Free Continental Circus, First-class Company of Star Artists, Entire Change of Programme Weekly; Bostock and Wombwell's Gigantic Indoor Zoo; Sensational Aerial Artists, and Specialities; Side-shows of every Description, and a Great Variety of Other Amusements, forming the Cheapest and Most Popular Entertainment in London, which has no equal in the World of Amusements for Sixpence Admission.
The Lessee is now prepared to Let Space
for First-class Shows,
Cinematograph, Waxworks,
Marionettes, Swimming,
Second Sight, Boxing, Illusions,
Performing Birds,
and other First-class Shows.
Also Space for Fancy Stalls, &c.
Apply as above.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let. Good Opening for Facial Massage, &c. Visited by the Elite. Particulars, CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxwork and Variety Exhibition, Henry-street, Dublin. Occupied by Palmist for seven years.

WANTED, to Let, Window and One Space in Free Exhibition, suit Wire Worker, Engraver, or Cheap Jewellery; finest position in Scotland. FREDK. STEWART, 131, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, to all whom it may concern, that the Dawsons (Joe and Lil) have severed their contract with Messrs. W. and H. Thurston Bros'. Royal Show (by mutual agreement), and separate from the above on Friday next, Sept. 7, 1906, at Barnet Fair.
Permanent Address,
44, Woodlands Park-road, East Greenwich,
London, S.E.

WANTED, an Experienced Traction Engine Driver, one to assist with electric light, and an abstainer preferred; good wages and permanent situation to good man. State wages required and particulars, to W. BIDDALL, Exhibition, Barnet, till Thursday; Southgate to follow. Useful people for parading write.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known,
To be Sold,
Privately or by Auction,
early in September,
Lease
(10 years)
of
Important Theatre in Midlands.
Entirely renovated; gas and electricity.
In centre of population, 150,000;
No other Dramatic House.
Shops, &c., well let.
Rent almost cleared by advertisements.
Receipts between £5,000 and £6,000 yearly.
A snug property, and a fortune
to an energetic Manager.
Sale will take place in Derby or Birmingham.
See next week's issue;
or write, "THEATRE,"
c/o Geo. Penney, Esq.,
113, Fenchurch-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, well-established Theatre in Midlands; large profits; now in full working order; part capital can remain. Box 3,637, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Minstrel Arena, Great Yarmouth,
Retiring from Business.
No reasonable offer refused.
Apply to
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WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Orchestrion, with Tunes, equal to full Band, with Water Motor. Wanting room, must sell quickly. Grand Attraction for place of Amusement.
GULDMAN and Co.,
7, Sugar-lane, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, ten of the best Performing Ponies in the world; also two performing donkeys, and all properties for same; selling through bad health; suitable for lady or gentleman. Address, C. CABAN, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, to Sell, White Pomeranian, eight tricks; Fox Terrier, Somersault Dog, and Card Dog. PROFESSOR DICKEL, 35, Limehouse-causeway.

WANTED, to Sell, a performing Dog, 16 months old, quick worker and free, Fox Terrier, he loves his work. HUNT, Jumper, Warrington.

WANTED, to Sell, two Performing Dogs, Thought Reading, front and hind legs, Figure 8, Skipping, &c. CLACKSON, 9, Rosoman-st., Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, pure all red pedigree eight weeks' Irish Terrier Dog Pup, 15s., grand pup. ADEY, Minerva House, Darlaston.

To Outdoor Amusement Caterers.
WANTED, to Sell, in quantities to suit Purchaser, the whole of the magnificent outdoor scenery at Earl's Court Exhibition, for delivery at the close of the Exhibition. Can be seen by appointment. Address communications to H. HART, London Exhibitions, Ltd., Earl's Court, S.W.

PICTORIAL PRINTING.
To Theatrical Managers, Touring and Resident.
WANTED, to Sell, a large quantity of Posters and Lithos., designed for the Profession by the late firm of Messrs. McKenzie and Co., Lithographers, Glasgow; all in splendid condition, at greatly reduced prices. Lists and samples on application to ALEXANDER and Co., Advertising Contractors, 46, Main-street, Rutherglen, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Switchboard, in case, on slate bed, by Samuel Barnes Electrical Co., Bush-lane, City, cost 10 guineas; perfectly new, never used, price £3 10s. Sent on approval. Wanted, to Purchase or Hire, Good Marquee or Shuttered Booth, 20 by 30, immediately. WATSON, 10, Smeed-road Old Ford, London.

WANTED, to Sell, some Good Conjuring Tricks and Apparatus, mostly Original and quite new. PROFESSOR, 12, Ducie-street, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Conjuring Apparatus, splendid condition, best make, Flying Lamp, Big Oriental Illusions, &c. FREDERICK'S Assembly Rooms, Lytham.

WANTED, to Sell, 80ft. Circus Tent, complete with poles, seating, &c.; also for sale, splendid Living Waggon (road); all in the best condition. Address, C. CABAN, 20, Joy-street, Belfast. Mr. Hanaford please write.

WANTED, to Sell, Novel Musical Instruments for Ballets, Musical Plays, and Pantomimes. Sole British Manufacturer, LISLE, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Three Horizontal Bars, 1in. steel core, 6ft. long, gunmetal ends, £2 10s. the lot. Box 3,652, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, mixed jet, 3,000 candle power, 2 regulators, 2 cylinder keys, 2 brass spools, and 1,000ft. of splendid film, including Hackenschmidt, City Fire, Nelson, and The Tripper Tripped, £6 10s. the lot, spot cash. MANAGER, Town Hall, Picture Show, Consett.

WANTED, Known, the Proprietor and Manager of a very well known production, now touring, and which shows good profits, wishes to dispose of same as a going concern. Satisfactory reasons for sale. A splendid opportunity for good leading man or lady wishing to go into management under favourable auspices. Best references given and required, and every investigation courted; but only by those who can, in first place, give banker's or solicitor's references. Box 3,655, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Woven Animal Dresses, Paddings, Tights, Opera Hose, in all Materials. Lowest prices. H. J. BOXALL, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Flashlight (self acting), Photo. Machines (Bosco). Cost £60; sacrifice £6; quantity of effects, genuine bargain. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Second-hand Green Circus Tent, 85ft. top, 42ft. centre, good condition, with wallings, ropes, poles, stakes, pulley blocks, &c. Reason selling, buying larger one. Bargain, £35 lot. Bosco, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Blondin Donkeys, Elephants, Bulls, &c. MAYERS, 22, Shepperton-rd., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Sparkling Light Comedy Duologue, for Lady and Gentleman, also Bright Musical Sketch for one lady (Comedy part) and Two Gentlemen. A. SAKER, 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Dramatic and Comedy Sketches, New Plays, Stock Plays, &c. HAL COLLIER, 5, Avondale-mansions, Bromells-rd., Clapham, London.

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WANTED, to Buy, Films, any quantity. State price, condition, and subject. HUGHES, 22, Mortimer-road, Kingsland, N.

WANTED, for Cash, "Sailor's Wedding," "Errand Boy," "Spanish Marriage," or other Good Films; also lot of Films. Sale or exchange. List. MORRIS, Parade, Cork.

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WANTED, to Buy, Box Chamber (oak preferred), door pieces in return flats. Send size, condition, price, and where can be seen, to WALLIS, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, a Bunk Scene, French Flats, also four Sailors' Dresses. H. R., Central Pier, Morecambe.

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WANTED, One or Two Cheap Trick Dogs. ALFREDO,
G.P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, to Buy, Illusions, suitable for Oriental Show. Price no object for anything big. Address, G. FRANCIS, Empire, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, First-Class Comedy Sketch, original and funny, four people; must be good; price no object. HOWARD STEVENS, Clare Hall Gardens, Halifax.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

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WANTED, to Let, Tudor's Varieties, Blyth, Northumberland, best position, with electric and gas; seating 1,500. Vacant September. Address, FRASER, printer, Blyth; or TUDOR, Hippodrome, Douglas.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000. Vacant Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 15, Nov. 5, 12, 19, onwards. Christmas Vacant. Minstrel Troupe do well.
Silence polite negative. Dramatic licence.

WANTED to Let (Rental), Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

To Actors and Managers.
WANTED, to Let at once, well furnished House for six months, containing dining and drawing room, piano, four bedrooms, kitchen, and scullery, everything for use, garden, usual offices, easy access to all West End Theatres and Music Halls, splendid position. Terms moderate. Kennington Park-road, S.E. Apply, Box 3,660, "The Era."

Counterweighted Paint Frame.
WANTED, to Let, for any period, perfect light, rent £2 per week. MOODY-MANNERS STORES, The Hyde, Hendon, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Let, Large Light Workshops, or suitable for Storage. Rent low. Apply, 20 Murphy-street, Oakley-street, Lambeth.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, in London or Suburbs only, a complete bioscope outfit, for electric or lime. Can supply weekly change of pictures. Box 3,641, "The Era."

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WANTED, to Hire, the following Scenery for Short Summer Season at West-End Theatre, Interior, Large Hall in Stone Palace, Exterior, Courtyard of Mediæval Castle, with Balcony R. Must be in good condition, and suitable for large stage. Terms and full particulars to Box 3,379, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, for one week, commencing December 17, 1906, Scenery for "Hamlet" and "New Men and Old Acres," stage opening 30ft. G. and R. A. Nicholson, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, to Hire, at Xmas next, Dresses, suitable for the following Pantomimes, "Jack and Beanstalk," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Robinson Crusoe." SAMUEL JAMES, Grand Theatre, Islington.

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WANTED, Partner, to Finance First-class Sketches for the Music Halls; guaranteed genuine. Address by letter first, for interview, to Box 3,648, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Comedienne requires Actor-Vocalist, Young Military part; only those with Music Hall experience entertained. Interview after 4, Sunday. 22, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road.

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WANTED, Partner for popular Theatre in Midlands, paying over 20 per cent. Principals or Solicitors only. Box 3,638, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pantomimist and Tumbler, to join Troupe or Partner.
Box 3,650, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

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WANTED, Known, F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Electrical Engineer, and Theatrical Blacksmith. 66 and 68, Kennington-rd., S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, Theatrical and General Blacksmith, 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Let for Practice, Wright's Gymnasium. Absolutely Private, Comfortable, and Reasonable. Apply, 66 or 68, Kennington-road, S.E.

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WANTED, Known, any class and any quantity of Storage room can be rented at 1/6 per week, per load. Concrete floor, everything first-class, building quite new. Address, MOODY-MANNERS Stores, Collindale-avenue, The Hyde, Hendon, London, N.W.

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WANTED, Known, to Music Hall Proprietors, Theatres, &c., Slot Machines, splendid investment, Chocolate, &c., all iron, 20s.; Cigarette, 7s. 6d.; &c. MASON, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, Box Chamber, door pieces in return flats, oak chamber preferred. Full particulars, condition, price, size, and where can be seen, to WALLIS, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

Bogus Managers.
WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate.
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ELOCUTION COMPETITION.
1. Persons wishing to enter for the Elocution Competition should send in their names and addresses to Miss Morritt (stating whether professional or amateur) before Sept. 30. 2. Members and Associates free; strangers' entrance fee 5s. 3. All competitors must recite two passages—one comedy and the other serious—from Shakespeare's Plays. Both scenes and speeches are admissible, providing they do not exceed the time limit of five minutes. Her Highness Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein will distribute the prizes in connection with above in London in November, 1906.

THE FIFTH GREAT CLOG-DANCING CONTEST for the Championship of the World, for the Title and the New Champion Jewelled Belt and other Prizes, takes place Oct. 1, Six Nights and Matinée (15 steps and shuffle, the Winner to keep the Belt as his absolute property. Competitors, send portraits for publication, also the ladies). Entrance 5s. to J. H. WOOD, 16, Darlington-street, Queen's Park, Manchester.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

The Leading American Theatrical Weekly.
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EARLY TRAINS.
The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 3, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Earthquake," Althoffs, Sisters Klos, Griffiths Brothers, Galetti's Monkeys, Kaufmanns, Gudzow, Henry Taylor Trio, Leamy Troupe, Abdullah Arabs, Wille Brothers, Alf Daniels, Albertine Meilisch, Lucia and Viati, Lavater Lee.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
Boissett's "Trip to the Continent," Ryder Slone, Canary Co., Violi, Jose Collins, Grais' Baboons, Boy Glenn, Atroy, Pierce and Maizee, Eric, Binns and Binns.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Leo Stormont, Sanford and Lyons, Albert Le Fre, Ethel Walker, Cussac Talma, Ada Martine, Zanettos, Spry and Austin, Bioscope, Tina Clementa.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Florence St. John and Co., Chas. J. Johnson, Arthur Gill, Fred Keeton, Culpitt, Eeta Stella, Ten Genis, W. Shine and Co., Bioscope, Lord, Murray, and Lord.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Frank Lynne, Silbon's Circus, J. H. Jee, Bros. Dean, Lambeth and Robertson, Bioscope, Duchess of Tooting.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
T. E. Dunville, Bessie Butt, Chas. Fisher and Co., Eadie and Ramsden, Albertus and Millar, Bioscope, "The Gollywog," Scottish Meisters, Ian Colquhoun, Winifred Hare.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Mark Sheridan, Florence Esdaile, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, Three Sisters Sprightly, De Paci Bros., Bioscope, Rachael Lowe, Clement Trio, Ella Shields.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Chirgwin, Marie Reeve, Picquays, Prof. Dunning, Millie Payne, Wedburns, R. H. Douglass, Kahn and Kahn, Will Cornish, Barton and Ashley.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Ludwig Amann, Marba and Verity, Harry Freeman, Bioscope, Walton and Lester, Sybil St. Elmo, Wm. Lee and Co., Brown and Robinson, Russian Imperial Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Harry Randall, Bijou Russell, Leo Tell, Bioscope, "Capt. Cupid" Co., Herbert Clifton, Millman and Russell, Cliffe and Dog, Ella Retford, Ted and May Hopkins.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
George Lashwood, Two Tees, Lilian Lowe, George Newburn, Vivian's Vaudevilles, Mooney and Holbein, Bioscope, Jimmy Shields, Jean Seul, Raku.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Millie Hylton and Decima Brooke, Bioscope J. A. Wilson, Beatrice Willey, Ben Hur, F. S. Peake and Co., Tom E. Hughes, Queen and Le Brunn.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
Frank Danby and Co., Leonard and Francis, Lottie Govell, Eldees Poses Plastiques, Albertus and Bartram, Bioscope, Ned Graydon, Georgina Leonard, Lady Mansel's Juveniles, Poluskis.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Dot Hardy, Edith Courtney, O. K. Sato, Menotti, Bioscope, O'Malley and Brown, Orpheus, Frank and Jen Latona.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Fred Karno and Co., Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Katie Butler, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lilian Lea, Lloyd Langdon.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Hackenschmidt, George Formby, Fred Russell, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Barowsky Trio, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"Rejected Remounts," Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Tschernoff's Dogs, Die Obersteriers, Dorothy L. Clarke, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Harry Roxbury and Co., Lily Langtry, Gwennie Hasto, Rosa Naynon, Carrie Joy, Bennett and Martell, Clarice Netta, J. H. Milburn, Gordon Highlanders, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
The McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Mlle. De Dio, Park's Eton Boys, Jake Friedman, Forest and King, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope, Melody Makers.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
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Rehearsal at 3 for:—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Bella and Bijou, Spry and Monti, Bisera Troupe, Harris and Worth, Harry Grey, Marvelle and Abdy, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Lupino Bros., Nipper Lane, Fox and Melville, Chas. Pastor, Peppo's Monkeys, "Casey's Court," Daisy O'Malley, Billy Hobbs.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Herbert Lloyd, Bernar's Fantoches, Glenroy Troupe, Brown Le Clerq Co., Edie King, Spot, Simms and Simms, Lottie Lennox, Bioscope, Helene and Emilon.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Lottie Collins, Willie Edouin, Fred Lincoln, Cambrian Trio, Alice Blanford, Bioscope, Grisse Bros., Josef Adelmann, Aquamarinoffs, Buddha's Blackboard.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Annie May Abbot, Josh Dixon, Vernando, Rosie Bartlett, Goodfellow and Gregson, George Reeves, Rezene and Robini, Harriett Vernon.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Billie Barlow, Phil Herman, Pictures, Monte Myro Troupe, Flo D'Orville, Fielding and Hull, C. Leonard Fletcher, Smythson Comedy Co.

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Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"The Power of Music," Edgar Budden, Two Dixons, Pictures, Frances Manners, Paul Dow, "The Bigamist," Fred Arthur.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
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THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First house:
Nat Clifford, David Poole, George Gilbey, Burnetti, Ray Wallace, Victoria Monks, The Mezzettis, John Lawson and Co., Carr and Rose, Mons. Anthy, Dixie Girls, The Findens, Pictures.
Second house:
Nat Clifford, David Poole, George Gilbey, Burnetti, Katie Lawrence, Ray Wallace, Victoria Monks, The Mezzettis, John Lawson and Co., Dixie Girls, The Findens, Pictures.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens in October next. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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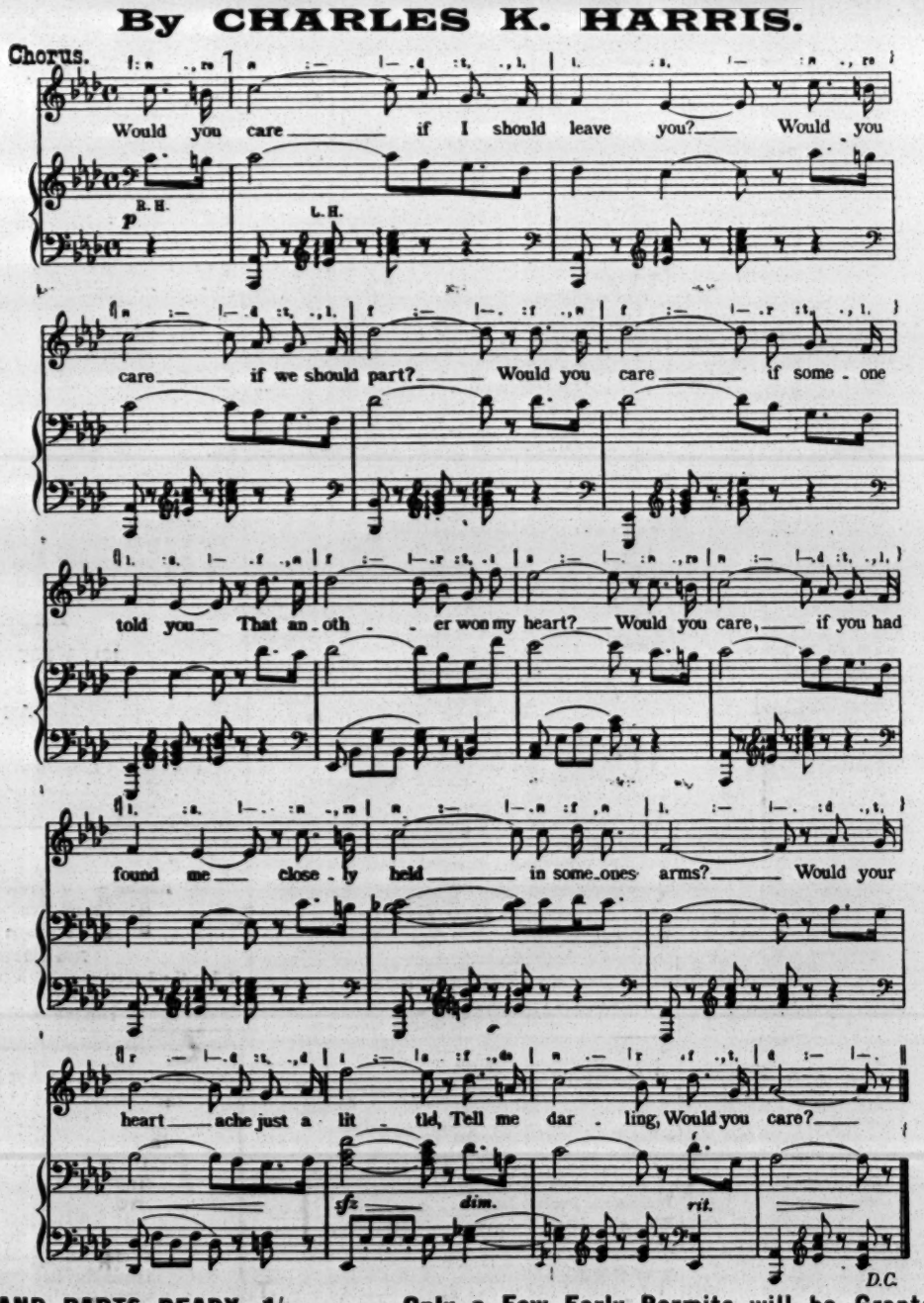

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Arthur Roberts, Mamie Iris, John P. Dane, Davis and Gledhill, Diamond and Beatrice, Four Emilions, B. Troba, Cribb and Cribb, Annie Laurie, Pictures, Alma Gray, Hayman and Franklin.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
R. Leyland, Stewart and Morgan, Baltus Troupe, Du Groe Trio, Leah Arden, Sidney Dolf, Gus Harris, C. Heney and Co., Tom Moore, Pictures, Apollo.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 3, 1906. 7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for Tom Leamore, J. W. Hall, Angeline, Harry Edson and Dog, Raie Walters, Four Papillons, Katie Marsh, Grant and Grant, Dale and Vale, Deer Family, Soli Duo.
GREENOCK PAVILION
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for Gracie Graham, Sam Dalton, Lilian Treville, Haverleys, Sisters Cora, Joe Conway, Daisy Rae, Pavoscope.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Call for Monday, Sept. 3, 1906.
"Saturday to Monday," J. C. Scatter, The Four Avocas,
The Sisters Slater, Carl Howard, Sisters Marion, L. B. Athol, Chas. Fanning, Doody and Wright.
Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, SEPT. 3, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Frank Hardie and Co., Ada Parker, Almon and Ada, Franko Midgets, A. E. Clifford, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Fred Poplar, Beattie and Blanch, Beatrice Bonnie, Motramos, Two Bostons, Kitty Wager, Wynford Bros., Stylo, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
T. B. Fayme, Jenny Lynwood, Mark Merritt, Baroux and Bion, Chas. Sloman, Two Palmers, Gertie Moore, Vay's Juveniles, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Herbert Shelley, Sisters Melba, Bert Danson, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Seabourne Bros., Arthur Slater, Wat Tyler, Keith and Merson, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
"Casey's Court," Maude Vera, Playfair and Nikola, Coolvilles, Woodward and Walton, W. B. Raby, Baker E. Belphor, Geoffreys and Benson, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Dronza, Annie Schuberth, The Athlones, Ringling Trio, Mark Leslie, Vandinoff, Hall and Earle, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Maidie Scott.

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Almasio, Sisters St. Julian, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sinclair and Whiteford, Maude Beaumont, Geo. Leonard, Sisters Aindow, Gracie Moore.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Carl Verdo, Pat Carey, Jimmy De Voy and Billy, New York Quartette, Collinson Co., Raymond's Bioscope, Arthur Goodman, Moon and Morris, Mysteries of the Thames, Rita Resdan.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Percy Murrey and Co., The Melroses, Charles Lilburn, Wake and Dean, Grace Langley, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Raymond's Bioscope, 3 Sisters Transfield, Duncan and Brasque, Kavodos, Flo Melville.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Johnny Holland and Co., Charles Austin, J. Victor, Golg and Sterling, The 3 Leaves, Will Lytton, Bob Hutt and Co., Raymond's Bioscope, Jessie Elvin and Co., Bouncing Dillons, The Cromwells.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
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Artists please Note
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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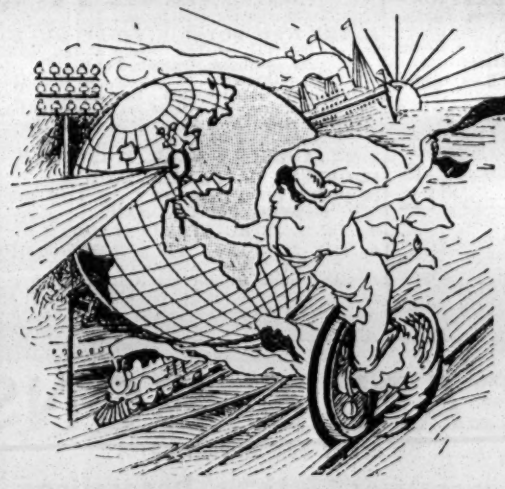

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SCENE 2.—Another woodland scene. Artist and his model have become great friends.

SCENE 3.—Outside of miner's cottage. Miner seated, playing violin; daughter standing beside him, sewing. Enter artist—introduction to father—asking permission to visit—father hesitates—asks them to come inside and talk about it.

SCENE 4.—Interior of cottage. Father, after some consideration and talk with them, forbids the acquaintance. Affecting parting of the lovers rudely interrupted by the father.

SCENE 5.—Outside of cottage—moonlight—elopement.

SCENE 6.—The same morning: Father's search for his daughter—finds letter—tears it up in rage—disowns her.

SCENE 7.—Off to work, very despondingly.

SCENE 8.—An interval of five years. Interior of artist's studio. Wife and child posed on raised platform—artist painting—all the appearance of a rising artist.

SCENE 9.—At the Royal Academy. Fame. The picture in the previous scene can be recognised on the line. Enter artist and wife—congratulations of friends.

SCENE 10.—Explosion in the mine. Shows cage descending with miners—miners at work, among whom the father can be recognised—explosion!—falling timbers—smoke and effects.

SCENE 11.—The Rescue.

SCENE 12.—In hospital. Daughter, hearing of the disaster, hastens to the hospital, to which her father has been taken, but the old man is obdurate—refuses to see her or accept her gifts.

SCENE 13.—A country lane. Motor car draws up. Artist, child and wife alight and walk towards cottage.

SCENE 14.—Another view of the miner's cottage. The miner, convalescent, is seated outside, a nurse in attendance. Miner looks very helpless and despondent—asks for his violin—fruitless attempts to play—vision of his daughter, which fades away as he looks round.

SCENE 15.—Here we see the daughter with her husband and child looking round the corner watching the poor old lonely man. The child is sent to take some flowers to grandpa and make friends with him.

SCENE 16.—The old man sees the child approaching—nurse lifts child on his knee—something in the face or voice tells him who she is—he relents and opens his arms to his daughter, who now runs up to him, followed by her husband, and the reconciliation is complete.

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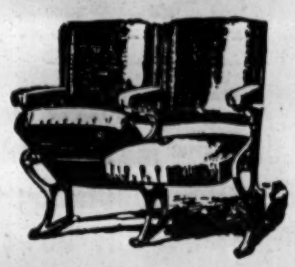

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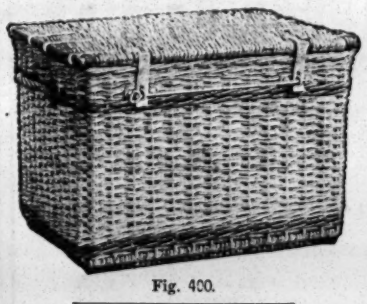

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THE COMEDIE FRANCAISE.

It was after the Revolution of 1848, according to M. Francisque Sarcey, that more prosperous, if not more glorious, days began to shine on the Comédie Française. The commissioners delegated by the Government to this republic of actors had already for some time been replaced by a general administrator. The names had been changed, but in reality the thing was the same. It was still the hand of the Sovereign in the affairs of the Comédie. The rules which limit the action of the two powers are not more defined in the present day than they were two centuries ago. The amount of authority which falls to the general administrator depends on the *prestige* he enjoys. It is something entirely personal. He is the real master if he is capable and willing. I have known M. Arsène Houssaye in that post; he was master, but in such a clever and exquisite manner that nobody perceived it. M. Empis, on the contrary, acted the master in such a disagreeable way that he was removed. M. Thierry, who came next, exercised with all kinds of reticence, circumlocution, and delays, at the same time appearing to give way, an influence which was for a long time preponderant. Finally, M. Perrin, of to-day, has charmed and overcome all resistance by the clearness of his views, the brilliancy of his conceptions, and, above all, by the renown of a successful and fortunate manager, which he had acquired in all his undertakings, either at the Opéra or at the Opéra-Comique. And his good luck has followed him to the Théâtre Français, for never since its foundation has the house made such large receipts. They vary from 6,000 to 7,000 francs. Hence the dividends shared every year by the *sociétaires* have become enormous. The *sociétaires*, besides the salaries they pay to themselves, last year had parts or shares which amounted to more than 40,000 francs. Add to this the supplementary expenses they allow themselves every time they play, or, as "weeklies," supervise the getting-up of a piece, and you will see that a member entitled to the whole of one part gets from 60,000 to 70,000 francs per annum. Add again the fact that a portion of the profits has been deducted beforehand and turned into two parts, one part to increase the general fund and the other to form for every *sociétaire* a little heap of money which he receives on the day of his retirement. It was thus that Bressant, when he took leave of the Comédie Française, received 80,000 francs in a lump; his retiring pension is, I think, 8,000 to 10,000 francs a year.

It is easy to understand that so many advantages, apart from the honour of being able to put on your card the words, "*Sociétaire de la Comédie Française*," which gives a position in society, and which assures a certain consideration of which actors are all the more jealous that it was long refused to their calling—it is easy to understand that so many advantages possess an irresistible fascination for all young actors. There is not one that does not dream of entering the House of Molière one day, that does not make it the height of his ambition, and struggles with all his might and main to attain it. The high study of elocution would long since have been abandoned for the easier triumphs of the *vaudeville* and the *opérette* if the House of Molière did not appear in the distance offering its golden apples to candidates. No, you will never know how many unfledged Delaunays and Sarah Bernhardts there always are on the streets of Paris, who work ten hours a day at the old *répertoire*, and who dine at restaurants at sixpence a head, waiting for glory. They try to raise themselves to the height which the Comédie Française alone maintains in these days of decadence.

The decadence which affects all the theatres in Paris has not yet made itself felt at the Comédie Française, and yet of the three elements which have contributed to its success during centuries one has already almost disappeared. There is no longer any public. The Parisian is swamped amid the multitudes which the railways daily turn out on the Boulevards, and which invade the *salle* of the Rue Richelieu every night. They prolong beyond measure the success of pieces, and force the actors to play them a hundred times running, thereby spoiling talents which cannot be renewed, and which have not opportunities enough to seek fresh strength in the great school of the classic répertoire. Their taste is neither delicate nor attentive. They neither instruct nor support the actor. This state of things, unfortunately, will only go on increasing, and one can see no remedy for it. It has not yet done much harm to the Comédie Française, which still presents a majestic aspect, and relies on the two principles which presided over its formation, and which have constituted its power. On the one side, that *ensemble* of actors governing themselves and guarding the traditions. Do you know that between Got and Molière there are only seven or eight names of great actors? We have, so to speak, only to stretch out our hand to be able, across several generations, to find the first Mascarille. Got played a long time with Montrose, who had seen Dazincourt. Dazincourt appeared young by the side of Préville, already old. Préville had known Poisson, who is the last link of the chain up to Molière. In this way the tradition has been preserved alive from one great actor to another. One feels how such or such a rôle was played in the days of Molière, and when by chance the interpretation is changed by the caprice of an actor, as happened in the case of Arnolphe, whose character was modified by *le père* Provost, that change forms a date, and the new tradition is established, unless the successors of Provost reject it. Here we see the distinctive mark of the Comédie Française, which unites to tradition a wise spirit of innovation, that corrects and harmonises it to the tastes of the day, but at the same time, out of respect for tradition, it always puts the bridle on this taste for novelty. The history of the Comédie Française is only a perpetual compromise between these two contrary forces.

The administrator represents more especially the spirit of innovation. As he is always a man of influence and education, he brings with him into office personal opinions on art, and seeks to apply them. He therefore gives a stroke to the rudder which turns the ship into a new direction. He is disinterested, as the question of money does not affect him; or rather he has no other interest than glory. He does not, therefore, feel any desire to sacrifice art to big receipts. He is also above those petty rivalries, those mean jealousies, which often divide actors, and from which those of the Comédie Française are not more exempt than others. He puts an end to their quarrels sometimes by imposing his own will, sometimes by compounding dexterously with their passions. *C'est la lutte: donc c'est la vie.*

Such is it still, this majestic *ensemble* of traditions, which is called the Comédie Française. Everything is there, as in great family houses, rich and solemn. The employés of it rest there till old age, and are proud of it. You will find ushers there so ceremonious that they appear as if they dated from the Great Monarch, and had formerly opened the doors to him. The box-openers know all the *habitués*, and salute them with a friendly smile. Costumers and assistants transmit their charges from father to son. The very forms which are used to reply to all who have anything to do with the Comédie smack of old times, and in everything the Comédie says or does there is a politeness and generosity which is like a permanent homage to the memory of Molière.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z Andrews.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean company is here this week. On Monday *Hamlet* was presented. In the title-rôle Mr. Ian Maclaren was excellent, his acting reaching a high standard; Mr. Philip Gordon as Claudius proved himself to be an actor of considerable ability; Mr. Gordon Phillott as Polonius deserved much praise; Mr. Whitford Kane was highly satisfactory as Laertes; Mr. F. S. Dawson as the Ghost was also worthy of special note. Miss Gertrude Gilbert was a great success as Ophelia, her acting in the mad scene being highly creditable; Miss Edith Coleman was successful as Gertrude; Miss G. Littlewood made the most of her part as the Player Queen.

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*La Poupee*, which is always exceedingly popular here, was presented on Monday by Mr. C. P. Levilly's company. Miss Stella Gastelle was as bright and piquant as ever in the part of Alesia; Hilarius was in the capable hands of Mr. W. H. Powell, and Mr. Frederick Hobbs was specially successful as Father Maxime; Mr. Manfred Kassell made an excellent impression as Launcelot, and Loremois and Baron Chanterelle received full justice from Mr. Fred Seymour and Mr. William Griffin. The augmented chorus was ably directed by Mr. Harry Rushworth. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *Amorelle* was to be given.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Darc's Marionettes contribute an exceptionally interesting entertainment, their imitations being really delightful; Les Kyasyas are wonderfully capable athletes; and Kan and Kooney make a decided hit with a diverting sketch, *My Friend, the Enemy*; Mr. Bob Hamilton, Scots comedian, obtains a cordial reception; and among others who contribute to the success of the evening are the Four Kays in a lively pantomimic sketch, *The Drudge*; Miss Marie Yorke, burlesque artist; Mr. Dan Noble, comedian and vocalist; Miss Florence Deighton and Miss May Fallowfield.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. John B. Shinton and company opened here on Monday with *The Price of Her Soul*. Mr. J. B. Shinton in a most artistic and telling style portrays Mandeville, V.C.; Mr. Annesley Helys, who represents Major Skoboloff, displays genuine histrionic ability; Mr. W. Percy submits a capital character sketch of Pat Murphy; Mr. Bryce Methven is good as the Captain Sergius; Mr. Archie Gear scores as General Demitrius. Exceptional praise is due to Miss Ada M. Ryder for her careful and effective reading of the part of Countess Inez Steinmetz; Miss Mona Gray depicts Olga Lanovitz to the life; Miss Olive Chesman is good as Nadine; Miss Ada Arnott is amusing as Jemime Fraser; Little Ida Thompson gives an excellent reading of Vera; Polly Perkins is smartly represented by Miss Tina Frank.

HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—A good variety bill here includes Lady Julia, the ape, who gives a very interesting performance; Liggins and Morlone are smart entertainers; Hill and Lane deserve to be complimented; Lillie delights the house with her singing and dancing; Andy Fagan is very good; Miss Mabel Thorne is pleasing; the Bioscope presents some interesting pictures.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Williams.—Mr. C. Macdona's company is here this week in *Mr. Hopkinson*. Mr. Frank Stanmore's Samuel Hopkinson is exceedingly funny; Miss Alison Alexander has a fine appearance as the Duchess, and her acting is talented; Miss Gladys Jesson's Lady Tyra is played with excellent results; and Eliza Dibbs has an exponent in Miss Katherine M. Romsey to whom only praise can be given; Mr. C. M. Heslop as Dursingham is capital; and as the Earl of Addleton Mr. Shirley Lea is admirable; Mr. Arnold Lacy's Duke is ably impersonated; Mr. Reginald Dane's Lord Cawthorpe is a capital enactment; and Mr. George McCloskie's Smedhurst is a good performance.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—A return to what is known as the Adelphi drama is seen here this week in the revival of Messrs. Geo. R. Sims and Robt. Buchanan's play, *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Leonard Yorke is the hero, Cuthbert Cuthbertson, his interpretation being full of vigour, and his military bearing that of a gentleman and a man of honour and courage; Mr. C. F. Cooke as Sergt.-Major Milligan presents not only a fine military figure, but is a characteristic Irishman. Mr. Joe Bracewell, an old Manchester favourite, is suitably cast as Professor Ginnifer, the showman; Mr. John Denny's Richard Featherstone is a meritorious performance; Mr. Freddie Bentley is a small, but remarkably smart, soldier as Tommy Dutton; Miss Helena Rigby is a motherly Mrs. Wicklow; Miss Phyllis B. French is extremely vivacious as Lavinia Ginnifer; as Astrea Miss Dora Gilham portrays with dramatic force the unfeminine characteristics of a revengeful woman; Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill as the heroine portrays the tender solicitude of the true woman with delicacy and sensitiveness in many agreeable lights and shades; there are also excellent points in the acting of Messrs. J. Betterton, G. Hastings, W. G. Blunt, J. B. Glover, Alec. Murray, Misses Florrie Heys, May Bowyer, and Jessie Dene and others. The mounting of the drama is adequate, many of the scenes being mechanically well managed.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—A big novelty in the bill here is the performance of Kreamer and Braun, in a two-mile cycle race, and a half-mile horse *v.* cycle race; Daisy Martell, song and dance artist, is successful; Will Johnson is a comedian of no mean merit; Merton and Rydon are very mirth-provoking; the Vere Brothers are graceful gymnasts, and are loudly applauded; Lottie De Abbey is a talented vocalist and mimic; the popular Will Letters gives a pathetic recitation and tells some funny stories; Peakman and Walsh give a very entertaining juggling act; Ranji Sinji and Valeria, Indian magicians, give a smart performance, their basket trick evoking much wonder; the Bioscope pictures, "Before the House Awakes," are amusing.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—First honours in the excellent entertainment submitted here must be accorded to that versatile comedian, Mr. Harry Pleon, who presents his own mirth-provoking scena entitled *P.C. Pudden*, in which character he creates roars of laughter. He is ably assisted by Miss Celia Dent, an able exponent of the poetry of motion, Mr. Chris V. Bern, and Mr. Tom Kent Clown Barker, assisted by Miss Rozsika, gives an excellent show with highly-trained dogs, monkeys, and pony; the musical act of Blind Henderson is well received; the Three De Veres are smart acrobats; the coon songs and acrobatic dances of the Four Sisters Godfrey are a decided acquisition to the "bill"; Mr. E. C. Clayton has a fine selection of pictures; the Adderley Brothers are good as mimics; and Mr. Harry Vardon, the golfing ventriloquist, finds much favour. On Thursday and Friday evenings Mr. Harry Pleon presented a new and original tabloid drama entitled *The Folly of being Too Sure*, a busker's romance, in which comedy and pathos are delightfully blended.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—The three first nights of this week Mr. Horace Stanley and a strong company occupied the theatre in the sensational drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Stanley, the author of the piece, plays the part of the jolly, happy-go-lucky, Sam Wagstaff, and he is exceedingly well supported by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts, the quaint love-making of the two sending the audience into fits of laughter; the Jack O'Malley of Mr. George Beverley was admirably played and sufficiently restrained where there were great inducements to catch the plaudits of the gallery; the James Idderwick of Mr. Chas. Burdon was cleverly acted; Mr. Edwin Clarke as the Scotland Yard detective played his part well; Mr. Alaric Burton as Cuthbert Leigh gave a fine rendering of the part of the old, unbending country gentleman, while as his daughter Miss Elsie Capell was sweet, graceful, and sufficiently pathetic; the Letitia Leigh of Miss Evelyn M. Walton showed a rare appreciation of the eccentricities of the maiden lady, and her portrayal of this elderly spinster was most comical; Miss Josephine Lee as Olive Coombes (Inderwick's deserted wife) was powerful and effective.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Miss Lillian Beszant's company is appearing here this week in *An Actor's Romance*. Miss Beszant is highly amusing as Dotty Dillingham; Mr. R. Eardley Howard's portrayal of Harold Davenport is powerful; as Louise Davenport Miss Beatrice Honley is sweet and attractive; Miss Florence Nelson shows considerable ability in her delineation of Florence Hastings; and Miss Marion Ryder as the child Phyllis is intelligent. Mr. Cecil Fowler as Robert Livingstone does admirable work; Mr. Harry Agar-Lyons as Jack Woodford also plays well; and a clever impersonation of Charley Cummins is given by Mr. Harry Wren. Mr. Percy Warlow as Ikey Isaacs is seen to advantage.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. George Dance's company presented *The Cingalee*, under the direction of Mr. J. Eyre-Massey. The musical comedy was finely mounted, and the acting and singing were of a high order. Miss Edith Harmer made a great hit as Nanoya, winning golden opinions for a careful and sympathetic rendering; vivacious Peggy Sabine could not have been better placed than with Miss Minnie Muir, whose idea of the part thoroughly deserved the praise endorsed. With Mr. Tom Payne as Chambhuddy Ram Miss Muir captured many encores. Miss Bertha Frey scored heavily as Lady Patricia Vane, her fine voice being heard to advantage in several numbers; a conspicuous success was humourous Mr. Tom Payne, who delineated the Baboo lawyer with marked ability; and excellent in every way was Mr. Harold Montague as Harry Vereker. Boobhamba received careful handling from Mr. Frank Sutton, and Mr. Coope Edmonds as Sir Peter Loftus, and Mr. William Austin as Bobby Warren evinced ability.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Charles Carey's company in *After the Ball* is here. Mr. Algernon W. Lee enacts Halliwell Menit with great spirit, and Mr. Percy Baverstock plays Colonel Joseph Menit with considerable bluff humour. Miss M. Sadie is a sprightly Nancy, and Mr. Norman Bowyer a smart and entertaining Dick Seymour; while Miss Queenie Finis, Nellie Mather, Miss Eva Ellis, and Ruth Gay play cleverly.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—A variety company, including the cinematograph representation of the Britt-Nelson fight, is here; Kid Gwinn gives an interesting display; the Sisters Charnley discourse some duets sweetly; the 'Frisco Girls do some clever dancing; and Cresswell Bernand interestingly expounds Dickens.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Here Paulton and Dooley prove skilful trick bicycle riders; Myra Love, comedienne, sings well; Grey and Welford are smart comedians; J. T. MacMillan is an amusing Scotch comedian; and the Ellimans give a clever musical entertainment. Vernon's Bioscope also contributes some good pictures.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. George Alexander's company is here in Mr. Pinero's play, *His House in Order*, which has been received with enthusiasm by large audiences. Mr. Frank Fenton is seen to the utmost advantage as Hilary Jesson; Miss Auriol Lee has great chances of displaying her undoubted histrionic talents in the finely drawn character of Nina, and with Mr. Fenton secures an ovation at the end of their big scene in Act III. As Filmer Jesson, Mr. Cyril Harcourt does much estimable work; Derek Jesson is cleverly undertaken by the youthful actress, Miss Doris Champion. The Ridgeleys are portrayed with excellent discrimination and tact by Mr. Adam Alexander, Mr. George Silver, Mrs. Kemmis, and Miss Audrey Campbell; Major Maurewarde is enacted by Mr. Charles Tyrel with judicious restraint; Mdlle. Juliette Milo represents in a *chic* way Mdlle. Thomé; Mr. James Annard secures many a laugh in his one appearance as the provincial mayor; and Mr. Langford Browne and Mr. Cyril Cattley each do well as Harding and Forshaw. The general manager for the tour is Mr. Ernest Benham.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—A prominent position this week is held by Herbert Shelley, who is presenting his latest, and certainly his greatest success, *Dan the Outlaw*. The ThreeSeabournes are responsible for new and unusual equilibristic and acrobatic feats; as a character impersonator Mr. Victor Newman is successful; Keith and Merson, in their hunting acrobatic absurdity, are amusing; the Sisters Melba, duettists, harmonise effectively; Burg, Haud, and Wise continue to give their popular act, *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, with every token of acceptance; Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white, and Wat Tyler, character vocalist, each secure a share of favour; and the humorous films shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux create laughter.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's company in the Anglo-American play, *A Gambler's Daughter*. Miss Adria Hill depicts the characters of Mildred and Miriam Grant with conspicuous success; Mr. Robert Ayrton as Desmond O'Dare leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Harry Cave cleverly impersonates the rôle of Solomon Solomons; and Mr. Richard Pitt makes an excellent John Grant, whose son Jack is in the capable hands of Mr. Victor Millard.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened here on Monday with a return visit of the favourite musical comedy, *Florodora*, which met with a capital reception. In the rôle of Dolores, Miss Josephine Sullivan was most successful. Congratulations are due to Mr. Alfred E. Passmore for his admirable impersonation of Anthony Tweedlepunch. He succeeded in causing roars of laughter with his amusing interpretation. Mr. Allen Morris was all that could possibly be desired as Frank Abercoed; and Miss Lily Gulick furnished a charming and decidedly graceful impersonation of Angela Gilfain. Mr. Stanley White played the part of Cyprus W. Gilfain admirably; and Mr. C. A. James deserves praise for his clever impersonation of Leandro. One could not desire a more vivacious or clever interpretation of Lady Holyrood than that furnished by Miss Kate Leicester; and Mr. Herbert St. John was seen to great advantage as Captain Arthur Donegal. Other rôles were well sustained by Miss Bessie Nunan, Miss K. Russell, and Messrs. F. Farrow, Geo. Speed, &c. The orchestra and chorus were under the able direction of Mr. J. C. Hann.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The leading attraction here is provided by Mr. Tom Grave, who creates quite a sensation with his thrilling cycling feat of flying the revolving wheel. Lockhart's elephants have been retained a second week, and their remarkable performance is the talk of the city. Roars of laughter have been created by the production of the sketch *Three of a Kind* by Miss Ethel Arden, supported by Mr. George Abel and company. Mr. Russell Carr is a smart ventriloquist, with new ideas; and a hit has been made by Huntingdon and Macdonald in their singing and dancing act. Miss Clara Walters, comedienne and trick pianist; Miss Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer; the Sisters Poole; and the Palace pictures complete the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The chief attraction here is provided by Miss Annie Abbott, the "little Georgia Magnet," whose remarkable performance has created quite a sensation. A capital reception has been extended to Miss Harriett Vernon, who has been heard to great advantage in several catchy songs. Mr. Josh Dixon is a funny comique; and Mr. George Reeves, "the conjuring comedian," is well received. Miss Rosie Bartlett is a smart comedienne; and Goodfellow and Gregson, assisted by Mr. Bert Wade, appear in their very funny act, *Watch the Chalk*, which is quite a feature of the programme. Vernando, "the ventriloquist barber," has made a hit; and also appearing are Rezene and Robini and Mr. Leslie Race, vocal comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, of Liverpool, presents this week the popular drama, *The Law and the Man*. Notwithstanding the heat, a capital house assembled on Monday and gave the piece a good reception. Mr. Herbert Cecil as the hero Will Waring acted cleverly, and was most successful throughout; and honours were also secured by that charming actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, whose emotional acting as Nellie Laverock is worthy of high praise. Mr. Horace Denton portrayed the villainies of Robert Galloway, J.P., most realistically; and Miss Lina Nazeby furnished a sympathetic rendering of Cicely Waring. The humour of the piece was capitally sustained by Miss Effie Macintosh as Bess Dabney and Mr. W. G. Wesley as Tom Dabney; and Mr. Cyril Grier was an admirable Silas Wragley. Other rôles were ably portrayed by Messrs. J. F. Pearce, H. Arnold Allen, and J. M. William. The Alhambra Bioscope presents a new set of pictures, "The Life of a Cowboy," which are most attractive.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren are here with their company in *Proof*. Mr. Gerald Kennedy a sympathetic Pierre Lorance, is ably supported by Miss Beatrice Shirley in the rôles of Madeline and Adrienne. An excellent exposition of Lazare is given by Mr. W. J. Butler, and Valentine is effectively played by Miss May Grimshaw. The Duke is earnestly played by Mr. Carl Beechey.

DRILL HALL.—The Imperial Pierrots, "in their new home" here, under the proprietorship of Messrs. Alf. Brookes and Syd Bazley, present an attractive programme, and are supported by Mr. J. C. Richards, baritone; Carl Osmond, cartoonist; Pulo, juggler; Lily Fellows and Little Linda Arthurs, vocalists; and Bertram Brennan, pianist. For the 6th instant was announced a benefit performance for Mr. Alf. Brookes.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—After an interval of ten years Mr. Auguste Van Biene and his talented company are revisiting this town with *The Broken Melody*, and it is gratifying to observe that crowded and delighted audiences are still attracted by this charming entertainment. An important factor in the great success achieved is undoubtedly the matchless violoncello playing of Mr. Van Biene, which, combined with that gentleman's powerful performance of Paul Borinski, is worthy of the highest praise. As Lena Borinski Miss Lena Burnleigh proves herself to be an emotional actress of exceptional merit; and Miss Rosemary Rees as the Duchesse de Verviers handles a somewhat difficult part with consummate ability; Mr. Henry Ludlow is a good General Ivanoff; Mortimer, the theatrical agent, is well impersonated by Mr. P. Hamilton; and Mr. Lawrence Grove is an excellent Beaujoie; Mr. Charles A. Morgan is an admirable Dickson, and Miss Rosie Lewis is equally well placed as his wife; and the remaining parts are all adequately represented.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians head the bill with the amusing sketch, *Moses and Sons*, in which Mr. Fred Kitchen appears as Perkins with great success, the production being hailed with delight by crowded houses. Miss Lily Burnand, an accomplished comedienne, receives her customary ovations nightly, and Vasey and Ramsey, expert step dancers, dainty Maggie Rimmer, and Brown's Royal Bioscope also furnish attractive turns.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Paolo and Francesca*, in which Messrs. Nixon and Zimmerman "announce" Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Dorothea Baird, and company, is received with the admiration its beauty and novelty deserve. Mr. Irving is greeted with affection, and as Malatesta is receiving praises which are deservedly evoked by his genius and magnetism. Miss Baird makes an exquisite Francesca, the delicate pathos of the accomplished actress leaving an indelibly sweet impression. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams is an ideal Paolo, with his youthful bearing and tender, sympathetic acting; Miss Maud Milton as the unhappy Lucrezia fills the audience with admiration by her fine tragedy powers; Miss Ada Mellon delivers the prophetic lines of the blind and aged Angela impressively; and Mr. C. Dodsworth, Miss Nannie Bennett, and Miss Elaine Inescourt act exceedingly well.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Catch of the Season*, as presented by Mr. George Dance's company, is the attraction here. Mr. Frank Lincoln undertakes the rôle of the Duke of St. Jermyns, and imbues it with vivacity and good humour; Miss Moya Mannering makes a captivating and dainty Angela; Miss Belle Napier is decidedly pleasant as Lady Caterham; Sophia and Honoria are agreeably rendered by Misses Margaret Saville and Jane Eyre; Miss Gwynneth Galton comports herself well as the Duchess; and Miss Ida Mann plays Lady Crystal with excellent tact. Mr. E. H. Kelly depicts the idiosyncrasies of Lord Dundreary in a clever and laughable manner; and Bucket is divertingly embodied by Master Grata; Miss Ivy St. Helier, Miss Ethel Quarry, Mr. Julian Cross, Mr. A. R. Boielle, Vivian Willis (who succeeds poor Mr. Harry Eversleigh), and A. Lloyd are all excellent.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Adventure of Lady Ursula* opened the season here in fine style last Monday, presented by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company, who also include in their present week's répertoire *Nell Gwyn of Drury Lane* and *Count Hannibal*. Miss Beatrice Wilson as Lady Ursula gained flattering marks of approval; Mr. Dennis Cleugh won excellent opinions by his portrayal of the Earl of Hassenden; Mr. Norman V. Norman as Sir George Sylvester was admirable; Mr. Francis Hope created mirth by his clever character sketch of the Rev. Mr. Blimboe; Mr. Harold West was successful as Mr. Dent; Miss Sybil Ruskin charmed the audience by her good looks and clever acting as Dorothy Fenton; and Miss Hilda Gregory acted capably as Mrs. Fenton. Messrs. Norman Leslie, Kenneth Bruce, Howard Brenan, Sam Wilkinson, jun., and Chas. Redforth were included in the cast.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris Felton.—*The Two Hussars* is here, and Messrs. Webb, Benge, and company have been cordially received. Mr. Wilson Benge plays Harry Alford in a clever and soldierly manner; Mr. Fred J. Webb portrays Paul Villiers in thoroughly competent style; Mr. J. Stuart invests the rôle of Col. Manners with the requisite dignity; Miss Sadie Smith is much applauded for her charm and spirit as Ellen Maythorne; Miss Danvers Smith wins admiration as Marie; she has a pleasing manner and appearance. The humorous parts are safe in the hands of Mr. G. Paradise, who scores as the eccentric Sergt. McFinie; Mr. Louis Nanton as Trooper Runn, and Miss Lallah Price as Molly Cutts.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Span of Life* is presented here by Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, including the Almo trio of acrobats. Miss Kitty Russell and Mr. Walter Dale, in the characters of Shrove Tuesday and Nutty Brown respectively, introduce clever specialities, which are appreciated and encored. Mr. Hyburn-Dellar brings down tumultuous applause by his manly embodiment of Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffatt represents Dunstan Leech with admirable effect; Miss Ella Willmer enacts Kate Heathcote in a most pleasing manner; Mr. J. Petersfell as Azreh and Miss M. Douglas in a dual rôle elicit praise; and Mr. Conrad Clarke as Joshua Gurnet, Mr. Bob Brooks as Inspector Ferguson, and Miss Phylis Hamilton as Mrs. Jelf complete this well-ordered cast.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY. — General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Plucky Nipper* is here, played by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company. Mr. Edward Surrey is quite creditable as Bill Burgess; Mr. Fred Rivers displays commendable resource as Richard Vanbrugh; Mr. Claude Kingston as Henry Paget and Mr. Chas. Cameron as Col. Fenwick both do clever work; Mr. W. Anderson as the Ferret acts cleverly; and Mr. Edward Stream as Capt. Frank Leslie (with songs) and Mr. Douglas Cambell as Tommy Atkins (with songs and dances) cause a great amount of enthusiasm. Miss Evelyn Derwent wins the audience's good will as Ma Fenwick; Miss Kitty Maynard excites compassion as the blind girl Daisy Paget; and Miss Bonwin in her popular rôle of the plucky nipper Polly Hithard is the admiration of all.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A Wife's Triumph* is here, played by Mr. Ernest Abbott's company, including Miss Ada Abbott as Bessie Dewhurst. Her prepossessing manner and really clever acting charm the audience. Mr. Douglas Phelps gives an exceedingly fine performance as Robert Dewhurst; Mr. Ernest E. Abbott pleases immensely with his assumption of Frank Wilton; Mr. W. H. Garbois as Ellis Jordan is effective in his realism; Mr. Weedon Ross as Hartman is most commendable; Mr. W. H. Davis-Brown is successful as Stubbs; and Mr. Edwin Keene as Ben Bradford, with Miss Marjorie Tennant as Margery Crib supplies acceptable humour. Miss Kathleen Stewart is well received as Alice Wilton; and Miss Hetty Jones is a favourite as little Frank.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—George Lashwood is a big attraction in the programme here, his songs being well received; while George Newburn imitates him most successfully, also Harry Lauder and Mark Sheridan. Joan Saul mystifies his audience with his remarkable tricks; the ji-jitsu act of Raku is decidedly clever, while Beau Brunmell in his vaudeville act is loudly applauded.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Six Brothers Luck are always sure of a big reception here; their sketch, *Blazes*, is very amusing. Palvero's naval bombardment is also an excellent turn; the Rinaldo Trio are some of the smartest equilibrists we have seen; while as acrobatic cyclists the Brixtons are worthy of much praise. Lily and Flaxmore, and Rosie Lloyd receive loud applause for their songs.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Apollo and Miss Moya Sam are making a great impression here in their ji-jitsu display, which is most interesting; the Olympian Troupe of acrobats are loudly applauded; Gus Harris, Stewart and Morgan, the Du Gros Trio, Leah Arden, Tom Moore, Sidney Dolf, R. Leyland and C. Heney and company are prominent items in the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The athletic display presented by Ben Hur is exceedingly fine; Queen and Le Brunn are certainly worth all the applause accorded them, their *Cockney Huntsman* sketch being most amusing. Fred Peake and company have a good sketch, *The Hypocrite*, which is well acted; Millie Hylton and Decima Brooke are loudly applauded. J. H. Wilson and his dog, Beatrice Willey, and Tom Hughes make up an excellent programme.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, A. Addison, Ltd.—Mr. Samuel James's company is here this week in *As Good as Gold*. Mr. H. H. Barrington as Mark Williams is seen to advantage; Mr. Norman Hall, a smart comedian, plays well as Horatio Spanker; Mr. William Heilbroun as Lieutenant Jack Stanton is much to be commended; Mr. Eric Hudson is effective in the trying rôle of Sir Richard Wharncliffe; and Mr. Thorpe Tracey leaves nothing to be desired as Timothy. Miss Marie McAulay acts powerfully as Kate D'Arville; Miss Gertrude Bonser as Nora Williams is charming; The Kipper is in the safe hands of Miss Irene Ross; and others worthy of mention are Miss Ella Seton and Mr. John Greenhalgh.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company in the drama, *Between Two Women*, is being presented here this week. Miss Molly Malone as Violet Thornton and Miss Winifred Pearson as Carmen de Severeaux score successes in their respective parts. Mr. Stephen Langton acts well as Harry Millard, and Mr. Watkyn Wynne plays the Earl of Millard with dignity. Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack Pringle is capital. The piece is excellently staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—*The Love that Women Desire* is being played to capital houses at this place of entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—An excellent show here is provided by the Geraldos, hoop manipulators and club jugglers; Fred Earle, in his "Seaweed" and other songs; Rich and Rich, eccentrics; the three Sisters Chester, banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Elsie Robey, in *The Slavey's At Home*; Mabel La Blanche, burlesque actress; Alice Ormonde, comedienne; the Schiavony troupe of comedy acrobats; George Colline, comedian; and Zaro and Arno, comic gymnasts.

BLACKPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—An enthusiastic reception was accorded Mr. Tree when he appeared on the stage on Monday night last in the character of Isidore Izard in *Business is Business*. The scene in the last act, where he depicts the vain and ambitious financier in the throes of heart failure, was a particularly powerful piece of acting, and the curtain was rung down on a perfect tumult of applause. The company supporting Mr. Tree is one of unusual excellence. Mrs. S. H. Brooke presented a wonderfully life-like picture of Mrs. Izard, and Miss Norah Lancaster showed that she had made a close study of the part of Inez Izard, the self-willed daughter. That sterling actor Mr. G. W. Anson scored a distinct triumph in the small part of Professor Gruggh, and Mr. Robert Atkins was efficient as the solicitor friend, Mr. Deevish. Cyril Izard had a capable representative in Mr. A. G. Benedict, and the Earl of Hathersage was portrayed as to the manner born by Mr. Edmund Maurice. Mr. Sydney Brough as Sir George Tarrant, Mr. Charles Quartermaine as Hubert Forsyth, Miss Muriel Alexander as Mrs. Fraser, and Miss Hilda Moore as Mrs. Underwood were also in the cast, and performed their respective tasks creditably. *The Man Who Was*, with Mr. Tree as Austin Limmason, followed, and never has finer acting been witnessed within the walls of this theatre. The other characters were also well played, but the Colonel Dirkovitch of Mr. Edmund Maurice calls for special mention. *Colonel Newcome* is billed for the latter part of the week, with Mr. Tree in the title-rôle and Miss Constance Collier as Ethel Newcome. Mr. Alfred Wareing is the business-manager.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are paying another visit here this week, and giving the utmost delight to their numerous admirers in a round of their favourite plays. *The Elder Miss Blossom* was played on Monday, and proved as popular as ever. Mr. Kendal was just the same kindly Andrew Quick, and Mrs. Kendal a charming Dorothy Blossom. *The Housekeeper* was Tuesday's attraction, *The Iron Master* on Wednesday, and *A Tight Corner* on Thursday. The personnel of the company is little changed since the last visit, and includes Messrs. Bassett Roe, Ernest Hendrie, Hubert Harben, R. Burnett, W. M. Rutherfurd, Edward Vaughan, and Misses Kate Bishop, Dorothy Moor-Lane, Dora Fellowes, and Mrs. A. B. Tapping, all of whom play their old parts with credit and distinction.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. G H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Morris Cronin in his great juggling scena is the favourite turn here this week. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette, in the musical novelty, "Voices on Strings," are received with loud applause. Also included in the programme are Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; Hermann Melot, the French conjurer; Dorothy Drew, comedienne; Daisy Dormer, vocalist; Murke and McVoy, comedy tumblers; Albert Whelan, singer and mimic; Johnson and Bert, in a sketch; Corbin's troupe of performing dogs; and Ben Albert, a clever comedian. The Palace pictures are shown by Vernon's Imperial bioscope.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Dulignan.—The Karnos continue to top the bill here, and their sketch, entitled *The Traveller's Rest*, evokes continual merriment. The McConnell Trio also submit a very comical sketch, and the Northern Troupe of Dancers are a favourite turn. J. W. Rickaby, comedian; Marie Elsie, comedienne; Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; Eily Adair, soubrette and dancer; Francis, the cannon ball king; and Teresa de Silva, vocalist, are also in the bill.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION AND THE TOWER CIRCUS. —The same attractive programmes are continued here, and packed houses are again the order of the week.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Bulmer's company is presenting the drama *Sentenced for Life*. Mr. Ernest Vaughan plays well as Captain Paul Derrick; Mr. Edward E. Louis gives a manly portrayal of Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr. Morris Maud as the Rev. Martin Orris acts the part with success; Mr. James E. Firth and Mr. Arthur Keand and Mr. Howard Keane win favour in their respective rôles of Beckwith, Percy McGentle, and Bill Sharkey, Tadpole being a humorous character in the hands of Mr. Reg. Oldroyd. Mr. Hugh Faulkner is prominent as Sir George Gray; Miss Mary Dalby as Lady Stillwell submits a finished performance; and Miss Maud Douglas as Adele Gray and Miss May Neilson are successful.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — The current bill here includes Dene and Dawson, comedy sketch artists; Miss Lillie Coleman, soprano; Mr. Charles Grantley, a lively comedian; Little Lottie Lonsdale, a clever juvenile; and a series of new pictures.

THE GAIETY.—Proprietor, Mr. Grantham; Manager, Mr. Snoudeni James.—Alex Gay, illusionist, assisted by Miss Irene, constitutes the star turn here; the Pradellas, coon artists; Phillis Dagmar, Brack and Johnson, the Maholems, Maggie Dean, also contribute, and the Bioscope continues.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—*Beauty and the Barge* has been well received here this week. Mr. Blake Adams has again appeared as Captain James Barley. Miss May Fairclough renders with delightful freshness the part of Ethel Smedley, and Miss Mary Pemberton, Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, and Mrs. Ruby Wyndham are commendable in their respective characters of Lucy Dallas, Mrs. Porter, and Mrs. Baldwin. Mr. Walter Pemberton is good as Major Smedley; John Dibbs has a capital representative in Mr. Charles White; Mr. Fred Knight is very amusing as Tom Codd; Mr. Edward Coventry makes the most of the part of Lieut. Seton Boyne, and the same may be said of Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Herbert Manners. The play is preceded each evening by a pretty comedietta, *J

highly appreciated by the audience, which had assembled to do honour to the beneficiaire. Madame Mary Conly's rendering of Verdi's Ernain Involain, with full orchestral accompaniment, was very fine, as was also her singing of Elizabeth's song from *Tannhauser*; Miss Marie Steven's excellent voice was heard to advantage in the flower song from *Faust*; and Miss Alise Greasley sang Batten's "April Morn" with good effect. A novelty was the Maori songs of Chieftain Ranginia, who possesses a very musical voice. The Strolling Players rendered some of the best gems of their repertoire; annd Miss Madeline Rossiter gave a fine turn in her musical song and dance entertainment; Herr Simon Wurm's Spa Orchestra gave capital items, and Herr Wurm played a violin solo. In the interval, Mr. Hague was the recipient of a testimonial in the shape of a large framed portrait of himself, which was presented to him as a mark of esteem from a large number of visitors who had subscribed to show their appreciation of the admirable way in which he had catered for their entertainment during the ten years of his management of the Spa, and the unwearying courtesy and kindness he had shown to the thousands of patrons of this lovely resort. This week the favourite Yorkshire baritone, Mr. Dan Billington, is the vocalist at Herr Wurm's promenade concerts. The Strolling Players are still rendering some capital programmes, Miss Seymour James being a welcome addition to the company this week.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—Cyrus and Maude are paying a welcome return visit, and their musical eccentricities are very amusing, and so is their cleverly trained donkey, which causes great fun. The Brady and Johnson company is appearing in some well played sketches, including *A Chapter of Blunders* and *Turning the Tables*; Miss Lola Vereker sings some excellent songs; Leon Leonard is a quaint comedian, and the Lennards are good in their illustrated songs. On Friday evening last Mr. Hubner took his benefit, when he had the assistance of Mr. H. Flockton-Foster's Costume Comedy company, and those mirth provokers the Waterloo Pierrots. The programme also included items by the Marvellous Howards, Miss Alice Lead, song and dance artist, Miss Clarice Raynor, the Misses Le Maude, Miss Lilian Swade, and the Dunlops.

SUMMER GARDENS, — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Several novelties are this week introduced in the capital programme submitted by the Waterloo Pierrots to their patrons at this popular place of entertainment. The many humorous items by Messrs. Beanland, George Hyan, Joe Bath, and Charles Danton, as well as the capital turns of Cada and the other members of the troupe, are always a source of delight to large audiences.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The first theatrical performance in the Grand Pavilion was given by Mr. Arthur Sutro's clever play *The Walls of Jericho*, in which Bourchier's company, who presented Mr. Alfred Mr. A. R. Anson gave a talented rendering of the part of Jack Frobisher, and was ably supported by a company of first-class artists. Miss May Tavenor especially being very fine in the part of Lady Alethea. The vocalist this week at Herr Winternitz's promenade concert is Miss Blamy, whose songs are finely rendered.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—*San Toy* is drawing crowded houses here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Bessie Allayne is seen at her best, and posseses a musical and powerful voice; Mr. Arthur Cartwright's full-toned voice is heard to the utmost advantage as Bobby Preston; Miss Lottie Sergeant acts with ability the part of Dudley the lady's maid; Mr. Bert Edwards works hard as the thieving Chinaman; Mr. Percy Stevens invests the part of the Emperor with a deal of talent; the boisterous fun of Mr. Robert Rivers as Sir Bingo Preston is infectious; and Mr. Hugh Webb, as the Mandarin, is all that could be wished.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Larger houses than those which have welcomed *The Ugliest Woman on Earth* have not been seen here since the pantomime season. Mr. Philip Darien makes a manly and heroic Jack Merriman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor invests the difficult part of the villainous Hubert Gold with no mean skill; Miss Beatrice Homer gives a sympathetic rendering of the title-rôle; Miss Nell Oliver is well suited as Rose Courtenay; Miss Margaret Watson deserves a special word of commendation for her artistic portrayal of the character of Morita; no end of fun is supplied by Tubby Edlin (under whose management the company is touring) as Tubby Herrick, and whose eccentricities form a welcome relief to the more sober portions of the play. Others who are doing good work are Miss Nellie Jackson (Aggi Brown), Mr. Charles Barrett (Antonio Luchesi), Mr. Allan Devenport (Tom Redvers), and Mr. W. Wallace Aston (Raggles).

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A diversified programme is being presented here this week. It is being sustained by John Terry and Mabel Lambert, the American comedy duo, who are appearing in an entirely new production, *Scenes from Everyday Life*; Will English, the real coon comedian; Harry Tate's company, who are appearing in the amusing absurdity, *Motoring*, Fyne and Hurley, the coster and dude; Rose Hamilton, a refined character actress; the Lorrisons, comedy artists; Les Belles Americaines, a quartette of charming lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Tom Dunmore, an eccentric comedian; Allis and Cassati, comedian and humorist and Tyrolean songstress; Queenie May, described as the juvenile prize packet; and Andy Burn, the broken-down millionaire; while the Alhambrascope is presenting "The Smuggler's Dog."

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is being sustained here this week. Vesta Victoria is achieving great triumphs in her captivating songs; Alf Gibson convulses the audiences with laughter by his humorous ditties; the three Sisters Thurban give a much appreciated musical turn, and are expert performers on the bugle, cornet, side drums, and banjos; Violet Morgan gives lifelike imitations of a number of well-known artists; Frank Cass delivers with much success a medley of English, Scotch, and Irish songs; Prince Kuroki, a clever Japanese magician, mystifies the audience by his art; Just and Wise are appearing in an American absurdity, *Number Three*; Arthur Elvy is gaining fresh laurels with his latest success, "The Up-to-date Tipster"; George Adams, the New Zealand baritone, wins plenty of marks of approval by his artistic vocalisation; Johnson and D'Evere, who perform a number of novel cycle tricks; the Rainats, who appear in a stage flying trapeze act; and Mountford and Walsh, society entertainers; while the Barrascope presents "The Serenaders."

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—The company of Madge McIntosh and Lumsden Hare is presenting the three-act play, *Mollentrave on Women* here this week. The piece is admirably staged and well acted. Mr. Michael Sherbrooke makes a successful Mr. Mollentrave; Miss Madge McIntosh cleverly represents his daughter, Lady Claude Derenham; Mr. E. A. Warburton makes a great hit in the difficult part of Sir Joseph Balsted; as Mr. Mollentrave's maid, Margaret Messilent, Miss Gladys Wynne is an attractive young lady in love; and Mr. Murray Carrington makes an ardent lover as Everard Swenboys; Mr. Stockall Ward is clever in the part of Lord Contareen. The cast is completed by Mr. J. P. Wilson, Mr. Charles Halford, Mr. W. Ansteed, Miss Belle Donaldson, Miss Ada King, and Miss Jessie Fraser.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—A strong attraction is provided here this week in the highly successful farcical comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle*, played by Mr. Henry E. Leigh's London company. Miss Josephine Ellis is excellent as Gaye Sparkleton, the 'Varsity Belle; Mr. James Danvers is achieving a triumph as Prof. Septimus Stoney; as Runyard, the college "scout," Mr. Frank Lilliput is very entertaining; and Miss Nellie Beacon plays the part of Eva Stoney, the Professor's wife, to perfection; the broken-down actor, Theocritis Ward Sparkleton, is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Edward Chester; Messrs. R. Harley West and Ray Barraclough acquit themselves well as the undergrads. George Barker and Albert Perrin; and the character of Mrs. Barker, the Professor's mother-in-law, and Maud Stoney, Albert's intended, are capitally sustained by Miss Nellie Parker Dent and Miss Beatrice Egerton respectively.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—An attractive programme of vocal and instrumental music, interspersed with amusing sketches and some clever dancing, is provided here this week by the Harmonic Entertainers' Comedy Company, consisting of Miss Mabel Janner, the possessor of a sweet soprano voice, who rendered her vocal item exquisitely; Miss Stephanie Olive, a rich contralto, whose vocalisation is well-nigh perfect; Mr. Richard Evans, a clever tenor vocalist; Mr. W. H. Romer and Mr. Alf. Laffolli, two smart comedians and dancers; Miss Mabel Mavis, who rendered a number of mandoline and glassophone selections; Mr. Arthur C. Harley, a skilful banjoist; and the duets and concerted numbers by the Manhattan trio are very harmoniously rendered, their farcical sketches also being highly diverting.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening on a return visit of *The Prince of Pilsen*. The musical comedy is staged to perfection, and Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is an exceptionally good one. Miss Millicent Marsden is pleasing as Mrs. Madison Croker; Miss Nellie Barnwell is well placed as Edith Adams; Miss Nell Emerald is charmingly vivacious as Sidonie, obtaining much applause for her songs; Miss Isa Bowman is winsome and interesting as Nellie Wagner; and Miss Meg Hamylton is very smart as the bell boy Jimmie. Mr. J. B. Fox is very good in the title-rôle, and he sings well; Mr. Lawrence Wensley makes the most of the Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. Martin Adeson is highly amusing as Hans Wagner, his songs being well applauded; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold makes a very acceptable, both vocally and histrionically, Lieut. Tom Wagner; Mr. Alfred Selby is highly diverting as François, displaying ability as a dancer; and both Mr. Madison Rich and Mr. D. O. Uglas do well in their respective parts of Cook's Courier and Sergeant Brie. The chorus is large and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac., Oxon.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—*Driven from Home* is attracting good houses. Mr. Andrew Melville's company is a good one, and the popular drama is excellently staged. Mr. Felix Pitt acts with his accustomed skill as Anthony Raybrook, and Miss Frances Ruttledge displays marked ability both as Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh the younger. Mr. Clement Wakefield and Mr. Frederick Sandy both play their parts of Walter Hatherleigh and Geoffrey Waring in good style; Mr. Percy Dawsone acts well as Willie; Mr. Harry Cornwall is good and unobtrusive as Jabez Thomas; and Mr. John Brooks presents a good study of Dick Saunders. The comic parts of John Anderson and Margaret Bailey are cleverly taken by Mr. Alic Hemming and Miss Evelyn Marrable, the remaining characters all being in good hands.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Alice Pierce, American impressionist, heads the programme here with a charming turn, in which she displays much ability as an imitator of famous English and American actresses. Kelly and Ashby, in *Fun on a Billiard Table*, interest with their novel acrobatic feats; Frank Coyle, comedian, obtains applause; Muir and Bartlett have an exceptionally amusing duologue, entitled *A Clerical Combination*; Elsie Earle, descriptive vocalist, interests with her well rendered songs; the Four Herberts, acrobatic comedians, do some clever work; Lade Henderson, character vocalist, is appreciated; Brothers Brooks, patter comedians, are favourably received; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Harry Cadle's company is here with the smart and amusing sketch, *The Casey Circus*; Billy McClain and company (six in number) obtain applause for their sketch, *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*; Annie Casey, comedienne, obtains considerable appreciation; Terry and Bentley score with their comedy sketch, *The Hunt*; Nina Elmo, comedienne, presents a pleasing turn; Edward Cranston and company are successful in the Irish racing sketch, *Terry; or, True to his Trust*; and Charles Chard, comedian, obtains appreciation. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson. — Mr. Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, commenced here on Monday with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmonde as Dorothy Montrose acted her part with charming grace; Mr. W. Ashley as Captain George Fielding was much applauded for his singing; Mr. Arthur Verne made a droll Silas Crump, keeping the house in roars; and the part of Captain Edward Dudley was in the safe keeping of Mr. H. C. Ward. Miss Marie Vere was a charming Ruth Montrose; Miss Nellie Harcourt an amusing Judith; and Mr. Deane Cliffe a comical Featherstone Haugh. The Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake contributed some very smart acrobatic dancing; Mr. Edward Fletcher as Hawkins and Mr. Walter Boyce as General Garston also deserve mention.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The attraction here this week is Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell scores a distinct triumph as Joe Mayfield; Mr. Arthur D. Layland gives a clever study of Wahketah; and Mr. Chas. H. Lester as Martin Mason is highly successful; Mr. J. G. Main as Manuel Alvarez is clever; Mr. Sydney Benson is distinctly funny as Ben White; and Mr. Will Hook also contributes to the fun as Reggie Harwood. Miss Agnes Verity undertakes most successfully the rôle of Dynamite Ann; Miss Lily Beagle is a sweet Belle Gordon; Miss Daisy Carlton is another creator of laughter as Maggie Mason; and little Miss Daisy Carlton is charming as Little Tatts.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Big crowds are drawn here by an excellent programme, in which Cruikshank, a man of wit and music, is included. Continuous laughter greets his performance, and he is loudly recalled. The Five Whiteleys are a clever troupe of acrobats; Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir, introduces several clever tricks; Percy Farrimond, who is again heartily welcomed, sings as well as ever; the Arundels, in *The New Office Boy*, are funny; Wyndham and Waters, a most acceptable turn, introducing some well-rendered music and excellent fooling; Trick and Trixie, in a comedy act, are very good; and J. H. Greener is well received.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. Langford Carson's company, with *The Drama of Life*, is here this week. Mr. Ed. M. Hamilton is powerfully dramatic and at times intensely pathetic as Harry Beech; the cool cynical villainy of Walter Beech is ably depicted by Mr. John J. Hooker; Mr. H. Maxwell Payne (Jack Lawton), Mr. Sydney Fiennes (Dave Crane), and Miss Nellie Birchenough (Betty), creditably sustain their respective rôles. Much amusement is caused by Miss Florence French as the assertive Lady Jane; and Mr. Harwood Roberts, as the lady's amateur detective husband; while the genuine detective is cleverly portrayed by Mr. R. D. Foote. Miss Elsie May, in the juvenile part, acts extremely well.

BURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is playing *The Midnight Wedding* here this week. The play is a military drama, and the shining lights are Mr. Paumier as Paul Valmar, Mr. Ulick Burke as Lieutenant Von Strelsburg, Miss Ada Champion as Kathie, Miss Florence Hunt as Satanella, and Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea. The comic relief is in the safe hands of Mr. J. B. Page, Mr. Percy Compton, and Mr. A. Spalding.

THE CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Good turns here are headed by Carrie Laurie and her troupe of juveniles; others include Dunningarto, conjurer; the Morton trio of vocalists; Fitzroys, gymnasts; Maggie Crawshaw, mimic; Harry Bickley, comedian; and Leonard Gourney, dancer.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—Jack McKenzie and company of comedians are very clever in a musical sketch entitled *The Belle of Barcelona*. Espinosa and Edwards, in a little scena, *The Coon's Holiday*; May and Eugenie, quick change artists; Harley and Hardon, knockabouts; and the Sisters Walton, duettists, who won a competition here recently, are very popular.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three nights of the week Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. Leveaux's company was the attraction here in *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*. An excellent company played this very amusing comedy. Mr. Reginald Dance acted Mr. Bourchier's part with ease and sang-froid; Mr. Lawrence Leyton had a character well suited to him in that of Colonel Rayner; Mr. Edward Coutts made effective use of his slight responsibilities as Lord Woolham; Mr. George A. Seager's Sir Bartholomew Cardick was an able sketch, and Mr. Russell Barry was amusing as the musical Mr. Goddiestone. Mr. George Percy acted with discretion and tact as the Rev. Hubert Langston; Mr. P. Vernon Travers was capital as Mr. Mellon; and Mr. Gerard Henson was a droll Alfie. Miss Mary Weigall did exceedingly well in the rôle of the Marchioness of Hendingby; Miss Mary Brooke was an emphatic Lady Clementina Desborough; Miss Eva Titheredge an attractive Aggie Coles; and Miss Dorothy Haigh a capable Mrs. Brevell. The character of Mrs. Mellon, though comparatively unimportant, was suitably acted by Miss Helen Tytler. Lady Clarice Howland was played in a most artistic manner by Miss Gladys Mason. The play was preceded by the clever petite drama *The Drums of Oude*. *The Walls of Jericho* was presented on Thursday.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—A capital house gave a good reception to *The White Chrysanthemum* on Monday, when Mr. Frank Curzon's capital company submitted a delightful performance. Miss Lulu Evans as Sybil Cunningham quickly wins favour with her capital singing; Miss Daisy le Hay as Betty Kenyon makes a bewitching young widow, acting and singing most charmingly; and Miss Katie Vesey is the smart American to perfection, her dancing being particularly clever and sprightly. Mr. Horace Mills as Chippy keeps the fun going in his quiet, humorous fashion; and Mr. W. H. Rawlins as the lively Admiral is no less successful in providing merriment. As Lieut. Armitage Mr. E. Pope-Stamper does well, his fine voice being much appreciated; Sin Chong is most divertingly rendered by Mr. O. E. Lennon; and Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Private Perks, makes his impersonation one of the successes of the piece. The orchestra and chorus are under the able direction of Mr. Leonard Hornsey.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*The Assassin* is being most capably presented here by Mr. Augustine Knight's company. Miss Ella Vane's Countess Wanda is an excellent delineation; Mr. Augustine Knight as Prince Demetri enacts the polished villain creditably; Mr. Edward E. Ashby submits a good rendition of Ivan Ipanoff; and Mr. Theo Balfour as Duke Carl displays histrionic abilities much above the average. Miss Frances Waring as Nita, and Miss Edith Woodward as Olga, are clever exponents of their parts; and Mr. Tom Taylor as Peter, and Miss Marie Robertson as Katrina, are reliable representatives of comedy.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Miss Hetty King, who is at the head of the bill here, is a most attractive and versatile artist; the Sutcliffe Family of Scottish pipers and acrobats provide a capital turn; Jack Lorimer gives a Scotch performance that finds favour; Nelson's Newsboys are an excellent combination of juvenile talent; and Griff, the ever-popular clown, is most acceptable. The De Breans, Japanese jugglers and sciographists; the Mackweys, a riotous trio, in a mad whirling on the wire; Max York's dogs; the Mayvilles, in their lilliputian performance; and the Bioscope, are the remaining names on the programme this week.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is again paying a visit here with *Kitty Grey*. In the title-rôle Miss Hilda Guiver scores a big success; Lady Binfield has a charming representative in Miss Marie West; and Miss Nellie Laurine does some clever character work as Mrs. Bright; Mr. Lauri Lisle has a congenial rôle as the King of Illyria; Mr. Leslie Stewart gives an amusing sketch of Lord Plantagenet, being especially successful in the humorous character duet with Miss Nellie Laurine; and Mr. Leslie Fairfax successfully impersonates Sir John Binfield.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Max Wessely Troupe at the top of the bill give a wonderful display of juggling; the Norman and Leonard Trio contribute a smart and novel musical turn; Miss Helen Martin is a ballad vocalist of more than ordinary merit; the Sisters Wingrove sing lively songs with spirit and effect; the veteran Sam Redfern's funny patter keeps the house in roars of laughter; Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers and dancers; Flo Wood, serio; and the ever-popular Pepiscope, with first-rate pictures, conclude a well varied entertainment.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — Proprietors, Public Rooms Company; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—On Monday evening Mr. T. R. Nugent paid a welcome visit with his company in the successful drama *The Little Earl*. The leading part, that of Billy Barton, was successfully impersonated by Mr. T. R. Nugent, and that of Little Vic, the little Earl, by Master Sidney. The other characters in the play were taken as follows: Harry Dare, Mr. R. Gordon; King Ashton, Mr. J. Fletther; Reggie Clavering, Mr. S. Douglas; Sergt. Charlie Noble, Mr. V. Cooke; Drake, Mr. J. Gardiner; Peter, Mr. J. Tulford; Constable Bruin, Mr. C. Summers; Servant, Mr. J. Blackie; Claire Sidney, Miss V. Clark; Elsie Woodford, Miss Hilda Stanley; Maud Bates, Miss C. Davies; and Belle Langrist, Miss Maud Elliott, all of whom sustained their respective parts with power and much artistic ability. The versatile and favourite artist, Mr. George Grossmith, paid Carmarthen a visit this week, under the direction of Mr. F. McCrea, of Gloucester, and delighted a fashionable audience with his drawing-room entertainment. Mr. Grossmith was assisted by Miss Dorothy Scott, raconteuse musicale; Miss Dorothy D'Egville, vocalist; and Miss Dorothy Forster, pianist and accompanist, each of whom were rapturously applauded for their respective contributions.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—On Monday Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened here with *The Christian*. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp gives a carefully drawn portraiture of an enthusiastic young Anglican priest, and plays with convincing earnestness and subdued fervour; as Glory Quayle Miss Mildred Gilbert depicts the changing moods of the capricious girl with excellent effect; as Father Lamplugh Mr. Harry Colbeck delivers his admonitions with appropriate solemnity; and Mr. Phipps Stanley, as Archdeacon Wealthy gives an admirable sketch of a churchman of different type; Mr. H. Louis Wilson as Brother Paul plays with quiet dignity; Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Horatio Drake and Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Lord Robert Ure are capable representatives of those parts; Miss L. Kingston depicts Polly Love with much tenderness; and Miss Alice Maude is a kindly Mrs. Callender.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Thos. Mattinson; Business-Manager, Mr. Seth Smalley.—Percy Victor's Minstrel Dogs are the star turn here and meet with an enthusiastic reception; Fred Villiers is a clever vocal comedian; the Camerons, in their laughable comedy act, *The Ploughboy and Lady Guide*, prove very diverting; Carlton and Hill, in their tumbling speciality, win much favour; Brook and Bond, in their funny military act, *A Raw Recruit*, win assured success; Marie de Voy, Tyrolean vocalist and dancer, is well received; Bob Pearson is an excellent comedian; Edie Clay, comedy musician, does an interesting turn; and Lily Pender is a successful speciality comedian. Brooke's Bioscope is still showing good pictures.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company opened here on Monday in *Carmen*, with Miss Doris Woodall in the name part and Mr. Julius Walther as Jose. In *Lohengrin*, which was also performed, Miss Grace Nicoll was the Elsa and Mr. Julius Walther appeared in the title part; these two artists made a conspicuous success and were recalled again and again. Other leading characters were admirably sustained as follows:—Telramund, Mr. Chas. Victor; Ortrud, Miss Marie Alexander; Henry, Mr. Arthur Winckworth; and the Herald, Mr. Frederick Clendon; while Mr. Eugene Goossens wielded the bâton in masterly style. Other operas staged during the week are *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Il Trovatore*.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Miss Alice Raymond's cornet solos, bugle calls, and post horn playing are very clever. Her act is enlivened by Kurkamp, singing conductor. Alice Maydue, an old favourite, scores with low comedy songs and patter; Mahatma completely mystifies the audiences. Another excellent engagement is that of Miss Cissie Dryden in "The Sailors of the Empire." Other variety turns are supplied by Jessie Albini, comedienne; Tom Yorke, coster comedian; and Fields and Lewis, burlesque artists. Lacey's Erascope continues to be popular.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—The bill of fare here includes Les Voces, duettists; Louie Hurman, comedienne and burlesque actress; the Sisters Hall, vocalists; Dave Wallace, comedian; the Dean Tribune Trio in *The Cheerful Idiot*; Jack Foley, comedian; the Cape Girls, vocalists and dancers; and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Cyril Keightley and company on Monday successfully produced a new play entitled *Miles Carew, Highwayman*. On Friday evening *The School for Scandal* was down for performance.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—For the last week of the summer season "The Royal Comedy Entertainers" hold the boards. The company includes: Mr. Fred Daniels, humorist; Mr. Geo. Lomax, tenor; Mr. Charles Rex King with character sketches and ventriloquism; Mr. Owen Clark, illusionist; and Miss Nellie Webber, accompanist and contralto.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. A. Hemingway.—This week we are having a return visit of the capital drama, *I Defy the World*, played by Mr. Julian Malvern's company under the personal direction of Mr. Chas. M. Julian. As Leon Darville Mr. Percy Ballard plays with much vigour; Mr. Charles Wilton successfully presents Count de Beaulieu; General Delaporte is ably rendered by Mr. Alfred Denning; Mr. Charles Conway capitally interprets Laroche; Mr. Arthur Chisholm is effective as Andre; and Mr. Chas. M. Julian excellently impersonates Samuel Wozzle; Pauline Delaporte is charmingly portrayed by Miss Beatrice Sinclair; Miss Violet Craufurd artistically represents Blanche Darville; Miss Maud Lilian is a clever exponent of Marie Wozzle; and Miss Rosie Dane is capital as Fanchette.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprieors, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, Ltd.—Meier and Mora top the bill here this week, and are a pair of smart variety entertainers. Other turns include Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers; Beattie Kent, comedienne and smart dancer; Tom Collins, with a good topical song, "Fly Away"; Gracie Taylor, billed as "Herself." Gladys and Alber, comic acrobats; and the Brothers Hayes, good dancers. A confetti carnival, held in the grounds last Saturday, was well patronised.

WEST CLIFF GARDENS.—Good business is, as usual, being done here. In addition to the well-known trio, Graham, Russell, and Bentley, the old favourite, Miss Alice Braunstein, is back again; Mr. Walter Clyde, vocalist, sings in good style; and Mr. Chas. Bulwar is a clever conjurer and ventriloquist.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Ch. Macdona; Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—For the first three days of the week Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company has been giving *The Silver King*. The Wilfrid Denver of Mr. Horace E. Herbert is a fine piece of acting; Miss B. Doyle plays charmingly as Nellie; and the Spider of Mr. Oswald Cray is all that can be desired. On Thursday Fred Karno's company in *His Majesty's Guests* came.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Ashton's Royal Agency; Manager, Mr. Digby Dent.—Miss Constance Milestone, contralto, and Miss Jessie Reeve, soprano, are the vocalists here this week, and are both good singers. The other attractions include Mr. A. J. Hill, the living Lilliputian and ventriloquist; Mr. W. P. Demprey, comedian; Miss Fanny Humber, instrumentalist and speciality dancer; and the Walturdaw animated pictures. On Friday night the annual lifeboat concert was given.

BANDSTAND CONCERTS.—Mr. Joseph Sainton's band has this week been helped out by Miss Ethel Dyer, vocalist, and Mr. Eric Charlswood, a smart humorist.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—These boards are occupied this week by Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company with the historical drama, *The Days of Cromwell*. Mr. Henry Belding makes a powerful Ironhand, the avenger; Sir Marsden Mardyke is carefully portrayed by Mr. Robertson Foulis; Mr. Howard Hardy is worthy of mention as Matthew Mardyke; and a smart impersonation of Shadrack Shadwell is given by Mr. T. R. White. Miss Gertrude Gilman looks and acts well as Ruby Avondale; Betsy is humorously acted by Miss Annie Clunn; and Mrs. Shadwell is safe in the hands of Miss May Bracey.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is here for three nights, playing that successful musical pantomimical farce, *His Majesty's Guests*. The piece centres round the character of the Scotland Yard emissary, Sergt. Lightning, a part played in a droll manner by Mr. Geo. Hestor, a clever comedian; Mr. Frank Morton and Miss Leonora Castelle as Lord and Lady Easem are admirably allocated, whilst Mr. Tom Manardo impersonates Selina in capital fashion. The last half of the week is apportioned to Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King*.

HIPPODROME. — Joint-Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—Dandy George and his dog Rosie head the bill, and, as on the occasion of the previous visit, are a success. The Great Marconis provide a wonderful and withal an instructive turn; Harry Taft scores heavily, and, in addition to his powers as a sifflеur, is a capital raconteur; Maree Kean, with her engaging personality, is popular with all parts of the house; Joe Mac does well with his eccentric patter; and Mark Henton provides an amusing turn. This week the orchestra, under the baton of Mr. James Hargreaves, is receiving marked applause for a capital selection of music.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. F. Marriott Watson and Company are paying a welcome return visit here this week with *A False Wife*. Mr. Geo. Langham is good as Sir Colin Mansfield; Mr. W. Howard Barlow is a manly Lieut. George Mansfield; Mr. Elton Morgan gives a creditable performance as Ben Rattler; and as Jean Beraud Mr. F. Marriott Watson is excellent. Mr. Charles Osborne does well as Inspector Fulton; as Zorah Mr. James Chippendale acquits himself with ability; Mr. Owen Edwin as Archibald Brown Tee and Miss Minnie Leslie as Bessie Blazer keep the house in roars of laughter; Miss Annie Hylton is a winsome Agnes; Miss Flo Morgan a satisfactory Sarah Bernstein; and Miss Florence E. Florence a successful Lady Mansfield.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Charles Carte's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Carte scored a great success in the rôle of Jerry, the tramp. In both pathos and humour he was capital, and received great applause. Miss Doris Brookes was an attractive Nana Leigh, and Miss Rosie Conroy was a lively and funny Rosie Rapide. As Henry Travers, the villain, Mr. Frank Lyndon was effective; Mr. Archer A. Tomlin as Jeck Elsworth capably filled the part, and Mr. Michael Madden as Larry O'Brien kept the audience in a merry mood.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The above popular place of amusement re-opened on Monday, when a capital bill of fare was provided. The star turn is Wizard Stone and Irene Stone with "the Globe of Life," inside which the two performers cycle around at great speed, the male cycling the circle on a motor cycle; Clarke and Glenney give a laughable turn entitled *The Haunted House*; Jack Martin is a capital actor-vocalist; the Three Tivoli Girls are well received, their dancing being much admired; Captain Ralston sings some interesting numbers; the Greys are good duettists; the Three Henriques submit a fine acrobatic performance; Adeline Yohle is an excellent vocalist; the Cee Mee Troupe's aerial trapeze act is a very clever and novel performance; and James Kurry, comedian, is most diverting.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. Baron H. Harris's company, by arrangement with Mr. Geo. Musgrove, are presenting *The Prince of Pilsen* here. Mr. Harry Kilburn's impersonation of Hans Wagner creates much amusement; Mr. Frank Crimp is the possessor of a splendid baritone; as the Prince of Pilsen he is warmly received. Mr. Bernard Russell gives an amusing rendering of the Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. Roy Sidney is seen to advantage as Lieut. Tom Wagner; Mr. Ernest Gifford is a good François; Miss Sophie Harris, a thorough favourite, plays the American widow, Mrs. Maddison Crocker; Miss Florence Beech and Miss Dorothy Grasdorff being respectively responsible for the rôles of Edith Adams and Nellie Wagner; Miss Connie Leon is delightfully arch and active as Sidonie.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—The Collinson Combination are very amusing here; the Sauteron Wonders are well received, one of the troupe giving a marvellous exhibition of high jumping; the Five Orlacs appear in an up-to-date entertainment, the Herald Comedy Four being clever and much appreciated; Vi Carlile, Sid Brandon, and Miss Kate Gourley also contribute to the success.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Charles Berresford and W. H. Moore's company is playing here this week *A Rogue's Daughter*. Mr Roy Gordon gives a capital presentation of Sir George Mynard, whose wife, Lady Mynard, has a very able exponent in Miss Gertrude Sterroll. Mr. Frank V. Fenn is particularly well placed as Frank Tyler, as also is Mr. Hall Elden as Ebenezer Dunnem, ably assisted by Miss Becky Elliston as Priscilla Jenkins. Mr. Richard Ferriss has the "heavy" part of Colonel Foster, and is well received, whilst Mr. Robert W. Lynn as Isaac Isaacs supplies the fun of the piece. Mr. W. H. Moore makes a first-rate "Ercules" John Gibbs, and Miss Florence Gower is quite at home as Dick, a waif; Mr. T. Rowe as Inspector Morris and Mr. George Shorrock as Inspector Bates deserve mention; whilst Mr. Eric Hargreaves as Christopher Crummles is a capital showman; Miss Madge Devereaux is a winsome Letty Grey; and mention should be made of Mr. G. Scholes as Warder Mason and Mr. A. Plews as the railway porter.

CREWE. — LYCEUM THEAT

DONCASTER.—NEW THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. Fred Granville is presenting for the first time here the drama *For Better or Worse*. Mr. George Edwin Clive is seen at his best in the part of Captain Frank Hilliard; Mr. Scott Leighton as Major Gerald Crawford is effective; Mr. Owen Kedmonde is particularly alert and breezy as Lieut. Hector Dalrymple; and Mr. Willie Black's humour adds piquancy to the rôle of Horatio P. Ranter. Mr. Carthage Coldcleugh is responsible for a cultured presentation of Ned Earnshaw; Mr. Fred Garrett in the rôle of David Heathcote is unquestionably clever; Olive Heathcote is pleasingly impersonated by Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson; Miss Chrissie Dunbar is vivid and realistic as Bodie Raverstock; and Miss Jennie Hallworth is prim and coy as Malinda Little.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. George Dance's company is playing *Veronique* here this week. The opera is perfectly staged and dressed with exquisite taste. Miss Ruth Lincoln is greatly admired in the title-rôle; Mr. Roland Bottomley sings well, and acts the part of Florestan de Vallancourt with dignity; as Mons Coquenard Mr. Leslie Holland's comedy is excellent; Miss Ethel Negretti's embodiment of Madame Coquenard is clever; Mr. Courtney Comber successfully displays his abilities in the rôle of Seraphin; and Miss Gracie Sinclaire makes a graceful Denise; Miss Lena Maitland is very good as the Countess, and sings extremely well; Mr. Fred Lyne fills the part of Loustot satisfactorily.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A hearty reception was accorded on Monday to *The Blue Moon*, as presented by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company. Miss Florence Smithson gives a successful and pleasing portrayal of Chandra Nil, her singing being most effective; in the character of Private Charles Taylor Mr. Bert Gilbert scores a success; Mr. Edward Lewis creates roars of laughter by his amusing representation of Moolray; Mr. Leslie Gaze acts capably as Major Vivian Calibone; and the part of Captain Jack Ormsby is satisfactorily filled by Mr. Herbert Clayton; Miss Lulu Valli displays ability as Millicent Leroy, and as Lady Brabasham Miss Mabel Lorrell is dignified; Miss Daisy Revett wins applause for her effective singing and dancing; Mr. Thomas Holding is successful as the Prince Badahar; and Mr. George Mudie (junr.) in the part of Bobbie Scott is capital.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. J. W. Whitbread's Irish players under the direction of Mr. Dane Clarke are here this week with the dramatised version of William Carleton's novel, *Willy Reilly*. Mr. Robert Faulkner gives a manly interpretation of Willy Reilly; Miss Cecilia Dare submits a careful study of Helen Folliard; Mr. James O'Brien as Fergus Reilly displays ability, being ably supported by Miss Monica Kelly as Nelly Connor; Squire Folliard has a capable representative in Mr. Dane Clarke; Miss Madeline Hurst is exceedingly good as Mary Mahon; Sir Robert Whitecroft is in the able hands of Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh; and Mr. Ion Ireland as the Sheriff and Mr. Harry Richardson as Corporal Johnstone are both acceptable.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Lil Hawthorne takes the premier position here this week, and her songs, which are all new to Dublin, are most effectively sung; Mark Melford with his capable company in *Only a Wedding* causes no end of amusement; C. H. Unthan, the armless wonder, receives hearty appreciation for his wonderful performance; Harrigan and Holt are extra smart in their patter and dancing; the eccentricities of Johnny Gilmore evoke laughter; Mr. Charles Robinson with his well-chosen songs makes a hit; and Stuart and Stuart, comedy artists; and the Sisters Rosedale, comediennes, are favourably received. The Empire pictures are as popular as ever. Eva Kelland was billed, but did not appear on Monday.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here this week are Charles Baldwin and company with their sketch, *Bank Clerks*, which arouses great laughter. The humorous character songs rendered by Barney Armstrong afford much enjoyment; Lena Brunton, comedienne and mimic, wins cordial approval; Lambert and Hands in a vocal scena are highly entertaining; Farley, Rennie, and Farley in their sketch, *Fun at a Railway Station*, score successfully; Charles Rowen, comedian, contributes some capital songs; and Massona gives a clever juggling performance; Maude Roma is a pleasing comedienne, and the Maros are smart bar performers. The Bioscope pictures are also good.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The Roman Singers, who are here this week under the direction of Mr. Benbrick Blanchard, are drawing large audiences. The company includes Miss Dorothy Carter, Mr. Broughton Black, Miss Ella Lorraine, Mr. Harold Payne, and Mr. Lyndon Watt, who all contribute successfully.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The artists appearing here include Mentis Brothers, thought readers; Jack Mento, comedian; Eugene Brant, comedian and dancer; Rose Phillips, ballad vocalist; and Fred Mento, baritone.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here this week comprises Alice Townshend, ballad vocalist; Fred Burnard, actor-vocalist; Sisters Du Barrie, duettists and dancers; Kitty Seymour, coon vocalist and dancer; Daisy Reddy, vocalist; Prof. Davison, ventriloquist.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The Silver King* is paying another visit here, and is received as enthusiastically as ever. Mr. Herbert Ford scores honours as Wilfred Denver, and Miss Victoria Addison gives a highly pathetic rendering of Nellie Denver; Mr. Tom Paulton (an old favourite here) acts admirably as the faithful Jaikes, and Mr. Charles Baird gives a finished performance of the Spider; Mr. Arthur J. Rooke as Baxter, the detective, is another prominent character.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy-Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—Tate and Tate, comedy trampoline acrobats, are the principal attraction here this week with a turn that is both highly amusing and clever. Also included in the programme are: Fioretti and Ella, continental speciality artists; Rita Bell, the Dutch girl; Kisbey, in a unique speciality; Frank Boyce, a favourite comedian; and Adey Spencer, "the girl from the hat shop." The Empire Bioscope presents some highly interesting pictures, including "Frisco, After the Earthquake."

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's famous comedy, *Charley's Aunt*, is again delighting large audiences here this week. Mr. Stanley Cooke gives an extremely laughable impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley; the parts of Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham are exceedingly well played by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason respectively. As Stephen Spettigue Mr. Walker Beaumont could not be improved upon, while the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., is capitally undertaken by Mr. C. B. Keston. Mr. Sydney Compton is excellent as Brassett. Miss Lena McNaughton makes a handsome Donna Lucia; Miss Gladys Storey a winsome Ela Delahay; while Miss Lilyan Lait and Miss Katie Carew as the girls Kitty and Amy leave nothing to be desired. The comedy is preceded by Mr. Thomas's one-act play, *Fourchette and Co.*, in which Miss Gladys Storey, Mr. C. B. Kingston, and Mr. Sydney Compton take effective part

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—A good bill is presented here this week, pride of place being given to the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe, who are very successful in their pantomime sketch *Tour in the Tyrol*. The Brothers Lawrence are expert dancers and vocalists, and Gus Lawrence upholds his title to the champion rag-time dancer. E. J. Sheldon, specialty comedian, is another capital dancer, and, as on his former visits, proves very poular. Harry Briggs is successful in his imitations of child singing, and M. and Mlle. Sardon get a hearty reception as illusionists. The Two Romers introduce a pleasing scena, and Maria Rivers maintains her popularity as a singer of good songs. George Martinengo proves himself a capital 'celloist and a good bass singer; while Selby and Myres, comedians and dancers, please with their original patter. Varnon's Bioscope completes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is appearing here in the exciting play *A Beautiful Fiend*. The scene is laid in Russia, and the play gives plenty of scope for good acting. As Sergius Strogoff Mr. Albert Wray plays with considerable dramatic power, and Nadine is admirably portrayed by Miss Irene Munro. As "the Beautiful Fiend" Miss V. St. Lawrence is excellent. The part of Ivan Paulovitch, of the Russian police, is exceptionally well played by Mr. Montague Beaudyn.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers-Mackey and a talented company are appearing in the Irish melodrama *The Wearin' o' the Green*. The part of Barney O'Hea is ably undertaken by Mr. Chalmers-Mackey, and his quaint sayings cause much hearty laughter. As Shamus McDermott Mr. Charles Homer is very effective, while Michael Kenny is cleverly impersonated by Mr. H. Macauley. Miss Nora Flensberg scores as Biddy M'Ginn, and her charming songs are much appreciated. Mrs. Chalmers-Mackay as Nora M'Grath acts with sweetness and sympathy.

KINNAIRD HALL.—The United States of America Animated Picture Company, under the able management of Mr. Victor Hamilton, is showing a large and varied assortment of cinematograph films. On Monday evening the hall was packed by a large and appreciative audience who thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment, in which there is not a dull moment from start to finish. In addition to the pictures, David Davies, the champion whistler, bird, and animal mimic, and Ellis and Watts, swell comedians and dancers, appear.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Miss Grace Warner made her first appearance here this week. On Monday *The Little Widow* was presented to a well-filled house. In the part of Mrs. Constance Rattlebrain Miss Warner proved herself to be a capable and versatile actress, and was well supported by Mr. George Gordon, who gave an exceptionally good rendering of Mr. Wilkins Potter. Mr. G. L. Leigh made a capital Dr. Arthur Potter; Mr. Arthur Page was well placed as Auguste Bousier; Mr. R. Brown did well as Morton; Miss M. Stamer was an effective Mrs. Wilkins Potter; and Miss Hilda Herne a sweet Emily Randal. *The Scarlet Clue* was given on Thursday.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—The first three evenings of the week Mr. George Dance's company appeared here in *Lady Madcap*. Miss Isabelle Dillon has all the lightness, grace, and gaiety which made her performance as Lady Betty a very successful and enjoyable one; Miss Elsa D'Uses was a refined, effective Miss Holden; Miss Ethel Beech, with a crisp and arch style, was a dainty Susan, and Miss Gabrielle Leighton excelled as Mrs. Layton. Much clever fun was provided by Mr. Harold Parkes as Trooper Smith; Mr. George Whillis was a smart Corporal Ham; Mr. O. Marshall was a satisfactory Framlingham, and Mr. Jules Charmettes a natural Count de St. Hubert; Mr. Sheriff Clunes sang in excellent style, and was a manly Captain Harrington; Mr. Bay Russell danced well and succeeded admirably as "Stony" Stratford; Mr. James Graydon was a very good Posh Jenkins, and the Hussar officers were ably represented by Messrs. Emlyn Davis, Ernest Cresfan, and Frank Hilton. Mr. Leonard Leslie is the musical director. Mr. George Grossmith and his company were announced to appear on Thursday.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—During the week Mr. George Dance's company is appearing here in *Veronique*. Miss Nellie Wigley as Veronique is pretty, attractive, and everything that is charming, and her songs are most pleasingly given; Miss Agnes Tandy has an excellent voice, and is quite a captivating Mme. Coquenard; Miss Neste Laurel is a dainty Denise, and she dances gracefully; Miss Edith Devonshire is an appropriate Countess, and she gains well-merited applause for her singing; Miss Ruth Messina is a smart and gay Sophie, and Miss Maud Leonard is a good Aunt Benoit. Mr. Ellis Holland cleverly carries out his duties as Coquenard, the chief laughter maker; Mr. Tom Seymour is an able second as Mons. Loustot; Mr. Scott Cullen is an excellent Seraphim; and a conspicuously successful performance, both vocally and histrionically, is given by Mr. Warren Foster as Florestan. A capital chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Clement Locknane.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—A really excellent variety bill is being offered here this week and good houses are attracted. Miss Ada Colley occupies the place of honour on the bill, and her fine voice of phenomenal range is pleasingly and effectively used. In Mr. Leo Dryden is combined the ability to sing and act, and his work is well received; Mr. Edward E. Ford has an original turn, and is a clever mimic; the Four Aces are smart acrobats, with much funny business; Lozelle has a startling and pleasing gymnastic act; Lytton and Bland appear in an effective sketch; *Charlie's Indian* is a laughable sketch given by Messrs. Ford, Mitchello, and company; Mr. Sam Mitchello is a good comedian and dancer, and Miss Mollie Nolan is a pleasing comedienne.

THE FLORAL HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—The Devonshire Park Grand Orchestra continues a successful season here, and on Wednesday evening the musical director, Mr. Norfolk Megone, gave his benefit concert, when Miss Evie Greene and other special attractions were billed.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. Ryan Smith.—We are this week being entertained by Mr. George Harvey's company in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. George Harvey's representation of Prince Lucio Rimanez is weird and impressive; he is well supported by Miss Eleanor Glover as Lady Sybil Elton. The part of Geoffrey Tempest is in the capable hands of Mr. A. Bertram Croucher; Mr. G. Nelson Turner as Morris repeatedly causes the audience considerable mirth; Mavis Clare (Miss Beatrice Hall) is pathetic; and Miss Kate Donovan impersonates an American heiress in a typical way.

EDINBURGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here this week with *The Private Secretary*. Mr. Donald Price Evans, a clever comedian, is felicitous in make-up and acting as the Rev. Robert Spalding; and Mr. W. Hargreaves is extremely droll as Mr. Cattermole. Mr. W. T. Elworthy is admirable in an incisive performance of Mr. Marsland; and Mr. Randolph is bright and pleasant as Douglas Cattermole. Mr. James E. P. Hussey is a buoyant Henry Marsland; and as the Bond-street tailor, Mr. Gibson, one of the cleverest sketches in the piece is given by Mr. Vivian Gilbert. Miss Dora Gray is a gay, laughing Edith Marsland; Miss Beth Elliott is graceful in the attenuated part of Eva Webster; Mrs. Alfred Davis makes all that is possible of the character of the spiritualistic Miss Ashford; and Mrs. Cecily Wade is an entertaining Mrs. Stead. The comedy is preceded by the farce *My American Admirer*, capitally played by Mr. W. T. Elworthy, Mr. James E. P. Hussey, Miss Cicely Wade, and Miss Beth Elliott.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. Edward Terry, always a welcome visitor, opened his annual engagement on Monday evening with *Liberty Hall*, and in the rôle of the old bookseller William Todman Mr. Terry finds a character part which fits him like the proverbial glove. His impersonation equals—if it does not, indeed, excel—any of the many admirable creations which this genuine comedian has presented, played as it is with unerring pathos and rare humour. Strong support is rendered by a good company. Miss Fyfe Alexander and Miss F. Glossop Harris acted with charm and feeling as Blanche and Amy Chilworth; Mr. Owen was very acceptably played by Mr. Allan Pollock; and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., gave a breezy rendering of the rôle of Gerald Harringway. The Lawyer Pedrick of Mr. E. W. Thomas was sufficiently well characterised; and the grotesque Mr. and Miss Hickson and Mr. Briginshaw found suitable exponents in Mr. George Howard, Miss Ella Dickson, and Mr. William Dexter; while Miss Eugenie Vernie portrayed the general servant Crafer in vigorous style. The week's programme has also included two of Mr. Terry's best known successes as Mr. Pockett in *The Magistrate* and Dick Phenyl in *Sweet Lavender*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The attraction at the Grand this week is an adaptation of Daudet's *Sapho*, in which Miss Annie Bell and the members of her company appear to advantage. Miss Bell's performance of the courtesan has attributes of passion and power; and she is well supported by Mr. Sydney Arnold as Jean and by Mr. G. Antley, a jovial, humorous Cesaire. Mr. H. Langford makes a pathetic personage of Flamant, and there is merit in the impersonation of Father Le Grand by Mr. C. P. Lester. The other characters are in able hands, a touching piece of acting being given by little Miss Doris E. Graham as the child Joseph.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The Boissets provide the leading item in a good bill with their lively sketch *A Trip to the Continent*; and a bustling pantomime turn is also contributed by the Canary Company. Binns and Binns are responsible for much fun and hilarity with their comic business as two musical vagabonds; Mr. Ryder Slone is loudly applauded for his special burgling scena; and Pierce and Maizee appear in a vaudeville act which gives the lady an opportunity of wearing a number of handsome dresses. There is novelty as well as amusement in Eric's ventriloquial sketch; Violi creates great enthusiasm by the display of her accomplishments as a versatile instrumentalist; Boy Glen proves himself a clever juvenile raconteur; Miss Jose Collins gains favour as a comedienne and dancer; Atroy gives a singularly smart performance as a society juggler and manipulator of hoops; and Grais' baboons show almost more than human dexterity in tight-rope walking and other acrobatic feats.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Large and appreciative audiences have been drawn to witness The Follies. Mr. H. G. Pellissier, who devises and arranges the entertainment, caused much merriment with his topical song and German character-study; Mr. Dan Everard gave his songs with taste; Mr. Lewis Sydney's piano sketches were much enjoyed; Miss Marjorie Napier, with a sweet voice, rendered her numbers tastefully; Miss Gwennie Mars is clever in her imitation of negro eccentric dancing; and Miss Ethel Allandale contributed some well executed mandoline solos.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—On Monday *Somebody's Sweetheart* was performed here by Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company. Mr. W. H. Kirby, in the character of Martin Blabbs, was irresistible; Miss Molly Hackett, in the title-part, acted bewitchingly, and proved herself a pleasing vocalist; Mr. E. H. Bertram sang nicely as Stanton Ashleigh; the part of Stephen Leverton was well sustained by Mr. Douglas B. Watson; and as Lem Lee Mr. J. Templar Ellis showed real skill; Miss Cordelia Knight was a good Zora; Miss Norah Melton made a successful appearance as Mrs. Ainslie; Miss Millie Gordon enacted Freddie Ashleigh well; and Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber as Old Joe was praiseworthy. Mr. George Ess is an excellent conductor.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. and Mrs. Waller's Juvenile Pantomime Co. is this week appearing in *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Kitty Chester (Bertie) and Baby Blythe (Cissie) are both excellent as the babes; Miss Gerty McQueen plays the part of Robin Hood with good effect, and Maid Marian is well represented by Miss Fanny Adamson; Miss Hilda Deacon is good as Dolly Dimple, and Mr. Ally Benson as Dame Flossie is the cause of roars of laughter; Mr. Ernest Thirlway as Baron Wheresmecash acts his part very well, and Messrs. Doyle and Gibson are seen to advantage as Blustering Bill and Wavering Walley.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. — Mr. George Dance's company, in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, was the attraction here for the first three nights of the week. Miss May Glenn in the title-rôle quickly won all hearts; Miss Burna Bent was a vivacious Lisette, singing prettily; Mr. Gilbert Yorke made a commanding and capable Napoleon; Mr. J. T. Bolesworth displayed a good voice as Philippe; Mr. Ernest Tornence was all that could be desired as Lefebvre; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald was highly diverting as Papillon; Miss Ella Derwent played with dignity as Josephine; and Napoleon's sisters were in the capable hands of Miss D. Garland and Miss Edwards; Renee de Saint Mezard had an able exponent in Miss Maggie White; and other parts were in good hands. *Lady Madcap* occupied the boards on Thursday.

TOWN HALL.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—Mr. George Grossmith, assisted by Miss Dorothy D'Egville, vocalist; Miss Dorothy Forster, pianiste, and Miss Dorothy Scott, raconteuse musicale, gave a most pleasing entertainment here on Monday.

BATHING ESTABLISHMENT GROUNDS. — Cardow's Cadets give a varied programme at every performance here.

GAINSBOROUGH. — KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. Robt. Kirk.—Mr. Campbell Kelly's company appeared here for three nights last week in *The Trail of the Serpent*. Miss Nana Cameron gave a powerful rendering of the Gipsy; Mr. Kelly was interesting as Gerald Kingston; and Mr. Bradford Crosley was good as the villain; Mr. Booth Conway gave a clever character study of Gipsy Jake; and the comedy element was safe in the hands of Mr. Vincent Kelway and Miss Gladys Newcombe. Mr. John Leopold's *New Frivolity* company are paying a return visit here this week. The company is practically the same as on the last visit, and the piece goes as well as ever. Miss Amy Hall is again charming as Lucy; Mr. John Leopold, jun., supports her excellently as Daniel; Mr. Watson Hume is an amusing Buckwheat; and Mr. Barry Lupino gives a clever rendering of Sammy. The acrobatic act and statue business of the Leopolds is as smart and clever as ever, and the rest of the company give admirable support.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The fare submitted here this week is again of a first-class nature. Occupying the top line are Tennyson and Wallis, who have some excellent songs and amusing patter. Burt Shepard, with his funny parodies and quaint stories, is much appreciated; quite the latest thing in gymnastics is sumbitted by the Avolos; Gerald Mount and Hilda Corelli make a huge "hit" with their vocal entertainment; Curtis and Vanity are excellent in their acrobatic dancing act; the Vekeys, banjoists, receive well-merited applause; Kenneth and Kane are seen to advantage in a musical, singing, and dancing act; Maqua, in beautiful artistic poses, provides excellent entertainment; Rodin, eccentric comedian and trick cyclist, and Annie Neilson, vocalist, complete the "show."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—An excellent company is attracting good "houses" here. "Starring" we have Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern Belles in a brisk sketch entitled *The Lost Coon*, into which are introduced some pretty songs and dances; Ryan and Hall are amusing comedy acrobats; the Chivosky troupe of Russian dancers and vocalists give a fine turn; and Little Don is a popular comedian; a very entertaining eccentric is Tom Odlin; Clarendon Fenwick, a pleasing baritone, and pictures shown by the American Bioscope make up the bill.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—A strong attraction here this week is Mr. J. Rice Cassidy and company in *In Holy (?) Russia*. Mr. Cassidy in the rôle of Micky Nolan is extremely comic; he receives excellent support from Mr. Arthur Stratton, who portrays Colonel Richard Forrest; Mr. Carl Rovinelli makes a capital Steragoff; Mr. Terence Nerry realises to the full the character of Michael Natolski; Mr. Horace Butler is successful as Petrokski; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy is a convincing Renée Rubinoff; Miss Mavis Lee Anderson gives an admirable impersonation of Catska Lavotski; Misses Evie Norman and Annie Dudley do well in their respective parts.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Percy Humphrys.—Opera-goers are many in Glasgow, and they never forget old friends and favourites. Mr. J. W. Turner is one of these, Hence the flattering receptions this week of the veteran tenor and his fine company. Mr. Turner has not sung here for years so well as he did on Monday evening, when Wallace's *Maritana* was produced. As Don Cæsar de Bazan he was at his best, acting and singing with great charm. In Miss Kitty Brownlees, who was the Maritana, Mr. Turner has a prima donna of great ability. Gifted with a voice of great beauty and a perfectly easy grace and style as an actress, she made a profound impression, and shared the honours with her chief. The other artists who assisted included Messrs. Tom Griffiths, Sidney Clinord, R. Cummings, Frank Clarke, and Geo. Ridding, and Misses Jessie Dennis and Maud Esdale. In every case they excelled themselves. The chorus and orchestra were brilliant. *The Bohemian Girl* was given on Tuesday, and other favourite operas followed during the week.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is here with the farcical comedy *The Night of the Party*, which is being greeted nightly by large audiences with continuous laughter and applause. Mr. Sebastian Smith as Crosbie, the free-and-easy valet, contributes the greater part of the fun; Miss Evelyn Howard as Lady Hampshire gives a charming representation of an impulsive creature with conflicting emotions; while Mr. Aidan Lovett makes a stately and dignified Sir Charles Hampshire. The part of Frank Frayne is ably interpreted by Mr. Frank H. Denton. Miss Maud Linden as the lively housemaid, Pauline, is excellent. Other servitors who figure at Mr. Crosbie's "party" are Gipsy Vandelier, by Miss Stanley Ronalds; Nannie Portland, by Miss Marie Lewis; Baby Hastings, by Miss Gertrude Manners; Mr. Flambert, by Mr. Douglas Munro; Mr. Roundle, by Mr. E. Patrick; and Mr. Bogue, by Mr. Ernest Rivarz, each portraying distinct types of character with great ability. Miss Lena Graham as Mrs. Young, Mr. Edmond T. Sayers as Alderman Oargen, Mr. Charles F. Bruce as Alec Montresor, Mr. Charles Wilson as Horace Clouge, Mr. Abbey as Mr. McRoth, and Mr. Samuel Plinge as Captain Bleary all act their parts to satisfaction.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Dance's company is this week paying a return visit in *The Girl From Kay's*. The title-part is taken by Miss Nancy Hervyn, whose singing and acting find much favour with the audience; Mr. Arthur Stigant is the Hoggenheimer, and in his hands the part loses none of its humour and character; in the rôle of Harry Gordon Mr. Herbert Frankly acts with quiet, gentlemanly grace; and for the part of Norah a singer of considerable talent is found in Miss Aimee Grey; Miss Chrissie Ralland makes a bright and attractive Ellen; and as Mrs. Chalmers Miss Cruikshanks plays her part well. Mr. Tom Shelford is very good as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr. S. Major Jones extracts a deal of amusement from the part of the Hall Porter; and able character-acting is seen in the Mr. Chalmers of Mr. Chas. Lupton, and in the Quench of Mr. Buchanan Wake.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A most important revival of "Scotland's national drama," *Rob Roy*, is being given here, and will occupy the boards for three weeks. The scenic effects have been entrusted to that doyen of Scottish theatrical art, Mr. Wm. Glover, who has been ably assisted by Mr. Bert Vennimore and others, with the result that in this department alone the present production claims a high position. In addition, however, the cast is a specially well chosen one, and the musical side of the play has been well looked after in the engaging of the famous operatic tenor Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, for the part of Francis and Mme. Alice Esty for that of Diana Vernon. These clever artists provide quite a feast of Scottish song throughout, and all their contributions were received with enthusiasm. The chorus, too, is strong, and the concerted pieces are given with striking effect. Mr. Nelson Ramsay plays the outlawed Rob Roy with much distinction, and Helen Macgregor is excellently acted by Miss Marion Lind. As Bailie Nicol Jarvie Mr. W. George Robb ably sustains the best traditions of the part, and gives the pawky wit and wisdom of the character with unctuous enjoyment. Mr. Herbert Bentone as the uncouth Dougal also proves a valuable member of the cast. Mr. W. Mowbray Harle, who stage-manages the production, plays Andrew Fairservice on broad comedy lines, and takes well. Mr. Robert Minster as Captain Thornton, Mr. W. E. Holloway as Rashleigh, and Mr. Walter Russell as Sir Frederick all ably fill their parts, and comedy is supplied by the Owen of Mr. Montague Corri, the Major Galbraith of Mr. Alex Hamilton, the Macstuart of Mr. Edwin Tudor, and the landlady of Miss Jenny Macintyre. Miss Jeanie L. Harle is an attractive Mattie, and deserves a special word of praise for her singing throughout, and more particularly for the fine rendering of the solo part in the "Tramp Chorus." The entire production reflects the utmost credit on the able managing-director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan, whose artistic and original ideas are evidenced in many of the most noteworthy features of the revival.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—A large and appreciative audience welcomed the return visit of Mr. William Greet's company in the ever-popular play, *The Sign of the Cross*. The principal parts are in very capable hands, the chief characters being exceptionally well played by Miss Marie Leonhard as Mercia and Mr. Frank E. Petty as Marcus; while Mr. C. Yorke as Nero, Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio, and Misses Newcombe, Price, and Dane, in their respective characters of Poppea, Berenice, and Stephanus, stand out prominently.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Jack Haddon and company in *Under the Russian Flag* are proving an attraction here this week. Mr. Haddon submits a capital reading of Captain Demetrius, and Mr. Cecil Melton as Ivan Romanoff finely depicts the part; Mr. Edward Avinal as Michael Romanoff appears quite at home as the villain and brings the selfish and brutal character into due prominence; a satisfactory General Romanoff is found in Mr. George Herbert; Luka Marischla has a clever exponent in Miss Marie Raynor, a part played throughout with force; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is responsible for a good portrayal of Vera Vassiloff. The humorous element is in no wise neglected, Mr. Will Rivers (Peter Poluskie), Miss Violet Lytton (Ogarita), and Mr. Fred Hornung (Alexis Skopolopki) having plenty of opportunities, of which they make the most.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—This week Govan gets a play after its own heart in Fred Locke's musical comedy, *A Trip to the Highlands*. An excellent house welcomed Mr. Wal Croft as the quaint Macmutchkin, Mr. Gus Wheatman as Brown Windsor, Mr. Arthur Poole as the Detective, and that eccentric comedian, Mr. J. B. Montague as Timmins. The ladies of the company come out strong, and Miss Millie Engler, the charming Winnie; Miss Maisie Ellinger as the romantic Araminta; Miss Kitty Clinton as the vivacious Fanny Flounce; and Misses Florence Woolley and Kathleen Naughton as a spooney couple all help the play along in capital style. Mr. Frank Barclay as Fred Lackington, Mr. Wellesley Smith as his father, and Miss Lillian Kevill Davies as Mrs. Macmutchkin all add their quota. The chorus and dancers also assist greatly in the success.

NEW GAIETY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong. Drama is now in full swing here, and proving very popular, the attraction being this week *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, produced by the Gaiety Dramatic Company under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery. The cast is a strong one, and includes Mr. Horace Booth, who gives a capital account of himself as Robert Brierly; Mr. H. Hesslegrave as Hawkshaw submits a representation which is thoroughly appreciated by the audience. Mention must also be made of Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. A. H. Clarke, Miss Mattie Crawfurd, and Miss Marie de Roos, who one and all lend excellent support; Miss Laurie A. Pardy acts well as Emily St. Evremond, and Mr. T. E. Conover gives a humorous portrayal of Melter Moss.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here this week. Leo Stormont and company are responsible for an important item, a dramatic scena entitled *The Devil's Week-end*, which is produced in a highly artistic manner. Cussac-Talma, illusionist, has also made a good impression, his performance, in conjunction with Mlle. Yvonne de Forge, being as mysterious as it is interesting. Spry and Austin, vaudeville artists, are great favourites and have had a hearty reception. In addition the following notable artists appear: Tina Clementa, with well-trained horse and dogs; Sanford and Lyons, comedians and dancers; Ethel Walker, mimic and pianist; Albert Le Fre, comedian and dancer; Ada Martine, comedienne. The Bioscope shows an interesting series of pictures.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—An enjoyable star turn is provided here by Miss Florence St. John and company in *My Milliner's Bill*. The popular actress gives an excellent touch of comedy to her part, and her vocal items are much appreciated. The Ten Genis in a risky act show marvellous skill and daring; Wilfred Shine and company appear in an amusing sketch, *Trooper Hunt's Widow*. Charles J. Johnson, coloured comedian and cake-walker, is a great favourite; the conjuring turn of Cull-pitt is smart and amusing; Esta Stella's catchy songs and neat dances make her turn a special success; Fred Keeton is a smart eccentric comedian; Arthur Gill's vocal imitations are good; Lord, Murray, and Lord give a gymnastic sketch; and the latest pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Tom Leamore, armed with a budget of new songs and smart patter, is fetching the audiences here in his best style; Grant and Grant are an exceedingly clever pair of coloured artists, whose songs and dances are particularly well done; Les 4 Papillons dance neatly and their songs prove popular; J. W. Hall in new and old songs alike takes the fancy of the crowd, and his reception is cordial; Harry Edson, with his dog Doc and another shows some wonderful examples of animal training; the Solari Duo are clever instrumentalists; Raie Walters does well with her "Fishing" song; Angeline, lady juggler, contributes some smart work; and Katie Marsh gives a varied impersonation turn.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Miss Marie Kendall tops a good bill here, and the big house is comfortably filled at each "show," no doubt the popular entertainment accounting for many. One of her songs, a topical one, is worthy of special mention; Frank Lynne has some smart sayings, and his songs are well received; Lambeth and Robertson in a clever sketch show how Scots folk wooed in Burns's time, and are the recipients of loud applause; Miss Lambeth sings "A Hundred Pipers" with much dash and patriotism, and is warmly recalled; the Dean Brothers, "white dancers," are a host in themselves; and Jas. H. Ju's wire act is, at times, one to make a spectator pause for breath, his jumping over several chairs being marvellous; Ste

delights his audience; Miss Lucretia wins unstinted applause as a burlesque artist; and the Tichell family of acrobats give an exceedingly clever show. Parker and Parr, novelty duettists; Baddow, ventriloquist; and Anita Hayman, soprano, are also very successful. Fresh pictures are shown by the Britanniscope; and Mme. H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Band continues to give entire satisfaction.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—A capital company is again provided. Miss Hulo Hodgson and Mr. Harry Lowther are well received in the farcical episode *Barmaids;* and Frank and Alice Lurin submit a most amusing extravaganza *Cinderella*. Other artists appearing are Arthur Croxon, comedian; Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer; Raymond Trio, in a musical act; Charles Russell, comedian; Frank Hartley, the juggling schoolboy; and Walter and May, coloured comedians and dancers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Paul Cinquevalli, the incomparable juggler, is the leading turn here this week, and his marvellous dexterity and unerring judgment win great applause each evening. Other newcomers are Horten and Linder, on the triple bars; Smith and Johnson, society coloured duo; the Humels, equestrians, and the Plunging Horses, in a scena, entitled *Bungay Races.*

GREENOCK. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week's attraction here is *The Bauble Shop.* Mr. Fredk. Annerley appears to advantage as Lord Clivebrook; Mr. Percy H. Vernon makes an excellent Matthew Keber; Mr. Reginald Hargreaves is an amusing exponent of the Hon. Chas. Teviot, and Mr. John Cecil makes the most of his opportunities at Stoach, M.P. Miss Lily Bertram gives an artistic rendering of Jessie Keber, and Miss Renee de L'Estrade is good as Gussy Bellenden. The other parts are well filled.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The Three Missouris top the bill here, and their burlesque acrobatic turn is very amusing. Other good turns are Walter Wade, local comedian; Hallam and Stanton, in a musical comedy sketch, *A Broken Journey;* Poole and Poole, comedians and dancers; Strathmore Troupe of International Dancers; the Cosmans, and Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. Gracie Graham tops the bill here, and her turn proves very enjoyable. The other members of a good company are Joe Conway (comedian), Lillian Trexalli (comedienne), the Haverleys (American song illustrators), Sam Dalton (comedian), Daisy Ray (comedienne), and Dale and Vale (speciality dancers).

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The first visit of *The Blue Moon*, played by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company, has created a very favourable impression. Miss Clarice Lockstone invests the central character of Chandra Nil with quiet charm, and sings sweetly; whilst Miss Florence Imeson has won much favour by her bright representation of Millicent Leroy. The amusing impostor, the Moolraj, is portrayed in droll fashion by Mr. Alfred Beers; whilst Mr. Reginald Switz is also responsible for much merriment as Private Taylor. Mr. A. Wykes Ashdown scores vocal honours as Bobbie Scott; and Mr. Alec Fraser, who appears as Captain Ormsby, also sings well. Other prominent members are Miss Ethel Callanan as Evelyn Ormsby, Miss Kathleen Cartaret as Lady Brabasham, Mr. Alfred Clark as the jovial Major Callabone, and Mr. Arthur Soames as the Prince.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. North.—There has been plenty of comedy in the Tivoli programme this week. The burlesque, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, given by Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, was especially laughable; whilst the Elvio Trio, in *Those Troublesome Slaves*, introduced good knockabout comedy. Charles R. Whittle, a comedian with a quaint style, and Ernie Myers, who has a fund of smart patter, added to the fun. Feats of equilibrium of an exceptionally novel and difficult character were performed by Yamamato and Miss Koyoshi, a couple of Japanese artists. The wire-walking display of Yetta was also very clever. Others who contributed were Lily Lonsdale, vocalist, and Rosa Tilley, comedienne.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moves; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Miss Minnie Palmer has made a welcome return to Grimsby, after a somewhat lengthy absence. She appeared in a new character, Nell Gwynne, and her delineation was altogether charming. Charles Vandyke's pantomimists caused much laughter by their burlesque, *Sensations*, in which are introduced a host of surprises and trick effects. The vocal turn of the Crown Trio was highly popular, their singing being marked by high artistic merit. Morimura gave an entertaining display of Japanese magic; Silvo submitted demonstrations of his skill as a manipulator of musical glasses; and others appearing were Wright and Elton, in a speciality, *Eccentricities;* W. H. Downs, a favourite coloured vocalist; and Maude Mortimer, burlesque comedienne.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. M. Baker.—The main portion of the programme has been provided by the Monckton Comedy Company; whilst other engagements were: Violet Desmond, vocalist and violinist; Fred Hallam, comedian; the Lauriers, jugglers and conjurers, and Bertha Cousins, comedienne.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—On the 31st ult. we were provided with an exceptional treat in the Moody-Manners Opera Company. The opera selected was *Carmen*, the interpretation being brilliant, and heartily appreciated. Premier honours were awarded to Miss Rosina Beynon, who not only possesses an excellent contralto voice, but made a bewitching and captivating Carmen. Miss Ethel Cadman deserved the highest praise for her excellent singing as Michaela. Don José was admirably presented by Mr. Maurice Paul; Mr. Frederic Erle as Escamillo was a success both musically and dramatically; and Morales and Il Dancairo were excellently presented by Messrs. S. Lonsdale and Van Lachterop. The performance was well directed by Mr. A. Frewin.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Notwithstanding the inevitable tram strike, which is proving very inconvenient to patrons, good houses are enjoying the visit of Mr. Frank Lindo's company, in *Home, Sweet Home*, which has previously been seen here. Mr. Lindo, as before, simulates the honest fisherman, Stephen Armitage, his prepossessing figure having much to do with the success attained. A fine Duke of Ancaster is found in Capt. Gerald Gambier, and Mr. F. Lucas Lyle is a capable private secretary. Some really good comedy is presented by Mr. Helsby Wri (Gaffer) and Mr. Harry Dawson (Hon. Percy). Miss Marion Wakeford is charming as Jean, while the playing of the orchestra (which has been transferred from the Royal), under the able guidance of Mr. James, give highly entertaining selections of a varied quality.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A delightful company is at the above house this week, headed by Vesta Tilley, who submits, "Who said, Girls?" "The Seaside Sultan," and "Algy," &c., in a manner that sets the audiences cheering lustily. The Eight Stella Girls, sprightly little damsels, sing and swing in their piquant scena enchantingly; the Three Rubys are received spontaneously by their clever acrobatic feats; a Highland sword dance is capably enacted by the Stewarts. We have also the Halifax Orpheus Quartette of Vocalists; Stanley and Greenop, expert banjoists; and Ralph Moore (the boy Patti); while the Three Merrills give a wonderful exhibition of cycling. After the performance on Monday night, Miss Vesta Tilley delivered the following neat little speech:—Ladies and Gentlemen,—I cannot leave the stage to-night without thanking you very sincerely for this magnificent reception. You do not know what a delight it is to me, after having a very successful tour in America, and after being away from Halifax so long to return and have such an ovation. I can only thank you very much. I also wish to thank the members of the Halifax Bowling Club for this handsome bouquet. I thank you all very much once more and in taking my leave I beg to remain your humble servant.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—After a closure of three weeks' duration for decoration, this modern music-hall was re-opened on Monday evening. Mr. Cecil is here with Dronza, the imaginary doll, who answers questions most intelligently; Hall and Earle (comedy grotesques) are champions in their line of business; a comedienne, full of vivacity, is Maidie Scott, who sings exceptionally well; while Mlle. Annie Schuberth, the famous prima donna, was in magnificent voice. The Athlones, Vandinoff, and the well-known Ring Ling Trio offer yeoman service.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company opened here on Monday in *Brigadier Gerard*. The title-rôle is admirably sustained by Mr. Long Fernie, whose dash and manly bearing well suit the part. Miss Beatrice Lindley as the Comtesse de Roquelaure acts with ease and ability. Mr. Arthur Somers contributes a most artistic impersonation of Napoleon; as Talleyrand Mr. George Malleit gives a capital character portrayal; Mr. Alfred Hilliard is successful in the part of General de Caulaincourt; Mr. Frank Powell does well as Colonel Guerin; Major Bron is capably played by Mr. J. Henry Twyford; Mr. Elliott Ball (Major Olivier), Mr. Wilson Blake (Captain Sebattier), Mr. Wylie Thompson (Captain Pelletan), Mr. Thomas Brooklyn (Lieut. Legros), Mr. Penn Hamilton (Mons. D'Albert), Mr. Reginald Mason (Pierre), Mr. James Crowe (Mons. Bassompierre), and Miss Gertrude Beattie (Agnes) are all most capable in their respective parts.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Heading a splendid bill is Carl Hertz in his wonderful entertainment, consisting of illusions, &c.; Lynn as a mimic has but few rivals; Frank Sylvo returns, and once more his comedy juggling is thoroughly enjoyed; the Brothers O'Brien contribute a clever turn upon the triple bars; Jack Pleasants scores a decided success in his humorous songs; Donaldson Brothers and Ardel's contribution is appreciated by all; Cissie Curlette is a smart mimic; Nora Emerald is successful; and the Sisters Casselli are always favourites here. The Urbanora shows some admirable pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—The first three nights of this week we had a visit from Mr. Geo. Alexander's company in A. W. Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay was in every respect excellent as Nina. Mr. Stephen Ewart as Hilary Jesson gave a masterly performance; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce was well placed as the exacting and precise Filmer Jesson. Miss Maisie Richardson gave a clever performance as the boy Derek. The objectionable family of the Ridgeleys were all well portrayed by Mr. George Fitzgerald as Sir Daniel, Miss Haviland as Lady Ridgeley, Miss Elaine Sleddall as Geraldine, and Mr. Ernest Holloway as the cad, Pryce Ridgeley. Mr. Lloyd Lownedes gave a good sketch of Major Maurewarde. Mr. Luke Forster was an amusing Dr. Dilmot. The Hutchison company in *A Country Mouse*, including Miss Annie Hughes, occupied the stage the remainder of the week.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The company booked this week is one of all round excellence. A strong attraction is afforded by the Cattaneos Troupe of acrobats, who introduce some novel and original business in a remarkably well finished style; Tom E. Cliffe's legmania dancing takes well. The remaining turns have all been tried by Hartlepool audiences already, and the re-booking is evidence of the satisfaction they have given. They are: Ida Ross, a taking Tyrolean vocalist; Gus Merriman, whose singing whilst smoking puzzles all; Halma, a society juggler, whose performance proves him to be an adept; Starr and Jerome, in a neat and graceful exhibition of sand dancing; Gus Barra, who is exceedingly funny in his act, *The Comic Musical Motorist*, and who has had a big reception for a concertina selection from "Poet and Peasant"; and some interesting films on the bioscope.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday a first performance in Hastings of *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* was made by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. Morris Harvey cleverly impersonated the genial Freddy; a good performance of La Bolero was submitted by Miss Mamie Brickwell; Mr. Tom May was an able representative of Platt; Miss Lulu Londen displayed piquancy as Louise; Miss Claire Pridelle won much applause as Violet Brinton; Miss Louie Rene was artistic as Mrs. Doring; and Miss Stella St. Audrie was an effective Mrs. Hannay. The performance was under the musical direction of Mr. H. R. Matthews. *A Country Girl* came on Thursday.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—The patriotic songs of Miss Nellie Wilson are much applauded here. Floria is a smart equilibrist, and excels on the slack wire. The impersonations of Mr. Will Stancomb are very effective; two comedy sketches are introduced by Miss Evelyn Vaudray, Mr. Frank Pearson, and Miss Naomi Neilson. They are much applauded. The up-to-date pictures shown by the Hippodrome Bioscope are realistic. Accompanying herself on the piano, Miss Nellie Adams sings soprano songs charmingly; the "Black and White" sketch by Snowball and Dolia creates great fun. The American wizard Germaine is very smart; and Dan Thomas receives a hearty welcome; his comicalities are irresistible.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The drama recently has given place to a variety programme here, and this week Mr. J. D. Hunter has provided his patrons with a superior bill of fare in that direction. Miss Margaret Lewys, a pleasing contralto, opens the varied entertainment; Mr. Fred Stafford, a lightning artist, sketches a series of scenes of quite pictorial beauty; Les Frasettis perform some musical selections in a clever manner on different instruments, including the harp, 'cello, xylophone, etc. Mr. Ernest Hastings is delightfully amusing, a ripple of merriment accompanying his pianoforte sketches; a gymnastic display by the Brothers Bright is much applauded; some vivid and quite fresh pictures are contributed to the bill by Payne's bio-photoscope. A flying visit from Miss Marie Dainton was made here on Tuesday. An interesting programme was submitted, in which the talented comedienne was associated with Miss Cora Moore, a contralto of considerable excellent quality. A violin soloist, Mons. Trebini, who overcame the difficulties of classical pieces with comparative ease; Miss Marjorie Cassini, a capable and effective reciter; Miss Dainton fairly won the hearts of her audience by her finished method and telling voice. This well-graced artist also gave imitations of celebrated actresses, which were received with great appreciation.

PUBLIC HALL.—On Wednesday, under the auspices of Mr. Wm. Slade, a return visit here was paid by Mr. George Grossmith, in his drawing-room entertainment. He has the valuable assistance of Miss Dorothy Scott in musical recital; Miss Dorothy D'Egville in song and ballad singing; and Miss Dorothy Forster, a clever pianist and accompanist.

ST. LEONARD'S PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. E. Thomas.—The Clifford Essex Pierrots are attracting good audiences here with a varied programme. Besides Mr. Clifford Essex, the concert party includes Miss Ella Barkley, Mr. Joe Morley, Mr. Fred Rome, Mr. Langford Kirby, and Miss Frances Roscorla.

HAWICK.—THISTLE THEATRE, COMMON HAUGH.—Proprietor, Mr. Leland Jones.—On Monday *The Worst Villain on Earth* was staged here. Mr. L. Jones gave a strong impersonation of Nero Morath; Sharp, the detective, was in the capable hands of Mr. Swanton; and as Faith Morath, Miss Jessie Holland proved herself an actress of much ability.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. P. Barnsley.—Mr. H. F. Maltby's company appeared here on the 30th ult. and the following night in *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. H. F. Maltby was responsible for an excellent portrayal of George Wendover. The Gerald Wendover of Mr. H. Hargreaves was played in a capable manner. The representation of Lucy Dulley by Miss Beatrice Marsdene was artistic; Miss Mara Maltby is to be complimented on her portrayal of Florence Dulley; Miss Janet Hodson, as Anne Dulley, proved herself a very finished and most cultured performer. *The Ladies' Battle* drew an appreciative house on Saturday.

DRILL HALL.—Manager, Mr. A. Lovesey.—*The Orchid* received a warm welcome on its return visit to Hereford on the 30th ult. Miss Poppy Wilkinson played with much vivacity as Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Trilby Collier was a charming Josephine Zaccary; Mr. Clifford Bing was quite at home in the character of Guy Scrymgeour. As Meakin, Mr. H. Walsh was capital. Miss Hilda Vining as Caroline Vokins displayed great ability, her songs being well rendered.

HOLT.—CONCERT HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Preston.—On Monday Miss Kate Johnstone and Miss Ethel Mowbray opened with the London Vaudeville Company, under the management of Mr. James Jarrett. A good interpretation of *East Lynne* was given, Miss Kate Johnstone playing with nicely-graded emotions as Lady Isabel. Mr. James Jarrett made Levison the cynical man of the world without conscience; Cornelia was presented with quiet humour by Miss Ethel Mowbray; and as Lawyer Dill Mr. J. C. Ainslie achieved success. A sympathetic study of Archibald Carlyle was submitted by Mr. Alfred G. Lord; and Miss Edna Ray made a delightful Barbara Hare. In the small part of Joyce Miss Olive Mowbray played well; and as the comic policeman, called in this version Goat, Mr. Leslie Sears caused much fun. Miss Gwendoleen Ashdown was distinctly good as Little Willie.

HORWICH.—NEW PRINCE'S.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson.—The theatre re-opened on Monday night with a strong variety company, including Mr. James Stockton, Tyrolean vocalist; Gipsy Ann with her fortune-telling dog Rosie; Miss Violet Rose, serio-comic; The Schallers, in a comic gymnastic act; Collin and Irene, second sight experts and illusionists; Mlle. Rosini's toy menagerie of well-trained dogs; Gertie Grahame, speciality artist and dancer, in a smart scena, "Dick Whittington"; La Belle Rosa, solo mandolinist; Bob Lewis, tenor; and Turle and Blanche, comedy duettists.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Owner, A. Carlton; Lessee and Manager, Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Geo. R. Baker.—The above theatre re-opened on Monday to a crowded house, with a return visit of Messrs. Poole's Myriorama Bioscope and Variety company. The Bioscope presented some good pictures, including the latest American success, "Black Beauty." The variety turns included Woolford's marvellous performing ponies, clever dogs, and comical donkey; the Fordyces (Jennie and Willie), humorous juveniles; Harry Raymond, the Mexican coon; Dane's marionettes; and Funny Chef, comedian.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Bert Coote's production of *The Fatal Wedding* is here on a return visit. The piece is well played by Miss Madge Hawes as Mabel, Miss Gertrude Harrison as Cora, Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Wilson, Mr. S. H. Humber as Curtis, and in the humorous parts by Miss Maud Locker as Bridget, and Mr. C. H. Hughes as Toto. Miss Marjorie Lawrence gives a clever and natural rendering of the part of the child Jessie, known as the little mother, and other gifted youngsters contributing are Master E. Frisby, Master J. Grice, a nimble little clog dancer, and Misses Hetty Kelly, Ethel Press, Shirley Sparks, and Nora and Essie Herbert.

HIPPODROME. — Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, the well-known protean actor, is appearing with complete success in two of his creations, *Dick Turpin* and *Ringing the Changes*. There were also Ford and Barras, talented youths, who were discovered in the streets of London; The Woods, singers and dancers; Barrett and Knowles, two amusing favourite comedians; A. G. Spry, comedian; Miss Gena Manon, soubrette; Henry A. Moore, a clever character-actor; The Paolis, in an effective display of feats of strength; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is responsible for the production of the *Christian*, which returns to Hull once more. Glory Quayle finds an admirable representative in Miss Grace Chalmers, who is effective in every phase of the character; the John Storm of Mr. Frank Tennant is such as to be acceptable all round. The whole production is one that has much in it to make it noteworthy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Mr. John Hart, Managing Director; Mr. Wynn Miller, Local Manager.—The long-looked-for visit of Geo. Edwards' *Spring Chicken* company has not disappointed the public, who find the comedy equal to what had already been written about it. Nothing could exceed in humour the efforts of Miss Nene Verona as Mrs. Girdle. Miss Nellie Lonnen affords proof of hereditary stage genius, and the same, too, can be said of Mr. Fred Leslie. In her song, "Rotterdam," Miss Rosalie Glyn achieves considerable success. The Mr. Girdle of Mr. Geo. Gregory is a piece of work in which the comedian finds full scope for his powers. Mr. John Brabourne's Gustave Baberi is highly commendable.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Mr. Geo. Morton, General Manager.—*The Female Swindler* is a play full of possibilities, and one that meets the taste of the popular playhouse's patrons to the ground. In the title-rôle Miss Grace E. Leslie has a part in which she continues to gain the good graces of the audience by the ability with which she acts. Gifted with a striking stage presence, she adds to this attraction considerable dramatic skill. As the heiress Miss Florrie Kelsey is most convincing. The comic relief is well sustained by Mr. H. Wright. As the hero Mr. Joseph Millane is eminently successful. Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in this play reached a high standard of efficiency.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Considerable interest is being created here this week by Messrs. E. Hill Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company with *The Traitor*. The callous and crafty nature of the Chief of the Police is graphically depicted by Mr. Stephen E. Scalan, and Miss Rosalind Scott Watson gives an excellent portrayal of the rôle of the unscrupulous adventuress, Countess Zicka; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson plays with convincing earnestness as Prince Rudolph, and Miss Ruth Shepperd displays exceptional histrionic ability as Zula; whilst Miss Isabel Hunt creates a favourable impression as Lieutenant Nicholas; Mr. T. W. Hurst as Captain Ross, R.N., and Miss Katerine Vere as Elsie Dupres are responsible for some excellent light comedy; and fun of a more boisterous type is furnished by Mr. F. Sutherland as Jack Boult, Miss M. Stuart as Cen-Cen, Mr. Arthur McCulloc as General Hertz, and Mr. Edward Lowrie as Zoff.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Miss Emily Huby's company, in *The Convent Bell*, is appearing here this week. Miss Magdalen Moore plays the part of Marguerite Courier in a way that compels admiration; whilst Mr. Howell Webb causes laughter as Pickle Podds. The other comedy parts are in the hands of Mr. Edwin Osborne and Miss Ivy Blanche. Mr. H. W. Bertram plays the rôle of Philip Vautier; and Mr. R. Faulding that of Henri Cassella. Miss Emily Huby gives a forcible representation of Christine Valgrave. *The Price of Pleasure* is played by the same company on alternate nights.

IPSWICH. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. Allan Wilkie, supported by a strong company, has appeared during the week in a round of Shakespearean and other characters. On Monday as Hamlet Mr. Wilkie made a favourable impression. He was most ably assisted by Miss Ina Cameron, whose impersonation of Ophelia was sweet and powerful. Laertes received full justice at the hands of Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, and Mr. George Munro was a capital Polonius. Mr. Wilton Ross as Horatio lent capable aid.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—At the top of the bill this week are Frank Ellis-ton and company on a return visit with *Aunt Matilda*, which again causes much merriment. Other items include the Folkestones, with eccentric interlude called *Swimming the Channel*, and some knockabout business; Fred Elton, with *On Board an Ocean Liner;* Laurence Barclay, comedian; Jessie Burnett, a pleasing singer and dancer; Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford, vaudevillists; and the Two Bees, in a scena entitled *Hiawatha Wedded.*

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C Robert Perkins.—Miss Emma Hutchinson and Mr. Percy Hutchinson's company was here for four nights with the *Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love, who looked charming in the name-part, was accorded a hearty reception; Miss Annie Stalman was convincing as the overbearing Lady Charlotte Trevor; whilst Miss Violet Ley and Miss F. Turner ably impersonated Lady Isabel and Mrs. Tustail. Mr. Templar Powell was natural and easy as Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans gave a capital rendering of the giddy Fitzroy Harding; Mr. Patrick Quill was a dignified Sir Horace Hatton: Mr. J. Hastings Batson was an amusing Lord Datchet; whilst Mr. Townsend Whitling and Mr. Richard Neville figure as Harry Cecil and Tommy Keeston. The comedy is well staged, and Miss Mabel Love wears some charming confections. Miss Marie Hall, the world-famous violinist, appeared here on Friday night, and was supported by Miss Eleanor Felix and Mr. Willis Scott.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Messrs. Poole's Myriorama is proving a great attraction here. Mr. Harry Dowsett is a versatile comedian; the Snow Family of skaters are particularly clever; Houston, the wonderful Chinese magician, introduces some marvellous illusions; Learto and his clever dog Babs do a good turn; the George French Troupe give a first-rate exhibition of acrobatic cycling; Mr. Fred Poole is a genial and entertaining guide.

TRIANGLE PARK.—Mr. Victor Stevens's premier pierrot party are still appearing here, and Mr. John Warren continues to provide the audience with free drinks from his magic kettle. Miss Mollie Wynter, comedienne and sifleuse, is the special attraction this week.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Crowe's company is here in *The Way of the World*. Mr. Herbert Skardon contributes a fine rendering of the rôle of Cecil Montague; and Mr. Victor Gordon depicts Captain Slade in good style. Miss Sydney Crowe is a distinct success as Adele de Roche; and Miss Marie Fontaine is excellent as Kate Montague. The characters of Horatio Bluff, Ned Montague, and Polly Bell are admirably portrayed by Mr. Augustus Hammond, Mr. Frank Stanley, and Miss Violette Vivienne.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore.—After having been closed for some weeks this place of amusement was re-opened on Monday by Mr. Langford Carson's company in *The Power of the Cross*. Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby is seen to advantage in the part of Baron Curzola; Gerald Fairfax is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry C. Rutland; and Mr. Royce Carleton ably portrays the character of Dr. Leslie Fairfax; Miss Stanley Burt as Margaret Seaton, and Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Rita Lascelles, an adventuress, are both good.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's company in *Her Forbidden Marriage* opened on Monday to a large audience; Mr. Henry Lonsdale, an old favourite here, was powerful in the rôle of Geo. Madison; Mr. Kenneth Black as Sir George made a capital old man; the villainy of Chas. Devereux and Lady Lucretia was cleverly interpreted by Mr. Louis Hector and Miss Octavia Noel; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne deserves special mention for her artistic rendering of Lucy, her acting being full of charm and refinement; the comic element was in the hands of Miss Denny Fitzherbert and Mr. Fred De Vere, who capably undertook the parts of Patty and Timothy; and Miss Barbara Gott gave a careful study of the Mother Superior. *Somebody's Sweetheart* occupied the boards on Thursday.

LANCASTER. — ATHENÆUM. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.— Mr. Harry Starr and company are this week presenting *Otto the Outcast* and *Carl the Clockmaker* to good houses. The former piece was played on Monday with Mr. Starr in the title-rôle. Mr. Edwin Firth gives a clever portrayal of Roderique D'Estalier; Mr. William Miller is powerful as Daddy Bruneau; as the Marquis Marcella de Laporte Mr. Will Hee is worthy of mention; and Mr. Fred W. Graham is comical in the part of Augustine Carrotte; Miss Kate Norris ably fills a responsible position as Lara; and Miss C. Hastings impersonates the Marchioness de Chaumont in a praiseworthy manner.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—An excellent programme is headed by the Brothers Webb in a wonderful musical turn; Ada Fawn, an old favourite, is recalled again and again; and Za Zaran, the man on the lamp, is exceedingly smart; Claude Feldmaus' Bean Ideal troupe of juveniles, is well received, as also is Marie De Paso, clay modeller; Mabel and Winnie Brooke sing and dance nicely, and another pleasing turn is Elsie Clare, vocalist; Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the bill.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Hall Caine's Drury Lane success, *The Prodigal Son*, opened on Monday to a crowded house. The semi-religious atmosphere of the play is in the way of a novelty to playgoers here, and made an obvious impression. The prodigal, Oscar Stephenson, is played by Mr. Norman Partriege with ability and conviction, his depiction of the return and conciliation being particularly fine. That sterling actor, Mr. Henry Renouf, is in the cast as the vengeful brother Magnus, which part he enacts with characteristic power. Miss Lily Hall Caine is very satisfactory in the arduous heroine rôle, and earns repeated recognition and appreciation; Miss Alma Murray in an artistic presentment of Anna, the boy's mother, earns and is awarded high praise, whilst the Margaret Neilson of Miss Mima Renouf is a clever and pleasing personality. The cunning character of Helga is admirably realised by Miss Cecil Cromwell; and Mr. Henry George in the rôle of Stephen is also worthy a special modicum of praise.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A welcome revival of that interesting drama, *On the Stroke of Twelve*, is proving very popular with the Royal habitués this week, for all the best features are retained in the condensed version, which is given twice a night. The persecuted hero, Jack Rutledge, is admirably played by Mr. W. Matthews; Mr. H. C. Hunt as the scheming money-lender, Horton, makes an effective stage villain, whilst his female accomplice in crime, Marie Bergene, realises her opportunities to the full in the person of Miss Madge Laverton. A sweet and charming portrayal of the hero's sister, Doris Rutledge, emanates from Miss Beatrice Moore; capital work also being done by Mr. P. Palmer and Miss Nellie Moore in leading parts. An effective leaven of comedy runs through the story.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Under the title of *The Woman who Gambles* Mr. S. B. Rogerson has written a thrilling tale of plot and intrigue, and Mr. Morton Powell's company is giving a powerful presentation at the popular Queen's this week. The company includes Miss Gertrude Hunt in the central part of the Countess of Steinbach, and this lady acts the character with rare ability. The Count is powerfully portrayed by Mr. James Duncan; the part of Governor-General has an able exponent in Mr. Horatio Sinclair; Mr. Ernest H. Clarke makes an effective Chief of Police, and the young lieutenant lover, Karl, is a distinctive portrayal by Mr. Reginald Fox. The Baron's female accomplice is played with the requisite abandon by Miss Rhoda Clighton. Other big female parts are carefully presented by Miss Florie Halton and Miss Brenda May; whilst Mr. G. H. Hurst, Mr. Fred Prior, and Mr. Gilbert Dance are also largely concerned in the success of the piece.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The popular Chirgwin is well billed "funny and punny," and his efforts in that direction at the Empire this week are keeping good houses in continual merriment. The appearance of R. H. Douglass is most welcome, and his clever monologue sketches are a strong feature of the week's bill. Barton and Ashley's comic speciality is provocative of uproarious mirth. Prof. Dunning's ventriloquial turn is a novel one, and eminently successful; whilst originality is also the keynote of a clever acrobatic speciality by the Picquays. An entertaining musical act by Will Cornish proves vastly popular; the Wedburns score again with patter and comedy business; Millie Payne finds a ready acceptance for her clever vocal contributions, and appreciation is also won by Marie Reeve in a similar line; whilst last but not least is an exhibition of conjuring by Kahn and Kahn.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—A clever musical and pantomimic extravaganza, entitled *Office Hours*, is the leading item of entertainment here, and as it serves to exploit, amongst other things, the whimsicalities of that clever comedian, W. T. Thompson, proves vastly popular; Rosina Caselli again presents her marvellous dog show, arousing great interest; some acceptable comedy is introduced by the Columbia Trio, and also in a more riotous style by the Three Prestons; the Musical Schaffers are expert and entertaining in the use of their instruments; a novel specialty by the Lombarts is well received, as also is the unique entertainment given by Sylvesto; Robb Gilmore is a leading light amongst the comedians; the Sisters Tinsley are enjoyable in song and dance, and Mollie Doon, comedienne, has a good presence and a pleasing style.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—In the Three Sisters Jonghmans has been secured an attractive star turn for this week; these fine vocalists have a big reputation locally. A funny sketch, *The Deserters*, by Hudson Powell and company, promises to be a popular line judging by a big reception on Monday. The New Macs are repeating previous successes in the way of clever patter and neat dancing. Ike Scott and Son are to be seen in a smart comedy interlude, and of the rest Sid Cotterell and company in comic sketch, the Sisters Darrell, duettists, and Jack Crawley, comedian, are having a successful time.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—A return visit is being paid here this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold as Leah gives a portrayal of great emotional and dramatic power; Mr. Paul Belmore as Kleschna submits an embodiment of exceptional merit; Mr. William F. Grant deserves nothing but praise for his Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is good as Schram; and Mr. Hamilton Deane excellent as Raoul Berton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards here are held this week by Miss Winifred Maude's company under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, with *The Sins of a City*, and the musical comedy drama, *The Stowaway*. The engagement opened with the former play, in which Miss Winifred Maude is seen to considerable advantage as Seaweed; Mr. William Vane as Sandy McDonald makes an excellent impression; Mr. James Carson shines as Ralph Blackwater; Mr. Victor Du Cane is very good as Isaac Levi; Mr. Maurice Drew in the dual rôles of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh is most praiseworthy; Miss Jenny Hackett is a vivacious Midge, scoring in song and dance; Mr. Leonard Harrison is well placed as Donald McIvor; and both Miss Jessie Mason as Jenny, and Miss Ethel Tinsley as Lesbia are commendable. *The Stowaway* was underlined for Thursday.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Lottie Lennox, a dashing comedienne and excellent chorus vocalist, who is most popular with Leicester audiences

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—There was no mistaking the genuineness of the applause, and even cheers, which emanated from large audiences assembled in the leading theatre this week, when Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry introduced to this city *Dorothy o' the Hall*. Between each act the curtain had to be run up several times, and, on Monday night particularly, the delighted spectators, at the close, seemed loth to let go of the distinguished players. It was not until Mr. Terry spoke a few words, and remarked that "both Miss Neilson and he were very pleased to again meet their Liverpool friends," that the audience ceased their greetings. The Mersey city has certainly stamped the new work with its approval, and nothing but praise is heard concerning the whole of the production. As the wayward, persuasive, Dorothy Miss Neilson was fitted with a rôle which afforded every scope for the display of that lady's brilliant and versatile talents; Mr. Terry, with his Sir John Manners, made an ideal, daring lover; praise is well earned by Mr. J. Carter-Edwards for his fine portrait of the choleric father, Sir George Vernon; Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw did justice to Sir Malcolm Vernon; a particularly good Perkins, marked with discretion and well-studied action, came from Mr. Horace Hodges; a most amusing and carefully-handled Lady Vernon was submitted by Miss Claire Pauncefort; Miss Mary Mackenzie afforded satisfaction with her minor rôle of maid to Dorothy; and creditable work was done by Miss Miriam Lewes (Elizabeth Tudor) and Miss Lilias Waldegrave (Mary Stuart). It is unnecessary to mention the brilliancy of the mounting and dresses.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Mr. Popple, of Ippleton*, paid his first visit to Liverpool this week, and found a cordial reception awaiting him. Things could hardly be otherwise where Mr. G. P. Huntley was concerned. Large audiences just revelled in the doings of the notable comedian, whose picture of the country visitor to London was generally looked upon as one of the best things he has given us. Miss Millie Legarde, who made a lovely La Bolero, received several demands for encore verses of her catchy songs, while much applause followed her smart acting; Mr. Basil S. Foster was the handsome Norman Popple; Mr. Charles M. Daly helped with the fun as Platt; Miss Nellie Hodson proved a most vivacious maid, Louise; Miss Eva Kelly did especially well in the character of Violet Brinton, singing and dancing most daintily; the two husbands, George Hennay and Henry Doring, were well presented by Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stephenson respectively; the disconsolate wives, Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay, found in Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt able exponents; Master W. F. Kottann was a lively messenger boy; and worthy support also came from Mr. C. Fitzsimon in the character of the Hon. Kerr Buretta, and Mr. Sydney Courtney as Lord Downe.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The ever-popular *East Lynne* has been played here this week by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Miss Julie Kennard did every credit to the rôle of Lady Isabel; Mr. Alfred Beaumont afforded a pleasing representation of Archibald Carlyle; the Francis Levison offered by Mr. Eric Mayne was well drawn; Mr. Alfred Tate looked and acted as a police constable, known as Bullock; the most was made of Lord Mountsevern by Mr. Spencer Goodwin; no fault was to be found with Mr. C. C. Grattan's Justice Hare; Mr. E. Massingham was an acceptable Richard Hare; and Miss Ethel Saville is deserving of recognition for her Barbara.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The Harmony Four, with their vocal selections and humorous items, greatly amuse the audience here; Austin Rudd is a comedian of a high order, his humour and eccentricities cause roars of laughter; Les Bastiens supply a decidedly clever and daring acrobatic performance; the Seddons are really funny; G. W. Foster creates much laughter; Mephisto is an expert contortionist; Lola Patey is a pleasing comedienne; and Rose Waller is popular.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The French Spy*, from the able pen of Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, has been a good attraction here this week. Mr. Fred Benton, who brought a capable company, held the part of Fritz, a capital representation of a German strong man; Mr. Richard Fulton was very successful as Captain Sommers; a powerful Count Romanoff was submitted by Mr. Max Coutts; in the title-rôle Miss Gertrude Evans acted with power; Miss A. Harrison-Tate was well placed as Olga; Miss Cissie Cleveland proved a lively Julie; Mr. L. Chaseby made a manly Lieut. Maxwell; and Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe was impressive as General Trepoff. The new scenery and effects were very appropriate.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A return visit of Mr. George Testo Sante, with his stirring drama, *The Life of a Showman*, has been welcomed here. Mr. Sante again undertook, in his customary excellent style, the rôle of Brien Leader, and his trial of strength with two horses proved a most interesting feature in the circus scene. Miss Rosa West played sweetly as Lena Hartland; Mr. Logan Darra proved powerful as the villain, Hendrick Marais; Miss May Warden was graceful and effective as Lynette Leader; a satisfactory Sir Noel and also Stickers were supplied by Mr. E. S. Petley; Miss Amy McNeill played carefully as Agatha Winter; and a deal of comedy was provided by Mr. Frank Sante, Mr. Will Lindsay, Mr. Fred Vaughan, and Miss Grace Harlington.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Top here this week is Arthur Roberts, who pays a welcome return visit with *Where's the Count?* Hayman and Franklin, also in big type, cause great laughter with their sketch, *A Matrimonial Agency*; as comedy acrobats the Four Emilons give a particularly smart turn; the Davis and Gledhill Trio provide a sensational act with a cycle that is motor-paced; delightful music is provided by Diamond, an accomplished harpist; and Beatrice, soprano saxophonist; the juggling by B. Troba is neat and clever; Alma Gray shows to much advantage as a dancer; Cribb and Cribb are a pair of smart and funny comedians; the singing and dancing of Annie Laurie is cordially approved; and others in the list include John P. Dane, a lively comedian; and Mamie Iris, comedienne.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—At the head of the bill here this week are Atlas, Vulcana, and the Sisters Atlas, all of whom go through a clever athletic display; Arthur Richards, comedian, has several taking songs; some popular ballads, sweetly rendered, come from Janet H. Reynolds; Edie Tennis and Gertie Laune have a neat vocal scena, *Chapters from Life*; and Renee Walon dances and sings tastefully.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*Hand in Hand* has been the dramatic sketch given here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher was full of humour as Billy Barton, the poetic greengrocer's assistant; Mr. Harry Tresham acted with care as Edgar Hartington; a villainous Herbert Hartington came from Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood did justice to Ben Drummond; Mr. E. D. Allen handled the rôle of Jim Ward with care; Mr. Robert Wilton evoked much laughter as Policeman Foot; Miss Florence Palmer played sweetly as Grace Edmonson; and Miss Ravenswood was a dignified Elise Marchand.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The original Hartfords, with their sensational equilibristic act, are foremost here this week; Pete and Juno, coloured comedy duo, give a smart turn with their songs, stories, and patter; some clever banjo playing is provided by Leon and Leon; continuous laughter follows the antics of Peter Bermingham, the Scotch tramp; Burns and Bentley are a pair of accomplished black and white speciality dancers; Rappo and Ella go through some acceptable work as equilibrists and dancers; and Minnie D'Aubyn, burlesque actress, also appears.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The always popular Martin Conway, "Walk round Martin," heads the programme here this week with his latest songs; a gratifying reception is given to the Society Quartet for their high-class singing and graceful dancing; the Reays (lady and gentleman) provide a neat turn as athletic equilibrists; Carrington has a clever musical act; a lively comedienne is Edna Latonne; with a degree of unconcern that is pleasing to witness Friscarri goes through several clever juggling and hat manipulating feats; and J. S. James shows skill as a comedian, juggling bone soloist, and banjoist.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—A capital draw here this week has been *Turpin's Ride to York*, presented by Fred Ginnett's company; Frank and Jen Latona, comedy musical couple, give a pleasing and much-appreciated turn; O. K. Sato, comedy juggler, gains great applause; Edith Courtney renders several ballads in pleasing style; a pair of particularly humorous comedians are O'Malley and Brown; Dot Hardy, as "the slavey" is funny; Menotti goes through a remarkable performance with a bicycle on a wire; Ornheus certainly shows himself to be a master of melody; and the Primrose Quartet of Vocalists sing in a most pleasing manner.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Wilmot.—Heading the bill here this week are the Brothers Ashley, who cause roars of laughter with their boxing sketch, *Next, Please;* the Lulaine Darrell trio of novelty gymnasts submit a graceful entertainment; Miss Pattie Bella has some catchy songs; the dancing and singing of Louie Leonard and Lazy Larry are appreciated; Pat Duddy is a comedian with humour; and the Three Royal Temples render several operatic selections.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery. —The dramatic form of entertainment here has caught on, and the "Royal" stock company is being much appreciated. This week the selection has been *What Women Suffer*, written by H. G. Brandon. Included in the cast are Messrs. Vincent A. Briscoe (Squire Norton), Frank S. Strickland (Herbert Standish), Albert Sember (John and Wilfred Coventry), H. G. Brandon (Obadiah Shakespeare), F. E. Wybert (Tod Potts), Miss Lena Pierpoint (Nance Meredith), and Miss Lilian Burns (Edith Coventry).

PICTON HALL.—A short season has begun here with Sydney Carter's new Century pictures, under the direction of Mr. Francis D. Sunderland. The bioscope has always been popular in Liverpool, and when here on several occasions, remained for many months at a time.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Hoggan-Armadale's company is here with *David Garrick*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and *The Bells*. In the first-named piece Mr. Hoggan-Armadale in the title-part was decidedly successful, and as Laura Bedford Miss Georgina Winter was very good indeed. Mr. Arthur Rose played Squire Overdon well, and Miss David Beattie was a fine Joshua Bedford. The minor parts were well filled.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards. —This popular place of amusement reopened its doors on Monday, when a performance of *Faust*, given by the United English Opera Company, was greatly enjoyed. Mr. F. S. Gilbert gave a capital rendering of the title-rôle, being in excellent voice; Miss Elsa May appeared with success in the character of Marguerite, and Mr. H. Davies made a good Valentine. The Mephistopheles of Mr. Kneale Campbell and the Siebel of Miss Doris Gilbert were worthy of notice. *Maritana*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Bohemian Girl* were also in the week's programme.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—This week we are afforded the initial visit of Alfred Sutro's charming play *The Walls of Jericho*, which is admirably presented by Messrs. Dauncey and Leveaux's company. The rôle of Jack Frobisher is cleverly acted by Mr. Herbert Bunston, who gives a skilful and earnest reading for which he is thoroughly appreciated. Warm praise must also be meted out to Miss Florence Jackson for her careful rendering of the part of Lady Frobisher. Lady Lucy Derenham finds a charming and skilful exponent in Miss Molly Carton; and other ladies who add to the general success include the Misses Lydia Busch (Lady Westerby), Edith Cuthbert (Miss Mornington), Rita Millman (the Duchess of Skye), and Evelyn Maxwell (Lady Parchester). Mr. George A. Bradram gives a capital study as Hanky Bannister, and Mr. Cyril Baleim is equally well placed as the Marquis of Steventon. Mr. Sydney Hamilton is successful as Harry Dallas; and other parts are carefully treated.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. George Gilbert.—The star turn this week is Mendel, the blind pianist.

LYTHAM. — PIER THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Harrison.—Mr. Howard Cochrane this week is presenting *The Marriage of Kitty* here. Miss Aida Jenoure gives a capital performance as Kitty Silverton; Mr. Howard Cochran is good as Sir Reginald Belsize; and Mr. Cecil Welford is an excellent John Travers. Miss Betty Castle is good as Mme. de Semiano. The other parts are in capital hands. The play is preceded by *His Lordship Intrudes*, ably enacted by Miss Gladys Dare and Mr. Langford Reed.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatby. — *A London Actress* is the drama which is presented by Miss Emma Litchfield and company this week, and a capital reception is accorded them. Mr. S. Cleveland as Clive Crawford does good work; as Lieut. Kingstone, Mr. E. Derwent contributes a clever character study; Miss Emma Litchfield fills the rôle of Hilda Mannering admirably; Miss Maude Steele gains instant sympathy with her fine emotional acting as Phyliss Crawford; Mr. C. Vallender as Pat Maloney makes the most of this amusing part; Mr. G. H. Doyle as Moses portrays the character cleverly; Miss Maud Saxby is successful as Nellie; whilst Miss Nellie Fern as Biddy Malpney and Miss Madge Clare as Mrs. Skinner are amusing.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following are here this week: The Brown and Kelly Combination in the amusing sketch *The Butler Knows*; Frank Seeley, a comedian, on a return visit; Otto and Olga in a clever burlesque musical act; Tony Iveson, rag merchant, at the piano; Marco, a clever boy conjuror; the Two Daniels, negro comedians; Miss Emily Blanche, Dutch dancer; and the Hippograph.

MANCHESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra. — Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Evelyn Millard, and company provide a big attraction here this week, and on Monday night played in fine style before a good house, that romantic comedy, *Brigadier Gerard*. Too much praise cannot be accorded Mr. Lewis Waller for his spirited rendering of the title-rôle; Miss Evelyn Millard makes the most of her opportunities, and acts charmingly as the Comtesse de Roquelaire; and Miss Helen Leyton is a pleasing Agnes. Mr. Edward O'Neill is excellent as Talleyrand; Mr. A. E. George as the Emperor Napoleon is good; and others who do well are Messrs. Shiel Barry, Owen Roughwood, Frank Wolffe, J. H. Irvine, Eric Scott, Frank Cochrane, and Herbert Vyvyan. The scenery is excellent. Henry Hamilton's monologue, *Fortune's Fool*, in which Mr. Lewis Waller scores a distinct success, precedes. *Monsieur Beaucaire* is also included in the week's bill.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The first visit of *A Girl on the Stage* to Manchester was welcomed by a good house here on Monday, when Mr. George Edwardes's company gave an excellent performance of the piece. Miss Queenie Leighton as Molly Montrose sang and acted with considerable vivacity and cleverness; Mr. J. Robert Hale was lively, competent, and resourceful as Lord Congress; Mr. Arthur Longley scored his usual success as Algernon Southdown; an oddly amusing bit of characterisation was the Ethelbert of Mr. Nelson Keys; an easy and successful impersonation of Shingle was given by Mr. John Humphreys; and other adequate performances were those of Mr. Colin Coop, Mr. Cranston Neville, and Mr. Edwin Rutland. Among the ladies, Miss Fanny Dango and Miss Valli Valli distinguished themselves greatly as the Ladies Isabel and Dorothy Congress. The great treat of the evening, however, was Mr. Lennox Pawle's depiction of the Earl of Sanctobury—a very funny impersonation, crammed with gag so comic and spontaneous that the stage enjoyed it at times quite as much as did the audience. Many vocal auxiliaries are employed, and the singing and dresses are elaborate and highly effective.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*Sunday* is presented here this week by Mr. Louis Calvert's company, with Miss Emélie Polini in the title-rôle. The performance is most enjoyable, Miss Polini portraying the part of Sunday—the pet of "the Boys"—in a charming and pathetic manner; while Mr. William Lockhart as Towzer, Mr. Sydney Rennef as Davy, Mr. T. Norman Walter as Lively, and Mr. Arthur Vezin as Jacky, all add vigour and realism to the situation. Mr. Leonard Pagden gives a fine rendering of Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston acts well as the despicable Arthur Brinthorpe; and all the remaining parts are cleverly played.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company has transferred their attraction, *For Life and After*, from the Grand Junction Theatre to this popular house.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An attractive programme here this week includes Leoni Clarke, with his wonderful troupe of trained animals and birds; a company of twelve artists in a musical mélange, *The Shoeblack's Dream*; Walter Munroe, an excellent comedian, in his latest successes; Arthur Stacey, clever comedian and dancer; Sandy and Carl, comedians and eccentric boxers; Maud Kaye, a smart coon vocalist and dancer; the Rushforths, in illustrated songs; King Leo, a capital ventriloquist; Blarney and Kennard, in a smart comedy act, including the waltzing dog; and some entertaining Bioscope pictures.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus. Flanagan.—A return visit of Mr. Junius Booth and company in *Monte Cristo* is to be noted here this week. A fine dramatic and picturesque performance is given, Mr. Booth's admirable work in the varied title-rôle being very ably supplemented by the entire cast. Particularly good are Mr. E. Howard Templeton as Nortier; Mr. Walter Huron as Villeforte; Mr. J. W. Braithwaite as Caderousse; and Miss Clare Elstob as Mercedes. Mr. H. G. Griffin has the tour in hand, and the piece is admirably staged and costumed.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent drama, *Her Lost Self*, is presented here this week by Miss Frances Delaval and company. Miss Frances Delaval is especially successful in her portrayal of the central character, Philippine Marcel (otherwise Sarah Cohen); while in heroic parts Mr. Cecil Gray and Miss Clare O'Sullivan are conspicuous for their excellent work. Among others, Miss Min Johnson as little Dorothy Daventry is distinctly clever; and a considerable success is scored by Tiny Carrie Johnson, described as the smallest character comedienne in the world, and certainly worthy of being called one of the cleverest. The whole play is interesting and well put on.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is here this week in their well-known successful drama *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Wilson Howard gives an accomplished and sympathetic rendering of Howard Wilson; Mr. Guy Hastings is subtle and effective as Curtis, the man about town; Miss Katherine Clarke figures with quiet charm as Wilson's wife; and Miss Leah Marlborough plays Cora Williams, the adventuress, with skill and point. The minor parts are in able hands, and the general staging is all that could be desired; while a long list of entertaining specialities is introduced in the third act.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The big turn here this week is provided by Willie Edouin, whose monologue of character studies is really excellent and enjoyable. A wonderful illusion is Buddha's Blackboard, upon which answers to questions are written in chalk by an unseen hand, in the very moment of asking, and by no form of trickery conceivable to the audience. Besides these, Lottie Collins, the favourite comedienne, sings several songs in good style; Fred Lincoln, comedian, makes a hit; the Aquamarinoffs, a Russian troupe of singers and dancers, give a brisk and clever performance; the xylophone playing of Josef Adelman is choice and artistic; Alice Blandford, the New Zealand nightingale, sings ballads sweetly; the Grisse Brothers present their smart novelty act, *On the Tiles*; and some nice vocalism is offered by the Cambrian Trio of ladies. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, interesting.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Lew Lake and company are to the front here this week in that laughable absurdity, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, and Sam Mayo, the immobile one, amuses with his quaint songs and style; the Borgetti Troupe go through a marvellous head-acrobatic performance; Talberto and Douglas are clever and amusing eccentric acrobats; and Thos. E. Finglas is a capital coon delineator; Conan and Doyle are exceptionally neat dancers; Evelyn Talor, comedienne, sings a catchy song nicely; Harry Rogerson, the tired one, presents an excellent and clever burlesque turn; Frank Harwood is a good actor-vocalist; and the Gregson Trio amuse with a sketch, *The Dummy*. The Palace pictures are good.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A strange human contrast is the attraction here this week, that of Henri Cot, the French giant, height 8ft. 7in., and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, height 1ft. 11in. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians are seen in a screaming domestic absurdity, *Moving In*, and create no end of laughter. Carlton manipulates cards in his usual surprising manner, and amuses with his quaint talk; the Olive Trio are refined singers and neat dancers; and Mabel Bardini and company are seen to great advantage in a theatrical episode, *Nell of the Halls*. Prof. Therese is a clever comedy hypnotist; the "Coons' Revelry" is presented by Barnard's Mannikins in a very life-like manner; and O'Gust, second to none as a mimic, is wonderfully clever and entertaining. Two vocal items are contributed by the Choir, and "Our Ice Supply" is shown on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mlle. Sylvia Du Barry, the eminent South American vocalist, is an excellent singer, and meets with a good reception; Keith and Kent as the waiter and the barmaid, as usual, keep the house in roars of laughter with their smart business; and Helen Charles is a pleasing drawing-room entertainer. George Hall, siffleur and vocalist, contributes a good turn; the Ashers (Agnes and Mike) appear in a neat speciality act. Other enjoyable turns are those of De Vere and Kenwick, the American comedy duo; Edith St. Clair, burlesque artist; Katie Weston, comedian; and Nat Travers, coster comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures complete.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A good programme here this week is headed by the Villions in an incomparable acrobatic cycling act; Flo Hilton, male impersonator, makes a big hit; the Elgars render operatic selections in fine style; Mary M. Glenn, Scotch vocalist, is a good singer; Yorkshire Tom is an excellent mimic; Alfonzo, the Tranka wonder, is a clever footjuggler; and Charles Somers is a quaint, quiet comedian. The Sisters Belmont, dancers, did not appear on the occasions of our visit, two smart knockabouts acting as deputy, and an extra turn was contributed by Hetty Hall, a pleasing instrumentalist. "A Sailor's Story" is depicted on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. — Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery are appearing here in their amusing skit, *The Would-be Actors*, and are very successful; Carl Mysto, the handcuff King, mystifies with his clever box trick; and the Gladenbecks give a smart acrobatic display; Sam Shipley, comedian, is a great favourite; Laura Lorne and Nell Rene are good in their Lancashire singing sketch, *Capital and Labour*; and other capital turns are given by the Gretnas, illusionists; Beattie Worth, comedienne; Copeland and Son, dancers, and an unnamed artist, sifflеur and negro comedian, who acted as deputy for the Bros. Hampson. The Bioscope pictures, "A Prodigal Son," is very interesting.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Cumberlands in their highly finished acrobatic cycling feats are at the head of the bill here this week, and are most successful; the Seltina Troupe are smart tumblers, with plenty of humour; Permane's bears are well trained, and are amusing; and Fredrica's toy terriers and cake-walking pony Dot provide a very entertaining item; Percy Curry is a comedian who hits the mark; May Lilian Levey is an old Manchester favourite; and Jack Truman, tenor, is greatly appreciated; Montague Biggs, female impersonator; and the Bros. Levett, champion vaulters, also contribute good items. The "Dog Detective" depicted on the Bioscope is very good.

RUSHOLME PAVILION. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North. — A capital programme is provided here this week, and includes the following capable artists: Tony and Terry, humorous duettists and dancers; Bert Byrne, comedian; Charles North, baritone; Albert Ventor, comedian; Fenton Cross, entertainer; Sybil Lester, soprano; and Hetty Wilson, pianist.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin Leigh.—Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. E. Russell gave full rein to his humour in the laughable title-character; Mr. T. A. Shale as Crookie Scrubbs presented an intensely amusing picture of an ex-gaol bird; Miss Lily Lingard was a capital Lady Bickenall; and Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy submitted an acceptable interpretation of the part of Michael Brue. Mr. Clarence Napier was distinctly good as Inspector Gorringe; Miss Kitty Dale made herself highly popular as Aurora; and Mr. Henry Chichester furnished an admirable study of the magistrate. *Mr. Popple* came on Thursday.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree. — Alec Hurley, one of the leading delineators of coster life, heads the programme this week, and has appeared with great success in several typical songs and in his successful scena—in which he is assisted by numerous auxiliaries—*The Costers' Friendly Lead*. Amy Russell, an old Margate favourite, has been receiving a cordial welcome; and the Sisters Terry, comediennes and baby mimics; and Milner Verren, tenor, have been greatly appreciated. The Athos troupe of acrobats and ball manipulators are smart; Frank Crouch, comedian; and A. B. Houghton, trick pianist, are both good; and the Hippodrome pictures are of more than usual interest.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—This week's programme is again an entertaining one, and is contributed to by Florence Carlow, comedienne and dancer; Zasma, society gymnast; the Redferns (Rubie and Elsie), banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Luigo's Serenaders, in their nautical scena, *Ashore in Venice*; Mlle. Florizell, the aerial performer, and a lady of great flexibility; Reuben Hill, character comedian and vocalist; and Bosanquet, who introduces a "singing" violin and his Bosanquephone, an instrument that produces a close imitation of the human voice.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is appearing here this week in *An Unwedded Wife*. Miss Van Praagh presents an excellent study of the part of Marion, and Miss Violet Wilson is successful in her rendering of Elsie Langham; Mr. J. Edward Whitty and Mr. Reginald Payne as Frank Armstrong fill their parts admirably; and Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is effective as Philip Blackstone. Comedy is well provided by Mr. Fred C. Imbert as Napoleon Boomer; Mr. Harry Townley as Pimple; and Miss Amy Coralli as Crumpet.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—A first-class variety programme is provided here this week. The principals include Mr. J. K. Reynolds and company in sketches entitled *Conscience* and *His Country's Curse*; The Bradleys, novelty trick cyclists; Miss Florence Inman, vocalist and dancer; Mint and Mart, comedians; Charles Bu Val, and a good display of animated pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—*A Beautiful Criminal*, presented by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred. C. Somerfield's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Fred C. Somerfield plays with great emotional power and dramatic force as Will Maynard; the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Roy Fortescue; Mr. Fred Mace is a capital Harold Hingston; while Mr. T. G. Vane is satisfactory in the part of the dude, Leonard Vimbart. Miss Marie Dagmar, in the title-rôle, displays rare histrionic abilities, and scores heavily; Miss Amy Naughton does well as Florelle de Vere. Mr. Chas. E. Warne (Peter) and Miss Mollie Monaghan (Janet) are an amusing country couple.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, supported by a capable company, is appearing in the military drama *Revenge* here this week, of which play he is the author. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson is a decided success as Prince Orloff; and Mr. Gerald Ord does well as the King. As the Queen, Miss Violet Carlyle leaves little to be desired; and Mr. Lancelot Usher is excellent as Captain Carr. Miss Amy Ellam as Draga Vanessa has a lot of work to do, which she gets through with commendable exactness; Mr. John Malden as Corporal Kruse, and Mr. Cyril Maitland as Karl, also impersonate their parts exceedingly well.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Fred Paul's company, in the musical comedy *The Lord of the Last*, is here this week. The book and lyrics are by Fred Ellis, and the music by Percival Knight and Denham Harrison. There are many very pretty and taking numbers, most of which are loudly encored. There is also some extremely clever dancing. Mr. Paul must be highly complimented on the all-round excellence of the company. A good deal of the success of the piece is due to the capital low comedy of Mr. H. C. Morton as Sir Hy. Ackerman, the Lord of the Last. Mrs. Jones Jones is played by Miss Louie Tinsley in which rôle she is a decided success. The rest of the company fully maintain the standard of excellence.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. Rembges. The excellent quality of the programme is attracting large audiences here this week. Tom Costello creates roars of laughter in his skit, *Women Suffragettes*; he also presents his "Tale of the Ten-pound Note," and he is very successful in his dramatic idyll, *The Old Clown*. Arthur Lennard also has a flattering reception; and the Deer Family give a natural display of *Indians of the Past*. Ernest Montefiore and company are exceedingly good in their sketch, *The Little Colonel*; and Stephens and Reunior, comedians, do well. The others turns are provided by Lizzie Fletcher, Letine, and the bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Alf Graham.—Harry Weldon, a droll comedian of first-rate ability, is the star turn here this week, and he makes a highly favourable impression. The Marie Santoi company, in the musical sketch, *A Night in Japan*, is also well received. The Gondolier Glee Singers provide some excellent singing and Fancourt and Rubie cause roars of laughter in their comedy act, *Out of Barracks*. The other turns are provided by Haydee's Marionettes; Sadie Simpson, comedienne; and Lavern, in his sensational wire act.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mr. F. Mouillot's company has presented *The Greek Slave* and *The Geisha* this week. Miss Lydia Bland sang and acted with great charm as Maia and O Mimosa San; and Mr. Edward Kipling created much amusement as Heliodorous and Wan Hi, characters which suited him admirably. Mr. J. H. Booth was admirable as Pomponious in the first piece, and Imari in the second. Messrs. Wilfred Heath, F. Pollard, Miss Edith Adeson, and Miss E. Kipling played with spirit the characters entrusted to them. The musical arrangements have been in the hands of Chevalier Legrand.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson. —The Andos Troupe of Japs do really clever things in the acrobatic line; the Arden and Abel sketch company, in *Three of a Kind*, work smartly; Martinette and Grossi, musical surprises, and Prütt and Lizette, illusionary extravaganza, supply meritorious turns. Dusty Rhodes has a neat and effective style, and his patter is good; MacBunker's novel mountebank show has taken well; the gymnastic display of the Jansons is neat and clever; and the acrobatic work of Hector and Paulus is extremely amusing; and clever mimicry is introduced by Fred Horsfall; and Miss Bessie Blackburn has a pleasing contralto voice.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—*The Battle of the Belles*, as presented by Moule and Nicholl's company, is a most amusing sketch, and is divided into three hilarious scenes; Paul Vandy occupies a prominent place in the programme, which is deserved by his excellent juggling; the Saxonias are experts with the saxophones and dulcimers; Mme. Collard's boarhounds have been carefully trained is self-evident; and the *Robinson Crusoe* burlesque is capital. The Harrison Brothers are extremely funny comedians and excellent dancers. A good operatic and descriptive vocalist is Harry Claff; and little Dolly Moore is a clever male impersonator. The foot-balancing of Carlo Bianchi and Loundoun Cameron's conjuring work are both first class.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—On Wednesday evening Mr. Hill was given a benefit, and a big bill was presented to a crowded audience. During the week his programme has included the Three Schaffers, in their effective gladiatorial show; Zeta Gray and company, in a most amusing musical sketch, *A Lancashire Lass*; the Three Sisters Hayden, neat and clever comediennes; Hector and Sultan, who are excellent in their comedy acrobatic act; while Ray and Calden's *Peculiarities* is a clever trifle neatly done. Mr. Hesketh Meade and Miss Felicia Sutton are the vocalists retained this week.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess' company is appearing this week in *A Queen of Villainy*. The title-rôle is ably sustained by Miss Edith Blande; Rose Delmayne is prettily portrayed by Miss Cecilia Desmond; the Stephen Faucit of Mr. Edward Heanley is sufficiently villainous; and Mr. Alfred Calver does well as Alec. Really good comedy work is contributed by Miss Jessie Cramonde and Mr. P. Howard Sturgess.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's No. 1 company is here with *Three Little Maids*. Three winsome and engaging "little maids" are Misses Cora Lingard, Daisy Silverton, and Eva Weigh; Miss Alice Rene is clever as Lady St. Mallory; Mr. Victor Kerr is to be commended for his representation of Lord Cheyne; Mr. Walter Freear is extremely diverting in the character of Cupid; Miss Laura Wright is lively and comical as Gretchen; Mr. Guy Williams is seen to advantage as Brian Molyneaux; Mr. Eric Barrington in the part of M. de L'Orme, of the French Embassy, commands admiration for his singing; Miss Kitty Whiteley makes a capital Miss Price; and Mr. Chas. Leverton does justice to the part of Rev. Mr. Branscombe.

NEW BRIGHTON.—TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Prominent among the company here this week are Mr. Ford Williams, Welsh basso; Miss Blanche Jerard, in the pathetic scena, *My Pal and I*; Miss Bertha Duckett, juvenile comedienne and dancer; the Silvanes, in their original comedy act; and an excellent selection of new pictures by the Theatrescope. Amongst the side-shows, we find Mons. Beauté, who is attempting a 31 days' fast, which commenced on the 29th ult.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—The new musical comedy, *The Sweet Girl*, made its first appearance in the city on Monday evening, securing a flattering reception from a house filled from ceiling to floor. Miss Claudia Lassell as Lola was extremely effective. Her rendering of the chief song

show good training. Harris and Worth's songs are well received; and the Bioscope is greatly admired.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's *La Poupée* company opened here on Monday. Miss Mysie Devine is charming as Alesia; Mr. Arthur Cozens is very good as Launcelot; Father Maxime is well represented by Mr. Walter Balfour; and Mr. Arthur Dennis makes a capable Loremois; Miss Edith Hunter as Madame Hilarius and Miss Doris Dickens as Henri supply agreeable impersonations; Mr. Harry Brayne successfully exercises his comic power as Hilarius. Mr. H. H. Shaw ably directs the orchestra and chorus.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Cliff Ryland, comedian, vocalist, and story-teller, is well received; Les Uniques give a picturesque display on the electric ladder, trapeze, and rings; the Sages are comical burlesque artists and dancers; and Maudie Ford supplies a song and dance with success; the Fimans give an amusing skit, *The Fire Station*; and Fred Land is popular with his comic effusions. The Palace Pictures are still "going strong," and the Brothers Corcoran, described as musical shipbuilders, give an instrumental performance which is highly applauded.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company with *The Poor Must Live*. Mr. Paul E. Draco is good as the Earl of Marswood; Mr. H. Macney is clever as Donald (his son); Mr. Henry Burnard is seen to advantage in the character of Clifton Manville; Mr. Arthur Trail is a capable Sam Sully; Mr. Frank Dale makes the most of Dick Sully; and Mr. Shaun Flenville gives a good performance as Hooker Holdsnitch. Miss Violet Hammersley submits a satisfactory portrayal of Dorothy Murdock; Miss Marguerite Thorne makes a hit as Sal Darling; Miss Dora Hilstrom is appreciated as Moya Darling; and Miss S. Carmichael as Olga D'Enycourt is well received.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Miss Rose Elliott, the popular comedienne, is making a hit here, and Messrs. Ben Elton and Tom Elma (triple bar comedians) are loudly applauded. Miss Nancy Renshaw, negro comedian and bone soloist, is smart; Mr. Gus Arthur and company in their song scena *Goodbye*, are greatly relished; the Cavaloths present an enjoyable musical act; Mr. Frank Newbury, whistling comedian, is clever; and the Bio-Photoscope is, as usual, successful.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Sidney Dooley. — "The Koffee Koloured Komedy Koncert Komedians" are responsible for the programme this week, and their dancing and singing have been of a high order. Mr. Alf Clegg in his acrobatic dance, Messrs. Charlie Bayman, Blanco White, and Glanmore Jones all meet with hearty receptions.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's No. 1 company in *The Power of Gold* is here this week. Mr. Charles Whitlock's Hadgi Zambra is a masterly portrayal: Mr. Richard Oliver displays histrionic power as Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton plays the scapegrace, Maud Harley, with skill; and Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge is the life and soul of the piece, being ably assisted by Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly; Miss Georgina V. France powerfully and pathetically portrays Meg Judson; Miss Lilla Wilde is a clever Lady Brandon; and Paddy Blake, street arab, is naturally impersonated by Little Prudence.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here this week with *An Abandoned Woman*, and is highly successful. Miss Georgiette Thierry as Ninon was excellent, and Mr. Bernard J. Leill was successful as Phillipe; Mr. Wolstein Foster was good as Capt. Herbert Seaton and Mr. H. Evans Gibbons was amusing as Paddy Boyle; Mr. Charles Cresswell did well as Sir Marmaduke Seaton, and Mr. Frederick Wright as Robert Saunders, Mr. A. Abbott as Pierre, Mr. Will Glase as Sammy Sharpe, Mr. Harrison Forbes as Jules, Mr. Pat Quinn as Sergt. Stubbes, Miss Lily Beverley as Sally Sloper, Miss Frances Maddocks as Maddock, Miss Lily Addison as La Celeste, and Miss May Richardson as Eleanor Dean were praiseworthy in their respective parts. The scenery and dresses were very effective.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt.; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Heading the bill here are the Ten Loonies, excellent musicians, who cause uproarious laughter by their funny antics; Billy Farrell's coon songs and dances, humour, and mimicry obtain much applause; Downes and Langford, comedians and dancers, have a good reception; and Jack Lane, the Yorkshire Rustic, is much appreciated; the Arlyo combination in their gymnastic pot-pourri, with their performing dogs and trick bicycle riding, give a unique performance; and the Kato's automatic theatre is a very pleasing item; Rosalie Jabobi is a charming comedienne; and Will Poluski, comedian, is successful. The Hippo Bio is a feature of attraction.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The well-known musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*, is presented this week by Mr. C. Edwardes' company. Mr. Alexander Loftus as William White is quite at home, and creates plenty of fun, in which he is ably assisted by Mr. Charles Adeson, whose well-known abilities are brought generously into use in the realisation of Bertie White. Miss Violet Osmund makes an excellent Dora Heather, and works very hard for the success of the piece, as also does Miss Maude Nichols as Brenda Louth. A very charming little lady is Miss Amy Preston, and in the rôle of the new barmaid makes lots of friends. Combining with the work of stage-manager the part of Captain Lovebury, Mr. Leslie Austin secures a notable success, his singing being very attractive and his acting satisfactory; Mr. James Grant impersonates the irascible colonel in good style, and Mr. W. E. Chewd is to be congratulated upon his efforts as Bonsor. Miss Winifred Preston represents Lady Moulton in a judicious manner, and the volatile Gussie finds a suitable exponent in Miss Emily Preston. All the other parts are in competent hands, and the production is staged and mounted in a highly commendable manner.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—The successful and interesting drama, *The Spider and the Fly*, is presented by Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and Sidney Cooper's company, and is attracting large houses. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon brings the result of experience to bear in the impersonation of Cyril Girdlestone, and as the crafty half-brother, Mr. Ellis J. Preston makes every use of his numerous opportunities. Mr. H. C. Lanceley has a congenial rôle as the village pastor, and Mr. Frederick Ross misses no points in the character of David Strong. Mr. Fred Terriss and Mr. Charles A. Preece are admirably suited in the parts of the Bros. Roe, and their broad comedy acting is excellent. Miss Nina Vaughton as Edith McAllister and Miss Amy Venimore as Stella Gray deserve every commendation, as also does Miss Lucy Murray as Molly Blake. Miss Nellie Burgess and Miss Kate Parker are satisfactory fisher girls, and Miss Marjorie May is well suited in the rôle of Flipps, a mudlark. Miss Ada Palmer, and Messrs. G. H. Thomas and Robert Castle complete the cast.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—For yet another week the animated pictures, which have been so great a success, remain here, and are still attracting satisfied audiences.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Once more George Robey is here, and once more is realised the enormous popularity of this clever comedian, large houses nightly testifying in no uncertain manner their appreciation of his efforts. *Casey Court*, produced by 30 midgets, is the second attraction of the programme, and its broad humour appeals to a large section of every audience. Miss Ethel Haydon is indeed a delightful vocalist, and is so pleasing and attractive in manner that she is always sure of a hearty reception. Billy Hobbs, a coon singer and dancer of great merit, secures unqualified approval; and Nipper Lupino Lane gives promise of securing a place amongst the first flight of comedians. Daisy O'Malley makes a decidedly favourable impression, and Charles Pastor causes much mirth by his eccentric singing. Fox and Melville sing to an accompaniment of lantern pictures, and the animal impersonations of the Lupino Brothers are excellent. The programme is completed by Peppo's monkeys, which give a pretty and interesting performance.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bufan.—The first three nights this week the stage was occupied by Mr. G. H Snazelle's company in the highly amusing comedy *The New Clown*, which has proved successful in drawing good houses. Mr. G. H. Snazelle gives a capital rendering of Mr. Dixon; Mr. P. R. Goodyear works hard as Lord Cyril Garston; as Captain Jack Trent Mr. Chas. Hanbury does well; Mr. A. G. Brown appears to advantage as Pennyquick; Miss Helena Millias makes a pleasing Rosie Platt; and a cleverly trained donkey, Ping Pong, greatly enhances the fun of the piece. For Thursday and Friday *The Lights of London* was the attraction.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A revival of the late Wilson Barrett's play *Claudian*, has proved successful here this week. Mr. William Maclaren, in the title-rôle, gives a powerful rendering of the part; and Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida assists him in an admirable manner, both artists having to respond to repeated calls; Mr. F. Owen Chambers is excellent as Thariogalus, as is Mr. Chal J. Chaloner as Belos; Mr. Edmund Grogan makes a capital Theorus; and Mr. S. Briscoe Farbridge is good as the Holy Clement. Mr. Weston Hubbard scores as Alcares, as does Mr. Cecil Gerrard as Rhamantes. Mr. Douglas Murray and Mr. H. Hargreaves are Losimus and Volpas respectively. Miss Rose Webster makes a capital Serena; and little Geraldine Meredith is excellent as Carenos. Miss Ruth Garth appears as Edesse, Miss Lena Oswald as Galene, and Miss Nellie C. Bilbe as Hera. Miss Violet Barclay is Clias, with solo; and Miss Amy Hardcastle is the principal dancer.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—On Monday night Mr. Nevill Lynn's play, entitled *Geoffrey Stirling, Banker and Thief*, adapted from the novel by Mrs. De Courcy Laffan, was held here. Mr. Henry Doughty achieved success in the title-part, gaining several calls. He was ably assisted by Miss Vera Leslie as Hester Devenant, and a strong company, including Mr. Kenneth Brampton as Ralph, Mr. Ernest Percy as the Rev. Cuthbert Dene, Mr. Moncton Hoffe (John Devenant), Miss Maud E. Stoner (Hilda Devenant), Miss Margaret Fareleigh (Pierre); among others being Misses Dorcas Corbie and Miss Beryl Graham. The mounting and costumes were much admired.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—George Bastow is appearing here as "Farmer Giles," and he is highly appreciated. The Royal Tokio Troupe give an astonishing performance, including balancing, top-spinning, and walking the slanting rope; J. P. Ling is as popular as ever in a mimetic monologue; and the Bros. De Wynne are good athletes. Barney Vox gives a capital ventriloquial performance; and Les Rubens, entertainers, contribute some excellent duets. May Marton is a dainty comedienne; and Oliver Conroy is a favourite comedian. The Royal Dottoscope concludes the programme with amusing pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Leonards head the bill in an entertainment of comedy, vocalism, and dancing; George M. Schilling describes in an interesting manner his walk round the world; Pollo Jerome is a smart trapeze artist; and the Sisters Pine have an excellent sketch. Ida Brophy is a charming soubrette; Bert Bowden is a quaint comedian; and the Sisters Bartholomew are smart singers and dancers. The Dottoscope concludes the programme successfully.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Darrill.—Mr. Edward Marris's company is here with *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr. Edward Marris enacts the part of Melchisadeck Brown with great artistic skill, and causes considerable laughter; Mr. Ion Maxwell is especially good as Arthur Vandyke; Mr. Leslie Martin makes a capital Bertie Bolingbroke; and Mr. Herbert Pearce is good as Col. Pendred. Mr. John Birtles is highly successful as P.C. Quick; Miss Elfie Vincent is a dainty and delightful Ivy Pendred; Miss Dolly Payne is admirable as Henson; Miss Rosie Chandler dances well as Marie Burton; Miss Vandyke and Miss Lorraine find capable exponents in Miss Ethel Dunker and Miss Bell Hamilton; and Miss Florence Smithers scores by her clever impersonation of Jane. Specialities are given by the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Life's Sweetest Sins* is being presented here this week by Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company. A capital and realistic embodiment of Captain Harold Marston is given by Mr. Jones; Miss Marie Daventry's histrionic abilities in the part of Doreen Rivers are warmly applauded; Mr. Oswald Douglas as Doctor Colbrooke furnishes an excellent portrayal, the doctor's confederates being ably impersonated by Mr. Robert Sawin as Kimberley Coutts and Mr. Clem Horlock as Rev. Edward Grey. Mr. Ernest Dare enacts Ernie Wodstone in an intelligent manner; the Fay Colebrooke of Miss Mary Ainslie is worthy of commendation; and humorous impersonations are submitted by Miss Elsie Walton as Bess Grayson, Mr. Edward Morgan as Bob Tanner, and Mr. Bertram Lee as Martin.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—For the opening week at this place of entertainment the management has secured an admirable company, including Dan T. Roberts' Royal Troupe of national, characteristic, and continental dancers; Daisy Turner, serio and dancer; Aldro Lukos, in swinging perch act and tumbling antics; J. A. Cassels, Scotch humorist; J. H. Bowman, dancing expert; Katie More, serio; J. H. McCann, roller skate dancer; and Panlo Bros., comedy acrobats.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Chinese Honeymoon* company appeared here on Monday night, and the delightful musical comedy, paying its third visit, drew a large and warmly appreciative audience. Brightly staged, beautifully costumed, and with a chorus much above the average, under the conductorship of Mr. E. H. Bamberger, the merry play went with delightful verve. Miss Kitty Clayton as the irrepressible Fi-Fi scored all along the line, and had to respond to numerous encores; Miss Florence Wilton, in her original character as Mrs. Pineapple, sang, danced, and acted with a full enjoyment of her rôle. Mr. James Wilson was a sufficiently dignified Emperor; Mr. Louis Ashmead as Chippie Chop made the best use of his opportunities; and the same may be said of Mr. Edwyn Sykes as Hi Lung; Mr. C. F. Howard as Tom Hatherton possesses a fine voice, and won a deserved encore in his song in the second act; Miss May Jelpke presented a most piquant Soo-Soo, her sweet singing and portrayal of the little princess winning golden opinions. Miss Alma Bolton as the official mother-in-law looked and comforted herself as that terror-striking lady in a highly forcible and humorous manner; Miss Frances Olgar and Miss Louie Love, with Miss Dulcie Greatwich and Miss Sybil Ross as maids-of-honour and bridesmaids (ubiquitous and embarrassing), played with great success in the many scenes that produced humorous trouble for the much-tried Mr. Pineapple, a character that Mr. Lindsay Harman seemed to revel in.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge. — Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company is here this week in the comedy drama, *The Blind Foundling*, by the actor-manager, Mr. Chas. H. Phelps. Mr. Phelps undertakes the conspicuous rôle of Gerald Dalton, to which he does full justice; Mr. Alfred G. Fry is forceful in the adventurous part of Mark Redman; Mr. Frank Harvey and Mr. Bernard Webb are suitably placed as Parson Ray and Jasper Waterford respectively; Mr. Harry Tilbury's amusing impersonation of Dick Dobbins is much appreciated; Miss Arline T. Grouge makes an admirable gipsy boy in Jaikes Romono; Miss Amy Dalby is sweetly sympathetic as Viola Waterford; Miss Millie Doris's lively impersonation of Winnie Dobbins is heartily applauded; Miss Mabel Hall undertakes the rôle of Fairy, the blind foundling, and her successful portrayal meets with hearty approbation; Miss Belle Tilbury is seen to considerable advantage in her strong impersonation of Isabel.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in *The Little Michus* made its appearance here on Monday. Mr. George Graves in his part of General Des Ifs is responsible for hearty laughter; Mr. Jack Cannot is admirably suited to the part of Bagnolet; Mr. George Miller as Pierre Michu is an ideal shopkeeper; Mr. Leonard Mackay as Aristide Vert has a splendid baritone; and Mr. W. Talleur Andrews as Gaston Rigaud, captain, uses a magnificent tenor to advantage. Misses Iris Hoey and Thelma Raye's delightfully graceful dancing and deportment are greatly appreciated; Miss Florence Parfrey as Madame Michu creates plenty of amusement; Miss Vivien Talleur does a finished pas seul in the second act. The piece is mounted in the lavish style characteristic of all Mr. Geo. Edwardes' productions.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is here. Mr. Tommy Gough as Toby Wright does full justice to the part; Mr. Alfred Brandon as Dick Kenyon gives a highly creditable performance; and a similar compliment must be paid to Mr. W. A. Mackersey for his representation of Seth Pearce. Other hard-working members of the company are Messrs. Edward Lloyd and the Misses Beatrice Whitsey and Ethel Kay.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Hardy and Von Leer's Co. in *Two Little Vagabonds*, has lost none of its popularity. The leading part of George Thornton is played by Mr. Douglas Vigors with creditable ability; Miss V. Crespin is successful as the heroine. Other members of the company are Messrs. E. McLean, F. Gordon, and the Misses G. Vernon and L. Beaumont.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager Mr. Jack Field.—Miss Marie Loftus is the principal contributory to an exceedingly good programme here. This versatile lady puts the house in good humour and reaps continued applause. My Fancy contributes a smart bit of sand dancing; Carl Rosine surprises the audience by some remarkable "trickery"; Walker and Lake have some smart patter; Maxwell and Frances supply an acceptable flirtation scene; and Clive and Clark are a couple of good speciality dancers. Johnny Dwyer, comedian, is popular, and Vernon's Pictures are admired.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Mr. Whipp Hadyn's Opera Singers were unable to fulfil their engagement in the early part of the week owing to a fire of somewhat serious dimensions having damaged the Pavilion. The genial manager (Mr. J. Higson), with his customary consideration for his patrons, decided to postpone all performances until the repairs had been made.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Mouillot's company, by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes, opened here on Monday with the successful musical play *The Toreador*. Mr. Harry Buse appearing with signal success as the Sammy Giggs, and Mr. Fred Fowler working hard and scoring well in the part of Pettifer; Sir Archibald was humorously impersonated by Mr. Howard Cridland; Mr. H. M. White made an excellent sketch of Carajolo; and Mr. Atheling Farrar did extremely well as Augustus Traill. Miss Katie May made a charming and vivacious Dora Selby; Miss Rose Helena played prettily as Nancy Staunton; Mrs. Malton Hoppings was capitally taken by Miss Zoe Gilfillan; and Donna Teresa was admirably portrayed by Miss Florence Burdett. The augmented orchestra was under the direction of Mr. George Saker.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—This week we have here Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon, with a company presenting *The Branded Woman*. Miss Zana St. George plays the trying part of Genevieve Larouche with well-sustained force; Miss Katherine Barnett makes a favourable impression as Marie; and Miss Violet Bailey-Clarke is capital as Rudolph. Mr. James Stillwell submits an excellent impersonation of Philip Maurice; Mr. Edward Turner is a powerful Baron Hauber; Mr. Paul E. Teulon ably impersonates Duroc; and Mr. Harry Liddle is responsible for some amusing songs and business as Dick Brown.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Heading the bill here is Harry Tate's No. 1 company in the diverting sketch *Fishing*; Belrose and Develin, soloists and duettists, are artists of ability, their operatic selections being much admired; Gus Hindell, versatile comedian, is cordially greeted; Baker and Balfe, xylophone experts, are capable and clever; Billie Burford,

Miss ADA REEVE IN JOHANNESBURG.

TRANSVAAL LEADER, May 15, 1906.

"There is no risk of 'terminological inexactitude' in describing the first performance at the new Empire as a success. It was more than a success; it was a triumph.

"Miss Reeve had to face a very critical audience, and to live up to a great reputation in a town where she has not previously appeared. She got a hearty welcome, and then the audience became critical, and intensely attentive.

"Her first verse brought out her inimitable powers of expression and her genius for style, but the first two songs did not fire the audience. They had not quite risen to her level.

"The third song evoked a persistent encore, and her response gave the audience over into her hands. She was re-called time after time, and her triumph must have been the pleasanter because it was not easily won."

THE RAND DAILY MAIL, May 15, 1906.

"Never has an artist in Johannesburg met with greater success. Artistic to her finger tips, she amply proved her right to the programme description, 'the inimitable comedienne.'

"Singer and actress both, exponent of pathos or humour, she completely captivated her hearers. Not one section of the audience alone, but every part, applauded her to the echo.

"Miss Reeve was called back again and again, and it seemed that the people would never be satisfied. She was given a memorable reception."

THE TRANSVAAL CRITIC, June 1, 1906.

"At the Empire the bright particular star cannot be said to be any more in the ascendant, because she reached there on the first night of her appearance and has remained there ever since. A more talented artist than Miss Ada Reeve the Empire management have never presented.

"A combination of circumstances has served to bring the Empire Palace into the close ken of the Society woman. The new building was one, the arrival of Miss Ada Reeve was another.

"One cannot say more for Miss Reeve than that she has captured women as well as 'all the men.' Nobody could be more enthusiastic about her than some women I have listened to. They are in love with her gowns, with her way of wearing them—which is inimitable—her sense of art and colour, and her dainty movements; as for her 'turn' at the Empire, it is just what one could expect after that.

"She makes you feel that she has not stopped where you have seen her stop; that there is hardly a height of tragedy or a depth of comedy to which she could not go, and drag you with her—if she wanted to.

"She has the real attraction, not of the senses merely, but of the inner sense, that causes the little ripples of laughter, the individual words of cheer and appreciation, that break over her audience while she is on the stage."

SUNDAY TIMES, July 24, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve last night ended a memorable season. Long before eight o'clock the Empire was packed to the doors; the theatre could have been filled three times over. Miss Reeve was re-called so often that one seriously feared that the little lady would be finding her way home with the milk. Not until she had sung ten songs and delivered a speech was Miss Reeve allowed to go away to her dressing-room."

TRANSVAAL LEADER, June 25, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve completed her season at the New Empire Theatre on Saturday evening. The enterprise of the directors was magnificently rewarded.

"Night after night crowded houses welcomed the great comedienne, who has splendidly sustained her reputation.

"The magnificent success she has achieved culminated on her last night, when the enormous audience received her with rounds of cheering, and encored her till it seemed at one time as if no further item in the programme would have any chance. Generous as ever to her friends, Miss Ada Reeve responded to the demands with smiling acquiescence. She sang no fewer than ten songs, with many encore verses, and even then the delighted audience refused to allow her to depart. There were loud demands for a speech. Miss Reeve was presented with an exceptionally large number of beautiful floral tributes, and subsequently, upon leaving the theatre, she was greeted with rousing cheering."

Miss ADA REEVE IN CAPETOWN.

THE CAPE TIMES, June 28, 1906.

"The furore of applause which rounded off her entrances or exits was probably the most tempestuous that ever rang in the pretty theatre. Miss Reeve does not depend upon her costume for her effects; the dress she wears is rich, yet simple, and was unchanged during the time she held the stage. The huge audience, which literally crammed the building from floor to ceiling, recalled the artist again and yet again. Judging by her reception last night, Miss Reeve bids fair to repeat her Johannesburg successes in Cape Town."

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS, June 28, 1906.

"There was a transformation at the Tivoli Theatre last night. Gone were the empty seats and the indifferent audiences, and in their place was a house packed literally from floor to ceiling, leaving barely an inch of standing room in the surrounding aisles. Needless to say, the fairy who effected this change was Miss Ada Reeve, and, even with the recollections of her Johannesburg triumph so fresh, Miss Reeve must have been gratified at the reception she received last night—a reception never surpassed by any other artist in Cape Town.

"Big reputations are sometimes apt to fade before reality. Usually the audience expects too much, and the best thing that can be said about Miss Ada Reeve is that in no degree whatever did she fail to reach the very high degree which her reputation foreshadowed."

THE OWL, June 29, 1906.

"The cosy little theatre was packed with a crowd prepared to give the dainty lady a hearty welcome. The welcome was so hearty that it became embarrassing almost. Miss Reeve sang half a dozen songs, and was called back another half a dozen times to give extra verses. Even after the following turn was announced, the huge audience would not be silenced. So Miss Reeve came back again and sang another song.

"Her success was instantaneous and unbounded. Never before has an artist secured such a whirling reception. It was good to be at the Tivoli and see the people in their enthusiasm. Wednesday night was a triumph for the lady, who possesses the three graces of the stage—the power to sing, to act, and to dance. If one were asked what she does best, it would be difficult to find an answer."

CAPE ARGUS, July 14, 1906.

"On Tuesday night Miss Ada Reeve appears for the last time at the Tivoli, for she sails on the following day for 'England, Home, and Sooty'—London.

"The same success that attended her appearances in Johannesburg has marked her visit to Cape Town; for the Tivoli has been crowded night after night, and, as often as not, if one had not booked beforehand and turned up at the place at eight o'clock, one had perforce to turn away again."

Miss ADA REEVE IN LONDON.

THE TIMES, Aug. 22, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve, who has lately returned from a tour in South Africa, made her reappearance in London on Monday night. No coarsening of method or exaggeration in her performance was to be detected; she is the same wickedly clever, delicate, and charming singer that she was before she left, and the flashes of her diamonds were no brighter than the flashes of her art.

"When she had sung 'Auntie sent me Marketing' (out of a recent musical comedy), with more point than any singer has ever given it before, an enthusiastic audience demanded some dozen or more verses from 'If the World were Ruled by Girls.'"

THE DAILY CHRONICLE, Aug. 21, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve, who has been away from the metropolitan music-halls for many months, owing to theatrical engagements in the provinces and in South Africa, received a hearty welcome last night on her return to the Tivoli. This talented comedienne was in excellent voice, and her songs especially delighted the crowded audience."

PALL MALL GAZETTE, Aug. 22, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve has made a welcome reappearance on the variety stage at the Tivoli this week, and has been received with great enthusiasm."

THE SUN.

"Ada Reeve, fresh from her South African triumphs, made her first appearance in England. She received a great ovation."

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, Aug. 22, 1906.

"Not for some considerable time, if memory serves, has Miss Ada Reeve been seen in London in the domain of variety, and, if only for this fact, the Tivoli's enterprising manager may be complimented on securing the welcome services of this popular artist on her return from South Africa; but in any circumstances there would always be the heartiest of greetings for a 'star' so rarely gifted and endowed as Miss Reeve. To the Tivoli she has brought a budget of capital songs, of which last night's audience showed the keenest enjoyment."

THE TRIBUNE, Aug. 22, 1906.

"Many years ago, when Miss Ada Reeve was merely a bright particular music-hall star, I remember I warmly urged her to forsake the halls for the stage and play pure comedy. Shortly afterwards she made the change, and scored a distinct success. She is a finished and accomplished little actress, and the highest compliment I can pay to her method is that it is French, and there is more than a suggestion of Yvette Guilbert about her manner. The audience insist on the singer returning again and again."

THE GLOBE, Aug. 21, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve must have been highly gratified with her reception on her first appearance at the Tivoli last evening, after her return to England. Her entrance was the signal for a great ovation, and one which this popular artist well repaid."

THE REFEREE, Aug. 26, 1906.

"The big planetary attraction at the Tivoli is, of course, little Miss Ada Reeve. Enough that she is always welcome, and that she was never more welcome than at the Tivoli during the past week, for, be it noted, little Ada is just now at her brightest and best."

MORNING POST, Aug. 22, 1906.

"The general interest of the programme at the Tivoli pales before the interest of the reappearance of Miss Ada Reeve. She has been absent from us too long, and her return was greeted last night with fitting enthusiasm."

MORNING LEADER, Aug. 22, 1906.

"The charm of Miss Ada Reeve is more apparent with her each return to the variety stage. She is the new Nellie Farren of the halls. At the Tivoli this week, where she appeared for the first time after her South African tour, she sang four songs in her characteristic fashion—a way that is naïve, inconsequential, humorous, wayward, frolicsome, and always fascinating.

"She is one of the few comediennes possessing that indefinable charm that is better than everything else—except the cleverness with which it endows its possessor."

TRUTH, Aug. 22, 1906.

"At the Tivoli, that clever little actress, Miss Ada Reeve—just returned from South Africa—is singing several songs nightly. I remember her in the music-halls of old, before she deserted them for musical comedy and comedy. She is a most attractive little person, with a very individual style, and will certainly draw all London."

THE STANDARD, Aug. 21, 1906.

"Miss Ada Reeve is receiving a splendid reception at the Tivoli this week. Her welcome is invariably enthusiastic, and she is rightly called upon to contribute several encores."

THE MORNING ADVERTISER, Aug. 21, 1906.

"Miss Reeve at the Tivoli."

"Her reappearance at the famous establishment in the Strand was naturally looked forward to with unusual interest, and, as she came upon the stage, on which she had not so many years ago scored undoubted triumphs, she received quite an ovation from a crowded audience.

"She sang with real artistic subtlety four songs, and won general applause, stirring even to enthusiasm. Miss Reeve was recalled over and over again."

M.A.P., Aug. 4, 1906.

"I hope the substantiality of fact is behind the rumour that, after her Tivoli engagement, we are to see that brilliant comedienne, Miss Ada Reeve, at one of our West-end theatres in the autumn. It is a common saying in the theatrical profession that no stage favourite, when he or she is absent from London for any length of time, is really missed, there being always someone as popular to fill the vacant place. This in a general sense is true enough. But there are particular instances where the London stage has very plainly suffered by the absence of one of its established attractions, and the instance of Miss Ada Reeve is conspicuous among their number. It is easy enough to find——. But Ada Reeve is a comedienne born, a representative of the real and true art of the stage; she is at the head of her own special department just as —— is at the head of hers; and the business of that department is certainly 'not what it was' while she is away from it.

THE DAILY GRAPHIC, Aug. 22, 1906.

"Returned from a very successful tour in South Africa, Miss Ada Reeve appeared at the Tivoli on Monday night, when she was enthusiastically welcomed by a crowded house. She sings several new songs, all of them, judging from the flattering manner in which they were received on Monday, should draw thousands to the Tivoli for many nights to come."

THE MORNING ADVERTISER, Aug. 28, 1906.

"Miss Reeve at the Paragon."

"First and foremost comes the special engagement of Miss Ada Reeve, who appears at 8.50, giving her ample time to fulfil her contract at the Tivoli.

"This clever artist, who has just returned from South Africa, has not been seen at the East-end for a long time, owing to her theatrical engagements, but that she was not forgotten was evidenced by demonstrative applause as soon as her number went up. Miss Reeve seems to be quite as popular in the East as in the West, and her arch ways and tuneful minstrelsy charmed a crowded house. She gave, with matchless artistry, three favourite songs, each of which was applauded to the echo, winding up with quite a host of encore verses, each one being more vociferously received than its predecessor."

THE ERA, Aug. 25, 1906.

"Miss Somebody from Somewhere—otherwise London's favourite comedienne, Miss Ada Reeve, just home from South Africa—came to the Tivoli on Monday, and, notwithstanding the tropical heat, packed the house from floor to ceiling. We see too little in this gay Metropolis of ours of the charming Ada, who has distinguished herself in many forms of theatrical and music-hall art. No actress that we could name sings a song with such a real appreciation of its witty points, such crystal-clear enunciation, or with such piquancy, and the house rapturously applauded Miss Reeve, many of them no doubt remembering her triumphs at the old Gaiety in musical comedy."

TIVOLI, LONDON, NIGHTLY.

Correspondence: CHIDEOCK, DORSET, ENGLAND.

smart soubrette, makes a favourable impression; Read and Wright, specialty artists, are an amusing pair; and May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, who possesses an irrepressible vitality that never seems to tire, delights the audience with new songs and gets an enthusiastic welcome. Herbert Madden, vocal comedian, the Sisters Edwards, dancers and drummers, and Payne's pictures complete the bill.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's company is here this week with *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gives a convincing interpretation of the title-rôle; the malevolent spirit of Moriarty is strongly defined by Mr .W. F. Stirling; Mr. Stanley Logan successfully impersonates Dr. Watson; Mr. Fred Bell acquits himself well as John Forman; Mr. Ernest Gray submits an effective delineation of James Larrabee; Mr. Edward Mervyn creates much amusement as Sidney Prince; Billy has a capital representative in Master Cedric Sutherland; and the other male parts are in good hands. Miss Lindsay Fincham acts with dramatic power as Madge Larrabee; and much praise is due to Miss Constance Leigh for her capable and pleasing portrayal of Alice Faulkner.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. J. A. Campbell and company is presenting here this week the popular drama, entitled, *The Little Bread-Winner*. Mr. Eugene Santley, in the rôle of Lord William Derrington, displays ability; Little Emmie Thomas is a bright and vivacious "little bread-winner"; Miss Mary Fulton wins sympathy as Margaret Daventry; Mr. Alfred Maurice ably sustains the difficult part of Joseph Prior. Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam deserves credit for her portrayal of Kate Cherry; Richard Lawrence is played sympathetically by Mr. Matthew Boulton; and Mr. Allen Charles in the quaint character of Charles Prior creates unlimited laughter.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons: Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Heading the bill here this week are the Boccaccios, with a pleasing vocal and musical performance; Whimsical Walker is fulfilling a welcome return engagement in the artistic sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C*, and is cleverly supported by Miss Frances Maddock, a child actress of intelligence and charm. Dolly Denver gains applause for her smart dancing; the Kimberley Boys, in their knockabout act, afford great amusement; the Betsons submit a skilful and mirth-provoking cycling and acrobatic act; the chorus songs sung by the Lovelaces are popular; the Weimars contribute an acceptable musical and singing turn; Geo. Young, the blind collier boy, is a clever musician; and Cailler entertains with his feats of strength.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—A return visit is being paid by Messrs. Ediscope and Barnum's animated pictures, under the capable management of Mr. J. B. Kennedy. Lulu is a picturesque lady instrumentalist, and gives general satisfaction in her garden scene; the Original Oldham, singing mill girl, was heard to advantage; and Mons. Reni has a remarkably clever performing dog; Stilvo is a quaint American stilt performer; and Miss Queenie Vane is a fine comedienne and expert dancer; the two Ver-Vains are good coon singers and buck and ragtime dancers; while one of the best and most amusing turns is given by Vela in his clever hurricane wire act.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company has been appearing here this week in *Oliver Twist*. The acting is of a very high standard of merit. Mr. Stanley Drewitt scores heavily in the rôle of Fagin, a part which gives him a fine opportunity of displaying his histrionic ability. The Nancy of Miss Edith Anton Laing is excellent; while the Bill Sikes of Mr. James Skea is a first-rate conception of the part. Mr. C. Clark gives a capital representation of the Artful Dodger; and Mr. F. Penley does well as Mr. Brownlow. The part of Rose Maylie is charmingly portrayed by Miss D. Mayhew; and Miss D. Marsdin handles with skill the pathetic part of Oliver Twist. The remainder of the characters are entrusted to capable hands. Fine acting is "writ large" throughout the show.

AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—A very successful engagement at this place of entertainment was that commenced on Monday and lasting three days, when Mr. F. Mouillot's fine company produced *The Blue Moon* for the first time in Ramsgate. There were good audiences at each of the three performances. In the title-rôle Mlle. Marguerite Naudin was a very great success; Miss Dorma Morgan scored most unmistakably as Evelyn Ormsby; and Miss May Audrey elicited frequent applause for her impersonation of the dashing Millicent Leroy. Lady Brabasham was excellently portrayed by Miss May Glanbrane; Mr. Arthur Radcliff capably presented the character of Captain Jack Ormsby; Mr. Victor Wallace was a gay, light-hearted Major Vivian Callabone; and Mr. Basil Mercer was good in the rôle of Bobbie Scott, a journalist. Mr. Ainsley Burton did excellent work in the guise of Moolraj; and Mr. Charles Stephenson created roars of laughter by his antics as Private Charles Taylor. On Tuesday afternoon Miss Marie Hall paid a visit to the theatre. During the next three nights of the week the boards were occupied by Mr. E. Lockwood and F. Crossman's company in *Sergeant Brue*.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece.—Another excellent house witnessed the presentation here on Monday of *Her One Great Sin* by Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company. Miss St. Albans was specially good as Grace Warhurst, her rendering of the character being very fine; Miss Maudie Lambert as Little Gracie also achieved success, and Miss Nellie Lambert made an excellent Nancy Winpenny; Miss Louie Walton as Bet Humble being admirable in that difficult part. Mr. J. Leicester Jackson was clever as the villain, Arnold Thornhill, and Mr. J. Beresford Innes also gained success as Reuben Warhurst. Mr. Fred Hodson, an excellent comedian, scored as Jerry Jumble; Mr. Charles Lambert and Mr. Harold B. Ford as Dan and Jack Humble were humorous; and Miss Phyllis Damean was a capable Charlie.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Charles Macdona is presenting the popular lyrical comedy, *The White Chrysanthemum*, for the first time in this town with pronounced success. Miss M. George acts and sings with great ability in the title-rôle; Mr. Richard Telford as Sin Chong, and Mr. Jamie Dallas as Private Perks are both highly diverting; Mr. Charles Schmiedt as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage acts well, and gains numerous re-demands for his topical song; Mr. H. E. Garden as Lieut. Belmont, and Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Lieut. Reginald Armitage, make two dashing naval officers. Miss Nellie Groves is excellent as the American heiress, and Miss Emily Taylor is a captivating young widow. The very tuneful music is done justice to by a full chorus and augmented orchestra under the able direction of Mr. Harry Richardson.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Village Blacksmith* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Sam Livesey is prominent with a powerful impersonation of John Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter cleverly portrays the villainies of Captain Leo, and Mr. G. V. Campbell is amusing as Billy Twigg; Miss Bertha Hanbury is quite a favourite as Harry Strong; Miss Cassie Le Grand as Ruth Parkins and Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins are both effective in their respective rôles, and Miss Maggie Edwards acts with feeling as Kate Strong.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Lee.—The patrons here are well catered for this week. The Daunton Show Troupe of Australian trick cyclists give a remarkable exhibition of trick riding; Bonnette and Corrie, eccentric jugglers, are both smart and amusing; Harry Morris, comedian; Miss Lil Hartley, vocalist and comedienne; Bruce and Ross, comedy artists; Miss Babs Lloyd, in new songs; Mignon La Belle, musicienne; Vernon's Bioscope; and George French, comedian, complete the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—France and Stewart submitted a well-acted sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*, that was both exciting and laughable; Mlle. Von Etta in *The Palace of Electricity* introduced some quick-change business, and also some clever illusions; other turns are submitted by Two Neros, in refined drawing-room act; Syd Herman, comedian; Sword and Robb, comedians and dancers; Lil Dresden, vocalist; the Empire Bioscope; and the British Quartette of Vocalists.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is here this week with *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is highly successful as Monsieur Roche; and Mr. Juan de Alberti scores as Felix Marino. Mr. W. Ruddle Brown is a manly Paul Rovel; and Mr. Willie Hicks is humorous as Tom Holmes. Kretch is well portrayed by Mr. W. S. Stevenson; and Mr. Geoffrey Chate is deserving of mention as Vivian Ormonde. Miss Evelyn Robson does well as Felice, and Miss Bella Moody is a smart Sally King. Christine is prettily enacted by little Miss Marie Ada Dowsing; and Miss Nellie Howett is pleasing and sympathetic as Annette.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Hollister's company appeared in *The Lights of London*. Mr. G. Montague Lane as Harold Armytage gives a carefully considered and able rendering; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne as Bees wins the approval and sympathy of the audience by her clever and pathetic rendering; Mr. Herbert Lewis as Jarvis, Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Jarvis, and Miss Renee Douglas as Shakespeare Jarvis all do well, being very successful in their efforts to amuse; Mr. Raymond Thomas scores as Clifford Armytage; and as Seth Preene Mr. Herbert Hollister does not miss an opportunity; Miss Constance Davey as Hetty Preene gives a smart portrayal of a difficult part; Mr. Norman E. Purnell is good as Cutts, the detective. *The New Clown* was presented the last three nights of the week.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—*Are you a Mason?* was a source of amusement to hundreds here during the early portion of this week, being presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company. Mr. Ernest Cossart makes a success of the character of George Fisher; a decidedly funny impersonation is that of Amos Bloodgood by Mr. E. H. Patterson; Mr. Howard L. Tracy is equally at home in the part of Frank Terry; Mr. Edwin Millins is an efficient John Halton; Miss Adelaide Grace submits an excellent sketch of Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; Miss Mabel Young does well as Mrs. Perry; and as Lottie Miss Minnie Rayner adds materially to the humour of the piece.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—The Excelsiors have given good performances here under the direction of Mr. W. H. Webb. The programme is contributed to by Miss Ethel Branston, Miss Marie Maffert, Miss McCall Chambers, Mr. McCall Chambers, Mr. Wilson Bamber, and Mr. W. H. Webb. Entertainment has been liberally provided, too, by the Funmakers, under Messrs. F. T. Studd and Charles Penrose, while exhibitions of high diving have been given from the pier by Capt. Gore and Miss Gore. Mme. Ella Russell and Herr Backhaus appeared together on Thursday evening in a high-class programme.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Miss Mary Austin is here again this week, and on Monday a large house enjoyed *The Golden Ladder*, with Miss Austin as Lilian Grant, a part that she invests with ease and grace. Mr. W. Clayton makes an excellent Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds played well as the excitable Greek adventurer Peranza; Mr. J. M. Taylor successfully impersonates Michael Severn; much laughter is caused by Mr. J. Rowlands as Samuel Peckerby, Miss Winifred Acton as Victoria Alexandra, and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby. Jim Dixon and Mrs. Dixon are well sustained by Mr. Fred Acton and Miss Teresa Haynes.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Datas astonishes audiences here by his wonderful memory; a most daring comedy cycle act by Narow Brothers keeps the house in roars; Ada Gatley's swinging wire act is much applauded; and Ted Cowan, comedian; Edie Barnard, comedienne and dancer; the Newport Brothers, smart comedy gymnasts; Wee Jessie, a clever little singer and dancer; Walter Stanley, comedian; Venie Clements, mimic; and Ruby Aston, comedienne and dancer, also contribute.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager. Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—*The Land Grabbers* is an amusing scene which catches on here most unmistakably; Les Montaldos do some clever work on the slack wire with wonderfully trained birds. The programme also includes some excellent turns by Mike Cray and his dog; Dooley, comic juggler; the Dancing Gilberts; Anna Kenwick, American danseuse; Polo and Florence, society acrobats; Little Beattie, comedienne and dancer; and the Saletos, acrobats and equilibrists.

SALISBURY.—VICTORIA PARK.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. F. D'Alton Tebby; Manageress, Miss Jessie D'Alton.—Miss Beattie Witham, who is this week giving a new selection of songs, is as bright as ever; Miss Ramsdale's song, "The Parrot," is capitally sung; Miss Flora Macdonald uses her fine voice to advantage in her songs; Mr. Skidmore's character songs and amusing antics win for him unbounded applause; Mr. William Dyar, Mr. Tom Walton, and Miss Searle are all appreciated. The Bioscope pictures are very interesting.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—Mr. Martin Harvey is here with his company in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Harvey, as Reresby, displayed all his wonted skill and power; Mr. Glenney as Colonel Hungerford was grimly effective; the part of Col. Bagshawe was admirably undertaken by Mr. Fred Wright, sen.; Mr. Leonard Craske, as Mr. Francis Tresham, gave ample evidence of ability; Miss Coleridge as Margaret Hungerford created a favourable impression and played with much tenderness; Miss De Silva as Batty had a part that suited her exactly, and presented it adequately. During the week Mr. Harvey also presented *Boy O'Carroll* and *The Only Way*.

SPA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Fras. Goodricke.—*What the Butler Saw* is here this week. Mr. Lionel Rignold as Pink, is very original in the part of the butler, and contrives to be exceedingly amusing; Miss Ida Blanche sustains the part of Mrs. Barrington admirably; as Jack Barrington Mr. Charles Fawcett is well fitted for the rôle, and acts capitally; Mr. Reddick Anderson is all that can be desired as Sir Chas. Foden; as General Dunlop Mr. Geo. Ascott is delightful; as Abraham Welnstein Mr. Hy. A. Rignold is very funny; Miss Jenny Wigney performs the part of Nora becomingly; and Miss Dorothy Garth as Maria is very acceptable.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Hy. Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company in *The Conscript* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry Cullenford as Carl Truevitch gave a most praiseworthy characterisation; as Nadia Miss Lilian Ross did exceedingly well; Mr. Walter Steel was thoroughly convincing as Ivan Manloff; as Count Paul Hardiski Mr. Chas. E. Johnstone acted ably.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The vocalist for the week is Mr. Hamilton Harris, the popular Lancashire basso; Texas Hattie gives a remarkable performance on the tight rope; Will Douglas has a very droll style; Capt. Devereux's dogs do difficult tricks and show amazing intelligence; G. W. Nicholson, with his Yorkshire dialogues, creates hilarity; the Tiger Lily, with coon songs, dances most gracefully; the three Seymours do an equilibristic and juggling act cleverly; the Rizeralis meet with their usual success as gymnasts; Miss Lily Andrews, coon vocalist, is very entertaining; the Recars supply a Chinese eccentric acrobatic turn; Mlle. Marie Levante's orchestra of ladies play classical selections, which are much appreciated: Miss Ada Webb has got together a fine troupe of lady swimmers. The Bioscope still retains its popularity

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—The Musical Savonas' latest creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*, is received here with hearty applause, as is their clever playing; Mlle. Chloe Convere is here for another week with her cake-walk horse, Kentucky Beau, and gives an entertaining show; Marti and Julietta show ability on the flying spar and crystal pyramid; Chatamooga does a novel comic equestrian act; Mlle. Marquita, the flexible Venus, is very clever; Eloina is graceful and neat in gymnastical exercises; Claud Ohmy performs daring feats on horseback; and Albini and Doodles and the Bioscope conclude a capital programme.

SPA PROMENADE.—The vocalist here for the week-end was Mr. Fowler Burton. He has a cultivated bass voice, and is well received.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Dickie Clare's company of comedians appears here this week with *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Dickie Clare gives a smart rendering of Silas Slim; Mr. T. W. Benson presents an excellent portrait of Peter Pettitoe; Paul Pettitoe is a comic study in the hands of Mr. Leonard Maitland; Mr. Dan Ryan causes amusement by his William Bimn; Barnaby Blatterwick is adequately played by Mr. A. W. Thompson; Virginia Blaterwick is prettily presented by Miss Vesta Brownie, and the title-rôle is in the able hands of Miss Madge Brownie.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Business at this old-established place of amusement continues good. This week Mr. Fred Walshaw opens the ball with some first-rate songs and clever dancing. Miss Marie Roselle, in new songs, finds favour; Mr. Harry Hilton, as an expert dancer, would be hard to beat; Miss Lillie Thomas, a local favourite, scores with new songs; Mr. Geo. Morgan, negro comedian, is a big favourite; and the Daintons, comedy entertainers, conclude with a laughable sketch entitled *Trifles*, which is well played and capitally staged.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A crowded audience on Monday welcomed *The Earl and the Girl*, which is being played here on a return visit by a company under the direction of Mr. W. Greet. Mr. Wiliam Stephens kept the house in roars of laughter as the funny and irrepressible Jim Cheeze. Mr. Arthur Harold was a smart representative of Dick Wargrave; and the Hon. Bertie was amusingly portrayed by Mr. Percy Wright. A clever character-sketch was Mr. Will Hindson's American solicitor; Mr. H. Courtin was good as Mr. Bliss; and Mr. Tom Redmond made a humorous landlord. Miss Frances Earle, pretty, graceful, and refined, as usual, made a piquant Elphin Haye; Miss Jenny Richards was bright and vivacious as 'Liza; and the parts of Mrs. Black and Miss Virgina Bliss were cleverly played by Miss Beatrice Anderson and Miss Mary Morison.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B Beaumont.—Mr. Vivian Grantham's dramatic company opened on Monday in the sensational drama *Held in Bondage*. Miss Florence Tyrrell acted in a sympathetic and convincing manner as Zara. The other characters were well played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The favourite drama *As Midnight Chimes* is again being performed here to good houses. The funny business of Witty Wattie Walton is received with hearty cordiality.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.: Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Harry Randall is again starring here. An original turn is given by Ted and Mary Hopkins; Miss Ella Retford is a charming vocalist and dancer; Miss Bijou Russell dances with graceful abandon; and others in the bill this week are Mr. Leo Tell in imitations of animals, &c.; Millman and Russell, opera-bouffe artists; the *Captain Cupid* sketch company; Mr. Herbert Clifton, a talented mimic; Cliffe's wonderful dog; and the Biograph.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Engaged here are the Two Palmers, Vay's Juveniles, Miss Jenny Lynwood, Mr. Mark Merritt, Mr. Chas. Sloman, Bion, Pallister's Bioscope, Mr. T. B. Fayme, Baroux and Bion, and Miss Gertie Moore.

SLIGO.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Sligo Corporation.—Messrs. Leno and Preston's company paid us a visit here on Monday, when Mr. Leno appeared as *Robert Emmet*. The drama was well staged. Mr. Leno's performance as the Irish patriot gained for him warm applause; Mr. G. Preston was excellent as O'Leary; Mr. J. Walton was particularly good as Kearnon; the part of Serab Curran was ably undertaken by Mrs. Leno. The remaining rôles were in good hands.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Mr. E. Lockwood's and Mr. R. Crossman's company is appearing in *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the title-rôle gives a droll representation; a like remark applying to Mr. Charles McLagan, who appears as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. E. Percy Rogers does well as Michael Brue; and Mr. Cecil Burt makes the most of Mr. Crank. Miss Hebe Bliss gives a pleasing performance as Lady Bickenhall; Miss Mary Hay is a charming Aurora Brue; and Miss Marion Hargrave does well as Daisy.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The bill here is interesting. Newhouse and Ward are clever cyclists; Belle Braham goes well with her picture songs; and Clavier and Piccolo excel as equilibrists and jugglers. Miss Gladys Hooley is a brilliant violinist, and successfully appears in Corri and Dereve's *Heart Strings*; Talbot and Pearce are a duo who prosper well; and others contributing are the Three Bounding Patersons, with a fine show on the triple bars; Mlle. de Rose, lady baritone vocalist; and J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Eugene Stratton, the popular coon artist, is starring here, and is a huge favourite. Neil Kenyon, the Scotsman and his pack, creates roars of laughter; and Dave O'Toole, comedian, wins golden opinions. The Gotham Comedy Quartette are old favourites; and others who successfully appear are Los Rupertos, in their equilibristic performance; The Calcotts, musical entertainers; and the Bensons, dancers.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—That popular comedy-drama entitled *A Mesage from Mars* is the attraction this week. It is presented by Mr. F. Mouillot, who is supported by a strong company. Than Mr. Herbert J. Bentley a more suitable exponent of Horace Parker could not be wished for; the Messenger from Mars was exceedingly well characterised by Mr. William H. Brougham, who proved an able reformer; Mr. Bruce Lindley as the tramp was good; as also were Messrs. J. Edgar Stevenson and Leslie Tyler as Arthur Dicey and Mr. Fergusson respectively. Miss Constance Groves gave a pleasing impersonation of Mrs. Clarence, and was well supported by Miss Flora Hastings in the rôle of Miss Parker. Minnie Temple was entrusted to Miss Joan Ellis, and her interpretation was dignified and most successful.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—A sensational item in this week's variety theatre's programme is the daring and really clever turn given by Messrs. Aerian and Ostara, whose great flying act from the high roof holds the audience spellbound, and their acrobatic feats are deservedly and vociferously applauded. The other artists that entertain are Alf. Davis, a pleasing character comedian; Daisy Reed, a smart comedienne and dancer; Pueblo and Cropp, who have been retained, two excellent Creole speciality artists; Nellie Navette, a popular singer and dancer, sustaining her success of earlier in the season; and Geo. Neno, whose grand beauty show causes much merriment, and who is assisted by Mr. Tom Carpenter as M.C. Excellent pictures are still a feature, new sets being shown on the bioscope every week. The Kursaal Imperial Pierrots occupy the Café Chantant, and give capital entertainments. A new attraction is provided in the Arcade by the Dahomey Warriors.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless: Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Charles Macdona is again providing this week's attraction, and is to be heartily complimented on his most successful production of the musical comedy entitled *The Gay Parisienne*. The company is a good all-round one, and both the singing and dancing merit special mention. The scenery and mounting are pretty and effective. The vocal quartettes rendered by Messrs. Ashwyn, Jones, Rose, and Fitz-James gained well-deserved applause; Mr. T. Gibson Warren as Major Fossdyke is good; whilst Mr. Will Harman scores in his dry and unaffected impersonation of Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe. Mrs. Honeycombe is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Holford Berenger, who sings well, as also does Miss Ethel Ivimey, the representative of Norah. Miss Madge Souttar as Ruth is eminently well suited, and her singing and dancing receive hearty recognition. Mr. Fitz-James is decidedly good as Hans; M. Pompier finds in Mr. Clifford Seyler a talented artist, who wins golden opinions by his dancing and singing; and Miss Evelyn Hughes as Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon, is attractive, and sings and dances exceedingly well.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—The able and genial manager had a gratifying testimony in his endeavours to provide excellent programmes for the vast numbers that visit here by a record house on Saturday evening last, when he took his benefit. This week's fare is all that could be desired. The two principal attractions are undoubtedly the Urban Bioscope and the Bijou Orchestra, the latter being under the direction of Mr. H. Lyme.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless—Mr. Ballard Brown, who is assisted by a talented company, provides first-class and refined entertainments that still win the admiration of the huge crowds who visit this popular rendezvous daily. Mr. Arthur Thomas, the favourite clown and humorist, was given a well-deserved benefit last evening.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—An attractive entertainment is again furnished here this week by Mr. George Dance, whose No. 1 company is appearing in the successful musical play, *A Country Girl*, which was excellently interpretated. Considerable local interest was manifested in the production, owing to the part of Marjory Joy being undertaken by Miss Barbara Babington, a former resident of Southport, who depicted the part in a highly successful and artistic manner, alike in a dramatic and vocal sense; Mr. Coningsby Brierley is irresistibly droll and diverting in the character of Barry; Miss Ellalhe Thorne is a vivacious and clever exponent of Nan; the dusky Princess Melaneh has a clever exponent in Miss E. Desborough, who introduces some effective singing; Miss Cissie Lephton as Madame Sophie sustains the part in a piquant and commendable manner; Mr. John M. Hay gives a good account of himself as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Arthur Jackson is an able representative of Sir Joseph Verity; and the Rajah of Bhong is capitally portrayed by Mr. F. J. Rooney, whose vocal efforts are much appreciated.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Mr. George Leyton, the renowned actor-vocalist, in his great military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, who is assisted by twenty-four local boys and the Lancashire Crimean veteran, Michael Maney, heads the bill here this week. The programme includes Phillips and Terry, in their comedy sketch, *A Wonderful Invention*; the Marblesque Trio of white living pictures; Kate Traill in songs at the piano; the Three Clarions, comedy artists and expert dancers; Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne; the Two Eltons, comedy bar performers; the Brothers Durant, acrobatic comedians; Sable Fern, described as "an English singer of English songs"; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—Prominent amongst the capital all-round variety combination appearing here this week is Mr. Charles Banks, with his clever dog Woof, described as "the apex of animal intelligence"; other good turns are contributed by Joseph Hughes, the Lancashire bass vocalist; the Haytors (Edie, Arthur, and Frank), in their diverting comedy oddity, *A Hot Time*; Xley and Hamilton, musical comedy duo; Lily Hayes, comedienne and dancer; Albert Duncan, club manipulator; Madge Northcote, soprano vocalist; the Richards Trio, in their comedy acrobatic sketch, *The Giddy Golfer*; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company is here in *The Indian Mutiny*. A powerful portrayal is given of Nebu Sing by Mr. Villiers Stanley; Mr. J. S. Shedden is good as Abul Khan; Mr. Charles Boult does full justice to the part of Ra Goonga; Mr. George Steel plays Lieut. Manley in soldierly style; Ghus-nah has an able exponent in Miss F. Melrose Millet; Kate Ingleby is happily impersonated by Miss Agnes Kingston; and the comedy element is strongly represented by Mr. C. Morand as Teddy O'Brien, and Miss Lillie Grey as Mrs. Major Ingleby.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Billie Barlow, a popular comedienne, is a big success here. Smythson's comedy company contribute a clever sketch, entitled *The Lie Alarm*, which is full of amusing incidents. "An Actor's Dressing-room" is an artistic success, as portrayed by C. Leonard Fletcher; Fielding and Hull are seen to advantage in "catchy" duets; a mirth-provoking turn is provided by the Monte Myro troupe in *Adventures of a Café*; and a good all-round entertainment is concluded by Flo D'Orville, Phil Herman, and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—The Cullane Trio score heavily in a scena, *The Ladies' School*, in which specialities are introduced. Another scena, *Christmas Eve*, is given in excellent style by Corman's Juveniles; an entertaining sketch, *Sallie's Dilemma*, is contributed by Bensley Evans's London company. The remaining items are the Brothers Zampah, monopedes; Cavalli, the Tyneside ventriloquist; the Two Dawns, speciality dancers; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—The Itrams, gymnasts and acrobats, hold the premier position on a very attractive programme here. Mlle. Zelda is an expert performer on a number of musical instruments; Alexander Royal is a dashing comedienne; Wal Owen, comedy man, is very quaint; Marlo, juggler and equilibrist, is warmly applauded; John Ross is very good as a double-voiced vocalist; Viviana (dancing girl), the Two Roses (vocalists and dancers), and the American Bioscope complete the bill.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Leslie.—*The Country Girl* has been capitally performed here by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Violet Leslie sang charmingly as Marjorie Jay; Miss Blanche Courtney gave a fine portrayal of Nan; Miss Rita Narcelli was capital as the Princess of Bhong; and Miss Madge Campbell was excellent as Mme. Sophie. Mr. Martin D. Pitts sang in good style as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Bernard Vaughan made a stately Rajah of Bhong; and Mr. W. O. Billington was a humorous Sir Joseph Verity. Mr. W. Besley Beltran as Douglas Verity and Mr. Eric Delvere as Lord Anchester were both good; and Mr. Frank Weir kept the house highly amused as Barry.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—This week we are having a first visit from Miss Florence Baines and company in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. As Mary Ellen Miss Baines is the heart and soul of the farce, and she speaks the dialect as if to the manner born; Mr. Will Casey creates laughter as the bluff farmer Thompson, being well supported by Miss Pattie Groves as Mrs. Thompson; Miss Eva Lancashire finds an efficient representative in Miss Annie Mitchell; as Higgins Mr. David Donaldson makes the most of the part; and as Grant, the illiterate butler, Mr. Walter Hicks causes many smiles. Credit is also due to Mr. Burt Burdon, who makes a typical Jew.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—Heading the bill here are the King's College Boys, who have scored a success with their vocalism; Miss Alma Obrey, comedienne, and Bob Baxter, the genial comedian, repeat their former successes; the Alberto equilibrists, are clever; the Musical Keisteis (Carlina and Charlie) are talented; Bock Pylades makes a hit as an impersonator of celebrities; Bishop and Hanlon are funny comedians; and Mr. Guy Ryder pleases all with his whistling.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*The Spring Chicken*, presented by Mr. George Dance's chief company, has attracted large audiences here this week, who have evinced unbounded delight at the many bright scenes, pleasing songs and dances, charming dresses, and lively music that go to make up this successful musical comedy. The humour of Mr. Fred Payne as Mr. Goodle was highly amusing; and Mr. J. S. Durant made a thoroughly pleasing Gustave Barbori; whilst Mr. Henry Averell was mirth-provoking as Boniface. Miss Chrissie Leonard was charming as Rosalie; and Miss Nelly Cavanagh as Mrs. Girdle sang her songs in excellent style, and was rewarded with unstinted applause.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The clever performance of De Gracia's Assam elephants has genuinely amused the habitués of this popular establishment here this week. A welcome reappearance has been made by Maude Clifton, a refined vocalist, who fully maintained the remarkable success achieved on the occasion of her previous visit; the Three Pirmans give a smart and amusing performance on the horizontal bars; the Beautiful Lillian is a clever trick cyclist; Marcus Boyle, comedian, is successful; the Two Wiltons, coon singers and dancers, are very entertaining; Ada Whitton is a pleasing burlesque artist; and Lillian Victoria, character impersonator, meets with satisfactory appreciation.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—The attraction for this week is Mr. Adair's company with the drama *The Luck of Life*. Mr. Wilton Marsh as George Stanhope proves an entertaining artist; Mr. Harry T. Butler provides plenty of humour; Mr. Harry Lloyd as Michael Bazilovitz is most capable; Miss Nita Langford as Rene Bazilovitz wins favour for a faithful portrayal, and Miss Marie Clavering is successful in the rôle of Countess Vlame.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company with *The Breed of the Treshams* is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar gives a graphic and attractive rendering of the difficult rôle of Lieut. Reresby; as Francis Tresham, Mr. Cecil C. Klein leaves little to be desired; Mr. Richard H. Greene does effective work as Colonel Hungerford; and Viscount Dorsington finds an apt exponent in Mr. Oswald Lingard. Miss Cel

and Mr. Robert W. Lynn as Joe Jackson, Mr. E. Vicarson as Martin Yeast, and Mr. Paul Palmer as John Corbt are all well placed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—H. O. Wills heads the bill here this week, and he is certainly one of the most eccentric comedians we have seen here for some time. Zaid, the Spanish Moor, is again a big attraction, and Lillian Rigby is the possessor of a charming voice. Tod Lowen, comedian, and Walter Emmerson, "six feet of fun," score well; and Barington plays a number of instruments skilfully. George Edney is a good character-vocalist, and the Royal Bioscope pictures are a delightful collection.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Mr. Charles Verney's company, in *The Coal King*, is here. Mr. Alec Alexander achieves success in the rôle of Tom Roberts; and as Sir Reginald Harford Mr. Robin Shiell submits an artistic rendering. The part of Walter Harford is in the able hands of Mr. Angus Alexander; Mr. Tod Squires evokes loud applause by his interpretation of Jem Williams; a favourable impression is made by Miss Olive Lloyd in her excellent portrayal of Grace Shirley; Araminta is well played by Miss May Selwyn; and as Mad Anne Miss Florence Mitchell makes the most of her opportunities.

WELLINGBOROUGH. — EXCHANGE HALL. — Mr. Joseph Poole's Myriorama is here for the whole of the present week, and is as usual doing excellent business. The pictures are excellent in every respect. Mr. Harry Miers is a decidedly clever comedy juggler, and the Four Rosaires gave very smart acrobatic performances. The Three Boleros in their comedy triple bar act evoke screams of laughter.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company opened here on Monday in *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Chief honours are due to the clever actress, Miss Lizzie Montague, for her skilful impersonation of Lola Delaspierre; Mr. Frank Bateman appears to advantage as the detective Dick Delver; the rôle of Frank is ably sustained by Mr. Stuart Lomath; Harold Trevelyn is cleverly played by Mr. Mayhew; Mr. Harry Belfort gives a striking portrayal of the old actor, Horatio Trevelyn; Mr. Herbert J. Walton does well in the part of Adonis Tightfist; and Miss Louie Adaire is all that can be desired as Doris Fane.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Player.—The chief attraction here this week is Boswell's stage circus, the wrestling ponies creating roars of genuine laughter; A-Bo-Kou gives a display of clever juggling; the singing and dancing of Mr. Charles Gerome are first-class; a good turn is submitted by May Bass; and a good reception accorded to Antoni with a capital turn. Mr. Harry Martell is a clever dancer; and Salida and Vone leave nothing to be desired. The Hippodrome pictures complete a fine programme.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is this week presenting *When it was Dark*, which is being well received by appreciative audiences. The piece has a vivid and realistic interpretation by an excellent company. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee is a capable representative of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. George H. Pitt is entirely successful as Constantine Schwabe; the rôle of Lucifer is in the experienced hands of Mr. Francis Cairns; Helen Byars is played with exquisite grace and power by Mrs. Morton Powell; an acceptable portrayal of Gertrude Hunt is that given by Miss Laura Walker; and the characters of Rev. Mr. Byars and Sir Robert Llewellyn have able exponents in Mr. Henry Heller and Mr. George H. Murray.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Well-filled houses witnessed the performance here on Monday, and the enthusiasm shown augured well for the week's business. Almasio, billed as "the only existing jumping juggler," performed his feats with notable skill and neatness, much genuine fun being added to the turn by the eccentricities of his "funny servant"; the Sisters St. Julian sang in splendid harmony and contributed a neat dance; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux depicted amusing and interesting scenes; Fred. Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford in a sketch, *Getting Even*, evoked much laughter; Maude Beaumont's turn proved successful; Geo. Leonard gave evidence of considerable agility in dance; the dulcimer specialities by the Sisters Aindow called for special marks of appreciation; and the pretty series of pictures, so sweetly accompanied vocally by Miss Gracie Moore, charmed all.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Very flattering was the reception given Mr. H. F. Maltby's company on Monday night, when *The Youngest of Three* was presented. As George Wendover, Mr. H. F. Waltby showed himself a thorough master of histrionic art; Mr. N. Henry Hargreaves gave an artistic interpretation of Gerald Wendover. A really good impersonation was the Phillip Radford of Mr. A. E. Wyn-Weaver; the Samuel Johns of Mr. Ralph Hutton is entitled to unstinted praise; Mr. Ernest Noble doubled the parts of Joshua Pynne and Paul, and proved extremely comical in both. Mr. W. Reginald Farell (Loke), Mr. Harris Fraser (Hickey), and Mr. George Laidlaw (Perkins) were good in their respective characters. Miss Beatrice Marsdene's bonhomie as Lucy Dulley was decidedly refreshing, and a charming representation of Florence Dulley was given by Miss Mara Maltby. Warm praise is deserved by the Anne Dulley of Miss Janet Hobson, and a word of commendation must be given to Miss Nancy York's Jane.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Vagabonds are paying a welcome return visit here this week, and on Monday were warmly received. Miss Belle Green sang in good style, and was loudly encored; Miss Merita Leclair gained loud applause by her rendering of "Lazy Maisie Daisie"; Mr. Ernest Devereux was heard to advantage in "The Old Green Isle"; Mr. Percival Mackenzie showed exceptional talent in his lightning drawings; Mr. Harold Montague made a hit with his songs, and Mr. David Norton was deservedly encored for his pianoforte solo. An item much appreciated was the pictures shown by the bioscope by Mr. Frank Lens.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing Director, Mr. M. H. Lindon.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company is occupying the boards this week in *The Shadow of a Crime*. Mr. Stephen Crossley is an attraction as Harry Bullington; as Sir Edward Bullington Mr. John H. Manley plays in dignified fashion; Mr. Robert Forder capably fills the heavy part of Ralph Esmond; the part of Jim Murdoch gives Mr. Wm. Matthews fine scope for emotional acting; Mr. E. W. Avery and Mr. Alfred Richards are capable fun-provokers, being ably seconded by Miss May Rosine as Mrs. Thomas Brown; Miss Ina Grant is a pleasing exponent of Loyale Norman; and Dora Bullington is cleverly presented by Miss Dorothy Riddell; Miss B. St. Ruth as Sarah is a general favourite.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—On Monday and Tuesday we had Mr. Edmund Tearle and company in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Tearle's impersonation of Jack Frobisher reached a high level; Mr. Sidney Leyton gave a finished performance of Hankey Bannister; Mr. Arthur Gordon's portrayal of Harry Dallas was admirable, and Mr. J. Coke Hinton presented a capital study of the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Kate Clinton's acting as Lady Frobisher was marked by power and feeling; Miss Esther Tearle as Lady Lucy was winning; and Miss Katherine Reynolds played the part of Lady Westerby with the requisite sympathy.

WEYMOUTH.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs. — Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company opened on Monday for three nights with *Blue Bell in Fairyland*, which met with an excellent reception. Miss Lily Eyton as Blue Bell quite won the hearts of all by her charming singing and graceful acting; Mr. Frank Lennard was capital as Mr. Joplin; Mr. Herbert Clark and Mr. Will Clement were very good as Will and Won't. The dancing of Miss Haidee Fitch and the coon song and dance by Miss Maud Harris and Miss Winnie Bronte were loudly applauded. Mr. Frank Harris was successful as the King and Mr. Lawrence Emery as Dicky made the most of his opportunities. The dresses and scenery were much admired, and the changes are smartly carried out. The musical arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. H. Simpson, and Mr. Gerald Alexander is the courteous business-manager of the company.

WHITBY.—THE SPA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Charles Windemere's company was here on the first three nights of the week in *Facing the Music*. The principal characters were ably interpreted by Mr. C. Casson Freer (the Rev. John Smith), Mr. Charles Windermere (the Other Mr. Smith), Mr. Wentworth Fane (Dick Desmond), Miss Kathleen Willoughby (the Curate's wife), and Miss Mary Buckstone (Miss Fotheringay) played their respective rôles most effectively. The company is an excellent one throughout, and the piece admirably staged.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Clark.—*The Throne of Terror* is being played here. As Robespierre Mr. William Miller submits a sterling performance, and is capitally supported by Miss K. Lanyan-Maude as Victorine D'Almonte. Mr. Roy Milton works hard as Captain Lisle, and Mr. Frank Fuller is good as Roquefort. Miss Maude Davies is pleasing as Marguerite.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—The Milton-Ray's company are here with *The Cruise of the Calabar* and *A Rough Diamond*. Mr. Arthur Milton as Cherrible Cluckington proves himself a comedian of ability; Mr. Joe English works with a will as Peter Panley, and is responsible for a good deal of hearty laughter; Miss Minnie Mulvey is an amiable and pretty Mrs. Cluckington; Mr. Fred Russell is a manly and stalwart Captain Fairweather; Miss Hettie Lind is pleasing in her impersonation of Maude Cluckington; and Miss Lillie Ward is a capital Fanny Panley. The staging is excellent.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. W. G. Wills' popular play, *A Royal Divorce*, is again here under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly. The drama is a great favourite with Wigan audiences, as elsewhere, and the efforts of the talented company have been most highly appreciated. Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon and Mr. F. Joynsen Powell as Tallyrand give very successful representations of the respective characters. Miss Agnes Imlay, as Marie Louise, Miss Clara Russell as Stephanie, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle as Blanche d'Hervas act with charm and dignity; and Miss Edith Cole as Josephine maintains fully her great reputation as the exponent of this important rôle.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—A good all-round company has attracted large audiences during the week. Vermette and Dionne, bar gymnasts, are extremely smart in bar practice and in turning somersaults, and the Bros. Egbert are most amusing and original comedians. Jennie Johns is a sparkling soubrette; and Frank Maura, foot juggler, is well received. The Two Anartos, eccentric musicians and comedians; Harry Conlin, comedian, and Marie Walker, trombone soloist, also give excellent turns. Rosie Coleman, comedienne and dancer; the Lannons, duettists and dancers, and Ruby Dahl, with her most mystifying human marionettes, are also most popular.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A Carlton.—This week, *In Sight of St. Paul's* has occupied the boards here. Mr. Richardson is a clever exponent of the rôle of Harry Chichester, and Mr. Allen as the brother is very good. Miss Davis gives a capital performance as the Panther; Mr. Daiper makes a good villain; and Mr. Sydney is amusing as the lawyer. Miss Cissy Bellamy is a captivating heroine; Mr. E. Valentine plays the part of Burnsides in an impassioned manner; Mr. Bedford as the London cabby and Miss Amy Randolf as a pert domestic keep the fun of the piece going. On Thursday a complimentary benefit was given to Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, under distinguished patronage.

WORKINGTON.—QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday there was a crowded audience to witness G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King*. Mr. F. D. Daviss created great applause by his fine impersonation of the title-rôle, and he was well partnered by Miss Daisy Scudamore as Nellie; Mr. L. St. George Lowther was grim as the Spider; Mr. Arthur Wright attracted attention as Combe; and Mr. Warriss Wright was forcible as Cripps; Mr. A. Grant acquitted himself ably as Geoffrey Ware; Mr. E. J. George proved a favourite as Jaikes.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following excellent company is appearing here: Mlle. Rita and Fred C. Roma, versatile vaudeville entertainers; the Three Behans, comedy artists and dancers; the Sisters Dawes, vocalists and dancers; Staffo, the jolly juggling butcher boy; Fred Arno, character comedian; and the pictures.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessee, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Variety business is being introduced this week, John Higgins, the jumper, being the principal attraction. He is wonderfully clever, and is well received. Gillin is a very able ventriloquist, with some smart patter; Mr. Will Rain and Company in *The Motor Maniac* cause amusement; and the Brothers Onda are experts on the bar. Lestree, Pearce and Ward, Gilroy and Gross, Fred Tenby, and the Bioscope are also in the bill.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Le Diabolo's cycling performance on the revolving wheel is greatly appreciated this week; Florence and Lilian are musicians of a high order of merit; and Dolly Harmer is well received in his character business; Barney, Burke, and Bray give an amusing sketch, and Mr. C. in song and story is a deserved favourite; Mr. Bert Woodward on his cycle is as funny as ever, and Burley and Burley cause much astonishment. The Empire Bioscope completes a strong programme.

CRICKET.

MR. ARCHIE HAMLIN'S XI. v. BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND EARLY CLOSERS' ATHLETIC CLUBS.

Played near Bristol on Wednesday, Aug. 29. In the evening an enjoyable open-air concert was arranged by Mr. Archie Hamlin, the following contributing to the programme: Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Ethel Bowman, 'cello solos; Miss Ivy Bowman, banjo solos; Archie Hamlin, violin solos; Leonard Hamlin, harp solos; Harry Edwards, cornet solos; Percy Hewett, flute and piccolo solos; Eddie Bowman, piano solos; Jack Lewis, Jack Aubrey, Jack Leonard, Harry Belding, George Hedges, Arthur Rossiter, the Bijou Orchestra, played selections from *The Belle of Mayfair*, *The Dairymaids*, *The Spring Chicken*, *Faust*, "Plantation Songs" (Chambers), and "The Wee Macgregor Patrol." Eddie Bowman presided at the piano. The result of the match was Mr. Archie Hamlin's XI., 32; Bristol X.L.C.R. and Bristol Early Closers' Athletic Clubs, 115. Jack Leonard and George Hedges batted and bowled well for the winning side.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. C.C. v. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Sept. 1, 1906. Scores:—

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. C.C.—Jack Lewis, b Harry Hare, 9; Frank Thorne, b Harry Hare, 1; Syd Carter, c Archie Hamlin, b Harry Hare, 0; Harry Belding (captain), b Archie Hamlin, 4; Arthur E. Bailey, lbw, b Harry Hare, 13; Jack Aubrey, b Harry Hare, 11; Ern Belding, b Archie Hamlin, 8; Leslie Clayton, b Harry Hare, 1; Ted Palmer, b Archie Hamlin, 0; Harry Slade, b Archie Hamlin, 0; Walter Miller, not out, 0; extras, 14; total, 61.

Harry Hare's Orchestral Band and Theatricals.—Gough, b Harry Belding, 0; Harry Hare (captain), b H. Belding, 0; Denny, b Harry Belding, 18; Percy Hewlett, b Arthur E. Bailey, 0; Archie Hamlin, b Harry Belding, 2; Lambert, b Harry Belding, 0; Harry Edwards, b Harry Belding, 4; Eddie Bowman, b Arthur E. Bailey, 1; Alf Mattock, b Harry Belding, 9; Walter J. Horton, run out, 1; Frank Stevens, not out, 6; extras, 5; total, 46.

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FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

PURITAN'S DAUGHTER, Covent Garden, Nov. 30, 1861.
PURITAN, THE, Trafalgar, July 26, 1894.
PURSER, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, July 12, 1897.
PUSS IN BOOTS UP TO SCRATCH, Theatre Royal, Croydon, July 25, 1892.
PUT ASUNDER, Gaiety, May 28, 1883.
PUTTING THINGS RIGHT, Public Hall, New Cross, April 25, 1855.
PUT TO THE TEST, Olympic, Feb. 24, 1873.
PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE, Theatre Royal, Leeds, March 11, 1870.
PYGMALION AND GALATEA, Haymarket, Dec. 9, 1871.
PYGMALION; OR, THE STATUE FAIR, Strand, April 20, 1867.
PYRAMUS AND THISBE, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 13, 1866.
Q.E.D., Court, Jan. 25, 1871.
Q.Q., Bristol, Dec. 12, 1895.
QUACK, THE, Royalty, Aug. 11, 1887.
QUAKERS AND SHAKERS, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, July 14, 1873.
QUARREL, A, Brompton Hospital, March 4, 1893.
QUARRY DELL, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, July 6, 1868.
QUARTER DAY, Globe, Aug. 28, 1876.
QUARTER OF A MILLION OF MONEY, New East London, Feb. 7, 1868 .
QUASIMODO, Grecian, April 18, 1870.
QUEEN AND CARDINAL, Haymarket, Oct. 26, 1881.
QUEEN AND THE YEOMAN, City of London, Jan. 19, 1852.
QUEEN DODO, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1883.
QUEEN MAB, Haymarket, March 21, 1874.
QUEEN MARY, Lyceum, April 18, 1876.
QUEEN OF AN HOUR, Standard, Oct. 1, 1877.
QUEEN OF ARTS, Theatre Royal, Preston, Aug. 4, 1884.
QUEEN OF BRILLIANTS, Lyceum, Sept. 8, 1894.
QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT, Olympic, Jan. 15, 1877.
QUEEN OF DIAMONDS, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, March 30, 1882.
QUEEN OF ENGLAND, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, May 2, 1898.
QUEEN OF FASHION, Sadler's Wells, March 19, 1888.
QUEEN OF HEARTS, Pavilion, Brighton, Nov. 7, 1877.
QUEEN OF LOVE, Leicester, Dec. 13, 1900.
QUEEN OF MANOA, Haymarket, Sept. 15, 1892.
QUEEN OF MAY, Grecian, Dec. 1, 1851.
QUEEN OF ROSES, Court, Jan. 31, 1900.
QUEEN OF SPADES, Drury Lane, March 29, 1851.
QUEEN O' SCOTS, Kennington, Oct. 5, 1900.
QUEEN OF THE FROGS, Lyceum, April 21, 1851.
QUEEN OF THE MARKET, Adelphi, April 5, 1852.
QUEEN OF THE MOOR, Stoke, Dec. 26, 1889.
QUEEN OF THE NIGHT, West Bromwich, July 12, 1897.
QUEEN OF THE ROSES, Princess's, April 1, 1850.
QUEEN'S COLOURS, Grecian, May 31, 1879.
QUEEN'S COUNSEL, Comedy, May 24, 1890.
QUEEN'S EVIDENCE, Grecian, June 5, 1876.
QUEEN'S FAVOURITE, Olympic, June 2, 1883.
QUEEN'S JEWELS, East London, Nov. 25, 1876.
QUEEN'S MESSENGER, Avenue, June 26, 1899.
QUEEN'S NECKLACE, Theatre Royal, Stockport, Aug. 5, 1899.
QUEEN'S PARDON, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, Aug. 19, 1897.
QUEEN'S PRIZE, Strand, Nov. 21, 1894.
QUEEN'S PROCTOR, Royalty, June 2, 1896.
QUEEN'S ROOM, Opéra Comique, Oct. 20, 1891.
QUEEN'S SECRET, Adelphi, Sept. 8, 1851.
QUEEN'S SHILLING, Prince's, Manchester, Oct. 12, 1877.
QUEEN STORK, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 17, 1870.
QUEEN'S TRAGEDY, St. George's Hall, Oct. 13, 1899.
QUEEN'S VENGEANCE, Britannia, July 18, 1898.
QUEEN, THE, Duke's, March 15, 1879.
QUEER LODGERS, Battersea, March 1, 1890.
QUEER STREET, Gaiety, March 21, 1892.
QUESTION OF MEMORY, Opéra Comique, Oct. 27, 1893.
QUICK MARCH, Queen's, Feb. 5, 1870.
QUICKSANDS, Gaiety, Dec. 15, 1880.
QUICKSANDS AND WHIRLPOOLS, Victoria, March 21, 1868.
QUID PRO QUO, Dilettante Circle, March 10, 1881.
QUIET IN HARNESS, Standard, Oct. 30, 1876.
QUIET LODGINGS, Blyth, Oct. 30, 1872.
QUIET PIPE, Folly, March 17, 1880.
QUIET RUBBER, Court, Jan. 8, 1876.
QUILP, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, April 10, 1871.
QUITE ALONE, Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, May 25, 1874.
QUITE AN ADVENTURE, Olympic, Sept. 7, 1881.
QUITE BY ACCIDENT, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 11, 1869.
QUITE THE DON QUIXOTE, Ladbroke Hall, June 12, 1893.
QUITS, Manchester, Nov. 10, 1884.
QUITS; OR, THE LUCKY BAG OF LIFE, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Aug. 29, 1870.
QUO VADIS, Adelphi, May 5, 1900.
QWONG HI, Bristol, April 1, 1894.
RABBI JOSELMANN, Novelty, March 31, 1896.
RABBI'S SON, Britannia, April 14, 1879.
RACE FOR A WIDOW, Strand, April 23, 1860.
RACE FOR A WIFE, Adelphi, Aug. 19, 1876.
RACE OF LIFE, Queen's, Dublin, Nov. 21, 1887.
RACHEL, Olympic, April 14, 1883.
RACHEL AND LEAH, Standard, Sept. 25, 1896.
RACHEL'S MESSENGER, Princess's, Feb. 28, 1891.
RACHEL'S PENANCE, Britannia, April 22, 1878.
RACHEL THE REAPER, Queen's, March 9, 1874.
RACING, Wolverhampton, April 5, 1886.
RADICAL CANDIDATE, Crystal Palace, Oct. 30, 1899.
RADICAL, THE, Walham Green, Nov. 6, 1888.
RAG FAIR, Victoria, May 20, 1872.
RAGGED JACK, Rotunda, Liverpool, May 24, 1880.
RAGGED ROBIN, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, March 17, 1893.
RAGS AND BONES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff, July 23, 1883.
RAID IN THE TRANSVAAL, Surrey, March 2, 1896.
RAILROAD OF LOVE, Gaiety, May 3, 1888.
RAILWAY OF LIFE, Effingham, Sept. 26, 1859.
RAINY DAY, Gallery of Illustration, May 23, 1868.
RAISED FROM THE ASHES, Elephant and Castle, May 31, 1879.
RAKE'S WILL, Terry's, July 16, 1889.
RALPH GASTON, Surrey, Sept. 17, 1860.
RANDALL'S THUMB, Court, Jan. 25, 1871.
RANDOLPH THE RECKLESS, Salford, Aug. 6, 1888.
RANELAGH, Haymarket, Feb. 11, 1854.
RANK, Tyne, Newcastle, Nov. 20, 1871.
RANK AND FAME, Standard, March 29, 1875.
RANK AND RICHES, Adelphi, June 9, 1883.
RAPHELINA, Theatre Royal, Dumfries, Oct. 13, 1879.
RAPID THAW, St. James's, March 2, 1867.
RAPPARREE, THE, Princess's, Sept. 9, 1870.
RAPPINGS AND TABLE MOVINGS, Haymarket, June 16, 1853.
RATHBOYS, THE, Standard, May 17, 1862.
RAVENSWOOD, Lyceum, Sept. 20, 1890.
RAYMOND REMINGTON, St. Albans, Dec. 11, 1893.
RAY OF LIGHT, Park, Oct. 14, 1876.
RAY OF SUNLIGHT, Bayswater, April 27, 1896.
READING FOR THE BAR, Strand, Oct. 2, 1876.
READY AND WILLING, Effingham, May 13, 1867.
READY-MONEY MORTIBOY, Court, March 12, 1874.
REAL AND IDEAL, Olympic, Sept. 8, 1862.
REAL CASE OF HYDE AND SEEKYLL, Royalty, Sept. 3, 1888.
REAL LADY MACBETH, Camden Town, April 1, 1889.
REAL LIFE, Queen's, Manchester, Dec. 9, 1873.
REALISM, Garrick, Oct. 4, 1900.
REALITY, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, Dec. 30, 1889.
REAL LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY, Terry's, May 14, 1888.
REALMS OF JOY, Royalty, Oct. 18, 1873.
REAL PRINCE, Bayswater, Jan. 27, 1894.
REAL TRUTH ABOUT IVANHOE, Chelsea. Feb. 1, 1889.
REAPERS, Theatre Royal, Preston, June 21, 1897.
REAPING THE HARVEST, Elephant and Castle, Dec. 3, 1887.
REAPING THE WHIRLWIND, Novelty, April 26, 1884.
REBECCA, Drury Lane, Sept. 23, 1871.
REBELS, THE, Camberwell, Sept. 4, 1899.
REBEL'S WIFE, Consett, Dec. 8, 1898.
RECALLED TO LIFE, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Oct. 10, 1885.
RECKONING, Chelsea, May 4, 1891.
RECKONING, THE, Grand, May 13, 1895.
RECLAIMED, Haymarket, Sept. 14, 1881.
RECOMMENDED TO MERCY, Town Hall, Harrogate, May 6, 1882.
RECONCILED, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Nov. 3, 1888.
RECONCILIATION, THE, Olympic, Feb. 21, 1876.
RECRUITING PARTY, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, Jan. 14, 1895.
RECTOR'S DAUGHTER, Matinée, May 20, 1898.
RECTOR, THE, Court, March 24, 1883.
RED AND BLUE, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Dec. 19, 1893.
RED BARN, Barrow-in-Furness, June 10, 1892.
RED COAT, West London, June 21, 1900.
RED DICK, Opera House, Bolton, Dec. 8, 1873.
RED DWARF, Elephant and Castle, April 21, 1873.
REDEEMED, Vaudeville, June 7, 1883.
RED HANDS, St. James's, Jan. 30, 1869.
RED HUSSAR, Lyric, Nov. 23, 1889.
RED JOSEPHINE, Britannia, Nov. 5, 1880.
RED LAMP, City of London, June 9, 1862.
RED LIGHT, Theatre Royal, Longton, Sept. 28, 1874.
RED MAN'S RIFLE, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1875.
RED MARINE, Brighton, May 28, 1896.
RED RAG, Toole's, Feb. 18, 1887.
RED REEF, Alexandra, Walsall, Sept. 8, 1884.
RED RIDER, St. George's Hall, March 23, 1895.
RED RIDING HOOD, Crystal Palace, June 16, 1892.
RED ROB THE COINER, Marylebone, June 6, 1863.
RED ROSES, Duke of York's, Nov. 12, 1898.
RED ROVER, Strand, Dec. 26, 1877.
RED SIGNAL, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Oct. 17, 1892.
RED SNOW, Queen's, Londonderry, Jan. 13, 1873.
RED SPIDER, Lowestoft, July 25, 1898.
RED SQUADRON, Bayswater, Aug. 9, 1894.
RED STAR, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, July 10, 1894.
RED TERROR, Opera House, Londonderry, Aug. 6, 1900.
RED VIAL, Olympic, Oct. 11, 1858.
RED, WHITE, AND BLUE, Walworth, Feb. 3, 1875.
REFEREE, THE, Vaudeville, Dec. 21, 1887.
REFUGEES, THE, Adelphi, July 19, 1888.
REGAN-NA-GLENNA, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Sept. 16, 1878.
REGENERATES, Comedy, Oct. 30, 1899.
REGENERE, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.
REGIMENT, THE, Elephant and Castle, May 12, 1888.
REGINA, B.A., Birmingham, Aug. 2, 1897.
REGISTRY OFFICE, St. George's Hall, June 29, 1900.
REGULAR FIX, Olympic, Oct. 11, 1860.
REGULAR TURK, Gaiety, Feb. 3, 1877.
REIGNING FAVOURITE, Strand, Oct. 9, 1849.
REIGN OF BLOOD, Britannia, May 17, 1880.
REIGN OF TERROR, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 2, 1885.
RELEASED, Comedy, April 9, 1890.
RELIEF OF LUCKNOW, Drury Lane, Sept. 15, 1862.
RELY ON MY DISCRETION, Royalty, Jan. 17, 1870.
REMARKABLE CURE, Vaudeville, March 8, 1883.
REMEMBRANCE, Terry's, June 8, 1899.
REMORSE; OR, THE PERILS OF A NIGHT, Victoria, Nov. 1, 1873.
RENAISSANCE, Daly's, July 5, 1897.
RENATI DI FRANCIA, Opéra Comique, Oct. 11, 1873.
RENFORTH, THE PRIDE OF THE TYNE, Theatre Royal, Darlington, June 17, 1878.
RENT, Opera House, Waterford, Sept. 19, 1881.
RENT WARNER, Theatre Royal, Limerick, Dec. 1, 1882.
REPARATION, Gaiety, May 16, 1882.
REPARATION; OR, A LOYAL LOVE, New Cross Public Hall, May 6, 1882.
REPENTANCE, A, St. James's, Feb. 28, 1899.
REPENTANCE OF KING ETHELRED THE UNREADY, Shrewsbury, Jan. 31, 1887.
REPLY PAID, Ladbroke Hall, June 22, 1894.
REPORTED MISSING, Theatre Royal, Bristol, June 4, 1894.
REPRIEVE, Kingston, May 18, 1898.
REPUTATION, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Aug. 13, 1883.
REQUITAL, THE, Theatre Royal, Exeter, April 1, 1887.
RESCUED FROM DEATH, Barrow-in-Furness, April 25, 1890.
RESCUED HONOUR, Avenue, June 4, 1896.
RESCUED; OR, A GIRL'S ROMANCE, King's Cross, Aug. 27, 1879.
RESCUE OF OLIVER GOLDSMITH, Duke of York's, Feb. 12, 1898.
RESCUE ON THE RAFT, Grecian, May 20, 1867.
RESEMBLANCE, Vaudeville, Dec. 10, 1885.
REST, Avenue, June 10, 1892.
REST AT LAST, Dulwich, May 10, 1888.
RESTLESS NIGHT, Holborn, March 3, 1873.
RESTORED, Queen's, Dublin, Feb. 27, 1872.
RETAINED FOR THE DEFENCE, Olympic, May 23, 1859.
RETAINED ON BOTH SIDES, Prince's, Manchester, Nov. 13, 1876.
RETALIATION, Whitley, Aug. 6, 1890.
RETIRING, Globe, May 1, 1878.
RETRIBUTION, Olympic, May 12, 1856.
RETURNED, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, May 17, 1869.
RETURNING THE COMPLIMENT, Royal Park Hall, Nov. 5, 1890.
RETURN OF THE WANDERER, Britannia, Feb., 1856.
REUNITED, Athenæum Hall, July 24, 1888.
REVELATIONS OF LONDON, Grecian, July 6, 1868.
REVERSES, Strand, July 13, 1867.
REX CANN, THE WHIPPER-IN, Sefton, Liverpool, Oct. 20, 1884.
R.F. AND M.F., Theatre Royal, Croydon, June 25, 1900.
RHAMPSINITUS, Theatre Royal, Dublin, May 6, 1876.
RHODA, Grand, Sept. 27, 1886.
RIBSTON'S RIDE, Novelty, May 7, 1897.
RICH AND POOR, Britannia, May 21, 1866.
RICH AND POOR OF LONDON, Manchester, March 12, 1900.
RICHARD ARMSTRONG, Stoke Newington, Dec. 19, 1876.
RICHARD CŒUR DE LION, Drury Lane, Sept. 26, 1874.
RICHARD LOVELACE, Theatre Royal, Bath, July 11, 1898.
RICHARD'S PLAY, Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 14, 1891.
RICHARD SAVAGE, Criterion, April 16, 1891.
RICHARD THE FIRST, 1876.
RICHARD THE THIRD, Globe, March 16, 1889.
RICHARD II., Flint Castle, Aug. 21. 1899.
RICHARD WHITTINGTON, ESQ., Theatre Royal, Bury, Sept. 9, 1892.
RICHELIEU, Lyceum, May 8, 1892.
RICHELIEU IN LOVE, Haymarket, Oct. 30, 1852.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Three-Act Drama, by Claude Askew and Ed. Knoblauch, entitled
"THE SHULAMITE."

A red-letter week in the annals of the Marlborough was begun on Monday by the special and important engagement of the celebrated actress, Miss Lena Ashwell, who plays her original part of Deborah in the above successful drama. On Monday, and throughout the week, the house has been enthralled with her wonderful impersonation, and Miss Ashwell has touched upon its susceptibilities as a skilled pianist brings response from the notes of the keyboard. Her performance of this most trying part is in every way excellent, and is unquestionably one which is likely to live in the memory of all who witness it. Mr. Charles Weir, who appears in the part of the old bigoted Boer farmer, has delighted his many admirers with his admirable impersonation of Simeon Krillet. The whole reading is forcible, clever, and specially acceptable, and has merited the enthusiastic applause bestowed upon it. Notably good also is the performance of Mr. W. T. Lovell in the rôle of Robert Waring, the part being rendered with telling effect. As the young farmer, Jan Vanderberg, Mr. Reynolds Denniston found popular acceptance; and Miss Beryl Mercer is worthy of praise for her portrayal of the Kaffir girl Menke. Last, but by no means least, Miss Mary Griffiths, as the jealous Sante Anna Vanderberg, made another success; and no little of the success of the piece is due to the great ability with which Miss Griffiths impersonates the part. In a word, all the characters have most capable exponents, and work excellently together. The scenic effects are admirable, the stage pictures being most realistic, and the storm effects in Act 2 are remarkably good. The drama is preceded by *The Widow's Woes*, in which Miss Mary Griffiths and Mr. Charles Weir appear with great success, supported by Mr. Reynolds Denniston and Miss Marcella Hudson.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Comedy, by Madeline Lucette Ryley, entitled
"MICE AND MEN."

Extreme delicacy of treatment being essential to the welfare of Mrs. Ryley's clever play, in Mr. Forbes Robertson and his gifted wife, Miss Gertrude Elliott, this requirement is, of course, most successfully attained. The very large audience at the King's on Monday evening was highly appreciative, and bestowed upon Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Robertson an unstinted welcome. The love affair of Professor Mark Embury, complicated as it is by the attachment of "Little Britain" to Captain George Lovell, excited a keen interest. Mr. Forbes Robertson played in his own admirable and scholarly fashion Professor Embury, the part which he has made his own. The novel methods of training employed by the Professor for fitting the young Foundling girl for the position of his wife, which so disastrously fail, raise many smiles. Mr. Charles Langley gives a capitally boisterous impersonation of Roger Goodlake, and Mr. Vernon Steel's rendering of Captain George Lovell is deserving of the highest praise. Mr. J. H. Beaumont is pleasant as Sir Harry Trimblestone, and Kit Baringer is played with skill by Mr. Charles Bibby. Mr. Sam T. Pearce is amusing as Peter, and Mr. W. Pilling presents a delicious "Bumble" portrait of the Beadle of the Foundling Hospital. Miss Gertrude Elliott's "Little Britain" charmed everybody, so delightfully does she act the part. Miss Adeline Bourne is clever as he designing and amorous Joanna Goodlake, and Miss Kate Carlyon is an able Mrs. Deborah. Miss Lily Price as the Matron of the Foundling Hospital, and Miss Dorothy Paget as Molly are both praiseworthy. The scenery is quite up to the King's standard. During a portion of the week *Hamlet* is being played, with Mr. Forbes Robertson as an ideal Prince of Denmark, and Miss Gertrude Elliott achieving further triumphs as Ophelia.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, September 3,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

The Belle of New York is on a visit here once again, and is attracting good audiences. The company is an excellent one, being Mr. George Musgrove's principal one, and it is being presented under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, who now owns and directs numerous touring companies. Miss Empsie Bowman appears as the Belle, Violet Grey, giving the daintiest possible rendering of the part, and she sings delightfully, thereby making herself a very great favourite. Miss Winnie Brown is a dashing and captivating Cora Angelique, and she plays her part with much dash, and scores a big success. That clever comedian Mr. Paddy Dupres is quite in his element as Ichabod Bronson, and he keeps the fun going merrily. Of course, the chief of the comic characters is the polite lunatic Von Pimpernick, which, in the hands of Mr. Max Copeland, is extremely diverting. Mr. Copeland deserves unstinted praise for his playing of this difficult part. Mr. Frank Lawton again fills his original rôle of Blinky Bill, and his whistling and dancing are as clever and finished as ever. He also receives great help in his efforts from Miss Florence Hersee, whose sprightly playing of Mamie Clancy is much appreciated, for this young lady works so very hard and with such energy that it is a pleasure to see her efforts meet with marked success. Fifi Fricot is enacted in a dainty fashion by Miss Lily Maxwell, while Miss Sylvia Spears is very good as Kissie Fitzgarter. Mr. Alfred Sandoe cuts a quaint figure as Doc Sniffkins, the manager of the Cora Angelique Opera Company, and Kenneth Mugg, the low comedian of that dramatic combination, is humorously depicted by Mr. Walter Uridge, who proves his abilities as a comedian. The twin Portuguese Counts are amusingly played by Messrs. Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody. Mr. John Doran is seen to advantage as Harry Bronson, a character he plays capitally, and he sings his various songs in a most artistic manner. The chorus are deserving of mention for the excellent aid they render throughout; the finale to the first act is admirably sung. The dresses are very pretty, and include many magnificent costumes, while the whole is capitally staged under the able direction of Mr. A. Linforth. We are pleased to see that Mr. Wilfred Stanford, the acting-manager here, is back again after his holidays.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Play, by Charles Klein, entitled
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."

Whatever may have been the verdict when this play was first produced in London, it is evidently very much to the taste of suburban audiences. On Monday there was a very representative audience here, and it is not too much to say that all sections thereof are heartily pleased with the performance of Mr. Walter Maxwell's talented company. Miss Christine Silver is admirably suited with the part of Shirley Rossmore; her acting is consistent throughout, her air of *naïf* innocence in Shirley's intellectual combat with Ryder and her impassioned rendering of the girl's final appeal to the financial autocrat being both clever renderings of different phases of this well-drawn character. In the rôle of John Burkett Ryder, Mr. Leslie Carter submits an admirably-thought-out characterisation of the "lion" of the title, suggesting with consummate art the various moods through which the soul of this man of iron nerves and indomitable will passes before he is finally humbled into making terms with the daughter of the man he hates. As Jefferson Ryder Mr. Stephen Wentworth successfully depicts the good-hearted but rather weak young man, who almost allows his life to be ruined for want of the moral courage to resist his father's wishes. Mr. J. W. Mackie extracts a good deal of humour out of the part of the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley; Mr. Richard Norton acts well as Alfred Stott; Mr. John Wheatman makes the most of J. Whitmore Roberts; and Mr. George Lyttleton is decidedly good as the broken ex-editor, James Rossmore. Miss Dorrie Roberts makes a pleasing Kate Roberts; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon gives a clever rendering of Mrs. John B. Ryder; and Miss Maude Townsend does as well as possible with the small part of Mrs. Roberts. The staging of the piece is to be commended for its unostentatious adequacy, the scene showing Ryder's library being a particularly fine set.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, September 3,
the Play, in Three Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled
"ALICE-SIT-BY-THE-FIRE."

A company, with Mrs. Russ Whytal as the bright particular star, is playing at Fulham in Barrie's charming little piece. Mrs. Whytal takes the title rôle of Mrs. Grey, or "Alice-sit-by-the-Fire," as she terms herself, and is very successful in her representation of a mother who, brought face to face with a grown-up daughter and son, finds that it is time for her to pass from youth to middle age. Mrs. Whytal's performance was full of humour and life; she can play with the lightest of touches, and yet she can strike a deeper note with equal success. It was a performance that fairly charmed the house. The part of the daughter Amy was excellently presented by Miss Beatrice Bramah, with plenty of youthful fun and natural feeling. She finds an able supporter in Miss Lucie Verrier as the stage-struck Leonora, her girl friend. Miss Ada Marius as the nurse had just the proper air of the superior domestic standing on her dignity, and Miss Lilian Locke acted with broad humour as Richardson, the lodging-house slavey. Mr. J. J. Bartlett made a capital representative of Colonel Grey, and the Cosmo Grey of Mr. A. W. Baskcomb was an excellent study of the surpassing dignity of a modern youth. Mr. Claude King's Stephen Rollo was in the true spirit of light comedy, with an undercurrent of feeling. *Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire* was preceded by a little comedy, adapted from the French, and called in its English version, *The Royal Flower*. In this Mrs. Russ Whytal played a youthful Marquis with a certain air of distinction, but the part hardly gave much scope for her powers. Mr. Claude King was good as Vidal, and Miss Ninon Dudley played brightly and naturally as Virginie, Mr. Baskcomb being amusing as the servant, Vincent.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, September 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE DERBY WINNER."

A capital interpretation of this exciting play is being given this week at the Standard. Mr. Roy Redgrave, an actor of much resource, and one who has had a considerable amount of useful experience, is seen to advantage as Douglas, Earl of Desborough, playing with manly bearing and striking force. Mr. Henry C. Cooper supplies an able performance of Colonel Donelly; Mr. Gilbert Fisher is all that can be desired as Captain Lord Chisholm; Mr. J. C. Aubrey cleverly portrays Major Mostyn; Rupert Leigh is enacted with skill by Mr. Wingold Lawrence; Mr. Jack Denton scores a success as Surgeon-Captain Cyprian Streatfield, playing with much spirit; and a special word of praise is due to Mr. Frank Lister for his exceedingly fine portrait of Joe Aylmer; Mr. Herbert Woodin is a satisfactory Dick Hammond. Miss Eva Dare proves highly acceptable as Maria, Duchess of Milford; Miss Kathleen Russell, a charming Muriel, makes the most of every opportunity; Miss Amy Maitland is well suited as Mrs. Donnelly; Miss Ruth Zillwood capitally sustains the rôle of Annette Donnelly; Mary Aylmer is pictured with feeling by Miss Marion Turner; and Miss Florrie Green artistically plays the part of Harold, Viscount Fernside. Miss Olga Audre as Vivien Darville proves that she has thoroughly grasped the nature of the part, contributing a forcible rendering. The piece is admirably mounted.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, September 3, the Drama, entitled
"EVE."

Despite the tropical conditions prevailing, a large audience welcomed the performance on Monday by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company of the interesting play, *Eve*, and although there is nothing particularly new about the story, or in the author's conception of the various characters, yet the drama is upon the whole bright and effective and was received with every evidence of favour. Each member of the company plays with a force and skill that are exceedingly telling, while the scenery and mounting are in perfect taste. Mr. M. Gusofsky looks exceedingly well as Simon Gotlieb, and acts with earnestness and passion, and Mr. Goldsmith renders a good account of Schlomke Tultshiner, while Mr. Streng is quite equal to the demands made upon him in the part of Isaac Fox. The rôle of Louis Schwartz is sustained with marked success by Mr. Joseph Fineberg, whose dramatic and forcible style is most convincing, while every point is made to tell by his incisive acting. Adamski receives justice at the hands of Mr. Schilling, and Mr. Rosenfeld is well suited as Jeine Knepete. Mr. J. Scherman lends invaluable service as Benedik Schpringer, and the part of the child Josele is ably filled by Miss Lubritzky. Madame F. Waxman gives due emphasis to the many opportunities which the character of Chaveh affords, and Sime Chaye is capably portrayed by Madame J. Kayzer, while Betty receives adequate treatment by Madame Goldstein. Successful performances during the week have been given of *The Golden Land, The Sailor in Danger, Driven from Portugal, Rachel, or the Flag of Judah*, and *Solomon the Siberian*.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Hubert Henry Davies, entitled
"MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE."

This week a complete novelty is presented in the shape of drawing-room melodrama, and though it is a kind of dramatic fare to which Peckham audiences are unaccustomed, the piece has been very favourably received. *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* is an interesting play, unconventional in tone, and remarkable for its clever character sketches, and full justice is done to it by Mr. Thomas McKenzie's able company. Mr. Yorke Stephens, who appears in the part originally played by Sir Charles Wyndham, is an excellent Captain Mowbray, acting with much dignity and restraint. Miss Marie Illington plays capitally as the irritable, but essentially human, Mrs. Jardine, the part in which she originally appeared at the first production of the piece at Wyndham's Theatre, and she is a tower of strength to the cast. Miss Frances Vine thoroughly realises the character of the vain, frivolous, and not too scrupulous Mrs. Gorringe, and plays a difficult part with much skill. Miss May Straker looks charming and acts with much pathos as Isabel Kirk; and the hoyden Vicky Jardine is acted in appropriate fashion by Miss Mabel Melba. Mr. W. Brisco Owen makes the most of the part of the weak and vacillating David Cairn; Mr. Reginald Walter is a smart Detective Jerrigan; and Mr. Maitland Dicker is a duly irritable, but good-hearted, Colonel Jardine. Miss Isobel Fladgate and Mr. Lawrence J. White appear with success in minor parts. The one scene which does duty for the play is very elaborate and effective. The curtain-raiser is a comedietta, entitled *Uncle Joseph*, written by J. Hickory Wood and E. L. Furst, in which the characters are played by Miss Isobel Fladgate, Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, and Mr. Lawrence J. White.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

There is much to sustain the interest in *The Still Alarm*, the turn-out of the fire brigade being a thrilling incident, and the interpolated vocalism by the Central Brigade Quartette is a pleasing feature. It is the return visit of Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company, and the piece had a most cordial reception on the opening night of the week. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville cuts a gallant figure as Jack Manley, and is a most popular hero. The villainy of John Bird is strongly emphasised by Mr. George Arthur, who scores heavily in the rôle. Mr. Tom Beasley is a very amusing Willie Manley; and Mr. Fred Osmond in the character-part of the dissolute Doc Wilber is responsible for a capital performance. Mr. Lewis Gordon plays naturally as Franklyn Fordham; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman does well as Joe Jones; and Mr. James Morgan fulfils all requirements as Jenkins. Miss Maud Warburton is a pretty Elinor Fordham, and acts with sympathy and charm; Miss Mabel Veriton makes a motherly and amiable Mrs. Manley; and Miss Hettie Zillwood as Cad is always bright and vivacious. Minor parts are intelligently rendered.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

The soul-stirring story unfolded by *Two Little Vagabonds* still retains a strong hold on popular audiences, and consequently the cheaper parts of the commodious Borough Theatre are being well patronised this week, despite the number of times the piece has been here before. The members of Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company acquit themselves with entire credit, and the piece is liberally staged. The two little vagabonds, Dick and Wally, are capitally played by Miss May Hart and Miss Margaret Nybloc, the robust, boisterous Dick being well contrasted with the fragile weakling Wally. Mr. William Fazan enacts George Thornton most convincingly; Mr. Henry Watson is responsible for a sound performance as Captain Darville; and Mr. Edmund Cuthbert is a praiseworthy John Scarth. Mr. John F. Traynor makes up well and plays powerfully as the Gaffer, whose confederates, Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop, have exceedingly good representatives in Mr. Ernest K. Nelson and Mr. Fred Archer. Miss Laura Hanson plays Marion Thornton with much expression and feeling; and Miss F. Russell Spiers makes an admirable Barbara Scarth. The vicious nature of Biddy Mullins is appropriately expressed by Miss Marie Pritchard; and Miss Muriel Clay is a prim and alert Sister Randall. Remaining parts are in capable hands.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, September 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Hal Reid, entitled
"HUMAN HEARTS."

Mr. Hal Reid's *Human Hearts*, which is being presented here this week, is meeting with great success. Excellently staged and enacted by a really strong company the piece is received with enthusiasm by large audiences, who follow the story with keen interest, and testify their appreciation of the thrilling scenes by unstinted applause. Mr. George Rowlands makes a fine, manly Tom Logan, his vigorous manner and earnestness being well suited to the rôle. The comic element in the play falls on the shoulders of Mr. Sydney C. Carl as Jem Mason, a tramp. Availing himself to the full of his humorous opportunities, Mr. Carl keeps the audience in rare good humour, and scores a decided hit. Mr. Lionel Williams is thoroughly satisfactory as the scheming Frederick Armsdale, and submits a finished impersonation. Mr. Arthur Estcourt gives an excellent interpretation of Mose Jones, a nigger, and Mr. Edwin Palmer faithfully portrays the tender-hearted Governor, Richard Markham. Mr. Harry Brame does all that is possible with the part of Samuel Logan, Mr. C. Palmer does well as Deputy-Warden Weston. Master Tom Robertson is to be commended for a really good performance of Limpy Morgan, and Mr. Charles Walton is satisfactory as Mike Corrigan. Miss Vera Fordyce as Jeannette Logan is a great success, her acting—especially in the last scene—making a deep impression. Miss Bessie Palmer acts with delicate pathos in the rôle of Semantha Logan, being warmly applauded for her clever delineation of the blind woman. Miss Barbara Bateman is responsible for an admirable study of the half-witted Jimmy Logan, and Miss Millie Silvester as Ruth Larkins acts with quietness and reserve. Little Miss Freda Green is to be congratulated on a pleasing performance of Grace Logan. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Ben Nove (Felix Duma), and Mr. W. J. Robertson.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, September 3,
the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE ETERNAL CITY."

By arrangement with Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Bannister Howard's company are this week presenting the interesting play *The Eternal City* at the Dalston Theatre. A distinct feature of the performance is the admirable acting of Miss Sarah De Groot as Donna Roma Volona, a young sculptor, whose association with Baron Bonelli, Prime Minister of Italy, provides one of the main incidents of the story. The character of the elegant Baron is most effectively played by Mr. D. Lewen Mannering, who in the earlier stages of the play succeeds, and in a very clever way, in making himself thoroughly detested. In the end, however, when, after he has received his death wound, he asserts there are only two things he has ever loved, his country and Donna Roma, he succeeds, in quite a different way, in eliciting sympathy. Mr. Henry Deas as David Rossi is another conspicuous success, his representation of the young member of the Chamber of Deputies being rendered conspicuous by his vigorous style. Mr. W. O'Flynn does well as Rocco, Rossi's friend. The deportment of Mr. J. Fortesque as the Pope is dignified and reassuring, and he met with a most encouraging reception. Other prominent characters were represented by Mr. Edward Comperbach (a Capuchin Friar), Mr. J Poole Kirkwood, Mr. E. Clowes, Mr. Herbert Legerton, Miss Eva Stuart, and Miss E. Stokes.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, September 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PLUCK."

This realistic spectacular drama of Mr. Willard's secured a very hearty reception in Marylebone this week, due in a great measure to the all-round excellence of the acting abilities of the clever company interpreting it. Mr. Austin Mortimor enacts Dick Darrell with resolute pertinacity and skilful effect; Mr. John Campling is responsible for a unique character study of the peppery Sir John Daredevil, V.C.; Mr. Harry T. Wood sustains the rôle of Winston Dale in a buoyant, cheery way; Mr. Harry Emmerson plays carefully as Matthew Pope; Mr. Frank Etheridge deserves praise for his Sir Noel Fordyce; and Mr. Fred Norburn's embodiment of Jim Daremont, alias the Tiger, is notable for its thoroughness and careful attention to detail. The important rôle of Grace Daremont is sustained in a muscular, masterly way by Miss Grace Lester, who carries the house along with her from start to finish; Miss Tina Shaw is precociously amusing as Bertie Daredevil; Miss Elsie Maitland is tenderly sympathetic as Mrs. Pope; Miss Nellie Freeman is persevering as Ophelia Pippin; Miss Helen Elmar is effective as Lady Daredevil; whilst Miss Violet Carr's impersonation of Jessie Pope is full of tender effect and unassuming girlishness of demeanour which is delightful in its innocence The rest of the characters are all carefully handled, and the piece is mounted and staged in a most realistic way, the Derby Day set being specially notable. Mr. Harry Emmerson is business-manager for Mr. James Willard.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Seymour Hicks, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Patrons of the Royal County Theatre are indebted to Mr. Peter Davey, the enterprising managing-director, for the opportunity of again witnessing this tuneful and mirth-provoking play, a class of play that is always welcomed with open arms in the Thames-side town. Good houses have been the rule during the stay of the play in Kingston this week. Mr. Wm. Greet's company is engaged in the production of it, and is a most capable crowd of artists, down to the minor rôles. The part of the whimsical dog-trainer, Jim Cheese, is played by Mr. William Cromwell, of whose performance it is impossible to speak except in terms of the highest praise. His drolleries, presented as they were with a straight face, were simply irresistible, and the house was kept in a continual state of laughter whilst he was on the boards. Miss Gertrude Simpson achieved great success in the part of Elphin Haye, acting and singing with a charming naïveté, her song "In Zanzibar" capturing the house. Mr. Robert Hyett made a capital Dick Wargrave, and in the vocal numbers allotted to him showed the possession of a very fine voice. The part of the Hon. Crew Boodle was ably portrayed by Mr. Stanley Harrison. The parts of A. Bunker Bliss, Downham, Mr. Talk, and Mrs. Shimmering Black—the quartette in search of the heir—were well placed in the hands of Messrs. A. E. Coleby, Frank Cane, and Arthur Cassidy, and Miss Nellie Grant respectively. A creditable reappearance in Kingston was given by Miss Eva Bevington, who invested the part of Daisy Fallowfield with a piquant charm, and carried the house with her in her song, "Sammy." Others deserving particular mention are Mr. Fred W. Patrick as Hazel, Miss Florence Wix as Liza Shoddam, and Miss Helen Langton as Miss Virginia Bliss. There is a numerous and well-trained chorus, and an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. Percy B. Fletcher.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Comedy, entitled
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."

"Good plays, clean plays," promised Mr. J. Bannister Howard last week on the occasion of the re-opening of this theatre, and hitherto he has every reason to be congratulated on the maintenance of so excellent a programme. It would be a matter of some difficulty, we take it, to find a cleaner, or, indeed, a daintier, play than *A Country Mouse* as enacted by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Truth to tell, this most delightful of country mice—than whom there is none more winsome than Miss Annie Hughes—quite early won the sympathies of a large audience, and there was a perfect preponderance of opinion that Angelia Muir was absolutely charming. And not only were honours due to the bright little *ingénue* who headed the bill, but the company all round was excellent to a degree. Mr. Evelyn Vernon as the Duke of St. Kitts caused endless fun. Nothing could have been better than his impersonation of the veteran "lady-killer." It was a clever piece of acting, untainted by the faintest exaggeration. Mr. Charles Esdale won honours as the Hon. Archibald Vyse. Throughout the play his influence tended to add to the success in no small degree; the house rocked with laughter at the flower-basket incident, when he substituted his card as donor in the place of the amorous old peer. Mr. Wm. Calvert—strangely reminiscent of an M.P. not unknown at Birmingham—did exceedingly well as John Bowlby, M.P. It is not a rôle bristling with possibilities, but Mr. Calvert certainly made the most of them. His scene with Jephcot (Mr. J. E. Watson)—the autocratic butler who had fears as to the degeneracy of the Upper Circles—was happily conceived, and still more admirably acted. Mr. Thomas A. Braidon was effective as Lord Robert, and won the hearty recognition of the audience. Very charming and stately was Miss Moyra Creegan as Lady Sylvia, with a *penchant* for elopements; Miss Frances Davie was altogether capital as Violet, and played with refreshing humour throughout; Mrs. Crooper was satisfactorily enacted by Miss Ida Lourie; and of the Mouse we have already spoken. Mr. Arthur Law has provided a rôle that fits Miss Anne Hughes to a nicety, and no one is quicker to grasp the author's intentions than the modest, merry, ingenuous maiden who comes from "near Dorking, you know."

A Bit of Old Chelsea, by Mrs. Oscar Beringer, preceded Mr. Law's comedy, and afforded Miss Hughes a further opportunity of displaying her versatility. As Alexandra Victoria Belchamber, otherwise Saucers, she repeated a success that is always welcome. She was capitally supported by Mr. Chas. Esdale as the Saint, Mr. Evelyn Donald the Sinner, and Mr. T. A. Braidon as the Student. There is every prospect of a successful season at this house. Mr. Arthur Howard is unremitting in his efforts as acting-manager, and does much to conduce to the comfort of all concerned. The orchestra should not be omitted from mention; indeed, Mr. C. W. Dowell has every reason to be proud of his followers. We should not be surprised to find the Castle Theatre has entered on a long and prosperous career; the fault will not be that of Mr. J. Bannister Howard if this is not so.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

On Monday last the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, reopened its doors, a return visit from Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renad, in the well-known adaptation of *Le Voyage en Suisse* (*The Swiss Express*), forming the opening attraction of the season. While retaining all its familiar features, the piece has, since it was last seen here, been brightened, and its attractiveness added to, by the addition of some fresh musical numbers; but it is of course on the Brothers Renad that the success of the entertainment depends, and it seems almost superfluous to record that their quaint tricks and amusing antics are performed with all their accustomed neatness and dexterity. Mr. Johnny McElroy works hard and successfully throughout the evening, and his Dr. Gondimar Gull is the cause of no little amusement. Miss Ida Ernest as the bride, Virginia, acts prettily, and scores with her song, "My Bungalow in Borneo"; and as the two young men, Rob Rollingstone and Dudley Green, Messrs. George Martin and Alec Wylie contribute their quota to the general success. The remainder of the troupe all work loyally and well to keep the fun going, and the dancing of the Edene Quartette is entitled to a word of praise. Full justice is done to the music by the excellent Alexandra orchestra, of which Mr. J. Howard Hutchison is the able and talented director.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

The attraction this week is Mr. Walter Melville's realistic drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins admirably depicts the gradual downfall and the ultimate ruin of a girl through drink. It is a very trying character, but Miss Collins is equal to the occasion. The audience are held spellbound with her powerful acting, and accord her rounds of applause, which is richly deserved. An excellent character-study of the old country farmer, John Meadows, is presented by Mr. Charles Franmore. John Livingstone is embodied in a convincing and manly spirit by Mr. Wilson Gurney; Mr. Gerald Jordan is seen to advantage as Cuthbert Lumley, rightly named a "queer card." The unscrupulous adventuress, Nellie Meadows, is powerfully represented by Miss Nannie Meade. Luke Ramsden is successfully undertaken by Mr. Fred Withers. A charming and sympathetic representation of Constance Cornell is given by Miss Jessica Black; Dr. Weston is ably performed by Mr. Charles Kean. The humorous portion of the play is successfully undertaken by Miss Lena Delphine as Tilly Vane, and Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvy, and these two artists keep the audience in a good humour during the evening. The minor parts are in capable hands. The drama is mounted in Mr. Melville's usual lavish manner. The orchestra, under Mr. Edwin Moss, plays some well-rendered selections during the intervals.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, by Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

We have an enormous attraction this week at Rotherhithe in the shape of that well-known piece, *Woman and Wine*. The play is capitally rendered by the members of the talented stock company, and large audiences have been the rule. Mr. Ashley Page thoroughly realises the rôle of the reckless young hero, Dick Seymour, and adds another to his long list of successes. Mr. Alfred Harding is very effective in the part of the despicable Alphonse Beaudet; Mr. John Sargeant gives a powerful character-sketch of the deformed Pierre Crucru, known as Caliban; Mr. C. A. Chandler is humorous as Professor Sawter; and that favourite low comedian, Mr. Johnny Chippendale, causes roars of laughter as Charlie Sawter. Miss Mattie Everett brightens all the scenes in which she appears with her infectious gaiety as Janet Marlow; Miss Marion Denvil is a sweet and sympathetic Mary Andrews, enlisting the sympathy of the house for that heroine's undeserved misfortunes; Miss East Robertson makes a great success in the part of La Colombe; and Miss Georgie de Lara is a satisfactory Marcel Rigadout. Mr. Tom Taylor makes an effective picture as the blind artist, Hugh Seymour; and Phineas Collins is well played by Mr. D. J. Hennessey. The scenery is elaborate, especially in Act 3, the Flower Market.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, entitled
"WEP-TON-NO-MAH."

Wep-ton-no-Mah, the Indian mail carrier, the picturesque sensational drama of the Far West, provides plenty of excitement and amusement for the patrons of this theatre. The title-rôle is sustained by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the American Indian actress, who is also the authoress of the play. She acts the part of the Indian boy with grace and dignity. As Colonel Stockton, Mr. C. W. Charles gives a careful study of an American soldier; Mr. Pascoe Bioletti as Manuel Lopes presents an excellent picture of the Mexican desperado, the companion in crime of Captain Franklin, ably played by Mr. L. F. Vernon. Mr. Guy D. Hackney as Sam White is highly successful; and Mr. Edwin Standish as Chief Ga-ne-Gua could scarcely be bettered. Mr. W. H. Killey as Garry Cullen, a rollicking Irishman, works hard and scores well; Miss Winnie Goepel is bright and attractive as Nellie Stockton; and Miss Dora Pass as Miss Matilda Sniffles, the Colonel's housekeeper, is exceedingly amusing.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

Mr. John M. East has secured Mr. Douglas Bruce's company in *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* to fill the programme this week. One of Walter Melville's great successes, the drama is full of incident and dramatic situations that appeal strongly to Elephant and Castle audiences. The Girl, Molly Vernon, is capitally enacted by Miss Evelyn Clyde, who very ably depicts the poor cast off toy of the hard-hearted villain, Captain Caversham. The house is roused to a high state of resentment when the callous officer orders poor Molly from his house. Mr. P. Adair gives a smart and finished rendering of Captain Geoffrey Caversham; Miss Lydia Mannington as Marian Franklin ably aids the villainy of the play; Mr. C. W. Standing presents a capital portrait of Jack England, playing with earnestness and sincerity; the browbeaten, repentant forger, James Sutton, is ably delineated by Mr. George Mitchell; Rose Seymore is charmingly represented by Miss Ethel Bracewell; and as the Rev. Robert Everton, Mr. Edwin J. Collins lends distinction to the part. Mr. Clifford Rean makes a smart and businesslike detective of Weathersby. Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Punch, and Miss Daisy Maynard as Isabella Jones, by their untiring efforts in the comedy of the piece, evoke much laughter. Miss Madge Meynard is a pretty maidservant; and Mr. John Dixon as a street-hawker has a little scene to himself, in which he causes much merriment. Other minor characters are well sustained. The piece is carefully staged. Mr. R. A. Neville is a courteous acting-manager here.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday the Native Choir of Jamaica appeared in their well-varied entertainment, consisting of native songs, humorous and sentimental solos, duets, and quartettes, plantation, coon, and jubilee songs, concerted choruses, and glees. The choir was enthusiastically received by a large audience, who appeared greatly interested in the novel entertainment, which was followed by the late H. J. Byron's famous comedy, entitled *Our Boys*, represented by Mr. Charles Otley and company. Mr. Otley's performance of the retired butterman, Perkyn Middlewick, was a capital performance, clever and unexaggerated. The aristocratic Sir Geoffrey Champneys was admirably acted by Mr. Milroy Cooper; Mr. Orlando Barnett was an excellent Talbot Champneys; and Mr. Arthur Bawtree was a capital Charles Middlewick. Mr. Fitzpatrick was good as Kempster; Miss Olive Palmer was a charming Violet Melrose; Miss Edith Heron Brown an attractive Mary Melrose; Miss Phyllis Manners played Miss Champneys admirably; and Miss Marie Jonquil was amusing as Belinda. The Jamaica Choir sang between the acts of the comedy, and the evening's entertainment concluded with a well-rendered final chorus.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE COLISEUM AND GRAND OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With regard to my offer of £160,000 for the Coliseum, it is absolutely a "bona fide" one, and the amount is ready, and would be paid upon the completion of the usual formalities. From what I hear in different and reliable quarters, I feel certain that my bid will be accepted before the end of the year, as the Coliseum is very much over-capitalised. and cannot successfully be managed under its present conditions.

I have gone very carefully into the matter, and am convinced that a £200,000 capital is the maximum sum on which the interest can be paid. The taxes and ground rent of the Coliseum alone amount to £5,000 per annum, so that after paying 5 per cent. interest on £200,000 Debentures I should practically have a rental of £15,000. At the present moment Mr. Stoll is asking £20,000 per annum, and this sum would barely pay the interest on the existing Coliseum debt. What manager could pay such a "stunning" rent?

I can find additional capital, but would not do so, realising the fact that the Coliseum, with a capital over £200,000 plus its heavy ground rent and taxes, would mean another disaster, and this I do not intend to court, although, of course, I cannot command success on the capital I mention.

With regard to Mr. Charles Manners' widely-circulated prophecy that "my project is foredoomed to failure," he, of course, bases his experience of opera in London upon his unsuccessful season at Drury Lane Theatre, but inasmuch as I have no intention of giving English opera, or, rather, opera in English, Mr. Manners' prognostications have not dismayed me. To quote Mr. Manners' interview with a Press representative: "The aristocracy, gentry, and upper classes don't want opera in English," and he is undoubtedly right. The late Carl Rosa fully realised this fact, and only played his company in London at a heavy loss, as an advertisement for his country audiences and to get better terms from the provincial managers. The reason of this is not far to seek, the majority of the upper and wealthy class travel extensively on the Continent, have a general knowledge of French and Italian, and are great patrons of opera abroad, and thoroughly realise how much more euphonic and agreeable these languages are than English. This, coupled with the fact that Italian and French artists are born actors and sing with an intensity of feeling and expression which the English language does not admit of, explains why your upper ten thousands do not care for opera in the vernacular, and I cannot blame them. It speaks wonders for Mr. Charles Manners and his charming and accomplished wife that they have achieved very great results in facing such opposition, and I most sincerely congratulate them. I remember on one occasion in Chicago that the manager of the Auditorium, where we were giving Italian opera, came to me and said that if he could announce that Adelina Patti would sing "Una voce poca fa" (Barber of Seville) in English it would be an additional attraction. I consulted Mme. Patti, and after much persuasion she consented to do so; but when I produced Boosey's Royal English Edition, and found that the English translation read: "Though his voice was breathing far," the divine Patti threw the book on the floor with disgust, and I announced that she would sing "Home, Sweet Home" as an encore to "Una voce poca fa." On the other hand, my father conceived what he considered the great idea of giving *Maritana* in Italian, and Signor Marchesi carefully prepared a translation.

On the first night at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, *Maritana* in Italian was announced, with Titiens Trebelli, Guiglini, &c. The audience was fairly attentive until Guiglini started to sing "Let me like a soldier fall," when the gallery rose *en masse* and demanded that this favourite air should be sung in English, which so frightened the great Italian singer that he ran off the stage, not understanding a word of our language. After considerable delay, the uproar in the gallery meanwhile continuing, my father "faced the music," and announced from the stage that Wilford Morgan, the great Irish tenor (Morgan was a cockney, by-the-bye), who was at that time a member of the Italian Opera Company, would sing "Let me like a soldier fall" in English. I doubt if ever a vocalist obtained such a reception as Wilford Morgan did on this occasion. It is recorded that he was encored nine times, but three, I believe, was the actual number. This was the first and last time that my father attempted to give English opera in Italian. and the critics severely condemned the experiment as being "most incongruous." They were undoubtedly correct, and I consider that Verdi's *Il Trovatore* is even more incongruous in English than Wallace's *Maritana* in Italian, and the same applies to all Italian and French operas sung in weird English. To ensure a proper interpretation of an opera it should be sung with its original text, whereby the true musical accent is not spoilt by a garbled English translation which does not fit the notes. Mrs. Weldon relates that the true cause of Gounod leaving London, where he resided for many years, was owing to the great imprudence she committed in taking the great French composer to hear *Faust* in English. It appears Gounod had to be literally carried out before the first act was over. Mr. Manners, in the circular recently issued by him to the English nation, says "that grand opera as played at Covent Garden is the luxury of the *idle* and *wealthy*." It is for these misguided classes I intend to cater, leaving Mr. Manners the monopoly of the *industrious* and *poor*.—Very faithfully yours,

HENRY MAPLESON, Colonel,
Président de la Société International de Musique.
London, Aug. 30, 1906.

NOTHING succeeds like success! How true this trite saying is is proved by the wonderful trade that has been built up by Messrs. Whitbread and Co. with their bottled beers throughout the length and breadth of the United Kingdom. It is no exaggeration to say that in every provincial town the name of "Whitbread" is known to touring professionals, and their first enquiry of "Ma" (their landlady) is, "Which is the nearest grocer's that sells 'Whitbread's'?" Even in Belgium, where the firm started a depot only two years ago the name and fame of Whitbread's stout is spreading far and wide. Many a hard-worked artist can testify to the benefit to be derived from a wholesome and nourishing beverage, and, no matter how abstemious you may be, acting and singing necessitate a nourishing liquid of some kind, and there can be no better beverage for either man or woman than *the wine of the country*? Now, undoubtedly the wine of England is *beer*, and, as Dr. Josiah Oldfield, in the *Daily Mail* of Aug. 27, observed, the stamina of the Englishman is greatly due to the phosphates and salines contained in barley-tea, commonly called beer; and good, wholesome, well-brewed beer can be used to advantage by young and old alike. But, and it is a very big *but*, it is most essential that the beverage, be it stout or ale, should be *matured* in a *natural* manner, and that no *carbonating* or other artificial process shall be employed to bring it into condition. This Messrs. Whitbread pride themselves on doing, and guarantee that every bottle of stout that leaves their premises shall be perfect in its condition by the *natural* method of *maturing* in bottle only, no *artificial* process of *any kind* being employed.

THE MANAGERS' CLUB.

In our issue of April 14 we gave some particulars as to the proposed formation of a club for theatrical managers, resident and touring. We are now able to announce that the club is an established fact, for it was formally declared open at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon. The president, Mr. Edward Lockwood, in a very brief speech, performed this pleasing function, and everybody present drank success to the Club. Mr. J. Bannister Howard also had a few words to say. He trusted that the Club would receive the support of resident and touring managers all over the country, as he believed it would tend to pleasanter relationships in business dealings. Mr. Howard and Mr. G. M. Polini snapped the privilege, before anybody else had a chance, of "christening" the billiard table, Mr. Polini coming out with fifty to the bad in a game of one hundred up. Other gentlemen who assisted at the opening ceremony were Mr. Clarence Sounes, Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. Fred W. Crellin, Mr. G. B. Phillips, Mr. Harry Lyons, and Mr. William Martin, the secretary. Telegrams wishing prosperity were received from Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. Rollo Balmain, Mr. Russell Rosse, and Mr. Wentworth Croke.

The Managers' Club, as it is called, owes its existence to the Touring Managers' Association. Capital premises have been secured at Savoy Mansions, practically in the heart of theatrical London, and yet free from the noises of the busy streets. The Club possesses a most commodious and well-furnished "general room," where members may hold converse with one another and with their friends, and engage in writing or reading; an adequate refreshment bar, a large and well-appointed billiard-room, and, of course, the usual conveniences and offices. The objects of the Club may be stated, briefly, to bring touring and resident managers in touch with one another, to discuss theatrical matters in general for the joint benefit of touring and resident managers, and to provide a suitable place for making appointments, writing letters, and doing the hundred and one things for which a club is usually employed. Light refreshments, such as tea, coffee, &c., are obtainable, as well as wines, ales, and spirits, and the premises will at all times be made comfortable and convenient consistent with reasonable economy.

The membership of the Club is limited to London and country managers of public entertainments, including business and acting-managers, or any other gentlemen interested in or connected with the theatrical, concert, or music hall professions who may be deemed eligible by the committee. The entrance fee and subscription are extremely moderate, and applications for membership should be addressed to the committee or to Mr. William Martin, the secretary. It should be stated that the Managers' Club and the Touring Managers' Association will be kept distinct from each other, and that membership of the one will not of necessity entail membership of the other. We are informed that applications to join the Club and to take shares are daily arriving in such numbers as to prove that the scheme is being heartily welcomed and supported by touring and resident managers, and there seems not the slightest doubt that this undertaking is a move in the right direction. Many well-known theatrical business men have signified their intention of taking shares, and there is already a considerable sum of money in hand, part of which is to be devoted towards the furnishing, rent, and expenses incidental to the registration of the limited company—a form which, for their own protection, most clubs take nowadays. It is confidently anticipated that within a comparatively short space of time, as the membership increases, it will become necessary to acquire additional premises, and all the indications point to the Club occupying a useful and influential position in the not very distant future. Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Mr. Graham Falcon, Mr. B. Lockwood, and Mr. William Martin have for some months past given a good deal of time and attention to the preliminary arrangements in connection with the formation of the Club, and they are to be congratulated upon the extremely satisfactory result of their labours. Touring and resident managers will now be able to meet on mutual ground, and the Managers' Club should, if it does nothing else, conduce to happy relations between these two important departments of the profession.

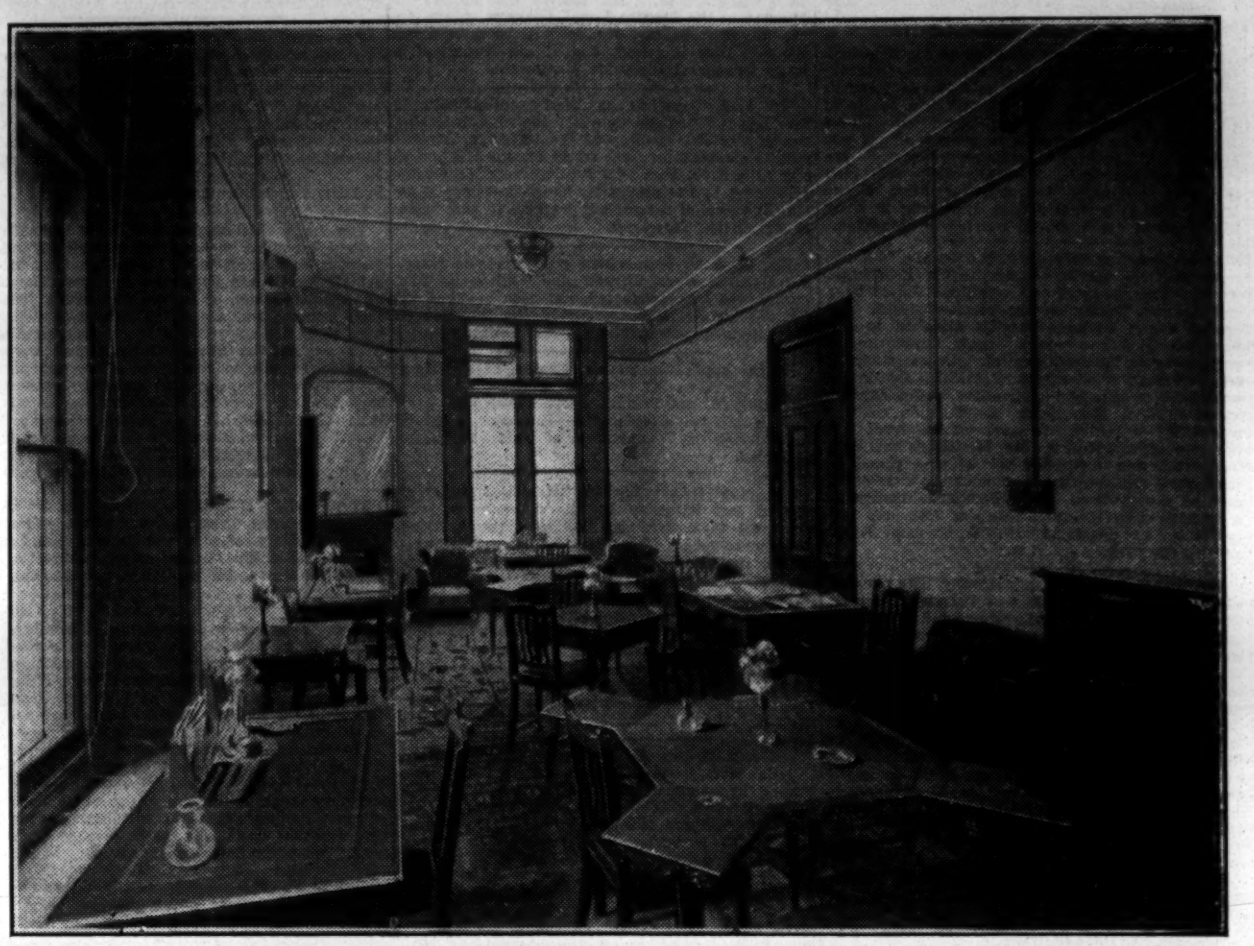


Photo by W. Brookman.

RECEPTION ROOM MANAGERS' CLUB. Opened September 3, 1906.

Photo by W. Brookman.

BILLIARD ROOM MANAGERS' CLUB. Opened September 3, 1906.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery. and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE fatal motor-car accident at Clontarf, which resulted in the death of Mr. R. E. Porter, bearing the "stage name" Harry Eversleigh, a member of Mr. Seymour Hicks's *Catch of the Season* company, was the subject of inquiry at Dublin Police-court on the 31st ult., when Noah Hall, chauffeur to Mr. Frank Brook, of Shillelagh, County Wicklow, was charged with manslaughter. The accused was committed for trial.

WILL Miss Lulu Bonney kindly write to *The Era* Letter-Box for an important letter? or will any friends of Miss Bonney, on seeing this paragraph, send her address to Bamberger, care of *The Era*

"MILES CAREW, HIGHWAYMAN."

New and Original Play,
by Harry and Edward Paulton,
Produced for the First Time on any Stage
on Monday, Sept. 3,
at the Opera House, Cheltenham.

Sir Miles Carew ..... MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY
Jeremy Gollsheaf ..... MR. HENRY CROCKER
Captain Askew ..... MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY
Willoughby Royce ..... MR. IDEN PAYNE
Isaac Beyfus ..... MR. CHARLES MEDWIN
Sir Roger Tonk ..... MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY
Sir Henry Frawley ..... MR. B. A. PITTAR
Badgery ..... MR. IVAN LESLIE
Dargle ..... MR. BASIL DEAN
Savile ..... MR. ARTHUR FAYNE
Viner ..... MR. SYDNEY BURTON
Lady Mallory ..... MISS ALICE ARDEN
Clara ..... MISS ETHEL DANE
Melissa Gollsheaf ..... MISS THERESA GREGORY
Ruth Beyfus ..... MISS HAIDEE GUNN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Messrs. Harry and Edward Paulton's new effort is in striking contrast to their successful extravaganza *Niobe*, being a romantic costume play with a strong love interest, and a well-conceived yet daring plot, set in the virile, dare-devil days of mid-eighteenth century.

Sir "Miles Carew," whose inheritance had been greatly impoverished in his father's time through the machinations of an evilly-disposed neighbour, Sir Henry Frawley, is persuaded by two questionable companions picked up in town to waylay the coach of the present Sir Henry Frawley (son of the above-named), and attempt to regain possession by robbery of some part of that which he had come to look upon as his own—thus originating the escapades of the three masked highwaymen who have become the terror of the Yorkshire moors. Sir "Miles Carew" leads a lonely sort of a life at Carew Manor in company with his dissolute companions (Capt. Askew and Willoughby Royce), his aunt Melissa, and the Rev. Jeremy (her husband), an unattached and impecunious parson, and other dependents. The highwayman escapades of the trio are apparently unprofitable; for the house is bare and cheerless enough, and funds are so low that Miles confesses to a tenant who would be a-borrowing that he has not ten guineas to lend. Under such circumstances Lady Mallory and Clara, who come down on a visit fresh from London, are naturally disgusted to find bare rooms and cold comfort. Nevertheless, Clara makes eyes at her handsome cousin, and Lady Mallory hints vaguely to him of a cherished hope.

Isaac Beyfus and his daughter Ruth—a fascinating, noble-hearted Jewess, who is already an acquaintance of the hero's by reason of his visits to her moneylending father in London—seek shelter at Carew Manor on account of the nervous prostration of the old gentleman consequent on an adventure with highwaymen on the previous night. Their money had been safely hidden in a secret panel in the coach, but Ruth's jewels had been stolen. Sir Miles, who, with his companions, had on the night in question robbed a carriage without a clue to the identity of its occupants, is stricken with remorse. Ruth discovers his secret, and identifies him as the leader of the highwaymen. She had noticed a death's head signet ring on the hand thrust through the carriage window, and is horrified to find it on Miles's finger. Further, Clara Mallory has unearthed a mosaic brooch belonging to Ruth, and produces it to the company, saying that she found it in an old chest. Ruth keeps her secret, and when Miles in desperation beseeches her to accept the brooch as a present she accepts it, and begs the fatal ring also.

Reports of the robbery have gone about the country, and Carew's sworn enemy Frawley and Savile, a Bow-street runner, arrive to take depositions. Ruth evades the questions, and learns incidentally of a plot to capture the notorious trio that very night. She succeeds in conveying a hint to Miles of the danger. But out of loyalty to his comrades he swears he will accompany them, unarmed, for the last time unless she will give him some hope in life and admit that she cares for him. As a signal of this she is to place a light behind her door curtains, which signal also invites him to her chamber. At the last moment the signal is given, and in spite of the sneers and derision of his comrades Carew remains at home.

Act II. reveals Ruth's chamber. We witness the conflicting emotions which sway her decision. Overcome with shame and trepidation, she places a candle by the door. Meanwhile scraps of previous dialogue between Miles and his companions, had on the night in question robbed a Ruth, and the central scene of the play is enacted. When Miles learns what the danger really is he swears to go even then and join his doomed companions, but Ruth's avowal of love is the climax—he had tested her love, and she his better nature. Savile and Frawley return and raise the house in search of Sir Miles. He escapes from Ruth's window, and in so doing breaks his arm. Unfortunately, being *outside*, and his chamber not having been occupied, he is unable to prove an alibi. By a slice of luck for all concerned Askew and Royce have made good their escape, and Miles is charged with being the notorious leader of the trio.

In the final act he is brought up for inquiry before Sir Roger Tonk, a magistrate of the old school, and Frawley. Sir Miles meets the accusations of his enemy with spirit, but circumstantial evidence is against him. Things look blue until Ruth boldly describes the chamber incident, on which evidence bluff old Sir Roger dismisses the case. Frawley insults Ruth as a wanton, and Miles retorts by throwing a glass of water in his face and challenging him to a duel for his cowardly attack on the honour of the lady who in three days would be Lady Miles Carew.

The performance went smoothly throughout. Mr. Cyril Keightley made the most of his interesting part, and is a picturesque and gallant figure as Sir Miles Carew; and Miss Haidee Gunn's sweetly sensitive expression and controlled emotions were wonderfully well suited to the part of Ruth Beyfus. The fashionable Lady Mallory and her daughter Clara are cleverly impersonated by Miss Alice Arden and Miss Ethel Dane; Mr. Henry Crocker was altogether excellent as the parson Jeremy Gollsheaf; and the part of his outspoken dame Melissa was presented with quiet humour by Miss Theresa Gregory. Mr. Chas. Medwin as the old moneylender Beyfus was quite successful; Mr. B. A. Pittar acted powerfully as Sir Henry Frawley, the sottish and malevolent enemy of Sir Miles; while in admirable contrast we had as his colleague on the bench the dignified and portly Sir Richard Tonk of Mr. Baliol Holloway, who in the early scenes was associated with Mr. Iden Payne as one of the two evil associates of the hero. Mr. Arthur Fayne was vigorous and praiseworthy as Savile, the Bow-street runner; Mr. Sidney Burton made quite a hit as the butler of Sir Roger, addicted to the (mis)-use of jaw-breaking legal phrases comically mispronounced; and Mr. Ivan Leslie neatly impersonated the part of Badgery. Mr. Basil Dean was good as the poor farmer Dargle. The play was effectively staged and dressed—the Hall of Carew Manor being a notably pretty set—and was received with every demonstration of approval by a crowded house, the principals being repeatedly called before the curtain. Miss Haidee Gunn was presented with two handsome bouquets, Miss Ethel Dane also receiving one. At the close repeated calls were made for the authors, and eventually Mr. Harry Paulton (whose son and collaborateur, Mr. Edward Paulton, is absent in the States) made a brief speech of thanks for the cordial reception of the play.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham, who was at the annual general meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund unanimously elected to be its President, will preside at the annual dinner, the date of which is fixed for Wednesday, Dec. 5.

The secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £1 8s. 6d. from Mr. Philip Rodway, of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, who has collected that sum by imposing a small tax on professionals for free admission to the theatre. Mr. Lewis Waller has sent a further sum of £3 7s. to the Fund, which he has obtained by the sale of his autographs, and Mr. George Alexander has sent £1 6s., collected in the same way.

As the result of an examination of the late Mr. Toole's house at 44, Maida-vale, a quantity of valuable jewellery has been found. There is no mention of these jewels in Mr. Toole's will. The discovery comes as a surprise to the executor, and the estate, which has gradually been found to be larger than was originally expected, will benefit by a considerable amount from the sale of the jewels. There will be some delay in proving the will, as part of the estate consists of Chilian Government bonds, which, owing to a depression, it is considered better to hold. Mr. Toole had, it appears, arranged that all bequests should be free of legacy duties. In addition to the legacies already referred to in our columns, the late comedian left, from his large collection of diamond rings, one to each of over fifty friends in the theatrical profession. The sale of curios, letters, and personal effects has been deferred until November.

Sir Squire Bancroft and Mr. Arthur Pinero were present at the funeral service of the late Lady Campbell-Bannerman, at Marienbad, on Saturday last.

Mr. Tree has become the owner of a new motor-car, which has been specially designed for him. There is accommodation for four persons, but two seats fold up and make excellent footstools when they are not wanted. There is a collapsible table, and by it a box which contains a looking-glass, hair brush and comb, and a couple of cedar-wood drawers for cigars and cigarettes. There is no need to carry matches, as there is an electric lighter. By means of a tube one can communicate with the chauffeur; but for ordinary directions there is no necessity to use this, because there is a signalling apparatus connected with a series of buttons in the car. Mr. Tree required the new motor for his forthcoming tour in the provinces, so as to be independent of trains, and is delighted with it. The car is so roomy that its owner will be able to sleep in it if he so desires.

When two thousand actors and actresses pledge themselves to support a new movement proposed in the interests of their profession, its ultimate success would appear to be assured. We shall publish next week the eighth list of those who have promised to give their services on Actors' Day for the benefit of the Theatrical Funds and Charities, and this will bring the number of managers, actors, and authors who will contribute up to the substantial total of two thousand. More names are coming in every day, and there is every reason to hope that the number will be largely increased before the 18th of October, which is the day appointed for the inauguration. The organising committee have been greatly assisted by volunteers in all parts of the country. In addition to further promises of help, they will be glad to receive programmes of all companies on tour and in London, with information as to where companies will be on the date named. They invite resident and touring managers to supply them with this information, and with any suggestions they can make to promote the success of the first Actors' Day. Copies of the appeal, forms, and all further information can be obtained from the Organising Committee, Actors' Day, 10, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C., to whom all communications should be addressed.

Mr. Lewis Waller hopes to produce the new play, *Robin Hood*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on Oct. 12, on the last day but one before the end of his provincial tour. He will open with the piece at the Lyric on Oct. 17. Mr. Waller will play Robin Hood, Mr. Cameron Allan-a-Dale, and Mr. A. E. George Friar Tuck. The part of Maid Marion will be allotted to Miss Evelyn Millard; Mr. Richard Cunningham will be Cœur de Lion; and Prince John will be played by Mr. Devereaux. The songs, &c., are composed by Mr. Herbert Bunning.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's enterprises are numerous, and their number is constantly increasing. They include three companies with *Florodora*, one each with *The Prince of Pilsen*, *The Belle of New York*, *The Earl and the Girl*, *The Eternal City*, and *The Christian*; two with *The Silver King*; and one with *The Four Just Men*. Under Mr. Howard's management are the Crystal Palace Theatre, the Castle Theatre, Richmond, the New Royal, King's Lynn, and the Theatre Royal, Ryde. Truly a surprising list!

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks had a pleasant time in Dublin during the Horse Show week. Not only did *The Catch of the Season* play to the capacity of the Theatre Royal, but the popular pair were honoured by the Lord-Lieutenant with an invitation to the Viceregal Lodge.

Mr. Oswald Brand's benefit matinée on the 18th inst., at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, which has been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. J. B. Mulholland, has a fine programme. The items will include an Indian episode, by Oswald Brand, entitled *The White Squaw*; the thieves' kitchen scenes from Mr. Brand's version of *Oliver Twist*; a miscellaneous concert by a number of West-end star artists; selected episodes from "Bleak House"; and special scenes from *Florodora*. In addition to these attractions, Mr. Robert Pateman will appear in his intensely powerful impersonation of Quilp, in the sensational Wharf scene from *Little Nell*.

Associated with the benefit, either as patrons or artists, are Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Miss Lily Brayton and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Wynne Matthison, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Helen Bancroft, Miss Tita Brand, and Mlle. Adeline Genée; Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Julie Mackay, Miss Kathleen Kellie, Miss Winifred Hare, Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. George Mozart, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Harry Randall, and Mr. George Edwardes. The following have accorded their patronage:—The Countess of Mar and Kellie, Lady Maud B. Wilbraham, Lady Hothfield, Lady Esther Smith, Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, Mrs. Ronalds, and the members of the Playgoers' Club and the Dickens Fellowship.

Mr. Oswald Brand is well known as actor, as author, and as manager, and his stage adaptations of Dickens's works are fresh in the public memory. In addition to his able and sympathetic work as adapter, he personally produced the Dickens cycle of plays, and acted with no little success in several. His health gave way under the strain, and he has been an invalid for many months. With such a splendid bill, and Mr. Brand's popularity in all branches of the profession, the success of the matinée is assured.

Mr. Tree, who has appeared in some of the most popular plays in his extensive répertoire at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, this week, has met with an enthusiastic reception at each performance. His last visit took place eleven years ago. In reply to a question addressed to him, Mr. Tree, while expressing his delight at the splendid welcome accorded him at Blackpool, remarked that he found audiences very much alike the world over. Usually, however, southern audiences are more demonstrative than those of the north. London is more demonstrative than Manchester—and Australia more than America. Mr. Tree added that *Business is Business* seemed to appeal to Northerners with more power than it had done in London.

Mr. George Edwardes has fixed on the 22nd inst. for the first performance at the Gaiety Theatre of Messrs. James T. Tanner and W. H. Risque's "extravagance" *The New Aladdin*, the music of which is by Mr. Ivan Caryll and Mr. Lionel Monckton. The dialogue is in prose, and, as was anticipated, there will no attempt to "revive" the old Gaiety burlesque. Miss Lily Elsie will play the part originally intended for Miss Gertie Millar, who is prevented from appearing in it by the illness of her husband, Mr. Lionel Monckton.

An inquest was held at Dublin on the 30th ult. respecting the death of Mr. Harry Eversleigh, who, as we announced last week, was killed by a motor-car in Dublin on the previous night. Deceased was a baritone vocalist attached to Mr. Seymour Hicks's company, which is at present performing in the Irish capital. He was stepping off a tramcar, when a motor, in which two ladies were being driven by the chauffeur to Mr. Brooke, agent to Earl Fitzwilliam, struck him, and he was killed instantly. A mark on the head was the only sign of injury. Mr. Eversleigh was only thirty-two, and was married. It was stated at the inquest that deceased's proper name was Porter, and he hailed from Wath-on-Dearne, Yorkshire. A verdict of accidental death was returned, and sympathy was expressed with Mr. Seymour Hicks and his company.

The funeral took place on Saturday. The remains were interred in Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin. The chief mourners were the sister and brother-in-law of deceased, and others attending the funeral were Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. W. A. Seymour, manager of *The Catch of the Season* company, and several members of the profession. The remains were first conveyed to the cemetery chapel, where the service was performed by the cemetery chaplain, who afterwards accompanied the coffin to the graveside. Several beautiful floral wreaths were sent by friends and admirers of the deceased, amongst which were one from the directors and manager of the Theatre Royal, one from the ladies and gentlemen of *The Girl on the Stage* Company, Gaiety Theatre; one from Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss, one from the members of the *Catch of the Season* Company, and a large floral cross from Alicia Brookes.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's new play, *The Hypocrites*, which was presented on the evening of the 30th ult. by Mr. Charles Frohman at the Hudson Theatre, New York, and which was also produced on that day, for copyright purposes, at the Grand Theatre, Hull, has for its motto the words, "Expediency is man's wisdom: doing right is God's," from "The Pilgrim's Scrip." The heroine, Rachel Neve, made a step from the path which women are expected to keep, and, hoping to return to the right path by a marriage with her lover, Lennard Wilmore, she calls on his mother, Mrs. Wilmore, to whom her secret is, by an accident, made known. This lady, however, has other designs for her son, and has succeeded in bringing about his engagement with Helen Plugenet, the daughter of a neighbouring wealthy baronet. This marriage she hopes will build up their shattered fortunes, and the whole theme of the play is her endeavour to hide the fact of her son's fault with Miss Neve, and to bring about his marriage with Miss Plugenet. Throughout two acts she is successful in her endeavours, but they are at last frustrated owing to the zeal and energy of the hero—the Rev. Edgar Linnell, the curate of the parish.

The play really resolves itself into a battle between these two—between a woman who says that women have "no moral principles when it comes to saving those we love" and a strong-minded man, who fights her and her friends single-handed, in the face of every obstacle, and ultimately wins. All the other characters in the play—the vicar, the doctor, the lawyer, and their respective wives and families—are against him, and the heroine herself has been cajoled into trying to clear Lennard of all blame. The only one who honestly believes that he is innocent all along is his *fiancée*, Helen Plugenet, who is very much in love with him. After some strong scenes, full of intrigue, we are brought to the crisis—in the third act—where Sir John Plugenet, the father of Helen, insists on sifting the mystery for himself, and to that end he assembles all the parties concerned. This is a very strong scene, and reminds one of the famous trial scene in *Mrs. Dane's Defence*.

Besides the chief personages there are some little character sketches—the fat old vicar of the parish, the Reverend Everard Daubeny, who is a time-serving, placid, self-indulgent man of sixty; the village doctor, a stout, middle-aged man with a bland, sleek, formal, deferential, bedside manner; his wife, Mrs. Blaney, a stiff, formal, ill-natured body of forty-five, quite provincial and middle-class in tone, manner, and thought; and Mr. Wilmore, the lord of the Manor, a stout, violent, shallow, hot-tempered, illogical, English country gentleman, stuffed with all the prejudices of his class.

By the courtesy of Mr. J. B. Mulholland and the directors of the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, the copyright performance of an entirely new comedy opera in three acts, entitled *Lady Tatters*, was given at that house on Friday afternoon, the 31st ult. The libretto is by Mr. Herbert Leonard, the music by Mr. Walter Slaughter, and the lyrics by Mr. Roland Carse. The period of the piece is 1660.

Mr. George Warren's version of Mr. Edgar Wallace's novel, *The Four Just Men*, was produced, for copyright purposes, at the Theatre Royal, Colchester, on Friday, 31st ult., by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. The piece is to commence a tour at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8 next.

The time of the play is the present, and Act I. shows us the gardens of an hotel in Cadiz. Act II. discloses to view a drawing-room in Sir Philip Ranson's house in Portland-place; whilst the third act provides three scenes, viz., at 45, Carnaby-street, West, a scene on the Thames Embankment, and the editorial office of the *Megaphone*. The fourth and last act also gives three scenes, the first and third of which lie at No. 45, Carnaby-street, whilst the second shows us Sir Philip's study at the Foreign Office in Downing-street. The music is by Miss Eva Stuart and Miss Violet Campbell, and a song is sung by Miss Ethel Percival.

Professor Horspool will give a lecture at the Academy, 14, George-street, Hanover-square, W., on Thursday, the 13th inst., at 3.30 p.m., solely to members of the profession, and those wishing to attend should apply to the secretary, Mr. Algernon R. Marman, A.M., for tickets, for which no charge will be made.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has been playing to crowded houses at the Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough, throughout the week, has instructed Miss Violet Langbridge, a daughter of the Rev. Frederick Langbridge, to re-write certain portions of *The Corsican Brothers*, with the object chiefly of intensifying the love interest. As a *lever de rideau*, *The Spell*, a one-act play by Miss Rosamund Langbridge, another daughter of the dramatist-cleric, will be produced in conjunction with *The Corsican Brothers* when that play is done at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, for the first time on or about October 10. Miss N. de Silva and Miss Mary Rorke will appear in Miss Rosamund Langbridge's play. Mr. Harvey will appear on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, where, on the following Friday, *Hamlet* will be revived for the first time this tour, and at the request of a large number of Clydeside playgoers.

Mr. A. H. Canby has completed negotiations with Sir Charles Wyndham by which the very successful run of *The Prince Chap* at the Criterion Theatre will be extended for some weeks beyond the period originally fixed. Miss Adie Boyne, whom Mr. Canby discovered in the provinces, has been engaged to play the part of the servant Puckers in succession to Miss Hilda Trevelyan.

Mr. Cecil du Gué, whose good work as Napoleon I. in *A Royal Divorce* and Vinicius in *Quo Vadis?* will be remembered, has been engaged by Mr. Walter Reynolds to star in the title-rôle of his brilliantly successful play, *Mr. Smith*.

On the application of Mr. Norton, of the Haymarket Theatre, Mr. Denman granted a licence to permit Miriam Priddis, a little girl, to play in *The Man from Blankley's*. Inspector Landon, representing the Commissioner of Police, offered no objection.

The New Grand Theatre, Mansfield, was inspected last Saturday by the magistrates, who expressed themselves satisfied with the building and appointments. According to present arrangements, the place will open its doors on Monday, Sept. 17.

Miss Lulu Bonney was some time ago engaged by Mr. Henry Dundas in *Hearts are Trumps*. An important communication, containing news of great advantage to the young lady, lies at this office. Will any friend of Miss Bonney's who sees this paragraph kindly send address to Bamberger, care of *The Era* Office.

The cast of Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's play, *Peter's Mother*, to be produced by Mr. Otho Stuart, by arrangement with Mr. Frank Curzon, at Wyndham's Theatre, on Wednesday, will include Mr. Norman McKinnell, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. A. E. Mathews, Miss Dolores Drummond, Miss Alice Beet, Mr. Fred Kerr, Mr. E. W. Garden, Mr. Alfred Bucklaw, Mrs. Edward Saker, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mr. Reginald Eyre, and Mr. Montague Elphinstone. The piece will be preceded by *The Sixth Commandment*, by C. Hamilton, in which Mr. F. Percival Stevens, Miss Madge McIntosh, Mr. Walter Hampden, and Miss Isabel Grey will appear.

Mr. Bram Stoker's "Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving" will be published by Mr. Heinemann in two large volumes on Oct. 13, which is the anniversary of Irving's death. The book is full of anecdotes and personal recollections of Irving and his many friends and acquaintances.

A new play, entitled *The King's Signet*, by Watson Bay, will be produced at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on Monday, the 17th inst. The company will include, amongst others, Miss Marie de Campi, who makes her first appearance in this country, and comes here with a big reputation from America. Lavish mounting is promised, complete new scenery being done by E. G. Banks, Imperial Theatre, and costumes of the sixteenth century from Messrs. L. and H. Nathan. The company includes Mr. Alfred Woods, Miss Maud Williamson, and Mr. Charles Collette. It is intended to send this play on a short tour in the provinces during the autumn.

Mr. Allan Wilkie is this week paying a return visit to the Lyceum, Ipswich, after a lapse of over four months. He opened on Monday, despite the hot weather, to a crowded house in *Hamlet*, his performance in the title-rôle being received with tumultuous enthusiasm, the curtain having to be raised some five or six times at the end of each act. The local Press have been most eulogistic in his praise, and the booking for the remainder of the week is exceptionally heavy.

The latest additions to the Fred Locke Fund, received by Mr. J. S. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, are as follows:—Collected by Arnold Bell, £1; John Manson (Lodge Star, 219), 2s. 6d.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson's production of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on the 31st ult., when he made his first appearance as Shylock, was witnessed by a large and very friendly audience. Mr. Forbes-Robertson's conception of Shylock was marked by striking intellectuality, and a tendency to represent Shylock as an unmitigated villain rather than an injured individual. At the beginning of the third act, Mr. Forbes-Robertson's outburst of passion surpassed any other moment of his performance. Miss Gertrude Elliott's Portia was a charming piece of work; and the remainder of the cast rendered good service. The scenery and dresses were beautiful.

Mr. W. H. C. Nation's forthcoming programme at Terry's Theatre will include a condensed version of the old comedy *He's Much to Blame*, attributed to Thomas Holcroft, the author of *The Road to Ruin*.

Messrs. Vedrenne and Granville Barker will produce at a matinée at the Court Theatre, on the 25th inst., a new play by Mr. John Galsworthy, the novelist. It is in three acts, and is entitled *Silverbox*. The scene of the third act is a police-court, realistically produced in every detail.

Mr. H. B. Irving will appear at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Thursday in *Charles I.*, and on the following Wednesday will sail for New York.

Mr. T. W. Rawson, who met with such a serious accident at Morecambe on June 15, where he was then playing Clivebrook in *The Bauble Shop*, is slowly recovering from the effects of his mishap. His ankle was broken, and the healing process has been a long and arduous one, but Mr. Rawson, under the constant observation of Dr. Batten, of Morecambe, has displayed great fortitude. He is now able to take the air in a bathchair, and to enjoy the pleasure of a chat with new-made friends. His old friends have been very solicitous, and he has been the recipient of many sympathetic messages from them. He hopes to rejoin *The Bauble Shop* again very soon.

Mr. Standen Triggs, who has been manager and managing-director of the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, for the past twenty-three years, has announced his intention of resigning his position at the end of the current year. Mr. Triggs will retain a seat on the board of directors, where his intimate knowledge of the local and special requirements will be available, we hope, for many years to come.

Mr. George Musgrove's *Belle of New York* company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Thorburn, will embark upon a lengthened tour of the suburban theatres on Monday next, Sept. 3, at the Camden. The cast includes Mr. Frank Lawton, in his original part of Blinky Bill; Miss Empsie Bowman as the "Belle"; and Miss Winnie Browne, Miss V. Maxwell, Miss V. Spears, Miss F. Hessee, Messrs. John Doran, C. W. Anson, W. Uridge, and Paddy Duprés. New scenery and dresses will be features of the reproduction, which has been supervised by Mr. Arthur Linforth, and in which several new numbers will be found. The tour, which is already booked for next spring and autumn, will be managed by Mr. Wilfred Esmond.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held last Tuesday. There were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Misses Kate Phillips and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, A. B. Tapping, Spencer Trevor, and Hubert Willis, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (sec.).

The hon solicitors reported they had advised several members upon points submitted, and a member having attended before the Council and explained the circumstances in connection with an alleged breach of a contract made between such member and a manager, the hon. solicitors were requested to write to the manager claiming damages for the alleged breach, and were instructed to enforce the claim if necessary. The Council considered a case of alleged bogus management, and the secretary was directed to file the information furnished for future reference. The secretary reported the receipt of a third instalment towards the liquidation of the balance due from a manager to various members of the Association.

The question of a three-quarter fare for actors was again under discussion, and it was ultimately agreed that a member of the Council should interview an influential member of the profession, who might present the views of the Council to the railway authorities.

In connection with the meeting of members, arranged to be held in the saloon of Drury Lane Theatre on Monday, the 1st prox., to consider the questions involved in the proposed Irving memorial, the secretary stated that he had posted twenty notices of the meeting in the various rooms of the Association, calling the attention of the members to the fact. The secretary submitted the list of unpaid subscriptions, and received instructions from the Council to deal with the matter. The secretary reported that a matter which had been referred to arbitration was withdrawn, owing to the fact that one of the three persons concerned would not agree to refer the question in dispute. Mr. Leopold Burroughs, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Tudor House, Eltham-road, Lee, S.E., was elected as an hon. medical officer to the Association. Mary Morrell, Florence Smithers, Fred Maguire, and William Cronin-Wilson were nominated as candidates for election as members of the Association, and two former members were nominated for reinstatement.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when the chair was occupied by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, supported by Messrs. C. Aubrey Smith, Hubert Willis, and the secretary, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks. The secretary received instructions to prepare a leaflet, setting forth the advantages of the scheme under which all members of the Association whose subscriptions are paid are insured.

Mr. Leonard Boyne will sustain the leading part in *Raffles* when the piece is taken to the provinces, opening on Monday week at Oldham.

Mlle. Gaby Delys, a charming young Parisian actress, has been engaged by Mr. George Edwardes for a part in *The New Aladdin* that is to be produced at the Gaiety at the end of the present month. The title is *The New Aladdin*, but it will bear no likeness in any respect to the old Gaiety burlesque. Mlle. Delys, when she arrived in London, was only acquainted with a few words of English, but she has speedily improved her knowledge of the language. In the new Gaiety play, Mlle. Delys will play a part called "The Charm of Paris," and her mission is to show how Parisiennes walk, and sing and dance

Miss Louisa Peach, who has been appearing in her sketch, *Taming a Husband*, for the last few months, has been engaged by Miss Mary Neil and Mr. George Kirke for the leading part in *Judy*. The tour starts on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

Mrs. Crowe (Miss Bateman) has returned to town, and is ready to start her classes again. Her Dramatic School re-opens on the 24th. At this school many of the most popular players of to-day learned the rudiments of their art. Only last term Mrs. Crowe had the great pleasure of two of her students going straight from her tuition to play leading parts—Miss Viva Birkett, who has just created the part of Helen Plugenet in Mr. H. A. Jones's new play, *The Hypocrites*, in New York, and Miss Muriel Currey, who gave a fine performance of Miss Richland in *The Good-Natured Man*, lately produced by Mr. Poel. In fact, during Mrs. Crowe's course, her pupils have to study and rehearse so many and such varied parts that when they leave her they are capable artists.

Among the applications for engagements received by W. Scott Phipp for Servais Le Roy's Mystical Play was the following:—"Seeing as how you are advertizing in *The Era* and being desirous of entering your profession I send in this letter for the situation. You state you want a juvenile. I am sixteen, and am sure that I am suitable. If that is filled and seeing you want a heavy man I may tell you my weight without overcoat and walking stick is ten stones which doubtless you will consider heavy enough for your purposes. As to part of heroine I think my young lady could do that all right. She has not been on the stage yet but she thinks she is clever enough for this sort of thing. I have always wanted to get into your profession and can compose songs and comic pieces. My trade at present is the butchers line, but as I believe your line is composed of art I fully intend to do it."

Mr. George Musgrove's *Belle of New York* company embarked upon its ninth year of tour at the Camden Theatre on Monday before a crowded audience, which included many well known representatives of society, art, literature, and the drama. Indeed, the casual spectator looking round upon the brilliant assembly might well have imagined himself assisting at some West End *première*. The principals were all accorded hearty receptions, encores were the order of the evening, and the enthusiasm of the audience, which had commenced with the opening number, culminated in a veritable storm of cheers. It is not generally known that Miss Winnie Browne, whose fine presence and admirable voice make her an ideal "queen of comic opera," holds the Royal Society's medal for saving a youth from drowning a few years ago.

The Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, is closed pending some stage and other improvements, for the production of *Sapho* next week, under the new management of Mr. Cassidy, brother to Mr. Rice Cassidy, of Muldoon fame.

Miss Alice Thurgate, one of the members of Mr. Seymour Hicks' company, was driving rapidly to the theatre in a side-car at Dublin last week, when the horse shied violently at a passing tram, throwing Miss Thurgate to the ground. Had it not been for the good services of a passer-by, who quickly extricated her foot from the stirrup-step, there is little doubt she would have been seriously hurt; as it was, she escaped with a few slight scratches and bruises. Miss Thurgate is a clever dancer, and has done much good work under the banner of American managers "on the other side." Indeed, she has only returned to England for family reasons, and, having received many tempting offers, may cross the Atlantic again before long.

Mr. Charles Carey will present about Christmas a second edition of *After the Ball*, under a new title. The piece has been almost continuously on tour for twelve months, and has settled down into a genuine success.

Miss Dora Langham (Miss Gabrielle Ray's understudy) has again been playing the part of So-hei in *See-See* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre this week, owing to the indisposition of Miss Ray, and has been warmly applauded in all the musical numbers, including the "Lantern" duet with Mr. Huntley Wright.

In consequence of the unavoidable absence of Miss Queenie Finnis from the cast of *After the Ball*, at the Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster, last Saturday night, her part of Nellie Mather was most successfully undertaken by Miss Dorothy Westerleigh, who rendered with conspicuous ability the various vocal numbers, and otherwise displayed unusual histrionic talent.

Dr. Walford Bodie has appointed Mr. Arthur Jefferson—whose "booking agency" is rapidly progressing—as his sole provincial representative, and considering the doctor's fame, and consequent demand for his dates, renders the services of a booking agency almost unnecessary, it may be accepted as ample evidence of his faith in Mr. Jefferson's business abilities. Needless to say, Mr. Jefferson himself is highly pleased with the commission, the negotiations being the outcome of a long friendship, extending over fifteen years, during which time—apart from friendship—Mr. Jefferson has had ample opportunity of testing, by means of local cases in which he has been personally interested, the genuineness of the doctor's world-wide successful methods of treatment of his patients.

The next term at Mme. Kate Flinn's Academy for singing and voice production commences on Sept. 10. Quite a number of this accomplished lady professor's pupils get regular engagements on the stage.

Mr. W. S. Penley describes the new piece which he intends to produce shortly as "a comedy of personality." Provincial audiences will have the first opportunity of witnessing the new production; and, according to present arrangements, it will be staged at his own theatre in Great Queen-street at or about Christmas time.

Mr. Frank Curzon is not giving up the lease of the Prince of Wales's Theatre at the end of the run of *See-See*. His contract with Mr. George Edwardes will finish at the end of the run of the play, and Mr. Curzon will then present various attractions at the Prince of Wales's. His association with Mr. Edwardes has been very pleasant, but he is desirous of devoting his energies to his own theatres, and wants the Prince of Wales's Theatre for his own attractions.

His first production will be *Miss Hook of Holland*, written by Mr. Paul Rubens, in which Mr. G. P. Huntley will play the lead. Afterwards he will produce *The Maid at the Ferry*, by Mr. Basil Hood, Mr. Leedham Bantock, and Mr. Howard Talbot, with Miss Isabel Jay in the name-part. This will be followed by another new piece, called *The Three Kisses*, written by Mr. Percy Greenbank, Mr. Leedham Bantock, and Mr. Howard Talbot.

The Moody-Manners Opera Company has been very successful at the Kennington Theatre this week. On Wednesday they appeared in *Carmen*, Miss Zélie de Lussan creating a powerful impression by her fine performance as Carmen; Mr. Joseph O'Mara being warmly applauded as José, Mr. Lewys James singing splendidly as Escamillo, and Miss Ethel Cadman being a delightfully sweet and simple Micäela. Mr. Romualdo Sapio conducted the excellent orchestra with great skill.

As we have already announced, the date fixed for the production of Mr. Hall Caine's new play, *The Bondman*, at Drury Lane, is Thursday, the 13th inst. Much that is contained in the novel has been sacrificed by the author to meet the requirements of the stage. Briefly, the story shows how Red Jason, with a mother's wrongs crying out for redress, deserts from his ship, and in his flight reaches the adopted home of his half-brother, Michael Sunlocks, just as the latter has set out for the Island of Ustica in search of a fortune. Jason is made welcome, and his thoughts are turned from vengeance by the passionate pleadings of Greeba, who has plighted her troth to Michael. After a lapse of time, and hearing nothing from Michael, Greeba—urged on by her parents—gives a hesitating assent to Jason's suit. Then comes news of Michael, who has headed a revolution, deposed the Governor of Ustica and been elected President, and who now sends for his affianced bride to join him. Torn between love and duty, Greeba sets off to meet her lover, leaving Jason to follow with a double motive for vengeance.

In pursuit of his revenge, Jason becomes the tool of the reactionary party in Ustica, but in the moment of his triumph he is himself denounced by Greeba, and hurried off to the sulphur mines. Thither he is followed by Michael, who has fallen a victim to another *coup d'état*. What follows the meeting of the brothers at the mines it would be unfair to tell, for these are the dramatic surprises of Mr. Hall Caine's play, and constitute its widest departures from the novel.

Scenically, *The Bondman* gives full scope for those effects for which Mr. Arthur Collins has gained world-wide renown. Its four acts are divided into five scenes, with tableaux at the opening and close of the play. The farmyard, with its live-stock, hayricks, and cornfields ripe for harvest, stretching down to the sea, which is seen through a mist of sunlight over the edge of a craggy cliff, will be found remarkably realistic. In order to ensure the accuracy of the local colour of the scene at the sulphur mines, both Mr. Collins and Mr. Caine visited the original mines in Sicily, and the result, there can be no doubt, will be a triumph of realism.

Every part, even to the smallest, has been cast with the best available talent, as the following list shows: Mr. Fairbrother, Mr. Lionel Brough; Adam Fairbrother, Mr. Henry Neville; Mrs. Fairbrother, Miss Marie Illington; Greeba, Mrs. Patrick Campbell; Michael Sunlocks, Mr. Henry Ainley; Jason, Mr. Frank Cooper; Father Ferrati, Mr. James Fernandez; Dr. Boni, Mr. Oscar Adye; Governor Testa, Mr. Austin Melford; Christian Ann, Miss Mary Brough; and the President's housekeeper, Miss Henrietta Watson.

"THE WINTER'S TALE."

Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy,
at His Majesty's Theatre, on Sept. 1.

Leontes ..... MR. CHARLES WARNER
Mamillius ..... MASTER TONGE
Camillo ..... MR. LYN HARDING
Antigonus ..... MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Cleomenes ..... MR. HENRY WILLIAMS
Dion ..... MR. KEITH FRASER
Another Sicilian Lord ..... MR. DAVID POWELL
Servant to Leontes ..... MR. EDWARD OUSTON
Officer ..... MR. YATES SOUTHGATE
Polixenes ..... MR. JULIUS KNIGHT
Florizel ..... MR. BASIL GILL
A Mariner ..... MR. REGINALD CRAVEN
An Old Shepherd ..... MR. WILLIAM H. DAY
Clown ..... MR. O. B. CLARENCE
Servant ..... MR. E. S. VINDEN
Gaoler ..... MR. J. S. BLYTHE
Autolycus ..... MR. C. W. SOMERSET
Hermione ..... MISS ELLEN TERRY
Perdita ..... MISS VIOLA TREE
Emilia ..... MISS FLORENCE WELLS
First Lady ..... MISS FRANCES LEIGHTON
Second Lady ..... MISS ETHEL WOOD
Mopsa ..... MISS BRUCE-JOY
Dorcas ..... MISS EDITH JEFFERIES
Paulina ..... MRS. TREE

The periodical revivals of *The Winter's Tale* and their success are a standing testimony to the child-like element in any theatrical audience, or, indeed, in any audience whatever. "Tell me a story!" says the child. "Amuse me, divert me, charm me!" And playgoers of all ages are but children of a larger growth. We cannot possibly know what were Shakespeare's feelings when writing the comedy. It seems to have been one of the latest of his works; and he may have written it to amuse himself, with an old man's easy, benevolent, half-contemptuous indifference. Of course, he could not touch the "Historie of Dorastus and Fawnia" without adorning it with some dramatic cohesion and effect. Indeed, Greene's chap-book only supplied him with hints; and Shakespeare had not only to remodel the plot, but to create the characters. But he seems to have resigned himself chiefly to telling a story. In substance *The Winter's Tale* is irresponsible melodrama, gilded with Shakespeare's marvellous genius for flesh-and-blood characterisation, and his exquisite poetical faculty. We are not to ask why Leontes is jealous of Hermione, or marvel at the "long arm" of the coincidence which makes Florizel fall in love with the very farmer's daughter who is a concealed princess and a possible bride for him. We must just accept the play as a "story," "entertaining," as Johnson said, in his blunt way, "with all its absurdities."

It follows that any liberties taken with the text and any embellishments added are quite in place. In the first important revival of the play—Garrick's version, produced at Drury Lane in 1756, in which the actor-adapter, in his own words, "confined and bottled" Shakespeare's liquor—the original was freely cut, and liberally supplied with new lyrics, Mrs. Cibber's singing as Perdita being the hit of the production. Kemble revived *The Winter's Tale* at Drury Lane in 1802, with himself as Leontes and Mrs. Siddons as Hermione, her beauties of form above the waist making her an ideal statue, and her awaking being a marvellous bit of dumb show. Macready played Leontes at Drury Lane in 1823, and again in 1843. Charles Kean mounted the play in 1856 very elaborately, with fine scenery, and a large amount of dancing and pageantry, Mrs. Heath (afterwards Mrs. Wilson Barrett) being the Perdita, and Mr. Ryder the Polixenes. Mrs. Waller played Hermione under F. B. Chatterton's management at Drury Lane in 1878, with Mrs. Herman Vezin and Charles Dillon in the cast; and Miss Mary Anderson, at the Lyceum, in 1887, doubled the rôles of Hermione and Perdita, Mr. Forbes Robertson playing Leontes, Miss Sophie Eyre Paulina, Mr. F. H. Macklin Polixenes, Mr. Fuller Mellish Florizel, Mr. S. Maclean Camillo, and Mr. Charles Collette Autolycus. One fancies that the writing of *The Winter's Tale* did not give Shakespeare much trouble. Its charm is spontaneous. Its characters, compared with Shakespeare's strongest, are merely sketched. Hermione's troubles do not affect us as do Desdemona's. The jealousy of Leontes is mere moonshine compared with that of the Moor of Venice. We are not too deeply interested in the troubles of the leading personages; for we feel certain, from the tone of the tale, that we may rely upon seeing "happy endings" to all their afflictions.

The beauty of the mounting of this revival of *The Winter's Tale* simply "beggars description"—not so much by great gorgeousness as by exquisitely picturesque and artistic quality. Mr. Percy Macquoid's designs for the costumes are marvels of judicious selection and adaptation from authorities. It is impossible to do justice by description to the lovely scenery by Messrs. W. Emden, W. T. Hemsley, G. Seckman, Raphael, J. Harker, and T. E. Ryan. Each set is a gem in its way, and the above excellent artists have excelled themselves on this occasion in the exercise of the art which they understand so well. Especially memorable are Mr. Ryan's scene, Before the Shepherd's Cottage, with its lovely lake and rivulets "purling" amidst masses of moss and ferns; but the Sicilian and Bohemian Courts are most sumptuously depicted by Mr. Emden, Mr. Seckman, and Mr. Harker. Such gifted composers as Mr. Coleridge Taylor, Mr. Andrew Levey, Mr. Raymond Roze, and Mr. Adolf Schmid have been commissioned to supply the music, and have done so with happy judgment and agreeable inspiration.

And now, having dealt with the play, we come to the players. Beautiful as the production undoubtedly is, we doubt if any but the most ardent Shakespearean enthusiasts could have so utterly disregarded the thermometer on Saturday night had the acting not been of rare excellence, which it is almost impossible to rate too highly. Add to this a series of beautiful pictures, some reminding us of the classic art of Alma-Tadema, others delighting the eye with their sylvan simplicity, charming music and graceful dances, and one can hardly wonder that enthusiasm at His Majesty's ran as high as the thermometer. First in the public favour on Saturday night, as for the last fifty years, was Miss Ellen Terry, Ellen Terry the incomparable. Never, we venture to think, have the tenderness, the grace, the bubbling gaiety, the exquisite pathos, which all contribute to the fascinating personality called Ellen Terry, been more apparent than in the rôle of Hermione. In the Court of Justice scene, when Hermione answers the base accusations made against her, Miss Terry was at her very finest. The soft, pleading voice, broken with emotion; the eloquent, sorrowful face, which for a moment was illumined with eager hope when the words of the Oracle were read, only to be clouded with blank despair when Leontes denounces the Oracle as worthless; the anguish too deep for words when she hears of the death of her first-born—in fact, the whole wonderful art of Miss Terry held the audience spell-bound; and the spell was only broken when the curtain fell, and roar upon roar of applause brought Miss Terry again and again in front of the curtain. Mr. Charles Warner gave a masterly study of Leontes, a part eminently suited to the methods of the "old school," of which Mr. Warner is so popular an exponent. He played the jealous husband, who feeds on his own jealousy until his whole being is obsessed with the one idea, to perfection; and, when most torn by the violence of his own emotions, there was never absent that touch of high dignity which befits the part of a king. In striking contrast with the unreasonable passion of the earlier scenes were the chastened resignation and penitence of Leontes in the final act; and the yearning tenderness with which the King regards his own daughter, all unknowingly, when he sees in her a likeness to his much-wronged wife, was beautifully and touchingly portrayed. As Paulina, the woman with the heart of gold and the tongue of a termagant, Mrs. Tree gave us the ripe, vigorous performance which we have learned to expect from this talented actress; she held the audience every moment that she was on the stage. Most striking was her acting in the Prison scene. Paulina is holding forth in an indignant tirade against the jealous tyrant Leontes, her eyes flash, she stamps with her foot, when Emilia—played sympathetically by Miss Florence Wells—approaches with the infant princess in her arms. At the sight of the babe Paulina's anger evaporates at a breath, the strident note leaves her voice as if by magic, and she gathers the child to her arms and coos as softly over it as a dove over its nestling. Miss Viola Tree made a very charming Perdita, fresh as a June morning, with some delightful little touches of girlish coyness and sentiment. Her dancing in the beautiful rustic scene Before the Shepherd's Cottage made us echo Florizel's wish that she were a wave of the sea and would dance for ever. The part of Camillo was entrusted to the capable hands of Mr. Lyn Harding, who played it with that breadth and soundness which invariably distinguish this clever actor. Mr. Basil Gill as Florizel looked handsome enough to win the heart of any maiden, and acted with an impetuosity and youthful fervour which left nothing to be desired. Polixenes was excellently represented by Mr. Julius Knight, strongly reminiscent in appearance, voice, and method of the late Wilson Barrett. Master Tonge was a most captivating Mamillius, and spoke with excellent distinctness; Mr. William H. Day gave a very good study of an old shepherd; and Mr. O. B. Clarence made a great deal out of the small part of a clown. The expressions which chased one another across the actor's mobile features as he heard from Autolycus of the probable death which he was to die were most laughter-provoking. Mr. C. W. Somerset's Autolycus was rich in dry and smart humour, and Mr. Fisher White made a very dignified Antigonus, and was also very impressive and admirable in elocution as the Spirit of Time in the Monologue. Mr. J. S. Blythe was an excellent Gaoler, and the small parts of a Sicilian Lord and Servant to Leontes were efficiently filled by Mr. David Powell and Mr. Edward Ouston respectively; while Mr. Henry Williams as Cleomenes and Mr. Keith Fraser as Dion both put in excellent work. Mr. Reginald Craven made a convincing Mariner, and Mr. E. S. Vinden a becomingly rustic servant to the Old Shepherd; while Mr. Yates Southgate as the Officer of the Court of Judicature was duly impressive. Miss Bruce-Joy as Mopsa proved herself the possessor of a very pretty voice and a most engaging style; and her rival Dorcas was capitally played by Miss Edith Jefferies, who also sang very prettily. The trio between Autolycus, Mopsa, and Dorcas in Act II., Scene III., was warmly apreciated. Miss Frances Leighton as First Lady and Miss Ethel Wood as Second Lady Attendant on the Queen made the most of their chances.

At the close of the performance the principals were called many times before the curtain, and enthusiasm reached its height when Mr. Tree led Miss Terry forward. There were repeated calls for a speech, but none on this occasion was vouchsafed.

MR. BOURCHIER'S EXPERIMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Mr. Bourchier desires me to thank you for so kindly meeting his views with regard to last night's performance at the Garrick Theatre. He felt it was impossible that a good impression of a play, really valuable to the public, could be conveyed to paper in the short time at the disposal of a writer under the circumstances existing previous to last evening.

His opinion was confirmed by the fact that many of the most eminent first-night representatives of newspapers were in the habit of asking to be allowed to be present at a dress rehearsal, or to read a play previous to the first performance, so as to assist them in what had been an impossible task. Mr. Bourchier feels that to see a dress rehearsal (i.e., a half-fledged performance) or to read a play before seeing it performed is a bad way of gaining that first impression so important to the critical mind. Further, it is surely more satisfactory to the representatives of newspapers to see a play when several public performances have removed the natural first-night nervousness of actors and actresses, leaving them self-possessed and confident for their work.

Again, if any small alterations are required to be made to the play, a few performances before the public—the *London* public—will discover these and alterations can be accomplished previous to the time when the newspaper representatives form their judgments. To musical comedy lenient criticism has always been the order of the day, because the feeling is strong that such an adaptable vehicle in the hands of clever artists can be much improved in, say, a month. Such consideration has not been extended to other productions. A play is not so adaptable, perhaps, as musical comedy, but in a less degree it can be dealt with, and Mr. Bourchier asks for one week for such work to be done, if necessary.

Mr. George Edwardes, in his interview with the representative of the *Daily Telegraph*, has made a statement which, in our experience in this theatre is the reverse of fact. He says: "I don't want my public to wait for some days before having the opinions of the Press. They would simply keep away until notices had appeared." As a most direct refutation of this, the plain statement of what has occurred in this theatre during the last fourteen hours will suffice. At the moment of writing both the sale of the American rights of *The Morals of Marcus* and the library deal for this play have been definitely settled and confirmed.—Yours faithfully,

M. V. LEVEAUX.

Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross-road, W.C.,
Aug. 31, 1906.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S company opened a three-night engagement on the 30th ult. at the Theatre Royal, Colchester, with *The Eternal City*. The cast contained several talented artists, whilst the scenery was the subject of much favourable comment. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, in the part of Baron Bonelli, played the cultured Italian admirably, and he had to appear before the curtain after each act. He was ably supported by a talented actress in Miss Sara de Groot, who, in the rôle of Donna Roma, scored most decisively. Mr. Henry Deas was forceful as David Rossi, and Mr. J. Fortescue made a worthy Pope. Mr. W. O'Flynn showed considerable merit as Bruno, and the remaining characters, which were numerous, were represented in a capable fashion.

AMONG those present in the audience at the revival of *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's Theatre on Saturday last were Miss Marion Terry, who received an ovation from the pit on her entrance, Miss Constance Collier, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, and Mr. Lionel Brough.

MR. CHARLES COLLETTE, who has been most successfully appearing at seaside resorts in his popular sketches, is specially engaged by Miss Marie Campi, the well-known American actress, to sustain a leading part in *The King's Signet*, at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on Monday, Sept. 17.

"TODDLES."

ERA Sept. 8, 1906

Farce, in three acts, adapted from *Triplepatte*, by MM. Tristan Bernard and André Godfernaux, and produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, on Monday, Sept. 3.

Lord Meadows ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Boolby ..... MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS
Freddy Gunner ..... MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Haslitt ..... MR. ALLEN THOMAS
Doctor Baird ..... MR. IVO DAWSON
Joblyn ..... MR. ALFRED BISHOP
Valet ..... MR. KING FORDHAM
Chauffeur ..... MR. ONSLOW
The Mayor ..... MR. ERNEST COSHAM
1st Usher ..... MR. DANIEL MCCARTHY
2nd Usher ..... MR. LYTTON GREY
Lady Dover ..... MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON
Mrs. Joblyn ..... MISS LOTTIE VENNE
Constance Joblyn ..... MISS ALICE CRAWFORD
Countess de Chambry ..... MISS HELEN FERRERS
Cicely ..... MISS MADGE TITHERADGE
Mrs. Bowler ..... MISS NANCY PRICE
Pussy ..... MISS MINNIE MILLS
Maid at the Spring ..... MISS BEATRICE TERRY

Irresolute and weak-kneed heroes of farce became quite the craze at the theatres last year in Paris, and the taste for their invertebracy was transferred to London with the production of *The Indecision of Mr. Kingsbury*, at the Haymarket. Now we have another "erratic" at the Duke of York's—by name *Toddles*, which turns out to be one more adaptation from the French, and it was produced on Monday with considerable success. It will be easy to put on steam in the first act, and then all will be well with Mr. Charles Frohman's latest presentation. The original of *Toddles* is *Triplepatte*—produced on Nov. 30 last year at the Paris Athenée—which was pronounced by our correspondent to be a brightly written and amusing comedy. The wit and satire have not evaporated in the passage across Channel, and there is much laughter to be enjoyed over the droll situations of what—in its English dress—contains all the obviousness of farce. *Toddles* is the lightest possible fare, and is, for the most part, genuinely funny.

Lord Meadows, nicknamed by his intimates Toddles, is an impecunious peer of about thirty-two, who, up to the time of the curtain rising, has "slithered" through life, and resolved on nothing so much as letting things generally "rip." He certainly has caught something of the prevailing enthusiasm for motoring, and gives way to a pardonable anxiety about his finances when he borrows £500 from Haslitt. A valetudinarian, he has been sent by his doctor to a small spa to drink the waters. It is there that he meets his aunt, Lady Dover, a professional matchmaker, who, like some society women, makes a comfortable income out of her introductions. She decides immediately on the fate of Toddles. He is deeply in debt, and must marry. Constance Joblyn, the pretty daughter of a rich banker, is the very girl. She unfolds her project to Mrs. Joblyn, a good-natured *parvenue*, who is, of course, delighted at the prospect of having a peer for a son-in-law. So entirely eligible a union will further her ambition of becoming one of the *grand monde*. In the second scene of the first act the young couple are introduced to each other, and it becomes at once evident that the arranged "union" is regarded with little favour by either. A title does not attract Constance. She does not want to get married, and refuses to carry out her ambitious mother's matrimonial plans unless she loves the man chosen. An amusing character is Mr. Joblyn, who, being intensely bored by his wife's ceaseless whirl of entertaining, persuades some of her male guests to go home and go to bed.

The wedding-day arrives, and Toddles is discovered in bed, arguing in silk pyjamas on the absurdity of his getting married. It is twelve o'clock, and the ceremony is to take place before M. le Maire at one. From his state of lazy indifference he is aroused by the moneylender Haslitt, who sees in the marriage a prospect of a complete settlement of Toddles' debt to him; by the widow, Mrs. Bowler, a former flame, for whom he still feels some tenderness; by Lady Dover, his aunt, who, in view of a handsome cheque for "commission," comes to make assurance doubly sure; and by Mrs. Joblyn, his future mother-in-law, who *will* kiss him and call him Willie. Lady Dover has to wait for him in another room while he dresses, and no sooner has she gone than the Countess de Chambry arrives with her six-year-old daughter, to whom Toddles was betrothed when in her cradle. The irate mother, who sees a brilliant future alliance for her child slipping away, will take care that his marriage with Constance Joblyn does not take place, and, seizing his wedding suit and boots—his trunks have been packed for a honeymoon trip in Italy—she bears them off in triumph. With her departure Toddles returns to bed.

In the Mairie—the first scene of the third act—the Joblyns and their guests are waiting for the bridegroom, and as there is no trace of him, are growing uneasy. Just as M. le Maire's patience is on the point of exhaustion, and the wedding-party is about to depart, Toddles arrives in his pyjamas, covered by an overcoat borrowed from the moneylender. The Mayor has the contracting-parties placed before him, and, after reading an amusing and utterly unintelligible translation of a portion of the French statute in regard to civil marriages, puts the question to Toddles, Does he consent to marry Constance Joblyn? It is impossible for him to make up his mind; and before the guests have recovered from their surprise he has fled.

In the final scene, however, Toddles and Constance, left to themselves, soon understand each other. Toddles makes up his mind, and discovers that he cannot do without her, and so the curtain falls on the prospect of a second visit to the Mairie.

Mr. Cyril Maude does not follow the example of M. Levesque, the original Triplepatte, at the Paris Athenée, and make the English equivalent of that part more grotesque than is strictly necessary. It would be possible to over-accentuate incidents in the bedroom scene; but the tact of the comedian prevents the slightest suggestion of indelicacy. Mr. Maude's acting is refined and restrained, and the invincible indecision and good humour of Toddles in the second act make those scenes exceedingly gay and humorous. Miss Gertrude Kingston, as the determined match-maker, Lady Dover, plays the part with ease of manner, and the correct society tone. The character is quite in harmony with the recent revelations in a *cause célèbre*, and the clever actress gets every ounce out of the part. Miss Lottie Venne is delightfully comic as Mrs. Joblyn, being particularly amusing in the scene of the soirée, where the good-natured *parvenue* will "fuss" over her guests. It is not a great part; it is well, therefore, that a comedienne so completely equipped as Miss Lottie Venne is there to extract all possible humour from it. Miss Nancy Price as the widow, Mrs. Bowler, who so thoroughly enjoys the discomfiture of the Joblyns at the Mairie, suggests cleverly the mischievous and not over scrupulous *femme du monde*, and looks superb in some charming dresses. Miss Alice Crawford delights everyone by the sweetness and fascination of her Constance Joblyn. It is a decided triumph for so young an actress, and her freshness and naturalness in the final scene of the wooing were generally remarked on the opening night. Miss Crawford presents a most attractive portrait of English girlhood. Mr. Alfred Bishop invests the character of Joblyn with all the necessary eccentricity, and makes the very most of his slight chances in the first act. Mr. Kenneth Douglas plays with an agreeable rattle as Boolby; Mr. Charles Maude is effective as the society journalist, Freddy Gunner; Mr. Allen Thomas does all that is necessary for the moneylender Haslitt; Mr. Ivo Dawson as Doctor Baird has quite a professional air; Mr. Ernest Cosham contributes a capital character-sketch of M. le Maire; and Mr. King Fordham, Mr. Onslow, Mr. Daniel McCarthy, and Mr. Lytton Grey neatly fill the small parts of the valet, the chauffeur, and the first and second ushers. Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Beatrice Terry, and Miss Madge Titheradge, too, are irreproachable in the less important rôles of the Countess de Chambry, the Maid at the Spring, and Cicely. The elegant gowns worn in *Toddles* are by Mme. Herbert, and Mr. Bruce Smith is responsible for the five excellent scenes of the farce.

Toddles was preceded by a wordless play, in one act, arranged by Albert Chevalier, with music by Edward Jones, entitled

"THE SCAPEGRACE."

Tom ..... MR. ALLEN THOMAS
Harry ..... MR. LYTTON GREY
Charlie ..... MR. CHARLES MAUDE
Simpson ..... MR. ERNEST COSHAM
Widow Smith ..... MISS KATE HARWOOD
Nan ..... MISS PAULINE CHASE

This is a speechless version of *Good for Nothing*, which was first produced at the Haymarket in 1851, with the late Mrs. Fitzwilliam as Nan, Mr. J. B. Buckstone as Tom Dibbles, and Mr. Henry Howe as Harry. In Mr. Albert Chevalier's "arrangement" Tom becomes a cabman, and young Mr. Simpson abdicates in favour of Simpson, a broker's man, to whom Nan pays the rent. The little piece derives its chief importance from the opportunity it gives to Miss Pauline Chase, who is as clever as she is pretty, for mimicry and dancing, in the rôle of Nan. It is delightful art. Mr. Allen Thomas as Tom, Mr. Lytton Grey as Harry, Mr. Charles Maude as Charlie, Mr. Ernest Cosham as Simpson, and Miss Kate Harwood as Widow Smith, give able support to Miss Chase, who is honoured by several special calls. Mr. Edward Jones, in the illustrative music, is responsible for a melodious score.

"THE ROYAL FLOWER."

A Comedy, in One Act,
Adapted from the French Comedy *L'Œillet Blanc*, of Alphonse Daudet, by Pem, and
Produced at the Coronet Theatre, on
Aug. 29.

Vidal ..... MR. CLAUDE KING
Cadet-Vincent ..... MR. A. W. BASKCOMB
Virginie ..... MISS NINON DUDLEY
The Marquis ..... MRS. RUSS WHYTAL
Peasants ..... MR. S. RIGGBY, MR. H. RAE

On Wednesday, the 29th ult., this pretty, fanciful little piece was put on at the Coronet as curtain-raiser to *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*, and it will in future precede it till further notice. *The Royal Flower* is a charming addition to the roses of romance, and, by the freshness and fragrance of its sentiment, and its dainty interpretation, it will rank as a rare and precious blossom in the garden of sentiment. The troublous times of the French Revolution are chosen as the setting, when all the land of the aristocrats was in the alien hands of the revolutionary mob. Safe by the banks of the Thames a little group of exiles discourse over the card-table of the extinction of chivalry, and the cynical Comte and the worldly Abbé declare that true love is dead. This a young Marquis, aged sixteen, stoutly denies, and avows that he would be willing to prove by his death that there is still some heroism in love. The bewitching Comtesse sitting on the sofa dares him to go back to France and pluck a white lily from the garden of her château, and, furnished with a plan of the grounds, he bravely defies death to satisfy the caprice of a woman, and win the approval of a pair of bright eyes. The Comtesse's château is in the hands of the Republicans, and Citizen Vidal now holds sway on the estate. Arrived there, the young Marquis finds only one white lily, the treasured gift of Vidal's daughter Virginie's sweetheart, and almost on his entrance, by way of the garden wall, he is espied by the bibulous servant Cadet-Vincent, who would solace himself with the contents of the wine-cellar unbeknown to his master. After a short interview with his daughter, in which he shows his reason for desiring revenge on the aristocrats for seducing her mother, Vidal is called away to a Revolutionary tribunal, and Cadet-Vincent perforce goes with him, after warning Virginie to go into the pavilion and there secure herself. A delightful *tête-à-tête* between Virginie and the all too loving young Marquis then ensues, and, touched by his daring and devotion, she hides him from the mob, and eventually persuades her father to let him go free and unscathed. A charming and idyllic little play this, with no undue straining after effect, and with boyish sentiment and enthusiasm run riot. *A Royal Flower* had the advantage of an admirable and tasteful interpretation. Mrs. Russ Whytal was exquisite as the lovesick enthusiast, the youthful Marquis, and very touching and convincing was her pleading in the cause of real, heartfelt love, and the honesty of purpose, pluck, perseverance, and contempt of death of the young adventurer were admirably limned. Refinement and grace peep out at every turn in her impersonation. Miss Ninon Dudley acted very prettily and tenderly as Virginie. Mr. Claude King ably portrayed the light and shade of the character of Citizen Vidal; and Mr. A. W. Baskcomb made much of the humour of the part of the bibulous Cadet-Vincent.

THE HELLERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In reply to a correspondent, a contemporary states that "there were two Hellers—Stephen, an eminent pianist, born at Perth, 1813, died 1888; and Robert, a famour conjurer, born 1830, died Nov. 27, 1878." I venture to suggest that it hardly does Stephen Heller justice to style him merely "an eminent pianist," for he was a great deal more than that: one of the most delightful composers for the piano who ever lived. Stephen Heller, by the way, was not born in 1813, but on May 15, 1814. Robert Heller, the "famous conjurer," I have never heard of, but I can mention three other notable Hellers. First, Joseph Heller (1798-1849), a well-known German writer on art and collector of art treasures; second, Robert Heller, a celebrated German novelist (1812-1871); and, third, last but not least, Amely Heller, the remarkably gifted young violin virtuosa, who appeared in London last year with such striking success, and who, in spite of her youth (for she is only about seventeen), has written and published a beautiful and finely illustrated memoir of her famous countryman, Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst, the illustrious violinist and splendid composer for his instrument, who was born at Brünn, Austria, on May 6, 1814, and died at Nice on Oct. 9, 1865. Amely Heller is the niece of Stephen Heller.—I am, sir, yours very faithfully,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, St. John's Wood, N.W.,
Sept. 2, 1906.

MR. JONES left for England on the 31st ult., but returns in October, when he will deliver a series of lectures on the drama, at, amongst other places, Harvard, Yale, and Princetown.

MISS ETHEL VAN PRAAGH and Mr. J. Edward Whitty will present next Monday, at the West London, for the first time in the Metropolis, their new play, *An Unwedded Wife*. This piece has met with great success in the provinces since the production last July at Leeds. Miss Van Praagh will sustain the leading part of Marion, the unwedded wife.

"TRISTRAM AND ISEULT."

Play, in Four Acts, by J. Comyns Carr,
Produced at the Adelphi Theatre, on
Tuesday, Sept. 4.

Mark ..... MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Sir Tristram of Lyonesse ..... MR. MATHESON LANG
Sir Andrew ..... MR. CHARLES ROCK
Sir Dinas ..... MR. CECIL DUNCAN
Gouvernayle ..... MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Gormon ..... MR. H. R. HIGNETT
Sir Sagramore ..... MR. G. KAY SOUPER
Sir Galleron ..... MR. J. R. GILLESPIE
Sir Morganore ..... MR. M. WILSON
Sir Malgrine ..... MR. E. RUSTON
Sir Palamide's Squire ..... MR. HERBERT GRIMWOOD
Sir Tristram's Squire ..... MR. HUGH C. BUCKLER
First Hereld ..... MR. FRITZ RUSSELL
Second Hereld ..... MR. A. H. ROW
Third Hereld ..... MR. R. SHERRARD
The Master of the Ship ..... MR. HENRY KITTS
A Sailor ..... MR. CALEB PORTER
Ogrin, a Dwarf ..... MR. GORDON HARKER
Oren ..... MISS GERTRUDE SCOTT
Iseult ..... MISS LILY BRAYTON
Brangwaine ..... MISS EDITH WYNNE-MATTHISON
Arganthael ..... MISS HUTIN BRITTON
Waiting Woman ..... MISS KATHARINE MAUDE
Iseult of the White Hands ..... MISS AGNES BRAYTON

We need not "quarry" in the second volume of Mallory's "Morte d'Arthur" in order to ascertain in how much or how little Mr. Comyns Carr has been indebted to the ancient legend and how much to his own invention and knowledge of stage-craft. To most people, the story of Tristram and Iseult is best known through Wagner's opera, whose libretto takes up the story at the beginning of Mr. Carr's third act. His first opens in Cornwall, where King Mark is bitterly jealous of the fame of his relative and heir, Sir Tristram of Lyonesse, a brave knight, who has saved Cornwall by slaying an Irish invader, Moraunt, the son of King Gormon. In the conflict with Moraunt, Tristram received a poisoned wound, which seems incurable. As a last resource it is suggested that he shall go to Ireland and present himself *incognito* at the Court of King Gormon, whose daughter Iseult may be able to heal him; and Tristram promises to bring her back to be bride to King Mark. The first act ends with his departure for Ireland on a ship.

In the second, which takes place at Gormon's castle, we find the Queen Oren ever yearning for vengeance upon the knight who killed the Irish champion, Moraunt. By her medical skill, Iseult has cured the anonymous knight who has come to the Irish Court, and is anxious to know his name. Oren wears, hung round her neck, a piece broken from the sword which slew Moraunt, and when she finds the blade in which the fragment fits she will know that the owner was the "murderer." King Gormon, confident in the prowess of his Court, has made a promise to a certain Paynim knight, Sir Palamide, that if he vanquishes all his Irish opponents in the lists he may claim any boon he likes. Sir Palamide is victorious over the Irishry, and claims Iseult's hand; but at the eleventh hour he is vanquished by Sir Tristram, who rises from his convalescent's couch to don his armour for the fray. Oren, who has discovered Tristram's identity by fitting the fragment of steel into his sword-blade, comes to murder him, but finds the couch empty. Tristram enters triumphant after his fight with Palamide, and claims the hand of Iseult for his master, King Mark.

In the third act he and Iseult are returning to Cornwall on board a ship. Queen Oren, in order to make sure that the affection of Iseult shall be fixed on King Mark, has given her a love-potion, which she and the King are to drink together. Iseult believes that this potion is a deadly poison. When Tristram is told that the King is to be poisoned on their arrival in Cornwall he prefers to drink of the cup himself, sooner than be a traitor to his trust. He and Iseult quaff the one drink together; but, instead of killing them, the medicine only makes them irrevocably in love with each other.

The last act leads up to the inevitable finale of the death of the lovers. Arganthael, Tristram's cruel stepmother, tells Mark that, though Iseult has postponed her nuptials with him, she is visited nightly at her bower by Tristram. Mark and his men surprise the pair, and one of the minions stabs Tristram in the back as he is about to fight with the King. A mysterious spirit, Iseult of the White Hands, whose touch brings death, rises, and the play ends thus:—

Tristram. What sail comes o'er those seas?
Dost cry 'tis black?
Nay, look again! It shines as white as snow,
And there, beside the mast, I see that face
That was the world to me!
Iseult. Nay, I am here.
And Death and Love are one! For those white hands
Have brought me healing, too.
[*She falls dying beside him.*
Tristram. Iseult! Iseult!
For all Love's wounds there is no cure but Death!

For those who can appreciate a poetic drama, strongly and skilfully plotted, magnificently mounted, and acted with splendid earnestness, intensity and fervour, we can imagine few greater treats than to witness *Tristram and Iseult*. Mr. Oscar Asche's artistic unselfishness was shown by his taking to himself the moderately important part of Mark. As the jealous and treacherous King, Mr. Asche made an imposing figure in his rich, regal robes, and suggested, with his wonted skill in weighty utterance and facial play, the troubled mind of the villainous monarch. Miss Lily Brayton gave a magnificent performance of the part of Iseult. Its long-sustained passion was remarkably deep and intense, and she went through the difficult ordeal with the greatest success. Her acting in the potion scene on board the "Swallow" was only excelled by her finely emotional rendering of her share in the death scene, which she treated with tragic power of a very high order. Mr. Matheson Lang as Sir Tristram was nobly elevated and sensitively chivalrous throughout. He caught the spirit of the part with quick appreciation, and the beauty and dignity of his embodiment were undeniable. Mr. Charles Rock was very stern and grim as Sir Andrew; and Mr. Cecil Duncan spoke his lines with excellent distinctness and emphasis as Sir Dinas, Mr. Alfred Brydone giving a ruggedly effective impersonation of Gouvernayle, and Mr. H. R. Hignett being nobly refined as King Gormon. Mr. Henry Kitts's Master of the Ship was a bluff, rugged bit of characterisation that did him much credit; and Mr. Caleb Porter gave a clearly-cut reading of the little rôle of the Sailor. Mr Gordon Harker contributed a graphic and well-elaborated embodiment of the dwarf Ogrin; and Miss Gertrude Scott was vividly and emphatically revengeful as Oren, acting with a vast amount of vigour and intensity. Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison, who looked very picturesque in her mediæval costumes, was admirably earnest and expressive as Brangwaine, and took full advantage of her opportunity in the scene on board ship; and Miss Hutin Britton, both in her appearance and the delivery of her lines, realised in telling fashion the stern step-mother Arganthael; Miss Katharine Maude doing good work as the Waiting Woman, and Miss Agnes Brayton making a most picturesque Iseult of the White Hands.

Mr. Joseph Harker had excelled himself in the scenery, which was elaborately beautiful. The costumes, designed by Karl, were sumptuous and artistic; and the music, composed by Mr. Christopher Wilson, was musicianly and appropriate. The admirable all-round interpretation given to the play by the company evoked hearty and well-deserved enthusiasm.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MES ONCLES S'AMUSENT."
Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by MM. H. Delorme and Francis Gally, produced at the Theatre Cluny on Sept. 4.

Paille-de-Riz ..... Mlle. Daveney
Thisbé Dumoustier ..... Mme. Franck-Mel
Yvonne Simier ..... Mlle. Cecile Barre
Chichette ..... Mlle. Villeroy
Rose ..... Mlle. Du Bled
Marius Dumoustier ..... M. Bardès
Théodule Bertaut ..... M. Valot
Hector Simier ..... M. Perrey
La Reynie ..... M. Champagne
Godisson ..... M. Jacquier
Métoilamonpaulo ..... M. Marius
Adolpe ..... M. Le Prin
Bibi ..... M. Cowley

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Sept. 4.—MM. Delorme and Gally have given us an amusing farce, which from beginning to end roused much laughter. Hector Simier, only recently married, receives the visit from his wife's uncle, Théodule Bertaut, who, to all appearances, is deaf and weak-minded. The old man does not think of paying his tradesmen, and Hector is all the time advancing money to the old man, which the latter never thinks of repaying. One day Hector is informed by his valet that the uncle has kept up a lively conversation through the telephone, cracking jokes as fast as he could. He, therefore, is neither deaf nor weak-minded, and he only stays with his nephew to enjoy a free lodging and borrow money from him. But what does he do with his money? Hector soon discovers it. It all goes to Mlle. Paille-de-Riz, a music-hall cocotte. Hector at once shows his disreputable relative the door, and invites Marius Dumoustier, another uncle, from whom he hopes to inherit. This Marius is supposed to come to Paris on business, whilst, in reality, he wants to see Mlle. Paille-de-Riz, whose acquaintance he made in Monpellier. This complicates matters, for Hector must now save two uncles from Mlle. Paille-de-Riz's clutches. He calls on the damsel, and is caught himself, for he recognises in her a former mistress, who had suddenly given him the slip. Altogether, the young lady has a wonderful fascination. Prince Métoilamonpaulo has also fallen a victim to her charms. The Prince, invited by the French Government, is always escorted by several detectives to guard his Royal person, and their chief, La Reynie, arrests Hector and the two uncles, whom he suspects of wanting to murder the Prince. In the final act everything is explained. The three prisoners are hauled up before the examining magistrate—a crank who writes couplets for a *revue*—and the police, for once, acknowledge they made a mistake. As to Hector, he will profit by the lesson. He will leave the two uncles to fight for the *beaux yeux* of Mlle Paille-de-Riz, and will not trouble to secure their inheritance. The farce was capitally acted. Mme. Franck-Mel was intensely funny in the episodical rôle of an elderly lady, whom her husband sends into an hypnotic sleep, which does not prevent her from seeing the shameless manner in which he deceives her. The two uncles were well impersonated by MM. Bardès and Valot; and M. Jacquier supplied a laughable examining magistrate. As to Mlle Daveny, she imparted an unnecessary vulgar note to the rôle of the flighty Paille-de-Riz.

M. Alban de Polkes has written a drama, *L'Enfant du Temple*, which will be produced at the Ambigu next season. As the title implies, the work deals with the sad story of the Dauphin, Louis XVI.'s son, who, according to history, died in the Temple and was buried in the old Madeleine Churchyard. A few years after his death, however, several persons came forward, all of them pretending they were the unfortunate King's son, who, they said, had escaped from prison whilst a strange child had been buried supposed to be the Dauphin. The best known among these pretenders was a certain Count Naundorf, a descendant of whom is living in Paris, proudly calling himself Louis XVII., heir to the French throne. The history of the Naundorfs has inspired M. Reynaud, and he has produced a play, which, however, has little chance of seeing the footlights, inasmuch at it contains allegations against persons whose offsprings are still living, and who would take serious offence at the so-called disclosures. Even a Republic cannot tolerate such a proceeding.

We have had a new Carmen at the Opera-Comique in Mlle. Sylva, who proved herself not only an excellent singer but a first-class actress. Instead of adhering to the time-honoured lines, she imparted to Bizet's heroine an altogether new character. Her début proved a decided success.

Whilst on the subject of the Opera-Comique I may mention that our second lyric playhouse has been deprived of the services of three of its oldest members. M. Luigini, the chef d'orchestre, died six weeks ago; M. Gandrey, the business-manager, left in consequence of the recent Levraud incident, reference to which was made in these column; and poor M. Vizentini, the stage-manager, is in such a bad state of health that the doctors have prescribed him unlimited rest. M. Carbonne will temporarily replace the latter gentleman.

M. Antoine has been cleaning Augias' stables. He has taken the hall of the Odéon in hand, and entirely renovated it, a costly proceeding, for he had to sacrifice three hundred seats. Frequenters of the Odéon will also notice with pleasure the disappearance of the huge chandelier that used to hide the view of the stage from the occupants of the gallery. M. Ginisty had often been requested to remove this cumbersome thing, but, somehow or other, he stuck to it because he believed it would bring luck to the house. Luck, however, did not come, and the Odéon lost money every year. The general belief is that this was due to M. Ginistry's mismanagement, but M. Ginistry attributes it to the chandelier. The transformation of the Odéon will have cost M. Antoine something like £6,000.

Mr. Bernard Shaw has not been idle during his seaside holiday in Cornwall, as he has been busily occupied in the writing of a new play in five acts, to be called *The Doctor's Dilemma*. Though the author declares, with the humorous assurance which is peculiarly his own, that it is the most amusing play he has ever written, there is a thrilling death scene, quite different from anything hitherto attempted on the stage; and a learned medical consultation by the doctors will also be a unique feature. The play will probably be produced by the Vedrenne-Barker management during the forthcoming season, and the part of the heroine is to be assigned to Miss Lillah McCarthy.

A play in three acts, by Dolf Wyllarde, entitled *As Ye Have Sown*, was produced for copyright purposes at the Opera House, Buxton, on Wednesday last.

A fire originated on Monday morning under the floor of the balcony of the Plymouth Pier Pavilion, about half-way up the eastern side, and spread rapidly towards the dressing-rooms, near the entrance of the body of the pavilion. Happily, the boarding is all double, and the flames were kept under, so that the stream of water from below had great effect. It was not long before a second hose was at work. The two jets were irresistible. It was easily extinguished in about half an hour. The damage was not very great.

Mr. Hall Caine's capacity for hard work seems to be unlimited. He is engaged in writing a new play which will have close relation to his beloved Manxland. He hopes to have the piece ready for production by Christmas, and the part of the heroine will probably be sustained by a young Manx actress.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Seeing so many reports in the different theatrical papers regarding the remarks made upon the above subject by various magistrates, we thought perhaps a few facts as to our experiences might interest your readers. This is our fifth week on tour with Mr. Bert Coote's *Fatal Wedding* Co., and our daily routine having now settled down into "shipshape" order, it certainly would compare more than favourably with that of many middle-class boarding schools. There are twenty-five children in our company (including ourselves) in charge of a matron and a schoolmaster.

We rise at 9.30 each morning, and after a tubbing and rub down, we do ample justice to a good and wholesome breakfast of plain food in the shape of fish, bacon, jams, stewed fruits, with tea, cocoa, and quarts of hot milk ad lib.

After breakfast we go for a walk in charge of the matron when we are in small towns, and when in large cities two large motors are hired and we go for a ten or twelve mile drive and return at about one o'clock for dinner. Great care is observed that these drives do not take the form of an advertisement in any way, although the cars are used by the management for advertising purposes during the afternoon.

Our midday meal consists of good English meat personally selected by our matron, two or three kinds of vegetables, with milk puddings and stewed and other fruits. From two till five school is held, and although it is not compulsory for girls over fourteen to attend, most of them take advantage of the privilege. After tea we rest from six till seven-thirty, and reach the theatre at eight o'clock. We generally finish about 10.45, and leave the building at eleven o'clock.

After a supper consisting of boiled fish and other light dishes, with cocoa made with milk or hot milk alone for those who prefer it, we retire to our rooms, and at 11.45 the lights are turned out upon twenty-five of the happiest children you could possibly find.

Once a week the local hairdresser attends, and shampoos half the members of our little colony and the week following the other half come in for their share of barber's foam and brillantine. The advance agent fixes our rooms a few days before we arrive in a town, and when we reach them on Sunday after our train journey a good dinner always awaits us.

A special van collects our trunks and delivers them without any trouble on our part, and the same remark applies to when we leave the town. On arriving at the departure platform at the railway station we find our train awaiting us, the compartments having the names of the members who are to occupy them written upon slips and pasted to the windows. No favouritism is shown. Everything and everybody is in perfect harmony, and the only unhappy moments will be when the time comes for us all to say good-bye. This is our experience of theatrical life, and a pleasant experience it is.—Yours faithfully,

DOLLY AND MADGE McCALLA,
The Fatal Wedding Co.
Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Sept. 4.

Despite the great heat, a very representative audience packed the Hudson Theatre on the night of the 30th ult. to witness the first performance of the new play. After the third act the audience cheered for ten minutes, when the manager came forward and said Mr. Jones preferred to let the play speak for itself; but the people continued to cheer, until Mr. Jones was forced to leave his box and appear on the stage, and then contented himself with simply saying, "Thank you, thank you." The members of the company were then repeatedly recalled. Mr. Leslie Faber scored a personal triumph in the character of the young curate, and Miss Doris Keane shared the feminine honours with Miss Jessie Milward. The cast also included Messrs. John Glendinning, J. H. Barnes, Arthur Lewis, W. H. Denny, Miss Viva Birkett, and Miss Ada Webster.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

NEW WILLESDEN EMPIRE.

Mr. Walter Gibbons is the proprietor of the newest Empire, which is shortly to be erected on a very important site in High Street, Harlesden. The new building will be worked in conjunction with other important halls under his control, and also with projected new halls at Tooting (which will be built on the same lines), and other suburbs of London.

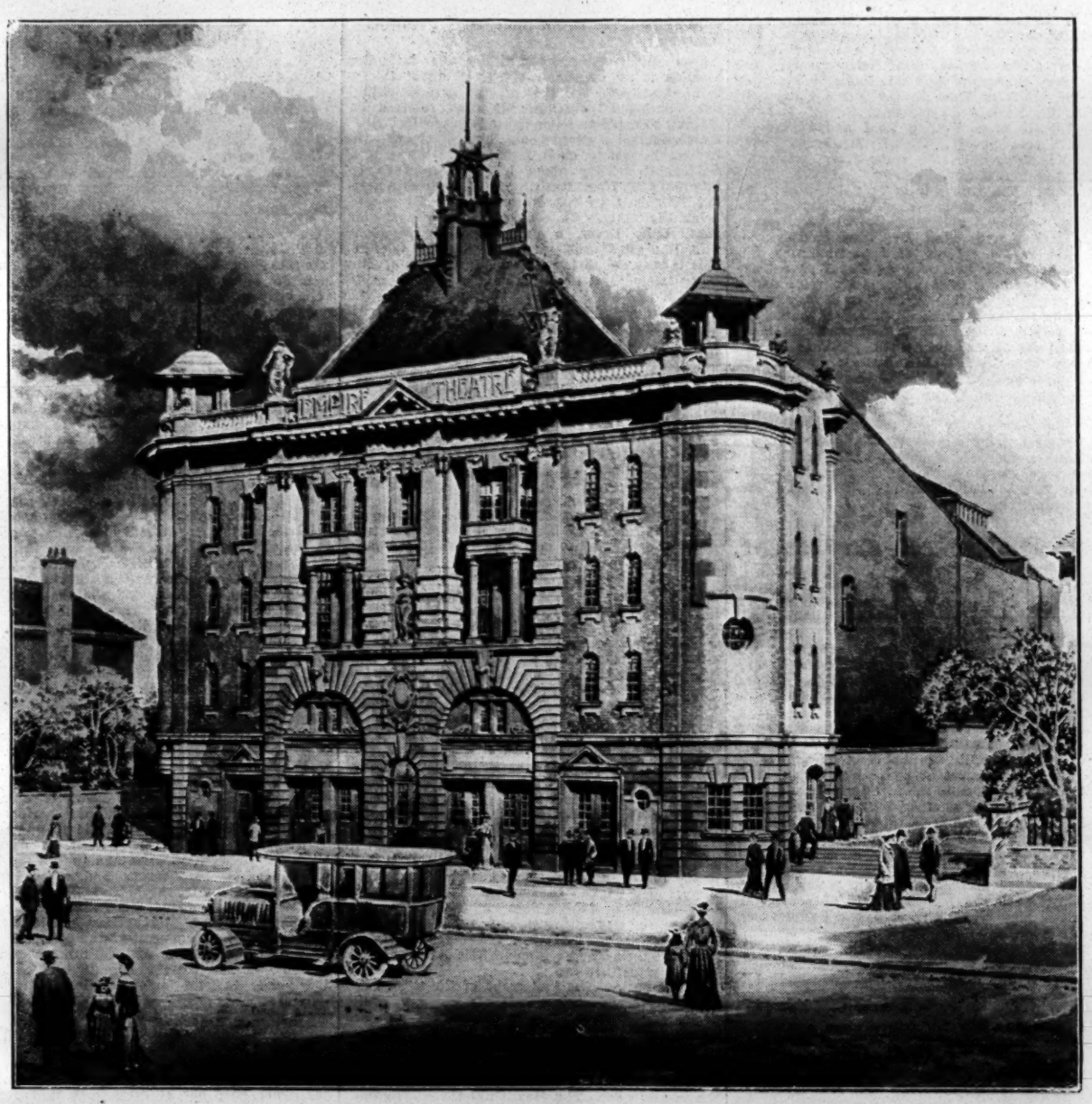
The house has been designed by Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., and will have accommodation for over 4,000 people. It is practically isolated, as the rear abuts on Rucklidge Avenue, and private roadways are formed along the two sides, giving opportunities for an unusual number of exits, of which the architects have taken every advantage. In fact, designed as it is for two performances a night, the means of access and exits are so arranged that absolutely no clashing will occur between the patrons leaving and entering the hall. To make the schemes of ingress and egress more perfect, waiting-rooms, fitted with every comfort and convenience, are to be arranged for early comers. The elevation is of a bold Italian design, and the façade will be carried out in a dark red brick and a buff terra-cotta.

The chief entrance for stalls and grand circle is in the centre of the façade. There are two lobbies leading into the grand vestibule, which contain the box-office and a staircase on the right, which conducts the visitor to the stalls waiting-room, thence by a wide corridor under the pit, and a double staircase in front of the pit barrier to each side of the stalls. The grand circle is approached by a wide staircase leading to a large waiting-room opening on to a fine promenade. The pit entrance is at the left-hand corner of the façade, and here a capital arrangement is designed so that two men can be taking money at the same time, thus greatly facilitating the filling of the pit. There is also a similar arrangement for the gallery, and with the great number of exits the hall can be filled and cleared in about five minutes. The pit is a large one, containing sixteen rows of seats, and has a splendid rake, the floor is raised about 2ft. above the level of the stalls, and thus makes the division of the two lots of seats very distinct, and allows the pit to have a fine view of the stage for ærial shows, etc. There are nine rows of luxurious tip-up seats in the front divided into orchestra-stalls and stalls.

The grand circle will be one of the finest in London, it is very wide, and the architects have adopted a fine bold sweep which will enable the whole of the occupants of the twelve rows of tip-up seats to have a direct and clear view of the stage. In addition to the usual gangway behind the seats, a raised balcony is formed at the back, in the centre of which is the cinématograph room. The gallery is constructed on the same lines as the circle with balconies at the sides and wide gangway behind the six handsome private boxes at the sides of the proscenium.

The stage is 30ft. deep and 66ft. wide, and is very lofty, so that scenery can be taken up clear. There will be the usual property rooms, etc., and the dressing-rooms will be contained in a block of buildings at the side, distinct from the stage. The new building will be of fireproof construction, and supplied with an asbestos safety curtain, with hydrants and appliances for the extinction of fire, in the most desirable positions. The building is to be heated with hot-water pipes and coils—in fact, the safety and comfort of the audience has had every consideration. The ventilation will have special attention, a sliding roof being introduced. The decorations of the entrance and the auditorium are quiet but effective, and the whole building will be carpeted and furnished in a luxurious style. The electric light is to be installed everywhere, and there is no doubt when Mr. Gibbons opens the doors of this New Empire, it will be found worthy to rank with the best music-halls in London.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Christian* company, with entirely new dresses and scenery, will be at Kennington Theatre next week, paying the only visit of the piece to a London suburban theatre for the last two years. Miss Grace Chalmers will be the Glory Quayle. A matinée will be given on Thursday.



THE NEW WILLESDEN EMPIRE.
Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons. Architect, Mr. Frank Matcham.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, July 31, 1906.—Her Majesty's.—J. C. Williamson, Lessee and Manager; Mr. G. L. Goodman, Business-Manager.—*The Dictator* still delights the crowds who witness the all-round good acting of Mr. William Collier and his company. The Collier season will end on Aug. 3, and on the following night Miss Titiell Brune will return for a short season, opening with *Dorothy Vernon*. Mr. Williamson's répertoire company is now on its way from New Zealand, after a "record" tour, and the company will forthwith tranship for Queensland, coming back to Sydney before going West.

Theatre Royal.—Mr. J. C. Williamson, Lessee; Mr. Bland Holt, Sub-Lessee and Manager; Mr. C. Simonsens, Business-Manager.—*With Flying Colours* shows no diminution of patronage or interest; but in accordance with Mr. Holt's system of constant change, G. R. Sims's drama, *In London Town*, is announced for Aug. 4. Meanwhile the exciting incidents and capital acting in the present play are maintaining the Bland Holt reputation of doing all things well.

Criterion.—Mr. Frank Musgrove, Lessee.—Miss Stella Chapman was specially engaged by the Public Service Dramatic Society to play Portia in their production of *The Merchant of Venice*, and the painstaking elocutionist justified the choice by an excellent portrayal of the character. Mr. Victor Cohen, a seasoned amateur, was the Shylock.

Tivoli.—Mr. Harry Rickards, Sole Proprietor and Manager; Mr. J. C. Leete, General-Manager; Mr. Edward Maas, Acting-Manager.—The strong man Brinn now balances a 400-lb. regulation machine gun on his chin and head; and, on the platform supporting it, an attendant, who fires twenty rounds of ammunition in succession. Little Cliff, Bertie and Alexandra, Vasco, Olive Lenton, Maud Faning, Nita Leete, Howard Hall, Tom Dawson, Lewis Sisters, Percy Clarke, Alice Fane, Lizette Parkes, Arthur Elliott, Miss E. Brown, George Bentley, Irving Sayles, with Lilieth Leyton, George Bentley, and Howard Hall in a new sketch, *The Lady Burglar*, keep Mr. Harry Rickards's patrons in receipt of full value for their money.

The Fisk Jubilee Singers, at the Lyceum Hall with "Jesus Saves" in enormous letters outside the theatre, have done capital business. The company is now at the Queen's Hall.

Messrs. William Holman and Neville Mayman gave an excellent performance of *The Hunchback* at St. James's Hall on the 25th. Following ancient and recent precedent, no scenery was used; but with the Misses Hilda Bevidge and Lilian Booth in the female parts a thoroughly artistic performance was presented. The large audience was very enthusiastic. In the intervals musical items were given by Miss Bronson, Miss Florence Gibson, Miss Gwen Duffy, Miss Kerr, and Mr. G. Kilburn Heron.

The musical event of the week was the appearance of Mr. Gerard Kean, the possessor of a splendid tenor voice reaching the upper E without effort. Mr. George Grimm discovered him at Ballarat.

The announcement that Madame Adelina Patti has decided to bring her professional career to a close will be received with a considerable amount of regret by all lovers of music; but it is not surprising that the famous prima donna should seek retirement in view of the fact that she made her début at Covent Garden forty-five years ago. Happily, time has not diminished Madame Patti's powers as a vocalist, her voice retaining to a wonderful extent its rich tones, as was sufficiently evidenced in June last when, at the Albert Hall, she sang to a crowded and delighted house such favourite songs from her repertory as Mozart's "Voi che sapete," Gounod's "Quand tu Chantes," and Lotti's "Pur dicesti." Madame Patti has arranged with Mr. Percy Harrison, of Birmingham, to bid farewell to the London musical public at the concert which he is organising at the Albert Hall on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 1. Of her admirers in the provinces, she will not, however, take leave until the autumn of next year, when she has promised Mr. Harrison that she will appear in several of the more important cities.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 10.

A Knight Errant.—Lyceum T., Newport.
After the Ball.—T. R., Middlesborough.
An Actor's Romance.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Bexhill-on-Sea.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
At Duty's Call.—O. H., Wakefield.
Belle of Mayfair.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Grand T., Fulham.
Benson, F. F. (S.).—Nairn, Forres, and Inverness.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Theatre Royal, Torquay.
Between Two Women.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Breed of the Treshams.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Manchester.
Charley's Aunt.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Weston-s.-Mare.
Christian, The.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Christian, The (Howard).—Whitby and Saltburn.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Coal King.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
Convict's Daughter.—Court T., Warrington.
Country Girl (N.).—Folkestone.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Farnworth, Dundalk.
Country Mouse.—Cromer and Whitby.
Cousin Kate.—Cromer and Whitby.
Dandy Doctor.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.
D'Oyly Carte.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Driven from Home.—Alexandra T., Birmingham
Duchess of Dantzic (N.).—Deptford.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Hastings and Buxton.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Ryde and Worthing.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—T. R., Bradford.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Grand T., Croydon.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Peterboro' and Colchester
Eternal City (Howard).—O. H., Leicester.
Executioner's Daughter.—T. R., Leeds.
Facing the Music.—Colchester and Clacton.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Grand Theatre, Glossop.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Faust Up-to-date.—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Female Swindler.—T. R., Sunderland.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Worthing and Ramsgate.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—O. H., Londonderry.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
For Life and After.—T. R., Stockport.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Douglas.
French Spy.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Frivolity.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Yarmouth.
Geisha.—Channel Isles.
Geoffrey Stirling.—O. H., Workington.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Stoke Newington.
Girl on the Stage.—Grand T., Leeds.
Golden Ladder.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Great Awakening.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Held Apart.—County Theatre, Bedford.
Held in Bondage.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Her Fatal Past.—New Theatre, Kettering.
Her Lost Self.—Court Theatre, Bacup.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Aston.
Her One Great Sin.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R., Scarboro'.
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Plymouth.
Honour Thy Father.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Hughes, Miss Annie.—Morecambe.
I Defy the World.—Queen's T., Fleetwood.
Indian Mutiny.—New Theatre, W. Stanley.
Judy.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
Kitty Grey.—Prince's Theatre, Glasgow.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Aberdeen.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Lowestoft.
La Poupée (Leville).—H. M. T., Dundee.
La Poupée (Ralland).—Lyceum T., Eccles.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Stamford and Melton Mowbray.
Life of a Showman.—T. R., Jarrow.
Lights o' London.—Grand T., Cardiff.
Lion and the Mouse.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
Little Breadwinner.—Chesterfield.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Little Michus (S.).—Southend and Folkestone.
London Fireman.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Love that Women Desire.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Luck of Life.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Lucky Durham.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Manxman.—King's Lynn and Loughboro'.
Marriage of Kitty.—Pavilion, Lytham.
Midnight Mail.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Midnight Wedding.—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Monte Cristo.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Moody-Manners (A).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Moody-Manners (B).—Norwich.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Brighton.
Mr. Popple.—Grand Theatre, Douglas.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Folkestone and Eastbourne.
Mr. Smith.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Napoleon the Great.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Dover.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Leamington.
On the Love Path.—Cromer and Whitby.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—Prince's T., Preston.
Orchid (N.).—Yarmouth.
Orchid (S.).—Burnley.
Otto the Outcast.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
Power of Gold.—Pardoe's T., Middleton.
Price of Her Soul.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris's).—County T., Reading.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Cardiff.
Prodigal Parson.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Prodigal Son.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
Proof.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
Public Opinion.—Margate.
Royal Divorce.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Revenge.—T. R., South Shields.
Sailors of the King.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
Saturday to Monday.—Cromer and Whitby.
Shadow of a Crime.—T. R., Blyth.
Sherlock Holmes.—Court T., Wigan.
Shulamite.—Hammersmith.
Silver King (Howard).—Durham and Morpeth.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Richmond.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Empire T., Oldham.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Sign of the Cross.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Sin of Her Childhood.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
Sins of a City.—Broughton.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Coatbridge.
Spider and the Fly.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Scarboro'.
Still Alarm.—King's Theatre, Sutton.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Swiss Express.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Temptress, The.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Terry, Edward.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Hull.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona). — Ilkley and Pontefract.
Throne of Terror.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Toreador (Macdona).—Salisbury and Weymouth.
Toreador.—Southampton.
Traitor, The.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Trumpet Call.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Two Hussars.—P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Royalty T., Chester.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Henley and Wellingboro'.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Grand T., Woolwich.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Exeter.
Under the Russian Flag.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
Unwedded Wife.—West London Theatre.
Veronique (N.).—O. H., Cork.
Veronique (S.).—Doncaster.
Village Blacksmith.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—P. O. W. Gt. Grimsby.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—O. H., Northampton.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Miner's T., Ashington.
Warning to Women.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Ayr and Kilmarnock.
What the Butler Saw.—Buxton and Harrogate.
When London Sleeps.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
When Woman Hates.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—T. R., Chatham.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Bath.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Hyde.
Wrecker of Men.—New Theatre. Consett.
£1000 Reward.—Grand Theatre. Walsall.
10.30 Down Express.—Century T., Motherwell.

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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. R. W.—The Sign of the Cross *was first staged in London at the Lyric, Jan. 4, 1896. Mr. Wilson Barrett played Marcus Superbus, and Miss Maud Jeffries Mercia. When the play was revived at the Lyceum, Oct. 19, 1899, Mr. Barrett and Miss Jeffries played their original parts.*

R. PAYNE.—*1870.*

A.—The Sign of the Cross *was produced by the late Mr. Wilson Barrett while he was on tour in America in 1895, and was first seen in London at the Lyric Theatre on Jan. 4, 1896.*

J. PATON.—*We cannot say; write to the two gentlemen mentioned for the information.*

A. SIMS.—*We are unable to give you the date of the final closing of the Sun Music Hall, Knightsbridge. Perhaps one of our readers may be able to supply the date. Vance died on the stage there on Boxing Night in 1888.*

FRANK RIDGE.—(1) The Eternal City *was produced at Her Majesty's Theatre on Oct. 2, 1902.* (2) Lucky Durham *was produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on June 9, 1904. The late Mr. Wilson Barrett played the title-rôle.*

W. E.—*Yes; at the Haymarket Theatre.*

K. F.—The Colonel (*based by F. C. Burnand upon* Un Mari à la Campagne) *was first produced in London at the old Prince of Wales's, Tottenham-street, Feb. 2, 1881. Morris Barnett's* Serious Family *was adapted from the same French original.*

RATING CLOSED THEATRES.

At Bow-street Police Court on Thursday the Lyceum (1903), Limited, were summoned for neglecting to pay to the Westminster City Council the sum of £1,111 6s. 8d. in respect of a general rate made on April 6 last.

Mr. Travers Humphreys, barrister, said his clients were the trustees of the First Debenture-holders. In March last, under the powers they possessed under their mortgage deed, they appointed Mr. Ross as receiver of the profits of the Lyceum—if any. The High Court had since made an order that if any rates were legally recoverable the trustees should pay them, they taking the place, for that purpose, at any rate, of the old Lyceum Company. If rates were legally payable in respect of the theatre in present circumstances his clients—the trustees for the First Debenture-holders—were the people who must pay. The question they wished the Court to decide was whether there was any legal obligation to pay the rates at all under the existing circumstances. Up to April last the Lyceum was let to Mr. Barrasford at a considerable rent per week. That tenancy having come to an end an agreement was made at a reduced rent up to June 9, when the theatre was closed. It had been closed ever since then; it was practically empty, only a caretaker being left on the premises, and his clients contended that they were not liable for rates after the date named, they being in the same position as the owners of an empty house.

Sir Albert de Rutzen: When was this rate made?

Mr. J. C. Harvey (rate collector): On April 6, for the period ending September 30.

Mr. Humphreys: Since June 6 there has been no beneficial occupation. The trustees had power to appoint a receiver, and they appointed Mr. Ross—for what it was worth. There has been nothing to receive since June 9. So long as a house is empty and to let, there is no obligation to pay rates, and I contend that the same thing applies to a theatre. As soon as the theatre is let again, we shall be liable.

Mr. Humphreys added that a small portion of the building was let off at 50s. a month, but it was detached from the theatre, and did not affect the issue.

Mr. Harvey: The view taken by my council is that when seats remain in a theatre, and it is ready to be let at any time, there is beneficial occupation. If anyone came along and offered so many thousand pounds a week, the offer would be accepted, and we contend that that is beneficial occupation. It is, in those circumstances, a going concern, and might be opened this afternoon. The carpets are down, and the place is furnished. Take the case of the Waldorf Theatre, which was opened at a moment's notice when His Majesty's Theatre was temporarily closed.

Sir Albert de Rutzen: The theatre might be closed and let within 24 hours, as you say; but, as a matter of fact, it has not been let since June. I know of no decision bearing on the case, but I can see that the case is of some importance both to the owners of the Lyceum and the Westminster City Council.

Mr. Harvey: There are a great many theatres in the City of Westminster, and some of them are often closed in the summer. They will certainly claim exemption if this contention on the part of the Lyceum is upheld.

Mr. Humphreys: My clients have put their views fully before the Westminster City Council, and have invited them to raise a test case at this court.

Sir Albert de Rutzen adjourned the case for a fortnight to consider his decision. He hoped that in the meantime both sides would communicate to him any facts bearing on the point at issue.

The London Coliseum, Ltd., were also summoned for the non-payment of the current rate, amounting to £1,339.

This summons was also adjourned.

There was also a scummons against the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, for rates amounting to £775. In this case no question was raised, and the usual order was made.

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Thomson, Mrs.
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Trillo, Mr.
"Vasco"
Vasser, Dr. Carl
Venne, Miss Lottie
Vokes, Mr. W.
Walker, Miss Laura
Walton, Miss Fay
Walton, Mr. Tom
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Williams, Mr. R.
Wyndham and Kitty
Yvette, Mlle.
Zednas, The Three
Zélie de Lussan, Mlle.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

MARRIAGES.

CARROLL—JONES.—On the 22nd ult., at St. Saviour's, Plymouth Grove, by the Rev. George Cullwick, Henry Carroll, Moss Side, to Prudence Helena, second daughter of the late E. H. Jones, Esq., Rumford House, Chorlton-on-Medlock.

WELLS—NICHOLS.—At Christ Church, Brixton-road, on the 31st ult., Robert Blair (Gilbert Wells) to Charlotte Mary Nichols.

DEATHS.

BIRON.—On Sept. 4, suddenly, Gerald Biron, sometime of the Garrick Theatre, younger son of the late Robert John Biron, K.C.

COULSON.—Marie Coulson, aged 61, died Sept. 1. Mourned by her sorrowing daughter, Mrs. Harrison (née May Zilla), 55, Manningham-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

DANBY.—On the 7th inst., Charles Danby, actor, in his forty-ninth year. Funeral from 24, Wymering-mansions, Elgin-avenue, Monday, 4 o'clock.

DEMPSTER.—Peter, known as "Scottie," age 39, died at Leeds Infirmary, Aug. 29. Interred at Burmantops Cemetery. Gone, but not forgotten by Sylvia Vigor.

LINDEN.—Sept. 2, in London, Laura Linden, actress, aged 49.

WARRILOW.—August 26, John Warrilow, comedian, aged 70.

IN MEMORIAM.

BOULT. — Sept. 4, 1903, the dearly-loved wife of Charles Boult. Never forgotten by her sorrowing husband and children.

CROWSON.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Will Crowson, who died at Barmouth, Wales, Sept. 3, 1905.

TEARLE.—In memory of George Osmond Tearle, actor. God's finger touched him, and he slept. Sept. 7, 1901. R. C., Bournemouth.

TEARLE.—In affectionate remembrance of George Osmond Tearle.—Ted.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mary Moody—Saturday, Sept. 8.
Kittie Clayton—Saturday, Sept. 8.
Jessie Elvin—Sunday, Sept. 9.
Winifred Stuart—Sunday, Sept. 9.
John S. Graham—Sunday, Sept. 9.
Neville Lynn—Sunday, Sept. 9.
Maude Ray—Sunday, Sept. 9.
Caroline Barrett—Sunday, Sept. 9.
Marie Studholme—Monday, Sept. 10.
Winnie Donovan—Monday, Sept. 10.
Bassett Roe—Monday, Sept. 10.
Frank Fuller—Monday, Sept. 10.
Bob Anderson—Monday, Sept. 10.
(Miss) M. Silverthorne—Monday, Sept. 10.
Ada St. Ruth—Monday, Sept. 10.
Helen Richmond—Monday, Sept. 10.
Alice Conway—Monday, Sept. 10.
Harry Spanzar—Monday, Sept. 10.
Fred. Donaldson—Tuesday, Sept. 11.
Richard Ganthony—Tuesday, Sept. 11.
Fred Sinclair—Tuesday, Sept. 11.
Marie Weston—Tuesday, Sept. 11.
Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer—Wednesday, Sept. 12.
Alfred Holles—Wednesday, Sept. 12.
Jack McKenzie—Wednesday, Sept. 12.
Douglas Munro—Wednesday, Sept. 12.
Mrs. Arthur Yates—Thursday, Sept. 13.
Irene Verona—Thursday, Sept. 13.
Carmencita Caicedo—Friday, Sept. 14.
Henry Watson—Friday, Sept. 14.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1906.

MR. BOURCHIER'S EXPERIMENT.

Quite an unnecessary amount of excitement, it seems to us, has been created by Mr. ARTHUR BOURCHIER'S recent exclusion of the Press from the first night of *The Morals of Marcus* at the Garrick Theatre. Most London managers are of opinion that first-night notices have a commercial value, in that, if favourable, they send the public to see a piece. This, however, is quite a matter of opinion. Short of a plebiscite of the audiences in the first week of a play's run, there is no means of ascertaining the motive power which has sent the public to the booking-office and the "libraries" in that period. It has been said that any important piece of news travels through the Indian bazaars with almost incredible speed; and it may be that a theatrical success or a failure is "gossiped" widely on the following afternoon over Belgravia and Bayswater. A report in the Press, however, reaches many eyes, and ought, one would think, to influence the choices of many intending playgoers. But while one manager may think the price of a first-night stall a moderate one to pay for a "notice," another may prefer to fill his house on a *première* with his friends, and let them spread the glad—or sorrowful—news *vivâ voce*.

A wise old judge once said, "Give your decision, but never your reasons for arriving at it"; and Mr. LEVEAUX'S letter, which we print elsewhere, brings Mr. BOURCHIER'S decision into the field of discussion. For it is now explained that the manager's reason for postponing the notices of *The Morals of Marcus* was not indifference to the opinion of the Press, but consideration for the critics. He considers that it is impossible that a good impression of a play, an analysis really valuable to the public, could be conveyed to a daily paper in the short time at the disposal of a writer under the ordinary circumstances of first-night criticism; and that a piece is so often improved by alteration, addition, and repetition, that it is much better on the seventh than on the first night.

To each of these contentions we can only reply "It depends." With regard to the first, it depends on the critic. Mr. LEVEAUX rightly uses the term "impression" in describing the criticism of a play. The critic of a daily paper must be an impressionist. He ought to be so well acquainted with the methods and technique of play-construction, so appreciative of merit, and so sensitive to defect, that his opinion is formed by the descent of the curtain on the last act. He ought to be such a complete master of the craft of putting his thoughts into words that he can commence writing his notice soon after the end of the performance, and conclude it without inconvenience before the time his paper goes to press. The cardinal sins in dramatic criticism are not the omission of secondary detail, but want of knowledge and absence of that generous enthusiasm which is created in an appreciative soul by a fine work of art. A critic who is deficient in these qualities may take twelve hours in which to cudgel his brains; he will never produce as good a "notice" as the rapid, spontaneous writer who is an expert and an enthusiast. And as the critic, in any case, would have to complete his *critique* in time for publication next day, it is not easy to see how postponement for a week would help him.

We may say "It depends," also, in the case of theatrical management. In the ideally-governed theatre, the first-night performance is generally a trifle better than those which follow. The object of the ideal manager is—to take a metaphor from the training stable—to send his horse to the post just "fit." If he finds him half-trained by the night announced, he postpones the *première*. The "nervousness" of actors and actresses on first nights cuts both ways. As long as it does not make them forget their words or their business, it is a positive advantage for them to be highly strung. But here, again, the statement "It depends" is accurate. Some artists are always at their best on first nights; some are notoriously not so. It is a matter of temperament. Here Mr. BOURCHIER is quite consistent. He has consulted the artists in his company, and they have all decided that they would rather *not* be judged by their first performances in *The Morals of Marcus*. So mote it be.

As Mr. BEERBOHM TREE says in this matter of first-night or seventh-night criticism, every manager is the best judge of his own interests. A serious difficulty, however, is caused by the want of unanimity in the Press. It appears that the most courteous and consistent course on the part of the London papers would have been to comply with Mr. BOURCHIER'S desire for his production to remain unnoticed for a week. It was not merely a question of the possibility of obtaining admission to the Garrick Theatre by payment. It was a question of invitation or no invitation; of wish to receive you or wish to dispense with your presence for a while. If Mr. BOURCHIER did not want his *première* noticed, the obvious line of action would have been not to notice it. Unfortunately, in London, each newspaper is a law unto itself; and so, while some critics did not see *The Morals of Marcus* on the first night, others got in, declined to respect Mr. BOURCHIER'S desire, and gave accounts of the new play the next morning. Even if the circulation of a paper were microscopically reduced by an exceptional omission, one would think that the sacrifice would have been made for the sake of self-respect, good nature, and sweet reasonableness. The compliment paid to the manager of the Garrick Theatre by this refusal to regard his request was very great. It argued that the production of a new play at the Garrick is such an important event that a description of it is worth publishing at any sacrifice. So Mr. BOURCHIER scores all round; from some of the Press he obtains a powerful tribute to his position and that of his theatre; from others an agreement with his wish to try what, we feel sure, is only an experiment, and will not become a permanent practice.

DEATH OF MISS LAURA LINDEN.

We regret to announce the death on Sunday last of Miss Laura Linden, who some years ago was a well-known actress who took part in many important productions in the Metropolis. Miss Laura Linden, who was a sister of Miss Marie Linden, made her first appearance in London at Sadler's Wells Theatre, on April 16, 1881, when she played Barby Haggit in Mr. H. A. Jones's play *His Wife*, then produced. In *Imprudence*, produced at the Folly, afterwards Toole's, Theatre, on July 27 following, she played Mattie; at the Gaiety Theatre in 1883 she was the original Dulcie in Mr. Edward Rose's version of *Vice-Versâ*; and at the Strand Theatre in the same year she played Gerty in *Silver Gilt*, a burlesque on *The Silver King*. She was then engaged for the Olympic, where, notably, she played Louise in a revival of *The Two Orphans*. After touring with *Claudian* as Almida, Miss Linden joined the Gaiety company. She appeared in *Dandy Dick* as Hannah Topping when the play was produced at the Globe on January 27, 1887. Joining Mrs. Bernard Beere at the Opera Comique, Miss Linden was the Babette Steinboch in *Ariane*, produced on February 8, 1888. In *Woodbarrow Farm*, tentatively played at the Comedy Theatre on June 18, she appeared as Deborah. When Mr. Buchanan's play *The Bride of Love* was reproduced at the Lyric Theatre on June 9, 1890, Miss Linden was the Eridon. On August 4 she appeared with the Old Stagers at Canterbury as Mrs. Merrydew in *My Milliner's Bill*; as Susan in *The Silver Shield*; as Dorinda Croodle in *The Money-Spinner*; and as Lady Rose in *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. She was the Mary Ledger in a revival of *The Parvenu*, at the Globe, on February 18, 1891. In *Linda Grey*, produced at the Princess's Theatre on April 8, she appeared as Priscilla Royal, an American girl. In *Husband and Wife*, first played at the Criterion on April 30, Miss Linden appeared as Mrs. Springfield. She was the Miss Lily Eaton Belgrave in *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, at Terry's Theatre, on June 6; and was the Nan Canty in Mrs. Oscar Beringer's version of *Prince and Pauper*, tentatively produced at the Gaiety on October 12. Miss Linden assisted in the tentative production of *The Light of Pengarth* and *The Spring Legend*, part of a triple bill at the Opera Comique on December 17. In *A Life of Pleasure*, produced at Drury Lane on September 21, 1893, she played Phyllis de Belleville; and in the Christmas pantomime, 1893-4, at the Crystal Palace, she appeared as Maid Marian. The funeral of the deceased actress, who had been in declining health for several years, took place on Wednesday last.

BETTY BENEVOLENCE.

It will be remembered that the late Henry Thomas Betty desired that a certain portion of his estate should be distributed amongst poor actors and actresses, and that the details of such distribution should be published in the columns of *The Era* each week. It is gratifying to announce that the testator's wishes will, to a certain extent, be carried out. The executive committee of "The Actors' Benevolent Fund" have, through their solicitors, expressed their willingness to undertake the distribution of the residue of Mr. Betty's estate; an order has, therefore, been made by Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady, in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, to the effect that the interest directed to be paid to the treasurer for the time being of the Actors' Benevolent Fund shall be applied by and under the direction of the executive committee of that Charity in the payment of sums not exceeding £20 for any one payment to, or for the benefit of, poor actors or actresses in need of pecuniary assistance.

And it is ordered that separate accounts be kept of the income received and applied as aforesaid, and that an abstract of such accounts be published annually in *The Era* newspaper under the title of "Accounts of the Betty Fund for Poor Actors and Actresses."

THE donkey who bears Autolycus in *The Winter's Tale* revival at His Majesty's evidently objects to rehearsals. On the night before the production she could not be induced to enter the theatre, in spite of the coaxing appeals of Miss Ellen Terry herself. Eventually the obstinate animal had to be carried in by four of the stage staff.

THE HAYMARKET.

Mr. Frederick Harrison re-opened the Haymarket for the autumn season on Wednesday evening, when the interrupted run of Mr. F. Anstey's successful three-act comedy *The Man from Blankley's* was resumed, and a new first piece, written by Keble Howard, entitled *Compromising Martha*, was also played, with the following cast :—

Martha ..... MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
A Neighbour ..... MISS LYDIA RACHEL
Monica ..... MISS ELFRIDA CLEMENT
The Curate ..... MR. E. W. TARVER

To the theatrical society known as The Pioneers we were indebted for the first production of Mr. Keble Howard's little comedy, which was originally staged at the Royalty Theatre on Sunday evening, May 20. It would have been a matter of regret had *Compromising Martha* shared the fate of so many plays produced under like conditions and been heard of no more, for its merits fully entitled it to a further hearing. Admirably cast, Mr. Howard's modest effort as a dramatist gained quite a hearty reception from Wednesday night's audience. The freshness of treatment and the humour displayed in the sketches of character impressed the house most favourably, and the author was, at the fall of the curtain, honoured by a special call. Martha is a maiden lady of eighty-seven, and dwells in a charming little country cottage, as clean as a new pin. Monica, who is the daughter of the Squire, has been indiscreet enough to fall in love with the curate; and as she is fully aware her father is prejudiced against curates, the young couple meet secretly. And no better rendezvous can be found than Martha's cottage of an afternoon, when it is the custom of the dame to fall into a sound sleep. Observing the approach of a talkative neighbour of the old lady's, the lovers seek a hiding-place in different rooms; and the visitor, who has temporarily left her washing tub, has something to say with reference to the stolen interviews at the cottage. Martha bluntly denies the truth of these statements, and is indignant that her home should be associated with a village scandal. The neighbour departs, but her gossip has caused the old lady to be suspicious, and, listening intently, she hears a sound in one of the adjoining rooms. She pretends to fall asleep again, and the sweethearts emerge from their hiding-places. They are uncertain whether Martha is really asleep, and a kiss at once decides the question. Martha, playing the part of the prude, is very angry that her cottage should have been selected as a meeting place for the young couple, and she threatens to tell her neighbours, and of course Monica's curate-hating papa. Instigated by his sweetheart the curate implants a kiss on the old lady's brow and vanishes, leaving Monica to do some special pleading with the incensed dame. Surely she would not be so cruel as to wreck the happiness of two young people, who have always regarded her as a true friend. Martha gradually relents, and as the curtain descends wipes away the tears that the girl's pathetic appeal has brought to her eyes.

Miss Florence Haydon resumed her original part of Martha, and exceedingly natural was her portrayal of the rather fretful, complaining old dame. The character could scarcely have been better played, and the dame's make-up was perfect in every detail. Miss Elfrida Clement also deserves high praise for the girlish charm with which she contrived to invest the part of Monica; and Mr. E. W. Tarver skilfully and neatly hit off the love-making curate. Miss Lydia Rachel as the old dame's garrulous neighbour largely contributed to the success of the new production by a remarkably life-like character sketch.

In *The Man from Blankley's* the only change in the cast is that Mr. Charles Crawford now plays the part of Mr. Poffley—and plays it very well—in the place of Mr. Aubrey FitzGerald. Mr. Charles Hawtrey had a warm welcome when he made his entrance as the supposed hired guest from Blankley's; and his easy, polished performance was again a source of genuine delight to an audience made merry by one of the most amusing plays of recent times. Mr. Weedon Grossmith repeated his intensely humorous portrayal of the insufferable little cad Montague Tidmarsh, every gesture and change of facial expression being indices to the character so skilfully drawn from life by the author of the play. Mr. Henry Kemble again gave evidence of his acknowledged ability as a comedian by his telling embodiment of the pompous, but exceedingly touchy, Mr. Gabriel Gilwattle. Mr. E. Holman Clark and Miss Gwynne Herbert as Mr. and Mrs. Ditchwater made much of the laughable peculiarities of these ultra-dismal personages; and no less amusing were the Mr. and Mrs. Bodfish of Mr. H. Laurent and Miss Lydia Rachel. Mr. Welton Dale, with his perky manner and odd cackling laugh, gave Mr. Toomer due prominence at the peculiar party invited to dine at the Tidmarshes'; and Miss Maud Wynter was excellent as the gushing Cecilia Flinders. Miss Fanny Brough made all her points with the skill and ease of a clever comedy actress in her admirable assumption of the intensely commonplace Mrs. Montague Tidmarsh. Miss Alice Mansfield was effectively expansive as Mrs. Gilwattle; and Miss C. Ewell was a truly comical Miss Bugle. Miss Dagmar Wiehe looked pretty and played with real charm of manner as Marjory Seaton, the much-snubbed governess; and little Miss Winifred Winter deserves a special word of praise for her natural portrayal of Gwendoline Tidmarsh. Mr. Arthur Playfair showed a real sense of humour as Dawes, the butler hired for the evening; and Miss Muriel Alston as Jane the parlourmaid, and Miss Mary Leslie as Hannah the housemaid completed the cast. Judging by its reception on Wednesday evening *The Man from Blankley's* is likely to enjoy a prolonged stay at the Haymarket.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

To sit in the open-air, be well amused, and in beautiful surroundings, seems an ideal method of fighting the heat-wave with success, and Mr. J. Bannister Howard has made all this possible in the Café Chantant at the Crystal Palace and has found good response from the visitors to the Sydenham building.

The roof gardens of New York may be larger, but surely there never was one with so pure an air or so extensive a view, for from the North Tower Gardens we are told that ten counties are visible, and the panorama of the Weald of Surrey and the hills of Kent is no bad exchange for rows of chimney-pots and "skyscrapers" of a great city, not to mention the entire absence of falling soot and cinders.

The programme included Mr. Frank Lawton, the well-known whistler, with a very neat and clever bone solo and a feeling rendering of "Il Bacio," whistled in his own inimitable style. Mr. Harry Desmond had a clever song, drawing one's attention to the prevalence of "Goodbye" songs at the moment, and pointing out that nearly all the recently popular ditties are based on "Farewells."

Mr. Walter Grace rendered two songs with great vigour, despite his seventy odd years, and Miss Joan Deering accomplished the difficult feat of singing a ballad and playing an obbligato on the violin at one and the same time. Miss Jessie Harper sang truly and tunefully of "Roses and thorns," and the clever balancing of Mdlle. Ameda was an equally well appreciated turn. In weather such as we have been experiencing, we can imagine nothing more suited than the pleasant outdoor concert presented twice daily here.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

The interesting and varied programme at Queen's Hall on Thursday, Aug. 30, commenced with Beethoven's fine overture "Coriolan," of which Mr. Wood's orchestra gave a good account; Bach's delightful "Suite No. 2 in B Minor" for flute and strings also reflected the greatest credit on the band, and on Mr. Albert Fransella for his finished and brilliant performance on the solo instrument, particularly in the rapid and florid music in the seventh and last movement of the grand old composer's work. A most attractive rendering of Bizet's "L'Arleseinne" Suite No. 1 greatly pleased the audience, the spirited playing of the Suite being greeted with loud and long continued applause. The novelty of the evening was a *tableau musicale* with the quaint title "Baba-Yaga." The composer, A. Laidoff, has written for a large orchestra, in which the xylophone is employed with great effect in the clever score. The subject of "Baba-Yaga" is a witch's ride through the air, seated in a mortar, and using the pestle as a means of propulsion aided by the broom, the old method was for the witch to ride on the broomstick. Miss Elsie Horne was the pianist, and her great technical ability enabled her to successfully grapple with the difficult "Variations" for pianoforte and orchestra, "Down Among the Dead Men," by Sir Charles V. Stanford. Other effective work done by the orchestra was Wagner's *Tannhäuser* overture, and the overture to *Raymond* by A. Thomas. The vocalists on Thursday evening were Mme. Emilia Conti, who did herself great credit in the "Letter Song" from Massenet's *Werther*, an opera performed some years ago at Covent Garden; and Mr. Henry Beaumont, who was well received for his singing of Handel's "Sound an Alarm," from *Judas Maccabæus*.

Friday, Aug. 31, was a Beethoven night at Queen's Hall, the orchestra opening the concert with the great master's *Prometheus* overture, of which a fine performance was secured by the splendid band. It is intended to present the nine symphonies of Beethoven chronologically, therefore the second of the series, No. 2 in D major, was heard on Friday, and listened to with rapt attention, Mr. Wood's forces being at their best in the final movement. The pianist in Beethoven's "Emperor Concerto" was Mr. York Bowen, a young English composer who is equally esteemed both as composer and executant. Mr. York Bowen gained fame by his "Symphonic Fantasia," produced by Dr. Richter and the London Symphony Orchestra last February, and his Pianoforte Concerto in D Minor No. 2, played at the Philharmonic Society in June. The young and talented artist seems equally at home either in composition or on the keyboard, and the Royal Academy may be justly proud of having trained an artist who is a credit not only to them but to his country. In the "Emperor Concerto" Mr. Bowen played with masterly skill the many beautiful passages which occur in this great work, and it was evident that his playing made a deep impression on his attentive hearers, who at the close gave a warm reception to the clever performer. The solo violinist was Mr. S. Abbas, one of the orchestral players. He admirably acquitted himself in Beethoven's "Romance" in F. Included in the programme was Richard Strauss's "Till Eulenspeigels Merry Pranks" and Schubert's overture "Alfonso and Estrella." Mme. Maria de Sanset, a talented and dramatic singer from Dresden, sang the "Invocation to Hope" (Fidelio), and Mr. Lloyd Chandos Beethoven's "Adeliada"; and in spite of the intense heat a large audience was present at Queen's Hall.

The novelty of Tuesday night's programme at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concert was "Märchen," a symphonic poem by a Danish composer, August Enna. The composer has already, at the early age of twenty years, written an operetta that met with considerable success, but it was not until many years after that he devoted his attention to more serious work. The poem contains four sections, some of which are effective and original; but the impression created by the poem is that the composer is at his best when unfettered by musical convention, and writing only as his natural feeling dictates. "Märchen" was warmly greeted by the audience, although the music was not particularly well rendered by the band. Among the works most finely played by the orchestra were Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2, in F, and the popular *Tannhäuser* overture. Earlier in the concert Emmanuel Chabnier's rhapsody "España" and Boccherini's charming Minuet in A for strings, were given, and included also in the programme were the "Egmont" overture (Beethoven), Berlioz's "Menuet des Follets," "Danse des Sylphes," "Marche Hongroise," from *Faust*, and Elgar's "Three Bavarian Dances," the concert ending with Auber's overture "Zanetta." Miss Norah Newport and Mr. Ward Cowdery were the vocalists, Miss Newport singing the "Ballatella" from *Pagliacci*, and Mr. Ward Cowdery revealing a fine voice and an artistic style in an air from Halévy's opera *La Juive*.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 3, the Musical Comedy, entitled "FLORODORA."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company is appearing this week at Notting Hill Gate in the enormously successful musical comedy, *Florodora*, with its lilting melodies, audacious libretto, and picturesque setting. The scenery and dresses are all that could be desired, and the full orchestra and chorus, under the direction of Mr. B. J. Patterson, do justice to the pretty songs and harmonies of the piece. Mr. Daley Cooper is a very droll and eccentric comedian, and his extraordinary antics and his tireless activity as Antony Tweedlepunch, the fraudulent phrenologist, keep the audience in fits of laughter, and his performance as the mysterious musician in Act 2, Scene 1, is very clever and effective. Mr. Joseph R. Tate ambles easily through the part of the rascally Cyrus Gilfain; and Mr. R. Courtier Dutton does good service in the vocal line as Frank Abercoed, and his rendition of the songs allotted to him is much appreciated. Mr. Harold Perry is alert and animated as Captain Arthur Dongal; Miss Edith Housley is very bright, refined, and capable as Lady Holyrood, and sings her *chic* songs with point and precision, and is elegant and agreeable throughout. Little Miss Nellie Bowman dances delightfully and acts with much vivacity as Angela Gilfain; and Miss Violet Grazia puts any amount of fervour and intensity into her rendering of the rôle of Dolores. Mr. Edwin Oxley makes much of the small part of Leandro, overseer of the Florodora farms; and a bevy of beauty and manly elegance enact the parts of the "gentle maidens" and their swains. Mr. Jos. Tate, assisted by Mr. Edwin Oxley, stage-manage the show; and Mr. Andrew Spens is the general-manager for the company.

A NUMBER of new plays are announced this season at the Imperial Burg Theatre, Vienna. Among them are the following :—*Der Falsche König*, versical comedy, by Ludwig Fulda; *Bora*, a comedy, by Dr. F. Radler; a drama, by Max Bernstein, entitled *Herreurecht*; *Das Fest von St. Matern*, by E. Wehlisch, and a new comedy, by Dr. Otto Ernst, the title of which has not yet been decided upon.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—"Palmam qui, &c." IN *The Era* of last week your Great Yarmouth correspondent says that Mr. Charles Collette was supported in his sketch, *Tea for Two*, by Miss Joan Derby. That privilege was enjoyed by—Yours truly, JOAN DERBY.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"EIN KAISERTAG ZU NURNBERG."
Play, in One Act, by Victor Hahn,
Produced at the Royal Opera, Sept. 1, 1906.

Kaiser Friedrich I. ..... HERR ZIMMERER
Graf von Raetz ..... HERR KRAUSSNECK
Sophie ..... FRAU WILLIG
Mechtilde ..... FRAULEIN ARNSTADT
Friedrich von Zollern ..... HERR STAEGEMANN
Gebhardus ..... HERR POHL
Burgvogt ..... HERR MANNSTADT
Sprecher ..... HERR LUDWIG
Herold ..... HERR ARNDT
Erster Edler ..... HERR STRUVE
Zweiter Edler ..... HERR HOCHSTETTER
Erster Bürger ..... HERR EICHHOLZ
Zweiter Bürger ..... HERR PARIS
Erster Nürnberger ..... HERR WINTER
Zweiter Nürnberger ..... HERR UHLIG

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 6.—The occasion of this production was a gala performance in connection with the recent Court festivities, but the little piece—which is judiciously called a "festspiel"—is better than the majority of its kind. It was unfortunate that owing to the demand for large State boxes (the Kaiser and Kaiserin, with many visitors, were present) the play had to be given in the Opera House instead of the Schauspielhaus, the acoustics of the former being disadvantageous to the speaking voice. The action passes at Nürnberg in the time of the famous Kaiser Barbarossa (Friedrich I.), about whom so many legends exist. Keen for adventure, the bold youth, Friedrich von Zollern, leaves his father's fortress and goes forth—a second Parsifal—to seek his fortunes. He arrives at Nürnberg, and speedily falls in love with the Burggraf's fair daughter Sophie, who, of course, reciprocates his affection. But sterner things claim the hero's attention. He discovers a plot to murder the Emperor; it has originated in Italy, which he had just gloriously vanquished, and is to be carried out by one Gebhardus, who has crept over from Milan for the purpose. Young Zollern turns the tables upon the would-be assassin and makes an end of him, which deed of prowess at first costs him dear. He is beaten and cast into prison for creating a disturbance on a day of public rejoicing, but it soon comes to the Kaiser's ears, and the youthful hero is rehabilitated with all honour. Sophie is faithful to him, and the lovers are united. The curtain descends on as fine a tableau as anyone could desire; indeed, the play was staged throughout magnificently. The language is smooth and pleasant, and the author, who is still young, should do better things in the future. That the acting was admirable it is hardly necessary to add. An unfortunate accident took place at the close of the performance. Herr Staegemann (Zollern) did his work too realistically, and his dagger caught Kaiser Barbarossa's (Dr. Max Pohl) eye, inflicting a somewhat serious wound. An operation, it is said, will be unnecessary, but the actor will not be able to appear for some little time, and the bill has had to be altered in consequence. The accident was not noticed by the audience, but it came to the Emperor's ears. His Majesty has repeatedly sent to inquire how Dr. Pohl is progressing, and has forwarded him flowers and fruit from the Royal gardens.

THE Royal Schauspielhaus is announcing a number of new plays and important revivals. Among the former are Franz von Schönthan's *Klein Dorrit*, Lehmann's drama, *Das Lied Vom Braven Mann*, and Dr. Blumenthal's comedy *Das Glashaus*. Chief among the latter are *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Winter's Tale*—whereby you will perceive that Shakespeare is as much to the front as ever—and Schiller's *Wallenstein*. The Royal Opera, too, appears to be getting livelier, three new works being announced: Tschaikowsky's *Pique Dame*, Ritter's *Der Faule Hans*, and Smetana's *Dalibor*. The ballet *Prometheus*, with the music by Beethoven, will also be produced early in the season.

ON Friday last the Neues Theatre reopened under the management of its new lessee, Herr Alfred Schmieden. The pretty little theatre in Schiffbauer-Damm has always been a house of high-class standing, and it assuredly will not be less so under Herr Schmieden, who brings a wealth of experience with him. The company is composed almost exclusively of artists of note, many of them—such as Herr Christians, Herr Schnidler, Frau Reisenhofer, Fräuleins Jaeger and Hartwig, and others—being formerly members of the first Berlin companies. A couple of Molière's comedies—*Sganarell* and *Der Burgerliche Edelmann*—were given on the opening night with success that augurs well for the future. A new play in three acts, entitled *Frost im Frühling*, by Leo Lenz, is to be produced to-night, and Max Dreyer's comedy *Eine* next week. On the 21st a drama by Bloem—*Der Jubiläumsbrunnen*—will see the light for the first time, and a week later a new comedy by Georg Engel is to be produced, by which it will be seen that Director Schmieden is nothing if not enterprising.

THE new Lortzing Opera opened last week. Under the names of Belle Alliance, the Victoria, and various others, this little theatre in the south-west has passed through many phases. It was the happy idea of Herr Max Garrison to supply that part of the city with an opera-house with popular admission prices. He got together an efficient orchestra and company under the management of a good conductor, and one of the happiest features of the undertaking is the name of the theatre Lortzing was a Berliner by birth, and he died here some fifty years ago, at the early age of forty-five. He gave to the world some delightfully melodious and soundly-written operas, the best known of which are *Undine*—recently done with great success at the Royal Opera—*Der Waffenschmied*, and *Czar und Zimmermann*. It was with the last-mentioned that the theatre opened, whereby another proof of judicious management was given. The interpretation of this amusing and altogether pleasing little work was first-rate: the Burgomeister was worthily rendered by Herr Greder, Fräulein Martin was excellent as Marie, and Herr Adalbert Lieban (Julius Lieban's brother) was satisfactory in the rôle of Peter Ivanoff, Peter the Great being represented by Herr Goerger. Kapellmeister Bodansky did his work in very promising style, and orchestra and chorus were thoroughly up to the mark. The mounting being tasteful and the applause spontaneous and hearty, the opening of the Lortzing may be written down a success.

HAUPTMANN'S remarkable play, *Fuhrmann Henschel*, has been revived with painstaking care at the Lessing, and the result is the perfection of acting such as we are accustomed to see at this theatre. It is to me—and in this, I believe, I am not alone—a matter of much wonderment that this piece has gained for itself so firm a place in the Lessing répertory, but that is a question *per se*. The revolting character of Hanna Schäle was played in a masterly manner by Fräulein Else Lehmann, every phase of the demon in female form being brought out as the author intended. The cast was for the most part the same as at the first production, Fräulein Orloff being new in the rôle of Franziska.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES" was visited on Sunday evening by the Kaiser, the Crown Prince and Princess, the Crown Princess of Greece, and the Kaiser's younger sons. The manager of the Berliner met the distinguished guests at the door of the theatre, and received after the performance a tasteful proof of His Majesty's appreciation. Herr Bonn played the name-part for more than the fiftieth time.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

THE coalition of two most important circuits is reported. On making inquiries at headquarters, we were informed that negotiations have been opened between the two companies, but nothing has yet been settled. Should the coupling up be effected, the operations of the combination will extend to no less than twenty-one places of entertainment.

THE London, Shoreditch, and the Royal Albert, Canning Town, on Monday next will inaugurate the experiment of two houses a night, thus falling into line with all other variety houses east of the Griffin except the Paragon. Fifteen years ago the only recognised music hall run on the twice nightly plan was the Sebright, which has since become a theatre.

MISS ANNA HICKISCH, the operatic soprano who is starring at the Empire, has had an unfortunate experience. It is her custom to spend an hour on her bicycle after breakfast, and on Thursday morning, when riding up a steep hill, the machine broke at the head, and her weight falling on her left foot the ankle was badly sprained. Though in great pain she managed to sing on Thursday; but for a few days it will be necessary for her to rest and drive direct from her door to the Empire. The accident has interfered with her rehearsals of the new grand operatic skit, *Burning to Sing*, in which she is to play the principal part, and which Mr. Edwardes will produce very shortly at the Empire.

MR. HARRY WRIGHT, at the opening of the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, presented to Mr. Jesse Sparrow a beautiful floral horseshoe composed of white lilies and other choice flowers, bearing on its face in red blooms the words "Good Luck." He said: "Mr. Sparrow, on behalf of the Terriers, of which I am proud to be a member, I have much pleasure in presenting this emblem to you, our president, and to endorse by our presence here this evening the motto 'Good Luck' to this your new undertaking. This floral emblem is much too large for you to have about you always, so we ask you to accept this little jewel, which is also a horseshoe, and hope you will live to wear it for a very long time indeed." Cheers and musical honours followed, in which the ladies joined.

MR. JOHN SMITH, the manager to Messrs. Francis and Day, received a cablegram from America on Monday announcing the safe arrival in New York of the heads of the firm, and stating that Mr. Fred Day and Mr. William Francis were both in excellent health, and the Transatlantic branch flourishing exceedingly.

THE "Sixpenny Pops" department of Messrs. Francis and Day's business in London has been hitherto much cramped and hampered owing to want of space, the premises in Denmark-street having been also the headquarters of a wholesale collar maker and of a large printing concern. These two firms have now removed their businesses elsewhere, and the entire premises were on Thursday formally taken over. As soon as the necessary alterations are completed considerable augmentations will be made to the already long catalogue of the firm's popular series.

MISS ADA REEVE, whose triumphs in the Strand are nothing new to her, seems always to find her right environment. This happy state of things is due perhaps as much to her personal magnetism as to her rare histrionic gifts. Not many years since she had Australia at her feet; then South Africa capitulated to her charms; and just now she is fascinating a typically East-End audience at the Paragon as well as a representative West-End crowd of variety lovers at the Tivoli. No actress ever attained such a unique position on both the greater and lesser stages as Ada Reeve, and she has reached it by sheer hard work, thoroughness, and consummate art.

IT is understood that Mr. Oswald Stoll, who has changed his permanent residence from Cardiff to Putney, will shortly voyage to New York to consult with certain vaudeville managers in the States with reference to the future of the Coliseum.

MR. CARL HERTZ, the ever-popular illusionist, has met with all sorts of extraordinary adventures during his long career on the stage. One of the most exciting occurred on one of his voyages from England to New York. A young American on board had lost a great amount of money at poker, and Mr. Hertz shrewdly suspected that the three men with whom the unfortunate boy had been induced to play were professional gamblers. He made up his mind to give him a kindly warning. The young American at first refused to listen, but at last consented to let Mr. Hertz take a hand, on the following night, in the play. The illusionist watched to such good purpose that he was firmly convinced his suspicions were only too well founded, and when his turn came to deal he prepared a little surprise for his companions. Betting ran high. The room was crowded with men. "The pot's mine!" said one of the players, "I have three knaves!" "Three queens!" shouted the second. "Three kings!" almost yelled the third. "Four aces!" cried Carl Hertz. When the ship arrived at New York, the three sharpers were handed over to the police, and the young American recovered his money.

HERE is a good little story that Mr. Hertz tells against himself, with a moral for conjurers—do not employ confederates unless you are quite sure of them! One of his tricks, years ago in America, was to put a dollar, borrowed from a member of the audience, into an orange, and afterwards draw it (the coin) out of a small boy's pocket, the boy being the confederate to whom a dollar had of course been given before the show began. One night, when Mr. Hertz had carefully pretended to pick out a strange child, and asked him to feel in his pockets for the silver piece, the unexpected result was the production of a handful of small change, while a small voice explained, in loud tones, "Please, boss, there's only ninety cents to-night. I got thirsty, and changed the dollar you gave me to buy a drink!"

IN the course of the next fortnight Mr. George Edwardes hopes to stage at the Empire a humorous operatic sketch entitled *Very Grand Opera; or, Burning to Sing*. The music of this sparkling trifle is by Gustav Kerker, the well-known composer of *The Belle of New York*, who hopes to return from America in time to conduct the piece on the first performance. The principal parts in the burlesque will be taken by Miss Anna Hickish and Mr. Ottley Cranston. The lady, who is a charming vocalist, has distinguished herself by her impersonation of Madame Sans-Gêne in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, and Mr. Ottley Cranston is a well-known operatic baritone, who has won much favour in English opera in the provinces. Mlle. Juniori, the favourite Parisienne comedienne, will appear at the Empire at an early date.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR scored a decided success at the Tivoli on Monday in Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's stirring march-song, "When the band played 'The Men of Harlech,'" and the catchy chorus was taken up with vigour by the audience. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company consider this song a most certain "winner" for pantomime, for which it will be issued free of all fees whatever.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE'S new satirical song, "You'll get on in England if you're not an Englishman," by Murray and Hilbury, has been secured by the Charing Cross-road publishing firm.

THE Mansfield Hippodrome will, as at present arranged, reopen on Oct. 8, under the management of Mr. T. Jennings.

A COMPANY called the Lancashire Vaudeville Syndicate has been formed to acquire the assets and liabilities of "Palaces, Liverpool." The offices are at Norwich House, Southampton-street, Holborn.

THE Palace Theatre, Darlington, Limited, has been registered. Mr. G. F. Ward is the architect, and Signor Pepi, of the Palace, Carlisle, and the Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, has been appointed managing director. Building operations will be commenced immediately.

DR. WALFORD BODIE has again been creating a furore in Glasgow at the Coliseum, despite the fact that it is his nineteenth visit to the city. On Saturday night at both houses hundreds were turned away. He opens again in London on Monday at the Empire, New Cross, being fully booked up this year. Mr. Arthur Jefferson, of the Metropole, Glasgow, his sole provincial representative, is arranging to book the doctor at the leading provincial theatres.

THE Palace Theatre, Cork, reopened on Monday last. Mr. Henry Kemble, the popular manager, has had a three months' booking tour on the Continent and in England, during which he has been fortunate in securing some of the best acts in the business. He has an exceptionally strong bill for the opening week, having secured through Cavill's Agency Wizard Stone, with his sensational act, *The Globe of Life*.

MISS DECIMA BROOKE, the charming juvenile actress who has been playing in variety with Miss Millie Hylton, has been engaged to play the title-rôle in the pantomime of *Red Riding Hood*, to be produced at Christmas at the New Theatre, Sunderland.

"UNCLE BONES," whose name is so familiarly associated with Margate of the past and present, took his annual benefit on Monday evening, and has now expressed his intention of retiring. It is forty years since he started as a nigger minstrel on Margate sands, and there was much sighing on the beach on Thursday, the 30th ult., when he announced his coming retirement. Though sixty-four, "Uncle" is as nimble and merry as ever, but he feels that he has done enough.

IN 1895 he appeared with the late Mr. Toole in *Thoroughbred*, at Toole's Theatre. The character he impersonated was that of a nigger minstrel at the seaside, Mr. Toole and Mr. Shelton being his associates in the scene. He also played the genuine Uncle Bones' act (with his troupe) with Arthur Roberts in *Gentleman Joe*. In his comic singing days Uncle Bones was known at the South London and the London Pavilion, where he was for a time chairman. He also went to Astley's.

MR. W. H. CARROLL, the American bioscope operator at the Ardwick Empire, was married on the 22nd ult. to Miss Prudence Helena Jones, whose father was the late manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Manchester. The manager and staff of the Ardwick Empire gave Mr. Carroll a present of cutlery.

MR. J. W. ELLISON, the well-known comedian, whose songs, "All through a Gee-gee-gee" and "The sweetest singer of all," are favourites with both London and provincial audiences, will be married to-morrow (Sunday), at Margate, the bride—a Miss Palmer—being a native of that town.

THE thirteenth ordinary general meeting of the Star Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, was held on Wednesday. Mr. Adam S. Findlater, chairman, presiding. The report states that the profits for the year, inclusive of interest on investments and transfer fees, after the payment of all working expenses, amount to £1,014 2s. 9d. Deducting from this amount the interest on debenture stock and income tax, there remains, with the £953 11s. 3d. brought forward from the previous account, a sum of £610, 16s. which it is proposed to carry forward to the next account.

CONSIDERABLE dissatisfaction was expressed at the unfortunate position of the shareholders. Mr. James O'Loughlin objected to the accounts being passed. Mr. P. D. Kennedy suggested the appointment of independent men on the board; and the former gentleman moved an amendment to the effect that the directors' fees be not allowed until they paid 5 per cent. on the shares. The motion for the adoption of the report was eventually declared to be carried, amid some expressions of dissent. Mr. Loftus Walshe was re-elected a director.

MR. KARL KAPS, the director of the season's band at Folkestone, was accorded a benefit on Tuesday evening, the occasion being made the last illuminated promenade concert at the Pleasure Gardens.

MR. ERNEST HAMPSON and his refined pierrot party conclude to-night a most successful season at Low Green, Ayr. Last Wednesday evening the members of the troupe, by kind permission of Mr. Hampson, held their benefit concert in the Town Hall, Ayr, each member receiving presents, whilst Mr. Hampson was the recipient of a beautiful diamond scarf-pin.

ONE of the many pretty numbers in that charming new musical play, *The Sweet Girl*, is "Strolling in the evening," daintily sung by Miss Claudia Lasell. It is by Harry M. Wellmon, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day.

MISS MINNIE JOHNSON, who has been giving her celebrated tank performance and exhibitions in the sea at Dover, was publicly presented at the conclusion of her successful engagement with a beautiful gold curb chain bracelet by a few residents and admirers. During her stay at the popular watering place Miss Johnson assisted in saving the lives of two lady visitors, who had got out of their depth while bathing, and were in imminent danger of being drowned.

WALTER BELLONINI, the renowned juggler, is at present delighting audiences in Bordeaux. At the conclusion of his engagement there he will go on to Nice and Marseilles, returning to the Hippodrome in November.

Two numbers free for pantomime are going strong just now in town, in the hands respectively of Miss Marguerite Broadfoote and Miss Criss Cross—"I wonder what we'd do without our girls?" and "All girls are beautiful." Both numbers are by J. F. Lambe and have been issued by Mr. David Day.

MR. WALTER GRAHAM, the human marionette, has had a striking picture post-card printed, in which his head protrudes through a gigantic poster of the Harrogate Kursaal, a poster in which Mr. Graham topped, Mme. Albani middled, and the band of the Gordon Highlanders bottomed the bill.

MLLE. ANNE DANCREY, who brought the "Maxixe"—sometimes called the Mattchiche—to London, has returned this week to the Alhambra, where she is singing with all her accustomed brilliancy and charm three songs—a march, "Chant de Gloire," a gavotte, "L'Américaine," and a valse, "Hosanna d'Amour." The gavotte proved the most popular at her appearance on Monday.

THE annual general meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. will be held on Tuesday, October 16. The agenda will naturally be a heavy one, and full particulars will be announced in due course.

THE Royal Albert Palace of Varieties, Canning Town, of which the sole proprietor and manager is Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, will re-open on Monday on the two-houses-a-night system There will be no chairman, Mr. Walter Leaver, who wielded the hammer here for so many years, passing into well-earned retirement.

MISS JOSEPHINE SABEL has just returned from America. During her stay in New York she was compelled to undergo a serious operation, which she successfully pulled through. Miss Sabel opened at the Paris Olympia on Saturday, and she was immediately re-engaged.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA'S motor veil attached to the "business" end of a boat-hook saved her from an awkward predicament in which she found herself on Sunday night at Brighton, whither she had gone to fulfil an engagement at Mr. Barrasford's popular Hippodrome. With a friend she took a moonlight trip in a motor-boat. When the voyagers were about seven miles out the carburetter caught fire, and though the flames were smothered, an escape of petrol made the little vessel practically a derelict. A trawler, however, hove in sight, and gave the necessary assistance, the popular comedienne being landed early on Monday morning none the worse for her exciting adventure.

MR. TOM WOOTTWELL is enjoying a well-earned holiday, the first he has taken for three years. With Mrs. Woottwell he motored last week to Portsmouth in his fine Panhard car, and, being an excellent swimmer, did some good work in the water at Southsea. He spent one evening at the Portsmouth Empire watching other people perspire. On reaching Putney Bridge on the return journey on Saturday, about 7 p.m., tyre troubles commenced, and he did not reach his home at Highgate until 11.30.

MR. HENRY CARLTON writes: "I should like to make it known through the columns of your valuable paper that I was engaged at the Palace, Walthamstow, with my No. 1 dramatic company, the week of Aug. 13, 1906, and although I only appeared there on the Monday night, I beg to thank Mr. G. Adney Payne, who, through my solicitors, Messrs. Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, 45, Ludgate-hill, E.C., has paid me my salary in full for the above week."

LA MILO was seized on Thursday evening with a sudden attack of faintness during her series of artistic poses at the London Pavilion, where she has been fulfilling a conspicuously successful engagement for four months. The curtain was immediately lowered, and Cruikshank, the lightning caricaturist, "filled in" with an increased number of his most interesting cartoons of celebrities. La Milo appeared last night as usual.

SOME years ago the writer was introduced by Mr. Paul Martinetti to his mother, just over from America, who was enjoying, at a well-known hall, her son's fine exhibition of comic pantomime in *A Terrible Night*. She talked with all the engaging vivacity of a cultivated Frenchwoman, and although from the new world, possessed quite the old-world courtesy of the *ancienne noblesse*. It was therefore with sincere regret that early in the week we heard the news of her death at the ripe old age of eighty-three. Her heart was ever young, and that she had wonderful energy was proved last year when she again crossed the Atlantic, and enjoyed a long holiday at her son's up-river bungalow near Staines, on one occasion handling a pair of sculls in a skiff. In her earlier years Mme. Martinetti shared the triumphs of the celebrated Martinetti and Revelle's combination in the States. The sad news, which reached London by cablegram on Saturday, was not revealed either to Paul or Alfred Martinetti until their return to town on Sunday evening. To both the brothers the cordial sympathy of a host of friends in the profession will be extended.

OUIDA'S well-known novel, "Under Two Flags," has been many times adapted for the theatres, and we remember Miss Claire Howard some years ago bringing to the halls a shortened version of her husband's dramatisation of the story. A sketch on the same subject, entitled *La Virandière*, will be produced, under the direction of Mr. Hugh J. Didcott, at the Grand, Clapham. Miss Isabel Derry will play the intrepid heroine, Cigarette.

MESSRS. HARRINGTON AND TATE have just written and composed a new comedy number, entitled "All round the clock" (only twelve verses!), the singing rights of which they have disposed of in equal shares to Mr. Whit Cunliffe and Miss Clarice Mayne. It will be published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, and should be in rare demand at pantomime time. The McNaughtons have already secured it for the forthcoming "annual" at the Crown, Peckham.

MR. WILKIE BARD has been specially engaged at the Tivoli to sing an entirely new song entitled "What's the matter with England?" (dealing humorously with the burning question of "England for the English"), opening on Monday next. Mr. Bard must prove an accession of strength to an already strong programme, of which Miss Ada Reeve is still the bright particular star.

MR. WALTER HAST (of Lennie and Hast), who has just returned to England from a successful engagement in the States, reports that the "hit" of Weber and Field's latest big production in Boston was "My Tiny Firefly," by Ballard Macdonald and Donovan Meher, one of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's "Sixpenny Successes."

THE Shapiro Von Tilzer music-publishing company has accepted for publication Miss Margaret Broadfoote's haunting chorus song "Make love while the moon shines," which should be in demand for pantomime. It is from the pens of J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban.

MISS LOTTIE WILLIAMS (Mrs. George Lashwood), who recently underwent a somewhat serious operation, is making a rapid and satisfactory recovery.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company has just acquired from Mr. G. H. Elliott the publishing rights of his new romantic song, "My Venice Girl," written and composed by Mr. Joseph Tabrar, which they will include in their "Sixpenny Successes" series at an early date. Mr. Tabrar is now quite a veteran song-writer, and his melodies and verses have brightened many a Gaiety burlesque.

MESSRS. MELLOR, LAWRENCE, AND GIFFORD have just acquired the lease of commanding business premises at Hammersmith, which they will open shortly for the sale of popular music at popular prices. It would be harder to find anywhere a more thronged thoroughfare than the Western Broadway, and their enterprise appears predestined to success. They will still continue song-writing.

ONE of the many interesting features of *The Earthquake* at the London Hippodrome is the introduction of the popular American song "Cheyenne" (a cowboy love song). It is charmingly sung by Miss Simeta Marsden. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter will issue it at once in two editions.

MISS DAISY WHITE, the eldest daughter of Mr. Douglas White (who is hon. treasurer of the Terriers' Association and the M.H.A.R.A.), was married on Tuesday, at St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, to Mr. Donald Ross McBean, before a large congregation of relatives and friends. At the reception over one hundred guests were present, including brother Terriers Fred W. Millis, Harry Wright, John Moore, G. P. R. Burgess (solicitor), S. W. Salter (trustee), and Harry Lester (secretary). The wedding presents—eighty-nine in all—were costly and beautiful. The happy pair, amid hearty congratulations, left during the afternoon for their honeymoon in Dorsetshire.

MR. GILBERT WELLS, the popular song-writer, was married on Friday, 31st ult., at Christ Church, Brixton-road, to Miss Charlotte M. Nichols. The bride, who is not connected with the profession, was given away by Mr. E. C. Matthews, the well-known Irish actor, and was attended by Miss May Tilley (sister of Miss Vesta Tilley) and Miss Dorothy and Master Donald Blair (daughter and son of the bridegroom). Mr. Lester May was "best man." There was a large attendance at the church, including Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Scott, Mr. A. J. Mills, Mr. Harry Adams, Mr. Bingham Sedgwick, Miss Rosie Gaston, Mr. Will Crackles, Mr. Jack Wayho, Mr. Austin Lenton, Mr. Charles Dudley, and a host of friends. Mr. Bennett Scott's subsequent playing of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" and Miss Vesta Victoria's touching ditty "Waiting at the church" was greatly appreciated. The happy pair are honeymooning in Scotland.

MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN., who is appearing at the Palace, has a grievance, and one which has been a great worry of recent years. He says, "The absurd resemblance between Brother Huntley and myself would (or perhaps may) form the clou of a comedy. People have paid him who owed me, people have opened bottles with me meant for him, and pretty girls with autograph books never know whose signature they want until they get it. After much thought, I am proposing to issue a safeguard to all such: if they meet me wearing pince-nez, it is Huntley; if they meet Huntley without his pince-nez, it is me."

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD has arranged for the following artists to appear at the café chantant in the North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace next week:—Charles Freeman, in his duologue, entitled "The Broken Honeymoon"; Stan Aubrey, comedian and eccentric dancer; Frank Crisp, baritone comedian; and the Sprees (Dorothy and Joe), in their scena, *Twickenham Ferry*.

MISS MAREE KEAN, who is this week having a great reception at the Colchester Hippodrome, has a series of songs being prepared for her by Mr. Nat Clifford, with which she will appear very shortly. They will savour of the "Smart Set," and Miss Kean is having a special set of dresses, of a most elaborate description, prepared for her. Until now she has been more closely identified with low-comedy songs.

MR. JAMES KIRK, who bought the lease of the Oxford for £27,100 in 1889, and later on purchased the Scotia, Glasgow, has taken over the Blue Anchor tavern in Fenchurch-street. Quite a party of artists journeyed thither a few days since to renew acquaintance with the ex-music hall proprietor and manager.

MR. AND MRS. EDWARD H. LUCAS have made a most successful South African *début* at the Empire Theatre, Johannesburg. The clever Dickensonians opened their season with scenes from "Martin Chuzzlewit" and "Bleak House," Mrs. Lucas's performance of the death of Joe being considered the *pièce de résistance* in the programme. The Transvaal *Critic* described their show as "superb." The many friends of Mr. Joe O'Gorman in this country will be pleased to hear that his two young sons, whose dancing is especially good, recently made a very promising first appearance on any stage in Johannesburg.

MISS EILEEN DOUGLAS, who is one of the many recruits from musical comedy to the music halls, is producing a scena of an extremely novel nature at the Brighton Hippodrome on Monday, after which it will be seen at one of our leading West End halls. As it is quite an original idea, and will be most elaborately mounted, it ought to create a sensation. The scena is being arranged by that well-known producer Mr. Fred Farren; the lyrics are by Ralph Roberts (of the Prince of Wales's Theatre) and Fred Leigh, and the music by Henry Pether.

DUSE MOHAMED, the Egyptian actor-author, who has made a great success with his costume tragedy sketch *The Jew's Revenge*, has formed a novel combination, which he is taking on tour. Apart from the fact that Mr. Mohamed is the only English-speaking actor the East has ever produced, which in itself should prove a drawing card, he has brought over Chee-Yon-Say, late conjuror to the Emperor of China, assisted by his son Que-Son, said to be the only child conjurer in the world. *The Jew's Revenge* and the Chinese will constitute the chief novelties in Duse Mohamed's show, but there are other attractions.

THE 479th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, when the following members were present:—Messrs. Fred Herbert, J. Alexander, Harry Wright, A. Borelli, Wal Pink, Fred Russell, Jeff Vendome, Geo. A. Booker, Albert Voyce, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Mr. Fred Herbert was voted to the chair. Mr. Fred Russell tendered his resignation as a member of the committee, owing to his forthcoming visit to Australia. Mr. Borelli proposed, and Mr. Alexander seconded, that the resignation be not accepted. This was carried. A letter was also read from Mr. W. Downes, resigning from the committee; but, owing to his frequent absences in the provinces, his resignation was not accepted. In accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting, Messrs. H. Tich, Wilkie Bard, and W. Poluski, sen., were understood to have retired from the committee, and the following, being the next on the list, were therefore elected on the committee:—Messrs. Fred Griffiths, G. H. Smythson, and C. C. Bartram. The weekly financial statement was submitted and passed.

MESSRS. FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER tender their hearty congratulations and sincerest thanks to all who have assisted in agitating for, and in securing, the passage of the new Musical Copyright Act, (1906). Amongst the friends and workers for the Bill honourable mention must be made of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., Sir Alfred Thomas, M.P., Mr. Enoch Edwards, M.P., Mr. Keir Hardie, M.P., Mr. Crombie, M.P., Mr. Sloan, M.P., the Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Right Hon. Sir Lawson Walton, the Right Hon. Herbert Gladstone, Earl Beauchamp, the Right Hon. Akers-Douglas, the Right Hon. Sir Robert Finlay, the Right Hon. Sir Edward Carson, Mr. Cochrane, M.P., Mr. Galloway, M.P., Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P., the Right Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. Mount, M.P., Earl Lytton, Lord Windsor, Lord Monkswell, Lord Balcarres, Lord Knutsford, Mr. Charles Willeby, Hon. Robert H. Lyttelton, Mr. R. D. Muir, Mr. Henry Percy Becher, Mr. Philip J. Rutland, Mr. J. G. Littlechild, Mr. F. M. Goodman, Mr. William Boosey, and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, manager of *The Era*. Also of the officers and members, past and present, of the Musical Copyright Association, and the Music Publishers' Association; all the lady and gentleman members of the music trade and music profession, and the British Press.

CHIRGWIN, that master of the rod and line, and Mr. John Barton fished last week with conspicuous success in the upper reaches of the Humber, capturing the wary roach and bream in considerable numbers. The popular White-Eyed Kaffir is entertaining with his customary success at the Empire, Leeds, this week.

MR. HARRY RICHARDSON, the musical director of the Brixton Theatre, on retiring from that position last week, was presented by the management and staff with a silver card-case. His successor is Mr. E. Moss. As we have already announced, the house is to be run with variety on the twice nightly plan.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company has just accepted from Messrs. Paul, Pelham, and Herbert Rule a new song with an ear-haunting refrain, entitled "Longing always for you," which is, at present, of the "free" variety.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR, the well-known writer of verses and songs, in recognition of the bravery of the boy Fox who attempted to rescue a drowning lad at North Shore, Blackpool, some weeks ago, composed a song poem, entitled "The Shoe Black Hero," which he recited with great pathos at the local Hippodrome performances last week. The verses were printed, and sold during the performances, the proceeds of the sale amounting to £10 15s. 8d. After deducting £2 14s. 1d. for expenses, the sum of £8 1s. 7d. was left. Of this amount £1 10s. was handed over to Fox, and the balance, £6 11s. 7d., was deposited with the Chief Constable, to distribute as he might think fit on behalf of the lad. Fox has appeared on the stage at the Hippodrome with Mr. F. V. St. Clair after the recital of the poem during the past week, and has been accorded very hearty receptions.

MR. JOHN LAWSON is reviving at the Empire, Islington, on Monday, his famous sketch *Sally in Our Alley*. The close of this is a powerful revelation, as far as the stage will permit, of the vicious orgies of a band of degenerates to whose base desires a pander with a "life studio" ministers. Recent disclosures in New York triumphantly justify the author in the incidents presented, which are not in the slightest degree over-coloured.

MISS KATIE LAWRENCE returned on Monday to the Middlesex, where she is such a warm favourite, and sang with all her customary success a new song, "Why can't I be a pal of yours?" by Herbert Rule and Newton Beet, both of them comparatively new lyrical contributors to the variety stage.

TO Mr. E. A. Pickering, who is shortly to be installed as assistant-manager to Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace, was accorded a complimentary benefit at the Tivoli, Cape Town, on the 24th ult., since which date he has spent a short time visiting friends in Johannesburg. He sailed on Wednesday for England.

THE friends of Miss Agnes Hazel (Mrs. Michael Nolan) will be pleased to learn she is now making rapid recovery from her severe illness. She expects to be allowed to have a drive on the first clear day next week.

MISS NELL RICHARDSON opened on Monday at the London Pavilion, after a successful Russian tour, and made an enormous success with two new songs, "I can see red roses blooming," by Leigh and Pether, and "Snowflakes," by Mills and Scott. These pretty numbers will be featured in all the principal Christmas productions.

MISS MAIDIE SCOTT has found a trump-card in a new song by Alfred Wood and George Ess. She has also acquired three excellent songs from Mr. Chapman, of Southport, one of which has a remarkably fine chorus.

AFTER her successful series of engagements in London, lasting six months, Miss Daisy James goes on the Moss and Stoll tour for nine weeks, commencing Oct. 1.

THE latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1; London Pavilion Ord., 3⅜; London Pavilion Pref., 5; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅛; Moss Empire, 4½; Moss Empire 5 per cent. Pref., 3⅜; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 11s.; Tivoli, 6; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 14s.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday afternoon next, at the York Hotel.

IN respect to the theft of a wig and necklace, the property of Mlle. La Tosca, at Blyth, it appears that the wig has not been recovered, and a search is still being made.

AT the International Artists' Lodge in London on Sunday Brother 876 took the chair, and welcomed the brothers present—202, 382, 119, 1,041, 1,215, 1,216, 876, 519, and two guests. A report of the result of application for reduction of fares to artists on the Batavier line was given as follows:—Between Oct. 1 and May 1 artists may travel first-class between London and Rotterdam for second-class fares, viz., 21s. instead of 32s. Two hundredweight of luggage will be carried free for each passenger. Children half-fare and half-luggage allowance. Between May 1 and Oct. 1 there will be 10 per cent. reduction on ordinary fares. Luggage 6d. per hundredweight, viz., 50 per cent. reduction. The company to retain the option of refusing a person first-class if not considered suitable. The representative of the Batavier line company agreed to try to get a 25 per cent. reduction for animals.

THE question of sending the petition with regard to the quarantine for dogs to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Society was next discussed, and decided in the negative. It was agreed, however, that the petition be translated by the secretary provisionally, put into legal language by Mr Judge, and put before the meeting for any additions to be made.

A LETTER was read from headquarters informing the London meeting that the principle of affiliation with the V.A.F. had been agreed to, and that a telegram to that effect had been sent to President Konorah. It was agreed that the contents of the letter be communicated to the V.A.F.

THE chairman then brought before the notice of the meeting two agents' office copies which he considered should have the disapprobation of the Lodge. The first had been handed to him by Brother 1,160, a turn of twenty years' standing, owing to imperfect knowledge of English it might easily occur that an artist would sign such a document.

BROTHER 1,359 proposed, and it was agreed, that the information laid before the meeting be conveyed to the chairman of the executive committee of the V.A.F. and M.H.A.R.A. without comment, merely reporting that it had been laid before the meeting of the I.A.L.

BROTHER 1,359 asked questions regarding the coming arbitration committee *re* Brother 1,243 with Cadle Bros. He was of the opinion that the third party chosen should be neither artist nor manager.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE CANTERBURY.

One might have to go far for a better all-round entertainment than that over which Mr. Fred Miller presides at the Canterbury this week. There is, to begin with, the quaintly comical Mr. George Mozart, whose really laughable character studies are worth seeing over and over again. Thus, he describes in the most humorous, and at the same time not unnatural, manner the way in which people under a variety of circumstances meet. His "C.I. Detective" also furnishes some merry moments, though we are afraid that his plain-clothes officer might not be appreciated at Scotland Yard. The Florodora Girls have a delightfully pleasing item in the petite comedy *Rival Sweethearts;* and Woodhouse and Wells provide plenty of funny patter funnily acted. Radford and Valentine, with their irresistible whimsicalities, are once more made welcome in South London. As burlesque artists they are extremely amusing, and as jugglers they show no small skill. Hats, tennis balls, and other articles, even including marbles, are thrown into the air, and caught again with marvellous rapidity and precision. Their hoop manipulation, too, demonstrates their ability in another direction, and the catching and throwing back of the bouncing balls is one of their smartest feats. Mr. Austin Boyd and Trixie Gilfain can always be relied upon for an agreeable act, and the singing and dancing of the couple and the bagpipe-playing of the lady afford to the audience a few minutes of great pleasure.

Then that ridiculously absurd comedienne, Miss Nellie Wallace—could anything exceed in its laughable effect her original facial expressions? Perhaps grimace would be a better word to use, for the manner in which Miss Wallace twists her features about is marvellous to behold. Her song concerning what "my mother says," as well as her parody on "Where are you going, my pretty maid?" are amusing in the extreme. Miss Gladys Mavius, "the Canadian Girl," has some ear-enchanting refrains in "Won't they be glad when I come home" and "Rosie," both of which are sung by the young lady in capital style, and with excellent delivery. Miss Mavius is an artist who has made herself extremely popular with Londoners. Mr. John Ford, who, according to the programme, bears the enviable reputation of being "America's champion dancer of the world," astonishes everybody with his wonderfully intricate but neatly and correctly performed movements, and his work is admired on all hands. Ventriloquism has an admirable exponent in Mr. Bert Williams, who continues, with the aid of his dummy, to be most entertaining. Mr. Williams is so well-known as a ventriloquist and his performances so much above criticism that he needs little recommendation at this hour. Miss Bonnie Goodwin and her Piccaninnies also come in for a good deal of attention, their clever doings being watched with much interest.

Mr. Yukio Tani, the champion Japanese wrestler, is the sensational item of the programme. He undertakes to defeat any man, no matter how big or how strong he may be, who will try conclusions with him on the stage, and he offers the sum of £100 to anyone who will defeat him, while £20 is the prize for the wrestler whom Tani fails to throw within fifteen minutes. On the night of our visit three daring gentlemen went before the footlights to contest Tani's claim to the world's championship. In each case the little Jap triumphed. But far more interesting than these bouts was the demonstration afterwards given by Mr. Tani and Miss Roberts, the instructress at the Japanese School of Ju-Jitsu. How to place hors de combat a hooligan who suddenly assails you in the street is one of the lessons which the audience more or less perfectly learnt; but the special exhibition on the evening that we were present were most interesting to witness. The Holloway Trio are seen in a series of daring wire-walking exercises, which we do not remember to have been excelled for intrepidity, poise, and ease of movement. It is not, we should imagine, the safest thing in the world to skip on a wire held taut in mid-air or to stroll along the said wire with a man standing on your head; but these are among the amazingly clever acts of the Holloways. Mr. Herbert La Martine distinguishes himself in the dancing and bâton-manipulating line, and his singing, too, is praiseworthy. The cinematographic show of Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, which includes a number of stories told pictorially, is commendable in every way.

THE EUSTON.

Although the new dramatic playlet by Wm. Felton, entitled *Under the Seal*, is the last item in the programme at the Euston it is well worth waiting for, by reason of the excellence of the acting. The principal character is Bet, quite a typical Cockney girl, whose vulgarity is redeemed by a kind heart and a quick intelligence, the last-mentioned quality being employed in the interests of those she regards with esteem and affection. This little London girl is devoted to Father David, a priest, whose simple domestic requirements it is her great delight to supply. The good Father is troubled by a secret relating to the murder of his brother by a man named Isaac Logdale; and Bet, with the precocious sharpness of her kind, sets herself the task of unravelling the mystery which surrounds the crime. Miss Margaret Parker reveals striking ability in her representation of Bet, the little gutter-bred girl, whose devotion to the priest is so genuine and so touching in its pathos. When the craven murderer, Isaac Logdale, calls at Father David's residence, Bet's semi-serious, semi-humorous attitude towards the intruder is admirably depicted, and the girl's sudden change of expression and manner when she begins to suspect the truth is another instance of Miss Parker's powers as an actress. Mr. Herbert Harden also deserves to be highly commended for his dignified embodiment of Father David, who conceals deep feeling by a calm, unruffled manner. Mr. Morris Seaton is a sufficiently forcible representative of Isaac Longdale, who is roused to fury by the girl's searching questions and suspicious glances. Mr. E. J. Woolley as P.C. 147 completes the cast of an admirable playlet.

In contrast with this little piece, in which the tragic note is forcibly struck, we have that popular comedian, Mr. Will Evans, whose exuberant spirits are well calculated to exercise a beneficial influence upon the worst cases of melancholia and depression. He opens with an extempore ditty, and gives free play to his wit by the composition of verses on topics of the day and the leader of the orchestra. Asked to dedicate a verse to a lady and gentleman seated in a private box he does so with startling results. The occupants express indignation, the gentleman calls Mr. Evans an uncomplimentary name and the rhymester being still unchecked the couple hurriedly make their exit amidst the laughter of the audience. This, of course, is only one of Mr. Evans's little jokes, but it is very smartly worked. The hard-working comedian next appears in his latest impersonation—Mdlle. Flora de Dindigul, the Spanish dancer, whose performance we have already fully noticed. At the head of a bevy of Spanish dancing "girls," Mr. Evans as the première danseuse becomes the centre of a series of eccentric gyrations that send the audience into fits of uncontrollable laughter, and win him loud applause.

Miss Cora Caselli, in the character of an Egyptian sorceress whose knowledge of men and things is obtained by gazing upon a crystal globe, has a song in which typical allusions abound, even King Edward coming in for a complimentary reference. Miss Caselli concludes with one of those agile legmania dances by which she long ago won renown. Another young lady, who scores by her dancing, is Miss Mignonette Cokin, who meets with deserved success. Clark and Hamilton, the well-known comedy duo, are engaged here this week, and their clever and versatile performance is greatly appreciated. Mr. Clark has introduced a new polyglot song having a verse in French, German, Scotch, and Hebrew. This has proved an instantaneous success. Mr. Will Musgrave, comedian, does well with his ditties, "What a comical thing" and "I lost my train again." Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians, are well received; Mr. Walter King, "the doleful comedian," indulges in some really funny patter, and it is always pleasant to listen to the excellent vocalisation of Miss Nina Martino. Mr. Harry Anderson, the popular comedian, has also appeared as an extra turn. Mr. Fred McEvoy, the courteous manager, who has recently returned from a brief seaside holiday, is ably assisted by Mr. Charles E. Wellman, the acting-manager.

STANDARD.

Mrs. Cecil Raleigh is being made the object of a wild ovation at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, when, with her company, in the comedietta, *Kidnapped by Motor*, she appears nightly before the footlights. This sketch has been adapted by Joseph Coudurier and Jessie Porter from the French of Henri de Forose and Pierre Louys. The action takes place in Paris at night. Two sisters, one of them married, leave the opera in their motor-car, and instead of being driven to their own home eventually find themselves in a strange house. Arrived here, a stern-looking, spectacled lady, without attempting to explain the position of affairs, abruptly orders them to undress. They refuse, of course, and their strange "hostess" thereupon removes their evening attire with her own hands. The two ladies wonder what is going to happen next; one faints, and the other indulges in all manner of gloomy prognostications as to their future welfare. There is a knock at the door. Fearing that something dreadful will happen to them, they barricade it. However, the spectacled lady enters by other means, and, what is more strange, brings back their dresses, and assists them in putting them on. But the reason of their being kidnapped is not made clear until the appearance of the master of the house, a costume artist named Bernstein. He tells them, with many apologies and much bowing and scraping, that an American client of his, who thought that the dresses of the sisters were the best things of the kind to be seen in all Paris, offered a handsome sum of money if he would get some garments made exactly like them. So the idea of getting the husband of the elder sister and the chauffeur out of the way for a while occurred to the artistic Bernstein. He has finished his sketches of their dresses and produces them. Are they not lovely? He now suggests that his guests should leave as quietly as possible, which suggestion they act upon. But the elder sister returns suddenly, snatches up the drawings from the table on which they had been left, and tears them into fragments, much to the indignation of the artist. Mrs. Cecil Raleigh causes a good deal of amusement by her effective characterisation of the elder sister, and the other rôles are ably handled by Miss Julia Scott, Miss Helen Vicary, and Mr. Clarence Derevin.

Miss Marguerite Broadfoote's distinctive verses are as delightful as ever. "He, oh, rum-tum," is, of course, the great favourite, but she also has an agreeable number on the subject of "Girls," and the argument that "a man's a churl without a girl." From Mr. Dick Jones we get some capital coster comedy, and Harvey and Holt have an interesting little comedy act, which tells the story of a wife going out into the snow-laden streets in search of a missing husband and the way in which she found him. A pretty melody makes a nice termination. There is an engaging comedienne and smart dancer in Miss Rosie Gaston, whose descriptive work wins her high praise; and a number of original juggling feats are skilfully performed by Primavesi. Mr. A. G. Uno's broad comedy is much in favour down Victoria way, and De Voy, Hurst and Fredericks offer an entertaining item in the negro burlesque, *The Darktown Insurance Depot*. As to Mr. Pat Carey, he is what we have always known him to be—irresistibly funny. He has much to say about one Widow Doolan and the methods adopted by one Tim, an artful suitor, to win the not too easily "taken in" and rather astute bereaved lady's hand. There is good humour in it, as there also is in his succeeding verses, "They're all Irish." Marlowe and Manton create merriment with their comedy duologue, *Other People's Babies;* and Mr. Ernest Ball is a vocalist whose words one can really hear—a great thing in these days when many artists appear to imagine that in order to make an impression upon an audience you may shriek tra-lal-la as much as you like, but on no account whatever let your hearers get the faintest idea as to the subject of your song. Mr. Ball evidently does not believe in this idiotic and altogether unsatisfactory style of singing, and his ballads, "The fireman's daughter" and "The warning bell" are interpreted with clear articulation, tunefulness, and excellent delivery. Mr. George Ascot and his boy are uproariously hilarious in their absurdity, *Horticulture;* Mr. John Marx gives ample evidence of his remarkable strength as a weight-lifter; and the Edisonograph treats us to a splendid series of animated pictures. We were pleased to see Mr. Maurice Volny, the able assistant-manager, looking extremely well on the night of our visit, and attending in his usual strenuous manner to the requirements of the establishment.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

The usual large and appreciative audience assembled here on the night of our visit to enjoy the excellent programme submitted for their entertainment by Mr. Barnard and his popular lieutenant, Mr. Bert Dent. Miss Nancy Wentworth was first on the bill, and delighted all present with her capital rendering of her songs. This charming artist was followed by the Forburys, who were well received in their knockabout act; next came Cyrus Dare, the clever child imitator, who contributed songs and humorous sayings of little children. Fred Mason, billed as the world's champion premier whistler and mimic, whistled in capital style "Under the Double Eagle," and concluded with an excellent rendering of the song "Pretty Polly." The Two Kays followed with their scena, entitled *The Nightingale*, introducing the songs, "Cuckoo" and "Eileen Alannah." Conrie, Norton, and company appeared in a cleverly-acted comedy sketch, entitled *The Bigamous Burglary;* Lilly and Lottie contributed a capitally rendered song called "Brown eyes," and concluded with a well-executed dance.

One of the principal attractions of the evening was the turn of the Six Brothers Luck, who appeared in their laughable pantomime *The Demon of the Cellar*. The plot is too well known to need recapitulation here; sufficient to say, it was as well done and as funny as ever, and was greeted with loud laughter and prolonged applause. Little Ivy presented a pretty little turn, consisting of a sand-dance and a clever rendering of "How do, my Lulu?" Versatillo is well named, being a clever performer on the banjo, a good dancer, and a pleasant singer of "It's rather a serious matter." An excellent extra turn was provided by the eight pretty girls styled Goldflakes, who danced with agility and sang smartly "Goldflakes," "A coon song," and "Ding-dong." Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, as usual, exhibited an interesting series of pictures, while the long and excellent programme was brought to a successful conclusion by the appearance of Cordite and Buffalo, the marvellously clever lasso-catchers and rope-spinners.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE NEW EMPIRE, CAMBERWELL.

Marked by a demonstration of public favour rarely to be witnessed on the opening of a variety theatre, the new Empire, Camberwell, entered on its career on Monday, and if the enthusiasm of the two crowded houses on that occasion can be taken as a criterion of its future, then success is assured, indeed. It needed not the intelligence of the merest lad in the gallery to discover that it was "not" the beautiful transformation of the interior, of the splendid entertainment provided for their enjoyment, that filled every corner of this cosy theatre on Denmark Hill with a truly representa-

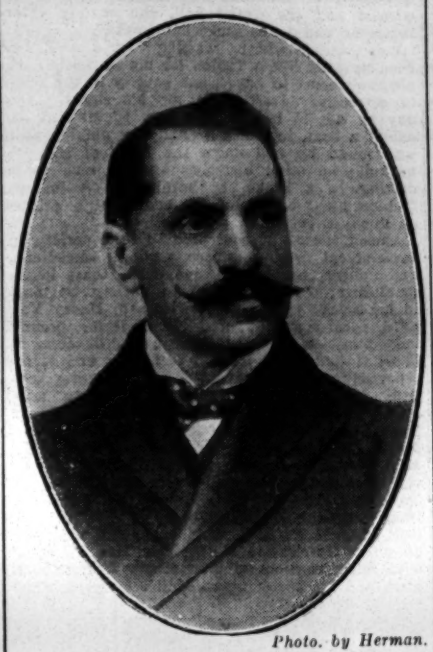


Photo. by Herman.

MR. J. SPARROW.

tive variety theatre audience on such a sweltering evening, but that it was to honour an old friend, and to give his new venture a fillip that should send it on the high road to prosperity. This was the keynote of the evening; and Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the managing-director of the Empire, Camberwell, must feel a very proud man indeed to have demonstrated in such a marked manner the high esteem in which he is held by his legion of friends on both sides of the footlights.

The initial rise of the curtain disclosed the spacious stage filled with the members of the Terriers' Association and their ladies, with their president, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, in the centre. After the National Anthem had been sung in a most impressive manner by Mr. Hamilton Hill and the entire company, "Felix Penne" (Mr. J. F. Bursill) entered from the wings, and, addressing Mr. Jesse Sparrow, recited this opening ode:—

This sights worth all the money, and I've seen the best,
Well, friend Sparrow, you have built a pretty nest.
This house will tempt us all from our abodes,
You're a regular "Empire" builder, just like Cecil Rhodes.
Talking of roads, I'm bound to mention,
The roads round here require attention.
But folks will come, you'll find out very soon,
Aye, even if they have to drop from a balloon.
Of a noble enterprise this is the dawn,
This show will prosper, sure as you are "Bawn."
You must have done some thinking, but
You could do that with such a splendid "Nutt."
Almost as Hamlet, you'll be on the bill,
Hail, "Sparrow," Prince of Denmark Hill.
Your friends are here to-night, don't make a row,
Terriers, greet your president, with bow-wow-wow,
That's done; and always here, 'midst friends and chums,
You'll be a "Sparrow" that will not want for crumbs.
You have made friendships that will always last,
We'll rally round you now, as in the past.
The past, that word is quite unnerving,
It so recalls the name of Henry Irving,
Who, in this house, as well my memory tells,
Played Corporal Brewster in *The Bells*.
'Tis hallowed ground on which to-night we stand,
Here dwelt some of the brightest in our land.
Goldsmith and Ruskin, Browning, William Black;
But we'll look forward, not look back.
This house will prosper, and be a regular goldfield,
If you but bill it well with bills by "Oldfield."
Cover the walls with such a jolly lot,
That folks will raise their hands and cry "Great Scott!"
And when they come this house to fill,
They'll find the show is better than the "Bill."
Good luck, friend Sparrow; may I be so bold
As offer you this horseshoe—solid gold?
It will bring luck unto the house you've built,
And only Sherlock Holmes could find it's gilt.
Here you will give good fare—you're no Chicago canner,
Here will we come, with humble "Bob" or "Tanner,"
Enjoy ourselves beneath the Empire banner,
And show our pleasure in the usual manner.

MR. HARRY BAWN.

The author, "Felix Penne," made all his points cleverly and well, and his witty recital was punctuated with the enthusiastic cheers of the audience.

Mr. Harry Wright then came forward, bearing a beautiful floral horseshoe composed of white lilies and other choice flowers, bearing on its face in red blooms the words "Good Luck." He said: "Mr. Sparrow, on behalf of the Terriers, of which I am proud to be a member, I have much pleasure in presenting this emblem to you, our president, and to endorse by our presence here this evening the motto, "Good Luck," to this your new undertaking. This floral emblem is much too large for you to have about you always, so we ask you to accept this little jewel, which is also a horseshoe, and hope you will live to wear it for a very long time indeed." Cheers and musical honours, in which the ladies joined in most heartily, followed.

Mr. Sparrow, on coming forward to reply, received an ovation, and in feeling tones said: "My friends, ladies and gentlemen,—I've made many speeches during the thirty-five years I have been connected with the variety theatrical world, and I can assure you I've never before found it so difficult to find the words to convey to you my thanks for this splendid reception. To you, my brother Terriers, I much appreciate your great kindness and your unique gifts; and I know your wishes are not only meant for me, but are to be shared by Mr. Harry Bawn, whom you all know so well, and is associated with me in this venture. We are more than indebted to our stage-manager, Mr. William Nutt. Credit is due to him for all the work of decorating this building. He not only employed the men, but supervised everything, with the brilliant result you see before you. I am grateful to all my friends in the provinces and London, who have fairly showered telegrams of congratulations on me all day; and if their good wishes come true, then our success here is assured. The entertainments we shall provide for your enjoyment will be both new and novel to London audiences, and something you have never seen before. The success of the new Empire, Camberwell, is in your hands, and I hope we shall be associated for many, many years."

It is worthy of note that over sixty telegrams were posted up in the vestibule, the majority of which came from Mr. Sparrow's friends in London; while many came from Brighton, Leeds, Halifax, Chatham, Skegness, Maidstone, Huddersfield, Bristol, Bury, Eastbourne, Plymouth, Edinburgh, Littlehampton, Blackpool, &c.

In the words of the immortal Bard, "The play's the thing," and for the opening bill there can be nothing but praise, praise, praise; for although the majority of the artists are new to a London audience, they are individually so good that each item was re-demanded. Heading the bill is Mr. John F. Preston and his excellent company in the exciting racing episode, written by Max Goldberg, entitled *Rogues of the Turf*. Mr. John F. Preston, as the old trainer Flaxman, has fairly got inside his character, and stirs his hearers with his racing recital. The Captain Clinton of Mr. Geo. Hayward is a remarkably finished portrayal; Mr. Henry Marco is the Jew Moses to the life, and scores with his medley of songs; the Sam Flaxman by Mr. Herbert Wordin is a creditable performance; Miss Madge Nelson is sweet and womanly as Nell Flaxman; and Miss Madge Palmer bright and vivacious as Sam's sweetheart Phyllis. Other parts are carefully handled by Mr. Dan F. Rowe as Arthur Summerford, Mr. Tom Phillips as Jim Strongarm, and Miss Hilda Shirley as the Duchess. The new and effective scenery, the stud of thoroughbred horses, and the elegant costumes all conduce to the general success. Miss Mabel Bright and company, in their vocal mélange, *Girls Will be Girls*, give an entertainment full of novelty set in two acts, the first representing England and the latter America. They skilfully introduce a bright and merry coon song and cake walk, "A hammock built for two," and in the American scene, "A Chieftain's Love" episode; while Miss Mabel Bright gives evidence of a cultured voice in her solo, "For sweet love's sake." All work hard for applause, and get it in abundance.

Grey and Parry are a clever couple of acrobats, and in their laughable scene, *Acrobats Past and Present*, combine merry fooling with skilful and daring acrobatism. Mr. Harry Marlow and Miss May Manton create unlimited merriment in their amusing absurdity, *Other People's Babies*. Little Agnes La Tina fairly brought down the house with her clever mimicry of Harry Lauder and Vesta Victoria. The theme of her own song, "Dearie, dearie, de," is much too far in advance of her years, and should be cut out of her répertoire. Edie Rivers as the "Belle of Borneo" dances charmingly and looks sweet in her chic costume of blue and silver. Elton and Edwin are smart banjoists; their final duet is not only full of marvellous expression, but is difficult of execution, and wins them well-earned applause. Mr. Hamilton Hill is a fine baritone, and his rousing song, "The Fire Brigade," wins high favours. Jack Wood, the Lancashire pitman, gives due appreciation to "The Blue-Eyed Irish Boy." Miss Marguerite Hay, backed by a pretty drop scene, gives expression to her topical song, "It's all a matter of business," and wins the hearts of her hearers in the pretty motto song, "The boy that looks after his mother." Will McIvor has a capital descriptive song in "That's the art of make-believe." A series of Empire animated pictures closes a programme that has given infinite satisfaction and enjoyment, and sends the audience away with a firm resolve to support the new Empire in Camberwell.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the Granville Theatre, cosy in winter, and cool and comfy in the summer months, by reason of its sliding roof, Mr. Robert W. Duce again provides a very excellent programme full of brightness and originality, and calculated to rouse his patrons to enthusiasm even under the stress of the recent heat-wave. The bright particular star this week is Miss Victoria Monks, coon comedienne. Her latest success, "Eliza Brown," evokes intense acclamation and rapturous applause, and certainly it is rendered in irresistibly droll and characteristic fashion. This smart little lady has undoubtedly quite a style of her own, and her verve, vivacity and vitality appeal to the audience in a manner that will not be denied. Miss Lena Willard is another comedienne who possesses the necessary qualifications for success, and is full of "go," *chic*, and sparkle; and her animation and love of her work carry all before her. She has a couple of capital songs, "Brigit Molloy" and an imitation of the types of music-hall stageland in the shape of the high-kicking serio, the Spanish dancer, a Swiss jödeller, a gay Parisienne, and the inevitable coon singer Miss Lillie Soutter is an artist with a rich fund of humour, and a good deal of daring and dexterity. Her song of the country girl who opines that "It's a very, very funny place is London" is drolly delivered, and her broad low-comedy carol, "There's a man wanted here," accompanied by descriptive patter and a characteristic dance causes screams of laughter. John E. Coyle is an excruciatingly comic comedian of the George Robey and Wilkie Bard type; his facial expression and his dry way of making his points must be seen and heard to be properly appreciated. His ditties, "Don't be silly" and "Bathing in the sea," are excellent vehicles for the exploitation of his particular style of humour. The Delormes are a pair of marvellous clog dancers, exceedingly clever and resourceful in their line of business, and their unobtrusive, modest, and natural manner enhances the merit of their performance. Russell Wallett as "The Lady in Black," is the wonder of Walham Green; and many a fair patron of the Granville Theatre of Varieties enters into argument with her escort as to the sex of this Gibson-girl type of artist, until Mr. Wallett discards his wig and speaks in stentorian and unmistakably male accents. His song, given at the piano, about an amorous swain serenading his lady-love in the rain—the passionate love-song being punctuated with sneezes—is highly diverting and clever, and his description of married life, how to get a husband, and the skirt dance, with which he winds up his performance, are things of joy and wonder to the audience. Lee and Kingston provide a capital turn as a comedy duo. The lady is very particular, and after endeavouring to please her by masquerading as a sailor, soldier, musician, and what not—all in vain, as he is never of the right denomination—the lover's efforts are at length rewarded by her pointed rendering of the refrain, "I was only, only, teasing you!" Jack and Evelyn are quite above the ordinary cut of comedy entertainers and dancers, and Jack's efforts in palmistry and other occult sciences, and Evelyn's intense and tragic manner in support, and their clever calisthenics complete a very agreeable entertainment. Charles Berte's realistic detective-sketch of modern life is interpreted in the right spirit by all concerned. *The Millionaire*, another sketch by Johnny Holland, is very bright and breezy. Miss Lilian Boanas, an Australian vocalist with a remarkably powerful and sweet voice, who deputised for Walter Norman on Tuesday night, should be in demand, as she is a singer of especial excellence and ability. The Vernon Bioscope is as interesting as ever with its tableau "How the jail-bird ran," and "Wanted a wife." Cora Casselli, the clever high-kick dancer; Will Lytton, comedian; and Drew and Alders in their comedy act complete the programme. We must not forget to mention the excellent service rendered by Mr. W. S. Bassett and the Granville orchestra under his direction.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

To combat the powerful influence exercised by the abnormally hot weather is no light task, but the management of the Islington Empire have certainly done their best by providing this week an attractive, well-varied programme. One of the principal features is the sensational episode in three scenes, entitled *The Girl I Love*, which we noticed last week when it was played at Walthamstow Palace. The little piece may be described as an Adelphi drama in miniature, for it contains nearly all the ingredients to which we were accustomed in those popular productions. The hero, Max Donovan, who makes his appearance in the becoming uniform of a Highland soldier, not only displays those manly qualities which are always associated with a part of this kind, but supplies the comic relief in a scene with the heroine, the daughter of a colonel. The young soldier, brave as a lion in battle, is rendered extremely nervous by the presence of the girl for whom he has a secret admiration. His bungling attempts to hand his fair visitor a cup of tea excite the heartiest merriment, and this purely domestic scene offers the greatest possible contrast to the later ones in which the tragic element predominates, and culminating in a very sensational piece of business. The hero horsewhips the villain, but is in turn overcome by superior force, tied to a tree, stripped to the waist, and flogged. The part of Max Donovan is exceedingly well played by Mr. Frederick Maxwell, who combines vigour and power with a keen sense of humour. Miss Lois du Cane is a graceful and pleasing representative of Rose Adair, the heroine, who throughout remains true to her soldier lover. Mr. Charles Levey portrays in capital style the villain, Captain Stephen Adair, Mr. Sam Harcourt ably doubles the characters of Colonel Adair and Colonel Grant, Mr. Gerald Blake is effective in a blind old man part, and Miss Louise Biddulph wins success as Bessie Donovan, the girl who is first betrayed and then brutally murdered by the wicked Captain.

An important engagement is that of Yukio Tani, the well-known exponent of ju-jitsu. The display of skill given by the Japanese light-weight, who is ready to try conclusions with any man, "no matter how big he may be," is remarkable as well as interesting; and the promise made by Tani to hand over to any man who defeats him the sum of £100, or £20 to any one he fails to defeat in fifteen minutes, gives an additional interest to the contests, by means of which local students of the art of ju-jitsu have no doubt had some useful lessons.

The return—though not for the first time—of Mr. George D'Albert to the hall with which he was so long associated as a leading member of the Mohawk Minstrels, is an event of interest, and from his reception nightly it is quite evident that local audiences have not forgotten an old favourite. Mr. D'Albert wins success with a song in which the ladies of England are contrasted with those of other countries; and the topical allusions introduced are greatly appreciated. Mr. G. H. Elliott, described as the "original chocolate-coloured coon," addresses himself in songs to a damsel who dwells in a pretty little wayside cottage. The vocal appeal has in due course its intended effect, and the lady appears at the window; then she joins her dark-skinned lover, and the two voices unite pleasingly in the song. Mr. Elliott is quite an expert dancer, and the exhibition of his ability in this direction meets with generous applause. The Bohemians consist of a lady and gentleman, who play popular melodies on various musical instruments, and are well received. Miss Daisy Davidson, a soprano vocalist from New Zealand, is the possessor of a rich, cultivated voice, and uses it with excellent effect. Collins and Hawley hail from America, and have won renown as dancing experts. In this particular department they display remarkable ability and agility, and their success is beyond question. The Three San Remo Girls also score as speciality dancers; they work hard, but happily their efforts obtain deserved recognition. Miss Irene Meldon, comedienne and dancer, also contributes to the programme, and the Bioscope depicts "A Trip to South America." The overture this week consists of selections from *The Geisha*, played by the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. A. Petersen; while the front of the house has the active supervision of Mr. George L. Wilson, manager, and Mr. Harry Blight, acting-manager.

MR. ALFRED LESTER, who has made a name for himself in the halls as the sceneshifter who can't make up his mind whether *Hamlet* is supposed to be funny, goes into the new Gaiety burlesque *Aladdin*, to play a policeman. Always studying his characters from life, he has been taking a keen interest in the manners and methods of men in blue ever since he was cast to appear as one of them. *Apropos* to the discovery of types for the stage, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald's enthusiasm once carried him to the length of exclaiming, when he happened to see a casual acquaintance lifting his hat to a lady in the street, "Excuse me, but I *must* have your hair!" On being assured that it was not a case of scalping, the casual acquaintance was flattered that the popular comedian should care to take a mental note of his peculiar hair, to be used at some future date as an idea for a comic stage wig.

MESSRS. CARL AND CARR were, by the courtesy of Mr. Harry Marvello, given a benefit on Wednesday at the Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, when the place was completely packed. The beneficiaries have been great favourites during their sixteen weeks' engagement with the Geisha entertainers. Mr. Marvello will continue his show until October. The company this week includes Sam Thomson, Wilfred E. Brandon, Celestine Brandon, Rosie Morris, Ted Curtis and piccaninnies, Tony Freedman, Fred Smart, Loo Best, Clifton Hall, Max Carl, Harry Carr, and Harry Marvello, in his magical and ventriloquial performances.

IN connection with the visit of Curtis and Vanity to the King's, Gateshead, this week, Mr. Joe May, the general-manager, arranged a cake-walk competition, cash prizes to the value of £3 being offered.

MABEL O'CONNOR has written and composed an original song, entitled "Good-bye, Coon Johnson, Good-bye," expressly for that rising young comedienne, Miss Gertie Gitana, who is scoring with the number at all her engagements.

THE HIPPODROME EARTHQUAKE.

On Monday, Sept. 3,
the Entirely New Spectacular Sensation,
by Alicia Ramsay and Rudolph de Cordova,
Music by Clarence C. Corri, entitled
"THE EARTHQUAKE."

Frank Preston .....Mr. Hal Forde
Ulysses T. Preston ..Mr. Cecil Morton York
Mick O'Sullivan .....Mr. J. Windham Guise
Li Lung .....Mr. Arthur Powell
Father Dan .....Mr. Scott Craven
Bessie .....Miss Simeta Marsden

It was the delightful Mr. Perkyn Middlewick, we believe, who, in cross-examining his son Charles as to his travelling experiences in Italy, was wont to give expression to his disappointment when told by his junior that he had seen Vesuvius, but there was no eruption. "No eruption, Charley! You might have hordered one, yer know; I didn't limit you!" In much the same way Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, and Mr. Frank Allen have ordered an earthquake at the Hippodrome, and Mr. Frank Parker, the equestrian and stage-director-in-chief, who has had a free hand, has seen that they have got what they asked for.

We have had many thrills in former triumphant pieces of stage realism, but the earthquake at the Hippodrome will become celebrated in theatrical history as the most successful realisation of tragic earth disturbance that has been seen since De Loutherburgh invented scenes. What science may be able to accomplish further in the way of sensations we know not, but many decades will pass, we think, ere so startling a spectacle as that to be seen in the arena and on the stage of the London Hippodrome will be eclipsed in its momentous tragedy of despair. It may be guessed that the city square referred to in the synopsis of scenery is in San Francisco, and the "Golden Gate of the West," is the arena of the events written in as a prologue to the great stage catastrophe by Mr. Rudolph de Cordova and Miss Alicia Ramsay.

We must confess that we are not deeply interested in the few characters presented, and the best thing to be said about them is that they serve the purpose of introducing dialogue. Frank Preston has just won a trotting race with a real flyer, and, with his companions of the city, is celebrating the event by drinking champagne, when his father, Ulysses T. Preston, an American millionaire, arrives on the scene, having just done Europe. Ulysses brings with him Frank's sweetheart Bessie, who has spent forty-nine days in doing Europe—a week-end sufficing for England and two minutes for Russia. Here the authors do not write according to facts, for most Americans love to linger in Shakespeare's country for quite a week. Ulysses loves to fling about his dollars, and takes the revellers from the street into his house. An Irish constable is put in for comic relief, and as an incidental there is a quarrel between a couple of Chinamen. Just before the seismic disturbance, Father Dan, a Catholic priest, utters a jeremiad against the sins of the city, and foretells its utter destruction; but the joyous crowd sing and dance, and Frank and Bessie each sing a song, the former in praise of the vintage of champagne with a clinking chorus, and the latter a sentimental coon song with a Texan ranchman for hero. The distant rumblings of a storm presage the coming trouble. With a peal of loud thunder and vivid flashes of lightning, the sides of houses crash down into the street, roofs collapse; scared citizens rush into the street in all sorts of attire; parents with their children are seen escaping from the higher stories of the skyscrapers by means of ropes; frantic mothers clasp their babes as they hasten into the square, where desolation rules; pillars topple over; and, just as the upheaval seems to have spent its fury, and horror-struck citizens are fleeing from numerous conflagrations, a huge tidal wave completes the work of destruction, and the curtain falls on a desolation as complete as the buried cities of the plain.

The marvellous ingenuity of the whole thing is simply indescribable; in one word, as a stage sensation it is prodigious. Of such acting possibilities as there are, full advantage is taken by the cast, which is headed by Mr. Hal Forde, who plays the young American with much spirit and *bonhomie*. He sings the verses in praise of champagne with all the requisite fire and energy. Miss Simeta Marsden makes an engaging figure of Bessie, the up-to-date American girl, and her coon song is much enjoyed. Mr. Cecil Morton York does all that is possible with the rôle of the New York millionaire; Mr. Windham Guise is quite in his element as the Irish policeman; Mr. Arthur Powell makes some capital out of the peculiarities of Li Lung, a Chinese butler; and Mr. Scott Craven cuts a dramatic figure as the priest. Tiller's Eight Snowdrops dance with much vim and abandon; and the music by Mr. Clarence Corri adds to the dramatic effect.

In the variety portion of the programme, the Three Brothers Willé, balancers and acrobats, are responsible for some wonderful feats of equipoise with a ladder and a long pole; Gudzow is a marvellous Cossack equestrian, and, like another Mazeppa, rides the wild horse of Tartary as it has rarely been ridden; the Abdullah Arabs, all of them true sons of the desert, are absolutely bewildering in their whirling manœuvres; the Brothers Griffiths, *when* they reach the really humorous part of their turn, are diverting as burlesquers; Mlle. Doris is a graceful and pretty equestrienne; and Alf. Daniels and Lavater Lee are very welcome as fun-makers, being ably assisted by that excellent "feeder," Mr. Otho Twigg, the popular ringmaster. Other names in a fine and attractive bill are the Kauffmann Troupe of lady cyclists; Lucie and Viata, in a wire act; the Leamy Troupe of aerial lady gymnasts, a fine combination of beauty and muscle; the Althoffs, Galletti's monkey comedians, the Henry Taylor Trio, and Lloyd Langdon.

Donaldson Bros. and Ardell go to the Hackney Empire next week. On the occasion of their last voyage to South Africa one of the Donaldsons played a joke on the passengers. The swimming sheet had been got out and duly fixed at the side of the ship. Everyone who could swim at once plunged overboard, and disported in the improvised lake. Just as the passengers were at the height of their enjoyment, Mr. Donaldson threw one of his dummy figures into the shoot, and for a few minutes many of the swimmers imagined a man had really fallen overboard, and all made frantic efforts at a "rescue." Those who reached the dummy first and discovered the joke at once entered into the fun of the situation, and promptly made the lay figure into a kind of tug-of-war machine, thus turning the tables on Mr. Donaldson, who had to witness one of his costly dummies being torn limb from limb, without a single chance of preventing the mutilation.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £3 10s. 6d. from Mr. Fred Miller, collected in the Canterbury pence-box during the past month.

Miss Kitty Grey, who took her benefit at the Marina, Ramsgate, on the 30th ult., was presented by the staff of that house with a handsome lady's dressing-case, and a set of toilet mats came from Miss Eva Ward. To Mr. Ryder Davis, who stage-managed for this night only, was given a smoker's companion and a gold cigarette-case. About twenty artists appeared, including the Ramsgate Royal Mascots, the concert terminating with a grand ball.

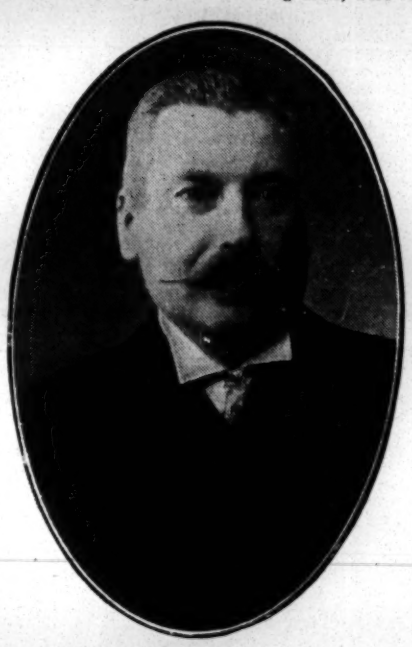
A site has been procured in Leigh-road, Leigh, for a new theatre of varieties for the town.

CHAT WITH MR. WILLIAM PAYNE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Experience of life in different parts of the world is undoubtedly of assistance to a music-hall manager, and there are at least three in London at the present time who have "roughed it" in a far-off land. Mr. Blyth-Pratt, the new manager of the Oxford, is one; Mr. Fred McAvoy is another; and Mr. William Payne, the new manager of the South London Palace, is a third. It is of the latter that we now wish to speak. Mr. Payne is a gentleman who has acquired a wide store of knowledge upon a variety of subjects, and when, as nowadays, the music hall deals with practically every phase of life, and many of those phases are of an exotic character, a person, circumstanced as is the subject of this interview, is in a position of great advantage over some at least of his brother managers who have never stepped out of their own country. Mr. Payne, who was educated in France and Belgium, has travelled extensively on the Continent as well as in South America, where for some time he was engaged upon engineering work on the construction of a railway. He has some lively recollections of his sojourn on the Brazilian frontier. On several occasions when camping his party was surprised during the night by Indian horse-dealers, and there were frequent encounters with the natives who, as Mr. Payne puts it, were, to say the least, very uncivilised. In fact, it was not safe for any member of the expedition to go about unarmed.

If Mr. Payne's English friends and the patrons of the South London could go back fifteen years, and, instead of being able to recognise him in a frock coat and silk topper, or in evening dress, were to



MR. WILLIAM PAYNE,
Manager, South London Palace.

find him in the guise of a cowboy, what a shock they would receive! For, at one time, Mr. Payne, for reasons of personal safety and diplomacy, donned the flowing, picturesque dress of the Gaucho or Orientales, the gaudily coloured panuelo used to adorn the neck, the artistic, Bohemian poncho which in the daytime served as the horseman's cloak and at night as a blanket, the accommodating bombachos, or trousers, which, though unsightly, Mr. Payne assures us are very comfortable, and the raw-hide botas, or brown top-boots, and the broad-brimmed sombrero. "It was a delightfully free and easy life," says Mr. Payne, "but it had its responsibilities and its dangers. The average Brazilian and Uruguayan are anything but lovers of the English, and awful threats of vengeance were flung at Mr. Payne's surveying party by the native landowners, the majority of whom having never seen a railway, imagined that the world was about to come to an end."

Now to more recent events. Mr. Payne has had sound experience of the management of a music-hall and of variety affairs generally. The recent death of Mr. Frank Weeks brought about a vacant managership at the South London. Mr. Payne who had then just recently resigned his position of manager of the Tottenham Palace, an establishment where he won esteem and respect from all classes, ample evidence of which was afforded by a farewell benefit performance given in his honour by the townspeople under the patronage of the leading local councillors and other public men, was offered a similar post at the South London. In appointing Mr. Payne, the directors considered him to be particularly well qualified for the duties of manager in view of the fact that he had for five years successfully conducted the affairs of another hall run on the principle of two houses a night, and Mr. Payne commenced his term of office, which it is to be hoped will prove a long and happy one, on the 13th of August.

The healthful outdoor life led by Mr. Payne at an earlier period has endowed him with splendid physical proportions and a strong constitution. Apart from his athletic accomplishments, he speaks and writes French and Spanish fluently. He was educated in France and won honours at the Université de Paris. He comes of a good old family, his mother being a daughter of the late, and, in his day, well-known Dr. Maclure, of Harley Street, and his father was for thirty years officer in charge of the Indian overland mails. It is of interest, in these days of commercial changes, to note that his great grandfather was the founder of the celebrated banking firm of Smith, Payne, and Smith, which was only a few years ago merged into the wealthy Union of London and Smiths Bank.

Mr. Payne's grandfather, by the way, won the Derby in 1817 with his horse Azor, and his great uncle, George Payne, the veteran sportsman, was the founder of the Payne Stakes.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Millard (Ada Brogden), two popular performers with Astley Brothers' Cadets, Fleetwood, took their benefit on Aug. 29. A large crowd gathered, and gave them a good reception. Every available seat was taken, and an attractive programme was presented. During the performance they were the recipients of presents from the management and members of the company.

So great is the success which that delightful "chanteuse," Miss Nina Martino, has achieved this week at the Euston and Chelsea Palace with Signor and Mme. Borelli's charming waltz-song, "Come to me, my love," that the Monte Carlo Publishing Company has accepted it for immediate publication.

Mr. Harry Leaton, the popular comedian and vocalist, who has so successfully managed Mr. Tom Prechard's Royal Pierrots at Kinver this season, took his benefit last Monday. Several well-known artists came from Birmingham, West Bromwich, Dudley, Oldbury, &c. Mr. Leaton was presented with a massive gold seal by the members of the company.

MR. CHARLES EVANS' BENEFIT.

Wednesday night was set apart for the annual complimentary benefit to Mr. Charles Evans, the popular general manager at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, who has not only won the confidence of his employer and the patrons of the place, but is on the best of terms with all the artists and representatives of the Music Hall profession, with the result that when occasion arises, and the exigencies of engagements permit, he has a large number of helpers to swell the bill at his annual festival. On Wednesday there were many additional turns, and as many more would have been available if arrangements had permitted, but with a display of fireworks sandwiched between the concert and the grand ball, the variety entertainment had to be somewhat limited.

Gus Garrick, who is "resting" for a week, had been working like a Trojan for his old friend. He always seemed to have some novelty in the shape of attractive advertisement up his sleeve. One day he was to be seen manfully tugging at one oar of a boat, in which a band was playing as it was rowed up and down the front of the promenade; on other occasions he was seen to be driving in a brake, or bathing in a costume fashioned out of one of the benefit bills—printed on linen, of course.

Among those who contributed to the variety entertainment were Florence Carlow, comedienne and dancer; the Five Casino Girls, brass instrumentalists; Zasma, gentleman society gymnast, in his scena, *An Evening's Pleasure;* Harry Maynard, vocal comedian; and The Redferns, premier lady banjoists, vocalists and banjo dancers, all of whom had very flattering receptions and gained repeated encores. Leonard Leslie, operatic vocalist; Mdlle. Florizell, the flexible lady aerial beauty; Reuben Hill, character comedian and vocalist; Lilian Elfrida, mimic, who impersonated Marie Lloyd, Kate Carney, Victoria Monks, Gus Elen, etc.; Bosanquet, in his illuminated speciality musical scena; Zanfretta and Napio, the clever musical eccentrics; Luigo's Serenaders, in their nautical scena, *Ashore in Venice;* and last, but not least, the inimitable and indefatigable Gus Garrick, in his "Music Hall Tit-Bits," with impersonations of Sam Mayo, Harry Champion, and his burlesque on Mdlle. Fougère, which created roars of laughter.

Following the entertainment there was a capital display of fireworks in the brilliantly illuminated grounds by Wells, of Alexandra Park fame, and then came the grand ball. The ball-room, one of the most ornate and spacious anywhere on the coast, presented an animated picture of moving colour. Every available inch of the floor was occupied by dancers, who were watched by a big crowd of onlookers, amongst whom were to be caught occasional glimpses of the beaming face of the bénéficiaire, as he threaded his tortuous way through a maze of many friends, one and all of whom would insist for a moment on congratulating him on the success of the benefit. Dancing was kept up to midnight, an extension of time having been granted by the magistrates.

THE FORESTERS'.

Two dramatic sketches in less than two hours and in one programme seem rather strong meat when we are sweltering under 129 degrees, but at the Foresters' this week the Vaudeville Dramatic Company in the railroad sensation, *The Iron Road*, and Mr. Percy Murray and Company in the Russian playlet, *For the Czar*, have interested the audiences that have assembled with exciting situations. *The Iron Road* tells the story of how Eric Marsh, the wayward son of a millionaire, is being kept out of his father's affections by two or three scheming rogues. The plot is most absorbing, and one's eyes are rivetted to the stage while the tale is gradually being unfolded. Mr. Ernest Wingfield as Colonel Cloud, the principal villain, acts in a vigorous and dashing manner, while Mr. Leslie Vyner gives a capital character-study of a German, the third member of "the syndicate of sinner," Anna Baynard, being forcefully and tragically represented by Miss Helena Walbran. Mr. Herbert Pearson pleases us as Eric Marsh, and Miss Marguerite Trevosper gains our sympathy and admiration for a pretty and girlish interpretation of the part of the heroine, while Mr. F. Fellows Bassett as the millionaire and Mr. Frank Bassett as Detective Alstin adequately fulfil the requirements of their parts.

Kavados, the juggler, submits an attractive act in which with wonderful skill and neatness he catches tennis balls and racquets thrown up in the air one after the other. Then his balancing abilities are brought into requisition what time he steadies a wine-bottle and glass upon his head. The catching and manipulation of the cannon ball demonstrate the strength and agility of the performer. The Melroses appear in an entertaining burlesque turn, their original singing and patter and dancing finding great favour with the house. Mr. Charles Lilburn is as comical as one could wish him to be, and his song about a certain individual whose principal failing was that he loved not work and who died of a broken heart after sweeping with a broom for a quarter of an hour rouses the audience to hearty laughter. Messrs. Wake and Dean are extremely diverting with their argumentative patter, and Miss Grace Langley contrives to excite one's risible faculties with her anecdotes concerning the adventures of a young lady. She is, too, a graceful and sprightly dancer. The Three Sisters Transfield produce exquisite melody by means of the xylophone, the hanging bells and other instruments, and their work gives evidence of musical talents and initiative.

Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque are seen in the episode, *A Dressing-Room Romance*. The story of how a doctor falls in love with a stage favourite, and she with him, and how a convict husband is the obstacle to their happiness—an obstacle subsequently removed by the hand of death—is told in excellent style by these artists. Miss Flo Melville wins golden opinions for her agreeable rendering of a couple of songs, "Can't you see that I'm lonely" and "I want your love." She is extremely popular with Eastenders. Mr. Percy Murray is presenting the well-known sketch *For the Czar*, by Percival H. T Sykes. The chief incidents need no recapitulation at this time, being already familiar to music-hall habitués. The sketch is well produced, the company working together with excellent results. Mr. Percy Murray, in the character of Karl Monarchos, treats us to a finished study of a typical Russian official to whom duty to his King and country must come before affairs of the heart. From Raymond's Bio-Tableaux we get a beautiful series of pictures, "The Dog Detective" set being specially praiseworthy.

After a most successful season, the Irish Animated Photo. Company entered on their final week at the Round Room, Rotunda, Dublin, on Monday, when a large and appreciative audience was present, both at the afternoon and evening performances.

Many of the patrons of the Margate Hippodrome will regret to hear that Mr. H. R. Smith, the bioscope operator, after completing his twelve months' engagement, is leaving at the end of next week.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your Variety Gossip of Sept. 1 you say, "Mr. Frank Lynne has just sold to Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, a novelty song, entitled, 'Do, my honey dew.'" My friend, Mr. Lynne, sold the song in conjunction with the author-composer,—Always yours faithfully, Ronald Bagnall, 12, Empire-terrace, Margate, Sept. 5.

CHAT WITH MR. H. J. HITCHINS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

He is one of the most homely men we have met. A long association with stage affairs has failed to make him theatrical. That statement seems almost paradoxical, but it is true, for Mr. H. J. Hitchins has a contemptuous disregard for that kind of personal notoriety which, according to the enlightened judgment of a halfpenny journal that recently devoted an hysterical article to the subject, is a trait inseparable from the character of everyone connected with the theatre.

Mr. Hitchins has had charge of the Empire Theatre, Leicester Square, for twenty-two years, and it is rather a curious fact that in spite of the many vicissitudes which have been identified with the house in question, he has throughout held the same position. We cannot recall an instance in the history of the better class music halls where one man has managed for so long and unbroken a period.

Mr. Hitchins played with the late J. L. Toole at the old Gaiety Theatre some thirty years ago, and he tells us that he found the famous comedian always most generous to young actors, and if a man in Toole's company showed ability he had every opportunity of advancement. Asked for an anecdote about Toole, Mr. Hitchins remarks that he well recollects playing with him in *Bardell v. Pickwick*. Mr. Hitchins, as Skimpton used to hold out a brief which really contained Toole's part, and from which he prompted Toole. On one occasion, Mr. Toole got stuck with the lines of "Chops and tomato sauce, gentlemen of the jury, what do chops and tomato sauce mean?" He seemed unable to break himself away from

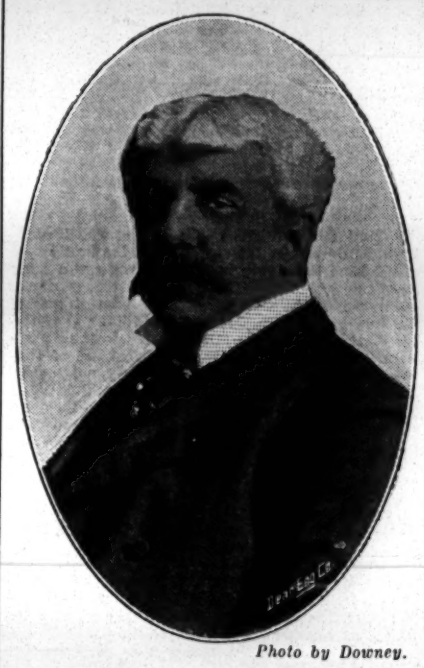


Photo by Downey.

MR. H J HITCHINS.

that sentence, however hard Mr. Hitchins tried to make him take the new line. Finally, Mr. Hitchins became emphatic, and said, "Confound you, sir, will you say——?" The shocking impertinence of a young member of Toole's company speaking sharply to his chief quite startled the great comedian, and recalled him to his part.

We come nearer home, and learn that it was at Mr. Hitchins' suggestion that the place of entertainment he controls was called the Empire. The original idea was to name it the Queen's. And here it is interesting to mention that the Empire stands on what may be regarded as historic ground. In 1636, part of the site was occupied by Leicester House, which from 1712 to 1760 was the residence of the then Prince of Wales, which eventually passed into the hands of Ashton Lever, who there started a museum of curiosities called "Holophusikon." In 1791 the place was burnt down, and after rebuilding, the new establishment was opened under the name of Walhalla, with a miscellaneous entertainment, and in 1865 the title was changed to the Eldorado. A little later the building was again destroyed by fire, and among those who assisted in putting out the flames was the Prince of Wales, now King Edward. Once more the premises were rebuilt, and opened with a panorama of Balaclava. Subsequently, the interior was converted into a theatre, and on April 17, 1884, it was opened with the ballet *Chilperic*.

Mr. Hitchins was educated at the London University School, and on being launched out into the world the course mapped out for him was finance, and he entered the employment of the London and County Bank. After a while he got tired of copying letters, ruling ledgers, shovelling gold and rustling notes which were to provide food and frolic for others, so he looked about for a change.

"Having saved a little money," he tells us, "I resolved to leave the bank and become a pupil of Soutar and Maclean at the Gaiety. The students at that theatre gave occasional matinées, and at one of these we performed *A Serious Family*. I represented Charles Torrance, and I concealed my identity by calling myself on the programme 'Mr. H. Tempest.' It happened that John Hollingshead was present, and when the curtain had fallen he engaged me for the Gaiety. Thus, I, or rather Mr. H. Tempest, became a professional actor. I had to wait some weeks before I was allowed to create a part, but the opportunity had a fortunate result. The piece was H. J. Byron's *Wait and Hope*, which was produced on March 1, 1871, with Nellie Farren in the principal rôle. Byron liked my acting, and forthwith booked me for the Globe, where H. J. Montague, in October that year, brought out his *Partners for Life*, in which I played Goppinger. My year at the Gaiety remains among my pleasantest recollections, despite the fact that my salary was only a guinea a week.

Mr. Hitchins's appearances at the Globe Theatre were followed by a lengthy provincial tour, after which he took up the reins of management at the Princess's Theatre at the time that such stars as Charles Dillon and Mrs. Rousby were appearing on the boards of the Oxford-street playhouse. Then he became acting-manager of the Charing Cross Theatre, which was later on known by the respective names of the Folly Theatre and Toole's Theatre, and which is of course now no longer in existence, having been pulled down to make way for an extension to the Charing Cross Hospital. For some years Mr. Hitchins was manager at the Criterion, under Mr. Alexander Henderson and Mr. (now Sir) Charles Wyndham, who produced such successful comedies as *The Great Divorce Case, Pink Dominoes, Truth*, and *Betsy*. Subsequently Mr. Hitchins was appointed to represent Mr. Henderson at the Strand Theatre, where Mrs. Swanborough had general charge of affairs during the time that such popular plays as *Madame Favart, Olivette*, and *The Mascotte* first saw the light. On Mr. Hitchins leaving the Strand, a short season as manager of the Olympic ensued, and this was followed by his going to the Empire, where he has been ever since.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"DAYLIGHT GHOSTS."

A "Comedy of Terrors," in One Scene,
Invented and Written by J. N. Maskelyne and David Devant, Produced at St. George's Hall On Monday, September 3.

Perkins .....Mr. J. B. Hansard
Candler ..... } The Ghost of the Careless Gardener ..... } Mr. Edward Morehen
Forster ..... } The Ghost of the Cat ..... } Mr. C. F. Terry
Charles ..... } The Ghost of the Grandmother ..... } Mr. Charles Glenrose
Patricia .....Miss Cassie Bruce

Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant are prodigal in the surprises they spring upon their interested audiences at St. George's Hall, and as conjurers and "deceivers ever" they have a "nice derangement" of tricks wherewith to puzzle the large number of country visitors who are just now visiting the great metropolis. The newest of these forms the *clou* of an amusing farce, to which the title of *Daylight Ghosts* has been given. It has a well-defined plot, in which a couple of lovers, Patricia and Charles, are much annoyed at the meddling interference of a fussy old gardener, who will deposit his tools in a summer house wherein they are wont to spoon. To frighten the old gentleman they invent stories of ghosts haunting the place. There is the "wraith" of a careless gardener, who revisits the earth in spirit form as a punishment for starving to death a harmless, necessary cat in the very same summer house. The feline, which was a pet of Patricia's great-grandmother, is another ghost, and the third is the interesting old lady herself. In the carrying out of the plot Charles disguises himself as the ancient dame, and the groom, Candler, and the Buttons, Forster, respectively make up as the gardener and the cat. A rare game of hide-and-seek is played, the "ghosts" entering and leaving the summer house at their own sweet will without any discovery being made as to their methods of entrance or exit. Two invited members of the audience sitting near the back cloth, intently watch the summer house—which, by the way, is well above the stage and away from all scenery—without getting the slightest inkling of how it is done. The farce admirably serves its purpose, and its humour is highly appreciated. Mr. J. B. Hansard as the puzzled gardener Perkins resumes his connection with the company, and is responsible for a rendering of the part which gives full effect to the nervous apprehension of the cultivator of the soil. Mr. Edward Morehen puts plenty of character into the part of the groom; Mr. Charles Glenrose makes good use of his opportunities as Charles; and Miss Cassie Bruce is an interesting and attractive Patricia.

Dr. Hardly's Experiment and *The Problem of Diogenes* still occupy a prominent place in the excellent bill, to which variety is given by M. Gintaro, the dexterous Japanese juggler; C. Tamamoto, with an extraordinary display on the perpendicular rope; and Mr. Barclay Gammon and a piano. This really humorous entertainer has an excellent parody—all too short—of poor Frank Moir's song, "Down the vale," entitled "Maida Vale," in which the motor-'bus nuisance is cleverly satirised. He also gives a couple of amusing skits, by Mr. Fred E. Rome, on the sensational stories written in newspapers to advertise various patent medicines. It is evident that Mr. Gammon never intends to grow stale, and his popularity at St. George's Hall is well deserved. Mr. David Devant, with his charming sister Dora, is responsible for some interesting feats in "mental magnetism"; and Mr. F. Cramer and his bijou orchestra during the entertainment play a capital selection descriptive of a motor ride. We should add that the pretty garden which serves as the rendezvous of *Daylight Ghosts* is from the brush of the clever scenic artist, Mr. J. T. Bull. Mr. Ernest Maskelyne is the courteous manager of this very pleasant theatre of mystery and mirth.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Amount already acknowledged ..	£466	11	4
Proceeds of Matinée given at His Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, per W. H. Westwood	117	18	7
Alfred de Rothschild	5	0	0
Collected by Ruby Darrell	2	2	0
Miss Ruby Darrell	1	1	0
F. Topham	1	1	0
Collected from members of *The Girl Behind the Counter* Company :—			
Miss Isabel Jay	1	1	0
Miss Marie Dainton	1	1	0
W. Smithson	0	10	6
Miss Violet Englefield	0	10	6
Miss Violet Crossley	0	10	6
Per Mr. R. Andrews	0	7	0
Dressing-room No. 8	0	6	0
Per J. Fraser Props.	0	5	0
Miss Lily Mills	0	5	0
Miss Mollie Ventry	0	5	0
Miss Dorothy Reynolds	0	5	0
Mr. Harry Neame	0	5	0

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

DAVID GARRICK.

Mr. H. B. Irving is contributing to the *Fortnightly Review* a series of articles, under the title of "The English Stage in the Eighteenth Century." In the second article of the series he speaks of Robert Wilks, Barton Booth, and Mrs. Oldfield as the principal figures in stage history during Cibber's time, remarking that, "if not three of the greatest, they are three of the most amiable and distinguished persons who have ever adopted the calling of a player. Many are apt to think that the actors of the past were people of obscure and vulgar origin—mere strollers, who sacrificed little in following an ignoble and despised occupation. Such a view is incorrect. The majority of those players who attained to fame were of gentle birth, many of them the equals in manners and culture of the distinguished persons with whom the successful actor or actress of the day was invited to associate."

After giving interesting details concerning the career of each of the above-mentioned prime stage-favourites of that day, reference is made to James Quin, who scored his first success in 1720, as Falstaff in *The Merry Wives of Windsor;* Mrs. Cibber, who married the worthless son of Colley Cibber, and Mrs. Pritchard—in the opinion of Mrs. Siddons the greatest of all Lady Macbeths, and, according to Dr. Johnson, a "vulgar idiot" in private life. Mrs. Woffington, and Mrs. Clive, are also mentioned, the last two being described as "generous, good-hearted women, who spent the greater part of their earnings in supporting poor relations; very troublesome in the theatre, worrying the life out of their managers, and quarrelling violently at times with each other."

Mr. Irving pays an eloquent tribute to the greatest actor and most accomplished manager of his time, David Garrick. He says:—"In the history of the English drama there are two great occasions on which an actor, hitherto unknown to the London public, won an immediate triumph on his first appearance, before a scanty and sceptical audience, converted, by the force of his genius, cold critics into astonished admirers, and achieved this signal success in a play which had in it no element of novelty, but depended almost entirely for its interest that night on the performance of the particular player. One such occasion was David Garrick's performance of Richard III. at the Goodman's Fields Theatre, on Oct. 19, 1741; a second, the first appearance of Edmund Kean as Shylock, at Drury Lane, on Jan. 26, 1814. Garrick was only twenty-three years of age at the time of his first appearance, Kean twenty-seven. But Kean had been on the stage since his childhood; Garrick had only played a short season at Ipswich before he faced the ordeal at Goodman's Fields. Garrick was an actor born, if ever there was one, 'an actor, a complete actor, and nothing but an actor,' says Dibdin, 'as Pope, during the whole course of his life, was a poet, and nothing but a poet.' It was Pope who, on seeing Garrick play, declared the young man never had his equal as an actor, and never would have a rival. Garrick had rivals, plenty of them, during his career—Quin, Macklin, Barry, Mossop, Henderson; but they never seriously affected his position. They may have played some parts better than he, but they could not challenge his versatility, the fire and rapidity, the liveliness and spirit of all that he did and said on the stage.

"The moment of his appearance was undoubtedly propitious for the success of one gifted as he was. There is something naïve in the reasons assigned by the writers of the day for the peculiar impression made by the young actor; they reveal a deplorable condition of the stage—the prevalence of a thoroughly vicious and meaningless style of acting. The critics are astonished that Mr. Garrick should identify himself so completely with his part, that he should speak naturally, and not in the accustomed 'demi-chant,' his voice neither whining, bellowing, nor grumbling; he neither struts nor minces, is neither stiff nor slouching. "When others are on the stage with him," they remark, with astonishment, "he is attentive to whatever is spoke, and never drops his character when he has finished his speech, by either looking contemptuously on an inferior performer, unnecessary spitting, or suffering his eyes to wander through the whole circle of spectators." Here was indeed a Daniel come to judgment, if these virtues in Garrick attest the vices of the older actors; the success of this mercurial youth, the grandson, be it remembered, of French refugees, graceful, easy, vivacious in an unwonted degree, is less surprising when it comes as a relief from such a style of acting as these criticisms suggest. Mackin, an actor of far less spirit, had, earlier in the same year, made a profound impression by breaking away from theatrical convention in his performance of Shylock. He made the Jew for the first time a serious character. Physically a man of strong and rugged feature, rough, a "sour-faced dog," according to Fielding, Macklin imported into the part of Shylock an element of the strong and terrible that has never been equalled. When Sir Robert Walpole lamented to King George II. that there was no way of frightening the House of Commons, the King, who had the night before visited Drury Lane, and been greatly impressed by Macklin's performance, replied, "What do you think of sending them to the theatre to see that Irishman play Shylock?"

"Of this genius of Garrick's, how difficult it is to form for one's self, much more to convey to others, any adequate notion! A rather short figure, but perfectly symmetrical, and graceful in all its movements, dark, restless, piercing eyes, and a face mobile in every feature, these would seem to have been the physical characteristics of the player. Many critics dwell on the completeness of his physical equipment, the perfect harmony of voice, feature, and figure, that made them unite with imperceptible ease to give expression to the actor's thought. Grimm, the French philosopher, describes with enthusiasm the skill and conviction with which Garrick got up in a drawing-room and, after thrilling his hearers by his delivery of the 'dagger' speech in *Macbeth*, convulsed them with laughter by his imitation of a baker's boy who, carrying a tray of cakes on his head, lets it fall into the mud, and bursts into tears at his misfortune. This drawing-room performance epitomises the whole art of the player who could achieve equal success in the pathetic tragedy of *Lear* and the low comedy of *Abel Drugger*. And this success was gained by a natural, unforced, spontaneous method of playing that astonished and delighted both an English and a French spectator, for the French stage in these days suffered, as the English, from the conventional actor's sing-song, mechanical habit of ladling out his lines. In all probability Lear was Garrick's greatest part. Here, in spite of his comparative shortness, of the unsuitability of his attire—he walked with a crutch—his delivery of the curse was held to be terrific, his madness simple and pathetic. The testimony of his fellow players is perhaps the most conclusive of his extraordinary powers. Mrs. Siddons was terrified by the power of his eye in *Richard III.*; Mrs. Clive swore he could act a gridiron; Bannister said that in *Lear* his very stick acted; Smith wrote, 'I never can speak of him but with idolatry, and have ever looked upon it as one of the greatest blessings of my life to have lived in the days of Garrick.' Garrick had his limitations; in parts such as Othello, Faulconbridge, Hotspur, where physical force and powerful declamation were demanded, he was inadequate. But these failures were, as a contemporary critic observed, 'spots on the sun, only visible to long-sighted astronomers.' As an actor, from the age of twenty-three till he retired at fifty-nine, Garrick was the greatest master and exponent of his art."

CIBBER ON BETTERTON.

When Nat. Lee's famous tragedy, *Alexander the Great*, from its being too frequently acted, was worn out, and came to be deserted by the Town, upon the sudden Death of Montfort, who had play'd *Alexander* with Success for several Years, the Part, says Colley Cibber in his "Apology for his Life," was given to Betterton, which, under this great Disadvantage of the Satiety it had given, he immediately reviv'd with so new a Lustre that for three Days together it fill'd the House; and had his then declining Strength been equal to the Fatigue the Action gave him, it probably might have doubled its Success; an uncommon Instance of the Power and intrinsick Merit of an Actor. This I mention not only to prove what irresistable Pleasure may arise from a judicious Elocution, with scarce Sense to assist it; but to shew you too, that tho' Betterton never wanted Fire and Force when his Character demanded it; yet, where it was not demanded, he never prostituted his Power to the low Ambition of a false Applause. And further, that when, from a too advanced Age, he resigned that toilsome Part of *Alexander*, the Play for many years after never was able to impose upon the Publick; and I look upon his so particularly supporting the false Fire and Extravagancies of that Character to be a more surprizing Proof of his Skill than his being eminent in those of Shakespear; because there, Truth and Nature coming to his Assistance, he had not the same Difficulties to combat, and consequently we must be less amaz'd at his Success where we are more able to account for it.

Notwithstanding the extraordinary Power he shew'd in blowing *Alexander* once more into a blaze of Admiration, Betterton had so just a sense of what was true or false Applause, that I have heard him say, he never thought any kind of it equal to an attentive Silence; that there were many ways of deceiving an Audience into a loud one; but to keep them husht and quiet was an Applause which only Truth and Merit could arrive at: Of which Art there never was an equal Master to himself. From these various Excellencies, he had so full a Possession of the Esteem and Regard of his Auditors, that upon his Entrance into every Scene he seem'd to seize upon the Eyes and Ears of the Giddy and Inadvertent! To have talk'd or look'd another way would then have been thought Insensibility or Ignorance. In all his Soliloquies of moment, the strong Intelligence of his Attitude and Aspect drew you into such an impatient Gaze and eager Expectation, that you almost imbib'd the Sentiment with your Eye before the Ear could reach it.

As Betterton is the Centre to which all my Observations upon Action tend, you will give me leave, under his Character, to enlarge upon that Head. In the just Delivery of Poetical Numbers, particularly where the Sentiments are pathetick, it is scarce credible upon how minute an Article of Sound depends their greatest Beauty or Inaffection. The Voice of a Singer is not more strictly ty'd to Time and Tune, than that of an Actor in Theatrical Elocution: The least Syllable too long or too slightly dwelt upon in a Period depreciates it to nothing; which very Syllable if rightly touch'd shall, like the heightening Stroke of Light from a Master's Pencil, give Life and Spirit to the whole. I never heard a Line in Tragedy come from Betterton wherein my Judgment, my Ear, and my Imagination were not fully satisfy'd; which, since his Time, I cannot equally say of any one Actor whatsoever: Not but it is possible to be much his Inferior, with great Excellencies; which I shall observe in another Place. Had it been practicable to have ty'd down the clattering Hands of all the ill judges who were commonly the Majority of an Audience, to what amazing Perfection might the *English* Theatre have arrived with so just an Actor as Betterton at the Head of it!

If you remember Estcourt, you must have know that he was long enough upon the Stage not to be under the least Restraint from Fear in his Performance: This Man was so amazing and extraordinary a Mimick, that no Man or Woman, from the Coquette to the Privy-Counsellor, ever mov'd or spoke before him, but he could carry their Voice, Look, Mien, and Motion, instantly into another Company: I have heard him make long Harangues and form various Arguments, even in the manner of thinking of an eminent Pleader at the Bar, with every the least Article and Singularity of his Utterance so perfectly imitated, that he was the very *alter ipse*, scarce to be distinguish'd from his Original. Yet more; I have seen upon the Margin of the written Part of *Falstaff* which he acted, his own Notes and Observations upon almost every Speech of it, describing the true Spirit of the Humour, and with what Tone of Voice, Look, and Gesture, each of them ought to be delivered. Yet in his Execution upon the Stage he seem'd to have lost all those just Ideas he had form'd of it, and almost thro' the Character labour'd under a heavy Load of Flatness: In a word, with all his Skill in Mimickry and Knowledge of what ought to be done, he never upon the Stage could bring it truly into Practice, but was upon the whole a languid, unaffecting Actor. What Talents will infallibly form an Actor? This I confess is one of Nature's Secrets, too deep for me to dive into; let us content our selves therefore with affirming, That *Genius*, which Nature only gives, only can complete him. This *Genius* then was so strong in Betterton, that it shone out in every Speech and Motion of him. Yet Voice and Person are such necessary Supports to it, that by the Multitude they have been preferr'd to *Genius* itself, or at least often mistaken for it. Betterton had a Voice of that kind which gave more Spirit to Terror than to the softer Passions; of more Strength than Melody. The Rage and Jealousy of *Othello* became him better than the Sighs and Tenderness of *Castalio*. For though in *Castalio* he only excell'd others, in *Othello* he excell'd himself; which you will easily believe when you consider that, in spite of his Complexion, *Othello* has more natural Beauties than the best Actor can find in all the Magazine of Poetry to animate his Power and delight his Judgment with.

The Person of this excellent Actor was suitable to his Voice, more manly than sweet, not exceeding the Middle Stature, inclining to the corpulent; of a serious and penetrating Aspect; his Limbs nearer the athletick than the delicate Proportion; yet however form'd, there arose from the Harmony of the whole a commanding Mien of Majesty, which the fairer-fac'd or (as Shakespear calls 'em) the *curled* Darlings of his Time ever wanted something to be equal Masters of. There was some Years ago to be had, almost in every Print-shop, a *Metzotinto* from Kneller, extremely like him.

In all I have said of Betterton, I confine myself to the Time of his Strength and highest Power in Action, that you may make Allowances from what he was able to execute at Fifty, to what you might have seen of him at past Seventy; for tho' to the last he was without his Equal, he might not then be equal to his former Self; yet so far was he from being ever overtaken, that for many Years after his Decease I seldom saw any of his Parts in Shakespear supply'd by others but it drew from me the Lamentation of *Ophelia* upon *Hamlet*'s being unlike what she had seen him.

——*Ah! woe is me!*
T'have seen what I have *seen, see what I see!*

The last Part this great Master of his Profession acted was *Melantius* in the *Maid's Tragedy*, for his own Benefit; when being suddenly seiz'd by the Gout, he submitted, by extraordinary Applications, to have his Foot so far reliev'd that he might be able to walk on the Stage in a Slipper, rather than wholly disappoint his Auditors. He was observ'd that Day to have exerted a more than ordinary Spirit, and met with suitable Applause; but the unhappy Consequence of tampering with his Distemper was, that it flew into his Head, and kill'd him in three Days, (I think) in the seventy-fourth Year of his Age.

Photo by G. Moore.

MR. JESSE SPARROW, President of the Terriers' Association, had a magnificent "Good Luck" trophy presented to him on Monday by a number of well-wishers to his new enterprise, the Camberwell Empire.

THE wife of Mr. James Wedburn (The Wedburns) has been seriously ill with nervous breakdown, and is now recuperating at Dover, where she is slowly improving.

MISS JESSIE M. LYONS, after a few weeks' rest, is resuming the title-rôle of *Nelly of the Veldt*, the clever South African sketch, at Sadler's Wells and the Standard, Pimlico.

MISS FLORRIE BRAY, who is appearing successfully at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings, this week, has been secured for pantomime as principal boy with Messrs. J. S. Hunter and Sidney Cooper's productions.

SIR WALTER SCOTT AND THE THEATRE.

Lockhart, in his "Life of Sir Walter Scott," bears testimony to the interest which the famous novelist and poet took in theatrical affairs. In one of the early chapters Scott's biographer writes: "He had from his boyish days a great love for theatrical representation, and so soon as circumstances enabled him to practise extended hospitality, the chief actors of his time, whenever they happened to be in Scotland, were among the most acceptable of his guests. Mr. Charles Young was, I believe, the first of them of whom he saw much. As early as 1803 I find him writing of that gentleman to the Marchioness of Abercorn as a valuable addition to the society of Edinburgh; and down to the end of Scott's life Mr. Young was never in the north without visiting him."

Charles Mayne Young, the actor here referred to, greatly distinguished himself in Shakespeare's tragedies. Edmund Kean wrote of him: "I had never seen Young act! Everyone about me told me he could not hold a farthing rushlight to me; but he can! He *is* an actor; and though I flatter myself he could not act Othello as I do, yet what chance should I have in Iago after him, with his personal advantages and his d—— musical voice? I don't believe he could play Jaffier as well as I can; but fancy me in Pierre after him! I tell you what; Young is not only an actor such as I did not dream him to have been, but he is a gentleman!"

Lockhart continues: "Another graceful and intelligent performer in whom he took a special interest, and of whom he saw a good deal in his private circle, was Miss Smith, afterwards Mrs. Bartley. But at the period of which I am now treating his principal theatrical intimacy was with John Philip Kemble, and his sister, Mrs. Siddons, both of whom he appears to have often met at Lord Abercorn's villa near Stanmore during his spring visits to London after the first establishment of his poetical celebrity. Of John Kemble's personal character and manners he has recorded his impressions in a pleasing reviewal of Mr. Boaden's memoir. The great tragedian's love of black-letter learning, especially of dramatic antiquities, afforded a strong bond of fellowship; and I have heard Scott say that the only man who ever seduced him into very deep potations in his middle life was Kemble. He was frequently at Ashestiel, and the 'fat Scotch butler, whom Mr. Skene has described to us, by name John Macbeth, made sore complaints of the bad hours kept on such occasions in one of the most regular of households; but the watchings of the night were not more grievous to 'Cousin Macbeth,' as Kemble called the honest *beauffetier*, than were the hazards and fatigues of the morning to the representative of 'the Scotch usurper.' Kemble's miseries during a rough gallop were quite as grotesque as those of his namesake, and it must be owned that species of distress was one from the contemplation of which his host could never derive anything but amusement. I have heard Scott chuckle with particular glee over the recollection of an excursion to the vale of the Ettrick, near which river the party were pursued by a bull. 'Come, King John,' said he, 'we must even take the water.' Accordingly he and his daughter plunged into the stream. But King John, halting on the bank and surveying the river, which happened to be full and turbid, exclaimed in his usual solemn manner:

'The flood is angry, Sheriff;
Methinks I'll get up into a tree.'

It was well that the dogs had succeeded in diverting the bull, because there was no tree at hand which could have sustained King John; nor, had that been otherwise, could so stately a personage have dismounted and ascended with such alacrity as circumstances would have required. He at length followed his friends through the river with the rueful dignity of Don Quixote."

In a footnote Lockhart adds: "John Kemble's most familiar table-talk often flowed into blank verse; and so, indeed, did his sister's. Scott (who was a capital mimic) often repeated her tragic exclamation to a footboy during a dinner at Ashestiel—'You've brought me water, boy; I asked for beer.' Another time, dining with the Provost of Edinburgh, she ejaculated, in answer to her host's apology for his *pièce de résistance*: 'Beef cannot be too salt for me, my Lord!'

"It was this intercourse [with Kemble] which led Scott to exert himself very strenuously, when some change in the administration of the Edinburgh Theatre became necessary—I believe in 1808—to prevail on Mr. Henry Siddons, a nephew of Kemble, to undertake the lease and management. Such an arrangement would, he expected, induce both Kemble and his sister to be more in Scotland than hitherto; and what he had seen of young Siddons himself led him to prognosticate a great improvement in the whole conduct of the northern stage. His wishes were at length accomplished in the summer of 1809. On this occasion he purchased a share and became one of the acting trustees for the general body of proprietors; and thenceforth, during a long series of years, he continued to take a very lively concern in the proceedings of the Edinburgh company.

"The first new play produced by Henry Siddons was *The Family Legend*, of Joanna Baillie. This was, I believe, the first of her dramas that ever underwent the test of representation in her native kingdom; and Scott appears to have exerted himself most indefatigably in its behalf. He was consulted about all the *minutiæ* of costume, attended every rehearsal, and supplied the prologue. The play was better received than any other which the gifted authoress has since subjected to the same experiment; and how ardently Scott enjoyed its success will appear from a few specimens of the many letters which he addressed to his friend on the occasion."

The following is an extract from the first of these letters, dated Edinburgh, Oct. 27, 1809, whither he had gone for the purpose of entering his eldest boy at the High School: "With regard to the equipment of *The Family Legend*, I have been much diverted with a discovery which I have made. I had occasion to visit our Lord Provost (by profession a stocking weaver), and was surprised to find the worthy magistrate filled with a new-born zeal for the drama. He spoke of Mr. Siddons' merits with enthusiasm, and of Miss Baillie's powers almost with tears of rapture. Being a curious investigator of cause and effect, I never rested until I found out that this theatric rage, which had seized his lordship of a sudden, was owing to a large order for hose, pantaloons, and plaids for equipping the rival clans of Campbell and Maclean, and which Siddons was sensible enough to send to the warehouse of our excellent provost."

In another letter to Miss Baillie, who was then a resident of Hampstead, Scott gives a full account of the successful production of *The Family Legend*. There were rumours of a strong opposition, but these proved groundless. Scott awaited the rise of the curtain with "extreme anxiety." He writes: "But in a short time I saw there was no ground whatever for apprehension; and yet I sat the whole time shaking for fear a scene-shifter, or a carpenter, or some of the subaltern actors, should make some blunder, and interrupt the feeling of deep and general interest which soon seized on the whole pit, box, and gallery."

The Family Legend, which had a continuous run of fourteen nights, was produced at Drury Lane on May 29, 1815, with Mrs. Bartley as Helen, Wallack as Maclean, S. Penley as Sir Hubert de Grey, and Bartley as the Earl. The last-mentioned actor, George Bartley, was a comedian who gained considerable renown for his Falstaff. His wife, already referred to as an actress well known to Scott, was considered impressive in Lady Macbeth.

THE OPEN AIR SHOWS AT EASTBOURNE.

Eastbourne has a reputation for elegance to maintain, and so long as the Olympian Concert Party is the open-air attraction of the pier, she stands in no danger of losing her reputation. They are a troupe of pierrots, Mr. J. M. Campbell is at their head, and his répertoire of mimicry and vocal caricature makes him worthy of his giddy eminence. Miss Edith Blanchard is the contralto; she uses a splendid voice splendidly. Pierrette should be gay, and Miss Blanchard's gaiety is seen in her duets with Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hugh E. Wright.

One associates irresponsibility with Pierrot, but never was there such a sparkling spontaneity and irrepressible humour as Mr. Wright's. If he could keep serious for long enough Mr. Wright would be a tragedian of high merit; witness his recitation of the monologue, *Devil-may-care*, but, happily, we have no reason to suppose he could keep serious for any length of time. Mr. Bernard Davies is the baritone, and to hear him sing "The Trumpeter" is a revelation of how such a song should be sung. Mr. Harry King is a recent addition to the merry troupe, and is a comedian of ability and a mimic of considerable power. With such a troupe much depends on the accompanist, and in Mr. Eustace Wallis the Eastbourne pierrots have a sympathetic and artistic musician, whose piano solo is invariably one of the most fascinating turns of the entertainment.

In their concerted pieces the troupe is heard at its best. The introductory chorus to the tune of "La Maxixe" sets the ball of fun rolling merrily, but the pierrots (to quote one of Mr. Davies' songs) are simply delightful in anything at all.

From the pier, strolling along the beach, we came to the immense crowd attracted by "Uncle Ben's Royal Eastbourne Minstrels," under the direction of Mr. Ben Stoddart (Uncle Ben), Eastbourne's premier open-air entertainer, who for twenty years past has organised and managed the high-class Christy Minstrel shows on the beach. The comedians of this season, in addition to Uncle Ben, include Mr. Mackney (Uncle Tom) and Mr. Montague. The other members of the troupe are—F. Kelly (violinist), G. Peterson (harpist), and T. Rock (guitarist).

It is imagined by some that nigger performances at the seaside are losing popular favour, but this is certainly not so with Uncle Ben and his merry Blacks, for far and away the biggest crowd at any of the alfresco performances was found enjoying the really up-to-date and highly-amusing show given by this capitally managed troupe.

The "Invicta Concert Party" consists of the following talented artists:—Charles Vincent, Fred Terry, Frank Irwin, Charles Marsden, and Herbert Knight. Their single turns and their duets and concerted pieces were of the best kind, and manifestly delighted the large crowd that gathered around their open-air stage.

The Corporation of Eastbourne deserve every praise for the excellent diversity and well-ordered arrangements for their crowds of visitors, in addition to the open-air entertainers at their properly-appointed pitches on the beach; there are three bands at bandstands along the great stretch of sea front, and without mentioning the splendid entertainments at Devonshire Park, provision is made for the amusement of all sorts and conditions of people whom good fortune has led to select "Elegant Eastbourne" for their summer holiday.

THE SOCIAL SIDE OF SHOW LIFE.

We are indebted to a showman correspondent travelling the Scotch fairs for the following interesting notes from Greenock Fair.

The temperance propaganda work under the fostering wing of Miss Millington, of York, was again a feature of the fair, and the special showman orator was Mr. Styles, of Gould and Styles's Exhibition, and with him in the good crusade were Messrs. Salvona and Henderson, well-known showmen of Scotland.

Mr. Styles by his speech betrayed the fact that he was an Englishman. He complimented his fellow showmen on the higher standard of the business in Scotland. It was more and more being recognised as a commercial enterprise, and men engaged in it required to have their minds clear and active if they would meet the competition that was now so keen. Hence the pressing need, apart from other reasons, for temperance. Mr. Styles also said that it was the first time he had been in Scotland, and he was glad to say that he was taking away with him a most pleasant recollection of the respectability, sobriety, and general good conduct of the Scotch travellers.

At the close a bouquet of flowers was presented to each of those present, being a gift from many friends in town. A number of the travellers signed the pledge.

THE MIDNIGHT CONCERT.

When the toot-toot of the whistles has ceased to make itself heard any longer, when the last shout of "Just about to commence, ladies and gentlemen," has ceased, it is an annual habit with the showmen, their gaily dressed women folks, and their bright-eyed children, to adjourn to the British Women's Temperance Tent and hold a concert on the Friday evening. The special feature of this year's entertainment was the presence of Miss Millington of "The Caravan," a paper distributed amongst these travelling folks. The concert, which was organised by Miss Wilmot, was most social and genial. In the absence of Mr. Jas. Wilmot, who has presided at former concerts, the chair was occupied by Mr. Arthur Henderson, ably assisted by Mr. Swallow. It is a feature of the concert to have two chairmen. They were supported on the platform by Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot, sen., Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Swallow, and Miss Helen Wilmot, Mr. and Mrs. Styles, Mrs. Hunter, and Mrs. John M'Cadick, jun., Mr. Gould, and several local friends of the showpeople.

The programme was a long and interesting one, and although it extended till a comparatively late morning hour, the interest was kept up till the end. Songs were given by Miss Merrick, Mrs. Testo, Mrs. Dunseath, and Mrs. Roberts, and by Messrs. W. Paton, A. Henderson, jun., J. Docherty Styles, G. Merrick, J. Roberts, J. Ross, J. Salvona, H. Barr, and "Jolly Jumbo." Recitations were given by Mrs. Cyclops, Joe Salvona, H. Barr, and Mr. Arthur Henderson. A cake-walk was cleverly danced by Miss Jessie and Master George Knight. Mr. Styles gave as a one-man play a thrilling representation of "At the Telephone," and Mr. Bert Naylor, a clever impersonator of comic artists. Two young comedians, Messrs. Grigor and Grigora, gave a very amusing example of their art.

The collections for "The Caravan," which were taken up during the evening, including subscriptions from absent travellers, amounted to £6 7s. 8½d., and, including the collection taken at a similar concert at Bridge-of-Allan, amounting to £1 13s. 6d., the sum of £8 1s. 2½d. was handed to Miss Millington for "The Caravan."

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Henderson for the use of his tent and his admirable conduct in the chair closed a very successful concert and a very happy evening.

We heartily congratulate that veteran showman of Scotland, Mr. John Wilmot, that his whole family takes so keen an interest (along with himself and Mrs. Wilmot) in all that makes for the good of the people of the road. Especially is this true of his earnest-minded daughter, Miss Wilmot.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

MR. JOSEPH STUDT commenced his annual visit to Reading on Monday, and is doing first-class business in the Cattle Market enclosure. The attractions include a novel motor-car track, galloping horses, a fine display of living pictures, and numerous other novelties and specialities.

IN the Chancery Division, Dublin, before Mr. Justice Gibson, on Tuesday, Mr. Horan (instructed by Messrs. Keating and Keating) applied, on behalf of the plaintiff, Mary J. Keating, for an order for liberty to issue a summons to join Reuben E. Mellon, of Glencoe, Greystones, co. Wicklow, building contractor, with her as plaintiff. The action was brought for an injunction against William Toft, now of Greystones, to restrain him from continuing an establishment consisting of merry-go-rounds, hobby-horses, &c., carried on for public amusements at Greystones. The matter had been already partly heard before the Court. Counsel relied on the affidavits of the plaintiff. His Lordship granted the application.

WORK on the new Hippodrome, Paisley, at present being built by Mr. E. H. Bostock, of the Zoo, Glasgow, is proceeding rapidly, and the hall is expected to be ready for opening next month. Mr. Bostock is sparing no expense in booking the best talent, and is laying out a considerable sum on the building. The place will be fitted on a lavish scale, with all the latest improvements. Special attention will be directed to the interior decoration.

THE city of Leeds, the centre of an enormous population exceeding four millions of people, finds a necessary outlet for amusement and recreation in its encircling belt of suburban fairs, locally known as feasts. Two of the most important of these coincide on the first four days of September, those of Armley and Halton, both of them immense gathering grounds of show novelties. Halton serves the east end of Leeds—a vast industrial centre, with an outer fringe of collieries. For this year's feast the principal shows were Chipperfield's menagerie, Randall Williams' (Monti Bros.) superb theatre of animated photography and empire of varieties, Testo's cinematograph, Wm. Murphy's electric motor-cars, Collins' ostrich farm, Waddington's steam yachts, Hamilton's galloping horses, Morley and Burgin's steam swings, and manual swings by Dobson and Riley, Houldsworth's slipping-the-slip, Dobson's Japanese air-ship, three sets of gem swings and horses, three football frames, three rifle saloons, and varieties, fairground novelties by Messrs. Baynes, Ashcroft, Jameson, Cutler, Dobson, and some twenty or thirty others. The fair, under the banner of Mr. Wm. Murphy, was admirably set out by his senior agent and business-manager, Mr. J. B. Whitehead.

ARMLEY Feast serves the west end of "Woollenopolis," and here again there is splendid opportunity for expert arrangement of the fairground and management of its varied interests. The shows and other entertainments were:—Tuby and Sons' coliseum, Professor Gibson's temple of mystery, E. Ball's marvellous midgets, Westray's two ground booths, Professor Watson's boxers, four sets of motors, one set of galloping horses, steam swings, and manual swings were provided by Tuby and Sons, Marshall, Redfern, Bottomley, Jervis, and Hughes. The fairing and toy bazaars were provided by J. Seed and A. Gladstone, and a special feature of this fair was E. P. Holland's machine novelty, whirling the whirl. There were also four rifle saloons, twelve bottle-smashers, twenty-three Emma sheets, twenty cokers, ten roll-up boards, six pannum stalls, four football frames, and streets and streets of minor novelties.

GREAT HORTON, Bradford, kept its feast on Sept. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and here were Relph and Pedley's magnificent electrograph, J. Proctor's cinematograph, J. Hastings' two ground booths, and the athletic show, the lady wrestlers. Relph and Pedley also exhibited the Japanese air-ship, whirling the whirl, and J. Amos provided steam swings. The variety entertainers and novelty caterers were Blake, Houldsworth, Powell, Thompson, Ashcroft, Rhodes, and some thirty others.

ANOTHER good business fixture in Yorkshire is Cleckheaton, situated on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway line, with its own population exceeding 12,000. Its business importance lies rather in the fact that it draws its crowds from a much-congested industrial area counting its hundreds of thousands of toil-worn workers. It is in such centres that the showman does his best work and finds the best scope for his up-to-date enterprise. The shows and novelties included Crichton and Farrer with cinematograph exhibitions, Ben Howden and Sons with motor-car track and whirling the whirl, Joe Corrigan with steam swings, and Messrs. Houldsworth and Burgess with shooting concerns; and thirty minor novelties and varieties by other caterers.

LANCASHIRE sends us word of Chorley Wakes, where the principal novelties were Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, Wm. Payne's novelty show, John Green's motor-cars and Venetian gondolas, Wilson and Taylor's galloping horses, flying ostriches and steam yachts by Mrs. Holden and T. Holden, big boats by Webb, highfliers and swings by Sharp, Webb, and Taylor, juvenile horses by Sharp, tunnel railway by Williams, Harrison's helter-skelter, Bowker's slippery slope, shooting concerns by Wilson, Grant, Williams, Taylor, Sharp, and Dewhurst; throwing games and varieties of many kinds by Messrs. Taylor, Richmond, Garlick, Ficer, Ingham, Cubbins, Redfern, and Pablo.

GORTON WAKES, Manchester, this year begins a new lease of vigorous life, Messrs. Hurst and J. Collins having secured much better-situated and more commodious fairground than the one hitherto used. We were very much impressed when we visited the fair with the well-thought-out and expert arrangements, the fairground being large enough to admit of experiments in this direction that on a smaller ground would be impossible. The most important of these improvements was the massing of the roundabouts and steam yachts, with their loud-voiced orchestrophones, on a site as far aloof as possible from the exhibitions and side shows. This is a step in the right direction, and we heartily congratulate Messrs. Hurst and Collins on the innovation. We also noticed a feature that is very much forgotten at the average fairs, and that is, ample ground space for the crowd before the principal shows, wide and commanding entrances, and well-planned avenues of minor novelties.

THE principal shows were Colonel Clark's classical entertainment of living picture and variety turns, Professor Haydn's second-sight seance, including the marvellous "Clytie," Mrs. Birch's freak exhibits, and two or three side shows by Messrs. White, Jordan, and Shaw. The machines were:—J. Collins' wheely-whirly, the steam yachts and roundabout, one of T. Hurst's farmyard sets, Hibbert's flying horses and gem set, Royle's horses and swings, and swings and gem sets by other caterers, including W. Chaplain and S. Mercer. The shooting galleries included the well-known concerns of G. H. Cornwell and Mrs. John Cornwell. There were crowds of other well-known caterers on the Manchester Round, including Marsden, Fletcher, Burton, Horton, Worthington, Humphries, Hughes, Martin, and Barker.

MR. FRED BIBBY made an excellent proposal at the close of the Gorton meeting, when discussing the best means of raising funds for the work of the Showmen's Guild. He reminded the meeting that showmen were proverbially generous in their support of hospitals and other institutions, but that their charity ought sometimes to begin at home. "Why not," he demanded, "have a vandwellers' day, as well as hospital days, and take up the collection for the benefit of their own society?" He suggested that a good day to do this would be the Friday in the week of Nottingham Goose Fair, and urged that committeemen and friends of the Society, properly authorised to do so, should go from show to show, from stall to stall, and take subscriptions on every fairground in the United Kingdom in support of the old Society. He threw that out as a suggestion, and would be very glad to do his utmost to bring it to a successful conclusion.

A SCOTCH correspondent sends us word of the sudden death, owing to heart failure, of the well-known and highly-respected showman, Thomas Wright. His death took place in his own caravan as they were journeying to Stirling Fair. The deceased has been in broken health for some time past, and we feel quite sure that the sympathy of the whole showman world will go out to the family.

IN connection with the observance of Lady Mary's Fair, lively scenes were recently witnessed in Dundee. The fair, which originated in 1296, entitles all and sundry to erect booths and sell commodities anywhere within the ancient royalty of the city. In recent years shopkeepers complained of the booths interfering with their business, and this year a number of them took the precaution of renting stands in front of their premises. Despite this precaution, however, a number of itinerant merchants erected their stands on the rented sites and refused to leave. Ultimately a force of police was requisitioned to forcibly eject the stallholders. The "cheap Jacks" took up a collection and put the matter in the hands of a solicitor.

EVESHAM is an important market town in Worcestershire, sixteen miles from Redditch, fourteen from Worcester, and six from Pershore. It has stations on the Midland and Great Western Railways. An important cattle market is held here. The great pleasure and hiring fair will be held on Friday, Oct. 5, on Merstow-green, and also in Vine-street. Space is also let to showmen and others at the Fleece Meadow. The chief industry is market gardening, fruit growing, &c. Population, 7100.

ULLENHALL Wakes Fair was maintained by Herberts, of Redditch, who had on the wakes ground roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, stalls, pipe-smasher, and other amusements.

WINCHCOMBE is a very ancient market town in Gloucestershire, seven miles from Cheltenham, eleven from Tewkesbury, and eleven from Evesham. Hiring fairs are held here on the Saturdays before and after October 10. Railway, the Great Western; population, 2700; market day, Saturday. Large horse fairs are also held here. Industries, chiefly agricultural and fruit growing.

AT Redditch Flower Show the local caterer, Mr. C. Herbert, supplied amusements, viz., roundabouts, swing-boats, shooting saloons, cokernut gardens, and numerous other attractions.

GEO. WHITE'S electric motor-cars and other novelties finished the season at Fraserburg, N.B., on Tuesday. The large electric pavilion of cinematography and vaudeville has been packed to the doors, the pictures being of the very latest, with an entire change each show. The chief operator, Mr. Hutchins, being a practical photographer, new films are frequently produced. Dr. Oliver, the descriptive lecturer and entertainer, is a host in himself, his dramatic interpretation of various subjects finding great favour with all patrons. The Freemans do well in comedy songs, and Little Fanny Newsome ably sustains the traditions of her family by her clever singing and dancing. Funny little Lewis is clever as a solo pianist and pantomimist; Mlle. Jeanette, handcuff queen, is very smart; and Mme. Herculine well sustains her reputation of great strength.

MRS. J. D. HUMPHREYS writes:—"On behalf of myself and family, I wish to thank all the ladies and gentlemen who so generously subscribed to the J. D. Humphreys Fund; also the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift (hon. treasurer) for their kindly services."

THE marriage took place in Liverpool on Wednesday last of Harold Rufus Hibbert, fourth son of James Hibbert, amusement caterer, Bloomstreet, Stockport, and Alice Collins, eldest daughter of John Collins, of the "World's Fair" and Overton-street, Liverpool. The honeymoon is being spent at Brighton and Eastbourne.

BOSCO'S CIRCUS is visiting the following towns in Ireland—Ballina, Enniscrone, Castlebar, Westport, &c.—and is showing to fair business. Amongst the turns are the Monon Troupe of Continental musical and comedy acrobats; Little Sid, who, as clown, is well received; and the Yelding Trio of jockeys, wire, and globe artists, Bob Yelding and Miss Lena making big hits with their dashing acts; Will Manchester, song and dance artist, is also in the bill, which includes that thrilling spectacle *The Redskins*.

MR. SAM JONES, the popular and respected leader of Bosco's band, broke his leg at Claremorris on Monday, this regrettable accident necessitating his removal to the hospital in that town, but we are pleased to learn that he is making favourable progress towards recovery.

ACCORDING to advices to hand from America, Miss Lillian Davies, the dashing and fearless bare-backed equestrienne, is meeting with huge success nightly with Barnum and Bailey's great show on their American circuit. It may not be generally known that Miss Davies is the daughter of Mrs. L. Davies, the well-known Irish circus proprietress, who retired to a well-earned rest last season, after some forty years' tenting. Miss Davies met with great success at the opening of the Hippodrome last season at Mansfield. She has as a working partner on her American tour Miss Millie Ginnett, the well-known and handsome *haute-école* rider.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. W. (Hemel Hempstead).—*The correspondence you sent is kept over for consideration, and possible use next week.*

J. MILLER.—*We are writing you fully by post, and thank you for the reassuring information.*

J. BEAUMONT (West Hartlepool).—*The address you ask us for is Mr. T. Orton, Orton and Sons, Carriage Builders, Burton-on-Trent.*

A. WHITMEE.—*Extremely sorry, but pressure of work has prevented me seeing you this week, and paucity of space in our Showman World columns prevents me also dealing with your matter further this week.*

F. C. (UNCLE FRED).—*Your letter and the acrostic to hand. Crowded out this week. Many thanks. It does your heart credit.*

THE staff of the New Palace Theatre, Plymouth, had their annual outing last week, and were favoured by climatic conditions, which made the trip most enjoyable. The towns of Totnes and Newton Abbot, and the seaside places of Torquay and Paignton, were respectively visited, and a most pleasant day was spent.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

MEETING AT GORTON.

The first of a series of meetings organised by the executive of the Showmen's Guild for the purpose of informing the Showman World of the necessity of greater financial support for the work of trade defence was held at the biggest gathering ground of Lancashire showmen on Sunday afternoon last.

As we announced last week, the Rev. T. Horne was the principal speaker, supported by Mr. Fred Bibby, who was voted to the chair, and the following members of the Executive Council of the Guild:—Wm. Mitchell, V.P. and treasurer; G. H. Cornwell, V.P.; Wm. Clark, V.P.; E. Holland, Wm. Gibson, Wm. Chaplain, J. Geoghegan, members of the committee; T. Hurst, hon. secretary; and Messrs. S. Mercer, Ingham, Haydn, Brown, Mitchell, Rawlings, and a great gathering of notable show people. In opening the proceedings, Mr. Fred Bibby said that "The object that we have met here to-day to set out clearly before the Showman World is the policy and work of the United Kingdom Showmen and Vandwellers' Protection Association, known as 'The Showmen's Guild,' what it has done in the past, and what it has still to do in the future. I have been closely identified with this society from its inception, and I took no small part in the framing of its rules and constitution. Although I have no axe to grind or personal object to serve, I am proud to number myself amongst 'the Bohemians of the Road.' I claim to have as clear a knowledge of the workings of this society as anyone, I have subscribed to its funds, and have been a member from the very beginning, and I am here to-day to testify that my confidence in its executive officials is greater now than ever in the past, and I am also here to commend with all the force I possess its important work to your continued confidence and increased financial support. We will presently hear from Mr. Horne the story of the Guild's work during the years of its busy and ever-increasing work, and also to warn you, my brothers and sisters of the road, that great as the dangers were through which the Guild has safely carried you, there are still serious dangers ahead. These dangers can only be met by the continued zeal, ability, and constant vigilance of your trade protection society. At the close of this meeting I shall be glad to hear questions arising out of the subject matter of Mr. Horne's address, and I can assure you that the officials of the Guild will only be too glad to clear away all doubts and difficulties that may yet linger in the minds of those who should be unanimous in the support of the Guild's policy and work. I know that you are here to-day to hear your honorary chaplain deliver his address, and therefore I will not any longer stand between him and the meeting. I now ask Mr. Horne to speak to us on the policy and work of the Showmen's Guild."

On rising to deliver his address, the hon. chaplain was most warmly received, and, after a humorous reference to the heat of the day, and a little preliminary dissertation of a purely personal character, began his address, which, at all its salient points, was punctuated with approving cheers and applause. He said:—

To begin at the beginning, I would like to say that the Guild was cradled in the offices of *The Era* newspaper, being the practical business idea of its manager, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, and has been steadily supported and fostered by that paper with all the influence and energy at its command; and a landmark of its triumphant success was the splendid presentation to Lord George Sanger, the president, recently, at the Agricultural Hall.

For the purpose of this address I have looked through every report and pamphlet and every financial balance-sheet of the Guild since its foundation in the year 1890.

In the first sixteen months of your Society's life you held public meetings, many of them under the presidency of Members of Parliament, Mayors, and Borough and County Councillors, in London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, Hull, Newcastle, Nottingham, York, Oxford, Peterborough, King's Lynn, Rotherham, Wigan, Ashton, Stalybridge, Burslem, Hanley, Rochdale, and Cardiff, besides a number of smaller gatherings on the fair-grounds of the country. You sent twenty huge petitions to Parliament against the Movable Dwellings Bill of George Smith and his friends. You circulated in refutation of the vile slander on your domestic life over forty thousand pamphlets and letters. You tasted the joy of battle in a good cause, and you fought as men who feared not defeat. The first regular report in 1892 sets out the policy of your Society, the policy from which it has never departed, and never will so long as I have anything to do with its management or the guidance of its policy. "Our characters," says the report, "having been attacked by misguided and mischievous persons, and being threatened with losing our rights and liberties through unnecessary and fussy legislation, we recognised the necessity of uniting and presenting a firm front to our common enemy." The report closes with these words, "The fundamental purpose for which our Society was formed is—to protect our members and their interests against unnecessary and injurious legislation, to secure the rights and liberties so dear to all Englishmen, and to protect our wives and families and the sanctity of our hearths and homes from the prying eyes of a curious, and perhaps insolent and tipsy, village constable."

I shall draw your attention again at a later period in my address to this fundamental principle of the Guild work and policy, and show you how it answers completely the criticisms upon our work to-day that have been so freely and so frankly bestowed upon the executive officials. Your fight then and your fight to-day is for your good name and for your rights as citizens of the commonwealth and as sons of the Empire to enjoy the liberty of free-born Britons.

That you need no fussy class or special legislation, and that, though carrying on an extraordinary trade in the nation's life, you are but ordinary men and women, subject to the statute and common law of the land like other loyal subjects of the King. You ask for fair treatment, and you are justified in agitating for your rights unfettered by any special legislation, that always carries a stigma of shame and reproach with it.

The second report of the Society, issued January, 1893, records an abounding success and larger accession of subscribers. Again, the preservation of your good character is the theme set out, but even as early as 1893 your best advisers recognised the necessity for Parliamentary defence work, and the report chronicles the coming appointment of a Parliamentary agent to regularly attend the Lobby of the House of Commons in order to carefully watch all possible pernicious proposals dealing with show life.

Here you have the second fundamental principle of the work and policy of the Guild.

The next year's report—1894—records the high-water mark of the first half dozen years of the Society's work. The report issued by the committee was from the capable pen of Mr. Salva. I am tempted to quote it in full, but time forbids. I give you the salient features—twenty well-attended public meetings. The fight with George Smith was still raging. The most notable of these meetings was the Nottingham one, with the Bishop of the Diocese in the chair and myself as one of the principal speakers. It was a triumphant year. We went down to Coalville after Nottingham, and carried an indignation meeting against George Smith and all his ways and works in his own town, and voiced by neighbours of his who were ashamed of him. From that time the Movable Dwellings Bill was doomed. We carried the war triumphantly into the enemy's land. It was the crowning effort of five years' preparation. The result was magnificent, the victory certain.

From the reports of the next three years the principal achievements of the Guild were, first, the Walsall Fair case in the High Court, wherein it was held that shows and fair-ground tackle do constitute a fair, and that trading or selling articles of commerce are not essentials of a fair. In other words, the catering of amusement constitutes a fair in the legal sense. The next important work, involving immense time, expert knowledge, and ability, was the deputation to the Railway Clearing-house on the matter of restrictions sought to be imposed by the companies, and the increase of rates for show goods. This work was successfully done, and the whole body of showmen benefited by that work, and still benefit to this day. There can be no doubt that the fact that you were properly organised, and that representatives spoke with knowledge and authority, saved your commercial interests from a staggering blow.

Your organisation in these years—1894 to 1897—was fast becoming a recognised power in the land. Your trade and business was now being better understood, and your status as trained craftsmen and traders recognised, and your proper position given you at last as the providers of open-air amusement for the people. About this time, largely owing to the extension of municipal and local government, the tyranny of bad by-laws was becoming more and more felt. I was able to give a great portion of my always busy life to the question, and went thoroughly into the whole matter. I then compiled the standard work of reference on the question. I codified all the by-laws of the country, and arranged them under easily-understood lists. This was the beginning of my series of original contributions to the "Showmen's Year Book."

This was put by the Society into every member's hands, and remains to-day as a most useful compendium of the law with regard to your business in local areas. We did more than that. We tried to stop the evil at the fountain-head. I spent a whole holiday of mine interviewing the authorities at the Home Office, the Local Government Board, and the Board of Trade, and trying various methods to get information in time to oppose bad by-laws. Very little comfort was given at these great Departments of State. The officials of those days seemed to marvel at the audacity of showmen wanting to know how to prevent their foes injuring them. That was in 1898. Compared with to-day and what we can do now, and how we are received at the Home Office and in the House of Commons, it might well be ages ago (the dark ages of show life). Yet it is really only eight years ago when we were solemnly assured that the travelling showman had no *locus standi*, that a resident ratepayer only had a right to oppose by-laws, and so on, and so on.

Well, the work of the Guild has changed all that, and to-day it is our model by-law, that is the standard at the Home Office and the Local Government Board. In our despair we tried to organise our friends (and their name is legion) in the towns and country places to watch local events and to scrutinise the local papers, and to tell us in time enough to take action or to get a local showman to do it. With sorrow I confess it that on some occasions, when we found our local showman all our work was lost because he would not take action in our interests and of the whole body.

This absorbed a great deal of my time—more than the world will ever know—in fact, I took no record of it. There seemed to be no one else ready at hand, and with the information at his tongue tip, but poor labour-ridden me. I have often sighed when critical committeemen and others have suggested more meetings. "People won't subscribe without hearing more about it." I felt like the poor man in the fable—between the devil and the deep sea. Here, in some far corner of the country, is a fair in danger of being abolished; in another place bad by-laws need fighting. What can I do? Send for committeemen engaged in getting their living, call a meeting, and talk about it, or go straight off and do the necessary work myself at the right moment and in the right way? It is easy to criticise, and I know you too well to break my heart over what you may say without accurate knowledge, but this has always been my guiding principle in life: Make up your mind, be sure you are right, and go straight away and do the right thing according to the best of your powers, and trust to the sound sense of your fellow-men to properly judge and appreciate your work. Why, you know how a fond mother often persuades her sick child to take some nasty medicine or to do some irksome task. She will say, "Do it for mamma's sake." Yet all the time it is for the child's good, and the child's alone. This Society is like that mother. We have to persuade you to do your duty for our sake, when, after all, it is for your own sake. I have heard people say, "You've done well, Mr. Horne, at the meeting; how much have you made?" As though the money came to me!

Well, that's my little homily, by the way. I reach now the next great stage in the onward progress and growth of the Society's work and policy. The thing foreseen in 1893 had come to pass with a vengeance. Corporations all over the country were putting additional powers clauses in private Bills. Forty or more Bills every Session of Parliament were introduced by corporations for water, gas, electricity, tram, and other improvements, and in most of these were insidious though innocent-looking clauses seeking additional powers, either to make their own by-laws where they had no such power, or in cases where they had power already to make by-laws to abolish the show business or to severely penalise it.

This private Bill legislation threatened your means of existence; it meant driving you out of business and the ruin of your life's work, and the loss, too, of your invested capital. Here was work second only to the first great enterprise, the killing of the Movable Dwellings Bill. This meant larger means and more expensive expert assistance.

Any private Bill containing clauses detrimental to the trade interest or curtailing the liberty of the individual may be opposed by the trade or person concerned. First, the opposition to the Bill must set out in a petition its grievance. The petitioners must establish a *locus standi*, or right to appear and object. Then they must employ Parliamentary solicitors, agents, and counsel.

All must be done in conformity with the Standing Orders of the House of Commons governing private Bill legislation. Any error in these forms is fatal to the cause of the petitioners. The petitioners apply to be allowed to appear by counsel, and to tender evidence in support of the grievance alleged. Then, when the Bill is before the Committee, the next stage is to prove the case as set out in the petition.

I have with me a number of these petitions. You may see for yourselves the highly technical and difficult work that Parliamentary defence is. Nothing short of the best professional help is any use to give the briefest possible summary of this work as dealt with year by year since the Guild began it. In 1900 forty Bills came under scrutiny by the Parliamentary agent. Of these he found six containing restrictive measures. Three of these had saving clauses, and were, therefore, unopposed. Of two others, those of Coventry and Hastings, the objectionable clauses were withdrawn, and, let us remember, it was because the promoters knew that those clauses would be opposed, and that that opposition would compel them to eliminate those clauses, that they were withdrawn. In 1901 thirty-nine Bills were examined, and again a number of them contained bad clauses. Most of these were struck out by friendly arrangement, and two of the remaining Bills successfully opposed—the Eccles Corporation Bill and the Corporation of Mansfield's Bill. Eccles we had to fight twice over; first, to establish our right to be heard at all (not being ratepayers), and then again (when our *locus standi* as individual traders was admitted) as petitioning against the Bill. Mansfield was on the question of closing hours. In both cases we won. Our next big fight—perhaps our greatest victory, the one certainly of far-reaching influence—was with the mighty Corporation of Halifax. In 1902 they sought to raise the tolls and to gain a monopoly in fairs in their borough. This we defeated, and so we thus carried our trade to a securer basis of legal protection—no monopoly, free trade, and open competition in fairs under the ordinary safeguards of the law for all alike. Had Halifax won it would have dealt a deadly blow at private venture fairs and all private business. By the Eccles victory we demonstrated that public bodies have no legal right to make regulations in restraint of trade. By the Mansfield victory we obtained the acknowledgment that the ordinary restrictions of law with regard to both the hours of closing and Sunday trading were quite sufficient for the business of the fair-ground, and that special legislation to the contrary was not necessary. In this year we petitioned with success against Bills promoted by Swansea, Knaresborough, Buxton, and Newport (Salop). The year 1903 was a busy and expensive one for Parliamentary work. Without a fight we gained our end with Aston and Birmingham, Gateshead, Erith, Leigh, New Hunstanton, and Llandrindod Wells; and with a fight we won our way with Hyde and East Ham Corporations. Each a signal victory after hard work. At the end of this Session of 1903 the Parliamentary Defence Fund was set up in order to maintain with all necessary efficiency the Parliamentary work, and, if possible, to set the old Guild free from the financial strain of so big an enterprise. In the year 1904 we again settled with a number of corporations, getting them to drop their bad clauses without a fight. We had to petition against Rotherham, Radcliffe, Selby, and Acton. The one that came to a fight in the end was Acton, and our signal victory over, that public body marked (we confidently anticipate) the beginning of the end of our Parliamentary trouble and grave anxiety. Acton was not only defeated, but also ordered to pay the costs of the petitioners—a rare and remarkable event in the House of Commons.

Corporations will hesitate to measure themselves against the Guild when they know that they run the risk of being condemned in costs. From 1898 to 1905 it is the story of unbroken success; in every case, either by private negotiations or persistent opposition, the Guild has caused the bad clauses in private Bills to be thrown out.

A critical examination of the work accomplished each year demonstrates the interesting and satisfactory truth that corporations show an increasing willingness to negotiate a settlement rather than face an expensive defeat before Parliament. Although the work of vigilant scrutiny must continue, the unbroken record of success achieved by the Guild leads to the gratifying conclusion that expensive opposition will become less and less a necessity, and conference and negotiation between the Guild and public bodies in all disputes will become more frequent.

So salutary has been the effect of the Guild's work that in the Session of Parliament of 1905 there were only some half dozen private Bills introduced containing bad clauses. The significance of this will be understood when we contrast it with the year 1898, when twenty Bills were introduced containing objectionable proposals. In 1898 it was difficult to open up negotiations with the Parliamentary agents of public bodies. It was regarded almost as a breach of Parliamentary decorum that travelling showmen should be organised and wealthy enough to have their own Parliamentary agents and solicitors. It was also a "surprising thing" to the permanent officials of the great public departments. The Home Office, the Board of Trade, and the Local Government Board almost refused to recognise the *locus standi* of the showmen of the Empire.

Of the six Bills scrutinised at the beginning of the 1905 Sessions five of them were immediately settled by private negotiations, and only one—the Corporation of Colne Bill—remained unsettled for a time. This necessitated a somewhat serious outlay, two petitions, one by local showmen and the other by the Guild collectively, having to be presented against the Bill. This determination of the Guild to oppose the Bill ultimately influenced the Corporation to reopen negotiations, which were carried to a successful conclusion in friendly conference between the officials of the Corporation and the Guild. As an indication of the expensive character of this very necessary work, we may state that even a friendly compromise, as in the case of Colne, cost no less a sum than £70.

That brings us down to the present year 1906. We had to petition against Pontefract, Wallasey, and the Middlesex County Council. The first two were arranged with on satisfactory lines; but the County Council of Middlesex did not attempt negotiations until we showed by our array of witnesses, petitioners, and counsel at the Private Bills Committee-room that we meant business. Then they opened a friendly discussion, and were willing to give us even more than we ultimately decided would fully meet the justice of the case. They suggested strictly confining their compromise to the known members of the Guild, but as that would have injured our poorer brothers of the road and would have created a monopoly as against the poor man who cannot subscribe to our funds, we refused, and threw Middlesex open to all travellers and fair-ground traders, whether Guild members or not.

But, great as the Parliamentary and trade defence work has been in its relation to Private Bills and to obnoxious by-laws that does not constitute anything like the full story of the Guild's activity. We have constantly defended the interests of showpeople when attacked by ignorant critics in the public Press, and my correspondence alone exceeds over a thousand letters a year, not only defending you from vile slander and abuse, but instructing, guiding, and forming a public opinion that is now so strongly interested in you, that you can claim, and do receive, from an enlightened and sympathetic public, justice and generous support.

Well, of course all this means constant attention to your interests, and trained and expert ability in dealing with the various, and, in very many cases, vicious, attacks upon you and your business, and I claim that this branch of the work is not less important than trade defence in Parliament and with regard to bad by-laws. I could tell you, did time permit, the long list of the towns where local prejudice has endeavoured, and by petition to the Home Secretary, sought to abolish the fairs and holidays of the people, and I could tell you also how that, in sending up petitions to the Home Secretary against these misguided proposals, we have been encouraged in our work by the increased sympathy and appreciation that have rewarded our efforts in this important branch of trade defence work. So great and growing is this appreciation by the general public by our policy of work, that corporations and public bodies write to us for our opinion upon matters affecting the show business. I often think that this part of our work is better understood by the outside public than it is by you, the men and women of the road, to whom it is a matter of daily livelihood.

If I were asked to-day to name the most valuable asset belonging to you and your business, I should say without doubt it is this protection bulwark of the Showmen's Guild, which stands as an impregnable wall of defence between you and

your enemies; and I want to reiterate here that I have often said before, that this society works for and protects the whole body of open-air amusement caterers. Touching, it has been estimated, the daily work of 70,000 people. We do not limit our protective work to our members—nay, more, we have steadily refused to claim or ask for favours that were not applicable to all show people, whether members of the Guild or not. The Guild is a trades union; but it is more than that—it stands for the intellectual, the educational, the social, and moral advancement of the whole body of fair-ground traders. It has no sectional or party interests; it stands above the separate and distinct class interests that may divide tenant from lessee, and employer from workman, but although it stands above the sectional interests, which in all human society tends to division and friction, it never neglects to devote its energies, its expert knowledge and ability, to those higher and much more important considerations that affect the whole travelling community, and the various traders supplying the necessities of the fair-ground, and the whole of the dependent industries connected with the show business. It is not because having "eyes we see not, or having ears we hear not," or having hearts we feel not. The wrongs often keenly felt are very pressing that divide tenants and lessees, the big traders and the small traders, but that our supreme work is—to regard those greater matters, and to give of our best to the preservation of your trade and business from the persistent attacks of those who would destroy it root and branch, and to defend the holidays of the people, to whom it is your work to minister. I am well aware that in the eyes of certain critics this devotion of the Guild to the higher sphere of work in the region of trade defence, and its refusal to come down to the considerations that loom so largely in the vision of the narrow-minded and class partisan, has lost the support as well as the sympathy of those of whom it is said "they can never see any further than the length of their own nose."

Well, all that I can say to such selfish persons is this—that there would have been no cause whatever to quarrel over rent and position on fair-grounds if the vast army of the enemies of the showman had been successful during the past seventeen years. There would be few fairs to quarrel over at all. I admit to the full that rent and all other charges should be just and reasonable between man and man, and that in fixing such charges consideration should be paid to the fluctuations and uncertainties of a business that always depends upon the changing circumstances of good trade and fine weather. I have already put before you the fundamental principles of the Guild's policy and work—first, to defend your character whenever traduced, and, in the second place, to defend your trade and business whenever threatened or attacked. These two things at every point have been our object, our policy, and our work, and I now call upon you to recognise the fact that your very existence as a class and as a body of workers in the Commonwealth demands that you should give such full and generous support to the funds of the Guild that its Executive Council may never be compelled either to hesitate in the necessary work of defending your interests for lack of money, or from the sense that you do not yet fully understand and appreciate the work of those who stand between you and your enemies.

Having dealt (as briefly as I possibly could do) with the work of the past, I have to ask your attention to a startling and most pernicious Bill now before Parliament, a Bill which revives under worse conditions some of the most objectionable features of the notorious Movable Dwellings Bill of the late George Smith. The ostensible object of the Bill is to provide for the education of vagrant children, but it is so badly drafted that all children of parents whose work in life necessitates moving from place to place would be brought under the powers and penalties of the Act should it unfortunately become law. There is not the slightest effort made to distinguish the child of the respectable showman, or fair-ground trader, from the child of the habitual tramp and wandering criminal, and I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that you are face to face with the greatest invasion of your domestic rights, and are liable to the most terrible degradation ever attempted against you and your avocation in life.

But let me read you the extraordinary provisions of the Bill—a Bill, mind you, that is backed by the following Members of Parliament:—Sir John Kennaway, Mr. Spicer, Mr. Toulmin, Mr. Cameron Corbett, Mr. Lewis Haslam, Mr. Vivian, and Mr. McLean:—

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. When a child is so moved from place to place as to prevent such child from receiving regular education under the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 to 1902, the parent or person having the custody or charge of such child shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable, upon summary conviction, to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding three months, and such child may be adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents within the meaning of this Act.
2. Any constable may take into custody without a warrant and charge before a Justice of the Peace with the commission of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, any person whom he shall have cause to suspect of having committed such an offence, and such Justice of the Peace may order the detention of such person in prison until the charge is heard and such constable may take charge of any child in respect of which an offence is suspected, and deliver him for safe custody to the master of the workhouse of the parish or union in which the aforesaid person has been apprehended until the charge is heard.
3. When any parent has been convicted of an offence under Section 1 of this Act, the Court may adjudge any child in respect of which an offence has been committed to be a child of vagrant parents, and may order that the child of vagrant parents shall be received into the workhouse of the union in which the parent was taken into custody, or the child was adjudged to be a child of vagrant parents, whereupon Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1889, as amended by Section 1 of the Poor Law Act, 1899, shall apply, and the Guardians of the poor of such union shall be empowered, as regards such child of vagrant parents, *to pass a resolution vesting in themselves*, as provided by the said section *the rights of the parent or parents of such child*. If the Court orders such child of vagrant parents to be received into a workhouse, the Court may order that the whole or any part of the cost of the maintenance of such child shall be provided by the parent of such child, and paid to the Guardians by whom such child is maintained.

There are other clauses in this precious Bill providing for certain contingencies as to the cost of maintenance or the emigration of children at the hands of the Guardians of the Poor, and to be met by the County Council. The material clauses I now deal with. The whole Bill I set out in an exhaustive article in *The Era* on July 14 last.

First of all notice that the Bill would create an entirely new offence: it makes the parents guilty of a criminal offence if they move from place to place taking their children with them. No attempt is made to distinguish between parents and parents, children and children, showmen and itinerant traders. Circus, variety, and theatrical children, and their parents would all come under the stigma and power of this law, and would be classed with criminal parents and tramps as being vagrants, and subject to the pains and penalties of the Act. In the second clause it gives any constable power, on suspicion, without any warrant, to apprehend the parent and to take the child to the nearest workhouse. Now, I want you to imagine how this would affect some of the most interesting of our travelling shows. You all know the kind of show I mean—the small circus or variety show in which every member of the family takes part.

The show enters a town; the constable, with the responsibility of this Act upon his shoulders, notices that one or two of the children appear to him to be under the age of fourteen. He is empowered, without any warrant from a magistrate, to lodge the parents in prison, and to take the children suspected to be under fourteen to the nearest workhouse. The parents are in prison, the children are pauperised, and the show is sold up to pay the expenses of the prosecution. There is nothing in the Bill to prevent the picture I have drawn you from being realised in fact. You must not forget that in all legislation that it is not the pious intentions of the legislators that becomes law, but the actual wording of the Bill when it passes Parliament and has become part and parcel of the statute law of the land.

Can we dare, in the face of the serious dangers to you and your domestic peace threatened in this Bill, to relinquish our vigilant and ever-increasing watch and guard over your interests? Two things of recent occurrence clearly demonstrate the necessity for maintaining our organisation in the highest state of working perfection. The fight for the fair rights at Mitcham, which will be brought before the High Court of Justice for judicial decision, and the very successful conference with the London County Council concerning the admission of living vans upon the open spaces under their control. With the London County Council, the deputation of London showmen, headed by Lord George Sanger, Mr. Pedgrift of *The Era*, and myself, succeeded in obtaining the allowance of the living vans upon the grounds. But the Mitcham fight still remains to be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. We certainly won the fair for this year, and we carried the vast majority of the people of Mitcham with us, and a record vote in favour of the continuance of the fair.

Now a word or two about the finance of this movement. It is probably the most significant of the facts that I have brought before you this afternoon. Think of it, you have been over sixteen years in existence, you have opposed dozens of private Bills promoted by corporations, you have killed one Bill (the Movable Dwellings Bill of the late George Smith), and in the present Parliament you are opposing the Vagrant Children's Education Bill; you have conducted with success scores of public meetings, you have sent a considerable number of petitions to the Home Secretary against proposals to abolish the pleasure-fairs of the people, and in almost every case with success—nearly seventeen years' work of trade defence—and all this has been done for £4000. Of that £4000, £2400 have been spent on Parliamentary and legal work. And now what have you spent in working expenses? Why, you have only spent in wages £30 a year, your only paid official being a secretary to keep your books and to deal, under my direction, with the business correspondence of the Guild. It is no exaggeration to say that this is a unique record in the history of Trades Unionism, and that three of the corporations whom you successfully opposed before Parliament—Halifax, Hyde, and Eccles—spent considerably more against you. In going through your balance-sheets (duly certified by chartered accountants down to the end of last year), I have been amazed at the smallness of the sum you have really spent in fighting issues so fraught with serious consequences to you and your working life, and it is a significant fact that nearly £1000 of the total £4000 is the contribution of one man—our revered and honoured President, George Sanger.

I think that I have attained the object I started out to achieve, that is, I have shown you what are the policy, the work, and the extraordinary successes of the Showmen's Guild, and I now leave the matter in your hands with every confidence that you will not allow such work to be hindered or starved for lack of the necessary means. I have also built up truth—which I consider is the best way to cast out error—and I ask you, for your own sake and for your children's sake, to strengthen the hands of the executive workers of the Mother Society of all showmen societies by liberal contributions to its economically-managed funds, so that its work may be prospered in the future, even as it has been successful in the past.

Mr. Horne concluded amidst a great ovation of applause, and sat down after a speech which occupied nearly two hours in its delivery.

The Chairman (Mr. F. Bibby) invited questions.

Mr. E. Holland (as a member of the committee) complained, first, that he had not been summoned to committee meetings during the past two years, and, further, that he objected to the work of the Society being done at meetings of the Roundabout Proprietors' Combine; and, in the second place, he thought that the Guild ought to have taken up his case with the Bolton Corporation. He also objected to the Guild being a "one man show," that however able (and he admitted to the full the ability) Mr. Horne might be, it was not right that the committee should be ignored and work done without being consulted. He also wanted to know what work the Guild had done that was of any use during the past two years.

Mr. Bibby dealt with the personal question of Mr. Holland's action against the Bolton Corporation, and referred Mr. Holland to Rule 19 of the Guild, wherein it is stated that "the Association's principal object being to protect the interests of the travelling community as a body, they can only support such actions at law as affect the whole community," and that "the Committee desire it to be distinctly understood that no financial help can be given for any legal action by, or against, an individual member which is of a personal nature." Mr. Bibby assured Mr. Holland that, as he was concerned in the drafting of that rule, he could speak with authority, and that the Guild was never intended to take up such cases as the one of which complaint had been made. With regard to Mr. Holland's charge of the Society being a "one man show," he could only say that to no man living were the Bohemians of the road more indebted for the preservation of their rights and liberties than to Mr. Horne, and that, in his judgment, it would be a sorry day for them as a body when such champions as their honorary chaplain did not stand forth to defend them. He would now ask Mr. Horne to reply.

The honorary chaplain referred Mr. Holland to the rule which provides for the calling of committees. Under Rule 10, notice in *The Era* a week before is full and proper notice to every committeeman, and the question whether a postcard be sent at the same time is a matter of detail, but not of essential obligation. It was curious to notice, he added, that Mr. Holland's complaint covered the same period of time that he had been settled in London, and dates from the break up of his Manchester work. Of course there have been committee meetings for the dispatch of Guild business, but these, for convenience and economy, had been held in London, and attended by London members of the committee. All the important work involving serious outlay of money had been determined at the annual general meetings in Manchester and London, especially the most expensive item—the Parliamentary work—had been deliberated upon and decided in full committee after the London meeting. That Mr. Holland was not present at the London committee meeting was not in any sense the fault of the Guild, but his own. There were two things that he utterly repudiated and definitely contradicted, and these were the charges that the Guild was under the control of, or managed at, the meetings of the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, or that the Guild was (if the reference was meant for himself or any other member of the committee) a "one man show." He also desired to supplement what Mr. Bibby had said with regard to Mr. Holland's action against the Bolton Corporation. It is a fact that, however desirable and just individual actions may be, and however important for individual showmen the trials of such actions may be, the Guild, up to the present moment, has never been rich enough in funds to take up such cases. With regard to the work of the Guild during the past two years, Mr. Holland was a party to the issuing of the annual reports of 1904-5—surely it was not yet ancient history? We have opposed and defeated the private Bills of Selby, Rotherham, Radcliffe, Acton, Colne, Pontefract, Wallossey and the Middlesex County Council. We have stopped the Education Bill, to which I have already referred; we have fought and won fair rights at various places; and, altogether, I have no hesitation in saying that the best two years' work we have done was done in the period that Mr. Holland enquires about.

Mr. Wm. Gibson (proprietor of Gibson's Temple of Occult Mystery) delivered an extremely interesting and well-reasoned speech, in the course of which he pleaded that all minor, petty, and personal matters should be put on one side, and the really urgent and broad questions of general policy to safeguard the whole showman world be considered and fully supported. He strongly deprecated any newspaper discussion of either real or imaginary wrongs of individual showmen or classes of workers in the show community. He was a worker and an official of the Stallholders' Federation, and so convinced was he of the necessity of united action on the greater and broader subjects affecting their life, that he had given equal zeal and attention to the work of the Guild, and, as one of its committeemen, had done his very best to convince his fellow-showmen that the parent Society deserved the united support of all the societies representing the sectional interests of showland. He had co-operated with Mr. Horne in bringing the claims of the Guild for larger support before the showmen of the North and of Wales, and in these enterprises he had the satisfaction of knowing that he carried with him the intelligence and the best feeling of all those who travelled from fair to fair. Mr. Gibson concluded his most telling speech by an earnest exhortation to drop all disputes and bickerings, and to rally as a united body to the defence of the greater concerns of their life under the banner of the Vandwellers' Society.

The usual complimentary votes were passed to the chairman, and to Mr. Wm. Clark for the use of the Pavilion for the purposes of the meeting.

ST. GILES'S FAIR AT OXFORD.

There is a curious connection between the simple faith of early Christian days and the adoption of popular patron or titular saints for various trades and industries. An example of this is St. Giles, who is the patron saint of Bohemians and wandering craftsmen of all kinds. For this reason many fairs bear his name; and also he is the patron saint of "The Gate," the necessary halting-place of the stranger seeking admission within the city walls. We therefore find a number of ancient churches just outside the city, or embedded in the city walls, dedicated to St. Giles. The most notable examples are at Winchester, Edinburgh, and Oxford. It is a popular but unwarranted opinion that, whilst all England has been moving and keeping pace with modern enterprise, that our University cities have remained monuments of mediæval stagnation; but in reality this is not so, the ancient Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, rich in the undying treasures of a venerable and honourable past, are also quick and very much alive with the best spirit of modern times.

A most interesting proof of this is modern St. Giles's Fair, in Oxford. Stretching along the spacious boulevard, The Broad, with its magnificent *mise en scène* of ancient college buildings, admirably set out, the shows, roundabouts, and fair-ground novelties are seen to the very best advantage. In fact, any lover of old England who is also inspired with the best force of the modern spirit, visiting the Fair of St. Giles at Oxford, must admit that here we have, as regards one of England's greatest institutions—the fair—the very best possible example, and one that has in it all the elements of undying glory.

A very cursory glance at the style and quality of the concerns attending the fair demonstrates that the crowd patronising it are of the better type, and with money enough to purchase or to patronise its expensive fairings or superior novelties. Walk with me then in thought down The Broad, and see the shows, the roundabouts, and the whole host of other novelties and attractions. The first noticeable feature is the magnificent array of the most popular type of the modern show—the theatre of cinématography and coliseum of varieties. These were the well-known concerns of Wm. Taylor, Jacob Studt, Thurston, Alfred Ball, and Chipperfield. Sandwiched in between these big shows were an interesting variety of the side show, and the shows of an older type—Buckley's, Ridley's, Ruby's, Samouda's, Chipperfield's No. 2, and Taylor's Boxers.

The machine list included the very best mechanical exhibitions travelling the Southern Counties—switchback gondolas, motor-cars, flying ostriches, racing cockerels, Cape ponies, and galloping and jumping horses, big wheels, and a long array of high-flyers and park swings. There were also a great gathering of shooting concerns—Winchester ranges, rifle galleries, and bottle and egg batteries. The stalls and throwing games, arranged in four long avenues, would have literally stretched two miles in length had they been placed end to end, and it is overwhelming proof of the business value of Oxford Fair that these stalls were crowded with fairings and novelties for the vast crowds that take possession of Oxford on the two days of the fair. Nowhere else in England can we find so well-dressed or so jolly a crowd, bubbling over with fun and jollity, yet never forgetting that liberty must not degenerate into licence; and here we notice the wonderful power of a fair—it blends all classes in the commonwealth and comradeship of a united effort to enjoy, and to help others to enjoy, all the fun of the fair. This is indeed the special charm of Oxford Fair, the Fair of St. Giles, full of the modern spirit, in this unique setting of the dear old college buildings, the friendly, worn, and sheltering walls, towers, and steeples that we caught glimpses of in the gaps between the shows, or saw them towering above the highest show fronts, or whirling circles of steam or electric roundabout. The roundabout proprietors were Thurston, Barker, C. Bailey, Wilson, P. Collins, Clarke, Bird, Holmes, Ayres, and Buckland. The other principal amusement caterers were Rollins, Westrop, Bond, Bird, Edwards, Ive, Attwell, Clark, Holmes, Hearn, J. Holmes, F. Wilson, Gates, Wood, and dozens of local stallholders.

A series of misfortunes have attended the efforts of that popular showman, Alfred Ball, in getting from Strood to Oxford. In descending the hill at Dartford, his engine was overpowered, the result being his splendid back wagon and the stage truck suffering severely by damage to the wheels of both vehicles. This, however, was only a minor trouble. The front of his show was sent by rail, and on its arrival at Oxford was discovered to have been ruined by fire in transit. It did not deter the plucky Alfred, however, from showing at Oxford, where the sympathy of all the public was enlisted.

HAMLEY BROTHERS have transferred their branch at 231, High Holborn, to 35, New Oxford-street, W.C., which is constructed solely for the sale of conjuring tricks. They have also opened a new branch at 29, Ludgate-hill, E.C., where they are showing a large variety of toys, games, conjuring tricks, &c.

FAIRS THE ORIGIN OF THE PEOPLE'S HOLIDAYS.

"THE ERA" was the first newspaper to point out the intimate relation of our fairs, feasts, and wakes to the growth and development of the holiday pleasure traffic on the great railways of the kingdom. This important truth has been too long neglected, and involves in its considerations an interesting chapter in our industrial and social evolution. We have, in our former reference to the matter, only dealt in generalisations of all-round application, showing how the popular local and national holidays determined the desire of the people to travel, and also fixed the times and seasons of the migration. With the return of the fair in each locality came the impetus to the enterprise and competition of the railways to provide for the popular demand to travel and see other places, and also (a very important fact to be borne in mind) for the absent and far-away natives of the place to return and renew the pleasures of kinship and Auld Lang Syne.

This annual time of healthful change and travel, strictly governed by local circumstance and the old fixed fair time, was the origin, as we have demonstrated in general terms, of the vast and ever-increasing volume of holiday pleasure traffic. Having set this out in general terms, we will ask you now to consider a particular example. We have chosen this one as the true type of all the rest.

To Oldham wakes belongs the credit of originating the excellent thrift plan of "Going Off" clubs. In these savings banks (for that is what they are) the weekly pence of the workers is saved, and, with the added bonus or interest, at the end of the twelve months is drawn out and put to useful purpose. In order to fully investigate this thrift method we visited the great cotton centre, and on the spot went fully into the matter.

We have already, in our special report of the wakes, referred to the way in which the ordinary stay-at-home Oldhamer enjoys himself at the fair, and in doing so touched upon the financial importance of this fixed habit of thrift. We venture to say here that it is altogether a movement fraught with blessing to the people, and they owe it entirely to the fact that cessation from work at the wakes time gave them opportunity for a thorough rest, or change of scene and recreation. In our flying visit to Oldham wakes we went by the L. and N.W. non-stop express to Stockport, and thence by its connection to Oldham, the journey from Euston to Oldham only taking four hours. As we steamed into Clegg-street Station we saw an immense crowd entrain for Belle Vue Gardens. Oh, the joy of it! The people set free from toil, and off to taste life in surroundings free for a brief respite from the grind of the factory; the shouts of merriment, the hailing of friends, the songs and choruses of the men and women out for the day. It was good to be there, and good to see this side of the national life and character.

"Bless you, sir," said an intelligent porter, "that's nowt to what win dun here at Owdham these last three days. Why, we've sent scores o' trains chockblock full tut seaside and other places."

Here, then, was my starting-place, at the fountain-head of pleasure traffic in the cotton trade. The outward stream of people on pleasure bent began in the middle of the week, before the wakes, and reached flood-tide on the Friday and Saturday. The people, like a vast army on the march, could be seen, armed with their luggage, making for the stations, which were crowded with excursionists waiting for their trains. The various agencies were besieged by those who had left the matter of making their arrangements to the last minute, and from these booking-offices come reports of big bookings. Indeed, one might have thought from the rush to get away which took place that something wrong had come over the town.

It was a trying experience for the booking clerks and porters at the five stations, and it must be stated in fairness to them that all the trains were got away without a hitch.

A big feature of the traffic was the long-distance bookings, the signs pointing to the fact that people are determined to go further afield than has previously been the case. There were many tickets issued for the Continent.

Though no actual figures are given as to the number of bookings, it is expected that a record has been attained. From the booking-offices, both at the stations and the agencies, comes the information that satisfactory business has been done.

"We have done well in all directions," is the summing-up at the L. and Y. booking offices. On Friday night two specials were run to Blackpool, and on Saturday morning no less than ten special trains made the same journey. Two specials were also run from Liverpool. The Friday midnight train to Scotland was crowded, as were also the trains which caught the midnight boats for the Isle of Man and Ireland. Morecambe and Southport also claimed a large proportion of visitors, and Bristol and Nottingham were well patronised. A party left for Switzerland; whilst an unusual number chose Torquay. The resorts on the Southern Coast which came in for patronage were Bournemouth, Cromer, and Lowestoft. Being the year of "the Entente Cordiale," considerable bookings were made to France and its watering-places.

"Quite satisfied with the bookings" was the comment of the officials at the Great Central and L. and N.W. railway stations. They were extremely busy throughout the week-end, and on Friday night no less than fifteen special trains were booked out to London, the Eastern Counties, North Wales, and Holyhead (for Ireland). The L. and N.W. catered for the Irish and South Wales traffic in a very enterprising fashion, and they were extensively patronised. The train for Holyhead, containing fourteen carriages, was crowded out with excursionists for Greenore, but the pressure was relieved by extra coaches being added.

Credit is due to Mr. J. G. Gibson, district-superintendent, for arranging the non-stop corridor expresses to Torquay and London, which have been fully appreciated by Oldham people. On Saturday morning thirteen specials were despatched in all directions, several, which were crowded, leaving for the Cambrian line, embracing Aberystwyth, Barmouth, and other places, whilst Llandudno received excellent patronage.

"The greatest success has been attained in our long-distance bookings, and the non-stop corridor expresses to the South and West of England, with refreshment car attached, have been exceptionally well patronised," say Dean and Dawson. Good business has been done to Torquay and London, and several parties went to Paris, Brussels, and the Rhine. Two special trains left on Saturday for Cleethorpes, and the train to Aberystwyth was crowded. The excursion from Oldham to Boulogne on Friday was taken full advantage of, and nearly 150 tickets were booked for this journey from Manchester. At London-road Station the excursion caused animated scenes.

Cook's, the famous tourists, give an astonishing account of the heavy bookings they made. Of course, they cater for every place on the globe, from Blackpool to the Hebrides. When asked what had proved the strongest attraction for Oldham people this wakes, their vote was given strongly in favour of Blackpool, though, it was added, many had sought the pleasures and health-giving atmosphere of the Isle of Man. The South and West Coast of England were well patronised, and for the seven days' trip to Torquay several hundred tickets had been issued from their office. Tickets for Edinburgh, Glasgow, Rothesay, and the Trossachs had gone well; whilst many had decided to spend their holidays at Killarney. The chief Continental resorts which had been chosen were Paris, Boulogne, Antwerp, and Ambery.

There was a great deal of ordinary traffic on the Monday morning, the day trips not commencing till Tuesday. The large proportion of the holiday-makers, though, went on Friday and Saturday.

The above facts prove conclusively that the mill operatives are reaping the reward of the prosperity in the cotton trade. Last wakes they were content to take short trips, but this week-end they have gone further afield to such places as the South Coast, Torquay, and Ireland.

One point in thus emphasising the immense volume of trade the fairs bring to the railways and to the ever-increasing belt of pleasure resorts that girdle our isle is that the various interests, trades, and occupations concerned in this vast enterprise of ministering to the people at holiday-time may combine more definitely for their mutual benefit; may recognise that the humblest worker in the complex machine of necessary national relaxation may realise his fellowship and his place in the great social revolutions of our day and age. And we venture this pertinent question: Why has it been left to the ever-busy, and for a time unorganised, showmen of the Empire to defend, at great cost of time and money, the holidays of the people?

Have the other interests—the railways, the seaside resorts, the permanent shows of the kingdom—no concern in this vital question, the preservation of the nation's fairs and holidays?

We think we have given proof pertinent enough to show that their interests are bound up in most obvious partnership with the work and trade interests of the travelling showman.

Some years ago we strongly objected to the mistaken policy of the Blackpool authorities in seeking to clear the open fair-ground of the sands of its shows and stalls. Events have fully proved the mistake of that policy; but we refer to it now in order to emphasise what we then stated—that the fairs, feasts, and wakes maintained by itinerant entertainers, are the training grounds for, and the feeders of, the permanent and settled forms of entertainment and amusement. We noted then (and raised a warning voice) that the directorate of pleasure palaces by the sea made no effort to defend the poor showmen and traders on the sands. They thought—it was a most shortsighted view of real life—that if the people found no entertainment by the open sea, that they must, perforce, crowd the all-day shows on the sea-front.

"Human nature," you will say. "Every man for himself." And syndicates exist only and thrive as sound business enterprises. True, but life is not so simple as all that; and Blackpool found out, and variety hall managers found out, that to shut down the small show on the sands did not really mean any increase to their patronage, and that, contrariwise, a deadly dull sea front, with a wilderness of deserted sands or shingle, depreciated the drawing power of the place.

Why this homily and now? It is to show that the travelling showman, in his work and business, acts as the necessary "jackal" (if we place him no higher than that) to the "lions" of the variety and theatrical worlds. Yet, we have still to find a generous recognition of this fact. The same forces that array themselves against travelling showmen and the continuance of fairs, are ready to attack all forms of entertainments. At present the poor showman bears the brunt of the attack, and the more premanent and settled forms of amusement work in peace, behind the bulwarks of defence that poor showpeople have to man and defend at their own cost of time and money. For seventeen years the Showmen's Guild has fought in the trenches the battles of victory for the whole world of shows, big and little. Is it not time that the "lions" (to hark back to our simile) throw a generous bone to the poor jackals—the travelling showpeople?

Let there be no misunderstanding the issue. The Puritan attack—the utterly anti-Christian religiosus attack on all forms of entertainments—is now spending its forces on the travelling showman. Then, in all fairness, stretch out to him the hand of fellowship and support.

BARNET OLD FAIR.

To the showman who knows his own kingdom, and also to the historian who has corrected easy fancy with the corrective of real fact, it is amazing the nonsense that finds admission into the daily Press concerning the decay of British fairs. This is particularly the case with regard to Barnet Old Fair. It is so easy to make a pretence of much learning, and enlarge upon gipsy horse-dealers and their tricks of trade, and to detail the catalogue of the hundred and one dodges of shady dealers in horseflesh. To read your modern smart writer on Barnet Fair, one would conclude that it was sinking into well-deserved oblivion, despite the business energy of a handful of showmen and the still lingering gipsy and horse-doctoring element. But the real fact of the case is, as regards the pleasure fair, Barnet Fair of 1906 is the best, and the greatest ever held, and we doubt not that even on its purely business side (the horse and cattle fair) the Great Northern Railway Company could supply startling evidence as to the immense importance of that institution.

Year by year the fair has grown in importance on its pleasure side, for the district itself is a growing one, and becomes more and more a suburb of London. It is a yearly pilgrimage for the pent-up crowds of the great city to go forth and enjoy the glorious open-air carnival stretching nearly a mile in length, from end to end, between New Barnet and High Barnet. Admirably situated just off the road, yet with ample space for the multitude to see and hear everything, there are four separate fairground groups of concerns, linked together by avenues of stalls. In our survey of the shows we counted 150 caravans, five immense shows in the first class, six in the second class, and four interesting side-shows; nine large roundabout machines, six smaller sets, seven or eight sets of gem motors, ponies, and baby horses, the same number of swings and highfliers, a dozen or more shooting ranges and Morris tubes, thirty or forty coker and throwing games, a hundred or more stalls, doll-frames, dart-boards, and variety games—in fact, you can form a fairly good idea of the number of concerns at Barnet Fair if we ask you to remember that all the London showmen who are not able to get ground at the aristocratic Oxford, of necessity crowd to breezy Barnet. The shows proper included Wm. Biddall's royal show, Chittock's, Thurston's, and Hastings and Whayman's cinematographs. The machines were those of Barker and Thurston and Sons, F. Gray, C. Hill, Hastings and Whayman, Mrs. Pettigrove, Whittle, and Smith. Amongst the great crowd of other caterers were Messrs. Bedford, Hussey, W. Harris, Laing, F. Wilson, Purchase, Smith, Jones, Roberts, Pettigrove, Rowe, A. Taylor, Mayne, Stelling, Andrews, Draper, Bailey, Castle, Clark, Westrop, Hewitt, Ball, and Elliott.

AN application was made at the Stockport Borough Police Court on Tuesday last for permission to extend the time licence at the Armoury on Oct. 3 and 4, to enable Mr. Napoleon Bird, a local pianist, to attempt to play the piano for forty-eight consecutive hours. The application was granted, the conditions being that the Drill Hall shall be closed between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m., and that no person shall be admitted with the exception of the pianist, his wife and son, six other persons, and a police-constable. The performance will start at 10 p.m. on Oct. 2, and continue until 10 p.m. on Oct. 4. Mr. Bird is at present the world's record holder for continuous piano-playing, with forty-five hours to his credit, accomplished more than ten years ago.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Aug. 6. *A Beggar on Horseback*, play, in five acts, by Edward Ferris and B. P. Matthews — Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
„ 6. *The Spider and the Fly*, drama, in four acts, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane—Kennington Theatre.
„ 6. *The Great Wilderness*, melodrama, in four acts, by W. Alexander Dallas—Grand Theatre, Fulham.
„ 9. *Amasis: An Egyptian Princess*, comic opera, in two acts, the book by Frederick Fenn, music by Philip Michael Faraday—New.
„ 13. *The Adventurer*, dramatic comedy, in three acts, by F. Kinsey Peile (originally produced on July 10, 1906, at the Gaiety, Hastings, and reproduced at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, on Aug. 2, 1906)—Shakespeare, Clapham.
„ 13. *The Mummer's Wife*, drama, in one act, by F. Kinsey Peile, founded on *La Femme de Tabarin*, by Catulle Mendès (originally produced on Aug. 2, 1906, at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells)—Shakespeare, Clapham.
„ 20. *Napoleon the Great*, historic drama, in four acts, by Frank M. Thorne (originally produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Preston, on Aug. 29, 1904)—West London.
„ 27. *The Lord of the Last*, musical comedy, in three acts, book and lyrics by Fred A. Ellis, music by Percival Knight and Denham Harrison.—Camden.
„ 27. *Her Luck in London*, drama, in four acts, by Charles Darrell (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Castleford, Jan. 1, 1906).—Grand Theatre, Islington.
„ 27. *Held Apart; or, the Painted Woman*, drama, in five acts, by Frank Adair, being a revised version of *The Painted Woman* (originally produced at the Shakespeare, Clapham, on July 21, 1902).—Shakespeare.
„ 28. *The Sin of William Jackson*, play, by the Baroness Orczy and Montagu Barstow.—Lyric.
„ 29. *The Royal Flower*, adaptation by "Pem" of *L'Œillet Blanc*, by Alphonse Daudet—Coronet.
„ 30. *The Morals of Marcus*, play, in four acts, dramatised by William J. Locke from his own novel, "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne."—Garrick.
„ 31. *Lady Tatters*, comedy opera, in three acts, libretto by Herbert Leonard, music by Walter Slaughter, lyrics by Roland Carse (copyright performance)—Marlborough Theatre, Holloway.

Provinces.

Aug. 2. *The Adventurer*, dramatic comedy, in three acts by F. Kinsey Peile—Tunbridge Wells Opera House.
„ 2. *The Mummer's Wife*, play, in one act, by F. Kinsey Peile, suggested by *La Femme de Tabarin*, by Catulle Mendès—Tunbridge Wells Opera House.
„ 3. *For Wife and Home*, drama, in four acts, by John Power—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
„ 6. *A Knight-Errant*, comic opera, in two acts, lyrics by A. and H. Chapin, music by Frank Corrie—Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
„ 6. *Alaska; or, Life in the Frozen North*, drama, in four acts, adapted by Mr. Albert Rogers from the American version of W. L. Lockwood, and produced for the first time in England—Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.
„ 27. *The Dear Old Homeland*, melodrama, in five acts, by David Muskerry.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
„ 27. *The Sweet Girl*, musical comedy, in three acts, adapted from the original of Alex. Landersberg and Leo Stein by A. Demain Grange, William Caine, and Herbert Cottesmore, music by Heinrich Rheinhardt, and additional music by K. Ernest Irving.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
„ 30. *The Hypocrites*, play, in four acts, by Henry Arthur Jones (copyright performance)—Grand Theatre, Hull.
„ 31. *Four Just Men*, a dramatised version of Edgar Wallace's novel of the same name, by George Warren (copyright performance).—Theatre Royal, Colchester.

Berlin.

Aug. 14. *Die Frau Olme Lächeln*, three-act comedy, by A. W. Pinero—Trianon.
„ 15. *Spatzenliebe*, comedy, in three acts, by L. Artus—Lustspielhaus.
„ 17. *Mimensiege*, one-act comedy, by G. Courteline—Kleines.
„ 17. *Diplomatie in der Ehl*, one-act farce, by MM. de Flers and De Caillavet—Kleines.
„ 17. *Das Trottoir Roulant*, one-act tragi-comedy, by G. Courteline—Kleines.
„ 23. *Im Wilden Westen*, spectacular farce, by A. Philipp—Deutsch-American.
„ 25. *Wenn die Bombe Platzt*, three-act musical farce, by MM. Kren and Lippshitz—Thalia.

"THE ERA" EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 0

Miss Millicent Marsden, whose serious illness necessitated her retiring from the Coliseum during her great success in *Cavalleria*, has now resumed her original part of the young American widow in *The Prince of Pilsen*, on tour, and is again delighting her provincial audiences. Let us hope that London will not be deprived too long of this lady's phenomenal voice and acting, which we can ill afford to spare. We sincerely congratulate her upon her recovery.

PATTI'S PRIVATE THEATRE.

Mr. Hermann Klein, in "Thirty Years of Musical Life in London," states that the gem of Craigy-nos Castle, apart from its mistress, is the theatre. It has been called "a Bayreuth theatre *en miniature*"—and justly. No side boxes or seats; a single gallery at the back; stalls sloping down to the orchestra so that the musicians are nearly out of sight; and a clever system of stage lighting by electricity. The pure Renaissance architecture is set off to great advantage by a singularly delicate scheme of colour—pale blue, cream, and gold—to which the deep sapphire of the curtains supplies a most effective contrast. The walls and proscenium are tastefully decorated, and between graceful columns are inscribed in panels the names of the great composers. The scenery is painted by the best theatrical artists; while the act-drop, representing Semiramide driving her war-chariot, is a spirited achievement, besides furnishing an excellent portrait of the Queen of the Castle. Also to be noted is the novel mechanism for raising the floor of the auditorium to the level of the stage, whereby the *salle* is converted into a handsome ball-room. It is here, every Christmas Eve, that Mme. Patti bestows her annual gifts upon the servants and tenantry of her estate.

With her professional career nearing its end, what, it may be asked, can have been the object of this great artist in enriching her home with such a structure as this? To practise and perform operas? Certainly not. True it is that on the memorable opening night now referred to the still youthful Patti, a picture of grace ablaze with diamonds, sang the first act of *La Traviata*, followed by the garden scene from *Faust*, with her husband, M. Nicolini, in his old part. Again, three days later, a performance was given of the balcony scene from *Roméo* and the third act of Flötow's *Martha*; this, like the first, being attended by a crowded audience of privileged friends and neighbours. But these were the baptismal representations. They consecrated the theatre, as it were, without precisely foreshadowing the main purpose of its existence.

The answer to this question was supplied by Mme. Patti herself early during that very sojourn at Craig-y-nos Castle: "I love the stage. I love to act and to portray every species, every shade of human emotion. Only I want freedom—more freedom than opera, with its restricted movements and its wear and tear on the voice, can possibly allow the actress. I care not whether it be comedy or tragedy, so long as I feel that I can devote my whole energy, my whole being, to realising the character that I have to delineate. Even words trouble me; they take time to commit to memory, and their utterance fatigues a singer too much. Yet I want to act, to feel myself upon the boards, playing to amuse myself and a few chosen friends on each side of the footlights. What does there remain for me to do? What but to enact scenes and plays in 'pantomime'; to utilise the ancient art of the Italian mime and express every sentiment by means of gesture, action, and facial expression? I must have music, of course; I cannot do entirely without my own art and all its wealth of suggestive force. Give me only a dramatic idea, with music that aids in depicting it, and I will play you any part you choose, from one of Sarah Bernhardt's down to Fatima in *Bluebeard*."

I understood. There was something more in this than mere whim or caprice. That Mme. Patti had already been demonstrating her marvellous talent for "dramatic pantomime" upon the stage of her new theatre I knew quite well. In a word, her histrionic powers, which had so conspicuously developed during the later years of her career, were now asserting their strength to a degree which in this case demanded active exercise. Knowing that I was an "old hand" at amateur stage work, she asked me if I would like to assist in one of the entertainments. I inquired which particular kind—the "Sarah Bernhardt" or the *Bluebeard*?

"Both," she replied, laughing. "We already have a capital arrangement of *Bluebeard*. We can do that to-morrow or next day. Then, if you like to write out a *scenario* of one of Bernhardt's plays, we will put it in hand and give it later in the month."

I suggested *La Tosca*—little dreaming that Puccini was then thinking of composing an opera upon Sardou's play. My hostess agreed. The casts were arranged, and forthwith we set to work. In *Bluebeard* I played the lover. In *La Tosca* young Richard Nicolini, a professional actor, enacted the painter Paul Cavaradossi, and I took the part of Scarpia. The rehearsals were a delight. They frequently took place in the afternoon, and Mme. Patti entered into them as seriously as though they were for a public performance; interesting herself in every little detail and suggesting countless bits of effective "business." It was in course of these rehearsals that I began to realise what a consummate mistress she was of the art of the stage. A bare idea, a mere hint, would suffice; whether comedy or tragedy was the theme, she would work upon it and elaborate it with wonderful skill. Once while we were rehearsing *La Tosca*, Sir Augustus Harris quietly slipped in and took a seat in the dark auditorium. He watched the proceedings with the amusement of a master of the game enjoying a holiday. Mme. Patti soon perceived him, and she called out:

"Gus, what are you doing there? Why don't you come on the stage and help us?"

"My dear Adelina," answered Sir Augustus, "if this were an opera or a play, I would with pleasure. But it is neither, and whatever it may be, there is no need of my help as long as you are there. I am just beginning to realise that if you had not been the world's greatest singer, you could have been one of its best actresses." He meant it—and it was true.

The *Tosca* performance did not come off until after the great impresario had left the castle. At the last moment we found the bill too long, so we determined to omit dramatic action and give it as a series of *tableaux vivants*, in which form it vastly pleased a large audience of friends from "The Valley." They missed, however, the thrilling effect of Mme. Patti's gliding, serpentine movements in the supper scene, where she stabs Scarpia; and they could not guess that the dead Minister of Police, in the person of myself, was positively shuddering as he lay prone between the two lighted candles. I had been told to keep my eyes open and stare, but that tragic look upon the countenance of La Tosca as she placed the crucifix upon my breast was so terrible that if I had not closed them I should have had to jump up before the curtain fell. Throughout, Patti's attitudes were a wonderful study, and I feel sure Sarah Bernhardt and Ternina would have given much to have seen her remarkable impersonation.

Mr. R. H. Roberts, who celebrated his fiftieth night as the Prince Chap at the Criterion last week, met with a memorable adventure at (stage) sea in the days of his early youth. He was supposed to be very old and feeble, and was drifting on a raft, in company with the hero and the villain of a melodrama, in a terrible storm in mid-ocean. A discussion took place as to the last cup of fresh water, and the villain tipped it purposely into the old man's ear. Mr. Roberts instantly sprang up, as he had threatened he would if they played any practical jokes with him on the stage, and tried to throw the other man off the raft. The villain, however, succeeded in throwing him into the sea instead. He made an attempt to swim to the wings, but an indignant stage-manager in the wings ordered him to return to the raft on pain of dismissal, so there was nothing for it but to swim back, climb into safety, assisted by the villain, and die in the limelight as the raft went down.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR
MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 28, Feb 4, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Oct. 29, Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 7, on.
Address, Milton Bode, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield, and Oct. 29, Leicester. Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Nov. 26, May 6, 13, 20.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Oct. 15, wire, April 22, May 6, 13, 20.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Sept. 24, Bedford; Oct. 1, Luton.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Good Dramas, Musical Comedies, &c., Dec., on. Address, Herbert Vere.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies for few remaining dates, Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 19.
Address as above.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, Oct. 22. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business here. L. Carson, Keighley.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred), Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 17.
James Bell.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Musical Plays, and other High-class Attractions; no dramas. Vacant Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3. Address, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Owing to the destruction by fire of the above Theatre, Managers holding dates will kindly note that all Contracts are Cancelled. Fred Granville
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Mr. Fred Granville wishes to tender his most sincere thanks to his many friends and brother-managers for their kind and sympathetic messages by wire and mail.

WANTED, Recognised London Success (not Drama), for Nov. 26, Annual Cattle Show Week.
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.
WANTED, a good Company, three nights, Nov. 19, 20, 21, also Dec. 17 (six nights), and good Pantomime, Xmas; also a few Spring and Summer Dates vacant. Address, Geo. Conquest.

BORO' THEATRE, HEYWOOD.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 17 (through obliging), also Oct. 1, 22, and 29, and Nov. 5, 26. Jones, 18, Blossom-avenue, Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Companies, Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 1, 22 (3 nights each), full staff, and band of six. James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical or Dramatic, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 5 and 12, Dec. 3, 17. Good Panto., Jan. 7 or 14.
Address all communications to
John Cassidy.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the New Theatre, Consett, Sept. 27 (three nights) and Oct. 1, six nights. Apply Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction, Nov. 5, vacant, through obliging; also Pantomime, Feb. 4. E. A. Smith.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, good Company, Oct. 1. There are only three vacant houses in Colne.—Vide Daily Mail, July 28, 1906.
Address, Gerald Harding.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Nov. 12 (through transferring), Dec. 17, and probably 31 (one of the best weeks of the year), March 4, and on, with exceptions. Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, Strong Dramatic Companies, Sept. 17, 24, Victoria Theatre, Sacriston; also Sept. 24, for Hetton and Murton. All theatres booked in conjunction. Address, W. A. Buckstone, Sacriston.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 5 (unexpectedly vacant). Address, W. H. Melton, Prince of Wales Theatre, Mexboro'.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, onward.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 22
(Three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Oct. 1, onward (last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 29, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Sept. 24, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Oct. 8, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.

All Communications,
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Oct. 1 and 29, Dec. 17, and Jan. 7.
Amongst others, the following list of companies are booked and pencilled for the ensuing season, viz.:—"La Poupée," "After the Ball," "Monte Cristo," Durward Lely and Wm. Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Walter Reynold's "Mr. Smith," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Fredk. Mouillot's Company in "Faust Up-to-Date," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique," &c., &c. Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty. Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.
Acknowledged to be the Leading Theatre in Barrow. The Seating Capacity (1,209) is Taxed at every Performance by Good Companies.
The Most Popular and Best Business Theatre in the Town.
As a proof of the above, Benefit Performances were given recently at various places of entertainment in Barrow, in aid of the Lifeboat Saturday Fund, with the result that the performance at His Majesty's realised more than thirteen times the amount of any other theatre in the town. The balance-sheet issued by the Town Hall is open to inspection.
The only Theatre in the Town lighted by Electricity. The only Theatre in the Town with the Lessee on the spot. There is no Theatre in Barrow that holds anything like double the amount of His Majesty's.
Bookings include Mr. Bannister Howard's Co.'s, Mr. Charles Macdona's Co.'s, Mr. Morton Powell's, Mr. Percy Hutchison's, Messrs. Dauncey and Leveaux, Mr. Chas. Harrington's, Mr. E. Lockwood's, Mr. Herbert Ralland's, Mr. Walter Maxwell's, Mr. Chalmers Mackey's, Mr. Norman Mac Owan's, Mr. Eugène Stafford's, Mr. Norman V. Norman's, and all the Best Companies Touring.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 29, Xmas Week, and Several Spring Dates.
Calvert Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

WANTED, for North Wales Tour Oct., Nov., and Dec., and Jan., Feb., and March, 1907
First-Class Operatic, Theatrical, and Dramatic Companies, or any Big Combination.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing too Big.
Send full particulars to
Howard Lees,
General Manager,
Queen's Palace,
Rhyl.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Nov. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, Nov. 26.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attraction only, THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN.
Only vacant date Nov. 25, 1906 (through obliging a manager).
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 22, and on, with exceptions. Wanted, good Pantomime for Xmas.
Address, James Alexander.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Nov. 5, only vacant date through transfer. Wire immediately, Harry Yorke.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.
WANTED, Plays with good Plants of Printing for Stock Season, at the above. Letters, East.

COUNTY HALL, ST. ALBANS.
WANTED, Good Company, with Own Scenery, two nights, week of Sept. 17 and 24 Oct. 8, Nov. 26. Sharing terms. Apply, A. Rowden.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or High-Class Play, Oct. 22, best season date.
Waddington, Theatre Royal, York.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Sept. 27 (three nights), and onwards, with exceptions: also First-Class Pantomime for Xmas. Wire, F. C. Dew, Managing-Director.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 31.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Nov. 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, Dec. 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Strong Society Play, for two weeks; short cast, star part for lady. Miss May, Clervaux Castle, Croft, Darlington.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, and on.
W. E. Potts.

WANTED, for Opera House, Dunfermline, High-class Attractions, Oct. 1 (Holiday date), Oct. 22, Nov. 19 and 26. W. E. Potts.

THEATRES WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, Dec. 3, 24, and 31. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, on. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 24, 31. Fredk. Melville, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31.
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER"
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 20, March 11.
Douglas Bruce,
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Oct. 15 and Nov. 5.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Nov. 26, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play, "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Date (through transfer), Oct. 29. Chalmers Mackey, Empire Theatre, Dundee.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Oct. 1, 15, 22.
Wire, J. W. Cordiner,
Sept. 10, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay.
Sept. 13, Prince's Theatre, Llandudno.
See Companies advertisements, Page 2.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Brilliant Attraction, Oct. 1, 15, 22,
Christmas and New Year,
to follow Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Enormous business this week at T. R., Norwich. Tuesday beat Monday and Wednesday beat Tuesday. Refer Fred Morgan, Esq.
All Drama records broken at T. R., Hyde.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Theatre Royal, Norwich; Sept. 10, OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as FIEND.
Enormous Success at Gaiety, Dundee.
All previous records for Drama broken. Refer R. A. P. Williams, Esq. Thanks Mr. Buchanan for ten theatres (after playing with success at Princess's, Glasgow). Booked Lyceum, Govan. By arrangement with Miss Maud Hildyard, this company can play anywhere except London.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24, 31.
Montague Beaudyn, next, Royal Crook.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Known, Vacant Oct. 1, Nov. 5, 12, 19, a First-Class Production.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Theatre Royal, S. Shields.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's magnificent production.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Oct. 22 and Nov. 26.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Theatre Royal, S. Shields.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Sept. 24, between Newcastle and Leeds, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, Leonard Dalrymple, Alexandra, Sheffield; next week, Grand, Derby.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-fourth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and Re-bookings extend into Oct., 1907.
WANTED, Sept. 17. Wire for Sept. 17, Sept. 17 (to follow Manchester), Sept. 24, Oct. 22 (through obliging).
Frank Ayrton, Central Theatre, Northwich.

"THE SILVER KING."
Vacant Date, Nov. 26.
also few dates in Spring.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"HER LOST SELF." by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Xmas, New Year. Wire, Frances Delaval, Junction Theatre, Manchester; next week, Court, Bacup.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, for this Money-making Attraction, Sept. 24, and on. A really fine production. Splendid plant of pictorials. Everything done on first-class lines. Energetic Agent in Advance, and printing ad lib. Wanted, for assured Success, "FOR BETTER OR WORSE," Oct. 15, 22, and 29. Re dates, Fred Granville, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for above Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, Dec. 3, also good Theatre for Xmas.
Apply,
Fred Granville, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

"THE COAL KING."
Great Attraction.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 5 and 19, also a few Vacant Dates in Spring.
Address, Polini and Maitland, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"GEOFFREY STIRLING"
(Banker and Thief).
WANTED, First-class Dates, Oct. 1 and Oct. 8, to follow Aberdeen and Dundee. Address, Henry Doughty, Queen's Opera House, Workington.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, precede Portsmouth.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Oct. 22, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Representative, GEORGE GORDON JEFFERSON.
WANTED, Dates, as follows:—
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Arthur Carlton's Company,
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 24.
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's Company, including Miss Edith Blande, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29.
"SAINTS" and "MIDDLEMAN,"
Miss Elaine Verner and Mr. Harding Thomas's Company,
Sept. 24 (North).
"THE KING'S SECRET,"
Mr. James Stillwell's Company.
Christmas, Spring, Various, on.
CHARLES MAJILTON'S SKETCH COMPANY.
Oct. 8, Nov. 26, various on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
A. Hamilton Warden's Company,
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov, various on.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT,"
W. Reuben Payne's Company,
Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 24, 31.
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON,"
By Arthur Jefferson.
Booked for the Moss and Stoll Tour.
Arrangements can be made through this office for touring various plays written by Max Goldberg. Complete Productions, Scenery, Properties, and Good Plants of Printing.

Sole Provincial Representative of
Dr. Walford Bodie,
M.D., C.M., U.S.A., F.R.M.S., F.R.S.A.
Wanted, Music Halls, Theatres or other Buildings capable of holding big money, for this Stupendous Attraction. Salary or share.

All Branches of Theatrical Business Transacted.
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 24, and 31, also Feb. 4, and few later.
New special scenery. Magnificently advertised, beautifully mounted, and splendidly played.
More successful than ever.
Sept. 10, T. R., KING'S LYNN.
Sept. 13, T. R., Loughboro'.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by
Mr. G. A. Marsh, Miss Iné Cameron, Miss Carrie Baillie, in a Répertoire of Shakespeare, Comedies, and Dramas.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and 29 (unexpectedly vacant), Dec. 3 (between London and Blackpool), Dec. 17, and good Christmas date wanted, Jan. 7, onward, with exceptions.
Managers are requested to note that Mr. Wilkie can book two or more consecutive weeks with a change of bill nightly.

Refer C. H. Longden, Esq., Queen's, Leeds; Henry Taylor, Esq., Lyceum, Crewe; Stanley Rogers, Esq., H. M. Theatre, Carlisle; Leonard Grey, Esq., Lyceum, Ipswich; &c.

Wire or write, Oct. 22 and 29.

To-day, Lyceum, Ipswich; next, GRAND, LUTON.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the most Popular Version on the Stage.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FANNY LE GRANDE.
Enormous Success Everywhere.
Wire for Sept. 24, wire.
Wire for Oct. 1, wire.
JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26 and 31, on, for
"WOMAN AND WINE,"
"WOMAN AND WINE,"
"WOMAN AND WINE,"
See Companies page; also Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, for
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
All coms., E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Lyceum T., Crewe.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.
Spring entirely filled except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Sept. 24, between Newcastle and Leeds, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Alexandra, Sheffield; next week, Grand, Derby.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Sept. 24 (through Stockton fire), also Oct. 22. Wire, CHARLES DURIE, this, C. T., Bacup; next, T. R., Whitehaven.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatre (North), for Oct. 8, through Stockton fire; also Dec. 10, Lancashire or Yorkshire; Feb. 18, London or South only vacant dates until Easter. Refer F. L. Arthur, Esq., here, as to quality of show. SANTE, Queen's, Liverpool; T. R., Jarrow.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, 28, &c, One or Two Houses a Night. H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

HENRY BEDFORD'S CO.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 1, and on, with exceptions, one or two plays.
T. R., Thornley, Durham.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 29, follow Manchester. Thanks Messrs. Hart, Machin, S. James, &c., contracts, 1907. MILLER, Royalty T., Llanelly.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Xmas, for the Expensive Revival of the New "Man and Wife," by Walter Howard. Add., T. E. WARD, 2, Hickman-rd., Penarth.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Nov. 12, Xmas.
Fast Booking 1907.
E. CARTER LIVESEY, King's Theatre, Manchester.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in Title-rôle.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 12.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, Court Theatre, Wigan.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss Dora Dench and Powerful Company.
WANTED, Theatre, Sept. 17, 24. Wire, Palace, Swansea; next, Devonport.

Special Revival of the Well-known Moneymaker, "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 8, on, with Exceptions.
Address, GEO. KIRK,
This, Grand Theatre, N.; next, T. R., Scarboro'.

No. 1. "Our Boys" and "Caste."
WANTED, Oct. 1, on, Great Success this week, Broadway Theatre, Deptford. Mr. Charles Otley as Perkyn Middlewick. C. OTLEY, Championgrove, Denmark-hill, S.E.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Oct. 8 and 29,
Harry Herne, to-day, Ashington;
next, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Sept. 24, between Newcastle and Leeds, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Alexandra, Sheffield; next week, Grand, Derby.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10 and 17, can also arrange for the great sensational drama, "A True Briton." Either or both plays. Printing ready. Wire, GEORGE HARVEY, Lyceum, Eccles.

MESSRS. ARMADALE and WARREN'S CO.,
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, and New Year for the above Attraction.
Address, F. BROOKE WARREN,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexboro'.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Oct. 1, 15, and 22. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money book this Splendid Production. Vac. Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres. CARSON, Keighley.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for the above magnificent production,
Sept. 24 (in or near London),
Sept. 24 (in or near London),
also
Oct. 15 and 22,
Oct. 15 and 22,
Nov. 5, 12, 26, Dec. 3 and 10.
Nov. 5, 12, 26, Dec. 3 and 10.
Everything carried; superb scenery; elaborate dresses; eighteen artists.
FRANK BATEMAN, Queen's T., Liverpool (return).

WANTED, "As Good as Gold," Sept. 17 (owing to Stockton fire), Oct. 15, between Birmingham and Newcastle, Nov. 19, 26, Jan. 7, onwards, with exceptions.
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Gigantic Success,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Re-booked at Alexandra, Hull.
Re-booked at T. R., Bolton.
Absolutely every scene and property carried.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S COMPANIES.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, near London,
Sept. 20 (3 nights),
Nov. 5, 12, 26 (all North).

"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER,"
Oct. 15,
Nov. 5,
Dec. 24, 31.
E. P. CLIFT,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London."
Tel. No. 7504 Gerrard.

MISS MARY NEIL'S AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S COMPANY,
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
Bookings include Grand, Islington (R.); A., Hull (R.); Osborne and Junction, Manchester (R.); R., Liverpool (R.); Q., Liverpool (R.); T. R., S. Shields (R.); P., Blackburn (R.); C., Oldham (R.); P., Preston (R.); P., Bradford (R.); T. R., Bolton; T. R., Leicester; G., Nottingham; Derby, Aston, Smethwick, Chatham, Wigan, Sunderland, Jarrow; T. R., Barnsley; Grimsby; G., Blackpool; Q., Sheffield; Lincoln, Hammersmith, Croydon, Brighton, Portsmouth, St. Helens; T. R., Middlesbrough; A., Birmingham; P., Newcastle.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 17. Christmas, Easter, and Whit. Settled. Address, CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, Grand, Islington; next, T. R., Aston.

Miss MARIE DAGMAR.
Fred C. Somerfield's play,
"A
BEAUTIFUL
CRIMINAL,"
winning golden opinions and drawing good houses.
Refer Wm. Melton, Mexboro', re business done.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Vacant Oct. 8, 22, 29,
Vacant Oct. 8, 22, 29,
Nov. 12, 19.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, Grand, Radcliffe.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, follow Manchester (fourth visit to St. James's Theatre);
also "The Sorrows of Satan."
Refer Artillery, Woolwich; Gaiety, Burnley; Prince's, Blackburn; O. H., Harrogate; G. T., Derby; Empire, Dundee; Gaiety, Leith.
Sixth year of Tour; either or both Plays.
Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, T. R., Tyldesley (ret.).
Sept. 10, PUBLIC HALL, SCUNTHORPE (return).

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, for this Funny Show.
DICKIE CLARE, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON."
WANTED, Sept. 17, for this Acknowledged Success. Address, MATT. WILKINSON, Carlton T., Birmingham.

WANTED, Nov. 26 and Xmas week, for "The Breed of the Treshams; also Nov. 5, 12, 19, for "The Convict's Daughter."

BERTRAM,
Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, for the most successful Variety Combination on the road.
Wire, ONDA,
Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 15, for this great Play, now going stronger than ever; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for parade.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE TRUMPET CALL."
"THE TRUMPET CALL."
One of the best Companies on the Road.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Oct. 29, Vacant Oct. 29.
CHARLES F. COOKE, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

Special Notice.
The Native Choir from Jamaica (10 Coloured Artists), specially brought to this country by Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G. All arrangements now complete, with the exception of following weeks:—
WANTED, Known, Vacant,
Oct. 1 (between Barrow and London),
Oct. 29 (to follow Cheltenham),
Nov. 5,
Nov. 12.
A novel and artistic entertainment. A sensation everywhere. Native costume, camp dress for Sunday concerts, and evening dress. Splendid lithos., framed photographs (3 kinds), post-cards (4 kinds), &c. Heartily complimented by Earl Roberts, Lord Derby, Lord Brassey, Sir Alfred Jones, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, &c.
This week, Broadway Theatre, London; next week, Pier Pavilion, Worthing (return visit).
For full particulars, Press opinions, &c., apply, Sole Managers, Messrs. JONES and DOUGLASS, 21, Water-street, and 14, Dale-street, Liverpool. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool." Telephones, 5650 and 2449 Central.

Big Vaudeville Combination.
Mohamed's Methods Make Money for Managers.
Ten Star Turns.
Sketches, Comedians, Dance, and Song.
Novelty! Novelty! Novelty!
A Live Show well Advertised.
Thank Arthur Carlton and Morton Powell, Esqs., for offers, and A. F. Cross and C. B. Shenton, Esqs., for Contracts.

WANTED, best Theatres or Halls only, Oct. 8, on, with exceptions. Wire,
C/o Albermarle Agency, 157, Strand, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
The most Powerful and Successful Play of the year.
Vacant
Nov. 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
MORTON POWELL, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for the Domestic Drama,
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3, 24, Jan. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this great Romantic Play,
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
Always wins.
Always wins.
Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14.
MORTON POWELL, Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, a First-Class Theatre, for Stave and McCann's Novel Variety Combination, for Oct. 1, Nov. 12, 19, Lancashire or Yorkshire towns preferred.
All communciations to STAVE,
Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, from Sept. 17, share or rental, for Prince and Kildare's Twentieth Century Pictures and Speciality Company, which includes Lieut. Chard's renowned Troupe of Trick and High Leaping Dogs, Prof. Buer's educated Donkey Domino; Beno, the great Hand Balancer; Guion, the Ladder King; Ralcone and Bara, Quaint Couple. Showy Printing. Address, 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, following Artists for Tour of First-class Play. Rehearsals commence Oct. 1.
Wilfred Denver, character;
Breezy Aristocratic Old Man;
Juvenile;
Juvenile Heavy;
Heroine (young, pretty, and rather petite).
Height of all not to exceed 5ft. 7in.
Age, height, salary, &c., and last three references, to Box 3,682, "The Era."

WANTED, a Full Musical Comedy Company, and Full Dramatic Company, for Maurice E. Bandmann's Season in the East and Mediterranean, leaving England November next. Write full particulars, &c., to ALFRED DOVE, 141, Long Acre, W.C., Manager and Sole London Representative for Maurice E. Bandmann. Interviews only by appointment. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, to Rehearse Oct. 9, near Belfast, good Tall Juvenile Man (not leads), must be reliable and dress well off and on; also good Useful Lady; both must do refined concert turn, thirty-eighth week of tour, and above first change in cast. Money sure, and permanent engagement. Can arrange also for good amateur Lady and Gentleman, who can do turn, must be educated and refined, no premium, but give services. LENA and PRESTON, P.O., Clones, co. Cavan.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Lady, for Emotional Leading Part; Gent., Small, Showy Juvenile Part; Gent., Character, Comedy, and A.S.M.; Practical Carpenter, play small part. Where not personally known, photos. absolutely indispensable, refs., with addresses, terms, T. ARTHUR JONES, Grand, Edinburgh.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, First-class Heavy Lady. Photos., References.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, S. Shields.

WANTED, for "The Sin of Her Childhood," rehearse Sept. 17, First-Class Emotional Young Actress, for lead, must have power and good appearance; also tall Gentleman, for Military part, good voice and appearance. Enclose photos. and full particulars to J. A. CAMPBELL, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, through disappointment, Petite Lady or Child, for Wildie Carlyle, &c., able to sing or dance; also Lady for responsibles and understudy in répertoire, able to play piano preferred, refinement more essential than experience; splendid opening for amateur or novice. Address, with photographs and particulars, Mr. W. L. DOBELL, Corn Exchange, Stamford, Lincolnshire.

MISS MAGGIE MORTON'S COMPANY.
WANTED, smart young Chambermaid; experienced. Photo., terms, Post Office, Ware.

WANTED, Strong Heavy Man, Juvenile Lead, Character Actor, capable of Aristocratic Old Man. Continuous engagement, London. Only real workers required; sure studies. Age, height, photo., refs., actual lowest, LEONARD MORTIMER, "Highbury," 162, Clapham-road. No callers. Letters only.

WANTED, immediately, Robust Heavy Lead, also Old Man, for Cowboy Sketch. No prem. Apply, H. SOUTHWELL, 15, Walham-grove, Fulham.

WANTED, to Rehearse immediately, Juvenile and Responsible Gentlemen. Height, lowest terms, and references, NELLIE CLARENCE, 55, Charlwood-street, S.W.

"PROOF" CO.
WANTED, Gentlemanly Young Actor, for Small Juvenile Part (Double Old Man); rehearse Sept. 11; must be tall. Recent photos., references, age, height, lowest terms, WILLIAM MACLAREN, 96, Camden-street, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for long Stock Season, No. 1 Town, First-Class Comedian, also good Character-Actor. Send full particulars and lowest terms to Box 3,673, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Actor for Light Comedy Parts, also Short Robust Comedian; age, height, lowest terms, photos., references, &c. CHARLES WINDERMERE, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

WANTED, for Sketches, Grand Hippodrome, Stalybridge, leading, heavy, and responsible gentlemen, wardrobe and experience essential. Lowest terms, MUNDELL.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies. Apply, Tuesday and Thursday next, 2 to 3.
EDWARD CRANSTON, Second Floor, Rule's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, for long Tour, with company of repute, Good Soprano and Contralto Vocalists. Full particulars, age, terms, refs., photo, to MADAME, Filey House, Livingstone-rd., Scarborough.

WANTED, two Coloured Boys, must sing and dance, 14 to 16. Apply by letter to MADAME, Metropole, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Actress, Chambermaids, Light Comedy, &c., height 5ft. 4in, refined, sing and dance if required. Low terms for immediate offers. ROSY MONTEFIORE, 34, Reginald-road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

WANTED, by Lazern, the Mystic, the New Zealand Decentionist, Sept. 10 and 17. Success everywhere. 96, Kennington-road, S.E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Pantomime Artists in all lines.
Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Comedians, Chorus Ladies, &c., &c.
Send Terms, Photos, References, &c., to
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Artists in all Lines, and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

WANTED, Musical Director, Pantomimist, for Poodle. Apply, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 to 3. EDWARD CRANSTON, Rule's (second floor), Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Dancers and Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime and Sketches.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars and enclosing photograph, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for "Cinderella." Send terms, particulars, and where working during Sept., JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, for Pantomime, a First-class Musical Director, Principal Boy, Emperor, Man Friday, Chorus.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy. Last year, West London T. and Palace, Newcastle. Per., 7, Canonbury-av., Highbury, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ailsa Douglas, the Dainty Singing Girl, at Liberty for Panto., Principal Girl or Fairy Queen. 32, Ellesmere-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, Alf. Bert and Marie Curtis, P. Comedian and P. or Second Girl; both refined Artists, with extra good voices. Offers invited. Pier Pavilion, Bognor, Sussex.

WANTED, by Millie Myers, Mezzo-soprano, Panto., Fairy Queen preferred; also E. G. Leon, coon speciality (à la Stratton), or part. Excellent refs. C/o Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Miss Kitty Len, Soprano Vocalist, exceptionally powerful voice, Lib. Panto., Fairy Queen; offers invited. Gardens Hotel, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Carter Kay, Comedy Cartoonist; good Part and Speciality. Letters forwarded from 1, Leonard-grove, Leonard-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Buchanan Bros., England's Greatest Patterers, smart song and burlesque boxing absurdity, &c., panto., ruffians preferred. Excel. refs. C/o Central Pier, Morecambe.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, to Touch-up Scenery at Scarboro', Sept. 17. Write lowest terms per week. PERKINS, Theatre, Cromer.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, to Commence Oct. 1, for ten weeks. Lowest terms to
ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the Original Scenic Contractors of Manchester. 20 years' reputation. For prices and work, BOSTOCK, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Assistant Stage Manager, for Autumn Tour of First-class Play; one who is well up in all technicalities, and can double two small parts and understudy principals preferred. State age, height, salary required, last references, &c, to Box 3,605, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Manager and Producer, experienced in Musical Comedy, Burlesque, and Stock, required from March, 1907, for fifteen to twenty weeks. Applications, stating experience, salary required, and previous appointments, to the SECRETARY, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester, on or before Sept. 30, 1906.

WANTED, Acting-Manager of Touring Co.; thorough training given. Salary and fares paid. Small premium. Box 3,691, "The Era."

WANTED, a Gentlemanly Advance Representative, for First-class Tour, commencing Oct. 1; up-to-date ideas essential. Age, salary, &c., and last three references, to Box 3,679, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent, who understands working Institutions, &c., and can play Piano preferred. BANVARD, Cahirconlish, co. Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, A. N. Vince, Disengaged for Advance or Acting Management; good experience. Address, 6, Ranelagh-gardens, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, for First-class Tour, to commence Oct. 1, Carpenter, also Baggage Man; both must be capable of small parts, and willing and obliging; quarrelsome people save stamps. State age, height, salary, &c., and last three references, to Box 3,680, "The Era."

WANTED, a Stage Carpenter, to speak a few lines, and able to touch up scenery if required. Address, L. MAITLAND, "Coal King" Co., Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Experienced Billposter, married; good ladder-man. House, &c., found. Apply, stating experience, CREWE BILLPOSTING Co., Crewe.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser willing to invest £50 in any profitable business, Musical Comedy, Animated Pictures, Sketch, in fact, anything bonâ-fide. Genuine offers entertained immediately. Particulars to "Investor," Empire, Ardwick.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Acting, Assistant or Stage Manager, Bill Inspector, by young man thoroughly experienced, tall. Cash security if required, open at once. E. H., 1, Arlington-street, Clerkenwell, London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Agent or Manager, with Firm of Roundabout or Show Proprietors, at home or abroad; just finished 15 years' engagement with P. Collins, Esq., Walsall. F. T. SALVA, 1, Buckingham-rd., Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, by Young Man, any Position of Trust; 6 years' general experience in Suburban Theatre; excellent references. Apply P. B., c/o Clarke, Son, and Platt, Ltd., 85, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

WANTED, Situation as Billposter, good references; experienced; able to take charge of round. W. WEEKES, 1, King's Cross-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, Situation, by Practical Billposter; good all-round hand; good references; age 30. Address, POSTER, 34, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Practical Electrician and Operator, vacant Sept. 24; good references. Wire, HAMILTON, Hippodrome, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, by Practical Electrician, permanency; highest refs.; own repairs; willing to combine other duties; wages low to start. Apply Box 3,669, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Marie Horton, Wardrobe Mistress, Disengaged, experienced, capable small part; can cut and make. Address, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Competent Wardrobe Mistress; Design, Cut, Fit, and Make. Take production right through. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

WANTED, Situation, as Maid to Professional Lady, good at Needlework, good Packer; could assist on stage; good references. Box 3,670, "The Era."

WANTED, by Widow, 30, Evening Employment, any Capacity; good needlewoman. FLORENCE, 88, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Musical Director, Violinist, Experienced in Variety Business, for Midland Town.
Open Sept. 17.
Lowest salary, experience, and reference, to Box 3,693, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor-Pianist, also to play small item on Violin in wings; one who can immediately compose and score Music for Drama preferred. State age, salary, and last three references, &c., to Box 3,681, "The Era."

WANTED, for Oct. 8, Leader, Piccolo and Drums, absolutely lowest terms, for Shildon, near Bishop Auckland. BOB LOMAS, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Violinist, Leader.
Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, a good First Violin Player (not Leader), to play Second Violin when required; must be a good Reader, and used to Opera. Lowest terms and refs. to LOUIS HERMANN, Mus. Dir., Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Second Violin (combine brass for parades) and Euphonium, to commence at once. Wire or write, BANDMASTER, Alexandra's Circus, Wisbech, Cambs.

WANTED, for "The Cabin," Lady Violinist (not leader). Letters only to G. BOXHORN, 214, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Cornet Player, of good ability,
for First-class Cavalry Regiment.
Long period at home.
Apply to
H. N., c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Cornet Player; must be strictly sober, of good appearance, and reliable, six nights and two matinées weekly. Send lowest terms, references, and photo. to SEEBOLD, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, for Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Co., First-class Cornet. Open Monday. Young, evening dress essential. Wire, Tomkinson, Drill Hall, Hednesford, Staffs.

WANTED, First-class Clarionet (young), for Suburban Theatre. Only really Competent Players apply. Box 3,685, "The Era."

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, LTD.,
LYCEUM, and THEATRE ROYAL,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First-class Experienced Bassoon for the Winter Season, open Monday next; steady, reliable, and competent men need only apply. Wire terms,
GEORGE BURNLEY, Musical Director.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting Ireland, Good Euphonium and Trombone, to join at once. Wire, METCALFE, Leader. Saturday, Buttevant; Monday, Kanturk; Tuesday, Mallow, County Cork, Ireland.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus touring Ireland, Euphonium and Trombone, 32s. 6d. per week; Winter Shop in Portable Theatre for suitable people. Duffy's Circus, Monday, Mullingar; Tuesday, Castle Pollard.

WANTED, to commence Oct. 1, First-Class 'Cello Player, well experienced in Classical Music. Apply, with terms and references, and state whether combine a wind instrument, to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Musical-Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist, for three weeks, commencing Sept. 17, Suburban Theatre. Terms, particulars, Box 3,686, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist (lady), for long tour. Full particulars, Mme. LEVANTE, Aquarium, Scarborough.

THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Oboeist.
Apply with ref.,
CONDUCTOR.

WANTED, Good Flute, Piccolo, open Sept. 24; permanency. Refs. to F. H. JEPSON, Mus. Dir., The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to open Monday, permanency. Lowest terms,
BUCKSTONE, Theatre, Murton.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Double Drummer, with effects, open Monday.
Wire last reference and lowest salary.
BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

WANTED, Drummer, open Sept. 10 or 17, permency; also Flute. First Violinist, Cornet, 'Cello, Circuit, Scotland's Provincial Theatres, join Sept. 24. Terms, refs., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Empire, Ashton, Tympanist, own Effects, on Sept. 10. Apply,
PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER.
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous Success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Concert Orchestral Conductor, with good Company or Corporation; excellent classical and popular répertoire; first-class testimonials. Box 3,636, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director, or Leader, Violin, Variety or Drama. Add., PERCY SWIFT, Queen's Bridge Hotel, 112, Ann-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Direction of Orchestra, by smart, competent Young Man, Pianist, Composer, Arranger. VON WALDHEIM, 12, Waverley House, Kenton-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical Director, Violin, also Lady Pianist, at Liberty; both thoroughly experienced any business. Box 3,667, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor or Leader by First-Class Musician, Composer, and Arranger, Theatre or Symphony; highest references. DIEHL, Violinist, Newtown, Malvern.

WANTED, by Capable Conductor-Pianist, Engagement; thoroughly competent and experienced, gentlemanly and reliable. LOUIS PICARD, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Mr. James Swift (Leader and Deputy Conductor, ex British Guards' Orchestra, Ramsgate). 33, Adelaide-gardens, West Cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly well-known brilliant and reliable Variety Conductor (Violin), of great experience. Address, Box 3,664, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by thoroughly experienced Musical Director, in High-class Varieties or Theatre; highest credentials. Address, Box 3,678, "The Era."

WANTED, by exceptionally smart and experienced Conductor, permanency in good Theatre, expert Violinist and Pianist. Box 3,683, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-Class Musical Director (Violin), at Liberty, any business; strictly attentive to business and reliable. Box 3,677, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements (Violins) as Leader and Répétiteur, together or singly, at Lib. Address, W. VERNON, Violinist, Sanger's Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Autumn Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), hotel, restaurant, or tea rooms; extensive, répertoire, popular music. Box 3,567, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, First Violin, experienced, in ladies' orchestra. FORRESTER, 11, West-square, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, First-class Violinist, Disengaged. Finishing Lord Warden Hotel, end of September. Write, J. B., 7, Trevanion-st., Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin; steady and reliable. Write, H. FOREMAN, 29, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, immediately, Re-engagement as Second Violin, Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. BURBRIDGE, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Experienced Violinist, variety business preferred. Address, C. C., 9, Sharsted-st., Kennington, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, splendid refs., can open at once. P. LEWIS, 13, Guppy-street, Swindon.

WANTED, Engagement in Ladies' Quartette or Orchestra, Violinist, Viola; experienced; over two years in last post; strong leader. Box 3,672, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experience Theatre or Variety, at Liberty Oct. 1; good references. J. A., 12, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, any Business, Summer Engagement terminates Sept. 29. Disengaged. Excellent refs. Mr. A. LAUNDER, 38, Castle Hill-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Cornet, also by First-class Oboe. Best references. Address, MUSICIAN, 1, Medina-avenue, Bridlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, combine D Basso, September 15th; reliable. Good references. BRYANT, Cornet, Royal Aquarium, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, First-class Cornet Player. Open for Engagement. Refs. to well-known London players. Box 3,690, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Lillé Feldman, Cornettiste, at Liberty. Permanent address, 150, Clifford-street, Lozells, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Clarionettist, at Liberty Sept. 10, Military or String. Address, H. C. GARNER, Solo Clarionet, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, at Liberty, Theatre or Variety, best refs. and experienced and reliable. CLARIONET, 38, Roxwell-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, String or Military, theatre experience; would join Orchestral Society, Volunteer or Works Band, for permanent situation; excellent references. Box 3,666, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Clarionet (combined Violin and Viola), any Business. F. HEUSE, 7, Stanford-terrace, Penzance.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, good references, can join at once, distance no object. E. GEORGE, care P. T. Cooke, Swindon-rd., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Clarionet, experienced, and good refs., just finishing season, municipal band. CLARIONET, 98, Ashford-villa, Ashford-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Orches., Theatre, and Variety experience; at Lib. now. CLARIONET, 71, Sidney-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Situation as Bandsman, Steward on Liner, by Clarionet; young; abstainer; goods refs. C. BAGGALEY, Chadwick-road, Eccles, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionettist, young, Sight Reader, transpose, opera; weeks or permanency. Finishes at Laxey Sept. 15. GEO. METCALFE, JUN., Pavilion, Buxton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any Business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, open for Engagement, any Business. Good reference. Empire Theatre, Douglas.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass; experience in every business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany). Disengaged Oct. 1. Herr OTTO BAYER, 3, Woodfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Bass, sober, and thoroughly reliable. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-street, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Bassoon at Lib., late of Carl Rosa Co.; experienced. Address, BLAES, 34, Cambridge-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon Player (late of Band of 1st Life Guards), any capacity, Theatre, Concert, Operatic, &c. Box 3,665, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Bassoon, Disengaged Oct. 1, good refs. J. P. HALLAM, Royal Botanical Gardens Orchestra, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Contra Bassist, Disengaged through fire at Stockton Theatre Royal. Highest references. MASON, 9, Eleanor-place, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, an Engagement, by Good Trombonist; combine Violin. Disengaged Sept. 23. MUSICIAN, 16, Sydney-road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bombardon-Tuba, at Lib, Sept. 30, business first-class, at home or abroad. Address, TUBA, The Tower Orchestra, New Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, from Sept. 17, good Horn; can combine Violin or Viola. MAYNARD, 8, Malcolm-road, Penge, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Horn, First-class, Open to Deputise until Sept. 28. ARTHUR COOKE, 19, Brook-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, any business; good references. Address, HORN, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, experienced Lady, any business, soloist. Box 3,668, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19. All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Harpist and Violinist, Hotel or Café; good répertoire of Music. At Liberty Oct. 1. Address, STEWART, Harpist, Roche's Royal Hotel, Glengariff, Co. Cork, Ireland.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Flautist, Theatre or Music Hall, Liberty Sept. 30. J. SLADE, Berlin Meister Orchestra, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Situation, Pianist, good reader and accompanist, no vamping; can sing (Bass); other duties may take. F. H. P., 19, New Bridge-road, Hull, E.C.

WANTED, Known, First-class Young Pianist, Disengaged. Finishing Lord Warden Hotel end of September. Write, B. W. L., 7, Trevanion-street, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, Conductor, and Arranger, formerly nine years Palace, Portsmouth, Pantomime 1905-6, &c., twenty years' refs.; gentlemanly. LORENZO LEWIS, 33, Tabernacle-street, Oldbury, Worcestershire.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Violinist, and Viola, experienced, sea preferred. Address, ALFRED BEECH, 31, Bourne-st., Netherfield, Notts.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Orchestral, combine First Clarionet or Second Violin; experienced all lines. 45, Kenn-road, Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, sober, reliable; last engagement four years. R. C. T., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Drummer. COCKRILL, Drummer, Winter Gardens, Morecambe.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, own Tympani, &c. DRUMS, c/o 27, Fixby-avenue, Pye Nest, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Variety preferred; excellent references. A. F. LILLE, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Exhibitions, &c., Rosabel Ladies' Military Band, now playing at Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Music, Music, Music. The Grosvenor Ladies' Trio, open for At Homes, Dances a Speciality. Madam WILTON DAVIS, 42, Linton-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Powell's Celebrated Orchestra, Theatre, Music Hall, &c.; Violin, Piano, Cornet, Double Bass; experienced, reliable, double handed. Bank-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, following Flute and Pic., Clarionets, Cornets, French Horns, Trombone and Bass, together or separate, Liberty Sept. 15. WOODS, Mus.-Dir., Pav., Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Engagement by Madame Smith's Old English Quartette of Lady Instrumentalists and Vocalists. Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Cromptonroad, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, for FitzGerald's Circus, Australia, Lady Riders, Lady Acrobats, Lady "Star" Acts, Novelties.
Twelve Months' Engagement. Passage paid out.
Send full particulars, and state when disengaged to Mr. F. C. MILNES, care of "The Era."

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.

WANTED, for about the middle of October, all kinds of Novelties, every description. Please apply as above.

WANTED, Trapeze Act, Flying Rings, Benders, Posturers, Clowns, useful people; also a Cornet (Pickles write). Join once. DENNIS CIRCUS, Bradford, Salford.

WANTED, Clever Young Acrobats; good salary, long engagement. CYCLO, 33, Akerman-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Young Man (single), able to do acrobatic shoulder-work, and good on his hands, and play comedy; also another one, with knowledge of acrobatics, and to play a funny part. Box 3,642, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Man (single), able to do acrobatic shoulder-work, and good on his hands, and play comedy; also another one, with knowledge of acrobatics, and to play a funny part. Box 3,642, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Agents, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 19, on, with exceptions. Address till Oct. 15, Miss Ella's Lions, Circo Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, Five Acts, at Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare, Sept. 24, on. Second season here. Address, Hippodrome, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Known, the Ernest Trio, Lady and Gentlemen Bareback Equestrians, appearing nightly with great success in their triple Equestrian Sport Act. Complimented by the Direction, being one of the most successful Equestrian acts ever appeared in Marseilles, at Liberty Oct. for a few months only. Address, ERNEST TRIO, Cirque Alexandre, Marseille, France.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Hanneford Family of Equestrians, six in number, at Liberty for the Winter Season, with the following Acts: Bare Back Trick Act, Bar and Gate Act, Single, Double, and Triple Jockeys, with one, two, three, and four persons jumping up on to one horse at the same time; Juggling Act (ground), Clowns and Agoustes; the greatest Equestrian Family the world ever produced; every one an artist, with good dresses and appearances; artists who make their work a pleasure, not a labour; also Performing Horses, including the greatest Fire Horse in the business, Sultan, Performing Elephant, and Ponies. The Hannefords are willing to accept engagements together or separate, or will supply a full Circus Company of as many numbers as required; also to Let on Hire, Performing Horses, Small Ponies and Harness, suitable for "Cinderella," Camels, White Sacred Mules, and Performing Elephant, all suitable for Pantomimes. For full particulars of terms, dates, &c., apply E. HANNEFORD, 15, Empress-street, off Ravenhill-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Will Leonard and Danny D'Almer, Acrobatic Knockabout Talking and Tumbling Clowns; also Queenie Lo-Lo, Lady Gymnast, and Miss Eva, in her Classical Bending Contortionist Dancing Act. Fifth week, terrific success, Giles's Hippo., Circus, Llandudno. Coms., Hippo., Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical and Acrobatic Eccentric, now appearing with Great Success at the Hippodrome, Douglas. Will be at Liberty Sept. 24. All correspondence to 17, Church-street, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Clown, Agouste, Entrées, and his Two Comical Donkeys, at Liberty. 41, Lavan-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Clown and Donkey, with Comical Dog, Liberty Sept. 17, a good, sound comic act. Tenting if required. BUER, 1, Waterloo-crescent, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clowns, Novelty Act, touring with Lord John Sanger's, Ltd., exclusively retained Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy, Triple Bar Experts. Wire for Monday, also vacant Sept. 17, 24. Coms., 10, Fillwood-rd., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Sept. 24, on, The Maros, Quaintest Three Bar Act. Big Success Tivoli, Dublin. Monday, Palace, Cork. Thanks Stebbings.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Sept. 17, Queenie Lo Lo, Graceful Trapeze Artista and Teeth Expert; also Little Ena, Contortionist and Dancer, just concluding five weeks' comfortable engagment with Messrs. Selwyn and Giles, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats and Equilibrists, on Tour Duffy's Circus, Ireland, Liberty Nov. Coms., 130, Magdalen-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, Sept. 10, 17, 24. Wire, Kingstreet, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler, Slack Wire Artist, finish Jury's Bioscope, Watford. Monday next, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Onzelo and Onro, Comedy Jugglers, Equilibrists, and Funny Trapeze Experts, Oct. 22, Halls or Pantos. Coms., 76, Cobourg-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tumbler, Head and Hand Balancer; Comedy Act preferred. Letters, J. REID, 8, Govan-street, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Known, Young Man wishes Engagement, in Comedy Bar act, or Hand-to-hand Balancing Act. WILL MILLAR, 174, Snowdon-street, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Known, Tumbler, Dancer, and Bâton Spinner wishes Engagement, with Comedy Act or otherwise. Box, "The Era."

WANTED, by Prof. Sid Jones, Champion All-round Swimmer (nobody barred) and Terrific Diver, and troupe of beautiful lady swimmers, home or abroad. C/o Central Pier, Morecambe.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artists of every description, for immediate and future dates. Communicate with lowest terms and list of Bookings, to SYDNEY B. SMITH, 7, St. Ambrose-grove, Liverpool.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines (Aerial excepted), for New Empire, Shildon, Oct. 15, and onwards. Lowest terms, strict confidence regarding salary, BOB LOMAS, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Sept. 17, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, for Court Theatre, Bacup, open Nov. 5. Lowest terms to W. OWEN, The Palace, Gloucester.

PALACE, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. GEO. SAPHRINI.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Stars, Shares or salary. Nothing too big. No combinations required.
Call, Monday, "Humanity," Radford and Wells, Preston Holmes, The Sleepwalker, A. St. Clair, Rozina, Miss Minnie Mayfair, The Coastguard, and others.
Notice.
I will give £10 to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund if any artist can prove I have not paid salaries in full to every artist engaged by me at Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 15. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

Palace, Lancaster.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, JOHN FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Tour; also Pianist to Sing. Photos. essential. GROVES, Tees Cottage, Esplanade, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, and 8. Address, WILL ONDA, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

WANTED, Artist, all Lines, for Palace, Oldbury, Sept. 24. Lowest terms, HECTOR and SULTAN, Hippodrome, Norwich.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, Sept. 17 and 24, Quote absolute lowest or no notice taken. ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Tower, New Brighton.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, all Artists to Notice.
The above Hippodrome is now closed, and will be dismantled in due course, therefore all artists holding contracts for the coming season will be cancelled owing to bad business. This is the third time this notice has appeared. (Signed)
Mrs. E. P. E. VEITCH, Proprietress; C. ALGIE, General-Manager, Sept. 8 1906.

WANTED, Artists coming North to send their vacant dates and terms to JAMES ANDERSON and SONS, Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists and Agents to Note. DAVID HART, Sole Agent for Gaiety, Chatham; Grand, Gravesend; Palace, Clacton.
All communications (during R. W. Willard, Esq.'s, Managing-Director, absence) re engagements at the Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, should be made direct to Mr. DAVID HART, 6, Overcliffe, Gravesend, Kent.

WANTED, Known, to Artists coming North, Sound Musical Shows, Wire Acts, Performing Dogs, Bar Performers, Trick Cyclists, &c., Grand Xmas and New Year Carnival, Drill Hall, Dundee. Lowest terms to F. H. HOBBS, Drill Hall, Dundee.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession, Acts New in Dublin, for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland, Direct or through Agents. All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, and Novelties. Send vacancies and bookings, DAVE BARNARD, Variety Agent. Note new offices, 24, Islington, Liverpool. 'Phone 1114 Royal. D. B. has no representatives.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars, Sept. 17, 24, on, Best Syndicates. Price no object. Pantomime Artists all Lines write. GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-rd., Camberwell, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949, Hop.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.

WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once. Silence a polite negative. Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract. H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggleworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.

Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, and onward, Big Acts, Comedians, Illusions, &c.
Call, Monday, Sept. 10.
Fred Karno's No. 1 Company, "Moses and Sons," Sisters Poole, Geo. Gulliver, Clara Walters, The Marcs, Four Hearnes.

WANTED, Big Acts, Bigger the Better. Send full particulars and bookings to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Belfast. AYTOUN'S Agency.

WANTED, Sept. 17, onwards, Star Speciality and Variety Acts, S. Wales and Midlands. T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

Drew Bayley books for all the principal halls in Scotland.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, All the comedy acts in the world, big and small, single and double turns. Good people can be sure of dates, 17th, and on. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, for France, Germany, and Continental Towns, Speciality Acts, with lithos., which are imperative. GANNON, Variety Agent, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Specialities and other Acts, immediate dates, for North and South. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Top Liners, Top Liners, and Comedy Acts, Sept. 17, and on. LEO FRITZ'S Agency, 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Anything and Everything that's good. Send lowest terms, vacant dates, and bookings, and lithos. (if any), to BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

Notice change of address.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.

WANTED, during the winter season, commencing Nov., Good Variety Cos. or any Good Combination, on share. CHAS. M. JULIAN, Manager.

HIPPODROME, LLANDUDNO.

WANTED, Combination Company, with good Top and Bottom of Bill, for Sept. 17 and 24. Send sample of printing. HENRY GILES.

WANTED, for Oct. and Nov., Combinations for Palace of Varieties, Oldbury. Apply, TOM PRICHARD.

WANTED, for Sept. 24, and week, a Good Concert Party on sharing terms. A First-class Combination of about Five Artists will do well. All particulars, ROBERT FORSYTH, Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

WANTED, for Windsor, Oct. 8, Good Dramatic Sketch, Specialities and Novelties; good sharing terms. Write, SYD HERMAN, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Several Smart Lady Acrobats and Acrobatic Dancers, young. Good engagement, everything found. 2, Gordon-street, Gordon-square, W.C.

WANTED, Bioscope (gas) and Illustrated Songs, Sept. 24, one week, South Wales. Lowest inclusive terms, one hour's pictures nightly, FRED BOULTON, 22, St. Mary's-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, Operator, own Machine and latest Films, from Sept. 17. Particulars, lowest inclusive weekly terms, half to one hour's show. Address, KILDARE, 52, George-st., Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Competent Cinematograph Operators. State salary and experience. Box 3,692, "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, Big Star Turn, with own combination, one week commencing Nov. 12. Address, HARRY YORKE.

WANTED, Star Turns, and Big Numbers of every Description, Sept. 17, on. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Lilian and Vera wire address. Contracts waiting.

WANTED, Star Turns, Sept. 17, onwards, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telephone, 09261. Telegrams, "Stebbing."

WANTED, two Good Turns, Monday; must be good and cheap. Wire, SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

HIPPODROME, WIGAN.

WANTED, a Good Star Turn, nothing too big, for Sept. 24, through obliging artists going to America. Address, WORSWICK.

WANTED, Talent all Lines, immediate and future dates. First-class Artists are invited to call when working Liverpool.

Fred Hallam, The Jagos send addresses.

JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telephone, 1586 Royal. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."

WANTED, Variety Talent, share or salary, Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Tom White's Arabs, George Bletcher, Knoto, Flo Chevalier, Grant and Allen, Carr and Rose, Zaro Troupe, Vernon's Bioscope. Letters in future to be addressed, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos. Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.
WILL SLEY,
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Telephone 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Monday next, for Halls and Cafés, at Bristol, dashing serios, comedians, novelties. T. WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Smart Sisters, Doubles, doing Singles; also Good Comedians. Terms must be low. Hall small. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Young Lady, able to Sing and do Good Legmania Dancer. Age, photo., height, &c., at once. WHYNNE, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, by Female Artist, a Young Lady, as Assistant in Act; no previous stage experience necessary; good salary and home, permanent. Send age, height, and photo. if possible, to TABLEMUX, Lime Villa, Mitcham, Surrey.

WANTED, Smart Girl, with good voice, for Boy in Sketch; long tour. Experience unnecessary if talented. ALLISON, 23, Islington-green.

WANTED, Comedians, Comediennes, Dancers, smart Amateur Ladies and Gentlemen, for Company. Write (stamp), full particulars, H. J. WILLIAMS, Poste Restante, Leicester.

WANTED, First-class Comedian; young, refined. Send full particulars, THIEL, Arcadia, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, a Refined Comedian, for a First-Class Pierrot Show, Sept. 17 and 24, if suitable Tour to follow. Write, with photo. and lowest terms, to BLISS and BLISS, Walney, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, experienced Vocalist, Baritone preferred, to sing Music Hall Chorus Songs for the Phonograph. Apply by letter only to Box 6,102, c/o Dixon's, 195, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Vent., open immediately, long engagement if suitable. Money low but sure. MANAGER, 185, Ystrad-road, Pentre, S. Wales.

WANTED, immediately, a Boy, age 14, for Established Troupe; must be very short, and good voice. Address, Box 3,676, "The Era."

WANTED, Mesmeric subjects to apply (letter in first instance) to ELSON, 68, Macfarlane-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Sept. 17, Mlle. Von Etta, Mlle. Von Etta, World's only Lady Illusionist, and Lightning Change Artist. In an Act that Baffles all Description. A Genuine Artistic Success.
Read what the Rochdale Times says:—
Certainly, the great feature of the evening was the appearance of Mlle. Von Etta, in the great transformation spectacle, entitled "The Palace of Electricity." She is a remarkably clever conjurer and illusionist, with a charming and vivacious stage presence. The effects used in this scene are really dazzling. Madamoiselle herself appears in many beautiful costumes, and she is assisted in her work by footmen in gorgeous attire. She at once captivates the audience with her charming manner and clever tricks, and many of those present had tangible proof of her skill by carrying away with them flowers, cigars, and cigarettes, produced out of an, to all appearances, empty hat. The "disappearing" trick is very cleverly done, and Mademoiselle considerably startled her audience by suddenly appearing in the stalls, when she was supposed to be locked inside a box.
This Act is away from anything in the business. A combination of Beauty, Grace, Talent, and Lavish Expenditure.
Managers in want of Top of Bill Secure this High-class Speciality.
Only Vacancies until 1908 are Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 26, Dec. 24 and 31, May 27, June 17 and 24, July 8 and 15, 1907. Bookings include London Hippodrome and Moss and Stoll Tour. Splendid 6-sheet and D.C. Lithos. Address, Wires or Letters, to T. M. PAUL, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Monday, 10th, 17th, 24th, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, Big Success, eight songs nightly; second week here. Also Nellie Van, Comedy Artist. Wire for two Star Turns. Circus, Rochdale. After Saturday, B158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham. Contracts, AYTOUN.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Kildare, in their dramatic and vocal scena, "A Jockey's Temptation." Topping the bill, New Pavilion, Hoylake. Next week, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire. Vacant Sept. 17, 24.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Truro, Harmonising Duettists, vacant Dec. 3, and on. Offers invited for Panto., Parts and Speciality. 31, Old Hall-street, Middleton, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, Monday next, and Sept. 17. Wire, 35, Florence-street, Islington.

WANTED, by two Ladies, perfect Double, vacant for Illusions, Sketches, or Plays; experienced, petite. London only. Box 3,663, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Harry Kardoc, the Original Handcuff King and Jail Breaker, at Liberty Sept. 17, on, with exceptions, owing to postponement of American Tour; also my attendant can do turn Comedian. Wire or write, T. R., Dover, for a sure draw. Five varieties of Pictorial Printing (D.C. and six-sheet), Straight Jacket and local made Packing Case, Challenges.

WANTED, Known, Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, in his speciality, the Cycling Monkey, Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8. 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Carl St. Clare, Phenomenal Male Soprano and Mimic, Liberty Sept.; would join Comedy Quartette. Coms., 19, Herschell-street, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Thomas, Comedian, invites good offers for Sept. 17, on. Twelve weeks unprecedented success at Pav., Barmouth.

WANTED, Known, Harry Rylton, Swell Comique and High Kicking Dancer, at Lib. Monday, 10th, and on. Wire, Merry Mascots, Lichfield.

WANTED, Sept. 24, foHow Gloucester, Oct. 1, Xmas, on, Dutch Act, with Concertinacalities. BU-VAL, Palace, Porth.

WANTED, Sept. 17 and 24, by Allan Hanbury, Eccentric Patter Comedian. Great success Stoll Tour. Address, The Lawn, Skegness.

WANTED, Engagement, any business, by Harry Lesley, Comedian, Sept. 17, on, refined songs, gags, patter, and sketches. Usual success Pierrots, Reading, encored nightly. Wire or write, 190, Caversham-road, Reading.

WANTED, Sept. 24, near Bristol, by Martinengo, Famous Solo 'Cellist and Baritone, Scena "The Unemployed Musician." This, Palace, Dundee; next, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Hal de Starte, Magician, Box and Handcuff Expert, and Chapeaugraphist, Liberty Sept. 15. Perm. Add., 32, Sackville-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Magician and Bioscope Operator, Oct, onwards. All coms. to perm. address, 27, Minto-st., Ashton-u.-Lyne.

WANTED, Sept. 10, wire Queen's, Keighley, the Great Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, Juggler; also May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne. Two distinct Acts. Also Vacant Oct. 1, 15, on, North. After Saturday, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-ter., London, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 17, &c., by Lily Pender, Speciality Singing Comedienne and Brilliant Pianist (sight reader); also Bob Pearson, the Vocal Comedian, Humorist, and Lecturer. Two strictly refined versatile artists. Free for Halls, Piers, Cinematograph Companies, Pierrots, &c. Specially re-engaged to return to Doncaster Monday next for race week, after one week's absence. Wire, Drill Hall, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Reg. Templeton, Comedian, and Stella May, Comedienne, Sept. 17 and 24. Now ten weeks, second season, and return next season, with The Toreadors. Wire, Empire, Douglas.

WANTED, Monday next, also 17th, the Percys (Harry, Lillie), duettists, dancers, speciality performers. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday, and 17th, the Monckton's, uproariously funny musical comedy duologues or sketches, enormous success, topping bill Empire, Cleethorpes (return).

WANTED, Known, the St. Johns, Musicians, Gaggists, and Dancers, at Lib. Sept. 17, 24. Wires and letters, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, The Lashmars are making a Big Success at Pavilion, Fleetwood. Monday, Hippodrome, Blackpool. Vacant Sept. 17 and 24. Thanks STEBBINGS and GANNON for contracts.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success through Hungary.

WANTED, by Astley Bros., Comedians and Patterers, Sept. 17, and on; also Liberty for Panto. Offers invited. Com., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, Vacant Nov. 5 and 12, also for Panto., parts and speciality. Address, c/o BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, the Three Cheers, Original Act, with Special Scenery and Chimes, Performing Cats, Vacant Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 1. Write, CHEERS, 80, Claremont-rd., Sefton Park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Three Whirligigs, Singing and Dancing Act, introducing Coon Dance of the day, "There's nothing like this in America." Palace, Rhyl; next, Pav., Sale. Vacant Sept. 17 and 24. Wire.

WANTED, Dates, by The Three Rochesters, for 12min. Scena, now at Liberty, also for Panto. (Betty), Title-rôle or Prin. Girl and Specialities. Wire, 13, Kelvedon-rd., Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Oct. 1 (through mistake), by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli, two First-Class Acts. The Era, Sept. 1, says: Marvellously clever turns were given by the charming Mlle. Bartenelli, contortionist, &c. Wire or write, 22, St. Mary's-square, Gloucester.

WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24, by Los Granadas, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238. Victoria-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Four Musical Scoreys, free Nov. 12, home or abroad. 33, Wilton-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, the Famous Mysteries, Theatres, Halls, Pavilions, certainties or shares, the smartest combination extant. Vacant Sept. 24. SMITH, Pavilion, Whitstable.

WANTED, Sept. 17, onwards, by Geo. Gulliver, Novel Ventriloquist, First-Class Act. Wire or write, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Sept. 10, on. Finish 8th. Pierrots, Grays. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Sept. 17 and 24, for Matt Wilkinson's Comedy Success, "The Registry Office," and Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Carlton T., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Tom Davis's Comedy Sketch Company, Sept. 10, 24, Midlands. Yells from start to finish. 30, Grosvenor-terrace, London, S.E.

The Drolls and Demures.

WANTED, Halls, Sept. 24, onwards (week or three night towns), a High-Class Costume Party (two ladies, four gentlemen), in a Répertoire of Humorous Concerted Items, Duets, Mimicry and Dances; guaranteed success; sharing terms or rental. MANAGER, 22, Red Lion-st., Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Alice Fontainebleau, World-famed Troupe of Trick Somersault and the Highest Leaping Dogs in England, including wonderful miniature pony, Sloper. Proprietors should see this show; quite out of the ordinary. A success everywhere. Liberty Oct. 1, open for pantomime. Red Lion, Coleshill.

WANTED, Known, Devereux, Marvellous Dog Sensation, at Liberty Sept. 17, the Smartest Dog Show before the Public. Address, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Sept. 17, other dates, Chard's Dog Circus. 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Monday next, through obliging, by Chas. Banks and his Famous Dog Woof. The Hit on any Programme. Wire till Sunday, Pier Pav., Southport.

WANTED, Dates for the Strongest Combination on the Road. Sacco, the Fasting Man, and the New Picture Co. Must be large halls, and no dates less than two weeks. Manager, VORYD, Harbour Hotel, Rhyl.

WANTED, by Le Diabelo, Looping the Devil's Wheel and Riding on the Outside of Wheel, and Riding off Top down a Steep Incline of 45 degrees into a net, Sept. 17 and Oct. 1. Shares or certainty. A sure draw. Opera House, York. Monday, Metropole, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Kingsley, Lecturer, Stage-Manager, Musical Speciality. Offers invited from Cinématographs. Address, 73, Saltoun-road, Brixton, London. Seaton write.

WANTED, Engagement, in a recognised Company, as comedian, tall, open at once. Address, Box 3,684, "The Era."

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Barlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope; Change of Films Weekly. Lime or electric. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, South Norwood.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the Black Lion Hotel (headquarters), Salford, on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 2.30 p.m., for the transaction of important business.

All members are requested to attend.

Signed,
T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red,"
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel,
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 6s. a gross, weighing 2½oz. The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross. Best Quality only.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the world, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. Most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

Butter Scotch. Butter Scotch.

WANTED, Known, that W. Rowley, 151A, Granville-street, Birmingham, is still making Giant Packets from 6s. 6d. gross, wrapped in silver paper, marked 3d. Late of Gt. Hampton-row.

NORWICH AND EASTERN COUNTIES INDUSTRIAL TRADES EXHIBITION, Oct. 16 to Nov. 8, 1906.

WANTED, Known, Open for Two First-rate Side-shows. Apply, MANAGER, Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, Good Side Show, Folkestone Trades Exhibition, Oct. 3 to 13, 1906; also Mirrors. MANAGER, Exhibition, 18, Church-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Refined Novelties, for Shop Business, Paintings or Posters. Good Doorsman write address. NORA MACARTHEY, Exhibition, George-street, Grays, Essex.

WANTED, Good Freaks, Living Novelties, open Sept. 10. Sale of Books and Postcards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Living Freaks and Novelties nothing too big; 12 weeks certain. THE SCOTTISH NOVELTY SYNDICATE, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Illusions, suitable for Side Shows, also Distorting Mirrors. Box 3,671, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Palmist, for Five Days, Sept. 17, 21. Write, MANAGER, Trades Exhibition, Corn Exchange, Dorchester.

WANTED, a Doorsman, for Photo. Shop; must be steady and reliable. Permanency to good man. MANAGER, Studio, 1, Gallowgate, Rothesay, N.B.

WANTED, Monday, 10th, Glennie's Up-to-date Marionettes, encored nightly. Theatre Royal, Coatbridge. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, close this week, thirteen weeks, flower show, and galas. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire. "Chair up."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Sisters Anderson, expert vocalists and dancers, capable of doing turns inside; also excellent Paraders; new Dances. Address, 27, Willow-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Madame Amelia, the Hampshire Giantess, Lib. Sept. 24, on; third successful season here; good window flashes with photos., also first-class Doorsman. Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Princess Gooma Troupe, at Liberty Monday, 10th. Fourteen weeks Scotland, great success. Apply, TOM BROWN, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Situation, by H. Clarke, Plankman and Vocalist, not afraid of work; good horseman. Address, 50, Lodge-st., Queen's-rd., Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Situation, as Watchmaker and Pianist. Address, WATCHMAKER, 2, Station Hill, Maesteg, near Bridgend, Glam.

WANTED, Known, Engagement required by experienced Character Reader. MADAME ETHEL, c/o Mrs. Vaton, 28, Maberley-st., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, as Working Manager, with Roundabout Proprietor; thorough knowledge of any class of Machine and competent Electrician; can use tools and paint-brush; just finished over two years' engagement with P. Collins, Esq., Walsall. W. BASTABLE, Alexandra Palace, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. It is anticipated we shall get from 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING. Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, to Let, a few more Spaces for Fancy Stalls and Working Exhibits, also Side-shows, Distorting Mirrors; would share, or buy reasonably. Send for particulars, SEEBOLD, Worthing.

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WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suitable for Medical Electrician or Beauty; visited by the Elite. Particulars, CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Henry-street, Dublin.

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WANTED, Known, grand Xmas and New Year Carnival, Dundee, all under cover, Spaces to Let to approved Side Shows and Exhibits; also set Motor Roundabouts, one Set Galloping Horses, must be in good condition. Opens Dec. 17, four weeks. Address, F. H. HOSSS, Drill Hall, Dundee.

WANTED, in Trades Exhibition, Space for Bioscope as Side Show. HILDER, 62, Alfred-st., Weston-super-Mare. Terms shares.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept. for Secondhand Watches and Unredeemed Pledges. There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, to Sell, Auction Mart, consisting of Back Van, fitted for living, Shuttered Booth, with front complete, new Green Cover, Acetylene Generator, for lighting same, also Road Living Van, in good condition, all made by Orton, Burton; also Target Range, quite new. Sold together or separate. Apply, FLETCHER'S Auction Mart, Cardiff.

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WANTED, to Sell, Caravans (Two), another one, 9ft. long by 6ft. wide, for a pair of horses; another one, 9ft. long by 6ft. wide, for one or a pair of horses; in good condition. Can be seen at Ridge's Royal Food Mills, Boleyn-road, Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Baines's Grand Waxwork Exhibition will be Sold by Auction on Tuesday next, Sept. 11, in the large premises, 52, Queen-street, Ramsgate, at three o'clock in the afternoon, sharp. Don't forget this great bargain.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle square, London.

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WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44. What offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

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WANTED TO SELL.

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WANTED, Known, to be Sold, Privately or by Auction, in London, Monday, Sept. 17, 1906, Lease (over ten years unexpired) of important and successful Midland Theatre, absurdly small rental, half cleared by shops and advertisements; the only Dramatic House in the Town, with population 70,000, and districts another 80,000; holds 2,200; in money over £65 (proved); trade good, receipts regularly approaching £6,000 yearly. A splendidly opportunity for energetic person who desires to secure an income of £750 to £1,000 yearly. Auditorium splendidly fitted; just renovated for season; business now in full swing; bookings exceptional. Perfect installations of gas and electricity; well equipped with necessary scenery and effects.
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WANTED, to Sell, Large Orchestrion, with Tunes, equal to full Band, with Water Motor. Wanting room, must sell quickly. Grand Attraction for place of Amusement. GULDMAN and Co., 7, Sugar-lane, Manchester.

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WANTED, to Sell, in quantities to suit Purchaser, the whole of the magnificent outdoor scenery at Earl's Court Exhibition, for delivery at the close of the Exhibition. Can be seen by appointment. Address communications to H. HART, London Exhibitions, Ltd., Earl's Court, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Woven Animal Dresses, Paddings, Tights, Opera Hose, in all Materials. Lowest prices. H. J. BOXALL, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

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WANTED, to Let, for any period, perfect light, rent £2 per week. MOODY-MANNERS STORES, The Hyde, Hendon, Middlesex.

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WANTED, to Hire, the following Scenery for Short Summer Season at West-End Theatre, Interior, Large Hall in Stone Palace, Exterior, Courtyard of Mediæval Castle, with Balcony R. Must be in good condition, and suitable for large stage. Terms and full particulars to Box 3,379, "The Era."

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WANTED, Scenery and Property Stores, preferably in the North district, not more than two miles from Charing Cross.
Send full particulars to
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WANTED, by Manager about to take over Provincial Theatre, active or sleeping partner with £500.

Principals or solicitors only address, Box 3,697, "The Era."

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WANTED, Partner, Straight Man, to join well-known Comedian for Musical Act; must be experienced, strictly sober, and of business qualifications. State instruments and full particulars, Box 3694, "The Era."

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WANTED, Dr. Carl Hermann to kindly send information of his whereabouts to ALFRED SELWYN, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 10, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Earthquake," Sisters Klos, Griffiths Brothers, Galletti's Monkeys, Lora, Kaufmann Troupe, Gudzow, Bioscope, Henry Taylor Trio, Wille Brothers, Alf Daniels, Leamy Troupe, The Althoffs, Albertine Melich, Lucia Viata, Lavater Lee.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
T. E. Dunville, Nettie Starr, Flo D'Orville, Monte Myro Troupe, C. Leonard Fletcher, Smythson Comedy Co., Lambeth and Robinson, James H. Jee, Stella Troupe, Albert Le Fre, Sanford and Lyons, Ten Genis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Vesta Tilley, Eric, Mlle. Eldee, G. C. Doughty's Co., Barnard's Mannikins, Thereses Brothers, Canary Co., Jose Collins, Bioscope, Oswald Williams.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Winifred Hare, Bioscope, Fred Lincoln, The Kanes, A. H. Manby, Ryder Slone, Pierce and Maizee, Spry and Austin, Queen, Le Brun, and Co., Acquamarinoffs.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Frank Danby and Co., Bioscope, Boy Glen, Binns and Binns, Grais Baboons, Harry Hayton, Eadie and Ramsden, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Illustrated Song, John Le Hay and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Boissetts in "The Bricklayers," Phil Herman, Ted and May Hopkins, Will Cornish, Walton and Lester, Bioscope, R. H. Douglas, Fielding and Hull, The Picquays, Mark Sheridan.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"The Skirmishers," Prof. Dunning, Marba and Verity, Leo Tell, O'Malley and Brown, Bioscope, Hillman and Russell, Bessie Butt, Kahn and Kahn, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
The Ten Loonies, Marion Scott, Vivian's Vaudevilles, De Paci Brothers, Cruikshank, Cliffe and Dog, Jean Seul, Brothers Redmond, Sybil St. Emo, Ludwig Amann.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
George Lashwood, Marie Reeve, Alice May and Co., O. K. Sato, Norman Leonard Trio, Lilian Lowe, Wedburns, Lottie Govell, Dot Hardy, Poluski Brothers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Daisy O'Malley, G. H. Chirgwin, Orpheus, Rita and Roma, Rachael Lowe, Tee and Tee, Phillips and Terry, Will Vokes, Millie Payne, Millie Hylton.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Harry Randall, Bioscope, Mona McDonald, Carrie Joy, Buddha's Blackboard, Lee and Bentley, Takio, Brothers Harrison, Grisse Trio, Harmony Four.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Marie Santoi and Co., Bioscope, James Toner Cussac Talma, Leonard and Francis, Brown and Robinson, Arthur Kenny, Imperial Russians.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
Howard and Harris, Harriett Vernon, Mark Melford and Co., Bioscope, Fred Keeton, Unthan, Eight Sunrays, Lily Burnand, Musical Johnsons, Brothers Obo.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Lil Hawthorne, Bioscope, The Zanettos, Beatrice Willey, Johnny Gilmore, Vernando, Harrigan and Holt, Albertus and Bartram; Harry Marte, "Casey's Court."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Donaldson Brothers, Leslie Brothers, Sisters Caselli, Selkirk and Co., Preston and Balmaine, Albert Christian, Kate Cohen, Nora Emerald, Pilu, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Karno and Co., Dan Crawley, Lillian Bishop, Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Katie Butler, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lillian Lea, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Dr. Bodie, George Formby, Fred Russell, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Barowsky Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Tschernoff's Dogs, Ginnett's "Remounts," Die Obersteirers, D. L. Clarke.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"Casey's Circus," Gwennie Hasto, Rosa Naynon, Bennet and Martell, Harry Roxbury and Co., Clarice Netta, J. H. Milburn, Gordon Highlanders, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
The McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Park's Eton Boys, Mlle. De Dio, Jake Friedman, Forest and King, Jurgens Trio, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
Cinématograph Exhibition, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Griff, Sutcliffe Family, The Mayvilles, Max Yorke, Jack Lorimer, The Debreans, The Mackweys, Nelson's Newsboys, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Billy Tucker, Ernie Mayne, Hanvaar and Lee, Brothers Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Three Albions, Colby and May, Hill and Whittaker.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Bella and Bijou, Spry and Monti, Bisera Troupe, Harris and Worth, Harry Gre- Mlle. Marvelle, Henri Abdy, Daisy Dormer, Cot and Colibri, Gertrude Bradshaw, Frank Darwin.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
George Robey, Ethel Haydon, Lupino Brothers, Nipper Lane, Fox and Melville, Chas. Pastor, Peppo's Monkeys, Billy Hobbs, Cabaret's Dogs, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Leo Stormont and Co., Bioscope, Edie King, Ethel Walker, Bernar's Fantoches, Helene and Emilon, Techow's Cats, The Meymots, Spot, Herbert Lloyd.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Morris Cronin and Co., Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Francis Wylie, Ray Wallace, Caicedo, Simms and Simms, Glenroy Troupe, Mount and Corelli, Brown and Le Clerq

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EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Annie May Abbott, Josh Dixon, Rosie Bartlett, Goodfellow and Gregson, E. J. Sheldon, Rezene and Robini, Pictures, George Reeves, Lady Mansell.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Barton and Ashley, Violi, Frank Lynne, Atroy, Esta Stella, Steve McCarthy, C. J. Johnson, Marie Kendal.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Albertus and Millar, May Tyler, Ian Colquhoun, Pictures, Scottish Meisters, Fred Dunstone, Florence Esdaile, Three Sisters Sprightly.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Gay Ostend," Mlle. Yetta, Three Florodora Girls, L. W. Harris, Calcotts, Pictures, Billie Burford.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
"My Golliwog," J. H. Green, Lily Langtry, Bioscope, Ben Hur, Marie Weston, Cul Pitt, Stelling and Revell.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Happy Fanny Fields, Edgar Romaine, Will Dalton, Abel and Welsh, Vokey Gaylor, David Poole, Edwin Boyde, Tribune Trio, Ethel Newman, The Autos, Ulrick, Dolly Harmer, Vernon's Bioscope, Stanley and Vandyke, Terry and Bentley, Billy Williams, Tom Foy and Co., Ray Maskell.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First House:
Harry Tate, Rose Elliott, Vernon's Bioscope, Walter King, Deane Tribune Trio, John Lawson and Co., Fred Elton, Les Voces, George Barron, Harry Lynn and Co., Ray Maskell, Stanley and Vandyke.
Second House:
Harry Tate, Happy Fanny Fields, Rose Elliott, Vernon's Bioscope, Walter King, Deane Tribune Trio, John Lawson and Co., Russell Wallett, Ben Albert, The Zazas, Les Rallis, Ray Maskell.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens in October next. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"SWEET ANASTASIA BRADY,"
By the writers of "My Irish Molly."

"IN MY PAGODA,"
By the writer of "If the world were ruled by girls."

"I CAN SEE RED ROSES BLOOMING,"
By the writers of "Rainbow."

"GOOD NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT,"
By the writer of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you."

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO LOVE ME?"
By the writer of "On the dear old shore."

"BORNEO,"
By the writers of "Nobody knows, nobody cares."

"COME AND MAKE LOVE TO ME,"
By the writers of "The rose of my heart."

"LIKE THE FLOWING TIDE,"
By the writer of "Just like the ivy I'll cling to you."

"STARLIGHT,"
By the writers of "Blue Bell."

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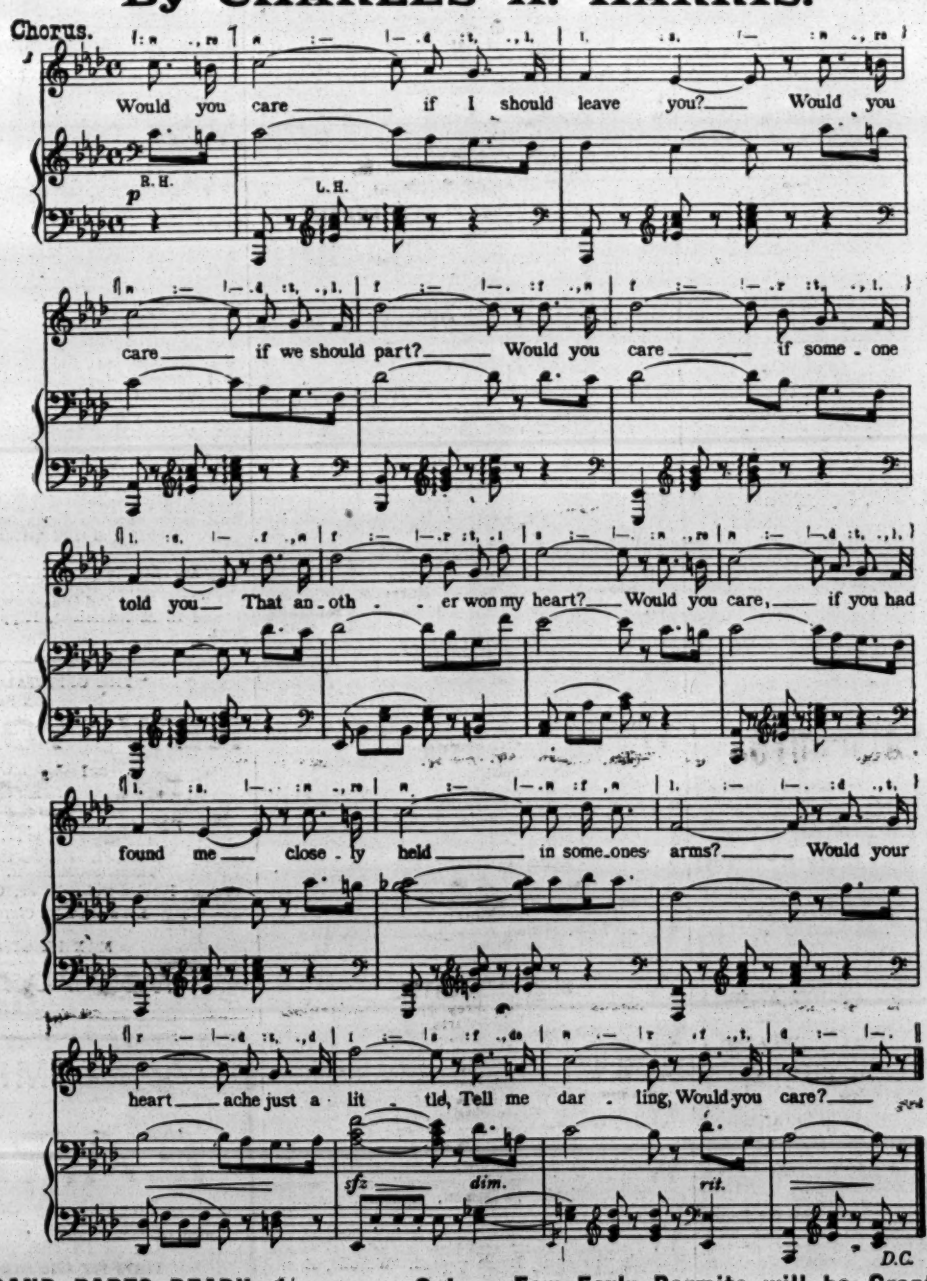

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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MR. W. LEA,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Sisters St. Julian, Herbert Cyril, Johnny Danvers, Bayne and Hope, Stewart and Morgan, Emma Don, Mlle Kloet, Mabel Hind, Pictures, B. Troba.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Vesta Victoria, Pauline Zaro, Olive Trio, Charles Faning, Five Olracs, Woodward and Walton, Johnson and D'Evere, Sisters Silcott, Chas. Williams, Pictures, Ford and Barris.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
E. Dereve and Co. in "Office Hours," John P. Dane, Daisy Morrell, Rowland Hill, Cribb and Cribb, Jack Pleasants, Three Prestons, Emil Amiel, Harry Thurston, Mamie Iris, Pictures, Rosina Casselli.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Hal Godfrey and Co., M. and S. Wood, Mollie Doon, Diamond and Beatrice, Harry Edson, E. Leslie Conroy, Sisters Marion, J. W. Hall, Four Avocas, The Lombarts, Pictures, Lillie Soutter.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 10, 1906. 7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Fred Karno's full company, in "Saturday to Monday," Sylvia Du Barry, De Vere and Kenwick, Haydee's, Ernest Rees, Three Sisters Slater, May Marton, The Ellimans, Billie Barlow.
GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Fred Curran, The Leonards, Vesta and Minnie Pine, Arthur Gill, Ida Brophy, Vincent, Solari Duo, Pavoscope, Katie Marsh.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, SEPT. 10, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

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Vay's Juveniles, T. B. Fayme, Wat Tyler, Jenny Lynwood, Lytton and Bland, Two Palmers, Mark Merritt, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Geo. Bastow, Franko Midgets, Keith and Merson, Tate and Tate, Osborn and Brookes, Ruth Lytton, Edna Knollys, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Frank Hardie and Co., Wyotti, Chas. Sloman, Pallister's Bioscope, George Collins.

PALACE, BATH.
Lennie and Hast, Claver and Piccolo, Stylo, Beatrice Bonnie, J. H. Hawtrey, Mdlle. De Rose, Wynford Bros., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, The Ringling Trio.

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Vandinoff, Maude Vera, Frank and Free, Gertie Moore, W. B. Raby, Sinclair and Whiteford, Davis and Gledhill, Herbert Clifton, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Mark Leslie, Harry Weldon, Geraldos, Mabel La Blanche, Bowman and Morton, Baroux and Bion, Elton and Elma, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
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FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
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Artists please Note
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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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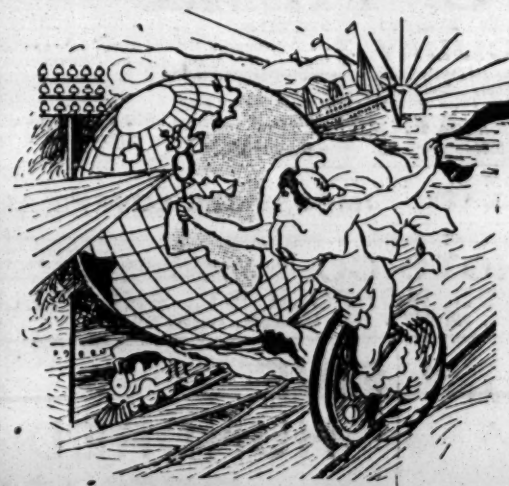

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The Scientific Party landing from small boats.

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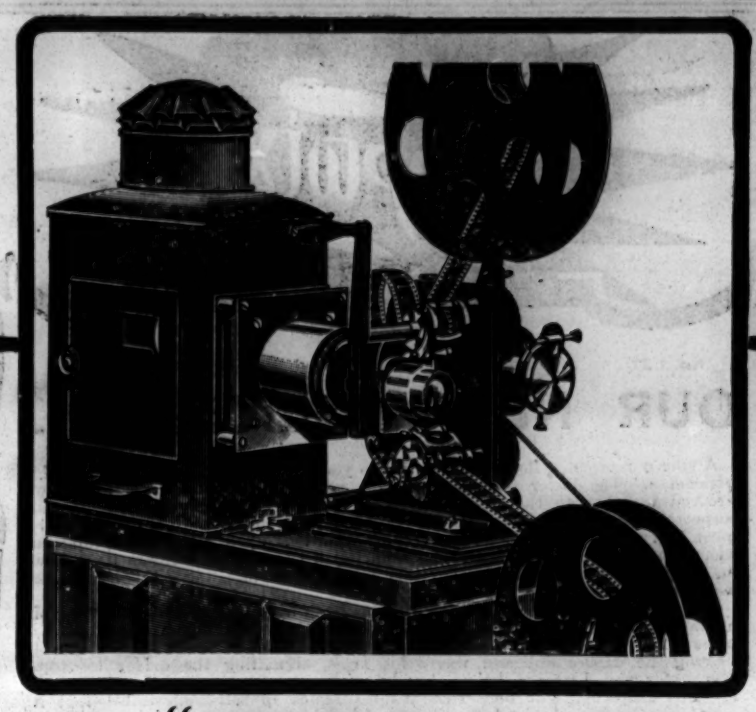

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. George Dance's company appears this week in *Lady Madcap*. Miss Vera Vere makes a most delightful Lady Betty; Mr. Alexander Chentrens, with his pleasing style of acting and singing, is highly successful as the Count de St. Hubert; and Mr. H. V. Surrey is extremely amusing as Oroya Brown; Mr. Percival Knight, as Bill Stratford; Mr. Oliver Round, as Posh Jenkins; Mr. R. S. Combes, as the Colonel; and Mr. Tommy Melldon, as Corporal Ham, do their best to keep things lively; while Miss Maisie North as Gwenny Holden and Miss Peggy Primrose as Susan dance and sing very gracefully. The piece is finely staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Brothers O'Brien display an almost unsurpassable grace and precision in their gymnastic turn; and the Four Kays act very vivaciously in the diverting pantomimic sketch, *The Pet of Pekin;* the three Brothers Huxter make a decided success in their novel acrobatic act; and among the other artists who contribute to a first-class programme are: Mr. George Martinengo, a vocalist and instrumentalist of marked ability; the Cosmons in a piquant comedietta; Mlle. Thelma, a conspicuously clever modeller in clay; the Four Papillons, capital singers and dancers; and Mr. Gilbert Gerard, a really wonderfully good mimic.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. A. Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. G. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—On Monday Miss May Douglas's company was seen in the drama, *What Men Dare*. Miss Maud Buchanan did well as Olga, being ably supported by Mr. Forbes Rose as Richard Wilson. Mr. Percy Norman was seen to advantage as Fedor Duigin; Mr. E. Edwards caused amusement as Stoopid; Mr. Alfred Burrows was good as Nickola; and Miss Ida Mackay did capable work as May O'Brien.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—A very good variety company opened here on Monday, when John Higgings introduced some wonderful feats in jumping. Sisters Volbecque delighted the house with their clever comedy; Texas Hattie is particularly smart on the rope; Mark Murry is exceptionally funny; a capital sketch is *The Motor Maniac*, played by Will Rain and company; Gross is a smart dancer; and Bessie Willows also deserves to be complimented. Some good pictures conclude.

HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The company here this week includes Barrett and Knowles, two smart entertainers; Les Bastiens is a clever turn; and Miss Lilian Rigby deserves special praise; Tod Lower is very good; and Rosie Archer must be complimented on her excellent singing. Minnie D. Aubyn is a clever artist; Sid Doody and Emmie Wright have made themselves great favourites by their smart dancing and singing. The Bio presents some good pictures. On Friday a farewell benefit was given, on the retirement of the acting-manager, Mr. L. Campkin.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—The ever-popular musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, is being well presented here by Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company. The title-rôle is cleverly portrayed by Mr. E. Russell; Mr T. A. Shale's is a capital conception of Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. J. Goldsworthy is good as Michael; Miss Kitty Dale receives much applause for her vocal efforts as Aurora; Miss Lily Lingard as Lady Bickenfield is capable; and Mr. H. Chichester is a suitable exponent of Mr. Crank.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The company representing the play *A Royal Divorce* is under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly. Miss Edith Cole, who interprets the character of Josephine, is an actress of ability; Mr. Frederick Victor impersonates Napoleon in an able manner; Miss Agnes Imlay develops, with emphasis, the attributes which the playwright has given to Marie Louise; and Miss Clara Russell is a piquante Stephanie de Beauharnais; effective delineation is given to Talleyrand by Mr. F. Joynson Powell; to General Augereau by Mr. T. Barry; and to Dr. Corvisant by Mr. W. Robbins.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — Much merriment is elicited here by the clever couple Tom and Marie Motram in their comedy musical act; ventriloquism, quaint and curious, is presented by King Leo, a master of the art; Copeland and Son are funny fellows, as well as expert dancers; Polo and Florence, society acrobats, are adroit and neat performers; the Rushforths give a pleasing entertainment with illustrated songs; Beaty and Blanche command attention as tuneful duettists and dancers; Alfonzo has a decidedly novel "show"; Wyndham and Waters are seen in an amusing act, *The Professor and His Pupil;* and Miss Maude Kaye is a smart coon vocalist. The Bioscope depicts a touching scene in "A Wife's Forgiveness."

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The leading attraction here this week is furnished by Mr. Charles Vandyke and company in a pantomime absurdity, entitled *Sensations*, in which mechanical and electrical effects play an important part. A very pleasing contribution is that of the Crown Trio, who are rightly described as "artistic and refined vocalists"; Morimura, Japanese illusionist, assisted by Miss Miako, presents some novel and startling illusions; Miss May Fallowfield is a winsome and dainty soubrette; the Custances are well received in their duologue, entitled *A Game for Two;* Wright and Elton, in their speciality, *Eccentricities*, prove themselves versatile and original entertainers; Mr. George Raper is a most amusing character comedian; and Mr. E. C. Clayton presents a highly appreciated selection of pictures, including snapshots of great local interest.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On the 6th inst. and following three nights the theatre was occupied by Mr. Arnold Bell and his company in the drama, *Hoodman Blind*. On the first three nights of this week Mr. Chalmers Mackay and company appeared in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackay is particularly happy in the character of Barney O'Hea; Mr. Charles Homer plays the part of Shamus McDermott exceedingly well, and the same may be said of Mr. H. Macauley's Michael Kenny; Mrs. Chalmers Mackay is admirable as Nora McGarth, and makes the character charmingly sweet; and Miss Nora Flensburg as Biddy McGinn is simply delightful, while her singing makes the piece go merrily.

BACUP. — NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Miss Frances Delaval's company opened here on Monday with *Her Lost Self*. As Wilfred Daventry Mr. Cecil Gray gave a powerful interpretation. Norman Esmond was well embodied by Mr. G. Osmond Tearle, and the part of Paul Kimberly was successfully sustained by Mr. George Lyttleton, jun. Mr. Fred Lillywhite gave a forcible and effective representation of Victor Elsworth. Mr. Frank Stewart as Tom Flyaway, and Miss Hettie Stewart as Bridget Malone played their parts with abundant vivacity and humour. Mr. L. W. Halfpenny portrayed Abraham Cohen with good effect. Mrs. Edmund Lyons as Rachel Cohen was satisfactory. Philippine Marcel found a clever exponent in Miss Frances Delaval.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—*Mr. Smith* company is paying a return visit here. Mr. Cecil Dugne is excellent in the title-rôle; and Mr. Sydney Price is a capital Earl of Oxted. Mr. Wm. Dunlop plays delightfully as the Duke of Angleland; Mr. Austin Spencer is more than an acceptable the Hon. Dudley Dysart; and Mr. Russell Novice is a capital Jack Berkeley. Herr Deidrich Anheuser is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Geo. F. Ross; the Duchess of Angleland as played by Miss Mildred Cottle is charming; as is also Lady Margaret Hildergate as depicted by Miss Elaina Gaunt; while the Ruth Anheuser of Miss Phyllis Relph is commendable.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*The Private Secretary* is here this week, presented by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford. Mr. Donald S. Evans gives a fine exposition of Rev. R. Spalding; Mr. Marsland, M.F.H., is well represented by Mr. W. T. Elsworthy. Harry Marsland by Mr. James P. L. Hussey, and Douglas Cattermole by Mr. Randolph Reade. Mr. Sydney Gibson is amusingly presented by Mr. Vivian Gilbert; and Miss Dora Gray is charming as Edith Marsland.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Mr. Tom Costello is here, scoring heavily with many former successes, and Dan Conroy is also a great favourite. Others are the Three Sisters Hayden, pleasing vocal character comediennes; the Jalvars, capital Oriental entertainers; Walter Wade, an amusing raconteur and mimic; the Allens, in a clever musical speciality act; and Vernon's Bioscope.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The first musical comedy of the season to be presented locally is *The White Chrysanthemum* by Mr. Charles Macdona's company, under the business management of Mr. Frank Withers (who is no stranger to Bath). Vocal honours are easily secured by Miss Muriel George, whose fresh young voice is heard to the greatest advantage in the numbers falling to the character of Sybil Cunningham; Miss Emily Taylor plays the knowing widow Betty Kenyon with just the necessary confidence and gives the "Delicate Hint" song in arch fashion; Cornelia Vanderdecken is smartly impersonated by Miss Nellie Groves, who is also a capital dancer; Mr. Richard Telford makes a quaint Sin Chong and displays great ability as a dancer; Mr. H. E. Garden raises plenty of laughter as Chippy Belmont, and shows that he possesses hereditary talents of no mean order; Reginald Armitage is undertaken by Mr. H. Langdon Bruce, who, having forsaken farce for musical comedy, is equally good in his new surrounding; Mr. Charles Schmiedt is well to the fore as Admiral Armitage. Great amusement is caused by Mr. James Dallas in the rôle of Private Perks, this gentleman also undertaking the heavy responsibility of stage-management. The chorus and orchestra under the excellent direction of Mr. Harry Richardson call for much praise.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—No fault can be found with the varied programme submitted for the current week, including as it does Claver and Piccolo, the former an equilibrist and juggler of wonderful achievement, and the latter a humorous attendant who greatly adds to the enjoyment of the turn. Another equally smart performance is that of Stylo, who can juggle hoops with a precision that is very effective. The Wynford Brothers continue to exhibit their marvellous jumping talents, to the astonishment of the audience; Lennie and Hast in their new fantasy, *Coraline*, have scored their usual success; the Ringling Trio give an acrobatic absurdity "The Manager's Lunch." Prepossessing Beatrice Bonnie secures much applause with her songs, as does Mlle. De Rose, the lady baritone vocalist. J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, also appears. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are always up to date.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week Mr. Clifton Anderson's company is occupying the boards here in the drama, *Held Apart; or, The Painted Woman*. Mr. Anderson is most successful as John Douglas, the Laird of Glen Ross; and Mr. John Hood portrays with ability the evil machinations of James Douglas, alias James Barlow. The part of his confederate, Quila Garcia, a creole, is excellently portrayed by Miss Ethyl Murray. Mr. A. W. Norman is good as Capt. Ford; and Mr. E. G. Batley affords much amusement in his clever embodiment of Hugh Trevor. Mr. Robert Drysdale also creates amusement as the shepherd, Andrew Macpherson. Miss Ruby Loncraine plays with much grace and feeling the part of the heroine Sybil Grey.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The famous comedy, *Charley's Aunt*, has this week met with more success than ever. A capital cast deserve much commendation for their clever performance, and there is none more worthy of praise than Mr. Stanley Cooke, whose assumption of Lord Fancourt Babberley would certainly be difficult to surpass. Success has also been secured by Mr. Hastings Lynn, who was an admirable Jack Chesney; and Mr. C. B. Keston as Col. Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., must be congratulated on his fine assumption. Miss Lilyan Lait was a sweet and attractive Kitty Verdeen; and Miss Kitty Carew and Miss Gladys Storey were decidedly charming as Amy Spettigue and Ela Delahay; Miss Lena McNaughton was a capital Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, acting with much skill; and Mr. Walter Beaumont furnished a clever character impersonation of Stephen Spettigue, solicitor; Mr. Richard B. Mason was an excellent Charley Wykeham; and Mr. Sydney Compton was the college scout, Brasset, to the life. The one-act play, by Mr. Brandon Thomas, entitled *Fourchette and Co.*, was a capital curtain-raiser, the various parts being admirably sustained by Miss Gladys Storey and Messrs. C. B. Keston, Sydney Compton, and George Ellis.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. Sam Mayo tops the bill here; and a hit of no small magnitude has been made by Hayman and Franklin, in their entertainment entitled *A Matrimonial Agency;* the Cee-Mee Troupe, thrill all with their sensational aerial gymnastic performance; Miss Flora Lumiere appears to advantage in her original act, entitled *The Fairy Grotto;* Farley, Rennie, and Farley amuse with their acrobatic absurdity, *Fun at a Railway Station;* and also appearing are Mr. J. Curry, comedian; Mr. Henri Bekker, a clever conjuror; Miss Adelina Yohle, songstress; and the Palace Pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Barton and Ashley top the bill, and this clever comedy duo have been most successful with their amusing act, *Canal Boat Sal;* a special wrestling exhibition is being furnished nightly by Mr. Pat Connolly; Miss Marie Kendall's catchy chorus songs find much favour; and Mr. Frank Lynne's comic songs have been hugely enjoyed; Miss Esta Stella is a refined comedienne and capital *danseuse;* and Viole plays a number of musical instruments to great advantage; Atroy's juggling feats cause much amazement; and others appearing are Mr. Steve McCarthy, comedian; and Mr. Chas. J. Johnson, "the Black Diamond," whose dancing is first-class.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry J. Downs.—This week, under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, jun., the drama *A Woman's Error* has been played with great success by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever actress, furnished a sympathetic rendering of Vanda, and added further laurels to her reputation here; Mr. Herbert Cecil was an admirable Doctor Foster; and the villainies of Captain Sutley were realistically portrayed by that talented actor, Mr. Horace Denton; Mr. Cyril Grier must be congratulated on his finished impersonation of Ralph Laurence; and Mr. H. Harold Allen was the Vicar to the life. A word of praise is due to Miss Alice Clarke for her clever impersonation of Sal Gosling; and Miss Lina Nazeby was all that could be desired as Vivienne Fallacia; Mr. Henry Elmose Frith was admirable as Stott Seeley; and the humour of the piece was in the safe hands of Miss Effie Macintosh as Eliza March, and Mr. W. G. Wesley as Noah Gosling. Little Rosie and Mr. S. Moselle completed the cast. The Alhambra Bioscope presents a most amusing picture, "Those Terrible Kids," which caused roars of laughter.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here with *The Woman Who Gambles*. The Countess of Miss Gertrude Hunt is marked by effectiveness; Miss Florrie Halton handles the rôle of Cora with much care; Mr. James Duncan plays the part of the Count intelligently; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair's Baron is characterised by great energy.

DRILL HALL.—The benefit on the 6th inst. to Mr. Alf Brookes was a decided success. In addition to the company of pierrots, the entertainment was supplemented by the efforts of Arthur Holland, impersonator; Edward Garner, vocalist; and Misses Edie Sinclair and Nellie Turner, sopranos.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. William Maclaren's company opened on Monday in a revival of *Claudian*, an excellent performance attracting a crowded house. Mr. Maclaren submitted a scholarly and highly effective rendering of Claudian, receiving admirable support from Miss Lily C. Bandmann in the exacting and important rôle of Almida. Thariogalus was powerfully rendered by Mr. F. Owen Chalmers. Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner as Belos and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa played with much acceptance, and Mr. Edmund Grogan was an unexceptionable Theorus. The staging of the play was all that could be desired, and the visit of the company has given great satisfaction.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Brothers Egbert, genuinely amusing comedians, head a strong combination, which also includes Miss Elsie Roby, comedienne; Mr. Fred Poplar, comedian; Rich and Rich, patterers; Miss Lily Vane, comedienne; Miss Kitty Wager, comedienne; Drum and Major, variety artists; Denby and Dent, comedians; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—By arrangement with Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Frank Bertram's company is appearing here this week in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Lieut. Reresby, called "The Rat," is ably sustained by Mr. H. Tripp Edgar; Mr. Cecil C. Klein plays the part of the Hon. Francis Tresham with marked success; Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford is in the capable hands of Mr. Richard A. Greene; Mr. Oswald Lingard is to be congratulated upon his acting as Viscount Dorsington; Mr. George Traill in the rôle of Colonel Sir Henry Curwen does creditable work; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice plays the part of Captain Stanhope with genuine ability, and Mr. Alec Flood as Colonel Bagshaw is also worthy of mention. As the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, Miss Florence Tressilian is most sympathetic; and Miss Celestine Bertram is all that can be desired as Batty.

BLACKPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is in possession here this week and doing immense business with *The Blue Moon*. The personnel of the company is quite above the average, and with beautiful scenery, pretty dresses, and a strong and tuneful chorus the result is a complete success. Mr. Edward Lewis as Moolraj, Mr. Bert Gilbert as Private Charles Taylor, and Miss Florence Smithson as Chandra Nil carry off first honours; other favourites are Mr. Herbert Clayton, who sings and acts well as Captain Ormsby, Mr. George Mudie, jun., who plays Bobbie Scott, and Miss Lulu Valli, who presents a charming picture of Millicent Leroy. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Ernest Harman, and Mr. Robert Macdonald is the general manager of the company.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Brigadier Gerard* is presented here this week by Mr. Lewis Waller's company. The title-rôle is capitally played by Mr. Loring Fernie, who infuses into the part all the requisite dash and spirit; Mr. Arthur Somers makes a good Napoleon, and Mr. George Mallett contributes a clever study of Talleyrand; Messrs. Penn Hamilton as Mons. D'Albert and Mr. James Crowe as Mons. Bassompierre likewise give every satisfaction; the Comtesse de Roquelaure has a capable representative in Miss Beatrice Lindley; and Miss Florence Denbigh is successful as Mère Lafitte. The scenery and dresses are in the best taste.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Crowded houses here accord a hearty welcome to Marie Lloyd, who is the "star" of the week. She sings her usual style of songs in her own inimitable way, and evokes a perfect tumult of applause at every performance. The Miles Stavordale Quintette are retained by reason of their great success, and the same remark applies to Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes. Other good turns are contributed by Frances Haskoll, in her illusory novelty, *The Vocal Chameleon;* Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer; Harry Brown, the coloured comedian; Edmund Bosanquet, the violin virtuoso; the Llewelyns, operatic artists; Ernest Montefiore and company in a sketch; Madge Osmond, male impersonator; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, showing the best and latest pictures.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—A very attractive company is engaged here this week. There is no particular big-type artist, but each one is of good repute. The bill includes J. W. Rickaby, comedian; the Black Troubadours, vocalists; Nellie Martell, comedienne; Dale and Vale, singers and dancers; the New York Nippers, in a sketch entitled *Bedtime;* J. A. Wilson, comedian, with his dog, Towser; the Karnos, in *The Traveller's Rest;* Leolard Brothers, comedy clowns; the Lashmars, comedians; and the Phydoras, in their speciality act.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company, with *The Shadow of a Crime*, has scored a decided success here. In the character of Harry Bullington, Mr. Stephen Crossley wins success; Mr. J. H. Manley submits a well-studied impersonation of Sir Edward Bullington; Mr. Robert Forder ably sustains the part of Ralph Esmond; Mr. William Matthews gives proof of experience in the character of Jim Murdock; and the humorous element is liberally supplied by Mr. E. W. Avery and Mr. Alfred Richards, Miss May Rosaine being much in evidence as Mrs. Brown. The Loyall Norman of Miss Ina Grant is a pleasing portrayal; Miss Dorothy Riddle as Dora Bullington wins favour; and Miss B. St. Ruth as Sarah evokes applause.

HIPPODROME.—Pictures still hold the premier position in the programme provided by Mr. George E. Good, who has been liberally patronised. The variety turns for the present week have been supplied by Miss Ada Maud, described as "the ideal boy"; George Willan, quaint comedian; Amy Bathurst, a clever top boot and sand dancer; and the Two Ogdens, patter comedians.

GAIETY.—Proprietor, Mr. John Grantham; Manager, Mr. Snoudini James.—Topping the bill at the above cosy hall are the Lilian Brothers, society acrobats, in a pleasing turn; James and James, sketch artists; the Coulthards, vocalists and dancers; J. W. Shedill, mimic; Will Fordeck, clog dancer; Marie Durey, soprano; Moranda Brothers, novel entertainers; and the Gaiety Bioscope are other attractions.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—An enthusiastic reception was accorded Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company on Monday, when *Oliver Twist* was presented to a Bolton audience. Mr. William Mackintosh, in the arduous rôle of Fagin, the Jew, played with telling effect, his display of terror in the condemned cell being a specially fine piece of acting; Mr. Cecil A. Collins scored in his delineation of Bill Sikes, strongly bringing out the harsh and brutal nature of the burglar; Mr. T. Macfarlane was successful as the Artful Dodger; whilst his fellow members of the gang, Charlie Bates, Tom Chitling, and Barney, were respectively well embodied by Mr. Christmas Grose, Mr. Frederick Clive, and Mr. Max Montesole; Mr. E. C. Buffum effectively portrayed the benevolent old gentleman, Mr. Brownlow; Mr. Grimwig had a competent exponent in Mr. T. P. Haynes; Mr. C. H. Croker-King submitted a skilful characterisation of the villainous and mysterious Monks; and Mr. Harvey Braban was a manly Harry Maylie. The part of Oliver Twist was entrusted to Miss Maudie Ray, who played the part with much care and judgment; Miss Marie Polini gave a realistic and sympathetic interpretation of the part of Nancy; Mr. Henri C. Jacobs and Miss Betty made the most of the parts of Mr. and Mrs. Bumble; Miss Saville presented an easy and graceful portraiture of Rose Maylie, and Miss Elsie Carew as Mrs. Maylie, and Miss Helen Boucher as Mr. Brownlow's housekeeper, Mrs. Bedwin, utilised all their opportunities. Mr. Stanley Bell is the business manager.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week's programme includes many good turns. Among them are the Onlaw Trio, who give a clever turn as Parisian novelty equilibrists; Miss Molly Woolstenhulme, described as the Lancashire Nightingale; J. G. Aitken, comedian; Ethel Loftus, comedy girl; the Boston Twins, speciality comedians, in patter, song, and dance; the Herald Comedy Four, vocalists and dancers; Geoffreys and Benson, in their laughable comedy sketch, *Spoofed;* the Fitzroys give a smart entertainment as society gymnasts; Myra Love, comedienne; Percy Farrimond, the Standish singing collier; Kuroki, a clever Japanese magician; Franco Piper, banjo soloist; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Horace Moseley and company in the drama entitled *The Betrayer*. Mr. J. W. Wallbank gave a capital portrayal of Jack Reynolds; Miss Mollie George was pleasing as Deela Kingston; and Mr. Horace Moseley created plenty of merriment as Martin Doyle.

BOSTON.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—This week the great attraction here is Edward Rainer in the world-famed episode, *Humanity*. Mr. E. Rainer as the Jew was excellent, and the other characters were well taken. The sketch, *His Majesty's Coastguard*, received much applause, also the comedy sketch, *The Sleepwalker*. The varieties include Wheeler and Wilson, comedy acrobats; Radford and Grey, Walter Bentley, and Gladys Merwade.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Mouillot's company in *San Toy* is the attraction this week. Miss Bessie Allayne, a comedienne of ability, plays the title-rôle with great variety; Captain Bobby Preston could not be in better hands than Mr. Arthur Cartwright's; Mr. Robert Rivers, one of the breeziest members of the company is well suited as Sir Bingo Preston; a most successful exponent of the Emperor is found in Mr. W. Jordan; and Mr. Bert Edwards as Li causes considerable laughter; Miss Lottie Sergeant is distinctly good as Dudley, a part which suits her admirably; while Miss Maud Rundell as Rose Tucker dances delightfully.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Musical comedy still reigns supreme here, and a hearty welcome greeted the return visit of Mr. William Greet's company on Monday with *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. William Stephens, who retains his old character of Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, elicits roars of laughter. He has a capital colleague in Miss Jeanie Richards as Liza Shoddam. With much success Mr. Arthur Harrold fills the part of Dick Wargrave; Mr. Percy E. Wright is good as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Will Hindson's Downham is a capital performance; Mr. Greene Taylor's Mr. Talk is a good character sketch; Mr. Tom Redmond makes the most of his opportunities as Host Hazell; and Mr. Courtin is a blustering Bunker Bliss. Miss Beatrice Anderson realises the character of the Strong Lady perfectly; Miss Frances Earle charmingly fills the part of the heiress Elphin Haye; and Daisy Fallowfield is gracefully represented by Miss Gertrude Melville. Repose and dignity are features of Miss Mary Morison's impersonation of Miss Virginia Bliss, and Miss Hilda Gray is all that can be desired as Flora (Lady Rosedale). Mr. Evelyn Baker has the augmented orchestra and chorus well in hand.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Walter Melville's striking drama, *Her Second Time on Earth*, forms the present strong attraction. Miss Hilda Beverley has scored an unmistakable success in the part of the unscrupulous Dora Grey. As Guy Brand Mr. W. H. Porter supports her well; Mr. Frank R. Robertson plays Jack Carlton effectively; and as Laura Norman Miss Dorothy Hildebrande is good.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The centre of attraction here this week is George Lashwood, whose charm of style and personality continue to win unstinted admiration. Lottie Govell, comedienne, contributes acceptably to the programme; the Wedburns are again eliciting laughter; Lilian Lowe, on a welcome return visit, contributes some charming songs; a capital musical sketch, *The Itinerant*, given by the Norman Leonard Trio, meets with favour; and in their sketch, *Tranquillity*, Alice May and company are distinctly diverting. As an up-to-date comedy juggler, O. K. Sato, is most amusing; Dot Hardy provides extravagant fun as a little slavey; as a comedienne and dancer Marie Reeve is decidedly clever; and "Laughs" is an apt title for the turn given by the Poluskis.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—In a series of classical poses and clever ring feats those muscular and finely developed athletes, the Athlones, elicit great applause; Baker and Belphor's finely rendered songs are beautifully illustrated; Maude Beaumont presents an imposing figure as a comedienne; in their bar act Zaro and Arno are clever and grotesque; Maidie Scott has a charm and quaint style as a comedienne that are quite unique; Harry Cotton's extravagant military song is humorous; Tom Yorke, comedian, is acceptable; the Six Brothers Luck in *The Demon of the Cellar* are responsible for hearty laughter; and humorous pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—The New Century company have added to their list of attractions here *The Chonophone*, a marvellous deception in the shape of "Speaking Pictures," which are arousing much interest.

AL FRESCO PAVILION.—A burlesque, *Aladdin, Esquire*, and smart juggling feats by Frank Hartley, strengthen the customary programme of music and comedy.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—A large and fashionable audience was present in the Grand Pavilion on Monday evening, to do honour to the popular manager of the Parade, on the occasion of his annual benefit, when an elaborate programme was presented. Herr Winternitz and his Royal Viennese orchestra opened with that charming composition, composed by the conductor for the visit of the Lord Mayor of London, "L'Entente Cordiale," and they also gave a fine rendering of the overture to *Poet and Peasant*. Mr. Arthur Chenery and his Willow Pattern Serenaders contributed some of their choicest songs and choruses; Miss Annie Bartle, whose rich soprano voice has made her a favourite here, was rewarded with a double encore, as was also that charming little prodigy, Miss Haidee Voorzanger, whose violin solos were given with all the fire and dash of an accomplished musician. Mrs. Palmer, the talented wife of the beneficiare, sang with her accustomed pleasing effect, her powerful contralto voice greatly delighting the audience. Mr. Charles Beanland that delightfully original comedian, was very amusing in his humorous songs, and kept the house in roars at his many "funniosities"; Mr. H. Flockton Foster's costume comedy company gave some capital items; Mr. A. Hubner's humorous conjuring turn was laughable; and Professor A. Voorzanger contributed a finely rendered solo on the saxophone. The Loyal Dominion Animated Picture Company showed some very fine pictures in coloured animated photography; the Waterloo Pierrots, in their cleverly played sketch, *The Secret*, were heartily received, the part of the manservant giving Mr. Chas. Beanland a good opportunity of showing his peculiar style of humour to advantage. During an interval in the programme Mr. Palmer thanked the audience for their appreciation of his endeavours during the season to cater for the entertainment of the large crowds of visitors who flock to the Parade, and took this mark of their approval as an indication that his efforts to provide the best of talent on the Parade and in the new Pavilion was satisfactory to his patrons.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—A grand gala night on Monday was set apart for the benefit of Herr Simon Wurm, the musical director, whose fine orchestra, the Imperial Viennese Band, has been so well received at the promenade concerts during the season. Their several contributions to the programme were admirably rendered, especially that fine composition of Tschaikowsky's, "1812." Miss Margaret Cooper gave a selection of her clever "songs at the piano"; Mr. Charles Knowles sang with all that fine effect which his fine baritone voice can give; and Miss Emilie Martin's songs were very nicely sung. Those clever duettists and dancers, Misses Aidee and Doris Woods, the New Zealand twins, did their utmost to amuse; and the Strolling Players contributed several delightful songs, duets, and concerted pieces. Herr Van der Naaten gave a brilliant pianoforte solo, with orchestral accompaniment; and Herr Wurm is to be congratulated upon the crowded and appreciative audience which had assembled to show their good wishes towards him as the musical director of the delightful Spa Promenade Concerts.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—Mr. J. W. Nicholson, that delightful Yorkshire humorist, is delighting the audiences here this week with his highly amusing songs and patter; the Victoria Brothers are giving some clever international dances; Joseph Hennessey is a smart club manipulator; Miss Grace Logan sings and dances charmingly; Cinizelli does some amusing comedy juggling; and Miss Lola Vereker, a mezzo-soprano, sings some good songs. The animated pictures are kept well up to date, and the Lennards continue to please with their illustrated songs. Thursday is set apart for the benefit of Mrs. Hubner, who has made herself very popular with the frequenters of the Palace, and a big bill was provided for the occasion.

SUMMER GARDENS. — Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Dantoff; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—Animated pictures are a new feature at this popular resort, and the Pierrots are contributing a special programme in the old "nigger minstrel" style. H. B. Coda took his benefit on the 6th inst., when he was rewarded with a full house, and a big programme was presented.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company opened a week's engagement here on Monday, with *Lohengrin*. The opera was superbly staged and dressed, the chorus and augmented orchestra displayed excellent work, and the duties of conductor were in the experienced hands of Mr. Eugene Goossens. Mr. Julius Walther achieved great success as Lohengrin; Miss Grace Nicoll sang and acted charmingly as Elsa; Miss Marie Alexander gave a very impressive and artistic portrayal of Ortrud; and Mr. Charles Victor was realistic as Telramund; Mr. John Ebbeler, as the King, and Mr. Frederick Clendon, as the Herald, merit warm praise. The programme for the week also included *Faust, Carmen, Tannhäuser, Il Trovatore, Fidelio*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*The Span of Life* occupies the boards here this week. Miss Ella Willmer gives an admirable impersonation of the heroine, Kate Heathcote; and Mr. Kyburn Dellar submits a fine portrayal of the hero, Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffat is convincing as the villainous Dunstan Leech; and much fun is afforded by Miss Kitty Russell as Shrove Tuesday and Mr. Walter Dale as Nutty Brown. The Almo Trio of acrobats add considerably to the success of the drama. The piece is capitally staged, the lighthouse scene and the "human bridge" being especially noteworthy.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard. — An attractive programme is sustained here this week. Miss Mabel Bardino and company appear with distinct success in the American sketch, *Nell of the Music Hall;* Tom Leamore, comedian, is as popular as

BROMLEY.—LYRIC THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. Carlton; Manager, Mr. H. Strong.—A successful engagement is being paid this week by the celebrated Indian actress, Go-won-go-Mohawk, in the drama *Wep-ton-no-Mah*. She gives an excellent representation of the title part. That of Colonel Stockton is admirably played by Mr. C. W. Charles. Mr. Pasco Bioletti enacts with credit the adventurer Manuel Lopes; and Mr. L. F. Vernon is good as Captain Franklin. The chief Go-ne Gua is ably represented by Mr. Edwin Standish. Much fun is introduced by Mr. Guy D. Hackney and Mr. Danny Ryan as Sam White and Garry Cullen respectively. Nellie Stockton is sweetly played by Miss Winnie Goepel; and Miss Dora Pass is a whimsical Miss Matilda Sniffles.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company is this week presenting *A City of Sin* to good houses. Mr. Conrad Heywood works hard and successfully as Paul Lorraine; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman is an excellent villain; Miss Edith Wallis gives a good performance of Alice Bertrand, and Mr. Wilfred Grahame works well as Zip Barzon. Many comical incidents are contributed by Mr. C. H. Spencer and Miss Elvira Stuart as Mr. and Mrs. Bibi Lebouf, and by Mr. Val. W. Gully and Miss Polly Denville as Mr. and Mrs. Titi Culotte. Ilma is well sustained by Miss Jenny Weston.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. W. C. Horner.—Crowded houses are being attracted by Mr. George Dance's company in *The Orchid*. Mr. Colin Campbell is responsible for much fun as Meakin; Mr. Sinclair Holden gives a clever representation of Guy Scrymgeour; and Mr. Lois du Cane is an able Dr. Faussett. Mr. Stenson Liddard makes a dignified Aubrey Chesterton; Mr. Edward Nainby causes many laughs as Comte Raoul; and Mr. J. R. Val does some clever dancing as Zaccary. Miss Gladys Ward as Josephine sings her songs in a charming manner; Miss Dorothy Firmin is a pleasing Lady Violet; Miss Jessie Bonney as Thisbe is most acceptable; Miss Emily Stevens is quite at home as Caroline Vokins; and Miss Ethel Holdsworth is smart as the Countess Anstruthers.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Atlas and Vulcana and the sisters Gwen and Maude Atlas head the bill here this week, and their turn is highly appreciated, the classic poses of Miss Atlas being of great beauty. Venie Clements makes quite a hit with her "Baby" impersonation; Paul Vandy is a smart and amusing juggler; Will Walton is a good comedian; and the Bros. Dean are loudly recalled for their excellent dancing. Geo. Young, a blind musician, is a good turn; the Bristons are smart in an acrobatic and cycling turn; and an extra turn, a lady who has a good voice, sings several songs in a capital manner.

BURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Love that Women Desire* is being played here this week by a capable company. Mr. Fred Lloyd makes a fine Philip Carnaby, and is assisted by Miss L. Stanhope, who acts charmingly as Sibyl Thorburn; Mr. Charles Herberte is good as Frank Hardy; Mr. J. O. Stewart as Squire Abingdon, Mr. Alfred Grenville as Richard Abingdon, and Miss Alice N. Livesey as Madge Abingdon act well together. Good comedy work is put in by Miss Helen Richmond, Mr. J. Hignett, and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.

THE CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Instead of the usual variety show, the stage is occupied by Mr. John Leopold's company in *New Frivolity*. The Leopolds are clever acrobats and fun-makers, and are assisted by Mr. Watson Hulme and Mr. Barry Lupino.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A capital programme is presented here, and includes Boccaccios, trio of Italian singers; Pichel troupe of Risley acrobats; the Dixons, baton spinners and dancers; Little Beattie, comedienne and dancer; Jack Truman, vocalist; Caillers, in a herculean act; the Weimars in a little comedy; Leon and Williams, comedians; and Calile and Walker in a little act.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Crack.—The autumn season opened here on Monday night with Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King*. A powerful rendering of the title-rôle is given by Mr. Horace E. Herbert, Mr. Oswald Cray being no whit behind in his clever portrayal of The Spider. Mr. Percy Foster is successful as Jaikes, and the same may be said of Mr. Seton Barnard and Mr. Ralph in their respective rôles of Cripps and Henry Corket; Mr. William Dempsey is amusing as Elijah Coombe. Miss B. Doyle gains the sympathy of the audience as Nellie Denver, acting with much charm; and Miss Madge Gillard is a pleasing Cissie.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—*What the Butler Saw* made its first appearance in Buxton on Monday evening, when the farce had an excellent representation by Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company. Mr. Lionel Rignold was a host in himself as Pink (the Butler), and the audience roared with laughter at his drollery. Mr. Charles Fawcett made a bright and amusing Jack Barrington and Mr. Reddick Anderson a satisfactory Sir Charles Foden; Mr. Harry Rignold was funny as Abraham Weinstein; Mr. Louis Ringard was well suited as Sydney Clifford; and Mr. Alec Alves did well as Vere de Bogyns. Mr. Roy Byford caused much amusement as Professor Phale, and Mr. Frank Kingsley was effective as Dr. Clayton. Miss Marie Daltra acted with spirit the part of Miss Foden; and Miss Jennie Wigney was a dainty Nora. Miss Clarissa and Miss Selina Dunlop had able representatives in Miss Hylda Davies and Miss Vera O'Connell; Miss Violet Gould and Miss Annie Goward added to the merriment as Mrs. Fleming Smyth and Mrs. Hake; Miss Minnie Willett was a sprightly Sophonisba Hake and Miss Dorothy Garth well placed as Pink's Maria. Miss Ada Blanche's clever work as Mrs. Barrington cannot be too highly commended. The farce was excellently staged. On Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Kendal opened with *The Housekeeper*.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Prince of Pilsen* was presented on Monday evening to a full house by Mr. George Musgrove's principal company. Mr. Martin Adeson, in the part of Hans Wagner, has a rôle just suited to his abilities; Mr. Lawrence Wensley as Lord Arte is another excellent comedian, who fairly brings down the house; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold as Lieut. Wagner sings and acts very well indeed; and Mr. J. B. Fox in the title-rôle makes the part a conspicuous success. Miss Millicent Marsden as Mrs. Crocher deserves all the admiration she receives, her rendering of the captivating Yankee being quite irresistible; Miss Nellie Barnwell as Edith Adams has ample opportunities of displaying her fine vocal powers, while Miss Isa Bowman is a charming exponent of Nellie Wagner. Mr. Alfred Selby as Francois and Miss Nell Emerald as Sidonie are capital representatives of their difficult parts; the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. T. M. Tunbridge.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*The Lights o' London* is being presented here by Mr. Herbert Hollister's company. Mr. G. Montague Lane acts most effectively as Harold Armytage, and Miss Jennie Burgoyne gives a natural and sympathetic rendition of Bess; Clifford Armytage is well sustained by Mr. Raymond Thomas, and Seth Preene has a clever and faithful representative in Mr. Herbert Hollister; while a dignified Squire Armytage is found in Mr. Sidney N. Hallows.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The Two McNaughtons are at the head of the bill this week; Mlle. De Dio's dances win great admiration; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts provide a capital turn; a laughable sketch is that of *The Cuckoo*, played by Chas. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum; Alice Lloyd is as charming as ever in her delightfully rendered songs; and Park's Eton Boys are a capital combination of juvenile vocalists; Jake Friedman, the one-man opera; Forest and King, skilful gymnasts; and the Bioscope, with interesting pictures, complete an excellent programme.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—*The Geisha* has evidently lost little of its popularity, as the house was crowded on the opening night, and the production—by Mr. Mouillot's company—had a most hearty reception. Miss Lydia Bland pleased everyone as O Mimosa San—her numbers were rendered in good style and with artistic effect; Molly Seymour had a chic and dainty representative in Miss Edith Adeson, who soon became a warm favourite; Miss Doris Langdon acted with gaiety and animation as O Juliette Diamante, and the imposing figure and stately style of Miss Winifred Knightly were admirably suited to the character she portrayed. As Wun Hi Mr. Edward Kipling was quite up to all the traditional business of the part, his songs and dances creating the usual laughter and applause; Miss Emily Lovell made a lively little midshipman; Mr. Wilfrid Heath acquitted himself admirably as Reginald Fairfax, and sang the numbers allotted to him to the satisfaction of his audience; the Marquis Imari was successfully impersonated by Mr. J. H. Booth, who made every point tell and contributed a fine performance.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Lockhart's elephants are the big attraction this week, and the wonderful tricks performed by these intelligent animals provoked the utmost enthusiasm; Herman Melot is a marvel of deftness in conjuring, and although we have had many clever artists in the line here lately, none has had a heartier reception; Charles Banks, with his educated dog, is a popular turn, and B. H. Athol sings descriptive songs tastefully and with excellent effect; Bishop and Hanlon, smart knockabouts and funny patterers, create roars of laughter; Mack Ollive, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry, in his whistling scena from *The Belle of New York*, makes a big hit; Raie Walters is a delightful and versatile comedienne; new pictures by the Pepiscope and cleverly executed selections by the excellent orchestra presided over by Mr. Henry Hinchcliffe are always popular items of the programme.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—*The White Chrysanthemum* is making its first appearance in Chatham this week, and Mr. Frank Curzon is to be congratulated upon the all-round excellence of the production. Miss Lulu Evans sustains the title-rôle in creditable style; Miss Daisy Le Hay makes a sprightly young widow of Betty Kenyon; and Miss Kate Vesey gains much popularity as the American heiress Cornelia Vanderdecken; Mr. O. E. Lennon's Sing Chong is capital; Mr. Horace Mills, as Chippy Belmont, gives a most amusing reading of the part; Mr. F. Pope Stamper makes an ideal Lieut Reginald Armitage; and Mr. W. H. Rawlins is particularly well suited to the part of Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; and the nimble Perks of Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., must not be overlooked Dresses and scenery are admirable.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—After a lengthy interval Dutch Daly is delighting Barnard's patrons with quaint patter and clever concertina playing. Carson Hicks is a dancer with some neat steps; Florence and Lillian's musical selections are greatly appreciated; and Fred Fuller and company have a lively musical scena, *The Shoeblack's Dream*. Also appearing are the three Rosslyn Girls, Jack Lane (yokel comedian), and Lucy Coventry (singer and acrobatic dancer). Lacey's Erascope is responsible for pictures of the international boatrace.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Here we have Carlotta Lunn, vocalist; the Great Northern Troupe, in their well-known terpsichorean act; Victor Travers, a man with many jokes; Geo. Antill, legmania dancer; Harry Bent, with imitations of Gus Elen, Chirgwin, and other stars; Gracie Grahame, who is making a big hit with "It's a shame to take the money" and her "Fishing" song; Charles East and company, who are highly entertaining in *£1,000 for a Baby*; and the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—On Monday Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Levaux's company presented *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*. Mr. Reginald Dance in the title-part is cool, polished, and very clever; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton is natural and convincing as Colonel Rayner; Miss Gladys Mason is charming as Lady Clarice; Miss Mary Weigall is capital as the Marchioness; Miss May Brooke as the appalling Lady Clementina is good; Mr. Edwards Coutts and Miss Eve Titheradge are bright and youthful as the ingénue lovers, Lord Woolham and Aggie Coles; Miss Agnes Gunn gives a clever little sketch as Miss Pelling; Mr. George A. Seager as Sir Bartholomew and Mr. Russell Barry as Mr. Goddlestone act with all due point; Mr. George Percy makes the most of his small part of the parson; Miss Helen Tytter as Mrs. Mellon, Mr. V. Vernon Travers as Mr. Mellon, Mr. Gerald Henson as Alfie do well; Miss Dorothy Haigh as Miss Brevell and Miss Muriel Mason as Mary are good. *The Drums of Oude* precedes the comedy, affording fine opportunities for strong work on the parts of Miss Gladys Mason, Mr. Reginald Dance, and Mr. Edward Coutts.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Wordsworth.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, with the drama *The Little Bread-Winner*, forms the attraction here. Mr. Eugene Santley shows ability in the part of Lord William Derrington; in the title-rôle Little Emmie Thomas is sprightly and vivacious; Miss Mary Fulton plays with sympathy the part of Margaret Daventry; Mr. Alfred Maurice well sustains the rôle of Joseph Prior; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam is deserving of praise for her portrayal of Kate Cherry. Mr. Matthew Boulton makes a sympathetic Richard Lawrence; and Mr. Allen Charles is amusing as Charles Prior.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. A. Hemingway.—This week we have a return visit from Ediscope and Barnum's animated pictures and vaudeville company, under the management of Mr. J. B. Kennedy. Vela gives a remarkably clever and acceptable wire act; the Two Ver-Vains are excellent coon singers and dancers; Stilto, the American stilt performer, is clever; as is also Vie Verney, speciality whistler. Lulu is a refined lady instrumentalist. The bill also includes the Oldham Singing Mill Girl; Mons. Reni and his clever dog; Mlle. Corlettie, songstress; Miss Queenie Vane, comedienne and dancer; and the Cedrics, refined comedy artists, all of whom are particularly effective in their various turns.

CLACTON-ON-SEA. — PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietors, Palace, Clacton-on-Sea, Ltd.—Goggin and Davis, who give a smart show, top the bill here for this week. Other turns are Field and Lewis, smart comedy artists; Ruby Wentworth, male impersonator; Edgar Berte, raconteur; Kloof and Ramsey, a smart musical comedy turn; Miss Vera Mayne, comedienne; and George Fairburn, comedian and mimic.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Ch. Macdona; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr. Mouillot's principal company gave *A Message from Mars* to good houses. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley as Horace Parker played with force and character; and Mr. Bruce Lindley as the Tramp came out well. On Thursday and Friday, Mr. Chas. Windermere's company gave the farcical comedy, *Facing the Music*.

PIER PAVILION.—Mr. Foden Williams, humorist; Miss Dorothy Payn, comedienne; Mr. Bret Hayden, comedian; and Miss Birdie Bickerton, soprano, are the artists here this week. The Walturdaw animated pictures are most interesting.

BAND STAND CONCERTS.—The artists engaged this week for the Council's concerts by Mr. J. Sainton are Messrs. Frank A. Wood, tenor; and Mr. Reginald Mountfield, humorist.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—Mr. Frederick Melville's latest dramatic success, *The Beast and the Beauty*, is staged here this week. Mr. Milton Rosmer is worthy of high praise for his admirable rendering of the hero, Jack Barrymore; Mr. George Harvard gives a powerful embodiment of the much-wronged Ned Samson; Mr. Bernard Mervyn makes an unscrupulous Henry Denver, and is ably assisted by Miss Daisy Gwynne as Delliah Vane; Lord Loman has a good exponent in Mr. William C. Passmore; Miss Alice Bowes looks and acts charmingly as Violet, the flower girl. Mr. Harry Talbot is a clever comedian, and as Tom Chicken is the cause of much merriment; Mr. James Neal as Joe Pugsley and Mr. Harry Wimpeny as Dick Soanes also do some smart comic work.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—On Monday Mr. Charles Windermere and his company, in *Facing the Music*, opened here before a fashionable audience. The part of the other Mr. Smith was taken by Mr. Windermere himself, and his performance kept the house in a titter; Mr. C. C. Freer as the Curate, and Mr. Wentworth Fane as Dick Desmond, were nicely placed; whilst a capital pair were Mr. W. H. G. Wynne as the fiery Colonel, and Mr. Henry Nelson as the Vine-street Police-sergeant. Miss Kathleen Willoughby as Mabel, Miss Clare Manifield as Nora, and Miss Mary Buckstone as the Bijou girl, were each of them very fascinating; and quite a hit was made by Miss Evelyn Sherry as the tactful housekeeper, Mrs. Ponting. For Thursday the attraction was a return visit of Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl*.

HIPPODROME.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—The Daunton Shaw troupe of cyclists are this week paying a return visit, and make a capital top of the bill. A big draw is Miss Lily Iris, a charming songstress, with a sextette of beautiful young ladies, who dance and pose in a most refined manner *à la* the Gibson girls, this turn nightly receiving vociferous applause; Eddie Stidder and Gwennie Dunbar are capital in a musical comedy speciality; Edwin Thomas is to be congratulated on his success as a comedian, this being his first week on any stage as a professional; Flora Leonard well sustains her reputation as a vocalist; and Harry Morgan shines as a coon comedian and dancer.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with *Veronique*. As Mme. Coquenard, Miss Ethel Negretti scored a distinct success, her rendering of the air, "The Apple Tree," being loudly encored; Miss Blanche Grahame in the title-rôle sang and acted with grace and skill, presenting a most attractive heroine; Mr. Roland Bottomley as Florestan sustained the part capitally, singing most artistically; and there was much humour in the Loustod of Mr. Fred Lyne. Mr. Leslie Holland as Mons. Coquenard was exceedingly droll; and Miss Lena Maitland as the Countess, Miss May Leslie as Aunt Benoit, and Miss Gracie Sinclaire as Denise lent excellent aid.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The principal attraction here this week bears the title *Moses and Son*, and is Fred Karno's latest creation. In it some thirty artists—all Hebrews—take part. There are three scenes, and the incidents and dialogue are very laughter-provoking. The Sisters Poole, dancers and duettists, win applause; George Gulliver, ventriloquist, with his one figure, affords much amusement; the Maros, in a horizontal bar comedy act, prove themselves skilful performers; and Clare Walters gives imitations on the piano, and plays and dances at the same time. The Four Hearnes, comedy acrobats, are responsible for a performance of genuine merit.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—A return visit of Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 company in the domestic play, *The Drama of Life*, is attracting considerable attention at this house. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton shows great dramatic power in his excellent rendering of Harry Beech; while Miss Kate Hallan is again seen in her successful impersonation of Sylvia Beech; Mr. John J. Hooker gives a good account of the villain, Walter Beech; Mr. E. B. Foote is pleasing as Richard Brenton; Mr. H. Maxwell Payne is seen to advantage as Jack Lawton; Mr. Edward Van Bienne is effective as the Count de Foi. The light side of the play is capitally presented by Mr. Harwood Roberts and Miss Florence French as Sir Dobson Wilde and Lady Wilde respectively. A special word of praise should be given Miss Elsie May, a clever juvenile actress, as Master Robert Beech.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—Tom Edwards is one of the chief turns here, and gives a ventriloquial sketch which quite justifies the honour. Sid Cotterell and company appear in an amusing sketch entitled *The Substitute*; Dave O'Tool, comedian, is well received, and gives some good songs; Ossi Souplessi is a clever contortionist and acrobat; Miss Lucretia, burlesque artist; Elsie Earl, comedienne; Miss Challas, a capital vocalist, are also here; and the animated pictures conclude the performance.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. William Greet's company is amusing visitors here in *The Earl and the Girl*. The scenery, dresses, and chorus are worthy of special mention. Mr. William Cromwell is quaint and curious in the rôle of Jim Cheese; Mr. Robert Hyett's free and easy style admirably fits the part of Dick Wargrave; Mr. Stanley Harrison is seen to advantage as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. A. E. Coleby is capitally suited to the character of A. Bunker Bliss; Mr. Frank Cane is the racy Yankee, Downham, to the life; Mr. Arthur Cassidy is excellent as Mr. Talk; Mr. Fred W. Pattrick makes the most of Mr. Hazel; and good work is done by Messrs. Charles Greenhill, Wilfred Norman, and F. Payne-Palmer, as Dudley, George, and Hugo. Miss Gertrude Simpson is full of life and gaiety as Elphin Haye; Miss Florence Wix is delightfully fresh as 'Liza Shoddam; Miss Nellie Grant scores in the rôle of Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Eva Bevington is bright and attractive as Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Helen Langton is satisfactory as the charming Miss Virginia Bliss. Misses Helen Malo, Grace Massey, Dolly Hunt, and Nellie Lawrence also give a good account of themselves.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Harry Michael's company in the military drama, *Death or Glory Boys*, is proving attractive here this week. Mr. J. E. Manning as Colonel Fergeson is well placed; Mr. Fred Morgan as Capt. Glyn Ferrers acts with power; the rôle of Lieut. Duff is ably sustained by Mr. Bert Morley; Mr. Arthur Bawtree earns distinction as Jack Malden; Mr. J. P. Dryden as Carn is exceptionally amusing; Mr. A. P. Kaye as Nat Wilks is adequate; Mr. Ashton Winslow as Sergeant Bryan is very good; and Mr. Groves as Sam deserves praise. Miss Minnie Grey as Nena Fergeson displays talent; Miss Nellie Fletcher as Edith Malden makes a good impression; Miss May Seton is smart as Jane; and Miss C. Harris is commendable as Mrs. Bryan.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—Crowded houses here are testifying their approval of the entertainment submitted by Mr. Jay. Will Friedo is a clever comedian and dancer; Roze and Calvert, refined comedy duo, are irresistible in their whimsical act; Viviana is a smart and vigorous dancer; Irene Meldon, comedienne and dancer, deserves warm congratulations; Roxborough and Wright are amusing in sketch *Cockie*; Charles Mildare's whistling turn is excellent; the Elvio Comedy Trio bring down the house with their droll knock about sketch; and the animated pictures of the Boat Race are worth seeing. A big hit is made by Fred Ginnett and company in the equestrian episode, *Turpin's Ride to York*, the mare Black Bess being quite up to her business.

PUBLIC HALL.—Gale and Polden's animated pictures, showing scenes of naval and military life in the King's service, are winning approbation here. The show is an exceptionally good one, and the hall is being crowded nightly.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S CIRCUS visited the town yesterday, and gave two performances.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A special attraction here this week is Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company. Miss Emélie Polini as Sunday plays the part to perfection; Mr. William Lockhart, in the character of Towser, is irresistibly diverting; Mr. Sidney Rennef contributes a clever study of Davy; Mr. Cecil Yapps as Lively does full justice to the part; the character of Tom Oxley is ably taken by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; Mr. Leonard Pagden makes a typical Colonel; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston as Arthur Brinthorpe is well suited to the rôle; Mr. Arthur Vezin's Jacky is admirable; and Miss Maimée Murray and Miss Muriel Pope add to the success.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company is appearing here this week in the historical drama entitled *The Days of Cromwell*. Ironhand, the avenger, is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Bolding; a capital portrayal is that of Mr. Robertson-Foulis, who undertakes the part of Sir Marsden Mardyke; Mr. T. R. White leaves little to be desired as Shadrack Shadwell; and Mr. Hardy in the rôle of Matthew Mardyke is also deserving of mention. Miss Gertrude Gilman is a pleasing Ruby Avondale; Miss Annie Clunn is good as Betsy; as is Miss May Bracey in the part of Mrs. Shadwell.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Leonard Dalrymple is presenting Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company in the sensational domestic drama, *At Midnight Chimes*. Mr. Percy Maitland is sufficiently villainous as Luke Dezzard; Dave Stannard has a manly exponent in Mr. John Raymond; Mary Stannard, is excellently portrayed by Miss Mary Campbell; and Mr. Herbert Belmore is a capital Ezra Gamble; the Tat Spavvin, a railway porter, of Witty Wattie Walton is, needless to say, responsible for laughter, and the popular comedian is well supported by Miss Madge Beresford as Suzette. Among the other characters worthy of mention are Miss May A. Hart, as Zamora, a Hindu girl; Miss Ethel Denville, as Little Davy; and Mr. Robert Hope, as P.C. Tibbott. The company also includes Messrs. Leonard Dalrymple, John Swire, H. Simpson, Lionel Stocken, Arthur J. Sanders, and Maurice Cook.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Harry Pleon and company in their burlesque scena, entitled, *P.C. Pudden*, form the chief attraction here this week, and are making the fun fast and furious. On Thursday and Friday they were to present a domestic drama, *The Folly of Being Too Sure*; Cole and Rags, described as America's funniest jugglers, are both diverting and clever; Linton, as a rope equilibrist, is successful; Hallam and Stanton appear to advantage in an acceptable musical comedy sketch; Lily Hayes is a charming coon comedienne; Little Tim is certainly a quaint comedian; Harry Vardon, the golfing ventriloquist, is very amusing; and the Palace Bioscope contributes to a good all-round programme.

DONCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The attraction here for Race Week is *Veronique*, the charming light opera, being presented by Mr. George Dance's principal company. Miss Agnes Tandy received a gratifying recognition of her ability in the part of Agatha; Miss Edith Devonshire evoked the warmest approbation by her presentation of the Countess de Champ d'Azur; Miss Nellie Wigley was delightful in the title-rôle; Miss Maude Leonard made an interesting Aunt Benoit; and Mr. Ellis Holland was well placed as Mons. Coquenard.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—There have been crowded houses at the Grand Theatre to witness Mr. G. P. Huntley's clever impersonation of *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*. It is a distinctly fine creation, quite original, and delightfully comic. Miss Millie Legarde was a fascinating picture as La Bolero, singing her songs with excellent intention and dancing with rare grace. Mr. Basil S. Foster makes a dashing Norman Popple; Platt, as enacted by that clever low comedy merchant, Mr. Charles M. Daly, was a quaint study. Miss Nellie Hodson was a piquant soubrette; her maid Louise was excellent. The two husbands were smartly represented by Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stevenson; the wives charmingly played by Miss Katie Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt. Mr. FitzSimon made the most of his chances as the Hon. Kerr Buretta, and the other parts were in excellent hands. The scenery and appointments are quite adequate, and the business arrangements are in the clever hands of that well-known actor-singer and manager, Mr. Duncan Young.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Miss Mabel Love as the heroine of *The Freedom of Suzanne* has quite captured the Manx visitors. Her delicacy of style, the witchery of her presence, and the real sincerity of her acting got at all sorts of temperaments. Her success as dramatic artist is as great as her previous triumphs as a dancer. Mr. Percy Hutchinson is débonnaire as Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans makes Fitzroy Harding quite a gay dog; the Lora Datchet of Mr. J. Hastings Batson is diverting; Mr. Patrick Quill endows his rôle (Sir Horace Hatton) with an air of distinction. Miss Annie Stalman is really excellent as a grande dame; while Miss Violet Ley and Miss F. Turner play prettily as two society girls. Mr. Townshend Whitling and Mr. Richard Neville also do well. The comedy is beautifully staged, and Miss Mabel Love's dresses have caused much breaking of the Tenth Commandment in feminine hearts.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—Clever programmes have drawn large crowds to the Palace, despite the fact that it is nearly the end of the season. A complimentary benefit was tendered to Mr. Harry Wood on Tuesday, when all the variety talent in the island gave their services. This was a brilliant success, artistically and financially. It was in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that it should be so. Mr. Harry Wood is a clever musician, and is "persona grata" to residents and visitors alike. The turns are practically the same as last week, and they all secure the approval of the public. They include The Violas, White Mahatmas, Jennion's Fantoches, Miss Jessie Merrilees, Miss Jessie Barrie, and Mr. Phil Smith, all clever people, who gain applause. Messrs. Griffin and Dubois present a comedy acrobatic interlude, which is greeted with shrieks of laughter.

The season at Derby Castle will close to-night (Saturday) with a representation of the Manx Mhelliah, or Harvest-home. Mr. J. W. Rowley has proved an enormous hit at Derby Castle.

Mr. F. J. Connor had a splendid benefit at the Hippodrome on Wednesday. No place of amusement in Douglas has been more popular than Mr. F. J. Connor's establishment in Parade-street. Clever artists, a clean, bright show, in which everything works smoothly. The principal items this week are a burlesque, *Bull Fight*, and a pantomime absurdity, *Love in a Tub*. There are the expected ring turns, the clowns Gregory and Woffles cause the children to shriek with laughter, and the entire performance is delightful.

Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots continue to attract with new songs, sketches, and japes.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter.—That the engagement this week of Mr. Norman V. Norman and company in a répertoire of popular plays is meeting with universal approval is amply testified by the large audiences. *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, *David Garrick*, and *Nell Gwynn* are included in the week's programme. In the latter play Mr. Norman V. Norman makes an imposing figure as Charles II., and has many opportunities for the display of his talent. A capital rendering of Ralph Cursitor is given by Mr. Dennis W. Cleugh, whose gallant bearing has made a most favourable impression. One of the best-played parts is that of Lord Dellans, admirably acted by Mr. Norman Leslie, while Mr. Sam Wilkinson emphasises the villainies of Colonel Blood with good effect. Mr. Frances Hope acts with a dignity and earnestness that carry conviction the part of Adam Bareacres; Mr. Kenneth Bruce puts the necessary touch of light comedy to his impersonation of Lord Rochester; while a fine example of histrionic ability is shown by Mr. Howard Brenan's easy and delightfully natural performances in the small part of Lord Killigrew. As Nell Gwynn Miss Beatrice Wilson submits a really admirable piece of acting, the comedy and pathos being well contrasted and convincing; Miss Hilda Gregory portrays Lady Castlemain with great intensity and effect; and Miss Sybil Ruskin's conception of the character of Betty Arndale is particularly worthy of praise. Miss Letty Rushforth submits a clever sketch as the Duchess of Portsmouth, her song in the third act being warmly applauded. A clever little curtain-raiser entitled *Cut Off With a Shilling* precedes, in which Mr. Howard Brenan wins unqualified applause by his capital impersonation of Sam Gaythorne, Mr. Francis Hope appearing with success as Colonel Berners and Miss Francis Harmon making a captivating Kitty.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter.—Owing to the great success of the *Scarlet Mr. E.'s*, that clever company of artists have been retained for another week. They have secured the services of Miss Lili Sharp, an admirable soprano, whose items are heartily applauded. Mr. Rafaewski proves himself a violinist and pianist of fine technique; Mr. Bingley Shaw's fine voice is admirably suited to the songs he selects, Mr. Percy Banning, an excellent female impersonator, causes much amusement; Mr. Vivien Vivien's character sketches are most welcome and appreciated; Mr. Hampden Gordon sings comedy songs with taste and skill; and Mr. Walter Dowling is a hardworking and mirth-provoking jester.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Secretary, Mr. Chas. P. Standfield, Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Musical Director, Mr. J. A. Groves.—The two-houses-a-night system has been adopted here, and bids fair to become most popular. Miss Jeannie Evans, comedienne, and Mr. Harry Wright, comedian, both interest and amuse; while Miss Peggy Fame wins all hearts by her clever songs and captivating ways. Nelson and Thomas appear in a comedy sketch; Miss Nellie Gannon has an excellent style and scores as a vocalist; and Fred Southern's sketch, *Lost at Sea*, is received with favour.

DUBLIN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Arthur Collins's company in Hall Caine's melodrama, *The Prodigal Son*, attracted a large audience here on Monday night. Mr. Henry Renouf, who appeared as Magnus, although suffering from hoarseness, displayed considerable skill and ability; Mr. Norman Partriege filled the part of Oscar in clever style, and Miss Lily Hall Caine in the dual part presented an effective reading of Thora, and was also particularly good as Elin. Mr. Henry George acted admirably as the Governor-General; and as Oscar Neilson Mr. Fred Epitaux was all that could be desired. Miss Alma Murray was well suited in the rôle of Anna, and Miss Mima Renouf scored as Margaret Neilson.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Mr. Cyril Keightley and company opened here on Monday with Messrs. Harry and Edward Paulton's latest production, *Miles Carew, Highwayman*. Mr. Cyril Keightley appears with great success in the interesting rôle of Sir Miles Carew; his acting is most effective. Miss Haidee Gunn submits an artistic and delightful reading of the heroine, Ruth Beyfus; Miss Alice Arden gives a dignified portrayal of Lady Mallory, whose daughter Clara is cleverly presented by Miss Ethel Dane. Mr. Henry Crocker is an exceedingly good Jeremy Gollsheaf, and Miss Theresa Gregory acts admirably as Melissa Gollsheaf. Sir Henry Frawley is played with considerable ability by Mr. B. A. Pittar, and

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy-Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—The Athos troupe of acrobats and ball manipulators are paying a welcome return visit here this week; Bert Woodward, the sensational cyclist, is once more amongst us; Pattie Bella, comedienne, is responsible for some witty songs; Arthur Boyne is a good turn, as also are Hal Chapter, and Carter and Gale. The Empire Pictures conclude an enjoyable programme.

DUMFRIES.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. E. Potte; Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—For three nights this week we are favoured with a visit of Mr. Brandon Thomas's London company in *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Edmund Baker as Lord Fancourt Babberley kept the house merry all the evening; Mr. Sidney Lynne was well received as Jack Chesney; Mr. Frederick Tyrell gave a good rendering of Col. Sir Francis Chesney; and Mr. Basil Lynn was well placed as Charles Wykeman. Miss Katherine Vereker played the rôle of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez in a charming manner; and Miss Margaret Morean as Kitty Verdum and Miss Eva Boyne as Amy Spettigue acted with good taste.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. C. P. Levilly's company is appearing here this week in *Amorelle* and *La Poupée*. On Monday evening *Amorelle* was presented before a large and appreciative house. Miss Stella Gastelle as Amorelle is as charming and vivacious as ever, her singing all through being delightful; Miss Kitty Cavendish is a pretty and sympathetic Lesbia; Miss Avis Grahame is quaintly amusing as the amorous Marina; and Miss Mabel Fanchild as Jeanette is warmly encored for her smart and graceful dancing. Mr. W. H. Powell as Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow is very amusing, his humour and byplay being greatly appreciated; Mr. Fred Seymour as old Father Dotard is excellent; Mr. Frederick Hobbs as François acts admirably, and scores with his fine singing of the "Flirtation" song. Mr. Manfred Russell is particularly good as Jules; Mr. Wm. Griffen is satisfactory as the Count; and Mr. Vernon Reed makes a droll Mayor.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, the top-liner being the dashing Marie Collins, who scores in new songs; Florence Deighton, the charming double-voiced vocalist, who has now made quite a name for herself, proves one of the tit-bits of the bill, her delightful singing winning her rounds of applause. An historical sketch, entitled *Prince Arthur*, staged in two scenes, is one of the best seen here for a long time, the acting of Miss Ivy Millais as Prince Arthur and Mr. Herbert Wyndham as Hubert de Burgh being superb. Bob Hamilton, always a warm favourite here, scores a prodigious success; Marie Yorke, burlesque artist; Dan Noble and George Prince, comedians; and the Forest Comedy Company all contribute excellent turns; and the Bioscope, with several capital films, completes.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—An excellent bill is submitted this week, every turn meeting with the warmest approval. Charles F. Best, an extremely clever contortionist, is successful in his new comedy act, *MacBunker, the Mountebank;* the Farrows present their burlesque sketch, in which Harry has plenty of scope for the display of his noted quaintness; Kriss, ventriloquist and comedian, proves very entertaining; while the Brothers Allison amuse muchly with their patter and songs. Charles Howarth is decidedly clever in his "Cosmopolitan Club" song; and Bob Nicoll's impersonations of well-known singers are excellent. Spencer and Williams present an amusing dialogue; and Lilian Travellie is successful in her songs. Little Minnie Halford gets quite an ovation for her sweet singing.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. Charles H. Phelps's company is appearing here this week in the romantic drama, *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Charles H. Phelps plays the leading part of Gerald Dalton with fine feeling and effect; while Miss Mabel Hall as the blind foundling is excellent. Several new pictures are displayed by the Empire Bioscope, and prove very acceptable.

Kinnaird Hall.—The United States of America Animated Picture Company conclude a very successful visit this week. The pictures are exceptionally good, and the entertainment has been enjoyed by large and appreciative audiences. Variety is lent to the proceedings by Ellis and Watts, comedians; and David Davis, mimic.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mrs. Russ Whytal and her company are appearing here in *Alice Sit by the Fire*. As Mrs. Grey Mrs. Whytal fully appreciates and cleverly portrays all the varying moods of the mother, and her performance is well received; Miss Beatrice Bramah is a most appropriate and excellent Amy Grey; Miss Lucie Verrier succeeds admirably as Leonora; Miss Lilian Lake fills every corner of the part of Richardson; Miss Ada Marius is a capital and dignified Nurse; and Miss Ninon Dudley is a very good Fanny; excellent work is done by Mr. J. J. Bartlett as Colonel Grey; Mr. Claude King is a polished and delightfully natural Stephen Rollo; and Mr. A. W. Boscomb is a most effective and characteristic Cosmo Grey.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—The continued run of musical plays here has met with gratifying success, and excellent business was done the first three nights of this week by Mr. George Dance's company, which appeared in *The Country Girl*. Miss Maisie Grey was a bright and smiling Nan; Miss Nancy Rossiter did good work as Marjory; Miss Winifred O'Connor is possessed of a fine voice, and she used it with telling effect as Princess Melaneh; Miss Addie Lennard's work was brimful of brightness and fun; she danced well, and was a capital Sophie. Miss Ada Crampton and Miss K. Ronayne were attractive representatives of Mrs. St. Quinton and Lady Anchester; and other pretty and clever ladies filled the remaining parts. Mr. Percy Carr pleased the audience very much as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Charles Walenn as Barry did much and admirable work, and kept the house in continual laughter; Mr. St. John Hammond was a most distinct and individual Rajah of Bhong, and his topical song was well received; Mr. J. G. Graves was a good Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Clifton Yates, whose make-up was admirable, was effective as Granfer. He gave a clever sketch of humorous senility; Mr. Herbert Robinson was the conductor. *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* is billed for the latter part of the week, in which Mr. Charles Macdona's company appears.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sydney Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—As top of the bill Hardeen is proving an attraction, and his powerful work in breaking from fetters is astounding the audiences; Germaine is an expert conjurer and mystifier; Mr. Dan Thomas returns, to again become a favourite comedian; Miss Amy Clevere is quickly a favourite with her well-sung songs; Les Belles Americaines are once more well received for their smart work; Mr. H. E. High is no stranger to the town, and gives examples of agile work on skates; Snoball and Dolia thoroughly amuse in their turn; Miss Nellie Wilson sings and dances in a pleasing manner; and the Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

Devonshire Park Baths.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Miss Kellerman, the famous lady swimmer, is giving exhibitions here during the week, and on Friday she was advertised to attempt to break the record for the ladies' mile.

ECCLES.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—*La Poupee* is meeting with huge success here, Mr. Herbert Ralland's company doing full credit to this ever entertaining comic opera. Mr. Harry Brayne keeps the audience in constant mirth; Miss Mysie Devine makes a dainty Alesia; Mr. Walter Balfour an excellent Father Maxime; Mr. Arthur Cozens as Launcelot repeatedly receives marked approval for his singing; and Miss Edith Hunter impersonates Madame Hilarius capably.

EDINBURGH.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. J. W. Turner was greeted with great cordiality on Monday, when, after several years absence, he reappeared with his English opera company before an Edinburgh audience in *Maritana*. A thoroughly artistic performance was given of this popular work, and greatly enjoyed. As Don Cæsar, Mr. Turner has ever been heard and seen at his best, both as singer and actor; Miss Kitty Brownlees also sang and acted very charmingly as Maritana, and with Miss Jessie Dennis, as Lazarino, a well-deserved encore followed the duet in the last act. Mr. Sidney Clifford was excellent as the King; Mr. John Bidding successful in the exacting rôle of Don Jose; while Mr. R. Cummings and Miss Maud Esdale were very amusing in their old parts of the Marquis and Marchioness. The chorus and orchestra shared in the merits of the performance. *The Lily of Killarney* was enjoyably rendered on Tuesday evening, with Mr. Turner a good Miles, Miss Brownlees a captivating Lily, and Mr. Tom Griffiths a most acceptable Danny Mann. On Wednesday, the evergreen *Bohemian Girl* had its place in the week's programme, achieving its wonted success; and the répertoire has also included *The Waterman*, with the fourth act of *Il Trovatore*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull.—The visit of Mr. Forbes Robertson is always a prominent feature in the Edinburgh theatrical season, and a crowded audience greeted the distinguished actor and his company on Monday, when they opened a six nights' engagement here. *Hamlet* was played on Monday and Tuesday, *Mice and Men* on Wednesday and Thursday, and *The Merchant of Venice* was billed for Friday and Saturday. Mr. Forbes Robertson's *Hamlet* has been recognised as one of the greatest impersonations of the part which the playgoers of this generation have seen. The qualities of grace, poetry, and passion, and the beautiful modulation of the voice—a lesson in the art of effective utterance—have never been more strikingly exhibited than on the present occasion. The actor was loudly recalled at the close of each act, and the enthusiasm at the conclusion of the play was so intense that Mr. Robertson had to bow his acknowledgments until the clamour of the audience called forth a speech of thanks for his reception. The Claudius of Mr. Ian Robertson was a rugged, effective performance, and Mr. Hylton Allen made a genuine success in the part of Horatio; Mr. Charles Langley handled the character of Polonius with much skill; and Mr. Vernon Steel showed a restrained power as Laertes; and Mr. Percy Rhodes was a stately ghost, delivering the speeches of the part with fine elocutionary effect. Great interest was displayed in the appearance of Miss Gertrude Elliott as Ophelia. The expectations of her admirers were fully realised. From beginning to end Miss Elliott invested the character with a charm and a depth of pathos seldom reached save by actresses of genius. Miss Adeline Bourne's performance of Gertrude abounded in many meritorious touches; and Miss Dorothy Paget was an admirable Player Queen. Mr. Charles Birby, as First Gravedigger; Mr. Walter Ringham, as First Player, and as Fortinbras; Mr. J. H. Beaumont, as Rosencrantz; and Mr. Frank Bickley, as Guildenstern, were among other members of the cast who showed dramatic excellence.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—Mr. W. A. Brabner's interesting play *Life's Sweetest Sins* contains all the elements of intense melodrama, none of which are overlooked by Mr. T. Arthur Jones and his specially selected company. The talented actress Miss Marie Daventry appears to advantage as Doreen Rivers, the sorely tried heiress and orphan, who finds a staunch ally and friend in Fay Colbrooke, well impersonated by Miss Mary Ainslie. In the rôle of the hero, Harold Marston, Mr. T. Arthur Jones shows judicious restraint and reserve-power; and the heavy duties of the resourceful villain, Dr. Colbrooke, sit lightly on the shoulders of Mr. Oswald Douglas; while the two confederates, Edward Gray and Kimberley Coutts, are adequately represented by Mr. Clem Horlock and Mr. Robert Sawin; and Mr. Ernest Dare does praiseworthy work as Ernie Wodstone. Welcome comic relief is provided by Mr. Bertram Lee and Mr. Fred Stephens, as an old salt and a sergeant of police, and more prominently by Mr. Edgar Morgan and Miss Elsie Walton, as the indispensable funny serving-man and lady's maid. Minor parts are carefully filled, and some novel stage effects are presented with skill and ingenuity.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—A splendid programme here introduces Mr. T. E. Dunville, whose droll style evokes as much laughter as ever; Mr. James H. Jee gives a fearless thrilling performance on the single wire; the Smythson's comedy company are very amusing in their sketch, *The Lie Alarm;* Lambeth and Robinson are entertaining in their act, *Scots Folks a-Wooin';* and Mr. Albert le Fre shows neatness and agility in his dancing; the Ten Genis prove themselves to be daring acrobats in their Risley turn; the Monte Myro Troupe give a laughable knockabout sketch; the Stella Troupe are clever dancers; and Miss Netta Star also dances herself into the good graces of the audience; Miss Flo D'Orville, comedienne; Mr. Charles Leonard Fletcher; and Messrs. Sandford and Lyons are also in the programme.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is appearing here this week in the *Two Little Vagabonds*. As Dick and Wally, the Misses Lucy Beaumont and Gladys Vernon respectively realised the pathos and quaintness of their parts in a manner which elicited the sympathies of the audience. Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton was excellent; and Miss Lillian Stewart's rendering of Barbara Scarth left nothing to be desired. Mr. Douglas Vigors as George Thornton portrayed his part in a finished manner; whilst Mr. Edward McLean ably depicted Captain Darville. Mr. Lionel Ellis as Bill Mullins and Miss Violet Vivian as Biddy were also good.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Duchess of Dantzic* (Mr. Geo. Dance's company) filled the bill for the first three nights of the week, and was received with enthusiasm by crowded houses. Miss Blanche Lynd took the leading part of Sans Gêne, afterwards the Duchess of Dantzic, and in her acting displayed a remarkable versatility; as Napoleon Mr. Alfred Iberson looked and acted the part to perfection; Mr. Leonard F. Griffiths as François gave an intelligent interpretation of the part; as the sisters of Napoleon Miss Florence Smith and Miss Sophie Albutt were pretty in appearance and caustic of tongue; Miss Lilly Hildroe was a petite and graceful Renee; Miss Daisy Brent looked well as the Empress; and as Lisette Miss Hettie Ludlow was delightful. The part of Adhémar was well taken by Mr. Cecil W. Parke, who, along with Miss Hildroe, contributed a pretty duet. Mr. Arthur Ferriss, first as a pedlar and latterly as the Court milliner, displayed more than average ability as a comedian. Mr. W. W. Meadows was the musical director. On Thursday Mr. Jack Haddon's No. 1 company opened a three nights' engagement with the drama *Under the Russian Flag*.

FARNWORTH.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a visit from Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company in *Napoleon the Great*. The title-rôle is played in a capable and convincing manner by Mr. Hugh Montgomery; Mr. Henry Earlesmere cleverly undertakes the part of Colonel Lavarennes; Paul Laczinska is well portrayed by Mr. Bartlett Garth; and Mr. Phil Harper as Colonel Jules Merrion is all that can be desired. Miss Leslie Warner plays the part of Marie Walewska to perfection, being ably assisted by Miss Maud Russell as Leonie Marboeuf.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company is here, under the direction of Mr. Chas. M. Julian in the drama, *I Defy the World*. Mr. Percy Ballard as Leon Darville takes the hero's part with excellent effect, his disguises and impersonations being really good; Mr. Charles Wilton is well suited to the part of the Count; Mr. Alfred Denning makes a capital General Delaporte; Laroche is ably presented by Mr. Chas. Conway; and André is well delineated by Mr. Arthur Chisholm; Mr. Chas. M. Julian is a good Samuel Wozzle; Miss Maud Lillian an amusing Marie Wozzle; Miss Rosalie Heath takes the part of Pauline Delaporte in a tasteful manner; and Miss Violet Crawford is capable as Blanche Darville.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *Mr. Popple* attracted large audiences here the first part of the week. Mr. Morris Harvey's depiction of Freddy Popple was intensely funny; Mr. Herbert Dickeson's Norman Popple was excellent; George Hennay and Henry Doring were safe in the hands of Mr. Augustin Symonds and Mr. Fred Allen; Mr. Tom May made a popular Platt; Miss Mamie Brickwell as La Bolero was extremely effective; Miss Lulu Louden as Louise played and sang well; Miss Claire Pridelle distinguished herself greatly as Violet Brinton; the disconsolate wives, Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay, were well represented by Miss Louie Rene and Miss Stella St. Audrie respectively; and Mr. Herbert Hulcup rendered adequate support as Lord Downe. Mr. George Dance's company, in *A Country Girl*, was announced to appear the latter end of the week.

Victoria Pier.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—Messrs. Gandy and Inglefield obtain considerable appreciation; Mr. Fred Frampton, who is again heartily welcomed, sings as well as ever. On Wednesday Mr. J. Fenton Walsh was accorded a well-deserved benefit, several well-known artists being booked to appear. The illuminated outdoor fêtes are well patronised.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Florence Venning, contralto, is the vocalist here this week; Miss Olive Fox is a smart little comedienne; Mr. Joseph Blashcheck gives a performance that finds favour; the Blue Salon Band and the animated pictures also contribute to the success.

Town Hall.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—"The Follies" are billed to appear her on Friday and following night.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. Robt. Kirk.—Mlle. Florence's variety company appeared here for three nights last week. Abex, the miniature Hercules, gave a marvellous weight-lifting turn; Mlle. Florence introduced her clever globe walking and balancing feat; the Bendons were interesting entertainers; the rest of the company consisted of the Dana Girls (duettists), Alvar (gymnast), Harry Keeble (comedian), Polly Adula, Dale and Dargan (conjurors), and Bros. Arnold in a smart illusion.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Miss Lottie Lennox, who tops the bill here this week, is delighting large audiences with her amusing songs. A daring performance is submitted by the Cumberlands, cycling acrobats; the Bensley-Evans Sketch company, which includes Miss Olive Lanty, presents an amusing trifle entitled *Sally's Dilemma;* Flo Warner is a comedy vocalist of ability; the Sisters Charnley make a hit in song and dance; the Three Zaracs provide an enjoyable turn; the Ladderites give an athletic act of great merit; Spencer and Marks are a pair of excellent comedians; and Oliver Conroy, a quaint comedian, and Maud Esmond, burlesque artist, complete the programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The top line here is occupied by the Brothers Montague with an original statue act entitled *A Sculptor's Dream*. The Brothers Zampah, one-legged acrobats and jumpers, are decidedly clever; the Musical Keiths present a refined entertainment; the Sisters Desmond score as character duettists; Nancy Naine is a clever young comedienne; and Downey's pictures complete the bill.

Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The Dear Homeland*, the new drama by David Muskerry, is drawing good "houses" here this week. Mr. Charles O'Connor's depiction of Roy Trevelyan earns for him unstinted praise; Mr. Harold C. Macartney portrays the scheming scoundrel, Duncan Tremaine, with cleverness; Judd Harley receives excellent treatment at the hands of Mr. John Cullen; for a praiseworthy Father Gregory Mr. A. Traill is responsible; and Mr. Dick Seddon as Rory Burke supplies the comic element; Miss Violet Hammersley is a sweet and womanly Doreen Trevelyan; Miss Olive Fulton gets the most out of the part of Judith Tremaine; very amusing is Miss Cissie Summers as Molly Malone; and Miss Elsie Forster is successful as Little Nell. Trained children are seen in some pretty Cornish dances.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Bert Coote's company, in *The Fatal Wedding*, is paying a welcome return visit this week. Mr. Ernest Outtrim capably sustains the part of Howard Wilson; Mr. S. Herbert Humber plays well as Robert Curtis; Miss Gertrude Harrison is effective as Cora Williams; Miss Madge Haines is sweetly sympathetic as Mabel Wilson; Miss Marjorie Lawrence gives a pleasing performance as Jessie; Mr. George Waring scores as O'Reilly; Mr. Cyril Melton (Peter Schwartz), Mr. C. H. Hughes (Toto), and Miss Maud Locker (Bridget) keep the audience in a merry mood. In Act 3 specialities are given by Master E. Frisby, Miss Ethel Press, Master J. Grice (clog dancer), Miss Marjorie Lawrence, Misses Nora and Essie Herbert, Miss Hetty Kelly, and Miss Shirley Sparks.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—A successful return visit is being paid this week by Miss Montague Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's company in the stirring melodrama, *The Way of the World*. Mr. H. Shardan, in the rôle of Cecil Montague, plays with much effect. Mr. Victor Gordon gives a powerful impersonation of the villain, Capt. Fred Slade; as Matthew Malyon Mr. C. Temple submits a masterly impersonation; Mr. A. Hammond as Horatio Bluff, and Mr. F. J. Edwards as Joe Sparrow, assisted by Miss Violette Vivienne as Polly Bell, keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. V. Charles is a capital Sir John Slade; and Mr. Pat Quinn is highly successful as Silas Montague. Miss Sidney Crowe submits a powerful delineation of the scheming Adela de la Roche; Miss Vivienne gives a clever performance as Mlle. Bellini; Miss Laura Deering is a charming Marion Fanshaw; Miss M. Fontaine deserves special mention for her excellent portrayal in the rôle of Kate Montague.

GRAVESEND.—New Public Hall and Theatre.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—Mr. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company, under the able management of Mr. Gordon Starkey, was here on Monday night. In the rôle of Major Callabone, Mr. Victor Wallace was most successful; and Mr. A. Radcliff was good as Capt. Jack Ormsby; Mr. B. Mercer as Bobbie Scott was quite at home; and as Moolraj Mr. A. Burton proved a capital exponent. The Prince was well sustained by Mr. F. Inwood; and the Private Taylor of Mr. C. Stephenson evoked roars of laughter; he was capitally assisted by Miss May Audrey, who acted the character of Millicent with brightness and vivacity rarely seen; her singing and dancing were greatly applauded. Miss M. Glanbrane as Lady Babraham was dignified and natural; Miss D. Morgan as Evelyn was perfectly at ease and winsome in manner; and Mlle. M. Naudin as Chandra acquitted herself most ably. The last three nights of the previous week Mr. Charles Harrington's No 1 American Combination was here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. On Thursday and Friday of this week, Henry E. Leigh and his company appeared in *The 'Varsity Belle*. Mr. James Danvers and Miss Josephine Ellis are starred, and take the principal parts.

Grand Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—A good company is here for the week. Two Errolls, comedy acrobats and marvellous leapers, convulse the audience with laughter; Lillith makes a return visit with her mystery of aerial flight, and is as perplexing as heretofore; Charles Lilburn, the man with many funniosities, has been well received; Lilian Warren, the favourite illustrated song artist, has given conclusive evidence of her popularity, her contribution, "A little boy called Taps," being voted excellent; Harding and Preston, comedy artists, have done well; and Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer, is bright and original. As a mimic, Lillian Elfreda is clever and painstaking.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's No. 1 company is here this week with *The Orchid*. Mr. Bert Lloyd is exceedingly funny as the diminutive gardener, Meakin; Mr. Fred Thompson is most amusing as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. Harry Ray acts well and dances cleverly as Zaccary; Dr. Ronald Faussett is admirably depicted by Mr. Haddon Cave; Comte Raoul de Cassignat is a capital caricature by Mr. William Benson; and Mr. Aubrey Chesterton is successfully represented by Mr. Louis du Cane. Miss Mabel Sealby is charming as Lady Violet; Josephine Zaccary is prettily depicted by Miss May Fraser; Thisbe is brightly and daintily played by Miss Constance Hamilton; and Miss Florence Vie is excellent as Caroline Vokins, singing her songs with much spirit and humour.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—*The Gay Parisienne*, played by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, forms the attraction here for the week. Mr. Will Harman is an unquenchable source of amusement as Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. T. Gideon Warren depicts the truculent Major Fossdyke most successfully; Mr. Cliffold Seyler is an agile M. Pompier; Mr. Henry J. Barrett is excellent as Amos Dingle; and Tom Everleigh, Algernon P. Ducie, and Percy Tooting are capitally represented by Mr. Edgar Ashwyn, Mr. Dutton Nicholls, and Mr. Harry Bedbrook. Miss Evelyn Hughes is very bright and vivacious as the fascinating Parisienne, Julie Bonbon; Miss Madge Soutter is quaint and humorous as Ruth; and Mrs. Honeycombe and her daughter Nora are excellently represented by Miss Holford Beringer and Miss Ethel Ivimey. The Imperial Glee Singers contribute some well-sung quartettes.

Britannia Pier Pavilion.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Eugene Family of gymnasts are playing here this week, and their excellent act and marvellous double pirouettes and double somersaults are loudly applauded. Charles Coborn, the eminent comedian, makes a welcome reappearance, and continues a great success; Miss Florence Somers sings pleasing songs in a winning manner; Miss Ruby Bignon, dainty barefooted dancer, gives a charming little turn; Charles Woodward, actor vocalist, is well received in some good songs—notably "Dreams"; and Miss Chummie La Mara, comedienne, finds favour for her dashing style. H. B. Houghton, "the human torpedo," continues his aquatic exhibitions from the Pier daily.

Wellington Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—Carl Mysto creates quite a sensation each evening; and Mlle. La Tosca is greatly admired in her graceful poses. Other artists appearing are Gus Hindell, humorist; Ada Twibell, comedienne; Paul Courtney and company in *Dolly's Dimple;* Sergeant Mumford, wire walker; Ted Young, comedian; Helen Charles, society entertainer; Hall's Juveniles; Geo. Rapley, eccentric comedian; and Lynn, singing newsboy.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The greatest attractions this week are Paul Cinquevalli in his wonderful juggling act; and Mendel, the marvellous blind pianist. Horton and Linder give a clever show on the triple bars; Miss Iona Ginnett and the Humels represent equestrianism in first-class style; Mlle. Florizel proves herself an expert contortionist; and Prof. Mann's troupe of performing dogs win loud applause.

Chappell's Concert Party.—The newcomers this week are the Brothers Esdale, most amusing novelty comedians; and Joe Cookson, ventriloquial cartoonist. Other artists, previously named, continue to please, and the concerted pieces by members of the company find favour with the large audiences who crowd the huge ring.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Bulwer's company is here this week with the drama *Sentenced for Life*. Mr. Edward E. Louis submits a finished piece of acting as Roy Stilwell; Captain Paul Derrick is excellently represented by Mr. Ernest Vaughan; the humorous element is well sustained by Mr. James F. Firth as Percy McGentle, and he is ably assisted by Messrs. Arthur Keand and Reg. Oldroyd, who play the parts of Bill Sharkey and Toby respectively; Mr. R. Brancepeth Neville gives a clever portrayal of Sir Wallace Stilwell; and Mr. Morris Maud does well as the Rev. Martin Orris. Miss Mary Dalby fills the rôle of Lady Stilwell in a way that leaves little to be desired, and Miss Madge Douglas appears to advantage as Adele Gray.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Helen Martin, soprano vocalist, is appearing here this week and is awarded a hearty reception. Other good turns are Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers; the Fred Cullane Trio, in a laughable comedietta entitled *The Ladies' School;* the Pender Troupe, in an act entitled *Hands Off;* Ruby and Laws, in a quick-change musical comedy sketch; the Continental Stilt Walkers; and Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian.

Pavilion Theatre.—Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The star turn here this week is the Deer Family, in an act entitled *Indians of the Past*, which is much appreciated; Fred Curran, vocalist; Ida Brophy, soubrette; the Sisters Salter, banjoists and dancers; the Great Vincent, table expert; the Solari Duo, vocalists and instrumentalists; Katie Marsh, vocalists and dancer; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory singing girls; and W. H. Downes, vocalist, are also in the bill.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales Theatre.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The second visit of *The Walls of Jericho* has proved highly successful, Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company being admirably suited to the requirements of the play. Mr. A. E. Anson showed sterling ability as Jack Frobisher, his delineation of the Queensland pioneer being full of natural force. Miss May Taverner admirably realised the character of Lady Alethea; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is as good as ever as Frobisher's friend, Hankey Bannister; and as the match-making Marquis of Steventon Mr. Cecil Warde accomplishes good work. The polished man of fashion, Harry Dallas, finds a capable exponent in Mr. A. W. Tyrer. Miss Nona Wynne makes a particularly vivacious Lady Lucy, and mention may also be made of Miss Marguerite Cellier as Lady Westoby.

The Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. North.—A troupe of jugglers of exceptional skill has been seen in the Max Wessely combination. Their turn includes many humorous touches, besides smart business. John Grün Marx has given a wonderful display of weight-lifting, and interesting competitions have been held nightly in connection with his turn. Lillian has proved a clever cyclist; and Rosie Lloyd, a comedienne, has attained more than ordinary popularity. There was plenty of comedy in the programme provided by Tom E. Hughes, a comedian with good songs, and Collins and Rice. Other turns were Harold Hughman, an American mimic, and Ettie Vere, who gave a smart step-dance.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—There is no more popular comedienne with Palace audiences than Madge Grey. She is a charming artist in every way, and her Lancashire dialect is above reproach. *Kiss Your Father* is the title of an amusing sketch which occupied a prominent position in the programme. A capital acrobatic turn was given by the Three De Veres, and the Jansons gave a smart display on the trapeze. Johnny Walker was a comedian who scored greatly, and the remainder of the programme was provided by George Ripon, comedian; the Adderley Brothers, duettists; and the Four Sisters Godfrey, vocalists and dancers.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr C. Robt. Perkins.—On Friday, the 7th, Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company presented *The Freedom of Suzanne* to a large audience. Miss Mabel Love's impersonation of Suzanne was simply delightful; Miss Annie Stalman cleverly embodied Lady Charlotte; Mr. Templer Powell gave an admirable portraiture of Charles Trevor; and Mr. F. G. Thurstans humorously hit off the peculiarities of Fitzroy Harding.

HALIFAX.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is presenting *The Midnight Wedding* here. Mr. Alfred Paumier in the chivalrous character of Paul Valmar creates a good impression; Mr. Clinton Baddeley cannot be too highly praised for his acting as the treacherous captain, and he is adequately supported by Mr. Ulick Burke; Messrs. Jas. Page, Compton, and Spalding are the funmakers; Miss Annie Saker distinguishes herself; Miss Ada Champion is well placed as the barmaid.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited* is with us again. Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen is as amusing as ever. The farce is produced twice nightly.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison. — The Three Bounding Pattersons; Francis, juggler (with Alfred); Edna Latonne, a popular chorus vocalist; Clark and Glenney, in the *Haunted House;* Florence Zayman, sprightly coon delineator; Alma, the upside down marvel; and the Two Bostons form the company here.

HANLEY.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is paying a welcome return visit in *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Mark Blow is seen as Cecil Royellieu and Louis Victor, and his performance is worthy of the highest praise; Miss Mary Thorne is vivacious as Cigarette; Mr. Wellesley Draper is distinctly successful as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Alfred Wellesley as the valet contributes a vigorous reading; Colonel Chantery, the Black Hawk, is capably played by Mr. Arthur Elwyn; Princess Venetia Corona finds a worthy exponent in Miss Mabel Ormonde.

Grand, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwards.—Frank and Jen Latona head the bill this week in their sketch, *The Tramp and the Slavey;* Neil Kenyon is here, and his songs and patter are much appreciated; Tom Lloyd returns, and is, as usual, successful; Daisy Jerome is heard in a capital song, viz., "My Lady Vi"; the New Macs present an amusing turn; the Sisters Dowell dance admirably; Oakdene is seen in a novel ventriloquial entertainment, which is most diverting; the Bros. Durant in their acrobatic turn are excellent; the pictures are, as usual, capital.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we had the annual visit of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and company. They opened on Monday to a very large audience in *The Housekeeper*. Mrs. Kendal added to her long list of triumphs by her performance of Lady Audrey Whitley. She had excellent support from Mr. Kendal as Colonel Lionel Trent; Mr. Bassett Roe was good as Lord Runswick; and Mr. Edward Vaughan excellent as the young subaltern, Robert Sledmere. Mr. Metcalfe Wood (part author) appeared as Chippenham Berkley, and made the most of a somewhat colourless part. Mrs. A. B. Tapping was very amusing as Lady Robertson; Mr. Ernest Hendrie was well placed, and gave full point to his lines as William Hickson (a highly impossible person in such a social circle); Mrs. Rillington, the widow, had an able exponent in the person of Miss Dora Fellowes. Miss Marie Lohr made a pretty Cicely Blake, and Miss Moore Lane deserves a special word of praise for her performance as Mrs. Pennington Greene. For the last three nights Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company, in *What the Butler Saw*, filled the bill.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The performance on the double bars given by the Sisters Geretti is undoubtedly taking premier honours this week; the lightning-like rapidity with which the work is done causes wonderment to all beholders. *A Bit of Nonsense*, played by Wilson and Waring, represents much wholesome fun, which is heartily enjoyed; Claremont and Victor go through a novel gymnastic act; Harry Briggs, the triple-voiced vocalist, has a good reception; and old favourites are Ethel Dove, exc

fatest successes; the Two Anartos, in a funny duologue, "The Morning Mail"; Miss Florrie Gallimore, comedienne; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, in *The Three Little Maids*, is an attractive force at the Paragon-street house this week. Miss Cora Lingard, Miss Daisy Silverton, and Miss Eva Weigh find full scope for their powers in representing the three maids. Mr. Eric Barrington as M. de l'Orme proves the possession of a rich, musical voice; Mr. Victor Kerr contrives to make the irresponsible gilded youth, Lord Cheyne, a striking figure in the show. The Cupid of Mr. C. Caffrey adds to the general entertainment; the Gretchen of Miss Laura Wright is a diverting performance; Mr. Guy Williams is capable as Bryan Molyneux.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—A pleasant and acceptable novelty is that provided this week in the person of *A Sweet Girl*, a musical comedy, closely approaching light opera. The music, from the pen of Herr Heinrich Reinhardt, has a sense of solidity and sweetness combined which place it far above the ordinary. Mr. K. Ernest Irving controls the musical forces, and is responsible for some pleasing additions. Miss Claudia Lassell plays Lola with distinctive charm, her piquant Yankeeisms are quite fetching; Miss Alice Lethbridge as Fritzi Weyringer shows us that as an exponent of the terpsichorean art her position remains unchallenged, and thereby wins the good graces of the house; Leonard Russell's rich baritone voice is heard with pleasure in that style which he has made peculiarly his own; as a comedian, Mr. Fred Eastman is inimitable, his appearance is always a sure sign that during the time he holds the stage the house will be uproariously hilarious; Mr. Geo. De Lara is a humorous secretary; as Anthony Strauss, Mr. Algernon Newark is delightfully refreshing. It is safe to say that when *The Sweet Girl* reaches London the provincial good opinions will be endorsed.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—That highly successful play, *The Village Blacksmith*, is crowding this popular house nightly. Mr. Sam Livesey again enacts with considerable success the title-rôle, and meets with a very hearty reception.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Charles Whittle tops the bill in some excellent songs; he is a big favourite. The Two Bees appear in a new scena, *The Man in the Moon*, which is a big success; Frank and Alice Lurin, in a musical sketch, *Cinders*, gain much applause. Others contributing include Fred Land, Harry Walker, Raglus, and the Royal Temples.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Herbert Darnley's company top the bill in *Skirmishing*. Ella Retford's songs are much appreciated; Marba and Verity are very successful in their twirling antics; Kahn and Kahn give a good conjuring performance. Other artists include Hillman and Russell, who contribute some good singing, Bessie Butt, Dunning, and Malley and Brown.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*The Face at the Window* is being played here this week by the company of Messrs. Armadale and Warren, the rôle of Paul Gouffet, a detective, being taken in a cool and deliberate way by Mr. T. W. Dunscombe; Miss Eugénie Magnus makes an admirable Marie de Brisson; Mr. Harry Douglas is capable as Lucian Cortier; Mr. George Phythian scores as Le Blanc, the mad doctor; hilarity is provoked by Mr. C. Alan Hineson, as Peter Pottlebury; he receiving excellent aid from Miss M. Leslie Cudd as Babette; as Jean Barbelon, Mr. F. C. Raphael is successful; and Miss Marie Tennant as La Pinau is also to the front; Mr. Lionel d'Aragon is a good representative of the Chevalier Lucio Delgado.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, M. Leonard Grey.—*The Lord of the Last*, a new musical comedy, has been presented here this week by Mr. Fred Paul's company. Miss Louise Tinsley was funny in the part of Mrs. Jones Jones; Mr. Harry C. Morton as Sir Harry was effervescent in a droll part; Mr. Forrester Harvey made an amusing dude; and Mr. Arthur Ricketts as Jackson, the valet, evoked mirth. Miss Pauline Hague was a fascinating lady cobbler.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Warsaw Brothers, in musical instrumental performances, are the star turn here. Other items include Will Poluski, jun., in a couple of droll songs; the Katos, whose marionette performances are much applauded; Charles E. Ernest, with imitations, both vocal and instrumental; Billy Farrell, coloured comedian and dancer; Downes and Langford, burlesque artists; Rosalie Jacobs, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and the Arleys, with their performing dogs.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—This week's attraction is Mr. George Testo Sante's company with the powerful drama entitled *The Life of a Showman*. Mr. L. Darra gives a forcible portrayal of the part of Hendrick Marais, while Mr. E. Warden is quite at home as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; Mr. G. Richardson is good as Stickers; Mr. Geo. Testo Santo gives a very fine performance of the part of Brein Leader, and Mr. F. Sante scores as Tommy Allthere. Miss McNeill makes the most of the part of Agatha Winter, and Miss Grace Harlington is well placed as Angelina Mutton; Miss Warden is excellent as Lynette Leader; Mr. Fred Vaughan is admirable as Ned Chuckers, and Mr. Will Lindsey causes much amusement as Ben Tic-Tac. Some excellent specialities are introduced by various members of the company.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. Mouillot's company is paying a return visit here. On Monday the popular musical comedy, *The Geisha*, was received with acclamation. Mr. Edward Carlton assumed the part of Wun Hi, and his performance was laughable; Mr. Cyril Thompson as Reginald Fairfax sang well; Mr. Lionel Braham was amusing as the Marquis Imari; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer as Captain Katana has a good tenor voice; Miss Louie Collier was a most fascinating O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Saunders acted the part of Molly Seymour in a coy and dainty manner; Miss Violet Kenyon as O Juliette Dinmante and Miss Aubrey Ashton as Lady Constance Wynn, were both good. On Thursday night, *A Greek Slave* was given.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Messrs. Poole's Myriorama is still here, and doing good business. Friday night was under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency Major-General Hugh S. Gough, CB., Lieut.-Governor of Jersey.

TRIANGLE PARK.—Victor Stevens's Pierrots terminate their engagement here this week, and Mr. John Warren took his benefit last night (Friday), on which occasion he presented to each person occupying a reserved seat a copy of his book describing his adventures in Morocco.

KEIGHLEY. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Carson.—A warm reception was accorded the revival of *The Trumpet Call* on Monday by Mr. Chas. F. Cooke's company; Mr. Leonard Yorke proves himself a sufficiently gallant representative of Cuthbert Cuthbertson; Mr. Chas. F. Cooke scores heavily as the jovial Sergt. Major; Mr. Joe Bracewell as Prof. Ginnifer is a big favourite; Mr. John Dennys is well placed as Richard Featherstone; Mr. Freddie Bentley is a smart Tommy Dutton; Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill a charming Constance; and Miss Doris Gilham's Astrea deserves to be highly commended; Miss Phyllis B. French is very pleasing as Lavinia Ginnifer.

KENDAL.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—Mr. Howard Cochrane presented first-class fare on Thursday, the 6th, and two succeeding evenings last week, in that charming comedy, *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Aida Jenoure in the title-rôle earned rounds of applause; Mr. Cochran as Sir Reginald Belsize, the husband of Kitty, acted in a most capable manner, and materially assisted in the success of the play. Miss Betty Castle, Mr. Cecil Wilford, and the other members of the company filled their various parts with satisfaction, and altogether the visit was a memorable one.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and his company presented *The Manxman*, the first half of the week, in good style. The scene of Acts 1 and 5 was especially artistic. Mr. Cross did every justice to his part of Pete, meriting the hearty applause meted out to him. He was ably supported by Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen. Mr. Frank Liston as Philip Christian and Mr. James Dillon as Cæsar Cregeen were admirable. Miss Dorothy Duncan was particularly pleasing as Nancy, and Mr. Wm. Durham gave a good study of the smaller part of Tom the Postman.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—Drama again occupied these boards on Monday night, *Under the Russian Flag* being the attraction. The rôles of Ivan and Michael Romanoff were in the capable hands of Mr. Cecil Melton and Mr. Edward Avinal, both of whom showed considerable skill and judgment in their respective parts; Mr. Jack Haddon was conspicuous as Demetrius; Mr. Fred Haming deserves special mention for his rendering of the lovesick Alexis; he was the source of much amusement; Mr. Hal Forde was a clever Peter; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh was a praisworthy Vera; and Miss Violet Lytton was successful as Ogarita, being at her best in the third act. Miss Marie Rayner as Luka and Mr. W. Wilson as the Colonel were also successful.

LANCASTER. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—Another attractive programme is arranged here, at the head of which are Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists, who do some clever and daring feats; Hughes and Elliott, singers and dancers, win hearty applause; and Elton and Edwin play beautifully on the banjo. Chevalier Cliquot swallows watches, swords, and an electric lamp with consummate ease. The Lovelaces, American song illustrators; Warden, Reed, and company, in a duologue, *Married or Photographed?* and Charles Rowen, comedian, complete the bill.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—This theatre has re-opened for the season, and for the first three nights of this week Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company has been appearing in Mr. Comyns Carr's adaptation of *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Stanley Drewitt appeared with conspicuous success as Fagin; Miss Edith Anton Laing played with quiet strength as Nancy; and Mr. James Shea's Bill Sykes was a clever study of unrelieved blackguardism and brutality; Mr. Charlie Clark was well placed as that droll young scoroundel, the Artful Dodger; and Mr. W. H. Rotherham most successfully doubled the parts of Mr. Grimwig and Monks; Miss Dorothy Mayhew, as the sympathetic Rose Maylie was very good; and the Harry Maylie of Mr. Page Lawrence, the Oliver Twist of Miss Dorothy Marsden, and the Charlie Bates of Mr. R. C. Hunter also added considerably to the success. Miss Hettie Jefferies' company came on Thursday with *The Curate*.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—*A Girl on the Stage*, the new three-act piece founded on that other favourite *The Little Cherub*, is deservedly popular here. The "girl" is Miss Queenie Leighton, who as Molly Montrose, the actress, has a part which suits her admirably; she charms all with her delightful singing and untiring vivacity. Admirable assistance is given by Miss Fannie Dango and Miss Valli Valli as Lady Isabel and Lady Dorothy respectively. Boisterous humour is the keynote of Mr. Lennox Pawle's conception of the Earl, and his methods are thoroughly enjoyed; whilst as Shingle, the valet, that old favourite, Mr. John Humphries, evokes continual merriment, his two topical ditties proving quite the vocal hits of the evening. Mr. J. Robert Hale is very fine as the dashing young lover, Lord Congress; the quiet humour of Mr. Arthur Longley as a society dude is vastly enjoyed; Mr. Colin Coop displays unabated vocal and histrionic abilities as Alderman Briggs; and the smart eccentric dancing contributed by Mr. Nelson Keys in the page-boy's part is a popular feature.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A thrilling drama, *The Executioner's Daughter*, holds the boards here, and with strong situations and exciting incidents, made the most of by Messrs. Little and D'Arcy's company, is attracting good patronage. The two principal parts are those of the executioner, Monsieur Roche, and his charming daughter, and these are played in a style which leaves nothing to be desired by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe and Miss Nellie Howitt. Excellent support is given by the other members of the cast, of whom Mr. Juan d'Alberte, Mrs. Ruddell Brown, and Miss Bella Moody are particularly prominent for good work.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Seen for the first time in this city, the thrilling drama *The Great Awakening* is doing good business here, the authoress, Miss Maud Hildyard, bringing a good company. Miss Hildyard herself presents the central part of Lola Selby, and in it proves herself capable of intense and impressive acting. Mr. Charles Vivian gives a fine character study of James Selby; much excellent work is done by Mr. Bernard Copping in an arduous dual rôle; whilst the adventurer, Guy Rogan, has an effective counterpart in Mr. Charles E. Linney. Mr. Herbert Evelyn and Miss Doris Digby make a pleasing pair of young people in love; a welcome leaven of comedy is infused into Miss Isa Bellington's portrayal of Selina, the servant; and of the rest Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Eric Dane, and Mr. Edwin Gordon give capital support.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Ten Loonies have arrived here and their original entertainment, *Dotty*, is cleverly conceived and effectively presented. That excellent jester, Cruikshank, is also a strong line with comedy business. Ludwig Amann, the impersonator, is again posing with marvellous accuracy as historic celebrities; Cliffe introduces his wonderful canine companion, whose intelligence seems almost human; the Vivians are very popular with their musical interlude; the Di Pace Brothers are also doing well in the musical line; and the acrobatic eccentricities practised by Redmond Brothers are both clever and amusing. Jean Seul is presenting his entertainment of mystery with the usual success; whilst a couple of favourite vocalists, Sybil St. Elmo and Marion Scott, submit new items in clever style.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Arthur Roberts is on a welcome return visit to this popular hall, and with a clever company presents the comic episode, *Where's the Count?* to the invariable accompaniment of uncontrollable laughter. The expert juggling of B. Troba is an enjoyable feature; the vocal abilities of Stewart and Morgan are displayed in an effective Irish song-scena; Mabel Hind finds favour with an excellent Japanese vocal speciality; Emma Don's vocal and comedy team are doing well on original lines; Mlle. Kloet appears in a succession of pleasing and attractive poses; whilst Bayne and Hope present some capital dramatic acting in the rendering of a Napoleonic episode. Of comedians there are a clever pair in Johnny Danvers and Herbert Cyril; the Sisters St. Julian are prominent with clever song and dance; and the pictures complete an interesting programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A burlesque comedy sketch by the Waldrons is the leading feature of this week's bill, and, being uproariously funny, is much enjoyed. That clever comedian, Harry Conlin, is always a big success locally, and this week is no exception. Sterling and Love are doing well in a vocal and instrumental comedy act; Kendrick and Laura are also popular entertainers in a similar line; Lack and Ford display remarkable flexibility of form; the Ettenas are expert specialists on the rolling globes; Janet H. Reynolds sings sweet ballads in taking style; and Rosie Coleman, comedienne and dancer, also makes a successful appearance.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's excellent company in *The Eternal City* is the attraction here this week. Miss Sara de Groot as Donna Roma Valonna creates an excellent impression; as the Baron Bonelli Mr. D. Lewin Mannering is fully equal to the requirements of the character; Mr. Henry Deas deserves high praise as David Rossi; and as the Pope Mr. J. Fortescue is a success. Mr. W. O'Flynn is excellent as Bruno Rocco.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards here are held this week by Mr. Vivian Grantham's No. 1 company in the new romantic drama, *Held in Bondage*, which is well dressed and staged. Mr. Charles Stirling is very good as Ivan Dronski; as Prince Mazaroff Mr. Richard Vane makes a good impression; Miss Florence Tyrrell plays with distinction as Zara; Mr. George Child is capital as Sir John Hawthorne; and Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor is well suited as Paul. Mr. George Scully is amusing and popular as Harry Dunn, and Miss Maude Merrick makes a vivacious Lizette. Miss Joan Pereira is very successful as the Baroness Augusta Valinski.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Mr. George Robey, who is aptly programmed as "president of the laugh trust," again succeeds in keeping everyone in a continual roar of merriment. At the other end of the bill is Ethel Hayden, a charming vocalist, who receives a warm welcome for her well-rendered songs. Nipper Lupino Lane, a remarkably smart and versatile youngster, is scoring a thoroughly well-deserved success; Carabet's dogs are put through a performance which reflects the highest credit on their trainer; and Peppo's monkeys also do well. The Lupino Brothers, one as a clever instrumentalist and the other as an animal impersonator, give a popular and amusing show; Fox and Melville, in illustrated songs, are very good; Chas. Pastor, eccentric singer, creates hearty laughter; Billy Hobbs is a capital coon singer and dancer; and the American Bioscope remains an entertaining feature.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapsworth.—The principal attraction this week is Vay's Juveniles in the new comedy scena, *Life in the Slums*, which proves thoroughly entertaining. T. B. Fayme, comedian, scores his usual success; a special feature of the programme is Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, which is depicting in sixteen tableaux "The Miner's Daughter." Wat Tyler, character vocalist, is well received; the Two Palmers are capital comedy duettists; Mark Merritt is an excellent character vocalist; and Jenny Lynwood, comedienne, is also entertaining.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby. — The pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, is being played here this week by a company of juveniles, organised by Mr. and Mrs. J. Walters. Miss Gerty McQueen makes a good principal boy, her singing being appreciated; Miss Fanny Adamson is a charming Maid Marian; as the babes, Miss Kitty Chester and Baby Blyth are exceedingly clever; Mr. A. Benson is a capital Dame Flossie; Mr. E. Thirlway is successful as the Baron; Messrs. Doyle and Gibson evoke roars of laughter as the two bold, bad men.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—A good entertainment is being given by Farren's Royal Pierrot Minstrels. Mr. Arthur Farren is a capital humorist, his songs and sketches being admired; Taylor Snowball and Charlie Leybourne contribute comic songs that please the audience; Miss Eva Barlow, soprano, is loudly encored for her fine singing; Messrs. Smith and Travis, illustrated songsters, are good, and the animated pictures excellent.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Frank Thorne's strong play, *Her One Great Sin*, affords Miss Blanche St. Albans, in the rôle of Grace Warhurst, good opportunities for the display of her gifts as an emotional actress; and the villainous Squire Thornhill, who lures the erring wife from husband and child, is well portrayed by Mr. J. Leicester Jackson Mr. J. Beresford Innes makes a favourable impression by his impersonation of Reuben Warhurst; Miss Maudie Lambert plays naturally as the child, Gracie Warhurst; Miss Phyllis Damian gives an artistic picture of Charlie, the flowerseller; and the character of a disreputable tinker and his wife are realistically rendered by Mr. Charles E. Lambert and Miss Louie Walton. Jack Hundle is made a very promising youth in the hands of Mr. Harold B. Ford; and Messrs. J. Nella, J. Crondace, Tom Pollard, and C. Dale do good work as Mr. Benton, Ben Barkley, Robert Brown, and a friendly policeman. Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble and Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy Winpenny are responsible for the fun of the piece, and the production is well staged.

LEVEN. — TOWN HALL. — On Monday the Hall was open for the benefit of Mr. J. Hamilton Urquhart, who has made himself very popular here during the summer season. The first part of the entertainment consisted of varieties, supplied by Mr. Cunningham, baritone; Mr. Traynor, song and dance; Mr. J. H. Urquhart, elocutionist; the O'Donnell Boys, song and dance; and Sphinx and Sphinx, who gave a capital conjuring turn. The most interesting item of the evening was the sketch, *Oh! that Major!* written by the beneficiaire, and produced for the first time.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crosman's company is here in *Sergeant Brue*. In the title-rôle, Mr. Arthur Reynolds is excellent; Mr. E. Percy Rogers is Michael Brue, and his singing and dancing are much admired; Mr. Cecil Hood as Inspector Gorringe is good; Mr. Charles Simms scores as Mr. Crank; Mr. Charles McLagan in the part of Crookie Scrubbs is effective; Miss Hebe Bliss as Lady Bickenhall is seen to advantage; and Miss Mary Hay's songs are well rendered.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lesse and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—*A Mother's Love* was played for three nights at this theatre before good audiences. As Paul Wingate Mr. Arthur Mervyn was telling; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Geoffrey Mannering, the villain, acted with effect; Mr. Fred Connynghame, in the part of Mat Ruddock fairly convulsed the audience; as Winnie Wingate Miss Rosa Mervyn was pathetic, and ably sustained a difficult part; Ellaline Mervin was an admirable portrayal by Miss Shirley Darton; whilst Miss Holly Haslewood gave a capital performance of Marjorie Wingate. On Thursday, *Dare-Devil Dorothy* was presented.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Wm. J. Miller and company are here in *The Reign of Terror*. Mr. Miller plays the part of Robespierre in a most powerful and effective manner; Miss Ethel Lanyan-Maude as Victorine D'Almonte renders capital aid; Mr. Roy Milton in the part of Captain de Lisle is very good, and merits much praise; Mr. Frank Fuller as the Comte de Roqueforte is also capital; Miss Kathleen Maude Davies is a charming Marguerite de Roqueforte; and Miss Eva Norman is a capable and merry Peppitta.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon. — Mr. Bannister Howard's company is appearing here this week in *Florodora*. As Anthony Tweedlepunch Mr. Alf. E. Passmore is delightful, and is a favourtie with the audience; Mr. Stanley White is a clever Cyrus Gilfain, and Mr. Allan Morris makes a good Frank Abercoed; As Dolores Miss Josephine Sullivan is decidedly successful; Miss Lily Gullick enters with great spirit into the part of Angela Gilfain; and as Lady Holyrood Miss Kate Leicester is capital.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Another capital attraction here is the first presentment of Mr. Geo. Dance's clever company in *The Little Michus*. Mr. Foster Courtenay gives a really amusing interpretation of General des Ifs; and the little Michus are played by Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Ethel Bryan, both of whom are warmly commended. Mr. W. Everard makes a manly Gaston Riguad; Mr. Leon Simkin as Pierre Michu gives an amusing sketch, being ably supported by Miss Florence Hylton as Madame Michu. Mr. Robt. C. Harcourt is well placed as Aristide Vert, and Mr. Gilbert Child as Bagnolet is capital throughout. Mlle. Marjorie is a clever dancer. *Lady Madcap* came on Thursday.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gatley.—Mr. Charles Carte and company opened here on Monday in the drama, *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Charles Carte as Jerry gave a finished impersonation; Miss Doris Brookes was charming as the fascinating Nana; Mr. Frank Lyndon as Henry Towers submitted a vigorous portrayal; Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin as Jack Elsworth was seen to advantage. Miss Rosie Conroy was a sprightly Rosie Rapid, and Mr. Michael Madden as Larry was well received. Mr. Howard Thorne gave a meritorious study of the part of Colonel Leigh, and Miss Alice Ballard as the colonel's wife was particularly good.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Under the local direction of Messrs. G. W. Bowes and Henry Chattell *Two Little Vagabonds* was played here on the 8th, the title-rôles being well performed by Miss Dorothy Hart and Miss Josie Beltram; Captain Darville was capably represented by Mr. Ernest Stidwell and George Thornton by Mr. Norman A. Overton; Miss Evelyn Shaw and Miss Violet Agnew acted well as Marion Thornton and Barbara Scarth.

PAVILION PLEASURE GROUNDS. — Proprietor, Mr. George Jude. — The weather lasting out well the al fresco concerts by the Pavilion Cadets are continued with success. Benefit performances for Mr. Gus Daniels, the popular manager, and Miss Adelaide Twort, the charming ballad singer, have been well patronised. Miss Gertie Lovedale was announced to take a benefit on Thursday.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—*The Cook's Guest*, presented by the Collinson Combination, is at the head of the bill this week. Luigo's Sextette Serenaders, in *Naples by Night*, give a popular and clever act; the Three Cape Girls are smart dancers; Miss Kate Traill submits an entertaining turn at the piano; and Kate Gourlay, dancer; Phinas and Aida, gymnasts, together with Langton and Lane (who did not appear on the night of our visit), complete the programme.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive-Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company have been here this week with the highly-amusing play *Public Opinion*. Miss Nancy Beresford plays with humour as Pansy Bligh; Mr. Charles Harley does exceedingly well as Spencer Troughton, C.B.; and Miss Emma Hutchison is seen to advantage as Lady Diana Caldershaw. Other characters are well portrayed.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The week's programme includes Pat Rafferty, Hibernian comedian; Harry Taft, the whistling comedian; Little Dando, the droll miniature comedian; the Gotham Quartette, on a return visit; Carden and Price, operatic vocal duettists; Alice Maydue, comedienne; and the Wartenburg Brothers, foot-juggling experts; the pictures, as usual, are interesting and amusing.

HALF-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, "Lord" George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Evans.—For the last week of the season there is an entertaining variety programme here, the turns including Madge Daly, burlesque comedienne; Mlle. Sylvasto, speciality artist; Francis and Melli, knockabout comedians and musicians; Pueblo and Cripp, sand dancers; Alberto, eccentric magician; Johnny Worman, comedian; and the Three Delaries, in a speciality acrobatic and gymnastic act.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is providing a strong attraction here this week with *The Temptress*. Mr. Weldon Atherstone presents a powerful representation of Lucas Denbigh, and a capital performance of Philip Welford is given by Mr. Wallace Campbell; Pedro Gonzales is ably portrayed by Mr. Fred H. Constable; Mr. Claude Ashworth is well suited as Sir Oswald Fordyce, and Mr. C. Taunton Fulford scores as Allan Dale; Mr. William P. Sheer's Bob Tanner is full of humour, and he is ably assisted by Mr. Allan Carruthers as Francis Fitzfluke. Miss Grace Jones acts with skill as Marion Fordyce, and Miss Effie Bartlett presents a clever study of the character of Madge Denbigh; and Miss Lydia Donovan gives a forcible reading of the part of Stella, Lady Fordyce.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Wilson, head and hand equilibrist, tops a lengthy list of talent, which includes Steeley and Dowton, in their burlesque interlude; Olla Podrida, Les Bruns (in a double juggling act), Rosie Lemaire (descriptive vocalist), the Irenes (novel equilibrists), and Theodore Jones and company in their vocal scena, *Jack Sheppard*. The Biograph pictures are a distinctly pleasing feature.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. F. Brooke Warren's company is appearing here this week in *Mysteries of the Thames*. Mr. Andrew Money gives a thoughtful rendering of Richard Brandon; the impersonation of Capt. Denbigh by Mr. F. Brooke Warren is full of power and dramatic force; Mr. Gilbert Hall plays capably the rôle of Jack Hammond; Mr. Leonard Montgomery (Bill Bosco) and Mr. Dan Hardie (Peter Waggles) present capital character studies; Miss Gwyn Warren skilfully interprets the dual rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale; Miss Marie Ramiez is graceful and sympathetic as Kate Brandon; while Miss Violet Leal is a charming child actress as Little Doris.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—The production of the new musical comedy *After the Ball* attracts large audiences here this week. The comedy is written by Mr. Chas. Carey, whose own company is presenting it. A good deal of the success of the piece is due to Mr. Algernon Lee as Haliwell Menit. The choleric old colonel is well taken by Mr. Percy Baverstock, and some laughter is caused by Mr. Buckstone Clair (the author of the lyrics) as the colonel's servant. The colonel's daughter is well taken by Miss M. Sadie, who with winning ways, a pretty face, and a sweet voice admirably fulfils all requirements.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy and company is this week presenting here the Russian drama *In Holy* (?) *Russia*. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy acts with considerable force as Renee Rubinoff, and Micky Nolan is drolly interpreted by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—A delightful vocal entertainment is provided here this week by the Serenaders; Gertie Gitana scores a success in her latest songs; and a pleasing turn is provided by Chanti in a transformation novelty. Thomas Finglas gives a first-class coon turn, and a ventriloquist of a high order is Lieutenant Travis. Hector and Paulos are clever comedy acrobats; and Milner Verren, vocalist, does well. Other turns are provided by Trick and Trixie, comedy artists, and the Biograph.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Carrie Laurie's "Kindergarten" heads the bill here. Barrington, who plays the piano while standing on his head, is well received, and J. P. Leng, mimic, does well. Joe Almasio and his servant provide an excellent juggling entertainment, and Otto and Olga are first-rate comedy artists and instrumentalists. Among others appearing are the Sisters Walmsley, the Lavelle Brothers, and Earle and Melville.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—During the week Miss Annie Hughes has paid a first visit to Morecambe in Arthur Law's charming comedy, *A Country Mouse*, and has delighted her audience with a clever interpretation of the part of Angela Muir. Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison have sent a capital company on tour with the piece, the cast including Mr. Chas. Esdale, as Archibald Vyse, a part in which he does very well; Mr. Evelyn Vernon, as the Duke of St. Kitt's, which is played with many delicate touches; Mr. Thos. A. Braidon, as Lord Robert; Mr. William Calvert, excellent as John Bowlby; Mr. John E. Watson, the clever Jephcat of the piece; Miss Moyra Creegan, charming as Lady Silvia; Miss Frances Davie, a pleasing Violet Aynsley; and Miss Ida Laurie, all that could be desired as Mrs. Cooper. The evening's enjoyment is enhanced by the presentation of the successful one-act play, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, in which Miss Hughes is so admirable as Saucers.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson. —That excellent musical turn, the Zerbinis, are heading the bill here this week, and their clever business with various musical instruments is much appreciated; H. Pawson is exceptionally smart as a conjurer, chapeaugraphic artist, rag picture maker, &c; and the Sisters Lyle are charming duettists and dancers; Guy Rider whistles wonderfully well; the Zenary Bros., have an excellent acrobatic act; and the Greys introduce some standard ballads; Garden's quintette of dancers and vocalists are very acceptable, their work with the bagpipes being capital; and Rappo and Ella prove themselves particularly smart equilibrists.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Alderman John Gardener.—At this popular house Alderman Gardener has put on a good programme, topped by the Cleveland Burlesque Company, in their tumbling, dancing, and comedy juggling; Nada Moret is a clever character singer and patterer, and proves herself a distinctive feature of the bill; the Bollingers produce original designs with coloured rags; and Loudon Cameron delights, for a second week, all with his conjuring; the Saletos, head and hand balancers, are clever; and funny is the comedy of Sandes and Vincent; Correze and Keith are specially retained, and present some striking things in the juggling line; Percy Johnson is a comedian who always pleases his audience.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Arthur G. Hart's excellent troupe of pierrots provide an entertainment which is considerably appreciated.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Blue Hungarian Band concludes a season's engagement to-morrow (Sunday) night, and have proved themselves quite a feature of the Morecambe season. During the week Miss Joan Ashley, the contralto, has delighted the audience with her singing.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company is this week appearing in *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Chas. Burdon is good as James Iderwick; Mr. George Beverley is a satisfactory Jack O'Malley; and Mr. Edwin Clarke does excellent work as Huntley Mason. Mr. Horace Stanley furnishes some smart comedy work, as also does Mr. A. E. Francis. Bessie Leigh is sweetly played by Miss Elsie Capell; and Miss Josephine Lee is capital in the small part of Olive Combes. Miss Evelyn M. Walton as the elderly spinster is extremely funny; Miss Kate Kilpuch is also a prominent figure in the comedy scenes.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—This week Mr. C. Watson Mill presents his new romantic drama, *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Mill does some remarkably fine work as Dr. Marcus Dread. Mr. Howell Travis gives a clever impersonation of Shaun the minstrel; Mr. Norman B. Cannon is successful as Fergus NcNaughton; Mr. H. Carter Slaughter shows ability as Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland as Squire Kennion gives an excellent interpretation of an Irish squire; Mr. Harold M. Meeres is good as Rev. Emanuel Wallace; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy is amusing as Mike McQuade. Miss Rosalind Tate is responsible for an admirable study of Moira Kennion; Miss Emma Barton is to be congratulated on her part of Shella Kennion; Miss Ellen Beverley scores well in the rôle of the wise woman, Molly O'Moore; Miss Edith Rutland is good as the cripple boy, Myles O'Moore. Mr. W.

refined, are accorded a warm reception; Colby and May are old favourites; Lily May's impersonation of the doll is clever, and she ably assists the ventriloquist in a most entertaining show; the Brothers Lang introduce burlesque business that is laughable; Billy Tucker gives a good exhibition in ball punching; and Ernie Mayne is a comedian that attains instant popularity; Hanvaar and Lee are diverting in their scene, *The Golfer and the Maid*; Bouverie Pleydell is an exceptionally good step dancer; and the Three Albions, novelty musicians, complete the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—This week Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux have brought Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company here in Alfred Sutro's play, *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Herbert Bunston gives a highly finished impersonation of Jack Frobisher, and is well supported by Miss Florence Jackson, who plays the part of Lady Alethea Frobisher with a depth of feeling that is worthy of the highest praise. Mr. George A. Brandram gives a masterly performance of Hankey Bannister; Mr. Cyril Baleine is excellent as the Marquis of Steventon; and Mr. Sydney Hamilton submits a capable rendering of Harry Dallas. Miss Lydia Busch is a sympathetic Lady Westerby; Miss Molly Carton acts charmingly as Lady Lucy Derenham; and other parts are well played by Miss Edith Cuthbert, Miss Rita Milman, and Mr. Alexander Cassy.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager Mr. Tom A. Evans.—Mr. George Brooks is the top of the bill here this week, and his comic songs have taken immensely; Onda and Leon, comedy bar performers, are clever and amusing; the Bohemians are good instrumentalists, the lady being a charming piccolo player; Ada Spencer, "The Girl from the Hat Shop," combines vocalism with piano playing and clever dancing; H. J. Kisbey, in his speciality gains great applause; Miss Grace Langley's contributions are highly popular; Miss Ida Nicholson is responsible for a pretty song and dance; and some excellent pictures complete a well varied programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company, with *A Gambler's Daughter*, is attracting good houses here this week. Mr. Robert Ayrton gives a capital impersonation of Desmond O'Dare; Mr. Frank Hudspeth is good as Solomon Solomons; Mr. Richard Pitt makes an effective John Grant; Mr. Victor Millard is a satisfactory Jack Grant; Mr. Milton Curtis does well as Captain Stanhope; and Mr. Martin Sands gives a capable portrayal of Ralph Gillman. In the dual character of Mildred Grant and Marian Grant, Miss Adria Hill scores a well-deserved success; Miss Harriett Loydall makes the most of her opportunities as Auntie Zeb; Miss Lizzie Ford is pleasing as Carmen Sancho; and the remaining parts are well sustained.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Gus Barra, the eccentric musical motorist, is the star here, and is accorded a hearty reception. Another very acceptable turn is that provided by Gorman's Juveniles, who introduce an enjoyable act; Messrs. Trick and Trixie, musical and comedy artists, have had a hearty greeting; the Two Dawns, speciality dancers, are well received; and the Monckton, speciality artists; Mr. Fred Villiers, refined comedian; and the Bio-Photoscope all meet with favour.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Secretary, Miss E. Golden.—This week a strong variety company has been engaged. The star turn here is Mlle. Florence, whose performances on the rolling globe borders on the marvellous; another great attraction is Abex, a miniature Hercules; the Arnold Brothers are clever with their illusions; Miss Polly Adula sings and dances in a dainty manner; Hoozee, in a ventriloquial sketch, earns well-merited applause; and the Bendons, society entertainers, give a refined entertainment.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., with a full company of 70, is here this week. On Monday evening *Tannhäuser* was rendered in a masterly way. Mr. Charles Carter, in the title-rôle, sang magnificently, and had a hearty reception; Mr. Geo. Neilson as Herman was excellent, and Mr. A. James as Biterolf, Mr. G. Rhodes as Heinrich, Mr. L. Alexander as Reinmar, and Mr. R. Brookes as Walther were excellent in their respective parts. Miss Enriqueta Chrichton as Elizabeth was charming in her acting and exquisitely so in her singing; Miss Lucy Lever as Venus deserves every praise; and Miss Keighley as a young shepherd was good. The chorus was most efficient, and Mr. Harrison proved a capable conductor. On Tuesday Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* were given, both pieces being admirably rendered. On Wednesday *Faust* was billed, and the title-rôle was represented by Mr. Seth Hughes. Mr. Charles Manners was admirable as Mephistopheles and Miss Ethel Cadman charming as Marguerite. On Thursday the ever-favourite *Bohemian Girl* is announced, and on Friday *Carmen*, in which Mlle. Zelie de Lussan appears as Carmen.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The programme is full of fun this week, and heading the bill is Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company in the amusing comedy sketch entitled *The Battle of the Belles*. Horace Wheatley is immensely humorous as an Irish comedian, whilst Lawrence Barclay, an eccentric, is highly successful; Ernie Myers, in his songs and patter, is a capital turn, and Lily Lonsdale's charming songs are much appreciated; Winona and King give an expert and grand turn in shooting; Hector and Sultan, comedy acrobats, are good, and the Hippo Bio completes the entertainment.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Dorothy o' the Hall*, presented by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, is attracting large and enthusiastic audiences. The visits of this famous pair of players is always looked forward to with pleasure, and on the present occasion their welcome is as warm as ever. Messrs. Kester and Major have provided them in this romantic costume play parts which enable them to display to the full their unique and well-developed talents. As Dorothy Vernon, Miss Neilson is by turns calm and stormy, playful and serious, and always charming; whilst Mr. Terry, whose manly figure and handsome face are well suited by the costume of the period, is exactly suited to the rôle of Sir John Manners. They are supported by a well-selected company, many of whom are old favourites here. Mr. Horace Hodges as Perkin the jester imparts sufficient whimsicality to his performance, and withal admirably suggests the faithful family retainer. Miss Mary Mackenzie is a good Jenny Faxton; whilst Miss Clair Pauncefort acts the part of Lady Vernon in good style. Mr. Frederick Groves makes the most of his few opportunities as Earl of Rutland; whilst in the thankless part of Sir Malcolm Vernon Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw achieves no little success. Mr. J. Carter-Edwards is well suited by his deliberate action and delivery to the part of Sir George Vernon; while the dignified bearing of Mr. D. J. Williams is just the necessary qualification for the rôle of Cecil, Lord Burleigh. The two Queens are represented by Miss Miriam Lewes and Miss Lilias Waldegrave in a very capable manner; whilst Miss Marion Sterling makes a good Bess. Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. W. A. Haines, and Messrs. Walter Edwin, George Dudley, and Ernest Imeson, complete the cast.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—The American actor, Mr. Junius Booth, is paying his first visit to Nottingham in *Monte Cristo*. As Edmond Dantes, Mr. Booth has a part which enables him to use to the utmost his wonderful histrionic gifts, and from the first he became a great favourite with the large audiences attracted. He is surrounded by a well-selected and evenly-balanced company. Mr. E. H. Templeton essays with great success the rôle of Mortier; and Mr. J. Bowermann is altogether at home as Danglars. Mr. C. W. Crowe makes the most of his part of Morcef; and Mr. Walter Huron satisfactorily impersonates the King's Attorney. Miss Claire Elstob is charming in the rôle of Mercedes; and Mr. Leonard Marshall as her son Albert is commendable. Mr. J. W. Braithwaite and Miss Emma Robberds as Caderousse and his wife are exceedingly gruesome, and thoroughly succeed in two difficult rôles; Miss Doris White is well suited in the part of Sophie Danglars; and Mr. Walter Martin deserves a word of praise for his clever acting as the Abbé Faria. Mr. Sam Elton, Mr. W. A. Helyer, Mr. J. Collinson, Mr. Sydney White, and Miss Alice West complete the cast, and all do well in their respective parts.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The animated pictures which, with the illustrated songs of Mr. Lester King, baritone vocalist, have proved so attractive, are being continued this week.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Bella and Bijou, the dainty pair of society entertainers, occupy the place of honour in this week's bill, and are proving as attractive as ever; Henry Cot and Prince Colibri, the French giant and Russian midget, are a very interesting turn, the comparison between the two being marked; Harris and Worth are a pair of comical fellows who have a great fund of mirth at their command; and Harry Grey is among the front rank of whimsical singers and dancers; Gertrude Bradshaw has a beautiful soprano voice, which she well knows how to use; and Daisy Dormer is really delightful and dainty. The Bisera Troupe of lady musicians look charming, and their performance is excellent, and deserves every commendation. Abdy's canine circus is a performance well worth seeing; and the perfection in the art of bird-training is surely reached by Madame Marvelle. Spry and Monti present a new sketch which bristles with humour, and out of which they extract every possible point. The programme is brought to an end by some very telling singing by Mr. Frank Darwin, an actor-vocalist of extraordinary merit.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Messrs. Polini and Melford have sent a capital company in the favourite drama, *The Silver King*. Mr. Fred D. Davis plays the part of Wilfred Denver with power, and Miss Daisy Scudamore gives a touching portrayal of Nellie Denver; Mr. Edward J. George sustains his old part of Jaikes in his usual well-finished style; and Mr. L. St. John Lowther scores as the villain, Captain Skinner. Miss Flossie Hale Daviss and Master Douglas Thomas are capital as the children, Cissy and Ned; Miss Dorothy Radford makes the most of the part of Olive Skinner; Henry Corket is well played by Mr. A. Hornby Warburton, as is the Elijah Combe of Mr. Arthur Wright. Mr. Byrom Pedley makes a capital Detective Baxter; Mr. Warriss Lindon is Cripps, and Mr. P. Redmayne is Fred Selwyn.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Messrs. J. B. Shinton and A. Greenwood are paying a return visit with their powerful drama, *The Price of Her Soul*, and a strong company has been selected to play it. Mr. John B. Shinton portrays Lord Rolf Mandeville, V.C., in a manly fashion; and Major Skoboloff is ably represented by Mr. Annesley Hely, and General Lanovitz is played by Mr. Archie Gear. Mr. Fred White is good as Zouroff; Mr. George Marriott, jun., does well as the Hon. Algy, as does Mr. Sydney Ross as Captain Jack Lawton. Miss Ada M. Ryder renders the part of Countess Inez Steinmetz in a capital manner, and Miss Mona Grey is excellent as Lavonitz. Miss Ida Thompson is good as Vera, and Miss Ada Arnott scores as Lady Jemima Fraser. Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy is responsible for the humorous element, and he is ably assisted by Miss Tina Frank as Polly Perkins.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—*The Romany King*, an operatic episode, heads the bill this week, in which Lempriere Pringle and J. C. Piddock are well received, assisted by Miss Beatrice Edwardes and Mr. M. Williams. Alice Raymond, lady cornettist and bugler, has had a good reception, along with John Kurkamp, conductor and vocalist. Tom Woottwell is also well applauded. The Narrow Brothers are a smart pair of comedy cyclists; Adele Lincoln is a good comedienne and dancer; and the Morton Trio in comedy and vocalism do well. Conan and Doyle, comedians, cause roars of laughter; and Bert Byrne, light comique, is a capital mimic. The "Prospectors" shown by the Royal Dottoscope, concludes an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Wally's Comedy Jugglers, at the top of the bill, provide an excellent turn. La Belle Nello, at the other end, is a capital contortionist, and the Three Coopers have a good pathetic song scena. Annie Casey is a smart comedienne, and Jack Martin, actor-vocalist, has a flattering reception. Charles Chard is an old favourite here, and Vasey and Ramsey have a neat dancing act. Charles Stevens, character vocalist, also appears, and the Dottoscope presents the great bull fight with success.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Once again the popular play *The Sign of the Cross* is here, the company being that of Mr. William Greet, which is capably managed by Mr. W. A. McNeill. Marcus is impersonated with consummate skill by Mr. Frank E. Petley, his portrayal all through being strikingly realistic; Miss Marie Leonhard plays Mercia in a charmingly sweet and sympathetic mood, which speedily wins the favour of the house; a characteristic study of Nero is furnished by Mr. C. Yorke; very effective are the portrayals submitted by Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus and Mr. J. Weatherall as Licinius; Glabrio is enacted by Mr. Frank Wood with much humour and conspicuous ability; Mr. Harry Jones plays creditably as the effeminate Philodemus; and commendable work is done by Mr. H. Thurston Harris as Servillius, Mr. Roy Cushing as Strabo, and Mr. E. Yaldwin as Viturius. Favius is excellently embodied by Mr. Walter Fleet; Mr. Geo. Stanton acquits himself well as Titus; as does also Mr. R. Chapman as Melos; and great praise is due to Miss Effie Dane for her natural and earnest portrayal of Stephanus. As Berenice Miss Gertrude Price proves herself to be an actress of ability; Miss Cissie Carlton is excellently adapted to the part of Dacia; Poppœa is commendably sustained by Miss Mary Newcombe; and Miss Jessica Thorne displays ability in her interpretation of Ancaria.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Deluo Fritz.—Heading the programme here this week is Angeline, dancing juggler, this lady performing the cannon ball act *à la* Cinquevalli. Other capital turns are given by Steve Buckingham, vocal comedian and dancer; Zowan, in a comedy scene; Chester and Lee's Marionettes; Bandoni, the one-man band; Little Lizzie Lever, transformation dancer; Norman Mills, actor-vocalist; and Marie de Paso, lightning clay modeller.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The Corporation.—W. F. Frame, the well-known and popular Scottish humorist, had a rousing reception on his appearance here on Saturday evening. The "Man You Know" was as entertaining as ever, and caused abundant laughter by his ludicrous songs and interludes. Supporting him were Miss Helen Andrews, contralto; Mr. Walter Thompson, tenor; Jack Chambers, coon singer and dancer; Mons. De Li, magician; Baroni and Kemp, protean artistes; Cambo, the musical man monkey; and Prof. Hulbert, ventriloquist.

PENTRE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—Mr. H. F. Housden and company are here with *A Woman's Past*. Mr. J. Myron Haward's impersonation of David Heath is exceedingly effective; Mr. David Phillips gives a capital portrayal of Frank Dellauncy; Dr. Clement Harper is in the capable hands of Mr. H. F. Housden; and Mr. Clifton Earl, in the rôle of Uriah Craven, leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Irene Carrington's admirable interpretation of the part of Clara Darell is cordially received; and the performance of Miss Dorothy Wallace as Bessie deserves praise.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Mr. Albert Chevalier has paid one of his very welcome visits here this week, and, as usual, drew a large and distinguished audience. The second half of the programme was occupied by the farce, entitled *The Goose with the Golden Eggs*, in which Mr. Chevalier was ably supported by a clever company. Immediately following Mr. Chevalier's visit, the Chas. W. Poole's myriorama opened here for a fortnight's season. Chief among the historical events is a fine set depicting the Battle of Trafalgar. The Urban Bioscope projects some of the most interesting films ever seen locally. The remarkably strong variety combination includes Little Dorretta, a clever acrobatic dancer; Miss Daisy Graham, with a well-trained group of birds; Miss Kitty Woodford, with a canine circus; Messrs. Leonard and Mac, side walk comedians and patterers; the Avondale Quartette in their humorous sketch, entitled *Harmony at One a.m.*; Mr. Harry Stewart, with his clever protean act; and Mr. Wm. Stewart and Mr. Alfred Leonard, who act alternately as guides. The capital orchestra is under the direction of Mr. A. S. Morrell.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The successful Scottish musical play, *A Trip to the Highlands*, is being acted here this week under the direction of Mr. Harry Fischer, and is proving as popular as ever. A full chorus of Gibson Girls, with a Midget Troupe of dancers, Highland pipers, &c., are all very effective. Mr. Wal Croft as the MacMutchkin, and Mr. Joseph S. Montague in the rôle of Timmins, give amusing portrayals of their parts; Mr. Wellesley Smith's impersonation of Viscount Lackington is excellent; and Mr. Gus Wheatman is equally successful as Sir Septimus Brown Windsor; Mr. Frank Barclay acts the rôle of the Hon. Frederick Lackington with great credit; and Mr. Arthur Poole scores as the detective, Dexter. Miss Maisie Ellinger becomes an early favourite, and is heartily applauded throughout as Miss Araminta Brown Windsor. Two other favourites who receive a due share of recognition are Miss Millie Engler as Miss Winnie Brown Windsor and Miss Kitty Clinton as Fanny Flounce; Miss Lilian Nevill Davies evinces marked capability in the trying rôle of Flora MacMutchkin; Misses Nan Dowling and Kathleen Naughton are successfully placed in the rôles of Charley Chatterton and Miss Lottie Langley; while Miss Hilda Blanche is prominent as the leading Gibson Girl.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—The first visit of *The Earl and the Girl* drew a crowded house on Monday, when the audience thoroughly appreciated the efforts of Mr. William Greet's capable company in this amusing comedy. Mr. Alfred Donohoe won hearty applause for his humorous portrayal of Jim Cheese; Mr. Thomas Kennard made the most of his opportunities as Dick Wargrave; and Mr. Leslie Owen was seen to advantage as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Miss May Yates acquitted herself admirably as Elphin Haye; Miss Ida Stratham made a bright and winsome Daisy Fallowfield; Liza Shoddam was cleverly represented by Miss Lena Hicks; Miss Winnie Plumpton's Miss Virginia Bliss was well played; and able support was given by Mr. Greville Hayes (A. Bunker Bliss), Mr. Sam Lysons (Mr. Talk), and Miss Kathleen Gerrard (Mrs. Shimmering Black).

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. A. W. Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*, by Mr. George Alexander's company, is precisely the kind of play to appeal to a cultured audience. Mr. Frank Fenton was a great success as the tactical yet kindly Hilary Jesson; Miss Auriol Lee received rapturous applause for her effective treatment of the difficult part of Nina; Mr. Cyril Harcourt as Filmer Jesson, M.P., was distinctly good; Mr. Adam Alexander as Sir Daniel Ridgeley represented a class continually met with in everyday life; and Mr. Charles Tyrel undertook the somewhat distasteful rôle of Major Maurewarde with a correct measure of reserve. As Pryce Ridgeley, Mr. George Silver made an ideal prig; Mrs. Kemmis, as the adamantine Lady Ridgeley, to whom caste is everything, was lifelike in the extreme; Miss Audrey Campbell as Geraldine Ridgeley, was an austere and frigid spinster; and Miss Carman Woods deserves great commendation for her interpretation of the precocious infant, Derek Jesson.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—This week's production, entitled *The Way Women Love*, abounds in sensational incident with a judicious interpolation of comedy. Mr. Edward Lloyd ably sustains his established reputation as Captain Howard Tremain; Mr. Alfred Brandon as Leslie Lamont makes a very good villain; Miss Ethel Kay as Lady Violet Tremain treats the audience to a fine exposition of emotional acting; Miss Beatrice Whitney is an ideal adventuress; and Mr. Tommy Gough as Dick Palmer infuses plenty of merriment into the performance.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*The Rich and Poor of London* naturally forms a strong attraction in a democratic town. Miss Dora Dench as May Braithwaite, a hospital nurse, gives a sympathetic rendering of the part; Mr. Sidney Dench as Spider Jack, a one-hand man, contributes some acceptable songs; Mr. Graham Arthurs makes an eminently professional Dr. Leonard Thornton; and Mr. Cole Aspinall is a satisfactory stage lawyer. Other members of the company are Mr. F. Danner, Miss M. Bedford, and Master B. Dench.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—A programme of very good all-round merit is submitted. Lade Henderson opens the ball with a fine military song and catchy chorus; Barney Vox is a first-class ventriloquist, and creates plenty of fun with his dummies; Belle Braham pays a return visit with her illustrated picture songs; King and Benson, whose accent betrays their American nationality, have a very breezy item; Harry Wenburn, comedian, gives a couple of songs which go well; Alice Pierce, the principal turn, submits some really clever imitations of leading actresses, notably Miss Lena Ashwell and Miss Ellaline Terriss; Verno and Voyce are a pair of acceptable vocalists; and the Four Herberts and Vernon's pictures complete an interesting programme.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Mr. Bert Dalmar and party (The Comets) provide an evening's entertainment that would satisfy the most critical. Mr. Harry Payne is a comedian of first-rate ability; Mr. Bert Dalmar is seen in some smart sketches; Miss Florence Elliott makes good use of her rich, well-toned voice; Miss Cissie Harcourt is warmly applauded for her song, "Single and Married"; Mr. Charles Cardle is an excellent baritone; and Mr. Arthur Stafford is an efficient accompanist.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Redecorated and renovated throughout, this popular Rhondda house attracts large crowds nightly. This week Messrs. C. M. Polini and Austen Melford's company is appearing in *The Silver King*. Mr. Herbert Ford is the "King," and plays the part with his accustomed force; Jaikes finds an able exponent in Mr. Tom Paulton; Mr. Charles Baird is a subtle Spider, and Mr. Harry Osman gives a clever character-sketch of Coombes. Miss Victoria Addison is a sympathetic Nellie Denver.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Heading the bill is the famous Lizette Troupe of Lady Acrobats, who are exceedingly clever; the Three Pirmans in their novelty pantomime act, entitled *Dans Le Jardia*, score a success; Charles Bu-vae, the happy Dutchman, with concertina, is well received; the Swift Trio, in their unique bicycle act, give a creditable performance; Elsie Rubina, wire dancer, is much admired; Nipper Antea, boy comedian and mimic, makes a big hit; Miss Evie Hamilton, soubrette and dancer, is also very good; Lambert and Glover, in their original farcical duologue, *My Birthday*, are responsible for considerable amusement. The pictures shown on the American Bioscope this week are specially good.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—D'Oyly Carte's principal répertoire opera company, under the direction of Mr. F. A. Leon, opened here on Monday evening, when was presented *The Mikado*, Mr. C. H. Workman playing Ko-ko with all his well-known skill and ability. Mr. Billington gave an excellent and imposing rendering as Pooh-Bah; Nanki-Poo was ably taken by Mr. Pacie Ripple; Mr. Albert Kavanagh sang well, and was a commanding Mikado; and Mr. Leicester Tunks was excellent as Pish-Tush. Miss Theresa Rassam portrayed Katisha with much cleverness and artistic feeling; Miss Hope Hastings scored a great success as Yum-Yum; and Miss Mabel Burnege as Pitti-Sing, Miss Bessell Adams, as Peep-Bo, were admirable. The week's programme includes *The Yeoman of the Guard*, *The Gondoliers*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, *Iolanthe*, and *Patience*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company in the successful drama, *The Girl Who Lost her Character*, is playing here this week, and drawing excellent houses; Miss Evelyn Clyde, as Molly Vernon gives a well-balanced and telling embodiment of the wronged girl; Miss Lydie Mannington submits a powerful impersonation as Marian Franklyn; Rose Seymour is effectively portrayed by Miss Ethel Brucewell; Mr. C. W. Standins, in the dual rôles of Jack England and Private Johnson, is an ideal soldier hero, playing with quiet earnestness that scores well; Captain Geoffrey Caversham is ably sustained by Mr. Frank Adair, who cleverly depicts the cold-blooded callousness of the character; Mr. Edwin J. Colling is altogether manly and convincing as the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. George H. Asquin as Dick Punch is very humorous, and is well assisted in the fun by Miss Midge Meynard as Lucy Vere.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—An attractive bill for the week is offered to the patrons of this hall. Alf Gibson, vocal comedian, with a quaint unemotional manner, is much liked; the Four Jumels, in their musical acts have had a good reception; Zasma is a clever gymnast; Minnie Wren is a smart and versatile comedienne; Martine and Son, with illustrated song act, are very popular; Brown and Kelly company, in the screaming farce, *What the Butler Knows*, create roars of laughter; Picott and Lizette, magical pantomimists, in illusionary extravaganza, *The Crazy Cook*, do some very smart tricks in sensational style. Other excellent turns are submitted by Flo. Carlow, soubrette; Jolly and Neilson, in a musical melange; and Payne's Bioscope.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Geo. Dance's No. 1 company holds the boards here this week on a welcome return visit with *The Country Girl*. Geoffrey Challoner has a genial representative in Mr. John M. Hay, who sings with great expression; Mr. J. F. Rooney, who bears himself well as the Rajah, gains numerous encores for his songs; Mr. Coningsby Brierley's genuinely funny acting, singing, and nimble dancing in the rôle of Barry evoke hearty laughter and applause; Mr. Arthur Jackson as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Chas. Stafford as Douglas Verity; and Mr. H. A. Mather as Granfer Mummery, capably fill their respective parts. Marjory Joy is pleasingly impersonated by Miss Barbara Babington, who sings delightfully; Miss E. Desborough is an attractive Princess Melaneh, her excellent vocalism being fully appreciated; Miss Cissie Sephton is gay and sprightly as Madame Sophie; and a captivating portrayal of Nan is given by Miss Ellaline Thorne.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. Fred Darcy and Mr. Fred J. Little's company is here this week in *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle deserves great credit for his portrayal of Jack Rutledge; Miss Beatrice Moore plays the part of Doris Rutledge sympathetically; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt ably sustains the difficult rôle of James Horton; Miss Nellie Moore makes a charming and vivacious Jess Bainbridge; Mr. Fred J. Little as Jasper is a clever negro impersonator; Mr. Will Bass causes much merriment as Pat Cathill; Miss Madge Laverton well deserves her success in the rôle of Marie Bergerre; Mr. Syd T. Russell merits great praise for his rendering of Moses Levi; Mr. Fred Guinness is to be congratulated on his delineation of George Bainbridge; and Mr. Fred Herne shows dramatic ability in the rôle of Henry Rutledge.

RADCLIFFE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—*A Beautiful Criminal*, by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. F. C. Somerfield, is the drama here this week. Miss Dagmar, in the title-rôle, and Mr. F. C. Somerfield, as Will Maynard, do full justice to their respective parts; Mr. Roy Fortescue is creditable in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. T. G. Vane as Leonard Vimbart is a typical dude; and Mr. Alec. Findlater as Harold Kingston is also good. Miss Clara Santley is effective as the prude Rosini; Miss Amy Naughten as Florette de Vere is a fine dancer; Miss Lallah Shelton as Lily Lorimer is satisfactory; and Miss Molly Monaghan as Janet depicts a good type of Lancashire mother; Mr. Willie Barrett as Peter Miles is responsible for much laughter.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux.—At this playhouse during the past week the bill has been a double one. For the first three nights Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company appeared in the rollicking farcical comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle*. Mr. James Danvers was in great form as Professor Septimus Storey, and Mr. Edward Chester in the rôle of Theocritus Ward Sparkleton gave a capital portrayal. Messrs. R. Harley West and Roy Barraclough finely impersonated the two undergraduates, George Barker and Albert Perrin; Mr. Frank Lilliput elicited repeated applause for his performance as Runyard; Miss Nellie Parker Dent capitally portrayed the sour mother-in-law of the Professor, Mrs. Barker; Miss Beatrice Egerton was quite successful as the Professor's daughter Maud; and Miss Nellie Beacon was seen to much advantage in the character of Eva Stoney. As Gaye Sparkleton, the 'Varsity Belle, Miss Josephine Ellis was really charming, and received on each evening hearty and well-deserved applause. The play embraces several bright musical numbers, and is very smartly dressed. For the remaining portion of the week Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company produced the ever-welcome *Florodora*, and signs were not wanting to suggest that the booking was a popular one.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—This week the Ian Maclaren Shakespearean Repertoire company have been delighting audiences with really artistic performances of the works of the Bard of Avon. *Hamlet* was on the bill on Monday, Mr. Maclaren giving a remarkably fine rendering of the part of the melancholy Dane; Miss Gertrude Gilbert was an excellent Ophelia; and the other parts are skilfully sustained. On Tuesday *As You Like It* was the attraction, Mr. Maclaren filling the rôle of Orlando with marked effect; Miss Gilbert represented Celia with charm of manner; Miss E. Coleman did well as Rosalind; Mr. E. Landor as Touchstone, and Mr. G. Bryant as Jacques were quite at home in their respective parts. On Wednesday *Othello* was admirably staged and acted, followed by *The Merchant of Venice* on Thursday and *Twelfth Night* on Friday.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—Messrs. Knowles and Garside's company appeared here on Monday with *A London Fireman*, which was warmly received. As Hal Curtis, the son, Mr. J. Forbes Knowles gave a capital impresonation; and Mr. Oliver Birrell as Viscount Fleming was well placed; Mr. Edward L. Garside as Ratty was decidedly clever, his acting in the last act being particularly fine. As Countess Fleming, Miss Nellie Waddington gave a thoroughly good impersonation; Miss Florence M. Daly was equally successful as Grace Curtis; and Miss Nellie Shirley was an acceptable Ida Curtis; Mr. Harry C. Momber was a really clever Nixey Stinger, his comicalities greatly amusing the audience; whilst Miss Nellie Garside, as Polly Bramble, proved an equally good comedienne.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Baron H. Harriss is this week presenting the popular American musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen*, for the first time in Reading. The company numbers over fifty performers, and is of all-round excellence.

REDDITCH.—PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. W. Treadgold.—Edescope and Barnum's animated pictures opened here on Monday. There is also a good variety company, including Sands and Vincent, in a comedy act; Martin Hope, pierrot comedian; Miss May, ballad vocalist; Loder Lyons, Irish entertainer and ventriloquist; Mlle. Pardoe, comedienne and dancer; and Otto Ethardo, juggler.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Howard Lees.—Friday, the 7th inst., was set apart for the annual benefit of Mr. J. W. Collinson, the musical director of the Palace, who was presented with a gold-mounted pipe by the members of the orchestra. Several artists appeared, including the Three Whirligigs, eccentric dancers; Sisters Brooklands, duettists; the Ladderites; Takio, Japanese mimic; the Three Zaracs, W. H. Atkinson, Collin Smith, Baby Hilda, Madame Annie Goodwin, Tom Stuart, Jack Macdermott, Forshaw Kershaw, and Austin Mahony. Heading a capital bill this week are the Schaffer Troupe, who give a clever athletic display. Anthony submits his wonderful entertainment, consisting of illusions, &c.; Cissie Curlette is a delightful vocalist and mimic; Brady and Johnson and other artists complete the bill.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—This week we have here Kennedy Allen, a comedian with a quaint style, who has a fund of smart patter; Tom Stuart's sketches from Dickens are a strong feature in the programme; Little Jennie Hartley, comedienne, delights everyone with her singing and dancing; Clifford Morgan sings his songs with much feeling and effect; a gratifying reception is given to Jack Macdermott nightly for his bright and catchy songs; and Forshaw Kershaw's musical monologues are greatly appreciated.

One of the favourite entertainments in Rhyl are E. H. William's Merrie Men, who each day perform to large crowds of people. Mr. Williams has brought a capital troupe to the town. Among the favourites are Charlie Drew, Reggie Lloyd, Dan Clifford, Andy Kerr, Barry Gilmore, and Frank Fox.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Musical Comedy Company in *Beauty and the Beast* is the attraction here this week. The performance is highly creditable to the youthful artists, and finds much favour with the audience. Wee George Wood is an especial favourite; his recitations and quaint mannerisms cause much laughter. Specialities by the Marguerita Quartette of Dancers, Miss Edie Cam, bâton swinger, and a barefooted dance by 10 children are given with success.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—The bill of fare here this week is most attractive. The Zaros, acrobats, submit a clever display of tumbling and balancing; Tom White's Arabs, including Pimple, are highly entertaining; Carr and Rose (in a "Domestic Episode"), Flo Chevalier (vocalist), Knots (contortionist), Grant and Allen (comedians), Geo. Bletcher (boy artist), and Vernon's Bioscope complete the list.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Good houses are the rule here this week. The Carina Sisters, tastefully attired, delight the house in their refined and artistic musical mélange; the Three Seymours, in their equilibristic juggling act, are great favourites; Harry Mayville, tenor vocalist; the Gregson Comedy Trio in *The Dummy*; Maud Clifton, vocalist and comedienne; the Three Henriques, comedy acrobats; Frank Whiteley, character-comedian, and the Empire Bioscope make up a most entertaining programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here this week with the play *A Girl's Cross Roads*, and is receiving well-deserved support. Mr. Char

great vocal ability. Capt. Devereux, with his well-trained dogs, is here for another week. Aldro Luke's imitation of a monkey is excellent; the Paulo Brothers, comedians, make a palpable hit by their quaint drollery. The names of Blamey and Kennard, Charles Grantley, Dene and Dawson, Mill May, and Theresa also appear on the programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Barney, Burke, and Bray do an excellent spectacular turn here, entitled *From London to Madrid*. The Avolos supply a unique and engrossing act with perpendicular poles; Claude Ohmy, with his equestrian feats, delights the audience; Miss Ernestina Rosa gives excellent representations of statuary, and wins warm applause; Harry Frisky engages in a variety of sporting antics during his juggling turn; Agnes and Arthur Lynch, song illustrators, contribute a fine and popular performance; Chloe Convere and her cake walk horse is still a favourite; and the Bioscope supplies a series of up-to-date pictures.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan. — Mr. Samuel James's company is appearing here this week in the well-known drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr. Beresford Whitcombe gives a powerful reading of Tom Robinson, and George Fielding is dramatically portrayed by Mr. Leonard Lawrence; William Fielding is adequately personated by Mr. Percy Ronald; Mr. Edwin Wilde presents an earnest and convincing embodiment of the Rev. Francis Eden; Mr. James May appears as Peter Cranley, and Mr. Osmond Fairfax as Isaac Levi. The two villains are strongly represented by Mr. Jackson Hayes as Mr. Meadows and Mr. George Claremont as Mr. Hawes. Mr. Chas. J. Forster is a satisfactory Mr. Merton and Mr. Johnny Leoni does well as Jacky; Josephs is pathetically played by Miss Hettie Graham; and Susan Merton is in the capable hands of Miss May Saker.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*No Man's Land* is the attraction here this week, the drama being presented by Miss Ida Millais' company under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne. Harry Oaklands is effectively treated by Mr. Herne; Mr. Frank Deniss ably depicts the villainy of Silas Moore; and Mat Marsden is capably sketched by Mr. A. G. Leighton. Mr. Wm. Mallalieu is humorous as Dr. Buxton; and Mr. Newton Pearce as Solomon is also successful in his efforts to please. Miss Ida Millais plays Mary Bathurst in good style; Mrs. Poodle is cleverly sketched by Mrs. Mallalieu; and Bessie is well played by Miss Nancy Mitchell. The sensational dive into real water is smartly carried out.

SHEERNESS. — THE PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil. Reymond.—Another excellent company occupies the boards here. Miss Mamie Walsh is a clever serio and dancer; and the same may be said of Miss Elsie Paul; Mr. Jack Foley fully sustains his reputation as an eccentric; Miss Louie Hurman is a big favourite; the Clancy Girls are a clever pair; and the Audleys conclude.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—After a run of musical comedy, pure "Gaiety burlesque" came as a novelty, in the shape of the old favourite, *Faust Up-to-Date*, on Monday, when a good audience listened with delight to the tuneful music of Meyer Lutz and the clever dialogue of Geo. R. Sims. Mr. Herbert Sparling played the part of Mephistopheles with acceptable humour; Mr. Fred Winn was funny as Valentine; and Mr. Stephen Adeson's Lord Chancellor was a clever caricature. Miss Moyra Sackville was a shapely and vivacious Faust; Miss Edith Fink made a charming Marguerite; Miss Marie Shields proved a comely and amusing Martha; and Miss Luna Love was pretty and *chic* as Siebel. The famous *pas de quatre* was loudly applauded; and Miss Amy Payne did a graceful *pas seul*. There was a good chorus, and the dresses and scenery were first-rate.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The new drama, *The Spider and the Fly*, is being acted to well-pleased audiences this week by Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company. The piece is effectively staged, and the characters are well represented by Mr. Stanley S. Gordon as Cyril Girdlestone, Mr. H. C. Lanceley as the clergyman, Mr. Frederick Ross as David Strong, Mr. Ellis J. Preston as the villain Girdlestone, Miss Amy Vennimore as Stella Grey, Miss Nina Vaughton as Edith McAllister, Miss L. Murray as Molly Blake, and Miss Marjorie May as Flipps. Good comedy relief is provided by Messrs. Fred Terriss and Mr. Chas. A. Preece, as the Brothers Roe.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—On Monday the domestic drama, *For Better, For Worse*, was presented for the first time in Sheffield by Mr. Fred Granville's company, and met with a cordial reception from a well-filled house. Mr. Edwin Clive was a smart and manly Captain Hilliard; Mr. Owen Redmonde submitted a bright and characteristic sketch of a naval officer as Lieutenant Dalrymple; Mr. Scott Leighton's Major Crawford was good; and Mr. Willie Black as Horatio Ranter caused hearty laughter. Miss Elsie Marriott Watson made a charming Olive Heathcote; and Miss Chrissie Dunbar was a graceful and dramatic Belle Baverstock.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The star turn this week is the famous Chirgwin, whose humorous and refined entertainment is as welcome and attractive as ever; Miss Millie Hylton is a great favourite here, and her pretty little scena wins deserved applause; the unique musical act by Orpheus brings down the house; Rita and Roma are very successful; Mr. Will Vokes does a wonderful grotesque dance, which recalls memories of the great Fred of that ilk; Phillips and Terry are acknowledged favourites here; and the company also includes Miss Rachel Lowe, comedienne; Miss Millie Payne, characteristic vocalist; Tee and Tee; and Miss Beatrice Renee, vocalist and dancer. The bioscope, with new films, finishes a splendid entertainment.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Appearing here this week with successful results are Mr. Frank Hardie's company in *For the Honour of the Regiment;* the Ringley Trio, sketch artists; Charles Sloman, comedian; Mr. George Collins; Wyatte, comic juggler; and Pallister's Biograph.

CENTRAL HALL.—In addition to the animated pictures, Mr. George Le Wist, the old favourite mimic and ventriloquist, and other artists, are doing well.

ALBERT HALL.—Mr. George Burton has taken this spacious hall for the season for popular concerts. The series began very successfully on Saturday with a comic singing competition.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. George Dance's company was here on the first three nights of this week with *The Girl From Kay's*, light fare that was quite seasonable. Miss Jessie Fraser in the title-rôle acted, sang, and danced in a manner which charmed everyone. Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft was a talented Harry Gordon; Mr. R. Grey a droll and successful Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr. Herbert Jennings a capable Theodore Quench, K.C.; Mr. E. Forde as Mr. Chalmers merited praise; Mr. Claude Dampier was a good Joseph; Mr. H. Dore a smart Pepper; Mr. Sydney Carte as Archie Pembridge acted with ability; Mr. J. Hart as Frank played conscientiously; and Mr. J. W. Hooper was lively and thoroughly amusing as the irrepressible Max Hoggenheimer. Miss Marie Greenhouse, Miss Irene Vere, and Miss Grace Murray were a successful trio.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—A racy sporting drama, *A Wife's Triumph*, has been accorded a good reception here. Mr. Ernest R. Abbott pleases immensely with his embodiment of Frank Wilton; Miss Ada Abbott as Bessie Dewhurst charms the audience with her prepossessing manner and really clever acting; Mr. Douglas C. Phelps gives an exceedingly fine performance as Robert Dewhurst; Mr. W. H. Garbois as Ellis Jordan is effective in his realism; Mr. Weedon Ross as Julius Hartmann is commendable; Mr. W. H. Davis Brown is successful as Stubbs; and Mr. Edward Keene as Ben Bradford and Miss Margery Tennant as Marjery Crib supplies effective humour; Miss Kathleen Stewart is well received as Alice Wilton; and Miss Hetty Jones is a favourite as Little Frank. On Wednesday and Thursday the well-known drama, *Sapho*, was played by the same company.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. George Dance is providing the attractions this week, and for the first half his capable company gave a clever presentation of *Lady Madcap*, which was thoroughly enjoyed. The play was prettily mounted, the dresses being exceptionally good. The choruses were sung with much heartiness, and some clever dancing was witnessed. Mr. Jules Charmettes proved himself an able interpreter of Count de St. Hubert, and his singing in French was loudly applauded. Mr. Bay Russell was in his element as Bill Stratford, being well supported by Mr. James Graydon as Posh Jenkins; Mr. George Whillis, who impersonates Corporal Ham, sang and danced well; Mr. Harold Parkes deserves mention for his able portrayal of Oroya Brown. Susan was cleverly depicted by Miss Ethel Beech, her dancing and singing winning appreciation; Miss Isabelle Dillon was delightful as Lady Betty Claridge. *The Little Michus* commenced a three nights' engagement on Thursday.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Baron.—An excellent programme is being submitted here, and one that meets with capital support, every item gaining well-deserved applause. Messrs. Aerian and Ostara are maintaining last week's reputation in their extraordinary and wonderful flying act; and Mr. Geo. Neno also maintains his success, being retained for his "Bunkum Beauty Show," which is proving most hilarious; he has the practical assistance of Mr. Tom Carpenter as the Dandy M.C. Miss Florence Bell contributes as a comedienne and dancer; Jock McKay is well received as a comedian; he also plays the bagpipes with ability. Daisy Reed is a clever top-boot dancer; Floria displays marvellous strength as an equilibrist; Mr. Hugh Dempsey, Irish comedian, is very smart, his dancing being greatly liked; Alfreda, in her illustrated songs, wins capital recognition, and the Bioscope is both pleasing and amusing. The other attractions are well supported.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—For the attraction here this week is the celebrated burlesque, entitled *Faust Up-to-Date*, presented by Mr. Mouillot, who is supported by a capital company. The play is made most humorous throughout, whilst the operatic choruses are rendered in tasteful and pleasing manner under the direction of Mr. W. D. J. Damant. Miss Mimi Fisher is responsible for a clever portrayal of Young Faust, her singing being well received. Mr. Eric Stevenshire is eminently suited as Old Faust; and Mephistopheles has a good interpreter in Mr. Roland Henry. Mr. F. W. Bowes is a comedian of repute, and gives a capital impersonation of Valentine, being well supported by Mr. A. Gambier Melford as Lord Chancellor. Miss May Davis ably expounds the rôle of Siebel; Miss Riversdale deserves mention for her characterisation of Martha; and Miss Aida Dumville is a decided success as Marguerite, and sings well.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—This is probably the closing week of this popular place of amusement. Those taking their benefits during the last few days are Mr. Chas. Ellis, the comedian, who has done good service, and Miss Marie Lawrence, who also has been successful. Both the lessee and manager are to be heartily congratulated on providing an entertainment that met with the entire satisfaction of their patrons week by week.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Despite the lateness of the season, Mr. Ballard Brown and his entertainers still draw immense crowds, who are given first-class programmes. The artists for this week all work hard, and have a large and varied selection of songs, &c., that never fail to win appreciation. Mr. Brown contributes in his customary efficient manner, and is a great favourite.

"THE HAPPY VALLEY."—Crowds still patronise "The Valley," thereby testifying to the continual popularity of Chirgwin's Concert Party. Miss Beatrice Varley, Messrs. Harry Rose, Charles Wood, Bert Dansie, and Charles Osborne are firm favourites, and Gus Dallon has again upheld the reputation he made here on a previous visit. On the 6th inst. Miss Varley and Mr. Wood's joint benefit was a veritable triumph, the lady especially being loaded with floral and other presents.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Another of Mr. George Dance's productions occupies the boards at this theatre, and the local playgoer has this week an opportunity of witnessing the attractive musical play, *The Cingalee*. Miss Georgina Middleton is a charming and chic representative of the Cingalese girl Nanoya; Peggy Sabine has a fascinating and piquant exponent in Miss Gladys Guy, whose singing was greatly admired; Miss Marjorie Clark submits a clever and dashing impersonation of Lady Patricia Vane; Mr. Grafton Williams is highly humorous and versatile in the rôle of Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Helier Le Maistre is distinctly successful in the part of Boobhamba; the Hon. Harry Vereker is capitally portrayed by Mr. Cyril Dane; Mr. Ethebert Edwards sustains the character of Bobby Warren with every credit; Mr. Jack Crichton submits a praiseworthy portraiture of Chambhuddy Ram; and Miss Essie Perrin danced a *pas seul* in a captivating and graceful manner.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Datas, the marvellous man of memory, who heads the bill at this popular hall of varieties gave an interesting exhibition of his wonderful mental capacity. Other prominent turns are supplied by Ernesto, the great juggler, and the Lavails, American aerial artists, in their sensational act on the silver arch, ladders, and breakaway bars. The items submitted include Will Haines, vocal character comedian; Amber Austa, eccentric coon singer and dancer; Williams and Warden, cross patter comedians; Lola Patey, popular vocalist; and the bioscope, with the latest films.

PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—The principal turn here is this week contributed by Henderson, the famous blind pianist, who gives a remarkable performance. Another interesting item is supplied by the Gondolier Glee singers, including Miss Helen Bourne, the lady tenor. The programme includes Ward and Davis, in their musical comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist;* Master Joe Conway, juvenile comedian; Dick Bradley, novelty trick cyclist; Edyth Goodall, mezzo-soprano; Huline and Le May, musical comedians; the Three Rubys, equipoise, acrobatic, and trapeze act; and the biotableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in a romantic modern military play entitled *Revenge*. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson plays the part of the villain, Prince Orloff, as to the manner born. The Captain Loris Vanessa of Mr. Fred Emery is a piece of realistic acting which evokes the enthusiasm of the audience; Mr. Gerrold Ord gives a good portrayal of the King; Mr. Lancelot Usher does well as Captain David Carr, R.N.; the Queen is charmingly impersonated by Miss Violet Carlyle; the villainess, Draga Vanessa, is forcefully portrayed by Miss Amy Ellam; Miss Alice Barlow is delightful as Cora Brook; Lieutenant Maurice is well performed by Miss Grace Amiers. The comedy element is ably accounted for by Mr. Francis Serl (Count Mussant), Mr. Russel Bogue (Jim Jennings, A.B.), and Miss Hettie Senior (Tusha).

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The premier turn this week is Albertus and Millar in a scene at the fair grounds, in which they excel in cornet playing, juggling with Indian clubs, &c.; the four Scotch Meisters in their scena *Ancestral Spirits*, are much appreciated; lovers of ballad vocalism are delighted by Miss Florence Esdaile (soprano) and Ian Colquhoun (baritone), vocalists; the Sisters Sprightly submit clever novelties; the remaining items are Fred Dunstone (comedian), May Tyler (comedienne and dancer), and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The star turn here is a quintette entitled *Officers at Play*, and is responsible for a lot of good music and humorous impersonations by the Five Musical Palmers; Warren Doyle, dancer, appears again; Gillin is a good ventriloquist; a smart juggling turn is contributed by Massena; Clarendon Fenwick is a good baritone vocalist; Gus Merriman, vocal comedian, Little Don, comedian, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—*The French Spy*, an intensely interesting play from the pen of E. Hill Mitchelson, is paying a first visit here this week. Mr. Fred Benton's company is responsible for its presentation. Miss Gertrude Evans is easily first, with her admirably finished and highly picturesque rendering of the Countess Andre. Miss A. Harrison-Tate provides a suitable foil in her excellent conception of Olga; Mr. Richard Fulton's Capt. Sommers is instinct with true manliness; whilst Mr. Max Coutts presents a marked contrast as the cowardly schemer Count Romanoff. Miss Cissy Cleveland, Mr. Seymour Perry, Mr. Benton, and Mr. Charles Digby are very successful in providing the lighter portion of the play.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone. — Mr. Chas. Verney's company, in the sensational drama, *The Coal King*, is here this week. Mr. Alec Alexander makes an ideal hero as Tom Roberts; Mr. Roy Gordon is well placed as Sir Reginald Hartford; as Walter Hartford, the villain, Mr. Robin Sheills, plays with great power and receives a big compliment of hisses; as Jem Williams, Mr. Tod Squires is responsible for much laughter; Miss Olive Lloyd plays the part of Grace Shirley in a very capable manner; and as Mad Ann, Miss Florence Mitchell is effective.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—Craig, Rose, and Craig, a trio of dental athletes, perform some clever feats on the rings, slack wire, and horizontal bars; Emmie Milstead and Joe Bell give a musical scena, *The Belle of Arizona;* Edwin Lambert and Emmie Hands are good as high-class duettists; and the remaining members of the company are Ray and Miles, hand balancers; Flo Velma, comedienne; Renée Graham, character vocalist; and Tom Moy, comedian.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—After a long absence we are this week favoured with a return visit from Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company in *Mary Queen of Scots, East Lynne, Sapho, From Washerwoman to Duchess, Leah*, and *Jane Shore*. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer undertakes the leading rôles in a manner which displays her power as an experienced actress, and she is surrounded by artists who combine to give the greatest effect to the dramatic situation in each piece.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and Fred Willmot; Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—Appearing here are the Five Whiteleys, Continental speciality artists; Miss Mabel Thorne, a clever comedienne; Jack Ross, double-voiced vocalist; Hill Lane and company, in musical comedy; Musical Silvo; the Seddons, lady juggler and comedy waiter and the Lannons, pedestal dancers.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The representations of *For Life, and After*, given by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company have been followed with marked interest by large audiences throughout the week. Rube Hexham is capitally impersonated by Mr. Chas. Osborne; and Mr. Henry Hare acts with power and ability as Jim Huggett. Gilbert O'Neill is pleasingly acted by Mr. Sidney Vautier; and Mr. Chris Mason gives an effective portrayal of the showman, Joe Grimper. Richard Grey is acted with skill by Mr. Vernon Sansbury; and Mr. Harry F. Wright amusingly fills the character of Zeke. Miss Grace Heywood played with much feeling as Marion Grey; Miss Muriel Dean charmingly embodied the part of Dora Grey; and Loo Hexham was sympathetically presented by Miss Rosslyn Vayne.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The chief attraction here this week is Clown Barker's comedy circus, which has been a source of delight to crowded audiences. Amy Anderson and company in their sketch, *The Banana Queen*, made a great hit; Cyrus Dare is an amusing story-teller and mimic; Dandy George and dog Rosie win applause; Edith Courtney is a delightful ballad vocalist; the Dunlops, in their comedy cycle act, are clever and amusing; Lillian Sivado is a smart lady gymnast; and Frank Keegan and company cause abundant laughter in their sketch, *Everyday Cyclists*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—GRAND. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The Savonas and the Elliotts are the star attractions here this week, and their performances are much appreciated. Joe Peterman and company in a sketch, *The Pawnbroker*, cause roars of laughter; Starr and Jerome, vocalists; Pablo Diaz, Oriental wonder; Ida Ross, comedienne; and Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist, are included in a good programme. Owing to an artist being indisposed, Harry Nelson, the Tyneside comedian, was wired for, and he again scored a big success.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Dinah Morris and company are top here this week, and are enthusiastically applauded; E. R. Dainez' circus is one of the best of its kind; Armino, a strong man, gives a good exhibition; the programme also includes Cavalli, ventriloquist; Will Mitcham, comedy artist; Maude Ross, dancer; Samuel Morrison and Billy Burns, both vocalists with good voices.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A good programme is presented this week at this cosy house. George French meets with a hearty reception; the Brothers Babusio, balancers, contribute a clever turn; the Revell Troupe, in their absurdity, *Mischief*, keep up an irresistible flow of laughter; Maude Mortimer has a nice voice, and presents a pleasing turn; Cavern and Cave, in their sketch, are always welcome; the Itrams are successful in a good gymnastic display; the Carney Brothers are an entertaining pair; and Salida and Vone sing and dance capably. The bioscope shows some capital pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maud Lynton.—We are this week favoured with a return visit of *Sergeant Brue*, by Mr. E. Lockwood's company. Mr. J. Harold Carson again takes the principal rôle, and his performance is of a high order of merit. Mr. Robert Selby as Michael Brue is praiseworthy; Miss Florence Spurgern as Aurora is a most winsome character; while the Lady Bickenhall by Miss Reydon Dallas earns loud praise for the accomplished artist. Mr. Albert James as Crookey is just as comical as ever.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray.—A crowded house gave a hearty reception to Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's *Still Alarm* company, which is paying a return visit this week. As Jack Manley Mr. Matthew H. Glenville is a great favourite. Mr. George Arthur plays the villain, John Bird, in a highly effective manner. The comedy part of Doc Wilber is capitally played by Mr. Fred Osmond. A word of praise is due to Miss Marie Veriton as Mrs. Manley. The fire station scene raises the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. F. Lucas.—On Monday, Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company, under the business direction of Mr. Gerald Alexander, presented *Blue-Bell in Fairyland* here for the first time. Miss Lily Eyton, a clever little lady, plays the name-part charmingly; Mr. Lawrence Emery is remarkably successful as Dicky; and Miss Haidee Fitch, as Will-o'-the-Wisp, must be complimented on the perfection of her dances. While Miss Constance St. Bride is heard to advantage in her well-rendered songs; Messrs. Harry Vernon and Will Clements, as the funny men, cause genuine fun throughout; and Mr. Frank Lennard and Mr. Albert Mack deserve special mention for good work in their respective parts. Misses Maud Harris and Winnie Bronte were especially pleasing as Blue-Bell's younger sisters.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Corporation of Todmorden.—Chas. W. Poole's No. 1 Colossal Myriorama and Variety company is here on a six nights' visit. On Monday the large hall was packed. The entertainment is the brightest and best of its kind which has ever appeared here, and richly deserves its success. Under the guidance of Mr. John R. Poole some fine dioramic views and animated pictures are shown, the spectacular pictures of the Battle of Waterloo being especially worthy of notice. Woolford's performing ponies and dogs, together with a funny donkey, Sam Sly, are proving a great draw; Dane's marionettes are exceedingly good; the Fordyces (Jennie and Willie) greatly please with their clever singing and dancing; and Harry Raymond, the Mexican coon, is very successful in his impersonations; Coma, an Anglo-Japanese juggler, gives a smart performance; and Funny Chef is an amusing stage clown.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barry.—A strong attraction is provided here this week by the engagement of G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company in *The Coal King*. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland gives a capital rendering of Tom Roberts, and an excellent foil is the Walter Harford of Mr. Escott Robson. The title-rôle is capably assumed by Mr. Lionel Thompson. Mr Frank Dalton gives a pathetic portrayal of Dick Shirley. The comedy relief is ably supplied by Mr. Alfred Terria. Miss Gertrude Valentine represents Grace Shirley in a manner that soon wins the plaudits of the audience. A difficult part played in a forcible manner is the Mad Ann of Miss Sinna St. Clair.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Mr. Charles Parker's Æolian Opera Singers head the bills of an excellent programme, which also includes Rich Taylor, mimic and ventriloquist; Jennie Johns, soubrette; Florence Kay, contralto; Rose Alderman, soprano; Vivian Munro, comedian; Nellie Sylvester and Carl Muller, in character dances; the Two Falcons, in their clever comedy act, contribute a good turn; Ruby Dahis and her Merry Mannikins are smart; the Casino Orchestra still remains under engagement and is as popular as ever. The entertainment winds up with an interesting show of animated photographs.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. John Gerant's company opened on Monday in the drama, *At Duty's Call*. Mr. Gerant repeats his successful rendering of the part of Harold Allison; Mr. Harry Scott gives a manly portrayal as Captain George Allison; Mr. Ernest St. John proves capable as General Gordon; Mr. Harry Elgar amusing as Terry O'Halloran; and Mr. Julian Bainbridge effective as Jack Spencer. Miss Lilly Crammond submits a pleasing and graceful presentment of Dora Drummond; Miss Beatrice Westers scores as Salema; and Miss Eva Bells is dainty as Mary, the maid.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.— The Pygmies, on their first visit here, provide an interesting and novel exhibition; Mr. Fred Terry, comedian; Miss Lil O'Gorman, vocalist and dancer; Mat Merlin, contortionist; Mr. Fred Pearce; and Miss Kitty Ward, in a comical boxing act; the Three Sylvanas, trapeze artists; and Ryde and Beeman, comedy acrobats, also appear.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A capital programme is being submitted here this week. Will Bishop and company, who head the bill in *My Gollywog*, are well received; J. H. Green, comedian, is very good; Lillie Langtry, Ben Hur, and Cull-Pitt are extremely popular; and Marie Weston, comedienne, and Stelling and Revell complete a varied bill.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Frank J. Pitt and Chas. Halling's company in the drama, *£1,000 Reward*, is here this week. Mr. Chas. Rogers jun., cleverly sustains the rôle of Dick Springthorpe; Vincent Rainsworth, detective, is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Halling; Mr. John B. Murray cleverly portrays the rôle of Gilbert Lisle; Mr. Edward De Vere is very successful as Fighting Jeffs. The trying part of Madame Sanson is well portrayed by Miss Daisy Halling; and as Meg Miss Lynn Darlington wins much applause, her songs being well received.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Frank Bertram and company are here this week in the stirring drama, *The Convict's Daughter*. Mr. Frank Bertram scores a big success as Michael Graham; and Mr. G. Nelson Wallace makes Frederick Neville a dignified personage. Mr. H. M. King plays Harold Trevelyan with dramatic force; and Mr. S. Moreton-Williams is well placed as Frank Harper. Mr. Sam Roberts infuses plenty of humour into the character of Patrick O'Laragam; Miss Nellie Clyde is a graceful Edith; and Miss Rose Carew displays histrionic abilities as Marian Thorn. Miss Phyllis Gibbon is a vivacious Betty Hyne.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—King's College Boys again please crowded houses here this week with their delightful singing; and the Brothers Ashby, with their sketch, *Next, Please*, cause considerable laughter. Beattie Foster is a comedienne with a style of her own; and Wallace Whitney is a clever character comedian. Other excellent turns are Bock Pylades, impersonator; Lillie Lassah, comedienne; the Reays, gymnasts; and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.— Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is appearing here this week in the play, *In Sight of St. Paul's*. Mr. Arthur Arnfield gives a realistic portrayal of H. Chichester; the same may be said of Mr. G. D. Daiper's John Gridston; Tom Chichester and his brother Harry are well played by Mr. W. H. Domney and Mr. Ernest R. Allen respectively; Mr. Herbert Sydney gives a clever study of Fretley Burside; Miss Cissy Bellamy is all that can be desired in her representation of Aileen Millar; Miss Lallah Davis is admirable in the character of Cynthia Dell; the part of Rose is well acted by Miss Jennie Hackness.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. Player. — Capital patronage is still being given to this new house. The Casino Four top the bill this week, and receive many encores for their numerous songs; the Four Watsons give a clever musical turn; Robb Gilmore provides a smart show; and a word of praise is due to the Three Panamas for their clever tumbling and dancing; Mahatma gives a marvellous thought-reading entertainment; Mike Brandon, the coloured comedian, is a capital dancer; and the Hippodrome pictures complete a good programme.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The Geraldos, whose performance in club-swinging and hoop manipulation has upon previous occasions won for them honours, are again adding to their popularity; Baroux and Bion, eccentric acrobats, go through their programme with marked dexterity; Mabel La Blanche renders her song, "Daddy," sweetly; the dancing by Mark Leslie is an enjoyable feature; Elton and Elma are smart in a triple bar act; Harry Weldon's eccentricities are decidedly original and amusing; Bowman and Morton, in a duo, *She Loved a Policeman*, have a gratifying reception, the quick-changing by the lady being especially clever; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux retain their degree of excellence.

GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—The engagement for this week is that of Mr. Norman Macowan's company in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, which is giving entire satisfaction to the audiences. Mr. Norman Macowan deserves warm recognition for his portrayal of the title-rôle, in which he is admirably supported by Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Mary Carlisle, a character which she portrays with fine natural effect. A telling picture of the Duke of Winterset is presented by Mr. Murray Hathorn; Mr. P. Ramsey Foreman's impersonation of Captain Badger is a powerful one; and Major Molineaux has a capable representative in Mr. J. C. Taylor.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. George Dance's company is making its first appearance here this week in that successful musical play, *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Elma Morris evoked much laughter by her unceremonious sayings as Catherine Upscher; Miss Gipsy Dale gave a delightful portrayal of Renée de Saint Mezord; Miss Isabel Vivian was chic as Lisette; Napoleon's sisters, Caroline and Pauline, found graceful exponents in Miss V. Kennerley and Miss M. Eastland; the Empress Josephine was ably impersonated by Miss Ethel Bradley; and Miss A. Knolleys (Mlle. de Lagrande) and Miss Kitty Quinn (Madame de Chatel) both deserve praise. Mr. Frank Bradley's study of Napoleon was exceptionally fine; and unstinted praise must be given Mr. C. Burrunston Williams for his excellent interpretation of Marechal Lefebvre. Another artistic piece of work was the Adhémar of Mr. George H. Curzon; Mr. Frank Attree was facetious as Papillon, and Mr. Vernon Deville did well as Capitaine Regnier. Mr. C. Macdona's *A Chinese Honeymoon* company occupied the boards on Thursday.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Gaieties are on a return visit here, and delighted a very large audience on Monday. Miss Rosa Dallow sang with rare expression Wilson's "Carmena"; Miss Ruby Wilson was loudly encored for her rendering of "Come to St. George's"; Mr. Charles Conyers excels as a raconteur and ventriloquist; Mr. Wilson James has become quite a favourite locally, and received an ovation for his humorous song, "The Girl on the Pier." Miss Adelaide Schönberg is an able accompanist.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company is here this week with *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr. George Steel gives a fine impersonation of Lieut. Manley; the part of Capt. Manley is ably represented by Mr. Cyril Harrison; and Mr. John Davidson makes an imposing Major Ingleby; Miss Lillie Grey and Miss Agnes Kingston portray the parts of Mrs. Major Ingleby and Kate Ingleby in a clever and pleasing style; Mr. C. Birch is a capital Ensign Blake; Mr. C. Morand as Terry O'Brien is a great favourite; and Miss F. Melrose Millett ably and creditably acquits herself in the rôle of Ghuz-nah.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. John Cassidy. — Miss Annie Bell and company are presenting a new and original version of *Sapho* this week. Miss Bell in the title-rôle is a capable, emotional actress, and is ably seconded by Mr. Sydney Arnold, a clever and versatile actor, as Jean Gaussin; Mr. Geo. Antley makes a vivacious Césaire; Mr. Pringle Roberts gives a fine portrayal of Eugène Flamant; and Little Miss Doris F. Graham as Joseph evokes applause by her clever portrayal.

WHITBY.—THE SPA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Manager, Mr. A. L. Baron.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday in the successful play, *The Christian*. Miss Mildred Gilbert submitted a capital portrayal of Glory Quayle; Mr. E. Stanton Sharpe as the Hon. John Storm, Mr. Percy Johnson as Parson Quayle, Mr. Harry Colbeck as Father Lamplugh, Miss A. Royal as Aggie Jones, and Miss Alice Maude as Mrs. Callender, gave an admirable rendering of their respective parts. On Thursday *Cousin Kate* was played.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

RICHELIEU REDRESSED, Olympic, Oct. 27, 1873.
RIDING TO WIN, New Cross, July 23, 1900.
RIENZI, Her Majesty's, Jan. 27, 1879.
RIENZI REINSTATED, Globe, Dec. 21, 1874.
RIFLE VOLUNTEER,
RIFT WITHIN THE LUTE, Duke of York's, Nov. 10, 1898.
RIGHT, St. George's Hall, Feb. 10, 1881.
RIGHT AGAINST MIGHT, Novelty, July 27, 1891.
RIGHT AND WRONG, Surrey, Feb. 8, 1858.
RIGHT FELLOW, New Cross, Dec. 22, 1868.
RIGHTFUL HEIR, Lyceum, Oct. 3, 1868.
RIGHTFUL HEIRESS, Guildhall School of Music, July 17, 1895.
RIGHT MAN, Sanger's, May 7, 1887.
RIGHT OR WRONG, Criterion, May 4, 1887.
RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES, Bayswater, May 12, 1898.
RIGHTS OF WOMAN, Globe, Jan. 9, 1871.
RIGHT'S RIGHT, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Nov. 8, 1886.
RING FENCE, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Nov. 27, 1893.
RING MISTRESS, Eastbourne, Dec. 17, 1900.
RING OF IRON, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Sept. 15, 1884.
RING OF POLYCRATES, Strand, June 24, 1892.
RIPPLES, Theatre Royal, York, Nov. 19, 1880.
RIPPLINGS, Sadler's Wells, March 24, 1833.
RIP VAN WINKLE, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, March 27, 1880.
RISE AND FALL OF RICHARD III., Royalty, Sept. 24, 1868.
RISE OF DICK HALWARD, Garrick, Oct. 19, 1895.
RIVAL ARTISTES, Surrey, May 14, 1873.
RIVAL CANDIDATES, Folly, March 17, 1880.
RIVAL FLUNKEYS, Queen's, Barnsley, March 14, 1873.
RIVAL FOUNTAIN, Britannia, Oct. 7, 1859.
RIVAL OTHELLOS, Strand, Nov. 28, 1861.
RIVAL RASCALS, St. George's, May 3, 1877.
RIVAL ROMEOS, St. James's, April 8, 1871.
RIVAL ROSES, St. George's Hall, July 14, 1887.
RIVALS, THE, Court, Nov. 11, 1895.
RIVER OF LIFE, Grand, Hull, Feb. 24, 1894.
RIVERSIDE STORY, Haymarket, May 22, 1890.
RIZPAH MISERY, Glasgow, Feb. 6, 1894.
ROADSIDE INN, Lyceum, Jan. 21, 1865.
ROAD, THE RIVER, AND THE RAIL, East London, Sept. 7, 1868.
ROAD TO FAME, Vaudeville, May 7, 1885.
ROAD TO FORTUNE, Stonehouse, March 27, 1893.
ROAD TO RUIN, Opéra Comique, Dec. 9, 1891.
ROBBERY UNDER ARMS, Princess's, Oct. 22, 1894.
ROBBING ROY, Gaiety, Nov. 11, 1879.
ROBERT, Queen's Gate Hall, June 22, 1900.
ROBERT AND BERTRAM, Woolwich, April 2, 1888.
ROBERT BURNS, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, May 28, 1896.
ROBERT EMMETT, Octagon, Blyth, Feb. 14, 1873.
ROBERT MACAIRE, Burlesque, Globe, April 16, 1870.
ROBERT MACAIRE RENOVATED, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, March 3, 1884.
ROBERT RABAGAS, St. James's, Feb. 25, 1873.
ROBERT RICHBORNE, Coliseum, Liverpool, July 31, 1871.
ROBERT THE DEVIL, Surrey, June 25, 1853.
ROBESPIERRE, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, Aug. 25, 1879.
ROBIN GOODFELLOW, Garrick, Jan. 5, 1893.
ROBIN HOOD, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1858.
ROBIN HOOD, Burlesque, Philharmonic, July 7, 1880.
ROBIN HOOD, Opera, Her Majesty's, Oct. 11, 1860.
ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY LITTLE MEN, Adelphi, Dec. 22, 1877.
ROBIN HOOD AND MAID MARIAN, Hastings, Sept. 18, 1899.
ROBIN HOOD, ESQ., Chester, Aug. 6, 1894.
ROBINSON CRUESOE, Sadler's Wells, Dec. 26, 1882.
ROBINSON CRUSOE RE-WIVED, Theatre Royal, Dumfries, Feb. 5, 1877.
ROBIN THE ROVER, Brighton, July 19, 1897.
ROB ROY, Astley's, Feb. 9, 1857.
ROBUR RAGABAS. Elephant and Castle, March 8, 1873.
ROBUST INVALID, Adelphi, June 15, 1870.
ROCAMBOLE, Grecian, Feb. 26, 1866.
ROCKET, THE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, July 30, 1883.
ROCKLEYS, THE, Kilburn, Dec. 10, 1887.
ROCKYLOT, Morecambe, Feb. 5, 1900.
ROGER O'HARE, Victoria, Aug. 26, 1865.
ROGER LA HONTE, Elephant and Castle, Nov. 29, 1888.
ROGUE AND VAGABOND, Tottenham, April 15, 1895.
ROGUE RILEY, Aberdeen, Feb. 26, 1894.
ROGUES AND VAGABONDS, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, June 12, 1897.
ROGUE'S COMEDY, Garrick, April 21, 1896.
ROLEY POLEY, Grecian, Dec. 24, 1877.
ROLLING STONE SOMETIMES GATHERS MOSS, Victoria, Oct. 15, 1870.
ROLL OF THE DRUM, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, March 23, 1896.
ROMANCE, Covent Garden, Feb. 2, 1860.
ROMANCE AND REALITY, Haymarket, Oct. 8, 1860.
ROMANCE OF THE HAREM, St. George's Theatre, June 19, 1872.
ROMANCE OF LOVE, Berwick-on-Tweed, Oct. 13, 1891.
ROMANCE OF THE SHOPWALKER, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Feb. 24, 1896.
ROMANCE UNDER DIFFICULTIES, Cambridge, 1856.
ROMANTIC ATTACHMENT, Haymarket, Feb. 15, 1866.
ROMANTIC RUY BLAS, Vaudeville, Jan. 3, 1873.
ROMANTIC TALE, Alhambra, Aug. 7, 1871.
ROMANY LORE, St. George's Hall, April 2, 1889.
ROMANY RYE, Princess's, June 10, 1882.
ROMANY'S REVENGE, Standard, Nov. 21, 1892.
ROMEO AND JULIET, Court, Liverpool, Jan. 15, 1850.
ROMEO AND JULIET UP TO LARKS, Dublin, Aug. 21, 1893.
ROMEO THE RADICAL AND JULIET THE JINGO, Alexandra, Walsall, Aug. 14, 1882.
ROMINAGROBIS, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1877.
ROMULUS AND REMUS, Vaudeville, Dec. 23, 1872.
ROOKWOOD, Liverpool, April 15, 1895.
ROOM 70, Haymarket, Jan. 4, 1886.
ROOM FOR THE LADIES, Charing Cross, Sept. 11, 1869.
ROOT OF ALL EVIL, Theatre Royal, Guernsey, June 12, 1876.
ROPE MERCHANT, Theatre Royal, York, March 8, 1890.
RORY O' MORE, Dublin, April 16, 1900.
ROSE AMONG THORNS, Islington, Nov. 21, 1898.
ROSEBUDS, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, June 22, 1885.
ROSE AND THE RING, Theatre Royal, Dublin, March 23, 1878.
ROSEDALE, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, May 1, 1876.
ROSEDALE, Parkhurst, Feb. 6, 1893.
ROSEMARY, Criterion, May 16, 1896.
ROSE MICHEL, Gaiety, March 27, 1875.
ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN, Vaudeville, June 3, 1891.
ROSE OF CASTILLE, Lyceum, Oct. 29, 1857.
ROSE OF DEVON, Elephant and Castle, Feb. 18, 1889.
ROSE OF PERSIA, Savoy, Nov. 29, 1899.
ROSE OF RATHBOY, Kennington, Aug. 14, 1899.
ROSE OF ROMFORD, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Feb. 16, 1885.
ROSE OF THE ALHAMBRA, Theatre Royal, Stratford, June 6, 1891.
ROSE OF WINDSOR, Accrington, Aug. 16, 1889.
ROSE; OR, LOVE'S RANSOM, Covent Garden, Nov. 26, 1864.
ROSES OF SHAWOW, Athenæum, Jan. 26, 1893.
ROSMERSHOLM, Vaudeville, Feb. 23, 1891.
ROTHOMAGO, Alhambra, Dec. 22, 1879.
ROUGE ET NOIR, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1866.
ROUGET DE L'ISLE, Prince of Wales's, May 15, 1900.
ROUGH AND READY, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 21, 1873.
ROUGH HANDS AND HONEST HEARTS, Theatre Royal, South Shields, March 31, 1873.
ROUGH HONESTY, Alexandra, Walsall, June 25, 1877.
ROUGHLY WOO'D AND GENTLY WON, Theatre Royal, Lynn, Jan. 27, 1878.
ROUND AND SQUARE,
ROUND A TREE, Vaudeville, Nov. 11, 1896
ROUNDHEAD, Terry's, Feb. 20, 1891.
ROUNDHEAD, THE, Crystal Palace, June 12 1833.
ROUND THE CLOCK, Alexandra, Liverpool, March 25, 1878.
ROUND THE GLOBE, Alexandra, Liverpool, March 29, 1875.
ROUND THE GLOBE IN 80 DAYS, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Nov. 15, 1875.
ROUND THE LINKS, Albert Hall, May 9, 1895.
ROUND THE RING, Theatre Royal, Hull, July 14, 1890.
ROUND THE WORLD, Empire, March 3, 1886.
ROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS, Princess's, March 15, 1875.
ROUND THE WORLD IN (W)EIGHTY DAYS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 13, 1877.
ROUND TOWER, Palace,
ROVING COMMISSION, Royalty, April 7, 1869.
ROVING MEG, Birmingham, June 26, 1899.
ROW IN THE HOUSE, Toole's, Aug. 30, 1883.
ROWS OF CASTILLE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 4, 1872.
ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT, Comedy, June 29, 1886.
ROYAL BETROTHAL, St. James's, Dec. 3, 1900.
ROYAL DIVORCE, Sunderland, May 1, 1891.
ROYAL FAMILY, Court, Oct. 14, 1899.
ROYALIST, THE, Theatre Royal, Richmond, April 4, 1879.
ROYAL MAIL, Standard, Aug. 18, 1887.
ROYAL MARRIAGE, Standard, April 20, 1868.
ROYAL OAK, Drury Lane, Sept. 23, 1889.
ROYAL PARDON, Grecian, Oct. 28, 1878.
ROYAL RIDDLE, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Feb. 16, 1887.
ROYAL ROUNDHEAD, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, Sept. 11, 1893.
ROYAL STAR, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 16, 1898.
ROYAL THE SCOUT, Court, Wigan, Oct. 10, 1892.
ROYAL VAGRANTS, Forest Gate, Oct. 27, 1899.
ROYAL WATCHMAN, Theatre Royal, Exeter, April 11, 1887.
ROYAL WORD, Gaiety, April 17, 1883.
RUBBER OF LIFE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 1, 1885.
RUBE THE SHOWMAN, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, Sept. 5, 1870.
RUBY, Sadler's Wells, Jan. 31, 1885.
RUBY HEART, St. Leonards, June 5, 1892.
RUDDY GEORGE, Toole's, March 19, 1887.
RUDDYGORE, Savoy, Jan. 22, 1887.
RUDOLPHO THE HUNGARIAN, Victoria, April 1, 1871.
RUINED LIFE, A, Grand, Sept. 15, 1884.
RULE BRITANNIA, Royal Coliseum, Liverpool, Sept. 7, 1868.
RULE OF THREE, Shaftesbury, Jan. 30, 1891.
RULING PASSION, Standard, Nov. 6, 1882.
RUMMINS'S RECEPTION, Newark, Feb. 8, 1879.
RUMOUR, Vaudeville, April 2, 1889.
RUMPELSTILTSKIN, New Royalty, March 30, 1864.
RUNAWAY GIRL, Gaiety, May 21, 1898.
RUNAWAY HUSBANDS, Kew Bridge, Feb. 14, 1893.
RUNAWAY MATCH, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Feb. 2, 1872.
RUNAWAYS, THE, Theatre Royal, Chester, Sept. 6, 1880.
RUN DOWN TO BRIGHTON, St. Martin's Town Hall, July 24, 1893.
RUN IN, Harlesden, Jan. 12, 1899.
RUN OF LUCK, Drury Lane, Aug. 28, 1836.
RUN TO EARTH, Theatre Royal Brighton, Feb. 17, 1860.
RUN WILD, Strand, June 30, 1888.
RUPERT DREADNOUGHT, Queen's, Barnsley, Feb. 13, 1871.
RUPERT OF HENTZAU, Glasgow, Oct. 5, 1899.
RURAL FELICITY, Haymarket,
RURALISING, Theatre Royal, Hanley, April 15, 1872.
RUSHFORD'S LAST RUSH, Greenwich, Oct. 21, 1878.
RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, April 25, 1871.
RUSSIAN BRIDE, Britannia, March 9, 1874.
RUSSIA; OR, THE EXILES OF SIBERIA Queen's, Oct. 27, 1877.
RUSTIC CHIVALRY, Court, Liverpool, Jan. 14, 1892.
RUSTIC MAIDEN, Olympic, Jan. 2, 1852.
RUSTIC PRIMA DONNA, St. James's, Nov. 9, 1864.
RUSTIC ROSES, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Nov. 24, 1873.
RUSTIC, THE, Swansea, April 3, 1888.
RUTH, Princess's, July 7, 1868.
RUTH LEE, Amphitheatre, Leeds, May 1, 1869.
RUTH OAKLEY, Marylebone, Jan. 15, 1857.
RUTH; OR, POOR GIRL'S LIFE IN LONDON, Surrey, Feb. 18, 1871.
RUTH'S ROMANCE, Theatre Royal, Bath, March 6, 1876.
RUTH UNDERWOOD, Strand, May 26, 1892.
RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE, Birmingham, Sept. 3, 1889.
RUY BLAS, Lyceum, Dec. 5, 1864.
RUY BLAS RIGHTED, Vaudeville, Jan. 3, 1873.
SACRAMENT OF JUDAS, Prince of Wales's, Oct. 9, 1899.
SACRIFICED, Vaudeville, July 2, 1891.
SAD MEMORIES, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, Feb. 22, 1895.
SAD SHEPHERD, Fulham Palace, July 23, 1898.
SAFE AND SOUND, Opera House, Liverpool, June 8, 1896.
SAGE AND ONIONS, Theatre Royal, Manchester, April 12, 1880.
SAIL AHOY, Tyne, Newcastle, Sept. 20, 1874.
SAILOR AND HIS LASS, Drury Lane, Oct. 15, 1883.
SAILOR'S DEVOTION, Swansea, June 19, 1874.
SAILOR'S FORTUNE, Spennymoor, Dec. 22, 1888.
SAILOR'S HONOUR, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, June 8, 1894.
SAILOR'S KNOT, Drury Lane, Sept. 5, 1891.
SAINT ANGELA, Kilburn, Jan. 18, 1892.
SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, Britannia, May 21, 1877.
SAINT LEGER, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 12, 1877.
SAINT MARC, Drury Lane, June 6, 1853.
SAINT OR SINNER, Surrey, March 26, 1881.
SAINT RONAN'S WELL, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Jan. 31, 1876.
SAINTS AND SINNERS, Prince of Wales's, Greenwich, Sept. 17, 1884.
SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY, East London, July 17, 1869.
SAKUNTALA, Regent's Park, July 3, 1899.
SALAMMBO, Ladbroke Hall, Nov. 11, 1885.
SALAMMBO, THE LOVELY QUEEN OF CARTHAGE, Holborn, May 6, 1871.
SALEM'S SORROW, Theatre, Stockport, Nov. 25, 1872.
SALLY CAVANAGH, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Nov. 18, 1871.
SALLY IN OUR ALLEY, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 31, 1888.
SALTHELLO OVINI, Haymarket, July 26, 1875.
SALT TEARS, Royalty, July 24, 1872.
SALVATORI, Olympic, March 28, 1853.
SALVE, Opéra Comique, March 15, 1895.
SALVINIANA, Opéra Comique, June 2, 1877.
SAM CARR, THE MAN IN POSSESSION, Theatre Royal, Darlington, June 21, 1872.
SAM'L OF POSEN, Gaiety, July 4, 1895.
SAMPLE VERSUS PATTERN, Prince of Wales's, June 15, 1887.
SAMPSON'S WEDDING, Theatre Royal, Croydon, Nov. 19, 1869.
SAM'S ARRIVAL, Strand, Sept. 8, 1862.
SAMSON AGONISTES, Kensington, April 7, 1900.
SAMSON ET DALILA, Covent Garden, Sept. 25, 1893.
SAMUEL IN SEARCH OF HIMSELF, Princess's, April, 1858.
SANDFORD AND MERTON, Comedy, Dec. 20, 1893.
SANDFORD AND MERTON'S XMAS PARTY, St. George's Hall, Dec. 27, 1880.
SANDS OF TIME, Neath, May 24, 1894.
SANG BLEU, Theatre Royal, Ryde, April 10, 1888.
SAN LIN, Theatre Royal, Manchester, May 11, 1899.
SANTA CHIARA, Covent Garden, June 30, 1877.
SANTA CLAUS, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1894.
SAN TOY, Daly's, Oct. 21, 1899.
SAPPHO, Standard, June 11, 1866.
SARAH, Theatre Royal, Waterford, Dec. 27, 1892.
SARAH JANE IN THE HAREM, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Aug. 30, 1875.
SARAH, THE FAIR MAIDEN OF THE RHINE, St. George's, July 10, 1879.
SARAH'S YOUNG MAN, Surrey, April 21, 1856.
SARDANAPALUS, Princess's, June 13, 1853.
SATAN'S DAUGHTER, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, Nov. 4, 1882.
SATISFACTION, New Theatre Royal, Bristol, Aug. 20, 1880.
SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON, Theatre Royal, Bristol, June 12, 1899.
SAUCY MAY, Theatre Royal, South Shields, March 10, 1884.
SAUCY SALLY, Opera House, Southport, July 1, 1892.
SAUCY SULTANA, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Dec. 26, 1894.
SAVAGE AS A BEAR, Olympic, Sept. 17, 1850.
SAVANAROLA, Covent Garden, July 9, 1884.
SAVANNAH, THE, Drury Lane, March 7, 1861.
SAVED, St. George's Hall, Dec. 23, 1868.
SAVED BY A SONG, Princess's, Dec. 21, 1868.
SAVED BY A WORD, Britannia, Feb. 26, 1877.
SAVED FROM SIN, Star, Neath, Feb. 26, 1834.
SAVED FROM THE SCAFFOLD, Peterhead, Oct. 20, 1897.
SAVED FROM THE SEA, Pavilion, March 4, 1895.
SAVED FROM THE STREETS, Surrey, Oct. 18, 1886.
SAVED FROM THE WRECK, Theatre Royal, Weymouth, April 12, 1869.
SAVED ON THE POST, Camberwell, Dec. 13, 1893.
SCALDED BACK, Novelty, July 12, 1884.
SCALES OF JUSTICE, Standard, Dec. 10, 1894.
SCAMPS OF SOCIETY, Theatre Royal, Darwen, Feb. 3, 1896.
SCANDAL, Royalty, June 1, 1878.
SCAPEGOAT, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Jan. 27, 1890.
SCAPEGRACE, Ramsgate, Jan. 19, 1893.
SCARECROW, THE, Strand, May 29, 1889.
SCARLET BROTHERHOOD, Stalybridge, Oct. 2, 1893.
SCARLET COAT, Oxford, Nov. 22, 1899.
SCARLET DICK, AND THE ROAD AND ITS RIDERS, Britannia, July 24, 1867.
SCARLET DYE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Feb. 15, 1887.
SCARLET FEATHER, Shaftesbury, Nov. 17, 1897.
SCARLET LETTER, Grecian, Oct. 5, 1863.
SCARLET MARK, Britannia, Nov. 18, 1868.
SCARLET SIN, Liverpool, Sept. 3, 1900.
SCARLET SINS, Opera House, Wakefield, Oct. 4, 1888.
SCAR ON THE WRIST, St. James's, March 9, 1878.
SCEPTIC, THE, Camberwell, June 22, 1896.
SCHEME, Old Theatre Royal, Bristol, June 29, 1880.
SCHEMER, THE, Theatre Royal, Margate, Dec. 14, 1887.
SCHNEIDER, Widnes, April 16, 1892.
SCHOLAR'S MATE, Chelsea, April 25, 1893.
SCHOOL, Prince of Wales's, Jan. 16, 1869.
SCHOOL DRUDGE, Theatre Royal, Greenock, Sept. 5, 1881.
SCHOOL FOR COOKERY, Belvedere, Kent, June 10, 1879.
SCHOOL FOR COQUETTES, Strand, July 4, 1859.
SCHOOL FOR HUSBANDS, Stroud Green, Dec. 20, 1898.
SCHOOL FOR INTRIGUE, Olympic, Dec. 1, 1873.
SCHOOL FOR KINGS, Drury Lane, March 7, 1853.
SCHOOL FOR MUFFS, Surrey, Feb. 21, 1876.
SCHOOL FOR SAINTS, Lyceum, March 30, 1896.
SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL, Criterion, April 1, 1891.
SCHOOL GIRL, Grand, Cardiff, Sept. 2, 1895.
SCHOOLMASTER OF LYNN, Marylebone, Aug. 23, 1879.
SCHOOLMATES, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Sept. 12, 1884.
SCHOOLMISTRESS, Court, March 27, 1886.
SCHOOL OF (HE)ARTS, Park, March 27, 1880.
SCHRIFTEN, THE ONE-EYED PILOT, Grecian, April 2, 1877.
SCHWABENSTREICHE, Royalty, Nov. 23, 1894.
SCHWENK THE DREAMER, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Nov. 23, 1900.
SCIENCE OF LOVE, Norwich, Oct. 16, 1874.
SCORPION, THE, Town Hall, Oxford, Dec. 1, 1884.
SCOTCH, Ealing, Sept. 12, 1895.
SCOTCH MIST, Vaudeville, Nov. 10, 1886.
SCOTS WHA HAE WI' WALLACE BLED, Glasgow, Oct. 15, 1895.
SCOTTISH CHIEF, Britannia, March 26, 1866.
SCOTTISH CHIEFS, Theatre Royal, Leith, March 12, 1868.
SCRAP OF PAPER, St. James's, April 22, 1861.
SCREW LOOSE, Vaudeville, Nov. 4, 1893.
SCRIBE, THE, Globe, Oct. 5, 1891.
SCULPTOR, Dublin, Aug. 18, 1893.
SCUTTLED SHIP, Olympic, April 2, 1877.
SEA AND LAND, Adelphi, May 17, 1852.
SEA BATHING AT HOME,
SEALED ORDERS,
SEA NYMPHS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Sept. 3, 1877.
SEA OF ICE, Adelphi, Dec. 4, 1853.
SEASIDE MANIA, St. George's Hall, Sept. 29, 1890.
SEA FLOWER, Comedy, March 5, 1898.
SEA FRUIT, Theatre Royal, Swansea, May 29, 1893.
SEAGULL ROCK, Hatfield, Feb. 21, 1895.
SEAGULLS, Royalty, Aug. 10, 1869.
SEA IS ENGLAND'S GLORY, Britannia, Sept. 20, 1875.
SEALED TO SILENCE, Strand, April 10, 1896.
SEATS OF THE MIGHTY, Her Majesty's, April 28, 1897.
SEA WEED HALL, Variety, Hoxton, March 14, 1870.
SECOND CALENDER, Haymarket,
SECOND IN COMMAND, Haymarket, Nov. 27, 1900.
SECOND LOVE, Haymarket, July 23, 1856.
SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY, St. James's, May 27, 1893.
SECOND THOUGHTS, Haymarket, 1835.
SECOND TO NONE, Standard, Nov. 5, 1864.
SECOND VOLUME, St. George's Hall, March 2, 1895.
SECRET AGREEMENT, Novelty, July 31, 1886.
SECRET OF THE KEEP, Garrick, Sept. 8, 1898.
SECRET CRIME, Birmingham, Dec. 12, 1892.
SECRET FOE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 25, 1887.
SECRET OF A LIFE, Grand, Nov. 18, 1886.
SECRET OF STATE, Earl's Court, June 23, 1898.
SECRET OF THE SEA, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, Jan. 17, 1870.
SECRET SERVICE, Terry's, May 10, 1895.
SECRET SOCIETY, Girvan, July 6, 1895.
SECRETS OF THE HAREM, Sheffield, Dec. 24, 1896.
SECRETS OF THE POLICE, Surrey, Nov. 27, 1886.
SECRET SORROW, Hackney, Dec. 11, 1891.
SECRETS WORTH KNOWING, Theatre Royal, Halifax, May 1, 1878.
SECRET, THE, St. George's Hall, June 26, 1888.
SEDGEMOOR, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 20, 1881.
SEEING FROU FROU, Globe, April 16, 1881.
SEEING THE GRECIAN PANTOMIME, Grecian, July 5, 1875.
SEEING THE WORLD, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Dec. 5, 1873.
SEEING TOOLE, Gaiety, Sept. 3, 1873.
SEE-SAW, Terry's, Feb. 22, 1889.
SEE-SAW MARGERY DAW, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 185?.
SEIGNEUR'S DAUGHTER, Theatre Royal, Jersey, July 24, 1876.
SELF, Mirror, Sept. 27, 1875.
SELF-CONDEMNED, Southampton, Aug. 1, 1898.
SELFISHNESS, City of London, Feb. 11, 1856.
SELF GLORIFICATION,
SELF MADE, St. James's, Jan. 18, 1862.
SELF-MADE MAN, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, March 8, 1878.
SELF; OR, MAN'S INHUMANITY, Theatre Royal, Bolton, June , 1883.
SEMIRAMIS, Bayswater, Oct. 13, 1894.
SENATOR'S WIFE, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Sept. 30, 1892.
SENATOR, THE, Elephant and Castle, Oct. 22, 1889.
SEND HER VICTORIOUS, Pavilion, Nov. 13, 1899.
SEND THIRTY STAMPS, Sadler's Wells, April 12, 1884.
SENSE AND SENSATION, Olympic, May 16, 1864.
SENSUALIST, Opera House, Northampton, June 27, 1892.
SENTENCED, BUT NOT GUILTY, Coliseum, Liverpool, Dec. 18, 1876.
SENTENCED TO DEATH, Theatre, Longton, Aug. 18, 1873.
SENTINEL, Olympic, Jan. 19, 1837.
SENTRY, THE, Lyric, April 5, 1890.
SENT TO THE TOWER, Princess's, Nov., 1850.
SEPARATION, Ealing, Oct. 2, 1886.
SEQUEL, THE, Vaudeville, July 15, 1891.
SERAPHINA THE FAIR, Southend, Dec. 26, 1874.
SERAPHINE, Queen's, May 1, 1869.
SERF; OR, LOVE LEVELS ALL, Olympic, June 30, 1865.
SERGEANT'S DAUGHTER, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, Feb. 13, 1888.
SERGE PANINE, Gaiety, June 11, 1883.
SERIOUS YOUTH, Surrey, March 16, 1857.
SERPENT'S COIL, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, Dec. 23, 1895.
SERPENT ON THE HEARTH, Adelphi, Aug. 2, 1869.
SERVANT OR SUITOR, Royalty, May 20, 1872.
SERVE HIM RIGHT, Lyceum, Oct., 1850.
SERVING THE QUEEN, Surrey, Oct. 17, 1898.
SETH GREEN; OR, STRUCK OIL AT LAST, Elephant and Castle, Oct. 25, 1884.

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Miss Olgar Nethersole is here this week in a répertoire of plays, including *Carmen*, *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, *Sapho*, and *Camille*. On Monday night Miss Nethersole appeared as Carmen, a part which she has conceived with consummate skill, her acting being admirable throughout. She is ably supported by Mr. Frank Mills as Don José and Mr. Julian Royce as the Toreador. Miss Molly Pearson is particularly good as Dolores; and others who appear in prominent rôles are Miss Rosalind Ivan, Miss Ina Goldsmith, and Messrs. Eric Maturin, Slaine Mills, John Nesbitt, William Clark, and T. Hendon.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A second visit of *The Catch of the Season*, played by Mr. George Dance's company, was welcomed here on Monday by a good house. In a piece whose success was in great measure due to the personality of the original players of the central parts, it is much to the credit of Mr. Frank Lincoln, whose Duke of St. Jermyns is a fine achievement, and of Miss Moya Mannering, who gives a dainty and delightful rendering of Angela, that the greatest pleasure and approval were aroused by their performance. Mr. E. H. Kelly was also remarkably successful as Lord Dundreary, among the various other members of a strong cast. The piece is, of course, magnificently staged.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company occupies the stage here this week in *Leah Kleschna*. The most notable feature of the performance is Miss Bessie Rignold's depiction of the title-part, which is so powerfully done that Monday's audience was worked up into a state of enthusiasm, and Miss Rignold was called upon to acknowledge this vehement approval time after time. Mr. William F. Grant plays Paul Sylvaine with a quiet force; Mr. Paul Belmore gives a dramatic rendering of Kleschna; and Mr. Hamilton Deane figures well as Raoul Berton; while the other members of the cast are efficient.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Here this week we have Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company in *A Queen of Villainy*. The central rôle of Cora Granville is portrayed with great force and skill by Miss Edith Blande; Miss Cecilia Desmond is commendable as Rose Delmayne; and Miss Amy Ross Clyde makes an effective Sally Chimes. The part of Sir John Desborough is ably rendered by Mr. Gordon Carnegie; that of Stephen Faucit is in the capable hands of Mr. Edward Heanley; and Mr. Arthur E. Maskell is well suited as Reuben Hawk. A word of praise is due also to Mr. P. Howard Sturgess for his droll impersonation of Timothy Kodak, and to Miss Jessie Crammonde, who makes a vivacious Mollie Maggs.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The big attraction here this week is Le Diabelo, looping the "Devil's Wheel," a daring and sensational act. The Tokio Japs also give an exceedingly fine turn; while great success is scored by Whimsical Walker, as "Captain Hamilton, V.C."; assisted by a clever child actress, Frances Maddock. Other good turns are Will Letters, comedian and raconteur; Montague Briggs, female impersonator; the Zano Bros., in a comedy bar act; the Bonanzas, very good hand-balancers; Lottie de Abbey, operatic vocalist; and Edwards and Espinoa, in a diverting scena, *The Coon's Holiday*.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Messrs. Knight and Denham's company present here this week the well-known popular drama, *The Grip of Iron*. A very good performance is given, and the piece is elaborately and brilliantly staged. Mr. Fred Powell makes a decided success as Jagon, the strangler; and Mr. George Denham is also remarkably good as Lonstalot; while other prominent male parts are capitally done by Mr. T. Renaud-Lockwood, Mr. Norman Tracey, Mr. Wallace Curnock, Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner, and Mr. John Brittain. Miss Rosabel Dodd, as Jagon's daughter, does very well indeed; Miss Muriel Inglis gives a clever rendering of Sophie Blanchard; and as Marie Gueria Miss Violet Ingram is capable and praiseworthy.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, seen recently at several of the Broadhead theatres, are here this week in their gruesome but powerful drama, *The Power of the Cross*.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—A notice of *Ivanhoe* appears elsewhere.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Top of the bill here this week is Lew Lake's company in a musical skit, *Muggins, V.C.*, which is cleverly and humorously rendered. A funny and original comic turn is given by Herbert Lloyd, whose burlesque juggling and eccentric impersonations (?) convulse the audience. Other good turns are Harry and Ada Meymott, in a fine little comic interlude, *Semi-Detached;* Bernar's Fantoches, a wonderful show; Edie King, as Cinderella, a dainty scene; ? Spot-Spot ?, the enchanted coon, in "The Cake-walk Craze"; Techow's Marvellous Cats; James Robertson, a fine singer of illustrated songs; and Ethel Walker, a pleasing mimic at the piano. The Bioscope pictures are interesting.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. P. Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Lew Lake and company are appearing here this week with great success in a capital comedy-drama, entitled *My Pal Jerry*. Arthur Rigby makes a big hit with his song, "The march of the married men"; Wal Robbins is a clever instrumentalist; the San Remo Girls are smart dancers; A-Bo-Kou, aided by amusing assistants, does some surprising juggling; Dora Lyric, vocal comedienne, is well received; and enjoyable items are those of Speedwell, the lightning painter; and Flo Schuberth, burlesque artist. A series of up-to-date Palace pictures are also shown.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A big attraction here this week is Morris Cronin and Troupe in a brilliant juggling display. Caicedo does some astonishing feats on the wire; Ray Wallace is a clever mimic; and Francis Wylie and his well-trained dogs are very entertaining; Brown and Le Clerq, as usual, create much amusement in their *Black Justice* sketch; the Glenroy Troupe are exceedingly good International dancers; and enjoyable turns are also those of Mount and Correlli, society entertainers at the piano; Simms and Simms, in song and patter; and the Bioscope pictures. Two vocal items are also contributed by the choir.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Excellent and well-received turns here this week are Ike Scott and Son, versatile comedians; and Harry Mountford and Maude Walsh, society entertainers. Good turns are contributed by Harry Carmen, comedian, who makes a hit with his "Burglar" song; Daisy Mayer, comedienne and smart sand dancer; the Three Sisters Tree, vocalists; Harry Luck, eccentric comedian; Daisy Lane, comedienne; Bertha Duckett, comedienne; and Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

KING'S (LONGSIGHT).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here this week in the powerful drama, entitled *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. E. A. Duval does well as the heroic Lieut. Frank Derrick; and Mr. G. M. Montanini as Prince Rus Dalmirez is most effective. Miss Vesta Sandford as Vashti plays with skill; and Miss Rose Routledge is pleasing as Lola Vane. Mr. Edmond O'Grady is funny as Billy; and other parts are well sustained by Messrs. A. H. Longford, Edward Philip, and James Sherwin.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Seltina Troupe, who head the bill here this week, do some wonderfully clever acrobatic feats, and are well received. The Silbon Family present, with success, their miniature circus, introducing some smartly trained animals. The Bonnettis are good in a juggling speciality; Merton and Rydon are pleasing in a comedy act; and the Sisters Russell (Ida and Lil), burlesque artists, secure a good reception. Other enjoyable items are given by the Brothers Levett, vaulters; Will Johnson, comedian; and Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer. The Bioscope pictures are amusing. Dwight and Son, comedians, who figure in the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Kreamer and Braun, in a novel and exciting horse and cycle race, top the bill here this week. *The Land-Grabbers*—a capital skit on the recent exploits of the unemployed—causes plenty of laughter. Walter Munroe, in his latest success, "I'm coming back to Dublin," proves popular; the Gladenbecks, clever gymnasts, give a highly-finished exhibition; Sam Shipley is a much appreciated comedian; the Howards are good in comedy and melody; some smart dancing is done by the Sisters Belmont; whilst Bruce and Ross, comedy artists, and Beattie Worth, comedienne, and the pictures complete a satisfactory programme.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Some old favourites are again to the front here this week, with their usual success, including Jim Pullen, comedian; Charlie Bayman, quaint comedian; Gertrude Fraser, contralto; Albert Ventor, comedian; Beatrice Kenyon, soprano; Charles North, baritone; and W. H. Jackson, pianist.

"CHARLES I."

Apropos of Mr. H. B. Irving's revival of W. G Wills's *Charles I.* at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Thursday, we quote the following from Freeman Wills's biography of the author of the play:—

It was the good fortune of the rising dramatist of the Lyceum that, after the success achieved in his play by Miss Bateman, a new actor joined the theatre who gave him his great opportunity.

Mr. Irving had proved his tragic power in *The Bells*, and it was a happy inspiration, due to his personal qualifications to represent the king, which suggested, as a subject, *Charles I.* Mr. Bateman was diffident of the success of such plays as *Charles I.* and *Hamlet*. Blank verse was still regarded as hazardous, and Mr. Irving's successes had previously been won in melodrama. Many a battle was fought at the Lyceum supper parties, but the actor, with great tenacity of purpose, urged a repetition of the experiment which had been so successful in the case of *Medea*. The play was written at express speed—partly at the Studio, and partly at 37, Sydney-street—and it was produced on Sept. 28, 1872. By this drama the author established himself as an original dramatist of great power, and Mr. Irving, who had previously been spoken of as a "promising young artist," was at once raised to the first rank of his profession.

In this play Mr. Wills certainly gave proof of power equalled by none of the poetic dramatists that intervened, and if he did not in subsequent work always reach this high level, it must be remembered that it was difficult to get him to apply his powers to dramatic work, and he often wrote against the grain. Consequently, though he wrote many plays, his true talents were sampled by but a few. The wealth of his imagination was only partly brought to the surface. One of his intimates remarks that, in private intercourse, "he was a man full of bright and sweet imaginings, and he would reveal perfect glimpses of a fairyland of a mind full of tender thoughts and delicate fancy."

But he was impatient of much of the dramatic work he was commissioned to do, and when this was the case he did it badly, selling his name and not his talents. It was when writing for worthy interpreters that his genius awakened; and only by the plays written for them ought he to be judged hereafter.

His painting was a hindrance. The curious perversity of his nature asserted itself again and again to his detriment. When there was a pressure of urgent dramatic work he has been known more than once to jump out of bed and seize his palette and brushes; and to keep him at work with his pen he would have to be watched and goaded on. The critics were provoked by the falling off shown so markedly in some of his plays, and when he did rise to the height of his powers they not all of them forgave him, or did him full justice. *Charles I.*, however, stands as an evidence of what he was capable of doing, and worthily takes its place in the catena of the great history-plays of England. A few words from Miss Ellen Terry, in a letter found after his death among some treasured papers, written when the end was not very far off, must have come like a ray of light in the gathering gloom. The artist who interpreted was not perhaps wrong in the fame that will belong to the artist who wrote:

4th March, 1891: 22, Barkston Gardens.

I'm just returned from our last rehearsal of *Charles I.*—and coming along in my carriage have been reading the last act, and I can't help writing to thank you and bless you for having written those *five last pages*. Never, *never* has anything more beautiful been written in English—I know no other language.

They are perfection—and I—often as I've acted with Henry Irving in the play, *am all melted* at reading it again. An immortality for you for this alone. God bless you.

Yours, with intense appreciation,
E. T.

As the guard draws up on either side, in the last act, while the bell tolls, the King, kneeling, kisses the Queen, who seems to turn to stone in her speechless agony, and at the door he looks back with the historic word, "Remember!"

It is recorded that in the last scene the sympathetic sobs of the audience mingled with those of the disconsolate wife. Women sobbed openly, and even men showed an emotion which comported ill with the habitual serenity of the stalls. There was scarcely a dry eye in the house during the parting of Charles and his Queen. But seldom has there been beheld such a scene of enthusiasm as followed the fall of the curtain. It was the outburst of the pent-up emotion of a vast audience. The night marked the advent of a great actor and a great dramatist, and there was a consciousness in that gathering of all the talents that it was not merely the success of a play they were hailing, but an event in literature and a landmark in dramatic history. In that era of opera bouffe a play written on the classical model had taken the town, and it seemed like the renaissance of the poetic and historical drama.

As the lights went up tears were surprised on the faces of the great assemblage, and every one was glad that his neighbour's attention was distracted from his wet cheek to the pale actor who appeared in relief against the curtain and thanked the audience, and promised to convey to the author their favourable verdict.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Already acknowledged	£589	5	5
Proceeds of Matinée given at the Empire, Birmingham, by the kindness of the Directors of Moss' Empires, Limited	70	18	6
Tom B. Hughes	0	10	0
	£660	13	11

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose

Photo by Russell and Sons.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock street, W.C.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words:—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes:—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes:—"I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note:—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

Mr. Martin Harvey.—"I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £1 1s. for your admirable fund for the poor little lady."

Miss Louie Freear.—"Enclosed please find cheque for £1 for dear little Miss Stephens, with whom I most heartily sympathise. What a terrible accident, poor little girl!"

Mr. Weedon Grossmith.—"I enclose a cheque for £1 1s. for the little fund you are raising for the poor girl, Miss Dot Stephens. I only regret my cheque is obliged to be so small. It would have been larger, but there have been so many things one has had to contribute to recently, only not so deserving, that one has little left for the really sad cases."

Mr. H. B. Irving.—"I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for one guinea as a small contribution to the fund you are getting up for poor Miss Stephens."

Miss Nora Lancaster.—"I am so sorry to hear of the terrible accident that has fallen upon Miss Stephens. I enclose cheque for a guinea, and wish I could have made it more."

Miss Edith Wynne Matthison (Kennedy).—"Enclosed please find cheque for one guinea towards the subscription for Miss Stephens. It is an exceedingly sad case; and she has my deepest sympathies."

Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—"The case of Miss Dot Stephens is certainly a very distressing one, as you say. I enclose you herewith £2 2s. on her account. I hope you will get a substantial sum."

Mrs. J. Warden (widow of the late J. F. Warden).—"I send cheque as a trifle towards the fund you have opened for Dot Stephens. Poor girl, such a sad fate for her to be suddenly put aside in the days of her youth and strength. It is a sad ending to her bright dreams and hopes she had for the future. My heart's deep sympathy is with her and her mother in this their dark hours of sorrow."

Mr. T. Allan Edwardes (of Derby), writing from Interlaken, says: "I enclose you cheque for £2 2s. towards the fund for poor little Dot Stephens. Among the thousands of her brother and sister artists, it should be an easy matter to purchase her an annuity of at least £50 per annum. If all the sympathisers with her in her dreadful accident would send their mite this would be easily accomplished."

C. Crabtree writes:—"I have pleasure in sending you a remittance for the 'Dot Stephens Fund,' which I have collected from the orchestra here, including myself as conductor. She appeared at the Pier Pavilion here about March, this year, and we all remember her quite well, and we all felt that we should like to send her something. We all very much regret that she should be so afflicted, and we all express great sympathy for her and her mother during their trouble. She was an exceptionally nice and pleasant girl. I think a lot of money could be collected for her if boxes were used in various theatres and music halls. My orchestra is only seven players, and we are not in a position to give much, but our little will help to swell the fund, and I hope she will be able to have an annuity from it."

Queenie Leighton:—"You will receive from me this week another list of contributions I have gathered together from friends for poor little Dot Stephens. I am only sorry that, owing to the pressure of rehearsals, I have not been able to do more, as I have the greatest sympathy with Miss Stephens in her terrible affliction, and I sincerely hope that the efforts which are being made in her behalf will result in the collection of a sufficient sum to prevent her worrying about the future."

J. D. Beveridge writes:—"Herewith I enclose cheque for two guineas (£2 2s.). I quite agree with the statement in *The Era* 'that so sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession,' and I trust your efforts on behalf of Miss Stephens will be of so substantial a nature that the poor dear young lady, who under such sad conditions writes in such a cheery, grateful way, may not have any fear for her future in a pecuniary sense. With deepest sympathy for Miss Stephens, and with hearty good wishes for a big subscription list."

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Mr. George Edwardes's company in *The Spring Chicken* is paying a return visit to Stratford this week, and is repeating its previous triumph. Magnificent mounting characterises the production; and very few alterations have been made in the cast. Mr. George Gregory is as entertaining and as hardworking as ever in the rôle of Mr. Girdle, and his efforts meet with due appreciation. Miss Gertrude Glynn is still the same bright and vivacious Rosalie, and her singing and dancing are keenly enjoyed. Miss Gertrude Gilliam undertakes the part of Dulcie Babori. Her vocalism is very pleasing; and her former rôle of Baroness Papouche is played by Miss Nancy Langtyre with the happiest results. The broad humour of Mrs. Girdle could hardly be better developed than by Miss Irene Verona, who realises the character admirably. Mr. John Brabourne depicts Gustave Babori on original lines, gaining hearty plaudits for his performance. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., makes a hit as Boniface by his nimble dancing and excellent vocalism; Mr. Frank Hector plays in the right vein as Baron Papouche; and Mr. Ernest Mahar is agreeable as the unctuous head waiter at "The Crimson Butterfly." As Emmy Lou and Stephen Henry, Miss Nellie Lonnen and Mr. William Spray give an exceedingly mirthful display of juvenile precocity; Miss Amy Bingham is very successful as La Modiste; and Miss Jenny McNuety and Miss Beatrice Dunbar lend valuable aid as clients of Babori. Prominence is given to other parts by Mr. Jocelyn Hope as proprietor of "The Crimson Butterfly"; Mr. Duncan Kaye as Joseph Boniface; and Mr. Sims-Woolley as an inspector of police. The full chorus and augmented orchestra are admirably directed by Mr. Ernest Vousden, and Mr. W. Hesseltine is the courteous general-manager of the company.

AMUSEMENTS IN SINGAPORE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SINGAPORE, AUGUST 4, 1906.—A hearty welcome was accorded the Bandmann Opera Company (manager, Mr. F. Smith) who have appeared here in *The Runaway Girl*. As is usual when this clever combination visit Singapore, the house was crowded. Miss Georgie Corlass as Winifred Grey was charming, and made the hit of the evening in the song "The boy guessed right." Miss Wilmot Karkeek as Carmenita was excellent, and her dance in the third act with Mr. Mark Lester as Brother Tamarind was most heartily applauded. Mr. Harry Cole, a well-established favourite here, was amusing as Fripper, his "gags" being much appreciated. Mr. Ernest Attwell as Guy Stanley was in excellent voice; Mr. Albert Rees as Lord Coodle, and Mr. Henry Vincent as Mr. Creel were good; and special mention must be made of the fine singing of Mr. Wm. Baker as Boccaccio. Mr. Percy Hadyn was commendable as Sir William Hake; and Lady Coodle was successfully played by Miss M. Leslie. Messrs. Deane Percival and Will Smith as the Wandering Minstrels, Miss Nina Leslie as Dorothy Stanley, and Miss N. Pemberton as Agatha deserve great credit.

THE lease (ten years unexpired) of an important theatre in the busiest part of the Midlands is about to be disposed of. This affords a rather unusual opportunity for a good investment, it being the only dramatic house in the town, and having a surrounding population of 150,000. Particulars will be found in our advertisement columns.

ON Monday, at the Metropole Theatre, Royland, Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's No. 1 *Proof* company opened to a capital house. Mr. Gerald Kennedy is a fine, manly Pierre Lorrance; as Lazare Mr. W. J. Butler is all that can be desired; Messrs. Arthur St. Aubyn and Carl Beechy as Victor and the Duc D'Aubeterre respectively are very good; the Chamboran of Mr. Wilford Bailey is excellent; Miss Beatrice Shirley as Adrienne and Miss May Grimshaw as Valentine are heartily applauded.

MR. LESLIE AUSTIN'S friends will be sorry to hear he has been laid up with blood-poisoning, and has had to enter the Woodhouse Hospital, near Mansfield. He was taken ill during the performance of *The New Barmaid* on Monday. Through the influence of Mr. Fox, the manager of the Victoria Theatre, he was fortunate enough to gain immediate entrance to the above hospital, where he will receive every care and attention. In his absence, the part of Capt. Lovebury, in *The New Barmaid*, will be undertaken by Mr. Michael Dwyer, who will open on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

SHAKESPEARE'S LIFE.

"It was not until the nineteenth century," says Emerson in his "Representative Men," "that the tragedy of *Hamlet* could find such wondering readers. Now, literature, philosophy, and thought are Shakespearized. His mind is the horizon beyond which, at present, we do not see. Our ears are educated to music by his rhythm. Coleridge and Goethe are the only critics who have expressed our convictions with any adequate fidelity; but there is in all cultivated minds a silent appreciation of his superlative power and beauty, which, like Christianity, qualifies the period.

"The Shakespeare Society have inquired in all directions, advertised the missing facts, offered money for any information that will lead to proof; and with what result? Beside some important illustration of the history of the English stage, to which I have adverted, they have gleaned a few facts touching the property, and dealings in regard to property, of the poet. It appears that, from year to year, he owned a larger share in the Blackfriars' Theatre: its wardrobe and other appurtenances were his: that he bought an estate in his native village with his earnings as writer and shareholder; that he lived in the best house in Stratford; was intrusted by his neighbours with their commissions in London, as of borrowing money and the like; that he was a veritable farmer. About the time when he was writing *Macbeth* he sues Philip Rogers, in the Borough Court of Stratford, for thirty-five shillings, tenpence, for corn delivered to him at different times; and in all respects appears as a good husband, with no reputation for eccentricity or excess. He was a good-natured sort of man, an actor and shareholder in the theatre, not in any striking manner distinguished from other actors and managers. I admit the importance of this information. It was well worth the pains that have been taken to procure it.

"But whatever scraps of information concerning his condition these researches may have rescued, they can shed no light upon that infinite invention which is the concealed magnet of his attraction for us. We are very clumsy writers of history. We tell the chronicle of parentage, birth, birthplace, schooling, schoolmates, earning of money, marriage, publication of books, celebrity, death; and when we have come to an end of this gossip, no ray of relation appears between it and the goddess-born; and it seems as if, had we dipped at random into the 'Modern Plutarch,' and read any other life there, it would have fitted the poems as well. It is the essence of poetry to spring, like the rainbow daughter of Wonder, from the invisible, to abolish the past, and refuse all history. Malone, Warburton, Dyce, and Collier have wasted their oil. The famed theatres, Covent Garden, Drury Lane, the Park, and Tremont, have vainly assisted. Betterton, Garrick, Kemble, Kean, and Macready dedicate their lives to this genius; him they crown, elucidate, obey, and express. The genius knows them not. The recitation begins; one golden word leaps out immortal from all this painted pedantry, and sweetly torments us with invitations to its own inaccessible homes. I remember I went once to see the Hamlet of a famed performer, the pride of the English stage; and all I then heard, and all I now remember of the tragedian, was that in which the tragedian had no part; simply Hamlet's question to the ghost—

'What may this mean,
That thou, dead corse, again in complete steel
Revisit'st thus the glimpses of the moon?'

That imagination which dilates the closet he writes in to the world's dimensions, crowds it with agents in rank and order, as quickly reduces the big reality to be the glimpses of the moon. These tricks of his magic spoil for us the illusions of the greenroom. Can any biography shed light on the localities into which the *Midsummer Night's Dream* admits us? Did Shakespeare confide to any notary or parish recorder, sacristan, or surrogate, in Stratford, the genesis of that delicate creation? the forest of Arden, the nimble air of Scone Castle, the moonlight of Portia's villa, 'the antres vast and desarts idle,' of Othello's captivity,—where is the third cousin, or grand-nephew, the chancellor's file of accounts, or private letter that has kept one word of those transcendent secrets? In fine, in this drama, as in all great works of art,—in the Cyclopæan architecture of Egypt and India; in the Phidian sculpture; the Gothic minsters; the Italian painting; the Ballads of Spain and Scotland,—the Genius draws up the ladder after him when the creative age goes up to heaven, and gives away to a new, who see the works, and ask in vain for a history.

"Shakespeare is the only biographer of Shakespeare) and even he can tell nothing, except to the Shakespeare in us; that is, to our most apprehensive and sympathetic hour. He cannot step from off his tripod and give us anecdotes of his inspirations. Read the antique documents extricated, analysed, and compared by the assiduous Dyce and Collier; and now read one of those skiey sentences—aërolites—which seem to have fallen out of heaven, and which, not your experience, but the man within the breast has accepted as words of fate; and tell me if they match; if the former account in any manner for the latter; or, which gives the most historic insight into the man.

"Hence, though our external history is so meagre, yet, with Shakespeare for biographer, instead of Aubrey and Rowe, we have really the information which is material, that which describes character and fortune, that which, if we were about to meet the man and deal with him, would most import us to know. We have his recorded convictions on those questions which knock for answer at every heart,—on life and death, on love on wealth and poverty, on the prizes of life, and the ways whereby we come at them; on the characters of men, and the influences, occult and open, which affect their fortunes; and on those mysterious and demoniacal powers which defy our science, and which yet interweave their malice and their gift in our brightest hours. Who ever read the volume of the Sonnets without finding that the poet had there revealed, under masks that are no masks to the intelligent, the lore of friendship and of love; the confusion of sentiments in the most susceptible, and, at the same time, the most intellectual of men? What trait of his private mind has he hidden in his dramas? One can discern, in his ample pictures of the gentleman and the King, what forms and humanities pleased him; his delight in troops of friends, in large hospitality, in cheerful giving. Let Timon, let Warwick, let Antonio the merchant, answer for his great heart. So far from Shakespeare's being the least known, he is the one person, in all modern history, known to us. What point of morals, of manners, of economy, of philosophy, of religion, of taste, of the conduct of life, has he not settled? What mystery has he not signified his knowledge of? What office, or function, or district of man's work, has he not remembered? What King has he not taught state, as Talma taught Napoleon? What maiden has not found him finer than her delicacy? What lover has he not outloved? What sage has he not outseen? What gentleman has he not instructed in the rudeness of his behaviour?

"Some able and appreciating critics think no criticism on Shakespeare valuable that does not rest purely on the dramatic merit; that he is falsely judged as poet and philosopher. I think as highly as these critics of his dramatic merit, but still think it secondary. He was a full man, who liked to talk; a brain exhaling thoughts and images, which, seeking vent, found the drama next at hand. Had he been less, we should have had to consider how well he filled his place, how good a dramatist he was,—and he is the best in the world.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Play, by Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch, entitled
"THE SHULAMITE."

A most powerful and tragically interesting play is *The Shulamite*, and one worthy to succeed, by reason of its artistic excellence, but we doubt whether the public, who in these days are so much inclined to dramatic fare of a lighter nature, will ever be attracted in sufficient numbers to achieve the financial success necessary to encourage Miss Lena Ashwell, as a manageress, to give the play a prominent place in her répertoire. For candidly, the piece is at present too gloomy, and wants much relief. It is a pity, too, that while the authors, in deference to public opinion, altered the finish of the play in order to admit of the conventional happy ending, they did not introduce two or three characters of a comedy type so as to relieve the existing atmosphere of depression. For the acting of the six artists comprising the cast we have nothing but praise. From the principal to the minor characters, each performance is a perfect study. Miss Lena Ashwell as Deborah Krillet displays talent of a high order, her acting as the girl whose life as the wife of the Boer, Simeon Krillet, is one dreary round of monotony until she meets the young English overseer, arousing genuine enthusiasm. Mr. Charles Weir, already favourably known as an actor of no mean ability, splendidly realises the old Boer farmer Krillet. Robert Waring is impersonated by Mr. W. T. Lovell with manliness and skilful restraint. Jan Vanderberg is neatly undertaken by Mr. Reynolds Denniston. As Tante Anna Vanderberg, Miss Mary Griffiths makes a signal success; and Miss Beryl Mercer delicately sustains the part of the Kaffir girl Memke. Very picturesque scenery of the veldt and Boer farm is provided. The farce, by M. E. Francis and Sidney Valentine, entitled *The Widow Woos*, is also played, creating much laughter, and in it Mr. Denniston, Mr. Charles Weir, Miss Mary Griffiths, and Miss Marcella Hudson pleasantly distinguish themselves.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Farcical Comedy, entitled
"OUR FLAT."

There could be no doubt, judging by the reception given to Mr. Charles Steuart and his company on Monday, on the occasion of a return visit here, that they would have a very successful week's engagement. The constant merriment and applause of the delighted audience testified to their appreciation of this "hardy perennial" farce, Mr. Steuart being supported by a company of distinctly clever artists, who obtain from the various rôles the fullest effect. Mr. Steuart's exposition of the unsuccessful dramatic author, Reginald Sylvester, is as natural as it is funny and clever. The part of Mr. McCullum is invested with much fun by Mr. Henry Bute, that gentleman's impersonation of the irate father being life-like. As Clarence Vane, Mr. Clayton Greene acts easily, naturally, and well. That experienced actor, Mr. Wilfred E. Shine, gives a capital delineation of Nathaniel Glover, and his performance is intensely funny. Mrs. Sylvester finds a delightful and clever representative in Miss Daisy Atherton and Miss Sylvia Morris makes the most of her opportunities in the part of Lucy McCullum. Miss Mary Stuart is successful in the rôle of Mme. Volant; and Miss Katie Yates causes considerable amusement as the precocious child from the flat below. Miss Pollie Emery scores in her admirable character sketch of the Sylvester's servant, Bella; she is genuinely funny, and her comical make-up and quaint humour bring down the house. Valuable assistance is rendered by Messrs. Fred Conyers (Pinchard), Kaye Brundel (foreman from the furniture stores), and Mr. Frank Emery (Stout, the hall porter). *Our Flat* is preceded by another farcical episode, entitled *Thomas Trotter*, in which Mr. Charles Steuart, Miss Katie Yates, and Miss Sylvia Morris successfully appear. The incidental music and selections are well rendered by the excellent orchstra of the theatre under the direction of Mr. Chas. Elcock.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Another old favourite here is meeting this week with great success, *Florodora* being presented in most attractive style by Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company. It is a capital crowd, in which everyone is exactly suited to the part allotted, and there is an excellent chorus under the able direction of Mr. B. J. Patterson. In the rôle of Antony Tweedlepunch we find that first-rate comedian, Mr. Daley Cooper, whose many drolleries keep the fun going at high pressure. Mr. Cooper plays the part on his own lines, which are intensely funny. Miss Violet Grazia acts well as Dolores, her singing of her various numbers being capital. In the part of Frank Abercoed Mr. R. Courier Dutton sings artistically, and meets with a great reception for his rendering of some of the most popular airs of the comedy. Mr. J. R. Tate is very good indeed as Mr. Gilfain, and is also responsible for the excellent stage-management. As Angela Gilfain we have Miss Nellie Bowman, who gives a dainty impersonation of the character, and in Act II. sings "My Starlight Queen," a very charming number. Her dancing also adds in no small measure to her success. Captain Arthur Donegal is played in a genial manner by Mr. Harold Perry, who contributes "I want to be a military man" in dashing style. Miss Edith Housley as Lady Holyrood scores heavily by her smart and fascinating manner, her songs "Tact" and "Inkling" being sung with great point and judgment. Mr. Edwin Oxley, excellently made up as Leandro, makes full use of the somewhat slender opportunities that the part offers. Of the excellence of the work done by the chorus we have already spoken, but we must add a word of special praise to those ladies and gentlemen who appear in the double sextet, "Tell me, pretty maiden," which seemed to go better than ever. The play is, as usual, very prettily staged, and the dresses are handsome and tasteful, the final scene in the ballroom at the Castle being most brilliant. Mr. Andrew Spens is the general-manager for the company.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's specially selected company is giving here an admirable interpretation of Mr. Hall Caine's powerful drama *The Christian*. As the high-souled priest, the Rev. John Storm, Mr. Frank Tennants imparts dramatic effect to a character that requires skilful and artistic handling, bringing into prominence the religious fervour of the earnest reformer. As Glory Quayle Miss Grace Chalmers colours her part in the early scenes with the capriciousness and frivolity of a careless, unthinking child of nature, while at the same time emphasising in the cleverest fashion the underlying love and devotion for her childhood's playmate, John Storm. Miss Molly Hayden as the kind-hearted Mrs. Callander acts with womanly dignity and grace, being most impressive in her denunciation of the disconcerted Bishop—a part that is cleverly handled by Mr. Charles E. Dering. Miss Vashti Wellbourne invests the character of Polly Love with delicacy and feeling; Miss May Weir is seen to advantage in the low-comedy part of Aggie Jones; as Liza, the dancing girl, Miss Kate Lee is quite successful; Mr. Edwin Ling as Father Lamplugh represents the aged, dignified, and gentle minister with power and emotion; as Father Quayle Mr. Charles Hill has little to do, but does that little well; Mr. George R. Montford as Lord Robert Ure is forcible and intense; and Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Horatio Drake is conspicuously good. Mr. Bert Conway as the Faro King acts with a consistent recklessness; the Mr. Lorimer of Mr. Fern Pounds aids the success; and smaller parts are handled effectively by Mr. A. E. Kingston as the Linkman, Mr. Wilfred Noy as Brother Paul (a very creditable performance), Miss May Dudley as Betty, Miss Violet White as Nelly, and Miss Nelly Hastings as Letty. Mr. Wentworth Croke is to be congratulated on the mounting of the play and on his company.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Military Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled
"TOMMY ATKINS."

The military drama, entitled *Tommy Atkins*, is being received with considerable favour at the Dalston Theatre this week. Mr. Albert Ward has a part well suited to his manly style as Harold Wilson, whose first introduction to the audience is in the character of a curate. Eventually, however, Wilson appears as a soldier on active service. Ruth, whose fortunes are closely allied with those of Wilson, has a most sympathetic representative in Mrs. Bennett, who spares no pains to render the part effective. Mr. Horace Hunter is Captain Richard Maitland, Mr. Ernest Roberts Captain Bob Sparrow, and Mr. Teddy Coleman Colour-Sergeant Paddy Molley. A good bit of character-acting is provided by Mr. C. P. Morton as Private Mason; Mr. Edwin Bennett evinces all the necessary stolidity as Stephen Raymond; Mr. Brian Daly as Ebenezer Skindle, organist and choirmaster, causes many a hearty laugh; Mr. Paul Peters makes a dignified Colonel Hardwicke; and Miss Gladys King as Rose Selwyn presents the character effectively.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
Shakespeare's Tragedy of
"OTHELLO."

An enthusiastic audience, which packed the theatre in every part, welcomed the appearance on Monday evening of the renowned Jewish tragedian, Mr. Sigmund Flenman, who is justly celebrated in the Yiddish-speaking world for his Shakespearean performances. *Othello* was the play selected for the opening night of this engagement, and was presented by the management with new scenery and rich and handsome dresses; while the appointments, stage-management, and general *ensemble* were in every way admirable. Mr. Sigmund Flenman held his audience from his first entrance down to the final fall of the curtain. By his commanding presence and majestic bearing he makes an ideal Othello, his impersonation throughout being in every way an excellent performance, and proving the actor to be possessed of real ability. His dignity and repose, combined with his thoughtful declamation in the Senate scene, evoked warm applause. Mr. M. D. Waxman deserves all praise, and must be warmly congratulated on his highly-finished reading of Iago, which was portrayed with artistic subtlety. Mr. Waxman has done much good work here during the season, but he has never been seen to such great advantage as on Monday, when he surpassed all previous efforts by his really brilliant acting as Iago, which must place him in the front rank of studious histrions. An easy characterisation of Cassio was given with sterling effect by Mr. Joseph Fineberg; and Mr. J. Scherman was a dashing and handsome Roderigo; while Brabantio was well played by Mr. Goldsmith. Much fervour and earnestness were displayed by Mme. F. Waxman as Desdemona; and Mme. F. Kayzer was full of fire and vigour in the last act as Emilia. Mr. N. Hamburger was capital as the Duke of Venice, and Mr. Streng was satisfactory as Montano. Admirable performances have been given during the week of *Persecution in Portugal*, *Thirty Years in Siberia*, *The Golden Hand*, *Alexander*, and *The Viceroy*.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Drama, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

Another success has been insured for the Lyric this week by a visit from *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. The house was packed on Monday, and, from the enthusiasm of the audience on that evening, is likely to be so during the ensuing days. The title-rôle is played by Miss Beatrice Homer, who is by turns strenuous and pathetic; Mr. Philip Darien as Jack Merriman throws into that character much manliness; the villainous rôle of Hubert Gold is wisely entrusted to Mr. Leyton Cancellor, who gives a life-like impersonation of that ignoble schemer; Miss Nellie Oliver deserves a special word of commendation for her success in the portrayal of Rose Courtenay. The humour is supplied liberally by Mr. Tubby Edlin, who keeps his audience in roars of laughter, being ably assisted by Miss Nellie Jackson, who as Aggie Brown is well placed. Praise is also due to Miss Margaret Watson for the charming and artistic way in which she plays the part of Marita. Mr. Charles Barrett's character-sketch of the scheming Italian Antonio is full of cleverness. Others who give valuable assistance are Mr. Allen Davenport as Tom Redvers, Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Dr. Barr, and Mr. W. Wallace-Aston as Raggles.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sydney Grundy, entitled
"A PAIR OF SPECTACLES."

Not for some years have Kingstonians had an opportunity of witnessing this charming play, and there was therefore a big house at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night when it was presented by a company under the direction of Mr. Russell Rosse. Mr. David James appeared as the benevolent and truthful Benjamin Goldfinch, a part that admirably fits him, and which he portrayed with a natural ease that won much admiration; and Mr. Charles Groves played the bluff man from Sheffield, Uncle Gregory, with a breeziness and a force that were well sustained throughout. Other parts were ably filled by Miss Ida Phillips as Mrs. Goldfinch; by Miss Nora Dwyer as Lucy Lorimer; by Mr. Horace Pollock as Percy; and by Mr. James Geldard as Dick. It is unnecessary to add that the play was rapturously received. Preceding it was presented a costume comedy, entitled *Her First Love*, a little tale of the French Revolution, in which the parts were taken as follows:—Citizen Roland, Mr. Michael Dwyer; Eugène de Pombert, Mr. Norman Clark; and Pauline Rolland, Miss Norah Dwyer. It was capitally performed, and was well received.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company, with a répertoire of Shakespearean plays, are the attraction at the Shakespeare Theatre this week, and the bare statement of the fact ought in itself to serve as an incentive to the enthusiasm of Clapham playgoers. Upon no particular play do these accomplished artists rely, preferring to vary the week's programme with such perennial favourites as *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, &c. The large crowd which assembled on Monday evening to witness the production of the first-named play waxed enthusiastic throughout, and at the close of the performance accorded a rare ovation to Mr. and Mrs. Benson, a tribute very gratifying alike to players and management. As Petruchio Mr. Benson has a part which suits him to perfection, and it is sufficient to say that he was a complete success. In the exacting rôle of Katharina, Mrs. Benson scored a veritable triumph, and her clever delineation of the Shrew was the leading feature of the play. Mr. George Buchanan as Lucentio made an ideal lover; the natural charm and grace of Miss Olive Noble were well suited to the rôle of Bianca, her acting leaving nothing to be desired; Gremio had an excellent representative in Mr. H. O. Nicholson; and another good performance was that of Mr. Stanley Howlett, who satisfactorily enacted the part of Hortensio. Warm praise must also be accorded Mr. Edward A. Warburton, whose delineation of Baptista was eminently satisfactory. Mr. Murray Carrington as Vincentio made excellent use of limited opportunities; Mr. G. F. Hannah Clark as Pedant; and Mr. J. P. Wilson as a tailor were good in their respective parts; and Mr. Clarence Derwent as Tranio was seen to advantage. Mr. Geo. R. Weir contributed a sterling performance of Grumio, and, together with Mr. Percy D. Owen as Biondello, caused much laughter. Miss Cissie Saumarez creditably sustained the part of the widow, and her singing was received with applause. The minor parts were capably enacted by Miss Leah Hanman, Miss Elinor Aicken, Mr. J. Moffat Johnston, Mr. Walter Bullen, and Mr. J. Cartwright. Mr. Cuthbert Ricketts is the acting-manager for Mr. F. R. Benson.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS."

Mr. W. H. Hallatt's excellent company has received a warm welcome at this popular theatre during the past week in *Two Little Sailor Boys*. In this attractive drama there is much to command and sustain the interest of the audience. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Noel Tregarthan makes a capital hero, and looks an ideal sailor; and Mr. Ellerslie Pyne as Captain Tom Yorke, an officer in the sister service does good work. Mr. J. Court Harvard as Admiral Grey is excellent as the retired officer, and displays considerable talent in his rendering of the part. As Lieut. Redstone, R.N., Mr. Ellerslie Pyne could not be bettered, and the villainy of the character is well brought out. As Jack Jolly, A.B., Mr. Oscar Power provides plenty of amusement; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter, policeman and detective, is highly capable; and as Jim Royston, Mr. Ambrose Horton is capital. As the heroine, Mildred Grey, Misss Alice Défoe acts with considerable sympathy and charm, making the most of every opportunity. Miss Blanche Steele enacts the difficult rôle of Lola Grey to everyone's satisfaction, giving a forcible representation of the character. As Cyril Grey, Miss May Day submits a charming study, and proves herself a capital little actress; and the same remark applies to Miss Ethel Frances Greene, who furnishes an able rendering of the part of Tom Yorke.

THE COROPET.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Opera, by Georges Bizet, entitled
"CARMEN."

A week of English opera by the Moody-Manners Opera Company opened at the popular Notting Hill playhouse on Monday, with Bizet's *Carmen*, ever a public favourite. A full house showed its appreciation and enjoyment of the excellent rendering given. Mr. Lewis James was good as Escamillo, the usual encore being given for the Toreador's song. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, in the title-rôle, was in magnificent voice, and sang throughout with consummate ease, acting also with great animation. Miss Ethel Cadman, a charming Michaela, portrayed successfully the naïve simplicity of the peasant girl; and Don José was satisfactorily filled by Mr. Wilson Pembroke, whose rendering of the beautiful "Flower Song" brought down the house. With Mr. Bailey and Mr. Moppett, the parts of Il Remendado and Il Dancairo were quite safe; and the Dragoons, Morales and Zuniga, were effectively played by Messrs. Cliffe and Rowe. The chorus responded to the skilful conducting of Signor Sapio in excellent manner. The ensemble and mounting of the whole opera were, as is always the case with Mr. Manners's companies, excellent. *Lohengrin*, *Tännhauser*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Pagliacci* have also been given during the week.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Musical Play, by Hugh Morton and Gustave Kerker, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

This old favourite is still proving its power of attraction at the Fulham Theatre, where it is being played by Mr. Musgrove's chief company, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard. The part of Violet Grey, so long identified with Miss Edna May, is being played by Miss Empsie Bowman, who is as charming and dainty a representative as one could wish for. Miss Winnie Browne is most successful in the part of the enterprising Cora Angelique; and Miss Lily Maxwell as the faithful Fifi acts well, and renders admirably the now-familiar songs allotted to the part. Miss Florence Hersee as Mamie Clancy contributes some brilliant dancing and some clever acting; Mr. John Doran is excellent as Harry Bronson, and plays the hero with admirable feeling and naturalness; Mr. Paddy Duprès is well suited as Ichabod Bronson, and acts with rich humour and unflagging spirit; the part of Karl von Pumpernick, the polite lunatic, a character whose refreshing originality stamps it as quite an inspiration on the part of its creator, is admirably played by Mr. Max Copeland, who does not fail to move his audience to fits of laughter. Of Mr. Frank Lawton as Blinky Bill one need only say that he is as good as ever, and his extraordinarily clever dancing, whistling, and acting are still worthy of the highest praise. Mr. W. Uridge scores deservedly as Kenneth Mugg, and shows himself to be a comedian of great ability; it is a very clever study of the actor who never ceases to act and to pose. Mr. Alfred Sandoe is also successful as Doc Snifkins, the "heavy father" type of histrion. Mr. R. L. Cody and Mr. Lionel Yeoman, admirably made up as the Portuguese twins, are remarkably entertaining. The chorus sang with great spirit; and the dresses were excellent. The orchestra under the direction of Mr. Ernée Woodville, did full justice to the tuneful music.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Chas. Darrell, entitled
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."

This famous drama, which eleven years ago did so much to draw attention to the vice and degradation prevalent in the streets of London, and which has undoubtedly conduced to the great improvement which is now evident, is still a great draw in the provinces. That there is no failing in its popularity when it comes to London was evident on Monday evening at the Elephant and Castle. Mr. Lester Collingwood presents a really smart all-round company, which very ably portrays both the sentiment and humour of the play. Mr. Sam Arthur makes a manly and convincing hero as David Engleheart, and acts with much feeling throughout. Mr. C. P. Wentworth is a plausible villain as Captain Rodney Hayes. Miss Maud Yorke as Hilda Carode, the villainess of the piece, imbues the character with the usual heartlessness and hatred, although when searching for her child she is pathetic in the extreme. Miss Josephine Melbourne makes a natural and pretty child. The humour of the evening could not be in better hands, Mr. D'Arcy Kelway as Sammy Blythe—first as a circus clown and then cleverly disguised in feminine attire—causes roars of laughter. The funniest scene is undoubtedly when the Hon. Bertie Broomhead, seeing life, endeavours to make love to him. Mr. Frank Howard plays the "young honourable," and makes a great hit in a typical "Mr. Popple" character. Mr. Ford Barnado as a policeman must be complimented on his delivery of many impressive lines; Mr. Chas. E. Sutton makes an admirable solicitor as Mr. Fuller of Lincoln's Inn; Mr. F. E. Thomas is effective as Prof. Jones, whilst as his wife, Signorina Jones, Mrs. Edgar Colona is very successful. As Maudie de Freier, an adventuress, Miss Daisy Clifford is excellent; Carrie Jones is capably played by Miss Bessie Frank, who helps much in the fun of the piece; Miss Mabel Scudamore is well suited as Queenie Carruthers, her acting throughout being consistent and natural. Her scene wherein she escapes from the burning bedroom is watched midst intense excitement. Other characters are in thoroughly efficient hands.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Hardie and Von Leer's company is here this week with the well-known play *Two Little Vagabonds*, which is proving a great attraction. While "the play's the thing," the mounting and dressing of the piece, for which the Grand is so well adapted, leave nothing to be desired, and are in themselves sufficient to ensure a successful run. Mr. William Fazan presents an excellent study of Geo. Thornton, being particularly strong in the drawing room scene of Act I. As Marion Thornton, the much-injured wife and mother, Miss Laura Hansen wins the hearts of the audience from the outset, and gives a rendering of the part that could hardly be bettered. Miss May Hart as Wally and Miss Margaret Nybloc as Dick, the two little vagabonds, are delightfully boyish and natural. A capable impersonation of Captain Darville is given by Mr. Henry Watson; and the part of John Scarth is in the good hands of Mr. Edmund Cuthbert. Mr. John F. Traynor makes a lusty and amusing ruffian as Bill Mullins, "the gaffer," whose equally villainous confederates Dido Bunce and the Congh Drop are well portrayed by Messrs. Ernest K. Nelson and Fred Archer. The part of Barbara Scarth calls for real talent, and Miss F. Russel Spiers, who presents it, is not found wanting. Mr. Hugh Holliman as Gorgoyle, the Sexton, gives occasion for no little fun, and the parts of Leeson, Hargitt, Dr. Lynn, and Whiffin, the village constable, are admirably filled by Messrs. Jack Royal, Marston Moor, Thos. Blakeman, and Henry Buckland. Miss Marie Pritchard gives a clever sketch of a dram-loving Irishwoman as Biddy Mullins, and Miss Muriel Clay is good as Sister Randall. The company is in its entirety capable, and deserves all the success that the patrons of the Grand seem wishful to accord it.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

The original and intensely interesting drama, *A Warning to Women*, is receiving a capital interpretation at the hands of the Standard company this week. The piece is of a highly-dramatic and sensational nature, and the artistes responsible for the production seem to have thoroughly grasped the meaning the author wishes to convey, and supply a performance of genuine excellence. Mr. Roy Redgrave proves of great assistance as Shaun, a wandering minstrel, and plays throughout with force and skill; making the rôle one of great interest. Mr. J. C. Aubrey enacts the part of Dr. Marcus Dread with all the callousness that is considered essential in a rôle of this kind. As Fergus M'Naughton Mr. Wingold Lawrence sustains the character with much ability, and later in the piece plays with due regard to the pathetic nature of the part. Mr. Jack Denton imbues the rôle of Lord Eversleigh with fun of an irresistible nature, and is a great success. Much praise is due to Mr. Frank Lister for his highly interesting performance as Squire Kennion. He takes full advantage of every opportunity that is offered, and holds the closest attention of the audience whenever he is upon the stage. Mr. Henry C. Cooper is a satisfactory Rev. Emmanuel Wallace, and Mr. Herbert Woodin plays with spirit as Mike McQuade. Mr. George Villiers is well placed as Ferdinand de Joules. A clever piece of acting is supplied by Little Florrie Green as Myles O'More, and Miss Eva Dare skilfully portrays Sheila Kennion. Miss Ruth Zillwood is all that could be desired as Molly O'More, and Miss Marion Turner scores a success as Hildred. Miss Olga Audre is possessed of talents of a high order of merit, and makes capital use of them as Moira Kennion. She contributes a performance which is much appreciated, and deserves a special word of praise.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Owen Hall, composed by Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

A return visit from *The Girl from Kay's*, presented by one of Mr. George Dance's numerous organisations, constitutes the attraction for the second week of the season at the Alexandra. Several musical numbers are now sung which were not heard in the original version of the piece, the most attractive of which is "Lord Golliwog of Grosvenor-square." This is sung by Miss Nancy Hervyn, an engaging exponent of the title-rôle, who renders all her songs with admirable point and distinctness. A clever and amusing performance of the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle comes from Mr. Tom Shelford, who continues to impart an air of originality to a conventional and somewhat hackneyed type of part. The maid Ellen is briskly and vivaciously played by Miss Chrissie Ralland, and Miss Aimée Grey is fully equal to all demands made upon her, either for singing or acting, as Norah Chalmers. The humours of Max Hoggenheimer are ably and successfully presented by Mr. Arthur Stigant, and a considerable portion of the laughter heard during the evening is of his making. Mr. S. Major Jones, who appears as the hall porter Joseph, misses no opportunity of scoring, and his entertaining performance proves a deservedly popular one. Miss Edith Cruickshanks is a duly imposing and impressive Mrs. Chalmers; and a quaint little sketch of Theodore Quench, K.C., is furnished by Mr. Buchanan Wake. The parts of Harry Gordon and Mr. Chalmers are successfully filled by Messrs. Herbert Franklyn and Charles Lupton respectively. The chorus go through their work spiritedly and well under the musical direction of Mr. Basil Hersfall, a most liberal dispenser of encores.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled,
"HUMAN HEARTS."

Human Hearts, which is playing to crowded houses this week at the Brixton Theatre, is performed by a company of exceptional ability, and fully appeals to the sympathy of the audience. Mr. George Rowland gives a manly and vigorous impersonation of the hero, and is well suited to the rôle. Mr. L. Williams enacts with spirit the villainous Fred Armsdale; Mr. Sydney Sarl keeps the audience in good humour with his clever impersonation of Jim Mason; Mr. Arthur Estcourt plays admirably the part of Moss; that of Richard Markham is successfully undertaken by Mr. Edwin Palmer; Deputy Western is faithfully represented by Mr. Frith Leicester; Master Thomas Robertson is to be congratulated upon his performance as the lame boy Limpy Morgan; Miss V. Fordyce creates a deep impression by her powerful rendering of Jenie Logan; and a sympathetic Ruth is presented by Miss Minnie Silvester. Miss Bessie Palmer as Tom's mother acts with pathos and moves the audience to tears; little Freda Green is a pretty and natural Gracie; and Miss Barbara deserves great credit for her rendering of Jimmy Logan. The smaller characters of Sam Logan and Mike Corrigan are adequately represented by Mr. A. W. Brame and Mr. Wynne Hammond, who make the most of their opportunities. Mr. William Bourne is the courteous business-manager.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."

John Hawthorne .....Mr. J. Edward Whitty
Philip Blackstone ....Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes
Frank Armstrong .....Mr. Reginald Payne
Napoleon B. Boomer .....Mr. Fred C. Imbert
Perkinson Pimple .....Mr. Harry Townley
David Drummond .....Mr. Henry Nisbett
Christopher Lennox .....Mr. Edward Finlay
Inspector Grabbem .....Mr. Fred Allen
Constable Runyin .....Mr. J. A. Grove
Reggie .....Little Ella
Elsie Langham .....Miss Violet Wilson
Caraway Crumpet .....Miss Amy Coralli
Marion .....Miss Ethel Van Praagh

The name of the author of *An Unweeded Wife*, produced at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, on July 30 last, and played for the first time in London at Mr. William Bailey's playhouse in Church-street, Edgware-road, on Monday, is not given on the programme, but it is evidently written by someone familiar with the requirements of a popular audience. Containing numerous sensational incidents, and plenty of amusing comedy lines, the play interested the full house assembled on Monday from the rise to the fall of the curtain, and it should meet with success in the provinces, and at those suburban theatres where drama is the attraction.

The "unwedded wife" is Marion, who has been betrayed by a callous scoundrel named Philip Blackstone. He has led her to believe she is his lawful wife until she discovers him proposing marriage to Elsie Langham, whose fortune of £40,000 is not her least attraction in his eyes. She has a guardian, David Drummond, but there is apparently something shady about his past, for Philip threatens to expose him when he refuses to let Elsie marry him. Not that the girl is anxious to, for she has a lover much more to her liking in Frank Armstrong, but he also does not meet with the approval of Drummond, who dismisses him from his employ, and prevents him from getting another situation by refusing him a character. Blackstone is determined if he cannot get the girl, he will have her fortune, and when Drummond hides the money and a valuable diamond necklace under a huge flower-pot in the conservatory, he is not long in annexing it. He is discovered in the act by Drummond, whom he eventually kills, and when he comes out to look for the "swag," which he has thrown through the window, finds it gone, Marion having taken charge of it. Blackstone, of course, manages it so that Armstrong shall be suspected of the murder, and in the next act, Armstrong's lodgings, one of the most exciting episodes of the play occurs. Marion and Armstrong are brother and sister, and when she tells Blackstone that she will inform the police whom the murderer really is, the villain threatens to kill their child. In the room is a huge electric hammer, the invention of Armstrong, and Blackstone places the boy beneath it. Blackstone has his hand on the lever, and declares that if Marion "gives him away," the hammer shall descend. Apparently, the boy is rescued; but not before he is seriously injured, for in the next act we find the distracted Marion by the bedside of little Reggie. The youngster wakes up, and there is a pathetic scene between mother and child, the boy eventually expiring in his mother's arms. Previous to this Marion has entrusted Elsie's fortune to the keeping of John Hawthorne, a "tool" of Blackstone's, who discovers that Elsie is his daughter. Blackstone comes to Marion's boudoir for the "treasure," and after Marion has informed him that she has placed it in safe hands, she draws the curtains aside, and he is shown the dead body of Reggie, Marion accusing him of being his son's murderer.

In the third act, which is at Blackstone's house, the villain again makes a determined attempt to capture Elsie's fortune; and very nearly succeeds in carrying off the girl herself. She is rescued by Hawthorne; but her lover Armstrong is taken by the police, and Blackstone and his accomplice, Lennox, escape. Marion loses her reason, and in the first scene of the last act we see her wandering about, imagining she is talking to her boy. She also nearly discloses where the fortune is concealed to Blackstone, who manages to hang about the house without being seen. Frank Armstrong escapes from prison, and is hidden from his pursuers in a property-box belonging to Napoleon B. Boomer, who, in conjunction with the other comedy characters, outwits the police and Blackstone. In the last scene, the ruins of the Haunted Abbey of St. Kilda, Marion, who has not regained her reason, comes in search of the fortune, and encounters Blackstone and his accomplice. Marion eventually finds the bag containing the money and diamonds, and is overpowered by Blackstone; but the tables are finally turned. Marion's reason is restored; Blackstone dies by his own hand; Armstrong and Elsie are reunited; and there is a prospect that Marion will some day wed John Hawthorne, a worthy fellow, who has long loved her.

The piece was admirably played by Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company, the important part of Marion having a powerful and altogether satisfactory representative in Miss Ethel Van Praagh. Especially telling was her acting in the scene where the little boy dies, and also in the episode where her mind is unhinged, her portrayal throughout of an exceedingly arduous rôle being most praiseworthy. The success of the above-mentioned scene was also largely contributed to by Little Ella, the youngster giving a natural and intelligent rendering of the boy Reggie. Miss Violet Wilson acted with earnestness and conviction as the long-suffering Elsie Langham; Mr. J. Edward Whitty was entirely satisfactory as John Hawthorne; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes left no doubt as to the villainous intentions of Philip Blackstone; and Mr. Reginald Payne was a manly and sincere Frank Armstrong. The many amusing comedy scenes were safe in the hands of Mr. Fred C. Imbert, a funny representative of Napoleon B. Boomer; Mr. Harry Townley, a quaint Perkinson Pimple; and Miss Amy Coralli, a lively and decidedly smart Caraway Crumpet. The other parts were all satisfactorily enacted. The scenery by Messrs. W. D. Hobbs and Alfred Whyatt is especially deserving of praise, The Lawn of Ormondstone Manor, Rosemary Cottage, and the Ruins of the Haunted Abbey of St. Kilda being excellent examples of brush work.

Mr. Fred Vezin, a nephew of Mr. Hermann Vezin, the actor, an American artist, living in Dusseldorf, has been commissioned to paint a large full-length portrait of the German Empress for the City Hall at Elberfeld.

"IVANHOE."

In Five Acts,
dramatised from Sir Walter Scott's novel
by William Palmer,
and produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester,
on Monday, Sept. 10.

Ivanhoe .....MR. A. CATON WOODVILLE, JUN.
Prince John .....MR. JAMES BERRY
The Black Knight .....MR. HERBERT DANSEY
Lucas de Beaumanoir ....MR. FRANK FREELAND
Prior Aymer .....MR. ARTHUR THOMPSON
Conrade Mont-Fitchett .....MR. JAMES
Albert Malvoisin .....MR. GARRETT
Sir Brian-de-Bois Guilbert ..MR. H. GOMER MAY
Sir Reginald Front-de-Bœuf ..MR. VICTOR RAE
Sir Waldemar Fitzurse ....MR. ARTHUR LESTER
Sir Maurice de Bracy ....MR. HAVILAND-BURKE
Locksley .....MR. J. H. TROUGHTON
Friar Tuck .....MR. HARRISON BROCKBANK
Will Scarlett .....MR. VERNON
Allan-a-Dale .....MR. H. JOHNSON
The Miller .....MR. CHARLES LEAR
Cedric .....MR. JOHN WAINWRIGHT
Wamba .....MR. J. H. ATKINSON
Gurth .....MR. J. THACKER
Oswald .....MR. FRED ARTHUR
Higg .....MR. ARTHUR PRESCOTT
Herald .....MR. E. HOPE DAVIS
Damian .....MR. GORDON KINGSLEY
Bohun .....MR. S. VAUGHAN
Isaac of York .....MR. CHARLES GARRY
Reuben .....MR. THOMAS WOOD
Lady Rowena .....MISS KATHERINE HARRINGTON
Elgitha .....MRS. WILSON HOLT
Ulrica .....MISS MINNIE WEBB
Rebecca .....MISS DORA BARTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Mr. Richard Flanagan's enterprise in the way of elaborate productions was once more in evidence at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, when he staged Mr. William Palmer's dramatic version of *Ivanhoe*. Of thirteen scenes, only one is duplicated, and many are elaborate and splendid sets, for which Mr. Hugh Freemantle and the author are responsible. Careful study of the period has ensured also accuracy in the costumes, and these lack nothing in the way of brilliancy and splendour. Everything, indeed, that a lavish hand could supply has been provided in the endeavour to make *Ivanhoe* at least a spectacular success.

Mr. Palmer's effort is practically a transcript of a succession of scenes from the novel. Some scenes are cleverly handled, and with excision of unimportant parts, so that the adventures of Rebecca would stand out more clearly as a leading theme, the play might be much improved.

The cast is a lengthy one. As Ivanhoe, Mr. A. Caton Woodville, jun., acts vigorously—when he is not *hors-de-combat*—and declaims his contempt for his enemies with becoming spirit. Mr. H. Gomer May plays the chief enemy, Brian-de-Bois Guilbert, with acceptable energy, doing particularly well in the scene with Rebecca in the turret tower of Torquilstone Castle. As Prince John, Mr. James Berry has too little to do, and might have shone worthily in a longer and more important rôle; while Mr. Herbert Dansey as the Black Knight—an unnecessary character, by the way—is conspicuous in some not very relevant scenes. Mr. Frank Freeland gives a satisfactory depiction of De Beaumanoir; Mr. J. H. Troughton figures prominently as Locksley; and Mr. J. H. Atkinson as Wamba, the jester, delivers his lines with the dry humour that is characteristic of him. Miss Katherine Harrington plays Lady Rowena—a very stinted part—with a grace and sympathy indicative of much greater possibilities in this pleasing actress; and as Rebecca, Miss Dora Barton also shows her possession of admirable gifts. Rebecca's father, Isaac of York, is portrayed with a good deal of sincerity and no little skill by Mr. Charles Garry; and last, but by no means least, of those most worthy of mention, Mr. Harrison Brockbank must be very highly commended for his jovial depiction of Friar Tuck. Mr. Brockbank's singing of "Ho! Jolly Jenkin" (by kind permission of Mr. Herbert Sullivan) was vastly enjoyed by Monday's audience.

Among the notable scenes is that of the Tilt-yard, Templestowe, where Ivanhoe and Brian-de-Bois Guilbert fight on horseback with lances for the vindication of Rebecca from the charge of witchcraft. The entire production, however, has made great demands upon the ability and experience of Mr. Richard Dalton, the stage manager, to whom great credit is due.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

On the night of the 6th inst., at Queen's Hall, the first production was given of Mr. Georges Dorlay's symphonic poem "St. George," the composer being second violin player in the Queen's Hall orchestra. Early in the year the work was performed at the Crystal Palace. The composer in the programme gives the information that the subject was inspired by Schiller's poem. In the first portion of the symphonic poem the music is stormy, and, truth to tell, somewhat noisy in character, the entrance of the bold St. George with the dead dragon being heralded with a fanfare on the horn, afterwards repeated with variations by the whole orchestra; but the fact of the monster being as dead as the proverbial door-nail hardly gives sufficient reason for the dragon-motive introduced in the score. The work is slight in its treatment, and not of any special interest. The orchestra gave performances of Brahms' two Hungarian dances, Prelude and Liebestod (*Tristan*) and of Dvorák's Violoncello Concerto in B Minor, Mr. Jacques Renard playing the 'cello in a careful and finished manner. Other work by the band was Smetana's delightful overture "The Bartered Bride," Wagner's overture to *Rienzi*, the same composer's "Ride of Valkyries" (*Die Walküre*), and Donizetti's overture to *La Fille du Regiment*. Mme. Madge Elvey made a successful first appearance, and sang "With verdure clad" with taste and expression; and Mr. Albert Garcia was heard in the popular prologue to *Pagliacci*.

In the programme of the concert on Tuesday night at Queen's Hall there was included a new work by a young composer—Mr. Ernest Boche, a native of Munich. The composer is only twenty-five years old, and the Episode (Odysseus Fahrten) Op. 6, heard on Tuesday evening, shows beyond doubt that the youthful musician has melody and poetic feeling, as well as great ability in writing for a large orchestra. The work is entitled "Departure and Shipwreck," and is the first of a series of four Episodes taken from *Odysseus's Wanderings*. If somewhat lengthy, the various movements are admirably contrasted, well-balanced, and expressive, and although the composition is historic in method it is not diffuse or complex in character, and the several themes contain thought, and are broad and expressive in treatment. Remarkably well played by the orchestra under Mr. Wood's control, the work was most heartily applauded, and when the composer appeared on the platform he received a warm greeting from the audience. The beautiful performance by Mr. Albert Fransella of the flute solo "Ballade et Danse des Sylphes" won great applause; and Bach's fine "Suite No. 3" in D received admirable treatment from the orchestra. Also included in the concert was Beethoven's *Coriolan* overture, Wagner's Introduction to Act III. (*Lohengrin*), and Tchaikowsky's 1812 Overture. Miss Caroline Hatchard showed good training as well as a fine soprano voice in her singing of "Non paventar" from Mozart's *Die Zauberflote*; and Mr. Robert Burnett greatly roused the audience by his stirring singing of Sir C. V. Stanford's three "Songs of the Sea," an encore being demanded. Miss Frida Kindler, a most clever and artistic pianist, gave Schubert-Liszt's "Wanderer Fantasia" in a most brilliant manner. A very large audience was present.

MARTIN HARVEY ON ACTING.

Under the auspices of the Players' Club, Mr. Martin Harvey, who is appearing at Glasgow this week, and who is, moreover, hon. president of the Paisley Players' Club, delivered a lecture in the Museum Hall there on Monday afternoon. There was a large and fashionable attendance, over which the Rev. W. A. Mursell, of the Coats Memorial Church, presided. He briefly and fittingly introduced Mr. Harvey, who afterwards delivered his lecture on "Thoughts on Acting."

Mr. Harvey is the possessor of a charming personality, and at the lecture, as at the subsequent reception, he quite delighted those with whom he came in contact. His manner of handling the subject was rather different from what one would have expected. Mr. Harvey, as he himself explained, takes his art seriously, and in treating one or two of its aspects in almost a metaphysical sense, he showed that he not only was an actor, but an earnest student of human nature, willing to learn from every phase his instructress chose to show. His art, he said, was a mysterious thing to him. Why should one, in the performance of a certain character, suddenly and involuntarily make a movement, utter a sound, or use a modulation, which, though unprepared, belonged essentially to the character assumed? Whence came these flashes of expression? Were they not upon similar ground to hypnotism and mental suggestion? In hypnotism the subconsciousness seemed to be ready at the call of a powerful will, to answer in character with an individual habit of mind and experience of which it knew nothing. So also was it in acting. The whole "conceit" the actor had forced his soul to would strike flashes of truth from a lower consciousness of which the interpreter was, at the moment at least, ignorant. Mr. Harvey quoted Talma, the French actor, in support of this theory, and said that when Talma came to the theatre he came not only to give theatrical effect to his studies, but also to yield himself to the spontaneous flashes of his sensibility. Upon the quality of the audience, and the degree of sensibility or sympathy possessed by them, depended the extent to which these "flashes of sensibility" could have their birth. If a people got a King they deserved, so also did an audience get the acting they deserved. Whether an actor could give the highest or best that was in him depended largely, if not wholly, upon his audience. It was only when the souls of the audience and actor were fused together, as it were, that the spontaneous flashes of his sensibility could appear. In the presentment of a part an actor could express nothing but himself, and so soon as he failed to do so, then he was merely mouthing certain words which carried no conviction to anyone, and failed to convey any meaning of the author. It was wholly in the identification of an actor with the character he was rendering that his art consisted, and the extent to which he could identify himself with the characters he impersonated was the limit of his capacity as an artist. The actor gave the best of himself through his interpretations; he unveiled his inner soul. By these interpretations only should he be accepted and judged, and for the actor the gratitude and affection of his fellows bestowed upon him during his lifetime, during the exercise of his art, were more than compensation for the comparative obscurity which wrapped him when his work was over.

Ex-Provost Bell moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer in a very humorous speech, and Mr. Robert Pollock, the president of the club, moved a vote of thanks to the chair.

A WORCESTER BENEFIT.

On the 6th inst. the citizens of Worcester paid Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Carlton, of the Royal, a well-deserved compliment by giving them a benefit in recognition of the services they have rendered in the city in helping charitable, social, and church work, and for the valuable assistance they have given to the efforts made in the neighbourhood to foster and stimulate the study of Shakespeare. There were a matinée and an evening performance, and at each there were large audiences whose presence testified to the popularity and esteem which Mr. and Mrs. Carlton enjoy in Worcester. The performances were under the patronage of the Earl and Countess of Coventry, the Mayor and Mayoress, and a number of distinguished people in the city and county. The performances were organised by a number of lady and gentlemen amateurs (operatic and dramatic), and their efforts were crowned with great success. The programme opened with a comedietta, *Purely Platonic*, by Mrs. Eric Smart, which was well performed by Mrs. Ernest Day (Mrs. Lorimer), Mrs. J. B. B. Hill (Mrs. Travers), Mr. W. H. Kershaw (Mr. Lorimer), Mr. Percy J. Pond (Mr. Travers), and Mr. Green (waiter). Then there were a recitation by Miss Ivy Carlton, and a duet by Mrs. T. Cornforth and Mr. W. Y. W. Bagnall. These were followed by scenes from *Macbeth* (scenes between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth before and after the murder of Duncan), the parts being well sustained by Mr. and Mrs. H. Urwick, and some good singing by Mr. J. Livingstone Wood, Messrs. Winter and Cornforth, and Messrs. J. B. B. Hill and Howard Hadley.

A very interesting feature of the programme was the first production of a new one-act play, by Frank Ernest Potter, entitled

"LA MARSEILLAISE."

Rouget de L'Isle .....MR. ARTHUR CARLTON
Marie .....MISS MAUDE SEYMOUR
(Mrs. Arthur Carlton)
Marquis de Launay .....MR. G. D. DAIPER
Gaoler .....MR. E. VALENTINE

Rouget de L'Isle is an interesting character in the French Revolution, and the author of the play makes him write the famous revolutionary song while in prison. The MS. is given to his wife when she visits him, and she conveys it (hidden in her hair) to his revolutionary comrades, who sing it during their attack on the Bastille and their rescue of Rouget on the morning fixed for his execution. The piece is well written, and is evidently the work of a playwright of no mean order Mr. and Mrs. Carlton and members of the *In Sight of St. Paul's* company well sustained the several characters. Mr. Arthur Carlton was an ideal Rouget, and he was ably assisted by Mrs. Carlton, whose impersonation of the wife left nothing to be desired. The other rôles also called forth commendation. After more singing came "The Blind Beggars" (Offenbach), which was well played by Messrs. W. P. Seabright and Howard Hadley. At the conclusion of *La Marseillaise*, Mr. Carlton came before the curtain and said he could not let the opportunity go by without heartily thanking those present for their patronage. He would like also to thank all those kind friends who came forward so readily and worked so hard to make the benefit a success. He thanked the members of the theatre staff, who had worked to the best of their powers to forward the performances, mentioning Mr. Austin, his able conductor, his acting-manager, Mr. Fred Le Wards, Mr. Santonna, and Mr. Griffiths, who had worked night and day to get the scenery ready. He also heartily thanked Mrs. Ernest Day, who had suggested the benefit.

A SPECIAL combined concert will be given tomorrow evening at 6.45 in the Centre Transept of the Crystal Palace, by the Crystal Palace Military Band, conducted by Mr. Herbert Godfrey, and the great organ, which will be played by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock. A most attractive programme has been arranged. A similar concert will be given on Saturday, Sept. 15.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MURIEL HEY.

Yorkshire is proverbially one of our most musical counties, and London, as the artistic centre of the Empire, has sufficient cause to be grateful to the great county for the vocalists it sends to the metropolis. Miss Muriel Hey, who is proud to say she was born in Yorkshire, and passed some of her happiest years in the West Riding, has been making steady headway in the South, where her social qualities, natural powers, and artistic cultivation have won many private and public friends. Miss Hey was born with a decided love of music, and, as a mere child, her intelligent appreciation of singing and instrumentation was made manifest. It was resolved to give her the best training that could be obtained in the North, and, therefore, she was placed in the care of a well-known tutor and professional gentleman in Liverpool. Under his careful tuition her development was rapid, and soon she made frequent appearances before local audiences, thus gaining some valuable experience. She loved her art, and her instructor found that her constant attention and increasing love of musical expression were resulting in excellent progress being made. She displayed a special aptitude for operatic music, and in this department Miss Hey's pure soprano voice had ample opportunity. She was encouraged by the hope that the time would come when her vocal and acting

Photo by Hughes and Mullins.
MISS MURIEL HEY.

powers would obtain metropolitan recognition. She was sparing of no pains to complete her musical education, her ambition for the operatic stage being in advance of her love for the concert-room, in which she was fast winning reputation. Miss Hey wisely remembered that elocution must not be neglected and so this portion of her studies was cultivated with excellent results. She speaks with just the slightest suggestion of the good, sound Yorkshire dialect. By a very pleasant and useful experience she became acquainted with the Italian language and its literature, under circumstances which gave her a true native accent. To chat with Miss Hey of the operatic world is to discover she is a specialist on the subject, and that she has cultivated the great composers, as only the earnest, determined, undaunted student ever does. Miss Hey, though she has seen life on the Continent, where she further advanced her musical knowledge, has also travelled in England. She has a true belief in London as an art centre, and here she has taken part in many concerts, and obtained flattering opinions from competent critics who attended them. She is in negotiation with leading managers both in town and country, and the coming season will undoubtedly greatly widen her musical and dramatic sphere.

ACTORS AT LORD'S.

In ideal weather, the annual match "Actors *v.* Jockeys" was played at Lord's on Monday. Mr. Robert Evett was the captain of the Actors' eleven, the Jockeys being led by Mr. Mornington Cannon.

The Actors went in first, Mr. V. O'Connor and Mr F. J. Blackman going to the wickets. Mr. Blackman made a duck's egg, and was followed by Mr. H. E. Pearce and Mr. Oscar Asche, the trio being disposed of for 41. Mr. Evett and Mr. V. O'Connor ran up the score between them to 132, when Mr. O'Connor was bowled for 77, after a fine slashing innings. Mr. F. Mouillot succumbed to a ball from J. Hunt, and Mr. E. Burnaby and Mr. Evett increased the Actors' score to 171. Mr. Evett was bowled by Chaloner after an excellent innings of 47, and Messrs. Grahame Browne, Lotinga, W. Dawes, and Louis Bradfield successively met their fates, Mr. F. Wright, jun., being not out for 1. The Actors made altogether 205, the Jockeys only scoring 153, the bowling of Mr. Oscar Asche disposing of four of them.

ACTORS.

V. O'Connor, b J. Hunt	77
F. J. Blackman, c Woodland b Chaloner	0
H. E. Pearce, b I'Anson	11
Oscar Asche, b Chaloner	13
R. Evett (capt.), b Chaloner	47
F. Mouillot, b J. Hunt	0
E. Burnaby, run out	14
F. Wright, jun., not out	1
W. G. Browne, b Chaloner	0
W. Lotinga, c J. Hunt b I'Anson	6
W. Dawes, b I'Anson	0
L. Bradfield, b Chaloner	9
Byes 20, l-b 7	27
Total	205

JOCKEYS.

P. Chaloner, b Evett	8
T. Cannon, jun., b Asche	2
R. I'Anson, run out	1
E. Hunt, b Pearce	54
G. Williamson, lbw b Asche	10
M. Cannon (capt.), b Asche	30
H. Woodland, b Burnaby	16
D. Maher, b Pearce	1
J. Hunt, c Mouillot b Wright	8
K. Cannon, b Wright	0
H. Jones, not out	1
J. H. Martin, b Asche	3
Byes 15, l-b 2, w 1, n-b 1	19
Total	153

THE management of the Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, was so delighted with the success of Mr. Allan Wilkie during his second visit, that they have re-booked him to return in February; this will make his third visit in ten months.

MESSRS. SHAW AND JONES will sell by auction, on Wednesday, the 26th inst., the Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead, with its newly-erected scenery dock and refreshment rooms. The property is situate in the leading thoroughfare of Birkenhead, and has a very fine elevation.

DEATH OF CHARLES DANBY.

Mr. Charles Danby, the well-known comedian, who had been lying seriously ill for several months, passed away on Friday, the 7th inst. Mr. Danby was born in London in 1857, and was educated for the profession of an architect. He was engaged for some time in office work, but, having developed a taste for the stage, he joined a travelling theatrical company at Blackburn, and played the part of a policeman. He was dismissed after the first evening's performance, but taken on again at a reduced salary of a pound a week, which, however, was never paid. He next joined a travelling diorama show as "general utility" and skater, and, after some rough experiences with another company in the West of Ireland, he appeared for a benefit performance at Victoria Hall, New Cut, in the tragedy of *Catherine Howard*, an English adaptation of a drama by Alexander Dumas. He was next engaged for two and a half years as a member of the stock company at the Pavilion, Mile End, playing comedy parts in melodrama. Later, he was again in the provinces, doing none too well, when a success he made at Newcastle led to his engagement by the late Sir Augustus Harris for Drury Lane pantomime. Subsequently he appeared at the Opera Comique in the comic opera entitled *Glamour*; and in 1887 Mr. Danby toured a small company of his own in the Isle of Man. While he was here he received an offer from Miss Lydia Thompson to play Captain Sneak in *The Sultan of Mocha*, produced at the Strand Theatre in September, 1887. In this musical piece he leaped into popularity as the "bold, bad buccaneer." He reappeared at Drury Lane in the pantomime *Puss in Boots*, subsequently accompanying Miss Lydia Thompson to America. He made his first appearance at the Gaiety in *Ruy Blas*, 1889, his song, "They're after me," achieving great popularity. He accompanied the Gaiety company to Australia, and on his return reappeared as Jacques D'Arc in the burlesque *Joan of Arc*, at the Opera Comique, Jan. 17, 1891; also as Squire Higgins in *Morocco Bound*, at the Shaftesbury, April 13, 1893; as Dick Dashaway in *King Kodak*, at Terry's, April 30, 1894; as Roberts, the bailiff, in *The Lady Slavey*, at the Avenue, Oct. 20, 1894, &c. Mr. Danby also appeared on the music hall stage in a duologue, in which he played the part of a Chinaman. Of late years his appearances have been infrequent, owing to impaired health, and only last year he submitted to a severe operation for cancer, which, however, afforded only temporary relief. As he was unable to pursue his profession, Mr. Seymour Hicks made a successful appeal to the public on behalf of one who, in his time, had contributed so much to their amusement.

THE FUNERAL.

"He was a fellow above all others, and I have known some hundreds in my time." So said Mr. Terry Hurst to the writer as the funeral procession slowly left the residence of the late Charles Danby for Paddington Cemetery. And Mr. Hurst should be in a position to speak, for he was one of the dead comedian's oldest friends. Mr. Danby was with Mr. Hurst for several seasons, when the latter was proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, and when he had the theatre at Ipswich.

The cortège left the residence at 24, Wymering-mansions, Elgin-avenue, shortly after four o'clock on Monday afternoon. There were no immediate relatives as mourners, and Mrs. Danby, the widow, was too unwell to face the ordeal of the burial service. The first coach was occupied by Dr. Bailey, Mr. Ben Nathan, and Mr. W. T. Bennett. The last-named gentleman is an architect and builder with whom the deceased was apprenticed before he took to the stage. It was Mr. Bennett who early recognised Mr. Danby's histrionic abilities, and who told him he was no good at architecture, and gave him £5 with which to start his career as an actor. In the second carriage there were Mr. A. D. Foley, Mr. J. L. Shine, Mr. A. D. Serrano, and Mr. J. W. Lethbridge. The third contained Mr. Terry Hurst and *The Era* representative; while Mr. Sydney Myer and Mr. Joseph Myer followed in a private carriage.

Mr. Danby's remains were interred in Paddington Cemetery, the service, both in the chapel and at the graveside, being conducted by the Rev. A. E. H. Stanham, curate of St. Simon's, Saltran-crescent, Paddington. The ceremony was carried out according to the rites of the Church of England, and the scene among the little assemblage at the interment was a moving one. The coffin, which was of pale oak, with massive brass fittings, bore the inscription:—

CHARLES DANBY,
Died 7th September, 1906,
Aged 48.

A number of beautiful wreaths were sent. The widow's floral tribute was a pillow of laurel leaves, lilies of the valley, white carnations, and roses, and carried the message, "Charlie, from faithful, sorrowing Alexia." Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hicks forwarded a fine wreath, consisting of carnations and roses, "With deepest sympathy"; a magnificent harp of tiger lilies, stephanotis, and roses came from the Carl Rosa Opera Company; the Eccentric Lodge (Freemasons), of which the deceased was a highly-respected member, sent a pretty wreath of arum lilies and laurel, "with sincere sorrow from the brethren of the Eccentric Lodge." Other floral combinations came from Mr. and Mrs. Ben Nathan, white chrysanthemums, orchids, arum lilies, and lilies of the valley; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Myer, a chaplet of palm leaves, white chrysanthemums, arum lilies, and roses; Mr. A. D. Foley, arum lilies and asparagus fern; "Aunt Jenny and cousins," lilies, white roses, asters, and maidenhair fern; Mr. Terry Hurst, a spray of lilies with card bearing the inscription, "Farewell, true-hearted, generous friend, R.I.P."; Mrs. Robert Deane, arum lilies and asparagus fern; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Serrano, Mme. Mally Alexandra, Mr. W. T. Bennett, Mr. Sydney Howard, Miss Amy Hurlston (lady editor *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*), Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Boissett, Mrs. Underwood, Mr. Ernest Stretton, Mr. Julius Walther, and Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Myer. Letters and telegrams expressing sympathy were received from Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Arthur Roberts, Dr. Arthur Edmonds, Mr. Frank Boyd, Mr. W. van Orden, Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Eugene Goossens, Mr. Hugh Astley, Mr. St. John Brennon, Mr. Julius Walther, Miss Amy Hurlston, Mr. J. W. Lethbridge, "Friends from Australia who are in London, and who remembered him in the old days of Nellie Farren," American friends (cable), "Deepest sympathy and sorrow," and Miss Rose Musgrove (of Australia).

Mrs. Charles Danby, who will be known to many people as a vocalist, under the name of Miss Alexia Bassian, desires us to express her thanks for the many thoughtful acts of the public and friends which have been performed during the time of her trouble.

MR. JOHN M. EAST will commence his autumn stock season at the Elephant and Castle next week, when *Tommy Atkins* will be produced. Mr. East has been able to engage a number of old favourites. The season will probably last about six weeks. Mr. R. A. Neville is the courteous and energetic acting-manager.

CONSIDERABLE interest is being felt in Aberdeen in the visit of Mr. Henry Doughty, Miss Vera Leslie, and their company, to Her Majesty's Theatre, with *Geoffrey Stirling*. Although the scene of the drama is laid in England, the plot is founded on the robbery of the Bank of Aberdeen in 1838, when no less a sum than £25,000 was taken. Although a reward of £525 was offered, no trace of the robbers was ever discovered.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"FROST IM FRUHLING."
Play, in Three Acts,
by Leo Lenz,
Produced at the Neues Theatre,
Sept. 6, 1906.

Col. Westkirch .....HERR BORNSTEDT
Adele .....FRAULEIN RISCHERS
Wolfgang .....HERR KAISER-TITZ
Erika .....FRAULEIN HARTWIG
Professor Westkirch .....HERR SCHINDLER
Emilie .....FRAULEIN LEVERMANN
Niemann .....HERR CHRISTIANS
Nicolaus .....FRAULEIN SHROTH
Frau Sommerschuh .....FRAULEIN GABRI
Olly .....FRAULEIN JABOER
Fanny .....FRAULEIN GLUEMER
Karl .....HERR DE GERLAIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Sept. 13.—This is the work of a young Dresden writer, and although it has many of the faults of youth, there is so much trace of undeniable talent that better things may be with confidence anticipated. The plot is dramatic, but the development is crude. Several of the characters—notably those of Lieutenant Westkirsch and Franz Niemann—are very well and naturally drawn. A retired officer, Col. Westkirch, who is a widower, has an only daughter, Erika, and a son—Wolfgang—who is a lieutenant in the army. The girl has a friendship with Dr. Niemann, a young assessor, which we conclude has developed into a *liason*, as she visits him in his rooms. She implores him to marry her, but he coolly and heartlessly refuses, and Erika, who really loves him, is desperate. Her brother, the lieutenant, learns—though not through her—the state of things, and tells Niemann he will shoot him if he does not make good his fault. The man is a coward at heart; he knows the lieutenant to be a dead shot, and under stress of circumstances he complies, formally proposing for Erika's hand. The great joy of the girl speedily passes. She discovers by accident that her suitor has not proposed out of love, but cowardice, and in a striking scene she gives him his liberty and leaves the house. In the third—and superfluous act—Erika reappears, and we have not the faintest idea where she has been in the meantime. She goes once more to the rooms of the man she loves, but a second trial awaits her. Franz comes home with some lively little soubrettes, proving plainly enough that her wish to "make it up" is not shared by him. Then Erika turns away for the last time, and we learn that she has drowned herself, while Wolfgang challenges the assessor. The interpretation of the piece was most admirable, more than confirming the favourable impression made at the opening of the theatre. Herr Christians—late one of the chief members of the Royal Schauspielhaus—gave a faultless account of the unsympathetic Niemann, and Herr Kaiser-Titz was equally good in the part of Lieutenant Westkirch. Fräulein Hartwig's Erika was a clever piece of acting, and others foremost in the good cast were Fräuleins Gabri, Gluemer, and Jaeger, and Herr Schroth. The mounting was tasteful and effective, and author and artists were alike heartily applauded. The next novelty at this theatre will be Max Dreyer's new two-act farce, entitled *Eine*, preceded by a farce by Courteline—*Der Stammgast*.

IBSEN'S drama *Frau Inger von Oestrot* was produced with much care at the Schiller Opera House on Wednesday. It was a case of love's labour lost, and the sympathies of the majority of the audience went out to the artists who did their thankless work so well. To begin with, the plot can scarcely be of interest to any audience outside Scandinavia, while the five long acts, with their interminable monologues and dialogues about tiresome things, would certainly try anyone's patience. This is far from one of Ibsen's masterpieces, and an attempt to put it on the stage has ever proved unsatisfactory. In the name-part Fräulein Feldhammer was very fine; she accentuated with much discretion the leading features of the strange character—the unbending will, the insatiable ambition; and the scene where Inger knows her beloved son is dead was most powerfully acted. This talented actress was well supported all round; the mounting, too, was in excellent taste.

AT the Royal Opera a new tenor has been singing on approval. His name is Walter Kirchhoff, and he hails, I believe, from Bavaria. He is young, and his voice, which is of beautiful quality, will certainly improve with time and careful study. As Canio in Leoncavallo's *Bajacci Herr Kirchhoff* made an exceedingly favourable impression, his acting being intelligent and graceful. It is not improbable that he will receive an engagement at the Opera House. Our new Kapellmeister, Herr Leo Blech, will open in the middle of the month with *Carmen*.

THE Linsen Theatre has revived a very ancient farce-burlesque by Hopf, entitled *Eine Nacht in Berlin*. What served to amuse our grandfathers and great-grandfathers proved rather dull, and the experiment can hardly be called a success, in spite of a capital cast. The applause—which was at the close very hearty—was intended more for the artists than the piece. A better venture at this enterprising little theatre was *Romeo and Juliet* last week, which was surprisingly well acted and put on. The Juliet (the German translation is "Julia") of Fräulein Servadio was a thoroughly artistic and sympathetic impersonation, and she found a worthy partner in Herr Biberach, whose Romeo would well bear comparison with that of actors of greater fame. Herren Bach, Ruff, and Kiedarsch also gave excellent renderings of their rôles—Tybalt, Pater Lorenzo, and Mercutio respectively.

AT the Folies Caprice two one-act pieces met with a very cordial reception on Thursday last—*Die Sünden der Väter*, a comedy by A. Groiss; and *Der Generalkonsul*, a musical farce by M.M. Caprice and Kinoch. Both are amusing and were capitally acted.

OFFENBACH'S charming work, *Hoffmann's Erzählungen*, is still running at the Komische Oper. The Komische is giving *Don Pasquale* on alternate nights, with *Figaro's Hochzeit* once in the bill. *Lakmé* is in rehearsal and will be produced before long.

THE New Schauspielhaus is almost completed, and the date of its opening is fixed for Oct. 19. As I stated some time ago, the first performance is to be Shakespeare's *Tempest*, with the music specially written by Herr Humperdinck. The next performance will be Grillpazer's classical comedy *Weh, dem, der lügt*, with Harry Walden in the part of Leon, the cook's boy—a rôle which is a famous one of Herr Kainz. Director Halm intends producing a number of new plays by well-known authors. Thus, in November, Max Dreyer's *Die Hochzeitsfackel* will first see the light, and in the following month Philippi's drama *Der Helfer* and Erler's *Czar Peter* are to be produced. Herr Josef Kainz is engaged at the new Schauspielhaus for a series of twelve performances.

"DEAR LADY MARY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—You may be interested to note the resemblance between my play, *Dear Lady Mary*, produced by amateurs at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater, and noticed by you in Feb., 1905, and the play, *Peter's Mother*, produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday. In both, the piece passes in a country house, the heroine's name is the same, the theme, the struggle between love in a middle-aged woman and maternal affection. With *Peter's Mother* it is Lady Mary's *real* son, in my play her *young* brother whom she has brought up and looks on as a son. The end is the same, the young boy falls in love with a girl, and the heroine is made happy.—Yours faithfully, VIOLET GRENVILLE.

Felix Hotel, Felixstowe, Sept. 12, 1906.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has with him on his tour—which is proving strikingly successful—that clever artist Mr. Percy MacQuoid, with whom he is discussing the forthcoming revivals of *Anthony and Cleopatra*, at His Majesty's in the winter. The costumes and much of the scenery for *Macbeth* are already completed. When Mr. Tree returns to London in six weeks the run of *Colonel Newcome* will be resumed. The revival of *Macbeth* will follow Mr. Michael Morton's piece.

MR. H. B. IRVING, at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Thursday, appeared as Charles I. in Mr. W. G. Wills's play, in which his father made such a deep impression at the Lyceum Theatre in the September of 1872. At the close there were demands for a speech. Mr. Irving thanked his auditors for their kind reception, and added very gracefully that his purpose would be served if, in presenting again a play which had before been seen in the city, he and his company had brought back to the mind of the audience one word, "Remembrance."

MR. E. S. WILLARD sailed on Friday last on the Virginian (Allan Line) from Liverpool for Montreal, where he expects to arrive on Friday next and begin his season with a production of *Colonel Newcome* on Oct. 1. Accompanying Mr. Willard are the English members of his company:—Messrs. William Sauter, Ivan Simpson, A. S. Homewood, Charles Combe, J. W. Lawrence, Walter Edmunds, H. Cane, Miss Marie Linden, Miss Joan Blair, and Miss Ruth Barry. Mr. Willard hopes to return to London in April, and will remain with us throughout the 1907-8 season.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has returned from his holiday, and will make his re-appearance in *His House in Order* at the St. James's Theatre on Wednesday evening next, when the 250th representation of Mr. A. W. Pinero's successful comedy will be given.

ENGLISH actors and actresses will make numerous and valuable appearances on the American stage this season. Amongst the many—fortunately only temporary—"emigrants" are Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Olga Nethersole, Mr. E. S. Willard, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Cyril Maude, Miss Madge Crichton, Miss Delia Mason, Mr. George Carroll, and Mr. Lawrence Grossmith.

MR. GEORGE GRAVES, the inventor of the "Gazeka," will shortly publish a book relating to the life and adventures of that strange animal. The work will be illustrated by Mr. Charles Folkard, the winner of Mr. George Edwardes's prize for the best fancy picture of that curious creature.

WE need not be afraid that the elaborate mounting which Mr. Arthur Collins is giving to Mr. Hall Caine's drama at Drury Lane will overshadow the powerful human interest of *The Bondman*. Real cows and pigeons have been seen before on the stage, and will only be introduced as accessories; and the reproduction of a smoking sulphurmine—to realise which Mr. Collins and the author "waded ankle-deep in the ashes of the eruption of Vesuvius, at Naples"—will be only a picturesque adjunct to a strong situation. No one can object to realism in mounting, as long as the drama is the primary thing, and the scenery, however excellent, only secondary in importance and attraction.

THERE seems to be no limit to the expedients to which people will resort in order to obtain free admission to theatres. Before the Rhondda magistrates at Ystrad on Monday, Evan Thomas and William George Normington were charged with falsely representing themselves to be police constables of the Glamorgan Division, and thereby obtaining free admission to Messrs. Poole's Opera House, Treherbert, on the 7th inst. James Gunn, the manager of the theatre, stated that the defendants on the night in question sent for him, and represented themselves to be two policemen, with the object of gaining free admission. The defendants were accommodated with seats and attracted notice by ridiculing the artists and making unseemly remarks. The police were sent for, and the defendants were taken to the local police station. It was ascertained that Thomas had been in the force for four months, and Normington for two and a-half years. Both had been dismissed from the force. A fine of £1 was imposed in each case.

MR. AND MRS. BOURCHIER, on their forthcoming visit to Liverpool, will be the guests of the Earl and Countess of Lathom at Ormskirk.

MR. WILLIE CLARKSON has just returned from Paris, where he has had some amusing experiences. The French reporters persisted in calling him "John Burns," and asked him several questions as to what he thought of the new law in Paris closing the shops one day a week. Mr. Clarkson told them that in England all the shops closed on Sunday, and that one day's rest a week was very beneficial. They also asked him what his opinion was of work. He said that he had to work very hard, and did not see any reason why other people should not do so. Mr. Clarkson's principal reason for crossing the Channel was to arrange about Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's wigs for her tour, commencing at Vichy on Sept. 15 and finishing on Oct. 9 at Bourges. While in Paris he also arranged about the wigs for the forthcoming production of the Drury Lane pantomime at the Porte St. Martin.

MR. HENRY ARTHUR JONES has been received with the utmost cordiality by everyone in New York, and has never met either with such a reception of a play, or with such marked kindness as was extended to him by the American people and American dramatists. Mr. Jones has had an invitation to lecture at the Universities of Harvard, Yale, and Columbia, and will return to America in a few weeks' time to do so.

MR. JAMES WELCH'S cast for the new farce in three acts, by Charles Marlowe, entitled *When Knights were Bold*, which he will produce at the Grand, Nottingham, on Monday, will include, besides himself, Mr. George F. Tully, Mr. Gordon Tomkins, Mr. Henry J. Ford, Mr. Arthur Grenville, Mr. James Nelson, Mr. Leopold Profeit, Mr. Edward Sass, Miss Emma Gwynne, Miss Estelle Winwood, Miss Enid Sass, Miss Mabel Wentworth, Miss Daisy Cordell, Miss Annie Chippendale, and Miss Audrey Ford. Mr. E. Dagnall is Mr. Welch's manager, and Mr. Brigata Bucalossi his musical director.

AFTER the performance of *The Only Way* by Mr. Martin Harvey and his company at the Londesboro' Theatre, Scarborough, on Saturday last, great enthusiasm was displayed by the audience, and from different parts of the house came the cry "Speech, speech." Mr. Harvey, in response—appearing, of course, in his character of Sidney Carton—said, "Though mildly deprecating 'post-mortem' speeches—for I am supposed to be dead and sleeping peacefully—yet I cannot but appreciate the kindness I have received on my all too short visit here. Myself and my fellow players will look forward to paying you a further visit at, I hope, no distant date."

MISS EDNA MAY'S chauffeur was fined £20 and had his licence suspended at Norwich on Monday on a charge of driving a motor-car at a dangerous speed.

MR. A. W. PINERO has told an American interviewer that he (the dramatist) does his work as it comes to him, and that he does the best he can, without regard to where it will rank. He has only one desire—namely, to express the truth as he sees it. He has no rule for writing, and he finds that with each play he re-learns the technique of playwriting all over again. Very often his plots are suggested to him by people he meets or some situation in real life which impresses itself upon him. He finds, too, that when he has grasped the salient characteristics of his characters, they often develop themselves in ways which are quite unexpected. Mr. Pinero had great difficulty in getting *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* produced at all, nearly every manager in London refusing it.

MR. H. B. IRVING and Miss Dorothea Baird have had a most successful week at Liverpool, where hosts of friends extended to them an enthusiastic greeting. At the close of *The Lyons Mail* on Tuesday evening, Mr. Irving, in response to a strong demand, made a short speech, remarking that he hoped that the memory of the great actor with whom that play was so intimately associated had not been impaired by the performance of himself and his colleagues. The company will sail on Wednesday next for New York.

ONE hundred years ago last Monday, on Sept. 10, 1806, the foundation stone of the Brighton Theatre Royal was laid by Mr. John Brunton, the house being opened on June 27 of the following year, with *Hamlet*. The cost of erection, including scenery and wardrobe, was £12,000. The interesting event was recalled last Monday to Mr. H. Cecil Beryl (lessee and manager of the theatre), who received the following telegram from Mr. Charles E. Noverre:—"As the great grandson of John Brunton, who laid the foundation stone of the Brighton Theatre a hundred years ago to-day, I tender to you, old friend, my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for your continued prosperity. You see, they had to come to old Norwich for assistance in those days." Mr. Beryl's friends will re-echo the sentiments kindly expressed by Mr. Brunton, and heartily wish him many years of prosperity.

A COMPLIMENTARY benefit to the popular manager, Mr. Walter Batty, was given at the Grand Theatre, Stockton, on the 7th inst. An excellent programme was provided. In an interval Major Smith, on behalf of a number of Mr. Batty's personal friends, presented him with a handsome case of cutlery and a gold and diamond pendant as a mark of their esteem. The Major commented upon Mr. Batty's popularity, and the good tone which always prevailed at the Grand. Mr. Batty returned thanks, and assured the company that his father and himself appreciated the generous patronage which the people of Stockton had given the Grand Theatre since they took it over. It would be their constant desire to provide the public with the best of entertainment, and to see that the place was conducted with every propriety.

THE eleventh anniversary of the opening of the Regent Theatre, Salford, is announced for Tuesday, when many extra attractions from other local houses are to be seen there. With their usual generosity, the management continue to assist any local charity; and they are lending the theatre free of cost to the committee of the Manchester and Salford Lifeboat Saturday Fund to hold a grand sacred concert on Sunday, the 16th inst., by Mr. Harrison Brockbank and the Queen's Theatre choir from *Ivanhoe*.

"THE FOUR JUST MEN," which will be produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8, by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, is now in full rehearsals. These are being conducted by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who is also playing one of the "Four." The music is being written by Mr. Fritz Hart, the musical-director of the King's.

THERE is only one set for the three acts of *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*, the new farce at the Waldorf, and no opportunity for elaborate costumes. Miss Sybil Carlisle, as Mrs. Temple, makes her entrance in a severely simple, beautifully-cut gown of apple-green cloth, with straps of the same colour over the shoulders, and a corselet waist. Her second dress is of faintest maize colour—almost white—and in the last act she appears in a very quaint and pretty evening dress of stiff silk, clusters of pink roses on a white ground, with a full skirt and puffed elbow-sleeves. Miss Dido Drake as Dorothy wears a cream satin Empire dress, with gold trimming; and Miss Frances Wetherall as Martha Browne, appears in a smart blue linen coat and skirt, with a decidedly "showy" straw hat, held at a startling angle by a big coral hat-pin that plays its part as a weapon of defence.

THE first tour of *Good as Gold*, originally played at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, is proving highly successful. The play was well received at Newcastle-on-Tyne this week, and although it is most sensational, there are parts of the story that appeal to the quiet portion of an audience. In a cast of well-played parts, Miss Irene Ross's study of a London waif is especially good. This clever little actress has a wide experience of boys' parts, from Willie in *East Lynne* to Wallie in *Two Little Vagabonds*, and is artistic to the point of having bare feet when she is in rags, and being quite ready to sink her own dainty personality in that of the roughest of little street arabs. Miss Ross travels with a very lively little dog, known to a large circle of friends as Nelson; but he is so accustomed to going to the theatre at night that he never attempts to leave his mistress's dressing-room while she is on the stage.

"THE SIN OF WILLIAM JACKSON" has been withdrawn from the Lyric Theatre after a brief run of twelve nights. The piece had many merits, but it was quite unsuited to the theatre at which it was produced. The house will, it is understood, remain closed until Mr. Waller reopens the Lyric with *Robin Hood*.

IN a new romantic play in four acts, entitled *The King's Signet*, the American actress, Miss Marie de Campi, will make her first bow to the British public at the Fulham Theatre on Monday. Miss de Campi, who is described as possessing great beauty, comes with a big reputation from America, and hopes to make even a bigger one here. She is sparing no expense as regards production, having engaged Mr. Banks to paint her new and elaborate scenery. Her company will include Mr. Alfred Woods, Miss Maude Williamson, and Mr. Charles Collette. After the production at Fulham, Miss de Campi will go into the provinces for a short tour. She hopes, eventually, to present *The King's Signet* at a West End theatre.

MR. WALTER HOWARD'S new romantic play, *Her Love Against the World*, due for production on Monday next, at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, where, by the way, it is booked to run twelve nights instead of the usual six, a tribute to the author's popularity. Miss Ellen Snow as the Princess. Iris of Idalia will wear some beautiful dresses—the first of softest cream satin and silver, worn with an Empire coat of Rosselli red velvet, with broad silver band, and ermine collar, is particularly effective. In the second act Miss Snow will wear an oriental satin robe of duck's-egg blue, bordered with silver and cut turquoise; and for the last act there is a long ivory velvet coat, trimmed with large lover's knots of drawn velvet, relieved by heavy lace insertions over gold tissue, velvet hat and long lace veil.

MISS FLO BANKS, the original, who is away from town for three months, is meeting with considerable success on tour.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will begin their provincial tour under the direction of Mr. M. V. Leveaux, on Monday, at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, visiting afterwards Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle, Oxford, and Brighton. Their répertoire will consist of *The Merchant of Venice*, *Brother Officers*, *Monsieur de Paris*, *The Fascinating Mr. Vandervelt*, *Coster Joe*, and *The Walls of Jericho*. Among those who will accompany Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh are Messrs. H. Nye Chart, Charles Goodhart, George Trollope, Walter Pearce, Lawson Butt, Arthur Whitby, Misses Pamela Gaythorne, Nora Greenlaw, Celia Powis, Vivienne Whitaker, Jean Harkness, Olive Terry (a daughter of the late Florence Terry), and Mrs. Nye Chart. Mr. Bourchier has received an invitation from the Governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Association at Stratford-on-Avon to appear in *Macbeth*, and, owing to the success of *The Morals of Marcus* at the Garrick Theatre, he is enabled to accept this invitation, thus prolonging his tour. The part of Lady Macbeth will, of course, be played by Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Mr. Alan MacKinnon will supervise the production on Mr. Bourchier's behalf.

"THE NEW ALADDIN," which, according to present arrangements, is to be produced at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday next, will be in two acts. The first scene will represent a curiosity shop, the owner of which, Ebenezer (Mr. Harry Grattan), has a son named Aladdin, otherwise known as "Lally," a youth who incurs his father's anger by entertaining a party of noisy companions. He is sternly bade to leave the house, but finds a friend and supporter in the office boy (Mr. Edmund Payne), who, seizing a curio in the shape of an ancient vase, dashes it to the ground. It is shattered; but among the fragments are discovered a discoloured parchment and a ring. On the latter being rubbed, there suddenly appears the Spirit of the King (Miss Connie Ediss).

LALLY, accompanied by the office-boy, makes a journey to the East in search of the magic lamp, their guide being the Spirit of the Lamp. The flying trip of the trio will be one of the scenic features of the new play. Lally is invited to partake of a banquet by the Genii of the Lamp (Mr. George Grossmith, jun.), but declines, and the party eventually return to London, only to find it changed beyond recognition into a very beautiful city. This will afford an excellent opportunity for humorous allusions, and jokes on current events.

MR. W. CLARKSON has gone to Paris, to take the orders for Mme. Bernhardt's new piece; and for the Porte St. Martin. He will also make the wigs for the forthcoming Drury Lane pantomime.

MR. MAYOR-COOKE has been engaged for the part of Prince Ulric in the production by Messrs Hallatt and Howard's company of *Her Love Against the World*.

WHEN Mr. Charles Frohman revives *Peter Pan* here in December, Miss Pauline Chase will fill the title-part. Miss Chase made her first appearance in London in quite a small rôle in *The School Girl* at the Prince of Wales's.

MR. SYDNEY SPENSER, the proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Glossop, has acquired, from the owners, a lease of the Grand Theatre, Woodgrange-road, Forest Gate, E., and will reopen the house on Monday, September 17, with Mr. J. H. Clyndes and company in *A Royal Revenge*.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN states that Mr. Barrie is writing a new play. It will be presented by Miss Maude Adams in London at the close of the American season.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN will shortly produce a play written by the Rev. Frederick Langbridge, founded upon an incident in Thackeray's novel of "Esmond." Mr. Norman will play the Chevalier, and Miss Beatrice Wilson, Beatrix Esmond. We may confidently expect that the incident chosen is the attempt of the Chevalier to seduce Beatrix Esmond, and the frustration of the attempt by Harry Esmond and her brother.

MR. DION BOUCICAULT, who recently produced *His House in Order* for Mr. Charles Frohman, at the Empire Theatre, New York, left America after the initial performance of Mr. Pinero's play and resumed his original part of Curtis Bedford in *Raffles* at the Comedy Theatre on Monday evening.

THE first Covent Garden Fancy Dress Ball will take place on Friday, September 28. Mr. Dan Godfrey's orchestra has been engaged, and, according to custom, valuable prizes will be offered for the best dresses.

LIVERPOOL theatre proprietors are noted for the readiness with which they respond to charitable appeals, and, in the same connection, it is only right to mention that artists engaged in the city on the Mersey when such appeals are made readily come forward should their services be required. The Food and Betterment Association has received hundreds of pounds through the efforts of those connected with the profession, and now that it is about to make a big and necessary effort to obtain £5000 by means of a grand bazaar to be held in St. George's Hall, in February next, the controllers of the local places of amusement have resolved to do their utmost outside to swell the financial result. On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Arthur Lawrence, the esteemed acting-manager of the Royal Court, presided over an enthusiastic meeting of local theatrical lessees and managers, convened in the Bee Hotel, for the purpose of arranging for entertainments to be held in one or more of the theatres during the five days' bazaar. Sir H. E. Moss, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Robert Arthur, and Mr. Thomas Barrasford are patrons of the movement, and the whole of the Liverpool and Birkenhead lessees and managers will form a committee. The Food Association, which is universally popular, can, judging by past efforts, reckon upon the profession in Liverpool maintaining its reputation for gathering in coin when it makes a determined start to do so.

MR. E. H. SOTHERN and Miss Julia Marlowe will open at the Waldorf Theatre in the April of next year in an English version of Hauptmann's *Sunken Bell*, which has been keenly appreciated in America. Versions of Sudermann's *Johannes*, of two plays by D'Annunzio, of Maeterlinck's *Joyselle*, and several Shakespearean revivals are also promised. The visit is obviously "something to look forward to."

THE new farce by Charles Marlowe, which Mr. James Welch will produce at Nottingham next Monday, will probably be called *When Knights Were Bold*, but another title may yet be chosen. Mr. Welch is said to be delighted with the piece, and believes that he has been provided with a part that should suit him admirably. The company will also include Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. James Nelson, Mr. G. F. Tully, Miss Audrey Ford, and Miss Emma Gwynne. The new farce will, at a later date, be staged at Terry's.

MR. ALFRED SUTRO'S charming comedy, *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, will be played for the first time in suburban London at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Monday, by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company, which includes Mr. Reginald Dance, Mr. Laurence Leyton, and that rising young actress, Miss Gladys Mason. In front of the comedy will be performed the powerful one-act play, *The Drums of Oude*, for which a special scene has been painted. The leading members of the company, including Mr. Dance and Miss Mason, will also appear in this piece.

THE committee appointed to consider, digest, and report on the scheme brought in by Mr. Cecil Barth "for reading new plays, introduced by members, with a view to production if considered of sufficient merit," held a meeting on Friday, the 7th inst. There were present Messrs. Cecil Barth, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Fewlass Llewellyn, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). After some considerable discussion, it was agreed, in view of the fact that one member of the committee would shortly be leaving England for a prolonged tour thorugh the United States, that the Council should be asked to appoint another in his stead, and the further consideration, &c., of the scheme was adjourned.

THE Council of the Actors' Association held their usual weekly meeting on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison and Kate Phillips, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, and Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Viola Finney, Henry Wonall, Nannie Bennett, and Mabel S. Younge were nominated as candidates for election as members of the Association. Mildred Orme and James Hearn were nominated as candidates for reinstatement as members. Members of the Council were appointed as arbitrators in a case arising out of a claim of one member against another, and they fixed the date for hearing the parties interested. A case of alleged bogus management was under consideration, and the secretary received instructions. The secretary reported that a sum of £18 0s. 9d. had been recovered (under a policy of insurance) on behalf of a member.

THE hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members and were requested to apply for payment of a member's claim against a manager. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was taken, and a letter to the licensing authorities which had been drafted by them was approved. The secretary's circular in connection with the insurance scheme was also approved. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith was appointed a member of the "Selection of Plays" Committee. Dr. J. Ker Lindsay, of Fulham, was appointed as an hon. medical officer to the Association. Two former members were reinstated.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, Mr. Acton Bond (in the chair) being supported by Miss Kate Phillips, Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Arthur Holmes-Gore, M. R. Morand. The secretary, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, received instructions on various matters, and the Committee agreed to recommend a proposal to the Council respecting the question of unpaid subscriptions.

MESSRS. GLENISTER AND WOOD-INGRAM will present *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Thursday next. Miss Decima Moore and Mr. Lionel Glenister will be supported by a very strong cast; and considering the excellent dates booked, the tour should prove successful.

MR. IVAN BERLYN, whose striking creations of Quilp and Fagin in Mr. Oswald Brand's "Essence of Dickens," will be remembered, will play the latter part, by the courtesy of Mr. A. H. Canby, at the Brand benefit matinée at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Tuesday.

MR. J. M. BARRIE'S *The Little Minister* has been acquired by the Intendantur of the Court Theatre at Dresden, and is already in rehearsal. The German title is *Der Kleine Landprediger*. Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy *You Never Can Tell*, which is to be produced at the Kleines Theater, Berlin, next week, has had its title changed to a literal translation of the original. It was decided to call it *Der Verlorene Vater* (the lost father), and was advertised under that name, but it is to be known in future as *Mann Rann nie wissen*.

MR. WILLIAM HOLLES will shortly send on tour a new powerful play in four acts, founded on the world-famous book "The Jungle," the adaptation of which has been written by Mr. Arthur Shirley and Mr. Holles himself. Several startling sensations are promised; and a capable company has been engaged. If anything will stir the business up in the country *The Jungle* should do it.

IN connection with Mr. Lewis Waller's forthcoming production of a play founded on the legend of "Robin Hood," it may be recalled that the subject was a favourite one with Elizabethan dramatists, amongst whose treatments of the story may be mentioned Anthony Munday's "Downfall of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon"; his and Henry Chettle's "Death of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon"; and the anonymous "George à Green, Pinner of Wakefield," founded on an incident in the popular tale.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER and Miss Rose Cazelet have secured the present Lord Tennyson's permission to put on the late Poet Laureate's *The Falcon* at two of their entertainments, which will be at the Royal Albert Hall Theatre during the third week in November.

MISS MURIEL FOSTER, the well-known contralto, is shortly to be married to Mr. L. Goetz. The ceremony will take place during the autumn at a church in the neighbourhood of Regent's Park. Miss Foster, who has sung before the King and Queen, and at the Worcester and Cardiff festivals, is a native of Sunderland, of which town her uncle, Mr. Frederick Foster, is mayor, and from the residents there, as well as from many friends in London, the happy couple will receive the heartiest congratulations. Miss Foster intends to retire into private life after her marriage.

MR. NATION'S opening programme at Terry's Theatre, on or about Sept. 29, will consist of old comedy, an abridged version, in two acts, of *He's Much to Blame*, and an original musical piece, the book of which is by Mr. Arthur Sturgess, with music by M. Napoleon Lambelet and Brigata Bucalossi. Miss Elise Cook, who was for some time at Daly's Theatre, has been engaged for one of the leading parts.

MR. SIDNEY WATSON, stage-manager of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, applied at Marlborough-street Police Court on Wednesday for a licence to permit a little girl to act as understudy to another child-actress in *See-See*. He said she would be on the stage about two minutes and a half, and perform a Chinese dance that was not difficult. The police offered no objection, and the girl's mother promised to look after her while at the theatre. The licence was granted.

"PRINCE PRETENDER; OR, BORROWDENE," is the name of a new comic opera, written by Patrick Bidwell, author of *Peggy Machree* (which had a successful run at Wyndham's). It was produced for copyright purposes on Friday, Sept. 7, at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield. The music is by Evelyn Baker.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE has arranged with Mr. C. Irvine Bacon, on behalf of the directors of the handsome Pavilion, Kingstown, Ireland, for a season of high-class comedy commencing on Oct. 1. The patent has only just been granted by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and it is anticipated that the experiment will be a great success, as there is a very large population in the town and immediate district. An excellent company will interpret the various comedies, including Messrs. David James, Norman Clark, James Geldard, and Horace Pollock, Misses Ida Phillips, Rachel de Travis, and Edith Hesketh.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN states the only method in which arrangements can be made for a play to be produced directly under his management in America is through his only representative in England, Mr. William Lestocq. Regarding the combination that has been formed in this country for the production of plays, Mr. Frohman's only interest is as one of the subscribers to a fund to assist in giving young and struggling authors an opportunity of having their plays produced, which is one of the objects of the combination.

DURING the run of *Faust Up to Date* by Mr. George Edwardes's company at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, last week, the part of Marguerite was effectively filled by Miss Florrie French up to Thursday, the 6th, after which Miss Edith Fink undertook the rôle, sustaining it with conspicuous ability.

ALL the foreign rights of *The Four Just Men*, which is shortly to be produced at the King's, Hammersmith, and which is the only authorised version of Mr. Wallace's book, are the property of Mr. E. O'Neill.

THE cast of *The Silver Box*, the new play in three acts, by Mr. John Galsworthy, which will be produced at the Court on the 25th inst., will include Mr. James Hearn, Miss Frances Ivor, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. A. Goodsall, Miss Irene Rooke, Mr. Frederick Lloyd, Miss Gertrude Henriques, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mrs. Charles Maltby, Mr. Trevor Lowe, Mr. Athol Forde, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Mr. Edmund Gurney, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, and Mr. Norman Page.

THE Promenade Concerts will enter upon their fifth week at Queen's Hall this evening. On Monday a specially strong Wagner programme is announced, including some of the composer's best-known concert-room pieces. Tuesday's programme contains a new work—for the first time in England—by the Belgian composer, Jan Blockx. This is in the form of a Symphonic Triptych on (1) All Souls' Day, (2) Christmas Eve, (3) Easter. Schubert's great "Symphony in C" occupies the place of honour in Wednesday's programme. On Thursday will be given, for the first in London, a new overture, entitled "In Springtime (Op. 21)," by Norman O'Neill, a young composer whose works have already been heard at the Promenade Concerts. Friday's programme, devoted to Beethoven, includes his "Fifth Symphony in C minor" and his "Fourth Piano Concerto in G," the soloist being Miss Irene Scharrer, the talented young R.A.M. student. The artists announced to appear for the first time at the Promenade Concerts include Miss Hilda Cooke and Miss Gwladys Roberts (vocalists), Miss Ruth Clarkson and Mr. Serge de Barincourt (violinists), Miss Gertrude Meller and Miss Grace Smith (pianists).

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has again this week succeeded in breaking all records at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, and on Tuesday *The Only Way* was played there to one of the largest houses in its history. As already announced, Mr. Harvey will produce a one-act play, entitled *The Spell*, as a first piece to *The Corsican Brothers*. Report speaks very favourably of this playlet, which is founded on a true story of Irish peasant life, and has a good deal to do with the ancient superstition concerning red hair, and the curse of the "Evil One" which, it is supposed in remote parts of Ireland, is connected with it. Miss de Silva will appear as the girl with the red hair. Mr. George Dodson has now finished his setting for *The Corsican Brothers* for the production at Birmingham on or about Oct. 10.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES" has been played this week to the capacity of the Court Theatre, Wigan. The drama was so admirably performed that the house was kept in a high state of tension throughout. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is an ideal Holmes, and gives a clever and highly interesting study.

IN *Tristram and Iseult* at the Adelphi, Miss Hutin Britton, as Arganthael, wears a robe of richest yellow beneath a tunic of dark purple velvet. The tunic fits closely to the figure, and is worked about the foot and again at the neck with a curious gold embroidery. Over the whole dress Miss Britton has a long mantle of flame-coloured silk lined with crimson, cut to hang in a graceful manner, and fitted with long and pointed sleeves. Her long dark hair falls untied on her shoulders, and is kept back from her face by a gold fillet. Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison as Brangwaine looks very beautiful in a deep crimson robe embroidered in gold, and over it a mantle of purple gauze.

MISS LILY BRAYTON'S first dress is composed of emeralds, sewn closely together and clinging to the figure, and the long flowing sleeves are lined with rich blue silk and bordered with gold embroidery. At the waist is a gold girdle fastened with long ends, glittering with emeralds, and Miss Brayton wears a gold fillet and a veil of gold tissue. On board the ship she wears a sleeveless dress of bright emerald silk, girt with a wide girdle of gold studded with jewels. Over this she has a robe of pleated purple gauze, with sleeves fitting tightly to the elbow, then falling in wide wings to the feet, where they are edged with a magnificent embroidery of gold and red jewels. A huge ruby and emerald ornament fastening the front of the bodice makes a striking and harmonious finish to this beautiful dress. Over it all is thrown a heavy mantle of cloth of gold. This hangs straight from the shoulders behind, and is worked with rubies and emeralds after a Celtic design. On her hair Miss Brayton wears a veil of gold-spotted net.

THE dresses in *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's are very beautiful. Miss Ellen Terry makes her first appearance as Hermione in a Greek robe of yellow silk worked in gold, over which is looped up an over-dress of yellow striped gauze, bordered with green. On her head Miss Terry wears a wreath of green leaves, and round her neck a heavy chain of green and gold beads.

MRS. TREE as Paulina wears an over-dress of white silk, finely embroidered with purple, worn over a tunic of rich purple. Over her head is draped a long gauze scarf, also of a beautiful deep purple colour, and this scarf falls over her shoulders to the foot of her dress. Later on, Mrs. Tree wears a lovely clinging dress of sea-green silk, over which is worn the peplum, made of the same material and bordered with silver. Her head is again draped with gauze, this time of a soft smoke-grey colour, and this veil falls on the shoulders, so as to make a very charming drapery.

MISS VIOLA TREE appears as Perdita in a short dress, made in the Greek fashion, and carried out in pale yellow soft silk, scattered with petals of the primrose. Her mantle is made of trails of spring flowers, and she has a wreath of primroses, daisies, and buttercups in her hair. Her feet are shod with sandals.

AN actor named Gerald Austin pleaded guilty to keeping a dog without a licence at Ivybridge on the 28th ult., and told the magistrates that he had tramped miles in order to get employment, but could not. He could hardly pay his rent, and was unable to keep his wife and family. It was impossible for him to pay a fine, so he suggested that the magistrates should send him to prison. The Chairman: The Bench won't send you to prison. They can't do so. Defendant: Well, I cannot pay. The Chairman: All the Bench can do is to fine you, and in default of distress issue a warrant. Defendant: I have not got five shillings' worth of furniture. The Chairman: You will be fined 10s.

"MRS. TEMPLE'S TELEGRAM."

A Farce in Three Acts, by Frank Wyatt and William Morris, produced at the Waldorf Theatre, on Monday, Sept. 10.

Jack Temple .....MR. ALLAN AYNESWORTH
Frank Fuller .....MR. WILLIAM MORRIS
Wigson .....MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE
Captain Sharp .....MR. RUDGE HARDING
A Hairdresser .....MR. FRANK COLLINS
Mrs. Jack Temple .....MISS SYBIL CARLISLE
Mrs. Frank Fuller .....MISS CONSTANCE HYEM
Dorothy .....MISS DIDO DRAKE
Martha .....MISS FRANCES WETHERALL

Fibs *ad libitum* and mistaken identity constitute much of the stock-in-trade of the farce-writer; and both are liberally employed in *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*. The piece commences with an incident sanctified by frequent use—a husband endeavouring to explain to his suspicious wife how he has come to be out all night. In this case, Jack Temple is absolutely innocent, being the victim of one of those accidents which used to occur to the Great Wheel at Earl's Court. He has been detained in one of the carriages in company with a lady, who, though Temple does not know it, is the wife of his friend Frank Fuller. Temple tells his wife the truth; but she will not believe him, so he resorts to "tarradiddling." He asserts that he had been spending the evening with a dear old friend, and missed his train. Temple gives at random the name of this friend as "John Brown, Elm-avenue, Pickleton"; and Mrs. Temple, still unconvinced, "wires" to the friend to come and see her, the telegram being imprudently worded so as to suggest a proposed assignation. Fuller turns up, and offers to impersonate the fictitious Brown, and to substantiate Temple's story. The idea is carried out; and Mrs. Temple is strongly assured of her husband's innocence. But, by a strange coincidence, there *is* a John Brown, Mrs. Temple's hairdresser, living at Elm-avenue, Pickerton; and he comes in answer to the telegram, believing that the lady has fallen in love with him. His wife, Martha Brown, also arrives in jealous quest of her inconstant spouse. After this, the action becomes a complicated series of errors of identity. Mrs. Fuller comes on the scene; and Mrs. Temple, who looks upon Fuller as Brown, is horrified at the familiarities that pass between the lady and her lawful spouse. Eventually, matters are cleared up by explanations.

There are some moments of moderate interest in the piece; but there are also many "purple patches" of fun; and, on the whole, the effect of *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*, is enlivening and entertaining.

Mr. Allan Aynesworth was in his usual excellent form as Jack Temple, and acted throughout with fine polish and brisk activity. Mr. William Morris, part author of the play, has a method of his own—almost a mannerism—which consists in subduing his voice to an undertone, and speaking his lines in studied *moderato*. A little louder delivery and less "reserved force" might have been more suitable to the requirements of a farce, which is very much a matter of bustle and emphasis, and will not suffer deliberation or delay. Mr. Morris's peculiarity was, however, very effective at times; and he certainly avoided anything like restlessness or vulgar exaggeration. His individuality is striking; and he exerts over an audience the charm which is the result of a pleasing presence, absolute ease and self-possession, and a complete command of resources. And, though his delivery is "kept down," at times almost to being inaudible in the gallery, he is always admirably distinct in enunciation. His American accent is by no means a disadvantage at a period when Transatlantic artists are so popular in London. Mr. Victor Widdicombe was unctuously droll as Wigson, an almost impossibly familiar butler of the old-fashioned farce-servant type, who, like Evelyn in *Money*, is "allowed strange liberties" by his too-indulgent master. Mr. Widdicombe's make-up was capital, and he gave the drolleries of the impudent menial their full value. Mr. Rudge Harding played a gallant young Captain pleasantly and brightly; and Mr. Frank Collins, as the hairdresser, gave a graphic depictment of a cringing, amorous, and vulgar little "cad." Miss Sybil Carlisle was charmingly graceful and ladylike as Mrs. Jack Temple, and played the part with admirable spirit, delicacy, and tact. Miss Constance Hyem contributes a clever little character-sketch as Mrs. Frank Fuller; and Miss Dido Drake was agreeably *naïve* and ingenuous as Dorothy. A specially quaint and natural embodiment of Martha Brown was supplied by Miss Frances Wetherall.

Mrs. Temple's Telegram was preceded by a new play in one act, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce, played for the first time, and entitled

"HIS CHILD."

Mrs. Peacemeal .....MISS HARRIET CLIFTON
Liz. .....MISS HAIDÉE WRIGHT
Maud .....MISS DIDO DRAKE
Alf .....MR. RUDGE HARDING
Albert .....MASTER HERBERT HOLLOM
Bessie Ling .....MISS MARY ALLESTREE
Nance Hablot .....MISS FRANCES WETHERALL

This was quite a remarkable production in its way—an attempt to put on the stage material similar to that utilised by Mr. Pett Ridge and Mr. Arthur Morris in their stories of poverty. Liz. Peacemeal has been seduced by a certain Bill Hablot, who has deserted her, and has married another young woman, named Nance. Liz's father, enraged, threatens to turn her out of doors. But Bill suddenly dies, and his wife's child is also taken; so the widow comes to Liz, and begs to be allowed to adopt and bring up the illegitimate infant. Liz struggles with her dislike to part from her baby; but is almost persuaded to make the sacrifice, when Nance lets out to Liz that Bill always loved her. This seems a motive almost insufficient to make the latter to refuse to part with her baby; but she refuses in passionate terms to accept Nance's offer; and the curtain falls on a touching little scene between Liz and her mother, Mrs. Peacemeal—a pathetically patient and long-suffering drudge.

The production was made remarkable by the earnest and sincere treatment of the various parts by the members of the cast. Miss Haidée Wright specially distinguished herself as Liz, putting a remarkable amount of intensity and feeling into her acting as the desperate and warmly-affectionate girl of the people. The scenes between Miss Wright and Miss Frances Wetherall, who played Nance Hablot, were so absolutely natural and unexaggerated that they held the house in thrall almost against its will, and were followed with an attention which proved their power. Miss Wetherall created a deep impression as Nance, and deserved hearty praise for her performance. Miss Mary Allestree supplied an effective sketch of a rough, good-hearted girl of the people; and Miss Harriet Clifton's ripe experience was very valuable as Mrs. Peacemeal. Mr. Rudge Harding made the most of his opportunities as a kindly working man; and Miss Dido Drake and Master Herbert Hollom were seen to advantage in other rôles. Genuine realism is so rare upon the stage in the depiction of "how the poor live," that *His Child* created a decidedly deep, though rather painful, impression on the audience.

"THE HYPOCRITES."

A Play in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, produced at the Hudson Theatre, New York, on Aug. 30.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In giving his reasons for producing this play in New York instead of London, Mr. Jones said:—"For the moment the English stage is choked with musical comedy. The public takes little interest in anything else. Ten years ago I had high hopes for a revival of the English drama. Indeed, the battle seemed already won. But to-day, the English stage is sleepy and degraded. Seriousness meets with little response. Of late, to be sure, there are signs of improvement. Mr. Pinero, for instance, has recently brought out a fine play, with great and deserved success, and there is an appreciative audience for the intellectual brilliancy of Mr. Bernard Shaw. But I find no such general and widely-spread interest in the serious drama as exists here in New York."

The Hypocrites is a title that Mr. Jones has had in mind for a good many years. At one time he had thought of calling the play *The Unconscious Hypocrites*, but decided that that title would not be quite accurate. Weybury, the scene of the play, is supposed to be a small English town of two or three thousand inhabitants, the characters being typical of English county society. There are the doctor and his wife, the vicar, the curate, the lawyer, the lord of the manor, the gossiping ladies, and so on. In this group we find the hypocrites who give the title to the play.

Mr. Wilmore, the lord of the manor, is a robust individual, who proclaims that he has a conscience. His wife is a strong-minded, proud-spirited woman, and their son Lennard, a fine, strapping young fellow, is about to be married to Helen Plugenet, daughter of Sir John Plugenet, a very wealthy man. Sir John holds a mortgage on the Wilmore estate, and the marriage will not only lift the Wilmores out of serious financial difficulties—it will enable the father and mother to occupy their real places in society, and make the son a Member of Parliament, and a wealthy, powerful, and prominent man, a part in life for which he is in every way fitted. Lennard Wilmore is the apple of his mother's eye, and while she knows that he has been a little wild, her heart is set on the marriage, not for her own sake, but because it will be the making of him. The chief male characters are Mr. Viveash, a country lawyer, and the Wilmore's representative and adviser; Lennard Wilmore, the son; the Rev. Edgar Linnell, the curate; and Sir John Plugenet, a typical English aristocrat. Rachel Neve, a young woman whom Lennard has loved and wronged, and who loves him, comes to Weybury to see the young man and tell him of her predicament. In the guise of a drawing teacher, she calls on Lennard's mother, and unexpectedly meets the cause of her trouble during the mother's absence from the room. She, returning, finds the girl sobbing in her son's arms. She learns the truth, and immediately decides that the girl must be got out of the way. The marriage must take place; the affair must not be allowed to spoil her son's future. The girl promises to go away, and keeps her word; but near the station falls and sprains her ankle, and has to be taken to the Rev. Mr. Linnell's house. The curate's wife is ambitious, and she knows that if her husband were not so straightforward and outspoken, and would abandon his steadfast purpose of reforming Weybury society, he might have the vicarage. But Linnell discovers the girl's trouble; and Linnell, unlike the rest, is not a hypocrite. Through the machinations of Mrs. Wilmore, the girl agrees to withdraw her charge, while young Wilmore promises to lie about his past, and everyone except the curate becomes a hypocrite of one sort or another to stop the scandal.

In a fine dramatic scene in the third act, the hypocrites assemble in the library of the manor house to listen to the manufactured denials, and put in evidence the signed statement of the girl who is so loyal to the man she loves that she lies to save his respectability. The curate is confounded. He is branded as a scandal-monger. He is about to leave the room, when he turns about and demands that Lennard Wilmore and Rachel Neve confront each other. The hypocrites demur; but Sir John decides that it can do no harm. They send for the girl, and, face to face with her lover, she repeats her denial. That settles it. The curate is a liar. Sir John tells him so, and Mr. Wilmore orders him to leave the house.

"I told you how this would end!" hisses the mother, as the bewildered Linnell stumbles towards the door. Then comes the climax, like a bolt from a blue sky. Linnell turns on her and the assembled witnesses and shouts: "It's not ended! Sir John, tell your daughter to look. There's a rat under the floor of her new home. You know it, all of you! You liars! You hypocrites! You time-servers! You know the rat's festering under the floor! (*To Rachel*): You know it, too——" The girl turns as if to leave the room, and totters. Lennard, at her elbow, catches her as she falls. She sees him bending over her, and cries convulsively to the curate to take her away. But the touch of her hand has awakened Lennard's better nature. Pity has rekindled his love. In a few words he makes a clean breast of it and sweeps away his false respectability. The whited sepulchres of Weybury's select society are completely routed. "Look up, man!" cries the curate. "Look up, not down! This is the hour of your triumph." In the last act Lennard and Rachel begin life anew in the colonies; while the hypocrites, unreclaimed, pursue their familiar ways.

The play held the unflagging attention of a large audience from start to finish, and aroused genuine enthusiasm. At the end of the third act Mr. Jones was repeatedly called for. In response to the demands for a speech he appeared before the curtain, and briefly expressed his thanks.

Mr. Leslie Faber, as the Rev. Edgar Linnell, had the best lines in the play, and received most of the applause. He is an actor of exceptional merit and charm. Miss Jessie Millward gave a faithful portrayal of a mother anxious to serve her beloved son at any cost. Miss Doris Keane shared the chief acting honours, her Rachel Neve being a distinctly praiseworthy achievement. Mr. Richard Bennett admirably realised the character of Lennard Wilmore, and made a pronounced hit. Mr. John Glendinning as Sir John Plugenet fulfilled all requirements. Mr. J. H. Barnes as Mr. Wilmore, and Mr. Arthur Lewis as the lawyer, Viveash, contributed clever characterisations. Miss Viva Birkett created an agreeable impression as Helen Plugenet. Other parts were played in an excellent manner by Mr. W. H. Denny, Mr. Cecil Kingston, Miss Ada Webster, Miss Helen Tracey, and Miss Louise Reed.

DIFFICULTIES OF DRAMATISATION.

CHAT WITH MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

The subject of the dramatisation of novels was brought up the other day in the course of conversation with Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, who is producing for Mr. J. Bannister Howard a play founded upon Mr. Edgar Wallace's novel, *The Four Just Men*, at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8.

"In adapting a book for stage purposes," says Mr. Saintsbury, "the main thing to be avoided is the use of scissors and paste-pot, which seems nowadays to be the most favoured method of making a novel into a play. The novelist has the advantage of being able to expose the mental attitude of the speaker in an explanatory paragraph, whereas the dramatist is obliged to show character, and to express sentiment at one and the same time. Consequently, in my opinion, the dramatist should 'soak' himself with the personalities of the characters in the novel, and endeavour to present them in dialogue of his own. The novelist is permitted to describe scenes outside or apart from the immediate centre of interest, while the dramatist has to place everything actually before his audience, and woe betide him if he digresses! On the other hand, the novelist's digressions are, as a rule, the most interesting part of his story. If the plots of fifty per cent. of the successful novels that have been written during the last decade were stripped to their bare bones, you would find nothing new. For that reason it is pure waste of time to dramatise them. Yet,

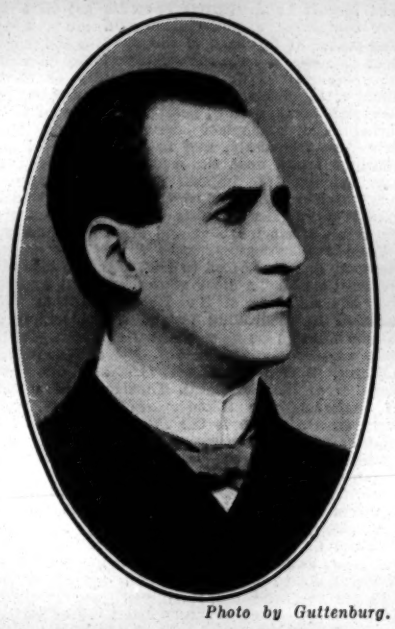

Photo by Guttenburg.

MR. H. A. SAINTSBURY.

curiously enough, theatrical managers pounce greedily upon the stage rights of every novel that goes into a second edition in the hope of benefiting by the advertisement of the circulation of the book.

"Now, in your own experience, perhaps you will tell me what work of fiction has been most difficult to dramatise?"

"Unquestionably, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and, even that did not make a good play, although it achieved a great measure of success in America, thanks to the marvellous performance of Richard Mansfield. And next to it I should unhesitatingly place *The Four Just Men*. We have in it a brilliantly clever and original central idea, and a thrilling dénouement, but no story in the strict sense of the word—no development of character by incident, which I take to be the essential basis of dramatic construction. It therefore became the business of Mr. George Warren, who has adapted it, to invent a story that should fit in with and lead up to the dénouement of the book. There is no female interest in the novel, nor even a single female character, and no dramatist that I know of has yet been daring enough to write a play with a 'leading lady.'"

"Mr. Warren hit upon the idea of clothing the Bill—to pass which into law Sir Phillip Ramon sacrifices his life—with flesh and blood by binding up with it a powerful love story. If the measure becomes an Act of Parliament, not only will it bring about a revolution, but the young lovers will be separated. *The Four Just Men*, whose poetical self-appointed mission it is to mete out justice where the power of the written law fails decide that the only means of averting the measure is to bring about the death of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. This they do, and so not only avert the revolution, but at the same time pave the way towards the happy future of the sweethearts.

"In my opinion, Mr. Warren has displayed exceptional cleverness in the manner in which he has developed the element of comedy. And of the Four Just Men themselves, who might in other hands have become mere melodramatic puppets, he has made very live human beings, by no means devoid of a sense of humour."

"In what category or class would you place this play?"

"I should say, without in any way being a copy, it belongs to the type of *Sherlock Holmes* and *Raffles*. The air of mystery is predominant, and the most telling situations are of the tense and quiet order.

"My favourite work," contined Mr. Saintsbury, "is the producing of plays, and I feel that in the present work I have great opportunities. I have designed the scenery and invented the lighting, mechanical, and other effects, and the whole apparatus will be carried. Our scenery is most elaborate, and a good suburban and provincial tour has been booked by Mr. Cecil Barth, under whose direction the company will travel."

MR. BRODIE'S OPINION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—While my old friend Bourchier is bulging big in the bile of our other friends the critics, I should like to know where the poor actor is coming in? A "Répétition Générale" in London is a free performance given, with a few judicious exceptions, to a lot of tittle-tattling busybodies who have as much right to be present as they would have at an experiment in a dissecting room, previous to a critical operation being performed. These alleged performances take all the "pluck" out of a highly-strung artist, and leave him "rotten" at the time when his true temperature should be taken, i.e., on the first night before a paying public. I should like to see the "Répétition Générale" of a horse race! No, have as many dress rehearsals as is absolutely necessary, but keep out the Press.

If the "R. G." is to become the vogue, how is it to be paid for? As an evening performance, a half-salary matinée, or is it the thin end of the eight performances a week wedge?

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW BRODIE.

Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, Sept. 9, 1906.

MR. TREE AT NEWCASTLE.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree was on Thursday night, after the performance of *Colonel Newcome*, the guest of the Newcastle Pen and Palette Club. Responding to the toast of his health, Mr. Tree said it was some years since he had visited Newcastle, but his recollection of the pleasure he experienced then had made him look forward to this week. He felt, however, that the responsibilities of a large theatre in London prevented him from consolidating the friendship of the great cities which every artist coveted, and without which no reputation was national. Remarking that one of his recreations was the reading of plays, Mr. Tree said that two recently sent to him were worthy of mention. The first play opened in clouds of vapour, which rolled aside to show the Maker of the Universe speaking through a megaphone. He said—well, he would not say what was said, for he had sent the play to another manager. The second play—a domestic one, from Johannesburg—the heroine in one of twenty or thirty scenes was depicted in bed on her birthday morning. The scene concluded with her getting out of bed, and a footnote said, "This must be done gracefully." He feared that play would not be seen; it was so difficult to get out of bed gracefully.

The warm and enthusiastic applause of Newcastle audiences, he continued, had been a great pleasure; and it was no figure of speech for him to say that the little play of *The Man Who Was* had never been received with so great a demonstration as had been the case in that city. It had been complained that they were not a nation of playgoers; and, of course, there was no doubt that the human machine was incapable of more than one consuming passion. Greater love of football often swallowed up lesser love of drama; but he was delighted to be able to say that, personally, he had, both in London and the provinces, always found the public for classical works. He thought the wider education of to-day would probably bring about greater love of drama. Even the steadiest puritan would, he supposed, admit that beauty in art contributed to human happiness. He saw that the doughty Mr. Stead, who hailed from those parts, had ranged himself on the side of beauty, for in a recent visit to a music hall, amidst much which he considered objectionable, he had praised the human form divine in glowing tones of pen as publicly exhibited in London. They were somewhat Continentalised as to the outwardly pleasant side of life; and the concord of sweet sounds was heard everywhere. Even Wagner was becoming more than a fashion; but in many parts of England we were much behind our Continental neighbours in the matter of beautiful music. It was in presenting the great characters of Shakespeare that his profession fulfilled its highest ambition; and it was that work which was most enjoyed by actors, and by which they could really do a great public good.

EDWARD TERRY AS WILLIAM TODMAN

AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Mr. Edward Terry is always a welcome visitor to Edinburgh. He is one of the most legitimate comedians on the stage, and his annual reappearances in the city are always hailed with approval by a wide circle of friends. He never fails to provide an excellent entertainment for theatregoers, with an admirable combination of comedy and sentiment; and this week he is to appear in several of his most popular pieces. *The Magistrate*, one of Mr. Pinero's early farcical comedies, is on the bill; so is *Sweet Lavender*, which has had such a great success as a play. Last night, however, he opened with Mr. R. C. Carton's well-known *Liberty Hall*, which was originally exploited by Mr. George Alexander with so much *éclat*. It is a comedy-drama of much merit, and it has not yet become old-fashioned or out of date. Its story has much human interest in it. The love-making of the young people is of a kind that has a perennial charm, and the rôle of William Todman, the genial old book shop-keeper, in straitened circumstances, which is taken by Mr. Terry, is one that suits him admirably. He makes Todman a quaint and lovable character. Though struggling to make ends meet, Todman has given shelter to the two girls of a deceased impecunious baronet, whom he cares for with more than parental affection; and with his tender heart, old-world ways, and piquant sayings, he affords Mr. Terry a part in which he fairly revels. His Todman was throughout delightfully acted—full of touching pathetic passages, and enlivened by the quiet humour with which Mr. Terry never fails to illumine any rôle which he takes in hand. —*The Scotsman*, Sept. 11, 1906.

"OH! THAT MAJOR."

A new and original Farcical Sketch, by J. Hamilton Urquahart, produced at the Town Hall, Leven, on Monday, Sept. 10.

Major McDougal .....MR. J. H. URQUHART
Mrs. McDougal .....MISS DUKINFIELD
James .....MR. J. HAMILTON
Polly Pleasant .....MISS DESBOROUGH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Major McDougal is a young old man who seeks, in mild flirtations with his wife's housemaids, relief from domestic infelicity. The major's wife is undoubtedly the head of the house, and makes it a rule to have no married servants in her service. James, the butler, has been forced into marriage by Polly, who threatened an action for breach of promise, but the marriage is kept secret that he may retain his situation. This secrecy does not altogether suit Polly's temperament, and she expresses a desire to interview James's mistress with a view to employment in the house. James is much relieved by an opportune telegram which summons Mrs. McDougal to the bedside of a dying brother. It is an easy task to induce the major, in the absence of his wife, to visit London. This done, and the coast clear, James invites Polly to come along at once. The major misses his train and returns in disgust, to find consolation in the smiles of Polly, whom James introduces as an applicant for a situation as housemaid. The flirtation makes rapid progress. The major is in the act of kissing Polly when the harmony is interrupted by the unexpected return of Mrs. McDougal. The telegram had been misdirected. She chases her erring husband round the room, belabouring him with her umbrella, then devotes her attention to his fellow culprit, Polly, who seeks shelter in the arms of James. Explanations follow, and Polly and James are allowed to remain under the same roof.

The author, Mr. J. H. Urquhart, as the major acted the henpecked husband to the life. The butler, as played by Mr. J. Hamilton, was very amusing, his impotent wrath during the major's flirtation with Polly evoking shrieks of laughter. Mrs. McDougal, an exacting and imperious lady, was well portrayed by Miss Dukinfield. Miss Desborough, alert and atrractive, made a success of the part of Polly, which she undertook at a very few hours' notice.

The sketch, which played for half an hour, was well received, and will probably be heard of again.

"THE UNSEEN POWER."

A New Musical Drama, in Four Acts, by Harry Starr, produced at the Athenæum, Lancaster, on Monday, Sept. 10.

Fred Granville .....MR. HARRY STARR
Harold Granville .....MR. WILLIAM MILLER
Antonio Romano .....MR. EDWIN FIRTH
George Granville .....MR. WILL HEE
Chris Granville .....MISS KATIE NORRIS
Horatio Cracklesby .....MR. FRED W. GRAHAM
Joe Shrub .....MR. BERT RUSHER
Bill .....MR. BERNARD MOSTYN
Police Sergeant .....MR. WILLIAM GOSSET
Tomasso .....MR. GEORGE JUKES
Lucretia Granville .....MISS ELLA CROSSLEY
Anita Romano .....MISS MADGE BLUNDELL
Lucy Romano .....MISS CISSIE HASTINGS
Jennie Shrub .....MISS LIZZIE JACOBS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Harry Starr's new musical drama is exceedingly well constructed, and cleverly written. The plot strikes one as original, and fails to touch the reminiscent chord as do most dramas. It certainly gives the author-actor, in the rôle of Fred Granville, great scope for the display of his clever versatility. Act I. forms what might be termed a prologue. Fred Granville, a young artist, has married a wealthy Venetian lady, Lucretia, whose unconventional manners have culminated in an intrigue with Fred's brother Harold, who is on a visit to their Venetian home. Lucretia's steward, Romano, has marked her and her property for his own, and the advent of his sister Anita with a child belonging to Harold gives him his opportunity. He enlightens Fred as to his wife's infidelity, and Fred determines to leave her; but rather than entrust his child to her care he substitutes Anita's boy for hers. The act terminates sensationally by Romano blinding Harold with a subtle drug, and the arrest of Fred as the culprit. An interval of eighteen years elapse, and the play commences in the bar parlour of the Golden Lion in London, where all the characters come together under widely different circumstances. Fred is a wastrel, whose memory only extends to the time when he was released from an Italian prison, where he had been serving two years. Romano gained possession of Lucretia's property in the meantime, then deserted her. Romano, who lives in the suburbs, has kept the boy George, whom he supposes to be Fred's child, drugs him, so as to obscure his senses, in order to get his signature to deeds when he comes of age. By this time Romano has gone through the form of a mock marriage with a young wife, Lucy. Harold is a blind beggar, and Anita, who has clung to him through thick and thin, is now a cripple, and the boy Chris, whom she supposes to be her own, but is really Fred's, is selling matches in the streets. Lucretia is now living a degraded life through drink. By committing a burglary at Romano's house, Fred discovers his old foe's identity, and his memory slowly returns. Eventually he disguises himself as a negro messenger, and gains access to the house, where he foils Romano's schemes. In the last act the mind of George gives way under the drugs of Romano, and in his frenzy commits suicide, his real mother, Anita, arriving on the scene just too late, and the play culminates in a striking river-side scene, where Lucretia dies in squalor and Harold gets literally an "eye for an eye" by blinding Romano with his own drug, and the reunion of Fred and his own child.

The play was presented on Monday before a crowded audience, who followed the story with keen interest. Mr. Harry Starr, in the rôle of Fred Graham, gave some broad character-sketches as a costermonger, a female of the low-comedy type, and a "down south darky," with negro specialities. His singing, too, was much appreciated, more especially a descriptive song in the Embankment scene, "When Big Ben Chimes," an effort that fairly brought down the house. Mr. Edwin Firth had a difficult part as the wily Italian, Antonio Romano, but he played it with a force and consistency that were remarkable. Mr. William Miller as Harold Granville, the blind man, succeeded in a strong character part admirably. Mr. Fred Graham as Horatio Cracklesby, the actor, made himself an immediate favourite, and could not complain of lack of appreciation for the undoubted humour of the part. He was ably assisted by Miss Lizzy Jacobs as Jenny. Mr. Will Hee was convincing as George. As Anita, the Italian girl, Miss Madge Blundell played with marked ability, great praise being due to her for an evidently careful study. Miss Kate Norris was the boy Chris to the life; and Miss Ella Crossley gave a capital portrayal of Lucretia. All the minor parts were in good hands, and the staging excellent. The music and songs were all by Mr. Starr himself. Altogether, the piece possesses the quality of merit, and should attract crowded houses wherever presented.

ACTORS' DAY.

In addition to those whose names have already been published, the following have promised their support on Actors' Day:—Alan-Hineson, C.; Baird, Dorothea; Bashford, Olive; Beaumont, Walter; Bevans, E. Lionel; Birchenough, Nellie; Boag, Tom; Carlisle, Alexandra; Carr, Phyllis; Carroll, Fred; Cecil, Phyllis; Clair, H. Buckston; Compton, Sydney; Coventry, Edward Alban; Drake, Ewart; Edwin, Owen; Esmond, Annie; Evelyn, Katie; Fiennes, Sydney; Fraser, Jessie; Gaythorne, Pamela; Gilbert, Una; Gordon-Ascher, Lily; Greatrex, Geo. P.; Green, Alice Clayton; Groves, Nellie; Harrison, Ernest; Hartill, Willie; Hibbert, William; Horniman, Roy; Hyett, Robert; Humphreys, Daisy; Jerome, Sadie; Kemble, Henry; Klein, Arthur L.; Kynnersley, Maud; Lamotte, Beatrice; Lane, T. Langton; Leatham, Mabel M.; Legarde, Millie; Lewis, Joseph; Lindley, Beatrice; Lingham, M.; Ludlow, Henry; Macdonald, Rose; Marsh, Ernest W.; Maturin, Eric; Mayhew, Dorothy; Moncrieff, Irene; Morgan, Elton; Murray, M'Aimée; Nolan-O'Connor, E.; Oates, Cicely; Owen, Percy D.; Page, Bessie; Pauncefort, Thomas; Pedler, Martin B.; Pemberton, Mary; Polini, Emilie; Pope, Muriel; Reade, Henry; Rennif, Sidney; Richter, John; Roberts, Walter; Robins, Vivian; Rosenthal, Rae; Steon, R.; Salberg, Valerie; Samson, H. Allistoun; Shelton, Maud; Sidney, Edward; Sulivan, R.; Thompson, Alec F.; Valentine, Sydney; Vernon, Rose; Vincent, Ruth; Vine, Francis; Vyse, Catherine; Walker, Gordon; Ward, Rita; Ware, Nettie; West, Lionel; White, C. A.; Whyte, Robert, jun.; Willis, J. Herbert; Wilson, F. Stuart; Wilson, Rathmell; Windsor, Annie; Wright, C. F.; Wyndham, Ruby; Yapp, Cecil.

As it is impossible to communicate personally or by letter with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the Committee ask the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. They would be glad to receive further individual promises of help and programmes of all companies now playing.

Copies of the appeal and forms for signature will be sent to those who would be kind enough to write for them. All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

DR. JOHNSON'S birthday will be celebrated at Lichfield, his birthplace, on Tuesday. The Johnson house will be thrown open to citizens for the day, and in the evening the usual Johnson supper will be held. Among the guests will be Mr. Alfred Freer, of Green Close, Stourbridge, a collateral descendant of Dr. Johnson.

"FROM WASHERWOMAN TO DUCHESS."

Play in a Prologue and Four Acts, produced at the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, on Friday, Sept. 7.

Catherine .....Mrs. Bandmann Palmer
Fouché ..... Mr. F. Skein
Napoleon Bonaparte .....Mr. Sydney Bland
Marechal Lefebvre .....Mr. Robt. Pittard
Marechal Lannes .....Mr. Ashmore Vincent
Lieut. Adrian Lefebvre..Mr. Leonard Cheetham
Dubois .....Mr. Alfred Harvey
Petit Pierre .....Mr. A. Wilson Wynne
Secretary ..... Mr. C. Crux
Servant .....Mr. Frede. Hendry
Little Adrian .....Miss Elsie Howe
Madame De Staël .....Miss More Dunphie
Melanie De Lavigne ....Miss Millie Shepherd
Rosalie .....Miss Katharine Herbert
Susanne .....Miss Adelaide Cecil

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The period of the story, which is the same as that on which *Mme. Sans Gêne* and *The Duchess of Dantzic* are founded, is the time of the French Revolution, when all Paris rang with the cry, "Down with the Aristocrats." The prologue introduces us to the laundry of Catherine Upscher, That lady is busy ironing the operation being attentively watched by Little Adrian—a child adopted by Catherine, but whose mother is Mélanie de Lavigne—who asks questions concerning its parentage. The father is Napoleon Bonaparte, a young officer of artillery. Sergeant Lefebvre, who comes on a visit, is the favoured lover of Catherine, and eventually proposes marriage to her. He is accepted, and departs to join his regiment, which is bound for foreign service. Mélanie de Lavigne, an aristocrat, who is being hunted down by the sans-culottes, reaches the laundry in disguise, to see her child before escaping from France, and enjoins Catherine never to reveal the secret of her child's birth. Fouché, a citizen, whose ambition it is to become Chief of the Secret Police, traces Mélanie to the laundry, but is outwitted in her capture by Catherine, for which he swears to be revenged. When about to search the house he is ordered to leave by Lefebvre, who returns to announce his promotion to the rank of lieutenant.

A number of years are supposed to elapse between the prologue and act one. Lefebvre has become a maréchal and married Catherine; Fouché has gained the post of chief of police; and Little Adrian, reared in the belief that he is Lefebvre's son, is now a lieutenant in the Army. The scene is the sitting-room of Lefebvre, where preparations are being made for a grand ball, to which the Emperor Napoleon is coming. Lieutenant Adrian enters in a very troubled state of mind and confides to Catherine the cause. Having been entrusted with important secret despatches, he calls on a lady named Madame de Staël, with whom he has fallen in love, and who favours his suit for her own ends, being a foreign spy. On leaving the house he was robbed by masked men whom he cannot recognise, and it is probable that the despatches will fall into the hands of a foreign power. Such an eventuality would mean death to the young officer. His painful predicament is well known to Fouché, who is determined to have Adrian shot as a traitor.

Act two takes place in the Grand Saloon in the Palace of Lefebvre on the night of the ball. Napoleon arrives and Fouché intends to denounce Lieutenant Adrian and have him arrested. During the dancing of a gavotte, in which the Emperor joins, Catherine, with the assistance of a faithful servant, aids Lieutenant Adrian to escape, but Fouché raises the alarm and he is captured.

In act three—the Court Martial scene—Maréchal Lefebvre is compelled to judge the case of his foster-son. Fouché is the prosecutor, and as the lieutenant has no defence, or proofs, with the exception of his own word, he is found guilty and sentenced to be shot. Catherine has a scene with Fouché, in which she tells him that she will play her trump card, of which he knows nothing.

Act four takes place in Napoleon Bonaparte's study. It is the morning of the execution, and Catherine is pleading for the life of Adrian. As a last resource she tells Napoleon that Adrian is his own son, and proves her story to be true by reminding him of the days when as a lieutenant he made love to Mélanie in her laundry. Napoleon immediately summons Maréchal Lefebvre, Adrian, and Fouché to his presence, pardons Adrian, and creates Lefebvre Duke of Dantzic, Catherine becoming Duchess.

As Catherine Mrs. Bandmann Palmer was seen at her best, and Mr. F. Skein was well-suited to the part of Fouché. Mr. Leonard Cheetham gave a manly performance of Lieut. Adrian; Miss More Dunphie presented a vigorous portrayal of Madame de Staël; Mr. Robt. Pittard was good as Maréchal Lefebvre; and other characters were suitably played. The appropriate incidental music was composed by Mr. Albert E. Wilson, the musical director of Muncaster Theatre. The piece was well staged.

"THE TWO MR. WEATHERBYS."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. William F. Hawtrey has scored a personal success at the Madison-square Theatre, New York, in *The Two Mr. Weatherbys*, a three-act comedy, by St. John Hankin. Two brothers, James and Richard Weatherby, are the gentlemen named in the title. In the eyes of their relatives James is the embodiment of all the virtues, while Richard is utterly depraved. Richard's wife, Constantia, has left him on account of his bad habits, but a clause in the agreement of separation provides for a yearly meeting to give them an opportunity of becoming reconciled. The first act takes place at James's home on the date set for the meeting. Constantia is willing to return to her husband on his promising to behave better in future, but Richard enjoys his freedom, and has no desire to be reconciled. In the second act James confesses that he is tired of posing as a paragon, but lacks the courage to tell his wife. Richard persuades him to visit a music hall, and Mrs. James Weatherby finds the programme in the pocket of her husband's coat, after he has informed her that there were very few people at the club. Of course, there is a row. James, supported by Richard, makes a half-hearted confession of his frequent deviations from the narrow path, and his wife declares her intention of following her sister Constantia's example. In the third act, Richard talks to his sister-in-law, and persuades her to forgive James and allow him more freedom. She also agrees to get rid of Aunt Clara and Nephew Robert, a solemn prig with a penchant for missionary societies, both of whom have been staying with her. Richard is satisfied with what he has done, and starts for town. He meets Constantia, and although he has twice refused to take her back, he consents to do so when she promises to take a more lenient view of his foibles in the future.

The *Charley's Aunt* company left Dundee at 5.20 on Monday morning, and reached Glasgow in good time to connect with the 9.5 a.m. Belfast express to Ardrossan, where they embarked on Messrs. Burns' new turbine steamer Viper and arrived at Belfast at 1.20 p.m., performing there the same evening. This was indeed marvellously quick travelling, and saved the company an all night's journey. Several music-hall artists travelled with the company from Dundee to Dublin and were able to connect with the 2.20 p.m. train from Belfast to Dublin, where they arrived at 5.40 p.m., in good time to fulfil their engagement in the Irish capital on the same night.

HEROES OF OPERA.

Not very long ago, wrote the late W. D. Adams, M. Ambroise Thomas turned the hero of his *Hamlet* into a tenor. Formerly his Prince of Denmark was a baritone, but, circumstances having suggested the change, it was duly made. On general principles it may be commended. If Hamlet is to flaunt in opera at all—and I am not sure that it is a very dignified position for shakespeare's greatest creation—it seems clear that he ought to be a tenor. He is not a sufficiently robust personage to be a baritone. He does some tragic things, to be sure, and has a tragic end; but he is strong only in spasms and by accident. In essence he is weak, flaccid, indeterminate—unmanly alike in his irresolution, his despair, his hysteria. There is a broad vein of the feminine in Hamlet's nature, and such an individuality ought not, it would seem, to express itself, musically, in the deeper accents of the human voice.

For him, rather, should be the piping notes of the tenor, and especially of the high tenor, who, roughly speaking, is the male counterpart of the soprano. The sterner and acuter emotions should be reserved, operatically, for the more sonorous vocalists—for the baritone, or even for the bass. It is true that Mr. F. H. Cowen assigned his Claude Melnotte to Mr. Santley, and some, not unjustifiably, may hold that Claude is a considerably less heroic figure than Hamlet. Poetically and dramatically, of course, they cannot be compared. But for operatic purposes Claude is, perhaps, the better hero of the two. There is in him at least a strain of the elevated: he despises himself for the trick he plays upon the lady, he makes all the reparation in his power, he goes off to the wars, he returns with at least a reputation for bravery, and, in a word, asserts his manhood. Morally, he seems to have the advantage of his Danish rival. Latterly he has been presented anew in tenor guise; but when Mr. Cowen made him speak in more masculine numbers, the compliment was not unmerited.

What the ordinary operatic hero is, everybody knows from long and sometimes painful experience. He is usually a tenor, and generally a poor creature. He is not invariably despicable. There is Don Giovanni, for example—the Lovelace of the lyric stage. The Don is a naughty man, but he is a man, nevertheless, and is the central point of interest in the very finest example of the old school of operas. He has spirit, and he has daring, and audiences like him none the less because he is by no means reputable. The average tenor hero is respectable to the core, but he is rarely, if ever, spirited. He seems made to be sat upon. When he is not whining, he is drivelling. There is nothing necessarily discreditable in the expression of the affections; but why, on the stage, should it be so constantly associated with a man's upper G? It must often have been a source of wonder to the unsophisticated that the operatic heroine should so invariably have preferred the piping tenor to the sonorous baritone. The latter is almost always, if not always, the prettier fellow of the two—the more attractive in every way. There have been fine-looking tenors, from Mario downwards, but they have not been so numerous as could be wished. Too frequently they have been short and squat, with a visible tendency to baldness. Fat and, too often, scant of breath has been the average high-pitched tenor from Italian shores. There have been tenors slight and tall, just as there have been sopranos tall and slight; but no care has been taken by managers to assort them properly. The slim tenor has warbled too frequently to the soprano of matronly proportions, and the slender soprano has had to listen to the impassioned vows of the tenor who was as broad as he was long. The baritone—that is to say, the villain of the piece—is, following some unexplainable law of nature, always lengthy; but the soprano, however elongated, shows no sign of regarding him as her affinity. She prefers the tenor gentleman, whom she could easily put into her pocket, and whom, as it is, she exercises as much as possible up and down the stage.

One may be forgiven if, every now and then, one rebels against these conventionalities of opera. Why should the singing hero be so often a tenor, and so frequently a poor creature? Is he the former because he is the latter, or the latter because he is the former? Have the composers made their heroes tenors because they were ashamed of them, or have the said heroes been ashamed of themselves because they were tenors? The problem, probably, will never be solved. And, admittedly, the humours of the lyric drama would be regrettably curtailed if any alteration were made in the tactics of the past. The spectacle in *La Favorita* of the portly Tietjens whirling about the tiny Aramburo is one, among many such, which lingers in the memory, and which one would not willingly let die. Yet composers, and librettists, and managers will, if they are wise, do their best to reform this matter altogether. Ridicule kills, and the New Opera will go the way of the Old Opera if its heroes are not a little more happily selected. Let the high tenor be deposed from his pride of place, and his position taken by the baritone, or the bass, or, at least, the *tenore robusto*. Only the very young heroes should be given to the *tenori leggieri*. The weak and cowardly Faust may very properly articulate in high-set tones, but why should Siebel, the love-sick boy of the piece, be handed over to a contralto?

The truth is, of course, that composers have always thought more of the musical possibilities, the harmonic combinations, of their work, than of the fitness of the vocal register to the character. They are a selfish body, these musicians, and do not care twopence for their librettists. Still more selfish, however, are the vocalists, who care neither for librettists nor for composers. It is mainly to the vanity of the ladies that we owe what is perhaps the least tolerable of all operatic nuisances—the feminine hero, the male character enacted by the female artist. This is the most objectionable of all the heroes of opera—an epicene personage, in whom no real interest can be felt, and who degrades the lyric drama (such as it is) to a level artistically low.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, September 10,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. R. Clarke and H. R. Silva, entitled
"HONOUR THY FATHER."

The return visit of Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour thy Father* is proving a strong attraction at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week. Mr. Walter M. Cameron makes up well, and plays very convincingly as Gabriel Garth, rendering the character very interesting. Mr. Bertram Ross is a buoyant and manly exponent of Jack Halyard, and the rascally Duncan Bly is powerfully depicted by Mr. W. R. Winning. Mr. W. H. Melrose is decidedly amusing as the bucolic Ned Pennycumquick, and Mr. Fred Rolls provides a droll impersonation of the "ne'er-do-well," Mike Copplestone. In the well contrasted parts of Job Merry and the demented George Bloggs, Mr. Claude Merton exhibits much ability; and Mr. Frank Eden plays Dr. Sleek neatly. Miss Kate Newton contributes a natural and sympathetic embodiment of Mrs. Garth, and Miss Mabel Coleman's acting as the much-wronged Lillian Garth has the true ring of pathos. Miss Winnie Donovan very gracefully enacts Mercy Merry; and Miss Lizzie Morley is a pleasant and entertaining Poppy Cornleigh. Remaining parts are all capably handled, and the piece is well staged.

Mr. Arthur Vekin, who is enacting Jacky with Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company, will have played the part 300 times to-night.

TEMPESTS OF THE STAGE.

One cannot recall anything more realistic or more theatrically terrible in the way of storms than the one which opened Mr. Tree's production of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre last year. Macready's revival of the same play was marked by much realism in its shipwreck scene; but the "tempestuous season" then inaugurated at Covent Garden had not the scientific advantages that were at the disposal of Mr. Tree. Limelight flashes of lightning cannot equal the startling vividness of electricity. Thunder, too, is a much more sounding and furious artifice than it was, and in no well-regulated theatre is the noise imitated by shaking one of the lower corners of a large thin sheet of copper suspended by a chain—an effect, by the way, attributed to Garrick's scene painter, Philip James de Loutherbourg, who was prolific in imitations of nature.

The distant firing of signals of distress from the doomed vessel he counterfeited by suddenly striking a large tambourine with a sponge affixed to a whalebone spring, the reverberations of the sponge producing a peculiar echo as from cloud to cloud dying away in the distance. The rushing washing sound of the waves was simulated by turning round and round an octagonal pasteboard box, fitted with shelves, and containing small shells, peas, and shot; while two discs of tightly-strained silk, suddenly pressed together, produced a hollow whistling sound in imitation of loud and fitful gusts of wind. Cylinders, loosely charged with seed and small shot, lifted now at one end, now at the other, so as to allow the contents to fall in a pattering stream, effectually reproduced the noise of hail and rain. The moon was formed by a circular aperture cut in a tin box containing a powerful argand lamp, which was placed at the back of the scene, and brought near or removed from the canvas as the luminary was supposed to be shining brightly or to be obscured by clouds. These contrivances of Mr. de Loutherbourg may now, perhaps, be deemed to be rather a commonplace description—they have figured so frequently, and in such amplified and amended forms, upon the modern stage; but they were calculated to impress the painter's patrons very considerably; they were then distinctly innovations due to his curiously inventive genius, and the result of much labour and heedful ingenuity.

From Jonson's prologue to *Every Man in his Humour*, first performed in 1598, says the late Mr. Dutton Cook in "A Book of the Play," it appears that the rumbling of thunder was at that time imitated by the rolling to and fro of bullets or cannon balls. This plan was in time superseded by more ingenious contrivances. It is curious to find, however, that some fifty years ago one Lee, manager of the Edinburgh Theatre, with a view to improving the thunder of his stage, ventured upon a return to the Elizabethen system of representing a storm. His enterprise was attended with results at once ludicrous and disastrous. He placed ledges here and there along the back of his stage, and, obtaining a parcel of nine-pound cannon-balls, packed these in a wheelbarrow, which a carpenter was instructed to wheel to and fro over the ledges. The play was *Lear*, and the jolting of the heavy barrow as it was trundled along its uneven path over the hollow stage, and the rumblings and reverberations thus produced, counterfeited most effectively the raging of the tempest in the third act. Unfortunately, however, while the King was braving, in front of the scene, the pitiless storm at the back, the carpenter missed his footing, tripped over one of the ledges, and fell down, wheelbarrow, cannon-balls, and all. The stage being on a declivity, the cannon-balls came rolling rapidly and noisily down towards the front, gathering force as they advanced, and overcoming the feeble resistance offered by the scene, struck it down, passed over its prostrate form, and made their way towards the foot-lights and the fiddlers, amidst the amusement and wonder of the audience, and the amazement and alarm of the Lear of the night. As the nine-pounders advanced towards him, and rolled about in all directions, he was compelled to display an activity in avoiding them, singularly inappropriate to the age and condition of the character he was personating. He was even said to resemble a dancer achieving the terpsichorean feat known as the egg hornpipe. Presently, too, the musicians became alarmed for the safety of themselves and their instruments, and deemed it advisable to scale the spiked partition which divided them from the pit; for the cannon-balls were upon them, smashing the lamps, and falling heavily into the orchestra. Meantime, exposed to the full gaze of the house, lay prone, beside his empty barrow, the carpenter, the innocent invoker of the storm he had been unable to allay or direct, not at all hurt, but exceedingly frightened and bewildered. After this unlucky experiment, the manager abandoned his wheelbarrow and cannon-balls, and reverted to more received methods of producing stage-storms.

The notion of storing lightning in a bottle for use when required seems to have been frequently reverted to by the authors of the last century as a means of entertaining the public. Thus a writer in "The World," in 1754, makes no doubt "of being able to bring thunder and lightning to market at a much cheaper price than common gunpowder," and describes a friend who has applied himself wholly to electrical experiments, and discovered that "the most effectual and easy method of making this commodity is by grinding a certain quantity of air between a glass ball and a bag of sand, and when you have ground it into fire your lightning is made, and then you may either bottle it up, or put it into casks properly seasoned for that purpose, and send it to market." The inventor, however, confesses that what he has hitherto made is not of a sufficient degree of strength to answer all the purposes of natural lightning; but he is confident that he will soon be able to perfect this, and has, indeed, already so far perfected his experiments that, in the presence of several of his neighbours, he has succeeded in producing a clap of thunder which blew out a candle, accompanied by a flash of lightning which made an impression upon a pat of butter standing upon the table. He is also confident that in warm weather he can shake all the pewters upon his shelf, and fully expects, when his thermometer is at sixty-two degrees and a half, to be able to sour all the small beer in his cellar, and to break his largest pier-glass. This paper in "The World," apart from its humorous intention, is curious as a record of early dabblings in electrical experiments. It may be mentioned that in one of Franklin's letters, written apparently before the year 1750, the points of resemblance between lightning and the spark obtained by friction from an electrical apparatus are distinctly stated. It is but some thirty-five years ago that Andrew Crosse, the famous amateur electrician, was asked by an elderly gentleman, who came to witness his experiments with two enormous Leyden jars charged by means of wires stretched for miles among the forest trees near Taunton: "Mr. Crosse, don't you think it is rather impious to bottle the lightning?"

"Let me answer your question by asking another," said Crosse, laughing. "Don't you think it might be considered rather impious to bottle the rain-water?"

In consequence of the indisposition of Mrs. Ralland, of the No. 1 *Amorelle* company, Miss Victoria Wray last week in Aberdeen, at short notice, very successfully performed the rôle of Lesbia. Her success was so pronounced that not only Mrs. Ralland and the rest of the company congratulated her, but she was the recipient of an addition to her salary.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Almero.—On Sept. 9, at Small Heath, Birmingham, wife of W. Almero, gymnast, of a fine daughter. Both doing well.
Couper.—On the 10th inst., the wife of Cecil F. Couper, Secretary of C. W. Poole's No. 1 Myriorama, of a daughter. Both doing well.
Huline.—Aug. 28, at 16, Gordon-road, Stratford, the wife (Bessie Travis) of Alec Huline, of a girl.
Jerome.—Sept. 12, Mrs. C. Jerome, of a girl. Both doing well.
Manley.—On Sept. 8, wife of James Manley, of a fine son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Archer—Morgan.—Sept. 9, at St. Mary's Church, Peckham, by the Rev. Arthur E. Moys, Harold Archer, to Annie, youngest daughter of Wilfred R. Morgan, of Lion House, Peckham, and sister to Barbara Alleyn and F. W. Morgan, Master-at-Arms, R.N.
Ellison—Palmer.—Sept. 8, at St. John's Parish Church, Margate, by special licence, J. W. Ellison to Ada Isabel Palmer, daughter of the late G. M. Palmer, Esq., and niece of Hunter Palmer, Esq., of The Hollies, Swaffham, Norfolk.
Green—Soundy.—Sept. 12, at Birmingham, Albert John Green (Charles Baldwin), son of the late Capt. Richard Harding Green, R.N., to Mary Marjorie Soundy (Madge Tours), daughter of Mr. A. W. H. Soundy, of Hove, Brighton.
Howard—Thorne.—At Ayr, N.B., on Sept. 1, Stanley Howard to Jess Thorne.

DEATHS.

Clements.—Sept. 11, William Clements, head fireman for many years at the Alhambra.
Cushman.—Aug. 25, at 17, Franklin-road, Portslade, Reuben Adcock Cushman, formerly of Trafalgar-street, Brighton, aged 63 years.
Duffy.—At 6, Synge-street, Dublin, Sept. 7, Barney Duffy, late of Tom White's Arabs. Inserted by his old friend, John V. Jones. R.I.P.
Goodwin.—Sept. 11, at Brixton, Bonnie Goodwin, American soubrette and dancer.
Jacobi.—Sept. 13, suddenly, in London, Georges Jacobi, musical composer and director, aged 66.
Jee.—Died at St. Thomas's Hospital, Mrs. Albert Jee (of the Egbert Bros.), on Sept. 13, aged 24, of peritonitis. R.I.P. American papers please copy.
Jee.—On Sept. 8, at 277, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, S.W., of acute pneumonia, Henry Williams Jee, Harry Burnell (The Burnells), age 24 years. R.I.P. American papers please copy.
Johnson.—Sept. 9, of consumption, Kennedy Johnson, late assistant-manager of the Hackney Empire, aged 38.
Paradise.—Sept. 10, at her residence, 40, Acre-lane, Brixton, aged 63, Sophia Paradise, mother of Kate Paradise, prima ballerina.
Richards.—On Aug. 17, 1906, Louie Arthur Richards, late of "On the Frontiers" Co. Deeply mourned by sisters and brother.
Royle.—On the 4th inst., at her father's residence, Park-road, Hale, Altrincham, after two years' suffering, Ada, third daughter of John Royle.
There is no death; what seems so is transition.
This life of mortal breath is but a suburb of the life Elysian,
Whose portal we call death.
Smale.—July 3, at Kimberley, South Africa, from heart failure, Mrs. T. E. Smale, professionally known as Charlotte Elliott, comedienne.
Williams.—On Sept. 8, W. T. Williams, 72, formerly musical director Barnard's, Chatham, and Rosherville Gardens.

In Memoriam.

Leybourne.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family.
Leybourne.—In memory of my dearly loved father, George Leybourne, who died Sept. 15, 1884. Never forgotten by his loving daughter Florrie (Mrs. Albert Chevalier).
Lyle.—In loving memory of Arthur Lyle, the beloved husband of Mary Griffiths, who passed away Sept. 13, 1903.
Moore.—In loving memory of George Washington Moore, jun., who fell asleep Sept. 20, 1901. Still sadly missed by his affectionate father and family. R.I.P., dear George.

ROBSON REHEARSING.

One day, says Sir Frank Burnand in his "Reminiscences," not so very long after the production of *Dido*, and during its run, Montagu Williams came to me bursting with an idea. He literally gasped with excitement.

"What is it?" I asked.

"The Benicia Boy," he blurted out excitedly. Everyone was talking about this celebrated prize-fighter, who was coming over, or who had come over, to meet the English champion, Tom Sayers.

"I've got a first-rate idea for a farce!" he cried. Then he told me what fun must come out of the notion of some harmless person, in a farce, being mistaken for the redoubtable pugilist.

"Your father-in-law is the man for it," I said at once, but this was, I found, impossible. I forget whether he were "resting" or had retired, but I do remember that when we had hit on our plot and had written the piece, Mr. Keeley said he wished such a farce had been offered to him in his best days.

We set to work. I incline to the opinion that we both of us went to our "lecture" and our "dinner" during the day, that I returned early, and that Montagu came to me about seven in the evening; and that there and then we began our work, one walking and talking and the other sitting and writing, alternately, until, at about four o'clock in the morning, the farce was finished. Before midday Montagu had taken the manuscript to Mrs. Keeley, who, having read it, and being delighted with it, went straight off, manuscript in hand, to Messrs. Robson and Emden, who by the following day had accepted it, paid for it (alas! a miserable sum! why didn't Mrs. Keeley tell her son-in-law what to ask for it! So after all I hadn't much to complain of as to lacking friends when I priced *Dido*), and it was immediately put into rehearsal at the Olympic Theatre.

I shall never forget Robson's rehearsing. The farce played about "forty minutes" (so registered in printed copy), but every rehearsal occupied us, at first, during a full three hours, that is from eleven till two.

"Of course, get to business," assented Robson, becoming all at once overpoweringly in earnest.

He stood with us, the authors, on the stage with his back to the pit. Emden was stage manager.

We commenced. Mrs. Emden began, and everything would be going on smoothly, when Robson would suddenly exclaim—

"Stop!"—then turning first to Emden and then to us, he would say apologetically, "I beg your pardon for interrupting—but—that table"—we all regarded the table—what was the matter?—"Well—when I come on—where do I put my bag?"

Emden would remonstrate with him. "Let us wait till his entrance, then he would see."

"Yes," Robson objected, "but it will save time *then* if it's arranged *now*."

However willing as were the young authors to humour, even obsequiously, the great little actor (the most wonderful tragic-comedian I have ever seen), Emden, who knew his partner by heart, would not allow him to upset the rehearsal in a scene with which he had nothing to do, especially as Mrs. Emden was occupying the stage at that moment. So Robson bottled himself up and corked himself down for another five or ten minutes, when he had to rehearse his own scene. He was the despair of a stage manager. It was impossible to fix him to any position for two seconds together. He would devise "business," and immediately afterwards forget all about it; then on being reminded, he would roar with laughter as if he were hearing a capital joke for the first time. All the "business" he thoroughly enjoyed; but after a time this repetition and his forgetfulness caused those who were on the stage with him to become very weary of any piece, no matter how humorous it might be.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 17.

After the Ball.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
A Knight Errant.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
An Actor's Romance.—T. R., Whitehaven.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—W. Pier, Brighton.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Preston.
At Duty's Call.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Beast and the Beauty.—Princess' Theatre, Glasgow.
Beautiful Fiend.—T. R. Tyldesley.
Belle of Mayfair.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Mariborough T., N.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Forfar, Alloa, and Stirling.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs., 3nd Co.—Stoke Newington.
Between Two Women.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Breed of the Treshams.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Sheffield.
Charley's Aunt.—Theatre Royal, Limerick
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdonal.—Hereford and New town.
Christian, The (Croke).—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Christian, The (Howard).—Bishop Auckland.
Cingalee (S.).—Chester.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Coal King.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., Sheffield.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Londonderry and Larne.
Country Girl (N.).—Stratford.
Country Girl (S.).—Derby.
Country Mouse.—Scarborough.
Cousin Kate.—Scarborough.
Dairymaids, The.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Dandy Doctor.—Country Theatre, Bedford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Bridlington and Whitby.
D'Oyly Carte.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Driven from Home.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Duchess of Dantzic (N.).—Liverpool.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Harrogate.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Weymouth and Richmond.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Norwich.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Prince's T., Poplar, E.
Eternal City (Howard).—Peterbro, and Lincoln.
Executioner's Daughter.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Face at the Window.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Facing the Music.—St. Leonard's-on-Sea.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Grand T., Croydon.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—New T. R., West Stanley.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Irving T., Seacombe.
Faust Up-to-Date.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
Female Swindler.—Court Theatre, Bacup.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Margate and Herne Bay.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—Court T., Warrington.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—King's T., Ham'smith.
For Life and After.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Yarmouth.
French Spy.—Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.
Frivolity.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Aston.
Geisha.—Brighton.
Geoffrey Stirling.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Cardiff.
Girl on the Stage.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Golden Ladder.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Great Awakening.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Held Apart.—Theatre, Cambridge.
Held in Bondage.—T. R., Hyde.
Her Fatal Past.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Her Lost Self.—King's T., Cardiff.
Her Love Against the World.—J. T., Manchester.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Smethwick.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Inverness.
His House in Order (N.).—Grand T., Middlesbro'
His House in Order (S.).—Grand T., Swansea.
Honour Thy Father.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
I Defy the World.—Grand T., Edinboro'.
Indian Mutiny.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Kitty Grey.—Kilmarnock and Ayr.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Dundee.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Southampton.
La Poupee (Leville).—Avenue T., Sunderland.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Huntingdon & Newmarket.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—Kirkcaldy.
Lights o' London.—Grand T., Islington, N.
Lion and the Mouse.—County T., Reading.
Little Breadwinner.—Wakefield.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Grand T., Blackpool.
Little Michus (S.).—Eastbourne.
London Actress.—O. H., Workington.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Love that Women Desire.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Luck of Life.—Theatre Royal, Houghton.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Worcester.
Manxman.—Victoria T., Ramsgate.
Marriage of Kitty.—Ambleside and Keswick.
Midnight Mail.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
Midnight Wedding.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—T. R., South Shields.
Monte Cristo.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
Moody-Manners (A).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Moody-Manners (B).—Tunbridge Wells.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Chatham.
Mr. Popple.—T. R., Dublin.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Bournemouth.
Mr. Smith.—Theatre Royal, Llandudno.
Napoleon the Great.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
No Man's Land.—Metropole T. Gateshead.
Norman V. Norman.—Ramsgate.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Shrewsbury and Ipswich.
On the Love Path.—Scarborough.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—T. R., Glossop.
Orchid (N.).—Manchester.
Orchid (S.).—Birkenhead.
Otto the Outcast.—Grand T., Chorley.
Power of Gold.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
Price of Her Soul.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris's).—T. R., Bath.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., W. Bromwich.
Prodigal Son.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Proof.—Alhambra T., Stourbridge.
Public Opinion.—Ramsgate and Eastbourne.
Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Royal Divorce.—Grand Theatre, Douglas.
Royal Revenge.—Grand T., Forest Gate, E.
Sailors of the King.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Saints and Sinners.—T. R., Blyth.
Saturday to Monday.—Scarborough.
See-Saw of Life.—P. O. W., Salford.
Shadow of a Crime.—Kirkcaldy.
Sherlock Holmes.—Opera House, Burnley.
Shulamite.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Sign of the Cross.—Century T., Motherwell.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—Helensburgh and Dumbarton.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Herne Bay and Canterbury.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—T. R., St. Helens.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Met. T., Abertillery.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Eccles.
Sins of a City.—Newcastle.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Dunfermline.
Spider and the Fly.—P.O.W., Gt. Grimsby.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Yarmouth.
Still Alarm.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Sunday.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Swiss Express.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Temptress, The.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Terry, Edward.—Ayr and Kilmarnock.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Southport.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona).—Retford and Broomsgrove.
Throne of Terror.—New T., Aberdare.
Toreador (Macdona).—Barnstaple and Ross.
Toreador.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
Traitor, The.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Trip to the Highlands.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Trumpet Call.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Two Hussars.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Colosseum T., Oldham.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Aldershot.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Market Harborough.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Ilfracombe and Weston S.M.
Under Two Flags.—T. R., Bolton.
Unwedded Wife.—Artillery, Woolwich.
Veronique (N.).—Birmingham.
Veronique (S.).—Scarborough.
Village Blacksmith.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Empire Theatre, Southend.
Warning to Women.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
What the Butler Saw.—Grand Theatre, Douglas.
When London Sleeps.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
When Woman Hates.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—P. T., Bristol.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Kingston.
Worst Woman in London.—T. R., Barnsley.
Youngest of Three.—Ryde and Littlehampton.
£1000 Reward.—Public Hall, Mountain Ash.
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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—*The cast of* Red Hands, *produced at the St. James's Theatre on Jan. 30, 1869, was as follows:—Hugh Ravenhill, Mr. Gaston Murray; Leonard Drew, Mr. Trafford; Walter Hamman, Mr. Chas. F. Coghlan; Crockett, Mr. A. Williams; Black Hulks, Mr. Allen; Rachel Harman, Miss Lucy Rushton; Agnes, Miss Marston; Lydia Ravenhill, Mrs. Poynter. Miss R. Lea also appeared in a small comic character.*

G. D.—(1) *He first appeared at the halls as an eccentric character comedian and negro sketch artist.* (2) *At the Empire, Leicester-square.*

CONTRALTO.—*She made her first London appearance as principal girl in the Drury Lane pantomime of 1900.*

LEWIS PATON.—The Manxman, *an adaptation of Hall Caine's novel of the name, was produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Nov. 18, 1895, with the following cast:—Philip Christian, Mr. Lewis Waller; Pete Quilliam, Mr. G. W. Cockburn; Cæsar Cregeen, Mr. James Fernandez; Black Tom, Mr. Henry Kemble; Ross Christian, Mr. C. H. E. Brookfield; Sir Edward Brookland, Mr. Hamilton Knight; Mr. Farrant, Q.C., Mr. F. P. Stevens; Dr. Mylechreest, Mr. George Hippesley; Kelly, Mr. Leslie Thomson; Jemmy Lord, Mr. H. Deane; Inspector Ballure, Mr. C. Goodhart; Lady Brookfield, Mrs. Arthur Ayers; Cicely Cornwall, Miss Christina Mayne; Nancy, Miss Kate Phillips; Bella, Miss Norbury; Kate Cregeen, Miss Florence West.*

GEO. HENDON.—TWO Roses, *by the late James Albery, was first produced at the Vaudeville, June 4, 1870. The principal parts were thus cast: Digby Grant, Henry Irving; Our Mr. Jenkins, George Honey; Jack Wyatt, H. J. Montague; Caleb Deecie, Thomas Thorne; Mr. Furnival, W. H. Stephens; Ida, Ada Newton; and Lottie, Amy Fawsett. The* Two Roses *was revived at the Lyceum at Christmas, 1881.*

T. E. L.—*Vauxhall Gardens were finally closed in July, 1859.*

WINDSOR.—*Mme. Vestris made her first appearance on the stage as Lilla in* The Siege of Belgrade, *produced Feb. 19, 1820.*

C. A. W.—*We do not know the date when it was last played. For other particulars write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand.*

A CONSTANT READER.—(1) *It is certainly remiss on the lady's part not to have sent an acknowledgment.* (1) *Mr. Martin Harvey made his first appearance on the stage as a schoolboy in the play* To Parents and Guardians, *produced at the Court Theatre in 1877. His next appearance was as Dolly Birkett in* Betsy.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

MR. A. E. WOOD, master carpenter with Mr. H. B. Irving's company, sails, per s.s. Lucania, to-day for New York. The company opens at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on Oct. 1. Whether Mr. Wood will return after the New York season or continue with Mr. Irving during the whole tour is still uncertain.

A MEETING of stage employees will be held on Sunday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the Hare and Hounds Hotel, Upper-st., Islington, for the purpose of forming an organising committee for that district.

AT the last meeting of the committee of the Heads of Departments Association four new members were elected; and it was decided to co-operate in organising the annual concert in aid of the Benevolent Funds.

THE Concert Committee have also met, and it has been decided to give the concert on a Sunday towards the end of November. The concert will be given in aid of the Benevolent Funds of the Stage Employees Societies; but any donations received will be placed to the credit of the "Open" National Benevolent Fund, to which the sports' balance was devoted.

MR. BERT BEAN is now in charge of the stage department of the Waldorf Theatre. Mr. J. George, sen., is now master carpenter at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

MR. FRANCIS BOILEAU FIELD is an oboeist, late of the R.A. Band. He is also a grateful advertiser. Writing to *The Era*, he says: "My present engagement I got by advertising in your paper. Gentlemen of *The Era*, I thank you very much."

"FEW theatre programmes are entirely innocent of the fumes of petrol—metaphorically speaking, of course," says the *Car Review*. "What would *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* have amounted to without a car?" To this question there can be no reply; but we would ask a similar, and, we think, even more pertinent one. What would Mr. Bernard Shaw's play, *Man and Superman*, be without the chauffeur, Henry Straker, who is the smart product of an up-to-date Board School and evening classes at the Polytechnic? "'Enery" is an engineer who knows his business; he is also a shrewd man of the world. The chauffeur in the new play, *Toddles*, at the Duke of York's, is a character of no importance; but perhaps in the dramatic developments of the dim future we may have an automobile driver whose character shall be as interesting as that of old Weller.

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Penrose, Mr. Chas.
Pepi, Signor
Phydora, Mr. Chas.
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Randall, Miss Nellie
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Wrigley Mr. W. R.
Wyndham, Miss K.
Yates, Mr. Fredk.
Zednas, The Three
Zélie de Lussan, Mlle.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mme. Katti Lanner—Saturday, Sept. 15.
Lily Langtry—Saturday, Sept. 15.
R. Jerrold Ord—Saturday, Sept. 15.
Albert E. Wilson—Saturday, Sept. 15.
Charles Allan—Sunday, Sept. 16.
Leonard Aardale—Sunday, Sept. 16.
Lucy Coventry—Sunday, Sept. 16.
Charles Bishop—Monday, Sept. 17.
Katie Lawrence—Monday, Sept. 17.
Queenie Fraser-Brunner—Monday, Sept. 17.
Amy Wood—Monday, Sept. 17.
Mrs. Arthur Yates—Monday, Sept. 17.
W. A. Armour—Monday, Sept. 17.
Fred Monckton—Monday, Sept. 17.
Arthur Haytor—Monday, Sept. 17.
Edgar Granville—Monday, Sept. 17.
S. Major Jones—Monday, Sept. 17.
Evelyn Millard—Tuesday, Sept. 18.
Harry J. Snelson—Tuesday, Sept. 18.
Charles B. Vaughan—Tuesday, Sept. 18.
Harry Burns—Tuesday, Sept. 18.
Milner Verren—Tuesday, Sept. 18.
Henry Arthur Jones—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
George Robey—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
Mary Dalby—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
Lydia Mannington—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
Will Sergeant—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
Ethel Douglas—Wednesday, Sept. 19.
Charles Stirling—Saturday, Sept. 15.
Frank Seeley—Thursday, Sept. 20.
Selwyn Seymour—Thursday, Sept. 20.
Caroline Foy—Thursday, Sept. 20.
Dorothy Hercat—Thursday, Sept. 20.

MISS HETTIE CHATTELL, the well-known artist, and her husband, Mr. Jack Denton, have just purchased the entire rights of an exceedingly funny sketch, entitled *Brother Bob*, from the pen of J. H. Brownson, the author of *The Bigamist*. Mr. Austin Lenton was lucky to capture this latter sketch, for within a month of accepting it, he had booked the majority of the principal halls.

MISS GRACIE WILSON, wife of Mr. Tom H. Taylor, is about to transfer her allegiance from the theatre to the music-hall stage. She has had a musical comedy sketch written for her by T. H. Brownson, entitled *The Piano Tuner and the Romp*. It contains two catchy musical numbers which have been set to music by Joseph Tabrar.

MR. SID COTTERELL will not appear in this year's Christmas pantomime at Drury Lane as advertised, but will play with Mr. Fred Granville's No. 1 production of *The Forty Thieves*, in which he is engaged to star as Hassarac.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.
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Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1906.

DRAMA AND MELODRAMA.

Mr. ARTHUR COLLINS has written a most interesting letter with reference to Mr. HALL CAINE'S new play, *The Bondman*, which will be produced at Drury Lane next Thursday. Incidentally, he raises the question of the difference between drama and melodrama. It certainly is not quite easy to say where drama ends and where melodrama begins. Every successful play must have some of the elements which make melodrama popular; and even a melodrama may have its "purple patches" of literature and observation.

Melodrama is the drama of the people. Nowadays, thanks to our School Boards, the British working man is a much more intelligent personage than he used to be in the early part of the nineteenth century, when melodrama had its origin in the desire to cater for the then crude and primitive tastes of audiences on "the other side of the water." The essential difference between drama and melodrama seems to be that in a drama the interest is maintained by the development of character, whereas in a melodrama excitement is sustained by a series of cleverly dovetailed incidents. The old Adelphi is often regarded as the home of melodrama, but the earlier "Adelphi dramas" really had an affinity to drama proper. It is impossible to class pieces like BUCKSTONE'S *Wreck Ashore*, and the adaptation entitled *Green Bushes*, with the productions of Messrs. MERRITT and PETTITT, or with modern melodrama constructed and contrived for provincial consumption. The old Adelphi plays were performed by actors and actresses who were artists in their ways, and who were capable of extracting value from situations conceived in a different spirit from those of "nailed-together" melodrama. The scene in *Green Bushes* in which Cynthia overhears Lemuel confess the murder for which her lover is to suffer, and drags the lad off the stage with Bess clinging to him for mercy, was fine drama when played by such artists as Madame CELESTE, Miss WOOLGAR, and Mrs. FITZWILLIAM; and the now-forgotten O'SMITH'S death scene of the pirate Grampus — they chose extraordinary names for their characters in the eighteen hundreds—was decidedly above the level of a piece like *The Man-Cat* at the Victoria, in which an individual, partly human, partly feline, was afflicted with homicidal mania, and committed murders by passing to and fro over the roofs of houses. Another notable Adelphi play, *The Colleen Bawn*, founded on a capital novel, contained character and real emotion, though it must be owned that the childishly-simple imitation of real water in the cavern scene was the "draw" of the piece; and the fact that the late Sir HENRY IRVING did not disdain to appear in *The Dead Heart*—another early Adelphian triumph—proved that the work could not be correctly classified as "manufactured" melodrama.

The Surrey Theatre, after Mr. GEORGE CONQUEST became lessee of the house in 1880, in partnership with Mr. PAUL MERRITT, became the great factory of melodrama proper. Their extraordinary gifts of construction, combined with some absolute invention and a rich store of reminiscences, enabled Mr. MERRITT and his rival Mr. PETTITT to turn out play after play exactly on a level with the taste of the popular transpontine audiences for which they catered. It was essentially the same article, though better mounted and acted, which AUGUSTUS HARRIS presented to his patrons after he assumed the management of Drury Lane in 1879. These were melodramas, and nothing more. It is not too much to say that not a single character or speech of these once-successful productions remains in the memory. They simply answered the purpose for which they were written.

Mr. WILSON BARRETT, in his "palmy days" at the Princess's in 1881-1886, offered a greatly superior product. *The Silver King* and *The Lights o' London* were dramas—melodramatic in spots perhaps, but belonging to the drama class by virtue of their character-drawing and observation. They were splendidly acted, and could be enjoyed by the intelligent and tolerated by the intellectual. The difficulty which the melodramatist has to meet is that of catering for the appetite for excitement and sensation which exists in the average playgoer, and yet not to supply an article so cheap and shallow as to be detected by him as absurd. We want, indeed, plays with all the constructive merit and constant "movement" of the MERRITT and PETTITT concoctions, and also with parts for really "brainy" actors and actresses. The latter cannot be expected to make bricks without straw, and are, indeed, entirely thrown away on the wooden lay-figures of melodrama proper. Mr. HALL CAINE is so happily constituted as to be able to supply the want. His genius is essentially romantic, and he has the power of inventing thrilling and touching stories. He gives himself a free hand by laying his scenes in countries practically unknown to the playgoers whom he pleases, and supplying the scene-painter with excellent opportunities. He deals broadly with the elemental instincts, and appeals to sympathies which are fixed and eternal; and he makes exactly the compromise demanded by the time and place of his productions.

There is nothing more easy than to sneer at a drama of the popular sort, and few things more difficult than to write one. On the one hand is the Scylla of crudity; on the other the Charybdis of subtlety and depth. The patrons of drama want to be made to feel, not to think. The cultured critic is *blasé*, sophisticated; a Drury Lane audience is emotional, excitable, responsive to an appeal to its heart. Like the oft-quoted Cabinet Minister, it is "human—very human." After all, conventionality is only a question of frequent repetition. There *was* a time when the most "conventional" situation, the most hackneyed speech was fresh and novel. There was a time when the heart of the most hardened critic was open to impressions: when he took *Black-Eyed Susan* seriously, and was thrilled by the "Hawkshaw, the detective," incident in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. We need not be particularly pleased with ourselves because the darts of sentiment—as GOLDSMITH put it—"fall blunted from" our "indurated hearts." In fact, we ought rather to be ashamed of and sorry for it. NAPOLEON said he liked DUROC because "the fellow had never shed a tear"; but the remark was not considered a compliment, and the biographer of BONAPARTE was at pains to defend the recipient. The lovers of melodrama are still young.

"PETER'S MOTHER."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture, produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Sir Timothy Crewys, Bart. — MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL
Lady Mary Crewys — MISS MARION TERRY
Peter — MR. A. E. MATTHEWS
Lady Belstone — MISS DOLORES DRUMMOND
Miss Georgina Crewys — MISS ALICE BEET
John Crewys, Q.C. — MR. FREDK. KERR
Canon Birch — MR. E. W. GARDEN
Doctor Blundell — MR. ALFRED BUCKLAW
Mrs. Hewel — MRS. EDWARD SAKER
Sarah — MISS HILDA TREVELYAN
Ash — MR. REGINALD EYRE
Footman — MR. MONTAGUE ELPHINSTONE

It is said that at the present time theatre-managers find it more than usually difficult to ascertain the taste of the public in regard to dramatic fare; and experiments in the theatrical cuisine is a risky and very often a very costly business. If the playgoer of to-day can enjoy a pleasant, cheerful, little comedy, that is frankly natural and perhaps just a little commonplace, but presenting some delightful character-sketches, and certainly much cleverly-written dialogue, he will be favourably impressed by the piece that was produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday evening. It's essentially cordial reception warrants the belief that *Peter's Mother* will attract large audiences to Wyndham's Theatre for a long time to come. There is a certain degree of freshness in the motive upon which Mrs. de la Pasture's comedy is based. She gives us a clever study of the victim of unconscious selfishness; and the lesson conveyed is as patent and as pointed as that which Mr. Richard Ganthony presented in his memorable creation of Horace Parker in *A Message from Mars*. In the first act we are introduced to Sir Timothy Crewys, a stiff, starchy, country baronet of an easily-recognised type, who, late in life, married a girl whose guardian he was, and who, without any intention of being unkind, in reality crushes all the natural gaiety of youth out of his young wife. She respects him, but that is all—his hard, cold nature and precise manner are not calculated to win a woman's love. They have an only son, who, when the play opens, is a youth of eighteen, who has been sent to Eton. But young Peter Crewys has caught the war fever badly, and without consulting his parents or anyone else, enlists in a troop of irregular horse, and when the news reaches his home is on the point of starting for South Africa to take part in the fight against the Boers. His father having pro-Boer leanings, it would, of course, have been quite useless to have asked his consent. This act on the part of the son and heir causes a conflict between husband and wife. Unknown to Lady Mary, Sir Timothy is suffering from a serious malady, and the specialist who has been called in advises an immediate operation as the only chance of saving the baronet's life. Lady Mary insists on travelling to Southampton to see her boy on his way to South Africa; Sir Timothy requests her to stay without stating the reason—that the critical operation is to be performed on the following day. At the baronet's request, his cousin, John Crewys, a middle-aged Q.C., reveals to her ladyship the real cause of Sir Timothy's reluctance to allow her to leave home at this juncture; and she consents to remain. The baronet dies under the operation, and Lady Mary is left a widow of thirty-five. Two years elapse, and Peter is invalided home, his right arm having been struck by a shot, and amputated. The young soldier is curiously like his father in many respects. He does not like the changes that have, at the suggestion of John Crewys, been made at the old Hall; and he disapproves of his mother wearing her hair in a more modern fashion. Poor Lady Mary is disappointed, but bears up bravely, and the mother's love stands the test well. She, however, has not the heart to tell him that John Crewys has asked her to become his wife. Peter falls in love with a lively little girl named Sarah Hewel, who has already quite a list of admirers, and this very cute young lady takes a prominent part in the redemption of Peter Crewys from the sin of selfishness. The young man informs his mother that he is about to marry, and more than hints that she can take up her residence with his two elderly and rather disagreeable aunts at the neighbouring dower-house. In the last act there is a strong scene between the selfish young man and John Crewys, when the last-mentioned lets Peter have a bit of his mind, the lesson being completed by Sarah Hewel. The young soldier, awakened to his selfishness, becomes repentant, and so the story closes with the prospect of much happiness for Lady Mary and the man who has so faithfully watched over her interests.

Happily the title-rôle is in the hands of that fascinating and accomplished actress Miss Marion Terry, and it is a part in which she is seen at her best, which is saying a good deal. In the expression of Lady Mary's love for her soldier son, Miss Terry contrives to exhibit the strong, natural feeling of the mother, proud of her boy yet not blind to his failings. In the last act as Lady Mary listens to Peter's recital of his intentions, the amused smile on his mother's face is delightful, while a powerful effect is obtained by the sudden and quite unexpected outburst of angry remonstrance. Peter's mother is altogether one of the most charming impersonations that Miss Terry has ever given us. Mr. Norman McKinnel's portrait of Sir Timothy Crewys is admirable in every respect; the obstinacy, the petulance, and yet the fine courage of the doomed man being painted in vivid colours. Mr. A. E. Matthews must also be congratulated on his faithful and convincing portrayal of Peter Crewys. Mr. Frederick Kerr gives a quiet, but none the less effective, embodiment John Crewys, taking full advantage of the opportunity afforded him in the scene with Peter. Mr. E. W. Garden as Canon Birch supplies a capital sketch of an easy-going cleric; and a companion picture is the Dr. Blundell of Mr. Alfred Bucklaw, always a safe, sound actor. Miss Dolores Drummond as Lady Belstone, Sir Timothy's widowed sister, and Miss Alice Beet as Georgina Crewys, his spinster sister, represent with tact and discretion two amusing characters. Miss Hilda Trevelyan plays the part of Sarah Hewel, the "red-haired girl," with charming vivacity and bright intelligence; and Mrs. Edward Saker is well placed as Mrs. Hewel.

The principal piece was preceded by a new one-act play, by C. Hamilton, entitled

"THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT."

Johannes — MR. F. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Anna — MISS MADGE MCINTOSH
Martin — MR. WALTER HAMPDEN
An Old Peasant Woman — MISS ISABEL GREY

This is a sensational little play, the plot turning upon the murder by a woodcutter and his wife of a woman, who was a temporary inmate of their cottage in the Black Forest, their excuse for the crime being that their child was dying from starvation and they wanted money to buy food. However, the child is not saved from death after all, and remorse seizes upon the murderess. The wife's soldier brother arrives, and tells how his wife while on the way to join him has been cruelly murdered. All he lives for now is revenge on those who have killed her. The man retires for the night. The woodcutter seizes a knife, crying, "It is his life or ours," and with the reply, "Then let it be ours!" the curtain descends. Mr. F. Percival Stevens plays with power as the woodcutter, and Miss Madge McIntosh portrays with remarkable intensity the part of the wife. Mr. Walter Hampden also scores as Martin, the husband of the murdered woman, and Miss Isabel Grey is good as an old peasant woman. The play was originally produced at the New Palace Theatre, Brighton, on May 11 last, under the title of *The Traveller's Return*.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The fifth bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Actors' Association was held in the saloon at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on the 7th inst. Mr. A. E. Drinkwater was voted to the chair. There were present the following: Mr. Orlando Barnett, Mr. Cecil Barth, Miss Marian J. Bird, Mr Acton Bond, Mr. Burton Cooke, Mr. F. Cremlin, Miss Blanche de Lorme, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Maud Kynnersley, Mr. Frank Melrose, Miss Helen Mosley, Miss Kate Phillips, Miss Doris Regan, Mr. John Richter, Mr. A. M. Seaton, Mr. Walter Selby, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. Adnam Sprange, Miss Minnie Thurgate, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary stated that Miss Beatrice Lamb had promised to read a paper at this meeting, and read the following telegram from that lady:—"Very sorry; doctor forbidden me to speak to-day." The following letter from Miss Georgina Hamilton was read by the chairman:—

(COPY.)
Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Sept. 13, 1906.

To the Chairman of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of the A.A.

DEAR SIR,—May I take this opportunity of asking the members present to help forward the work of our Commissioners by taking a more active interest in the workings of the A.A.?

It is not a bit of use calling meetings in the provinces and working ourselves to death while there are in our midst, I am ashamed to say, so many who are injuring the good cause. We must remove these reproaches from amongst us, or our Commissioners may just as well save their breath to cool their porridge.

Theirs is no easy task to begin with, to interest people who don't care whether they are interested or not, but when they find they have to fight these outsiders with weapons placed into their hands by—I blush to say—our own members, it is very far from encouraging.

If our Commissioners are to make any headway the ordinary member must help them by supporting the Association and not abusing it. During the two months I have had the honour of serving on the Committee and being specially engaged on propagandist work for our Association, I have been fighting hard to remove prejudices that have been planted in people's minds by some of our own members.

It would be better if those good folk talked instead of the cleverness of the A.A. in getting that £60,000 from the Covent Garden Fund for our Theatrical Charities.

Talk of where the money would have gone—who would have got it if it hadn't been for the A.A.

Talk of the glorious time coming when the A.A. will from the strength of its position get us payment for rehearsals.

Talk of the actors' rights and how the A.A. is steadily trying to gain them for us.

Talk of our making managers belong to the A.A., so that we may have a guarantee of getting our rights from them.

Talk of how we prefer to work under A.A. managers, knowing that they daren't do dirty tricks.

Talk of the madness of working under outside management who can treat us anyhow.

Talk of the time which we hope will come when our membership will include all recognised actors and actresses, when we shall from sheer strength of numbers be able to boycott all the bad managers.

Talk of the necessity of getting into the Association those down-trodden creatures who are now being imposed upon with two houses a night for drama at an illegal salary.

Talk of banding together and knocking it on the head now before it gets a firm footing.

Talk of unity being strength.

If our members talked more for the Association and not against it, it would be more to their credit. To repeat all I hear against it from its own people would occupy the afternoon, and I do appeal most earnestly for this to be altered. There is an old proverb about how a bird should behave in its own nest, and I ask the members here present to change the existing state of affairs and build a nice clean nest for the Commissioners to hatch their eggs in. The representative body should at least be free from the stigma of owning a dirty nest. The Council, the Committee, the Commissioners can make no real satisfactory headway until the members have done their work—the duty they owe to this Association.—I have the honour to remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEORGINA HAMILTON,
Commissioners' Committee of the
Actors' Association.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Hamilton by acclamation.

Miss Gladys Ffolliott spoke on the advisability of forming a scheme something like the Music Hall Federation, and proposed that the matter be referred to the council. Mr. A. M. Seaton having seconded the proposition, it was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 10,
the Modern Play, in Four Acts, by the late Wilson Barrett, entitled
"LUCKY DURHAM."

There is a pathetic interest in *Lucky Durham*, which is paying us a return visit this week, inasmuch as it was Wilson Barrett's last dramatic effort, and was written by him while in the throes of the fatal disease which was ultimately to carry him off. The play is an unconventional and virile piece of work, containing very little of the usual comic relief, and "the villain of the piece" is conspicuous by his absence. It has, however, firmly established itself in the affections of the playgoer, and good audiences have been the rule at Peckham. Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company does full justice to the play. Mr. Edmund Kennedy has a heavy task in impersonating the millionaire John Durham. His acting as the self-made man who by sheer force of intellect triumphs over all his foes, and beats down the social prejudices which surround him, is very fine, the man's innate strength, his love for Helen, and his filial regard for his deserted mother being admirably rendered. Mr. Kennedy is perhaps at his best in the last act, where he addresses the portraits of Lord Mountfallon's ancestors. Miss Alice Esther Belmore gives a fine portrait of the cold and haughty Helen Vallerton, whose heart is at last conquered by Durham's generosity. Mr. Robert Forsyth does all that is possible with the unsympathetic rôle of Lord Vallerton; Miss Louisa Gourlay plays with much tenderness and charm as the silver-haired Mrs. Durham; Mr. Arthur Leigh relieves the more sombre parts of the play by his amusing idiosyncrasies as the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Miss Francis Wolviston is an appropriately shrewish Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Florence Dalhunty is vivacious as her daughter Margaret. Mr. W. F. Clitherow is humorous as the Jewish moneylender Ben Verstein; and Mr. A. E. Walker is good as Mr. Vallerton. The remaining characters are all adequately played. Special scenery has been painted for the production, which is received with much enthusiasm throughout.

ON Saturday Mr. Martin Harvey presented *The Only Way* at the Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. As Sydney Carton Mr. Harvey acted with his usual skill and power. Miss N. De Silva as Mimi gave evidence of real ability. Mr. Charles Glenney as Ernest Defarge made all his points with skill and ease; Mr. P. Alexander as Mr. Lorry deserves a special word of praise. As Dr. Manette Mr. Fred Wright, sen., acted very skilfully. As Charles Darnay Mr. Leonard Craske contributed in no small degree to the success. Mr. Charles Cameron depicted the President with due severity; and Mr. Paul Barry ably embodied the Public Prosecutor.

"SOLOMON THE SIBERIAN."

A Drama in Four Acts, in Yiddish, written by John Jackson, with music by Ferdinand Staub, produced at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, on Thursday, Sept. 6.

Solomon Guttman — MR. M. D. WAXMAN
Deborah — MME. KAYZER
Esther, Miss Lubritzski — MME. F. WAXMAN
Pauline — MISS BRYH
Slotka — MR. SCHILLING
Jacob Mandelstein — MR. SHTRENG
Ivan Zoltokoff — MR. ISAACOWITCH
Lieutenant Dr. Jacobowitch — MR. GUSOFSKY
Juge d'Instruction — MR. GREENSTEIN
Boris Lepkowitch, Doctor — MR. ROSENFELD
Judge Yermeloff — MR. GOLDSHMID
Helena — MISS LUBRITZKI
Chief Warder — MR. SHTRENG
Usher — MR. MARKOWITCH

Solomon Guttman, a merchant of Wilna, on discovering that his wife Deborah is in love with Ivan Zoltokoff, a lawyer, pleads with her to remain faithful on account of their child. Leaving her to reflect on this proposition, he returns later with Jacob Mandelstein, Deborah's rich uncle, lately arrived from Africa, and who ultimately displays a considerable portion of his wealth. Presently a telegram is brought announcing that Solomon's business is on fire, and as he is not insured he decides to hasten to the conflagration by walking to the station and catching the midnight train. In the meantime, Ivan, who has been in hiding, has overheard all that has passed, decides to possess himself of Deborah, rob and murder the uncle, and then to foist the crime on Solomon. After a comedy scene between the servants Slotka and Pauline, the house is closed for the night, and when all is still Ivan enters through a window, dressed and made up as Solomon, strangles the uncle, and escapes just as the child Esther and Deborah, disturbed by the noise, hurriedly come into the room. Almost immediately Solomon returns bruised and injured, having been waylaid on his way to the station. He is at once accused by all of the murder, and eventually arrested and tried. After evidence has been given against him by his wife, child, and servants, he is convicted and sentenced to penal servitude for life at the Siberian mines.

Fifteen years elapse, and Lieut. Dr. Jacobowitch—the affianced husband of Esther—with the connivance of the Siberian overseer and Slotka, manage to effect the escape of Solomon, who, upon reaching St. Petersburg, appeals to the Supreme Court for a new trial. At this time Deborah, the mistress of Ivan—now Judge—Zoltokoff, is suddenly confronted by her husband at a ball given by the Judge to celebrate his daughter's birthday. Solomon exposes Ivan, and denounces his wife, turning her out of the room, and finishing up by giving the Judge a severe thrashing, thereby hastening his death, as he has long suffered from heart disease. Before dying, however, Ivan confesses to the murder of Jacob Mandelstein, and Deborah, learning how bitterly she has been deceived, stabs herself to death.

Although Mr. John Jackson in his latest effort is at times reminiscent, yet he has given a story which is full of those conflicting emotions of love, hatred, and revenge; while the powerful fourth act reflects great care and judgment in the framing, and is in every way deserving of high praise. The capable Yiddish company gave a capital interpretation of the piece, Mr. M. D. Waxman being most successful as Solomon Guttman; while a marked expression of approval must be given to Mr. Isaacowitch for his incisive acting as Ivan Zoltokoff. Mme. F. Waxman made a charming Esther; and tragic force was shown by Mme. J. Kayzer as Deborah. Miss Bryh was animated as Pauline; and a pleasing Helena was found in Miss Lubritzki; while Mr. Shtreng was a satisfactory Jacob Mandelstein and Chief Warder. Mr. Gusofsky displays spirit as Lieut. Dr. Jacobowitch; and Mr. Schilling was excellent as Slotka. Messrs. Greenstein, Rosenfeld, and Goldshmid made the most of their opportunities; and the scenery and mounting were in the best possible taste. Professor F. Staub had specially written the music, which was tasteful and appropriate; while the whole production was under the experienced direction of Mr. M. D. Waxman.

MR. DAN ROLYAT.

The popularity of *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo Theatre does not appear to be affected by heat waves or rival productions, and of all the capital cast, perhaps Joe Mivens, the amorous bluejacket, is most "rememberable." Joe, in the hands of that amusing, and, comparatively speaking, new comedian, Mr. Dan Rolyat, is a most original character, for he hardly says the same thing two nights running, and his good habit of making bad puns seems to be growing on him. Although Mr. Rolyat may be said to have only recently "arrived," he has been in the profession for at least eight years, was educated in drama, graduated to pantomime, and took his degree on the variety stage before going into musical comedy. His variety work—a year in sketches and a year as a single star turn—was of great value in the style of comedy to which he is best suited, for, in his own words, a man has to "happen" at once if he is going to make a success in the halls, and it teaches him to make his patter all point. Perhaps the best song he has ever sung is the old favourite, "The Football Referee."

Mr. Rolyat writes his own words and music—and contracts! He could always do the former, and is now in the fortunate position of doing the latter. Apropos of contracts, his first business engagement was to make himself generally useful at the old Queen's Theatre, Birmingham, when he was a small boy, for a shilling a week, and the honour and glory of being behind the scenes at a real theatre. As time went on, he took to doing musical sketches and imitations of actors, as an amateur, the fact of his brother-in-law being interested in a costumier's business giving him the opportunity to dress effectively for different characters, and experiment with all sorts of make-up. It was Dan Leno who advised the younger Dan, having seen him give an imitation of his own never-to-be-forgotten Beef-eater, to go on the stage. Mr. Rolyat took the advice, hunted for a manager, and, starting at a two-pounds-a-week salary, stayed with the same company for about four years, writing his own parts in both pantomime and drama. He has played the Baron, in *Cinderella*, under Mr. Courtneidge's management, for the last three years, but there seems every probability that he will still be "dairymaiding" in Shaftesbury-avenue when Christmas comes round this year.

Only once since he first made an audience laugh has Mr. Rolyat been in the trying position of finding himself a great success and a great failure—both hissed and cheered—on the same night. A competition for comic singers had been held at a hall near Manchester, at a time when he was "top-of-the-bill-man," but the audience on Friday night being unable to choose the winner out of half-a-dozen local favourites, the manager asked Mr. Rolyat, who was watching the proceedings from the wings, to give the casting vote. He consented, and singled out the least hopeless boy in the collection. The audience evidently approved of his decision; but on the following night the five unsuccessful competitors, with a host of friends, were scattered about the hall to revenge themselves on the luckless judge. It would have gone badly with Mr. Rolyat if the prize winner had not also placed his supporters in pit and gallery. It was a case of a house divided against itself; but, in the end, after a stormy scene, the comedian's good temper and good songs turned his enemies into friends.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, managing-director of Moss' Empires, sailed for New York on Tuesday from Liverpool on the Cunarder *Carmania*. His visit to New York is connected with some proposed arrangements for the re-opening of the Coliseum, and new developments connected therewith. It is understood that he is also discussing the preliminary arrangements for a federation between English and American variety managers.

A great deal of unnecessary fuss has been made in the daily Press during the week because Mr. W. T. Stead on his first visit to a music hall has fulminated against the entertainment presented at the London Pavilion. Twenty years ago he wrote "The Maiden Tribute" for general reading in *The Pall Mall Gazette*. It was the act of a crank, and he has behaved as "sich" ever since.

Mr. M. A. Bennett, Press manager to Moss's Empires, has sent the following letter to Mr. W. T. Stead:—"I have read with interest your scathing criticism of the London Pavilion performance in the *Review of Reviews*. I have no doubt that the London Pavilion management is well able to look after itself, but you denounce music-hall programmes in general after having seen but one performance. This is unjust. The Moss Empires own eight entertainment houses in London that give two hours' wholesome amusement twice nightly. I shall be happy to submit the current programmes of each of these halls to you, and will place a box at any or all of these theatres at your disposal for any afternoon or evening you care to pay them a visit. Moss's Empire at all times invite criticism from men of standing, whose views are valued and whose suggestions in many instances are acted upon."

The late Mr. Charles Danby, whose death is announced in another column, appeared at the London Pavilion on Sept. 8, 1902, in a weird little playlet, entitled *No. 1, Pell-street*, the haunt of the New York tough, who was introduced as a character, and with the proper environment, at the Shaftesbury Theatre, when Edna May, in *The Belle of New York*, first took the town by storm. The little piece, which was probably inspired by the London success of *The Cat and the Cherub*, had little merit, being repellent in its crude bloodthirstiness. The late comedian played the part of Sing Hi, the vengeful Chinaman; and Miss Alexia Bassian as a fascinating laundress sang charmingly. Mr. Charles Fisher played the tenor lover, and Dr. Osmond Carr wrote the lyrics. *No. 1, Pell-street*, had only a short run.

Not until eleven o'clock on Saturday did the Harvard and Cambridge crews arrive at the Alhambra. They were enthusiastically cheered as they took their seats in the boxes reserved for them by Mr. George Scott. When Mr. Urban started the pictures of the eventful boat race there were deafening cheers, and after the show there was an extraordinary demonstration, demands for a speech being varied by cheers and singing. At last the Light Blues pushed forward their coxswain, Mr. Scott, who said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, it is awfully kind of you to give us this welcome, and I need hardly tell you that we are very proud we won. But before we go away I should like to propose three cheers for the Harvard boys, who are rattling good fellows." The cheers came from a thousand throats.

Paul Cinquevalli created so great a sensation by his wonderful juggling performance on his début at Mr. Gilbert's Hippodrome at Great Yarmouth that he was retained a second week. To the Norfolk coast he travelled on the 2nd inst. by motor from Blackpool, a run of 286 miles, accomplishing the journey in one day. He started with his wife and daughter from the famous Lancashire seaside resort at 5 a.m., and arrived at Bloater town at 9 p.m. A glorious run, indeed, and a record one for the great juggler, who will be leaving us for New York per the *Oceanic* on the 26th.

The production at the Empire of *Burning to Sing*; or, *Singing to Burn*, the satire on grand opera methods, by Gustav Kerker, has been tentatively fixed for Monday, Sept. 24, but the date depends on the time of the composer's return from America, as he wishes to conduct the first performance. The book is by R. H. Burnside, and the following is the cast:—Mme. Marguerite Tremolini, Miss Anna Hickisch; Signor Edwardo Tremolini, Mr. Ottley Cranston; Bill Jones, page boy, Mr. Henry Frankiss; Tomassini, hotel proprietor, Mr. T. Tremayne; Jim Higgins, a fireman, Mr. Newton Mason; Tom Harriss, a fireman, Mr. Vernon Booth. The scene is an apartment of the Pitz Hotel, and the time 4 a.m. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield will appear at the Empire with new songs on Monday next.

The action of *Burning to Sing* takes place at an hotel, where a married couple engaged at the Opera House are staying, the prosaic conversation that ensues between them being carried on through the medium of accompanied recitative. Presently the duet is converted into a trio by the advent of a page-boy, and subsequently into a quartette by the appearance of the hall-porter, who, in slow and impressive phrases, announces that the building is on fire. In place of seeking safety by flight, the four burst into impassioned song, the volume of which is further increased by the arrival of a fireman, hose in hand.

Miss Ada Reeve, who is the bright, particular star at the Tivoli, will, at the request of a large number of her admirers, revive on Monday next "Only a Penny." This song is, perhaps, the most successful of her many successes, and has been given by the popular soubrette in Australia and Africa, as well as in the British Isles. It was originally sung by Mr. John L. Shine in the production of *Go Bang* at the Trafalgar Theatre, now the Duke of York's. The change from comedy to a little touch of pathos is done in Ada Reeve's best style, and gives her that opportunity of showing how versatile and finished a comedienne she is. Harry Fragson still delights audiences at the cosy house in the Strand, and Ernest Shand joins the already strong programme on Monday next.

Miss Marie Tempest is to conquer the lovers of variety at the Palace on Monday by the charm of her voice, which helped to draw crowds to the Prince of Wales's and Daly's for many years. She won her spurs in the domain of comedy by her realisation of Becky Sharp and Polly Eccles, and has proved herself to be an artist of the highest attainments. It seems to be Mr. Alfred Butt's chief mission as a manager to coax leading actresses and actors from the greater to the lesser stage, and on his powers of persuasion in the case of Miss Tempest he is to be heartily congratulated. She will be heard in three songs, "Forethought" and "Speak but one word," by Mr. Frank Lambert, with organ obbligato, in both of which she will be accompanied by the composer; also in "Les Filles de Cadix," by Leo Délibes, accompanied by the Palace orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Hermann Finck.

Mme. Yvette Guilbert announces that she will leave on the 26th inst. for America for another series of performances. Her company will include Mr. Albert Chevalier, with whom she appeared at the Duke of York's in the summer. Mr. Chevalier should be a strong drawing-card in the States, which he visited during the 'nineties with great success.

The Belfast Hippodrome, Ltd., was registered on Aug. 30, with a nominal capital of £25,000, in 25,000 shares of £1 each. The names of the first directors are Chas. W. Henderson (Belfast), James K. Black (Belfast), William Sley (Manchester), Frederick Willmott (Liverpool), and Edward J. K. Savage (London).

The South Wales Entertainments Company was registered on September 5, with a capital of £1,000 in £1 shares, to carry into effect an agreement for the purchase of the lease of the Theatre Royal and Opera House and Thespian House, and to carry on at Merthyr Tydfil or elsewhere the business of theatre, music-hall, and concert-hall keepers, etc. There will be no initial public issue.

Among those who contribute to the excellent programme at the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, this week, is Mr. E. Leslie Conroy, late manager of the Empire Theatre in the town, who appears as a vocalist and musical specialist. On Monday he had an enthusiastic reception after singing "The Storm Fiend," to which fine descriptive song his resonant baritone did full justice. He also gave a clever imitation of Chirgwin on the 'cello.

Mr. Nelson Barry, acting-manager of the Palace, Manchester, was the recipient of a handsome dress stud and a set of heavy gold links with monogram, given as a mark of personal esteem by Mr. Lew Lake, and in consideration of services and attention given to the first production in the provinces of *My Pal Jerry*.

Percival Craig, manager of the Empire Theatre, Bradford, is a keen golfer, and also makes good use of the camera. He has just won prizes in two competitions, one given by the "World of Golf," and the other by "Golfing." The photographs represented Mr. Craig giving Hackenschmidt his first lesson in golf. The current number of "The Car" has a photograph by Mr. Craig of Miss Vesta Tilley (who also went round the links for the first time with that gentleman) stepping out of her motor at the Bradford Golf Links.

A circular has been issued to the shareholders of the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh (Limited), giving notice that an extraordinary general meeting of the company will be held within the registered office of the company, 111, George-street, Edinburgh, to-day, at 12.30 afternoon, for the purpose of considering and, if deemed expedient, passing the following extraordinary resolution, viz.: "That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this meeting that the company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same, and, accordingly, that the company be wound up voluntarily." At the meeting it will also be moved that Mr. William Daniel Stewart, chartered accountant, Edinburgh, be appointed liquidator.

A new order of things is to be inaugurated on Monday at the Burton Theatre and Opera House, and in deciding to experiment with a music-hall season the proprietors explain that they have not been altogether satisfied with the receipts for some time past, and hope by the change to meet a demand for lighter form of entertainment. Sundry alterations have been made in the pit and on the stage. The performances will be in conjunction with the Moss and Stoll enterprises, and the programme will be given twice nightly, at cheap prices.

"The Love of Money," a playlet, in three scenes, by Edna Lester, was produced on Monday at the People's Palace, Portsmouth. The authoress appeared as Olga, a former shop-girl, who deserts her husband, Jack, when he becomes poor, and takes a situation as nurse to the dying Squire Meadows, whom she marries just before his death for the sake of his money. She drugs the squire's niece, and is about to murder both her and his nephew, when her indignant husband shoots her. Mr. Conrad Clerke and Mr. Louis Palgrave lent efficient aid.

Miss Jennie Maynard, an actress of considerable experience in the legitimate in theatres in Australia, where she was born, is by way of appearing on the variety stage as a raconteur and monologuist. She has starred in South Africa, and has fulfilled several provincial stock seasons in the old country.

Mr. Walter de Frece and party occupied a box at the Hippodrome, Colchester, on Wednesday night, his guests including Mr. Aubrey Hyman, of the Empire, Johannesburg; Mr. Arthur Aldin, of the Empire, Leicester-square; Mr. Ben Nathan, the well-known agent, and Mr. Chas. Wyatt.

The report of the Wolverhampton Empire Company states that the profit for the past year, after paying debenture interest, amounts to £741, to which is brought forward £131. The directors recommend a dividend at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum. The gross profit on the theatre and bars amounted to £2,240, and the debenture interest reached £1,499.

Mr. Charles Baldwin, who is this week presenting the hilarious sketch, *The Bank Clerks*, at the Gaiety, Birmingham, was married at the local registrar's office on Wednesday to his leading lady, Miss Madge Tours. At the evening performance the band interpolated a few bars of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and the happy bridegroom came before the curtain in response to much cheering. The couple met three years ago when members of Mr. Fred Karno's company. They signed the register as "Albert John Green, son of the late Capt. Richard Harding Green, R.N."; and "Mary Marjorie Soundy, daughter of Mr. A. W. H. Soundy, of Hove, Brighton."

The Haverleys (American song illustrators), now on a seventeen weeks' provincial tour, have made a tremendous success this week at the Tivoli, Dublin, so much so that an enterprising local printer is reaping no small harvest by reprinting their songs and selling same to the waiting crowds outside the theatre.

Andre Manheim, who is new to our shores, will produce on Wednesday next at Rosherville Gardens an entirely original sketch, entitled *The Wandering Minstrel*, in which he will give a wonderful performance on the 'cello. The novelty is being performed for the first time in England.

A packed house assembled at the Blackpool Hippodrome on Wednesday night to do honour to Mr. "Tay Pay" Duignan, the popular general manager of that establishment, who took a richly deserved benefit. The programme was long and varied, and was contributed to by the Kellinos, in their speciality act, *A Fête in Venice*; Selbo, juggler; Duncan's Dogs; Miss Ada Cerito, comedienne; McGregor, in musical act; H. O. Wills, comedian; Cyril Goodwin, solo violinist; Douglas, the great Scott; the Cranleighs (Syd and Maud), vocalists and dancers; Miss Florence Ellis, soprano; James Finney, the famous swimmer; Albert Whelan, vocalist and whistler; Harry Brown, comedian; Madge Osmond, male impersonator; Bosanquet, violin virtuoso; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette; Lilo, Lotto, and Otto, trick cyclists; August and September, comedy boys; Muirhead, mimic and whistler; Miniature Florry, child vocalist; Parr, tenor; Maude Marshall, ballad vocalist; and Ike Scott and Son. The special entertainment was under the patronage of the Mayor, Councillor W. H. Broadhead, who, during the evening, made a presentation. Mr. Harry Brooks came along with a valuable cheque, and a diamond pin was given by hand and staff.

Mr. Fred Miller, the popular manager of the Canterbury and Paragon, will take a holiday next week in Gloucestershire, near Cirencester, where he will spend many pleasant days cub-hunting and partridge-shooting.

Mr. Joe Elvin, who has been taking a well-earned rest, will resume business on Monday at the Palace, Manchester, where he commences a short provincial tour. London's popular cockney comedian will produce next Christmas at the Oxford and Canterbury two big productions on a gigantic scale, surpassing his famous productions—*Appy 'Ampstead, Over the Sticks, On the Flat, A Day's Sport*, &c.

The Terriers' Association's Committee has presented Mr. Harry Lester, its popular secretary, with a beautiful silver and rosewood tantalus, suitably inscribed, as a mark of appreciation of his successful arrangements for the two up-river outings this season.

The news of the death on Tuesday of Bonnie Goodwin caused both surprise and sorrow to many of our readers. The deceased lady, who came over from America in 1901, made her first appearance in London at the Apollo Theatre during that year with her piccaninnies. It was then a novel song and dance turn that formed one of the incidentals in the American musical comedy, in two acts, entitled *The Belle of Bohemia*, with which piece Mr. Henry Lowenfeld opened his new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue. Miss Goodwin and her troupe afterwards became very popular at the halls.

Mr. Will Dalton, we regret to state, has recently been suffering from serious indisposition, which has prevented his fulfilment of his own engagements at the Granville, Walham Green; the Palace, Camberwell; the Duchess, Balham; the South London Palace, and the Hounslow Hippodrome. He is resting at Blackpool.

Mr. John D. Hamlyn, the well-known importer and collector of wild beasts, birds, and reptiles, has added to his accomplishments that of a breeder of Madagascar ring-tailed lemurs. On the 11th inst. one of the females gave birth to a little ring-tailed beauty.

Miss May Lilian Levy is making humorous capital out of her new song on Suffragettes, a topic that offers plenty of field for comedy. This popular comedienne is making excellent use of her opportunities, and has been enthusiastically received at the Hulme Hippodrome.

Mr. William Clements, the oldest fireman in London, died on Tuesday. He had been in the employ of the Alhambra for over forty years, and his services were highly valued by the company. He was seventy-three years of age. His first experience as a fireman was when engaged to take charge of the arrangements at the opening, in 1863, of the Agricultural Hall. He left Islington the following year to go to the Alhambra with the late Frederick Strange, and continued in control there until eighteen months previous to the big fire of 1882, when the theatre was burnt to the ground. After the house had been rebuilt he went back, and remained.

Miss Daisy Dormer has recently produced a new successful song by Lawrence, Mellor, and Gifford, entitled "My Rickshaw Queen." This song ought to prove a very attractive number for pantomime, as it can be very effectively staged with a rickshaw and a picturesque Oriental environment. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., are publishing this number.

Possibly not since that never-to-be-forgotten song, "I've made up my mind to sail away," has there dawned upon the horizon of the world of popular song so striking an example of the straightforward, manly ditty with a bold refrain than "There's a man in Manitoba," by Dan Lipton and C. W. Murphy. Messrs. Francis and Day have secured the song, and it is dividing honours as to sales with "Put a little bit away for a rainy day" and "In the shade of the old apple tree."

Another number which will prove a mascot to the lucky artists that secure it is "Sweet Anastasia Brady," by Jerome and Schwartz. It is seldom, if ever, that a team of songwriters can follow up songs like "Bedelia" and "My Irish Molly, O!" with a third number that bids fair to eclipse in popularity both of the song crazes that emanated from their pens. Mr. Lester Barrett anticipates a great demand for this sprightly song which has earned for itself in New York the name of "The Celtic Cyclone."

Mr. Forbes Dawson's sketch, *The Midnight*, was successfully produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, being played to roars of laughter. The author emphatically scored in the chief part.

Many members of the profession will hear with sincere regret of the death of Mrs. Sophia Paradise, the mother of Miss Kate Paradise, who died at her residence, 40, Acre-lane, Brixton, on Monday, aged 63. The remains of the deceased lady were interred in Norwood Cemetery yesterday, the funeral arrangements being under the direction of Mr. Theophilus Dunkley.

Miss Emily Soldene, who made her début in 1864 at a morning concert at St. James's Hall, became the most celebrated English prima donna in opéra bouffe when she appeared under the management of the late Charles Morton at the old Philharmonic, Islington, as Drogan in *Geneviève de Brabant*. Later came *Giroflé-Girofla*, *La Fille de Madame Angot*, and other works of a like description. Miss Soldene, after a prolonged stay in Australia, once more took up her residence in London a little time ago, but she has now determined to return to the Antipodes. In view of the fact, a farewell matinée is to be given to her in November at the Palace.

Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope made a new record in animated photography by showing the results of the Boat Race on Saturday evening at the Holborn Empire (first house), the Canterbury and Paragon, London, Collins's, and Cambridge, the Bedford (first and second house), the Duchess, Balham; the Grand, Clapham; Barnard's, Woolwich and Greenwich; the Islington Empire, the South London, and the Empress, Brixton.

Miss Syria Lamonte, who first charmed London audiences at the Tivoli by her brilliant bravura singing, like the incomparable Melba, comes from Australia. Her latest triumphs have been in the States, where she returns next season. In Pittsburg the work was most trying, with sixteen shows a week and tropical weather in addition. Miss Lamonte is returning to England to fix up a pantomime date.

Mr. J. F. Lambe disposed of during the week to Messrs. Francis and Day a song of the "free" order, entitled "What's the use of fame without gold?"

Dr. Walford Bodie has scored another triumph in London at the New Cross Empire. The huge building has been packed from floor to ceiling nightly at both houses, and he is nightly cheered to the echo. The Doctor goes with his own company next week to the Hippodrome, Colchester, and returns again to London to work all the syndicate halls and Stoll's Empires.

Mr. Charles Clifford, the favourite harpist and vocalist, leaves town on Monday for his annual tour of England, Ireland, and Scotland, commencing at Plymouth, where he has not appeared for years. He will be sure of a hearty welcome in the Devonshire seaport, for he possesses a medal that was presented to him there in 1898 in recognition of his abilities. Mr. Clifford expects to return to London in 1907.

Mr. Harold Archer (late of Archer and Conniford) was married on Sunday to Miss Annie Morgan, youngest daughter of Mr. Wilfred R. Morgan, the well-known sketch artist and lecturer to Datas, the memory man. The ceremony, which took place at St. Mary's Church, Peckham, was performed by the Rev. Arthur E. Moys, who delivered a very impressive address. The bridesmaids were Miss Barbara Alleyn, sister to the bride, and Miss Mary Brooks. Among those present were Mr. Wilfred Morgan, Mr. F. W. Morgan, who officiated as best man, Mr. Joe Archer, Miss Ida Heath, Mrs. Archer, sen., the Brothers Archer, Lieutenant Eldridge, R.N., and numerous relatives and friends.

The wedding breakfast took place at the residence of the bride's father, Lion House, Peckham, in a large marquee erected on the lawn. The guests numbered forty-nine, the tables being laid and beautifully decorated by the well-known caterers, Kennedy and Co., of Queen's-road, Peckham.

The bride looked sweet in soft white silk daintily trimmed with lace. Over a pretty wreath of orange blossoms the veil was fastened with a diamond pin. The numerous and costly presents included a silver tea service from Mr. Donald Stewart, of South Queensferry, Scotland, a dinner service from Datas, and a cheque from the bride's father. The groom presented the bride with a beautiful diamond ring. A large number of telegrams of congratulation were received, including messages from Datas, Lieutenant Greville, J. C. Collinson, town councillor; Captain Eldridge, Ernest Bridgen (New Cross Empire), etc. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon in Paris.

Saturday evening brought to a close the Café Chantant which, in the delightfully situated North Tower Gardens of the Crystal Palace, has been a source of enjoyment to large audiences for some months past. Mr. Bannister Howard is to be congratulated upon the excellent entertainments he has provided. During the week the turns have included Charles Freeman and Florence Tench, in their comedy duologue, *The Broken Honeymoon*; Stan Aubrey, eccentric comedian; Frank Crisp, baritone; and the Sprees (Dorothy and Joe), in their amusing scena, *Twickenham Ferry*. On Monday the theatre reopens with Mr. Ben Greet and company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This is Mr. Ben Greet's last engagement in England before his departure for America.

The Eastbourne Pier Pierrots attracted a large audience on Monday evening. The occasion was a special one, for during the day Mr. Eustace Wallis, the clever pianist of the party, had been married. During an interval in the performance the bridegroom was first pelted with confetti, and then presented with a miscellaneous collection of articles, which caused much amusement. The evening was a merry one, both for entertainers and audience.

Miss Vesta Tilley has acquired from the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., the sole music hall rights of Harry Von Tilzer's American success, "In a hammock built for two," an English adaptation of which has been specially written by Mr. John P. Harrington. The song will be presented in an entirely original manner by Miss Tilley.

Miss Nell Richardson has just accepted from the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., a new song-scena by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban, entitled "Fair lady, sigh no more," also another song, entitled "Moonbeam," which will shortly be produced. These two songs will be big pantomime numbers.

Mr. Edgar Curtis was accorded a benefit at the Palace-by-the-Sea at Clacton on Friday in last week, and the function was an immense success, both from the artistic and financial point of view.

Mr. Fred Monckton, who has been fifteen weeks at the Pleasure Gardens Pavilion, Skegness, has made himself a universal favourite there—a fact that was amply proved by the number of presents from admirers on the occasion of his benefit on Monday.

Many of our readers will regret to hear of the death in Dublin on the 7th inst. of Barney Duffy, late of Tom White's Arabs, a troupe that is now under the direction of the diminutive comedian, known as "Pimple." The deceased performer was very popular in the profession.

Mr. Walter Munroe has made many big hits with the British public, but it is doubtful if he has ever made a bigger than he has with his "I'm coming back to Dublin," which has been the rage of Manchester this week. It is by Harry Leighton and George Everard. Mr. David Day published it some time prior to his departure from England.

Don Juan Caicedo, the king of wire-walkers, appeared in Melbourne nearly twelve years ago, when his intrepid and remarkable performance created a sensation, it being generally admitted that the exhibition, so full of difficulties, was in its way unique. Only a week or two since a prominent critic of an influential Australian journal, writing in its columns of Melbourne entertainments, remarked:—"Not since the days when Caicedo electrified Melbourne have any slack-wire artists of note appeared there."

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. pd), 1½; Do. (10s. pd), 1; Lon. Pav. Ord., 4½; Do. Pref., 5; Lon. Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅛; Moss Empire, 4½; Do. 5 p.c. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 11/0; Tivoli, 6; Var. Cons. Theatres, 14/0.

The 480th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held at the offices of the Association on Tuesday. There were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), Fred Griffiths, Jack Collinson, R. Abel, Charles Gardiner, Jeff Vendome, A. Carlton, A. Borelli, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). A letter was received from Mr. Tom McNaughton, who tendered his resignation from the committee on account of pressure of business. Mr. Bob Hutt is the next on the rota. Mr. Hunt, of the Queen's Palace, Rhyl, was appointed agent in that town.

A representative of the I.A.L. gave particulars of a concession obtained for members of the I.A.L., V.A.F., and M.H.A.R.A. with the Batavier Line of steamers between London and Rotterdam. This allows for a ten per cent. reduction of fares from June to September inclusive, and first-class fares at second-class rates during the rest of the year.

A message of condolence was sent to Mr. Joe Burnell on the death of his brother Harry. The weekly financial statement showed a total of £33 6s. and an addition of forty new members. The treasurer's monthly report showed a total of 5,605 members on the books at August 31, and a total cash balance of £1,113 16s. 5d. on that date.

Mr. W. E. Barnett, acting-manager of the Royal County Theatre, announces that he will run a high-class variety entertainment at Reading during the coming season in conjunction with other music hall syndicates, under the designation of the "Empire Music Hall."

Mrs. Huline (Bessie Travis, the lady ventriloquist, daughter of Lieutenant Travis) presented her husband, Alec Huline, with a bonny baby girl on the 28th ult. The youngster is doing well, but the mother, we regret to say, is seriously ill.

The automobile is becoming a craze with the favourites of the footlights; and the charming Milo—the perfection of female form divine—may be seen any day driving that very fine product of British industry—a Coventry Humbert.

Mr. Bert Williams, ventriloquist, is the latest to join the ranks of the Terriers' Association, being initiated into the mysteries of the order on Sunday, when Terrier John Moore presided.

The management of the Empire have prolonged the engagement of the Stavordale Quintette another week owing to their great success. The famous combination is also appearing at the Empress, Brixton, this week, and leaves town to-morrow for a lengthy provincial tour extending well into 1907.

Edwin Thomas, who is this week making his first appearance on a public stage, is the son of the late Edwin Thomas, for many years secretary of the Pavilion, Oxford, and Tivoli music halls, and, judging by the cordiality of his reception at the Colchester Hippodrome, he should ere long become prominent in the ranks of our droll comedians.

The Delevines' new act, *Flipp and Flopp*, according to report, is the biggest thing they have yet done, which is distinctly a "large order," considering the many successes they have achieved. Proof of their success is apparent in the gratifying fact that existing contracts are being changed to the new act, for which extra remuneration is being paid.

Miss Florrie Gallimore is featuring a new song by Mr. George A. Stevens, entitled "Caroline, won't you love this Gipsy Man?" This number has been secured for publication by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd.

Miss Dolly Harmer, who has been compelled to give up her engagements owing to severe throat trouble, has now recovered, and will appear on Monday at the Metropolitan.

The installation meeting of the Earl's Court Lodge of Freemasons, of which many members belong to the musical and variety professions, was held at the Trocadero on Thursday last, Sept. 13, W.B. A. J. Taylor in the chair. The W.M. passed Mr. F. W. Burdock to the second degree, and raised Messrs. Robertson and Bowden. The chair was then occupied by W.B. John Worth, A.G.P. of England, and treasurer of the Lodge, who installed Bro. Shire Mussell in a most impressive manner. There was a good attendance of the brethren, including Bros. C. H. Hutt, P.G.P. of England (chaplain), J. J. Orr, Wolfe, and Lyon. Amongst the many visitors were Bros. Arthur Williams, P.G.S.B. of England, W. Redrum, John Chapman, George Lane, M. F. Wilkins, S. Sidders, B. Foulkes Winks, C. G. Smith, and Bros. F. H. Pedgrift, J. H. King, L. G. Sharpe, N. W. Morgan, W. H. Stephens, &c., &c. After the Lodge closed the brethren adjourned to the Alexandra Rooms at the Trocadero Restaurant, and partook of a banquet, served in the usual admirable manner for which Bro. Lyons's establishment is noted. The musical programme was filled by the Coliseum Glee Singers.

We regret to announce the death on Sunday last of Mr. Kennedy Johnson, who for two years was assistant-manager at the Hackney Empire. Previously he held a similar position at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. The deceased who was about thirty-eight years of age, had been seriously ill for some months, suffering from consumption, and had for some time been an inmate of a hospital at Hackney. The funeral took place on Thursday; and wreaths, testifying to the high esteem in which the deceased was held by his colleagues, were received from Mr. John Christie, the acting-manager of the Hackney Empire, and also from the staff.

There are no more ardent disciples of Sir Izaak Walton than the members of the music-hall profession. Hardly a week passes without some report coming to hand of the success attending all those who have pursued the gentle art of fishing. Last week Chirgwin had a great catch. This week Mr. Gus Elen, who is a member of the Deal and Walmer Angling Association, will be trying his luck amongst the codling, pollack, or pouting, off the shores of Deal. Mr. Elen will motor there on Monday next, and make a three weeks' stay near Walmer Castle.

Mr. Tom Leo, who opens in town immediately, has been lucky to secure from Maurice Scott a humorous song of the "Short stories" and "London way" order, two well-known ditties with both of which Mr. Scott was connected. The new number has been specially written with an eye to pantomime, comprises a dozen or more verses, and is entitled "Pom te O! Pom te A!"

The "Urbanora" number at the Alhambra on Monday will include a novel photographic farce, arranged by Mr. Urban for seven characters, one motor car, and a spider-buggy, and called *Love Wins Out*. Far superior in all respects to the conventionally arranged adventure, this fifteen-minute interlude of genuine fun diverts without exaggerating the possibilities of entering into matrimony while exceeding the speed limit.

Miss Katie Lawrence's latest chorus song, "Why can't I be a pal of yours?" by Herbert Rule and Newton Butts, is in the press, the Charing Cross-road house having secured it for publication.

The customary weekly meeting of the English branch of the International Lodge took place on Sunday evening, Bro. 760 being elected to the chair, and others present being:—Bros. 978, 115, 382, 1,359, 1,356, and 389. A tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. Eddie Harvey and Catherine Belling, mother of Thomas and Robert Belling. A letter from the headquarters of the I.A.L., *re* the Batavier company's concessions, was read. It was tated that all three associations—the I.A.L., the V.A.F., and the M.H.A.R.A.—would share in the benefits the company had granted.

The Arbitration Committee appointed by the I.A.L. and Messrs. Cadle unanimously decided that, as Collins and Hart themselves suggested and definitely promised to pay 10 per cent. commission on the 15 weeks' work, commencing July 6, 1906, before leaving for America, in return for Messrs. Cadle securing the postponement of the said weeks, and Messrs. Cadle having handed the contracts confirming the postponement, they (Collins and Hart) shall pay the fifteen weeks' commission above mentioned.

The translation of the petition to the Board of Agriculture regarding quarantine for dogs, which had been prepared by the secretary, was then read. It was approved, and it was decided to send it to the solicitor for revision.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

Like most original performers who possess brains and humour, Little Tich has given the cue to many imitators in the course of his strenuous career as an artist, and one of the most successful of these is appearing this week at the Empire. Brevity of name is appropriate to brevity of stature, and he is called Carl. With much that is obvious copying of a clever originator Carl possesses what may be termed a sense of grotesquerie rather than a command of comedy. He is more prone to grin through a horse collar than to be subtle; to put it more plainly he unmistakably emphasises the difference between the clown and the comedian. Much of Little Tich's work is broadly extravagant, as variety humour is bound to be if it is to "get home"; but there are facets of his work revealing a subtlety of character impersonation that is absolutely brilliant. Carl has evidently watched the older and more popular entertainer to some purpose, and his long boot dance is an effective illustration of this contention, and further testimony of imitative ability is found in Carl's burlesque of the serpentine evolutions of dancers of the Loie Fuller type. Little Tich's parody of a *prima donna assoluta* used to be one of his strongest cards for pantomime. Carl's is more pronounced, but scarcely so funny. His exit with a bulldog hanging on to his rear highly amused the house on Monday; but even this "business" lacks the recommendation of novelty

For quiet, unforced drollery in the Empire scheme of amusement commend us to Keen and Waller, a couple of acrobats, whose tricks are none the less difficult because they look to be accomplished without effort. One of the pair is made up to represent a melancholy Stiggins, with a countenance that suggests misery untold. He possesses the patience and endurance of a pantaloon in pantomime and the intrepidity and muscle of a gladiator. His partner, who is got up to look like a stable lad, is responsible for a number of tricks on his own that are accomplished with the perfection of neatness and skill, and the two work together in such complete harmony that the show is absolutely perfect. The music of the banjo, as commonly thrummed on the variety stage, is strident rather than pleasant, and repels more often than it attracts. That it is quite possible, however, to procure artistic effects from the instrument is being proven nightly at the Empire by the Stavordale Quintette, who play to a harp accompaniment the famous intermezzo from Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, in which the sound of the human voice is most cleverly imitated. Later the accomplished five contribute the popular Irish ballad "Eileen Alannah," and are called and recalled amid enthusiastic expressions of delight evoked by the real excellence of their performance.

Grace of movement, charm of style, and a singularly powerful muscular development are the principal characteristics that commend the performance of Amalia and Leonora, who are termed Olympic speciality artists. Amalia lifts Leonora in all sorts of ways, and in so doing conquers with apparent ease every difficulty conceivable to the ordinary athlete. Comedy and acrobatism are united in the act of Recco; Leon Rogee is an interesting musical imitator; and other names on the bill are Dora Martini, in a trapeze act; Albany, Parisian fantaisist; and Miss Anna Hickisch. The Biograph is a great attraction with its fine selection of films of the Harvard-Cambridge boat-race and "Life of the Cowboy"; and then there is the incomparable Genée, who has returned from her holiday more delightful than ever, in her chic impersonation of Swanilda, the Slavonic maiden, who so cleverly fools the old doll-maker Coppelius to the top of his bent. *Fête Galante*, which comes quite early in the scheme of amusement, is a Watteau divertissement of much beauty and elegance, and might fitly have been given at Le Petit Trianon in the days of the Grand Monarque and Madame de Maintenon.

LONDON PAVILION.

The rapidly-shortening days and cooler nights have given an impetus to business all round, and the fine house in Piccadilly Circus, with its generous provision for the lover of variety, is sharing with other establishments the improved condition of things. Mr. Frank Glenister, who has just returned to his duties after an enjoyable holiday at merry Margate, is now directing affairs with his accustomed energy and success. The chief artistic attraction of the current bill is—as it has been for some months past—the posing of La Milo, the pretty Australian girl, with a perfect figure, who employs no extraneous aids to beauty, Nature being her theatrical costumier. Nature has done extremely well; and it would be impossible to surpass the artistic perfection of La Milo's representations of sculpture, which included on the night to which we are now referring, Canova's Venus, Hebe, Circe, and the Velasquez Venus, the last-mentioned being an altogether admirable realisation of a well-known work of art. The lightning outline drawings of celebrities by Cruickshank find a large number of admirers. The chief caricatures chosen on the occasion of our visit were Messrs. Wilfred Rhodes and G. Hirst, the Yorkshire stalwarts at cricket; Anthony Comstock, the Purity crank in the States; Lord Lonsdale, John Burns, George Alexander, and Joe Chamberlain. Both the famous actor-manager and the idol of Brum were easily recognisable, and much applause was evoked by the writing on the screen of the question, "Are we down-hearted?"

Early in the evening a new aspirant to honours as a male impersonator appears in Miss Winifred Ward, who, for her principal song, introduces verses concerning the different characters to be met with at a railway station. Miss Ward extracts every ounce of meaning from the verses, and her illustrative "business" and dialect are entirely appropriate. Another capital turn is Graham, who gives his human marionette entertainment under specially interesting and novel conditions. His stage pictures, indeed, go to make up a miniature spectacle—with well-painted cloths and mechanical effects. "Neptune's Grotto" beneath the ocean illustrates the theme of Mr. Graham's sketch, which possesses something of the attractions of a pantomime *féerie*. Fun and fancy run riot in this well-thought-out production, of which the numbers sung by its originator and two lady assistants are well composed, and elicit much applause, special favour being accorded to a topical trio. Davy Jones, the demon of the deep, makes short work of a dummy hero, and the miniature extravaganza excites a good deal of laughter. It should become an established success.

Mr. John E. Coyle, just returned from a successful tour in South Africa, is again amid familiar surroundings at the London Pavilion, where his amusing methods have long been recognised. His present numbers include "Don't be silly" and "Sea-bathing," which, as humorous items, might both be considerably improved by writing up. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, new comers, we believe, to the house, are seen to advantage in their latest farce *Two to One*. The very slight plot of this is founded on the wife mistaking an utter stranger for an absent husband, hourly expected back from a holiday. When the improbability of the imbroglio is swallowed, one can enjoy the farcical situations, which are as extravagant as they need be, and are particularly well played by the happily-associated couple, who act extremely well together. Mr. Whit Cunliffe's new satirical song, "You'll get on in England if you're not an Englishman" appeals with much force to the audience, especially when the singer, in one of Messrs. Murray and Hilbury's well-written verses, recommends the changing on the part of their possessors of such homely British names as Brown and Robinson. Mr. Edwin Boyde has a screamingly funny parody on "Round the old apple-tree," and is recalled again and again at its conclusion. There is an immense amount of fun in the doings of Radford and Valentine, comedy jugglers, the male of the twain adopting the tramp business with hilarious results; Mr. George Mozart again engrosses and amuses us with his amusing one-man skit on melodrama; Miss Nell Richardson sings charmingly the ballad, "Within your heart"; Mr. Frank Cumminger dances with marvellous skill and energy on sand; and a particularly graceful and fascinating exposition of pirouetting and dancing is given by Susie and Protti. Other turns include Clifton and Gibson, a whimsical pair of cross-talkers; Mr. Charles Rogers, a very clever banjoist; the Pavilion Girls, a smart set of vocalists and dancers; Fred Cary, with a droll song on "Kissing"; and Boyd and Gilfain, in a lively and entertaining comedy and musical sketch, which is worthy of a better place in the bill.

THE OXFORD.

Mr. Harry Tate, with the assistance of the excellent stage-management, is still enjoying the delights of *Gardening* at the Oxford in a snug little scene, wherein flourish the most extraordinary specimens of stage floriculture. We are told by a rubicund, full-figured culturist of the existence of a campanula floribunda, and his knowledge of the Latin that does duty among horticultural experts, who will call a common pink a *dianthus*, is extensive and peculiar. Mr. Tate, as a proud possessor of a perch or two of land—a freeholder with a breast swelling with pride at the thought of ownership, a feudal lord of Suburbia—naturally wants to till the soil he owns, and thereby obtain the fulness of enjoyment for his outlay. How he conducts his operations and the various interruptions that prevent him having the good time he ought may be learnt at the Oxford nightly; and huge crowds have been giving Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt loud evidence of their complete enjoyment of the diverting fooling for which Mr. Tate is chiefly responsible. Little Tich, who occupies the position of star comedian on the bill, is happily suited with material that enables him to show to advantage, and in his military impersonation and in "My girl has been in the sun" he is exceedingly droll. Mr. Gus Elen's diatribe against tea, coffee, and cocoa, and his advocacy of ale—even in gallons—are dead against the Lawsonian principles which well-meaning philanthropists do so much to foist upon the lower classes The coster comedian's downright sentiments are given out with humorous emphasis, and they evidently go down. A strong contrast to both of the fore-mentioned comedians is found in the "Yorkshire lad" of Mr. Tom Foy. This is a character creation of surpassing merit, and the audience appreciates to the full the comedian's strong sense of the ludicrous, and the smartness of the unsophisticated rustic from the Ridings appeals most unmistakably to gods, pit, and stalls. Still further amusement is discovered in the doings of Mr. Bert Clark (of Clark and Hamilton), whose tramp millionaire—now so familiar to Oxford frequenters—has not lost one jot of his immense popularity. Mr. Clark plays the piano—how well he does not reveal to us—and his ungallant conduct towards a belle of New York (Miss Hamilton) sends his legion of admirers into fits of laughter. On the night to which we are now alluding he had—in answer to the persistent demands for an encore—to add to his entertainment the pretty romantic little Japanese scena, entitled *My Yokohama Queen*, a ruler of unlimited charm.

Mr. Harry Ford as a swell comique sings of a charmer and how she talks, walks, and floats. He also has some amusing verses concerning those interfering folk who will be so kind, and who do so much real mischief with the best intentions. Foreman and Fannan's fund of patter is always amusing, and the mirth-provoking questions and replies of "Clarence" and "Harold" keep the crowd in a merry humour. Miss Victoria Monks is in high favour with songs to which she gives a vogue that is entirely her own. Miss Maude Courtenay—a sweet girlish figure in white—sings with much acceptance "My mother's name is Mary," and recites also "Didn't we, Jim?" which is not without its note of pathos.

The Borellis early in the evening display musical ability in alliance with comedy, and the pleasant mixture finds much appreciation, the clever couple scoring most unmistakably in the "cat duet." That favourite low comedienne, Miss Nellie Wallace, keeps her audience in roars of laughter the while she recites a new version of "Where are you going to, my pretty maid?" Lee and Kingston contribute some energetic buffoonery that finds many admirers, and the traditions of the hall in the way of acrobatics are well sustained by the Abdullah Arabs. The Holloway Trio are responsible for a wire act in which grace, skill, and intrepidity predominate, and the bill is completed by Miss Nina Martino, vocalist.

We are given to understand that a syndicate, consisting of several influential City people and a theatrical manager, has been formed for the purpose of purchasing the Lyceum and converting it into a circus. No direct offer to the present owners of the house has, however, been made. The building, called the Lyceum, which was erected in 1765 by James Payne, the architect, was originally constructed for the exhibitions of the Society of Artists; but on the establishment of the Royal Academy at Somerset House in 1768 the premises were purchased by Mr. Lingham, a breechesmaker in the Strand, who at different periods let them for various purposes. Flockton, the conjuror, exhibited his puppet show and sleight-of-hand; and afterwards Philip Astley took it for equestrian performances. The present exterior dates only from 1834, and ten years after opening it was again in use for equestrian performances.

An eminent firm of picture postcard dealers have depicted, by permission of the publishers of the song, on three cards, the principal incidents in Kenneth Lyle's fine March song, "The beat of the drum," a song dedicated by special permission to Mr. Oswald Stoll. Messrs. Francis and Day have also just received proofs of the exquisite slides which will be used shortly for projection on the screen during the singing in a foremost London hall of J. Airlie Dix's impressive song, "The Broken Slate."

Mr. Bertram G. Iles, who has fulfilled the duties of stage management for some time at the Leicester Palace Theatre, is now to be seen in the front of the house, having been appointed by Mr. Oswald Stoll to the position of assistant acting-manager under Mr. George Andrews. Mr. Iles is a courteous gentleman, who brings to bear on his new position a training in both theatre and music-hall. The new stage manager at the Palace Theatre is Mr. Dudley Harcourt, a gentleman well-known in the profession.

Lord George Sanger considers that the restriction as to training in childhood will cause riding to be a lost art within a few years. "People," he says, "will not come back to the circus yet. It is played out for the time. You may start a hippodrome without horses and with a music-hall artist at the top of the bill, but that is a different thing from the circus that in former times used to visit almost every town in the Empire at the same period of the year. I shall never go on the road again myself. 'How could I get 200 trained horses together to start with, and how could I manage my men under the present conditions of labour? No, I shall go back to my farm at Finchley in a few weeks and mind the ducks."

SIGNORINA MARIA BORDIN.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

The writer was given the place of honour in the pretty and well-appointed dressing-room of the *prima ballerina assoluta* of the Alhambra, or, at least, he took it for granted that it was the place of honour, for he was seated in close proximity to an electric fan—no small kindness on a hot evening. And the *prima ballerina assoluta*—Nero himself could not have wished for a more gorgeous, high-sounding title!—laughed with the merriest of sparkling eyes as she engaged in what was intended to be a serious conversation. Signorina Maria Bordin is something more than a dancer, she is a skilful actress. Even if you were unacquainted with her language you could accept much of her meaning from her wonderful "dumb show"—the explanatory gesture, the easily-understood movement of the hand or the head, and the bright, intelligent glance of the eyes. There is music in her very manner. Signorina Bordin is the apotheosis of vivacity. She gives the impression that life to her is a gleeful trifle, a festive wisp; and interviewing the silliest little joke she ever heard of!

As to her dancing, it's like a melody that's sweetly played in tune. But if King Darius could arise from his ashes, and fly to the Alhambra in an airship, what would he say if he witnessed in his ancient palace a lively Italian whirl performed by a lady in modern ballet attire? Will someone come forward and show us how the ancient Assyrians and Persians danced? The probability is, in spite of all the splendours of antiquity which are even now being glorified by

Photo by Dover-st. Studio.

SIGNORINA MARIA BORDIN.

gentlemen learned in archæology, that Darius saw nothing better in his day. And you wouldn't get Signorina Bordin to believe anything to the contrary. "The Italian school is the finest on earth," she says. "There is nothing to be compared to it."

The recognised academy for dancing in Italy is the Scala, and Signorina Bordin tells us that to be admitted to this institution one has to be recommended, be able to prove the possession of more than ordinary talent, be physically perfect, and come of a good family. Padua is the town in which this graceful and dainty *prima ballerina* was born, and Padua may congratulate itself. For five years she studied at the Scala, where it is the rule that no period under ten years can turn out a capable dancer, as the Italians understand dancing. But as Signorina Bordin was vastly superior to the average scholar, half the usual training sufficed for her, and at the age of sixteen she made her début at Lisbon

The *première danseuse* in the magnificent ballet *L'Amour* belongs to the highest type of the classical school. She studied under Mme. Beretta, the celebrated dancing mistress of the Italian School at Milan. When we, in our ignorance, ask her what is classical dancing, the charming coryphée laughs in her merry fashion, and then proceeds to lighten our darkness. "In dancing, you know," she says, "you must use all your faculties, mental and physical, just as if you were playing a part on the stage. In fact, you've got to be more of an actress than an actress usually is. You see, a dancer doesn't speak, and she must explain what she would say by gestures and movements. There must be the language of poetry in those movements as well as appropriate explanations in the expressions of the face. That's where all the difference comes in between an actress who plays a part in a comedy or drama and the dancer who has to give a dumb show. What the one unravels by words the other must solve by motions."

"Then, in your Italian wordless plays—if I may be allowed to use such a term—one sees the truest and most expressive kind of acting?"

"I believe so. If you study the Italian mode of dancing you will perceive that great attention is paid to pantomime or dumb-show accompaniment. I consider that it is in this dumb show that the highest standard in the acting art is reached. In my opinion, every actor ought to go through a proper course of pantomime training. It stands to reason that if you can assist the voice with hand, eye, and face you play with an increased effect upon the imagination of the audience. Of course, efficient dancing is largely the outcome of time and patience, and practice and study, though, to begin with, one must have the natural inclination. Many would-be dancers are unsuccessful because they have not the quality of animation, or give evidence of lack of soul. They may be graceful and correct in their steps, but that is about as much as can be said of them, for beyond that they are mere machines. They have been taught how to point their toes, and how to pose in certain positions, but they apparently find it impossible to go any farther, and, consequently, become like automatic dolls."

Signorina Bordin, whose delightful performances in conjunction with Signor Vincenti in the ballet *Excelsior* at the Lyceum will be long remembered by the London public, is charmed with the kindly reception she has received at the hands of British audiences, and she already entertains quite an affectionate feeling towards our metropolis.

BOW PALACE.

A sketch that is interesting, refined, well constructed, and well written bears the title of *The Bells of Vernavale*, and has this week received the mark of approval from the habitués of the Bow Palace. It is presented by the Vaudeville Dramatic Company, which includes some capable artists. The story chiefly deals with the love affairs of George Kendall, the foreman of some works. His employer, Edward Stafford, has a son, who is guilty of acts of villainy, and who endeavours to throw the blame of various crimes upon the innocent hero. The playlet is one that keeps one's attention on the stage from start to finish. The straightforward and virile George Kendall is admirably portrayed by Mr. Ernest Wingfield, and Miss Marguerite Trevosper acts with sincerity and womanly charm in the rôle of Jessie Dane, the heroine. Mr. F. Fellows Bassett submits a capital character-study of old Edward Stafford, while the outrageous conduct of the younger Stafford is ably illustrated by Mr. Herbert Pearson. Mr. Leslie Viner as Steven Blair, a drunken clerk, and Miss Helena Walbran as his unfortunate sister adequately supply the requirements of their parts. Coming to the individual turns, we have a most engaging vocalist in Miss Lear Arden, who is heard to great advantage in the song "Always." This is not the first time that we have had occasion to refer in eulogistic terms to the work of the New York Quartette, nor do we suppose that it will be the last. They are vocalists and dancers of no mean order, and their performances are always acceptable to a music-hall audience. The Two Kays appear in a most attractive little act.

Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley are treating East Enders to a comedy act which is new to London. They open with some lively verses about "dandy millionaires," and then proceed to engage in a comic dance and entertaining patter. One of the members of the small troupe is a midget, by whose aid no end of fun is created. The turn concludes with a cleverly-performed burlesque cake-walk. Mr. Harry Royde is just the man one would wish to encounter while suffering from a fit of the blues, for if anyone's whimsicalities would help to drive dull care away, his would. He is extremely quaint in his song "Don't move," which is sung just in the manner to bring out its best points. The Marconis compel one to wonder at the daring way in which they play with electricity. One sees fire and flashes of flames issuing from their mouths, and we are told that they contrive to pass 250,000 volts of electricity through their bodies without injury to their constitutions. Most men, we imagine, would be well content with the penny shocks at Earl's Court without permitting their ambition to induce them to test the power of a quarter of a million volts. The act is an exceedingly attractive one.

We are made acquainted with more wonders when Mr. James de Voye leads "Billy" from the wings to the centre of the stage. Billy, be it understood, is the name of a horse. It is much too commonplace a name for such an equine genius as Billy undoubtedly is. For Billy can answer questions, is an arithmetician, can tell the time of day, knows the value of coins, and solves problems in a way that ought to make Euclid rise from his ashes and crown Billy with a wreath of laurel. Furthermore, this intelligent animal plays cards. One cannot help admiring the knowing manner in which Billy keeps his best cards back for use at fitting opportunities. We should be rather interested to know whether Billy could predict the winner of a horse race. Mr. Arthur Goodman excels as a comedy juggler. His overcoat is in itself something to laugh at. It is what you would call a burlesque astrakhan—bits of brushes taking the place of the usual black curly fabric, while for button fastenings he has padlocks. In fact, when Mr. Goodman desires to perform any exercise he has to unlock himself. His juggling feats are both smart and original especially that in which he balances a wine-glass on nine cigar boxes placed on top of each other, knocking each box from under the other, and finally catching the glass. Miss Josie Watson is a pleasing and engaging comedienne, and a bright and sprightly artist withal. We get more comedy juggling from The Cromwells, who execute a number of neat tricks with chairs, sticks, balls, bats, umbrellas, clubs, and a host of other articles. They impart a great deal of humour into their actions. Raymond and Son's Bio-Tableaux are responsible for some really beautiful pictures, those depicting a rescue by a dog-detective being particularly commendable. The Bow Palace has within the last few weeks been redecorated, inside and out, and a very artistic effect has been created by the embellishment.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

One of the most enjoyable items in Mr. J. C. Coe's varied and entertaining programme at his popular variety theatre in King-street, Hammersmith, is that given by Boswell's Circus. Especially smart is a black pony in his manipulation of a see-saw, and afterwards, entirely at liberty, he performs many other difficult feats, including walking on his hind legs and waltzing. Much amusement is created by the wrestling ponies, the clown who endeavours to throw them always coming off second best. The efforts of the youth of Hammersmith to keep their equilibrium on the revolving table evokes some of the heartiest laughter heard during the evening, but an Irish and fox-terrier apparently find little difficulty in negotiating it, even when standing on their hind legs and jumping hurdles. An intelligent donkey also contributes to the entertainment, lying down and kissing the comedy man at the word of command. The animals are all willing workers, the canines appearing to thoroughly enjoy their exercises, and the entire show is admirably worked. Applause is called forth by the clever juggling with knives, lighted torches, balls, &c., of Simosa San, the lady also introducing some trained pigeons, who walk the rolling globe and execute other tricks, and appear to have a proper affection for their trainer, perching on her head and shoulders whenever they are free.

A smartly-worked little interlude is given by the Knick-Knacks, who appear as a Society lady and an interviewer, and indulge in some humorous conversation, a coon song and a cleverly executed dance also being included in their much-appreciated turn. The Allisons score greatly with a well-written and really funny duet descriptive of "Hats," some humorous little recitations and cross-talk compelling laughter, the happily-associated and clever couple also contributing a coster song and step dance that is loudly acclaimed. Mr. Ted Saunders mimics with much fidelity Mr. R. G. Knowles in "Love, Marriage, and Divorce," Mr. Harry Lauder in "Stop yer tickling, Jock," Mr. Wilkie Bard in "The Cowslip and the Cow," and Mr. George Lashwood in his well-known "Latch-key" song, the last-named being an especially realistic impersonation. Mr. George Leonard has a couple of attractive items in "Keeping the game alive," in which he appears as a reveller who has had a decidedly lively time at a wedding, and "The Covent Garden Ball," both songs being well rendered and loudly applauded; and Miss Cris Cross gives a pleasing ballad and a well-executed dance that compels approval from all parts of the house.

Miss Ella Shields, billed as "America's greatest coon singer," has a particularly tuneful number in "Be my winter blossom," and her quaint singing of "Good-bye, I'm walking round the world," was so much to the liking of the audience on Tuesday evening that an encore was demanded, the deservedly popular vocalist giving as her final selection the well-known coon song "Sun am shining." Mr. Fred Erick creates hilarity by his quaint rendering of "Well, I can't make it out, can you?" and another nonsense song; and the wonderful dancing of the Russian troupe is appraised at its true value, the quartette all distinguishing themselves, and apparently revelling in their exhausting and difficult movements. Other turns in the programme include the Mezzettis in their comedy act on the triple bars; Collins and Hawley, dancing experts; the Edisonograph, showing the latest pictures; and Mr. John F. Preston and his specially selected company in Max Goldberg's sketch *Rogues of the Turf*, introducing a stud of thoroughbred racehorses. Mr. Lewis Vincent is Mr. Coe's courteous and astute first lieutenant, and Mr. J. H. Cleve directs the excellent band.

SADLER'S WELLS.

The Flowers of the Forest is the picturesque episode in four scenes which is being presented this week at Sadler's Wells by Miss Josephine Colona. It will be remembered that only a few weeks ago this actress excited a good deal of interest by appearing in a playlet as Lady Godiva. Miss Colona is one of the most beautiful women on the music hall stage, and she combines a fine appearance and physical endowments with histrionic ability. *The Flowers of the Forest* deals with gipsy life and gipsy "clannishness." Cynthia, the belle of the tribe, is in love with a gallant gentleman who belongs to a higher social class than that in which the pretty Romany moves. There is no need to enter into the details of the story. Suffice it to say that in a duel Cynthia's lover is supposed to have taken advantage of his opponent and fired before the signal. In point of fact, he fires into the air, and another person, one Lemuel, also belonging to the encampment, is the cause of the death. Lemuel, it appears, had a grudge against his victim. Cynthia's father, who goes by the name of The Wolf, charges his daughter's sweetheart with the crime. However, the real assassin is found out, owing to the alertness of Cynthia, who is at once denounced by the tribe as a traitress, and told by her father that she must leave them for ever. The Wolf, later, tells her that she will be permitted to remain provided she kills her lover, who has been bound to a tree. Rather than commit herself to such a deed, the girl stabs herself fatally, and her lover is released. Miss Colona plays with fine dramatic effect in the part of Cynthia, and her delivery is distinctly good, and the other rôles are sustained in able fashion. The piece is exceedingly well staged and mounted, and is, moreover, superbly dressed.

There is a very winsome suffragette appearing nightly in the person of Miss Marie Kean. She stands upon a box and harangues in the most approved Hyde Park tub-thumper style. We can't say that she is serious, in spite of the militant attitude she adopts, but that there is humour in what she says and the way she says it there can be no doubt. This is one of the forceful arguments she advances in favour of female enfranchisement. Referring to the waywardness of the mere married man, she says, "If he's a right to come home drunk, we've a right to vote." Whether such a theory is intended to further the cause of temperance we are not in a position to state, but what we can state is that Miss Kean is delightfully entertaining. Mr. J. C. Manley sings character songs in a most pleasing style; and Mr. Pat Carey is seen and heard in an extremely agreeable Irish act, and his Hibernianisms evoke intense merriment. Mr. Frank Cumminger, who claims to be the world's record dancer, is amazingly smart on his pedal extremities. With accurate brevity one may say that he is an expert sand-dancer. Mr. Percy Murray, supported by a capital company, gives an admirable representation of the sensational dramatic sketch, *The Last Temptation*, the plot of which is of an absorbing character, and has found great favour with all classes of the audience. It is a significant sign of the time that good, sound playlets are always welcomed by the patrons of variety theatres, and within a comparatively short period the number of sketches has increased to a really remarkable extent. A musical act, in which skill and first-rate talents are displayed, is that of the Albano Troupe, the members of which perform most skilfully on the harp, the concertina, mandoline, and other instruments.

Miss Jessie M. Lyons and company submit an acceptable trifle in the South African episode, *Nelly of the Veldt*. The tale which is told is of rather a pathetic order. Little Nelly Trent, abandoned by her father, and left at her mother's death with a cottage and a little money, has made friends with a Kaffir woman, who looks after the small household and acts as a sort of protectress to the girl. One night there comes to the cottage a haggard, disreputable tramp, who demands refreshment and a brief rest. The most fitting domicile for the visitor would be the gaol he has only recently quitted, and in point of fact he has intruded his ugly presence for the purpose of burgling the place. The Kaffir woman distrusts him as soon as she catches sight of his dishevelled hair and beard and his somewhat compromising countenance. But Nelly, childlike and less sophisticated, offers him the hospitality of the modest homestead, and he is allowed to remain there for the night. After the little girl and the woman have retired to their bedrooms, it is not long before Trent—that is the tramp's name—indulges in his light-fingered tactics. He picks up a silver box, and is handling it with all the affection that a Bill Sikes fondles a valuable find, when Nelly appears with a candle. In her innocent way she rebukes him, and he repentantly returns it to her possession. Then, little by little, it comes out that they are father and daughter, and—well, the end can be guessed. Miss Lyons acts with conspicuous ability in the role of the black woman—a curious creature to personate, but played with much intelligence by the young lady referred to. In the character of Nelly we have a clever little child actress, who should be heard of later on. The gentleman who appears as the derelict is to be congratulated on an admirable study of a rough-cut driftaway with yet a tender spot in his hardened nature. The Sisters Lytton enchant one with their rendering of "Il Bacio," and Foreman and Fannan create intense amusement with their patter, the speech on the problem of the working classes being particularly funny. An admirable set of pictures is thrown on the screen by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, the series, entitled "When Jenkins Washes Up," being worthy of special mention. Mr. Pete Murray, the acting-manager, and Mr. Erle T. Walkden, the assistant-manager—the latter has only occupied that position for a few months—attend assiduously to the requirements of the house, both in front and behind the footlights.

Among the forthcoming additions to Mr. "Sixpenny Pop" Smith's catalogue will be found the following numbers: "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm out," "Snowflakes," "Run, run, you little ones!" "Go 'way, good Massa Bee!" "Hi! Johnny, who's your tailor?" "It's not the old man's voice, it's just the dear old song," "The rose of my heart," "The lobster's promenade," and "Nobody." Messrs. Francis and Day expect to have the above and others on the market by October 1.

Miss Elsie Earle, after a successful provincial tour, will return to town early next month to produce her new scena *Holly and Mistletoe*, by the promising writer Will Letters, author and composer of *Sunshine and Shadow* and *The Lilac Girl*. Special scenery will be painted by Bostock, and there will be electrical effects. Miss Earle has also in study a new male impersonation song, "The Mayor," from the joint pens of Will Letters and Nat Clifford.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY.

Mr. Harry Fragson is meeting with great success with his own song, "Tom, the piper's son," which has the oft-recurring amusing phrase, "He received me most politely." By kind permission of Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., we print the words of the song:—

I was reading in a column of the "Times" the other day
That some managers were wanting to produce a novel play
Written by an unknown author. Now, as *I* have written *one*,
I submitted it to Curzon, called it "Tom, the Piper's Son!"
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY. "We've successes here you know,
"And your piece is really charming. Call again next week or so."
In a week I called upon him, and "My dear old boy," said he,
"But this isn't quite in my style, 'tis a 'cert' for Beerbohm Tree.
"And you know I love to spend a lot in mounting of a play,
"Still, I really won't detain you." Curzon said to me, "Good-day!"
He returns me "Tom, the Piper's Son," my splendid Tragedee,
And 'tis then I seek the sanctum of our only Beerbohm Tree.
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY. "We've successes here you know,
"And your piece is really charming; call again next week or so."
In a week I called upon him. Beerbohm said, "It's simply grand,
"But it isn't quite the sort of thing my public understand.
"It is beautiful, oh, beautiful, but cannot see my way;
"Lewis Waller wants this sort of thing: he's sure to like the play."
He returns me "Tom, the Piper's Son," my five-act Tragedee,
And I down to the Imperial trot, great Waller for to see.
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY. "We've successes here you know,
"And your piece is really charming. Call again next week or so."
In a week I called upon him. Waller said, "A splendid part,
"With a lot of speeches extra long to cultivate by heart.
"I'm aware they want a heap of *me*. I'm tired of Shakespeare tricks;
"But as I'm not in the final act, you just try Seymour Hicks."
He returns me "Tom the Piper's Son," my five-act Tragedee,
And away I march to Seymour Hicks as proud as I could be.
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY. "We've successes here you know,
"And your piece is really charming. Call again next week or so."
In a week I called upon him. Seymour said, "My dear old son,
"You have cribbed this piece from somewhere, eh? You shouldn't that have done.
"Now *I* always am original; that's good enough for me.
"But you collar hold of Edwardes, *he's* the man you want to see."
He returns me "Tom, the Piper's Son" (it's now a simple farce),
And I buttonhole George Edwardes, who that morning chanced to pass.
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY, but "my boy" began to cry:
"There's no blooming dance for Genée!—Better Charlie Wyndham try."
So I hurried off to Wyndham, but encounter Mary Moore,
And she reads a little of the piece, then murmurs, "What a bore!
"For the woman's part is much too old for me, so try again"—
And I instantly skedaddle off to Collins, Drury Lane.
HE RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY; but he said, "You're wrong this time:
"You have taken all the nubbly bits out of the Pantomime!"
And, as through the poor old manuscript most carefully he plods—
"You just take this lot to Alexander, the darling of the gods."
WHO RECEIVED ME MOST POLITELY, with a beatific smile,
And his curly locks were dancing o'er his forehead all the while;
And as I await the verdict, said, "I'm sorry that you've got
"This rare silly notion in your head to write such utter rot!
"But I never mind how many more I gather of this type,
"'Cos the paper's always useful when one wants to light a pipe!"
* * *
So although my piece the FAILURES must be counted now among,
I've just made a little song of it—this VERY SONG I've sung.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday Messrs. Pain and Sons' Benefit was celebrated. The number of visitors exceeded the ordinary Bank Holiday attendance. The amusements were highly appreciated. Japanese daylight fireworks, invented by the beneficiaries over twenty years ago, but still as effective as ever, occupied the attention of those on the south front at 6 o'clock. Some comical figures eagerly welcomed by the juveniles were followed by a balloon ascent and parachute descent by the intrepid Palace aeronaut, M. Auguste Gandron, who later made a second ascent with a huge fire device attached to the car. Every reserved seat was engaged and money refused nearly two hours before the fireworks commenced. The set pieces claimed to cover an area of 10,000 feet, and it was noteworthy that no accessories such as canvas scenery were called into requisition. The Arc de Triomphe in no wise belied its name, being a splendid fire effect, and the Temple of Heaven at Pekin, with terraces of steps stretching towards the many successive tiers of Oriental architecture of the main building, was another attractive depiction. Amongst other devices was the Bacchante Fountain, one of the most realistic features of the display. Mercury's magic wands, the phantom circles, cataracts of gold and silver, and flights of rockets, filled the sky with thousands of jets of coloured fires, which were meritorious items in the varied programme. The Victoria Falls on the Zambesi called for special comment. Perhaps the most wonder striking exhibition in this huge display was the volley of radium bombs, which made five distinct changes in the air. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius, representing the famous volcano with mountain sloping down to the Bay of Naples, with streams of fire and lava belching forth from the crater, was the concluding device. Many of the effects shown on Saturday were repetitions of those specially manufactured for their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales' Indian tour in the early part of this year, and also for their Majesties the King and Queen, and the Spanish monarchs for the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes.

The Ormonde family have been drawing houses all through the North of Ireland, despite the sultry weather. In Newry, Dundalk, and Drogheda the "house-full" notice had to be displayed at eight o'clock. Dr. Ormonde, hypnotist, is nightly astonishing his audiences; and Mr. J. Ormonde-Dann is introducing some marvellous illusions. Mlle. Lottie Ormonde, who captivates with her brilliant solos, has just been offered £400 for her fine old Russian violin, made in 1748 by S. Kiopossse, St. Petersburg, and at one time in possession of H. Wieniawski, the famous violin virtuoso and composer.

ROYAL ALBERT RE-OPENING.

Riding on a motor-omnibus over the bridge that divides the counties of London and Essex at Canning Town, our attention was directed on Monday evening to an unaccustomed blaze of light from three huge arc lamps, which, illuminating a red building to the right, made one think at first glance that the place was on fire. But that was not the case. The brilliant red house, resplendent in the bright rays of the festal lamps, was the Royal Albert Palace of Varieties. It was the opening night, and the occasion was not to be regarded lightly. The ordinary public entrances were blocked by crowds of people, many of whom failed to secure seats, and even the writer only managed to get in by discovering the way through a billiard-room connected with the establishment.

Of course, a great change has taken place in the appearance, both of the exterior and the interior, of the Royal Albert, as well as in its conduct. Mr. Arthur Hunt, the new proprietor, has done away with the office of "chairman," and where that dignitary used to sit, surrounded by a select circle of honoured guests, there are now the orchestra stalls. The auditorium has been entirely re-seated, the chairs in every part of the house being extremely comfortable and conveniently arranged. The decorations around the balcony and gallery fronts, and in other parts, involve a pretty scheme of cream and gold, which is rendered still more effective by the slight contrast with a different colour on the wallpaper, a handsome design of gold repoussé on green background. The gilded pillars and the new contrivances in the way of electric lights give to the interior the aspect of a gorgeous fairy palace. There have been embellishment and improvement all round, even to the back of the footlights, for new scenery has been brought into the theatre.

In appearing on the stage to declare the house open, Mr. Arthur Hunt had very few words to say. He remarked that the local people would not find him wanting in attending to their convenience and tastes, and they would no doubt join with him in wishing the new Royal Albert every success—which, needless to say, they did. He then introduced Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, who, as a sort of send-off song, sang in her accomplished style the National Anthem, the audience enthusiastically cheering, and entering into the verses. In the front row of the orchestra stalls sat the former proprietor of the Royal Albert, Mr. Charles Relf and his wife; while the old and respected chairman, Mr. Walter Leaver, dropped in for a few minutes during the evening. Others present were Mr. Fred Baugh, Mr. Edward Granville, Mr. Ernest Edelsten, Mr. George Barclay, Mr. Sam Witmond, Mr. Joe Nightingale, and Mr. J. W. Johnson, who has arranged most of the bookings for the Albert during the last twenty years.

The establishment has started with an excellent programme under the two-houses-a-night system. There is this week Miss Kate Carney in her latest sketch *The Brighton Promenade*, which is lively and entertaining throughout. In her vivacious manner Miss Carney delights her hearers with her rendering of three items, "I'm coming back, love," "On the good old Surrey side," and "The Brighton Promenade." Miss Nellie Farrell proves a capable singer of Irish songs; and Mr. E. W. Selman is exceedingly funny with his lines and smart with his dancing. The comedy act of Moon and Morris is sufficient, to quote a famous saying, to make a cat laugh; and Tiny Arnold, who is described as the smallest artist in the world, dances in the sprightliest fashion, and sings in the gayest manner. As to Miss Rita Resdan, we all know what a clever male impersonator she is, and we have in the past referred on numerous occasions to her admirable efforts in the direction indicated. Mr. George Beddon distinguishes himself as a "white coon"; and Edwards and Dacre amuse one with their comedy, *What a Life!* The Coolvilles submit a pleasing vocal and dancing turn; and from Raymond's Bio-Tableaux we get the latest cinematographic novelties. Miss Carlotta de Yonson and company are appearing in the American playlet, *The Dandy Detective*, in which Miss de Yonson wins our sympathy for her acting in the part of the heroine, and in which Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, the author, shows his versatility in three rôles, as a quick-change detective.

THE MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel. Mr. Pat Carey (the president) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Frank Heath (treasurer), W. Wainratta, W. Briscoe, G. Fredericks, and Seth White.

Mr. Frank Heath submitted the draft of a letter he had sent to a contemporary in reply to one received from a correspondent, Mr. Monte Bayly, suggesting that the Music Hall Sick Fund should be amagamated with the Variety Artists' Federation, each member to subscribe one penny per week. Mr. Heath pointed out in his reply that there is an age limit (45 years), so a great number would be ineligible. Moreover, it would not be possible to give the sick pay of £1 per week for less than 6d. It must be understood that, if a member is unfortunately compelled to declare on the fund, the payment is £1 a week for 12 weeks, and 10s. for a further continuation of 12 weeks, making in all a benefit of £18 for 24 weeks. In the event of taking the figures as suggested by Monte Bayly—£11 per week, or £572 per annum for 2840 members—our liability to each member would be £1 per week; and, in this case, providing there were more than 11 members ill during the same period, we should be at a loss, and 11 is a very small percentage of 2840 members. Writes Mr. Heath:—

"I fully appreciate Monte Bayly's sentiments, and only wish that they were practicable. I also agree with him that it is difficult for the ordinary artist to provide out of his weekly wage a sufficiency against the time of need. A payment of 6d. per week obviates this necessity. It is unaccountable that, in spite of the various advantages offered by the Music Hall Sick Fund, its members are so few, and if this correspondence will enlighten them as to the advisability of joining, Monte Bayly's letter will indeed have borne fruit."

The chairman remarked that he had intended writing a letter to similar effect, but Mr. Heath's communication was a complete answer to the suggestion offered.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the will indeed have borne fruit."

VESTA TILLEY.

A GREAT OVATION AT GLASGOW EMPIRE.

Fresh from her triumphant tour in the United States, Vesta Tilley is in Glasgow this week, and last night a great ovation was given her by a packed audience at the Empire. Although there have been many recent "imitations" of her special line of "business," a visit to the Empire convinces music-hall frequenters there is only one Vesta Tilley. Neither her style, mannerisms, nor songs can be associated with anyone else, and one can understand why she created such a furore while in the land of the almighty dollar. Miss Tilley sang a couple of new and catchy songs last night, but evidently her old songs are most favoured, for she had to respond to encores with "The Seaside Sultan" and "Following in father's footsteps." Even after four appearances the "house" was loth to let her go, and "Everybody's Idol" had to make a little speech before being allowed to retire. A strong company of artists support the "star" turn.—*Glasgow News*, Sept. 11.

CHAT WITH MR. TOM COSTELLO.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"Considering the disabilities under which music halls have suffered for the last twenty years, I think everyone will agree with me that it must be a wonderful business to have flourished in the way that it has done. Variety entertainments have been the target of the Puritanical section of the public, and they have been made the shuttlecock of unscrupulous adventurers."

"Recently, Mr. Costello, there have been rumours of bribery, and your opinions on the subject would be interesting."

"Mr. George Adney Payne's recent letter on the question comes as a timely warning, but the 'handwriting on the wall' has been visible to members of the profession for some time past."

But, Mr. Costello, while giving expression to the hope that Mr. Payne's action would be the initial step in the cleansing of an obnoxious system of introducing business, preferred not to commit himself further on that point.

"At the same time," he continues, "I have every belief in the future prosperity of the music hall stage, provided that the lines upon which these places of entertainment were built up are strictly adhered to. What I mean to say is that the principle upon which a music hall should be conducted, so far as the performances are concerned, is covered by the word 'variety.'"

"Perhaps you will tell me, then, what is your ideal programme?"

"Music hall patrons wish to see a little of everything, and not too much of one class of turn. I consider that we have had a surfeit of lions, tigers, animal acts generally, and foreign dumb shows. I was engaged recently at a certain music hall which only needed the stage sprinkled with sawdust to make it a circus. To go back to your question as to what is my ideal programme, I think that laughter should be the main object whenever available. Ballads of course should invariably find a place on the bill, if only as backgrounds to the merry-making. The programme should also include a

MR. TOM COSTELLO.

good sketch within reasonable time-limit, an acrobatic exhibition, while graceful dancing to pretty music will be always welcomed. Other turns would have to be selected according to circumstances and modern requirements.

"I do not think that clever character-work on the variety stage is appreciated nowadays at its proper value, or anything near it. It seems to me that there is more money in becoming a stereotyped style of artist, or specialist, if I may so term it, who invariably appears in one distinctive garb."

It is not generally known that Mr. Costello started his professional career in the legitimate theatres, his first London engagement being with the late George Conquest at the Surrey Theatre, where he remained in pantomime for two seasons. Mr. Costello has had considerable experience of pantomime work, having taken part in no fewer than thirteen, and he is now seriously contemplating renewing his active acquaintance with the fairy tales of the festive season. In his first "annual" he made such a decided hit as a comic woman that afterwards proprietors insisted on his playing a similar part. Should he return to pantomime, it is his intention to appear in male parts.

The song which really put Mr. Costello on a firm footing in his profession was "Comrades." At the time, it was whistled and sung by British soldiers all over the world, and even now few have forgotten the well-known lines—

Comrades, comrades, ever since we were boys,
Sharing each other's sorrows, sharing each other's joys.

What recollections do not these lines bring to the mind! And who has not hummed or even boldly sung the lines of another of Mr. Costello's popular ditties, "The ship I love"?

I'll stick to the ship, lads,
You save your lives;
I've no one to love me,
You've children and wives.

These two songs were from the pen of Mr. Felix McGlennon.

No doubt most of us have heard a facetious 'bus driver, even within the past few days, whistle as he passed a wedding party, "At Trinity Church I met my doom." This number was specially written for Mr. Costello by the late Fred Gilbert. Other notable songs which helped the subject of this interview to make a name for himself were "Mrs. Gottem," "I've worked eight hours this day," and "The Sheeny Coon"; while more recent successes have been "I've made up my mind to sail away," "Somebody's eyes are glistening," "Farewell, my little Yo-San," "The Ten-pound Note," the words and music being the work of Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. Mr. Costello's favourite song, and the one in which he considers he is seen and heard to best advantage, is "The Poor Old Clown," by Messrs. Mills and Everard; and this, along with "Good-bye, dear old London Town," are what he is entertaining audiences with at the present time.

"I'm an Irishman from Birmingham" says Mr. Costello in his breezy manner when a question is asked as to his origin. He claims to have originated certain styles of songs and business which have been extensively copied, notably, "His funeral's to-morrow," which gave birth to so many "grim-humour" songs, and "The Society Actor," with its novel idea of interruption from a member of the audience.

Charles Corona, now on his fifth tour with the Ormondes, has been playing in the North of Ireland. He was also the proprietor of Corona's Cadets, Youghal.

DEPARTURE OF MR. HARRY RICKARDS.

Mr. Harry Rickards left England yesterday on board the P. and O. s.s. Mooltan for Australia. Mrs. and Miss Rickards and Mr. Larkin (private secretary) accompanied him, and his remark to us a few hours before he left these shores was, "Thank God I'm going on board ship for Australia." Unfortunately, Mr. Rickards did not go away feeling in the best of health. Circumstances seem to have conspired to prevent the past three months he has spent in Europe being anything of the nature of an enjoyable holiday. He has been hard at work all the time, and has been permitted but little leisure. During this visit he has arranged more engagements of artists than in any previous year. To show what energetic efforts he has put forth within the brief space of twelve weeks, we may mention that he has booked attractions for five different theatres in Australia until 1909. We have already given the names of many variety artists whose services Mr. Rickards contracted for during the short time he has sojourned in this country, and a host of others could be mentioned who have been engaged to appear in various parts of Australia within the next three years.

But perhaps the most significant announcement that we have to make in these columns in regard to Mr. Rickards' undertakings is that he has secured the Criterion Theatre, Sydney, and there he intends to produce new dramatic pieces and revive old ones. This enterprise, he informs us, will have no bearing upon, nor will it interfere with, his other theatres or companies. He has purchased the Australian rights of several dramas, and has engaged a capable company of actors and actresses to present them. Among the ladies and gentlemen he is sending out to the Antipodes may be mentioned Mr. Sidney Howard, Miss Lillian Hallowes, Mr. Nelson Ramsey, Mr. Gordon Tomkins, Miss Kate Walbran, Mr. George Mumford, Mr. J. Wilcox, Miss Pearl Keats, and Mr. Harold West, who will open at the Sydney Criterion in the drama, *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Rickards' knowledge of the theatrical tastes of the Australian people is so intimate and so thorough, and his previous ventures have proved so highly successful, that one would not predict other than good fortune for his latest enterprise in the direction of the legitimate stage.

Mr. Rickards is nothing if not up to date, and recognising how popular cinematographic pictures have become in this country, he has purchased more than £1,000 worth of machines and films and other contrivances appertaining to the business. This means that, at the least, and in Mr. Rickards' theatres, if in no others, the very latest subjects will be shown. Mr. Rickards has also bought some magnificent dresses designed by Mr. Percy Anderson.

Mr. Rickards met with a disagreeable experience last Wednesday. He had travelled up to Walhamgreen to see a music hall "act," and had returned to Frascati's to have supper along with his wife and Mr. Tom Pacey. After leaving the restaurant, Mr. Rickards happened to be crossing the road opposite the Oxford in Tottenham Court-road, when, on turning round to say good-bye to a friend, he was suddenly run into by a bicyclist, who knocked him down and fell on top of him. The cyclist, it appears, got up, coolly mounted his machine, and rode off. When Mr. Rickards endeavoured to raise himself he discovered that the shock of the impact and the fall had rendered him extremely weak, and he fell back again, and narrowly escaped being run over by a motor-omnibus. He was assisted to the pavement, however, and reached home without further mishap, although we are informed that he still suffers from pain on the side of the body on which he fell, and his nerves are still a little bit out of order. However, we entertain the hope that a pleasant sea voyage will make him as fit as a fiddle, and that he may reach home with renewed health and vigour.

DEATH OF HARRY BURNELL.

Another clever young artist has been struck down in the full flush of a successful career, and it was with great regret that we learnt, in the early part of the week, the sad news of the death of Harry Burnell, the youngest son of the late Joseph Jee, the eldest brother of the celebrated Jee family. Harry, with his three brothers, Joe, Fred, and Bert, formed the combination known as the Burnells, and commenced his career as a music-hall comedian and baton manipulator, with them at the Metropolitan at the age of ten, in a sketch known as *Things, Bits, and Pieces*, in which versatility and smartness were everything. Since that time their act, advantageously altered, extended, and developed, has been played at the principal Palaces, Empires, and Hippodromes throughout the United Kingdom. The deceased gentleman, who succumbed to an acute attack of pneumonia on Saturday, was playing with his brothers and partners on the previous Saturday at the Hippodrome, Boscombe, in the sketch, *On the Links*. He died at the residence of his brother, Seth Egbert, whose grief is shared by his brothers, the Burnells, Fred Maple (of the Maples), and his sister, Mrs. Charles Avolo (of the Musical Avolos). The deceased artist, whose full name was Henry William Jee, was engaged last Christmas in the production of *Cinderella* at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham.

The funeral, which was excellently carried out by Mr. Theo. Dunkley, took place on Wednesday, the cortège leaving 277, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, at one o'clock, and arriving at Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, at 1.45. The mourners seated in the first coach were the deceased's brothers, Joe Jee, Bert Jee (of the Burnells), Seth Jee, Albert Jee (Brothers Egbert), Mrs. Charles Avolo (sister), and Mrs. E. Bryer (Seth Jee's mother-in-law). The second coach was occupied by Mrs. Joe Jee, Mrs. Seth Jee, Miss Lillie Bryer, Andy Deans (Burnell), James Naylor, and Victor Petite (brother-in-law to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jee—the Maples). Mr. Fred Herbert and Mr. Fred Mason were also at the graveside to represent the Variety Artists' Federation. The deceased was buried in the family grave, where his father and mother already are resting.

The coffin nestled among lovely blooms, and beautiful wreaths were sent by the following relatives and friends:—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jee (Burnell), Mr. and Mrs. Seth Jee (Egbert), Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jee (Egbert), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jee (The Maples), Bert Jee ,and Mrs. Charles Avolo. Miss Maud Laurie (Laurie Sisters), Mrs. Bryer, Miss L. Bryer, George Bryer, and Mr. James Naylor. James H. Jee (uncle), Miss Blanch Benham, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bryer, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Holloway, Andy Deans (Burnell), The Harvey Boys, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Mills (John Dewar's representative), Mr. H. Ebden, Mr. H. Gillette (Kelly and Gillette), Mr. H. W. Wieland and family, Mr. and Mrs. Peachy, Mr. and Mrs. W. Keen (of Keen and Waller), Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Vandyke, Mr. and Mrs. Button, Miss May, Miss Nellie Sheldon, the V.A.F., and others.

It was with much regret that Mrs. Albert Jee, at the last moment, had to give up her intention to be present among the mourners, She had travelled to town from Liverpool in order to be at the graveside, but was taken suddenly and seriously ill. The doctors announced her malady to be peritonitis, and an immediate operation was decided on at St. Thomas Hospital. We regret to to say that it proved fatal, the unfortunate lady dying on Thursday evening.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, Aug. 7.—Miss Tittell Brune returned to Her Majesty's on the 4th, and had an enthusiastic reception in *Dorothy Vernon*. Miss Brune scored highly in her impersonation of the impetuous daughter of Sir George Vernon. The choleric baronet had a strong representative in Mr. J. B. Atholwood. Mr. Thomas Kingston was a manly Sir John Manners, with clear, incisive enunciation. Mr. Gaston Mervale's Malcolm Vernon was a pronounced and clever portrait. Miss Susie Vaughan, a sterling actress, presented Queen Bess to everybody's satisfaction. Miss Clara Stephenson as Lady Vernon was conspicuous; and Miss Helen Ferguson portrayed Mary Stuart most acceptably. A fine character-study came from Mr. Maurice Dudley as Perkin. Smaller parts were sustained by Misses Nellie Calvin and Irby Marshall, and Messrs. T. W. Lloyd, Vivian Edwards, Harry Sweeney, Stanley Walpole, Lawrence Hardinge, and Frank Harcourt. The play was staged by Mr. J. W. Hazlitt, and the orchestra directed by Mr. H. Diederichsen.

Mr. Bland Holt revived *In London Town* at the Royal on the 4th, with the same cast as before, and Mr. John Brunton's beautiful English scenery. Mr. and Mrs. Bland Holt looked after the fun of the story, and Mr. Walter Baker and Miss Frances Ross supply the heroics. Messrs. Albert Norman and Charles Brown attend to the villainy; and Mr. Styan, Miss Harrie Ireland, Miss Jennie Pollock, and Mr. Max Maxwell complete the cast.

The Tivoli has an exceptionally strong bill; in fact, the biggest which Mr. Harry Rickards has given his critics for some time. The list includes Kelly and Agnes, Baby Watson, Little Cliff, Nita Leete, Lillieth Leyton, Olive Lenton, Vasco, Brinn, Alexandra and Bertie, Lewis Sisters, Percy Clark, Arthur Elliott, Alice Fane, Elsie Brown, Maud Faning, Tom Dawson, George Bentley, and Howard Hall. A new first part is introduced, including Romany scenes and costumes.

The Fisk Jubilee Singers are crowding the Queen's Hall with their singing and beautiful views of Queen Victoria's marriage in Madrid.

MELBOURNE, Aug. 7.—Princess's Theatre (Lessee, Mr. R. G. Knowles; Business-Manager, Mr. W. J. Lincoln).—After a most successful season of seven nights, Mr. Knowles made his final appearance on Saturday evening last, when he repeated his performance, entitled "Trifles that trouble the traveller." During the evening, Mr. Knowles sang several songs, including "On the benches in the Park," the song which made his name when he first appeared in Melbourne some ten years ago. He also contributed some selections on the banjo in first-class style.

Her Majesty's Theatre (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—*The Squaw Man* has entered upon its last four nights, and, in consequence, there was a packed house on Saturday evening. Mr. Charles Waldron and the rest of his capable company appear to advantage in their various rôles. The mounting of the piece is on a lavish scale. On Friday evening next, the last night of the present season, *The Christian* will be staged.

Theatre Royal (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant).—The highly-sensational melodrama, entitled *Honour Thy Father*, was produced here on Saturday evening, and served to draw an enormous house. The piece is mounted with the same care to detail which characterises all Mr. Anderson's productions. Mr. Laurance Dunbar made a satisfactory Duncan Bly, his acting at times reaching a high level. Miss Eugenie Duggan was winsome and sweet as Mercy Merry. Jack Halyard was effectively played by Mr. George Cross; and Mr. Edmund Duggan made an excellent Gabriel Garth. Other characters were well sustained by Mr. Edwin Campbell, Mr. Temple Harrison, and Miss Lena Langdride.

Opera House (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon). — The programme presented at this theatre continues to attract large audiences. On Saturday night there was an excellent house, and the different turns were cordially received. Raleigh and May have established themselves as firm favourites; Blake and Granby appeared in a new sketch, entitled *The Late Lamented*, which kept the house in roars of laughter; Seymour and Dupré repeated their clever entertainment; and interesting turns were presented by the Two Colliers, Brothers Phillips, Nellie Kilburn, Irving Sayles, Fred Bluett, and a host of others. On Wednesday evening Agustin and Hartley will make their first appearance, in a novel barrel act.

SKETCH DISPUTE SETTLED.

Mr. Walter Gibbons was summoned before Mr. Fenwick at Bow-street on Monday for having unlawfully kept the Holborn Empire for the public performance of a stage play, from July 16 to 21, without the authority or licence of the Lord Chamberlain, contrary to the statute of the 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 68.

Mr. Bodkin said he had been instructed to support the summons on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association, but it would not be necessary to trouble the magistrates with it beyond explaining how it came before him. The proceedings were taken under the Theatres Act of 1845, which made it an offence to produce a stage play in a place not authorised for the performance of stage plays. A stage play, as defined under the Act, included every known form of theatrical representation.

The defendant was the responsible proprietor of the Holborn Empire, where a piece, which could probably be described as a comedy, was produced on the days mentioned. It took between fifty-five and sixty minutes to present, and had some eight or nine speaking parts. The act was one of those which might be put into force by an interested class for their own protection, and the Theatrical Managers' Association had agreed with some of the music-hall proprietors that they would not interfere in the case of sketches which did not exceed thirty minutes, and had not more than six speaking parts; not more than one sketch of this character to be given at any one performance, although a small sketch, of not more than fifteen minutes' duration, might be presented at the same entertainment. The Act drew no distinction between a play and a sketch.

Mr. Gibbons, the defendant in this case, had now recognised that such limits were desirable, and he regretted that they had been exceeded in the piece mentioned in the summons. He had, moreover, agreed that in future no stage play of any such duration should be produced in any hall in which he was interested. Under these circumstances the Theatrical Managers' Association asked permission to withdraw the summons.

Mr. Fenwick: Has Mr. Gibbons anything to say?

Mr. Gibbons (from the body of the court): No, sir, except that I agree with what counsel has said.

Mr. Fenwick: Then the summons is withdrawn.

Keeps the Skin Cool and Refreshed.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, heat, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, SEPT. 5.—*His House in Order*, splendidly acted by Mr. John Drew and his capable company scored an emphatic success at the Empire Theatre last Monday. It was the opening of the season at Mr. Charles Frohman's beautiful playhouse, and a large and brilliant audience attended the first performance. Mr. Drew's appearance is always a matter of great interest to the theatre-going public, and his present engagement gains additional importance from the fact that in Mr. Pinero's play he has the strongest and most interesting part that he has played for a number of years. Miss Margaret Illington appeared as the despised but finally triumphant wife, Nina, and her performance could hardly be excelled. There was prolonged applause at the close of the third act, and Mr. Drew and Miss Illington appeared and reappeared a dozen times.

MR. WILLIAM H. CRANE, forsaking comedy for the nonce, is acting a serious part in *The Price of Money*, a four-act play by Alfred Sutro, recently produced at the Garrick Theatre. Under the title of *The Perfect Lover*, the piece was presented in London last year at the Imperial Theatre. Mr. Crane is an experienced actor who does everything well, and as his personal popularity is great the play will no doubt serve his purpose for one season at least. Mr. Abingdon does some excellent work as the money-worshipping brother. Miss Margaret Dale is sincere and natural as the unhappy wife. Mr. F. Owen Baxter plays the comedy part of John Collis very cleverly. Mr. Walter Hitchcock is manly and convincing as Lord Cardew, and Miss Olive Oliver scores a distinct success as the Hon. Susan Lesson.

MR. HENRY E. DIXEY has opened the Lyric Theatre with a revival of *The Man on the Box*, the comedy in which he appeared with signal success last season.

"THE LITTLE STRANGER," by Michael Morton, is Mr. James K. Hackett's first offering at the playhouse, of which he is the new manager, and which he has renamed the Hackett Theatre, the house having been formerly known as the Lew Fields Theatre. Mr. Morton's farce was produced here on the 28th ult., under the joint management of Mr. Hackett and Mr. Frank Curzon, and its reception justifies the prediction that it will be as successful in New York as it was in London. Master Edward Garratt gives a strikingly clever and amusing embodiment of the baby endowed with the soul of a man, and the other characters, enacted with one or two exceptions by the company which originally produced the piece in London, are all cleverly rendered. Mr. A. G. Poulton, as the baby's maternal grandfather, Sir George Peacock; Miss Dora Hole, as the hysterical nurse; and Mr. Charles Goold as Eames, the butler, are fully alive to their numerous opportunities for fun-making; while Mr. Athol Stewart, as Captain Dick Allenby, Miss Kate Osborne as Mrs. Allenby, and Miss May Blayney as Effie Peacock are also effective.

DALY'S THEATRE was lately reopened under the management of Mr. Frank McKee, and a new musical comedy called *Marrying Mary* was performed for the first time, Miss Marie Cahill being the bright particular star of the production. Mr. Edwin Milton Royle wrote the book, and Mr. Silvio Hein composed the music. The story deals with the complications caused by the frequent divorces of the heroine, Mary Montgomery, played with delightful humour and vivacity by Miss Cahill, whose well-rendered songs are always in demand. Mr. Eugene Cowles, the favourite basso of the Bostonians, has a prominent part, and his fine voice is heard to advantage in a solo. Mr. Roy Atwell sings a capital number, "Old Noah knew a thing or two," and Mr. William Courtleigh distinguishes himself for the first time as a musical comedian.

As Richard Weatherby, the "bad" brother, Mr. Hawtrey has a part that suits him to perfection, but the play is considered too "thin" to be spread over three acts, and fails to hold the interest of the audience when Mr. Hawtrey is not in view. Mr. St. Clair Bayfield, Mr. Hall McAllister, Miss May Tully, and Miss Kate Denin Wilson play prominent parts well.

MR. LEW FIELDS, who is now under the management of the Shuberts, is running a lively and diverting "show," and one that is very pretty withal, entitled *About Town*, at the Herald-square Theatre, which has just been added to the ever-increasing list of Shubert playhouses. The book is by Joseph Herbert and the music by Melville Ellis and Raymond Hubbell, the piece being produced by that clever inventor of novel and pretty effects, Mr. Julian Mitchell. One of the best features is a stirring refrain, "When Tommy Atkins marries Dolly Gray," at the end of the first act, a contingent of the chorus, dressed as British redcoats, marching arm-in-arm with a company of American cadets, while the English and American colours are displayed. Mr. Fields is amusing in his own inimitable way as Baron Blitz, a "genteel cabdriver," and he is supported by such a clever company of fun-makers that the merriment never flags. Mr. Lawrence Grossmith, as the heiress-hunting Duke of Slushington, from Piccadilly, makes a good deal of his part, his song "The Piccadilly Crawl," with a fetching chorus, being one of the best numbers. Others who are important factors in the success of the entertainment are Harry Fisher, as Bertie, a would-be boulevardier from Pittsburg; George Beban, as a French Marquis with the duelling habit; Edna Wallace Hopper, as Fannie Frivol, with three notes in her voice, "none of them endorsed"; Joseph Herbert, as a Scotch Laird; Louise Dresser, as Gertrude, the Gibson Girl; Elita Proctor Otis, as Mrs. Frivol; and Louise Allen Collier, as Lottie Limejuice, a chorus girl.

MISS HILDA SPONG is appearing at the head of her own company at Weber's Theatre in a three-act comedy by Harold Heaton, called *Lady Jim*. This is one of Mr. Walter N. Lawrence's productions. The scenes of the comedy are laid in England, and the title refers to Lady Jemima Wilson, familiarly known as Lady Jim. She has a niece who is engaged to a young Londoner, Geoffrey Northrup, whom Lady Jim has never met. Taking a trip to London on the quiet to see what sort of a man her niece is to marry, she finds in his apartment a table set for two and a lady's cloak. Then Geoffrey's troubles begin. He gets his male servant to dress as a woman and presents him to Lady Jim as his "aunt." This does not satisfy her, so Geoffrey locks her in his apartment and flies away to see his fiancée and "square things" before Auntie gets there. But the engagement is broken, and the surprise comes when Lady Jim marries Geoffrey herself, being impelled, apparently, by a consuming desire to find out "who owned that cloak."

MISS SPONG plays Lady Jim with so much aplomb that she almost makes the character a plausible one. Prominent in her support are Messrs. Charles Harbury, Lionel Walsh, and Herbert Percy; and Miss Leila Repton.

MISS LOTTIE COLLINS'S dramatic song, "A Marriage of Convenience," has held the big houses at the Holborn Empire spellbound during the week. It is by George Arthurs and Orlando Powell.

MR. J. W. ELLISON, who was married on the 8th inst. at Margate, by special licence, to Miss Ada Isabel Palmer, is opening on Monday next at the Palace, Grimsby. The happy pair were the recipients of many handsome presents, and the telegraph was busy with congratulatory messages from members of the profession everywhere in these islands.

"THE DUCHESS OF TOOTING."

A new Musical Comedy "Feu-de-joie," in one act. Book, lyrics, and music by George Sheldon, produced for the first time in London at the Holborn Empire, on Monday, Sept. 10.

Silas Cash ..... MR. ERNEST SPALDING
Charles Cash ..... MR. HENRY LATIMER
Fitzroy Fitzherbert ..... MR. ERIC DALVERE
Peter ..... MISS RHODA PAUL
The Duchess of Tooting.... MISS DORA HERITAGE
Rosa Latour ..... MISS JOSIE FARRINGTON

Mr. Sidney Bacon, who is responsible for the production of this bright little musical sketch, can be fairly congratulated on the success which has attended its first performances in London. *The Duchess of Tooting* belongs to a class of piece which, on their merits, deserve to receive a warm welcome at the variety halls. Here there is surely plenty of room for musical comedy in tabloid form; but, of course, to ensure successful results, the production must be complete in every detail. Happily, this condition is fulfilled by the new production, which forms one of the leading attractions in the programme at the Holborn Empire this week. The author of the book and composer of the music, Mr. George Sheldon, has done his double work exceedingly well; and the piece has been staged in a manner that gives complete satisfaction. The scene is the Hôtel du Monde, Montpelier. Amongst the guests here are Charles Cash and his newly-wedded wife, a favourite young music-hall artist. But the happiness of the bridegroom is clouded by a letter he has just received from his father, a wealthy manufacturer, congratulating him on having married the Duchess of Tooting, and enclosing a handsome wedding present of a cheque for £10,000. It appears that Charles's wife has been popularly known as "the Duchess of Tooting," on account of a comic song of that title which she had successfully sung; and hence the old gentleman's mistake. Mr. Cash, sen., is expected at the hotel to convey his congratulations in person to the newly-married couple, and his son is greatly perplexed how to find a way out of the difficulty. However, at the suggestion of his sharp-witted wife, Rosa, Charles's friend, Fitzroy Fitzherbert, is induced, after the manner of Lord Babbicombe, in *Charley's Aunt*, to impersonate the Duchess, while Rosa represents the daughter of twenty-three, who, according to "Debrett," her ladyship, a widow, possesses. The elder Cash duly arrives, and is introduced to the supposed Duchess of Tooting, and her daughter. But the plotters had not reckoned on the presence at the hotel of the real Duchess, a middle-aged lady, with grey hair and a very determined manner. Her unexpected appearance on the scene naturally leads to some comical complications; but the elder Cash is apparently satisfied with the explanations given, and even boasts that he was all the time aware of the deception.

Miss Josie Farrington gives a refined and graceful embodiment of the bride, and sings in charming style. Mr. Ernest Latimer plays well as Charles Cash; while the wealthy manufacturer has a capital exponent in Mr. Ernest Spalding. Mr. Eric Dalvere is an active and humorous representative of Fitzroy Fitzherbert, the so-called Duchess causing much laughter by the difficulties experienced in the management of her skirts. Miss Rhoda Paul is very brisk as Peter, a page boy; and Miss Dora Heritage is duly dignified and commanding as the real Duchess. A good chorus, and the introduction of some graceful dancing by a number of good-looking young ladies adds to the attractions of this well-played and well-produced little piece.

Amongst the general company engaged here is Mr. Will Evans in his quaint impersonation of the Spanish dancing lady, with her curious and comical corps de ballet. Mr. Geo. Gilbey gives his highly amusing experiences as a goalkeeper at a football match; the Eight English Roses excel as speciality dancers; Miss Lottie Collins sings a couple of songs, and meets with a flattering reception; Mr. Alex Lukos scores with his "Pictures in the Fire"; Jack and Evelyn are seen to advantage in a speciality act; the Columbia Comedy Trio are exceedingly good; and Morney and Holbein, comedians and dancers; Ella Shields, comedienne; the Clarks; Queenie May; Herbert La Martini, comedian and dancer; and the Imperial Bioscope, depicting the Cambridge and Harvard boat race, are other attractions in the bill.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Although, under the wise and capable management of Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, "good business" is the rule, and not the exception, at this handsome house, it is questionable if that gentleman himself anticipated such overwhelming crowds of delighted spectators as have been cheering his heart this week. Even on Monday night, before word could possibly have "gone round the town," the crowds were enormous, and at the second house several hundreds of would-be patrons had to be refused even standing-room. It would be unfair to put this state of affairs down to the sudden cool "snap," in the face of such an alluring bill, but we may say with safety that the two combined to produce the highly-gratifying result.

In a programme so full of good things it may seem invidious to select one item for extraordinary mention; but truth compels us to relate that the first appearance on these boards of Miss May Henderson was the occasion, on Monday evening, of a remarkable demonstration. Miss Henderson was well received when she first came on, and at the end of her second song had to appear no fewer than five times in response to the plaudits of her admirers. And this at the "first house." The magnetic lady seemed delighted with the warmth of her reception, and spared no effort to win the suffrages of her audience. An artist who is always popular here, Mr. George Leyton, after singing in his own robust style about "Wit, Women, and Wine," submitted his latest success, "The Wreck of the Birkenhead." The fine declamation of the artist is here given full scope for display, and, the whole episode being charmingly rendered, is generously applauded. The Sisters Stratton are attractive burlesque artists and dancers, their efforts in the latter line being particularly neat and pretty. Mr. Walter Stanley is a good comedian, and his two songs, "Wait till you get to know my father" and "I'm glad I live in England," are both received with a roar. An exceptionally bright and merry farce, *Aunt Matilda*, is performed in rattling good style by Frank Elliston and company. In this a breezy young man, up to his ears in debt and love, has a letter from an aunt announcing her intention of leaving him her money if he proves to be "worthy," thinks that his friend, Charlie, is impersonating the lady, and proceeds to buffet and bamboozle the poor lady herself. The result is most mirth-provoking. Smartly written and capitally acted, *Aunt Matilda* has come to stay. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is quite on the spot with pictures of the great boat race of last Saturday; a smart piece of work, well carried out. The long sketch of the evening is *The Little Stowaway*, played by Arden and Abel's company. The interesting and pathetic story is followed with the greatest attention, and every point tells. It is played by a large crowd of clever people, some of the minor characters—notably the unfortunate lad temporarily afflicted with *mal de mer*, being very well played. The mounting of the piece is quite satisfactory. F. Von Suppé's tuneful "Poet and Peasant" overture, under the direction of Mr. H. Petersen, plays in the audience; while Mr. John Grant's stage-management is excellent.

MRS. J. DEE HUMPHREYS wishes to publicly thank Mr. Harry Lester for the great interest and assistance he gave in collecting money for her fund.

THE QUEEN OF COINS.

Mlle. Talma is well-known as a member of the famous trio, Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the world's monarchs of magic, whose wonderful "laughing" show is the talk of the hemispheres. Mlle. Talma's vitality in this entertainment is nothing more or less than marvellous, and when she appears amongst the audience of a theatre she positively electrifies people by the rapidity of her movements and the cleverness displayed in the many and varied tricks performed so immediately contiguous to them.

In private life this merry and effervescent artist is Mrs. Servais Le Roy, and it is to her husband she owes much of her talent. She says: "He taught me how to conjure, you know. At first I'm afraid I was rather underhanded. I used to watch Mr. Le Roy do his tricks, and afterwards—when he was off the stage—try to forage them out myself. After a time I began to pick up a few, and Mr. Le Roy, discovering I could palm, began instructing me. So it happened that coins, billiard balls, and even eggs came in for my careful study and treatment, and under the guidance of Mr. Le Roy, who believes in everything being done with minute precision, I speedily mastered the rudiments of the art of deceiving the public by dexterity and speed."

Mlle. Talma's first real engagement as a single performer was at the Oxford Music Hall some few years back, when her talents placed her immediately in the front rank, and the Press and public were enthusiastic over her turn. During the last several years she has travelled pretty well all over the world, and her admirers may be counted by the thousand everywhere.

Personality on the stage is three-fourths of the business, and Talma may be said to possess that extraordinary magnetism which never fails to attract an audience of any nationality. It is a strange truism that merit in a public performer is of little avail if personality is indifferent or undecided. Therefore, when an artist is gifted with genius and personality it will be at once conceded

[*Photo by Fischer.*
MLLE. TALMA.

that the results are of a most satisfying description to both the artist and the public.

Talma is a native of London, although she has spent a considerable portion of her life in the States, and it is perhaps due to this fact that many people imagine she is an American by birth.

MR. ARTHUR CONQUEST AS CHADI.

The North American pantomime, entitled *The Sioux*, which is one of the principal attractions at the Euston this week, may be included in the limited number of pieces which can always be revived with a certainty that they will meet with a favourable reception without having to depend upon the charm of novelty. It is some years ago since *The Sioux* was first played in this country, but it has always been a favourite production with variety hall audiences. The scene represents a settlement in the backwoods of America, and the little household includes amongst its inmates an ape known as Chadi, whose intelligence is only equalled by his agility and strength. While the head of the family is away on a hunting expedition, a number of Sioux Indians on the war path make their appearance. Amidst a scene of great excitement Chadi takes charge of the unprotected child—his much-loved playmate—and, making good use of his agility as a climber, places her in a position of safety. In the fight which ensues Chadi is mortally wounded, and dies in the presence of the little child he has saved from death.

Mr. Arthur Conquest, inheriting the family genius for the clever impersonation of animal characters—middle-aged playgoers who witnessed George Conquest's man-monkey in *For Ever* at the Surrey are not likely ever to forget it—is, of course, the real attraction of the piece as Chadi, the ape, who, speechless though he be, is by far the most prominent personage in the story. To be able to thoroughly interest an audience in a part in which the actor is entirely restricted to expressive pantomime and agile action is no ordinary achievement, but Mr. Conquest has completely mastered the difficulties which have, of necessity, to be encountered in the representation of an animal character, and a truly remarkable portrayal is the result. We have to take it for granted that Chadi displays an intelligence that is certainly superior to that of the ordinary ape; but this does not detract one iota from the merits of the performance, and unquestionably adds to its interest. Having admitted that Chadi is an extraordinary specimen of his kind, yet it will be found that his representative gives a wonderfully close imitation of the ape that has been subjected to the powerful influences of constant companionship with human beings, and become a harmless, trustworthy, domestic favourite. Chadi's pet playmate is the little daughter of the house, and these two enjoying a frolic together is quite a delightful picture. Chadi constitutes himself the child's guardian, and, as the dénouement shows, is ready to defend her at the cost of his own life. The affection and fidelity displayed by the ape are quite touching; but it is only a clever animal actor that could make these human-like qualities so manifest and so real. The pathos of the death scene is sufficient to bring tears to the eyes of the experienced hardened playgoer, who has even sat unmoved when the melodramatic heroine has been in the most dire distress and danger. Mr. Arthur Conquest accomplishes an arduous and difficult task with triumphant results; and when at length the curtain falls on the affecting death scene, he is enthusiastically recalled to bow his acknowledgments. Mr. Conquest has the support of an excellent company, but as their names do not appear on the programme, we are unable to mention them individually. But we may add that the representative of the chief of the Sioux affords most valuable assistance, and a comic rôle is also smartly played. The little girl who plays the child part is charmingly natural. The entrance and dance of the Indians are very effectively worked, and the sketch is carefully staged in every detail.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Dairymaids*, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's popular production, is meeting with much success here. The scenery, dresses, and music are exceedingly fine, and the cast also is excellent. Miss Edith Blanche represents Lady Brudenell with fine art and vivacity; the nephews, Sam and Frank Brudenell, are depicted in spirited style by Messrs. E. Statham Staples and George Desmond; Mr. Alec Fraser acquits himself finely as Capt. Fred Leverton; Mr. Clarence Blackiston acts with humour as Dr. O'Bryne; Mr. Harry Dent's comicalities as Joe Mivens are on a high scale of excellence; the dairymaids, Peggy and Winifred, are made the most of by the Misses Violet Lloyd and Rhoda Gordon, both these ladies proving charming actresses and accomplished vocalists, &c.; Miss Beryl Vaudrey shares in the applause as Helene; Miss Madge Avery scores with a fine character-sketch of Miss Penelope Pyechase; and Miss Nelly Beryl acts the part of the country serving-maid, Eliza, with a keen appreciation of its humour. The Sandow-Gibson girls and innumerable others enhance the production with their attractive looks and talents.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Lion and the Mouse* is represented here by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company. Miss Christine Silver scores as the "mouse," Shirley Rossmore, her brilliant acting in the crucial scene bringing down enthusiastic applause on a most tense situation; Mr. Leslie Carter shares largely in the success as the "lion," otherwise Ryder, the financier, gauging the character most accurately. Mr. Stephen Wentworth presents the son in a favourable light; Mr. J. W. Mackie impersonates the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley with perfect self-possession; Mr. Geo. Lyttleton is praiseworthy as Mr. Rossmore; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon acts as Mrs. Ryder with fitting self-repression; and Miss Maude Townsend as Mrs. Rossmore, Mr. Richard Norton as Alfred Stott, Mr. Jno. Wheatman as J. Whitmore Roberts, Miss Dorrie Roberts as Kate Roberts, and several others contribute most ably.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Dandy Doctor* is courting favour here with a strong company under the supervision of the author, Mr. Edward Marris. Mr. Marris himself keeps the house rocking with laughter at the escapades of the millionaire, Melchisadek Brown; Miss Florence Smithers as Jane, the "slavey," once more proves her excellent low comedy powers; Miss Effie Vincent invests the rôle of Ivy Pendred with many charming qualities; Mr. Ion Maxwell commands much attention as the lover, Arthur Vandyke; Mr. Leslie Martin stimulates the humour of the piece as the dude, Bertie Bolinbroke; Mr. Herbert Pearce shines as the gallant colonel; and Miss Dolly Payne as Henson, Miss Rosie Chandler as Marie Burton, and others, including the Dandy Bells, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette, invest the production with a sparkle and vivacity which endures to the end.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—*Driven from Home* is played here with an excellent company provided by Mr. Andrew Melville. Mr. Fredk. Sandy, under whose able management the play is presented, undertakes the heavy lead, Geoffrey Waring, with the most conspicuous success; that favourite and experienced actor, Mr. Felix Pitt, puts in valuable work as Anthony Raybrook; Miss Frances Ruttledge beguiles the audience of both tears and applause with her pathetic acting in the dual rôle; Mr. Percy Dawsone submits a clever study of the outcast, Willie; Miss Florence Trevoir is eminently successful as Barbara Ashdown; and some clever acting is vouchsafed by Mr. Clement Wakefield as Walter Hatherleigh, Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez Thomas, and Mr. Jno. Brooks as Dick Saunders. The comedy parts of John Anderson and Margaret Bailey are cleverly sustained by Mr. A. E. Mann and Miss Evelyn Marrable, while Mr. Henry Helling as Adam Marley and Miss Madge Muriel as Jane are also successful.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Streets of Birmingham* is presented here by Mr. Andrew Melville, who has gathered together a capable company, appearing himself with the greatest possible success as Badger. Mr. Fred A. Marston acts as the villainous banker, Gideon Crawley, in a plausible and otherwise clever style; Miss Rose Ralph invests the rôle of Lucy Fairweather with charming dignity and pathos; Miss Jessie Yatman acts with clever humour as the love-sick Dan; Mr. Chas. Langton acts well as the lover, Mark Livingstone; Mr. Albert Guyon doubles the rôles of Capt. and Paul Fairweather in a discriminating manner; Mr. J. Hindle Taylor as Puffy, and Miss Bella Power as Mrs. Puffy prove exceedingly popular; Miss Mabel Mannering appears in the proud and haughty manner of Alida Crawley very successfully; and Mr. Hubert Hickey as Tim Doolan, and numerous others contribute to this popular revival, which is well equipped with local scenery and new music.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*Saturday Night in London* is the attraction here, being exceedingly well portrayed by Mr. Matt Wilkinson and company. Mr. Wilkinson makes a decisive hit in the rôle of the nondescript, Jack Dorrincourt; and Miss Beatrice Wilkinson lends him clever support as Polly Hawkins. Mrs. Matt Wilkinson figures creditably as Sarah Shabner; and Miss May Healy as Maud Somerton, and Miss Gwendoline Hastings as Mona Clayton act with much ability. Mr. C. Cameron is successful as Sir Jasper Wilton; Mr. Monson Thorpe shines as the son, Roy Wilton; and Mr. S. Burgess as Edward Mordaunt, Mr. Herbert Sidney as Abram Shabner, and many others, including the Two Bowery Boys, who impersonate Badger Purvis and the Houndsditch Chicken, lend versimilitude to the varying scenes of this interesting play.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Her Luck in London* appeared for the first time here on Monday, when it obtained for Mr. George Kirk's company quite an ovation. Miss Mary Neil deservedly carried off principal honours with her emotional and truly versatile acting as the heroine; Miss Florrie Groves furnished a clever flow of humour as Maud Gladys Shovepenny; Miss Ada Roscoe brought out the characteristics of Mme. Gabrielle in a most able manner; Miss Frances Bruce represented the virtuous Lilian with much dignity; Mr. G. Langdon depicted the villain, Lenowen, in a cleverly dramatic style; Mr. C. A. Leicester acted as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor in a sturdy manner that gained him much applause; and Mr. Tyrone Power as Stephen Harborne, and Mr. Douglas Tremayne as the Curate were quite adequate to these rôles. Mr. J. Telly Dillsen and Mr. Bruce Clapham scored in the comedy element.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Harry Randall is attracting packed houses here with new songs, which are repeatedly encored. The Harmony Four also come in for a good share of applause; Lee, Bentley, and company have an amusing sketch, *Mable B*; Takio is a Japanese mimic of exceptional ability; "Buddha's Blackboard" is full of mystery; the Harrison Bros. and the Grisse Trio of pantomimists are full of humour; and Mona McDonald and Carrie Joy are attractive comediennes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*The Bank Clerks* is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles Baldwin's Pantomimic Comedians. The absurdity is highly amusing. The Sisters Aindow are responsible for a musical entertainment of a high order; Georgina Leonard, Connie Williams, and Maud Ford are all successfulfff Martin Conway makes a hit with his songs, and other attractions are the Four Olympian Stars, Johnson and Best, the Askers, and Walker and May.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A new musical extravaganza, *Office Hours*, is the principal item here. It is full of humour, and is presented under the direction of Messrs. Corri and Dereve. Rosina Caselli, with her well-trained Mexican dogs, is always a draw; Emil Amiel is an expert contortionist; and Cribb and Cribb, Harry Thurston, J. P. Dan, Daisy Morrell, Rowland Hill, Mamie Iris, and Jack Pleasants complete the long programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Marie Santoi with her merry little Japs in the musical scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*, is responsible for an artistic production, which is well received. The Imperial Russian Vocalists and Dancers are loudly applauded; Cussac-Talma and Mlle. Yonne de Forge have an excellent illusory turn; Leonard and Francis are amusing comedians; Arthur Kennedy is applauded for his smart trick cycling; and other popular turns are Brown and Robinson, and James Toner.

DEATH OF GEORGES JACOBI.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Georges Jacobi, the well-known musical composer and conductor, who died on Thursday, at the age of sixty-six, at his residence in Camden-road from a paralytic stroke. Mr. Maurice Jacobi, his son, was with the deceased gentleman when he had the seizure.

The deceased composer was born in Berlin, and as a child of six began the study of the violin, having for masters Edward and Leopold Ganz. At the age of nine he proceeded to Brussels to receive tuition from De Bériot, and from Brussels he passed to Paris, where, through the instrumentality of Halévy, he was introduced to Auber, director of the Conservatoire. At the Conservatoire Jacobi distinguished himself, and in the year in which he came of age he won the first prize for violin playing. After leaving the Conservatoire, Mr. Jacobi obtained an engagement in the orchestra of the Paris Opera Comique, which he retained for two years, being then appointed first violin at the Grand Opera. Here he remained for nine years, also playing at numerous concerts, and organising a stringed orchestra, which gave extremely successful concerts in the city. In 1869 Mr. Jacobi left the Opera to become conductor at the Bouffes Parisiens, and soon afterwards visited London to arrange for the appearance of his orchestra in England. His visit led to an offer of the conductorship of the Alhambra, where he remained for twenty-six years. During that period he wrote the music for over a hundred ballets, many of which were reproduced in the chief cities of the Continent. His comedy-opera *The Black Crook* had a run of over 300 performances, and his music to the ballets of *Ali Baba*, *The Golden Wreath*, *The Seasons*, *Titania*, *Lochinvar*, *Blue Beard*, and *La Tzigane* won warm admiration and approval. He also composed the incidental music for the Lyceum productions of *The Dead Heart* and *Robespierre*, miscellaneous music for the violin, and many melodious songs. Mr. Jacobi was appointed a professor at the Royal College of Music in 1896, and two years later left the Alhambra, subsequently becoming director of the summer theatre at the Crystal Palace. When the London Hippodrome opened on Jan. 15, 1900, he was appointed chef d'orchestre, but resigned the position a year or so later. The Order of Isabel the Catholic was presented to him by the King of Spain; he was made an "Officier de l'Académie" by the French Government, and his English colleagues twice elected him president of the Association of Conductors. Mr. Jacobi's pleasant manner endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and his death, which was quite unexpected, will be lamented in many different circles. He was often seen on first nights at the Alhambra, and was a frequent visitor to the Palace Theatre.

Georges Jacobi was the hero of many first nights, but we doubt if he ever appeared before such a brilliant audience as that assembled at the Alhambra on Thursday afternoon, May 12, 1898, when the musical, theatrical, and literary worlds came to do him honour; but if the gathering in the beautiful house was representative of the learned and artistic professions, what must we say of the brilliant entertainers who rallied round their comrade? It was one of those rare occasions when the late Sir Henry Irving and Mr. Dan Leno appeared on the same stage. During the afternoon the Alhambra, Palace, and Empire bands massed, and, under the bâton of the bénéficiaire, played the march specially composed by him for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The late M. Jules Riviere, then the *doyen* of conductors, led the orchestra during the afternoon. To Mr. James Fernandez was entrusted the task of reciting a special address written for the occasion by Bernard Malcolm Ramsay.

The above account is but the merest outline of a busy artistic life. In all, during his tenure of office at the Alhambra, he wrote no less than 103 ballets—a remarkable record in every way. For twenty-six years he brilliantly sustained the reputation of the home of ballet, and, though much of his music must of necessity have been of an ephemeral character, it was ever happily conceived, melodious, and delicately scored.

MISS LILY IRIS, who has hitherto been closely identified with the Gaiety Theatre, is this week appearing at the Hippodrome, Colchester, in a very pretty and refined scena, in which she has the assistance of a sextette of graceful young ladies, viz.:—Mesdames Marie Ashton, Marion Jackson, Lily Wakefield, Ivy Desmond, Elsie King, and Nellie Brownlee. Songs, dances, and poses are cleverly introduced, and the effect is charming, with the result that the applause is long and hearty. Miss Iris and her party will shortly depart for the Continent to fulfil a series of engagements at the principal cities, among which are Berlin, Vienna, and Buda-Pesth.

SPECIAL mention should be made of a benefit matinée at the Colchester Hippodrome on behalf of the Essex and Colchester Hospital, which, by the courtesy and material help of Mr. Ben de Frece, was so successful on Saturday last.

MISS JESSIE ELVIN is leaving town on Sunday for a short provincial tour with her successful romantic sketch, *A Gipsy's Revenge*, opening at the Palace, Rhyl. She returns to London on Nov. 19.

THE death has been reported of one of the two Brothers Egbert (the Happy Dustmen); we are pleased to say that both of the Happy Dustmen are alive.

THE annual cricket match between the Three Stags and the Hercules, Kennington-road, was played at Battersea Park on Thursday, and a most enjoyable day was spent, the teams being entertained by Mr. Sam Salter and Mr. Willson, the proprietors of these hostelries. The chief features of the game were the excellent batting and bowling of Mr. Kay, the fine batting of B. Williams, and the bowling of young J. P. Salter for the Three Stags; the batting and bowling of Johns and Garbe, and the bowling of L. S. Goldsmith for the Hercules. Cis Merrie stopped the hurricane deliveries of Kay behind the wickets.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

In the historical review given by the Rev. T. Horne at Gorton last week of the rise and progress of the Showmen's Guild but little was said (for time prevented) of the educational and religious work of the society. To do this part of the work justice would require as much space in our columns as that we have already given to the Trade Defence and Parliamentary work of the Guild, and this we will endeavour to do upon an occasion in the near future. We are very urgently reminded of this by an event that has attracted considerable attention in the Press, and one which shows the manifest elevation of the status of the showman in the eyes of the public.

The Rector of Killamarsh (the Rev. F. J. Metcalfe) makes a point of teaching his people the close connection between the Church and the village feast, and accordingly on Sunday he held a service in the fair ground, the choir and congregation marching thither headed by the cross-bearer. The Rector had a novel pulpit, standing on the steps of a switchback railway and delivering his sermon. Afterwards the fair people crowded round him to shake him by the hand.

At the Victoria Theatre, Evesham, this week, the following plays have been performed, viz., *The Hidden Treasure, Flying from Justice, The Babes in the Wood, A Wife's Secret, The Mystery of the Great Red Ruby,* and *The Assassin.*

Inkberrow is a village in Worcestershire, about twelve miles from Worcester, seven miles from Redditch, and nine from Droitwich. The Mop is held on Oct. 12. Shows, &c., are not allowed on the village green, but space can be had at the George Inn. The staple industries are agriculture and fruit-growing.

At Redditch we have Ediscope and Barnum's electric animated pictures, including the Warwick Pageant; also a grand company of star artists.

At the Webheath (near Redditch) Flower Show were Herbert's roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, bottle battery, and other attractions.

At the Public Hall, Redditch, we have had Mr. Carr Loates's company in the musical comedy drama, *At the World's Mercy.*

Alcester is a market town in Warwickshire, seven miles from Redditch, ten from Evesham, eight from Stratford-on-Avon; railways, Midland and Great Western. Population in 1901 was 2303. Industries: Needle-making, cycle works, flour mills, &c. Showmen and others wanting space in the street on Mop day should write to Mr. Wheeler, bill-poster. The Mop is on Tuesday, Oct. 9.

Showmen should stand in the street at Alcester on Mop day, not in a field outside the town. Give the tradesmen a chance; showmen will get on better for it.

Horse Sales, &c.—Sept. 21, sale of Shire horses at Alvechurch; Sept. 27, sale of 26 horses and colts at Binton, Stratford-on-Avon; Oct. 1, sale of horses at Wilmcote, Stratford-on-Avon; Oct. 2, Shire horse show and sale at Moreton-in-Marsh; Oct. 10, sale of 300 horses at Cattle Market, Worcester; Oct. 16, Shipston-on-Stour bull roast and pleasure fair.

Horwich autumn fair is in full swing here, and is being well patronised. Messrs. Holland's coker-sheets and swings, Mr. J. Butterworth's whoa-Emmas, Mr. Taylor's shooting-gallery and galloping-horses, Mr. J. Sharp's shooting-gallery and juvenile swings and horses, are among the concerns on the ground.

Mr. Joseph Study is still doing first-class business on the Cattle Market ground, Reading.

James Jennings's galloping horses and side shows are to be a leading attraction at a monster political fête to-day at Hartham Park, Corsham, the seat of Sir John Dickson Poynder, M.P.

Jennings's galloping horses, shooting galleries, and cokernut shies attended a grand hospital fête at Weston, Bath, on Thursday.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. and Others.—*Not a decrease, but an increase in subscriptions and in members. The trouble is—that the income of the Guild has not kept pace with the rapid opening out of its many activities.*

A. W., Hemel Hempstead.—*Still keeping over your interesting correspondence. We hope yet to deal with it, so as to be of real use to you.*

J. Humphries, Oakengates.—*Will this address find you whenever we fail to have word from you?*

Ground Lessee.—*The Fairs Act 1871 may be obtained from the King's printers—Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, E.C.*

V. D., Wigan.—*The difference between Mitcham and Wigan is—That the Corporation of Wigan claims that they have power under a private Act of Parliament, obtained by them in 1873, to regulate fairs and markets. They claim that they have power either to enlarge or to restrict the fairs, to change the locality of the fair, and generally amend or suspend their incidence, and it is under these powers that the Wigan Fair has ceased to be a Corporation fixture and is now a private venture fair. Mitcham is held under the prescription of old Charter rights, upon a particular site known as "The Fair Green," and the local authorities have no control beyond police and sanitary matters over the fair. They draw no revenue from it, but the tolls and profits are the property of the owners of the Fair Franchise. At Mitcham there is no power to prohibit the fair, other than that provided by the Abolition of Fairs Act. See answer to Ground Lessee above.*

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—The late Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

Mr. Frederic Vezin, a nephew of Mr. Hermann Vezin, the actor, an American artist living in Dusseldorf, has been commissioned to paint a full-length portrait of the German Empress for the City Hall at Elberfeld.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Stefano Gatti, who has been seriously ill for some time, has made such gratifying progress as to give hope of his complete recovery.

MRS. HAMMERSLEY.

Not long did Mrs. Hammersley survive her husband (professionally known as Professor Wall, of the Phantoscope Exhibition). She passed away peacefully in the bosom of her family at their residence, Lower Broughton, Manchester, on Sept. 2.

The interment took place at Macclesfield Cemetery on Sept. 5, amid many tokens of the high esteem and respect in which the Hammersley family are held in their native place.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammersley spent the declining years of their life in quiet retirement, and their unique show was purchased by Mrs. Collins, wife of Mr. P. Collins, of Walsall, and is still (as a cinematograph theatre) the best of its kind on the

Photo by Caddick.

THE LATE MRS. HAMMERSLEY.

Great Midland Round. Mr. and Mrs. Hammersley were honoured and respected by the whole body of travelling show-people, and have left behind a record fragrant with good deeds.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the members of the family.

THE WORLD'S FAIR AT ISLINGTON.

The World's Fair, annually held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, will shortly enter upon its twenty-eighth consecutive season, it being twenty-seven years since it opened under the Reads' lesseeship and management, they being joined shortly after by Mr. F. Bailey. From 1898 Mr. Theophilus Read ran the show in association

Photo by Fries, Clacton-on-Sea.

MR. T. E. READ.

with Mr. F. Bailey until November, 1902, when the last-mentioned died, and Mr. Read was left sole lessee and manager. With characteristic energy he put his shoulder to the wheel with the determination of improving the show, and still further increasing its high reputation. His modifying the noise of the barrel-organs, and entirely stopping them during circus and other performances, was a great and much-needed innovation, and by generally throwing his untiring energy and perseverance into the undertaking he, by tact and courtesy, brought the fair up to a much higher standard, and his much-lamented death, which took place on Jan. 16, of the present year, is still deeply regretted. Mr. T. E. Read, the present sole lessee and manager, is the only son of the late Mr. Theophilus Read. He has always taken a deep interest in the fair, and as a partner with his late father, suggested and assisted in carrying out many necessary and important improvements for the benefit of the public, the showmen, and the fair generally. When one comes to consider the multitudinous details of an enterprise of this magnitude, the more one realises the supreme need of careful thought and sound judgment. Keen intelligence, a quick perception, and the ability to direct organisation are amongst the most important qualifications required to achieve success. These are strong points in the character of Mr. T. E. Read, who has shown great wisdom in so closely studying the excellent example set him by his late father; and, speaking from our personal knowledge, we feel confident he will spare neither time, energy, nor capital in making the World's Fair of 1906-7 as successful as any of its predecessors—and perhaps more so. However, he is fully determined to achieve a big success, and he has our sincere wishes that his ambition may meet with that reward he so justly deserves. He has already made several important engagements, both in the circus department and aerial shows, and has other big features still under consideration the particulars of which we are not at present in a position to publish. He has been travelling far and wide in search of talent, and full particulars will in due course appear in our columns.

"The Ideal" is the title of a new fantasy which Adèle and May Lilian Levey will produce in October. It is written and composed by Mr. Sivey Levey, and the music has been orchestrated by Mr. Hermann Finck. The scena is timed to play between fifteen and twenty minutes.

PUNCH AND JUDY.

Of the once numerous race of puppets, Punch is by far the best known in England at the present time. He, in fact, alone of all the puppets which once used to amuse English audiences, retains his hold on the popular favour. It is a curious and interesting question whence can have originated this little odd drama.

Two theories only as to the origin of Punch appear to have any tinge of probability. The one is that the idea of Punch first originated in the mind of an ingenious Italian in the city of Accra, near Naples, about the beginning of the eighteenth century. Three Italian authors, Riccoboni, Guinna, and Segniorelli, state this, and Guinna is so precise as to give the name of the ingenious inventor. He says, "Silvio Fiovelli, comedian, invented Neapolitan Pulcinella, to which Andrea Calcese, by study and natural grace, added much."

Mr. Payne Collier, in his work entitled "Punch and Judy," had adopted this account as the most probable, though even he admits that it is open to doubt whether Punch is not of a family of far greater antiquity. The other theory as to the origin of the English Punch is that which Dr. Johnson was accustomed to support, namely, that he is not the invention of any particular man or time, but the amalgamation of several characters, which were well known in the puppet plays of the Middle Ages, more especially of that one called *Vice or Iniquity* of the morality plays, which took the place of the miracle plays of an earlier epoch. Yet Punch, as the English representative puppet, has a high and ancient genealogy, which he would do ill to exchange for his alleged Italian origin. He and his troupe are, in England, almost the only surviving representatives of a race of small beings whose birth dates beyond the time of the ancient Romans, and who for centuries enjoyed universal popularity. It would almost appear as if the Romans had some conception of that illustrious personage himself, for, in the year 1727, a bronze statue of a Roman mimi called Maccus was discovered, which is said to have borne the well-known physical characteristics of Punch. It is no figure of speech to say a very early period, for the practice of representing scenes and incidents dramatically by means of puppets is of extreme antiquity.

Herodotus, in the hundred and forty-eighth chapter of his second book, states that the Egyptians, in their ceremonial of the worship of Osiris, used to carry about small Phallic images and puppets, the limbs of which were moved by strings. The same performances, the pseudo-Lucian tells us, took place at Heliopolis. But the greatest light has been thrown on the ancient puppet stage by the discovery of a whole shop or store of puppets under the ruins of the ancient city of Camarina. Mr. Payne Collier thinks this character first appeared in 1688, and came in with the House of Orange at the Great Revolution. On the other hand, Grainger, in his Biographical History, asserts that traces of him are found before that time, and he is of opinion that he came from France in the retinue of the Stuarts at the Restoration, to dethrone the old *Vice*. Several theories of the derivation of this name have been stated; perhaps the most commonly received was that which professed to see some connection between Punch and Pontius Pilate, and between Judy and Judas. But this is the merest speculative etymology, suggested by the alliteration of the words. The best authorities are quite agreed that the name Punch is really Pulcinella, abbreviated to suit the taste of the English language. It must be conceded that our Punch gets his name from Italy, but his modern character and his plays were conceived in England. But the French claim to have had a personage called Polichinelle as early as the reign of Henry IV., who was assassinated in 1610.

It was, however, not in the present character of chief performer in his own drama that Punch first appeared, but in one that combined the parts of the clown in a pantomime—that of old *Vice*. Even as late as 1697 Punch was a roystering blade, with nothing of the mixture of the character of Blue Beard and Don Juan that he assumed later. The following advertisement of a sort of miracle play, in which Punch appears, serves to show what his part in the puppet drama was in 1703. It is to be found in Strutt's "Ancient Mysteries," page 230:—

'At Crawley Lodge, opposite the Crown Tavern in Smithfield Show, will be performed during St. Bartholomew Fair, a little play, called *The Ancient Creation of the World*, newly touched up, and improved by the addition of the Deluge. Many fountains will play during the piece. The last scene will show Noah and his family going out of the Ark, with the animals in pairs, and all the birds of the air perched upon trees. Finally, by means of various contrivances, will be seen the bad rich man going into Hell, and Lazarus being carried into Abraham's bosom. Several figures will dance jigs, sarabands, and quadrilles, to the admiration of the spectators, all accompanied by the joyous fantasies of Segnior Punch and Sir John Spendall."

It was a very common incident of these puppet-plays to introduce Punch into the Ark, for it is related by the author of "Punch and Judy" that in one of these shows of the Deluge Punch appears from behind the curtain when the rain begins to fall, and observes to the patriarch, "Very hazy weather, Master Noah." The particular time when Punch changed his character to become a *roué* and a murderer is not precisely known, but from a satire of Swift, written in 1728, and addressed to a friend under the name of Timothy, we learn that he had then taken steps in that direction. In 1790 he had quite accepted his wicked rôle, as we learn from the following verses (taken from Mr. Payne Collier's book on "Punch and Judy"), which date from that period:—

Oh hearken now to me awhile,
A story I will tell you,
Of Mr. Punch, who was a vile,
Deceitful, murderous fellow.
Who had a wife, a child also,
And both of matchless beauty;
The infant's name I do not know,
Its mother's name was Judy.
Right toll de roll, &c.

Since 1790 Mr. Punch has continued to play the part here assigned to him. From time to time incidents of popular interest have been introduced into this drama, as they are now introduced into the pantomime, but the main features of the play remain the same, and probably ever will.

AN ACROSTIC TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MRS. M. PROCTOR.

By "Uncle Fred."
(F. Cooper.)

May everlasting peaceful rest
Always attend you with the Blest;
Rich in love and family ties,
In friendship true, our loved one dies—
All travels end beyond the skies.

Peace and goodwill to all she knew,
Respectful, loving, kind, and true;
Old folk and young for many miles
Came out to meet her Show with smiles,
To look with love on that dear face,
Or listen to her speak with grace.
Rest in peace, dear soul, Heaven's your place.

On Saturday William Brian, the trick cyclist, performed the feat of riding a bicycle backwards from the Royal George Hotel, Cardiff, to the Butchers' Arms, Whitchurch, in the remarkable time of 13min. 21sec.

A SHOWMAN'S MARRIAGE.

The marriage of Harold Hibbert to Alice Collins is a great and most interesting event in the world of shows, not only on account of the high and honourable position of the parents of the happy pair, but also on account of the charm and grace of the bride and the marked ability and sterling worth of the bridegroom. Mrs. Harold Hibbert is the daughter of Mr. John Collins, jun., of the World's Fair Enterprises, Liverpool, and the lessee of scores of important fairgrounds, who, with his wife, Mrs. John Collins, are well-known figures in showland. Mrs. Harold Hibbert was educated at the Convent School, Holt-hill, Birkenhead, and

Photo by Seaman and Co.

MRS. HAROLD HIBBERT (Miss Alice Collins).

at Olton Abbey, Stone, Staffordshire, and for some little time has been travelling with one of her parents' many concerns

Harold Hibbert, after a sound commercial training at good public schools, elected for a commercial career, and for this purpose entered the firm of James Lowe, general warehouseman, Manchester. From that firm he went to Dean and Dawson's, the tourist agents, of London and Manchester. He was then offered the position of manager of one of his father's magnificent roundabouts, and that was his entrance into the show business.

The Hibberts are a Cheshire family, and their headquarters are the quaint old-world town of Stockport.

James Hibbert and Sons are the local fairground caterers, and are highly respected in the counties of Cheshire and Lancashire, where their high con-

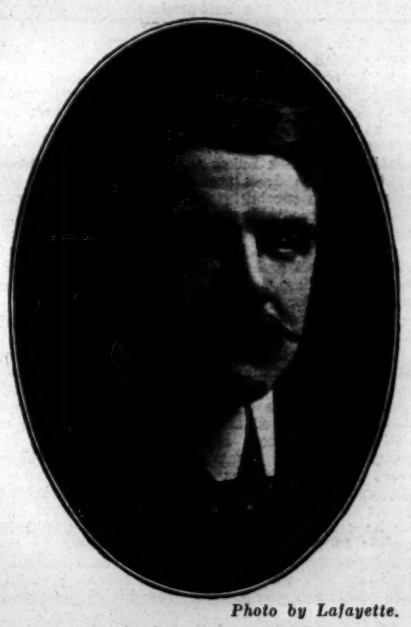


Photo by Lafayette.

MR. HAROLD R. HIBBERT.

cerns are well known at the local fairs and wakes.

We heartily wish the young couple all joy and success.

J. DEE HUMPHREYS FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have the pleasure to enclose cheque £3 8s. 6d., being total of the amounts collected, as per detailed lists herewith, which please add to the fund for the widow of the late John D. Humphreys.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR S. FELL.

Asplins Farm, Tottenham, N. Sept. 8, 1906.

Collected by Arthur S. Fell.

	£	s.	d.
F. R.	0	5	0
C. H. Fell	0	5	0
S. A. F.	0	5	0
Arthur S. Fell	0	5	0
W. Metcalfe	0	2	6
F. C. R.	0	2	6
George Brooks	0	2	0
J. C.	0	1	0
A. U.	0	1	0
P. H. J.	0	1	0
J. Russon	0	1	0
R. M.	0	1	0
F. W. F.	0	1	0
C. J.	0	1	0
P. K. S.	0	1	0
P. H.	0	1	0
A. B.	0	1	0
W. Woodhouse (Woodhouse and Wells)	0	1	0
W. R. Kerr	0	1	0
W. J. W.	0	1	0
G. R. S.	0	1	0
	2	1	0

Collected by Jerome Tronson, per Arthur S. Fell.

	£	s.	d.
H. F. B.	0	10	0
Bostock and Wombwell's Band	0	5	0
Jerome Tronson	0	5	0
Fredk. Wombwell	0	2	6
F. Posford	0	2	0
J. Penfold	0	1	0
C. Martindale	0	1	0
C. Darge	0	1	0
	1	7	6

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Crowded houses assemble here nightly to witness the dramatised version of Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities," known as *The Only Way*, in which Mr. Martin Harvey sustains the part of Sydney Carton; giving a vivid rendering of the kindly-hearted ne'er-do-well. Miss N. de Silva as Mimi gives a sweet and graceful interpretation of the broken-hearted girl; while Miss Coleridge as Lucie Manette is charmingly tender and natural. Mr. Fred Wright, senior, as Doctor Manette, acts the part of the old, worn-out victim of the Bastile with quiet dignity; and Mr. Lorry finds a good representative in Mr. P. Alexander. In the prologue the two aristocratic brothers, St. Evremonde, have able exponents in Mr. A. E. Raynor and Mr. J. E. Frazer; while the spirited youth Jean Defarge is effectively played by Mr. Alfred Mansfield. The Charles Darnay of Mr. L. Craske is a fine, manly impersonation. In the tribunal scene Mr. Charles Glenny acts the part of Ernest Defarge powerfully. The band of citizens and citizenesses, so furiously led by Miss Rorke, as The Vengeance, might well give points to our present-day suffragettes. Repeated recalls for the principals are insisted on nightly. On Wednesday and Thursday *Boy O'Carrol* was presented, and on Friday *Hamlet.*

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—That considerable interest had been evoked by the announcement of the first appearance in Glasgow of Mr. Hayden Coffin, and the reappearance here after a considerable interval of Miss Isabel Jay, was made evident by the enormous crowds that besieged the early doors on Monday night to witness *The Girl Behind the Counter.* Both artists received a hearty welcome on their first entrances, and quickly established themselves in the good graces of the audience. Miss Isabel Jay's brilliant vocalisation and charming acting as Winnie were irresistible, and Mr. Hayden Coffin proved to be in excellent voice, while his part suits him particularly well, either as Charlie Chetwynd, the returned gold miner, or in the picturesque garments in which he masquerades in the second act. Then, Mr. J. F. McArdle is in his original part of General Willoughby, and the fun waxes fast and furious while he is on the stage. Mr. Fred Allandale plays Monsieur Duval, and his impersonation of the French manager is very good. Miss Violet Englefield as Millie Mostyn acts and sings with much verve, and her song about the vicar's daughter proved a hit. Mr. G. Davy Burnaby ably plays the inane Viscount Gushington. Miss Helen Rose is an attractive Ninette; and the humours of the love-making of Susie and Dudd are cleverly portrayed by Miss Kathleen Courtnay and Mr. Lionel Victor, an amusing contrast to the latter being formed by the tall and fiery-tempered Rudolph of Mr. Ernest W. Laceby. Miss Violet Crossley is a duly dignified Lady Willoughby. The waiter at the Baron's Court Exhibition is played by Mr. George Barrett in a style that recalled his last striking hit here in *Sergeant Brue.* Another waiter is amusingly acted by Mr. A. E. E. Edwards. The chorus sing well, under the able guidance of Mr. Howard Talbot, and most of the songs are vociferously encored.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. William M. Downie.—Mr. Edward Terry and company are appearing here this week, the novelty of the visit being the revival of R. C. Carton's charming play *Liberty Hall,* in which Mr. Terry gives a wonderfully realistic portrayal of the old bookseller William Todman; Blanche, the elder of the Chilworth sisters, is enacted with fine feeling by Miss Fyfe Alexander, and Amy has a pleasing representative in Miss F. Glossop Harris; the easy bearing of Mr. Allan Pollock is admirable in the part of Mr. Owen; as the Hon. Gerald Harringay, Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., looks and acts well; the Pedrick of Mr. C. W. Thomas is a finished performance; the Briginshaw of Mr. William Dexter and the Hickson of Mr. George Howard being also careful studies. Miss Eugenie Vernie is amusing as Crafer; Miss Earle makes a smart shop boy; and the parts of Miss Hickson and Luscombe are well filled by Miss Ella Dixon and Mr. C. E. Wallis. This play was repeated on Friday, the programme for the rest of the week also including two performances of *Sweet Lavender* and two of *The Magistrate.*

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—*Rob Roy* is going well, and is very largely attended at every performance. The chorus sing with great spirit and fine effect, and the "Tramp" solo and chorus are particularly well done. In Miss Alice Esty as Diana and Mr. E. C. Hedmont as Francis are seen finished vocal artists, and the former gets an ovation for her brilliant rendering of "Comin' thro' the Rye" and "Jock o' Hazeldean." Mr. Hedmont is perhaps at his best in "Auld Lang Syne" and "The Cameron Men." Mr. W. G. Robb's dry and pawky humour as the Bailie is greatly enjoyed; while the Rob Roy of Mr. Nelson Ramsay shows he has thoroughly grasped the character of the bold outlaw.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is here with the ever-welcome musical comedy *Kitty Grey,* the character of the good-hearted and lively actress being exquisitely interpreted by Miss Hilda Guiver. Miss Marie West as Lady Binfield gives a delightful rendering of the neglected wife; Mr. Leslie Fairfax as Sir John Binfield submits a pleasing picture of the pleasure-loving, erratic husband; Mr. Lauri Lisle as the King of Illyria gives an excellent portrayal of that free-and-easy monarch; abundance of comedy is supplied by Mr. Leslie Steward as Lord Plantaganet, who, with Miss Nellie Lauraine as Mrs. Bright, contributes a topical duet which the audience cannot have enough of; Miss Elsie Skillings as Sadie de Poulson gives a clever picture of an American lady tourist; Mr. Gordon Leslie and Mr. P. Allerton Turner have suitable parts allotted to them; and the same may be said of Miss Helen Branscombe and Miss Howard. The ladies of the chorus have tuneful voices, and their movements are all charming and graceful, while the attendant gentlemen supply the necessary tenor and bass voices.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Miss Winifred Maude and company in *The Sins of a City* are proving a draw here this week. Miss Winifred Maude is prominent in the rôle of Seaweed, a part which suits her admirably; Mr. William Hamilton gives a breezy and natural reading of Sandy McDonald; Mr. William Bradford skilfully depicts the bad character of Ralph Blackwater; the performance of Mr. Norman Shields, who doubles the rôles of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh, is worthy of praise; he is particularly good as the miserly Jasper. Miss Jenny Hackett is responsible for a very amusing character-study of Midge; Mr. Leonard Harrison is an impressive Donald McIvor; Mr. Victor Du Cane is the successful impersonator of Isaac Levi; and Miss Ethel Linsley as Lesbia acts with great force and feeling.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Fredk. Melville's company in *Her Forbidden Marriage.* Mr. Henry Lonsdale as George Madison and Miss Nellie Bonser as Lucy ably fill the leading parts; and the undiluted villainy associated with the character of Charles Devereux is well shown by Mr. Louis Hector. Mr. Philip Renouf as Joe Lambkin, Mr. Fred de Vere as Timothy, and Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty supply the necessary comedy. Mr. Kenneth Black acts well as Sir George Lancaster; and other parts

are ably played by Mr. Leonard Maxwell, Mr. Arthur Hickman, Miss Barbara Gott, Miss Octavia Noel, and Little Lucy.

NEW GAIETY.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The New Gaiety Dramatic Company, under the direction of Mr. Montgomery, again forms the attraction here, the production this week being *The Octoroon*. The principal parts are well represented. Messrs. H. Hesslegrave, Horace Booth, Alfred D. Adams, T. E. Conover, and A. H. Clarke ably fill the various parts allotted to them; while as Zoe Miss Laurie A. Pardy and Miss Marie De Ross as Dora Sunnyside appear with much success.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Vesta Tilley is the star here, and as a result the Empire is packed to its utmost capacity. José Collins is a pleasant singer and a neat dancer; Oswald Williams, magician; the Canary compy. in a comic pantomime; Barnard's Mannikins in *The Coons' Revelry*; Mlle. Eldee's poses plastiques; Eric, ventriloquist; Prof. Therese, comedy hypnotist; and a smart sketch, *Captain Cupid*, complete an attractive programme.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, E. H. Bostock.—After a lengthy absence from Glasgow, Winifred Hare reappears here as a variety star, and her admirable voice and dashing style make her a first favourite. Spry and Austin are an extremely popular couple, and their comedy business and patter songs are very good indeed; A. H. Manbey, an English wrestler, has been showing his prowess against the local champions; the Eight Aquamarinoffs are smart Russian dancers; Queen and Le Brun contribute an amusing sketch, *The Cockney Huntsmen*; Ryder Slone gives a well worked-up burglar scena; the Kanes are clever comedy musicians and dancers; and good items are contributed by Fred Lincoln and Pierce and Maizee.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Fred Karno's lively extravaganza *Saturday to Monday* forms a large portion of the entertainment here, and the antics of John Willie Jaggs, as played by Rolando Martin, are intensely funny. The others lend able support, and everyone works hard for the general success. Billie Barlow is again visiting Glasgow, and her new songs, and the piquant way she gives them, catch on immensely. The Ellimans are clever musicians; Sylvia du Barry's fine voice is heard to advantage in a song from *The Toreador*; the Leonards are smart dancers, and their songs are popular; Haydee's miniature theatre is exceedingly well worked; Vesta and Minnie Pine contribute a comedy turn to an operatic air; De Vere and Kenwick are another good comedy couple; and May Marton's songs are well received. Ernest Rees makes one of the best hits of the programme with his songs and patter, which are all clever.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Mr. Frank Danby has secured a clever company of principals for the musical comedy sketch *The Chauffeur*, which is a big item in a variety programme. The clever comedian has a part which suits him to a nicety. The piece is lavishly staged, and is much in favour with the audience. Pretty pictures illustrate Mr. Jas. Dunn's well-sung tenor song. In *The Poor Beggar*, a capital sketch played by John Le Hay and company, is seen some merry fooling. The fine picture, "The Miner's Daughter," on the bioscope is worthy of special remark; Eadie and Ramsden give a turn consisting of piano playing, song singing, and eccentric dancing; Boy Glenn, juvenile raconteur, has several calls; Grais' Baboons are as clever as of yore; while Binns and Binns cause laughter as the Musical Vagabonds. Lord, Murray, and Lord, and Harry Hayton, comedians, are also on a long and strong list of entertainers.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A "crack" programme opens here with the Sisters Selwyn, who sing and dance with acceptance, followed by that clever juvenile juggler, Master Gicardo, whose clever work is warmly received. In two songs Miss Annie Nelson, Australian soprano, distinguishes herself. Miss Nelson is a singer of great charm. The Bros. Etharien, comedians provide much wholesome fun; and Harry Zethur is a dancer of undoubted ability of the eccentric order; and a dainty turn is also given by Miss Mabel Carr, comedian and dancer. Joe Reichen's dogs show marvellous training; Booker and Narbi are back again with another successful sketch, *The Interviewer*, which adds to their popularity; Austin Rudd and Will Godwin are strong cards, and repeat their former successes. Several attractions at the Palace add to the comfort of Mr. Waldon's many patrons.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—At the top of the bill here are Lachie Thompson's Top Weights in their amusing and instructive bouts in boxing and wrestling. The McConnell Trio, who are ever popular in Glasgow, also provide a highly entertaining turn; the trick cycling of Frank Hope is exceedingly smart; while the roller-skate dancing of J. H. McCann receives well-earned applause. Other interesting attractions include Flo Wood, vocalist; the Glovers, comedy artists; T. Anthony, Scotch comedian; and Eily Adair, comedienne; while numerous up-to-date films are depicted by the Queen's Bioscope.

"THE ERA"

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4 35
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

THE THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.—*His Majesty's Guests* have paid a return visit this week, and Mr. Fred Karno's company have delighted large audiences by their mirth-provoking performances. Mr. Geo. Heston as Sergeant Lightning was a host in himself; Mr. Usher is funny as the shop owner; Mr. Morton and Miss Castelle are successful as two thieves; Mr. Sewell, Miss Brunton, Mr. Howe, Mr. Kitchen, and Mr. Manard also largely contribute to the success of a good all-round performance.

SOME SHOWMAN WORTHIES.

By the Rev. T. HOARE,
Hon. Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.
(Copyright.)

JAMES DEAN.

All great movements for the benefit of mankind require two kinds of workers—the man of brilliant ability, known as "the genius" and the man of hard work and sound common sense. These two characters, where the movement is a real success, supplement each other, and give of their own individuality to the permanence of the institution or society with which they are concerned. The Showmen's Guild, in its career of unbroken success, has produced and drawn out the best qualities of "the genius" and "the man of power and hard work." It will be well remembered that the early days of the Showmen's Trade Protection Movement commanded, and for a number of years engrossed, the services of men of singular power and genius.

Amongst these early pioneers we have to reckon men like J. W. Bostock, Randall Williams, Joe Caddick, and F. T. Salva. These were the men of meteoric brilliancy and commanding ability in the eye of the general public. In the other rank of pioneers, the worthy band of hard workers and administrators, we must place in the very front James Dean, to whose memory the showmen of the Empire have raised a memorial worthy of the man and of the great benefit he conferred by his untiring labours, upon the whole of the fair-ground community.

Born at Northwich, Cheshire, in 1832, the son of a well-known local tradesman, he carried on the family business (confectionery) in the public market, and eventually followed the fairs with a pannum stall, and so became a van-dweller. When the tocsin of alarm was sounded to the showmen of the country by *The Era* newspaper to organise themselves, and to defend their character against the vile slanders of men like George Smith, amongst the very first to answer the call to arms was James Dean (then of Manchester). With him, in the early days of organisation we must associate the Bostocks, the Clarks, the Holdens, Randall Williams, John Whiting, John Walker, Richard Newall, H. Ashington, B. T. Burnett, J. Norman, Collins Bros., Murphy Bros., Studt Bros., and scores of other individual showmen and fair-ground traders. Great and good work was done by these men, but it is no depreciation of that work to say that towering head and shoulders above them all was the strong controlling character, mental force, and organising ability of James Dean.

From 1891 to 1904 he was the Hon. Secretary, and occupied the position of president in the years 1894-5, and 1899. Although his greatest power was seen at the committee meeting, and in his able grasp of the detail work of management, he was not without considerable power as a public speaker. So able, indeed, and so indefatigable in his zeal for his fellow travellers was James Dean, that wherever his concern was pitched, there would be a meeting of the Van-dwellers' Society In the pursuit of his business, taking the great Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, and Midland fairs, he organised and carried through by his indomitable energy and earnestness of purpose dozens of meetings single-handed. Committee men of to-day would do well to learn a lesson from the unflagging zeal of James Dean, and instead of waiting for this official or that official to organise and arrange meetings, do themselves the honour and credit of organisation work. After a strenuous life, largely devoted to good works, he died at the quiet village of Mottram, Cheshire, on Sept. 27, 1899, where he was stricken with illness at the end of the wakes, and although everything was done that loving care and skill could do to save his life or alleviate his sufferings, he paid the penalty of poor mortality. Amid many manifestations of public honour and respect his body was laid to rest in the churchyard of his native village, and, although it may have the appearance of long time in coming, the memorial in imperishable marble, erected over him in the early days of this month, it is absolutely true that in his day and generation, he gave of his best to the betterment and uplifting of the men and women of the road, and, however tardy the memorial may appear to be to some, it embodies the high respect, honour, and love that the show people of the Empire bestow upon one of its most noble sons—James Dean.

We announced last week the erection of a chaste and appropriate monument in the churchyard of Witton Parish, Northwich (his native place) to the honoured memory of James Dean, the well-remembered President, founder, and champion of the Vandwellers' Society. We give our readers a picture of the memorial and some particulars of it. It is a square white Sicilian marble monument, standing 9ft. high, with marble curbing, covering a ground space of 7ft. by 3ft., fixed upon Bradford stone landing—in one piece—to avoid settlement, the total weight of the work being 3 tons. The inscriptions are cut and filled in in imperishable lead letters. The front panel of the monument bears the following inscription:—

Sacred to the Memory of
JAMES DEAN.
Born at Northwich in 1832.
Died at Mottram, Sept. 27, 1899.
Aged 67 Years.

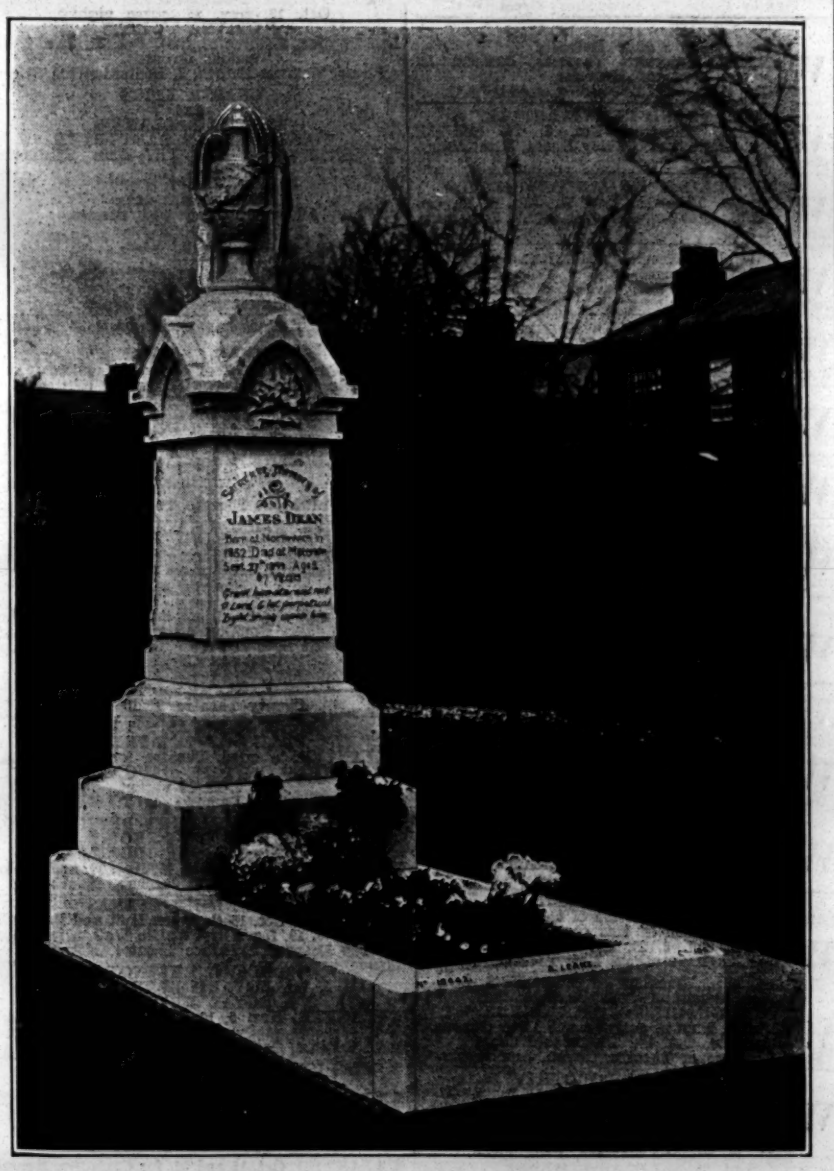
"Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."

On the back panel are the words:—

This memorial is the loving tribute of the Showmen of the United Kingdom to James Dean, one of the founders of their Trade Defence Society, the Showmen's Guild, of which he was Hon. Secretary 1891-1893, President 1894-1895, and 1899. He won the respect and admiration of his fellow fair-ground traders and amusement caterers, and left behind him a signal example of unselfish devotion to the good of others.

The work has been executed by a well-known North Country sculptor, Mr. Albert Leake, Spring Bank, West Hull, whose studio and works is close to the fair ground, and who has already executed some very artistic memorials for members of the Showmen's Guild, and who was entrusted with the North Sea Outrage Memorial, that was unveiled last Thursday (Aug. 30, 1906) in Hull by Lord Nunburnholme, to commemorate that sad event.

The memorial is the gift of the showmen of the United Kingdom, and the contributions were purposely restricted to small sums, in order to embody the love and esteem of the great bulk of the people in whose midst he lived and worked.



MEMORIAL TO THE LATE JAMES DEAN,
A Founder and a Famous President of the Showmen's Guild, erected by the Showmen of the Empire.

GREYSTONES INJUNCTION ACTION.

In the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Gibson,

Mr. Dunn, K.C., and Mr. Horan (instructed by Messrs. Keating and Keating) applied on behalf of the plaintiff, Mary J. Keating, for an order for liberty to join Reuben E. Mellon, of Glencoe, Greystones, co. Wicklow, building contractor, with her as plaintiff. The action was brought for an injunction against William Toft, now of Greystones, to restrain him from continuing an establishment consisting of merry-go-rounds, hobby-horses, &c., carried on for public amusements at Greystones. The matter had been already partly heard before the Court. Counsel relied on the affidavit of the plaintiff.

Mr. Moriarty, K.C., and Mr. Philip O'C. White (instructed by Mr. Brownrigg, solicitor), appeared for the defendant.

After a short argument his Lordship adjourned the application till next sittings.

WHIMSICAL WALKER has found Glaswegians highly appreciative of the pathos and humour that distinguish his production of *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*, which is a great success on tour.

THE popularity of variety still continues at the Gloucester Palace. This week Herr Fritz presents a series of startling illusions in a clever manner; My Fancy, who is billed as "Queen of Sand Dancers" on her first appearance here, makes a huge success with her fine performance; Jimson's circus comes in for a well-merited share of applause; Zelda is an expert performer on several musical novelties, the performance being enchanced by an elaborate and costly fit-up; Mr. D. W. Watson is an excellent cornettist and post-horn soloist; Miss Rita Bell does well as a Dutch girl and speciality dancer; Mr. Fred Horsfall causes laughter in his humorous items; Miss Daisy Davenport is a neat comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Wal Owen, billed as the "Comedy Man," fully earns his title. Mr. R. C. Note has no difficulty in persuading his audience to assist with his choruses, and the Bioscope completes the bill.

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—For the first time in Liverpool *Paolo and Francesca* was staged here on Monday evening, when a representative audience assembled to extend to Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird a cordial and earnest greeting. The outburst of applause which followed the close of each act was unmistakable evidence of the deep impression the tragedy made upon the spectators, and when the story had been told Mr. Irving was compelled to re-appear and express his thanks to the many friends in front. He regretted that circumstances prevented him from repeating Mr. Stephen Phillips's work during the present visit, but hoped ere long to again be with them. The success which attended the production was certainly due to the strong and able company that surrounded the distinguished actor, irrespective of the magnificence of the setting. Mr. Irving's histrionic gifts were shown in all their richness as the deformed Malatesta, upon whose emotions and moods the audience fixed the keenest attention; Miss Baird's Francesca, young, sweet, and beautiful, could not fail to reach the sympathies of all; Mr. Harcourt Williams gave a fine representation of Paolo, a piece of work which was marked by sincerity and passionate feeling; Miss Maud Milton fully realised the position of Lucrezia, and missed none of the possibilities of that particularly strong part. Deserving of much praise was Miss Ada Mellon for her realistic blind nurse, Angela; the maid Nita was charmingly played by Miss Elaine Inescourt; a capital impersonation of Pulci came from Mr. Charles Dodsworth; Mr. F. Tyars made a picturesque Corrado; and Miss Nannie Bennett handled the rôle of Tessa with discretion. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, *The Lyons Mail* was given, and on Thursday *Charles I.*

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The first visit to Liverpool of *The Belle of Mayfair* was enjoyed at this favourite theatre on Monday evening by a crowded and pleased audience. The company sent by Messrs. Gatti and Frohman comprised several admirable principals, supported by a chorus which did justice to Mr. Leslie Stuart's catchy music. Mr. Charles McNaughton provided most of the fun with his exceedingly humorous Sir John Chaldicott; a capital foil being Mr. Percy Yorke as the fire-eating Earl Highgate. The latter's rendering of the song, "I am a military man" deservedly earned several encores. Mr. Vernon Davidson made a capital Finchley, playing the lover with a deal of tact; a most creditable character was that of Comte Perrier, presented by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.; Mr. Trueman Towers, whose duties were light, was the Bishop, and looked the part; Miss Alice Russon submitted a vivacious Julia, her songs and dances gaining for her a deal of appreciation; every credit is due to Miss Joan Keddie for her Princess, her sweet voice being heard to advantage in several well-rendered pieces; Miss Rosa Snell afforded general satisfaction in the rôle of Countess Highgate; and honours were carried off by Miss Barbara Huntley, who ably impersonated Lady Chaldicott.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—At the popular north-end house this week much patronage has been bestowed upon *Between Two Women*, presented by Mr. Frederick Melville's company. Mr. Watkin Wynne was seen to advantage as the Earl of Millard; as Harry Mr. Stephen Langton proved creditable; Mr. Godfrey Pearle submitted a well-drawn Rev. Philip Carton; the two "women" found in Miss Molly Malone (Violet Thornton) and Miss Winifred Pearson (Carmen de Savereaux) able exponents; Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack Pringle caused plenty of fun, in which he was assisted by Miss Lilian Earle as Polly Popp; Mr. J. P. Kennedy was a villainous Spado; Mr. William Hooker an interesting Joe Wallet; and Mr. Ernest Walton did the most with Bill Barge.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—This week's bill here is headed by Milton Ray's company in the musical farcical episode *The Cruise of the Calabar*. It is exceedingly well played. The Hartfords are clever and daring equilibrists; the musical turn by the Schaffers is loudly applauded; Curtis and Vanity are old favourites here; Burley and Burley are very laughable; the Jackley Trio introduce an original item, which receives much applause. Other turns billed also add to the evening's enjoyment.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Good business has, as usual, followed *The Fatal Wedding*, staged here this week, with the result that a special matinée, a most unusual proceeding at the Star, had to be arranged. Mr. Wilson Howard held with credit the rôle of Howard Wilson; Miss Katharine Clarke was effective as the wife Mabel Wilson; the Robert Curtis presented by Mr. Guy Hastings deserved praise; Mr. Edward Morgan proved an excellent Toto; Mr. Arthur Law Raynor looked very much and acted like a clergyman; Miss Madge McCalla played sweetly as Jessie; Miss Leah Marlborough made a striking Cora Williams; and Mr. Jack Waring was a humorous policeman.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A return visit of *No Wedding Bells for Her* has been welcomed here this week, Mr. Frank Bateman and company presenting it. Miss Lizzie Montague repeated her capital impersonation of Lola, playing with much dramatic intensity; Mr. Frank Bateman made a tactful detective, Dick Delver; Mr. Stuart Lomath was a robust clergyman; the rôle of Montague Blair was well handled by Mr. Louis Garton; Mr Conrad Franklyn made Abney Stone sufficiently odious; Mr. Edward E. Lewis was an agreeable Harold Trevelyn; and Miss Louie Adair acquitted herself creditably as Doris Fane.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria, who is always welcome to Liverpool, heads the list here this week, and has had a cordial reception for her old and new songs; Ford and Barris, dancers and vocalists, who were "discovered" performing in London streets, afforded much pleasure with their excellent turn; the Five Olracs showed themselves to be acrobatic comedians of a high order; some novel cycling feats were provided by Johnson and D'Evere; Charles Faning, assisted by Lotta Charles, kept his audience in a merry mood; some smart dancing came from Woodward and Walton; as a player on the banjo Charles Williams displayed much talent; a neat turn was that presented by the Three Sisters Silcott, vocalists and dancers; the Olive Trio of vocal comediennes and dancers were well received; and also included in the programme were Pauline Zaro, comedienne; and Little Tina, child vocalist.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Top of the bill here this week are Harry Ray and Lillie Calden with their amusing and clever act, *Peculiarities*; Chris Masters, a local favourite, pays a return visit, bringing several new songs; the dancing of Frank Selby was much appreciated; some popular illustrated songs were provided by G B. Geoghan and Connie Downs; Alice Coventry had several taking pieces; and Harry Goldburn, character comedian, also appeared.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Mockery of Marriage*, from the pen of Edward Thane, is the attraction here this week, given by the "Royal" stock dramatic company. Mr. Percy Boucher provided a deal of fun with his Toby Wright; Mr. Sydney Grant ably presented the villainous Dick Kenyon; Mr. Harry Tresham held the two parts, Jock and Ned Stanley, with credit; Mr. E. D. Allen made the most of Seth Pearce; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood's Joseph Vernham reflected credit upon the actor; the Old Pete of Mr. Leo Montgomery showed distinct merit; Miss Beryl Ravenswood was a powerful Alva Kenyon; Miss Florence Palmer played sweetly as Rose Vernham; and Miss Sybil Hammersley was a humorous Mary Ann.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Edie Gray and her company of White Coons head the bill here this week, and please everybody by their harmonious vocalism; Conway and Garland cause incessant laughter with the burlesque *Left in Charge;* the Five Casino Girls provide a pleasing turn of instrumental music; Mephisto, assisted by Mlle. Marie, goes through some remarkable work as a contortionist; J. C. Scatter is an able comedian and dancer; J. S. James shows experiness as a tambourinist, banjoist, and bone solo player; and some acceptable character songs are rendered by George Edney.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats and vaulters, who have made their first appearance in England this week at the above popular hall, gave an excellent turn, and deservedly gained much applause; a deal of laughter followed the exceedingly funny antics of the Brothers Hayes, in their success, *The Porter and the Professional;* Wee Jessie was a dainty comedienne; Harry Chester sang some taking songs; Jack Williams had pleasing specialities; Leon and Leoni displayed much ability as banjoists, and introduced some neat songs; and as duettists, patterers, and dancers, Leonard and Larry earned appreciation.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—A diversified bill of fare offered here this week is headed by Miss Lil Hawthorne, to whom was accorded a flattering reception; there was nothing but laughter while the Midget Mimes were performing in *Casey's Court;* some expert club juggling was given by Albertus and Bartram; Vernando, the tonsorial ventriloquist, proved very diverting; some smart comedy came from Harrigan and Holt; the juggling and knife-throwing of the Zanettos was a remarkable entertainment; Harry Marte, possessed of an excellent voice, sang with pleasing result; and the list also contained the names of Johnny Gilmore, comedian; and Beatrice Willey, a charming vocalist, with a medley of old flower songs.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost in the programme here this week is Miss Alma Obrey, a comedienne with some popular songs; Happy Attwood proved exceedingly funny; Boden and Bell showed themselves to be talented juvenile vocalists and dancers; Hurman gave evidence of being a juggler and hoop manipulator of no mean order; some amusing patter came from Bob Baxter; and Howard and Townsend rendered several pleasing vocal duets.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" stock company are doing good business here. This week the dramatic sketch is *Tricked by a Woman*, which has proved most popular. Some excellent pictures are shown on the bioscope.

CRICKET.

MR. REDMAN'S LITTLEHAMPTON TEAM *v.* J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S "FLORODORA" CO.

Played on the Sports Field, Littlehampton, on Tuesday afternoon. Score:—

"FLORODORA" COMPANY.—First Innings, P. E. Newbery b Redman, 7; C. Joy b Redman, 6; H. A. Beresford b Redman, 10; H. V. Cropton c Woolven b Redman, 0; C. Johnson b Redman, 8; C. Roadknight b Redman, 0; R. V. Cooke b Redman, 0; F. Green b Holland, 6; C. Barclay b Redman, 3; H. Titcombe b Redman, 0; W. Maynall, not out, 0; extras, 13; total, 53.—Second innings; Newbery b Moon, 5; Beresford b Shotter, 4; Maynall b Moon, 6; Joy b Shotter, 4; Roadknight lbw b Moon, 7; Cropton b Moon, 0; Falcon b Moon, 0; Green c and b Shotter, 6; Johnson b Moon, 0; Barclay b Shotter, 0; Titcombe, not out, 6; extras 18; total, 56.

LITTLEHAMPTON.—H. Woolven b Titcombe, 47; W. Standing b Roadknight, 8; A. H. Shotter st Joy b Beresford, 23; A. H. Holland lbw b Cropton, 9; A. Moon, not out, 11; extras, 7; total (for four wickets, declared), 105. T. Jay, G. E. Redman, W. Fish, Bruce Green, W. Wetherall and J. Cuay did not bat.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND MUSIC HALLS *v.* HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs, on Saturday, Sept. 8. Jack Leonard bowled well. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Music Halls Athletic Clubs: Jack Lewis, b Harry Hare, 5; Frank Hansford, lbw b Harry Hare, 2; Harry Belding, b Walter J. Horton, 9; Arthur Cox, b Harry Hare, 0; Jack Leonard (captain), b Harry Hare, 29; Arthur E. Bailey, b Archie Hamlin, 37; Fred B. Nicholls, c and b Archie Hamlin, 3; Syd Carter, b Harry Hare, 7; Patrick Reardon, b Walter J. Horton, 0; Fred Arni, b Harry Hare, 0; Ernie Belding, not out, 2; extras, 12; total 106.

Harry Hare's Orchestral Band and Theatricals: Archie Hamlin, b Jack Leonard, 10; Harry Hare (captain), b Jack Leonard, 0; Harry Edwards, b Jack Leonard, 0; Frank Stephens, b Harry Belding, 14; Mallett, b Jack Leonard, 0; Walter J. Horton, b Jack Leonard, 0; Eddie Bowman, b Harry Belding, 0; Percy Howlett, b Jack Leonard, 0; Grafton, c Fred B. Nicholls, b Jack Leonard, 6; Reeves, b Jack Leonard, 0; Leonard Hamlin, not out, 0; extras 7; total 37.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S XI. *v.* MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on Saturday, Sept. 8. Result: Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI., 33; Miss Winifred Bradley's XI., 59.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C. *v.* Ferndale Rovers A.F.C. Played on Clifton Downs on Saturday, Sept. 8. Miss Lilla Carter kicked off. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C.—Arthur English, goal; Frank Thorne (captain) and Bert Davies, backs; Clem Powell, Bert Austin, and Teddy Poole, halfbacks; Alf. Norman, Ted Palmer, Harry Clements, Harry Slade, and Leslie Clayton, forwards.

Ferndale Rovers A.F.C.—Fred Campbell, goal; Hutching and Weeks, backs; Baker, Joe Lacey (Music Halls A.F.C.), and Jim Aldin, half-backs; Collins, Harvey, George Campbell, Harding, and Tovey, forwards.

Referee, Alf. Mattock (Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.); linesmen, Courtney and Foster. Result, Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C., 1 goal; Ferndale Rovers A.F.C., 3 goals. Bert Davies, Joe Lacey (two), and Harry Collins scored for their respective sides.

HOCKEY.

The *Beauty and the Beast* company played their first hockey match on Friday, Sept. 7, at Powderhall, Leith, against a strong eleven composed of officers of the Royal Garrison Artillery, Leith. A well and keenly contested game resulted in a win for the Garrison by 3 goals to 1. The *Beauty and the Beast* company eleven was composed of two ladies—Misses Bowes and Campbell, and nine gentlemen—Messrs. Eric Campbell, Milton Rosmer, Stanley Vivian, Harry Wimpenny, Harry Talbot, W. H. Gainsford, Alfred Wood, and Wm. Fraser Brunner (captain).

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 5, 26, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Oct. 29, Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Nov. 19, Dec. 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Feb. 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 7, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield, and Oct. 29, Opera H., Leicester. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Nov. 26, May 6, 13, 20, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, April 22, May 6, 13, 20, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Nov. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, Nov. 26.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies for few remaining dates, Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 19.
Address as above.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, Oct. 22. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business here. L. CARSON, Keighley.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Nov. 5, vacant through transfer. Wire immediately, HARRY YORKE.

WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Companies, Theatre Royal, Stockport, Dec. 3, 10, and 17.
Address,
CHARLES REVILL.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Attraction (Musical preferred) for Oct. 22 (through obliging Fredk. Mouillot, Esq.), only vacant date until 1907. Must be a Big Show. Full particulars to CLARENCE SOUNES, Prince's Theatre, Poplar, E.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights), Dec. 3, 17.
Required, Big Attraction for Xmas and New Year's Week.
Wanted, Good Pantomime, for Jan. 28.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Companies Only.
Oct. 29, to follow "Florodora."
Nov. 12, to follow Harry Starr.
Dec. 10, to follow "Earl and the Girl."
Only two weeks vacant in Spring, 1907.
Address, JAMES P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, for this really Beautiful Theatre, High-class Companies only.
Nov. 5, to follow F. R. Benson.
Nov. 26, to follow Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer.
Dec. 3, to precede "Duchess of Dantzic."
Only three weeks vacant in Spring, 1907.
Address, JAMES P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Really First-class Attractions, Oct. 8, 15, 22.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-class Drama, Jan. 3 (3 nights), also Various Attractions, Feb., onwards. Bookings include "Earl and Girl," "Silver King," "The Dairymaids," &c. EDWARD MARRIS, Proprietor.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, to oblige a Manager, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies,
CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, and various onwards.
CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Jan. 10, 17, and various onwards.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Jan. 17, Feb. 7.
THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE,
Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 9.
Address, W. MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, First-Class Company, for one of best weeks in the year, Oct. 8, to oblige Mr. Dance, Musical preferred.
J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, Nov. 12, on, Grand, Chorley; also Nov. 19, on, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SAINTS, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 26, Nov. 12, 26.
A. D. VERNON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant March 25, onward.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Nov. 5, 19, 25 (?), onward.
Can arrange Pantomime Production Christmas.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Sept. 17, 24, onward.
(Three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Oct. 1, onward
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 29, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Sept. 24, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Oct. 8, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.

All Communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Oct. 1, Feb. 18, and March 11, on, with exceptions.
The following is a list of future (not past) bookings and pencillings for the ensuing season, viz.: J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Company, "When It Was Dark," "La Poupee," "Lucky Durham," Norman V. Norman, Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Walter Reynolds' "Mr. Smith," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Fredk. Mouillot's Company in "Faust Up-to-Date," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique." Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Mr. Robertson thanks Chester Fox, Esq., for offer of Charles Frohman's company, including the celebrated actor, Leonard Boyne, in "Raffles," and is sorry he could not arrange same owing to the date required being booked to Mr. Wm. Greet's "The Earl and the Girl."
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS OPERA HOUSE.
Possibly vacant to oblige,
Oct. 15, week.
WANTED, for Oct. 15, First-class Musical Comedy.
Also vacant,
Nov. 29 (3 nights),
Dec. 10 (week),
Dec. 31 (week),
Jan. 21 (week),
Feb. 4 (week),
Feb. 25 (week),
March 4 (week),
and certain season dates in April and May.
GREAT HALL, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Big Attraction of any Kind for 3 or 4 nights, Oct. 22.

FOLKESTONE AND HASTINGS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 29, three nights, Folkestone;
Nov. 1, three nights, Hastings;
also Dec. 3, 17, Hastings.
Vacant Spring Dates at each Town for Leading Attractions only.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Colchester, good Company, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Sept. 20, 21, 22. Apply, CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, and on.
W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Recognised London Success (not Drama), for Nov. 26,
Annual Cattle Show Week.
SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12.
Address, JOHN CASSIDY.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date, Oct. 8.
Address, JOHN CASSIDY.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 3, 17.
Address, JOHN CASSIDY.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 26, Dec. 10 and 17. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, Dec. 17, March 11, and on, with exceptions.
MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, for the New Theatre, Consett, Companies for Sept. 24 (three nights), Oct. 1 (six nights).
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, through Transfer, First-Class Attraction for Oct. 15.
Address, STEPHEN PRITT, Theatre Royal, Preston.

NEW ROYAL VICTORIA T., RAMSGATE.
Lessee, Mr. JULES RICHEUX.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 1, 8, 15 (?), and next season. Apply,
HERBERT JAY, T. R., Manchester.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Sept. 27, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 15 (3 nights each), and on.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO; PALACE THEATRE, RHYL; PUBLIC H., COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Musical preferred, Sept. 24, on, with exceptions, three nights each town. Wire for 24th. Apply,
CHAS. CHAPLIN, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply PROPRIETOR.

WANTED, Good Companies, of all Descriptions, for theatres, Treherbert and Maesteg, 3 nights each, Oct. 8, 22, Dec. 3, 10, and 17. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 230 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Oct. 22 (?), 29 (?), Nov. 19, Dec. 17.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Nov. 8, 9, 10, Dec. 10, 31.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED (through transferring to oblige), First-Class Attraction only, for week of Oct. 15.
Wire,
HUSTLER, Birkenhead.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS,
the leading theatre of the town; seats 1,200.
WANTED, Known, Christmas, only vacant date this year.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES,
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Musical Plays, and other High-class Attractions; no dramas. Vacant Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, First-class Attractions only. T. R., Stockton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Grand Autumn Production,
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Spring and Autumn, 1907.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, 24, and 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 24, 31. FREDK MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 21, March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Nov. 5, South preferred.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Week of Nov. 26, in First-class Theatres only. Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
An Enormous Success.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, on, now booking 1907. A complete production.
Refer Managers.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
The most beautiful production of this famous play ever seen in this country.
WANTED, Oct. 8, 29, on; now booking 1907.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, New Theatre, Oxford.

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Date (through transfer), Oct. 29. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Sept. 17, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Six Nights.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 1, 15.
Wire, J. W. CORDINER,
Sept. 17, Victoria Theatre, Bridlington.
Sept. 20, Spa Theatre, Whitby.
See Companies advertisements, Page 2.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, also Xmas and New Year Weeks. Vacant Feb. 4, 11, and 18.
New Special Scenery and Effects.
Fifth Year of Tour, and more Successful than ever.
Sept. 17, Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

"THE SILVER KING."
Vacant Date, Nov. 26.
also few dates in Spring.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, Court, Bacup; next, King's, Cardiff.

"CLAUDIAN."
The Greatest Dramatic Production Travelling.
WANTED, Large Theatres, for Christmas, New Year, and Easter.
See Page 2.

WILLIAM MACLAREN,
T. R., Hanley (return).

"A HEART'S DESIRE."
By Frank Adair, author of "The Favourite."
By arrangement with Travis Green and Arthur Hinton.
WANTED, Theatres for above magnificent Romantic Play, Oct. 1, various onwards.
Address, H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Brilliant Attraction, Oct. 1 and 15.
HARRY FOXWELL, Opera House, Kidderminster.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 5, 12. CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, T. R., Aston; next, T. R., Smethwick.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12; must be first-class theatre, and give equitable terms.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
This, T. R., Aston; next, T. R., Smethwick.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 12, Xmas.
Fast Booking 1907.
E. CARTER LIVESEY, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Theatres, March 4, 11, April 22, 29, Aug. Bank Holiday, on, magnificently mounted and dressed. Booked by all managers who see my production, and re-booked Theatres visited. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15 (between Hull and Bedford), Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton in above.
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Oct. 1, 15, and 22. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 17.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money book this Splendid Production. Vac. Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres. CARSON, Keighley.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S CO.
"THE FOUR JUST MEN,"
By Arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 29 and Nov. 12. Address, CECIL BARTH,
Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
"FLORODORA,"
Oct. 15, Nov. 26 (three nights),
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Oct. 29, Dec. 3 (three nights), Dec. 31, Jan. 7, and various onwards.
Address, WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

CHAS. S. KITTS
and
SOMERS BELLAMY'S
"CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, for this First-Class Production,
Jan. 7,
Jan. 7,
Only vacant date.
All new Scenery and Dresses.
Strong Specialities.
Exceptional Cast.

Full particulars on application to
SOMERS BELLAMY,
Market Hotel, Glossop.

A better drama has never been seen.—Daily Telegraph.
"WOMAN AND WINE,"
from the Princess' Theatre, London.
The entire Gorgeous Production carried
The Play that drew all London.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Dec. 24, 31 (North),
Feb. 18, 25 (Midlands),
March 11, April 1 (South).
All communications,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS,
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Only Vacant Dates this Year,
Nov. 19, 26.

Spring entirely filled, except Feb. 4, April 1.
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
Can Arrange Special Production for Two or Four Weeks at Christmas.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, a good Theatre for Xmas week.
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER,"
Nov. 5, 12, 19 vacant.
BERTRAM, Royalty, Barrow; or T. R., Sheffield.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas.
GEORGE DENHAM, St. James's, Manchester.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15 (between Hull and Bedford), Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton in above.
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 31, various on, for this really remarkable Holiday Attraction. CLYNDES, Grand, Forest Gate, E.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 1, 22, and 29.
Wire for Oct. 1.
Address, STUART CLEVELAND,
Queen's Opera House, Workington.

WANTED, Oct. 15 and 22, for Comedies, Russell Rosse's Tours.
RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-street, W.C.

"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
Take Notice.—Miss Frances Delaval holds the entire Acting Rights for the United Kingdom of this Play.
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Xmas, New Year.
Wire, Bacup; next, King's, Cardiff.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in the Title-rôle.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 8, Nov. 12.
WALTER J. BAYLISS, Opera House, Burnley.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 22 and 29, between Newcastle and London; Nov. 17, 26, London or District. Wire, OSMOND, T. R., Wednesbury; next, Hetton-le-Hole.

WANTED, Theatres, Beaudyn and Crowe's Co., "The Way of the World," Vac. Sept. 24, Oct. 1, only vacant dates until Dec. Stud of racehorses and ponies travelled. Miss Sidney Crowe in star lead. Wire, SKARDON, to-day, Goole; next, Colne.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-sixth Week of Present Tour. Booked and Re-booked into Oct., '07. Five sets carried. Five.
WANTED, Sept. 24 (?), follow Birmingham.
Wire for Sept. 24. Wire. Oct. 1, 8 (Lancs.), March 11 (North).
FRANK AYRTON, Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov 5 (precede Portsmouth).
FRED BULMER, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 15 (between London and Manchester), Nov. 12, various on, March 11 (precede Sunderland), April 2 (follow Sheffield).
MILLER, New, Aberdare.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, for "A CITY OF SIN."
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the Greatest of All Domestic Dramas, by Frank Lindo. Nearing the 1,000th performance.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, only vacant dates this year. Now booking 1907. Mr. Frank Lindo, Miss Marion Wakeford, and full company. Address, FRANK LINDO.
T. R., Rochdale (return).

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15 (between Hull and Bedford), Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton in above.
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Palace Theatre, Newcastle.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, and March 18.
"ALADDIN," vacant Feb. 4 and 11.
A superb Pantomime Production.
HERBERT BARRS, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

WANTED, Sept. 24 (?), Oct. 1, 8, 22, Dec. 31, for Stanley Carlton's Co.'s, "A Life's Story" and "A Marriage of Vengeance." Next, Theatre, Burslem.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Pantomime, with big cast of acknowledged Star Artists, Feb. 11, and on.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, as follows:—
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, various, on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov., various, on.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT,"
Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 24, 31.
DR. WALFORD BODIE,
Various, 1907.
Address,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this most Elaborately Dressed and Mounted Drama,
Sept. 24, in or near London.
Sept. 24, in or near London.
Also,
Oct. 15, 22, Midlands or North;
Oct. 15, 22, Midlands or North;
Nov. 5, 12, 26;
Dec. 3, 10, Xmas Week.
Spring Dates, on, with exceptions.
Superb scenery, magnificent dresses, splendid printing.
FRANK BATEMAN, Dalston Theatre, Dalston, N.E.

MISS MARIE DAGMAR and FRED C. SOMERFIELD'S
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
A splendid play.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
Vacant Oct. 22, 29,
Nov. 12, 19 (?),
Xmas, New Year, Jan.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, T. R., Scarboro'.

Like old wine, old plays are generally the best. Nor is the reason far to seek. Thy have been tried in the furnace of popular opinion, wherein so many that are worthless scorch and vanish away. "The Golden Ladder," this week staged at the Theatre Royal, years ago was tested, and was stamped with the Hall-mark of popular approval, and it still retains all its old fascinations. People remember how Wilson Barrett and his company thrilled them with the story of the British missionary and his heroic wife, and they look for an equally strong representation to-day. And from Miss Mary Austin and E. Vivian Edmonds' company they receive it.—Sheffield Independent.
"The Golden Ladder" is still one of the best of dramas. In many respects it sets a standard of which most modern writers have fallen short.—Sheffield Telegraph.
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5. Company of eighteen, crowds of Auxiliaries, nine complete sets of Scenery. E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth (6th visit).

HARDIE and VON LEER'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres (North), Nov. 5, 12, 26, Dec. 24, 31.
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER."
Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 24, 31.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel. No. 7504 Gerrard.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Oct. 1.
No Greater Success Touring.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the most popular version on the stage.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire for Oct. 1. Wire.
JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend. Enormous success at Gaiety, Dundee. All previous records for Drama broken. Thanks Mr. Buchanan for Contracts for ten Theatres after successful week at Princess's, Glasgow. By arrangement with Miss Hildyard this Co. can play this piece anywhere except London.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, and New Year.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, Royal, Tyldesley.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 15, for this great Play, now going stronger than ever; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for parade.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, Sept. 24, follow Manchester (fourth visit to St. James's Theatre);
also "THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
Refer Artillery, Woolwich; Gaiety, Burnley; Prince's, Blackburn; O. H., Harrogate; G. T., Derby; Empire, Dundee; Gaiety, Leith.
Sixth year of Tour; either or both Plays.
Wire to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Public Hall, Scunthorpe.
Sept. 17, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

GRAND OPERA.
WANTED, Oct. 8, and onwards, with exceptions, for the Virgo-Oliphant Grand Opera Company (Grand Opera (Bijou), Limited),
Répertoire: "Faust," "Maritana," "The Bohemian Girl," "Il Trovatore," &c., &c.
Cast includes:
Miss Fanny Hopwood (Soprano) (late Covent Garden, Moody-Manners, &c.), Mr. Walter Wood (Basso), Mr. Harry Thornton (Baritone) (late of Turner's Opera Co.), and Mr. Wilfred Virgo (Tenor) (late of Mme. Patti's Grand American Tour), Chorus of twenty-five special instrumentalists, Conductor, Mr. Sydney Payne. Wanted, immediate dates. Write or wire, HERBERT LLOYD, 112, Great Portland-street, London, W. (registered offices).

WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 22, Dec. 31, for Stanley Carlton's Co.'s, "A Life's Story." "A Marriage of Vengeance." Next, T., Burslem.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 31, MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
in an Entirely New Production of
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14, MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
Absolutely Everything Carried.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

"THE COAL KING."
Great Attraction.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 5 and 19, also a few Vacant Dates in Spring.
Address, POLINI and MAITLAND,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Dec. 24, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for above Attraction, Oct. 15 and 22, between Brighton and S. Wales; also Dec. 3 and Xmas. Apply
FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Sept. 24, owing to Stockton Fire, and Oct. 22. C. DURIE, T. R., Whitehaven.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Xmas, for the "New Man and Wife," by Walter Howard.
Coms., T. E. WARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND CO.,
in the Famous Farcical Comedy,
"FACING THE MUSIC."
Twenty-second Week of Tour,
and still Facing the Weather.
WANTED, Sept. 27 (3), South, and Oct. 1; also Wanted, Dates, from Xmas, for "The New Housemaid." Funnier than a pantomime. The audience are kept in continual merriment.—Referee. Sept. 17, Pier Pavilion, St. Leonards.

"THE TRAITOR."
Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Jan. 14 (near Birmingham), Feb. 11 and 18, for Frank Denman-Wood's "Dick Whittington." Panto. production settled. Contracts include Birmingham, Stockport, Ashton-under-Lyne, and W. Broadhead, Esq.'s, Circuit. All coms., DENMAN-WOOD, New Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, for the Dice and Golesworthy Starlight Variety Company, Theatres and Halls, nine strong turns; good top and bottom. 18, Trinity-square, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
A Success Everywhere.
Ask Manager Elder
his opinion of the play and company.
Newcastle Press unanimous.
Vacant
Nov. 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's, Leeds.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."

WANTED, Dates for
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
The Finest Romantic Play Touring.
Vacant
Oct. 8 (?), Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's, Leeds.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."

WANTED, Dates for
this great Domestic Play.
Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's, Leeds.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
Supported by
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh,
Miss Iné Cameron,
Miss Carrie Baillie.

WANTED, Oct. 22 (?), Dec. 3 (between London and Blackpool), Dec. 17 and 24, Jan. 21, onwards, with exceptions. Refer Leonard Grey, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.
Three Visits Booked in Ten Months.
This, Grand, Luton; next, Royal, Leamington.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, for this Money-making Attraction, Sept. 24, and on. A really fine production. Splendid plant of pictorials. Everything done on first-class lines. Energetic Agent in Advance, and printing ad lib. Wanted, for assured Success, "FOR BETTER OR WORSE," Oct. 15, 22, and 29. Re dates, FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

"CINDERELLA."

WANTED, Jan. 7, 28, &c. Apply, H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, followng Artists, for Autumn Tour of First-class Play:—
Emotional Character, à la Silver King;
Aristocratic Breezy Old Man,
Juvenile Lead,
Juvenile Heavy.
Latest references, state salary and other useful particulars (height not to exceed 5ft. 7in.),
Box 3,713, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, entire Company, Répertoire, six plays, Child Actress, Pianist, Scenic Artist, vacancy for good Amateur Lady and Gentleman. Letters only, WALLACE, 94, West Green-road, London.

WANTED, Heavy Lady, Rehearse Wednesday, young, good voice, big fight. Full particulars, photo., lowest terms, long Tour. MOULE, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, to Rehearse Oct. 9, near Belfast, good Tall Juvenile Man (not leads), must be reliable and dress well off and on; also good Useful Lady; both must do refined concert turn, thirty-eighth week of tour, and above first change in cast. Money sure, and permanent engagement. Can arrange also for good amateur Lady and Gentleman, who can do turn, must be educated and refined, no premium, but give services. LENA and PRESTON, c/o P.O., Belturbet, co. Cavan.

WANTED, Tall, Juvenile Gentleman, rehearse immediately. Photograph, two references, lowest terms, long tour if suitable. E. CARTER LIVESEY, 132, Kennington Park-road.

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Man; must be tall, robust, have good voice and appearance. Address, MORTON POWELL, Queen's, Leeds.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, at Once, First-class Leading Juvenile Man (tall). Age, height, references, photos., and terms to H. HOLLISTER, Grand Theatre, Islington (Monday).

WANTED, Strong Actor, for Sir George Lancaster, "Her Forbidden Marriage." FREDK. E. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for Sketch, Leading Man and Comedian, open Sept. 24, London. Apply by letter, with terms, &c., FRED CONQUEST, 77, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to Play Small Parts, in Mr. Norman V. Norman's Company. Mr. HOWARD ASHLEY, Globe Theatre, Deal.

WANTED, Good Amateurs, Lady and Gentleman, for First-Class Tour, exceptional opportunity. Salary, small premium. Rehearse immediately. Box 3,718, "The Era."

WANTED, for Sketch, Actress; must dance; Character Actor; both used to fight; Comedian, short, play woman's part. MANAGER, 7, Foxberry-rd., Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Lady for Short Vigorous Part, in Sketch (booked twelve months), Old Woman, Character Part. Photo., terms, J. KELSALL, Prince's-parade, Bridlington.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman,
Vocalist or Instrumentalist,
willing to Finance Welsh Concert Tour,
commencing October. Grand speculation.
Write particulars,
MANAGER, 87, Sutton-court, Chiswick.

WANTED, Three First-class Tenor Choristers, for special six weeks' tour, commencing Sept. 24, rehearse Sept. 18. Terms, refs., age, to DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Male Soprano or Alto, Soloist, used to Quartettes, for Variety Theatres. Mr. Buffrey (late Moore and Burgess) write. Full particulars and salary required to Box 3,722, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Lady Acrobatic Dancers, ages 16 to 20. Particulars and terms, letter only. MANAGER, Box 3,710, "The Era."

WANTED, good Counter Tenor, also First Tenor and Bass, for Solo and Quartette work. State salary. &c. Box 3,723, "The Era."

WANTED, a Teacher of Elocution, at a Public School, an Actor preferred. A permanent, lucrative appointment. Address, Box 3,705. "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Freda Sharlotte (Reciter to Music), pupil of the late Carlotta Le Clercq, having an extensive répertoire of Musical Monologues, comprising Comedy, Tragedy, and Humorous, is open for engagements, willing to Tour England or abroad; charitable entertainments attended at reduced fees. Referee says: Has decided talent for her art. For terms and Press opinions, address, C/o London Musical Club, 25, Hart-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Sept. 17 and onwards, Engagement in Musical Comedy or Light Comedy Part in Drama, good speaking voice, height 5ft. 9½in., young, singing voice, light tenor, of good quality and compass, eight special weeks Bradford, twelve weeks Seaton Carew. REGINALD GORDON, Beechfield, Bramhall, Cheshire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Miss Mario Gerrard, entertainer at piano, humorous songs, monologues, &c. Address, Pier, Hastings.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists in all Lines,
and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Pantomime Artists in all lines.
Principal Boys, Principal Girls, Comedians,
Chorus Ladies, &c., &c.
Send Terms, Photos, References, &c., to
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Dancers and Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime and Sketches.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars and enclosing photograph, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, for Pantomime, London, First-class Pair of Sisters for Second Boy and Girl, Lady for "Cinderella"; must be young, exceptionally pretty, and good voice. Principal Boys for the Provinces. Any number of Show and Chorus Ladies.
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Ballet Ladies, Panto., First-Class Theatres. Apply, BALLET MISTRESS, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, 1 o'clock Saturday, Monday.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Good Animal Performer, to play Cat. State age, height, experience and lowest terms, to C. and F. RENAD, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, for Big Provincial Theatre, for Christmas, Ballet Dancers; must be good trained dancers, young and attractive; also a good Male Quartette. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for First-Class Pantomimes, Chorus Ladies and Dancers. Apply, SYDNEY T. RUSSELL, 88, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for "Cinderella." Send terms, particulars, and where working Sept., JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bouverie Pleydell, at Liberty for Pantomime,
to Play Boy or Girl.

This week, Empire, Newport.
Sept. 17, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman at Lib. Principal Boy. Last year, West London T. and Palace, Newcastle. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, N.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, Wolf. Poodle, Cat, Traps, &c. Address, LEON DUBOIS, Euston Music Hall, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Syd Churcher and Harry Payne, song writers, invite artists to write for samples of our work. Now ready, splendid principal boy's song, also principal girl's song; two sure hits. 181, Woodbridge-road, Ipswich.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts, Theatre Fit-ups, Repainting, &c.; experienced. Low terms. Note address, 104, Loughborough-park, W. HENRY, Scenic Artist.

WANTED, Engagement, or Contract. Address, ALFRED FORD, Scenic Artist, 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Large or Small Contracts. 20 years' reputation for prices and work; compare; models, BOSTOCK, Scenic Co., Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"OUR NAVY AND OUR ARMY"
ANIMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENT.
WANTED, Known, Vacancies for Touring Managers, Musical Director, Piano, Advance Representative, and Operators, for at Home and Abroad. Apply to
the GOVERNING-DIRECTOR of
"West's Our Navy, Ltd.," The Anchorage, Southsea.

WANTED, experienced Acting-Manager, one used to Drama. State age, terms, height, last three references, MARK BLOW, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, at once, Manager, thoroughly experienced in Fit-ups. Terms, references (with addresses of same), W. H. CHATTELL, Conservative Hall, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Couple, Gent. to Stage-Manage, and play Lead when required; lady and gent., novice. MACMAHON, Court Theatre, Castlerea, Roscommon.

WANTED, Resident Acting-Manager. Apply, with terms and references (letters only), MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading. Applicants please accept silence as a polite negative.

WANTED, Gentleman to learn Acting-Management of First-Class Touring Company (Drama); salary and fares paid; small premium. Box 3,719, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Manager, must be capable electrician, and able to work Bioscope; also first-class Bill Inspector. Lowest terms (to open Oct. 1) and references, to ALFRED SELWYN, Empire Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, a smart Young Man, to be Taught the Duties of Acting-Management at a Provincial Theatre, one who could keep books preferred. Salary paid. Particulars, &c., to Box 3,731, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Energetic Advance Agent. Apply, with full particulars, F. GALLAGHER, Manager, "Her Second Time on Earth," Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, good property man and bill deliverer; must thoroughly understand his business. Address, with references, JULIAN MALVERN.

WANTED, First-class Carpenter (own tools), for a special six and a half weeks' touring engagement, duties commencing Sept. 19, sobriety essential. Address, with references and lowest terms, to Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Tour, to Commence Oct. 1, First-class Carpenter, baggage, capable of small parts, and willing and obliging. State age, height, salary, last three refs., &c., to Box 3,714, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Baggage Man, used looking after Wardrobe, and repair same. State height, terms, recent references, age, MARK BLOW, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, at Once, Good Wardrobe Mistress and Dresser; one can cut and make. Apply, WENTWORTH CROKE, 31, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, to cut and make, for a special week. NORMAN V. NORMAN, Globe Theatre, Deal.

WANTED, by Young Man, 22, Clerk (references), Engagement Assist.-Manager, Advance Agent, anything respectable. J. MOAR, 13, Langside-place, Langside, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Young Man, 22, Situation at Theatre, Hall, or with Company, to learn Business or Stage-Management. Write, address Box 3,703, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Richard Bradshaw, Dis. Sept. 15, for Advance Management, used to Fit-ups, Picture Shows, &c.; excellent refs. Offers. 62, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Electrician, Competent, to take charge of stage, three years present post, desires change, new theatre, or where modern electric improvements are required preferred. Box 3,709, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Practical Electrician and Operator; good references; vac. Sept. 24. Wire, HAMILTON, Hip., Douglas, Isle Man.

WANTED, Engagement, Resident, by Practical Carpenter, Theatre or Music Hall, tools, bench. Refs. H. L., 11, Little Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Known, J. H. Ashford is at Liberty Monday, Pictures, &c., Biller, Baggage, and Effects; steady and reliable worker. Wire, Victoria Hall, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Smart, Reliable Young Man, aged 21, requires position for betterment in Theatre or Hall; thoroughly experienced in bars, billing, and pay-box; now employed at Circuit Hall; excellent refs. Box 3,699, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Miss Marie Horton, Wardrobe Mistress. Disengaged, experienced, can cut and make; capable small parts. Address, 21, Craddock-street, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Competent Wardrobe Mistress; Design, Cut, Fit, and Make. Take production right through. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

WANTED, by Widow, 30, Evening Employment, any Capacity; good needlewoman. MRS. FLORENCE, 88, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Lady Ticket Issuer Disengaged end Sept.; used to Pavilion and Pier Ticket Issuing. MISS MORETON, Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Tour of First-class Play, Conductor, Pianist-Violinist, who can immediately compose and orchestrate music for drama. State terms for latter, weekly salary required, age, latest refs., &c., to Box 3,715, "The Era" Office.

C. W. POOLE'S No. 1 MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, immediately, Musical Director (Violin), must be smart and able to arrange incidental music. Terms, age, references. J. R. POOLE, Municipal Hall, Colne.

WANTED, Conductor, Smart, Energetic (Violinist). Apply, with full particulars, FREDK. E. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, two Violins (Leaders), one Viola, for voyage to South Africa, seven weeks, must be good men.

Apply personally to BANDMASTER,

C/o Hetherington's, 163a, Strand,
6 o'clock Monday evening.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, as Leader, to open Monday next.
Permanent engagement.
Wire, CAREY, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY ASYLUM.
HELLINGLY.
WANTED, Musician Attendants (Violin or Clarionet). Wages, £28, rising by £1 per annum to £33; £2 per annum good conduct money, and additional payments as bandsmen; also board, lodging, washing and uniform. Apply for form of application to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Young Lady, First Violin (Leader), must be used to Variety, quick reader.
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Open Oct. 1, First Violin, Pianist, Bass, Flute, Cornet, Trombone, Drums. ALFRED SELWYN, Empire Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, First and Second Violin, Flute and Piccolo, used to variety. State age and experience, AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, Second Violin, and 'Cellist.
Address, with particulars,
SHERWOOD, Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, First Violin, Open Sept. 24; must be well up in variety business. Apply, A. BOARDMAN, Musical Director, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

WANTED, First Cornet,
for Glasgow.
Apply, stating salary required, and giving names and addresses for reference, to S. GETHING, Empire, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Cornet Player or Side Drummer, as an Attendant in a County Asylum; Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, together with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; single man. Apply, with testimonials.

W. GRAINGER, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Solo Cornet,
to Double String preferred.
ALEX. CORRIGON, Conductor,
Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, three B-flat Clarionets, two Cornets, Trombone, and Drums, for Cheltenham Town Band. Terms, shares. Apply, J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-st., Cheltenham.

WANTED, for London, Double Bass, Flautist, and Second Clarionet. Apply, stating salary required, and giving names and addresses for reference, to WILLIAM COLLINS, Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Double Bass, for King's, Longsight, open Sept. 24.
Apply, PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hip., Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Double Bass, Violin and Flute and Piccolo, Folkestone Oct. 3 to 13. Lowest terms. MADAME STREBELLE, Harbour House, Margate.

SOUTHPORT CORPORATION BAND.
WANTED, at once, B Flat Saxophone or a Baritone.
Wire, Mr. BARTLE, Belmont-street, Southport.

WANTED, Oboe, to open Monday, Oct. 1, well up in Variety business, Standard Overtures, and Selections. Terms and references to HOWARTH, Conductor, Empire, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced 'Cellist, New Theatre, Cambridge.
Apply, CONDUCTOR, Clovelly, Glisson-road.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, for Theatre, steady and reliable. Apply, stating terms and reference, to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 48, Cornmarket-st., Oxford.

WANTED, a Harpist, able to read and play simple accompaniments, a permanent continuous engagement to a suitable man. Salary £2 per week. WM. UNDERWOOD, Bandmaster, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Brilliant Pianist, for Picture Show; must be able to play operatic music. Open Monday (Midlands).
Wire lowest terms, and where to refer,
JEFFS, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman Pianist, must be good Orchestral Pianist. State age, refs., for Tour. Apply, BATESON, Orchestra, Bowness, Windermere

WANTED, a smart young Pianist, to make himself useful. Lowest terms, &c.,
MANAGER, Victoria Hall.

WANTED, to open Sept. 22, Pianist, with Dramatic Music, used to portable routine; salaries. BERT BREAMER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontlottyn, via Cardiff.

WANTED, Pianist, experienced, Fit-up Tour, open immediate. Wire lowest.
HYBERT, Public Hall, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, for Central Theatre, Northwich, Good Pianist, double-handed preferred; must read at sight, and be well up in Dramatic and Variety Music. Lowest terms and refs. to E. GOLDEN.

WANTED, to open Sept. 17, good Drums and Effects permanent if suitable. Terms, age, and references to J. H. CARTMELL, Conductor, Grand Theatre, Hanley.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

Mandolinists and Guitarists.
WANTED, Young Ladies and Gentlemen who can play above instruments well and read music (Ladies must be young and good-looking), for a long good engagement. State salary, age, and all particulars, Box 3,698, "The Era."

RHYL (Seaside Resort), N. WALES.
WANTED, for Rhyl, a Band, for giving Promenade Concerts during the Summer Season of 1907, from Whitsuntide to Sept. 30, to consist of not less than fifteen performers.
Apply, giving full particulars, and stating terms, with or without subsidy, to
A. ROWLANDS, Town Clerk, Rhyl,
not later than Oct. 31, 1906.

Bandsmen.
WANTED, for Ocean Steamers, all Instrumentalists. Write in or apply personally, HETHERINGTON'S "Bandmasters' Help" Office, 163a, Strand. Also String Bass, Cornet, and Violin wanted, for Touring Company, 6 weeks' engagement.

WANTED, Musician-Stewards for West African Service, good ability and character. State age, experience. CROPPER, 20-19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, at Once, Young Musicians, not over 20 years, two First Cornets, one First Violin, one Viola, one Trombone, for an English orchestra, two or three months on one place, concerts only. State age, lowest terms. Apply, DIRECTOR, English Orchestra, Colosseum, Dortmund, i/W., Germany.

WANTED, Various Instruments, for Special Weeks, and Permanency.
Apply, with particulars and terms,
W. R. KING, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

WANTED, a Good Band of 5 or 6 Performers, for about £10 per week, with fares. Permanency. Letters to MANAGER, Exhibition Syndicate, 80, Coleman-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, for Exhibition, Jan. 14, '07, five weeks, ladies' orchestras, special artists, attractive side show novelties, illusionists, mirrors, &c. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Public Hall, Dudley.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success with own band. Disengaged Oct.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Concert Orchestral Conductor, with good Company or Corporation; excellent classical and popular répertoire; first-class testimonials. Box 3,636, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by A. B. Challier, Pianist-Conductor, and Edie Raero, Serio, Mus. Com. or Panto., Liberty Oct. 1. 138, King-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Shortly at Liberty, really First-class Conductor, smart and experienced. Offers invited. Address, Box 3,708, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Young, Smart Musical Director, or First Violin, any business. Good refs. SOLOSKY, 29, Beaumont-square, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Conductor, Composer, Violinist, Pianist, Opera, Concert, Pantomime, experience, Musical Adviser, Disengaged after Sept. MORLEY, 7, Wyndham-street, Brighton.

WANTED, by Pianist-Conductor, Arrange, Engagement, ever reliable, nine years Palace, Portsmouth, pantomimes, &c. LORENZO LEWIS, 33, Tabernacle-st., Oldbury.

WANTED, Conductorship of Orchestra (piano), variety or theatre, at liberty shortly, through change of management. Excellent refs. Address, A. PEULEVE, Musical Director, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor or Leader by First-Class Musician, Composer, and Arranger, Theatre or Symphony; highest references. DIEHL, Violinist, Newtown, Malvern.

WANTED, Post, Ladies' Orchestra or Quartette, experienced, strong leader.
A., Hillside, Canterbury-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, Conductor; experienced Variety, Theatre; young, reliable; refs. ED. LANDOR, Oak House, Seaton Carew, W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, either First or Second Violin, thoroughly experienced; associated with many West End Orchestras. H. SANGSTER, 31, Park-street, Southend.

WANTED, Eng., Violin, Clart., Oboe, Theatre, Orch.; ex. ref.; last Johannesburg. WOODROW, 19 G Block, Roscoe-street, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, or Second, excellent references, good répertoire of music, any business. A. ROBINSON, 27, Calder Vale-rd., Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Violin or Viola also Cornet, at Liberty 15th, any business. Address, BROWN, Viola, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagements, Violins, as Leader and Répétiteur, together or singly, at Lib. Address, W. VERNON, Violinist, Sanger's Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, immediately, Re-engagement as Second Violin, Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. BURBRIDGE, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Violin, any line, splendid references. Can open at once. P. LEWIS, 13, Guppy-street, Swindon.

WANTED, Engagement as First Cornet, thoroughly experienced.
Address, FOWLER, 98, Liverpool-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, combine 3-string bass, variety or dramatic, good and reliable. Good references. BRYANT, 15, London-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, young, sober, experienced all lines, highest references, theatre, or sea trip. Address, ABILITY, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by the Solo Cornet, finishing Summer Season, Sept. 30; excellent references. SOLO CORNET, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, Solo Cornet, thoroughly experienced and reliable; permanent preferred; distance no object. WILLIAMS, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Mr. A. Launder, Solo Cornet, Engagement, theatre or variety, good references, disengaged Sept. 29.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, at Liberty, Theatre or Variety, reliable and thoroughly experienced; best refs. CLARIONET, 38, Roxwell-rd., Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Oct. 1, competent, reliable, good refs.; any business. CLARIONET, 19, Bingham-street, Lupus-street, Pimlico.

WANTED, by Clarionet, daily practice in Orchestra, London; experienced; small payment if necessary. C., 8, Ravensdon-st., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, any business, experienced, reliable, and good references. COWIE, 98, Ashford-villa, Ashford-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass; 4 experience in every business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany). Disengaged Oct. 1. Herr OTTO BAYER, 3, Woodfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, finishing Summer Engagement, Sept. 29; references. Mus.-Dir. E. J. ELLIOTT, 67, Albion-street, Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Bassoon Player, late Carl Rosa Company, at Liberty; experience. Address, 34, Cambridge-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoon Player (late of band of 1st Life Guards), any capacity, Theatre, Concert, Operatic, &c. J. GIBSON, 19, Trinity-square, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, excellent Bassoon, Theatre, Staff Band or Firm; good ref. Late of S.A. Constabulary Band, Johannesburg. W. H. S., 11, John-street, Lewisham.

WANTED, Engagement, as String Bass, any Business; present situation 12 years; references if required. W. JACQUES, Orchestra, New Grand, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement by Bassoonist, combine 'Cello, experienced and reliable, any business or distance, London preferred. 24, St. Ann's road, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement by Contra Bassist, Disengaged through fire at Stockton Theatre Royal. Highest references. MASON, 9, Eleanor-place, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, experienced, reliable; Conductor having steady permanency to offer, London or Provincial, state terms. No Deputies. F. S., 64, Caledonian-rd., N.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Bass, any business, at Liberty Oct. 1. Apply, BASSO, Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass; sober and reliable; any business. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-st., New North-rd., London, N.

WANTED, an Engagement, by good Trombonist; can combine Violin.
MUSICIAN, 16, Sydney-rd., Eastbourne, Sussex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone or Euphonium, good soloist, any business. Excellent refs. GEORGE GRUBER, 45, Wynyard-rd., Hillsborough, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Experienced Trombone, Engagement in good variety or dramatic theatre, Liberty Sept. 29. Refs. Address, TROMBONE, Hippo., Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Euphonium and Trombone, experienced, and reliable, good reference, at Liberty Sept. 24. MOHR, Bandmaster, Llandudno.

WANTED, by good French Hornist, Engagement, highly recommended, late Amsterdam Opera, play at sight, any class of music. Terms, A. BOTTGER, South Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, Disengaged Sept. 30; good refs.
Address,
WATERMAN,
20, Warwick-rd. N., Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist, Engagement, hotel or café preferred, young, soloist. Box 3,707, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, First-Class, at Lib., experienced and reliable; highest credentials. Address, GEO. G. BAKER, JUN., 7, Bolton-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, experienced 'Cellist, just Disengaged; well up in all Business. Write, 47, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Cellist, Disengaged Sept. 24, Hilda Turpin, Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. Perm., Rookwood, Fawnbrake-avenue, Herne Hill.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Viola; play Violin by request; any Business; good refs. ALFRED W. MONTAGUE, 65, Goldsmith's row, Hackney.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboist, at once, any business, good references; or Deputising. Mr. OBOE, 6, Camden-street, Islington Green, N.

WANTED, by experienced Oboe, Engagement; sober, reliable, late R.A. Band, Woolwich. FRANK FIELD, 2, Lambert-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Harpist and Violinist, Hotel or Café; good répertoire of Music. At Liberty Oct. 1. Address, STEWART, Harpist, Roche's Royal Hotel, Glengariff, Co. Cork, Ireland.

WANTED, by First-Class Pianist, 27, Engagement, experienced in any style of business. Write, B. L., 7, Trevanion-street, Dover.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist and Violinist, used to variety business, &c. Refs. if required. S. G., 67, Ball's Pond-road, N.

WANTED, at once, Engagement by First-Class Pianist, combine Clarionet or Violin; experienced all Lines. 45, Ken-rd., Clevedon, Somerset.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, either weekly or Special evenings, in or near London. Address, Box 3,730, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Side and Double Drummer (late Army Bandsman), would join good Band, any line, in return for good situation; no instruments; excellent references. J. LONG, 5, Kitchen-street, Chester.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, own Tympani and Effects. DRUMS, 27, Fixby-av., Pye Nest, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, experienced Drummer seeks Re-engagement; sober, reliable; excellent references; sight reader. Apply, B. HORNIST, South Pier, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced Variety preferred; excellent references. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, sober and reliable; last engagement four years R. C. T., Liverpool. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced; references if required; Disengaged Sept. 24. R. S. GRISS, 5, Bradstone-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Re-engagement, any business, experienced and reliable. DRUMS, 10, Cadogan-st., Sloane-sq., S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class Orchestral Trio (all Soloists), Re-engagement, hotel or café; large rép. STEWART PHIPPS, Violinist, Pavilion, Port-Soderick, I.O.M.

WANTED, Engagement in Hotel or Restaurant, Ladies' Instrumental Trio or Quartette; references; engaged till Sept. 30 at Grand Hotel, Broadstairs. CONDUCTRESS.

WANTED, Known, Madam Smith's Old English Quartette of Ladies, Piano, Violin, Bass, and Cornet, also Vocalists, Disengaged shortly; pretty costumes. Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Mandolinist and Pianist, orchestral, or would join musical act or partner. Box 3,706, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Madame Angless's Ladies' Orchestra, vacant October, onwards. Address, 78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS
AND HOME OF EQUESTRIANISM,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, the Best of Everything that can be done in a Circus Ring, Boarded Floor, with Ring Mat. Address as above. The opening is fixed for Oct. 15. Wanted, Novelties, Weekly. All Artists to Date their letters, and to give permanent address if possible, as it is not convenient at all times to answer letters per return. All Male Artists engaged to me for over one week must please dress my ring doors when not in the ring with their own act. I find evening dress uniform.
JOHN HENRY COOKE.

WANTED, Trapezes, Flying Rings, Jugglers, Benders, Posturers that Clown, useful ground acts; also Cornet Player. DENNIS, Circus, Trafford-road, Salford.

WANTED, Good Acrobat (Top Mounter), to play Comedy Part.
Box 3,711, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Lad for a First-Class Acrobatic Act, sixteen years old, one with a slight knowledge of dancing and music preferred (British). Apply, ALFRED CLARK, 49, Agincourt-rd., Hampstead Heath, London, N.W.

To Elephant Trainers.
To Elephant Trainers.
To Elephant Trainers.
To Elephant Trainers.
To Elephant Trainers.
To Elephant Trainers.
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To Elephant Trainers.
WANTED, Good Elephant Trainer.
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Wanted, Good Elephant Trainer.

Send copy References.
Send copy References.

Box 3,702,
"The Era" Office.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Agents, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 19, on, with exceptions.
Address till Oct. 15,
Miss Ella's Lions,
Circo Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

WANTED, Known, Tudor Four Champion Trick Ponies, Five Acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare, Sept 24, on, second season here. Address, Hippo., Douglas.

WANTED, Known, Harry Stephenson, Bareback Equestrian, will be at Liberty for the Winter Season; superb appearance; also young, clever, and refined. My acts are performed with ease, grace, and agility. No lubricating oils needed to relax the stiffness of aged joints, &c. For terms, address, HENRY STEPHENSON, 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Knockabout Clown, with good comic entrées, and musical act, at Liberty Sept. 24. Address, Hippodrome, Douglas.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Novelty Number.
Lord John Sanger's Hippodrome, on Tour.

WANTED, Known, the Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey. This week, Galas, Cirencester and Corsham. Vac. 17th, 24th. Com., P.O., Corsham, Wilts.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, Refined Gymnastic Speciality, vacant Dec. 24, onwards. Com., STEBBINGS, Manchester. Permanent, 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bar Experts. Wire for Monday; also Oct. 1, 15, 29.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8, the Maros, Quaintest Three Bar Act.
This, Palace, Cork; next, Hippo., Stalybridge.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday, Sept. 24, Queenie Lo Lo, lady gymnast and teeth expert; Little Ena, contortionist and dancer; now concluding a comfortable season at Circus, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, by Onzelo and Onro, Comedy Jugglers, Equilibrists, and Funny Trapeze Experts, Oct. 22, Halls or Pantos. Coms., 76, Cobourg-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats and Equilibrists, on Tour, Duffy's Circus, Ireland. Liberty Nov. Coms., 130, Magdalen-rd., Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Joe Hastings, Jumper, Lecturer, &c., at present engaged by the Corporation of Beaumaris and Menai Bridge Piers, would like to put the back end in Tenting. Wire, Pier, Beaumaris.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (improver), wishes engagement with acrobats, as bearer, or with barrel jumpers. Box 3,720, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. RIGGAN, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Sept. 24, and onwards.
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, doubles doing singles; also Operator, with own machine, for Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, S. Wales. Terms, &c., ERNEST, Star Hotel, Merthyr.

HIPPODROME, BLYTH.
WANTED, Variety Artists, not Aerial, must be good, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
J. FRASER, Blyth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Sept. 17, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Sept. 24, on, also good Bioscope, Dec. 3 and 10. Absolute lowest. DALE, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, must be refined, to open Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, near London. Terms must be reasonable. Several weeks to follow; fares paid. ELLIS, The Welcome, Harlow, Essex.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

Palace, Lancaster.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines,
JOHN FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Olympia, opening day Oct. 1. Apply,
RICHARDSON, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Aerial excepted, for Oct. 22, onwards. Lowest terms (Hall and town very small), strict confidence regarding salary. LOMAS, Empire, Shildon.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Wakefield and Hull, Oct. 1 and on. Lowest terms to ALFRED SELWYN, Empire Theatre, Hull.

PALACE, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Geo. Saphrini.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, good Star Turns, nothing too big, Oct. 1, 15, on. Artists doubtful of their salaries save stamps, as legal proceedings will be taken against disappointers.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool. Contract waiting for the Hugo Troupe. Kindly wire address.

WANTED, Artists coming North to send vacant dates and terms to JAS. ANDERSON and SON, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, all Artists to Notice, the above Hippo. is now closed, and will not be opened again, but will be dismantled in due course. Therefore all Contracts for Coming Seasons are Cancelled. This is the fourth week this notice has appeared.
Signed,
Mrs. E. P. E. VEITCH, Proprietress.
C. ALGIE, General-Manager.
Sept. 15, 1906.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to do Trial Show, with a view to immediate booking on large Circuit. Amateurs who wish to take up the Variety Profession will receive every consideration. No fees will be charged.
Write, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to the MANAGER, Sadler's Well's Theatre, E.C.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Stars, Novelties, Big Features, immediate and future dates, for leading London and provincial establishments. Nothing but the best. Nothing too big. Visiting this week with the book Glasgow, and all East Coast Towns; next, Blackpool, Morecambe, and all West Coast Towns. Full list bookings, &c., H. CAZMAN, 30, Whitby-street, W. Hartlepool.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once.
Silence a polite negative.
Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Variety Talent, share or salary, Circus and Hippodrome, Rochdale.
Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock for Texas Hattie, Oakdene, Syd Bayley, Edith St. Clare, Bros. Laveile, Tiger Lily, Vernon Bioscope, Harry Butt, Conan and Doyle.
Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, the best of Talent in all Lines, for principal Halls in the North, Sept. 24, on. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines.
MARTINO'S AGENCY, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby. Mlle. Ada Gatley send address.

WANTED, Specialities, Serios, Sisters, Irish Comedians, for Ireland, opening Oct. 1. Five Rhynes or Leopolds. MAHATMAS, 31, Newry-street, Warrenpoint, Ireland.

WANTED, Nov. 12, onwards, Star Speciality for South Wales, Midlands; other acts same dates write. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, near London, Refined Specialities, Novelties, &c.; good Vocalist, illustrated songs. Letters only. "PICTURES," 142, Long-acre, W.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Saturday and Sunday, address, G. P. O., Carlisle.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Top-liner, for 24th. Wire quick.
Also Novelties and Specialities, all Lines, for North and Ireland.
CAVILL and Co., 127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."

WANTED, Top Liners, Top Liners, Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c., Sept. 24, and on. LEO FRITZ'S Agency, 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Anything and Everything that's good. Send lowest terms, vacant dates, and bookings, and lithos. (if any), to BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

Notice change of address.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, or any First-class Attractions, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, also Good Pantomime, Dec. 24. Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE, SANDGATE, KENT.
Lessee, Mr. HARRY BENET.
WANTED, a First-class Combination, for Dec. 24; must have star top and bottom. Only the best need apply.

WANTED, First-Class Combinations, with big Headlines. Full particulars to ALFRED SELWYN, Empire Theatre, Hull.

RHYL (Seaside Resort), N. WALES.
WANTED, Known, Tenders are hereby invited for supplying a Troupe of Minstrels for the Sands and Streets at Rhyl, during the season of 1907, from Whitsuntide to Sept. 30. Apply, giving full particulars and stating rent offered not later than Oct. 31, 1906, to
A. ROWLANDS, Town Clerk, Rhyl.

WANTED, good Boy Singer, over 14, must have good voice.
Address, Box 3,715, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
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41, Oxford-street,
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Manchester.
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Manchester.
Manchester.

Telephone 09144.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Star Turn, with own combination, one week commencing Nov. 12. Address, HARRY YORKE.
N.B.—A Unique Opportunity for Star Turn. Tremendous business certain, as the Palace Music Hall are running Opera this week.

WANTED, Star Turns, Sept. 24, onwards.
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telephone 09261. Telegrams, "Stebbing."

WANTED, Variety Turns, Stars, all Lines. Lowest terms and particulars to PEET and COHEN'S Agency, 26, Cardigan-st., Birkenhead.

WANTED, Star Turns, Sept. 17, onwards. Full up for small numbers. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you.
JESS VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Smart Girls, Good Singers and Dancers essential (16 to 20). Apply, DIXIE GIRLS, 40, Fitzwilliam-road, Old Town, Clapham.

WANTED, Lady, to Sing, Dance (if possible), and take Part, Sketch, under 5ft. 6in. Third share. NAP, 443, Caldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Young Girl, good appearance, to join Dancing Troupe at Once. Send photo., with full particulars, salary expected, and reference, Box 3,733, "The Era."

WANTED, Attractive Young Lady, for Illusions, &c., in first-class waxworks exhibition. Enclose photo. (returned). MILTON, Waxworks, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Young Comedian and Eccentric Dancer, with good voice, for Variety Theatre Combination. State salary, &c., Box 3,724, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Two Small Boys or Girls, age 14; must have splendid voices. Address, with photos., STANLEY'S URCHINS, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

WANTED, two Young Gentlemen, good Banjoists, to work with Young Ladies.
All letters, Box 3,712, "The Era."

WANTED, Small Boy, Coloured preferred, good home, 3 years' contract. Address, MAGICIAN, Aquarium, Scarborough. One with knowledge of Comedy.

WANTED, Mesmeric subjects to apply (letter in first instance) to
ELSON, 68, Macfarlane-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, for Combination, a Good First-class Cinematograph Show, Tour Best Theatres, commence October, show to last 30 minutes at least; also Musical Turn, Several Instruments. Apply, stating full particulars, lowest terms, &c., G. TATE and Co., 150, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for First-Class Concert Company, established eight years, good Cinématograph, one hour's show, latest Pictures, open Monday, Worcestershire, long tour. Wire MANAGER, Buxton House, Matlock Bridge.

WANTED, an Operator, for Cinématograph, one used to Electricity; also one to take Pictures and Develop preferred. Apply, RICHARDSON, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Efficient Bioscope Operators. Write, stating experience, and enclose copy of testimonials, to A. TETLOW, Philharmonic H., Cardiff.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator; must have good references. BROOK and Co., Cinématographers, 28, Change-alley, Sheffield.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Mlle. Lucretia, the Charming Burlesque Artist and Marvellous Speciality Dancer. Monday next, also Sept. 24, through closing. Wire, Hippo., Coventry, third return.

WANTED, Known, Fannie Humber, Liberty Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8. 85, De Laune-street, Kennington Park, London.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Cardonnie, still making tremendous success in America, visiting England soon. All coms., 13, Canterbury-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Beatrice Sisters, Duettists and Dancers. This, Hippo., Cambridge. Enormous success. Vacant Monday. Wire, after Sat., 35, Florence-street, Islington.

WANTED, Monday next, and Following Dates, by Tom Baxendale, the Comedian; just finished third at Walton-on-the-Naze. Wire or write, 172, Glenarm-road, Clapton, London.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Sept. 24, the Great American Eccentric Golf Ball Manipulator, North only. Next, Emp., Greenock.

WANTED, Sept. 17 and 24, by Alfred Thomas, Comedian, with Original Songs, Sketches, and Stories. Wire, Pavilion, Barmouth. See Card.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical and Acrobatic Eccentric, now appearing with Great Success at the Hippodrome, Douglas. Will be at Liberty Sept. 24. All correspondence to 17, Church-street, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Known, Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, in his speciality, the Cycling Monkey, Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8. 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Carl St. Clare, Phenomenal Male Soprano and Mimic, Liberty Sept.; would join Comedy Quartette. Coms., 19, Herschell-street, Redcar, Yorks.

WANTED, Sept. 17, and on, by Bernard Bransby, Refined Vocal Comedian. This, Royal, Windsor; after Saturday, 44, Walcot-square, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Will Gay, Comedian and Speciality Dancer, Lib. Mon., on. Just concluded twelve weeks' Smart Set, Weston. 88, North-road, Porth.

WANTED, Known, Stephen Blythe (Actor-Vocalist) and Olga Fane (Contralto), usual success Salford Hippodrome, want Monday. Wire, 14, Eller-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Walter Howard, Refined Comedian and Instrumentalist, Sept. 24, or Tour. Good Show. 18, Boyson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy Shields, Comedian. Wire, Public Hall, Barnsley; after Sat., 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Oct. 1, onwards, by Lazern, the Mystic, New Zealand's Premier Deceptionist. 96, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Gabrielle Hope, Trick Pianist, Brilliant Soloist, Humorous Songs at Piano. Encored nightly I. W., Walton Piers, 25, High-road, Streatham.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Magician and Bioscope Operator, Nov., onwards. All coms. to perm., 27, Minto-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, Kingsley, Lecturer, Stage Manager, Musical Speciality, late of Bannister Howard, Milton Bode Companies. 73, Saltoun-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Tumbler, Dancer, and Bâton Spinner wishes Engagement with Comedy Act or otherwise. W. A. DUNN, 206, Abercrombie-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to Note.
Being so many Elliotts in the Profession, I, Silly Billy Elliott (my own name), shall be known from Sept. 22, 1906, as
Even Number.

WANTED, by Good All-round Comedian, to join Pierrots, Concert Party, or Minstrels. DICK LARNER, 63, Campden-street, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Oct. 1 and 15, by the Great and Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Wonderful Contortionist, Juggler, Conjurer, the Mysterious Japanese Box, every box a scream and applause. Keighley News, Sept. 8: Foremost place being taken by Kyoto, a Japanese contortionist of exceptional ability. His mysterious box is something new, and his mock conjuring performance is decidedly funny. Also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne. Delighted the house with her singing and dancing. Two distinct acts and two certain successful acts. An enormous success this week, Public Hall, Barnsley.
Monday, Sept. 17,
New Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.
Sept. 24, Theatre Royal, York.
Specially engaged by the famous Kellinos.

Also vacant, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. Wire or write.

WANTED, Monday next, also Panto., by the Brothers Ogden, Comedians and Patterers; also Amy Bathurst, Serio and Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 15, 29, on, Trick and Trixie, Musical and Comedy Artists. Terrific success Central Palace, N. Shields. 17th, Hippo., Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement by Alf Bert and Marie Curtis, Comedian and Contralto, Double and Single Turns, at Liberty Sept. 24. Pier Pavilion, Bognor.

WANTED, Monday next, Arthur Richards, comedian; Reenee Walon, comedienne, dancer. Public Hall, Barnsley; after Saturday, 5, Wharncliffe-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, Monday next, the Percys (Harry, Lillie), duettists, dancers, speciality performers. Wire, Corn Hall, Cirencester.

WANTED, 17th and 24th, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, and Nellie Van, Comedy Artist. Wire, B 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, Wonderful Juggling with Hoops; Beatrice Bonnie, Artistic Comedienne; Vacant next week unexpectedly. Wire, Palace, Bath.

WANTED, Monday, to precede Camberwell Palace, London, The Moncktons, uproariously funny musical comedy duologues, enormous success, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, by The Allens, Refined Musical Speciality, Monday next, Sept. 17 and 24. Wire, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success through Hungary.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Speciality Globe Performers; also Comical Beano with Mechanical Donkey; roars of laughter. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents to Note that after Sept. 24 we, Maxford and O'Neill, will be known as Smith and Mews.

WANTED, by Lambert and Glover, for their Screamingly Funny High-Class Duologues, Sept. 17, 24. Wire, Palace Theatre, Porth.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, Sept. 17, 24.
Wire, King-street, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday next, also Sept. 24, by Lee and Arden, Comedy Couple, Double and Single Turns. Wire, c/o Leitch, 6, Millar-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Astley Bros., Comedians and Patterers, at Liberty Monday next, also 24th. Wire, 50, Sagar-terrace, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, the Three Cheers, Vacant Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, with own special scenery and chimes, in original speciality, introducing wonderful trained cats. Wire for Monday, or write, 86, High-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Dec. 24, Jan. 21, by Los Granadas, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Attillas, the Grecian Gladiators, Sept. 17 and on. Huge success Hippodrome, Stockton. Wire Monday. 195, Boaler-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 1, on, by Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist. Thanks Messrs. T. R. Gannon, H. Percival Young, and Grapho and Jackson for Contracts, and Jasper Redfern for offer. This week, terrific hit, Palace, Cork; Monday return Northampton Pierrots. Address, 46, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Kriss, Ventriloquial Scotsman, vacant dates Sept. 24, Oct. 1. Wire, Gaiety, Dundee, this week; after, P.O., Leven, N.B.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, Sept. 17 and 24, Al Fresco or otherwise. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Tom Garland, Vent. and Conj., Sept. 17, Oct. 1. Big success, P. Palace. This week, Portsmouth. Wire, wire.

WANTED, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, for Matt Wilkinson's Comedy Success, "The Registry Office," and Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. P., Gloucester.

WANTED, Sept. 24 (between Rhyl and Dudley), for my successful sketch, "A Gipsy's Revenge." Four Artists; special set carried. JESSIE ELVIN, to-day, Foresters'; Monday, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Rosini's Miniature Menagerie, represented by highly trained Dogs. Pringle's Picture Show, Guildhall, Plymouth. Vac. Sept. 24, Oct. 1.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dates, the smartest Animal Act ever seen. CHARD'S Dog Circus (a sure draw), 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Dates, Two or Three Weeks, for the Greatest Combination on the Road, Sacco, the Fasting Man, and the New Pictures Co. Shares or rental. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, for Shaw's Bioscopes, good Engagements (commencing Oct.),
First-Class Shows.
Rock Bottom Prices.
All coms., SHAW'S CINEMATOGRAPH DEPOT, 154, Borough-road, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope; Change of Films Weekly. Lime or electric. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, South Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, Competent Bioscope Operator and Electrician (Lime, Electric); good references; at Liberty Sept. 17, onwards. Wire, SOMERS, Theatre, West Bromwich.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 6s. a gross, weighing 2¾oz.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

Butter Scotch. Butter Scotch.
WANTED, Known, that W. Rowley, 151A, Granville-street, Birmingham, is still making Giant Packets from 6s. 6d. gross, wrapped in silver paper, marked 3d. Late of Gt. Hampton-row.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Stacey and Co., Settle-st., London, E., Showman and Traveller's Store, still supply all Fair Goods, Rifle Range Requirements, Ammunition, &c.

ARCADIA, DRILL HALL, PORTSMOUTH.
WANTED, First-Class Side Shows, Novelties, Shares or Rent, Spaces to Let, opening Dec. 1, six weeks, fifth year. 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, a good Side Show Wanted, on Sharing Terms, in the Original Scenic Touring Exhibition (third year of unbroken tour), Drill Hall, Kendal, Sept. 26 to Oct. 6, with prospect of permanency. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Drill Hall, Kendal.

Side Shows.
WANTED, for Bazaar in County Town, beginning next month. Box 3,729, "The Era."

WANTED, Living Novelties of every Description, also Cinematograph, Marionettes, and Lady Palmist, for Large Shop. Best position in town; gas and electric light. FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply,
OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Novelties, with Flash, also Tattooer, share or salary; also several Stall Spaces to Let; Ipswich to follow, Dec. 17 to 30. Apply MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Refined Novelties, for Present and Future Dates. Good doorman write in. NORAH MACARTHY, Irish Giantess, George-st., Grays, Essex.

WANTED, Good Freaks, Living Novelties, open at once. Sale of books, also post-cards, allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Living Freaks, Living Novelties, for Side Shows at Balloon Ascent and Parachute Descent, Sept. 22; great attraction. PARKINSON, Red Lion, Coleshill, Bucks.

WANTED, Known, Great Success of Princess Gooma and her Bodyguard of Warriors, at Coatbridge, Liberty Sept. 24. Letters, Post Office.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Pictures and Variety Show, two Lady Paraders, can join at once, long engagement to suitable young ladies, can board in or out; also a good Lady Juggler. Apply, wire, HANCOCK'S Show, Teignmouth, Saturday; Barnstaple, Monday.

WANTED, Two Lady Wrestlers, for a Booth, shares or salary; or a good Performing Novelty; must have paintings or posters; an organ to the show if required. G. BAKER, Post Office, Folkestone, Kent.

WANTED, Several Smart Doormen, to wear uniform; good appearance and delivery. Letters only. C. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, Young Man, Marionette Figure Worker, experienced, to make himself useful. Height, age, to A. MILTON, 37, Hyde Abbey-rd., Winchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Agent or Manager, with firm of Roundabout or Show Proprietors, at home or abroad; just finished fifteen years' engagement with P. Collins, Esq., Walsall. F. T. SALVA, 1, Buckingham-road, Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Sisters Anderson, expert vocalists and dancers, capable of doing turns inside; also excellent Paraders; new Dances. Address, 27, Willow-street, Plymouth.

The Talk of Earl's Court Exhibition.
WANTED, Known, the Royal Merry Mannikins, Liberty Oct. 13, on. First-class concerns please note. Address, PRATER, Earl's Court Exhibition, London, S.W.

WANTED, Shops or Small Halls, for well-known Picture. Send dimensions, height, width, and length. G. POOLE, Abbey-row, Malmesbury.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.
WANTED, to Let, a few more Spaces for Fancy Stalls and Working Exhibits, also Side-shows, Distorting Mirrors; would share, or buy reasonably. Send for particulars, SEEBOLD, Worthing.

CARNIVAL AND EXHIBITION,
PUBLIC HALL, IPSWICH.
Dec. 17 to 30, 1906 (the best two weeks in year).
WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let, Helter Skelter or Slip required, on Shares or Rental. Particulars, MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 25, at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily anticipated.

WANTED, Known, a few Spaces to Let in the Original Scenic Touring Exhibition, Drill Hall, Kendal, Sept. 26 to Oct. 6; Lancaster and Barrow to follow (ten days each). Special advantages to good working Exhibits and Midget Photographer. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Drill Hall, Kendal.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, To Showmen, Stallholders, Travellers, &c.
P. COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall,
has positions to Let
on his well-known Fair Grounds.
Continuous run all through season.
Brierley Hill and Atherstone, Sept. 21, to follow Birmingham Great Onion Fair, Sept. 27.; Leicester, Oct. 10; Smethwick, Ripley, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Dudley, Netherton, Lye, Stourbridge, direct run up to Christmas and New Year, when we have our well-known sheltered grounds to offer, London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Birkenhead. I have secured two large covered buildings for winter season. I intend running a grand World's Fair.
Good, clean, industrious tenants well treated.
Applications, giving full particulars of requirements, address as above.
Telephone 80. Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, Known. The World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London. Sole Lessee and Manager, T. E. Read (son of the late Theophilus Read), will open this Stupendous Home of Amusements on Dec. 22, 1906, for the 28th consecutive year, with a Colossal Programme of Attractions, on a Varied and Extensive Up-to-date Scale, embracing Grand Free Continental Circus, First-class Company of Star Artists, Entire Change of Programme Weekly, Bostock and Wombwell's Indoor Zoo, Thrilling Aerial Artists, and other Specialities, Side Shows of every Description, and a Great Variety of other Amusements, forming the Most Popular and Cheapest Entertainment in London, which has no equal in the World of Amusement for Sixpence Admission. The Lessee is now prepared to Let Space for any new First-class Shows, Cinematograph, Waxworks, Second Sight, Marionettes, Swimming, Performing Birds, Boxing, Illusions, and other First-class Shows. Also Space for Fancy Stalls, &c. Apply as above.

WANTED, to Let, Space for Sweets in Touring Trades Exhibition. Write, MANAGER, Trades Exhibition, Corn Exchange, Dorchester.

WANTED, to Let, Shooting Range, completely fitted, Automatic Machines, &c, now open. Rent (inclusive), 30s.
Deposit (returnable), £3.
WYNN, 12, Merton-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suit Medical Electrician or Beauty Specialist. Terms, CHARLES A. JAMES, visited by the Elite, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Freaks write in.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, good Road Waggon, suitable for Small Showman for living or baggage, in good order. Photo on application. Apply, Box 3,701, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Good Pulman Living Car, road or rail, fitted up well inside. Apply, TANN'S Pulman Living Carriages, High Mill-road, Southtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Saloon Pullman Living Car, made up-to-date, rounded corners, 21ft. long, beautifully fitted, every convenience, perfect condition, only wants seeing. Bargain, £160. 106, Northgates-st, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description; best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines, splendid end of season bargains, all kinds, genuine line, Cigarette, Postcard, Sweetmeat, &c. MASON, Settle-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44. What offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, an entirely New Kind of Roundabout, Big Money-taker. Write, DEVEREUX, Poste Restante, Charing Cross, London.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Proscenium, Carved, also other Show Carving, for in or outdoors. CARVER, 67, Bonsall-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Purchase, at once, for cash, Fish Pond, Jockey Scales, Flea Models, Illusions, quantity of Black Velveteen, must be good and cheap. Box 3,704, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Switchback Centre Engine, with truck and cheese wheel, complete. Lowest cash price and particulars. CODONA, Roundabouts, Moffat, N.B.

WANTED, to Buy, Shuttered Booth, about 50ft. by 30ft., also Fit-up or Scenery, suitable for Portable Theatre. WILL LLOYD, Empire, Epsom.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

WANTED TO SELL.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to be Sold, Privately or by Auction, in London, in September, Lease (over ten years unexpired) of important and successful Midland Theatre, absurdly small rental, half cleared by shops and advertisements; the only Dramatic House in the Town, with population 70,000, and districts another 80,000; holds 2,200; in money over £85 (proved); trade good receipts regularly approaching £6,000 yearly. A splendid opportunity for energetic person who desires to secure an income of £750 to £1,000 yearly. Auditorium splendidly fitted; just renovated for season; business now in full swing; bookings exceptional. Perfect installations of gas and electricity; well equipped with necessary scenery and effects.
No offers below £1,000 will be entertained.
Principals only need communicate with
THEATRE,
c/o H. Tahourdin and Co., Insurance Brokers,
31 and 32, King William-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Small Freehold Theatre, in Seaside Town, 7,000 inhabitants. Seats for 450 people. Stage 30ft. wide, 17ft. deep; body of hall 38ft. 6in. by 30ft.; large gallery. Also small hall, rooms, and offices, on ground floor. Price £1,000. Particulars,
Box 3,727,
C/o THE PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings,
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS.

WANTED, to Sell, a large Marquee, suitable for Circus Tent or other entertainments, 90ft. in diameter, with white wallings, king poles, queen poles ropes, stakes, &c., complete, only been in use two seasons. Any further information may be obtained from Mr. S. E. Burgess, M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Chapter Row. Offers to be forwarded to me not later than 12 noon on Saturday, Sept. 29, 1906, endorsed "Offer for Tent." J. MOORE HAYTON, Town Clerk, Courtbuildings, South Shields, Sept. 10, 1906.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED TO SELL.

To Outdoor Amusement Caterers.
WANTED, to Sell, in quantities to suit Purchaser, the whole of the magnificent outdoor scenery at Earl's Court Exhibition, for delivery at the close of the Exhibition. Can be seen by appointment. Address communications to H. HART, London Exhibitions, Ltd., Earl's Court, S.W.

Panto. Producers.
WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Panto. Dresses, several sets, and all in excellent condition. Can be seen Theatre Royal, Grantham. EDWARD MARRIS, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Woven Animal Dresses, Paddings, Tights, Opera Hose, in all Materials. Lowest prices. H. J. BOXALL, 156, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Blondin Donkeys, Elephants, Bulls, &c. MAYERS, 22, Shepperton-rd., Islington, London, N.

WANTED, to Sell, one Lemur, one Coatimundi, one Seal, two Monkeys, all healthy.
Reason for selling end of season.
J. WINGATE, Whale Museum, Skegness; or Newton Park, Ayr.

WANTED, Known, to Circus Proprietors and Others. To be Sold, cheap, Manège Horse, and two Joey Ponies, well up in the business. Owner has no further use for same. Apply in first instance, A. BROWN, 351, York-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, one of the best Ring Horses in this profession, goes for any Act; suit any person, back like table, height 14 hands 3in., age 5 years. Box 3,721, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Pony (fast), Governess Car, Harness, and everything complete. Can be seen any time. Price 30 guineas. To let. Apply, WILLIE BENN,
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WANTED, to Sell, Ten Midget Performing Ponies and Two Donkeys, including Properties and everything for same. C. CABAN, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

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WANTED, to Sell, a Great Attraction, Looping the Loop, with Dogs, splendidly made loop. HORACE, Fairview Farm, Barkingside, Ilford.

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WANTED, to Sell, the Secret and Plan of the Great Mystery, "Joe in the Bottle," that has baffled some of the greatest Illusionists of the day; Secret and Plan £1 1s.; or will make right out for £20 complete. Apply, H. A., 123, Aldernéy-street, Pimlico, S.W. Note.—I have worked the above at the Royal Aquarium, so you can make no mistake.

WANTED, Purchaser for several splendid Illusions and Superior Conjuring Apparatus; perfect Acts. Bargains. PROFFER, 125, Tufnell Park-road, London.

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WANTED, to Sell, Travelling Hamper, very large, as new, great bargain; also Large Oil Painting, Amy Sedgwick as Peg Woffington, painted by herself. CHAPMAN, Business Agent and Valuer, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

WANTED, to Sell, to Cyclists, Unicycle, Staircase and Jumping Bed, cheap; also new Basket, to carry two machines. Box 3,700, "The Era."

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WANTED, to Sell, or Let on Hire, "Whittington" Production, as produced at T. R., York, Xmas, 1905. Full particulars, apply, MADDOX, Marine Pagoda, West Kirby.

WANTED, to Sell, Court Armour, Silver Sequin and Pearl Gown, Tangerine Chiffon Flounce and Sleeves, very handsome, only worn six times. Cost £15; sell at sacrifice. Mrs. SAM LIVESEY, Alex., Sheffield.

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WANTED, Films for Hire, Films for Sale, Complete Change Weekly.
Also a Large Stock for Sale, in first-class condition, cheap. For terms, WALTER PAYNE,
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Telegrams, "Biophoscon, London."

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WANTED, to Sell, Three Horizontal Bars, 1in. steel core, 6ft. long, gunmetal ends, the lot, cheap. WILSON, 103, Eswyn-road, Tooting.

WANTED, to Sell, "A Voice from the Grave," entire production, all special scenery, effects, props. Good plant printing, and no liability for same. To immediate cash purchaser good terms. Star lady's part, Flo Fearnley. Toured successfully for two years. Has taken over £400 in week.
Also to Sell, "For a Child's Sake."
To bona-fide Manager could lease one or both.
Apply,
DENMAN WOOD,
New Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, to Sell, or Lease at Xmas, a successful money-making Drama, with juvenile Star Lady part; play may be seen in town or on tour. Coms., Box 3,726, "The Era."

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Established Theatre or Music Hall, Long Lease or buy outright.
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WANTED, at Once, for Fit-up, Oak or Panelled Chamber Set, with 3 doors and centre opening, 12ft. or 13ft., and borders; also Landscape Cloth and Wood Borders; also Proscenium Wings; all must be cheap,
and in good condition.
EDWIN WALTON,
Prince's T., Llandudno, Sept. 17;
P. H., Colwyn Bay, Sept. 20.

WANTED, to Buy, Good Front Leg Dog; must be very small.
Box 3,695, "The Era."

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Variety Business, Scotland preferred.
A. E. PICKARD, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Up-to-date Professional Bioscope, complete, electric fittings, &c.; must be good, chromo preferred. Deposit; approval. Price and particulars, BLACK, 10, North Bridge-st., Sunderland.

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WANTED, to Buy, a good Bioscope, complete, for Lime and Electric; sheet films, &c.
FILMS, Voryd Hotel, Rhyl.

WANTED, to Buy,
Circus Ring Mat.
GOLLAN, High Riggs, Edinboro'.

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WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to Let,
SYNOD HALL,
EDINBURGH.
The Synod Hall
is available for occupation
for Concerts
or other Entertainments
during the next
Christmas Week
and New Year's Week.
The Hall accommodates about two thousand persons, and can be seen on application being made here. Offers for the occupation of the Hall for either of the weeks mentioned or for any longer period should be sent to me.
ROBERT PATON,
City Chamberlain.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000. Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 5, 12, 19, onwards. Minstrel Troupe do well. Silence polite negative. Dramatic licence.

WANTED to Let (Rental), Byculiah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, to Let, Clapham, Rehearsal Theatre, 1s. hourly, or season. Assembly Rooms, Gauden-rd. (facing Clapham-rd. Station); trams pass.

WANTED, to Let, Large Light Workshops, or suitable for Storage. Rent low. Apply, 20, Murphy-street, Oakley-street, Lambeth.

Counterweighted Paint Frame.
WANTED, to Let, for any period, perfect light, rent £2 per week. MOODY-MANNERS STORES, The Hyde, Hendon, Middlesex.

Scenery.
WANTED, to Hire, the following Scenery for Short Summer Season at West-End Theatre, Interior, Large Hall in Stone Palace, Exterior, Courtyard of Mediæval Castle, with Balcony R. Must be in good condition, and suitable for large stage. Terms and full particulars to Box 3,379, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, at Xmas next, Dresses, suitable for the following Pantomimes: "Jack and Beanstalk," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Robinson Crusoe."
SAMUEL JAMES, Grand Theatre, Islington.

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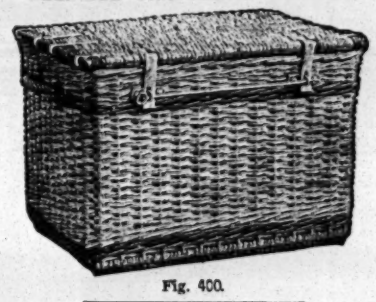

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Rehearsal at 12 for :—
"The Chauffeur," Hans and Lux, Flo D'Orville, Mezzeti and Mora, Ted and May Hopkins, Menotti, Leonard Fletcher, Frank Hartley, Bioscope, Buddha's Blackboard.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Harry Marte, Kaufmann Girls, Madge Osmond, Frantz Family, James Stewart, Bernar's Fantoches, Smythson Company, J. C. Kurry, Bioscope, Eight Sunrays.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Morris Cronin and Co., Tom Parker, Francis Wylie, Jose Collins, Monte Myro Troupe, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, Naynon's Birds, Bioscope, Whimsical Walker and Co., in "Capt. Hamilton, V.C."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Boissetts, Florence Esdaile, Marba and Verity, Di Pace Brothers, Three Sisters Sprightly, Marion Scott, Brothers Redmond, Albert Le Fre, Sanford and Lyons, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
T. E. Dunville, Beatrice Wiley, The Haytors, Will and Alice Vokes, Ludwig Amann, Rita and Roma, Wedburns, Phillips and Terry, Beatrice Renee, Cruikshank.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
George Lashwood, Lilian Lowe, Leo Tell, Kate Traill, Albertus and Bartram, Lottie Govell, Hillman and Russell, Ella Retford, Bioscope, Poluski Brothers.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
G. H. Chirgwin, Edith Courtney, Vernando, Johnny Gilmore, Starr and Leslie, Two Tees, Vivian Vaudeville Co., Jean Seul, Montague Brothers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Hanid Alexander, Burley and Burley, Joly, Boswell's Circus, Frank Sylvo, C. H. Unthan, Alf Hurley, Ray Maskell, Alf Gibson.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Orpheus, Eight of Hearts, Norman Leonard Trio, O. K., Sato, Dot Hardy, Bioscope, Oswald Williams, John Le Hay and Co.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Marie Reeve, Bioscope, Harry Carsdale, Harrigan and Holt, Mlle. Eldee, Leonard Gournay, Zanettos, W. J. Churchill.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Harry Randall, Bioscope, Rachel Lowe, Goodfellow and Gregson, Aquamarinoffs, George Reeves, Rosie Bartlett, Grais' Baboons, Alexandre and Hughes, Ernest Ball.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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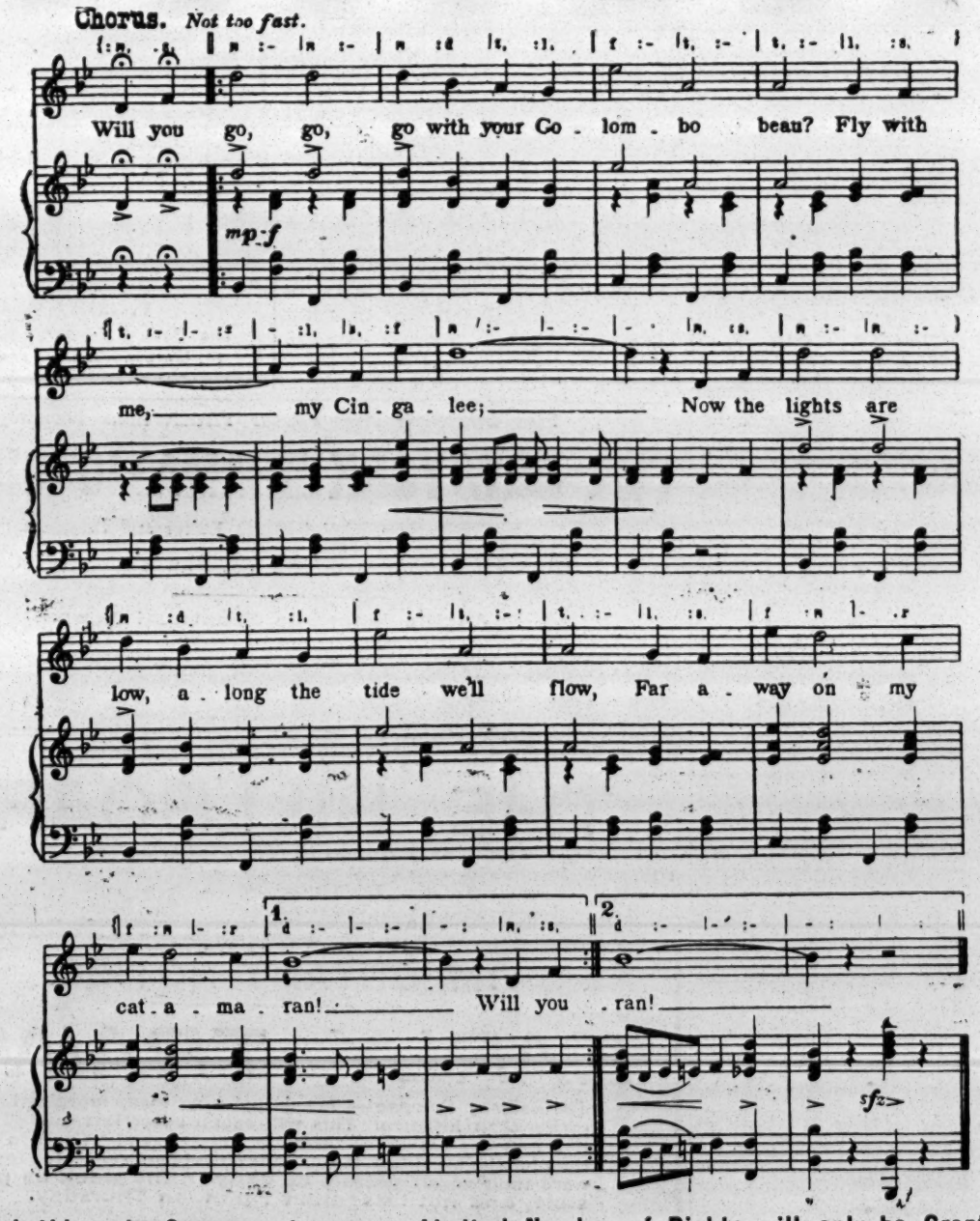

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Vesta Victoria, Frank Leslie, M. and S. Wood, Tom Moore, J. W. Hall, the Violas, the Avocas, Three Sisters Silcott, Tony Iveson, Shang Hai, Pictures, Arley's Combination.

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Tennyson and Wallis, Frances and Alfred, Franko Midgets, Les Rallis, Edie Gray and Coons, George Collins, Baker E. Belphor, Raymond's Pictures, &c.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
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Matinée Monday.
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Matinée every Monday.
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A young man, enjoying himself with two young ladies, is joined by a friendly policeman. The latter prevails upon the youth to join the force, and they proceed together to the police-station. After a short examination by the inspector he is sworn in, and leaves headquarters in his uniform. The girls meet him outside and shower their congratulations upon him; he explains to them the dignity of his position. Producing a timepiece, he shows them how he proposes to put in force the time limit for motors, etc. Off he dashes with eager desire for his "first case."

Our hero is seen crouched down in a hedge, where he can obtain a view of racing along the picturesque country lane. As a motor comes into sight he brings out his clock and makes his calculations. When the motor is almost passing he dashes out and waves his arms, signalling the driver to stop. The motor-man, however, being already safely past, makes no attempt to pull up, but keeps straight on. He rubs his hands in self-congratulation as a motor approaches, drawn by a horse. In vain the owner explains that the machinery has broken down and the horse is pulling him along. The policeman drags him from his seat and takes his name and address, which he puts down in his note-book, and marches off looking for further fields to conquer.

An energetic cinematographer is seen arranging to take a picture before a house where an actor is playing the part of a burglar, trying to break in at the front window. Just as the picture is being taken, along comes our policeman, and with eyes only for the housebreaker enters the garden and collars his man. The officer drags him off in spite of all explanations. Two very roguish-looking young girls, with many secret signs and much laughter, follow up this arrest, and are seen to be plotting some game or other to repay the zealous policeman. Running off to a shop they purchase a rabbit. Further down the street they make off with a pot of paint while the workman is watching the arrest. These plotters then dip the animal they have purchased in the red paint. One of them drags it along the ground down to the river from a spot the policeman is likely to pass when he returns from the station. The other girl adds colour to the trail by pouring out an additional supply from the paint pot. They take the rabbit out a yard or so in the water and drop it in. Sure enough, their man, coming along the road, soon sees the sign. With "Sherlock Holmes"-like precision, he gets down on his hands and knees, and carefully follows the scent. His tormentors, walking slowly behind him, enjoy the fun. They wait quietly concealed near the water's edge as the would-be detective rushes down to the river and plunges in. After splashing about a good deal he discovers the rabbit, just as his inspector comes on the scene. The inspector, hearing laughter, turns quickly and discovers the cause of all the mischief; he at once gives chase, the girls running away as fast as their legs will carry them. This is a really comical subject, and keeps everyone in roars of laughter.

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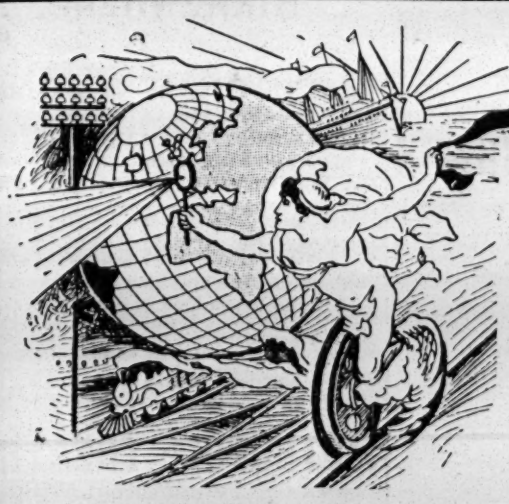

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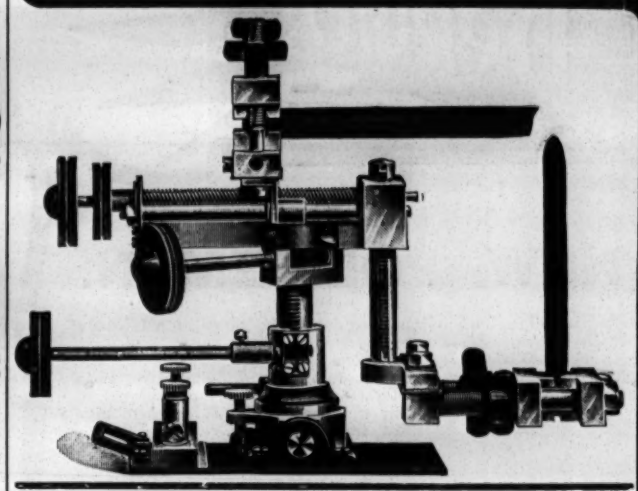

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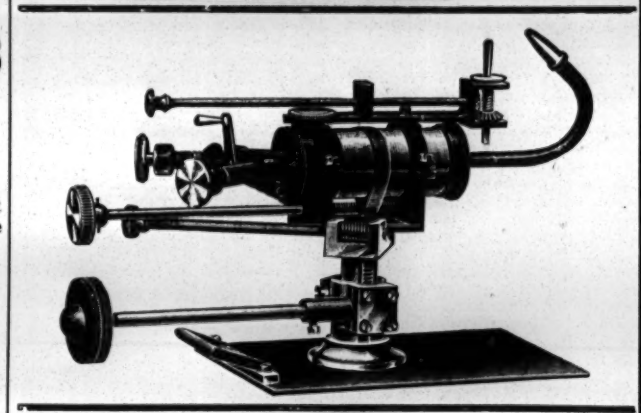

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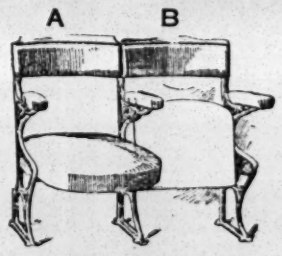

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AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Dorothy o' the Hall* made its appearance here on Monday. Miss Julia Neilson as the heroine reflects the infinite variety of the character with delightful expression; Mr. Fred Terry as Sir John Manners is a gallant and heroic lover; Mr. Horace Hodges as the dwarf-jester, Perkin, displays a whimsical humour; Mr. J. Carter-Edwards reveals the choleric nature of Sir George Vernon with admirable force; Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw acts the mean and thankless part of Sir Malcolm Vernon to the life; and Messrs. Fredk. Groves and D. J. Williams play the parts of the Earl of Rutland and Lord Burleigh in fitting style. The Misses Miriam Lewes and Lilias Waldegrave comport themselves royally as Elizabeth and Mary; Miss Claire Pauncefort is highly capable as Lady Vernon; and the Misses Mary Mackensie, Marion Sterling, and others do well.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Veronique*, with its artistic beauties, is more than ever welcome, and its representation here this week by Mr. George Dance's well-selected company has lacked nothing. Miss Beatrice Hodson gives inexpressible charm and sweetness to the title-rôle; Mr. Roland Bottomley co-operates in a most able manner as Florestan; Miss Ethel Negretti as the flighty Madame Coquenard is both vivacious and fascinating; Mr. Leslie Holland as Coquenard has humour in every movement, and Messrs. Fred Lyne and Courtney Comber as the bailiff and groom respectively make much diversion. Miss Lena Maitland as the Countess has a voice of much charm; and Miss May Leslie as Aunt Benoit and Miss Gracie Sinclaire as Denise, the niece, lend valuable support to the production, which is graced by some lovely scenery and a good-looking and competent chorus.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*It's Never too Late to Mend*, played by Mr. Samuel James's company, has this week again proved its unfailing attractions. Mr. Beresford Whitcombe plays the rôle of Tom Robinson with breezy manliness; Mr. William Heilbronn makes of George Fielding a typical yeoman, and Messrs. Jackson Hayes, George Claremont, and Jas. May in the rôles of Meadows, Hawes, and Crawley respectively, represent villainy to much advantage. Mr. Edwin Wilde portrays the kindly virtues of the Rev. Francis Eden; Miss Hettie Graham commands full sympathy as Josepha; and Miss May Saker acts with much feeling as Susan Merton.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—*The Price of Her Soul*, by Messrs. J. B. Shinton and A. Greenwood's company, is drawing large houses here. Mr. John B. Shinton in his manly impersonation of Lord Maudeville, raises the audience to a pitch of enthusiasm; Mr. Annesley Hely comes in for the usual tributes for his convincing acting of Major Skoboloff; Miss Ada M. Ryder as the Countess displays all the subtlety of a practised actress; Miss Ida Thompson is deservedly popular as Vera; Miss Mona Grey gives a telling portrayal of Olga Lanonitz; and effective acting is vouchsafed by Mr. Archie Gear as Gen. Demitrius, Mr. Bryce Methren as Capt. Sergius, Mr. Sydney Ross as Capt. Jack Lawton, and Miss Olive Chesman as Nadine.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Shaughraun* has proved a potent attraction here as played by Mr. Andrew Melville's own company. Mr. Melville himself, in the character of Conn, scores a big success; Mr. Charles Langton creates a favourable impression as Robert Ffolliott; Mr. Albert Guyon wins considerable favour as Capt. Molineaux; Mr. J. Hindle Taylor is a genial and kindly priest; Mr. Fred A. Marston lends powerful aid as Corry Kinchella; Mr. Clifford Bown puts in some clever acting as Harvey Duff; Miss Rose Ralph submits a winning presentment of Claire Ffolliott; Miss Kate Walbran gains popular approval as Arte O'Neale; Miss Bella Power acts skilfully as Mrs. O'Kelly; and Miss Jessie Yatman shows animation as Moya.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Power of Gold* is presented here by Mr. Frank Ayrton and his No. 1 company. Miss Lilla Wilde, specially engaged as Lady Brandon, makes a great impression by her fine, powerful acting; Mr. Charles Whitlock as the Malay doctor, Hadgi Zambra, is responsible for much of the interest and success of the play; Mr. Richard Oliver gives a satisfactory account of Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton is well suited as Mark Harley; Miss Georgina V. France is much appreciated as Meg Judson; Mr. Frank Aryton scores a hit in the diverting rôle of Sammy Smudge, in which he is cleverly supported by Miss Madge Seymour, who shines in her original character of Nora Donnelly.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—The *Gay Parisienne* affords a brief respite from drama, and with Mr. Charles Macdona's capable company, is enjoying capital receptions here. Miss Evelyn Hughes as the fascinating Julie disports in a most attractive manner; Miss Madge Soutter gives many quaint and clever touches to the rôle of Ruth; the Misses Holford Beringer and Ethel Ivimey shine as Mrs. and Miss Honeycombe respectively; Mr. Will Harman portrays the humour of Mr. Honeycombe in a diverting manner; Mr. T. Gideon Warren scores as the Major; Mr. Clifford Seyler acts in a dexterous style as Mr. Pompier; Mr. Henry J. Barret is successful as Amos Dingle; and Messrs. Edgar Ashwyn, Dutton Nicholls, and Harry Bedbrook lend able assistance.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Wilkie Bard is starring here; John Le Hay and company are appearing in a smart musical sketch, *The Poor Beggar*; the Norman Leonard Trio are on a return visit with their artistic musical sketch, *The Itinerant*; the Eight of Hearts are well received; Dot Hardy and Nellie Stratton sing and dance themselves into favour; O. R. Sato, comedy juggler, and Oswald Williams, illusionist, come in for plenty of applause; another good turn is the musical entertainment presented by Orpheus.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*Sandwiches*, a song-scena, is presented here by Arthur Rigby and company, and is proving a big attraction. The Moet-Chandon Trio display a smart gymnastic turn. The musical entertainment arranged by the Four Jumels is artistic; Tom Lloyd sings some old favourites which are well applauded; the Leonards and Nash and Noel are popular comedy artistes, while the Sisters Pine, and Raynor and Reece, duettists, come in for a good share of applause.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Ethel Arden and George Abel are paying a return visit with their mirthful entertainment, *Three of a Kind*, while Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas in their sketch, *My Birthday*, are a decided success. The Cumberland troupe of trick cyclists are very smart; Carl Howard is a clever comedy conjurer; Martinette and Crossie, Herbert Cyril, Charles Fanning, and Lotta Charles are comedy turns above the average; the sweet singing of Milner Verren is applauded; Violet Morgan is a clever mimic; Ada Fawn has made a good impression with her singing; while the Two Eltons are expert triple bar artists.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—W. J. Churchill is successful as an eccentric comedian; the Zanettos, a trio of Japanese jugglers, are exceedingly smart; the artistic posing of Mlle. Eldee is watched with interest; Marie Reeve is successful in her songs and dances; and the Farmyard imitations of Harry Carsdale are clever.

ON Thursday of last week Mr. G. Dance's company were at the Town Hall, Welshpool, with *The Girl from Kay's*. Mr. J. W. Hooper's Hoggenheimer was charged with much drollery; Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft was a good Harry Gordon; Mr. Herbert Jennings a quaint Fitzthistle; Mr. Claude Dampier an amusing Joseph; and Mr. Edwin Forde a droll Theodore Quench. Miss Marie Greenhouse made a fascinating Norah; Miss Jessie Fraser in the title-rôle sang and played delightfully; and Miss Irene Vere was chic as Ellen.

A PRETTY feature of the wedding of Mr. Harold Archer with Miss Annie Morgan, announced in our columns last week, was the pretty young nieces of the bride, Beatie and Barbara, the only daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Sage, who assisted as junior bridesmaids.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z Andrews.—The attraction here this week is the French play, *The Throne of Terror*, which was played to a crowded house on Monday night. The part of Robespierre could not have been better placed than with Mr. William J. Miller, whose acting was most powerful. Mr. Roy Milton as the hero, Captain Eugene, was a decided success; Mr. Frank Fuller was good as Comte de Roquefort; Mr. Bert Ellis as Joujou caused roars of laughter; Mr. William Russell is worthy of mention as the gaoler. Miss Ellen Armor as the heroine, Marguerite, was a great favourite; Miss Ethel Lanyon-Maude as Victorine was most effective in her rôle as Robespierre's accomplice; Miss Eva Norman as Pepletta was an able companion to Joujou in laughter-making.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. A. Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. G. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—This week we have a welcome return visit of Messrs. G. M. Pollni and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King*. Mr. Herbert Ford and Miss Victoria Addison, as hero and heroine, render their parts to perfection, and Jaikes finds an able exponent in Mr. Tom Paulton.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. F. Brooke Warren's company opened here on Monday, in *Mysteries of the Thames*. Mr. F. Brooke Warren played Captain Denbigh to the life; Richard Brandon was a good performance by Mr. A. Money; Mr. Leonard Montgomery must be complimented on his performance of Bill Boser; Mr. Dan Hardie was amusing as Peter Waggles; Jack Hammond was well depicted by Mr. Gilbert Hall; Miss Stephanie Baring was excellent in the dual rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale; Miss Marie Ramsey gave an artistic rendering of Kate Brandon; and Miss Violet Leal was good as Little Doris.

HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parsons.—The Musical Schaffers top the bill here; the Harrison Bros. fairly bring down the house, their dancing being particularly clever; Cates, Winona, and King give a wonderful shooting performance; Mont and Corelli are good; the Seddons are appreciated; and Amber Austa meets with approval; Will Haines sings some good character songs. On the night of the 14th inst. the house was packed from floor to ceiling, being the benefit of Mr. L. Campkin, the retiring manager, who was the recipient of a portrait of himself and a valuable diamond scarf-pin. Mrs. Campkin was also the recipient of presents.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—The highly interesting drama, *Two Little Sailor Boys*, is on a return visit, and is, as of yore, delighting the audiences of Mr. Sounes's house of amusement, as played by Mr. W. H. Hallett's company. Miss Blanche Steele gives a clever and vigorous impersonation of the wicked Lola Grey, and Mr. Jerrold Heather as Noel Tregarthen is excellent in every way. Innocent Mildred Grey finds an admirable exponent in Miss Alice Defoe, whilst as the Two Little Sailor Boys Cyril and Tom, Misses May Day and Ethel F. Greene are capital. The villainous Redstone is ably played by Mr. Ellerslie Pyne, and Mr. W. H. Hallett's Capt. Tom Yorke and Mr. Court Harvard's Admiral are two well-filled rôles. The comedy element is capably sustained by Messrs. Oscar Power, and Tom Sinclair, and Miss Lizzie Chambers.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The comic opera, *La Poupee*, is being presented here this week by Mr. Herbert Ralland's company. Mr. Harry Brayne works hard in the part of Hilarius; Miss Mysie Devine is a winsome Alesia, and sings throughout with great charm. Mr. Arthur Cozens as Launcelot gives a very acceptable study of the part, and his vocalism is a prime feature of the portrayal. Mr. Walter Balfour as Father Maxime; Mr. Arthur Dennis as Loremois; Miss Edith Hunter as Madame Hilarius; Miss Doris Dickens as Henri; and Miss Alice Roche as Guduline are all very satisfactory interpretors of their respective characters. The band does good work under the bâton of Mr. H. H. Shaw, and there is a full and efficient chorus.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — The company here includes Jack Truman, tenor; the Boccaccios, a trio of Italian singers and instrumentalists; Wyze and Adna, whose song scena is a big success; the Weimars, musical eccentrics; the Sisters Belmont, smart dancers; the favourite Irish comedian, Walter Munroe; the Errols, who give an acrobatic act of a funny and original kind; the Gladenbecks, a couple of graceful and clever gymnasts; Arthur Stacey, a good comedian, with a clever dance.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A strong and varied bill is headed here by the Four Athos in a novel and skilful acrobatic exhibition. The San Remo Girls are smart speciality dancers; the Elgars, refined vocal entertainers, are well received; Cole and Rags are diverting as comedy jugglers; an attractive turn is furnished by the Jansons in a gymnastic novelty act; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures on the Attergraph include the race for the St. Leger; Mr. Johnny Walker is an acceptable mimic; and Salida and Vone, creole song and dance artists, are well received.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—In fulfilment of a three nights' engagement, Mr. Edward Terry and his company, from Terry's Theatre, London, opened on Monday, with *Liberty Hall*. Mr. Terry as William Todman contributed an excellent piece of character-acting; Mr. Allan Pollock as Mr. Owen played in a quiet, telling fashion, making his points unostentatiously; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., in the part of the Hon. Gerald Harringay, was responsible for a pleasant interpretation; the J. Bringshaw of Mr. Wm. Dexter was a fine study of the blustering, successful trader; Mr. E. W. Thomas, as Mr. Pedrick, solicitor, was decidedly good; the Mr. and Miss Hickson of Mr. George Howard and Miss Ella Dixon were effective; and Crafter, Todman's servant, by Miss Eugenie Vernie, was an excellent study; Miss Fyfe Alexander presented an attractive portrait of Blanche Chilworth; and as Amy, Miss F. Glossop Harris acted naturally and with grace On Tuesday evening *The Magistrate* was presented.

BACUP. — NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in Walter Melville's drama, *The Female Swindler*, forms the attraction here this week. Miss Grace E. Leslie, in the title-rôle, ably portraye a difficult and complex character; Mr. Joseph Millane gives a powerful representation of John Coulson; Mr. Wilford Cheetham as Geoffrey Warden is very successful; Mr. Henry Wright as an assistant-detective cleverly assumes numerous disguises; Mr. John Belton as Abraham Mikestein plays well; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray carefully presents the part of James Oliver; Mr. Guy P. Ellis is good as Harold Travers; Miss Florrie Kelsey plays with feeling as May Andrews, and Miss Mary Dawson makes a pretty maidservant.

BARNSTAPLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Bridge Feoffees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *The Toreador* appeared here on Monday. Irresistibly funny was Mr. Walter Champney as the pseudo Toreador. With Mr. Ralph Lynn as Sir Archibald Slackett he brought down the house in the motor-car scene. Very smart, too, was Mr. Harold Batt as Pettifer, scoring heavily with his song, "When I marry Amelia." Mr. Sydney Grenville, with a fine voice, excels as Carajola; and other principal parts are capably sustained by Messrs. George Austin, Henry Arthur, and Chas W. Anson. Miss May Lewis scored an instantaneous success as Nancy Staunton, being ably supported by Miss Eliza Earle as Dora Selby. Miss Beatrice Grosvenor undertook the amorous Mrs. Hopplngs with delightful effect, and Miss Leah Howard did exceedingly well as Susan; Miss Norah O'Neill contributed an interesting dance.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company in *The Breed of the Treshams* is here. In the exacting part of Lieut. Rereaby Mr. H. Tripp Edgar plays with versatility and force; Mr. Richard H. Greene as Colonel Clement Hungerford and Mr. H. C. Cross as Captain Rashleigh act skilfully; the Hon. Francis Tresham is finely drawn by Mr. Cecil C. Klein; and Mrs. Florence Tresellian displays charm and grace and the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Miss Maude Sagny as Mrs. Bagshaw and Miss Miriam Holt as Helena Pierrepont both do well, and Miss Celestine Bertram is a pleasing and vivacious Batty.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvart Routledge.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company in *The Blind Foundling* is here. The former gives an excellent portrait of Gerald Dalton, and Miss Belle Tilbury submits a notable performance of Isabel Dalton; Miss Mabel Hall as Fairy is very good; Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dick Dobbins, Esq., and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie Dobbins lighten with some humorous acting.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Lockhart's elephants as presented by Captain Taylor display much intelligence, and Mr. J. W. Rickaby, comedian, is popular; Leslie Race, refined comedian, is good, and Raie Walters is successful with her songs; Cyclumina has a wonderful electric cycle act, and Jennie Sydney is a pleasing vocalist and dancer.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The first visit to Bath of *The Prince of Pilsen* has proved a big success. The company responsible for the production is Baron H. Hariss's well-balanced corps of artists, with Miss Sophie Harriss as Mrs. Maddison Crocker, a rôle this talented lady fills with much success. To Mr. Harry Kilburn belongs the lion's share of praise for his wonderfully amusing impersonation of Hans Wagner. Those who remembered Mr. Frank Crimp in the old Savoy operas were delighted to again hear his splendid baritone voice in the ballads and duets that he rendered as Carl Otto, and for which he received just appreciation. Lieut. Wagner has a good exponent in Mr. Roy Sydney, who also is the happy possessor of a capital baritone organ. Mr. Bernard Russell gives a humorous rendering of Arthur Rossmoss. The comical agility of Mr. Ernest Gifford as François creates plenty of laughter, and for the dance with Miss Connie Leon as Sidonie in the third act the clever pair are rewarded with a double recall. This smart little lady is also encored for a song after the "Sammy" order, which she renders with much *chic*. The vocalisation of Miss Florence Beech as Edith Adams and Miss Dorothy Grasdorff as Nellie Wagner is greatly appreciated. Miss Mollie Wynne makes a pert Jimmie (a bill boy).

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—The bill for the current week includes Francis, the cannon king, and his whimsical satellite Alfred, a turn that is always worth witnessing; Tennyson and Wallis are a pair of comedians and patterers that create hilarity; Les Rallis present an exceptionally clever acrobatic interlude, *The Artist and His Monkey*, which secures them great applause; as an illustrated songster Baker E. Belphor, the fortunate owner of a fine voice, is certainly in the foremost rank; those adept midget conjurers the Franko Brothers are as entertaining as ever; Cullen and Carthey, with the assistance of Little Cluley, provide an hilarious comedy act; Edie Gray and her Coons are paying a welcome return visit; George Collins gives a capital burlesque female song; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are showing some exciting motor-car races and comic films, which are well received.

BATLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—This theatre was re-opened after the summer vacation on Monday evening, when a capital audience gave a flattering attention to Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. Alfred Goddard as Harry Steyne played with convincing power and earnestness; Mr. Fred G. Evison revelled in the part of Billy Brewer, the humorous philosophical villain of the play; and adequate assistance was rendered by Messrs. Robert Grey, Arthur Gilroy, Chas. McCann, and others. The heroine, Mary Steyne, was played by Miss Ada Oakley with touching fidelity; Miss Nellie Sheffield was chic, alert, and attractive, as Nancy Brewer; and Miss Phyllis Dailley played quickly and naturally as Lady Phyllis Eustace.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Edward Marris's company in the musical farce, *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Florence Smithers as Jane causes roars of laughter; Mr. Edward Pearce as Milchisadeck Brown leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Herbert Pearce makes an excellent Colonel Pendred, whose daughter Ivy finds a charming exponent in Miss Elfie Vincent. Doctor Arthur Vandyke is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Ion Maxwell; and the part of Bertie Bollingbroke is left to the capable hands of Mr. Leslie Martin. The Dandy Belles and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette are an acquisition to the piece.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. M'Cann.—The attraction here this week is the first visit of Hall Caine's noted piece, *The Prodigal Son*, produced by Mr. Arthur Collins in a most elaborate way. Mr. Herbert Hewetson, owing to the indisposition of Mr. Henry Renouf, was called on to play the part of Magnus, and he certainly filled it in a manner worthy of all praise; Mr. Norman Partriege as Oscar is a very striking figure, and in Act III. he gets a full chance to display his undoubted histrionic abilities; Miss Lily Hall Caine in the dual rôle of Thora and Elen is remarkably good, and the houses were delighted with her work; a word of praise is due to Mr. Henry George, who plays Stephen Magnusson with great success; Miss Alma Murray as Anna, the kindhearted mother, gives a character-study of great interest; Mr. Fred Epitaux is a clever Oscar Neilson; while the remainder, including Miss Mina Renouf, a very humorous Margaret Neilson, are quite up to the standard.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd., Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The leading turn here is the well-known pantomime sketch, *Moses and Son*, played by Fred Karno's company. Mr. Fred Kitchen is the chief comedian as Perkins, and the other leading artistes are the Misses Leah Morris, Janet Reeve, Madge Rockingham, also Messrs. Herbert Landeck and Anthony Gordon; the clever coon delineator, Mr. Tom E. Finglass, is paying a return visit, while the Dauntons-Shaw Troupe of cyclists are creating a furore; the Greys, duettists; Georgina Nicol, comedienne; the Haverleys, song illustrators; Henry Hilton, conjurer, and the Palace Pictures make up a good bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Topping the bill here are Binns and Binns, the musical vagabonds, who give a finished and acceptable performance; Lady Mansell's Juveniles, a clever set of precocious youngsters, are a capital turn; the Canary company in a comic juggling pantomime, is very humorous; E. J. Sheldon, the white coon, is good; and also here are Frank Lynne, comedian; Eric, ventriloquist, and the Empire Pictures.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The great popularity of the Alhambra Dramatic company is beyond question. This week the company is playing a capital piece, entitled *A Day Will Come*, and it is done full justice to; Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a charming actress, plays Violet Thornhill in a manner worthy of all praise; Mr. Herbert Ceul is seen to much advantage as Walter Barclay; a good character-actor, Mr. Horace Denton as Mark Marsland is excellent, while the Nickson of Mr. Cyril Grier is a finished performance; the fun wages fast and furious so long as Miss Effie Macintosh and Mr. W. G. Wesley hold the boards, their Mary Ann Green and Washington Boots causing hearty laughter; Mr. H. Arnold Allen as Sir Geoffrey Thornhill is very good; a like remark being applicable to the Obadiah Jorkins of Mr. Henry Elmore Frith; as Higgins Mr. Percy M. Stevenson does well, and the Mabel Murray of Miss Lena Nazeby is also noteworthy.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—A first-class performance of *Monte Cristo* has been given here. Whether as the Abbé Bussoni, Solomon Von Gripp, or Edmund Dantes, Mr. Junius Booth was very effective. The cool editor (M. Nortier) of Mr. E. Howard Templeton was indeed a capital portrayal; whilst Mr. Augustin Bowerman's Danglers was outspoken and forcible. La Carconte had a clever exponent in Miss Emma Robberds, and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite was good as the drunken innkeeper Caderousse. Miss Clare Elston successfully undertook Mercedes, and Mr. Walter Martin was excellent as the Abbé Faria.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. George Dance's company is appearing here successfully in the musical comedy *The Orchid*. In the course of an excellent representation Miss Dorothy Firmin is conspicuous with an excellent performance of Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Gladys Ward is a delightful Josephine Zaccary, and Thisbe is admirably played by Miss Jennie Bonney; Caroline Vokins is capitally enacted by Miss Emily Stevens; Miss Florence Wakeman is most efficient as Zelie Rombert, and Miss Ethel Holdsworth is well suited as the Countess Anstruther. The important rôle of Meakin, the gardener, receives every justice at the hands of Mr. Colin Campbell, who plays with a humour quite irresistible; Mr. Aubrey Chesterton is faultlessly represented by Mr. Steveson Liddard; Mr. Louis du Cane is a capable Sir Ronald Faussett; Mr. J. R. Val is a good Zaccary, and Mr. Edward Nainby as the Comte and Mr. James Burt and Mr. Michael Courteney as his two seconds are excellent.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A varied and strong company includes the Six Brothers Luck, who are again presenting *The Demon of the Cellar* with unabated success. Mr. Tom Costello, the popular comedian, is on a welcome return visit, and the McConnell Trio in their sketch, *Musical Mistakes*, are cordially received. Miss Sable Fern, comedienne, is again scoring heavily, and the same remark applies to Miss May Henderson, the dusky Diamond Queen, who supplies a leading turn. Other attractions are the Glenroy Troupe of dancers; Miss Dora Lyric, an accomplished descriptive vocalist; and Miss Eily Adair, a talented soubrette and dancer. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *The Christian*, was given a warm reception here on Monday evening. Mr. E. Stanton-Sharpe's manly rendering of the Hon. John Storm stands out with special prominence; Horatio Drake is finely represented by Mr. Duncan Yarrow; villainy in the person of Lord Robert Ure is ably depicted by Mr. P. Gedge Twyman; as the Faro King Mr. Anthony Rawles is well placed; and Mr. Stewart Black is very good as Mr. Lorimer, manager of the Colosseum. Archdeacon Wealthy is in the capable hands of Mr. Phipps Stanley; whilst Mr. Harry Colbeck as Father Lamplugh, and Mr. Percy Johnson as Parson Quayle, are seen to advantage. Mr. H. Louis Wilson acquits himself well as Brother Paul; Miss Laura Walker impersonates the rôle of Glory Quayle, the hapless heroine, with fine grace and sympathy; Miss L. Kingston is effective as Polly Love; and the part of Mrs. Callander is successfully portrayed by Miss Alice Maude.

BLACKBURN.— THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—The reappearance of *The Geisha* and *The Greek Slave* in Blackburn has been the means of filling this place of amusement with appreciative audiences this week. The company is Mr. Fred Mouillot's. In *The Geisha* Miss Lydia Bland sang and acted well, scoring a general success as O Mimosa San; Mr. Wilfred Heath as Reginald and Mr. Albert Hunter as Captain Katana have also excellent voices, which they use to advantage. In the more humorous parts Miss Edith Adeson is a success as Molly, Mr. Edward Kipling is extremely amusing as Wun Hi, and Mr. J. H. Booth as the Marquis is also good.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E H. Page.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are appearing with the drama, *A Warning to Women*, before crowded houses.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—That inimitable comedian, Mr. Harry Roxbury, is making big audiences laugh at his antics in the sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. Other good turns are the Pattersons, acrobats; Sterling and Love, vocalists; two Bostons, comedians; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Fred Poplar, comedian; and Maidie Scott, comedienne

EXCHANGE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. W. Kenyon.—Mr. Sydney Carter's New Century Animated Pictures opened a fortnight's engagement this week. The various films shown are excellent, notably those of the San Francisco earthquake.

BLACKPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Tom Sergenson.—*The Little Michus* is again being presented here by Mr. George Edwardes's company, which includes Mr. George Graves in his original character of General Des Ifs. Needless to say, he scores a complete success. The remainder of the principal parts are in the same capable hands as on the last visit, and include Mr. Leonard Mackay as Aristide Vert, Mr. Jack Cannot as Bagnolet, Mr. Willie Ward, jun., as Market Man, Mr. George Miller as Pierre Michu, Miss Florence Palfrey as Madame Michu, Misses Iris Hoey and Thelma Rayne as the Little Michus, parts which they play delightfully.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Louis Calvert again presents *Sunday* here this week. The title-rôle has an exceptionally capable exponent in Miss Emélie Polini; Mr. Leonard Pagden retains his old part of Colonel Brinthorpe, which he plays with care and discretion; Arthur Brinthorpe is ably accounted for by Mr. G. Wallace Johnston, and Tom Oxley has an ideal exponent in Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; Tower, Dary, Lively, and Jacky are respectively and creditably impersonated by Messrs. William Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, Cecil Yapp, and Arthur Vezin. Miss Muriel Pope as the nun, and Miss McArmee Murray as Mrs. Naresby also give entire satisfaction.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Marie Loftus tops a big bill here this week, and meets with the most cordial reception at every performance. Other turns of great merit are Paulton and Dooley, comedy cyclists; Les Frasettis, musical artists; James H. Jee, single wire champion; Daisy Mayer, the Yankee girl; Johnny and Charlie, comedy acrobats; George Antill, comedian; Speedwell, in a clever painting act; and Horace White, ventriloquist.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—An interesting and varied programme is supplied here this week. Minnie Cunningham sings her latest successes, and Lieut. Albini presents his great illusion, *The Lady in Black*; Mons. Slippere proves himself a clever blind pianist; Bessie Benson is a smart comedian; Charles Stevens an entertaining character vocalist; La Belle Nello, a clever contortionist; Maxford and O'Neill reel off a fusilade of funny songs and jokes; Rosa Tilley sings nicely; the Sisters Poole are pleasing society entertainers; Zanfretto and Napio shine as musical eccentrics; and the Wallys are expert jugglers.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Although the end of the season is approaching the spectacular ballet, *In Sunny Spain*, is still performed here to good houses twice daily. A capital variety programme is also given by Harry Lamore, slack wire artist; the Belaguer Family of Acrobats; the Scala Girls, vocalists and dancers; the Castilian serenaders; Clown Zertho with his dogs; Mlle. Lopezina in a trapeze act; the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of tumblers; and the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese dancers.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Miss Elaine Verner's company has paid a successful visit here, presenting on the first three nights the interesting play entitled *Saints and Sinners*, with Mr. Harding Thomas in his fine impersonation of Jacob Fletcher, Miss Verner appeared with success as Letty Fletcher, and the support rendered by the other members of the company was of a commendable description. For the last three nights *The Middleman* was billed with the above artistes in principal rôles.

HIPPODROME.—The new arrivals here include Gus Merriman in a capital musical act; George Raper, a refined comic; and Yettonah, Japanese magician, in a pleasing turn; and a most interesting display of pictures.

GAIETY.—Proprietor, Councillor J. Grantham, J.P.; General Manager, Mr. Snowden James. — J. R. Barrie, Scotch comedian, heads the bill here, and has a popular reception; Will Moore, boy vocalist, does a good turn; Jack Hastings scores as a female impersonator; Bee and Bee, comedy artistes; Leslie Barnett, actor mimic; Roberto, conjuror; and the Musical Lilians, retained from last week, also appear with success. The Gaiety Bioscope also continues to draw.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is appearing here in the exciting melodrama *Under Two Flags*. The character of the strong-willed vivandière, Cigarette, is undertaken by Miss Mary Thorne, who by her charming and forcible acting evokes both admiration and sympathy from the audience; Miss Mabel Ormonde gives a refined picture of the Princess Venetia Corona; Miss Madge Stevens is praiseworthy as Lady Beatrice Guinevere; and the Countess Olga is well sustained by Miss Joan Stern. Mr. Mark Blow is dignified as the hero Bertie Cecil Royallieu. A finished piece of work is shown by Mr. Arthur Elwyn as the villain, Col. Chanteroy. Mr. Harry Benson is to be commened for his quaint and humorous representation of the valet Rake. Other rôles are in good hands.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The management have this week provided some good turns, including Mme. Roma's Six Imire Juggling Girls in their sensational and somewhat unique act, *American Swells at Practice*; Charles Craston, up-to-date comedian; Maud Mortimer, charming comedienne, who proves herself a favourite with her songs; Tom Percy, boy comedian; Cortus, light-weight athlete, in a smart turn; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer; Ara, Zebra, and Vora in their successful novelty, *Indian Pastimes*; the Grisse Trio in their comedy acrobatic pantomime *On the Tiles*; Charles Rowen, comedian; Lozelle, sensational gymnast; the Sisters Charnley, clever duettists and dainty dancers; the Bristows in their comic cycle act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The attraction here this week is a musical drama entitled *Life*, for which Mr. Herbert Barrs' company is responsible. Mr. E. Cheetham plays the part of Zac Crabbe, a typical drunkard, to the letter, and Mr. Ronald Grahame is well placed as Sir Horace Lester; Mr. H. Barrs portrays the character of Jack Lockhart with dramatic power; Miss Maudie Vincent is much appreciated in the rôle of Jess, a waif; and Miss Dorothy Oswald makes a sympathetic Beatrice Ferars, Joe Pippet is ably sustained by Mr. A. B. Lyons; Mr. Alf Selwood makes the most of the part of P.-C. Nabbs; and Miss Edna Hana is a pleasing Ruth Thorpe. Songs and dances in the last act by Miss Maudie Vincent, Mr. A. B. Lyons, Miss Bateman, and Veronique are all exceptionally well received.

BOSTON.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—A capital programme here this week includes the Dunvilles, who give an excellent musical exhibition on various instruments. Another good turn is Zenora, whose feats of hand balancing evoke loud applause. Will Souls has some capital laughing songs; Edward Ranies and company play the sketch *Oliver Twist* in a very impressive manner; Sylvia Bond, Geo. Rapier, the Sisters Kildare, and Staffo, the boy juggler, together with two extra turns, complete the bill.

SHODFRIARS HALL.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in the musical play *Three Little Maids* was here on Tuesday and drew a crowded house. Mr. Herbert Willis as Lord Cheyne and Mr. Joseph Edwards were exceptionally good. The scenery and dress were satisfactory.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Charles Macdona introduced *Mr. Popple* for the first time here on Monday to a crowded house. The piece was received with enthusiasm. The title-rôle is undertaken by Mr. Morris Harvey, who is particularly happy in his characterisation, and so, too, is Mr. Tom May as Platt. To Miss Mamie Brickwell must be accorded special praise for her excellent rendering of La Bolero; Miss Louie Rene as Mrs. Doring and Miss Stella St. Andrie as Mrs. Hennay play in charming style; and Miss Lulu Londen is a captivating Louise; Mr. Herbert Hulcup does well in the small part of Lord Downe; and other good performances come from Mr. Herbert Dickeson, Mr. Fred Maguire, Mr. Augustin Symonds, and Mr. Fred F. Allen. The orchestra, under Mr. H. R. Mathews, is particularly good.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The welcome accorded Mr. George Edwardes's company in *A Girl on the Stage* on Monday was very hearty, the theatre being packed. Miss Queenie Leighton, an especial favourite here, scored another success as Miss Molly Montrose, her songs being rendered with delightful piquancy; Mr. J. H. Hale bustled merrily through the part of Lord Congress; as the dude Algy Southdown Mr. Arthur Longley elicited much laughter; Shingle was a capital performance by Mr. John Humphries; Mr. Nelson Keys as Ethelbert and Mr. Cranston Neville as Captain Hereward left nothing to be desired. Mr. Colin Coop's fine voice was heard to advantage in an excellent performance of Alderman Briggs; as Mr. Grimble Mr. Edwin Rutland was funny; Mr. Lennox Pawle's Earl of Sanctobury was delightfully quaint; Miss Fanny Dango as Lady Isabel Congress and Miss Valli Valli as Lady Dorothy Congress both acted and danced with charming grace; and Mr. T. Sutton conducted with skill the fine chorus and largely augmented orchestra.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—On Monday Mr. Lingford Carson's company presented *The Power of the Cross*. Baron Woulfe Curzola is an exacting part which Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby portrays with force and skill; Gerald Fairfax, the hero, is an effective performance by Mr. H. C. Rutland; and Dr. Leslie Fairfax, a striking contrast in character, is well represented by Mr. Royce Carleton. Rita Lascelles affords Miss Cissie St. Elmo fine scope, and she is effective. Miss Stanley Burt is emotional as the persecuted Margaret; and Miss May Grace fills the part of Blanche admirably. There is some welcome comic relief well brought out by Mr. R. E. Nugent as Tim O'Dowd and by Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray; and the stage effects are striking.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The return visit of the universal favourite, Chirgwin, "the white-eyed Kaffir," who is as musical and whimsical as ever, is hailed with much delight here this week; and those fine examples of physical development the Montague Brothers are greeted with applause in a classical and athletic sketch, *The Sculptor's Dream*. Starr and Leslie return, clever and humorous as heretofore. The Vivians present a charming and distinctly novel musical playlet, beautifully staged, viz., *A Reverie*, in which skill with naked rapiers is exhibited. Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, is here again, as incomprehensible as ever; Johnny Gilmour dances well, and submits an acceptable comic song; anything more grotesque than the musical turn by the Two Tees it would be difficult to conceive. Edith Courtney renders ballads charmingly, and completes an excellent company.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—There is a diverting programme here, and Bonnie Goodwin and her Pickaninnies are a feature of it with their excellent humour and clever dancing. Excellent hand-balancing by Almon and Ada is cleverly accomplished; Bowman and Morton in a character sketch *She Loved a Policeman* are very diverting; the Olive Trio with their parodies and singing and dancing are excellent; in a triple-bar act Hilton and Elma do some clever knockabout business; the Sisters Marion are clever juvenile duettists; Jack Lane's comic songs and patter entertain largely; T. B. Fayme's quaint Yorkshire songs find favour; and there are some entertaining films exhibited by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Palmer. — Mr. Henry Swinerd's company opened to a full house on Monday with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Marie Vere as Ruth and Miss Desmonde as Dorothy were capital in both acting and singing; Miss Nellie Harcourt made a most effective Judith, and Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake were responsible for some clever acrobatic and mirror dances; as Silas Crump, Mr. Arthur Vere was a great favourite, Mr. Walter Ashley was an effective Captain Fielding, Mr. Henry C. Ward a cool villain, and Mr. Drane Cliff made the most of the part of Haugh.

SPA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—*The Marriage of Kitty* has paid us a three-nights visit, the company being under the direction of Mr. Howard Cochran. The part of Kitty was most admirably played by that clever actress Miss Aida Jenoure; Miss Bessie Castle was a vigorous Maiame de Semiano; Miss H. Kay Robertson was excellent as the French Maid, and Mr. Howard Cochran was the timorous Sir Reginald to the life; and Mr. Cecil Wilford as the genial Travers gave a clever rendering.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The new turns at this popular place of entertainment include those clever sketch artists Dene and Dawson in a most amusing sketch *Stage Aspirants*, and Celias Gautley, an eccentric comedian; G. W. Nicholson, the smart Yorkshire comedian, continues to amuse with his laughing songs, and the Victoria Brothers are clever in international dances.

SUMMER GARDENS. — Lessee, Messrs. Beanland, Bath and Danton; Manager, Mr. Charles Beanland.—The animated pictures are a source of great atraction here. The Waterloo Pierrots give some of their cleverly-executed programmes, and a Female Beauty Show is billed.

THE GARDEN OF A THOUSAND LIGHTS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Field and Co.—Mr. Arthur Chenery, whose Willow Pattern Serenaders have attracted large audiences to this hall by the sea during the season, took his benefit on the 13th inst.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with *The Geisha*. Miss Louie Collier made a charming O Mimosa San, and sang with artistic finish; while Mr. Cyril Thomas also displayed admirable vocalisation in his enactment of Reginald Fairfax. Miss Florrie Saunders was a bright and winsome Molly Seymour; Mr. Edward Carlton proved very amusing as Wun Hi; Mr. Lionel Braham, as the Marquis Imari, submitted an excellent character study; Miss Violet Kenyon was a vivacious O Julietto Diamante; Miss Aubrey Ashton, a dignified and handsome Lady

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Herbert Lloyd, comedian, assisted by Lillian Lilyan and company, amuse with the speciality *The King of Diamonds;* the Maxim Trio please with their equilibristic novelty, with special scenery and effects representing a lake in California; Welda and Wynne, comedy jugglers, obtain applause; the Sisters Lee have pleasing songs and do some clever acrobatic dancing, &c.; Billy French is a smart step-dancer; the Lonnen-Meadows' company have an amusing sketch, *Kiss Your Father;* Minnie Wren, comedienne, is pleasing; Dan Agar, comedian, has some good songs; Percy Maye, female impersonator, presents a clever turn; Cosgrove and Burns, comedy duo, are appreciated; and the entertainment concludes with Bioscope pictures of the Harvard-Cambridge race.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited,* is an entertainment which drew a full house on Monday, and kept the audience laughing from start to finish. Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson has a character well suited to her, and she is ably supported by a company of first class artists. Miss Annie Mitchell, as Eva Lancashire acts with charming sang froid; Mr. Burt Burton is comical as Isidore Moses; Mr. David Donaldson as John Higgins, Mr. Wm. Ravenscroft as Herbert Fox, and Mr. Walter Hicks as Grant, with Miss Pattie Groves as Bridget Thompson, are very droll. Mr. Will Casey makes a fine old farmer as William Henry Thompson.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. H. H. Stewart presents here this week *Sherlock Holmes,* in which he undertakes the title-rôle in a brilliant manner; Mr. W. F. Stirling repeats his former triumphs as Professor Moriarty; Mr. Stanley Logan makes an interesting study of Dr. Watson; James Larrabee is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Gray; Mr. Edward Mervyn is clever as Sydney Prince; Billy is ably played by Master Cedric Sutherland; and Mr. Fred Bell is very good as John Forman; Miss Constance Leigh is a charming Alice Faulkner; Miss Lindsay Fincham is good as Madge Larrabee, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle is an excellent Thérèse.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This house is being well patronised this week by appreciative audiences. Carl Lynn is a capital mimic; Miss Alice Raymond's cornet solos (with the orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. John Kirkamp) quite bring down the house; Leonard and Francis in a mock bull fight are very good; the Brothers Dean, now in their second week here, repeat their excellent dancing; and Mr. Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam create much laughter in a comedy act, *In the Studio.* The Society Quartette are smart dancers; Devereux's Dogs meet with hearty recognition, and the Alex and Victor Duo, vocalists, are most acceptable.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — THE NEW HIPPODROME (late OPERA HOUSE).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—A change has come over the spirit of the dream in the above house, and on Monday its doors were opened for the first time as an up-to-date (two houses a night) music-hall. Special attention has been given to the lighting and scenic effects, and a crowded house testified their appreciation of the good fare placed before them by the management. The following appeared with the greatest success:—Kelly and Ashby (acrobatic performers), Nat Travers (coster comedian), Kyoto (clever Japanese contortionist), May Geraldine, Kate Watson, the Calcotts, Vasey and Ramsey, and Pat Doherty. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux were also an attraction.

BURY.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is appearing here in the drama, *For Better or Worse,* Mr. George E. Clive is capital as Captain Frank Hilliard; Mr. Scott Leighton makes a smart Major Gerald Crawford, and Mr. Owen Redmonde is a manly Lieutenant Hector Dalrymple; Miss Chrissie Dunbar gives a clever study of Belle Baverstock, and Miss Elsie Marriot-Watson is a charming Olive Heathcote. Specialities are introduced by Miss Nellie de Lacy (Dolly Delaney), Mr. Willie Black (Horatio Ranter), and Miss Jennie Hallworth (Melinda Little).

THE CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The turns here this week are all good, and include *The Motor Maniac,* by Will Rain and company; John Higgins, the champion jumper; Dale and Vale, duettists and dancers; Gillin, ventriloquist; Mark Merry, comedian; Bessie Willows, burlesque artist; Gilroy and Gross, comedians; and Bros. Onda in a comedy entitled *On Deck.*

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The Tokio Japs give a wonderful performance of balancing, &c., and a funny burlesque entitled *The Land Grabbers* is played by a company of capable comedians. Other turns include Mike Cray, juggler; Percy Curry, comedian; Franks and Thomas, vocalists; Bruce and Ross, comedy acrobats; Mary M. Glenn, vocalist; and the Dancing Gilberts.

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we had a return visit of Mr. George Dance's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic.* The opera was excellently staged and acted. Miss May Glenn again scored heavily in the name-part, her vocalisation quite delighting the audience, and Mr. Gerald Yorke gave a finished study as Napoleon; Mr. Ernest Torrance sang his music with telling effect and acted vigorously as Lefevbre; and Mr. Johnstone was admirably suited to the character of the Viscount de Bethune. Mr. Steve Fitzgerald did well as Papillon. Miss Buena Bent was a sprightly Lisette, and Miss Maggie White a pleasing Renee. The choruses were well-balanced and tuneful. For the remainder of the week *Brigadier Gerard* was in the bill.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For the opening of the winter season here the management has secured an excellent piece in *Held Apart,* presented by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's Co. That gentleman, in the part of James Douglas, alias James Barlow, has a great deal to do, and makes a powerful stage villain; Miss Ruby Loucraine charms everybody as Sybil Grey, her performance being greatly admired; Miss Ethyle Murray as Quila Garcia makes a handsome adventuress; Mr. John Hood is good as John Douglas; Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Hugh Trevor, Mr. A. W. Norman as Captain Ford, and Mr. Robert B. Drysdale as Andrew McPherson are clever.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—After a considerable absence, *The Girl from Kay's* is making a reappearance in Cardiff, being capitally presented by Mr. George Dance's company. Mr. Arthur Stigant impersonates Hoggenheimer, and is the life and soul of the piece; Winnie Harborough is again portrayed by the charming and graceful actress, Miss Nancy Hervyn; Miss Aimee Grey does exceptionally well as Norah Chalmers, while a pert and pretty Ellen is found in Miss Chrissie Ralland. One of the funniest delineations of the piece is that of the hall porter by Mr. S. Major Jones, and Mr. Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle is also responsible for much of the merry-making. Mr. Harry Franklyn (Harry Gordon), Mr. Buchanan Wake (Theodore Quench), and Mr. Charles Lupton (Mr. Chalmers) are all capitally suited in their respective parts. The chorus and augmented orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Basil Horsfall, add much to the attractiveness of the popular piece.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—An excellent drama is *Her Lost Self,* which is being played at the King's this week by Miss Frances Delaval's company. Miss Delaval is particularly successful in the important part of Philippine Marcel, while Miss Clare O'Sullivan, in her rendition of the heroine, submits a most creditable delineation. Mr. Cecil Gray as Wilfred Daventry gives a manly portrayal; Miss Min Johnson is distinctly clever as Dorothy Daventry; and a great attraction is the appearance of tiny Carrie Johnson, probably the smallest comedienne in the world. Mr. G. Osmond Tearle as Norman Esmond, Mr. George Lyttleton, jun., as Paul Kimberley, and Mr. Fred Lillywhite as Victor Elsworth are all valuable acquisitions to the caste.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Occupying a large portion of the performance this week is Miss Dolly Elsworthy and her company in *The Orange Girl,* Miss Elsworthy presenting a most excellent portrayal of Nell Gwynn. Lively Lillie Langtry is a particular favourite in Cardiff, and always secures a most cordial reception; Millie Payne is another attractive artiste; Bennet and Martell, as "the long and the short of it," provide much genuine amusement; and Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders constitute a magnificent spectacle and give a display of lightning drill; Carrie Joy, the captivating comedienne; George C. Doughty and company in a smart sketch, entitled *Captain Cupid;* Gwennie Hasto, a clever comedienne and dancer; and Clarice Netta, a charming vocalist, are considerable aids to the success of the programme; while the Bioscope pictures of the opening of the Fishguard-Rossclare route are most instructive.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. Arthur Milton's company is occupying the boards this week with *The Cruise of the Calabar.* Mr. Milton himself appears in the principal comedy part, Cherrible Chicklington, and meets with some success.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The principal turn here is provided by the Coloured Meisters, a quartette of negro vocalists, who render several quaint and amusing ditties harmoniously. Quite the favourite turn is Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre, a wonderfully well worked marionette show. A pleasing act is contributed by the Carinas, whose artistic handling of several instruments is much appreciated, Mark Leslie, an excellent dancer; the Two Neroes, comedy acrobats; Jack Crawley, comedian and raconteur; the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; and the Pepiscope complete the bill.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr Hy. Masterman.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company opened on Monday with *In Holy (?) Russia.* Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy as Renee Rubenoff is successful, and repeatedly wins the applause of the audience. Mr. J. Rice Cassidy gives due prominence to the humorous propensities of Micky Nolan; Mr Arthur Stratton make a blustering Uncle Dick, and contributes greatly to the humour of the piece; Mr. Horace Butler gives much satisfaction as Count Gregori Petrolski; Mr. Frank Copeland as Sir Harry Beresford submits a clever exposition of the part; Mr. Joe Cuthbertson gives a powerful interpretation of Baron Von Pleve; while the part of Laurice Steragoff is successfully played by Mr. Carl Rovinelli; Catska Lavotski is well portrayed by Miss Mavis Lee Anderson; the part of Michael Natolski is placed in the hands of Mr. Terence Nerry, and Miss Alice Marsden is satisfactory as Madam Natolski.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—R. C. Carton's *Mr. Hopkinson* is on a first visit to Chatham, and the name-part has a highly capable and hardworking representative in Mr. Frank Stanmore. Mr. Shirley Lea's Mr. Addleton is a good bit of character-work; as is also Mr. Arnold Lucy's Duke of Braceborough; the rôle of Duchess is played in a natural maner by Miss Alison Alexander; Miss Katherine M. Romsey gives a careful rendering of the part of Eliza Dibbs; Mr. C. M. Heslop is seen to advantage as Otho Dursingham; while Miss Gladys Jesson and Mr. Reginald Dane do well as Lady Tyra and Lord Cawthorpe respectively. *The Snowstorm* forms the curtain-raiser.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Excellent houses are the rule here. The week's programme is a strong one, including as it does Tiny Arnold, the well-known juvenile serio; the Pasquali Brothers; Gus Garrick, on a welcome return visit; Cordite and Buffalo, with smart rope manipulation; Will Poluski, in parody, song, and dance; Natalia and Diana, a pair of young trapeze artists; Fyne and Hurley, the coster and the dude; Lily Wood, soubrette; while James De Voye's educated horse "Billy" comes in for much applause; and Lacey's Erascope contributes its nightly share to the entertainment.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Good houses are the rule here, the great attraction being the one and only Paul Cinquevalli, whose exceedingly clever act meets with a most enthusiastic reception nightly. The Edisonograph has an interesting film entitled "The Miner's Daughter." Others appearing are Gracie Lawn, serio; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in *A Desperate Remedy;* W. H. Clemart, ventriloquist; Bertha Lennard, comedienne and dancer; the Katos; and Dan Filmer, comedian.

CHORLEY (Lancs.). — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Mr. Harry Starr is here this week, paying a return visit with *Carl the Clockmaker,* in which he plays the title-rôle with all his accustomed versatility. Mr. Edwin Frith is successful as Maurice Helmore; Mr. Will Hee capably rendering Count Ivan Neiklevitch. As Farky Nabbs, Mr. Wm. Miller is decidedly humorous; and Mr. F. W. Graham is also seen to advantage as Arthur Attwood. Miss Madge Blundell charmingly depicts Madge Ryder; and Miss Kate Norris as Lena Harrigan and Miss Ella Crossley as Jerusha Jane Pickleinch are successful.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—The Bros. Ethairien top the bill here this week as nonsensical wonder-workers; Johnny Fuller, the cat on the wire, is clever; and Levetto, billed as the dancing wonder, is most certainly smart; Miss Alice Maple, serio, and Mr. Edgar Berte, raconteur, both give good turns; the Dalwoods are popular duettists and dancers, and the Three Sisters Thurban are clever vocalists and instrumentalists. On the 14th, Mr. Edgar Berte, who has been with the Pierrots all the season, was given a benefit.

OPERETTA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Ch. Macdona; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Rhodes.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. Henry E. Leigh's London company was seen to advantage in Fred Jarman's farcical comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle.* Mr. James Danvers and Miss Josephine Ellis are capital in the chief parts.

PIER PAVILION.—Good houses have been the order here despite the fact that the season is nearly over. Mr. Walter Howard, comedian; Mr. Henry A. Moore, entertainer; Miss Ethelle Vibert, the Welsh contralto; and Mr. Sidney Jarvis, the well-known baritone are the artists entertaining this week.

WESTCLIFF GARDENS.—In addition to Graham Russell and Bently, Mr. Harry Child, vocalist, and Mr. Ch. Bulwar, conjurer, have been here. Miss Winifred Siddons was announced for this week, but on the first two nights of the week she did not appear, owing to indisposition.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—The attraction here this week is *The 10.30 Down Express,* presented by Mr. Horace Stanley's company. Mr. George Beverley gives a finished interpretation of Jack O'Malley; Mr. Charles Burdon is highly successful as James Idderwick; Miss Elsie Capell makes a charming Bessie Leigh; Mr. Edwin Clarke acts cleverly as Detective Huntley Mason; Miss Evelyn M. Walton makes an eccentric Letitia Leigh; Olive Coombes is well portrayed by Miss Josephine Lee; Mr. Horace Hanley is decidedly amusing as Sam Wagstaff; Miss Kate Kilpack is highly entertaining as Peggy Potts; and Mr. Alaric Burton gives a good account of himself as Cuthbert Leigh. The drama is well dressed and mounted.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton. *Sergeant Brue* is here this week, and the company brought by Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Croesman is one of all-round excellence. Mr. E. Russell in the title-rôle was seen to great advantage on Monday night, and the large audience gave him a cordial welcome; Mr. J. A. Shale again appeared as Crookie Scrubbs, and was loudly encored for his sweet tenor songs; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy was a dashing Michael Brue; and Miss Kitty Dale sang in a melodious voice several songs in her part of Aurora. Miss Lily Lingard got the utmost out of the character of Lady Bickenhall, and the difficult part of Mr. Crank was cleverly depicted by Mr. H. Chichester.

HIPPODROME.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—Dr. Walford Bodie is making his first visit to this town (which is famous as being the birthplace and burial-place of Gilbert, the first known electrician), and is causing a big sensation, and consequently is demonstrating to very full houses. The audiences are extremely favourable, listening to the doctor's remarks with marked attention, and applauding vociferously at the close of each demonstration. Harry Brown, the coloured comedian, is popular with all sections of the house, and so also is Mlle. Ameda, an equilibrist of considerable merit. Signor Bandoni, the one man orchestra, provides an attractive turn. Fred Hallam indulges in many eccentricities, and Bella Skene contributes to the harmony of the evening's entertainment.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. The drama, *The Life of a Showman,* is being played here this week by Mr. Geo. Testo Sante and his excellent company. Mr. Logan Darra is good as Hendrick Marais, whilst as Rev. Cyril Arbiss Mr. Edward Warden is well placed. The part of Brien Leader, proprietor of a circus, and a strong man to boot, is most forcibly portrayed by Mr. Geo. Testo Sante, who is a host in himself. Miss Amy McNeill as Agatha Winter is excellent, and Miss Grace Harlington as Angelina Mutton is quite acceptable, and Miss May Warden plays the part of Lynette Leader effectively.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Cyril Keightley's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *Miles Carew, Highwayman,* written by Messrs. Harry and Edward Paulton. The play was enthusiastically received. In the title-rôle Mr. Keightley acted with genuine feeling; Miss Haidee Gunn as Ruth Beyfus invested that part with much charm; Miss Ethel Dane was a sufficiently conceited and affected Clara; as Lady Mallory Miss Alice Arden was a complete success; Mr. Henry Crocker was a decidedly good Jeremy and Mr. Iden Payne a very amusing Viner. *The School for Scandal* and *She Stoops to Conquer* are also billed.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here this week is of all-round merit. Gustave Fashola, described as Indian fakir and Oriental wonder, is an exceedingly clever illusionist; Ethel Marks, comedienne, is responsible for a couple of pleasing ballads; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian, also contributes some capital songs; Avon and Crest deserve the name of specialty comedy artists; Bert Byrne, comedian, is amusing; the trapeze act given by the Sisters Marianos is both novel and smart; Sergeant Mumford in his wire act has few equals; and Flo Cecil sings and dances well.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—A return visit of *His Majesty's Guests* is being paid by Mr. Fred Karno's company. Mr. George Hestor is responsible for a most amusing rendering of Sergeant Lightning; Mr. Frank Morton, as Lord Easum, with a capital baritone voice, sings some excellent songs; Miss Leonora Castelle makes a most imposing Lady Maud Easum; Mr. Charles Usher is seen to advantage as Mr. Miffin; and Mr. C. Sewell is funny as Mr. Minks.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—One of the chief turns at this popular house of amusement this week is Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton in the amusing sketch, entitled *A Broken Journey;* A Bo-Koo gives a marvellous exhibition as a juggler; Billy Ross and Co. appear in a taking comedy act, entitled *A Hot Member;* the Brothers O'Brien are responsible for some daring feats on the horizontal bar; Frank Seeley comedian, sings amusing songs; Carlotta Levey and Evelyn Taylor are capital comediennes; and the Animated Pictures include the Harvard-Cambridge Boat Race.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is here in *An Abandoned Woman.* Mr. Foxwell himself plays the rôle of Paddy Boyle in a masterly manner. Miss Georgette Thierry does full justice to her part as Ninon Malvoisin; Mr. Wolston Foster is entrusted with the character of Captain Herbert Seaton, and interprets it with much feeling. He is ably supported by Mrs. Mary Richardson as Eleanor Dean. The part of Sir Marmaduke Seaton is in the capable hands of Mr. J. George Gormley, and that of Robert Saunders is capitally portrayed by Mr. P. Morton Wright. We cannot speak too highly of Mr. Bernard J. Leill's acting as Philippe Malvoisin, nor of Mr. A. Abott as Pierre. Mr. Will Glaze is a very able Sammy Sharpe, and Mr. Harrison Forbes is good as Jules. Mr. Pat Quinn is a life-like Sergeant Stubbles, and Miss Elsie Dean makes a fascinating Sally Sloper. We must not forget to speak well of Little Frances Maddocks as Mona Dean; neither must we withhold a word of praise from Miss Lily Addison for her sweet rendering of La Celeste.

CREWE. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Miss Annie Bell and company in *Sapho* is the attraction here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Bell acts with power and emotion, and makes a big hit; Mr. Pringle Roberts gives an excellent display as Jean Gaussin; Mr. John S. Chamberlain well sustains the part of Father le Grand; Mr. George Antley does credit to the character of Césaire; and Messrs. Reilly Connolly, H. Langford, and Lawrence Kingsley are suitably placed as Eugene, Caoudal, and Paul respectively.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—Messrs. Adrian Hill and Robert Ayrton's company opened on Monday with the Anglo-American drama, *A Gambler's Daughter.* As Desmond Mr. Robert Ayrton is a manly hero; and is ably seconded by Miss Adrian Hill in the title-rôle. This lady also acts the part of Mrs. Grant in a successful manner. As John Grant Mr. Richard Pitt has a heavy part to fill; and Mr. A. Sanders is a typical Solomon.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawton Lambert.—The boards here are occupied by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company in *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* and *The Drums of Oude.* In the first named, Mr. Reginald Dance's rendering of Mr. Vanderveldt would be hard to improve upon; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton is seen at his best as Colonel Rayner; Mr. Edward Coutts is satisfactory in the rôle of Lord Woolham; Mr. George A. Seager makes the most of Sir Bartholomew Cardick; Mr. Russell Barry is good as Mr. Goddlestone; and Mr. George Percy droll as the Rev. Hubert Langston; Mr. F. Vernon Travers is capable as Mr. Mellon; and Mr. Gerald Henson is suitable as Algie; Miss Mary Weigall is an aristocratic Marchioness of Hendingby; Miss May Brooke admirably fits the rôle of Lady Clementina Desborough; Miss Eva Titheradge gives a natural portrait of Aggie Coles; Miss Agnes Gunn takes a prominent position as Miss Pelling; Miss Dorothy Haigh is a charming Mrs. Brevell; Miss Helen Tytler deserves praise as Mrs. Mellon; Miss Muriel Mason is neat as Mary; and Miss Gladys Mason supplies an admirable rendering of Lady Clarice Howland. The principal characters in the curtain-raiser are commendably undertaken by Messrs. Reginald Dance, Edward Coutts, F. Vernon Travers, and Miss Gladys Mason.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The well-known drama *Wep-Ton-No Mah* is attracting large audiences here this week. The title-rôle is powerfully acted by Go-Won-Go Mohawk; Mr. C. W. Charles as Colonel Stockton plays with convincing sincerity; Mr. Pasco Bioletti as Manuel Lopes is a striking figure; Mr. L. F. Vernon as Captain Franklin displays great talent; Mr. Edwin Standish is an excellent exponent of Chief Ga-Ne-Gauf; Mr. Guy D. Hackney creates merriment as Sam White; Mr. Dandy Ryan as Garry Cullen proves he is a particularly good comedian; Mr. H. Killey is capital as Billy; Mr. Antonio Driscoll is well placed as Rodrigues; and Mr. Albert Simms scores as Antelope; Miss Winnie Goepel as Nellie Stockton is a success; and Miss Dora Pass does well as Matilda Sniffles.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—An enjoyable list of amusements here this week includes Haley's Juveniles, who sing and dance themselves into favour; Belrose and Develin are clever duettists and soloists; Ella and Dacey Hope are amusing in the sketch, *The Serio and the Slavey;* Cyrus Dare gives some smart imitations of little children; Whit Cunliffe is an entertaining light comedian with good songs; Ella Shields, comedienne, is popular; the Bensons are great in their vocal and comedy act; Queenie May is a pleasing little comedienne; Collins and Hawley are unflagging dancing experts; and J. L. Shine and company in sketch *Hogmanay* are received with approval.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Variety is again the attraction this week. Mr. F. V. St. Clair delights audiences with his own topical songs; the Bros. Shepherd contribute entertaining patter; the Three Royal Temples sing with power in high-class trios; the society juggler, Halma, is astonishing; the Henriques are smart and funny acrobats; Trick and Trixie, musical and comedy artistes, are much appreciated; and Tom Odlin and the Bellograph are other attractions.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Variety is the fare here this week. Mlle. Florence causes quite a sensation with her unique performance on a rolling globe and champagne bottles. Abex, who styles himself a miniature Hercules, performs some excellent feats of strength; the Bendons are successful in their latest scena, *That's How They Say Good Night.* Harry Keeble, comedian; the Bros. Arnold, illusionists; the Dana Girls, duettists and dancers; Polly Adula, comedienne; Alvar, gymnast; Dale and D'Argan, comedy acrobatic conjurors; and Hoozee, a capital ventriloquist, complete the programme.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—*A Country Girl* is making a welcome reappearance here this week, its exponents being Mr. George Dance's No. 1 Company. The name-part is taken in delightful fashion by Miss Barbara Babington, her acting and singing alike being irreproachable. The Princess Melanch of Miss Ernestine Desborough is another outstanding feature of the performance, her rendering of the part being most acceptable. Miss Ellaline Thorne could hardly be improved upon in the rôle of Nan, and her singing leaves nothing to wish for. The Mme. Sophie of Miss Cissie Sephton is in all respects a capable assumption; Miss Muriel Johnson is entirely satisfactory as Mrs. St. Quinton; and Miss Leslie St. John is similarly successful as Lady Anchester. First among the actors is Mr. Coningsby Brierley, whose Barry it would be hard to beat. Mr. John M. Hay is a manly Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. F. J. Rooney scores as the Rajah; Mr. Arthur Jackson makes a diverting Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. Charles Stafford should also have special mention as Douglas Verity. The play is charmingly mounted.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Chas. Baldwin's comedians, in their absurdity, *Bank Clerks,* are the principal attraction here this week, and they are to be congratulated upon their excellent performance. The Morimuras, Japanese illusionists, give a capital conjuring turn; Cavern and Cave, in their scena, *An Early Morning Dip,* and the Custances in a sketch, *A Game for Two,* cause much hearty laughter. Daisy Ray is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Harry Luck, comedian, gives a good turn; Wright and Eldon provoke much mirth with their eccentricities; and the Palace Bioscope submits some interesting pictures.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—It would be impossible to praise too highly the splendid fairy spectacle *Beauty and the Beast* seen here this week. The children who take part in it evince praiseworthy discipline and unity in song, action, and dancing. Miss May Gibson, a pretty exponent of Silverstar, is particularly notable for her excellent vocal work. A remarkable youngster is Wee George Wood, who certainly has the sense of comedy strongly developed. Miss Kitty Trewhitt as Prince Charming has achieved great success. The portrayal of Beauty by Miss Dolly Dodds is also commendable. Master Jack Harrison acquits himself very well as Baron Hardup. Very funny in their extravagances are the Bros. Armstrong as Dressalinda and Marigolda. Messrs. Adams and Sloan show exceptional talent as comedians in the rôles of Flip and Flop. The Marguerita Quartette of dancers danced with much gracefulness and skill, and the solo dancer La Belle Annette deserves to be singled out for special eulogy. Miss Edie Camm plays Marjorie Daw very smartly; and other characters are represented with merit and spirit by Misses Annie Brumby (Patience), Nellie Adamson (Virtue), Olive Woodridge (Innocence), Flo. Edwards (Grace), Beattie Townshend (Evilheart), Daisy Fielder (Will Scarlett), Isa Gibson (Maid Marion), Gladys Skipp (Tommy Tucker), and Mr. Will Oraton played the Beast successfully.

HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—Miss Flo Warner, a sprightly and dashing singer, greatly pleases her auditors; Yorick and Yorick, as innocents abroad in *A Mixed-up Affair,* introduce some enjoyable tale-telling and tumbling; the Five Musical Palmers are wonderfully popular in their musical speciality, *Officers at Play.* Lily Arthur, the toy comedienne; the Reays, athletic equilibrists; Reed and Lerne, comedians; Will Daniels, comedian; Daisy Almer, comedienne and dancer; and the versatile comedy duo, Ton Drum and Kilty Major, also contribute; and the Bioscope pictures, operated by Mr. Harris, are much appreciated.

DONCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE. — Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The attraction here this week is a powerful variety combination, Miss Pathe Burton, vocalist, with a highly cultured resonant voice, heading the list. Billy Beevor, comedian and dancer, is well received; the Levans, song illustrators, are refined and attractive, as are the Two Roses, duettists and dancers; Chester and Lee's Marionettes are a good turn; Harrap and Vinray are quaintly humorous in their comedy act, *Would-be Actors;* Tom Johnstone, actor vocalist, wins popular favour; the Spring Trio, lady barrel jumpers, are alert and engaging; and the concluding item, Tom Davis's company in the comical sketch, *Furgusone's Dog,* is greeted with enthusiastic applause.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—This week's attraction here is *A Royal Divorce,* presented by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company. Miss Edith Cole's Josephine is a beautiful performance, which commands the sympathy of the house; Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon recalls celebrated paintings of the great emperor, and plays with power; the Talleyrand of Mr. Joynsen Powell is a striking study; Mr. Graham Woods was well suited as the Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. Thomas Barry as General Augereau acted with distinction; and Mr. St. George Frere presented a dashing portrait of Murat. Miss Ayres Imlay's Marie Louise was pathetic. The scenery and dresses are on a lavish scale.

GAIETY THEATRE.—The comedy in three acts, *What the Butler Saw,* is at the Gaiety Theatre this week. Pink, the butler, as created by Mr. Lionel Rignold, possesses great humour; Miss Marie D'Altra as Miss Foden shows the value of a small part in capable hands; the Mrs. Barrington of Miss Ada Blanche is bright and fascinating; Mr. Charles Fawcett presents a persuasive peccant husband; Mr. Reddick Anderson makes of Sir Charles Foden a capital character; Mr. George Ascott is very funny as General Dunlop; and Mr. Harry Rignold extracts broad grins by his impersonation of Abraham Weinstein; Miss Jenny Wigney looks pretty as Nora, and Miss Dorothy Garth is a pleasing Maria.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—The variety turns here are excellent. Miss Jessie Barlee and Mr. Phil Smith present a smart little sketch, and their imitations of society types create genuine amusement. Mr. Dick Bradley is a daring trick cyclist; Ray and Miles are diverting jugglers; Jennion's Fantoches are admirable; Mr. Fred Lister is a popular comic singer; Mint and Mart exhibit the possibility of tearing paper into curious forms; and the gymnastic speciality act of Craig, Rose, and Craig appeals to a large percentage of the Palace's clientele. Vernon's Bioscope has numerous good pictures.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. F. J. Connor; Ring-Master, Mr. W. R. Albino.—The last week here has been devoted to benefits. Monday was devoted to the advertising staff; Tuesday to Wombes the Droll; Wednesday to Dan Gregory; Thursday to Mr. W. R. Albino; Friday to Mons. Eugene Foote and Miss Rowland, and to-day will occur the popular recognition won by Mr. W. Tudor and his performing ponies. In addition to these artists, who appear nightly, *Fra Diavolo; or, the Brigands of Calabria,* a pantomime sketch which is funny, and the Towergraph are presented.

DERBY CASTLE.—A most successful season was concluded on Saturday evening last, when a crowded audience witnessed the representation of The Manx Mhelliah, or Harvest Home.

CHARLES DARE'S MINSTRELS continue to attract thousands to the head of Douglas Bay on fine days.

MR. FREDERICK BUXTON'S PIERROTS and TEA VILLAGE have an enormous clientele, and as he provides amusement wet or fine the attendance is phenomenal.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A new musical farce entitled *The Lady Cobbler; or, The Lord of the Last* is being presented here this week by Mr. Fred Paul's company. Miss Pauline Hague, a pleasing and refined artist, plays the title-rôle with much skill, and renders her songs with charm; Miss Nina Westerleigh's daintiness and captivating manner are eminently suited to the part of Millie Meredith; and Miss Maude Henderson is a dignified and austere Duchess. A really clever and humorous impersonation of Mrs. Jones Jones is given by Miss Louie Tinsley, whose eccentricities evoke the heartiest laughter and warm applause; Miss Elsa Milward plays Madame Jenner with success; and Miss Dora Challoner is decidedly good as Martha. Mr. Harry O. Morton as Sir Henry Ackerman—the Lord of the Last—gives a distinctly lively and humorous portrayal; Mr. Scrope-Quentin's excellent voice is heard to advantage in "Idol, my Idol!" and a stirring patriotic song; Mr. Forrester Harvey contributes a conventional study of a dude as the Hon. Algy Lasterlin; Mr. Edward A. Rose portrays with skill the character of the excitable Frenchman Professor Jenner; Mr. Harry Emeric succeeds in winning much laughter and applause by his irresistibly funny mannerisms as Pip; while a special word of praise is due to Mr. Arthur Ricketts for his well-studied and decidedly clever acting as Jackson.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, the Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—This week the boards were occupied by a comedy concert party who call themselves the Redcaps, and are under the direction of Mr. Edwardes-Towle. Miss Elsie Cooper has a voice of excellent quality and sings with much expression; Miss Phyllis Beryls gains much applause for her well-rendered solos; while other items are given by Mr. Edward Martyn, tenor; Mr. W. Edwards-Towle, baritone; Mr. Cuthbert Rose, a clever humorist; and Miss Gladys Cuningham, an efficient pianist.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager

Mr. Huntley was responsible for a clever and highly amusing interpretation of Freddy Popple; Miss Millie Legarde was delightful in the rôle of La Bolero, her singing and dancing being much admired; Mr. S. Basil Foster acted with ease as Norman Popple; Miss Nellie Hodson was seen to advantage as Louise; and Mr. Charles Daly as Platt added to the amusement. The parts of George Hennay and Henry Doring were ably sustained by Messrs. Sydney Young and James Stephenson, and Miss Ella Daincourt as Mrs. Hennay and Miss Kate Forster as Mrs. Doring were both admirable. The staging and scenery were excellent, and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Julian Rutt, was all that could be desired.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—*A Mother's Love* has been a strong attraction here this week, Mr. Fred L. Connyngham's company including several capable artists. Mr. Arthur Mervyn makes an excellent Paul Wingate; Miss Rosa Mervyn plays with marked effect the rôle of Miss Minnie Wingate; comedy is provided by Mr. Fred L. Connyngham as Mat Ruddock; and Miss Corrie Ellie acquits herself creditably as Miss Elaine Mervin; Mr. A. E. Pringle handles the rôle of Geoffrey Mannering with excellent effect; Miss Marjorie Wingate has a pleasing representative in Miss Holly Haslewood. Ralph Mervin is well sustained by Mr. S. Clifton; and Mr. Paul Palmer is capital in the part of John Corbet.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A welcome return visit is being paid us this week by Miss Marie Kendall, who sings her songs in her own inimitable style, and is frequently encored. A turn which provides hearty merriment is supplied by Barton and Ashley in their comedy act, *Canal Boat Sal;* Viola, an accomplished musician, is warmly applauded; Lord, Murray, and Lord are highly amusing in their sketch, *The Intruder;* Charles J. Johnson, the Black Diamond, meets with appreciation; Miss Esta Stella has a good reception for her selections; the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians, score a success; Atroy, in a smart juggling act, is well received; and Steve McCarthy, comedian, makes a decided hit. The Empire pictures are also interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Here we have Hayman and Franklin in a sketch entitled *Matrimonial Agency;* Tennis and Laune, in a vocal scena, *Chapters from Life;* the Lizette Troupe, lady acrobats; Alexandra Royal, a dainty comedienne; Rappo and Ella, smart equilibrists; Bert Weston, a successful comedian; Flo Banks, comedienne, with some pleasing songs; Elsie Rubina, wire performer; and Sam Mayo. The Bioscope completes the performance.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—"The Middies and the Maids" company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Randal, are furnishing a good entertainment here. Messrs. Randal and Williams, in solos and duets, are responsible for a good deal of laughter, and Miss Nellie Toner, Mr. Walter Forder, and Miss Dora Lind are also to be commended. The Bioscope pictures are interesting. Thursday night was set apart for the benefit of the general manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The artists here include the Incemores, duettists and dancers; Sadie Bush, ballad vocalist; Bert Le Roy, eccentric comedian; Dolly Vince, serio and dancer; and Prof. Ledger, ventriloquist.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The following are appearing here:—Alice Townsend, vocalist; the Dewars, sketch artists; Costello and Caren, comedy duo; Marion Vaudrey, ballad vocalist; and Tom Gray, eccentric comedian.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Dicky Clare's company of comedians is here this week with *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Clare takes a prominent part, and works hard as Silas Slim, ably supported by Miss Madge Brownie, who acts with vivacity and charm in the title-rôle; Mr. Leonard Maitland is highly amusing as the dude Paul Pettitoe, and Mr. H. A. Griffiths introduces some remarkably dry humour as William Biffins; Miss Vesta Brownie acts the part of Verginia Blatherwick prettily, and the other parts are satisfactorily filled.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—McCann's performing Irish terriers occupy the top of the bill here this week; Blanche and Diacuff, tea-cup track cyclists, are proving a great attraction with their sensational performance; the Sages are excellent comedy artists; Marie Walker is a clever trombone soloist; Daisy Silcott, burlesque artist, has some catchy songs; and Jack Heath, comedian, pleases his audience immensely. The Empire Pictures complete the programme.

DUNDALK.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Urban Council.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week in a welcome return visit with *The Country Girl*. The company gives an excellent performance, under the able management of Mr. W. Besley Beltran, who also plays the part of Douglas Verity in his usual finished style. Mr. Martin D. Pitts is a manly Geoffrey Challoner; Miss Blanch Courtney is a capital Nan, and receives much applause for her singing. Barry, in the hands of Mr. Frank Weir, is quite safe, his funny acting, singing, and dancing keeping the house in real good humour throughout the evening. Mr. Bernard Vaughan as The Rajah is quite a success, while Miss Violet Leslie's charming voice is heard to great advantage in the part of Marjorie Joy. The Princess is in the able hands of Miss Narcelli, while Mr. Geo. Stone is Granfer Mummery. Mr. Eric Dalvere as Lord Anchester and Mr. W. O. Billington as Sir Joseph Verity capably fill their respective parts.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. George Dance's company is appearing this week in that sparkling musical comedy, *Lady Madcap*. Lady Betty is charmingly impersonated by Miss Vera Vere, her whole performance being delightfully effective, while her tasteful and piquant dancing is much admired. Miss Maise North as Gwenny Holden is admirable. Miss Florence Raymond is exceedingly good as Mrs. Layton; and Miss Peggy Primrose makes an attractive Lady Betty's Maid, winning rounds of applause for her dainty dancing. Mr. H. V. Surrey as Oroya Brown is the cause of much hearty laughter, his appearance as the butler being comical in the extreme. The parts of the adventurers, Bill Stratford and Posh Jenkins, are capitally played by Mr. Percival Knight and Mr. Oliver Rounds, who completely bring down the house by their quaint rendering of the droll duet, "'Ow do you do, if you please?" Mr. Tommy Melldon makes a comical Corporal Ham, and his nimble dancing is admirable. Mr. Alex. Chentrens as Count de St. Hubert, scores in his clever French versions of various popular songs. Captain Harrington is capitally played by Mr. D. Phillips, and all the other parts are in excellent keeping. The piece is very prettily staged, while the singing and attractive business of the chorus is much above the average. An augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Ernest Hartman.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—A varied and attractive programme is submitted by the management this week, the topliner being Addie Dorina, a lady protean artiste, who submits a marvellous quick-change performance, which meets with the warmest approval. Two sketches by the Four Kays, and the Forest Comedy Company, are well played, and prove exhilarating fare, while the turns of Kay and Kooney, and Ray Ford, comedienne and dancer, are much enjoyed. The Two Wambas, instrumental entertainers, are exceedingly original, while David Poole, ventriloquist, gives a clever and novel show; Gilbert Girard, styled "the human harp," is particularly good in his imitation of farmyard sounds; La Belle Lily and Albert perform a series of amazing evolutions on the trapeze, and the Mioscope concludes the evening's entertainment.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—A brilliant programme includes the Nine Andos, acrobats, jugglers, and wire walkers, who are the chief attraction. Others appearing are Irene Rose, a dainty serio; Jenny Clare, a dashing comedienne; George Casey, a capital comedian and dancer; the Cosmans, a couple of entertaining comedy artists; and the Three K's, expert dancers, who all meet with well merited success. As usual, the Gaiety Bioscope, with a capital assortment of films, completes the evening's entertainment.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—On Monday evening Mr. Gilbert Payne produced his new musical absurdity, entitled *The Honeymoon*, a notice of which will be found in another column, and a large and appreciative house gave it a good send-off.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—This week Mr Edward Marris's No. 1 Company, under the direction of Mr. W. H. Kirby, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is the great attraction. Mr. E. H. Bertram gives a capable representation of Stanton Ashleigh; Miss Millie Gordon makes a suitable Freddie Ashleigh; in the part of Martin Blabbs Mr. W. H. Kirby is humorous; Mr. Douglas B. Watson is an excellent Stephen Leverton; Mr. J. Templar Ellis does full justice to the part of Lem Lee; and Old Joe has a good exponent in Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber; Miss Molly Hackett as Lulu acts and sings well; Miss Cordelia Knight is a fascinating Zora; and Miss Norah Melton proves a capable Mrs. Ainslie.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—For the first three evenings of the week Mrs. and Mr. Kendal appeared here, and, as usual, played to the full holding capacity of the house. On Tuesday evening *The Elder Miss Blossom* was staged. Nothing new remains to be said of Mrs. Kendal's fine work as Miss Blossom, but her exquisite acting, particularly in the second act, remains a standard of perfect art; Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane possesses all the life and girlish brightness which made Sophie Blossom a very interesting young lady; and Mrs. A. B. Tapping and Miss Kate Bishop gave of their very clever and experienced work as Cooper and Mrs. Wells. Mr. Kendal, easy and polished, was a delightful Andrew Quick; Mr. Bassett Roe a characteristic Major Twentyman, and Mr. Ernest Hendrie a capital Christopher Blossom. Mr. Metcalfe Wood succeeded conspicuously as Withers; Mr. Herbert Harben was a pleasing and easy Arthur Leacroft; and Mr. R. Burnett ably sustained the part of Tyrel Jones. *The Ironmaster* and *The Housekeeper* were played on the other evenings. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is billed for the latter part of the week in *Public Opinion*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared here during the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week in *Mr. Popple*, and drew crowded houses at each performance. Mr. Morris Harvey, as Freddy Popple was responsible for a vast amount of fun and amusement; Miss Mamie Brickwell made a charming and attractive La Bolero; and Miss Claire Pridelle a pretty and natural Violet Brinton. During the first part of this week Mr. Mouillot's company appeared in *Faust* "*Up-to-date*." Miss Mimi Fisher as Young Faust sang, danced, and acted in a very bright manner; Miss Daisy Irving's capital voice was heard with excellent effect as Marguerita; Miss May Davis, petite and brimful of brightness, was an excellent Siebel; and Miss Maisie Riversdale was prominently successful and a most amusing Martha. Miss Lottie Crawford was a capable Elsa, and the clever and graceful dancing of Miss Marie Dale (vivandière) must be specially noted and praised. Mr. F. W. Bowes did invaluable service as a comic Valentine; Mr. Rowland Henry excelled as Mephistopheles; and Mr. Gambier Melford did capable duty as the Lord Chancellor, his topical duet with Mr. Henry being well received. The chorus is very efficient, and Mr. W. D. J. Damant is the musical director. The *pas de quatre* was admirably danced and loudly encored. Mr. George Dance's company is appearing here during the latter part of the week.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sydney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Great interest is being shown in the amateur competition held here this week. Money prizes are offered, and a week's engagement at each of the seven halls will be given to the winner. A turn well received and loudly applauded is that given by the Billy McClain Troupe (including Miss Cordelia), Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque are very successful in a sketch *A Dressing-room Romance;* Mr. Morny Cash returns to highly amuse the audience; Miss Nellie Adams sings and plays with much ability; Miss Amy Elvira scores highly as a burlesque artiste; Mr. Sonny Moss sings to the delight of the audience, and new funny pictures are introduced.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is presenting here *The Sin of Her Childhood*, which is staged in good style. Miss Florence Creagh is excellent as Mary Haysel; Mr. Frederick Loyd successfully undertakes the impersonation of Captain John Thornton; Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks plays well as Maria Haysel; Little Dot Moss as Hannah Spry, and Hugh Brady as Barney O'Reilly add materially to the success by their eccentricities; Miss Ivy Rochefort as Eric Dugdale is good. Mr. Austin Milroy makes the best of his part as Shephen Haysel; and the character of Rev. Alan Grey is in the capable hands of Mr. E. E. Clive.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—In the presence of a crowded audience, which included Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Evelyn Millard, and company opened here on Monday with *Brigadier Gerard*. Sir Arthur has, in the title part, fitted Mr. Waller with one of those parts in which the public delight to see him, and the actor plays it with wonderful finish, humour, and dramatic power. Miss Millard, a picturesque, graceful figure in the dress of the Empire, acts the part of the Comtesse with brilliancy and charm. Mr. A. E. George delineates with masterly skill the character of Napoleon; and Mr. Edward O'Neill realises very vividly the portrait of Talleyrand. Mr. Shiel Barry makes the character of D'Albert an outstanding one, and excellent support is afforded to the principals by Mr. R. C. Smith as Pierre; Mr. Frank Woolfe as Major Olivier; Mr. S. B. Brereton as Captain Sabattier; Mr. Frank Cochrane as Mons. Bassompierre; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan as Papilette, and by Miss Helen Leyton as Agnes, a small part very attractively played. The scenery is elaborate, and the comedy is beautifully dressed. The grim monologue, *Fortune's Fool*, which precedes the principal piece, gives Mr. Waller a further opportunity of displaying his versatility.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—*The Only Way* has long been recognised as one of Mr. Martin Harvey's strongest productions; and judging from the reception of the piece on Monday it has lost none of its fascination. Nothing can be added to what has many times been written of Mr. Harvey's impersonation of Sydney Carton. It remains a masterpiece of the actor's art. Miss N. de Silva repeats her successful rendering of her original part of Mimi; and Miss Coleridge appears to advantage as Lucie Manette. To the rôle of Charles Darney, Mr. L. Craske imparts much courtliness and dignity; while an admirable picture of Doctor Manette is given by Mr. Fred Wright, senior. The Vengeance and a citizeness find forcible exponents in Miss Mary Rorke and Miss Bessie Elder; and Mr. Charles Glenney as Ernest Defarge, Mr. H. Blackmore as a Peasant, with others who fill many minor parts do praiseworthy work. *Boy O'Carroll* was presented, for the first time in Edinburgh, on Tuesday. *The Breed of the Treshams* and *Hamlet* have also been included in the repertory for the week.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—A good company organised by Mr. Julian Malvern occupies the Grand Theatre this week with *I Defy the World*. Mr. Charles M. Julian makes the most of a good part as Samuel Wozzle; the hero Leon Darville finds an excellent representative in Mr. Percy Ballard; the rôle of the Count is well played by Mr. Charles Wilton; Mr. Alfred Denning is good as General Delaporte; and the parts of Laroche and André are well acted by Mr. Charles Conway and Mr. Arthur Chisholm. Miss Maud Lillian provides unlimited amusement by her Mary Wozzle; an artistic rendering of the rôle of Pauline Delaporte is given by Miss Rosalie Heath; and Blanche Darville is effectively portrayed by Miss Violet Crawford.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The undiminished popularity of Miss Vesta Tilley is well demonstrated by the very large audiences which are attracted nightly to the Empire this week. The dainty comedienne is heard at her best. Her songs, old and new, are hit off with the neatness and brightness characteristic of her style, and with an unflagging flow of light-hearted humour. Miss Winifred Hare commands the heartiest applause by her excellent vocal method and charming appearance. The Scottish Meisters sing with humour and effect several quartets; and Mr. Dion Wade is extremely happy in his imitations. Mr. Ian Colquhoun gives with great success baritone solos full of life and vigour; Albertus and Millar are distinctly clever in their sketch *A Scene in the Fair Grounds*, their work with Indian clubs being especially smart; and Spry and Austin are excellent in their turn, which, as usual, is well supplied with genuine amusement; Mr. Phil Hermon, dialect comedian; Fielding and Hull, vocalists; Mr. Henry Hayton, comedian; and the Three Sisters Kellner, in their speciality dances, complete an admirable programme.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company is here this week. On Monday night *Much Ado About Nothing* was presented. In the rôle of Benedick Mr. Henry Herbert was very amusing; in Miss Dorothy Green was seen a vivacious Beatrice; while the hero of Miss Mary Webb won for that lady unstinted applause; Mr. Gerald Ames and Mr. Charles Francis well portrayed Don Pedro and Claudio respectively; and a word of praise is also due to Mr. E. Spencer Geach for his rendering of Leonato. Mr. Reginald Davis ably sustained the part of Don John, and Mr. Philip Merivale was good as Friar Francis. On Tuesday *Twelfth Night* was presented in excellent style. *As You Like It, Henry V., She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Richard III.* are also in the week's programme.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt. *The Shadow of a Crime* (Mr. Fred J. Little and Mr. Fred D'Arcy's company) was played here the first three nights of the week. As the title indicates, the piece is of the stirring and sensational type, but it is also pleasantly blended with wholesome humour and many touches of pathetic interest. As Loyale Norman, Miss Ina Grant represented the part with much credit; Mr. Robert Forder ably represented the villain, Ralph Esmond; Miss May Rosine in the character of Mrs. Thomas Brown, gave the necessary life to the drama, and Mr. E. W. Avery as Tom Brown, was a clever interpretation. On Thursday evening a three nights' engagement was opened by Mr. R. A. P. Williams' company in the comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company, in *The Days of Cromwell*, is paying us a visit. Mr. Robertson Foulis gives a capable representation of Sir Marsden Mardyke; Mr. Henry Belding as Ironhand is all that can be desired; Mr. T. R. White as Shadrack Shadwell is responsible for a clever impersonation; and Mr. Hardy as Matthew Mardyke is satisfactory; Miss Annie Clunn is to be complimented on her assumption of Betsy; and Miss Gertrude Gillman as Ruby Avondale gives a pleasing performance; Miss May Bracey is successful as Mrs. Shadwell.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr H. J. Snelson.—This week Mr. Gordon's company presents *The Best Woman in the World*, a capital domestic drama. Miss Lily Annesley is excellent in the title-rôle; Miss Elton, a graceful and pleasing Trixy McKinley, brings down the house with her vivacious duologues with Mr. Teddy Smyth as the Hon. Herbert Fitzherbert; Mr Basil Mitchell as the villain is excellent; Mr. Arthur Curzon as the hero is uncommonly good, his acting is natural and unaffected. Mr. J. V. Gordon as a Jew moneylender is also good, and Mr. George Lee sustains a strong part.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—On Thursday, last week, Mr. George Dance's company opened a three nights' engagement here in *A Country Girl*. Miss Maisie Gay as Nan was as charming and vivacious as ever; Mr. Percy Carr as Geoffrey Challoner scored with his fine singing; Miss Winnie O'Connor also sang and acted well as the Princess; and Mr. F. W. Pedgrift's embodiment of Granfer Mummery deserved the highest praise, his make-up being really excellent. Miss Addie Lennard made a sprightly Sophie; and Mr. Charles Walenn caused many a laugh as Barry. On Monday, Mr. George Dance's company opened in *The Little Michus*. Mr. Foster Courtenay gave a clever impersonation of General des Ifs; Mr. William Everard was a satisfactory Gaston Rigaud; Mr. Robert Harcourt rendered capital aid as Aristide Vert; Mr. Leon Simkin as Pierre Michu played with humour; Miss Florence Hilton was all that could be desired as Madame Michu; and as the little Michus, Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Ethel Bryan were delightful; Mlle. Marjorie was a clever dancer. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and company occupied the boards on Thursday.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—This week we have here Miss Gertrude Snow, mezzo, who well deserves her success; Mr. Herbert Stockwell, tenor, possesses a fine voice; Mr. Rex Curtis, baritone, sings with culture and charm; Mr. Fred Daniels is a clever humourist; Mr. Owen Clarke gives a talented performance; and the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods, in original and Maori selections, are great favourites.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.— Miss Lilian Inglis, soprano, renders several songs in a pleasing manner; Mr. Willie Rouse is a humorist of more than ordinary ability; and the animated pictures score a success.

TOWN HALL.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—Andrew's pictures are here this week, with an exceptionally interesting set of films.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Large audiences have welcomed Mr. George Leyton whose latest dramatic episode *The Wreck of the Birkenhead* has been enthusiastically received; John Green Marx, described as the modern Hercules, gives an exhibition of weight-lifting, the equal of which has never been seen here; one of the most acceptable items in the bill is submitted by the Morton Comedy Trio of vocalists; *A Hot Time for One* is the title of a very amusing sketch presented by the Five Bon-Bons; Vincent, an acrobatic table expert has a daring performance which is well received; Tom E. Hughes, a local comedian, makes a hit; King Roy, a coloured basso-cantante, is loudly applauded for his renderings of "Beware," and "The Village Blacksmith"; a very smart acrobat and contortionist is Zaid, a Spanish Moor, who is assisted by Miss Orienta; and Halter and Ray, Hebrew comedy artists, complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The top-liner here this week is Marquis Itonge, who presents an equilibristic act which wins loud applause; Ernesto has an acceptable juggling act which is highly appreciated; Sam Dalton, a clever comedian, causes a deal of merriment; Lillian Travellie is a talented vocalist; the Sisters Brooklyn are responsible for an entertaining singing and dancing act; and Madge Allan is a stylish comedienne; and Downey's Living Pictures conclude the "show."

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Miss Ida Millais and company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne) are presenting *No Man's Land* here this week. Mr. Henry Herne is responsible for a powerful portrayal of Harry Oaklands; Mr. A. G. Lytton is highly successful in the rôle of Mat Marsden; in the dual rôles of Gilbert and Captain Norman Bathurst, Mr. Alfred Byron is seen to distinct advantage; Mr. Frank Dennis is quite "at home" in the part of Silas Moore; Mr. Vernon L. Thomas makes a capital Thompson Poodle; as Mary Bathurst, Miss Millais is a great favourite; and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Bessie Poodle and Mrs. Mallalieu as Mrs. Poodle both do well in their respective parts.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Messrs. Darcy and Little's company in *On the Stroke of Twelve* was here on Thursday and Friday, and secured a good reception. All the characters are well portrayed, Miss Beatrice Moore as Doris Rutledge and Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle as Jack Rutledge gaining the highest encomiums. Mr. P. Palmer is very conspicuous as Henry Rutledge.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—On Monday night a packed house welcomed Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company in the new drama, *A False Wife*. Mr. G. Langham is good in the part of Sir Colin Mansfield; and Mr. W. H. Barlow does full justice to the rôle of Lieut. George Mansfield. Mr. F. Marriott-Watson gives a powerful portrayal of the villainous Jean Beraud; Miss Florence E. Florence keeps the house spellbound by her dramatic acting as Estelle de Lusan; Mr. E. Morgan is a boisterous Ben Rattler, brimful of humour. He is ably assisted by Miss M. Leslie as Bessie Blazer. Miss A. Hylton gives a sweet and sympathetic portrayal of the trying rôle of Agnes Weyland; Mr. O. Edwin is highly amusing as Archibald Brown Tee; Mr. C. Osborne is well placed as Inspector Fulton; Miss F. Morgan gives a wonderful performance as Sarah Bernstein. *The Conscript* is announced for the last three nights.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Dance's chief company, with *The Spring Chicken*, is playing to big houses here. Miss Crissie Leonard, in her pretty peasant dresses, is quite bewitching as Rosalie, singing and dancing delightfully; Mr. Fred Payne is exceedingly droll as Mr. Girdle, keeping the house in constant laughter; Gustave Babori is excellently played by Mr. J. S. Durant; and Mr. Harry Averell is admirable as Boniface. Miss Nellie Kavanagh, a successful Mrs. Girdle, sings with telling effect; Miss Florence Lee is charming as Dulcie Babori; and Miss Poppy Poole is a captivating Baroness.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company occupies the boards this week with the successful light comedy, *The Freedom of Suzanne*. As Suzanne Trevor Miss Mabel Love is delightful, depicting the varying moods of the wilful wife with consumate skill; Mr. Temple Powell is very successful as Charles Trevor; Fitzroy Harding is capitally represented by Mr. F. J. Thurstans; and Sir Horace Hatten is well played by Mr. Patrick Quill. Miss Annie Stalman is an excellent Lady Charlotte Trevor; Miss Charlotte Mead a quaint Fanny Mitching; and Miss Violet Ley and Miss Dorothy Lart are both admirable as Lady Isabel Bury and Mrs. Tunstall.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The Four Kweeries present a most sensational, supernatural illusion, and thoroughly mystify their audience; Mr. Chas. Coborn is, as ever, first favourite in both new and old songs; and other artists appearing are Espinosa and Neilson, speciality dancers; Ruby Athol, vocalist; Charles Ulrick, barrel king; and Dollie Denton, comedienne.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—The return visit of the Follies is a welcome one, and full houses have been delighted with the effectively rendered songs and concerted pieces, and the merry humour of Messrs. H. G. Pelissier, Dan Everard, and Lewis Sydney, and the Misses Marjorie Napier, Ethel Allandale, Gwennie Mars, and Lilly Walbrook.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Much interest is being manifested in Henri Cot, the French giant, and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, the one measuring 8ft. 7in. in height, and the other 1ft. 11in. Stelling exhibits his wonderfully intelligent dog; Foden proves himself a marvellous hand jumper; the Bros. Bright give a clever acrobatic turn; the Two Butterflies excel as gymnasts; the Humels contribute bare-backed equestrian acts; Rabbit amuses with his drolleries; and the Bros. Sidney give a sensational exhibition as trick cyclists.

CHAPPELL'S PROMENADE CONCERTS.—Benefits are the order of the day, and special programmes are provided. The new comers this week are the Evalos, who give a clever turn as gymnasts and jugglers; and Also, amusing reciter and expert hoop roller.

GREENOCK. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week's attraction here is Mr. Arnold Bell's company with a round of plays. On Monday night *Hoodman Blind* was presented to a good audience. Mr. Bell as Jack Yeulett made a decided hit, and the villainous Mark Lezzard was ably portrayed by Mr. Cuthbert Imrie, who receives capital assistance from Mr. F. Carlisle as Kridge; Mr. Herbert Fuller is seen to advantage as Ben Chibbles; Miss Frances Campbell distinguishes herself in the difficult double rôle of Nance and Jess, her half-sister; Miss Violet Campbell is a charming Polly Chibbles; and Miss Marion Forrester acted with ability as Liz, doubling the rôle of Granny Codling also. The other rôles are all in capable hands. *Lost in London, East Lynne, Ben-my-Chree, The Shaughraun,* and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* are also in the week's bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The star turn here this week is given by Brooker and Narbis in a sketch, entitled *The Interviewer*, which proves very amusing. Other good turns are J. H. McCann, comedian and roller skate dancer; Kerreth and Kane, comedy musical artists; the Three Brothers Huxter, acrobatic speciality artists; Renson and Waite, vaudeville artists; Raglus, lawn tennis ball manipulator, and Brady and Johnson, comedy sketch artists.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Lottie Lennox, vocalist, heads the bill here, and sings several songs nicely; the Ellimans, musical entertainers; May Mars, burlesque actress; Dick Kendall, comedian; May Marton, comedienne; and Norman T. Mills, vocalist, are also on the bill, and their performances are appreciated.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—A melodrama new to Grimsby has been seen in *The Spider and the Fly*, and a capital representation is given by Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company. The companion parts of Cyril Girdlestone and Edith McAllister are admirably played by Mr. Stanley S. Gordon and Miss Nina Vaughton; whilst the strongly contrasting characters of Stella Gray and Welby Girdlestone are portrayed with suitable vividness by Miss Amy Venimore and Mr. Ellis J. Preston. Mr. H. C. Lancely is a dignified figure as the Rev. Mr. McAllister; and Mr. Frederick Ross wins favour as David Strong; very laughable is the work of Mr. Fred Terris and Mr. Charles A. Preece as the twins, Romulus and Remus Roe.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. North.—The Delevines, in their latest burlesque, *Flipp and Flopp*, cause much merriment; Gracie Grahame is a popular contributor, her songs being good and brightly rendered; the acrobatic turn of the Avolos, who perform upon half-a-dozen lofty, vertical poles is a distinct novelty; the Virginians, a quartette of coloured juveniles, delight everyone with their singing and dancing; Selbo, an expert juggler, displays exceptional skill in the manipulation of clubs; Harry Conlin, a comedian with really funny songs; Rose Coleman, dancer; and Silk and Sillcotte, in a comedy sketch, also appear.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Harry Tate's sketch, *Fishing*, has proved as laughable a burlesque as has been seen here; Daisy James gives an entertaining impersonation of the Gibson Girl, and presents a répertoire of smart songs; the equilibristic work of the Brothers Babusio is clever; and the juggling of the Jalvans is another attractive exhibition. Johnny Danvers is a popular comedian; and other turns are given by May Fallowfield, soubrette; Xley and Hamilton, musical comedy artists; and J. W. Ellison, comedian.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr C. Robert Perkins.—On the 14th the boards were occupied by Mr. F. Mouillot's company in *The Geisha*. The occasion was honoured by the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor, and the *élite* of the Island. Miss Louie Collier as O Mimosa San was altogether charming, her singing being very effective; Miss Florrie Saunders made a delightful Molly, Miss Aubrey Ashton an aristocratic Lady Winn, and Miss Violet Kenyon a chic Juliette; Mr. Cyril Thompson as Reginald was good, both vocally and dramatically; Wun Hi found a clever and capable exponent in Mr. Edward Carlton; Mr. Lionel Braham infused just the right amount of colour into his sketch of the Marquis Imari; and Captain Katana was admirably presented by Mr. J. M. Stringer.

GUILDFORD.—BOROUGH HALL.—Mr. Mouillot's capital company, under the able management of Mr. Gordon Starkey, in *The Blue Moon* drew a good house here on Saturday. Mr. Victor Wallace was successful as Major Callabone; Mr. A. Radcliff was excellent as Capt. Ormsby; while Mr. B. Mercer proved an acquisition as Bobby Scott; Mr. C. Stephenson as Private Taylor caused much amusement; and was ably aided by Miss May Audrey as Millicent. This lady's brightness and charm materially added to the success. Miss M. Glanbrane (Lady Babraham), and Miss D. Morgan as Evelyn also deserve praise; while Mlle. M. Naudin as Chandra sang very sweetly.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Miss Claudia Lasell and company are here this week with the successful musical comedy *The Sweet Girl*. The untiring vivacity and delightful singing of Miss Lasell in the title-rôle are generously recognised; while Mr. Fred Eastman is the life and soul of the comedy as the "temperance advocate." Some good work emanates from Mr. Leonard Russell, who both acts and sings buoyantly as Florian. A prepossessing Dick Kenyon is Mr. Lister Morrah, his contribution, "Love will find a way," being distinctly successful; while Mr. George De Lara as Prosper Plewney and Mr. W. H. Page as Major Gumo are admirably placed. Miss Alice Lethbridge's graceful dancing is a stepping stone to success. The orchestra, under the able guidance of Mr. R. Ernest Irving, perform their duty with credit.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. O. C. Culling.—Heading an exhilarating programme, those clever Americans Hill and Whitaker, vocalists and instrumentalists, are exceptionally clever. Dan Fitzgerald, supported by a good company, is presenting *The Burglar Prince*, with gratifying results. Others here are the Anartos, the Bob Hanlon troupe, Calile and Walker, Maud Esmond, Culysitt, and Barney Burke and Bray.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—An excellent company is here this week, the leading turn being provided by Fred Lawrence and company in a musical mélange, *Muggins, V.C.* A clever troupe of dancers are the Lottie Stones' combination, who are making a welcome return visit. Frank and Free, in *Married Life*, have been very favourably received. Lennie and Hast in *A Sea Nymph* are excellent. Wat Tyler, comedian; Tom Yorke, Brown and Robinson, and the Three Brothers Curran are also successful.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. William Maclaren and company are paying a welcome return visit in *Claudian*. In the title-rôle Mr. Maclaren contributes an interesting study; Miss Lily C. Bandmann

chorus under the conductorship of Mr. Augustus T. MacInnes render their share of the work in an artistic and finished manner.

HEREFORD.—DRILL HALL.—Manager, Mr. A. Lovesey.—*A Chinese Honeymoon* was presented here on Monday by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. The part of Fi-Fi was played with great success by Miss Kitty Clayton; Miss Frances Oscar was delightful as Soo-Soo; she is a charming vocalist, and was received with much applause; the names of the Misses Florence Wilton, Alma Bolton, and Messrs. James Wilson and Charles F. Howard may all be singled out for their excellent interpretations.

HERNE BAY.—TOWN HALL.—Manager, Mr. T. B. Watson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King* opened here on Monday. Mr. Horace E. Herbert gives a masterly performance of Wilfred Denver; Mr. Percy Foster plays well as Jaikes; Mr. Oswald Cray is particularly good as the Spider; and Mr. William Dempsey scores a success as Elijah Combe. Miss B. Boyle is seen to advantage as Nellie Denver; and Miss Dorothea Black acts well as Olive Skinner.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Geo. R. Baker.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company opened on Monday in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Walter M. Cameron as Gabriel Garth is a characteristic old man, and is heartily applauded; Mr. Bertram Ross is a manly Jack Halyard; and Duncan Bly has a capable exponent in the hands of Mr. W. R. Winning; Mr. Fred Rolls scores as Mike Copplestone; and Mr. Claude Merton is an excellent Job Merry and George Bloggs; Mr. W. H. Melrose is a humorous Ned Pennycomquick, and is ably assisted by Miss Lizzie Morley as Poppy Cornleigh; as Dr. Sleek, Mr. F. Eden is good; and minor characters are carefully taken by Messrs. R. G. Blade, W. H. Coombes, F. Thompson, and W. Newman. Miss Kate Newton is an admirable Gertrude Garth; and Lillian Garth is safe in the hands of Miss Mabel Coleman; Miss Winnie Donovan in the rôle of Mercy Merry does well, and is cordially received by the audience.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*The Private Secretary* is being played here to its usual accompaniment of laughter, by Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company, which includes Mr. Donald Price-Evans as Spalding, Mr. W. Hargreaves as Cattermole, and Miss Dora Gray as Edith. The comedy is preceded by the bustling one-act farce entitled *My American Admirer*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Every item in this week's bill is good. At the head is the daring Don Juan Caicedo in his inimitable performance on the wire. Other attractions are the Sisters Llewelyn, operatic singers with fine voices; the Fitzroys, a couple of clever gymnasts; La Danseuse in a dainty series of costume dances; the Columbia Trio of vocal comedians; Arthur Croxon, a mimic; Burns and Bentley, nimble dancers; J. Reichen, with his troupe of highly trained terriers; and a fine picture on the Biograph.

HULL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—A pleasant return visit is that of *The Walls of Jericho*, a play which has become very popular in this city. Upon the present occasion a new Jack Frobisher appears in the person of Mr. A. E. Anson, who gives a vigorous, manly reading of the rôle, displaying considerable power; as Lady Alethea Miss May Travener displays much histrionic ability; Mr. Alf S. Barber makes Hankey Bannister a living creation; the Lady Westerby of Miss Marguerite Cellier is exceedingly natural; and Lady Lucy suffers nothing in the capable hands of Miss Mona Wynne.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mortons, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—In *The Great Awakening* Miss Maud Hildyard is seen to the best advantage; she is full of resource, has a clear enunciation, and is gifted with the true artistic temperament; Mr. Willie Scott and Miss Isa Bellington fill the comic rôles much to the enjoyment of the house; in the dual-rôle of Sir Henry and Jack Merton Mr. Bernard Copping ably succeeds; whilst Miss Doris Digby's Molly Merton is full of promise.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—The Mannon Troupe top the bill in their pantomime sketch, *Uncle Yank*; Alexandra Dagmar makes a welcome appearance here. Other artists include Essman, Lawrence Barclay, Barrington, Helen Martin, and Cyrus and Maude.

THE CIRCUS.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Dyson's Swiss Choir are attracting crowded houses here.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—The boards here are occupied this week by Mr. Vivian Grantham's *Held in Bondage* company. As Ivan Drouski Mr. Charles Stirling submits an excellent study; as the Russian autocrat, Prince Mazaroff, Mr. Richard Vane is very fine; and Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor plays with force and conviction the rôle of Paul. Miss Florence Tyrrell clothes the character of Zara with womanly charm and grace; Miss Amy Rudd plays with delightful naïvete as Princess Sonia Mazaroff; and Miss Grace Baring as Leonie Devigne makes the most of her part. Mr. George Scully as Harry Dunn and Miss Maude Merrick as Lisette are a lively and amusing couple, and entertain the audience by some clever dancing. Some excellent light comedy is supplied by Mr. George Child as Sir John Hawthorne and Miss Joan Pereira as the Baroness Augusta Valinski.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Driven from Home* is proving an attraction here at the hands of Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Miss Frances Ruttledge figures conspicuously in the double rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh the Younger; Mr. Clement Wakefield acquits himself with distinction as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Felix Pitt is effective as Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Percy Dawsone as Willie, an outcast, presents a clever performance; Mr. Harry Cornwall is a good choice for the part of Jabez Thomas; Mr. A. E. Mann (John Anderson) and Miss Evelyn Marrable (Margaret Bailey) impart an agreeable tone to the piece with their comedy; Mr. F. Thorne as David Wilson makes the most of his chances; and Mr. Frederick Sandy as Geoffrey Waring, the evil genius, is a good exponent of the part.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Cameron Burgess.—Miss Blanche St. Albans' company, in *Her One Great Sin*, was the attraction here for the first part of the week. The title-rôle was remarkably well played by Miss Blanche St. Albans. Mr. G. Beresford Innes did well as Reuben Warhurst; Mr. J. Leicester-Jackson gave a good rendering of Arnold Thornhill; and Mr. Fred Hodson was amusing as Jerry Jumble. Other parts were capably handled by Mr. Charles E. Lambert, Miss Phyllis Damian, Miss Louie Walton, and Miss Maudie Lambert. On Thursday, *East Lynne* was played.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*Two Little Vagabonds* was presented here on the first three nights of the week by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company. Miss Laura Hansen as Marion gave a pathetic study of the long-suffering mother; the two waifs were well impersonated by Miss May Heart as Dick, and Miss Margaret Nybloc as Wally; Mr. William Fazan gave a powerful rendering of the character of George Thornton; and Mr. John F. Traynor was sufficiently villainous as Bill Mullins. Others who materially aided the success were Miss Russel Spiers as Barbara, and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief item of an attractive programme this week is the sketch, *The Battle of the Belles*, a miniature melodrama, relieved by some humorous business. Mr. Fred Monk, the author of the skit, is responsible for a quaint impersonation of a laughing publican, being well supported by E. D. Nicholls and Miss Ada Frank. Other turns include Horace Wheatley, the clever Irish comedian, and Ernest Myers; the Mysterious Lilith, on a return visit; Miss Lilian Warren, song illustrator; Hector and Sutton, comedy acrobats; the Three Sisters Chester, mandolinists; and Lily Lonsdale, a pleasing soprano.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is here with the powerful military drama, entitled *Death or Glory Boys*. Mr. Jerrold is good as Col. Fergeson, and Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson plays with force the part of Capt. Glyn Ferrers. Mr. Lancelot Usher is quite at home as Lieut. Duff; Mr. Fred Emery is a manly Jack Malden; Mr. Francis Serle does full justice to the rôle of Carn; Mr. Russel Bogue causes much amusement as Nat Wilks, and is ably assisted by Miss Hettie Senior as Jane. Miss Violet Carlyle is charming in the part of Nena Fergeson, and Miss Grace Aimiers scores as Edith.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C Robert Perkins.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here with *The Greek Slave*. Mr. Edward Carlton as Heliodones causes roars of laughter, and Mr. Lionel Braham as the Prefect of Rome fitted the part like the proverbial glove; whilst Mr. Cyril Thompson's vocalisation is excellent in the name-part; Miss Aubrey Ashton is good as Antonia, and Miss Louie Collier's singing as the Maid is excellent; Miss Florrie Saunders scores a great success as Iris, her final dance being encored again and again.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Messrs. H. and F. Poole's colossal myriorama closes here this week. Their latest edition, "A Horse with Human Knowledge," is a most remarkable animated picture. Mr. Harry Dowsett took his benefit on Tuesday night, and Messrs. Fred and Charles Poole had a bespeak on Wednesday.

TRIANGLE PARK.—The White Coons are paying a return visit here, Mr. Oldbury Brough, the society entertainer, being the special attraction.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Carson.—Fred Karno's company, in *Saturday to Monday*, is drawing large audiences here. Mr. Rolands Martin is the life and soul of the piece. Miss Amy Rogerson is an excellent Clorinda. Mr. J. W. Bradbury, Mr. Dick Harcourt, Mr. J. Fletch, and Mr. H. Gordyn are good in their respective parts.

KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. K. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Major Ward.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Geo. Stephenson's company appeared here in the popular musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*. Mr. Lauri Lisle gave a clever rendering as the King of Illyria; Mr. Leslie Stewart's Lord Plantagenet was all that could be desired; and the part of Sir John Binfield found an able exponent in Mr. Leslie Fairfax. In the title-rôle Miss Hilda Quiver was seen to great advantage, as was Miss Maud Howard as Mabel; while Miss May Wallace looked particularly sweet as Violet. On Thursday and Friday nights Mr. Edward Terry and company proved a great attraction in *Liberty Hall* and *The Magistrate*.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams presented his company here on Monday in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Gaspard was very capably presented by Mr. Michael Kemble; Mr. Percy Martin as Grenichaux was conspicuously successful; the singing of Miss Adela Harney and Miss Kathleen Emmet was also well received; Mr. G. Edward Hall and Mr. Richard Martin as the Bailie and Gobo were responsible for much laughter.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—After an interval of eleven years *Lady Godiva* is again with us, being exceedingly well presented by Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company. Miss Ethel Griffies in the title-rôle gains much sympathy; Miss Katherine Brook is excellent as Lady Aldyth; and Miss Edith Lorraine works well as Elfrida; Mr. F. B. Woulfe acts with much resource as Tom of Coventry; Mr. R. Seath Innes deserves a good word as Leofric; Mr. George Barren does justice to the rôle of Algar; Mr. Ernest Hamilton is commendable as Unwolf Unwolfson; and the comic element is supplied successfully by Mr. Bob Anderson as Robin. *Nell Gwynne* was billed for Thursday.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—The Martelloni Lady Acrobats head the bill this week. Mr. Harry Weldon, a well comedian, has some good patter; Joe Conway, juvenile comedian, is well received; as also is Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne and bone soloist; Messrs. Lack and Ford, comedy eccentrics, win hearty applause, and other attractions include Kendrick and Laura, society entertainers; Mabel Hind, comedienne, and Walter Payne's animated pictures.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Allan Wilkie and company in a classical repertoire. On Monday night *Hamlet* was played. Mr. Wilkie himself appeared as Hamlet and gave a very fine delineation of the character; Mr. G. Alexander Marsh as Laertes acted with much earnestness and vigour; and Miss Ine Cameron was an interesting Ophelia. Other parts were represented by Messrs. G. Munro, Wilton Ross, Hubert Morgan, and Herbert Morgan. On Tuesday night *The Lady of Lyons* was presented, Mr. G. Alexander Marsh appearing as Claude Melnotte, and Miss Ine Cameron as Pauline. Other plays for the week include *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Bells*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's Apollo success, *The Dairymaids*, is at the popular Grand this week, opening on Monday to a crowded audience. To the farcical element plenty of scope is given, and in this direction Mr. E. Statham Staples and Mr. Harry Dent in their respective parts of Sam Brudenell and Joe Mivens shine exceedingly. Quiet humour also pervades the character of Dr. O'Byrne, an enjoyable effort by Mr. Clarence Blakiston; stately Lady Brudenell is effectively handled by Miss Edith Blanche; Miss Violet Lloyd and Miss Rhoda Gordon sing and dance with charm and piquancy; a low-comedy slavey part is cleverly portrayed by Miss Nellie Beryl; Mr. Jack Fraser and Miss Beryl Vaudrey are to be complimented on their excellent vocal renderings; and histrionic ability is displayed by Mr. George Desmond and Miss Madge Avery in prominent parts. The piece is beautifully mounted, and under the baton of Mr. Albert Bartlett an efficient chorus does good service.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The Royal habitués are again provided with sensational melodrama after their own heart, for *The Traitor Prince* teems with thrilling incidents and exciting situations. The company is Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's, and Mr. T. P. McBride as the sailor hero, Frank Derrick, is a manly and effective figure. The name-part is taken with distinction by Mr. George M. Montanini. A charming heroine is Miss Rose Routledge. Mr. Edmund O'Grady and Miss Kitty Thomas also are responsible for capable work.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The dramatised version of Mr. Guy Thorne's much-talked-of book, "When It Was Dark," is attracting goodly patronage to this theatre, and Mrs. Morton Powell's company is giving a highly dramatic rendering of the piece. Constantine Schaube's villainy is effectively depicted by Mr. George H. Pitt; the strong-minded curate is an equally powerful effort by Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee; Helena is in the capable hands of Mrs. Morton Powell; a very impressive portrayal of the much-abused actress, Gertrude Hunt, goes to the credit of Miss Mabel Mannering; Mr. Riddell Robinson does good work; whilst Mr. Francis Cairns, Mr. Henry Heller, and Mr. Charles Clayton are also excellent.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Very full houses are again the rule here, the credit for which satisfactory state of things must be awarded in large measure to that popular entertainer George Lashwood, who has perforce to render four or five songs in his own inimitable style at every appearance. At the bottom of the bill that comical pair the Poluskis appear, and their comedy business once again arouses the liveliest merriment. Entertaining comedy is also subscribed by Hillman and Russell in a clever speciality, *The Somnambulist*. Popular Lilian Lowe sings ballads in charming style; Kate Traill proves to be a fine vocalist, also a brilliant executant at the piano; Ella Retford is a strong favourite, with quaint song and clever dance; and we are further entertained by that clever club juggling pair, Albertus and Bartram and Lottie Govell in acceptable vocal comedy.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—That clever comedienne, Vesta Victoria, is an easy first in popular favour at this hall, her lively and sprightly methods in the rendition of smart new songs proving quite irresistible. An expert and humorous acrobatic act by the Arleys is much enjoyed; the humorous contributions of J. W. Hall are received with vociferous applause, and Frank Leslie, Tom Moore, and Tony Iveson also find appreciation; the Avocas present an operatic scena in brilliant style; mystifying illusionary acts are successfully engineered by the Violas and Shanghai; the Sisters Silcott sing and dance cleverly; and in the same line M. and S. Woods are doing well.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—A novel and sensational bicycle-riding act forms the pièce-de-résistance of this week's bill. The act is engineered by the Davis-Gledhill Trio, and proves most attractive. Rose Elliott renders vocal items in accomplished style; the Wynfords arouse enthusiasm by their remarkable jumping feats; Keir and Kempton, with special vocal numbers, are popular; much enjoyable comedy is subscribed by Walker and Lake and Charles Deane; Lily Currie is a pleasing vocalist; and that clever young juggler, Wallaw, is again appearing.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The first musical play of the season here made a welcome appearance on Monday evening, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's versatile and clever company presenting *The Blue Moon*, which has the additional merit of being exceptionally well staged and dressed. The augmented orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. Carlton Mason, and we should not omit a word of praise to the well-balanced chorus. Miss Clarice Lockstone in the title-rôle gives a delightful performance, her singing calling for high praise; Miss Kathleen Carteret is smart as Lady Augusta Brabasham; and as Evelyn Ormsby Miss Ethel Callanan is most successful; Miss Florence Imeson is vivacious and clever as Millicent Leroy; Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charles Taylor and Mr. Alfred Beers as Moolraj are most mirth-provoking, keeping the audience in the happiest of humours; Mr. Alfred Clark is all that can be desired as Major Vivian Callabone; Mr. Herbert Clayton as Captain Jack Ormsby creates an excellent impression; and Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne as Bobbie Scott is equally successful; Mr. Arthur Soames is capital as the Prince; Miss Lochner does well as the native Oma. This afternoon will be inaugurated regular weekly matinées for the various attractions. Mr. Henry Dundas having left no stone unturned to make this new innovation of Messrs. Bode and Compton as widely known in the district as possible.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A really fine attraction is being presented here this week in the romantic drama *The Midnight Wedding*, by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's principal company. Mr. Alfred Paumier makes a conspicuous success as Paul Valmar; and Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea von Streisburg and Second-lieutenant Karl Helsburg displays histrionic abilities of a high order. Mr. Clinton Baddeley is good as Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck; and Mr. Ulick Burke does well as Lieutenant von Streisburg; Miss Ada Champion is attractive as Kathie; and Miss Florence Hunt merits commendation as Satanella. Much hearty laughter is created by Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobo, Mr. James E. Page as Sergeant Max, and Mr. Percy Compton as Corporal Otto.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Premier honours are held in this week's programme by Bella and Bijou, whose versatile and clever show is meeting with the usual warm welcome; Harry Grey, described as the Australian Nugget, scores a well-deserved success with a smart and amusing turn; Spry and Monti present a new sketch, in which they keep the audience in the merriest of moods; Madame Marvelle introduces her remarkably pretty and well-trained bird act to the delight of the audience; Ruby Dahl and her merry mannikins are popular in a unique and novel turn; Abdy's Canine Circus shows what can be done in the matter of dog training; the Bisera Troupe of eight lady musicians give a most enjoyable performance; Harris and Worth, as a pair of huntsmen, prove very amusing; J. C. Scatter, Tyneside comedian and clever clog dancer, is entertaining; and the American Bioscope is also a special feature of a good all-round entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—After one week's absence, Mr. Frank Hardie's excellent sketch company is again the principal attraction here, and is presenting with their usual success the American episode, *Pedlar Sam* (in which Mr. Frank Hardie shines in the title-part), and the dramatic episode, *The Cornish Wreckers*, the parts of Kate (Miss Irene Carlton), Jasper March (Mr. Fred Dobell), and Denny (Mr. Frank Hardie) calling for special mention. The variety portion of the programme is successfully contributed to by Wyotti, comedy juggler; Gertie Moore, in her singing and speciality dancing act; Wirson, head and hand balancer; Minnie D'Aubyn, burlesque actress; Charles Sloman, comedian; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, with the usual entertaining pictures.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—*The Grip of Iron* is once again paying a return visit here, and was given a hearty welcome on Monday night. It is played by Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denman's company, which includes Mr. Fred Powell, who scores a triumphant success as Jagon, his portrayal in every respect being excellent. Mr. Wallace Curnock is an able representative of Paul Branchard; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner merits approval as Lorenzi de Ribas; Mr. Geo. Denham is distinctly successful as Loustalot, the Smiler; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood capitally acts the part of Alphonse de Concon; Miss Rosabel Dodd acquits herself with great credit as Cora Simmonet; Miss Muriel Inglis is very effective as Sophie Blanchard; and Miss Violet Ingram is satisfactory as Marie Guerin.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Fred Bulmer's company is here on a return visit with Mr. F. Bateman's celebrated convict drama, *Sentenced For Life*. Mr. Edward E. Louis is strong in the part of the hero, Roy Stillwell; Mr. Ernest Vaughan makes an able villain; Mr. James F. Firth is successful in the light comedy rôle of Percy McGentle; and two convicts, Bill and Toby, are sufficiently funny in the hands of Mr. Arthur Keand and Mr. R. Oldroyd. Miss Madge Douglas plays the heroine, Adele Gray, in pleasing style; Miss May Neilson is a satisfactory Kate Rennel; and Miss Mary Dalby a good Lady Stillwell.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King.—The production of *A Miserable Marriage* is noticed in another column.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Fred Earle is here on a first visit, and his songs are well received. W. B. Raby is another comedian of high merit, and Walter Emerson has never been more popular. Bliss and Bliss, Keen and Waller, Alice Ormonde, Saxo, Rose Pink, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux add to the enjoyment of the show.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is playing *A Country Girl* here this week. Mr. Martin D. Pitts is a fine Geoffrey Challoner; as Sir Joseph Verity Mr. W. O. Billington is decidedly good; Mr. Frank Weir as Barry is capital; Miss Blanche Courtney makes a lively Nan; Marjorie Joy is finely played by Miss Violet Leslie; and Miss Madge Campbell is clever as Sophie.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—On Thursday, and following two nights, of last week, Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company presented *The Manxman* to large and appreciative houses. Mr. Cross made an ideal Pete, his acting being most intense. He was well supported by Miss Minnie Waltersford in the rôle of Kate Cregeen; Mr. Frank Liston gave an excellent performance of Philip; and the Cæsar Cregeen of Mr. James Dillon was an clever bit of acting; Miss Dorothy Duncan was an effective Nancy.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian* was warmly received here on Monday by a large audience. Chief honours fell to Miss Grace Chalmers, who presented a fine study of Glory Quayle; and equally good was Mr. Frank Tennant, whose careful treatment and manly interpretation of John Storm won unstinted applause. Mr. Geo. R. Montford was effective as Lord Robert Ure, and excellent sketches of character were presented by Messrs. Edward Ling and Chas. E. Dering as Father Lamplugh and Archdeacon Wealthy respectively. Mr. Jackson Wilcox gave a fine reading of Horatio Drake; Mr. Chas. Hill was well placed as Parson Quayle; Miss Molly Hayden was a good Mrs. Callender, and other parts were carefully treated.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley. — This week we have here the Ediscope and Barnum's Animated Pictures, which are very interesting. In addition there is a classy variety company. The Cedrics, comedy speciality artists, score a great success; Vela, hurricane wire act, is astounding; Lulu, lady instrumentalist, is one of the principal features of the entertainment; Stilvo, stilt performer, gives a clever turn; Jessie Harper, singing mill girl, is very pleasing; Mons. Reni and his wonderful dog are well received; Vic. Verney, whistler, and Miss Queenie Vane, comedienne, are both interesting performances.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following make up a good bill this week: The Stavordale Quintette, instrumentalists; Les Valdos, eccentric 'bus men and comedy acrobats; Alfonzo, a clever foot equilibrist; Curtis and Vanity, acrobatic dancers; Harding and Preston, duettists; Johnny Worman, comedian; and Miss Lottie Bray, skipping-rope dancer.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr. J. Beslee.—The St. Louis Picture company is a great attraction here this week.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—Musical plays always prove welcome at this theatre, and although *Florodora* has been seen not a few times in Margate, its reappearance this week, for three nights, commencing on Monday, has met with every success. Cyrus W. Gilfain was safely entrusted to Mr. Colin Johnston, who played the part with all the required unctuousness. Mr. Howard V. Crofton sang in manly and pleasing style as Frank Abercoed, gaining well deserved encomiums for his rendering of "In the shade of the palm"; Mr. Carnelly Joye made an acceptable Capt. Arthur Donegal, and Mr. C. A. Road-Night, as the sinister-looking Leandro, was capital; Mr. Gus Danby's broad humour was provocative of laughter and applause; Miss Daisy Lake made a graceful Dolores; Miss Rose Sullivan a vivacious and coquettish Lady Holyrood; and Angela Gilfain found a pretty and demure representative in Miss Dorothy Dempster; Velleda being brightly played by Miss Dorothy Dance. For the rest of the week Miss Decima Moore has been booked to appear with the comedy *All of a Sudden Peggy*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The week's programme is again an attractive one, the contributors being Fred Collins, Scotch character comedian; Patty Yole, an expert dancer; Regan and Ryan, the merriment merchants; the Flying Eugenes, aerial gymnasts; Minnie Mace, comedienne and dancer; and the Ethel Arden and George Abel company in *Three of a Kind*. The Hippodrome pictures are, as usual, capital.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert. — The entertainment provided here this week consists of animated pictures of the fight for the boxing championship between Jimmy Britt and Battling Nelson. Variety turns are also given by Kyd Gwyn, ball puncher, and Bernard, in characters from Dickens, and the Sisters Rankin, vocalists and dancers.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The turns here include The Saletos, head and hand balancers; Ariello, the hypnotic, mystic maiden; the Two Daniels, negro artists; the marvellous Howards, necromancers and mystifiers. Animated pictures complete the bill.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Hilliard Vox and company are here this week in the American drama, *Alaska*. Mr. Hilliard Vox gives a powerful rendering of Skookum Jim; a sufficiently villainous Ned Lawson is found in Mr. C. D. Pitt; Mr. Albert Rogers is prominent with a pleasing impersonation of Pompey Cæsar; Mr. Bevan Benton gives a fine dramatic exposition as Father Bernard; while Mr. H. N. Grimson does well as Baptiste. Miss G. Hastings plays with fervour the rôle of Alaska; Miss Cora Paley scores a success as Jess Dalton; Miss Lesile Wynne makes a typically humorous Irishwoman as Widow Casey.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is this week presenting *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice Homer is a decided success; Mr. Philip Darien as Jack Merrimer has a thorough grasp of the part; Miss Margaret Watson as Morita contributes considerably to the enjoyment of the play by her piquant acting; Miss Nellie Jackson is good as Aggie Brown; and for the part of Rose Courtenay a clever representative is found in Miss Nell Oliver. Mr. W. Wallace-Aston does full justice to the part of Raggles; and Mr. Leyton Cancellor does well as Hubert Gold.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. A. W. Pinero's play *His House in Order* is being presented here this week by George Alexander's company. As Nina, Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay meets with gratifying success, and audiences are entirely carried away by her brilliant and effective acting. Mrs. Stephen T. Ewart plays the part of Hilary Jesson with great dramatic power and distinction; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Filmer Jesson, M.P., is responsible for a remarkably good interpretation. Mr. Lloyd Lowndes as Major Maurewarde gives great satisfaction, and the part of Mlle. Thomé has an able representative in Mlle. Eve Grand. The Ridgeleys find clever representatives in Mr. Geo. Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest Holloway, Miss Augusta Haveland, and Miss Elaine Heddall. The part of Dereck Jesson is in the capable hands of Miss M. Richardson. The scenery and costumes are exceedingly pretty.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges. — The outstanding feature of the programme here this week is a daring cycle act by Wizard and Irene Stone, entitled "The Globe of Life." J. W. Rowley as good as ever; the Balsamos provide an excellent acrobatic turn; and the sketch, *An Emperor's Divorce*, by Ronald Boyne and Miss Evelyn Hope is also well received. Sid Bandon is a clever character comedian and Cyril Carle is an excellent vocalist. Other turns are provided by Maudie Ford, comedienne, the Ashers in their comedy act and the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Alfred Graham. George Bastow, the creator of that popular favourite "Father Giles," is the star turn here. Charles Whittle also scores a success with an old favourite "Billy Muggins." The Two Bees have an up-to-date song scena, "The Man in the Moon," and Lola Patey sings old ballads in charming style.

MIDDLETON.—PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pardoe and Turner.—An excellent variety company is engaged here this week. The Marvellous Pardoes score heavily in their vaudeville entertainment, entitled *On the Sands at Brighton*; Miss Lottie Holland sings refined and effective songs; and Teddy Vokes is amusing in his musical sketch. There are also some good animated pictures.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mrs. Alice Chapin's company has been appearing this week in *A Knight Errant* and *A Pantomime Rehearsal*. Clarence Ibbotson was successful in the parts of the Duke de Cabrean and Lord Arthur Pomeroy, and Mr. Alvin Sawyer capital as the *roué* Lautier in the first piece and Sir Chas. Grandison in the second; Mr. Harry Welchman was remarkably good in both pieces, and the same remark applies to Mr. Harold Chapin. Miss Alice Chapin acts and sings nicely, and Miss Eliene Douglas plays with charm. Miss Elsie Chapin and Miss Paula Fernan are also seen in suitable parts.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—Mr. Hart's pierrots are having a season here, and have this week been presenting an acceptable programme.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. J. Bastow.—Mr. Walter Curtis has been the principal attraction, and has amused with his clever business. Mr. Harry Horner, bass, has also been received with a great deal of favour.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant. Mr. William Greet's company is this week paying a return visit in *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr. Frank E. Petley sustains the rôle of Marcus with ability; Miss Marie Leonhard captures the sympathies of her audience by her exquisite impersonation of Mercia; Mr. Frank Wood is pre-eminently good as Glabrio; Nero is finely rendered by Mr. C. York; Tigellinus and Licinius being equally well impersonated by Mr. Chas. Aldred and Mr. J. Weatherall; Miss Cissie Carlton is an ideal Dacia, and Miss Gertrude Price plays Berenice with ability. Mr. Walter Fleet, an impressive Favius, receives good support from Mr. George Stanton in the rôle of Titus; and Philodemus is well rendered by Mr. Harry Jones.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in the popular drama, *Between Two Women*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Fred Goddard gives a clever impersonation of Henry, Earl of Millard; Mr. Aurèle Lambat does some good work as Harry Millard; Mr. Walter Thornton as James Durward and Mr. Roland Yorke as Major Strangeways make a typical pair of villains; Mr. Godfrey Tearle gives a fine portrayal of the Rev. Philip Carton; Miss Molly Malone makes a pleasing and attractive Violet Thornton; Miss Vera Fordyce ably sustains the part of Carmen de Saveresux; Miss Lulu Bowes is good as the Blind Boy; Mr. Fred Danvers as Jack Pringle and Miss Lilian Earle as Polly are responsible for the comic element; Mr. Nevill Graham is successful as the shop-manager, Mr. Jorkins; and Miss Florence Hamilton makes a capital lady customer.

NEWCASTLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—There was a large audience at this popular house on Monday, on the occasion of the first production in Newcastle by Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company of the new musical play in two acts, *The Blue Moon*. In the title-rôle, a graceful artist in Miss Florence Smithson quickly won favour by her sweet singing and finished acting, and in the songs "Blue Moon" and "The

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Miss Winifred Maude's Co. opened here on Monday with *The Sins of a City*. As Sandy McDonald, Mr. William Vane earns well-merited applause; Mr. Leonard Harrison created a favourable impression as Donald McIvor; Mr. Norton Shields in the dual rôle of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh scored a well-deserved success; Mr. William Bradford made a hit as Ralph Blackwater; and Mr. Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi was responsible for a capital performance; as Seaweed Miss Winifred Maude gave an excellent rendering of the character; Miss Sunny Hackett was good as Midge; Miss Jessie Mason clever as Jeannie; Miss Lily Mason as Mrs. Mixes, and Miss Ethel Tinsley as Leslie were both successful. *The Stowaway* was underlined for Thursday.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Bensley Evan's company in the sketch, *Sally's Dilemma*, causes laughter here. The Ravens, comedy artistes, are clever; Mr. Will Mitcham, musical comedian, an old favourite, is as popular as ever; Miss Fanny Erris, comedienne, goes well; Miss May Tyler, comedienne and dancer, has made a hit; Messrs. Voyles and Bryan, the merry Yanks, are smart, and the Bio-Photoscope is still a leading feature.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Mr. Gustave Roselle's Merry Zingaras, lady minstrels, and animated pictures have been the attraction this week, and the minstrel troupe contains some really good voices, and forms an excellent combination, their several selections being cleverly rendered; Mrs. Roselle, who possesses a soprano voice of excellent quality, met with a most flattering reception; the pictures are most realistic; Mrs. Roselle's Mysteria is a popular feature of the show. The whole entertainment is most enjoyable.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is here this week. Mr. Alfred Conohoe as Jim Cheese is amusing; as Dick Wargrave Mr. Thomas Kennard is successful; Mr. Greville Hayes is a capital Bunker Bliss; Mr. Leslie Owen scores as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Miss Mary Yates, who appears as Elphin Haye, is received with deserved applause; Miss Winnie Plumpton is highly successful as Miss Virginia Bliss; and Miss Ida Stratham with much vivacity embodies Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Lena Hicks deserves praise for her representation as Eliza Shodham; and equally good is Miss Kathleen as Mrs. Shimmering Black. The chorus sings remarkably well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—An excellent bill is presented this week. Franco Piper proves a clever banjoist; the Warsaw Brothers are clever musicians as well as humorous in their turn; Lena Brunton is a smart mimic of musical artists; Maude Edwards, ventriloquist, is well received; whilst Russell Wallett creates fun as the lady who always dresses in black; Barney Armstrong is successful as a comedian; Ouda and Leon are good as horizontal bar performers; and Vi Carlyle deserves praise for her song scena, "My Mountain Maid." The Hippo Bio shows some amusing films.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*When Knights Were Bold* is being presented here for the first time on any stage. A detailed notice will be found in another column.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr. F. Mouillot's company is presenting the comedy drama *A Message from Mars*. The Horace Barker of Mr. Herbert J. Bentley is an exceedingly fine performance. He is cleverly supported by Miss Joan Ellis in the part of Minnie Templar. Mr. Wm. H. Brougham makes a thoroughly impressive Messenger, his enunciation being particularly effective; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson offers a well-thought-out study of Arthur Dicey; and as a tramp Mr. Bruce Lindley acts without exaggeration. Miss Flora Hastings is charmingly natural as Miss Parker; and Miss Peggy E. Yeoman submits a dainty embodiment of Bella; Miss Constance Groves plays satisfactorily as Mrs. Clarence.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The Harmony Four head the bill this week, evoking the merriest of laughter for their comedy; the drolleries of Ernie Mayne prove an excellent mirth-provoker; and the Brothers Lang help to drive dull care away by their smart patter; Cabaret's dogs enter thoroughly into the spirit of their tricks, gaining much applause; while the Three Albions submit a smart and novel performance on musical instruments; an interesting turn is supplied by Colby and May, the former as a ventriloquist and the latter in her impersonation of a dancing doll; a clever sketch, *The Golfer and the Maid*, provides Hanvaar and Lee with an opportunity to show their dexterity in tumbling and the manipulation of Indian clubs; Billy Tucker proves an adept in ball-punching; and Stelling and Revell perform wonders on the parallel bars, judiciously mixed with some excellent humour; a vivacious comedienne is also seen in Bouverie Pleydell.

MECHANICS' HALL.—Fred Clements' concert party is paying the usual autumn visit here this week, and proving as attractive as ever. The varied programme of new songs and dances, ventriloquial sketches, concerted pieces, &c., is clever, refined, and humorous.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Robert Perris's company under the direction of Mr. Karl H. Edwards, commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *A Fight for Millions*. Mr. John C. Carlyle is good as the hero. Tom Manley; Mr. P. G. Beresford scores in the part of Hudson Rivers, while as the scheming Richard Dudley, Mr. Hugh Mewburn is seen to advantage; Mr. K. H. Edwards and Mr. Harry Howe work well together as Willie Neverwork and Solomon Moses, and introduce some genuine humour; Miss Alwynne Ermon gives an effective reading of Pearl Rivers; Miss Nora Kingsley as Mrs. Hudson Rivers; and Miss Elma Turner, Helen Dudley, are also deserving of praise; Miss Mabel Howe as Little Madge proves herself a capable artist.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—For the first time in the provinces the comedy *Raffles* was presented here on Monday last, before a large and interested audience. A capital company is touring with the play, foremost among whom stands Mr. Leonard Boyne, in the title-rôle, A. J. Raffles, the amateur cracksman; the part fits him like a glove, and he was highly successful; Mr. Dalziel Heron made an excellent Crawshay; and Mr. Lewis Edgard gave a capital rendering of Harry Manders; the Earl of Amersteth was ably portrayed by Mr. Arthur Willoughby; and Mr. Edmund Breon appeared as Viscount Crowley; Mr. Clifford Brooke made a big success as Curtis Bedford, the detective; Miss Hilda Stuart was a capital Mrs. Vidal; and Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald as Marie made the most of the part; Miss Amy Thomas was a stately Lady Melrose; and Miss Madge Murray was good as Lady Ethel; whilst Miss Hazel Thompson as Gwendoline Conran gave valuable assistance. Other parts were played by Messrs. Robinson, Jephson, and Walters.

COLOSSEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is paying a return visit with the *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Edward Bikker is a capital General Kingsley; and Mr. B. Lovett is good as Captain Frank Carsdale; Mr. Archie Helsby, as the villainous Captain Darrell, does his work in an able manner; Mr. J. Magrath as Timothy O'Quirke, and Mr. H. Lyndon, as Timothy Trimmer, cause a great deal of amusement; Miss Lily Beverley as Eric Carsdale, and Miss Maggie English as Jack Smith are excellent; Miss Edie Macklin is a sympathetic Molly Meadows; and a striking contrast is presented by Miss Kathleen Magee as Margaret Rivers (Drunken Meg); Miss Mildred Eversleigh scores as Alma Kingsley; and the remaining parts are well played.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Arthur Lennard, comedian, is the star turn, and he has been highly successful; Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* cause roars of laughter; Lillian, Vera, and Major Charles give a smart exhibition of shooting; Hall and Earle are a capital pair of eccentrics; Alice Blandford is a charming operatic vocalist; and Lizzie Fletcher is a good comedienne; O'Malley and Brown have scored in their new comedy-sketch, and much interest is taken in Lady Julia, an ape that has been well trained. The Royal Dottoscope concludes the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Miss Jessie Albini, comedienne, has had a good reception; the Allans in a musical turn on the banjo and mandoline also do well; Mona McDonald is an excellent vocalist; and the Arundels are very good in a funny act; Kiaro is a marvellous hand jumper; and Martin Henderson is a blind pianist and contortionist of no mean order; Ossi Souplessi gives a smart turn on the silver rings; and the Dottoscope is showing an interesting picture, "The Black Beauty."

OSWESTRY.—PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. J. Evans.—One of Mr. George Dance's companies presented the popular musical play, *The Girl from Kay's*, here on Monday. Miss Jessie Fraser, in the title-rôle, is well placed, acting and singing admirably; Miss Marie Greenhouse as Norah Chalmers is seen to advantage in the part; Mr. J. W. Hooper as Hoggenheimer is exceedingly funny; Harry Gordon finds a capital exponent in Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft, who renders his songs admirably; Mr. Herbert Jennings as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle is most amusing; and Miss Irene Vere sings with taste and expression as Ellen.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE — Managing-Director, Mr. T. Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Charles Harrington with his excellent company, opened here on Monday with *The Sailors of the King*, which met with the heartiest of receptions from a full house. Mr. Harrington gave a most finished and delightful impersonation of Admiral Drake; Mr. Frank Stephens was quite the breezy sailor as his son Dick, and acted with commendable vigour; Mr. R. F. Stacey realised the diabolical character of his traitorous brother Orrel; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., caused genuine amusement by his quaint humour as Barnet Fair; Mr. Fred Owen fairly brought down the house with his delightfully funny performance of the Jew Wilkinstein; and Mr. H. Webb acted with considerable power as Rufford Dent. Miss Madge North was a sympathetic and refined Felicia; Miss Lily Prescott gave a delightful and natural performance of Daisy Dent; Miss Hero Hathaway did exceedingly well as the demure servant Penelope; and Miss Sylvia Stella played the heavy part of the adventuress Rebecca Crosby with a magnetic power that quite thrilled her audience.

PAISLEY.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—A capital programme is contributed this week by the following:—Poole and Poole (Tom and Florrie), expert table pedestal dancers; Capita, marvellous mannikin; Raymond and Colly, comedians; Little Dolly Robson, a veritable child wonder; Sisters Bathurst (Annie and Amy), top-boot and sand dancers; Dan Noble, comedian; Marie Yorke, burlesque artist; and Horsley Brothers, bag punchers.

PENTRE. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—A large and enthusiastic audience greeted the appearance of Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company in *The Coal King* on Monday. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland gives an ideal impersonation of Tom Roberts, the mine manager; Sir Reginald Harford is admirably sustained by Mr. Lionel Thompson; Mr. Escott Robson gives a clever interpretation of the designing scoundrel, Walter Harford; Mr. Frank Dalton as Dick Shirley sustains a difficult part with good effect; Seth Baker is well represented by Mr. John Coghlan; Miss Sinna St. Clair deserves praise for her portrayal of Mad Ann; as Grace Shirley Miss Gertrude Valentine acts with grace and charm. The piece is admirably relieved by the bright and vivacious humour of Mr. Alfred Terriss as Jim Williams, and Miss Sybil Coghlan as Araminta.

PENZANCE.—Poole's Myriorama continues its successful course for the second week, and the Reserve Squadron of the Channel Fleet having been anchored in Mounts Bay for some days, the nightly audiences have been considerably augmented by bluejackets and marines on short leave. These visitors have keenly appreciated the fine naval pictures shown, and have been delighted with the high-class variety entertainment. The Avondale Quartette have been highly successful with a new sketch entitled *The Mad Musician*, and the Urban Bioscope showed a new series of splendid films. Mr. Harry Stewart is the courteous and hard-working manager, and sees to the comfort of the large audiences which crowd this hall at every performance.

ALEXANDRA GROUNDS.—The season of the Lindon Vaudeville company is drawing to a close, and benefits are now the order of the day, or rather night. Messrs. Bob White and Nestor, the two popular comedians, were accorded a substantial bespeak at the Central Hall this week, when a special programme was thoroughly enjoyed.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The fair city is fortunate in having Mr. J. W. Turner's famous English Opera Company as the attraction during the race week. On Monday night Benedict's charming opera *The Lily of Killarney* was rendered in a manner well worthy the company's fame. The only difference that passing years seem to make in Mr. Turner with his Perth audiences is to acclaim him more popular and successful than ever, and his delightful impersonation of Miles-na-Coppaleen is vociferously applauded; Mr. F. J. Hargrave has made his first appearance here, and the success he attains in the rôle of Hardress Cregan will be remembered with pleasing effect; Mr. Tom Griffiths meets with his usual cordial reception in his able portrayal of Danny Mann; Mr. Sidney Clifford as Father Tom gives a taste of his ability that made the audience look forward to his more important rôles during the week; and this may also be said of Mr. G. H. Ridding's Corrigan; Miss Jessie Dennis's Mrs. Cregan is both impressive and charming; Miss Addington creates a pleasing impression as Miss Chute; Miss Maud Esdale is happily placed as Sheila, and Miss Kitty Brownlees sustains her reputation by her talented and charming rendering of Eily. *Il Trovatore* was billed for Tuesday, in which Mr. F. J. Hargrave assumed the rôle of Manrico and Miss Kitty Brownlees that of Leonora. In *The Bohemian Girl* on Wednesday the rôle of Arline was sustained by Miss Christine Gomez. *Maritana*, *Faust*, and *The Waterman* follow during the week.

PETERBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here this week in *The Eternal City*. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering as Baron Bonelli gives a well-studied impersonation; Mr. Henry Deas is a capable exponent of David Rossi; Mr. W. O. Flynn is well placed as Bruno Rocco; and Mr. J. Fortescue submits a dignified study of Pope Pius XI. Miss Sara de Groot fills the rôle of Donna Romo Volonna in a way that leaves little to be desired.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Mouillot's company is paying another visit to Plymouth in *The Toreador*. Mr. Harry Buss, as Sammy Gigg, is excellent; Mr. Howard Cridland—a member of a well-known Plymouth family—makes a fine blasé lieutenant in the Guards, his motor sketch with Mr. Buss being genuinely funny; as Pettifer, Mr. Fred Fowler's strong point is some very clever dancing; Mr. H. M. White, is an imposing Carajolo, his rich baritone voice is warmly appreciated; and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton scores with his catchy song, "The Governor of Villaya"; Miss Marie Adair is a dashing Teresa, her song, "The Toreador," being honoured with a double encore; Miss Katie May is a vivacious Susan; Miss Florence Burdett makes an admirable widow; Miss Zoe Gilfain is very demure as Dora Selby; and Miss Rose Helene, as Nancy Stanton, creates plenty of fun in her masculine impersonation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—After a comparatively recent interval Mr. Percy Williams's stock company again presents the domestic drama, *Home Sweet Home*. The popular support accorded the performance, however, quite justify the management in reproducing the piece. The company, as on the former occasion, includes Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Henry Compton, Alfred Brandon, and Tommy Gough, and the Misses Ethel Kay and M. C. Livesey, whose respective performances quite equalled, if not excelled, their former efforts.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company is presenting a highly-successful musical play, entitled, *In Old Madrid*. Tuneful music, catchy songs, and graceful dancing are the predominant features of the play, the premier honours being awarded the Sisters English (Violet and Lillie) for their exceedingly well-executed dancing.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Hackenschmidt forms a great attraction here, packed houses at every performance being rewarded with some remarkable feats of strength and endurance; Helm and Comens have a clever skit on the medical profession, entitled, *The Doctor and the Patient*; Ross and Grayson have a turn in which they introduce some truly remarkable pianoforte playing; Frank Maura is a finished exponent of feet manipulation; Walter King, the doleful comedian, is very good; and the Three Gilbert Girls have a popular song of the "Sammy" order. others contributing are Carl and Carr, and Vernon's pictures.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Mr. Chas. Parker's Komedy Koncert Kompany is paying a farewell visit for the present season. Miss Rita Vincent (soprano) was loudly applauded for her "Bungalow" song; Miss Eileen Hope has a contralto voice of exceptional promise and ability; Miss Ethel Lonsdale is an accomplished sketch artist; Mr. Flocton Foster is a high-class light comedy entertainer; Mr. Ernest Le Butt submitted a violin solo, which earned a well-merited encore; and Mr. Arnold Richadson is a first-rate comedian.

PORTH.—PALACE OF VARIETIES (late OPERA HOUSE).—General Manager. Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Heading the bill here this week is Herr Fritz, the well-known illusionist, who gives an excellent performance; the Three Seymons' equilibristic juggling act is really clever; Rita Bell, the Dutch girl, is most successful; Wal Owen keeps the audience in good humour with his comicalities; Zelda proves herself to be an expert musical performer; Fred Horsfall, humourist and mimic, deserves mention; the Sisters Brand, charming comediennes, acquit themselves creditably; Frank Whiteley, banjo and bone soloist and expert dancer, is a big favourite; the Brothers Brooks, comedians, are responsible for some excellent amusement, and new pictures are shown on the New Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*San Toy* is paying us a visit this week, Mr. Mouillot's company (by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes) being responsible for its able presentation. Miss Bessie Allayne, in the name part, is eminently successful, her pleasing acting and vocalism delighting everyone. Miss Lottie Sargent makes an attractive and smart Dudley; Miss Irene Lavington does well as Poppy; Captain Bobby Preston is well placed in the hands of Mr. Arthur Cartwright; Yen How is ably impersonated by Mr. Hugh Webb; Sir Bingo Preston has a capital representative in Mr. Robert Rivers; and Lieut. Harvey Tucker is creditably played by Mr. George Taylor.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, with an excellent company, are presenting Mr. G. R. Sims' and Wilson Barrett's fine play, *The Golden Ladder*, to keenly interested houses here this week. Miss Mary Austin plays Lillian Grant with great sincerity and naturalness; Miss Teresa Haynes sustains the part of the kind-hearted prison wardress with judgment; and Miss Violet Houghton and Miss Janet Wakeling, in their respective parts of matron of the prison and Rosemary, are praiseworthy. Mr. William Clayton as the Rev. Frank Thornhill acts with conviction and manliness; Mr. J. Milne Taylor as Michael Severn, in a powerful performance, is ably supported by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds as Peranza. Another clever portrayal is that of Mr. Eric Thompson as Rao, a Malagasy servant. Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Samuel Peckaby, and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby, are most humorous in their impersonations.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The star turn here is Florrie Forde, the highly popular burlesque actress, who is delighting large audiences with some of her best vocal efforts, and receives unbounded applause. Wyndham and Kitty, with their undoubtedly clever wire-walking act, are much liked; the Mozondas work hard in their variety entertainment; Florrie St. Clair, soubrette, has a taking style; Hughes and Elliott, in a vocal and terpsichorean act, do extremely well; T. C. Callaghan, versatile comedian, submits some droll songs; Sid Cotterell and company, in the comedy sketch *The Substitute*, score a great success; and the programme also includes Ted Young, characteristic comedian; the Bodina Trio, vocal and instrumental speciality artists; and Payne's Bioscope.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mrs. Bandmann Palmer is appearing here with her company in a répertoire of plays. On Monday evening *Mary Queen of Scots* was staged; and for her impressive interpretation of the title-rôle, Mrs. Bandmann Palmer was accorded quite an ovation. The Earl of Leicester had a distinctively successful representative in Mr. A. Wilson Wynne; Miss Katherine Herbert gave an excellent portrayal as Queen Elizabeth; and Mr. Sydney Bland ably sustained the part of Sir Edward Mortimer. The other plays which have been presented during the week are: *Sapho*, *From Washerwoman to Duchess*, *Nell Gwynn*, *East Lynne*, and *Jane Shore*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is this week here with the successful American drama, entitled, *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Stanley Bedwell as the good-natured hero, Joe Mayfield, well deserves his great success; Miss Agnes Verity is seen to great advantage as "Dynamite Ann"; Mr. Will Hook merits much praise for his conception of the humorous character of Reggie Harwood; Miss Daisy Carlton keeps the house convulsed with laughter in the rôle of Maggie Mason; Mr. Chas. H. Lester aquits himself well in the difficult part of Martin Mason; Miss Lily Beayle, as Belle Gordon, made a charming heroine; Mr. Sydney Benson contributes appreciably to the success of the piece as Ben White, a ludicrous negro character; Little Rosie Hopkins quite takes the audience by storm with her delightful childish prattle and songs in the part of Tatto; Mr. J. C. Maine shows himself a master of his art in the rôle of Manuel Alvarez, the bully of Cripple Creek; Mr. Arthur D. Leyland displays distinct dramatic ability as Wahketah, an Indian chief.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Kreamer and Braun are the chief attraction here this week in their sensational racing act, "Horse *v.* Cyclist," which creates great excitement. The Seven Wolfronas score a success in a comedy acrobatic act; Walter Wade is an excellent vocal comedian, raconteur, and mimic; the Bros. Levett give a capital display of vaulting; Nellie and Lily Dixon gain loud applause for their banjo-playing and dancing; Little Beattie's clever dances are well appreciated; Sam Shipley is a smart comedian; and Miss Bee Worth, comedienne, is received with favour; the Fimans present a funny sketch, *In the Fire Station*; and Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Bootham.—Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' excellent company is presenting here the pantomime of *Babes in the Wood*. Mr. Ally Benson as Dame Flossie evokes roars of laughter; Mr. Ernest Thirlway as the Baron is smart; and Mrs. Bert A. Ruttley and Mr. Joe Burgess as Two Bold Bad Men are thoroughly amusing. Miss Gerty McQueen, who appears in the title-rôle, receives several encores for her singing, and Miss Fanny Adamson as Maid Marion also shares similar favours. Miss Kitty Chester and Baby Blyth as the Babes are excellent. Specialities are introduced by Messrs. Conner and Trayner, the Royal Heralds, the Four Sisters McQueen, and Miss Daisy Atkinson.

RAMSGATE.—SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Henry Bowman. — Mr. R. C. Carton's brilliantly-written comedy, *Public Opinion*, presented by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's clever company, proved highly successful here on the first three evenings of the week. Miss Nancy Beresford was a thoroughly charming Pansy Bligh; and Mr. Charles Harley gave a fine exhibition as the peppery Spencer Traughton. Mr. Percy Marshall was excellent as Horace Wibsey; and a similar remark applies to the Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley of Mr. Fred Lewis, the Sir Babington Mulley of Mr. Douglas Hamilton, the Viscount Poffley of Mr. D. Greet, and the Lord Percy Kilgour of Mr. A. Pearse. Miss Emma Hutchison was admirable in the rôle of Lady Diana Caldershaw; and Miss Connie Dene was a good Phyllis Dagenham. On Thursday Mr. Norman V. Norman commenced a welcome three nights' return visit in *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION. — Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Sole Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux. —*The Manxman* has been finely staged here this week by Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company. Mr. Cross himself appeared as Pete, and his representation of a difficult part leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Minnie Watersford in the character of Kate Cregeen effectively reflects the various phases of a well-drawn part; the Philip of Mr. Frank Liston is a noteworthy contribution to the success; and Miss Dorothy Duncan is first-rate as Nancy. Mr. James Dillon does well as Cæsar Cregeen.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur de Frece.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company opened here to a good house on Monday, with *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. Fred Lloyd as Philip Carnaby gave an exceptionally fine impersonation; Mr. Charles Herbert was a good Frank Hardy; Mr. J. O. Stewart an excellent Squire Abingdon; and Mr. Alfred Grenville was equally clever as Abingdon, jun. Mr. John Hignett made a successful Dennis O'Rourke; Mr. Gelson Brooke a good Dr. Brandetto; Miss Alice N. Livesey a fine Sybil Thornburn; and Miss Helen Richmond a capable Pattie Swift; Miss N. Griffiths as Mariquinha was most successful with her pantomimic interpretation.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is here this week with *The Lion and the Mouse*. The company includes Miss Christine Silver, who gives a finished portrayal of the character of Shirley Rossdale (the Mouse); Mr. Leslie Carter is responsible for a good rendering of the part of John Burkett Ryder (the Lion); and the other parts are all well acted.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Home, Sweet Home*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Frank Lindo, an able actor, fills the part of Stephen Armitage with distinction; Mr. D. L. Hoyle makes a typical fisherman of David Armitage; Captain Gerald Gambier skilfully portrays the part of the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr. F. M. Hodgson makes a capital villain as Lucas Lyle. Mr. Harry Danson as the Hon. Percy and Miss Ray Rochefort as Sybil Fay are responsible for the humorous element. Miss Marion Wakeford captivates the audience as Joan; and Miss Daisy Rochefort is quite a favourite as the child Dora.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Texas Hattie on the tight-rope performs some clever and daring feats; Conan and Doyle, comedians, are amusing with their patter; other good turns are submitted by Oakdene, comedy ventriloquist; Syd Bazley, comedian; Edith St. Clare, burlesque actress; Lavelle Brothers, acrobats; the Tiger Lily, coon singer and dancer; Harry Butt, boy vocalist; and Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Chanti, with his quick-change act, in which he introduces some novelties and electric surprises, heads the bill with a capital turn; Zeta Grey and company, in *The Lancashire Lass*, submit some capital vocalism and amusing comedy; the Sisters Walmsley are refreshing with their charming dancing and singing; T. C. Edwards, baritone, renders his songs in fine style; and Alma Obrey, comedienne; Harry Nelson, comedian; Bob Baxter, the genial one; and the Empire Bioscope, complete the list.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here this week with *Her Second Time on Earth*. Mr. Frank R. Robertson is seen to advantage as Jack Carlton; Mr. W. H. Porter scores as Guy Brand; Mr. Cyril Vernon is deserving of mention as Tom Norman; and Mr. Leonard Aardale gives an excellent representation of Beppo. Miss Dorothy Hildebrand is a pleasing Laura Norman; Miss Agnes Ross an effective Jane Ferrors; Miss Polly Marsh a realistic Elizabeth Burke; and Miss Hilda Beverley as Dora Grey is responsible of a highly-finished representation.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Miss Ada Wallis's company is here this week with *Sweet Marie*. Miss Ada Wallis in the title-rôle is very successful; Miss Nellie Bradley is a pretty and vivacious Lady Violet; and Miss Marie Stoddart a good Lady Augusta; Mr. T. Mayne gives a humorous rendering of John Bush; as Tom Bush Mr. F. Doyle works hard, his efforts to amuse being quite successful; Mr. T. C. McQuire is good as Lord Tofton, and Mr. Ernest Brame as Alfred Bush does very well; the National Troupe of lady dancers are smart, pretty and clever.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Henry Bedford's company commenced a week's stay here on Monday with *Gipsy Jack*. Mr. Bedford appears in the title-rôle with his disguises in a most satisfactory manner; Gerald Skinner is creditably played by Mr. Robert Gilbert; Miss Bessie Bedford as May Harvey is seen to advantage; Miss Violet Alwyn is a charming Dorothy Dexter; Mr. Sid Bedford as Joe Banks, Mr. Archer Brown as Charley Bates, and Miss Jennie Risley as Jennie Huggins furnish the comedy business satisfactorily; Miss Frances Foley as Hagar, Miss Ada Antley as Nan, Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens as Rev. Francis Harvey, Mr. Charles Archer as Sir John Dexter, and Mr. David Curtis as Mr. Skinner give good support in their various characters.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—This week's programme is of the usual good quality, with plenty of variety, and includes Daisy Dormer, a charming comedienne; Martin Conway, eccentric comedian; the Atlas and Vulcana Troupe of strong gentlemen and three ladies; Alma Grey, a very expert Australian dancing girl; Prince Kuroki, Japanese illusionist; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; Meira and Mona, in their ball-punching and pot-pourri act; the Minnetts, acrobats; Les Four Papillons, singers and dancers; Ethel Loftus, comedy girl; Bert Ray, musical expert; Major Moss and Son, in a musical sketch; and Connie Williams, comedienne and dancer. The eleventh anniversary of the opening of the theatre took place on Tuesday, when about seventy turns, including the above, were got through, and there were full houses at the matinée and two night performances. Among the performers who attended from the various Manchester and district theatres, and gave their services, were the following:—Billie Barlow, Malcolm Scott, Will Letters, Shiela McNeil, Alec Kennedy, Henry Anthony, Dacier, Litle Loo, George Daunton, George Bohee, Queenie West, Florence Deighton, Gladys Mauvis, George Foyle, the Howards, Billy Hobbs, Sandy and Carl, Will Johnson, and Daisy Martell.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Dickenson and Johnson provide a pretty entertainment in their swimming tank; Villions are a smart trio of acrobatic cyclists; Will Letters, comic vocalist, is well received. The other turns include Miniature Circus, by Silbon Family; *A Bit of String*, by H. Leslie Bell and Lily Bell's vaudeville company; Lottie d'Abbey, operatic vocalist; Kisbey, the call boy; Montague Biggs, female impersonator; and Merton and Rydon, in amusing comedy act; with the bioscope pictures.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. I. Carpenter.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company with *Veronique* is here this week. Miss Nellie Wigley as Veronique plays and sings well; as Ermerance, Miss Edith Devonshire makes the most of every opportunity; as Coquenard, Mr. Ellis Holland keeps the fun going merrily, and plays with much dash; being most ably aided by Miss Agnes Tondy as Agatha, and Mr. J. W. Foster as Florestan acts with much earnestness and passion. Mr. Clement Lockname has charge of the orchestra.

SPA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Jas. Goodricke.—Miss Emma Hutchison's and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is the attraction here, in *A Country Mouse*. Miss Hilda Honiss cleverly undertook the title-rôle; as Lady Sylvia Bowlby, Miss Lilias Earl is clever at all points; Mr. Chas. Bedelle makes a capital John Bowlby, M.P.; the part of Jephcott is ably undertaken by Mr. Frank Hill, and his rendering of the part went down with evident relish. On Thursday and Friday *Cousin Kate* was given, and on Saturday *On the Love Path*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Hy. Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company is here this week with *A Beautiful Criminal*. Miss Dagmar in the leading part is thoroughly convincing, and makes a most favourable impression; as Maynard. Mr. Fred C. Somerfield gives ample evidence of his abilities; Mr. Roy Fortescue takes the dual part of the brothers, Cecil and Geoffrey Langdon, in an effective manner; Mr. T. G. Vane impersonates Leonard Vimbart, and his comicalities are amusing. Mr. W. Barrett and Miss Monoghan, who take the respective parts of Peter and Janet Miles, are both pleasing.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—One of the star turns here this week is Mlle. Flora Lumiere, who submits the Fairy Grotto, and gives an attractive and charming variety of dances, with magnificent electrical effects; the Kyasyas, as the dental and hirsute athletes, give a novel performance that brings them well-deserved applause; Levers is a young lady who is possessed of marvellous powers in thought-reading; Hinton and Wooton, with their novel idea of football on bicycles, can do everything that is possible in a football field; the Marsumas give a clever cycling act; the Sisters Wartanas are experts in the art of juggling; Mlle. Chloe Convere still remains a fixture on the popular programme with her cake-walk horse, and is as popular as ever; Claude Ohmy, Doodles, and Albini greatly contribute to a capital evening's enjoyment. Mr. Harry Metcalfe is the admirable M.C.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—To-day the programme for the season's entertainments draws to an end, including Miss Ada Webb's troupe of ladv swimmers. The vocalist for the week is Miss Louie Cockroft, a contralto, who has been warmly greeted; the Dunlops give an exciting exhibition on their cycles; Max Merlin accomplishes all kinds of contortionist tricks; Lilian Sivado is a smart gymnast; Francis

as Mr. Brownlow; Mr. W. H. Rotherham was talented in the dual rôle of Mr. Grimwig and Monks; Mr. Paige Lawrence as Harry Maylie proved himself an actor of ability; and the remaining male characters were satisfactorily taken. Miss Dorothy Marsden was very effective as Oliver Twist; Miss A. Lingham played with grace and ability the part of Mrs. Maylie; Miss Cicely Oates merited praise as the abandoned girl Betsy; Miss Dorothy Mayhew was sweetly attractive and natural as Rose Maylie; and in the trying rôle of Nancy, Miss Edith Anton Laing sustained her part with infinite credit. The play was capitally mounted.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Her Luck in London* is being played here by Mr. George Kirk's company. Miss Mary Neil is responsible for sympathetic acting as the heroine; Miss F. Groves furnishes plenty of humour as Maud Gladys Shovepenny; Miss Ada Roscoe most ably brings out the characteristics of Madame Gabrielle; and Miss F. Bruce represents the virtuous Lilian with much dignity. Mr. Langdon depicts the villain, Richard Lenowen, in dramatic style; Mr. Chas. A. Leicester's acting as the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor gains him much applause; and Mr. Tyrone Power as Stephen Harborne and Mr. D. Tremayne as the Curate are quite adequate to these rôles. Mr. J. Telly Dillsen and Mr. Clapham score in the comic element. The Bioscope pictures continue their successful run.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Mr. George Dance's company is this week paying a return visit with *Lady Madcap*. Mr. Bay Russell still remains to play the part of Bill Stratford, being both an excellent singer and dancer; Mr. Harold Parkes is a droll Oroya Brown; and Mr. George Whillis does well as Corporal Ham. Mr. James Graydon is excellent as Posh Jenkins; and M. Jules Charmettes excels as the amorous Count. Miss Isabelle Dillon makes a vivacious Lady Madcap; and Miss Maud Davis as Gwenny Holden gives an excellent performance; and Miss Ethel Beech is a dainty Susan.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The *pièce de résistance* here is Mr. Fredk. Max well, Miss Lois du Cane, and company, in a sensational dramatic episode, *The Girl I Love*, which is capably played, and arouses great enthusiasm. The Geraldos are exceedingly clever jugglers and hoop-spinners; and the Ringling Trio excel as stilt-walkers. Will Vay's Juveniles sing well; and others who contribute are Osborne and Brookes, comedy duo; Playfair and Nikola, papiero graphists; Florence Bray, comedienne; and Kit Keen, coloured comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—Raku, the Japanese wrestler, creates a great sensation, and the various bouts are well liked; Theo. Boumeester, Dutch protean artist, impersonates cleverly seven distinct characters in a sketch, *Who is Guilty?* Alice Maydue is a popular comedienne; and the Brown and Kelly Combination evokes applause with that mirth-provoking sketch, *The Butler Knows*. The Goldini Trio, Spanish speciality artists; Allis and Cassatti, comedy duo; and Blanche Holt and Nellie Chandos, comediennes, are also among the attractions.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Walls of Jericho* is being presented here by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the management of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux. A really good impersonation is that of Mr. Herbert Bunston, whose clever acting as Jack Frobisher wins unstinted applause. He is well assisted by Mr. George M. Brandram in the character of Hankey Bannister. Harry Dallas is well taken by Mr. Sydney Hamilton, and the Marquis of Steventon is capably presented by Mr. Cyril Baleine. Miss Lydia Busch takes the character of Lady Westerby with credit; Miss Edith Cuthbert does well as Miss Mornington; Lady Lucy Derenham is made prominent by Miss Molly Carton; and Miss Florence Jackson displays marked ability in her interpretation of Lady Alethea Frobisher.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The genial manager is to be congratulated on his welcome change of programme for this week, the usual excellent diversified entertainment giving place to Lord Watson's Vaudeville company, which is presenting *H.M.S. Victory* in capital style. The play is well mounted. In Act 3, specialities are given by Leardo, an extraordinary and clever acrobat; H. Watson, who sings remarkably well; Billy Ross, a comedian of repute; the Sisters Dudley, international dancers of marked ability; and Lord and Lady Watson, clever duos. Mr. Bob Leardo is in his element as Lord Teasum, being well supported by Messrs. Arthur Watson and Billy Rose as Jack Marlinspike and Dick Hatchway respectively. Mr. Joe Burley is good as Trotter, and dances well. Miss Maud Roberts gives a pleasing delineation of Lady Teasum, and Polly is well taken by Miss Flo Stanley.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—One of the best attractions of the season is being provided here in the production of *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*, by Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon. Mr. Lawrence Emery gives a manly impersonation of Dicky, and in Mr. Frank Lennard is found a capable exponent of Mr. Joplin. Messrs. Harry Vernon and Will L. Clement, two clever comedians, give humorous portrayals of Will and Wont respectively. Miss Lois Bernard takes the rôle of the Autumn Leaf creditably, her singing gaining hearty recognition; Miss Vere Vizard also wins exceptional appreciation for her singing, being well suited in the character of Blue-Bell's Good Fairy. Master Albert Mack is pleasing as the Dove, and he, too, sings well. Miss Lily Eyton is responsible for a clever characterisation of the all-important rôle of Blue-Bell, and acquits herself admirably.

ALFRESCO VARIETY THEATRE, ROYAL TERRACE.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless; Manager, Professor Vincent.—It was fully intended to close this capital place of amusement last week, but in consequence of continued excellent patronage the whole of the artists have been retained for this week. The pictures shown on the Urban Bioscope are the special feature, and the Bijou Orchestra enchants with delightful selections under the baton of Mr. H. Lyme. Professor Le Clair's well-trained high-diving dog, Spot, causes quite a sensation. Miss Marie Lawrence and Mr. Charles Ellis also contribute with success.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Most gratifying reports are still heard of the first-class refined entertainments presented by Mr. Ballard Brown and his all-round company of artists. The joint benefit given last Friday was for Messrs. J. W. Bowie, Arthur Edwards, and Finlay Dunn, all of whom richly deserved recognition.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. K. Singleton.—In the capable hands of Mr. Charles Macdona's well-selected company, the successful musical comedy, *Three Little Maids*, which is paying a return visit here this week, loses none of its attractiveness, a large audience greeting the initial production on Monday evening. The part of the daughters of the Vicar of Market Mallory had charming and vivacious exponents in Miss Cora Lingard, Miss Daisy Silverton, and Miss Eva Weigh respectively. Gretchen was brightly and piquantly played by Miss Laura Wright; Mr. Charles Caffrey was irresistibly humorous in the rôle of Cupid; Mr. Victor Kerr caused much amusement by his clever impersonation of Lord Cheyne; the gay Frenchman M. de l'Orme had a capital representative in Mr. Eric Barrington; Miss Alice Rene artistically depicted the stately Lady St. Mallory, and was ably supported by Miss Hilda Stericker, Miss Lilian Courtney, and Miss Edith Maynard in the character of her protégées.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The star turn at this popular hall is provided by Miss Daisy Jerome, whose vivacious and clever performance was repeatedly encored. A prominent feature was supplied by Bert Harrow, the rum comedian, whose comic versatility and catchy songs were highly appreciated. Other capital items were contributed by Barrett and Knowles, patter comedians; Bromley and Fontein, in their comic operetta, *Bits of Mirth and Music;* V. L. Granville, in character impersonations from famous plays; Dolly Golden, speciality danseuse; the Crown Trio, speciality vocalists; Frank Cumminger, the record sand dancer; Cissie Schofield, comedienne; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

PIER PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—A good all-round programme is submitted here this week. The items include the Original Cecilias, in their clever musical act; the Arthur Lloyd Trio, in an absurdity entitled *Little Charlie, or, the Twin Sisters;* Flo Velma, comedienne; Harry Mars, comedy gymnast; Collier and Roberts, in their vocal scena, *The Lady and the Coalman;* Joe Cheevers, comedian; Wallie Croker, mimic and siffleur; Wheeler and Wilson, comedy acrobats; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. Norman Macowan's London company is appearing here in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. The title-rôle is finely presented by Mr. Norman Macowan; Lady Mary Carlisle is charmingly portrayed by Miss Violet Sterne; Major Molyneux is ably depicted by Mr. J. C. Taylor; Mr. P. Ramsey Forman's Captain Badger is a meritorious performance; and Mr. Murray Hathorn is good as the Duke of Winterset. On Thursday was presented *A Soldier of Fortune*.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—A crowded house on Monday manifested their approval of the favourite comedian, Mark Sheridan, who received an ovation; Mr. R. H. Douglass as the private detective contributes impersonations of various characters; Kahn and Kahn score as mystifiers; Walton and Lester are funny as the muddling magicians; good head and hand balancing is displayed by the Picquays; an illustrated song, "In Dreamland," is well sung by Miss Gracie Moore; and an excellent all-round performance is concluded by Professor Dunning, ventriloquist; Will Cornish's silver chimes and bells; and the bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—Jack Pleasant heads the bill, and in new songs creates great amusement; Claremont and Victor contribute a good comedy gymnastic turn; and the song-scenas of the Three Coopers are greatly appreciated. Other enjoyable items are Louis Leonard and Lazy Larry, comedians; Edna Latonne and Sadie Simpson, comediennes; and Walter Payne's Bio-photoscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Local playgoers have this week been delighted with *The Dear Homeland*, David Muskerry's latest play, and which has been successfully presented by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company. Miss Violet Hammersley won the highest encomiums by her pleasing portrayal of Doreen Trevelyan; and Miss Olive Fulton displayed fine histrionic abilities in her assumption of the scheming Judith Tremaine. Mr. Charles O'Connor as Roy Trevelyan, and Mr. Harold C. Macartney as Duncan Tremaine both gave an excellent account of themselves. Miss Elsie Forster was very charming as Nell, and her singing and dancing won applause. An ideal Father Gregory was presented by Mr. A. Trail; and Mr. John Cullen gave an artistic sketch of Judd Harley. As fun purveyors, Mr. Dick Seddon as Rory Burke, and Miss Dora Hammersley as Molly Malone proved themselves to be adepts.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone. — A crowded house on Monday gave a hearty reception to Mr. Geo. Dance's company in *The Orchid*. Meakin is in the able hands of Mr. Harry Walsh, who makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. Clifford Bing is a capable Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. Chas. Seymour a dignified Aubrey Chesterton; Mr. Lew Neville a successful Comte Raoul; and Mr. Geoffray Berwick as Zaccary is responsible for some clever dancing; Miss Poppy Wilkinson, who sings well, makes a dainty Lady Violet; Miss Hilda Vining is quite at home in the part of Caroline Vokins; Miss Sissie Brand submits a good portrayal of Zelie Rumbert; and Miss Trilby Collier as Josephine sings pleasingly.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill.—The Maros are a couple of quaint triple bar comedians; Phinas and Aida are successful in their society gymnastic turn; Mons. Noel proves his muscular power in his ring speciality; Mlle. Yetta is applauded for her graceful wire act; and the Three Rubies have established themselves favourites. Prof. Binko, ventriloquist, is an old acquaintance, but he was never seen to greater advantage, and Miss Lena Dudley, versatile artist, Bert Bowden, comedian, and the Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's company opened here on Monday night with *The Silver King*. The drama was most creditably acted, Mr. Fred B. Davies in particular distinguishing himself by a clever portrayal of Wilfred Denver. Miss Daisy Scudamore won general admiration by an admirable rendering of Nellie Denver, and Mr. Edward J. George as Jaikes and Mr. L. St. George Lowther as Herbert Skinner were excellent. The remaining characters were all well placed, and the play was produced with every attention to detail.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident Manager, Mr. A. Vic. Carnell.—A capital programme here this week includes Mr. Lew Luke and company in *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. Miss Lilian Rigby, instrumentalist; Mr. Wallace Whitney, comedian; Three Sisters Jonghmans, vocalists; Miss Beattie Forster, burlesque actress; Higgins and Mulone, expert dancers; and the Brothers Durant.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A welcome of the most gratifying character has been accorded Mr. Wm. Mollison and company upon their reappearance here in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Wm. Mollison impressed everyone with his fine acting of the part of Lachlan Campbell; Mr. John Clyde made a capital William MacClure; and Mr. Durward Lely impersonated the character of the Rev. John Carmichael with much ability. As Wee Posty, Mr. Alec F. Thompson was highly diverting; and Tammas Mitchell was amusingly played by Mr. Kendal Chalmers; whilst Mr. Archie W. Chappell gave an effective impersonation of Lord Hay. Miss Evelyn McNay acted pleasingly as Flora; Miss Edith Blair Stables was delightful in the character of Annie the dairymaid; Miss Alice Francis most successfully filled the part of Kate Carnegie; and Miss Josephine Woodward gave an admirable portrayal of Margaret Howe.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Edwin Garth and company, in their musical farcical sketch, *McKenna in Love*, have heartily amused large audiences here this week. Among others contributing to the entertainment are the Three Schaffers in their clever herculean feats; Frances Haskoll, "the vocal chameleon," who sings amidst a pleasing electrical display; the Emilions, whose novel acrobatic act gains much applause; Oliver Conroy, comedian; and May Bell, comedienne and sand dancer.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—GRAND. — Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten top the bill here. Harry Pleon as P.C. Pudden causes roars of laughter; Johnson and Bert are a couple of good knockabouts; and Charles Chard, comedian, Mlle. Roza's canine hippodrome, Gus Ryder, vocalist, and Cissie Kent, comedienne, are all acceptable turns.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—The Caledonian Boys' Orchestra play well here; the Gerette Sisters, trapeze artists, are excellent performers; Collins and Rice, comedy artists, are very good; and Elsie Earle, burlesque artist, Silvo, musician, L. B. Athol, character actor, Harry Briggs, vocalist, and the Carvers, dancers, complete a good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Another good programme is submitted this week. Charles Vandyke's company, in *Sensations*, causes uproarious laughter; the Eltenas contribute a capital globe performance; Harry Cotton is successful in his songs; the tight wire performance of Linton is admirable; the Sisters Godfrey sing and dance cleverly; Lalla Vincent sings her songs with taste; and the animated pictures are most interesting. Pat Rafferty is also in the bill.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—This week we are receiving a visit from Mr. and Mrs. W. Maclaren's company in *Proof*. Perhaps the most prominent of a strong cast was Miss May Grimshaw, who as Valentine gave a very fine portrayal. Mr. Gerald Kennedy as Pierre Lorance is an artist who would win favour with any audience; while Mr. W. J. Butler as Lazare gave a powerful rendition. Mr. Wilford Bailey created plenty of fun in the rôle of Chamboran; and Mr. Carl Beechey was prominent as Duke D'Aubeterre. Miss Beatrice Shirley gave a pleasing interpretation of the rôle of Adrienne; and Miss Phena Powell was well suited for the part of Madame Deprets.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—The attraction this week is a return visit of Mr. Lester Collingwood's *When London Sleeps* company, under the business direction of Mr. Frank Howard. Mr. Sam Arthur submits a powerful portrayal of David Engleheart; Miss Mabel Scudamore submits a natural and pleasing impersonation of Queenie Carruthers; Mr. C. P. Wentworth as the villainous Rodney Haynes shows commendable judgment; Miss Maude Yorke is successful as the heartless Hilda; Mr. C. E. Sutton is seen to advantage as Mr. Fuller, and the humour of the piece is safely entrusted to Mr. D'Arcy Kelways as Sammy Blythe, Mr. Frank Howard as Bertie, and Miss Bessie Franks as Carrie Jones.

TAMWORTH.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Children opened here for a short season on the 13th inst., and have performed to crowded houses. Little Vio Lette, with her baby songs, was a prime favourite; La Belle Tosca on the slack wire and the Rizarelis on the high trapeze gave exciting performances; amusing turns were also contributed by Fred McLean, patter comedian; Cissie Verne, song and dance; Dobito and Buxton, eccentric comedians; Mlle. Vanda on the revolving globe; and Dan Whitley; concluding with humorous scenes from the Bioscope.

TON-Y-PANDY. — ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is presenting here this week the drama, *In Sight of St. Paul's*. Mr. E. R. Allen does well as Tom Chichester; and the part of John Gridston is safely entrusted to Mr. Geo. D. Daiper; Jim Palfrey in the hands of Mr. H. Colley is most amusing; Miss Cissie Bellamy makes a charming Aileen Millar; and Miss Lallah Davies scores heavily as Cynthia Dell.

TORQUAY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse. — Mr. George Dance's company opened a capital week's engagement on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*, in which Miss Elma Morris, in the title-part, was much applauded for her very capable embodiment of a difficult rôle. Miss Isabel Vivian was delightfully piquant as Lisette; the Empress Josephine found a dignified representative in Miss Ethel Bradley; Miss Gipsy Dale made a charming Renée de Saint Mezard; and Miss Violet Kennerley, Miss M. Eastland, Miss A. Knolleys, and Miss Kitty Quinn also deserve mention. Mr. Frank Bradley's study of Napoleon was exceedingly good; and the rendering of the character of François Lefebvre by Mr. C. Burrunston Williams called forth repeated applause. Mr. Frank Attree was amusing as Papillon; and Miss George H. Curzon and Mr. Vernon Deville are also to be commended.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Charles Carey; Manager, L. J. Gunnell.—The Moody-Manners Opera company is giving a week of repertoire to crowded and most appreciative audiences. An interesting feature was that a ballot of local playgoers was taken for the choice of repertoire, and the result was as follows: Monday, *Carmen;* Tuesday, *Lohengrin;* Wednesday, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Bohemian Girl;* Thursday, *Cavalleria, Rusticana,* and *Pagliacci;* Friday, *Faust;* Saturday, *Tannhäuser* and *Maritana*. On the occasion of our visit *Lohengrin* was finely rendered, the principal parts being admirably sung by Misses Enriqueta Crichton, Miss Mary Norton, Mr. Charles Carter (in the title-rôle), Mr. F. Erle, Mr. Marshall Vincent, and Mr. George Neilson. The performance was preceded by a succinct explanatory lecture by the musical director, Mr. Harrison Fremen, who is also to be congratulated upon by the excellent work of the augmented orchestra.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—This week the Seven Savonas are paying a welcome return visit, their original creation, *The Palace of Orpheus*, securing a most flattering reception. They also produced on Monday night, for the first time on any stage, their comic negro fantasia, written by the late J. B. Elliott, and entitled *A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer*. This scene goes, from beginning to end, in excellent style, the grand finale being exceptionally smart. The Six Cycling Elliotts score a huge success by their new and daring feats; Alec Kendal proves himself to be a comedian of more than average ability; Miss Florence pleases with her well-rendered and cleverly-illustrated songs; Senorita Eloina is a gymnast of considerable ability; and the Grand Casino Orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Henry Sprake.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company with the drama *The Little Breadwinner* occupies the stage here this week. Mr. Eugene Santley shows great dramatic powers as Lord William Derrington; Little Emmie Thomas deserves great praise in the title-rôle; Mr. Alfred Maurice is successful as Joseph Prior; Mr. Matthew Boulton is good as Richard Lawrence; and Mr. Allen Charles droll as Charles Prior; Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam gives a finished rendition as Kate Cherry, and Miss Mary Fulton acts with discretion and charm as Margaret Daventry.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Waldrons, sketch artists, head the bill this week, and obtain a hearty reception on their return visit with their highly amusing sketch, entitled *A Silly Burglar;* the Watson Family give an excellent musical performance; the Gardens' Royal Quintette of Scottish dancers provide a capital turn; Bert and Dora are a smart comedy couple; Miss Nellie Young is a pleasing comedienne; and the Sisters Lyle, duettists, ably contribute.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Miss Millie Hylton makes herself exceedingly popular in some excellent songs, and is ably assisted by Miss Decima Brooke; the St. Julian Sisters, comediennes, are well received; Les Uniques, in a marvellous ladder act, are very clever; Takio proves himself a smart Japanese mimic of sounds; Ethel Walker at the piano makes a good impression; Fred Keeton, comedian, and Queen and Le Brunn, comedians, in their laughable trifle, *The Cockney Huntsman*, complete an excellent bill. The American Bioscope is, as usual, most entertaining.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. F. J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company in *Two Hussars* is paying a visit here this week. Mr. Wilson Benge as Harry Alford is most successful; Mr. Fred J. Webb as Paul Villiers is seen to advantage; Mr. Loui Nanton makes an amusing Robert Runn; Mr. G. Paradise is well placed as Sergeant McFinne; Miss Danvers Smith charmingly portrays the rôle of Marie; and as Miss Molly Cutts, Miss Laleah Price is smart.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE.—Managing-Director Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—Another very fine programme is "presented" by Mr. Barclay this week, the outstanding feature of which—with no reflection on the others—is the appearance of Klio, a study in sculpture. We have had of late in London and elsewhere many ladies posing as the masterpieces of classical statuary, but the idea is quite new here, and could not have a more delightful exponent than this handsome lady. Klio is "presented by Irma Lorraine," and appears amidst the exquisite surroundings of Maurin's fountains. The lady poses as a living representation of no fewer than eleven of the world's sculptural *chefs d'œuvre* and it would be impossible to say whether she is more successful as the Venus de Medici, or in the "Rock of Ages." We select these as indicative of her widely-contrasted subjects. Vernon and Bardell are a couple of clever ladies who sing, dance, and act with much charm; Miss Nellie Farrell is as "glittering" as ever, her bright personality exactly suiting the songs she sings; the Melroses sing and dance with equal cleverness, but their sand dance is their cleverest achievement; Mr. Will Reedo is a good comedian, who soon makes himself acceptable to the audience; the Eight Lancashire Lads, with some new dances, are as popular as ever; Mr Tom Collins makes a good impression in his two songs; the Dark Town Entertainers (one lady and three gentlemen) sing in a most artistic manner, their operatic selection being quite a musical treat. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has some good films.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred J. Reece.—Once more a capital audience on Monday evening gave welcome to *Florodora*. Without exception, Mr. Bannister Howard's company is an excellent one. Mr. Alf. E. Passmore as Anthony Tweedlepunch is full of fun and overflowing with whimsical humour, Mr. Stanley White is very effective as Cyrus W. Gilfain; and Mr. Allen Morris impersonates Frank Abercoed with a due appreciation of what is required of him. Mr. C. A. James as Leander plays in finished style, and Mr. Herbert St. John as Captain Arthur Donegal does excellently. Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood acts naturally, and her singing is much appreciated; Miss Josephine Sullivan as Dolores captivates all hearts, singing with culture and refinement; Miss Lilly Gullick is a pleasing and piquant Angela Gilfain.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—There are some excellent turns here this week, and the Ballot Brothers score a big success; Mephisto is a wonderful contortionist, and J. S. James a talented comedian and tambourinist; Charles Norton is a smart mimic; and the Lovelaces supply a good turn in several illustrative songs; the Brothers Hayes are capital entertainers, and the pictures are again a capital collection.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby.—Mr. Morton Powell's company, with *The Woman Who Gambles*, is here for the first time this week. The company includes Mr. James Duncan, in the important part of Count Otto Steinbach; a characteristic portrayal of the Countess Natalie Steinbach is presented by Miss Gertrude Hunt; as Baron Crantzlaw Mr. Horatio Sinclair proves himself a skilled artist; Mr. Reginald Fox does good work as Lieut. Karl Ctzarteryski; Cora Gouldhart has an excellent exponent in Miss Florrie Halton; and as Fanette Miss Brenda May is all that could be desired; Miss Florrie Hall is admirably suited to the part of Mlle. Zeyelda.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. Moore, the popular manager, continues to find the legitimate drama very attractive, and large houses have assembled to witness Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in *The Prodigal Parson*, a play full of striking situations, capitally staged. Mr. W. V. Garrod is very successful as the Rev. Tom Godley, the vicar of Grasleigh, and Mr. Alfred Northway as Enoch Jaggins, his churchwarden, fills a difficult rôle with distinction; as Ben Jaggins, Mr. W. Hayward is excellent, and Mr. Herbert Newton as Phil Drive, the handyman at the vicarage, imparts a good deal of fun into the play. Fern Godley, the parson's wife, is a part well filled by Miss Bertha Kingston; Miss Gladys Conover is clever as Myrtle Godley, the blind child; and Miss Pattie Hastings as Gretchen Van Craus, who afterwards becomes Mrs. Phil Drive, is capital.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—There is another most enjoyable programme at this popular place of amusement. Collinsons's burlesque company is appearing with great success in *Cook's Guests*, a piece as full of fun as it is possible to imagine. George D'Albert, character and descriptive vocalist, has a quaint and telling style of his own; Miss Kate Gourley sings Scotch songs very effectively; Dave O. Tool is deservedly popular as a comedian; Harry Barclay, in his latest success, "Nelson," secures well-deserved recognition; Jenny Lynn and the Bros. Delevante are capital comedians, whose songs are excellent; while the Hippodrome pictures are as clever as ever.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—The engagement of Mr. Charles Carey's company in *After the Ball* is a delightful change here. Mr. Algernon W. Lee scores a decided success as Hallwell Menit, his songs being frequently redemanded; Mr. Percy Baverstock's impersonation of Colonel Menit reflects credit upon him; a decided hit is made by Miss M. Sadie by her funny delineation of Nancy; Martin is capitally played by Mr. Buckstone Clair; and the dudish Dick Seymour is endowed with much quaintness by Mr. Norman Bowyer; the naive and lively Nelly Mather has a capital representative in Miss Queenie Finnis; and Miss Eva Ellis is a charming Ruth Gay.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Mr. J. A. Wilson's singing dog, Towser, is adding to the joy of audiences here. Vandinoff's pictures are executed with incredible rapidity; the muscular display by the Athlones is a revelation; Maud Vera in taking style renders two songs; an acceptable number is presented by W. H. Downs, a coloured vocalist; amusing bar work is presented by Zaro and Arno; Letine is a smart female impersonator; Florence Yaymen is well received; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are more than usually interesting.

HARTLEPOOL'S EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Leoni Clarke's wonderful performing cats, monkeys, rabbits, mice, and rats are interesting audiences here; Bosanquet is again here enrapturing all by his beautiful selections on violin and Bosanquephone; J. P. Ling, another favourite, is loudly applauded for his mimetic monologue; Miss Jeanette Hall's rendering of "The Wolf" is thoroughly appreciated; Stanley's Urchins excel in dancing; and Massona (a boy juggler), Mlle. du Roche (operatic vocalist), Florence Wood (serio), and bioscopic pictures are also among the attractions.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. E. Lockwood's *Sergeant Brue* company is paying its second visit here, and met with a good reception on Monday; Mr. J. Harold Carson worked indefatigably as Sergeant Brue, and the applause bestowed upon his efforts were fully merited; Mr. Albert James kept the house convulsed with laughter as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Robert Selby gave a most artistic interpretation of Michael Brue; Mr. F. Laceby made a very eccentric character of Mr. Crank; the Inspector Corringe of Mr. Harold Godwin was excellent; Mr. Vernon C. Booth (Gerald Trehearne), Mr. Cecil Strickland (Matthew Habisham), Mr. T. Wyman (Mr. Lamb), and Mr. Gordon Wright (Captain Bay) were all praiseworthy in their respective characters; Miss Reydon Dallis looked remarkably handsome, and acted with distinction as Lady Bickenhall; Aurora Brue was charmingly impersonated by Miss Florence Spurgeon; Miss Kathleen V. Grey was a delightful Mabel Midget, and Miss Dora Taylor made quite a character-study of Daisy; Miss Kate Sabine (Vivienne Russell), Miss Hilda Saxe (Louise Claire), Miss Lil Hodson (Eva Graham), and Miss Nellie Burn (Stella Conroy), are all to be commended for pleasing representations; Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company opened on Thursday in *Two Little Vagabonds*.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Smart Set are here for the third time this season. Miss Georgie Martin was loudly encored for her coon song; Miss Ethel Wilford's recitation, "The Telegram," was well received, and Miss Hilda Light sang delightfully "The Little Coon's Bedtime"; Miss Lena Hutchings' rendering of "Dear Heart" was greatly appreciated; in his song "My Queen," Mr. Arthur Court was heard to advantage, as was Mr. Lionel Atwill in "A Soldier's Toast"; that excellent comedian, Mr. Walter George, fairly brought down the house with his humorous songs.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. W. Sully.—Mr. Albert Chevalier and his company are on their annual visit to this town. It is needless to say this eminent artist was well received; he was ably assisted by Miss Daisy Irvine, Mr. Alfred H. West (pianist), Mr. Harry Brett, Mr. Arthur Brankston, Master Bertie Baxter, and Miss Winifred Ingram.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr. W. Fortt.—A visit from Mr. George Grossmith is always looked forward to with much pleasure, and on Monday this popular entertainer was most cordially received; he is this time assisted by three very charming ladies, Miss Dorothy Scott, Miss Dorothy D'Egville, and Miss Dorothy Forster.

WEST STANLEY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding* is occupying the boards this week. Mr. Ernest Owttrim gives a manly representation of Howard Wilson; Mr. S. Herbert Humber as Robert Curtis is responsible for capital work; Mr. C. H. Hughes as Toto, and Miss Maud Locker as Bridget cause endless amusement; Mr. Cyril Melton portrays Peter Schwartz in amusing fashion; Miss Madge Haines plays the part of Mabel Wilson in a graceful and attractive manner; Miss Gertrude Harrison powerfully depicts the adventuress, Cora Williams; Miss Majorie Lawrence as Jessie, the little mother, is a wonderful child actress; Mr Geo. Waring gives a popular portrayal of O'Reilly, an Irish policeman; and Mr. Alan White makes an imposing Rev. Dr. Lanceford.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. H. Cassidy.—Mr. John Keane is presenting here Mr. and Mrs. F. Garton's juvenile company in the musical comedy, *The Beryl*. Master Roger Westmoreland makes a creditable Cordora; Mr. Chas. Lorraine ably fulfils the rôle of Augustus Brass; Robt. Wilks is cleverly delineated by Mr. D. H. Buckley; Mr. Claude Marshall as Gus Skilly makes a capital detective; Mr. J. Falls gives a fine representation of Caspania; and Miss Lucy Garton and Miss Ettie Garton do well in their respective rôles of Captain Bates and Dora.

WEYMOUTH.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—On Monday, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared for the first time here in *The Earl and the Girl*, and was greeted by a large and appreciative audience. Mr. C. D. Cleveland gave a capital representation of Jim Cheese; Mr. Frank Wilson was remarkably good as Dick Wargrave; Mr. E. Fitzgibbon, as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, played carefully and well; and Mr. Cotter as A. Bunker Bliss, the irate uncle, was eminently successful; Mr. Alec Godfrey and Mr. Burgess Barrett represented the two solicitors with commendable exactitude; Elphin Haye was admirably portrayed by Miss Alice Nixon; and Liza Shoddam was capably represented by Miss Adele Roze; while Miss M. Maude as Mrs. Shimmering Black, Miss Brand

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, September 17,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

The continued popularity of this evergreen musical play is amply testified to this week, for though Mr. Geo. Musgrave's company is paying its third visit here crowded houses are the order, and the advance booking is almost a record. Mr. Paddy Dupres scores a great success as Ichabod Bronson, and, playing with consummate ease and resource, extracts every ounce of fun out of the part. Mr. John Doran does exceedingly well as Harry Bronson. Mr. Frank Lawton continues to delight his hearers in his original part of Blinky Bill McQuirk, his whistling solos and performance on the bones being executed with delightful ease and a rare sense of humour. Miss Empsie Bowman as the Salvation Army lassie, Violet Grey, uses her sweet voice to excellent advantage; and Miss Winnie Browne is an attractive Cora Angelique. Miss Lily Maxwell presents the arch and captivating Fifi Fricot most pleasingly, and sings her numbers with much charm. Miss Florence Hersee, who doubles the parts of Kissie Fitzgarter and Mamie Clancy, is the embodiment of fun and vivacity, her dainty and nimble dancing no less than her artistic singing quickly capturing the audience. Mr. Max Copeland is still playing his old part of "the polite lunatic," a study which has ripened into a wonderfully finished picture of unconscious humour, evoking the most uproarious laughter. Mr. Alfred Sandoe and Mr. Walter Uridge as Doc Snifkins and Kenneth Mugg contribute to the merriment; whilst Messrs. Yeoman and Cody as the Portuguese twins indulge in some grotesque attitudes and eccentric business which also compel more smiles. Mr. A. Linforth (who is also stage-manager) represents the small part of Harry Bronson's secretary, Twiddles; and Messrs. C. W. Anson, Owen O'Brien, Willie Tearle, and W. Elrac play respectively Fricot, Mr. Snooper, William, and Mr. Peeper.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Light Opera, by Owen Hall and Leslie Stuart, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Among the many light operas of recent times, *Florodora* easily holds its own. Mr. Leslie Stuart's bright and tuneful music, and Mr. Owen Hall's witty libretto form a combination seldom equalled, and as the King's Theatre patrons are very competent to judge what is good, it is easy to guess that on Monday evening the house was crowded, and showed evident appreciation at the performance of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's able company. Principals and chorus alike worked with a will. Mr. Daley Cooper's rendering of Anthony Tweedlepunch is one of great merit. He keeps the audience in continual roars of laughter at his extremely comical by-play, and he must be accounted as ranking equally high with the several famous comedians who have at various times essayed the part. Mr. Joseph R. Tate is an amusing Cyrus W. Gilfain, and Mr. Edwin Oxlee is exceedingly good as the piratical-looking Leandro. Mr. R. Courtier Dutton makes an excellent Lord Abercoed, and Captain Arthur Donegal is dashingly played by Mr. Harold Perry. Miss Violet Grazia as Dolores uses her powerful voice with much effect. A dainty and charming Angela Gilfain is Miss Nellie Bowman, whose singing of "My Starlight Queen" wins every praise. As Lady Holyrood, Miss Edith Houseley, in repeating her former successful appearances at the Lyric, gains universal approval. Her delicious satire of the modern society lady-adventuress is very smartly rendered, and her songs, artistically sung, well deserve the repetitions demanded. The Gilfain clerks sing and act vigorously, and the ladies of the chorus are all good-looking and clever. Mr. H. J. Patterson ably controls the orchestra. Scenery and costumes are alike worthy of praise.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

This evening saw the welcome return of Mr. William Greet's company to the Coronet with Mr. Seymour Hicks' popular musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*. The costumes and scenic effects can only be described as magnificent, and a worthy setting to the dainty music of Ivan Caryll. Among the cast were three of those who were with the company in the same comedy when it was here last April. One, Mr. William Stephens is an excellent Jim Cheese, who passes, for a consideration, as the Earl of Stone for an evening; Mr. Will Hindson is also in his old part of Downham, the American solicitor, ever on the look out for business, and he is as good as ever. The other old friend was the worthy host of the Fallowfield Arms, Mr. Tom Redmond, who acts the part admirably. Dick Wargrave, the scapegrace heir to the title, is excellently played by Mr. Arthur Harrold, who charms the audience with his rendering of the "Cosy Corner Girl"; while Hon. Crewe Boodle is depicted with success by Mr. Percy E. Wright. Mr. Greene Taylor does well as the solicitor; and the ferocious, bloodthirsty Bunker Bliss is represented to the life by Mr. H. Coustin. The ladies are charming, especially Miss Francis Earle as Elphin Haye, the American heiress, whose duet of "reminiscences" with Mr. Arthur Harrold as Dick Wargrave, causes roars of laughter. Miss Beatrice Anderson is good as Mrs. Shimmering Black, the mother of the jilted daughter, while Miss Gertrude Melville is a charming Daisy Fallowfield. Miss Mary Morison is imposing as Miss Virginia Bliss, the aunt, and Miss Jennie Richards gives a vivid realisation of the part of 'Liz, the dog trainer's sweetheart. In the Entente Cordiale dance are seen the Misses Beatrice Ford, Enid Beverly, Lily Doran, Blanchette Grand, Natalie Grant, and Geraldine Scott, the first two of whom, with Miss Constance Carré, also posed as lady friends of Crewe Boodle's party. Miss Hilda Grey is effective as Flora Lady Rosedale, and Mr. T. R. Edmund good as Rossiter, the footman. The favourite songs, "Zanzibar" and "The Blush Rose of England" are charmingly sung. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker, and Mr. Highland is stage-manager and Mr. Clarke business-manager.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Pantomimical Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The above popular and world-famed musical comedy is meeting with its usual success at the Shakespeare this week, and at each performance a crowded house has been the rule. Adapted from *Le Voyage en Suisse*, by MM. Blum and Toché, the piece bristles with humorous complications and droll situations, which keep the audience in one continuous roar of laughter. An exceedingly capable company under the direction of Messrs. Chas. and Fred Renad do full justice to the absurdities, and the whole performance from start to finish is thoroughly enjoyable. Messrs. C. and F. Renad in the rôles of Dr. Gull's eccentric servants are a host in themselves, and their clever fooling arouses much enthusiasm. Mr. Johnny McElroy as Dr. Gull scores a decided hit, his droll antics and witty remarks gaining much applause; Mr. George Martin as Rob Rollingstone puts in some excellent work; and Mr. Alec Wylie gives an excellent picture of Dudley Green. Mr. C. Gray is satisfactory as Mr. Septimus Squeeze; Mr. Albert Bernard as Rhino renders good support; Mr. Harwood Cooper adds to the fun by his humorous impersonation of Admiral Bombshell; and mention should also be made of Mr. Cecil Barrett as the gendarme, Mr. Gilbert N. Oakes as the Custom House Officer, Mr. Fred Strachan as Mons. Va Partout, and Mr. J. Oliver Russell as the surgeon. Miss Ida Ernest is a sprightly bride, singing in charming style, and altogether contributing greatly to the success. Miss Dora Moorhouse in the part of Mrs. Septimus Squeeze creates a favourable impression. The Eden Quartette of Vocalists and Dancers are deserving of special mention, their clever dancing being greatly appreciated. Mr. Harry Leyton is acting-manager, and Mr. Leslie Lewis musical director for Messrs. Chas. and Fred Renad, and Mr. E. de Hague Body is acting-manager for Messrs. Bonnett and Bennett.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, September 17,
the Drama, in Three Acts, by Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch, entitled
"THE SHULAMITE."

The popular manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, has secured a great attraction this week in *The Shulamite*, in which Miss Lena Ashwell appears in her original part of Deborah Krillet. The play is an interesting and powerful one, and the ultimate fate of the hero and heroine seem in doubt up to the fall of the curtain. Originally ending in a sorrowful note, the play is now provided with a happy ending, and even now perhaps it would appeal with greater force to provincial audiences if the prevailing sombre aspect of the play were lightened by more of the comedy element. Miss Ashwell, who had a hearty reception from a crowded house on Monday, played most powerfully as the young wife Deborah Krillet, and thoroughly gained the sympathies of the audience. Miss Ashwell's acting rises to a very high level at the end of the first act. Mr. Charles Weir thoroughly realises the rôle of the obstinate and narrow-minded old Boer farmer, Simeon Krillet; he seems a typical Dutch emigrant, possessing all the virtues and defects of his race. A notably good performance is that of the Kaffir girl Memke by Miss Beryl Mercer. Mr. W. T. Lovel plays very well in the somewhat difficult part of the young overseer, Robert Waring, and Mr. Reynolds Denniston is satisfactory as the good-natured Jan Vandenberg. Miss Mary Griffiths gives the utmost significance to the character of Tanti Anna Vandenberg, and plays with much dramatic force. The scenery and effects are notably good, especially the scene of the first act where we see the glow of sunset falling upon the veldt followed by the starlight. The storm in Act II. is also very impressively managed. The curtain-raiser is a capital little comedy, entitled *The Widow Woos*, in which Miss Mary Griffiths as a buxom and amorous widow and Mr. Charles Weir as a bashful carpenter greatly distinguish themselves. Miss Marcella Hudson and Mr. Reynolds Denniston also appear to advantage.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Of the series of brilliant productions at the above theatre this season, none have caught on with greater readiness than the second edition of *The Spring Chicken*, which was presented on Monday by Mr. Geo. Edwardes' Gaiety company. This was due not only to the intrinsic merits of the piece, with its pretty music, bright setting, and mazy dances, but in the main to the high standard of excellence prevailing among the members of the cast. Everyone worked hard to turn to full advantage the many amusing situations which the play contains, with the result that the laughter was continuous. As Mr. and Mrs. Girdle respectively Mr. George Gregory and Miss Irene Verona made immense hits. Mr. Gregory is a rollicking comedian, and warm favourite with the crowd; whilst Miss Verona acted skilfully and sang well. Miss Gertrude Glyn was piquant and attractive as Rosalie, and danced prettily. In the character of Gustave Babori, the advocate, Mr. John Brabourne was highly successful, his songs being frequently encored, whilst he was ably supported by Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as Boniface, the clerk. Miss N. Langtyre was charming as the Baroness, and Mr. Frank Hector did well as the eccentric Baron. Miss Gertrude Gillian was an attractive Dulcie Babori, and Mr. Jocelyn Hope deserves mention as the restaurant proprietor.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by S. Feinman, entitled
"THE FATHER'S CURSE."

The Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company opened the second week of Mr. S. Feinman's engagement with the striking play *The Father's Curse*, which is a thoroughly coherent and interesting drama, unfolding a well-constructed story with much effect; while the actors are capital exponents of their respective parts, and evidently diligent students of their art, consequently, a representation was given that was highly appreciated by the large audience present. Mr. S. Feinman seemed admirably suited with the part of Reb Josele, comporting himself with dignity, and delivering his lines with elocutionary force, while all his points were clearly and cleverly made, and his actions always graceful and expressive. Mr. M. D. Waxman as Max played with a keen appreciation of the exigencies that the character afforded; and the Schwartzman of Mr. N. Hamburger could not have been well improved upon. Mr. J. Scherman distinguished himself as Schleime, which entirely suited his capacity; and Mr. Goldsmith ably sustained the part of Phillipsohn. Rachel was in the hands of Mme. J. Kayzer, who is deserving of great praise for her sympathetic rendering; and Miss Bryh, who is an established favourite here, was bright and vivacious as Peril. A competent contribution of Deveire was presented by Mme. Goldstein; and Maritz was well portrayed by Mr. Schtreng. The usual proficiency was displayed by the management in the scenery and mounting, and the popular acting-manager, Mr. Fred Brown, is ever to the fore with courtesy and attention to the patrons. During the week *Life in America, Money or the Tramp*, and the *Yiddish King Lear* have been played.

THE ALEXANDRA, STOKE NEWINGTON.

On Monday, September 17,
Shakespeare's Comedy,
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

After an absence of three years Mr. F. R. Benson and his excellent company have returned to the Alexandra, where they were warmly welcomed back by an enthusiastic audience on Monday. They are giving eight performances during the week, the plays selected comprising *The Taming of the Shrew, Hamlet, Macbeth, Henry V., The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Merchant of Venice*, and *The School for Scandal*. The first-named of the foregoing was chosen for performance on the opening night of the visit, and the even and well-balanced representation given by Mr. Benson and the talented members of his hard-working company proved eminently to the liking of the audience, if the liberal applause accorded to them at each fall of the curtain be any criterion. In Petruchio Mr. Benson has a part which he plays with unflagging spirit, and his performance throughout is a very interesting and attractive one. Equally good is Mrs. Benson as the shrew, Katharina, a character that ranks amongst her most successful studies. Grumio is in the hands of that sound and experienced comedian, Mr. George R. Weir, who, needless to say, extracts every ounce of value from the part. Miss Olive Noble is a naturally charming and graceful Bianca. A droll sketch of Biondello is contributed by Mr. Percy D. Owen, and Mr. George Buchanan is an admirable Lucentio. Baptista is impressively played by Mr. Edward A. Warburton, and the Gremio of Mr. H. O. Nicholson, the Hortensio of Mr. Stanley Howlett, and the Tranio of Mr. Clarence Derwent are all in their way admirable. Messrs. Murray Carrington, G. F. Clark, J. P. Wilson, and Misses Cissie Saumarez and Elinor Aikin in other parts successfully fulfil the tasks allotted to them.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
Shakespeare's Comedy,
"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard made an auspicious opening of his dramatic season at the above theatre with the engagement of Mr. Ben Greet's company in Shakespeare's poetical play, with Mr. Greet in his old part of Bottom. The scenery was new and specially painted by Mr. J. Rogers, and with the aid of an augmented orchestra, Mendelssohn's music was done full justice to, both vocally and instrumentally. A number of pretty fairy dances also enlivened the production. Mr. Ben Greet simply revelled in the humours of Bottom, causing genuine amusement by his delivery of the quaint lines. In the play as given before the Duke in the last act he was especially amusing, and no part of the production was more successful than this. Mr. John Macfarlane was a dignified Theseus, Duke of Athens, and Mr. Archibald McLean was paternal and sympathetic as Egeus. Messrs. Bernard Limpus and Fred Sargent as Lysander and Demetrius respectively made the most of their chances in these declamatory parts, and as Philostrate, Mr. Gilbert Clark did all that could be done with small opportunities. Quince, Snug, Flute, Snout, and Starveling were portrayed respectively by Messrs. F. Topham, Willis Searle, Sydney Greenstreet, Percy Waram, and Russell Thorndike, and each succeeded in giving clever point to the differences of character in the would-be Thespians. Miss Evelyn Hall, whether in her Greek robes or in her Amazonian costume, made a fitting mate for the Duke, and her lines were delivered in telling fashion. As Hermia Miss Gertrude Burnett was natural and engaging, and Miss Sybil Thorndike looked and acted well as the love-sick Helena. Miss Alys Rees as Oberon acted and sang with great effect, and Miss May Martyn played prettily as Titania, the Fairy Queen, her scenes with Bottom being judiciously rendered. A special word should be reserved for the Puck of Miss May de Launay, whose elfish humour was agreeably in tune with the character. The fairy children danced and sang well, and added completeness to the production.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

Sergeant Brue is an old friend at this theatre, and a large audience anxious to renew acquaintance with the gallant policeman turned up on Monday, when the continuous applause that greeted the efforts of Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company showed that both play and players fully came up to expectations. Miss Hebe Bliss is responsible for a sparkling interpretation of Lady Bickenhall, singing and acting with style and distinction, her greatest success being perhaps her song in the last act, in which she cleverly mimics various popular methods of stage singing. As Aurora Brue, Miss Mary Hay plays with daintiness and charm, and sings several popular numbers with good effect, an instantaneous hit being her rendering of "Under a Panama." Miss Mabel Keith has very little to do as Mabel Widget, but does that little so well as to make one desire to see her in a part of greater scope. In the character of the servant Daisy, Miss Marion Hargrave works with a will, her energetic and amusing acting giving rise to a good deal of laughter. Mr. Arthur Reynolds is fitted with a part after his own heart in the title-rôle, his clever mannerisms and quietly droll delivery lending themselves admirably to the characterisation of the gallant but none too brainy Sergeant. As Crookie Scrubbs, Mr. Charles McLagan scores a great success, and keeps his audience in a continual ripple of laughter by his genuinely humorous and quaint, but none the less consistent, rendering of the quondam burglar. Mr. E. Percy Rogers plays Michael Brue with plenty of energy and vivacity, his rendering of a song entitled "Do you follow me?" meeting with much applause. Mr. Ernest Mozar acts well as Gerard Treherne; while Mr. Harry Soutar as the Solicitor and Mr. Cecil Hood as the Inspector are amusing in these small parts. Mr. Charles Sims is responsible for a humorous rendering of Mr. Crank, the magistrate. The chorus is numerous and tuneful, and the play is elaborately mounted and dressed.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, September 17,
the Drama, by Frank Bateman and John Douglas, entitled
"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."

Patrons of the Dalston Theatre are revelling in a novelty this week in the shape of excellent representations of the drama, illustrative of theatrical life on and off the stage, entitled *No Wedding Bells for Her*. The performances are remarkable for many excellent examples of character-acting. Mr. Frank Bateman makes a great success of the part of Dick Delver, of the Criminal Investigation Department, and Miss Lizzie Montague as Lola Delaspierre, an actress, imbues the character with an amount of passion, vindictiveness, and, at the same time, sarcastic humour, which make it most interesting and impressive. Mr. Stuart Lomath as Frank Hatherleigh, a clergyman (a relative of the fascinating but wicked Lola), impresses one as belonging to the Church militant. Mr. Edward E. Lewis is a capable Harold Trevelyn, who is engaged to Doris Fane, an actress, a part nicely rendered by Miss Louie Adair. Doris Fane is one of the chief objects of Lola's vindictiveness, and her womanly struggles against great tribulation add to the human interest of the piece. Mr. Harry Belford is a decided favourite as Horatio Fane, an old actor; Mr. Louis Garton imparts effect to the brief stage existence of Montague Blair, Lola's husband; Miss Patty Albery creates laughter as Mrs. Eastman, an eccentric landlady; Mr. Herbert J. Walton puts a deal of energy into the character of Adonis Tightfist, a theatrical manager; while Mr. Charles Morris is funny as a railway porter, and so is Mr. Will Skelton as a stage hand. The cast also includes Mr. Conrad Franklyn, Mr. Frank Davies, Mr. Fred Beverley, Mr. W. Nicholson, Mr. J. Bolton, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. J. Schofield, Miss Ellen Owen, Miss Nellie Parsons, Miss Ethel Lawrence, Miss M. Trueman, and Miss E. Oakley. The play is produced under the supervision of Mr. Frank Bateman.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE POPLAR.

On Monday, September 17, the Musical Comedy in Two Acts, by Seymour Hicks, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Mr. William Greet's excellent company in *The Earl and the Girl* is delighting large audiences at this theatre during the present week. All the members of the company are thoroughly efficient, and unite in giving a spirited rendering of this tuneful and mirth-provoking play. Miss Gertrude Simpson as Elphin Haye is bright and charming. Her clever acting and singing win all hearts, and she soon becomes a favourite. As Liza Shoddam Miss Florence Wix scores a great success, and is possessed of an excellent voice. Miss Eva Bevington as Daisy Fallowfield makes a decided hit with the "Sammy" song. Miss Nellie Grant as Mrs. Shimmering Black could not be bettered; and Miss Helen Langton as Miss Virginia Bliss is excellent. Mr. William Cromwell's performance of the part of Jim Cheese is a creditable bit of acting, and he invests the character with great humour. As Dick Wargrave Mr. Robert Hyett acts in a natural manner, and gives his songs with great effect. The Hon. Crewe Boodle is well represented by Mr. Stanley Harrison, and Mr. A. E. Coleby ably fills the rôle of A. Bunker Bliss. Mr. Frank Cane and Mr. Arthur Cassidy as Downham and Talk respectively make excellent solicitors, and Mr. Charles Greenhill, Mr. Wilfred Norman, and Mr. F. Payne Palmer fill their parts admirably. Mr. Fred W. Pattrick makes an ideal host of "The Fallowfield Arms." Miss Nellie Lawrence is to be congratulated on her excellent dancing, and Mr. F. R. Esmond and Mr. G. W. Rolfe are successful in their efforts. Altogether a most enjoyable production, and Poplar demonstrated its approval in unmistakable terms at the fall of the curtain.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Drama, by Nita Rae, entitled
"HER FATAL PAST."

The above absorbing and well-written drama has been occupying the boards during the past week, and attracting good audiences. It is just the sort of dramatic strong meat, in which the good folks of Rotherhithe love to indulge. Full justice is done to the production by the popular stock company. Mr. Ashley Page brings all his well-known dramatic ability to bear on the rôle of the hero, Mark Desmond, with the most satisfactory results; Mr. Alfred Harding gives a capital study of polished and incisive villainy as Gilbert Fernside; Mr John Sargent provides a capital character-sketch as the stuttering postman, Reuben Treadaway, creating roars of laughter; and Mr. Johnny Chippendale as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs and Mr. C. A. Chandler as Dicky Bird supplies fun and amusement throughout. Miss Marion Denvil acts with emotional power as Honour Symes; Miss Olga André is thoroughly realistic as the woman of pleasure, Belle de Lara; Miss Mattie Everett plays with much feeling as Kitty Sprigwell; Miss Georgie de Lara is good as Ruth Fernside; and a word of praise should be given to little Elsie Jezzard for her capital rendering of the part of Little Leonard.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Drama, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"DEATH OR GLORY BOYS."

The Lyric is being well patronised by Hammersmith playgeors this week, the attraction being the military play, *Death or Glory Boys*, a drama at once entertaining and sensational. Mr. Arthur Bawtree is responsible for the leading part of Jack Malden, and introduces into the character that manly vigour so necessary for the soldier hero. Mr. Fred Morgan is generally chosen by the Lyric management from their excellent stock company to play the villain, and his Glyn Ferrers proves how capable he is to take up the position. Miss Minnie Grey is charming as Neda Fergeson, always a favourite with the theatre's patrons. She is welcomed by rounds of applause at every appearance. Mr. Bert Morley as Lieut. Duff portrays the gallant, yet somewhat foppish, young soldier, very ably. As Nat Wilks Mr. A. P. Kaye is quietly amusing, and with Miss May Seaton as the lively maid, Jane, causes much wholesome merriment. The pathos thrown into the part of Edith Malden by Miss Nellie Fletcher is very real, and in a difficult rôle she greatly distinguishes herself. Others who deserve special praise are Mr. J. E. Manning as Colonel Ferguson, Mr. T. P. Dryden as Carn, and Mr. Ashton Winslow as Sergeant Bryan.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Lyrical Comedy, by Leedham Bantock and Arthur Anderson, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM."

Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company—a most capable combination all round—opened a week's engagement here on Monday evening in this clever and amusing production, which was presented to the riverside audiences with all the accessories employed on its presentation at the Criterion Theatre. The comedy was admirably mounted, was assisted by a numerous and well-trained chorus, and was received by a good sized house with many marks of favour. Miss Muriel George, who plays the part of Sybil Cunningham, achieved a distinct success, and was a particular favourite with all parts of the house, her butterfly song being well rendered and most cordially received. Miss Nellie Groves also won the favour of the audience by her singing and dancing in the part of the American heiress. A great hit was made by Mr. Jamie Dallas as Private Perks, who in his hands was an irresistible mirth-provoking personage; and in sustaining the low comedy features of the play he was ably assisted by Mr. Richard Telford as the Chinaman. Others who acquitted themselves well were Mr. Chas. Schmidt as Admiral Armitage; Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Lieut. Armitage; Mr. H. E. Garden as Lieut. Belmont; and Miss Emily Taylor as Betty Kenigon. The chorus was under the direction of Mr. Harry Richardson, and the comedy was produced by Mr. Duncan Young.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Opera, in Three Acts, by Wagner, entitled
"TANNHAUSER."

The Carl Rosa Opera Company commenced a six nights' engagement on Monday in *Tannhäuser*. A large audience greeted the production with warm applause. The artists to whom the various rôles were allotted acquitted themselves admirably, the singing of the principals being of a very high order of merit. The Tannhäuser of Mr. Julius Walther was a very virile creation, and his fine voice was heard to great advantage. Mr. Charles Victor was very good indeed as Wolfram; as also was Mr. Arthur Winckworth as the Landgrave. Mr. John Ebbeler gave a capital rendering of Biterolf; and Mr. C. Brierley as Reinmar, Mr. Albert Felton as Schrieber, and Mr. Charles Le Sueur as Walther were all excellent. Miss Grace Nicholl made a delightful Elizabeth, both vocally and histrionically; and Miss Marie Alexander as Venus, and Miss Retta McAllister as the Shepherd-boy were both highly satisfactory. The opera was conducted by Mr. Eugène Goosens.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled
"SAVED FROM THE SEA."

Saved from the Sea is being presented at the Standard this week with every sign of success. Mr. Roy Redgrave enacts the part of Dan Ellington with force and skill; as Peter Scalcher Mr. J. C. Aubrey displays considerable talent; Mr. Wingold Lawrence presents an excellent study of Richard Fenton, playing with ease and nonchalance, and meeting with marked success. High praise must be bestowed upon Mr. Frank Lister for his vivid and lifelike portrayal of Jim Weaver. A capable impersonation of Billy Snooks is supplied by Mr. Willie Reid; and great satisfaction is given by Mr. Jack Denton as Jenkins. Mr. Henry C. Cooper proves highly capable as the Governor of Barchester Gaol; Miss Eva Dare submits a charming picture of Polly Blake, a country girl; and Miss Ruth Zillwood is seen to advantage as Mrs. Blake. Miss Florrie Green, a clever child actress, makes the most of every opportunity as Jack Ellington. As the heroine, Nancy Ellington, Miss Kathleen Russell plays with much pathos, and her portrayal is highly acceptable.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Play, in Three Acts, by Mr. W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker, entitled
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

A most amusing and attractive programme is submitted this week at the Brixton, the attraction being the visit of Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in *The Beauty and the Barge*. The brunt of the work falls upon the shoulders of Mr. Blake Adams, who gave a successful and humorous impersonation of the master of the barge "Heart and Hand," and whether he is telling yarns or assisting beauty in distress, Captain James Barclay keeps the fun going with unflagging energy. Mr. Edward Coventry is seen to advantage as Lieut. Seton Boyle; Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu is an ideal Herbert Manners; the irascible and hot-tempered Major Smedley is smartly played by Mr. Walter Pemberton; Mr. Fred Knight adds considerably to the merriment by his impersonation of the mate Tom Cudd; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort does well as the amorous Augustus; Mr. Ernest Drake causes amusement as the diminutive landlord, and his funny business causes incessant laughter. A fine character-study of the gardener John Dibbs is presented by Mr. Charles White; Miss Mona Robin acts exceedingly well as Mrs. Smedley; Miss May Fairclough is a charming and dainty Ethel Smedley; Lucy Dallas is prettily played by Miss Mary Pemberton; Mrs. Porter is effectively undertaken by Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite; and Miss Ruby Wyndham infuses a considerable amount of humour into the part of Mrs. Baldwin.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, September 17, the Drama, adapted from Marie Corelli's Book, entitled
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

The return visit of Messrs. Travis Green's and Arthur Hinton's company in the somewhat mystical drama, *The Sorrows of Satan*, has been entirely successful, the holding capacity of Mr. William Bailey's commodious theatre being tested to the full. The chief interest centres, of course, in the doings of Prince Lucio Rimanez, a trying role, which Mr. Arthur Hinton handles with conspicuous ability and strenuous determination. As Geoffrey Tempest Mr. W. Travis Green does full justice to the part, his performance being most creditable. Mr. Frank Brunell is sufficiently dignified as the Earl of Elton. Mr. Gerald Byrne gives a good representation of the weak-minded Viscount Linton, and Mr. Herbert Ronald scores as Morgeson. Miss Leila Zillwood sustains the part of Lady Sybil Elton in a powerful and convincing style, holding the house spellbound in the third act. Miss Lydia Andre is delightfully sweet and tender as Mavis Clare; whilst Miss Florence Zillwood is responsible for a typical character-study of the American beauty, Diana Chesney. The piece is well mounted and staged, and the cast all round is an excellent one. It was pleasing to find Mr. James Sinclair (Mr. Bailey's genial acting-manager), back again in front, on his return from a cheery sojourn with mine host of the Green Dragon, Ightham, Kent.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest, entitled
"THE LONDON FIREMAN."

This sterling drama is renewing acquaintance with Stratfordians at the Theatre Royal this week, and on Monday was most cordially received. Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company gives an entirely satisfactory interpretation of the piece, which is mounted exceedingly well. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles submits a virile and earnest embodiment of Hal Curtis; Mr. Oliver Birrell is duly callous and blackguardly as Viscount Fleming; Mr. Edward L. Garside contributes a well-defined sketch of Hal Curtis, sen.; Mr. Wm. Burgess plays Abel Fortnum with ability; and Mr. Walter Wilbey is most effective as Joe Bruener. Miss Nellie Shirley acts with sympathy and charm as Ida Curtis; Miss Nellie Waddington plays very appropriately as Countess Fleming; and Grace Curtis is portrayed with much feeling by Miss Florence M. Daly. Comic relief is provided by the exuberances of Nixey Stinger and Polly Bramble, capitally delineated by Mr. Harry C. Womber and Miss Nellie Garside, who are always amusing and entertaining. Minor parts are in quite competent hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
the Musical Play, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Mr. George Dance's company is paying a return visit to the Stratford Borough Theatre this week with *A Country Girl*, and the piece is meeting with every success. Mr. Charles Walenn is a host in himself as the irrepressible Barry, and his indefatigable efforts are duly appreciated. Mr. Percy Carr acts and sings in buoyant and pleasing style as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. J. C. Graves plays with a dry humour as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. St. John Hamund is an exceedingly popular Mr. Raikes with an inexhaustible supply of topical verses for his "Valley of Bhong" song; Mr. Robert Corray enacts Douglas Verity very appropriately, and a capital sketch of Granfer Mummery comes from Mr. F. W. Pedgrift. Miss Maisie Gay is a great favourite as Nan, and her songs go wonderfully well. Miss Nancy Rossiter makes a very charming Marjory Joy, and sings delightfully. Princess Mehelaneh has a graceful exponent in Miss Winnie O'Connor, whose rendering of "Under the Deodar" is a vocal treat. Miss Addie Lennard vivaciously plays Madame Sophie, and sings and dances admirably. Minor parts are all creditably played, and complete justice is done to the concerted numbers by the well-trained orchestra under the direction of Mr. Gordon Stamford.

GRAND THEATRE, FOREST GATE.

An audience which filled every seat in the theatre gave Mr. Sydney Spenser an enthusiastic welcome on Monday last, when he took possession of the Grand. During the recess the house has been redecorated and cleansed from floor to ceiling, the stage enlarged, and an exceedingly good orchestra engaged. Mr. Spenser introduced himself to his audience, and in a modest, straightforward speech promised that, given a fair amount of support, he would provide an entertainment that should save them the trouble of taking a tram ride. He mentioned that he had arranged for an Operatic and Shakespearean week, and that his first pantomime should be an example of what liberality and experience could do. The opening attraction was the engagement of Mr. J. H. Clyndes and an excellent all-round company in the romantic drama, *A Royal Revenge*, which held the attention of the audience from start to finish. Mr. J. H. Clyndes as Estevan Alverez and Pedro de Castro was in excellent form, and was ably supported by Mr. J. Foxhill as Nicholas Vargas. Mr. Walter Kenion gained an encore for his song as Sancha; and the King of Spain was cleverly played by Mr. Oneon Thorpe. Miss Enis Edoni as Inez Alvenaz looked the part perfectly, and completely won the sympathy of the audience.

"Secrets of London Society," a drama, by Chas. Whitlock, was produced for copyright purposes at the Dalston Theatre on the 17th ult.

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."

A Farce, in three acts, by Charles Marlowe, produced at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Monday, Sept. 17.

Sir Guy de Vere .....MR. JAMES WELCH
Wittle .....MR. GEORGE F. TULLY
Barker .....MR. GORDON TOMKINS
Charles Widdicombe .....MR. HENRY J. FORD
Mr. Isaac Isaacson.....MR. ARTHUR GRENVILLE
Rev. Peter Pottleberry .....MR. JAMES NELSON
A Herald .....MR. LEOPOLD PROFEIT
Sir Brian Ballymote .....MR. EDWARD SASS
Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave .....MISS EMMA GWYNNE
Millicent Eggington ....MISS ESTELLE WINWOOD
Marjorie Eggington .....MISS ENID SASS
Kate Pottleberry .....MISS MABEL WENTWORTH
Miss Isaacson .....MISS DAISY CORDELL
Alice Barker .....MISS ANNIE CHIPPENDALE
Rowena Egginton .....MISS AUDREY FORD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

To the accompaniment of loud and continuous laughter, Mr. James Welch and company produced *When Knights Were Bold* here on Monday. It is described as a farce, which somewhat prepares us for the absence of anything serious in the nature of a plot; albeit, there is a slight and comprehensible one. The author, Charles Marlowe, has strung together an amusing sequence of entertaining dialogue, passable punning, and capital jokes, which, with the many comical situations, form a two hours' entertainment of light and wholesome fare that is calculated to drive dull care away.

Divided into three acts, the first and third are in the present period, the second going back to the year 1196. The opportunities for Mr. Welch are manifold, and it goes without saying that he lets none escape him. We cannot conceive anything more excruciatingly funny than the finale of the second act, where Sir Guy (Mr. Welch) is persuaded to don the armour of a knight over his dress clothes, and fight a comic duel with his enemy, Sir Brian. Amidst shrieks of laughter the doughty little champion tackles his foe; then, discarding his heavy accoutrement, dances round his opponent, brandishing a short sword, and literally smiting him "hip and thigh," the curtain descending as Sir Guy stands, one foot planted on his fallen enemy, crying "Victory!" It is farce pure and simple, but so well done that the audience thundered its applause; indeed, the acting is good all round, arousing keen enthusiasm and compelling many calls.

Sir Guy de Vere is a very modern baronet, who finds more pleasure in a game of cards, or a flirtation with a pretty girl, than delving into the history of his ancestral tree. For some reason or other his friends and guests are smitten with the fever of research into the ancient history of the Castle, and Sir Guy's life is tortured to the verge of distraction by their constant allusions to the "good old times." *En passant*, we may say, that the references to these times become a little wearisome by their constant reiteration. Unfortunately for Sir Guy, his cousin, Rowena, with whom he is in love, descants more persistently than the others on the glories of mediævalism. A disturbing factor is also introduced in the person of an Irish adventurer, Sir Brian Ballymote, who pretends to an equal amount of ardour for the past ages (in the presence of Rowena), thus bringing about a sympathetic sentiment between them. Sir Guy is further troubled with a very bad cold, and, in endeavouring to cure it in the ultra "modern" way by means of hot water and a decanter of whisky, falls into a deep sleep, and in a dream passes backward 700 years.

This dream forms the basis of Act II. In faultless evening dress, Sir Guy appears on the battlements of his castle, as it was in the days of Richard Cœur de Lion, finding his retainers and guests wearing the fantastic garb and using the speech of those days. It can easily be imagined that, in the experienced hands of Mr. Welch, the sharp and vivid contrasts between the modern Sir Guy and his present surroundings are not permitted to lose anything of the quaintness derived from such situations. Rowena, a novice in a convent, arrives with several others to claim the protection of Sir Guy from the machinations of Sir Brian, and here occurs the duel of which we have previously spoken.

In Act III. Sir Guy has awakened, and, by the help of his valet, determines to feign madness, and give his cousin and guests more than enough of the "good old times." In his dressing-gown, armed with a huge two-handled sword, he raves up and down the stage in most approved twelfth-century style, and the efforts of one or another of his friends to soothe his frenzy are productive of still further humorous scenes. The ruse effects its purpose. Rowena is convinced that Sir Guy is really a man of spirit, also of the worthlessness of Sir Brian, and all ends happily.

As Sir Guy de Vere Mr. Welch fairly revelled in the rôle, his assumption of a nasal catarrh being exceedingly droll, and his fooling throughout kept his audience in a constant state of merriment. Mr. H. J. Ford submitted a capital sketch of Charles Widdicombe, a society noodle, and in the second act took the part of a Jester with conspicuous success. Mr. Arthur Grenville deserves high commendation for his interpretation of Isaac Isaacson, simulating the designing Jew with artistic skill, without undue exaggeration. Mr. James Nelson acted with care and discrimination as the urbane Dean of Beechwood, giving a soupçon of dry humour; Mr. Edward Sass was heard to advantage in the rich brogue of the Irish adventurer, Sir Brian Ballymote; Mr. Leopold Profeit did well as the Herald; Mr. George F. Tully made a complete success of the valet (Wittle), as also did Mr. Gordon Tomkins of the butler, both playing up to Mr. Welch with the happiest results. Miss Audrey Ford gave a vigorous performance of the romantic Rowena, and thoroughly realised the spirit of the rôle; the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave had a refined exponent in Miss Emma Gwynne; and an attractive Millicent Eggington was seen in Miss Estelle Winwood. Miss Enid Sass played the vivacious Marjorie Eggington with commendable naturalness; and Miss Mabel Wentworth satisfactorily enacted Kate Pottlebury. Miss Daisy Cordell furnished a capital study of the Jew's daughter, Miss Isaacson; and the ingenuous style of Miss Annie Chippendale was well fitted to the part of Alice Barker.

The farce was preceded by the one-act play *The Lady Burglar*, which has before received notice in our columns. The rôle of Honoria Macfarlane was delightfully essayed by Miss Estelle Winwood; and Mr. Henry J. Ford acted with ease and finish as Darcy Fitzherbert. The orchestra effectively rendered incidental music under the bâton of the composer, Mr. Brigata Bucalossi. The scenery by Mr. Bruce Smith is a clever reproduction of the interior and exterior of an ancient castle. The dresses also deserve a word of praise.

MR. DAN GODFREY, musical director to the County Borough of Bournemouth, announces that the twelfth series of Symphony Concerts will commence on Thursday, Oct. 4, and will be continued on successive Thursday afternoons till May, 1907. The supplementary series of classical concerts will commence on Monday, Oct. 8, and be continued weekly. During the course of the dual series the most important symphonic works of the great masters of music, both past and present, which have from time to time been performed at the Winter Gardens, will be repeated, together with many novelties. As in former seasons, several British composers will visit the town and conduct works of their own, amongst them being Sir Frederick Bridge, Dr. Cowen, Mr. Edward German, Sir Charles Stanford, and Mr. Coleridge Taylor.

ACTORS' DAY.

About forty extracts from letters received from prominent managers, actors, and authors expressing their most cordial approval of the Actors' Day appeal appeared in our columns some weeks ago, and since that date about a thousand more names have been added, making a total of considerably over two thousand who have promised their practical support. The list is increasing daily, and with the signed forms the committee are still constantly receiving letters which show how great and wide the interest taken in the movement has become. We give to-day extracts from a few such letters:—

"I consider it the best idea that has ever been suggested for making our charities self-supporting."—Percy Marshall.

"All the members of the company (Mr. Lewis Waller's *Brigadier Gerard* company) are willing supporters of this most admirable and promising scheme."—George Mallett.

"I should be only too glad to help such a good cause."—Arthur Carlton.

"I most cordially approve of your scheme, and have much pleasure in returning Form B, duly signed."—John L. Shine.

"I shall only be too delighted to help such an admirable scheme."—Marie Tempest.

"So admirable a scheme deserves the support of every member of the profession."—Florence Haydon.

"I cordially support the movement."—Fredk. Mouillot.

"Have much pleasure in signing form as requested."—Geoffrey Fulton.

"I am heartily in accord, and will do everything I can for its support."—E. Distin Maddick.

"I hope it will have the support of the whole profession, which it deserves."—D. Morton Williams.

"I have every sympathy with the scheme."—Lottie Venne.

"I think the idea deserving of the fullest support."—Wyn Weaver.

"Every good wish for such a long-needed scheme."—Harry Elliston.

"I think the scheme is excellent."—W. K. Gatley.

"The scheme has my most cordial approval."—A. F. Cross.

"The scheme is a noble one."—Margaret Ayrtoun.

"With great pleasure I subscribe to this great scheme."—Helen Rous.

"I heartily approve of the Actors' Day, and will do all I can for its support."—Louise Moodie.

"With pleasure. If I can, will willingly assist."—Allan Aynesworth.

"I have signed both forms—one as manager, the other as actor. The only suggestion for years that appeals thoroughly to me."—Henry Bedford.

As it is impossible to communicate personally or by letter with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. They would be glad to receive further individual promises of help and programmes of all companies now playing.

Copies of the appeal and forms for signature will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

All communications should be addressed to The Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. TOOLE'S WILL.

The will and codicils of the late Mr. J. L. Toole have been lodged for probate. The will was signed on April 17, 1894, and the codicils added at various periods, ranging from April 8, 1895, to Feb. 22, 1906. Altogether, about 170 persons are named for bequests. Only about half-a-dozen bequests were revoked. Of these some were reduced, notably one to the late Clement Scott, from £500 to £300. Mr. Toole, in the last codicil, increased his bequest to his old friend George Shelton to a total sum of £1000.

The amount left by Mr. Toole reached a nett sum of £79,964 0s. 2d. All bequests will be paid free of legacy duty. The executors are Mr. Edward Yeats Lowne, of Conyers-road, Streatham, and Mr. John Lyell Lyell, of Culverdon, Balham. The residue of the estate Mr. Toole directed should be divided into ten equal parts, five of these to be divided amongst those persons who would have benefited had he died intestate. These will be mainly nephews and nieces, one other part going to Edward Yeats Lowne, and three to such charitable institutions as the executors may see fit to benefit.

Amongst the legacies, of which many are rendered void by death, are the following:—Henry Irving, £4000 and house at 44, Maida-vale; Eliza Johnstone, £2000; Frank Carlton, £1000; Lionel Brough, £600; John Billington, £1300; Mrs. Billington, £300; Weedon Grossmith, £300; Edward Yates Lowne, £2300; Charles Macready Lowne, £200; George Shelton, £1000; G. Shelton, jun., £200; Henry Westland, £200; George Lee, manager, £50; George R. L. Loveday, £100; Lionel E. R. Loveday, £100; Annie Loveday, £100; Miss Bessie Hatton, £200; George Grossmith, £100; Weedon Grossmith, £300; Laurence Irving, £100; H. B. Irving, £100; Harry Loveday, £400; Henry Irving Loveday, £200; among children of late Mr. Saker, £600; Mrs. Saker, £100; Sarah Jane Mellon, £100; Mrs. Lionel Brough, £200; Miss Bessie Brough, £200; Miss Daisy Brough, £100; Percy and Sidney Brough (each), £100; Scarrott, chief carpenter, £50; Carter, gasman, £25; Kate Carlyon, £100; and Thomas Thorne, £100.

In the long list of legatees who are requested to buy mourning rings with bequests of £20 each, are Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. George Barrett, Mr. Job Bracewell, Mr. Cecil Beryl and Mrs. Beryl, Mr. Gilbert Farquhar, Mr. Ambrose Manning, Mr. E. C. Silverthorne, Mr. Michael Gunn (Gaiety Theatre, Dublin), Mr. J. B. Howard, Mr. Henry Kemble, Mr. Macready Lowne, Mr. Harry Loveday (of Lyceum), and Mr. Henry Westland.

The deceased actor left to the Garrick Club the buckles of John Bannister, given to Mr. Toole by Miss Kelly; to Mr. Weedon Grossmith the portrait of Mr. Toole's son, Frank Laurence, painted by Mr Grossmith; and various interesting "curios" to his executor. To the Actors' Benevolent Institution and the Royal General Theatrical Fund £500 each is bequeathed. Other notable legatees are J. M. Barrie, A. W. Pinero, W. S. Gilbert, George Alexander, J. W. Comyns Carr, Albert Chevalier, John Hare, Cyril Maude, Judge Parry, Arthur Roberts, Ellen Terry, Beerbohm Tree, Irene Vanbrugh, Charles Wyndham, the late Wilson Barrett, and the late Dan Leno.

"A WINTER'S TALE" has been produced at the Deutsches, Berlin, with Frau Agnes Sorma in the part of Hermione. This pleasing actress is always interesting, and her conception of the character, though quite different from that of Frau Gessner-Sommersdorff—who played it formerly at that theatre—could not fail to attract. Herr Kayssler, as Leontes, was eminently satisfactory, and the remainder of the cast was adequate. The mounting was in the opulent style to which we have grown accustomed under Herr Reinhardt's management. It was, perhaps, at times overdone—more striking than artistic—but the scene of the shepherds' festival was quite beautiful, atoning for all slight deficiencies, and Humperdinck's music is delightful in its melodious harmonies.

MR. EDWARD THANE will produce, at the New King's Theatre, Hoxton, on Oct. 1, a new four-act drama, entitled *Lured to London*.

"THE HONEYMOON."

A Musical Absurdity, in Three Acts, by Gilbert Payne, produced for the first time on any stage at the Empire Theatre, Dundee, on Monday, Sept. 17.

Col. Vandyke Brown .....MR. JOHN HAMES
Jack Armstrong .....MR. LESLIE ERLE
Nathaniel Noodle .....MR. GILBERT PAYNE
Archie .....MR. HARRY FARROW
Victor l'Estrange .....MR. HARRY HOYLAND
Timothy Tubb .....MR. BERT GRAY
Emeretta Noodle .....MISS RENE WALTON
Stella Le Brun .....MISS NELLIE DYSON
Madge Armstrong .....MISS PATTIE FAIRLEY

Mr. Gilbert Payne is well known as the author and composer of various musical absurdities, which have all proved most successful. Being a first-class comedian himself, he knows what a discriminating public wants nowadays, and in *The Honeymoon* he has excelled himself, and provided as bright and amusing a piece as anyone could wish for. The story, which recalls the topsy-turvydom of the Gilbert and Sullivan successes, centres round the adventures which follow the clandestine marriage of Jack Armstrong, and the play is full of the most ludicrous situations. It is the object of Jack and his wife to prevent a knowledge of their marriage reaching the ears of his uncle, Col. Vandyke Brown, that very peppery old gentleman having promised to leave his nephew half his large fortune on the condition that the young man does not marry. To the surprise and dismay of the couple, the Colonel returns to England, and Jack and his friends do all in their power to throw dust into the sharp eyes of his avuncular relative. Jack's wife is introduced as his housekeeper—a widow—and his friends represent for the occasion his servants. The complications that follow are extremely funny, and evoke the heartiest merriment, but after Jack has made full confession, all ends happily.

The star of the company is Mr. Payne himself in the part of Nathaniel Noodle; he simple bubbles over with wit and humour. He is well supported by Mr. John Hames as the Colonel, and also by Mr. Harry Farrow and Mr. Leslie Erle. Miss Pattie Fairley as Mrs. Armstrong has a big share in the success of the piece, her acting being very natural and her singing of various catchy songs all that could be desired. Special mention must be made of her song "The widow with the downcast eye," and her duet with Mr. Erle "I'm longing for you," both being excellent numbers. Miss Nellie Dyson, who appears as Stella Le Brun, is an exceedingly smart actress, her song "Little boy, you must guess" being very much applauded. Miss Rene Walton also plays her part (Emeretta Noodle) well, and sings "There I was waiting at the church" in her own taking way. Specialities are introduced by the Florentia Troupe of dancers. The dresses and scenery are admirable, and the piece was welcomed with the warmest tokens of approval by a large and enthusiastic house. The company goes on tour for ten weeks in England, and the new production should have a very successful run.

THE COURT.

On Monday, Sept. 17, Revival of the Play, in Four Acts, by Bernard Shaw, entitled "JOHN BULL'S OTHER ISLAND."

The subtleties of Shaw have now been so effectually grasped by playgoers at the Court that any one of his brilliant satires can safely be relied upon as an attraction. Monday witnessed another revival of *John Bull's Other Island*, and a crowded and appreciative audience came prepared to be merry at the many palpable hits at their national weaknesses, lending a ready ear to the witticisms in the piece, and being thoroughly amused by the distorted view of the Sister Isle which is presented. The piece has apparently to a certain extent been brought up to date, references to the constitution of the present Government and to incidents of recent occurrence being made. One of the chief features of the revival is the return of Miss Ellen O'Malley, who resumes her original character of Nora, and the winsomeness and grace of her impersonation of the artless Irish maiden remain unimpaired. The piquancy of the scene at the Round Tower is in particular agreeably apparent, and the performance throughout is one of indescribable charm. Mr. Louis Calvert again revels in the ingenuous drollery of the genial Broadbent. The part is rich in opportunities which to so practised an actor as Mr Calvert are invaluable. Every line gains in humour by his method of delivery, and the effect of each situation is accentuated by his varied acting. Among the newcomers to the cast is Mr. Ben Webster, who plays with dash and refinement as the Anglicised Irishman, Larry Doyle. Mr. Webster is at all times buoyant and incisive, and the long speeches which fall to him bring his fine elocutionary abilities into full play. Miss Agnes Thomas has made the character of Aunt Judy entirely her own, and the merriment with which the house resounds is frequently the result of her quaint delivery. Mr. Edmund Gwenn is one of the chief provokers of laughter in the part of the valet Hodson. His stolid demeanour and his resignation of manner are truly comic, and his sudden wordy attack upon the "solid man," Matthew Haffigan, roused the house to a high pitch of hilarity. Matthew himself is played effectively by Mr. James Hearn, who gives a remarkably clever study of the rapacious old farmer, every detail of make-up being artistic. Mr. Henry Austin, a young actor of much promise, has succeeded to the part of Tim Haffigan, and adapts himself admirably to its requirements. He gives a well-studied and humorous exposition of the drink-sodden impostor, and his efforts to create mirth during his brief scene are crowned with success. Mr. Wilfred Shine adds to the sum total of laughter by his droll rendering of Barney Doran; and a very capable embodiment of Corney Doyle is given by Mr. F. Cremlin. The whimsical characterisation of Patsy Farrell supplied by Mr. Norman Page is brimful of unobtrusive drollery, which exercises a felicitous effect. Mr. Edmund Gurney is a robust exponent of Father Dempsey, giving vigorous expression to the lines of the part; and as the demented Keegan Mr. William Poel gains the greatest admiration for the distinctness of his utterance and for his clever management of at least one difficult scene.

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON, who next month relinquishes his position as manager of the Grand Theatre and district-manager of the Hippodrome, Southampton, is to be accorded a benefit concert on Thursday, Oct. 4, at the local Skating Rink, kindly lent for the occasion. A meeting to promote the affair was held at the Royal Hotel on Tuesday evening, when the Mayor occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. W. Trussell (manager of the Palace) and H. Howell (manager of the Hippodrome). It was explained that a provisional committee had been formed, and had approached many influential people, who had extended their patronage to the movement, including Miss Ellen Terry, the Mayor, Sheriff, and Town Clerk of Southampton, Mr. Fred Mouillot (lessee of the Grand Theatre), Mr. Walter de Frece (part proprietor of the Hippodrome), Mr. Frank Macnaghten (lessee of the Palace Vaudeville Theatre), Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. George Grossmith, and Mr. Edward Compton. A general committee was appointed, with the Mayor as chairman, Mr. Trussell deputy-chairman, Mr. Howell hon. treasurer, and Messrs. Gleave and Gear hon. secretaries.

"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE."

A Play in Four Acts, produced at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, On Monday, September 17.

Arthur Cameron ....MR. GEORGE D. KNIGHT
Aaron Howseman ....MR. W. ROBERT BARBOUR
Joseph Midgers .....MR. FRED CARROLL
Simeon .....MR. ED. A. RYLESTON
Jeffries .....MR. T. BROWN ELLIOTT
Tom Willett .....MR. E. ARTHUR STANLEY
Sergeant of Police .....MR. ARTHUR BRITTON
Ben Joskell .....MR. WILLIAM MORRICE
Cabman .....MR. JOHN BEVERLEY
Agnes .....MISS P. DALTON
Lady Cameron .....MISS NELLIE FERN
Lizzie Bowman .....MISS M. NORTHCOTE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

It is some time since there was a "first night" of note in Lincoln, the most recent production of importance being that of Mr. Albert Chevalier's *The Land of Nod*. Mr. John H. Negus, who produced *A Miserable Marriage*, the authorship of which was not announced, should find his piece a moneymaker when once it has settled down and the inevitable revisions—which he will find little more than matters of detail—have been made.

The plot is interesting and well told, the curtains briskly worked up to, and though the dialogue does not rise to great merit, a "plain tale" pointedly told, has its good qualities. The opening of the piece finds Aaron Howseman, the estate agent at Silecroft Manor, scheming to get the young heir, Arthur Cameron, more closely into his clutches. Already Cameron, who has been leading a wild sort of life, has borrowed money in large sums from the too willing agent, and Howseman has increased the pace by forging the heir's name to promissory notes to an enormously large amount. In addition to gambling, Cameron has met and sincerely loved a ballet girl, named Agnes, the supposed daughter of a tramp, known as Jeffries, and has secretly married her. It is Cameron's constant task to keep the fact of his marriage and of his financial difficulties from his mother, Lady Cameron. Matters are precipitated, however, by old Jeffries turning his "daughter" out of doors, and she makes her way to Silecroft to throw herself into her husband's arms, unable to keep from him any longer. Lady Cameron is a witness of the meeting, and, furiously denouncing her son, sends him off the estate and his wife with him. Thus events play well into the grasping hands of Howseman, who meets with a rebuff when he proposes to Lady Cameron, but is able to console himself when, her ladyship borrowing £100, he is able to substitute for the receipt a bond conveying Silecroft Manor to him, which her ladyship signs. Meanwhile, Arthur Cameron and his wife, their money gone, find old Jeffries unbearable, and seek shelter of honest Joe Midgers at the "Silecroft Arms." While they are there, Lady Cameron is announced, and Arthur promptly takes his wife away. The innkeeper's wife, however, follows and overtakes him with a message from her ladyship, pleading that Arthur and his wife will go to the manor. There is a reconciliation. At the manor Agnes is taken very ill, and her supposed father comes on the scene again. He attempts to strangle the girl, but Arthur returns, and, after a desperate struggle, knocks Jeffries down. Later, Howseman gets Jeffries into his power, and they plot together to waylay an old ragpicker, named Simeon, who is popularly supposed to have wealth concealed in his cottage. Jeffries, however, throws up his task and is half killed by Howseman, who himself murders the ragpicker. When he returns to the manor to again attempt the wooing of Lady Cameron, Howseman is confronted by Arthur, the forgeries having been discovered. The dying Jeffries is brought in and accuses the estate agent of murdering the old ragpicker, and Simeon's will, leaving £20,000 to his child, is found, the missing daughter being proved to be Agnes, Arthur's wife. Jeffries obtains his revenge by shooting Howseman, and the curtain falls on the "miserable marriage" proving a cloud with a silver lining

There is a very amusing subsidiary story concerning the love-making and subsequent and married life of Joe Midgers and his barmaid. Mr. George D. Knight played with fire and dash as Arthur Cameron; and Mr. Edward A. Ryleston was a picturesque figure as the old rag-picker, making the character one of real pathos and power. Mr. W. Robert Barbour played effectively as the unscrupulous Howseman; and Jeffries had an able exponent in Mr. T. Brown Elliott, who is to be commended for his realistic make-up. Miss P. Dalton was always in sympathy with her audience as Agnes; and Miss Nellie Fern was a dignified Lady Cameron. The comedy characters were very well looked after by Mr. Fred Carroll as Midgers, and Miss M. Northcote as Lizzie.

Mr. Frank King staged the play very handsomely, a series of excellent sets being provided.

THE NEW GRAND, MANSFIELD.

This theatre, erected for Capt. Cecil Clayton by Mr. F. Houghton from plans prepared by Mr. T. V. Woodhouse, was opened on Monday. The building occupies a prominent site in the main street of the town, and is in the centre of a district of 90,000 population, amusement lovers being served by a good evening train service. Trams from several parts of the district also pass the doors.

The general scheme of decoration is red and pale green, picked out with gold. There are two boxes. The upholstering, which has been carried out in excellent taste by Messrs. Dean, of Birmingham, is in red plush. The stalls, circle, and pit are all fitted with tip-up chairs. The interior of the theatre is lighted by a huge electrolier. The stage is 65ft. by 40ft., and 46ft. to the bridge; and it is endowed with all the latest up-to-date apparatus. The proscenium is a work of art. The theatre is amply provided with refreshment rooms, lounge, and crush rooms.

The whole place has been planned for the comfort both of artists and audience. The dressing-rooms have every convenience. Every precaution has been taken against fire, nine exits being provided, and in addition there is a most efficient fire apparatus. At the rear of the theatre is a large ornamental garden, in which it is proposed to present pastoral plays in the summer.

The proprietor, Capt. Cecil Clayton, also runs the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, which place is booked in conjunction with Mansfield. Mr. Edward Gray, who has been acting-manager of the Britannia Pier, Yarmouth, for five years, is the manager of both places. Capt. Clayton is to be congratulated on being the possessor of such a commodious, comfortable, and up-to-date playhouse.

Tomkinson's Gipsy Choir had the honour of being the first company to appear at the new theatre. There was a packed house on Monday evening, hundreds being unable to gain admission. On the rise of the curtain the National Anthem was sung by the Gipsy Choir, the large audience joining in heartily.

At the interval Capt. Clayton made a neat little speech, in which he drew attention to the fact that the whole of the work of the new theatre had been produced by local labour. He also gave a list of plays already booked. The audience loudly cheered him at the close of his speech. During the evening he was the recipient of congratulatory telegrams from Mr. Bannister Howard, Mr. Graham Falcon, Mr. Sydney Spencer, Mr. Edward Gray, and numerous other well-known people.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

ANNALS OF COVENT GARDEN.

Mr. Henry Saxe Wyndham, the popular Secretary of the Guildhall School of Music, has already gained literary distinction by his "Life of Sir Arthur Sullivan," but he has gone far beyond that work in his present "Annals of Covent Garden Theatre," which, published in two handsome volumes by Messrs. Chatto and Windus, seems likely to become a standard work of reference in all matters connected with that famous establishment. At the present moment the musical public eagerly await any particulars respecting the Royal Opera, because of the rumour that it was to be pulled down in order to enlarge the market. But, as Messrs. Forsyth and Rendle happen to have an unexpired term of 40 years yet to run, this report may be taken with many grains of salt. The author of the present work has executed his task with remarkable skill and corresponding industry. He appears to have adopted M. Zola's method. The famous French author collected materials most lavishly before he began to write, and as a result his works have a freedom and spontaneity rare in modern literature. Mr. Wyndham's work is quite as good in its way, and although he modestly disclaims any special merit, we have read his book with the greatest pleasure and instruction. He has collected an immense store of anecdotes, and has enlivened his volumes with charming illustrations. We are quite bewildered in making our choice of extracts. But to begin at the beginning is the best of all possible ways, and therefore we commence, *in medias res*, with John Rich, the once famous harlequin, and the founder of Covent Garden, who first came prominently before the public in December, 1714, when he spoke the prologue to the opening play at the New Theatre, Farquhar's *Recruiting Officer*. Rich in the following year appeared as a tragedian, and although he did not shine, he was so proud of his attempt that he said "he would rather play Cato to six persons in the pit than Harlequin to a crowded house." He was uneducated, and his manners were far from refined, for when Quin, the actor, wrote to him from Bath, this is the correspondence that took place:—

Quin: "I am at Bath.—Yours, QUIN."
Rich: "Stay there and be damned.—JOHN RICH."

We frequently hear actors complain of their managers, but seldom do they descend to such coarseness as this. Mr. Wyndham describes one of the scenes in Rich's first pantomime called *Harlequin Sorcerer*, in which Harlequin is hatched from an egg by the heat of the sun. The stage business was most effective, and Rich displayed great skill in his pantomimic action. Dickens in his "Memoirs of Grimaldi" tells some agreeable facts respecting the costume of Harlequin, which in those days was imitated from the Italian, and with the dress the buffoonery of the Italian original was also included, so that Pope in the "Dunciad" accuses the management of bringing the shows of Bartholomew at Smithfield to entertain the Court and Town at Covent Garden.

The excitement in theatrical circles owing to the enormous success of *The Beggars' Opera* in Jan., 1728, has often been told. It had a run of 63 nights; in those days quite phenomenal. At present we think a run of one or even two hundred nights nothing extraordinary. The croakers of the period, like some at the present day, predicted the decline of the drama in consequence of *The Beggars' Opera*. But a revolution in operatic music greater still was caused by the efforts of Handel, who first attempted opera in Italian, and when that failed produced his immortal sacred works, but when *The Messiah* was first heard at Covent Garden it was announced as a "sacred oratorio," because it was feared the name of "The Messiah" would give offence to the religious world. Little did they dream that Handel's music would become the most potent influence of modern times in serious circles; nor could they foresee such magnificent assemblages as the Handel Festivals at the Crystal Palace. As showing Handel's difficulties with the singers, Mr. Wyndham quotes the composer's reply to Carestini, who refused to sing "Verdi prati." "You tog, don't I know patter as yourself vat is goot for you to sing? If you vill not sing vat I gif you I von't pay you von stiver." The refractory vocalist gave way, and the melody proved a great success. Later in the book Mr. Wyndham refers to most of the celebrated performers of the time, and his anecdotes are frequently as instructive as they are amusing, especially when he mentions Macready and Kean, the account of whose death is most pathetic. After quitting the dramatic records of Covent Garden, the author tells the story of the theatre as an opera house, and speaks of the great singers who have appeared there. Altogether we can compliment him on having written one of the most attractive and interesting works of the season, and he may be assured that the thousands who are attracted to the famous opera house will read his book with pleasure, and will regard him as its best historian. It would be ungracious to omit a good word for the publishers also. The printing, binding, &c., are worthy of the excellent contents, and "The Annals of Covent Garden" should find a place in every library, and bring fame and profit to the gifted author, who might give us "The Annals of Drury Lane" as a companion volume.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Whatever may be the ultimate fate of musical comedy, no one will gainsay the fact that *The Earl and the Girl* is an excellent specimen of its kind, and merits all the success it has achieved; nor is the reason far to seek, for here have we a really good plot that interests the audience, excellent dialogue, and particularly tuneful music. When to this is added a galaxy of pretty faces, coupled with clever exponents, it is small wonder that Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company met with such an enthusiastic reception here. The representation of *The Earl and the Girl* indeed left little to be desired. Mr. E. Fitzgibbon as the supposed Earl was distinctly good; quite delightful was his rendition of "To you" (encored). Mr. Alec Godfrey was sufficiently garrulous as the Yankee solicitor, Downham, his eccentric dance in Act 1 being re-demanded. As the Semetic limb of the law Mr. Burgess Barrett did wonderfully well. Nothing could have been better than the fire-eating A. Bunker Bliss of Mr. Cotter, his comic irascibility provoking roars of laughter. The rôle of the strong lady was capably filled by Miss M. Maud. Quite charming was the Miss Elphin Haye of Miss Alice Nixon; she sang "In Zanzibar" with marked effect, and proved as dainty a sifflleuse as a vocalist. Mr. Frank Wilson early won his way into the affection of the audience as the real heir, Dick Wargrave; he scored heavily in the song "On the shores of the Mediterranean," and was deservedly applauded. But the humour of the evening was fairly divided between Mr. C. D. Cleveland as Jim Cheese, the dog-trainer, and the Liza Shoddam of Miss Adele Roze. In the introductory scene they caused great hilarity, but his humour reached its height when, as the pseudo-Earl, he was anxious to borrow "a hundred or two." In Act 2 his song, "I'm a Lord," proved one of the hits of the evening. Mr. G. Franklin made the most of his small opportunities as the innkeeper; and Miss Carmen Cecil was satisfactory as Miss Virginia Bliss. Valuable assistance was lent to the production by Mesdames Bruce, Palmer, Lawler, and Wynn, a special good word being due to the chorus, so admirably trained by Mr. H. Lonsdale. Mr. Geo. Franklyn may be complimented on the success of his stage-managership, and Mr. Arthur Howard is still responsible for the business side of the theatre.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. BERBOHM TREE has publicly admitted that he takes delight in "hooting and tooting through the landscape" by motor on his town-to-town journeys. On one of those occasions he experienced one of the most memorable moments of his life. "We were going down hill," Mr. Tree said, "when suddenly I became aware that my driver had lost control of the brakes. We were hurtling down a hill at a terrible and illegal rate (to break the law unconsciously is no pleasure at all). To the left was a sheer precipice; to the right a hard rock; in front in the narrow road were two carts—on the left one going down the hill, on the right one coming up.

"In that facile transit of a few moments," continued Mr. Tree, "I calculated that our only salvation was that the one cart should have passed the other, and so enable us to flash between the two. We crashed into the cart on the right, smashing the wheel. By a happy dispensation we bounded off this cart and smashed into the cart on the left. We were thus held up in the middle of the road, the car shivering and quivering and uttering unearthly and blasphemous sounds in its convulsive death throes. But there we stood alive. I descended from my shattered seat. The occasion was to me too great for words, or even passion, and with the calm of a potentially dead man I regarded the driver with the cold grey eye of reproach. My cockney friend was equal to the occasion. 'Not a bad ad., governor!' he said."

A DISTINGUISHED and representative audience attended the *répétition générale* of *The Bondman* at Drury Lane on Tuesday. Over two thousand people had been invited, and among those who were present were Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Sir Charles Wyndham, Sir James Blyth, Sir Thomas and Lady Elliott, Lady Crossley, Sir Edwin and Lady Cornwall, Sir Edward Ward, Mr. George Alexander and Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Tree and Miss Viola Tree, Mrs. John Wood, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Mr. H. A. Jones, Captain Marshall, Mr. Louis N. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Kennerley Rumford, Miss Kate Rorke, Mr. Bernard Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Bram Stoker, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Charles Warner, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. and Mrs. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Irving, Mr. Harry Fragson, and Mr. Walter Passmore.

Now that the Managers' Club has been successfully launched, Mr. G. B. Lambert (secretary of the Catford Amateurs)—a gentleman who takes a great interest in theatrical matters—has kindly consented to be hon. secretary of the Touring Managers' Association and the new Managers' Club. The committee are indeed fortunate in securing for this position a gentleman who has had a vast experience in connection with clubs in India, although of course they regret losing the valuable services of Mr. William Martin, whose indefatigable efforts have helped to bring the club to such a happy issue. Mr. Bannister Howard, however, now finds it impossible, owing to the extent of his business, to spare Mr. Martin any longer for this position.

THE number of new members who have joined the Managers' Club within the last two weeks is forty. The first directors' meeting was held last Tuesday. For the convenience of managers passing through London on Sundays, the club will be open from 12 o'clock till 10 o'clock, and on weekdays the club will be open from 12 p.m. to 1 a.m. Arrangements are being made with the celebrated restaurant proprietors—Gow's—who will have their bill of fare displayed in the club each day, so that, by telephoning, within a very few minutes any member can get whatever he likes to eat.

MR. LEWIS WALLER is hard at work during the intervals of acting on tour with rehearsals of *Robin Hood*, in which he will appear at the Lyric on his return to London about the middle of next month. Mr. Waller will undoubtedly have a fine part in that of the bold outlaw, and in the course of the performance will be heard in a ballad, written by Mr. Henry Hamilton, entitled "A Song of the Oak." Miss Evelyn Millard will impersonate Maid Marian, Mr. William Devereux (one of the authors) appears as Prince John, and Miss Dorothy Minto and Miss Georgie Esmond will also be in the cast.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES adheres firmly to the title of *The New Aladdin* for the extravaganza which he has decided to produce at the Gaiety on Saturday. The real interest in the piece, it may be noted, begins with the rising of the curtain; and as there is a definite plot for the house to follow, Mr. Edwardes hopes that all playgoers will be in their seats not later than eight o'clock. Mlle. Gabye de Lys, a pretty and petite French actress, has been added to the cast, and will play the part of a young Parisienne on a visit to London.

MR. H. B. IRVING, Miss Dorothea Baird, and company embarked at Liverpool on Wednesday, by the Majestic, for New York, and among those who went down to the boat to wish them God-speed were Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and Mr. Alan McKinnon. For the last few days Mr. and Mrs. Irving have been the guests of Lord and Lady Lathom at Ormskirk, N.B.

MR. IRVING will make his first appearance in America at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on Monday, Oct. 1, in Stephen Phillips's poetical play of *Paolo and Francesca*. Mr. Irving will also appear in *The Lyons Mail*, *Charles I.*, and *The Bells*, all three of which were so closely associated with the fame of his late father. The company includes Miss Maud Milton, Mr. Frank Tyars, Mr. Charles Dodsworth, Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. T. Reynolds, Mr. S. A. Cookson, and the stage-manager, Mr. Lionel Belmore. After a month in New York, Mr. Irving and his company proceed for a fortnight to Philadelphia to open the new Forrest Theatre. Canadian cities will be included in the tour, which is timed to close on Feb. 8, though it may probably be extended to May.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY continues his triumphant tour in the North, and Edinburgh audiences this week at the Lyceum have been emulating their brothers of the Glasgow Royal last week. *Boy O'Carroll* is delighting provincial playgoers, tremendous enthusiasm being everywhere the order of the night. When Mr. Harvey appears in Dublin—his stay there being of three weeks duration—it is his intention to inaugurate performances of a "triple bill," which will include some of the more successful one-act plays which he has produced from time to time. Rehearsals are now in active progress of *The Corsican Brothers* and *The Spell*, with a view to their production at Birmingham Theatre Royal on Oct. 10.

THE remarkable "hit" made by Mr. Austin Melford as Father Ferrati in *The Bondman*, at Drury Lane, again shows the value of experience, for it was only decided on the Friday before the Tuesday's matinée that the regrettable illness of Mr. James Fernandez would prevent him playing the part. This makes Mr. Melford's fourth season at the Lane, and sixth appearance in Mr. Hall Caine's plays. Considering the short time in which he had to study the character, Mr. Melford's impersonation is really extraordinary.

THE growing popularity of the Actors' Day scheme, recently initiated by the Actors' Association, is manifested by the additional extracts from letters which will be found on another page. The list is a representative one, and includes the names of several resident and touring managers of the kind whose sympathy the promoters are especially anxious to secure.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM'S return to the West End may be looked for during the present season, arrangements having been made for the re-appearance of the popular actor with Miss Mary Moore at a series of matinées at the New Theatre. No definite news is yet to hand as to the character of the productions, but there is no indecision in the minds of playgoers as to the welcome which will greet the favourite artists, whose appearances in London have of late been less frequent than their admirers would wish.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, in his capacity of specially-appointed critic for the *Tatler*, has exercised a gentle pen in his review of *A Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's. Exception, however, is taken to the action of the scene before the shepherd's cottage. "It seems a matter of regret," says Mr. Bourchier, "that Mr. Tree's provincial duties have called him away from London, and thus prevented him rehearsing, cutting, and improving the action which takes place in this beautiful setting, and which sadly lacks the true poetic spirit. It would be a good thing if Mr. Tree, even at this eleventh hour, were to depute somebody to do this for him, for, being the most fanciful scene in the play, it requires the most careful treatment."

THE music calls forth Mr. Bourchier's hearty praise, although the setting of the song, "Get you hence," seemed to him to have been transported direct from the Strand. "The stage management of the Hermione scenes," he continues, "is excellent, except that the treatment of the episode of the reading of the Oracle seems entirely wrong. Surely the momentous words should be whispered with bated breath to Leontes and his officers, Hermione, and her faithful few; to shout them to the crowd would cause a riot, and Leontes would be torn to pieces by his infuriated people."

THE annual general meeting of Drury Lane, Ltd., will be held on Friday next. In their annual report on the ninth year's working of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, Ltd., the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of £5 per cent., free of income tax, on the paid-up capital. The estimated value of costumes, scenery, properties, &c., on the company's productions is £7500, while the expenditure on prospective plays and tours is put at £1527 16s. 1d. The profit in respect of productions and refreshments, after deducting part of managing-director's salary, was £26,066 2s. 2d. A reduction upon the fire insurance premium on the theatre and adjoining buildings has been obtained as from Lady Day next, by which a yearly saving of over £150 will be effected. The director retiring by rotation, but eligible for re-election, is Lord George H. Loftus.

MR. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW is asserting his rights in Buda Pest, and is suing the managers of the Vigszinhaz for having performed his play *The Devil's Disciple* without being authorised by him. The play was acted fifteen times—a remarkable record in Hungary. Mr. Shaw, who will be represented before the Buda Pest Court by the Society of Authors, claims an indemnity of 30,000 crowns (£1250).

MISS MARIE ILLINGTON, who gives such a clearly-cut character-sketch of a shrewd countrywoman as Mrs. Fairbrother in *The Bondman*, is one of the few actresses who make up for a part—ignoring their own personality—as carefully as a man. She has made quite a speciality of "young old women," one of her most memorable hits having been in *The Duke of Killicrankie*. She manages to get such good wigs, and wears them so well, that Sir Charles Wyndham actually condoled with her on one occasion for having to dress and powder "her own hair" so elaborately for every performance.

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN, who has for some time been Mr. James Welch's manager, is the latest to aspire to the honours of theatrical management. He has secured from Sir Charles Wyndham a lease of the Criterion, where he will produce about the middle of next month a play, entitled *The Amateur Socialist*, by W. Kingsley Tarpey. This piece was produced by the Stage Society, under the title of *Windmills*, some few years ago, and the success then gained induced Mr. Allen to fix upon it for the inauguration of his new enterprise. The story is that of a rabid though wealthy Hyde Park orator, whose utterances eventually bring him within the walls of a police court. The rôle will be played by Mr. Eric Lewis, and a strong company is being engaged for the remainder of the parts.

MR. F. R. BENSON who has been entrusted with the arrangements of the Romsey Pageant, which is to take place in June, promises that it will be most interesting from an archæological point of view, and that its scenes will be historically accurate in every respect, owing to the advantage its promoters have in drawing on the church records of Romsey Abbey for details. The period the pageant will cover is from the founding of Romsey Abbey, A.D. 907, by Edward the Elder, to the time of Charles I. It will be held in the grounds of Broadlands Park, the estate of Mr. Evelyn Ashley, in which stands Romsey Abbey. Some 800 persons will take part in the pageant, the book of which is being prepared by the Rev. Cooke Yarborough, Vicar of Romsey, and Mr. William Cooke Yarborough.

GRAND opera at popular prices is to be given at Covent Garden, starting early next month. Mr. Neil Forsyth has been to Italy completing arrangements for the season, and a strong company has been engaged, the list of artists being headed by Mme. Melba and Signorina Rina Giachetti. The répertoire will include Verdi's *Aida*, *Rigoletto*, and *Traviata*; Giordano's *Andrea Chenier* and *Fédora*; Puccini's *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Manon Lescaut*, and *La Tosca*; Bizet's *Carmen*; Mozart's *Don Giovanni*; Gounod's *Faust*; Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*; Catalani's *Lorelei*; and Boïto's *Mefistofele*, all of which will be given in Italian.

THE list includes two works new to London. Signor Umberto Giordano's *Fédora* is a setting of Sardou's great drama, arranged by Signor Arturo Colautti, and it was first performed in Milan in 1898. The other novelty will be Signor Alfredo Catalani's *Lorelei*, originally produced in Turin in 1890. It is a revised version of his opera *Elda*, which was brought out ten years earlier in the same city.

AT the Opera House, Dudley, on Saturday the part of Mabel in *The Broken Melody* was, in the absence of Miss Lena Burnleigh, undertaken at short notice by Miss Margherita Gordon, who acquitted herself to the complete satisfaction of the management.

AN addition to current literature is made this week by the publication of *The Dairy Maid*, every word of which has been written by Mr. Thos. Courtice, business-manager for Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Dairymaids* on tour. The new journal is a facsimile of a popular halfpenny daily, and its columns are devoted, both in respect to text and advertisement, to singing the praises of *The Dairymaids*, which is having a most successful tour. A "sensational" column is headed "Latest Bluff," and that called "Mainly about People" gives short biographies of the members of the company. The issue also contains an interesting interview with Mr. Courtneidge, part-author of the popular Apollo piece. Mr. Courtice is also responsible for an ingenious throwaway playing card, advertising *The Catch of the Season*, which consists of a combination of the King and Queen of Hearts impersonated respectively by Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss.

THE Moody-Manners Opera Company will give a special matinée this afternoon at the Camden Theatre, for the students of London schools. Selected parties of students from elementary and secondary schools and some of the senior students from the Pupil Teachers' College will attend. The opera will be Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and the performance will be prefaced by a brief explanatory chat on the opera, with pianoforte illustrations. The students present will be invited to write essays on the opera, and Mme. Fanny Moody has offered prizes for the three best. This is the first experiment of the kind that has been made in Great Britain. The education department of the London County Council have afforded Mr. Manners facilities for placing the tickets in the hands of students under their control, but many of those present will be drawn from schools not under the Council.

THE beautiful series of stage pictures in *The Bondman* at Drury Lane have given Mr. Comelli, who designed the costumes, a great opportunity to show his skill. The first act, taking place in the broad, dark-panelled hall of Fairbrother Farm, the dresses are more or less subdued in keeping with the surroundings. Miss Marie Illington, as Mrs. Fairbrother, is in dull plum colour, with a white cap, apron, and fichu.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, as Greeba, is in a dove-coloured gown of crêpe de chine, with a broad collar of fine lace, fastened together with silver clasps, a shaped belt of dark blue, embroidered in silver, and lace cuffs—just the maiden to sit at a spinet, playing "Home, Sweet Home." In the harvest scene of the second act, Greeba enters in a striped pink silk frock, the purple velvet belt being laced with tasselled cord of the same colour, short plain sleeves, with white muslin undersleeves, and a pink bonnet, after changing into a maize-coloured dress, with a handful of vivid poppies tucked into the Empire bodice, and a big wreath of wild flowers. When Greeba has become the wife of Michael Sunlocks, she appears in a handsome peach-coloured cloak, bordered with ermine, and carries an ermine muff, her white hat and plumes being covered with a most effective thin green veil. For the end of the act she wears a satin robe of the same peculiar peach-bloom tint, the skirt being heavily embroidered with a floral design of deeper shade, and the bodice half concealed by a golden gauze bolero, with elbow sleeves. In the last act Mrs. Campbell wears a soft, clinging dress of different shades of violet, with a twist of violet silk in her black hair.

MISS HENRIETTA WATSON looks charming in the quiet purple dress of Martha, with a quaint little fichu of many colours. Miss Eily Malyon and Miss Rosamund Bury, the Callow Girls, are as fresh as a pink and a cornflower in their country frocks of the colour of the flowers. Miss Marjorie Day looks an ideal milkmaid in white, blue, and yellow; and Miss Mary Brough has just "stepped out of the book," in her sun bonnet and short red dress, as Christian Ann.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, A. B. Tapping and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported upon several matters, and were requested to institute proceedings to recover damages for a breach of contract. Stephen Crossley and Fredk. Wm. Bowes were nominated for election. It was resolved that in future the President (Sir Squire Bancroft) and Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (the Chairman of the Council) should be considered as ex-officio members of all committees.

THE secretary reported the proceedings at the fifth bi-monthly meeting held last Thursday week, and submitted the recommendation of the members then present, that the Council should consider the advisability of formulating a scheme on the lines of the Music Hall Federation. It was further stated that one of the members of the Council would at the next meeting of the Council place before them the rough outline of such a scheme.

A QUESTION having arisen between two members, the differences were referred to arbitration, the arbitrators appointed, and the date fixed for hearing. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. The Suggestion Book was considered, and an entry made.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last. There were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), A. E. Drinkwater, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Several matters of importance were discussed, and the secretary received instructions. The secretary announced the gift of three very interesting playbills, dealing with historic performances, which had been presented to the Association by Mr. William Douglas. The Committee directed the secretary to express their thanks to Mr. Douglas. It was agreed that a date should be suggested to the Council when the list of unpaid subscriptions for the current year might be finally dealt with.

AT Bow-street Police Court on Tuesday, before Mr. Fenwick, Florence Morton, alias Florence Carleton, alias Florence Leaman was charged with attempting to obtain money from the Actors' Benevolent Fund upon a forged letter of engagement. She was sentenced to two months imprisonment.

MISS CAMILLE CLIFFORD, whose forthcoming marriage to a member of the aristocracy has been recently announced, reappeared at the Vaudeville Theatre on Monday in *The Belle of Mayfair*, her fiancé being among the audience. Miss Clifford sang a new song, "Why do they call me a Gibson Girl?" written by Leslie Stiles and composed by Leslie Stuart. The Wednesday matinée of *The Belle of Mayfair* will be resumed next week, and matinées will then be given every Wednesday and Saturday.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Monday, before Mr. E. S. Grey, Official Receiver, a first meeting was held of the creditors of C. J. Sofiano. The debtor stated that he was described in the receiving order as John Constantine, a name under which he had carried on business. He had resided in Claverton-street, S.W., and was wrongly described as a theatrical agent. He had been interested in the promotion of companies and in the following theatrical enterprises:—Islington pantomime, 1903; Brixton pantomime, 1905; *When a Man's Married* touring company, 1902-3; and *My Egyptian Uncle*, 1902. The Official Receiver reported that the debtor had handed in a statement of affairs showing liabilities £2747, and assets £10,000. This latter estimate was too ridiculous, for why did not the debtor, with such assets, pay the petitioning creditor's debt of £337 2s. It also appeared that he had pledged his watch and chain a few weeks since for £4. An order for summary administration had been made on the ground that they were not likely to realise over £300. The matter was left in the Official Receiver's hands.

AN understudy to Master Tonge, now playing Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's, has been appointed in the person of Master Francis Walker, who on Saturday appeared in the Marlborough-street Police-court, where an application for a licence was made on behalf of Mr. Tree by Mr. Henry Dana. It was stated that the police offered no objection, and the magistrate granted the permit.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS issues to the numerous patrons of his performances of opera in English excellent books of words of all the works. His complete books of lyrics and words are sold in every house whereat performances are given at the small price of 4threepence, and in each is to be found the story, the libretto, and a vocal and piano score of gems from the opera. Those who remember the books of Italian opera at Covent Garden and the price demanded for them will the more highly appreciate Mr. Manners's wise innovation.

APPLICATIONS for licensing for the Chesterfield theatres were heard at the County Police-court on Saturday, when Mr. John Middleton asked on behalf of Mr. Cranstone for a licence for the Corporation Theatre, without the old clauses which prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquor and smoking. The Bench said they could not see why the conditions which a year ago were good were not good to-day, and the licence was granted with the restrictions remaining.

THE licence for the Theatre Royal was opposed on the ground that certain recommendations made by the Corporation had not been carried out. It was stated on behalf of the applicant that everything necessary had been done at the theatre. The superintendent who had made the requisition had since died, and the Bench suggested that the Corporation and the theatre lessees should agree upon a man whose recommendations should be carried out, the expert to be selected within a month. To this course both sides agreed.

MR. ATTILIO COMELLI, who is responsible for the dresses in *The Bondman*, has been working as an unseen artist behind the scenes of theatres for nearly fifteen years, having designed costumes for many of the most important productions in London. He was originally an architect, and made his first sketches as a designer for the production of Massenet's *Werther*. Mr. Comelli is of Austrian birth, and first came to England to work under the banner of the late Sir Augustus Harris. He has been the painter of living stage-pictures at the Lane ever since. With a keen eye for detail and unflagging patience, he has often completed as many as four hundred designs for a single production.

MR. W. H. MORGAN, who has been stage-manager for Mr. Chas. Macdona's *Mr. Popple* (A) Company since the opening of the tour, was presented on Friday evening, the 14th, with a handsome dispatch case by the members of the company. Mr. Charles F. J. Watts, the manager of the company, made the presentation after the fall of the curtain, and the recipient, who warmly thanked the donors, facetiously threatened them all with fines for interfering with the striking of the scene. Mr. Morgan has joined Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's company.

PROOF that *The Prodigal Parson* has lost none of its vitality was forthcoming last week at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, when Mr. Alfred Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's company played to £50 more than on the last visit of the piece, which was, strange to say, the identical week in September, seven years ago. Mr. Hugh Carmichael is now playing his old part of Enoch Jaggins during Mr. Northway's absence holiday-making. Miss Bertha Kingston is also taking a holiday shortly, and Miss Pattie Hastings will play the part of Fern Godley for a few weeks. The piece is now in its thirty-third week of tour, and has advance bookings as far ahead as December, 1907.

M. EDMOND ROSTAND'S new play, *Chantecler*, will, it is said, not be staged at the Paris Gaité this season. In fact, it is rumoured that it will never be produced at all. Our readers will not be surprised to hear this, for several months ago *The Era* already informed them that the work was in every way unactable. M. Coquelin and the other artists thought it capital fun to appear costumed as birds; but what is fun to the exponents of a work is not always amusing to the audience, and when the public have to gaze during five long acts at actors disguised as birds—whose faces are, of course, covered, and who have to sit motionless—the play has little chance of proving a success. In this instance the author wisely discarded the advice of the actors, and has withdrawn the piece. In the meanwhile M. Rostand is busy with other work, and has entirely remodelled *La Princesse Lointaine*, which, it will be remembered, was excellently received when produced some ten years ago by Mme. Sarah Bernhardt at the Renaissance.

MR. CLARENCE SOUNES has this week given his Poplar patrons musical fare in the shape of Mr. Wm. Greet's principal company in *The Earl and the Girl*, and it has proved entirely to the taste of the large audiences attending Mr. Sounes' really beautiful Prince's Theatre. A strong list of musical and other attractions are arranged for this fine house.

"AMASIS," at the New Theatre, reaches its 50th performance on Thursday. So great has been the success of the Egyptian comic opera that it has been decided to give morning performances on Wednesdays, in addition to the usual matinées on Saturdays, beginning on Oct. 3. It is to be noted that the evening performances now commence at 8.20 p.m., instead of 8.30 p.m., as hitherto.

MR. T. EDWARD WARD, who has been judicious enough to secure at considerable expense the very latest drama from the pen of Mr. Walter Howard, entitled *Second to None*, a story of the Royal Scots Greys, is delighted with the manner in which the dates are coming in. Already some dozen of the very best houses in the kingdom have been secured, the production being selected for the Easter attraction at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MAX GOLDBERG'S version of "The Jungle" is shortly to be produced by Mr. John M. East, by arrangement with Mr. John F. Preston.

MR. FRED WEBB has purchased from Mr. William Hibbert *The Hour of Her Triumph*, and will tour it in February on an elaborate scale.

A STARTLING and unique entertainment of three hours duration is promised in Servais Le Roy's mystical play, entitled *Lady Kinton's Necklace*, which is due for production in a few weeks time. The show will strike out an entirely new line of theatrical fare, and the connected story will bind together many of Servais Le Roy's most weird and extraordinary creations. It would seem that the work of building up such an entertainment is considerable to ensure that flow and smothness so necessary to a play, but from what we can gather, the greatest difficulties have been overcome, and everything now points to the satisfactory début of an enterprise which the management claim should appeal to every class of playgoer old and young.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE has completed another of his unique studies of feminine character in his new drama, *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, which he will produce at the Standard Theatre on Monday, Oct. 1. The cast is a very strong one, and includes Messrs. Roy Redgrave, Frank Lister, J. C. Aubrey, Wingold Lawrence, Jack Denton, Willie Reid, and Leslie Jacks, and Mesdames Olga Audre, Frances Ruttledge, Jessie Winter, and Eva Dare.

MR. FRED BOWYER, in conjunction with Mr. W. Sprange, has just written a new musical comedy, tentatively called *The A.B. Seaman*. Also a new fairy play for Mr. Berte Coote, which will shortly be produced at a West-End theatre.

THE Crystal Palace will resound to mighty outbursts of music this afternoon, when a combined concert will be given in the Centre Transept at three o'clock and 6.30. There will be the full band of the Coldstream Guards, drums and fifes of the 3rd Grenadier Guards, 2nd Coldstream Guards, and 3rd Coldstream Guards, the pipers of the 2nd Scots Guards, the Crystal Palace Military Band, and the great organ, which will be played by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock. The conductor will be Lieut. J. M'Kenzie Rogan. Tschaikowsky's Grand Overture "1812," with full effects, the "Red Feathers" March, by Lieutenant Rogan; selections from *Faust*, intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, grand military tattoo, as performed at the Agricultural Hall in 1905, and Julien's "British Army Quadrilles," with full effects, will be included in the programme.

"RAFFLES," at the Comedy, will this evening be preceded by a new play by Robert Marshall, entitled *A Wire Entanglement*. It is a comedietta in one act, and the company engaged for the presentation of the piece includes Mr. Graham Browne, Miss Sarah Brooke, Master George Hersee, and Miss Daisy Markham.

THE lease of the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, which for the last eleven years has been held by Mr. Harding Thomas, will be taken over in November next by Mr. Hugh Robertson, of the Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne, and the New Theatre, Consett.

THE Moody-Manners Opera Company concludes its visit to the suburban theatres at the Camden Theatre this evening. On Sunday morning the company leaves for Middlesbrough by a Great Central Railway special train. The full company now numbers over 130, and is, by a long way, the largest company that has ever toured Great Britain, or, indeed, perhaps the world. The management would be glad of information from anyone as to whether a company numbering 130, or more, has at any time ever been on tour.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM, the proprietor of *The Convict's Daughter* company, was playing a golf match with Mr. Gus Livesey, the proprietor of *The Village Blacksmith* company, at the Beauchief Links, outside Sheffield, recently. Driving from the fifth tee Mr. Bertram sliced his ball into the rough, where it lodged in a wasps' nest. Though the ball was covered with the fiery insects, Mr. Bertram insisted upon playing it; but he did so to his sorrow, for both players were stung, and had to beat a speedy retreat, the match being abandoned. They have mutually agreed that in future a ball in a wasps' nest is to be considered unplayabe.

MISS FLORENCE BAINES, who is correctly described as "the greatest laughing attraction touring," is booking an excellent tour for *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, the farce with music in two acts, by Sydney Sydney; the only piece that has played two successive weeks in Blackburn since the town has had a theatre. The farce returned to Halifax within six months, and played to the largest business that had ever been done in the Theatre Royal there.

MR. H. TRIPP EDGAR has received a most appreciative letter from one of the principals of the Hendon Council Schools, Sunderland, where he lectured some weeks back. On the Tuesday following the opening night of *The Breed of the Treshams*, a number of schoolmasters were among the audience, and after the performance Mr. Edgar, who appeared in the part of "the Rat," received a pressing request to speak on elocution at their various schools. Mr. Edgar accepted the invitation to address the boys at the above establishment, supplementing his remarks by a recitation of the Clarence dream-scene from *Richard III.* Both lecture and recital made a most agreeable impression, and drew from Mr. James Turner, the master alluded to, an expression of gratitude, coupled with the hope that such an alliance between school and stage might be frequently renewed.

GERMAN opera will figure at Covent Garden during January and February. Many well-known singers, including Mmes. Aino Ackté, Marie Brema, Leffler-Burckhardt, Litvinne, Minnie Nast, Agnes Nicholls, Kraus-Osborne, and MM. Bertram, Bussard, Van Dyck, Feinhale, Herold, Hinckley, and Felix von Kraus have been engaged. The conductors will be Herr Arthur Nikisch (of Leipzig and Berlin) and Herr Michael Balling (of Carlsruhe and Bayreuth). Mr. Percy Pitt will divide the responsibilities of the direction of the chorus with Mr. Carl Ambruster. The ballet of twenty-seven dancers will come from Brussels.

MR. WENTWORTH CROKE is sending out almost immediately a strong company of picked artists with an entirely new production of the evergreen *My Sweetheart*, starring Miss Minnie Palmer. The popular soubrette has not been seen in this piece at the No. 1 theatres for many years, and her charming personality will come quite fresh to a new generation of playgoers.

MR. OSWALD BRAND'S benefit matinée on Tuesday at the King's, Hammersmith, kindly lent by Mr. J. B. Mulholland, was a success both artistically and financially, most of the seats in the best parts of the house being sold, although not in every case filled. The bénéficiaire was unable, through illness, to be present, and Mr. Mulholland, in a neat speech, conveyed the thanks of Mr. Brand to artists and audience. A handsomely printed programme, provided as a memento of the occasion, is embellished by portraits of Mr. Brand as Obenreizer in his own version of *No Thoroughfare*, and also by pictures of Miss Helen Bancroft, Miss Kate Brand, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, and others in scenes from Mr. Brand's versions of Dickens. Reprints of several of Mr. Brand's poems are also contained in the souvenir.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD, not having very much to do just now with only twelve companies and four theatres on his hands, will appear as Mr. Cattermole in *The Private Secretary* on Wednesday next at his new Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, the occasion being the second anniversary of the opening. Several influential Lynn people and some of the local amateurs will take part in the comedy. The event is causing great interest in the town, and we understand that practically every seat is sold. Mr. Howard undertook this part something like fifteen years ago, when he had to borrow pads, &c., to realise the character. Fortunately for him, this time he will be able to play the part without any such artificial aid.

THE magistrate at Grays, Essex, on the 14th inst., when Charles Morris, a tea blender, of Bow, was charged with attempted fraud, warmly congratulated Miss Bessie Montrose on her successful efforts to expose a mean trick. Miss Montrose answered an advertisement in a contemporary, and in reply "E. Wade, of Rainham," offered her a part in his company which was about to go on tour with a play named *A Woman's Deception*. A request for a preliminary remittance induced Miss Montrose to go to Rainham and make inquiries. She could hear nothing of the company, and spoke to a policeman, who went to the post-office and stopped the prisoner as he was receiving letters addressed to "E. Wade." The prisoner admitted that he had no company, and that his real name was Morris, but pleaded for leniency, as he had not had any money from any one. He was sentenced to six months imprisonment.

"THE BONDMAN."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Thursday, Sept. 20

Adam Fairbrother .....MR. HENRY NEVILLE
Jason .....MR. FRANK COOPER
Michael Sunlocks .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Grandfather .....MR. LIONEL BROUGH
Father Ferrati .....MR. AUSTIN MELFORD
Governor Testa.....MR. GEORGE INGLETON
Doctor Boni .....MR. OSCAR ADYE
Marshal of Police .....MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER
John Robert .....MR. FRED GROVE
John James .....MR. ALEC. DAVIDSON
Mrs. Fairbrother .....MISS MARIE ILLINGTON
Martha .....MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Christian Ann .....MISS MARY BROUGH
Mona .....MISS LAMONT
1st Callow Girl .....MISS ROSAMUND BURY
2nd Callow Girl .....MISS EILY MALYON
Danny .....MASTER H. E. DUFF
Greeba .....MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL
Convicts .....MR. ROSE, MR. WELLESLEY
Naval Officers .....MR. E. MAYNE, MR. J. A. BENTHAM
Coastguards .....MR. T. BOAG, MR. KENELM FOSS
Milkmaid .....MISS MARJORIE DAY
Dairymaid .....MISS FLORRIE GLYNN
Maria .....MISS PAMELA HOPE
Nattalina .....MISS G. MURRAY
Lizzie .....MISS EDWIN
LIZA .....MISS DORA CLEMENTS

In Zola's novel, "Le Débâcle," the pith of the story is the love and friendship which spring up between two young Frenchmen of different classes as the result of their struggles and sufferings together in war-time. The efflorescence of humanity in shared suffering is the climax in which all the plotting and planning of Mr. Hall Caine's play culminates. *The Bondman* is a "drama without a heroine"; for Greeba, the leading young woman of the play, is a curiously shallow and fickle personage. The book has been very freely dealt with in the process of dramatisation, the *locale* of the sulphur mines being changed from Iceland to Sicily. *The Bondman* makes no pretentions either to depth or probability. It is an interesting, picturesque, and romantic drama, overflowing with action and incident; and when the necessary "cuts" have been made it will certainly be a tremendous success at Drury Lane.

The scene of the first and second acts of *The Bondman* is laid in the Isle of Man in the middle of the nineteenth century. The two principal male characters are half-brothers, their father, a Sicilian, having first betrayed and deserted the daughter of the Governor of one of the dependencies of Sicily, and then come to the Isle of Man, where he married another woman, who bore him another son. The Sicilian son, Jason, has reached manhood, when his mother dies, and, at the point of death, urges him to avenge her wrongs on his father and his father's son. The father himself expires in the Isle of Man, and dying, beseeches his English son, Michael, to find and succour the woman he has injured and the child he has left fatherless. Michael sets out for Sicily on his mission of mercy at the moment when Jason arrives in Man on his errand of vengeance. They miss each other by less than an hour, and Jason finds himself in the house and among the family that Michael has left behind him.

When the curtain rises on the second act we find that Jason has fallen in love with the girl Greeba, Michael's betrothed. His love humanises him, and he puts aside for a time his revenge. Greeba struggles to be faithful to Michael; but as three years have passed without his return, and nothing has been heard of him, she yields to despair and pique, and consents to marry Jason. Hardly has she done so when a letter comes from Michael, explaining his absence and silence. He has been imprisoned for participating in a revolutionary movement. Greeba's affections for Michael revives, and she begs Jason to release her. He does so, but swears fresh vengeance upon the half-brother who has "twice supplanted him."

The first scene of the third act takes place in Sicily. Michael has on his arrival found that the Sicilian mother has died, and that her son has disappeared. He has then, instead of returning home, entangled himself in a revolutionary struggle, overthrown the local Governor, and established himself in his office and house. Greeba has gone out to him, and they have been married. To Sicily comes Jason on his errand of vengeance. Greeba pleads with Jason in vain, and, to save her husband's life, denounces Jason as a political spy. He is arrested and imprisoned. Michael has now discovered Jason's identity, but knows nothing yet of his doings in Man. At this point his jealousy is excited by something Greeba lets drop. He believes that she still loves Jason; and vows a life-long enmity against the man who has come between him and the woman he loves. At this point in the play Michael is arrested by his enemies on a charge of treason.

In the third division of the drama we reach the point to gain which the author has been manœuvring during the two previous acts. The scenic and the dramatic climaxes are attained at the same time. The second scene of the third act is the "sensation" of the play. The stage is filled with a marvellously built-up set, representing a sulphur mine in Sicily. At the back is a volcano, which occasionally casts an orange glow upon a column of smoke which issues from its summit. On the slopes of the mountain, paths lead across rock-strewn slopes, and at the left side of the stage is a cavern, the mouth of the mine. The whole scene is mysterious, awe-inspiring, and picturesque. From chinks in the rocks rise perpendicular jets of steam; and above all is a very cleverly-painted sky, with changing effects, most ingeniously managed. Mr. Henry Emden has especially distinguished himself in this instance.

Against this background stands out the strong situation of the piece. Jason is working stubbornly in the mine, and Michael, weak and ill, is driven to his labour by the orders of the brutal Governor. Jason remonstrates, and Michael is told to lash him in punishment. He throws down the "cat" and refuses; whereupon the Governor orders the two men to be chained together, and purposely leaves them alone that the two deadly enemies may discover each other's identity. They are then ordered to descend into a pit and open a new *solfatura*, or sulphur-hole—a most dangerous duty. Jason begins to quarry in the rock, when a burst of flame strikes the two men, and blinds Michael. At this instant an eruption of the volcano above takes place, driving the warders and other convicts off in terror, and leaving Jason and Michael free to make their escape. Fainting and tottering, Michael, helped by his comrade, ascends the rocky path; and when he swoons Jason prepares to bear his friend off to safety.

In the last act, Michael, still suffering from blindness, is imprisoned on a "lonely island." Greeba, silent always in her husband's presence, watches over him with patient and devoted affection. Jason, repentant and generous, makes his way to the island, and by many plausible statements persuades Michael and Greeba to leave in the English steamer on which he has arrived. Jason remaining behind and taking the place of the prisoner. An order comes for Michael's death; and Jason is preparing to die *à la* Sidney Carton, when the Governor, who has come to see his commands carried out, recognises him, and countermands the execution, leaving Jason, however, still a prisoner. A final tableau shows him on a rocky headland, waving farewell to the boat in which Michael and Greeba are leaving the island.

Scenic effect is always an important feature of a Drury Lane production, and Mr. Arthur Collins, under whose direction *The Bondman* has been produced, has been especially liberal in this respect. The sulphur-mine scene above alluded to is, of course, the *clou* of the drama; but Mr. R. McCleery's Manx farmyard, with strong sunshine on the cartload of wheat in the background, merry "harvest-homers," and live cows and pigeons, is a charming rural picture not to be forgotten, and Mr. Henry Emden's interior for the first scene of the third act is a noble example of Italian palatial architecture. Mr. Bruce Smith's practised skill is shown in the farmhouse hall in the second act; and Mr. Hawes Craven's views in St. Helda are fine examples of that able artist's experience and ability. The costumes, designed by Comelli, are an artistic and effective part of the production; the stage crowds are capitally drilled, and Mr. J. M. Glover's incidental music is worthy of his reputation.

To realise the strength of the cast which Mr. Collins has engaged for *The Bondman*, one has only to run one's eye down the programme. That ripe and powerful artist, Mr. Henry Neville, plays Adam Fairbrother with his accustomed ease, emphasis, and elocutionary ability; and Mr. Lionel Brough is quaintly comic and drily droll as the old Grandfather, whose sententious remarks create so much laughter. Mr. Frank Cooper has the lion's share of opportunity, and takes full advantage of it. He develops the mixed nature of Jason very impressively in the first act, in which the half-drowned deserter enters the farmhouse in quest of food. In the second act, Mr. Cooper depicts the reformed avenger with deep feeling; and he does some strong emotional acting in the scene in which Greeba pleads and remonstrates with the intending murderer. Manly, dignified, and impressive is Mr. Cooper's performance of his share in the sulphur-mine scene; and he displays real earnestness, noble elevation, and genuine pathos in the last act. Mr. Cooper's Jason adds another character to the long list of his successful assumptions. Mr. Henry Ainley plays Michael Sunlocks in the earlier part of the piece in a free, bold, and impulsive fashion which wins all hearts; and he gives evidence of real dramatic power in the sulphur-mine scene, his depiction of the suffering and distress of Michael being extremely vivid. Mr. Austin Melford's Father Ferrati has all those admirable qualities which this ever-capable actor has accustomed us to expect from him, being full of keen individuality. His drunken scene in the third act is a fine bit of graphic and original acting; and in the last act he is as dignified, benevolent, and kindly as this phase of the character requires. Mr. George Ingleton endows his embodiment of Governor Testa with all the necessary malevolent energy. Mr. Oscar Adye gives a well-conceived impersonation of Dr. Boni, and plays the part with a clear conception of its possibilities. Mr. Francis Chamier is thoroughly effective as the Marshal of Police. Miss Marie Illington is as brisk, confident, and humorous as the rôle of Mrs. Fairbrother requires; and Miss Henrietta Watson makes a good deal of Martha by her neat, smart, and clever acting. Miss Mary Brough is a delightful representative of Christian Ann; and Miss Lamont does acceptable work as Mona. Miss Rosamund Bury and Miss Eily Malyon deserve praise for the way in which they deliver their lines as the two Callow Girls; and Master E. Duff is lively and natural as Danny. Mr. E. Mayne and Mr. J. A. Bentham are smart and sailor-like officers; and the brief dialogue allotted to the Coastguards is well spoken by Mr. T. A. Boag and Mr. Kenelm Foss. Mr. Rose and Mr. Wellesley are efficient as the Convicts. We must not omit to mention the praiseworthy performances of Mr. Fred Grove and Mr. Alec Davidson as John Robert and John James; and the minor parts, down to the very smallest, all have capable and careful exponents. The character of Greeba is not an especially thankful one; and Mrs. Patrick Campbell, whose work for some time past has been in a different field, has no easy task to make it sympathetic. She puts an immense amount of fervour into her performance in the Sicilian palace scene, and acts throughout with the technical skill and complete command of her resources which she has gained by so many years of work and experience. *The Bondman* had a very enthusiastic reception, the artists being called for with effusion, and Mr. Collins and Mr. Caine bowing their acknowledgments at the conclusion, which came at a late hour.

MR. H. B. IRVING AT LIVERPOOL.

Mr. H. B. Irving was on Tuesday—the eve of his departure for America—entertained to dinner at the Exchange Hotel by the members of the Liverpool Stage Club, an organisation having for its main object the encouragement of dramatic art and stage writing, of which the popular actor is president. Mr. Frank L. Joseph, C.C., presided, and proposed the health of "Our President." Mr. W. W. Rutherford, M.P., in seconding, expressed the wish that Mr. Irving's tour in America might be attended by every success.

Mr. Irving, who received a hearty greeting, said he was proud to occupy the position of president of the Stage Club, and he trusted the hopes and aspirations of the members would be realised to the full. Alluding to his tour in America, Mr. Irving said whatever might be one's future in that country as an actor, whether he satisfied or disappointed those who remembered his art, he had more than one kindly assurance that the many friends who esteemed and remembered his father would wish well to his son. It was well in these days, when the serious drama had perhaps a little more than its wonted difficulty to hold its own amid the changes and chances of public taste, that those who loved the theatre should have the nucleus, such as that club, to hold them together and keep alive the fire of their enthusiasm. It was only by the enthusiasm, the enterprise, sometimes the self-sacrifice, of individuals that the great traditions of the theatre—as great as any in the world—had been preserved. Unprotected as the higher drama was in the country, unassisted by the State—which in almost every other civilised land extended to the drama the same protection and recognition it extended to other arts—our great dramatic heritage had only been preserved to us by the efforts of individual artists. But to continue to hold its own the English theatre must command the respect, kindle the enthusiasm, and receive the support of those who, like the members of the Stage Club, were its sincere well-wishers. They valued as their best encouragement and their surest hope in the future such a reception as the people of Liverpool were ever ready to give to work which they felt to be an honest endeavour to uphold the best traditions of the theatre.

"THE GUILBERT—CHEVALIER RECITALS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The following has appeared in print:—"Mme. Yvette Guilbert announces that she will leave on the 26th inst. for America for another series of performances. Her company will include Mr. Albert Chevalier, with whom she appeared at the Duke of York's in the summer." Mme. Guilbert and myself are engaged by Messrs. Liebler and Co., for a six weeks' tour in America, each to contribute half the programme. The "company" consisting solely of Mme. Guilbert and myself, will be neither Mme. Guilbert's nor mine. The conditions of this engagement with Messrs. Liebler and Co., so far as the entertainment and advertising are concerned, are identical with those under which we recently appeared at the Duke of York's Theatre. My last visit to America was in 1905. This will be my third tour through the United States.—Yours faithfully,

ALBERT CHEVALIER.

"THE KING'S SIGNET."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Watson Bay, produced at the Fulham Theatre, on Monday, Sept. 17.

Maurice D'Alroy .....MR. ALFRED WOODS
Louis de Valois .....MR. SIDNEY C. SINCLAIR
Henri Duc De Brabant ..MR. E. G. WOODHOUSE
Grant Desmond .....MR. ERNEST GRIFFIN
Comte François Dettmar.MR. E. W. MAULE COLE
Mick Milligan .....MR. CHARLES COLLETTE
Lieut. Belot .....MR. F. W. C. CRANE
Lieut. Chemont .....MR. GEORGE DALGLEISH
Pierre Trellon .....MR. W. HAMILTON
Raoul Krout .....MR ARTHUR ESMONDS
Eugene Jarnez.....MR. ROBERT OLVESTON
Lundy .....MR. CHAS. OMMANNEY
Raoul .....MR. GEORGE LESCHER
Jean .....MR. G. CLIFFORD HALIFAX
Lyle de Vriesac .....MISS MAUD WILLIAMSON
Suzanne .....MISS DOROTHY SYDNEY
Jeanne .....MISS JENNY DAWSON
Mother Gorlet .....MRS. DAWSON
Claire Cloville .....MISS MARIE DE CAMPI

Miss Marie de Campi, an actress who occupies a prominent position on the American stage, must have been extremely gratified at the warmth of her reception at the Fulham Theatre on Monday, when she made her first appearance before an English audience. The play in which she made her début was a new romantic drama by Watson Bay, a well-written play, full of exciting situations and effective "curtains," that greatly pleased Monday's audience, judging by the repeated calls at the end of each act. The plot deals chiefly with the stirring adventures of Claire Cloville, an actress from the Théâtre Française, and her lover, Maurice D'Alroy, Captain of the King's Guard. The King of France, Louis de Valois, is evidently one of the many admirers of the beautiful actress, for he offers her a signet ring, and intimates that she shall be his mistress. Claire gently, but firmly, declines his offer, remarking that though the ring might fit her the rôle certainly would not. Louis is not at all displeased with her answer telling her that if there were more women like her France would possibly be a happier country, and he a happier King. He begs her to accept the ring, promising her that if at any time she is in need of assistance she has only to take the ring to him. The happiness of Claire and Maurice is seriously marred for a time by the evil schemes of Lyle de Vriesac, a former mistress of the King's, and the Comte François Dettmar, Governor of Beauville. A convict has escaped, and makes an unceremonious appearance in the oak chamber of the château where Claire is staying. He implores her not to hand him over to the guards, and she promises to aid him, as does also Maurice when he comes on the scene. The convict, who is huriedly taken to a place of safety, is Grant Desmond, a friend of Maurice's, and the husband of Lyle, who has caused him to be imprisoned in order to get him out of the way. Lyle discovers that Desmond has gained admittance to the château, and orders Claire to disclose his whereabouts, which she refuses to do; and Dettmar, Maurice's superior officer, commands him to show him the hiding-place of Desmond. Rather than betray his friend, Maurice allows himself to be arrested for refusing to obey orders, and the curtain falls on a very effective situation. In the third act—the Three Crows Inn, on the road to Marseilles—a number of the King's Guards are discussing with Mother Gorlet, the landlady, the escape of Maurice D'Alroy from prison, and the probability of capturing the gallant captain and the 500 crowns reward. Maurice enters, accompanied by Claire, disguised in male attire, and the couple are not recognised. They ply the soldiers with wine till closing time, tell the old innkeeper that all is safe, and bid her retire, and after a pretty little love scene, Claire goes to her sleeping apartment, Maurice staying up to keep guard. Dettmar soon follows in pursuit, and Maurice, admitting him, a fierce duel with swords takes place between the pair. Maurice soon disarms his adversary, but mercifully spares his life, and the combat continues until the advent of the Guards, when Maurice manages to escape through the window, Claire also departing unharmed. In the last act—the King's Pavilion, Hôtel Royale, Marseilles—Claire contrives to gain an audience with Louis, as also does Maurice. The duplicity of Lyle and Dettmar is revealed; and Maurice and his friend, Desmond, are pardoned. The King also gives Claire the chance to revenge herself on Lyle, but the generous-hearted girl will not avail herself of her opportunity.

The important part of Claire Cloville was excellently undertaken throughout by Miss de Campi, the varying phases of the rôle displaying her undoubted histrionic gifts to the full. Very effective and dignified was her acting in the scene with Louis in the second act; and also most impressive was the episode where she refuses to reveal the hiding-place of the convict. There was much charm and quiet humour in the pretty little love scene between Claire and Maurice in the inn, the actress making a brave figure in her handsome officer's uniform; and in the concluding act, where Claire interviews the King, and refuses to be revenged on Lyle de Vriesac, the noble nature of the actress-heroine was admirably indicated. Altogether, Miss de Campi is to be warmly congratulated on her finished and clever portrayal of so arduous a character, and her spirited acting on Monday night frequently called forth loud applause. The accomplished actress, who was handsomely costumed throughout the play, was presented with a huge basket of choice blooms at the conclusion of the third act. Miss de Campi was excellently supported by the other principals, a gallant, and in every way satisfactory representation of the hero, Maurice D'Alroy, being that of Mr. Alfred Woods. The duel with Dettmar in the third act was splendidly managed; and Mr. Woods' portrayal throughout revealed the gifted and experienced actor—elocution, bearing, and facial play alike being admirable. Mr. Sidney C. Sinclair made the most of his few opportunities as Louis de Valois; Mr. E. W. Maule Cole submitted an easy and convincing portrait of the villainous Comte François Dettmar; an impressive impersonation of the escaped convict was given by Mr. Ernest Griffen; that sound and popular comedian, Mr. Charles Collette, was mainly responsible for the laughter heard during the evening for his comic rendering of the Irish orderly, Mick Milligan; and the other male rôles were all carefully and capably performed. The unthankful character of Lyle de Vriesac was skilfully handled by Miss Maud Williamson, the craftiness and malevolence of the disappointed woman being cleverly portrayed; the part of Susanne, Claire's companion, was brightly and piquantly undertaken by Miss Dorothy Sydney, a smart little comedienne; that experienced actress, Miss Jenny Dawson, had little chance of displaying her abilities as Jeanne, but did all that was possible with the part; and the aged landlady of the inn was admirably played by Mrs. Dawson. The mounting of the drama is entitled to especial mention, the realistic and elaborate "sets" being the work of the well-known scenic artist, Mr. E. G. Banks; the handsome costumes and uniforms being supplied by L. and H. Nathan. Some tedious waits were enlivened by the well-rendered and popular selections given by the excellent orchestra under the direction of Mr. Julian H. Wilson.

THE popular Mr. William Willson, of the theatrical firm of Leicester and Nottingham, is off with his wife for a holiday in the States. He sails on Tuesday from Liverpool for New York on the Cunard liner, Caronia. Mr. Willson is well-known in the sporting world, having himself owned "Fred Wilkes," "Kitty Collins," "Trilby," and other trotters, and will, no doubt, witness some good trotting in the course of his trip.

THE OSWALD BRAND MATINEE.

Illness prevented the appearance of the principal figure of the matinée given to Mr. Oswald Brand on Tuesday at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, kindly lent by the proprietor, Mr. J. B. Mulholland. Mr. Brand, who has enjoyed only indifferent health for some considerable time, was held in high estimation at the Grand Theatre, Islington, his management of which was rendered notable by many clever adaptations from Dickens. The matinée had the patronage of leading members of the theatrical profession and other influential support, and a generously constituted programme was presented to an appreciative house not so numerously filled as the occasion warranted. It was satisfactory to learn, however, that the result would be pecuniarily successful, most of the seats having been disposed of.

At the interval, Mr. Mulholland came forward and said he wished to apologise for the absence of the beneficiaire—to his own regret, to the regret of the artists, but most of all to the regret of Mr. Oswald Brand. Mr. Brand, he said, was extremely ill and quite unable to leave his room. He was sorry to damp the enjoyment of the afternoon, but he thought it best that they should know it. The speaker had a message from Mr. Brand, which was to express his heartfelt gratitude to the audience for their presence, and his thanks to the artists who had so kindly assisted him. His thanks were offered not only to those who were present, but to the very much larger number who had paid, but who were absent. He might tell them that the stalls had been practically booked up, and the same applied to the circle and boxes, two of which were held by two of the Rothschilds. The result of the matinée would be, therefore, very much more satisfactory than might be apparent from the certain number of empty seats. There would be one or two absentees from the long—the very long—programme, due to the dress rehearsal at Drury Lane. It gave him great pleasure to let Mr. Brand have the theatre, as he had known him and his work for very many years. Mr. Brand was still a young man, but he had worked too hard in the service of the public, with the result that his health had broken down. Mr. Mulholland renewed the thanks of Mr. Brand, and hoped he would be permited to convey to him an echo of their good wishes for a speedy recovery and a return to robust health.

The entertainment was of a miscellaneous character, and included excerpts from Mr. Brand's successful Dickens adaptations, besides other contributions from his pen. The first dramatic item was a new Indian episode taken by Mr. Oswald Brand from Buckstone's drama, *Green Bushes*, and entitled *The White Squaw*. It depicts the attempt by the jealous Miami to kill Connor O'Kennedy, and her subsequent death by her own hand. Mr. Ernest Leicester was at hand for the impersonation of the chivalrous Connor, and gave a virile and impressive rendering of the part. Miss Helen Bancroft was a passionate and vengeful Miami, and Miss Kate Brand gave a touching performance of Geraldine. The sketch is not without comedy relief, the scenes in which Mr. Frank Collins as Jack Gong and Mr. C. A. Clark as Grinnidge were associated causing much amusement; Miss Winifred Leeson also contributed a vivacious performance of the Indian maiden Tigertail.

The new sketch was followed by Miss Tita Brand, who obtained a hearty reception, and gave the utmost pleasure by her telling recitation of a scene from *King Lear*. Miss Helen Mar won a heavy tribute of laughter for her American yarns, all of which had the element of freshness and were inimitably rendered. Then came a selection from Mr. Oswald Brand's version of "The Old Curiosity Shop," entitled *Little Nell*, of which Mr. Robert Pateman's startling impersonation of Quilp was the chief feature. Mr. Pateman acted in his best style, and his depiction of the savagery and vindictiveness of the wretched cripple gained him many recalls at the end. Mr. Stockall Ward gave a clever sketch of Sampson Brass; Miss Winnie Ryan was a comely representative of the terror-stricken Mrs. Quilp, and Miss Kathleen Kellie appeared with credit as the boy. Mr. George Mozart followed with his one-man melodrama, which evoked constant laughter, and some specially selected scenes from *Florodora*, the current attraction at the King's, were given by the members of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company.

The second half of the programme was of an equally interesting character, and began with a scene from Mr. Brand's adaptation of "Bleak House," in which Miss Kate Brand gave a pathetic and tear-compelling performance of Jo. Her make-up as the hapless waif was especially to be praised, the wan features and poignant expression being admirably assumed. Mr. Edmund Gurney was the Inspector Bucket, Mr. C. A. Clark appeared as the genial Snagsby, and other parts were played by Miss Winifred Leeson, Mr. C. A. Chandler, and Mr. Stockall Ward. A hearty welcome awaited Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, who recited Davidson's "A Ballad of Heaven," in which her refinement of style and elocutionary grace were agreeably evident. Miss Queena Barnes, who possesses a voice of remarkable sweetness, was loudly applauded for her singing of a negro melody and of "My Irish Daisy"; and Mrs. Henry Gascoigne recited "Salvation Sal," a new composition by Mr. Brand.

The long entertainment was concluded by the Thieves' Kitchen scenes from Mr. Brand's *Oliver Twist*, in which Mr. Ivan Berlyn gave his remarkably weird impersonation of Fagin. Mr. Alfred Harding was an awesome Bill Sykes, and Miss Helen Bancroft gave a rendering of Nancy which was instinct with dramatic skill. Miss Maud Lacy was the Oliver, and amusing sketches of the Dodger and Charlie Bates were given by Mr. George Elliston and Miss Kathleen Kellie. Toby Crackitt was enacted by Mr. Frank Collins, and other parts were sustained by Mr. Stockall Ward, Miss Richburgh, Miss Winifred Wood, and Mr. W. Liddon.

The stage was under the direction of Mr. Marshall Moore and Mr. Powell James, the latter gentleman announcing the various items very efficiently. He also returned thanks on behalf of Mr. Brand to Mr. Mulholland for the use of the fine theatre. Mr. Leon M. Lion and Mr. Frank Carlyon were the honorary acting-managers.

IN our report of Mr. Norman V. Norman's company at Dover last week, we stated that *Nell Gwyn* was preceded by a one-act farce, entitled *Cut Off with a Shilling*. This was incorrect, as *Nell Gwyn* plays quite long enough by itself, and the one-act play in question is presented before *David Garrick*.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—My attention has just been called by someone to your report of *A Chinese Honeymoon* company's recent performance at Penzance. Miss May Jelks was mentioned as playing Princess Soo-Soo. This is not correct, as I have been engaged for the part, and have been playing it for the past three weeks.—Yours faithfully, FRANCES OLGAR, the Brightstone Pavilion, Weston-Super-Mare, Sept. 16.

ON Monday last at the Opera House, Workington, Miss Emma Litchfield's company presented *A London Actress* to a large and enthusiastic audience. As Milda Mannering Miss Litchfield played with light and shade, and greatly amused her auditors. She was ably supported by Miss M. Steeple as Phyllis and Miss Marion Holmes as Biddy. The hero had a sympathetic exponent in Mr. Stuart Cumberland; as Kinstone Mr. D. Howard was popular; Mr. John Worth was effective as Mannering, and Mr. Carl Vallender successful as Pat. Mr. George H. Doyle made a clever Moses.

"HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD."

A new Romantic Play, by Walter Howard, in Four Acts, produced for the first time on any stage at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Sept. 17.

Eric, Earl of Grathmere .. MR. WALTER HOWARD
Nello .....MISS ROSIE ST. JOHN
Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg..MR. MAYOR COOKE
Prince Othmar ..... MR. RAYMOND WOOD
Prince Maurice ..... MR. GERALD VENNING
General Gessler ..... MR. WALTER LANGLEY
Colonel Esterhazy ..... MR. JOHN CHESSON
Colonel Lindroff ..... MR. A. B. CUSHMAN
Major Sarona ..... MR. ERNEST HILLYER
Surgeon-Captain Helgar .. MR. CURTIS GROVES
Seargeant Kaspar .....MR. ALFRED MILLER
Trooper Rosbadk ..... MR. THOMAS THOM
Trooper Wellman ..... MR. WM. F. THORPE
Trooper Halfor ..... MR. PERCY FRANK
Heinrick Pimpernickel .... MR. H. B. LEWIS
Fritz Pimpernickel ..... MR. RICHARD WEBB
Shulah, Countess of Rassellyn MISS VICTORIA DOUGLAS
Corona, an Austrian Dancer MISS HETTIE FERGUSON
Katinka ..... MISS LIZZIE LIRRON
Gretchen ..... MISS KATHLEEN ALLEN
Iris, Princess of Idalia ..... MISS ELLEN SNOW

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Mr. Walter Howard has a long list of successes to his name as a writer of stirring and picturesque drama, and his latest production, *Her Love Against the World*, which was staged at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, adds one more to the number of his achievements. There can be no question about the future prosperity of this play, which shows signs throughout of a practised hand and a keen imagination for dramatic situations. It has, in fact, been devised with such judgment and balance that probably it will go forward without the usual process of pruning and revision which most plays require; and the story, moreover, is not impeded or obscured by unnecessary complications.

The scene is the territory of Ravensbury, over which Prince Ulric rules with a tyrant's hand. At the beginning Prince Ulric is about to be betrothed to Princess Iris of Idalia, but the latter's mind becomes unsettled from this prospect, by reason of her inclination to favour one of the Prince's officers who has saved her from death on a runaway horse. The officer in question is Eric, Earl of Grathmere, who has left the British Army in consequence of family vicissitudes, and taken service with the Prince. A furious jealousy takes possession of Ulric on observing the Princess's regard for Grathmere; not because he loves the Princess—his heart is with his mistress, Shulah, Countess of Rassellyn—but because he needs the Princess's wealth to enable him to carry on a war against Prince Maurice of Saxonia, whom he must needs subdue to ensure the safety of Ravensburg. Quarrels immediately ensue between the Prince and Grathmere, and when the latter's young brother, Nello, is ridden down by the Prince and severely hurt, the quarrel becomes so pronounced that Grathmere is put under arrest and sentenced to solitary confinement for a year. This naturally widens the breach between the Prince and Iris, who leaves Ravensburg for Idalia; and thenceforward the action is indicative of Grathmere's endeavour to thwart and revenge himself upon the Prince. By the good offices of the Prince's half-brother, Othmar, Grathmere escapes from prison and presents himself at Idalia; where, however, he is captured by Ulric, and sentenced to be shot at once unless the Princess consents to marry as she had originally intended. The Princess refuses. Outside, the shots are fired; but Grathmere is saved by the meeting of the men, who have discharged their rifles in the air. From this point Grathmere applies himself to the downfall of Prince Ulric. He joins the Saxonian army, and, by a device, playing upon the ingrained cowardice of Ulric, makes the latter captive and conveys him to the enemy's camp. In the meantime, a villainous blow of the Prince has brought Eric's brother Nello to the verge of death, and when death supervenes nothing remains for Grathmere but that he shall make Ulric pay for the blow with his life. A spirited duel takes place, and Ulric is killed. Grathmere's reward is, of course, the hand of the Princess Iris, and, the war being ended, with amicable adjustments in view, the tolerant Othmar succeeds to the Crown of Ravensburg, and all ends heroically and well.

The acting was remarkably good. Foremost was Mr. Walter Howard, who embodied his idea of Grathmere with enforced sentiment, and a manly bearing that quickly placed him high in the good graces of the audience; while, as the Princess Iris, Miss Ellen Snow acted with a delicate womanly sympathy and accomplishment. Almost equally central is the part of Nello, which was played quite cleverly and pathetically by Miss Rosie St. John. As Prince Ulric, Mr. Mayor Cooke looked well, and acted with a sinister passion that told effectively; and the mediatory character of Othmar was brought out with a studious quietude by Mr. Raymond Wood. Miss Victoria Douglas acted very well as Shulah. The comic element was provided cleverly enough by Mr. H. B. Lewis as Heinrick, Mr. Richard Webb as Fritz, Miss Lizzie Lirron as Katinka, and Miss Kathleen Allen as Gretchen. All the minor parts are ably filled; and the scenery is picturesque and elaborate.

PASTORAL PLAY AT BEDFORD PARK.

The Waters of Strife, a costume comedy, period 1648, by Max Pirean, was to have been played in the sylvan glades of Newton-grove, Bedford Park (by kind permission of Mr. Osborne Ince) on Saturday evening last, in aid of the "Children's Summer Treats and Seaside Camp for Boys," but the "strife of waters" in the early part of the evening rendered necessary a change of *venue* to the Parish Hall of St. Michael's, and so an extremely small stage, with a few hastily-provided props, imposed upon one a considerable effort of imagination in picturing the Bowling Green at Carewe Grange in acts one and two—the same set doing duty for the Courtyard of Pembroke Castle in the third and final act. The old, old story of the Royalist maiden's love for the Roundhead Captain is the theme. The comedy was confined to the Cromwellian soldiers, "Sanctification" Willis and "Word of Grace" Hopkins, filled by Captain G. Hope and Mr. L. Clarence, the latter of whom had the proper lugubrious cast of countenance for the part. Mr. Vere Yaldwyn as the Parliamentarian Captain Harberton, no doubt affected by the doleful evening, never looked a happy lover, and Mr. Muskerry-Tilson, with a good voice and lowering brows as Oliver Cromwell, always seemed too big for the tiny stage. The heroine, Phyllis, was brightly played by Miss Mabel Pineo, who also took the call for "author." The Royalist father, Sir Richard Carewe, was in the hands of Mr. W. J. M. Harris, who spoke his lines well, and Miss Champion made a pleasing Dame Catherine Carewe. Other parts were creditably played by Miss Florence Barrow as Charity, a "malignant" serving-maid, and Miss Rita Green as Averil. The Misses Elsie Last and Glen Pawson were distinctly clever in their dance in the first act. The Haydn Orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Hugh C. Fulton, played selections during the evening with much spirit.

MR. J. RICE CASSIDY, who is at present touring *In Holy (!) Russia*, has no brother in the profession, and is no relation of Mr. John Cassidy, the new manager of the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

SETTING OF THE SUN, Court, Liverpool, Oct. 13, 1892.
SETTLED OUT OF COURT, Globe, June 3, 1897.
SETTLEMENT IN FULL, St. Leonards, Nov. 24, 1898.
SETTLING DAY, Olympic, March 4, 1865.
SEVEN CHAMPIONS OF CHRISTENDOM, Alexandra, Aug. 22, 1870.
SEVEN CHARMED SPUDS, Queen's, Barnsley, April 29, 1872.
SEVEN POOR TRAVELLERS, Grecian, March 12, 1855.
SEVEN SINS, Grecian, Aug. 27, 1874.
SEVEN YEARS AGO, Grecian, March 18, 1879.
SEVEN YEARS SECRET, Britannia, Oct. 31, 1870.
SEVERED, Prince of Wales's, Grimsby, Jan. 26, 1885.
SEVERINE, Gaiety, May 6, 1885.
SEWING MACHINE ON EASY TERMS, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 30, 1876.
SHADES OF NIGHT, Lyceum, March 14, 1896.
SHADES, THE, Sefton, Liverpool, Oct. 21, 1884.
SHADOW AND SUNSHINE, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, March 31, 1883.
SHADOW HAND, Widnes, March 8, 1893.
SHADOW HUNT, Ladbroke Hall, April 25, 1891.
SHADOW OF A CRIME, Queen's, Manchester, Dec. 19, 1887
SHADOW OF DEATH, Victoria, Sept. 25, 1876.
SHADOW OF LIFE, Adelphi, Liverpool, Oct. 14, 1872.
SHADOW OF SIN, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Feb. 20, 1893.
SHADOW OF THE MILL, Pullan's, Bradford, Aug. 24, 1885.
SHADOW OF THE SWORD, Theatre Royal, Brighton, May 9, 1881.
SHADOW OF WRONG, Grecian, Feb. 23, 1863.
SHADOW ON THE HEART, Britannia, June 8, 1874.
SHADOW ON THE HEARTH, Victoria, Jan. 24, 1863.
SHADOWS, Princess's, May 27, 1871.
SHADOW SCEPTRE, Prince's, Manchester, April 15, 1882.
SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY, Princess's, Glasgow, Feb. 28, 1887.
SHADOWS OF CRIME, Surrey, Feb. 4, 1856.
SHADOWS OF LIFE, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 10, 1887.
SHADOWS OF THE PAST, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 1, 1867.
SHADOWS ON THE BLIND, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Sept. 27, 1897.
SHADOW TREE SHAFT, Princess's, Feb. 6, 1867.
SHADRAGH THE HUNCHBACK, Theatre Royal, South Shields, April 8, 1878.
SHAFT No. 2, Gateshead, April 19, 1897.
SHAH, THE; OR, PEEPSHOWMAN'S VISIT, Prince's, Coatbridge, July 12, 1873.
SHAKE HANDS, St. James's, April 25, 1864.
SHAKESPEARE, Maidenhead, May 27, 1891.
SHAKESPEARE'S HOUSE, Adelphi, April 27, 1864.
SHAKUNTALAH, Gaiety, Dec. 12, 1885.
SHALL WE FORGIVE HER? Sheffield, April 2, 1894.
SHALL WE REMEMBER, Camberwell, Dec. 13, 1894.
SHAME, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Oct. 12, 1883.
SHAMEFUL BEHAVIOUR, Strand, Nov. 28, 1859.
SHAMROCK AND THE ROSE, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, Oct. 7, 1891.
SHAMROCK OF IRELAND, Britannia, May 20, 1867.
SHAM SOLICITOR, Imperial, Oct. 1, 1883.
SHAMUS-NA-GLANNA, Queen's, Manchester, Aug. 21, 1876.
SHAMUS-NA-LENA, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 6, 1876.
SHAMUS O'BRIEN, Opera Comique, March 2, 1896.
SHANDY THE SPALPEEN, Gaiety, Barnsley, June 24, 1879.
SHANE-NA-LAWN, Alexandra, Liverpool, April 22, 1889.
SHANKS'S MARE, Duke's, Feb. 9, 1878.
SHARES, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 7, 1873.
SHARPS AND FLATS, Britannia, Aug. 15, 1870.
SHARPS OR FLATS, Westminster, Feb. 11, 1895.
SHARP WAY TO CATCH A WIFE, Queen's, Dublin, Jan. 13, 1869.
SHATTERED IDOL, Theatre Royal, Oxford, Jan. 6, 1877.
SHATTERED LIVES, Liverpool, Dec. 12, 1891.
SHATTERED NERVES, Sheffield, July 10, 1894.
SHATTERED 'UN, Vaudeville, June 3, 1891.
SHAUGHRAUN, Drury Lane, Sept. 4, 1875.
SHE, Novelty, May 10, 1888.
SHEBEEN, Folkestone, May 5, 1896.
SHEEP IN WOLF'S CLOTHING, Olympic, Feb. 19, 1857.
SHELTER, Theatre Royal, Stockton, July 21, 1890.

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A notable event here on Monday was the appearance of Mr. Hayden Coffin and Miss Isabel Jay, heading the original company from Wyndham's Theatre, in *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Although the piece itself is not strikingly fresh, it was acted with great vivacity; and the singing and acting of the two principal characters were especially enjoyed. Among the successful laughter-makers, Mr. J. F. McArdle played General Willoughby with conspicuously comic effect; while others who did well on similar lines were Mr. G. Davy Burnaby as Viscount Gushington; Mr. Fred Allandale, whose Monsieur Duval was distinctly smart; Mr. George Barrett as the waiter; and Mr. Lionel Victor as the office boy, Adolphus Dudd. Of the ladies, praise also is due to Miss Violet Crossley as Lady Willoughby; Miss Violet Englefield as Millie Mostyn; Miss Helene Rose as Ninette; and Miss Kathleen Courtney as Susie. The chorus and orchestra are remarkably efficient; and the staging and dresses are, of course, beautiful and elaborate.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The always popular musical play, *The Orchid*, is presented here this week by Mr. George Dance's principal company. A delightfully brisk performance is given. Mr. Bert Lloyd plays Meekin with considerable humour; Mr. Fred Thompson is quite successful as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Miss Mabel Sealby gives a very nice impersonation of Lady Violet; and other clever performances are those of Miss Florence Vie as Caroline Vokins; Miss Nell Hope as Zelie Rombert; Miss Constance Hamilton as Thisbe; Miss Mary Fraser as Josephine Zaccary; Mr. William Benson as the Count de Cassignat; and Mr. Harry Ray as Zaccary, the orchid-hunter. The singing is invariably good, and the remainder of the cast highly commendable.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*The Prince of Pilsen*, presented by Mr. George Musgrove's company, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, proved an attraction here on Monday. Mr. Martin Adeson as Hans Wagner gives a very amusing and resourceful impersonation; and an exceedingly clever and characteristic piece of work is that of Miss Millicent Marsden as the enterprising New York widow, Mrs. Madison Crocker—a performance that contributes greatly to the success of the piece. Miss Nell Emerald adds to the entertainment by her skilful depiction of Sidonie, Mrs. Crocker's maid; and another noteworthy contributor to the fun is Mr. Alfred Selby as François. Mr. J. B. Fox sings well as the Prince; Miss Isa Bowman is pleasing as Nellie Wagner; and others who help to the success are Mr. G. Villiers-Arnold as Tom Wagner, Mr. Lawrence Wensley as the Earl of Shrimpton, and Miss Meg Hamylton as Jimmie, the bell boy.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Augustine Knight presents here this week E. Hill-Mitchelson's Russian drama, *The Assassin*, which is played by a strong company, including Miss Ella Vane, who gives an admirable portrayal of the title-part. Mr. Augustine Knight rivals this by his powerful depiction of Prince Demetri, an unspeakable scoundrel; while Mr. Edward E. Ashby makes a manly Ivan Ipanoff, and good work is added by Miss Frances Waring as Nita; Miss Georgina Hamilton as Connie Jonathan, the blunt American girl; Mr. Theo Balfour as the dignified Duke Carl; Mr. Chauncy Morris as General Nicol; Mr. Edwin Jenner as the honest Irish Captain O'Neil; Mr. Jack H. Smith as Evangie; and a trio of fun-makers, Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, and Miss Marie Robertson.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Motramos, an excellent comedy couple, top the bill here this week in their sketch, *Do You Reverse?* The Pichol Troupe of Bicyclists give a wonderful show; and a fine little sketch, *The Little Colonel*, is presented admirably by Ernest Montefiore and company. Other good turns are the Bros. Hampson, patter comedians; Carson Hicks, a very smart dancer; Beaty and Blanche, duettists; Peakman and Walsh, comic jugglers; and a good series on the Bioscope. Dot Stanley, whose name appears on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—A highly effective sensational drama, *The Anarchist Terror*, is presented here this week by Miss Loie Esmond's company. Miss Loie Esmond's efforts as Kitty Malone are well received, and she is supported by a very able cast, the most conspicuous member of which is Mr. Edward Neville, who gives a really smart and entertaining deoiction of Mikey Doolan. Mr. Will White is also notably successful as Goldstraw, the Pork King; and Mr. W. H. Wilson deserves high praise for his clever impersonations of five characters, including the title-part. Others who do well are Mr. E. K. Taylor, Mr. R. Tree, Miss Flora Leslie, Miss Rosie Neville, and Miss Kate Parr.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital programme here this week is headed by Howard and Harris in their comedy "Tramp" act: and *Casey's Court*, by the Midget Mimes, share the principal honours of the evening. Excellent turns are also given by Charles Pastor, a really good laughing comedian of the Lupino Bros., animal impersonator; Gladys Mavius, a very successful comedienne and dancer; Lupino Lane, a smart juvenile comedian; Herbert Clifton, an accomplished mimic; J. H. Milburn, comedian; and Fox and Melville, illustrated-song vocalists. The Bioscope adds a series of interesting pictures.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—A programme of stars. Joe Elvin and company top the bill, and cause continuous laughter with the well-known sketch, *Touched*. Neil Kenyon, one of our best Scotch comedians, is also to the front with his usual success; and Malcolm Scott, the "Woman Who Knows," is as diverting as ever with his up-to-date remarks and excellent dancing. Henry Anthony, the "Gentleman in White," provides an entertaining turn; Charles Austin is a capital eccentric comedian, who makes a big hit, and is deservedly well received; Dale and O'Malley, the "somewhat different" comedians, are particularly funny; Frank Cass, vocal comedian, sings well; and good turns are also contributed by Flo Deighton, double-voiced vocalist; Little Salvino, a clever juvenile instrumentalist; and George Bohee, banjoist. The Pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—An excellent programme is provided here as usual. The big attraction is George Robey, the President of the Laugh Trust (who sails for South Africa today), and full houses are the rule. Another great turn is that of Annie Abbott, the Little Georgia Magnet. Mark Melford and company make a hit in an amusing sketch, *Only a Wedding*; Ethel Haydon sings in her usual delightful manner; and the Musical Johnstones appear in a wonderful combination of harmony. Billy Hobbs, a capital coon singer and dancer, is favourably received; Peppo's monkeys are well trained; and the Rio Bros., American gymnasts, are exceedingly clever. Wagner's "Hail, bright abode," is rendered in fine style by the Hippodrome Choir and Orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Alfred Haines, the musical-director; and an illustrated song ("Kate Kearney") and a series of Bioscope pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Outstanding turns here this week are Billie Barlow, the charming burlesque artist; Florence and Lilian in their artistic musical act; and Lilian Doreen, who makes a big hit with her latest successes, "Samara," and "Dear little boy next door." Alec Kennedy, descriptive vocalist, has a good voice; Cara Magda appears in a daring gymnastic act; and other good turns are those of Ida Brophy, singer and dancer; Minnie Dare, comedienne and dancer; George Daunton, vocal dialect comedian; and Stan Aubrey, eccentric legmania comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph Pictures, as usual, are excellent.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Le Diabelo tops the bill here this week in his sensational "Looping the Devil's Wheel" act, and causes some excitement. Marlow and Manton are seen to advantage in their novel and interesting sketch, *Other People's Babies*; and Keith, Merson, and company make a big hit with their capital hunting absurdity, *The Meet*. Edwards and Espinosa present *The Coon's Holiday*, and introduce music, comedy, and excellent dancing; Loone and Rene are good in their Lancashire singing sketch; Johnson and Pelham are good dancers; Cailler appears in his great Herculean act; and other good turns are Sheila McNeill, Scotch comedienne, and Alex Leo, comedian. Hector and Sultan did not appear on the occasion of our visit. "A Miniature Theatre" is depicted on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The star turns here this week are Jack McKenzie and company in a musical sketch, *The Belle of Barcelona*, which goes with a rare swing from start to finish; Claude Felman's clever troupe of Beau-Ideal Juveniles, who sing and dance well; and May Lillian Levey, the popular comedienne, who meets with a good reception, and sings in capital style. The Montaldos introduce some well-trained birds, and a slack-wire act; the Smarte Brothers are clever acrobats, and gain great applause; the Howards (Ralph and Nellie) are first-rate instrumentalists; Maude Kaye sings sweetly and dances smartly; and George Foyle contributes a vocal item. "The Dog Detective" is shown on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Cattamos Troupe, in a smart acrobatic act, head the bill here this week, and prove very popular. La Belle Lillian is an exceedingly clever and graceful trick cyclist; King Leo is entertaining in a ventriloquial act, his jokes being smart and up-to-date; the Gondolier Glee Singers render several delightful selections in good style. Enjoyable items are contributed by the Rushforths, with the latest illustrated songs; Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; Copland and Son, dancers; and the humorous element is well provided by Will Johnson, a lively comedian; Yorkshire Tom, a clever mimic; and Sandy and Carl, comedians and eccentric boxers. "The Wolf Trap" shown on the Bioscope is good.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—As usual a good programme is provided here, and good houses are the rule.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On arrival at Stafford the door on the offside was found to be open and the compartment empty. There was a quantity of luggage on the racks and seats, and as there appeared to have been an accident a light engine was at once despatched up the line to search the track. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate

Photo by Russell and Sons.
MISS DOT STEPHENS.

young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body. On Sunday afternoon she had recovered consciousness, but had no recollection of how the accident occurred. It is supposed that she was under the impression that she was travelling in a corridor car, and on opening the door fell to the ground. Asked how she could account for the accident, Miss Stephens remarked, "The railway carriage was stuffy, and I went to open the window. After that I recollect nothing more till I regained consciousness in the hospital."

Amount already acknowledged ..	£660	13	11
Collected in response to an appeal made in the Glasgow Press by Mr. C. Mussett	25	7	6
Public Opinion Company	0	18	0
Worst Woman in London Co. ..	0	10	0
Miss Bella Pateman	1	1	0
X.Y.Z.	0	5	0
Collected by Willis Armitage, Motherwell :— D. B., 1s.; W. H., 1s.; J. N., 1s.; D. M., 1s.; J. McK., 1s.; F. Q., 1s.; T. Q., 1s.; J. S. W., 1s.; L. M. C., 1s.; W. E. M., 1s.; T. L., 1s.; G. K., 1s.; W. G., 1s.; A. S., 1s.; A. D., 1s.; T. D., 1s.; W. H., 1s.; G. D., 1s.; A. P. 1s.; A. B., 1s.	1	0	0

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock street, W.C.

THAT veteran entrepreneur, Mr. Harry W. Wieland, has booked Mrs. Langtry for a tour of Keith and Proctor's houses in the States, "at the highest salary ever paid to an artist in America."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

M. GEMIER, manager of the Antoine Theatre, has received a new play by M. Maurice Landay. It is called *L'Amant et le Médecin*, founded on M. Gabriel de la Rochefoucauld's novel.

MARIUS GRANDCLEMENT, alias Darys, has just been sentenced to one year's imprisonment, and it is to be regretted that the judge did not increase the dose. Darys, who for many years has been impresario, was on the 13th of last month on tour at La Varennes-Saint-Hilaire with a company of fourteen artists. They were to give four performances there. On the fourth day Darys disappeared. But not only did he leave his artists without a cent., he had also stolen the chequebook of one of them, M. Victor Boquin, and appropriated the sum of £20. Considering that last year the fellow had been sentenced by default to five years' imprisonment for forgery, he was lucky to have got off so well.

As was already reported, M. Porel, manager of the Vaudeville has added his name to the list of candidates for the managership of our Opera. M. Porel's application has raised some surprise in theatrical circles, especially as it comes in the eleventh hour. M. Broussan, however, is, and remains, the favourite. He stands a capital chance of being nominated, unless M. Gailhard, who clings desperately to his post, succeeds in retaining it. The report that M. André Messager had withdrawn his candidature is untrue, but this gentleman does not seem to make violent efforts to secure the position.

"THAMARA" will be revived at the Opera. It was first produced fifteen years ago, and has not been given for a long time.

MANY new pieces have to be added to the list published in these columns some time ago. Thus, at the Palais-Royal, M. Judic, the new manager, has accepted *La Carte Forcée*, one act, by M. Hugues Delorme, music by M. Charles Cuvillier. The principal rôle therein will be sung by Mlle. Milly Meyer, well-known to English playgoers, and a great favourite with the public here.

MM. FERNAND SARNETTE and Maurice Devilliers have completed their three-act comedy *Les Imbéciles*.

"LE DIVORCE" is the title of a three-act play by M. Hector Couderchon, to be brought out on one of our large Boulevard theatres.

THE two one-act farces written by M. Henri Klotz for the Cluny Theatre are: *Voir Passer la Fortune* and *Frédégonde aime Théophraste*.

M. LUCIEN VIGNAUD has put the finishing touches to a comedy intended for the Gymnase. It bears the title *La Mort de Vénise*.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE "tipping system," which has for many months past been the most inflammable of the burning questions discussed by variety artists at their numerous weekly meetings, has at last received its quietus by resolution, or, to be correct, will receive its quietus on and from January 1, 1907. It is announced that the terms of the resolution passed by the Committee of the Variety Artists' Federation have been intimated to managers of the variety theatres of the United Kingdom.

THE "V.A.F." have also, we understand, notified the National Association of Theatrical Stage Employees, and invited the co-operation of that body. During the long discussion on this subject the advocates of the "entire" abolition of the tipping system have not been lacking in their sympathetic appreciation of the position of many of the stage-managers and the staff generally connected with the variety houses. The artists in the main recognise that wages are not so good as they ought to be for the lower ranks of the workers, but obviously that is not a matter for which the artists can be held responsible, except that they take, as some managers have said, a very big share of the earnings, leaving nothing, as the same managers say, for the employees. The artists, however, occupy a reasonable and logical position. They are looking after their own interests with considerable ability and enthusiasm, and, no doubt, if, as one of its more active members said, the "V.A.F." will help the stage staff to "assert *their* rights and make *their* Federation a success," far greater benefits than any to be derived from the "tipping system" can be secured.

IN the meanwhile the stage employees generally might do worse than contemplate the results of the music-hall artists' efforts to establish a protective organisation. To enroll 3,000 members in less than a year is an achievement any body of men might well be proud of, and the like results can be attained by the stage employees if they will show the same measure of confidence in one another, and each help to strengthen their organisation.

THE first of a series of meetings which the National Association T.E. is arranging for London took place on Sunday evening in the "Hare and Hounds," Upper-street, Islington. Mr. William Johnson, general secretary, presided; there was a fair attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to form a "group" of members working and residing in the district with a view of taking steps to enlarge the membership and watch over the interests of stage employees engaged in the various places of entertainment in the district. Steps will also be taken to make public the unsatisfactory conditions of employment at one of the local theatres. A member was appointed to represent the "group" on the Islington Trades and Labour Council, a body composed of some 20,000 workmen. Meetings of the group will be held on the third Sunday in each month, when any stage employee working in the district may attend.

A MEETING of theatrical carpenters will be held to-morrow (Sunday) evening in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, when any theatrical carpenter may obtain information as to the benefits of the Carpenters' Society.

AT the last meeting of the General Staff Branch (London) N.A.T.E., an application for membership was received from a stage employee who on several occasions had refused to join the society. It now appeared that he had an offer of the position of property-master with a company going to America, but could only have the post on condition he was a member of the National Association, the application was granted subject to the payment of a fine of £5, the entrance fee, and twelve months' subscription. This condition was complied with, and a card of membership issued. The committee imposed this fine as an example to those who, while willing to take advantage of the work done by the society, and even to claim membership in it when it suits their purpose, neglect to take their share of the work or the cost incurred by maintaining the society and providing the benefits attached to it.

THE Musicians' Union Club will be opened in a few days. Membership will be available to members of the profession, acceptable to the committee as honorary members of the society, at a subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum. The premises have been handsomely furnished and decorated.

MR. FRED BAUGH, while visiting the Hippodrome, Hulme, saw Messrs. Ward and Andrews's comedy sketch, *The Land Grabbers*, and immediately booked it to open in London after the Broadhead tour, where they are now making a big success.

MISS EVELYN TAYLOR and Mr. Leo. Fritz, dramatic and variety agent, had the pleasure of winning the first prize at the Colwall Park Horse Show for their smart pony and trap.

ON THE ROAD, SEPT. 24.

AFTER THE BALL.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—Stoke Newington.
AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—New Theatre, Consett.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—T. R., Chatham.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—Palace T., Newcastle.
ASSASSIN.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Treherbert and Maesteg.
BEAST AND THE BEAUTY.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
BELLE OF NEW YORK (HOWARD).—Dalston T., N.E.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Selkirk, Keswick, and Maryport.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS., AND CO.—Cardiff.
BETWEEN TWO WOMEN.—Queen's T., Leeds.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
CATCH OF THE SEASON (No. 1).—Bradford.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—O. H., Cork.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA).—Shrewsbury and Malvern.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE).—Empire T., Southend.
CHRISTIAN, THE (HOWARD).—Durham and Consett.
CINGALEE (S.).—Wolverhampton.
CITY OF SIN.—Batley.
CLAUDIAN.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
COAL KING.—Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Queen's T., Dublin.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA).—Stranraer and Hawick.
COUNTRY GIRL (N.).—Manchester.
COUNTRY GIRL (S.).—Rochdale.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—Harrogate and Buxton.
COUSIN KATE.—Harrogate and Buxton.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
DANDY DOCTOR.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Scarborough.
D'OYLY CARTE.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
DRIVEN FROM HOME.—Alexandra T., Hull.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (N.).—Hull.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (S.).—Keighley.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Pier, Southend.
EARL AND THE GIRL (M.).—Grand T., Fulham.
EARL AND THE GIRL (N.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
EARL AND THE GIRL (W.).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
ETERNAL CITY (HOWARD).—Mansfield and Chesterfield.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—P. O. W., Salford.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
FACING THE MUSIC.—Herne Bay.
FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells, and Hastings.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Theatre Royal, N. Shields.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
FAUST UP-TO-DATE.—Coronet Theatre, London.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (M.).—Dover and Canterbury.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (N.).—Court T., Wigan.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (S.).—Crown T., Peckham.
FOR LIFE AND AFTER.—Empire T., Oldham.
FREEDOM OF SUZANNE.—Spa T., Scarborough.
FRENCH SPY.—Miners' Theatre, Ashington.
FRIVOLITY.—New Theatre, Oxford.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA).—Smethwick.
GEISHA.—Kennington Theatre, London.
GEOFFREY STIRLING.—H. M. T., Dundee.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—Portsmouth.
GIRL ON THE STAGE.—Grand T., Blackpool.
GOLDEN LADDER.—T. R., Huddersfield.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
HELD APART.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
HELD IN BONDAGE.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
HER FATAL PAST.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—J. T., Manchester.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—T. R., Glossop.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Grand T., Edinburgh.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (N.).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Empire Theatre, Dundee.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Grand T., Newcastle.
KITTY GREY.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
LADY MADCAP (N.).—Liverpool.
LADY MADCAP (S.).—Bournemouth.
LA POUPEE (LEVILLY).—Londesborough T., Scarboro'.
LA POUPEE (RALLAND).—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Downham Mkt. and Hitchin.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—O. H., Buxton, and Harrogate.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—West Bromwich.
LITTLE MICHUS (EDWARDES).—Gaiety T., Dublin.
LITTLE MICHUS (S.).—Deptford.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—T. R., Castleford.
LUCK OF LIFE.—King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
MANXMAN.—Grand Theatre, Llandudno.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Pavilion, Altrincham.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Leicester.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.).—T. R., Middlesbro'.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Aldershot.
MONTE CRISTO.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
MR. HOPKINSON (MACDONA).—O. H., Leicester.
MR. POPPLE.—Borough T., Stratford.
MR. POPPLE (A.).—Reading.
MR. SMITH.—T. R., Birkenhead.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
NETHERSOLE, MISS OLGA.—T. R., Edinburgh.
NO MAN'S LAND.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—West P., Brighton.
OLIVER TWIST (HOWARD).—T. R., Norwich.
ON THE LOVE PATH.—Harrogate and Buxton.
ON THE STROKE OF TWELVE.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
ORCHID (N.).—Newcastle.
ORCHID (S.).—Glasgow.
OTTO THE OUTCAST.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
POWER OF GOLD.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—P. O. W., Great Grimsby.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (MUSGROVE).—T. R., Dublin.
PRINCE OF PILSEN (HARRIS).—O. H., Cheltenham.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
PRODIGAL SON.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.
PUBLIC OPINION.—Bexhill and Richmond.
RAFFLES.—O. H., Southport.
REVENGE.—T. R., Jarrow.
ROYAL REVENGE.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Grand T., Doncaster.
SAILORS OF THE KING.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
SAINTS AND SINNERS.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY.—Harrogate and Buxton.
SEE-SAW OF LIFE.—Shakespeare T., Altrincham.
SHADOW OF A CRIME.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Peterboro' and King's Lynn.
SHULAMITE.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
SILVER KING (HOWARD) (N.).—Stirling.
SILVER KING (POLINI) (N.).—Star T., Liverpool.
SILVER KING (HOWARD) (S.).—Crystal Palace.
SILVER KING (POLINI) (S.).—Lyceum T., Pentre.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
SINS OF A CITY.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—Crook.
SPIDER AND THE FLY.—Prince's T., Bradford.
SPRING CHICKEN (S.).—Kingston.
STILL ALARM.—Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
SUNDAY.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
TEMPTRESS, THE.—Grand T., Brighton.
TERRY, EDWARD.—O. H., Blackpool.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.) (MACDONA).—Hereford and Neith.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (N.) (MACDONA).—Middlesboro'.
THRONE OF TERROR.—Palace T., Swansea.
TOREADOR (MACDONA).—Stratford-on-Avon.
TOREADOR.—Royalty T., Chester.
TRAITOR, THE.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
TRUMPET CALL.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
TWO HUSSARS.—Empire T., Cradley.
TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS.—Grand T., Derby.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Grand T., Woolwich.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (M.).—Bishop's Stortford.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—Prince's T., Poplar.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—Grand T., Walsall.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—T. R., West Stanley.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Kirkcaldy.
UNWEDDED WIFE.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
VERONIQUE (N.).—Brighton.
VERONIQUE (S.).—Sunderland.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Grand T., Birmingham.
WALLS OF JERICHO (N.).—T. R., Preston.
WALLS OF JERICHO (S.).—Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Victoria T., Stanley.
WARNING TO WOMEN.—St. James's T., Manchester.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Coatbridge and Motherwell.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J RIVIERE.—*All that we can tell you is that we have been unable to find any record of his death.*

ENQUIRER.—*You are correct in assuming that Rowlands was her stage name.*

JOHN G. LAURENCE.—(1) *The actress you mention may have left a sum of money to one of the theatrical charities, but there is no such charity named after her.* (2) *It is probable that the gentleman mentioned did act as trustee, but we have not been able to verify the statement.*

W. H. T.—*A copyright performance of* The Eternal City *was given at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, on Aug. 17, 1902.*

W. T. M.—The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown *was produced at the Vaudeville, June 26, 1895. In the cast were Messrs. Power, Kerr, J. Beauchamp, Robb Harwood, Gilbert Farquhar, and Lionel Brough; Misses M. A. Victor, May Palfrey, Esmé Beringer, Daisy Brough, Jay Holford, Grace Dudley, Gladys Homfrey, and Marion Murray. The piece was transferred to Terry's, Oct. 14, of the same year.*

DOROTHY.—(1) *Miss Marion Hood played the name-part at the Gaiety; Miss Marie Tempest at the Prince of Wales's.* (2) *There were 931 consecutive performances of* Dorothy *at the Gaiety, Prince of Wales's, and Lyric.*

J. M. N.—*Mr. G. H. Macdermott died May 8, 1901.*

F. G.—*The Empire was opened as a regular theatre under a dramatic licence in April, 1884, with* Chilperic.

BRIXTON.—*John Maddison Morton was the author of* Box and Cox, *which, however, had a French original.*

ADAPTER. — (1) *Copyright endures for forty-two years, or seven years after the author's death, whichever term may be the longer.* (2) *Under the Berne Convention the copyright in such cases is according to the law of "the country of origin."*

G. N.—*No; sue in the County Court.*

JULIET.—*When* The Only Way *was first produced at the Lyceum, Feb. 16, 1899, the cast included Messrs. Holbrook Blinn, Fred Everill, Acton Bond, Nye Chart, T. Arthur Jones, J. G. Taylor, Sam Johnson, Herbert Sleath, F. Tyars, Frank Vernon, Ben Webster, and Martin Harvey; Misses Grace Warner, Marriott, Lizzie Webster, and De Silva.*

D. C. — *The Royal Aquarium, Westminster, was opened on Feb. 22, 1876.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ROUSBY—RENE.—Harry Rousby to Nell René, by special license, at Manchester, Tuesday, Sept. 11, 1906.

TOLFREE—MILNER.—On the 26th ult., at Grimsby, Sydney Tolfree, late acting manager and secretary Curry's Tivoli Theatre, also assistant-manager P.O.W., Grimsby, to Maude Josephine Milner (Mignon, La Belle Musicienne).

DEATHS.

HUNSLEY.—Godfrey Hunsley, suddenly, at Parkestone, Dorset, of pneumonia, age 28. Once seen never forgotten. R.I.P.

LONG.—Sept. 13, at Otty Bottom, Kingsdown, Charles Long, theatrical architect, late of Hilldene, Rosslyn-hill, Hampstead, aged 49.

MACMAHONE.—Alice Emily Macmahone (Alice Melville), died Sept. 6, 1906, age 39 years.

IN MEMORIAM.

LAKE.—In loving memory of Charles Herbert Frederick Lake (aged 18), the only son of Chas. and Minnie Lake ("Florodora" Company), who was called away at Tunbridge Wells, Sept. 18, 1905. "At rest in the Garden of Sleep. Sleep on, darling, sleep on."

THE management of the Gloucester Palace are giving their patrons a high-class and varied show this week. The Charles Fisher Pocket Opera Company tops the bill in delightful selections from *Maritana*. The Three Permans give a most amusing and really smart pantomime act; Matt Wilkinson's little farce, *The Registry Office*, is an unfailing source of mirth. Boisterous merriment is also evoked by Ross, Taylor, and Elvio, in their knockabout absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, a decidedly neat and clever turn. Primaveri gives an excellent juggling exhibition; and the concertina imitations of Charles Buval are also very good. The Danbys, eccentric comedians, Milsted and Bell, in an Arizonian comedy scena, Minnie Moran, comedienne and dancer, Violet Beatrice, sweet singer of Irish songs, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

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Winter, Miss E.
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Wrigley, Mr. W. R.
Wylie, Mr. Laurie
Wyndham, Miss K.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Clara Jecks—Saturday, Sept. 22.
Lillah McCarthy—Saturday, Sept. 22.
Sylvia Morris—Sunday, Sept. 23.
William Archer—Sunday, Sept. 23.
F. H. Constable—Sunday, Sept. 23.
C. Quinton Tulford—Sunday, Sept. 23.
Dickie Clare—Monday, Sept. 24.
Adria Hill—Monday, Sept. 24.
(Miss) Leslie Warner—Monday, Sept. 24.
Gertrude Kingston—Tuesday, Sept. 25.
J. E. Dodson—Tuesday, Sept. 25.
Rose Musgrove—Tuesday, Sept. 25.
King Roy—Tuesday, Sept. 25
Trixy Cotterell—Tuesday, Sept. 25.
Yorke Stephens—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Percival Craig—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Edmund Gwenn—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Charles E. Lambert—Wednesday, Sept. 25.
May Parker—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Fred Fulton—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Clifton Bingham—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Dorothy Oswald—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Angelo A. Asher—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Will Hebden—Wednesday, Sept. 26.
Lilian Williams—Friday, Sept. 28.
Lena Ashwell—Friday, Sept. 28.
Henry Arthur Jones—Friday, Sept. 28.
Tom Terriss—Friday, Sept. 28.
Simeta Marsden—Friday, Sept. 28.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE OUTING.

The staff of the Alexandra Theatre went to Clacton-on-Sea on Sunday for their annual outing. The absence of the acting-manager, Mr. T. J. Robinson, was much regretted, for he had taken great interest in the arrangements, and had assisted in many practical ways. Clacton was reached at eleven o'clock, and the weather was sufficiently fine to tempt a number to the boats, and some even to bathing. The secretary, Mr. W. Bryce, showed himself very capable in managing the arrangements, everything going through without a hitch.

After dinner, which was served at the Brunswick Hotel at 12.30, and thoroughly enjoyed, Mr. Bryce proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett, and in seconding the proposal, Mr. Geo. Dance "was sure everyone would join in wishing them every success in their new enterprise—the reopening of the 'New Hippodrome' at Burton-on-Trent." The toast was very cordially received by all. Then came the toast to the health of the popular acting-manager, Mr. T. J. Robinson, which was also well received.

A trip to Walton-on-the-Naze and back by boat formed part of the arrangements. For fully half an hour before the start the rain came down in torrents, and the hopes of the party fell to zero. Fortunately, however, the weather cleared beautifully, the sun came out, and the spirits of the party revived in proportion. The trip took up the greater part of the afternoon, and, needless to say, was greatly enjoyed. As the return train did not leave Clacton till 8.30, there was ample time after tea for a stroll round the town, and all got back to the station feeling they had made the most of their stay, and had spent a most successful and enjoyable time.

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Newmarket, arrive....	10.33	11.45	12. 8	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18	

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER.

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

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Oh I say! Oh I say!
Happy! merry! bright and gay—
Oh I say! Oh I say!
Dainty vision crossed my way—
Oh I say! Oh I say!
Such a little fairy
Tripping light and airy
That I had to stop and say:
"I'm lucky to meet a maiden so sweet; believe me, 'tis true, 'I love you I do!'"

Refrain.
Then she looked like this, she looked like that;
She laughed Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!
At that joyful sound, my head went round;
I felt—Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!
So, assuming calm, I gave my arm,
I thought it "ultra" bliss;
But I longed a deal to slyly steal
A kiss! kiss! kiss!
&c., &c.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

DRAMATISING NOVELS.

We published last week an interesting interview with Mr. H. A. SAINTSBURY on the subject of "The Difficulties of Dramatisation." These are undoubtedly very great, and few of those who have successfully encountered them have received an adequate amount of praise and credit. Some novels, it is true, can be adapted quite easily. DICKENS's work lent itself readily to dramatisation. He always took care to provide himself with a plot before beginning; and his characters are of the obviously effective sort which tell "at sight" upon the stage. And a great assistance to the adaptor of DICKENS, and to the actors who interpreted the versions, was that the illustrations of PHIZ settled once for all the make-ups of the personages. Mr. Pecksniff would be unrecognisable without a cockatoo-like tuft on the top of his head; and Uriah Heep's receding forehead and closely-cropped hair are indelibly impressed on all readers of the early editions. But we can readily sympathise with Mr. GEORGE WARREN in his task of making a play out of Mr. WALLACE'S novel "The Four Just Men." The book is simply a query elaborated in the most thrilling way by the postponement of the answer. Will the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs be assassinated if he does not relinquish the Aliens Extradition (Political Offences) Bill; or will the quartette of would-be murderers be baffled by the precautions taken by the police? The anticipation of this keeps us "all of a tremble" during the perusal of the novel; but the sense of duration of time cannot be given on the stage. So Mr. WARREN has used the book only as a foundation for his play, constructing its plot from added materials of his own invention.

It is not too much to say that no dramatisation of a novel can ever quite satisfy the admiring worshippers of the novelist. It is, indeed, a positive disadvantage to be familiar with a book if one wishes to enjoy an adaptation of it. The novelist is not bound, as the playwright is, by any hard-and-fast requirements and necessities. He can diverge from the main issue as he pleases; and sometimes his divergencies are the better part of his work. Nor is he precluded from an analysis of character which is impossible on the boards. He can *tell* his readers a great deal about his characters; whereas the dramatist has to leave his audience to form an idea of his personages from what they do and say. And the dramatist has to deal with patrons more impatient and less reflective than the novelist's, who can frequently lift the veil that conceals the motives of his puppets; whereas the dramatist—unless he resort to the old-fashioned method of soliloquy—is debarred this expedient. Drama has been defined as the development of character by action; story-telling is often the creation of character by description and analysis.

What is called the dramatic instinct is simply a keen sense of the requirements of the stage, as opposed to those of the library. This sense is uncommon, and cannot be acquired. People who have been familiar with the theatre all their lives often err in estimating the "acting merits" of a play. They are charmed by its other qualities, and overlook the fact that it "does not act as well as it reads." The accomplished dramatist can, by the aid of his imagination, see and hear his characters as they speak, move, and have their temporary being on the boards. It is not so much a question of exits and entrances, and how to get one's people on the stage and off it—that is the mere mechanism of playwriting. It is that the born dramatist sees everything through a certain medium, and is saturated with the very essence and spirit of the stage.

Experts are of opinion that any novel can be successfully adapted, provided that it contains a good dramatic idea and characters. But it will be always difficult to satisfy the lovers of any famous novel with an adaptation of it. They are certain to have formed preconceived ideas of the characters in the story; and if the work of the adaptor and the actor does not exactly coincide with the fancies of the reader, the latter feels aggrieved. And besides, in an adaptation, so much has perforce to be omitted. Mr. HALL CAINE'S novels probably suffer as little as most authors' from the process of transformation. But even in the case of *The Bondman*, those familiar with the novel must regret the omission—the inevitable and most judicious omission—of the grimly humorous incident connected with the greedy cunning of Adam Fairbrother's sons and the bitter hardness of his wife. The stern realism of these passages and the grotesque power with which Stephen Orry's second marriage is described are the redeeming features of the story regarded as literature. But the material valuable for dramatic or theatrical purposes lay in the emotional and exciting incidents, in the two death-bed commissions—one of mercy, the other of revenge—and in the "strong situation" of the two men, deadly enemies, chained together in the mines.

When the process is reversed, and a novel is made, wholly or partly, from a play, the difficulty of playwriting and the comparative easiness of novel-writing is emphasised. An interesting example is the commencement of CHARLES READE'S well-known story "Hard Cash." READE had accumulated, after his custom, a vast amount of material for the exposure of the abuses in certain lunatic asylums. He wanted, however, a "story" into which to weld his denunciations; so, having bought from M. AUGUSTE MACQUET, author of *Les Pauvres de Paris*, the English rights, and elaborated the first act of the French play into perhaps one third of the book. Dramatisation is a merciless test of the amount of essential matter in a novel. It uses up the results of invention and observation with astonishing rapidity. The compensation is that character is almost, if not quite, as effective on the stage as on the printed page. But this is always supposing that the medium—*i.e.*, the acting—is up to the standard of the author's creations. Only a first-rate cast could have made an adaptation of "The Newcomes" palatable; and what would "Vanity Fair" have been in stage form but for Miss MARIE TEMPEST'S incomparable exposition of Becky Sharp? Everything, it seems, can be dramatised nowadays; and even the objection of the author of "Salammbo," when, in answer to the French *entrepreneur* who wanted to put on a version of the Carthaginian story, he pointed to the passage in which the war-elephants are described as trampling down the soldiery in hundreds, would be easily overruled at present. It would be, after all, only a question of engaging a sufficient supply of "supers"—and ordering enough elephants.

BURNLEY THEATRE ANNIVERSARY.

The twentieth anniversary of the opening of the Burnley Victoria Opera House was celebrated on the 14th inst. by a presentation to Mr. W. C. Horner, who has been its manager all that period, and also of the Empire Music Hall since its opening, and to Mrs. Horner. The chief present took the form of a pair of massive solid silver flower vases, which bore the inscription, "Presented to Mr. and Mrs. Horner, Sept. 14, 1906, by the employees of the Victoria Opera House and the Empire Music Hall, as a token of their appreciation and esteem, and as a commemoration of the opening of the Opera House, Sept. 14, 1886." Mr. Ingham, leader of the Empire orchestra, presided, and Mr. Leach, of the Victoria Opera House orchestra (and for eighteen years at the theatre), made the presentation, in the presence of the staff of the two theatres, numbering about ninety persons.

Mr Horner, in acknowledging the present, said it was gratifying to him, after having had the management of that theatre for over twenty years, to receive from his employees that beautiful present. He could assure them that during his lifetime they would be looked upon as treasures, and equally so by those of his family to whom they would be handed down. It had always been a pride during his management to receive so many testimonials from promoters and travelling managers as to his staff, and it was a pleasure to see so many old servants on that anniversary. One had been with him the whole time. Many people looked upon theatres as questionable institutions, but it was a great satisfaction to him to know that many who had been engaged in that place, as programme boys, checkers, bandsmen, and stagemen, were now occupying lucrative positions, not only in this country, but abroad. As regarded the theatres, he thought they would agree that they were now more up to date than ever. He again thanked the staff.

Mrs. Horner, who was also the recipient of bouquets from the lady attendants, said that was the first present she had ever had, although she had been a business woman in Burnley for forty years, twenty of which had been spent in connection with that theatre. It was a great surprise to her, who knew the working of the theatre, to see how many people were employed by the two places. She had always felt pleased when the staff were praised, as she was proud of them, and she wished the public of Burnley could see them all. They would not then be so ready to condemn the theatre, but would try to keep so many in employment by supporting it as it deserved to be. Doubtless every denomination was represented in the staff, and she felt sure that there was as much good to be done by theatres as by many churches and chapels. In most towns theatres had a standing, and were looked up to, but she was sorry to say that in Burnley it did not receive the consideration it deserved. Often, when she looked round at both theatres full, she wondered if the public realised what a responsibility rested on the management and staff, and yet in twenty years they had never had a mishap.

Mr. and Mrs. Horner, in their turn, presented an easy chair to Mr. T. Thornton, who had been an employee since the opening of the theatre.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 17,
Bizet's Opera,
"CARMEN."

This week we have a special attraction in the Moody-Manners Opera Company, which is appearing in a series of favourite works in English, and it is pleasant to see this handsome theatre packed at each performance by enthusiastic audiences, who by giving their hearty support are materially aiding Mr. Charles Manners in the splendid efforts he is making at the present time. The répertoire includes *Tannhauser*, *Lohengrin*, *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *Carmen*, *Maritana*, and the *Bohemian Girl*. On Monday evening Bizet's *Carmen* was played, and a performance of a very high standard of excellence was secured, principals, chorus, and orchestra alike all put forth their best efforts, and with most satisfactory results. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan appeared in the title-rôle, and repeated her admirable impersonation of this character, singing in her most artistic style and acting with remarkable vivacity. It was indeed a most artistic piece of work, whether viewed dramatically or musically, and Mlle. de Lussan was accorded a great ovation. None the less successful was that accomplished singer, Mr. Lewys James, who undertook Examillo. He has a rich and powerful voice, and his singing of the "Toreador" song met with such favour that its repetition was demanded. Mr. Joseph O'Mara was the Don José, and he sang admirably, giving unbounded pleasure to his listeners. Michaela, the peasant girl, was charmingly played by Miss Ethel Cadman, who has a very sweet voice and uses it to the best advantage. Mr. Bailey and Mr. Moppet were heard at their best as Remendado and Dancairo, while Morales and Zuniga, the dragoons, were quite safe in the hands of Messrs. Carter and Halpin. Miss Rigby and Miss Alvord also acquitted themselves well in their allotted characters of Frasquita and Mercedes. The chorus and orchestra put in some very meritorious work under the conductorship of Signor Romnaldo Sapio, who secured a very smooth and finished performance of this favourite opera. The opera was carefully mounted.

On Tuesday was presented Wagner's Opera in Three Acts,
"TANNHAUSER."

Tannhäuser	MR. WILSON PEMBROKE
The Landgrave	MR. CHARLES MAGRATH
Wolfram	MR. WILLIAM DEVER
Biterolf	MR. MOFFETT
Henrich der Schreiber	MR. TATTERSALL
Reinmar	MR. H. BRINDLE
Walther	MR JOHNSTONE
A Young Shepherd	MISS RIGBY
Venus	MISS TONI SEITER
Elizabeth	MADAME DE VERE

We all know that Mr. Charles Manners is an enthusiastic advocate of opera for the people; but few are aware that he is able to communicate that enthusiasm to his company—a fact quite apparent to observant lovers of music on Tuesday, when *Tannhäuser* was presented to an audience filling the house, and which was as highly critical as it was enthusiastic. The opera is not merely a romantic legend appropriately set; its music means much more than that. It sets forth in its stately cadences, its tonal colour, and its magnificent orchestration the contest that is ever being fought between mere elemental human lust and the higher love of a higher soul, radiant in its purity and touching in its self-sacrifice. Had Wagner never sounded greater depths of musical art than the score of this beautiful legend, he would have still been entitled to a high place among the world's masters of music. As a mere vehicle for the display of the voice the opera has always been popular with interpreters, though the solos are but few, much of the work of the principals being descriptive recitative, of which one never tires, so delightful is the variety of the orchestration. Tuesday's audience was not only enthusiastic: it was punctual; and a reverent hush was imposed by universal consent as soon as Herr Richard Eckhold raised his bâton to conduct the overture, which was most admirably played. The Venusberg scene of the first act was animated and effective, and the sensuous music of both Venus and Tannhäuser prepares one later for the dignity and beauty of the Pilgrims' Chorus, with which the splendid septet at the end of Act I. is quite in consonance. We have already spoken of the enthusiasm of the performers. This was evident in every scene, and especially so in the hall of minstrelsy in the second act, which had such a fine dramatic presentation as to draw forth a most enthusiastic tribute from the delighted audience. Mr. Wilson Pembroke, who was evidently suffering from a cold, opened somewhat nervously, but warming to his work he sang with much tenderness the song to Venus in the second scene of the first act, and displayed great fervour in his later solo, "Thou, Goddess of Love." Besides singing with much charm, Mr. Pembroke acted with high intelligence, the struggle between the Knight's good and evil nature being forcibly portrayed in the last act. The high-souled Elizabeth found an interpreter of considerable gifts in Madame De Vere, whose purity of voice and depth of expression were displayed in the strong dramatic scene in the hall of minstrelsy, where the pure-hearted maiden intervenes to save Tannhäuser from the wrath of his fellows. The beautiful prayer in the last act was also given with true devotional feeling. Mr. William Dever presented a consistent and highly artistic impersonation of Wolfram, imparting much effect to the plaint of the disappointed lover of Elizabeth in Act III., and singing very finely the famous solo "O Star of Eve." Mr. Charles Magrath was a sonorous and dignified Landgrave; Mr. Moppett a fiery Biterolf; and Mr. Tattersall an effective Henrich der Schreiber; other parts being adequately rendered by Mr. H. Brindle as Reinmar, Mr. Johnstone as Walther, and Miss Rigby as a young shepherd. Miss Toni Seiter gave full significance to the music of Venus. An admirable ensemble was secured by Herr Richard Eckhold, the Pilgrims' Chorus being always sonorous and impressive. Wednesday saw the revival of *Maritana*, and at Thursday's matinée *Lohengrin* drew a good house.

"'THE' WINTER'S TALE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Why will theatrical managers and writers persist in placing the prefix "the" before Shakespeare's *Winter's Tale*? The dictionary gives "the" as a definite article, denoting a particular person or thing. Why particularise in this instance? Heine, speaking of Shakespeare's adaptation of Robert Greene's romance of "Pandosto the Triumph of Time," says:—"Shakespeare, who could not, of course, use Greene's title, called his play *A Winter's Tale*." The play was entered at Stationers' Hall, 1594, as *A Wynter Nyghtes Pastime*. The Stationers' Hall office book, 1623, has "an old play called *Winter's Tale*." Chambers' Shakespeare, speaking of it, says:—"The legendary drama, such as *A Winter's Tale*." The Encyclopædia Britannica calls it *Winter's Tale* without any prefix; whilst little Mamillius, the child of the play, says, "A sad tale 's best for winter," thus, doubtless, foreshadowing the author's idea of christening his literary bantling *A Winter's Tale*.—Yours faithfully,

E. EDMONDS.

10, King-street, Covent Garden, Sept. 19.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your Leigh (Lancashire) correspondent omitted our name from his notice last week. Yours faithfully, JAMES ROLMAR, General-Manager, Harrell-Palmer Cosmopolitan Co.

THEATRES AND RATES.

Before Sir Albert de Rutzen at Bow-street Police Court on Thursday afternoon, when the representative of the Lyceum (1903) (Limited) appeared to an adjourned summons for neglecting to pay to the Westminster City Council £1,111 6s. 8d., in respect of a general rate made on April 6th last.

At the recent hearing of the case it was contended by Mr. Travers Humphreys, who appeared for the first debenture-holders of the Lyceum, that, as the Lyceum was practically empty—a caretaker being the only person on the premises—the defendants were in the same position as the owner of an empty house, and, therefore, not liable for rates while their property was unoccupied.

At the same time the London Coliseum (Limited) were summoned for the non-payment of the current rate, amounting to £1,339. It was understood that they raised the same defence, and their case, like that against the Lyceum proprietors, was adjourned until yesterday.

Mr. Ryde, barrister, now appeared on behalf of the Westminster City Council in support of the summons; Mr. Travers Humphreys appeared for the Lyceum (1903) (Limited), and also for the Coliseum (Limited).

Mr. Ryde said that since the case was last before the Court the Westminster City Council had sent to the Lyceum to see what the state of affairs were there. Their representatives found there was on the stage the usual scenery—drawing-rooms and gardens, and so forth—capable of being put to use at a moment's notice for plays which did not require special scenery. The floor was carpeted, and there was the usual carpet and rods on the stairs. The orchestra was still fitted with music stands. There were chairs—although perhaps not many—and in the auditorium there were seats which had been covered up to keep them clean. Two rooms on the premises were let to a Press representative at a monthly rental. He (Mr. Ryde) submitted that under these circumstances there was not only occupation, but beneficial occupation. The Lyceum debenture-holders wanted, of course, to let their theatre, and it would be of enormous advantage to them if they were able to represent to a likely tenant that the stage and the scenery were ready, and that they could open in a few days.

Sir Albert De Rutzen: I think it was admitted on the last occasion when the case was before me that the theatre was ready to be taken over at once if the defendants were lucky enough to get tenants.

Mr. Travers Humphreys: Yes, that was admitted.

Mr. Ryde repeated that the chance of getting a tenant was emphasised by the fact that the theatre was ready for immediate occupation and use. That condition of things enormously increased the value of the premises. If one of the large London theatres happened, unfortunately, to be burned down, the manager would be very glad indeed to find another playhouse like the Lyceum ready for immediate use. In that case the Lyceum people could make their own terms. In that sense there was not only an occupation, but a beneficial occupation. For present purposes, however, it would only be necessary for him to prove visible occupation. In the case of "The Queen v. Bradshaw" it was ruled that there was a liability to pay rates, even when there was only a visible (and not a beneficial) occupation. The question as to whether there had been beneficial occupation could only be dealt with by quarter sessions. The same question as was raised here had been decided in the case of the Earl's Court Exhibition.

It was there decided, said counsel, that the exhibition people were liable to pay rates for the whole of the year, although some portion of their grounds might not be occupied in the dead season. It was pointed out, when that decision was given, that the question of the dead season was probably considered when the rateable value of the property was decided. No doubt the same thing was done when the Lyceum Theatre was assessed. If not, it ought to have been. Theatre keeping was a precarious business, but in this case, both in justice and law, a distress warrant should be issued. It was useless to say that the premises were not being used at the moment. A farmer might, with equal force, argue that he ought not to pay rates because his land was lying fallow and his meadows under water.

Mr. Humphreys contended that in the Lyceum case there was no occupation by anybody, unless it could be said that what might be called trade fixtures created in law what they did not create in fact. As a matter of fact, the Lyceum was assessed on the assumption that it would never be empty. No doubt that question would be gone into now that this point had arisen.

Mr. Humphrey caused some amusement by quoting, in support of his contention, from a book entitled "Ryde on Rates," the author being the gentleman now appearing for the Westminster City Council.

Sir Albert de Rutzen: I have a copy of the work here.

Mr. Humphreys: So have I, so there must have been at least two copies sold. (Laughter.)

Sir Albert de Rutzen said he was quite clear that the only question he had to decide was whether the theatre was occupied or not. It was no part of his duty to decide whether there was a beneficial occupation. It was quite clear that the defendants were liable for the rates, and he would make an order in the usual way for a distress.

The case against the Coliseum was next mentioned.

Mr. Travers Humphreys said he appeared for what he might call the company and the first debenture-holders, but he did not think he could successfully distinguish this case from the case of the Lyceum. His clients felt very acutely the hardships of having to pay enormous rates in respect of a building for which they were not getting a shilling in return. An application had been made to the High Court to appoint a receiver for the purpose of raising the necessary funds to pay the rate. A receiver was appointed, and the Master made an order giving him leave to defend the summons, and to apply again on the question of raising the amount, if necessary. That being so, he hoped that no distress would issue until they had had time to make the application which was now necessary.

This application was granted.

Mr. Ryder applied for costs.

Mr. Humphreys: We have a lot of money to find, and I do not know where it is coming from.

Sir Albert de Rutzen said he thought this was a case where the question of costs might be waived by the Council.

Mr. Ryde: We leave the question in your hands.

Sir Albert de Rutzen: The defendant in each case will only have to pay the costs of the summons.

IN the *London Gazette* notice is given that application has been made to the Home Secretary by the local authorities to change the fair dates at Chesterfield. At present the dates are Jan. 27, Feb. 28, the first Saturday in April, May 4, July 4, Sept. 25, and Nov. 25, except when a Sunday has fallen on these dates, when it has been held on the Monday following. The Corporation are asking that the dates may be changed to the last Saturdays in January and February, the first Saturdays of April, May, and July, and the last Saturdays in September and November. Here, again, it is a matter of interest and concern to the showmen taking Chesterfield on their round, and if the proposed alterations interfere with their business, it is for them to communicate with the Home Secretary before Sept. 28, when a decision will be arrived at.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1905.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Costello, Mr. Tom	September 15, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr, Sid	July 14, 1906.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.

Copies of the above can be obtained by communicating with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Paul Valentine, the veteran *maître de ballet*, who in the years that are gone was responsible for many delightful productions at the Canterbury, Scuth London, Oxford, the old Philharmonic, Islington, and many other variety houses, is to be accorded a complimentary benefit, which, by kind permission of Mr. G. Adney Payne and the directors, will take place at the Canterbury on Friday, October 5. A numerous and influential committee is headed by Mr. Payne as the chairman and treasurer. Mr. Fred Miller is acting as the hon. secretary.

The East Ham Palace of Varieties, which is to be opened at Christmas, failed to obtain a licence at the adjourned annual meeting of the Metropolitan District Committee of the Essex County Council on the 14th, when the application was dealt with. It was stated that the notification of the application had not reached the offices of the Clerk of the County within the requisite period, though the applicant, Mr. Joseph Davis, stated that it had been posted in plenty of time. The Committee, however, considered that the standing order had not been complied with, and that therefore the application could not be entertained.

At the meeting of the Palace Theatre, Ltd., on Thursday next it is proposed to elect another director in the place of the late chairman, Count Hollender. Mr. W. Howard Smith, a director of the Camberwell Palace, is a candidate for the post.

Miss Annette Kellerman, the graceful lady Channel swimmer, will commence a season at Hengler's Circus, Argyll-street, on Monday next, at three and eight p.m. The ring has been transformed into a water circus, with a stage and diving tank in the centre. Twice daily Miss Kellerman will give a graceful and instructive exhibition of swimming and diving, supported by a troupe of lady swimmers. An excellent variety entertainment will also be included, and at each performance Miss Kellerman will lecture on her Channel swim, which will be illustrated by the cinematograph.

Mr. Arthur Roberts celebrated his fifty-fourth birthday yesterday (Friday). It is so unusual for the popular comedian to be "left," even for five seconds, that the following little story proves the rule. It was several years ago, when "Arthur" was singing at a concert, accompanied by Mr. Herman Finck, the ever-ready-witted conductor at the Palace Theatre. The man on the platform turned to the man at the piano with the unexpected question—"I'm going to give a soprano song! What key shall I sing it in?" "You'd better sing it in khakee!" promptly and quietly answered the imperturbable Finck.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Charles Long, partner in the firm of Wylson and Long, the well-known architects, of 16, King William-street, Charing Cross, who passed away at his country house at Otto Bottom, Kingsdown, near Walmer, on the 13th inst. The cause of death was consumption. The remains of the deceased gentleman were interred at the St. Pancras cemetery, East Finchley, on Wednesday, and among those present at the graveside besides members of the deceased's family and the immediate relatives were Mr. Henry Tozer, Mr. St. John Brenon, and Mr. George Ridout.

Mr. Long was a well-known figure in the music-hall world, and was present at many an inauguration and anniversary. With his partner, Mr. Wylson, he shared the distinction of designing the Oxford, the Alhambra, Blackpool; the Euston, the Chelsea, and the Walthamstow Palaces; and the new variety theatres at East Ham and Tottenham, the former of which opens at Christmas. Mr. Long was very much liked by all who came in contact with him, and his numerous friends now mourn the loss of a cultured, courteous, and genial gentleman.

The tenth annual general meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at the Empire, Camberwell, commencing at 12 (noon). Due notification of any resolution for discussion at the meeting must be sent, in writing, to the secretary fourteen days prior to the date fixed.

Mr. Fred Trussell, of the London Hippodrome, now on his holiday with his wife, was one of the witnesses of the dramatic events that attended the recent occupation of Mogador by the notorious Kaid Anfloos. When they reached Mogador, on board the s.s. Zweena, the British Consul sent a warning that, owing to the state of unrest in the town, it was not safe nor advisable to allow any of the passengers to land. Mr. Trussell, however, decided to run the risk, and from the roof of a house saw the most magnificent display of horsemanship that he ever witnessed. Both the intrepid manager and his wife were rowed back to their steamer safely after an adventure that neither will readily forget.

La Milo has roused the matronly susceptibilities of Mrs. Ormiston Chant, who, it will be remembered, made herself notorious some years ago in connection with the Empire. That austere critic, however, has not seen the series of statues for which the artist poses at the London Pavilion, but will probably do so on the invitation of Mr. Cruikshank, manager to La Milo. In private life this lady is Miss Pansy Montague, who, as an actress, took part in several productions in Australia, notably in *Florodora*. Miss Montague is one of four daughters of an Army officer, and was born in Australia.

Apropos of Mr. Stead's recent onslaught, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh De Beere are shortly producing a new comedy in miniature by Hubert Bartlett, author of the successful *Collar Stud*, entitled *The Lady of the Roses*. The sketch, which will be gorgeously mounted and costumed, will be of so ultra-refined a nature that it is the intention of the producers to invite the aforementioned "captious critic" to the production. This, we may add, takes place at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, Nov. 5.

Mr. Medley Barrett, having concluded a long and successful engagement with Catlin's Royal Pierrots, at Scarborough, is now scurrying, per motor-car, about the principal towns of the North of England on pantomime business intent. He is making Huddersfield his headquarters.

Mr. John Le Hay started a short provincial tour this week at Glasgow with *Poor Beggar*, a new sketch written by Frank Wyatt. John gets some fine opportunities as the beggar, and was unanimously pronounced a big success.

Miss Mary Duggan, who is supporting Mr. John Le Hay in *Poor Beggar*, is one of the old Savoy "school," and will be warmly welcomed back to the provinces, where she was for some years such a great favourite in the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company.

A forthcoming addition to the "Sixpenny Pops" issued by Messrs. Francis and Day will be "Come back to Borneo," by Barnes and Weston.

A report has been going the round of the entertainment world that the frontage of the Fairfield House Estate, in the Broadway, Tooting, has been acquired for erecting a music hall. The statement is, however, incorrect. Unavailing overtures were made for the purchase of the site, and therefore at the present time it can be treated for by any syndicate or responsible person

Liverpool is adding to the number of its places of amusement. The Haymarket, in Beau-street, will shortly re-open under the management of Mr. Joseph S. Childs. This place was erected twenty-five years ago, and always kept its doors open until last month, when Mr. Fred Willmot, being unable to obtain a renewal of his lease upon the old terms, relinquished the place, and took over the Roscommon. The hall is to be very much improved, the comfort of patrons being particularly catered for.

Then, again, the New Tivoli, in Lime-street, is rapidly approaching completion, and will very probably admit its first audience early in Nov. This enterprise is expected to prove a success, situated as it is in the centre of the "Bohemian" quarter of the city. Great preparations are being made by the owners of public-houses in the vicinity, who remember that in former days, when St. James's Hall stood on the site, fortunes were made by licensees. Not far away from the Tivoli two immense public-houses are being practically rebuilt, while others are receiving the attention of painters and decorators.

A step towards the provision of a large variety theatre at the south end of the city has been taken during the week by Mr. Wm. Henry Broadhead, of Blackpool, who on Thursday applied to the Liverpool Bench for a provisional licence. The proposed site is at the corner of Lodge-lane and Beaumont-street, and stands in the centre of a population numbering, within a reasonable radius, 100,000. The Bench, however, declined to express any opinion concerning the plans that were submitted, and refused to do anything until the building was erected. It was mentioned that seating accommodation for over 2000 people would be provided, and the edifice would probably cost £25,000.

The district is absolutely unprovided for, and people are compelled to journey down town by the trams in order to reach a place of amusement. Of course opposition to the scheme is threatened by a number of religious fanatics, but the feeling of the residents is that the necessity of seeking means of enjoyment a couple of miles away should be obviated by the erection of a well-ordered theatre near their homes. We hope that Mr. Broadhead will persist in his proposal.

In aid of the much-needed funds for the Sussex County Hospital and Dispensary an alfresco fête was given on Tuesday afternoon at the Dyke, near Poynings, permission having been given by Mrs. Maude Barrasford, the genial directoress of the Brighton Hippodrome. In our forty years' acquaintance with the spot (where in days of yore hawks were flown by the Duke of St. Albans and his Duchess, *née* Harriet Mellon, the famous actress) seldom have we seen a greater concourse of onlookers, and although the admission fee was only threepence, the cause of charity will benefit considerably.

The committee included Mr. Ernest Lepard, manager of the Brighton Alhambra. The fine band of the 1st Sussex Royal Garrison Artillery Volunteers, conducted by C. F. Chatfield, discoursed some most enjoyable music. The Café Chantant was under the direction of Pandeen Yelland Padoran, and elicited hearty laughter and applause. The vocalists were Stephen Carroll, an effective tenor, Mme. Dedman, Mme. Wagstaffe (soprano), James Dobson (baritone), Mr. Lelew (comic), Miss Marion Ridgway (contralto), and P. Y. Padoran, Irish humorist. Mr. A. W. Briggs was an able accompanist. In the sports the Brighton Hippodrome team won the challenge cup for the tug-of-war, beating the Brighton Alhambra after a keen contest.

Mr. Henry Lucas, manager of the Hippodrome, Wakefield, late of the Pavilion, Glasgow, and Hippodrome, Birmingham, was, we hear, quietly married at Leeds on Sept. 1 to Miss Florence Roberts, of Oxford House, Belle Vue, Wakefield. Numerous friends will wish the young couple every happiness.

In our report of the re-opening of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, last week, we omitted to mention the fiame of Mr. Fred Durham, variety agent, a particular friend of the new proprietor, Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt.

The Boston Palace (Corn Exchange Hall), Lincolnshire, is to be let by tender for a term of three years, commencing April 6, 1907. The building is 92 feet by 49 feet, and has been used for some time past as a music hall.

Rival teams from the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings (captained by Mr. E. White), and the Hippodrome (captained by Mr. Albert Matham), recently played a friendly cricket match. Mr. Dan Thomas journeyed from Eastbourne to support the Hippo. team. The match was won by the Gaiety team by an innings, and Mr. E. C. White, with 101 not out, secured the half-guinea prize for the highest score, offered by Mr. Griffiths, of the Gaiety staff, who also gave a luncheon in the Pavilion during the interval, when Mr. Matham expressed the hope that the match would be an annual event.

We are glad to learn that Mr. A. Standen Triggs, the managing-director of the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, has recovered from the accident which befel him through having slipped on some apple peel and severely strained the muscles of his right leg. The accident was most unfortunate, coming immediately upon the Tennis Tournament, but Mr. Triggs was able to control the various arrangements, although unable, until Thursday, to move about among the spectators.

At a Liverpool variety theatre on Monday evening there was a sharp discussion between the management and a leading artist, who refused to go on because that party's name was at the bottom of the bill instead of the top. The perplexing situation was got over by the management promising to have new bills printed and the advertisements in the newspapers altered next day. The expense of again billing the city was no small one.

Mr. J. J. Sallmayer, who has been the tenant of the Brighton Corporation nearly a year, and given many excellent entertainments at the Town Aquarium during that period, will leave that building on Oct. 1 next, he having declined to continue the agreement at £800 per year. Mr. Sallmayer, who has lost about £4,000, offered the Council £300 a year for seven years on condition certain restrictions were withdrawn, and the building, which has become very dilapidated, put into proper repair, no rent being demanded while the restoration was going on. In consequence of the Town Clerk and the Council accepting a month's notice the ratepayers will soon have the white elephant again to pay for. The refusal of the Town Council to sanction the erection of a shelter in the form of a screen down the middle of the Palace Pier, proposed by Mr. John Howard, the builder of that handsome structure, which is 1,700 feet long, and the most attractive in Brighton, has caused considerable indignation, as Mr. Howard and his co-directors have decided, after Oct. 1, to partially close the Pier, and to suspend the lighting decorations on the Pier for six month. The erection of the screen would have caused £2,000 to be spent in wages.

The Hippodrome, Gillingham, near Chatham (Kent), is announced to be reopened on Monday, Oct. 1. The lessees will be the New Bioscope Trading Company, with Mr. F. R. Griffiths as resident-manager. Several alterations are being made in the building for the comfort of the patrons, and the management is looking forward to a successful season.

On what we considered reliable authority, we published in these columns last week an announcement of the death of Miss Bonnie Goodwin. We desire, therefore, to express our deep regret for the statement, and are glad to announce that although her state of health is causing anxiety, there is hope of the popular artist's recovery. She had a good night on Thursday, and is decidedly stronger.

Mr. R. W. Duck, the popular manager of the Granville, Walham Green, was at home to a large crowd at that favourite house on Wednesday evening, when the eighth anniversary was celebrated. The special programme included many eminent people in the variety profession, and a host of friends came to congratulate the management.

Comfort and elegance go far in the recent improvements at the Oxford, which have been gradually completed during the last three months, under the superintendence of Messrs. Wylson and Long, without suspending the performance for a single night. The chief alterations are the enlargement of the grand saloon on the O.P. side—which will accommodate a large crowd of those who prefer to stand and witness the performance—and the removal of the massive wall on the "prompt" side of the stalls, which formerly obstructed the view. The latter is a vast improvement, and adds greatly to the seeing capacity from the stalls and pit.

The architects have not confined their attention to the auditorium, but all the approaches, staircases, passages, &c., have been completely renovated. The ground floor and first circle have been entirely re-seated with most comfortable tip-up automatic easy chairs upholstered in rich red velvet, supplied by Messrs. Shoolbred, who have also replaced the old carpet with an exact copy—beautiful in design and colouring—of a very rich antique Persian rug. The carpet has now been extended to cover the whole of the pit, where, seated in a velvet-covered armchair, one can now enjoy the finest "variety" turns for a single shilling.

Mr. George Adney Payne, Mr. Henry Tozer, and Mr. Henry Sutton, with the new manager of the Oxford, Mr. C. Blyth-Pratt, were at home to a large crowd on Thursday afternoon, when the fine interior of the theatre with its rich embellishments and its up-to-date comfort, was universally admired. Tea and coffee were served at separate tables in the smaller saloon, a delicate consideration on the part of Mr. Blyth-Pratt that was highly appreciated by the ladies.

Messrs. Harrington and Tate were actively engaged on special commissions for those two famous artists, Miss Ada Reeve and Miss Victoria Monks, when the unfortunate breakdown in Mr. Harrington's health occurred, and laid him *hors de combat*. He is, however, now rapidly recovering, and may be relied upon, when completely restored to health, to discharge these obligations, with, as the tradesmen say, "neatness and dispatch"!

Mr. Harry Tate is sailing for America per ss. Caronia on Tuesday, with his company, to play *Fishing* at Hammerstein's Theatre, New York. We hope that Uncle Sam will give as warm a welcome to this funny sketch as John Bull. Many friends, among whom the writer may be counted, will be wishing the young and popular comedian bon voyage and a prosperous time across the pond.

The forms of the builder and his men have "loomed large" during the past week within the portals of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, where considerable structural alterations and additions are being made in the warehousing and general packing departments, in view of the impending winter campaign, which, if present portents are any criterion, should be a heavy and striking one in the history of this go-ahead and successful young firm.

The 481st meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Fred Herbert presiding. Other members present were Messrs. J. W. Vendome, Fred Neiman, Chas. Gardener, Fred Griffiths, Harry Freeman, Geo. Preston, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Mr. A. Humphrey, of the Railway Hotel, Sheerness-on-Sea, was appointed as agent in that town. A number of questions regarding refunds and claims for insurance were considered and dealt with. It was decided to postpone the date of the annual general meeting until Tuesday, Oct. 23, and that it should be held at the Empire, Camberwell. The election of the chairman was adjourned. The weekly statement of receipts and expenditure was submitted and was passed as read.

Undoubtedly, the song which will be most in demand with pantomime producers this year is "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you," by Lawrance and Mellor. Early as it is in the year, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company have had hundreds of applications for the pantomime rights; and their other great success, "Widow Doolin," by J. F. Lambe, so successfully sung by Pat Casey, is also in great pantomime demand, having already been secured for Hull, Sheffield, Crystal Palace, and many other places.

A most charming song, the words and melody of which are both from the accomplished pen of Mr. J. F. Lambe, is that which bears the pretty title, "Queen of Old Samara." Both Miss Alice Lloyd and Miss Alexandra Dagmar will exploit this number in the music halls; whilst one of our most accomplished musical comedy actresses is arranging to specially feature it in a forthcoming new musical play at a West End theatre in the near future. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company are issuing the song.

"When the band played the 'Men of Harlech'" is being eagerly snapped up by principal boys for pantomime this year, it being readily conceded that Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford's striking song, with which Miss Alexandra Dagmar has achieved such a signal success, is indubitably "the" patriotic march-song of the year. The Emlyn Jones Quintette are specially introducing it into their fine act representative of the different peoples of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Ernest Shand has been busy among the trout in the Isle of Man, where seven beauties, weighing six pounds, fell to his rod. Like other stars of variety, the popular comedian is an enthusiastic motorist, and has just finished a fifteen weeks' tour of the Moss Empires on his 10-h.p. Wolseley car. He has made arrangements to go to America in the spring.

Percy Curry, a vocalist, engaged at the Hippodrome, Preston-street, Hulme, was charged on the 14th with employing, without a licence, Edward Clarke, a boy under fourteen years of age, to take part in an entertainment on the stage ofter 10 p.m., on the 4th inst. The evidence showed that the boy's parents resided near the theatre. On the afternoon of the 4th inst. the lad Clarke was going to school in Upper Jackson-street, Hulme, when the defendant met him and asked him how old he was, to which he replied, "Fourteen last March." The defendant then asked him to come to the stage door of the theatre that evening, and engaged him to take part in a performance two nights during the week for 4s. As a matter of fact the lad was only thirteen last March, and the defendant said he had been grossly misled by the boy, who had further promised to bring his birth certificate to the theatre in the evening. The Bench fined the defendant 1s. and costs. Defendant: I am much obliged to you, gentlemen.

Miss Vesta Victoria has accepted a new song by that well-known pantomime author Fred Bowyer, entitled "When Millie tied her shoe up in the Strand." The music is by Mr. J. W. Tate, composer of "In Barcelona" and just a few other songs, and Miss Victoria will sing it on her return to town.

Among the autumn novelties of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter is a remarkably fine song, by Harry Castling and Bennett Scott, entitled "All that glitters isn't gold." It has been a great draw in the hands of Miss Dora Lyric.

Another number of which much will be heard at pantomime time is "Boy Blue." Mr. David Day is placing it on the market, and as a march song it will more than hold its own with the best America can send us. Both the words and music are by Harry Castling, and there is a keen demand for the work.

Mr. Harry Randall has lately secured two characteristic comic songs from the pen that has so often done him yeoman service, to wit, that of T. W. Connor. This favourite writer published during the current week with Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter a remarkably fine chorus song, entitled "Won't they be glad to see me now my ship's come home!" It will be the beau ideal of a principal boy's song, Whittington especially.

Mr. George Andrews, the acting-manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre, has been promoted to a similar position at the Newcastle-on-Tyne Empire, where he will commence his duties on Monday next. Mr. Andrews will leave the Leicester Palace amid many regrets. He has made a host of friends, and has gained the goodwill of the staff both before and behind the curtain.

Miss Ada Reeve concludes her engagement at the Tivoli on Saturday next. For Monday, Oct. 1, Mr. Joseph Wilson promises the reappearance at the cosy house in the Strand of "The Follies," who will present an entirely new skit, the nature of which may be gathered from the title, *The Bath Bun, or, The Crash of the Season*. The novelty is divided into two scenes, the first representing the bathroom and the second the bun-shop.

Mr. Wilson Hallett has opened at the Alhambra Theatre, New York, and scored a big success. He thinks the work exceptionally hard—every afternoon and evening, Sundays included—and the first week the strain was so great that he almost lost his voice. He has been offered most tempting salaries.

Those diverting musical people, "The Gems," have made such an emphatic success on the Keith Circuit and in New York that they have already been re-engaged by Mr. Keith to return to New York at the finish of their tour of sixteen weeks for a further period of two weeks. They open with Mr. Stoll for his tour at the Hackney Empire on January 28, 1907.

At the Alhambra on Monday will appear the most characteristic troupe of singers and dancers in all Russia—the Aquamarinoffs. The Urbanora entertainment will also be revised by the inclusion of several lengthy films illustrating the natural wonders of Canada.

Mr. Pat Doherty, looking the picture of perfect health, has just been welcomed back to London by hosts of friends after his recent visit to New York. He will be in harness on the halls again immediately.

Miss Daisy Dormer has in preparation a new song, written and composed by Harry M. Wellmon, entitled "My Kaffir Queen." This song will be published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have just secured for publication George Formby's latest success, "He hit me on the bo-ko with my wang-ee." It is written and composed by Mr. Will Hyde.

Mr. Bert Coote's well-known Irish-Indian troupes are featuring, both in music halls and in his *Fatal Wedding* companies, the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Co.'s coon song "Honey, won't you stop teasing me?"

Dalton's Agency is now established in more commodious premises at 29 Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester. "Monday next" is to be a feature of the future working of this up-to-date firm.

Frank and Jen Latona are in the Hackney Empire bill. Jen Latona, mistress of pianoforte technique and sweet singer, was originally known as Jennie Gabrielle, and with her husband has toured the world three times. They have played in the Antipodes, in Egypt, in South Africa, all through the British Isles, on the Continent, in Russia, and through Asia. Mrs. Latona was born in Birmingham, England, and her home is but two or three houses distant from that of Joseph Chamberlain. Her family have frequently attended garden parties at Highbury. Mr. Latona is an American, a native of Frankfort, Minnesota, a town, which, as he sadly confesses, is not on the maps. He was playing in Nottingham six years ago, when he met his wife. Then began the romance which has lasted to this day, for the Latonas are among the most domestic of professional people. They have bought a home in Birmingham, and there they go annually for their summer vacation.

Mr. Walter Graham, the "Human Marionette," to whose success at the London Pavilion in his miniature extravaganza, *Neptune's Grotto*, we referred last week, has hitherto done his own bookings. In future he will be represented by Mr. George Barclay, who has now become his business agent.

Owing to the success of Miss Edith Grenfell's sketch, *A Case for Recission*, which was tried at the Richmond Theatre a few days back, it will go into the regular programme there on Oct. 1.

At the South-West London Police-court on Tuesday application was made to Mr. de Grey for a license to permit a little girl named Maudie Francis, aged 13, daughter of Mr. Nelson Francis, to perform twice nightly at the Duchess Music Hall, Balham. Inspector Hodges, who had the inquiry in hand, informed his worship that, although the child had been licensed many times before, permission to play had, however, been twice refused on the ground that there were not four hours' rest between the child's two performances. The mother expressed an opinion that the four hours' interval did not apply. Moreover, that regulation was really made for theatres and not music halls. Mr. de Grey said he thought a two hours' rest sufficient, and the licence was granted. Maudie has appeared during the week, and has scored a great success with "Santa Claus."

At the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday, Bro. 1226 was elected to the chair. The members present were 119, 115, 1226, 202, 595, 1156. A letter was read from Messrs. Cadle Bros., acknowledging the receipt of the Arbitration Committee's official decision, and thanking the lodge for its courtesy and attention. A letter from Mr. Judge enclosed the translation of the Petition to the Board of Agriculture with regard to the quarantine for dogs. The Legal Committee for the month was then chosen, and it was agreed that the meeting of the Executive Committee (London) should be held at 11 o'clock on Tuesday, at the London office, to discuss matters of urgent internal importance.

By kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. John Lawson, Mr. Lennox Barry, manager of the Hounslow Hippodrome, is organising a benefit matinée to be held at that hall, on Wednesday next, in aid of Mrs. Coker, the afflicted mother of the poor boy James Coker, who died at the Hounslow Hospital on Friday, the 14th, as a result of being knocked down by a motor-car in the High-street, Hounslow. The mother's sad loss is made more distressing by the fact that she has within the short space of three months lost both her husband and two other children, and is at present in a condition which prevents her from following her occupation—that of a field-worker. Mr. Barry has communicated these facts to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, who has graciously consented to give her patronage. Mr. Barry will be glad to hear from any artists willing to give their services.

Mr. Ottley Cranston, who is cast for the principal part in *Burning to Sing*, to be produced at the Empire on Monday evening, has been hitherto known as an operatic and concert vocalist. Born in Yorkshire, and one of the few singers who are entirely self-taught, his big répertoire includes nearly all the Handelian works, the *Elijah*, and the great parts of Wotan, in *Die Walküre*, the King in *Lohengrin*, and Mephistopheles in *Faust*. A long tour in the United States with Mr. Henry W. Savage's opera company gave Mr. Cranston the opportunity to make his name as an exceptionally fine bass in the most critical cities on "the other side."

Mr. Charles McNaughton has made a big "hit" in *The Belle of Mayfair* with "Skyland," the pointed and witty verses of which "go" with great *éclat*. Mr. Harrington is preparing for the Monte Carlo Publishing Company a round dozen of new and original up-to-date topical verses for "Skyland," which will be shortly issued for pantomime.

The Oxford announces for Monday the special engagement of Mr. Arthur Roberts and company in an entirely new and original tabloid comedy, by Harry Pleon, entitled, *The Woman Who Was*. The cast includes Miss Ruby Celeste as Mme. Eleisé, a costumier; Mr. Chris. Van Bern as Lord Boodle; Miss Flo Darley as Lady Boodle; Miss Jessica Burgwitz as Dina Chetwynd; Miss A. Corday as Lizette Asbestos, a Casino girl; and Mr. Arthur Roberts as Adam Fair, a Don Juan. The scene of the comedy is the Bon Marché, and the time early closing.

"There's a Man in Manitoba," the meteoric march song by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton, is creating something of a record. The number of applications received to sing this song is unprecedented, and before many weeks have passed the country will be ringing with this undoubtedly catchy chorus.

The Murphy-Lipton alliance has this week sold to Francis, Day, and Hunter a beautiful little song of the "bogey" order, entitled "It is the Scarecrow," which should rival the same writers' "Run, run, you little ones."

Miss Victoria Monks has in study, and will produce on her return to the Tivoli, a new coon song by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton, the writers of her great hits "Ain't I no use, Mr. Jackson?" and "Ain't you gwine ter say 'How do?'"

Mr. Harry Lester, the secretary of the Terriers' Association, wishes to state that he has received a cheque for £2 10s. as a grant to the widow and children of the late J. Dee Humphreys, from the secretary of the Masonic Lodge, No. 102, Glasgow, with which he was formerly connected. This amount has been handed over to the widow.

Cinquevalli, the unrivalled and inimitable, has been secured for a number of weeks to appear in New York and other cities of the United States. Then the famous juggler will go to the Winter Gardens, Berlin, for one month, finally returning to London to fulfil a two years' engagement at the syndicate halls, opening at the Tivoli, Oxford, and other halls of the Payne Circuit. The art of Paul Cinquevalli is cosmopolitan in its aspects, and appeals with equal force to peer or peasant.

Mr. Harry Leamar has been successful in booking the leading feature at the Crystal Palace on *Mirror* Day (to-day), namely, Don Pedro, a high-wire artist of exceptional ability, who has never before been seen in this country. We may also add that Mr. Leamar has engaged W. H. Chappell, the late secretary to Mr. J. C. Coe, proprietor of the Hammersmith Palace, who will join his staff on Monday.

Mr. Fitzroy Gardner, the late acting-manager of the Palace Theatre, was the recipient on the evening of the 14th inst. of several gifts testifying to the high regard in which he was held by the staff. In the absence of the managing-director, Mr. Alfred Butt, who was called away on urgent business, Mr. T. Miller, the treasurer, asked Mr. Gardner to accept a handsomely-fitted dressing-bag, and also a writing-case. In making the presentation, Mr. Miller said, "The staff were unanimous in their desire to pay a tribute to one whom they held in the greatest regard and esteem, and they hoped that Mr. Gardner would live many years to add to his managerial successes. Mr. Herman Finck, the conductor, added a few words of goodwill and fellowship. In acknowledging the presentation, Mr. Gardner said he always regarded the staff of the Palace as a kind of happy family—a family that was founded by the late Mr. Charles Morton, whose example he had always endeavoured to follow. The gifts would remain in his possession for all time, and would remind him—though it was hardly necessary—of their kindness and consideration.

Don Juan Caicedo's engagement at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield, this week, has been a most gratifying success. The artist's prestige as the "King of the wire" had preceded him, and his fine act has evoked the heartiest enthusiasm of crowded houses during the week.

The absence of Little Tich, through a severe cold, has let in Mr. Dan Thomas at the Metropolitan, where audiences have taken very kindly to the deputy. Mr. Thomas, it will be remembered, made a decided hit in the halls last Christmas as the Widow Twankey in the miniature pantomime *Aladdin*.

Mlle. Audre Corday, who was specially engaged by Mr. Arthur Roberts to create a French part in his new sketch, *The Woman Who Was*, made a big success at the Hippodrome, Brighton, on Monday, September 17.

Rosherville Gardens was *en fête* on Wednesday night, the occasion being the third anniversary and the benefit of the popular Mr. A. E. Radcliffe, the lessee and manager. Soon after dusk, in spite of threatening weather, the gardens were thronged with visitors. The illuminations were much admired, and everything had been done by the indefatigable manager to make the evening the success it turned out to be. Mr. George Manning, the well-known agent, was kept busy in putting on the numerous turns that so kindly obliged. From London came Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Flo Raynor, Messrs. J. Prior, Little Zola, and Frank Carson. The Zaro Troupe came to render homage to the management under which they had made successful appearances this season. Over twenty other turns appeared. At the close of the proceedings Mr. Radcliffe was presented with a diamond pin from his staff. The gardens are now closed for the season.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

On the boards of the Palace Theatre have been seen many of the leading favourites of the theatres; but no début on the lesser stage has excited greater interest among both theatre-goers and variety-lovers than that of Miss Marie Tempest, who made her bow on Monday to one of the most brilliant audiences ever assembled in the beautiful house. Since she has left the realms of musical comedy and found her public as a comedienne, it is but seldom that she has been heard as a singer on the theatre boards, the last time she sang a song in public being at the Duke of York's during the recent revival of *The Marriage of Kitty*. On making her appearance she was welcomed with considerable warmth. That Miss Tempest was nervous was at once discovered by her rendering of the opening phrases of "Forethought," in which she was accompanied by the composer, Mr. Frank Lambert, but she warmed to her work in the charming melody of "Speak but one word," one of the same composer's most graceful numbers, to which an organ obbligato—which, by the way, was beautifully played on Monday—has been written. Miss Tempest sang with great purity of tone and with much feeling. In a lighter vein was "Les Filles de Cadix," by Léo Délibes, composer of the ballet *Coppelia*, now being played at the Empire. The aria, so full of gaiety, is a happy inspiration on the part of the composer, and the singer infused the lightsome spirit of mirth into her rendering, the difficulties of roulade and trill being overcome with consummate ease. The orchestral accompaniment requires the daintiest handling, and Mr. Herman Finck's fine orchestra under his clever direction played *con amore*. The insistent demands for an encore impelled the singer to add to the length of her turn by a beautiful rendering of Zeller's song, "The Nightingale." Her success was great, and if her advent to the variety stage results in a higher standard of ballad-singing, much impetus will be give to the upward march of the halls towards musical excellence. That it is still necessary to clown while playing the fiddle is discovered during the stay of the Dumonds, a trio of artistic performers, whose music as *menestrels de la rue* affords unfeigned satisfaction. Among them is a violinist of surpassing merit—a virtuoso such as one might expect to hear at a Queen's Hall concert; but he evidently considers it a *sine qud non* of his performance that he should wear a battered hat and other habiliments that suggest the tramp musician.

A decidedly clever combination of attractive womanhood is found in the Schutzenlieslu Quartet, four German girls, whose sweet voices blend in an artistic rendering of the melody "Violets." Le Domino Rouge—whose personality we may say, *en passant*, is well known to the *cognoscenti* in variety circles—continues her sensational turn of toe-dancing before mirrors, the presentation of her act with its wonderful lighting being a masterpiece in modern stage effect. The mysterious masked and supple-figured *terpsichoréenne* dances her final number to the tune of "Maxixe," imported from Paris, which is of the very essence of Gallic gaiety.

The fun of the bill is largely contributed to by John E. Coyle, a comedian of much quaintness, who has recently been winning success on the Rand. Carlton, the manipulator of cards, also has a fund of droll patter while performing many deft tricks. Perhaps the funniest interlude in the programme is the skit *The Would-be Actors*, in which it is real fun to hear Mr. Carter Livesey give instructions to two stage aspirants in a dialect of broad Yorkshire. Miss Lilian Rosebery, as the distressed heroine, whose offspring is represented by a sofa cushion, adds greatly to the mirth evoked by this amusing interlude, and Mr. Albert Mason may also be complimented on his share in the success. Clarice Mayne, comedienne, rises from the ruck of imitators by singing original songs in the differing styles of the leading lady variety stars, and her realisations of such favourites as Marie Lloyd and Vesta Victoria are readily recognised. Miss Mayne's songs are accompanied by Mr. J. W. Tate, their composer, who does his work exceedingly well. The Palace Girls, as alert, as jolly, as pretty, and as well dressed as ever, dance and manœuvre in the true Tilleresque fashion; the Darras Brothers are a pair of fine acrobats; and other turns named on the programme are Dennis Drew, vocalist; Fred Dunstone, with parodies and patter; and Miss May Gurney, vocalist. The Bioscope presents a series of fine films of the recent International Boat Race between Harvard and Cambridge, and a pretty little photographic story of animal sagacity is told in "Black Beauty."

THE METROPOLITAN.

Of a joyous nature is the programme presented at this popular house by Mr. Jack Edgar, who, like other managers of the town, is feeling the benefit in his receipts of the autumnal weather, and rejoices in the view of serried ranks of supporters from the stalls to the topmost gallery. It is curious to watch the attitude of the house towards Miss Ada Reeve. Her delightful little idyl, "June," has a poetic flavour that might be thought a little beyond the comprehension of the "gods," but it becomes quite apparent to the observer that "Bill" and "'Arriet" aloft can appreciate a bit of sentiment quite as well as Algernon and Maude in the stalls. It is, however, in the humorous verses which dwell on the indefinite extension of woman's sphere that the accomplished comedienne meets with her greatest success, and she gives encore after encore until she has no more verses to sing. The proper sphere for the weaker sex is a subject capitally illustrated in Miss Kittie Rayburn's song "Woman's Rights." Here is no suffragette, armed with a mission and an umbrella; no seeker after notoriety in the Police Court; no screeching petticoated orator in the parks, ridiculed by contemptuous crowds, but just a woman with the truest sense of her proper place in the world. She requires no vote in Parliament, but as queen of the home—woman's kingdom—she is content. Though there is a touch of sentiment—quite of the healthiest kind—underlying the verses, Miss Rayburn treats the song in the lighter vein, and its swinging chorus, in march-time, is eagerly caught up in every part of the house, the singer being several times recalled at its conclusion. "Oh, you superior men!" is another successful item in the budget of Miss Rayburn, who looks chic and fascinating in a very pretty costume, with hat to match. Miss Dolly Harmer, who disguises herself as an elderly suffragette, appeals, as Mrs. Scroggins, a champion of female franchise. For half-hearted measures Mrs. S. does not feel the slightest sympathy; why should not they wear the trousers? Why not, indeed! Many a philosopher asserts that many of them do without the law's sanction. In a second essay, Miss Harmer displays a bright versatility and a sense of character in her clever imitations of the various contributors to the music-hall entertainment—the comedian, the coon singer, &c.—and is loudly applauded.

A novelty in the programme is *Dan, the Outlaw*, presented by Mr. Herbert Shelley, who has in this his latest production struck out a new line for himself. Dan has been accused of the murder of Lord Kinsale, and circumstantial evidence being strong against him, he leaves old Ireland, and takes service under Lord Cornwallis, the generalissimo of King George III.'s troops, who are endeavouring to quash the rebellion which eventually resulted in the establishment of the American Republic. Dan, having distinguished himself at the battle of Lexington, returns to Erin's Isle, and finds in the old post-office, Rathmines, in the county of Dublin, the fully drawn-out confession of the murder of Lord Kinsale, signed by Wolfe Marco, the crafty and villainous old postmaster. The dénouement may easily be guessed, and virtue's triumph is aided by the suicide of the real culprit. Mr. Herbert Shelley adopts subtle disguisings, and plays very effectively the characters of the old postmaster, the redcoat who hunts down political and other suspects, and the title-rôle. It is in the last-mentioned part that he gets his best effects, scoring most unmistakably in an emigrant song, which breathes forth in its verses the true Hibernian patriotism. The story is effectively told, and the dramatic climax well led up to. *Dan, the Outlaw*, indeed, should find popularity everywhere.

Early in the evening Mr. Charles F. Best appears as "MacBunker, the Mountebank," a fellow of infinite jest, with a nice derangement, too, of acrobatic and bending tricks that prove him to be not only a fun-maker, but a smart and accomplished acrobat. MacBunker performs in front of a show caravan very similar to those seen during the festive season at the Agricultural Hall. There are, it is true, little touches of burlesque in the paintings and legends displayed on the front, and the property bulldog and lay figure of a countryman are important aids to Mr. Best in his successful and mirthful incident. We anticipate a very prosperous career for MacBunker, whose wild extravagance just touches the right note. Mr. G. W. Hunter, a quaint raconteur, has a capital song on the Press. Mr. Dan Thomas, who entertained on the night of our visit, is not in the regular programme, but scored most unmistakably in a female impersonation. Miss Lilian Elfreda, who mimics Marie Lloyd, Kate Carney, and Gus Elen, also introduces successfully a reminiscence of Miss Bessie Wentworth, in the form of one of that lamented artist's coon ditties. Jimson's novelty sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*, is illustrated with some low comedy, and the interest of it is further enhanced by the introduction of a trained St. Bernard, who nobbles the cracksman at the conclusion of the trifle. Other turns on the bill are Miss Eva Kelland, the "Australian Girl"; the Cape Girls; the Rinaldo Trio; Miss Gracie Taylor; Mr. Frank Gee; Mr. Billy Williams; and Little Tich.

THE EMPRESS.

The season has set in with the utmost severity at the Empress, and every evening of the week the elegant house has been packed to its fullest extent, standing-room being difficult to obtain. Foremost in the scheme of amusement which Mr. Nelson Francis has framed is the "feu-de-joie," *The Duchess of Tooting*, which has only recently been introduced to London. The piece has all the best features of musical comedy, sparkling melodies, funny dialogue, and skilful dancing, and the very most is made of their opportunities by the members of the cast, with the result that the audience is kept in the merriest humour. The rôle of the young wife is played with engaging vivacity by Miss Josie Farrington, who sings in cultured style. The real Duchess of Tooting is invested with stately grace by Miss Dora Heritage, and Peter, the page, has an alert and brisk exponent in Miss Rhoda Paul. Fun is created by Mr. Eric Dalvere as the pretended Duchess, whose difficulties in disposing of her dress are the occasion of roars of laughter. Mr. Ernest Spalding is a typical exponent of the self-made millionaire, and a dashing and vigorous performance of his son Charles is given by Mr. Henry Latimer. An agreeable feature of the piece is the pas de quatre danced by a troupe of comely ladies, and the choruses are rendered in a manner that helps valuably towards the success achieved.

A sketch of a no less inspiring character is that of *The Sioux*, which is notable for the impersonation of an ape given by Mr. Arthur Conquest. Early training and constant practise have combined to make Mr. Conquest's animal impersonations of surpassing excellence, and his performance of the faithful Chadi is perhaps his most finished essay. Every characteristic of the species is copied with unswerving fidelity, and it is little wonder that at the end of the eloquent death-scene the house, which has been moved alternately to laughter and tears, should display its admiration in long-sustained cheers.

An element of novelty is infused into the programme by the illusions of Nero Bianco, which are presented in the shape of a sketch. A mysterious barrel has been found floating in the sea by a fisherman, who also discovers in the interior of a fish a roll of parchment which explains how a beautiful sea-nymph may be produced from the barrel. The idea is soon put into practice. Thin paper is placed over the top and bottom of the empty cask, a strong light reveals a figure moving within the barrel, and presently a prepossessing maiden breaks the paper covering and steps forth. The lady is then placed inside a cabinet built up in full view of the audience, and afterwards raised several feet from the ground. The door of the box is then opened, and the lady is found to have disappeared, only to emerge immediately afterwards from among the audience. The illusions are smartly effected, and leave the audience in a pleasing state of bewilderment.

The bill this week is rich in comedians, among whom Mr. Will Evans makes an early bid for laughter with his amusing skit, *The Invasion of 1910*. It is one of the most ludicrous sketches the inimitable comedian has ever produced, and the grotesque incidents with which it is crowded keep the audience in a state of continued hilarity. Mr. Edwin Boyde adds to the merriment of the evening by his parody on "The shade of the old apple-tree," the delivery of which causes roars of laughter. A rousing reception awaits Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon. His songs of sentiment go straight to the hearts of the audience, and are rendered with irresistible force by the singer. The refrain of "My baby, tell me true," is a lilting one, and its tunefulness, as well as that of "My Havanah Queen," is made thoroughly manifest by Mr. Elliott, who has to respond to many recalls.

The whimsicalities of Miss Nellie Wallace are effectively employed in the refrain, "Where are you going, my pretty maid?" while "The cottage with the roses round the door" affords a further medium for the drollery of the comedienne, whose performance is accompanied by a constant ripple of laughter. Mr. Walter Stanley relies upon "Wait till I get as old as father" for creating amusement, of which he secures a liberal amount, and the satire of "I'm glad I live in England," which has been replenished with some new verses, is the cause of a similar diversion. A comedy sketch, entitled *The Hunt*, gives Terry and Bentley an excuse for appearing in the costume of the hunting field, to sing, dance, and deliver amusing patter. The lady exercises a pretty voice in a ballad and displays her skill in some neat steps, while her partner indulges in various difficult contortions. His latest feat is to walk up a rope-ladder minus the rungs, a performance which wins the greatest admiration. Woodhouse and Wells gain the ear of the audience for their droll conversation; Oakley and James supply a tit-bit of everything to the evident delight of the audience; Miss Emma Don and troupe appear in a clever vocal scena; and the programme, to which Miss Lily Lena also contributes acceptably, is concluded by a series of Ruffell's pictures. The orchestra still pursues its melodious way under the skilled direction of Mr. Robert Allington, and the presence of the acting manager, Mr. Francis Winchcombe, ensures perfect order at the front of the house.

MANAGER A. HUBNER sailed on Wednesday per s.s. Majestic for the States, in connection with the visit to America of Amer's Band, which opens at Philadelphia on Oct. 5. This combination of musicians will form a thoroughly representative British military concert band.

MLLE. GHITA CORRI.

Mlle. Ghita Corri, who commences her autumn tour of the halls at the Palace, Glasgow, on Oct. 1, is one of the few ladies in the profession who are equally renowned and successful in grand opera, in oratorio, on the concert platform, and in vaudeville; a truly startling and well-contrasted list.

The daughter of the late Henry Corri—leading baritone at Covent Garden, and for many years baritone of the famous Pyne and Harrison Company—who was deservedly equally famous as a character-actor and as an operatic vocalist, and of Mme. Ida Gilliess Corri, late prima donna of the Paris Opera and of Covent Garden, she was trained by her parents from her earliest childhood for the operatic stage; and when, in April, 1899, she joined the Royal Carl Rosa Company in London as prima donna, she had already a répertoire of thirty-five operas (in Italian, French, German, and English) and of over 100 of the principal oratorios and cantatas; besides a big concert reputation from her Crystal Palace appearances and provincial tours while yet in her teens with Hallé, Joachim, Foli, Holliman, Janotha, &c.

She has the rare distinction of having been accompanied by Paderewski in "Let the Bright Seraphim" at the Crystal Palace, and was the first person in any country to give with her own opera company full performances of grand opera *al fresco*—at the Alexandra Palace, under Mr. John Henderson's management, four years ago.

In Coronation year the late Charles Morton engaged Mlle. Corri over 300 others to sing her own patriotic song, "Coronation," at the Palace Theatre, as the national feature there; and of late the halls have claimed her almost exclusively. During the past ten months she has fulfilled no fewer than four engagements at the Lyceum, and has appeared at the Adney Payne and Macnaghten halls in London; also on the Barrasford, Macnaghten, and Brill and Graydon tours in the provinces, and in every case her charming quick-change song-scenas with her brilliant vocalisation and delightfully dashing acting, have ranked among the very strongest of the leading managerial attractions. Her voice is that present-day *rara avis*, a ringing and voluminous dramatic soprano, having the phenomenal range of three octaves and five notes—from the low bass G to

MISS GHITA CORRI AS "SEMIRAMIDE."

E *in alt*—entirely without a break; and she can sustain, augment, or diminish at will every note in this vast compass; while her vocalisation, trills, and cadenzas are startling in their purity and volume of tone.

Mlle. Corri tells us she believes in a healthy, outdoor life—in rowing, walking, and mountaineering. Her other recreations are etching and composing; and many of her songs have been bought by Francis, Day and Hunter, &c. In private life, she is the wife of Mr. Neville Lynn, the dramatist and founder of Lynn's Acting Edition of plays, whose four-act drama, *Geoffrey Stirling*, is now enjoying a long and successful provincial tour with Mr. Henry Doughty's fine company.

Asked as to her future plans, Mlle. Corri announced her intention of sticking to the halls. "One has grand audiences there," she says, "and they love good singing and bright and dramatic acting"; and she is at present booking her latest song-scena, "Waiting!" (in which she impersonates an English girl of 1770, and a dashing Spanish cigarette-maker of to-day, in the latter introducing a haunting Spanish melody that has been the rage in Madrid and Cadiz) well ahead, both in London and in the provinces; while Christmas will most probably see her at a well-known theatre as principal boy, a rôle for which her superb figure and abundant dash and high spirits pre-eminently fit her.

In her busy life she has had many funny experiences, and the following may interest our readers as not the least humorous of her encounters with strange beings in Stage-land. Once when travelling with her own opera company abroad, she "struck" a town where the local manager knew less about music and operas than he did of his own theatre. Meeting her at the station, he flourished a *Faust* play-bill frantically in her face, crying, "Madam, you 'ave broke your contract wid me. I am ruined." "How?" asked the astounded Mlle. Corri. "'Ave you not signed wid me to play all de principal parts yourself, and 'ere, in dis bill you 'ave broke it. It say, 'Faust, Signor Carilio!' and Faust is the principal part, which I 'ave engaged and pay *you* for to play. Aha! but I vill 'ave 'eavy damages!" It took a long time to convince this musically ignorant manager that a soprano sang Marguerite, which was one of the principal parts of the opera *Faust*.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your Plymouth notice of the Pier Pavilion, your correspondent gave my name as Harry Payne. It should have been—yours faithfully.—HARVEY RAYNE, "The Comets."

THE latest contributions to the "Fred Locke" Fund, received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, are as follow:—G. W. Hunter, £1, and W. Abercrombie (second donation), 2s. 6d.

MR. GUSTAV KERKER, whose *Belle of New York* music has attained world-wide fame, arrives from America this week, and will conduct the musical satire, *Burning to Sing*, at its first performance at the Empire on Monday. The principal parts in *Burning to Sing* will be sustained by Miss Anna Hickisch and Mr. Ottley Cranston.

AT the meeting of the Brighton Town Council on Thursday afternoon it was decided to apply for a provisional order to let the Aquarium on a lease for thirty-three years, and that pending the reply from the Local Government Board the Aquarium should be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from October 1 at popular prices. It was also decided to keep open the shooting saloons till such time as a tenant could be obtained.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

One of the most novel features in the current programme at the Hackney Empire is the artistic entertainment entitled *Beauty in Brass*, furnished by the trio known as the Three Olympiers. This purports to be a series of studies from the classics, portraying by means of living beings replicas of some of the great masters' most beautiful bronze sculptural figures. The living statue is familiar enough, but the live bronze figure may be regarded as a distinct artistic novelty. The poses assumed include the Quoit Thrower, Might makes Right, the Quarrelling Brothers, the Wrestlers, the Battle, and a number of classic subjects, concluding with The Kiss of Victory. The posing is very cleverly done, the effect being artistic in the extreme. This classical novelty has been well received by Hackney audiences, who evidently appreciate a turn which would be attractive to the most fastidious art critic.

But while the claims of Art—spelt with a big A—should not go unrecognised in a judiciously-arranged variety programme, it is of much greater importance that the audience should have an excellent excuse for hearty merriment. The Hackney bill is by no means deficient in this important particular, for Thalia has devoted servants in the members of the well-known Albert and Edmunds troupe. They appear in an exceedingly lively piece called *Neighbours*, consisting of two scenes. The first represents the exterior of a row of villas. Into a vacant house a family have just removed; and all the fun arises from the fact that the next-door neighbours are a very rough lot without the slightest consideration for those who have the misfortune to reside in the adjoining house. The lady head of the family is known in the neighbourhood as "a terror"; of whom her husband—a little man—stands much in awe; and she is, too, the mother of a number of noisy ill-behaved brats, whose arrival home from school is a dreaded event. The second scene discloses the back gardens of the respective houses; and the new arrivals, who have a meek and mild curate as a guest, are aroused to an acute pitch of exasperation by the "goings on" of their terrible neighbours, whose frequent quarrels generally result in violent personal encounters. A climax is reached when a workman, who has been commissioned to carry out some building repairs, arrives, and ascends to the roof by means of a ladder. A flirtation between the workman and the tenant's wife, discovered by means of telltale shadows on the blind, leads to terrifying results, a fight taking place between the jealous husband and the amorous workman. A dummy horse and a property dog are conspicuous objects in the scene, and the former manages to bring destruction upon the wall separating the two gardens. An elopement between a young naval officer and his sweetheart is prevented at the last moment by the collapse of the four-wheeler which has been hired for the occasion, and the curtain falls upon a scene of indescribable disorder and riot. *Neighbours* is an exhilarating piece of harmless fun, and excellently serves the purposes of the troupe, all the members of which work exceedingly hard in the cause of mirth.

Frank and Jen Latona in their musical act cleverly combine skilful execution with genuine humour. The lady, besides being a brilliant pianist, sings comic songs to her own accompaniment in a manner that proclaims her a real artist. The instrumental duets of the pair are also received with much favour; and deservedly so. Mr. George Brookes is a comedian with a quaint style of his own, and his ditties, "Turn on the water" and "There's another one out of work" are very successful contributions. Another favourite is Mr. Billy Farrell, whose patter makes everybody laugh. The Imperial Russian Troupe, with their distinctive national songs and dances, meet with a very cordial reception. Brett and Orford appear in their well-known sketch, in which the lady impersonates a City man's typewriter; their duet, "Sweethearts just the same," is greatly appreciated. Miss Ray Wallace with her imitations of popular comediennes of both the regular and variety stage, scores just as easily and as surely as ever. The New Macs, with smart patter and a clever dance, win a highly favourable verdict, and Miss Lizzie Daniels, comedienne, and the Sisters Dorrell, duettists and dancers, also secure flattering receptions. Well deserving of mention are the valuable services rendered by Mr. John Christie as acting-manager, Mr. W. E. Higgett as his assistant, and Mr. Walter Johnson as musical director.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

The astute and always courteous manager here, Mr. Kay Draco, appears to possess a veritable Pandora's box; week after week his bill is filled with good things, and "loathed melancholy" has no place within the portals of Richmond's dainty theatre. This week, among the many attractions provided, especial mention may be made of A. E. Uno, a comedian of merit and an excellent dancer to wit; Mr. Fred Nieman causes considerable merriment with his minstrels, and his ventriloquism is of a refined order. The twin Sisters Melba sing delightfully of love and fidelity, and also win approval as neat dancers. The havoc that a parrot can cause in domestic circles is capitally demonstrated in the sketch, entitled *Cockie*. Mr. Picton Roxburgh as the custodian of a special cat and Miss Fanny Wright as the guardian of the parrot are both highly diverting; of course, the green-eyed monster plays high jinks with husband and wife, but all ends happily, to the intense amusement and satisfaction of everyone.

Mr. F. R. Kinkee's excellent orchestra adds to the enjoyment of the programme, the selection from *Faust* being admirably rendered. Felino and Grata are at their best in a laughable absurdity, *The Stable Boy and His Horse*, the equine quadruped proving as intelligent and as amusing as his master. Miss Maud Prenton's contributions are vociferously applauded, her performance being a highly meritorious one. Excellent are Eddie Stidder and Gwennie Dunbar. They prove droll in the extreme, the latter looking quite charming as a Spanish *danseuse*, while the former's imitations on the piano and 'cello prove a legitimate success; a word of recognition is due to Miss Dunbar's terpsichorean efforts. Quite a clever couple are Stidder and Dunbar. Macdonald's Melody Makers merit their title; their contributions bear the stamp of refinement, while much is highly amusing.

As an "extra turn," Mr. Tom Lytton proved quite an acceptable addition; in his first item, "I didn't know," he detailed the woes of motoring, and followed it up by several good stories, which were much appreciated and applauded. Vernon's Bioscope continues to afford more than ordinary interest, the Harvard v. Cambridge Boat Race evoking hearty applause.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

With Mr. Lennox Barry at the head of affairs the Hounslow Hippodrome has taken a new lease of popularity, and crowded houses are again the rule. The programme opens with an excellently-performed overture, under the bâton of Mr. Rodin, the capable *chef d'orchestre*. Miss Beattie Bloom is quite successful with her clever impersonations. She sings first a ditty on "Contentment," and follows it up with an amusing song anent a runaway father. Quite a lot of fun does she get out of it, being heartily applauded. Wisper, a comedy juggler, does some clever hat balancing, and intersperses his tricks with some droll patter that is immensely enjoyed. As he naïvely remarks, he has "a style of his own," and promptly accentuates the fact by bringing on a country property stile, over which he ambles merrily. A popular engagement is that of the well-known Surrey cricketer, Mr. Fred Holland, who, for the nonce, has renounced the willow for the muse, and sings amazingly well. He is heard to much advantage in a nautical ditty breathing of patriotism and other matters dear to English hearts. In his second ditty he recalls the heroes of the fire brigade, and may be hailed as a vocalist of considerable promise. Miss Anderson and her company are a distinct acquisition to the programme. In a coster cake-walk duet with her sweetheart she evinces ability of no mean order; but the fun waxes furious in the Punch and Judy show, in which a member of her company, whose name does not appear on the bill, does some marvellous feats of agility. The Sisters Albert dance well, and win approval, their coon ditty, "In the springtime," being a meritorious effort. The Eight Snowflakes, a bevy of English maidens, give quite a good account of themselves, their singing being above the average. Much the same may be said of their terpsichorean performance. The turn is full of energy and poetry of motion. Jury's Bioscope gives a couple of canine scenes, in both of which the doggies display a unique sense of humour. Mr. Lennox Barry is untiring in his efforts in front of the house, and the entire programme reflects great credit upon him.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The Casey Circus, which is occupying pride of place in the bill this week, is not, as might be assumed, an animal act. Not a quadruped figures therein, the turn consisting entirely of knockabout burlesque business, and its success is dependent on the very absurdity of the thing. The lively gamins of Casey's Court have helped themselves at Mrs. Casey's theatrical properties emporium, and the curtain rises on a weird collection of animal impersonators and beings who join in a parade and otherwise disport themselves. All next appear as Zouaves in burlesque lightning drill, which is really amusing, and afterwards follow what might be termed the "side shows." Of these, the "Strong Man" exhibition by about the most attenuated specimen of mankind it were possible to obtain is most mirth-provoking. An extravagant skit on Dick Turpin's ride to York concludes the turn, and the performers, who are mostly juveniles, receive plenty of applause.

Ancillotti, with his thought-reading dog Pilu (most laudatorily described on the programme), is not responsible for anything startlingly new, but rather serves up an old trick in fresh form. Numerically arranged figures are attached to a form on the stage, and the dog, directed by his mentor from different parts of the auditorium, turns over those numbers chosen for various purposes by members of the audience, Ancillotti, a volatile Frenchman, adding amusement to the turn by his ejaculations of delight at each successful effort of the animal. Fred Russell appears with the inseparable "Coster Joe," and with a fund of fresh jokes is as popular as ever. Howard and St. Clair are a neat and experienced duo whose contribution to the programme is most enjoyable. The lady's fine vocalism, the dextrous dancing of both, and their merry quips and gags render their occupancy of the stage all too brief.

The more ease with which feats of skill and daring are performed the more simple do they appear to the lay mind, but it is impossible not to appreciate the ability of the Barowsky Trio in their balancing and tumbling act, attractively mounted, and entitled *In the Woods*, and the showers of applause with which they are greeted are bestowed most deservedly. Geo. Formby, "the comedian from Lancashire," cuts a quaint and amusing figure when he appears to sing "Walker walked away," and is equally successful with his second song, in which he imitates a cornet very cleverly. The Three Amaranths contribute a very adept display of acrobatic dancing, and the energetic efforts of these graceful young ladies are loudly applauded. Little Ganty compels laughter by his grotesque appearance as a dilapidated policeman, and he afterwards gives his familiar coon song burlesque with the happiest results. Madge May wins favour with an acceptable contribution; and the Bioscope pictures are watched with the keenest interest. The current programme commences with Auber's overture "Fra Diavolo," skilfully performed by the orchestra under the able guidance of Mr. Augustus Greco.

Mr. T. S. Mayne, the enterprising acting-manager, leaves nothing undone to conduce to the popularity of the theatre and the comfort of its patrons, and he has a very competent lieutenant in Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.

FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGES JACOBI.

The funeral of Mr. Georges Jacobi, the well-known musical composer and conductor, who died on the 13th ult., at the age of sixty-six, took place on Monday at Highgate (New) Cemetery. The funeral cortège, consisting of an open hearse, three mourning coaches, and several private carriages, started from the late residence of the deceased, 240, Camden-road, at noon. In the first carriage were Mr. Maurice Jacobi, Mr. Henri Jacobi (sons), Miss Jacobi, and Madame Pappa. The second carriage contained Mr. W. Hoare, Mr. Talbot Smart, Mr. Rene Landi, and Mrs. Maydwell. In the third carriage were Mr. Walter Slaughter, Mr. Allen Booth, Mr. Chas. Alias, Signor Carlo Coppi, and Mr. James Mortimer.

On arrival at the cemetery the first part of the funeral service was solemnised in the chapel, and in addition to the chief mourners there were present Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. George Byng, the leader, and other members of the Alhambra orchestra, Mr. George Scott, manager of the Alhambra, Mr. Ford, stage-manager, and Mr. Woodford, secretary, Mr. Joseph Cave, Mr. E. Donajowski, Mr. J. van Henvel, M. Huguenet, Mr. Ellis Roberts, Mr. J. Reynders, Mr. Roland Carse, Miss Katie Lee, Miss Minnie Thurgate, Mr. C. Blond Powell, Mr. W. Allcroft (Billy), the original call-boy, at Covent Garden Theatre, and others. The coffin, which was covered with floral tokens of esteem and regard, bore a silver plate, on which was inscribed the name of the deceased, and the dates of his birth and death. At the conclusion of the service at the graveside many of the deceased's old friends and associates in the musical world cast a last glance at the coffin and then turned sadly away.

Conspicuous among the floral contributions was one received from the Eccentric Club, of which the deceased was a popular member. Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Wenzel sent a large harp composed of flowers, and a similar token of affection came from the sons and daughters, "In loving remembrance of our dear father," Marguerite, Berthe, Maurice, Henri, Willie, Reni. On another wreath were the words, "In loving remembrance of our dear brother," Julie and Marguerite. Other wreaths were from the Alhambra Co., Ltd. ("With deepest sympathy"), Mr. and Mrs. Walter Slaughter, Mr. Edward German ("With sincere sympathy"), Signor C. Coppi, Mr. and Mrs. Lowenfeld, and E. Cogni, "From Geo. W. Byng and the gentlemen of the Alhambra Orchestra, with deepest sympathy"; the London Hippodrome Orchestra, Mr. Albert Cazabon, Mr. Emile S. Enoch ("From an old friend, with sincere sympathy"), M. and Madame Alias ("With sympathy and condolence), Miss Kate Santley ("With deepest sympathy"), Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Forde, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Finch ("With deepest sympathy"), M. De Jeanne, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Parry, Mrs. Payton and family, Mrs. Allen Booth; "With sorrow and deepest sympathy from Will and Alfred," "In loving memory, Francetta and Georges"; also from the grandsons, Jack, Leslie, and Teddie, Mr. E. Donajowski, Mr. G. Pappa, Miss Lily Earle, Mr. Hermann Finck, Mr. Harry Ulph, M. Huguenet, and others.

The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. William Beckett, of Highgate Hill.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—A hearty welcome awaited Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree after his two years absence, more especially as he brings one of his latest novelties, *Colonel Newcome*, in which he so successfully portrays the early Victorian characteristics of Thackeray's novel. Mr. Tree's Colonel Newcome is an artistic and finished study, to the most minute details, and the varying fortunes of that fine old English gentleman were followed with the sympathy and admiration of a large audience. Miss Constance Collier made a pretty and tenderly pathetic Ethel, and shared the honours of the evening. Mr. Charles Quartermaine as Cline was a handsome and manly figure, suitably contrasted with the vain Lord Farintosh of Mr. Sidney Brough, and the scheming Barnes Newcome of Mr. A. E. Benedict. Mr. Edmund Maurice as the brusque Fred Bayham acted well; Mr. G. W. Anson as De Boots gave a spice of comedy to the play; and the Pendennis of Mr. Reginald Owen was also worthy of praise. The various types of femininity were ably represented—the gushing Rosey of Miss Mary Sumner; the designing virago, Mrs. Mackenzie, as played by Miss Annie Schletter; the quaint old nurse by Mrs. E. H. Brooke; the querulous Lady Kew of Miss Muriel Alexander; and the well-played Madame de Florac of Mrs. Percival. The play was staged with that completeness which marks all Mr. Tree's productions. On the later evenings *Business is Business* was given, followed by *The Man Who Was*, and by special request the bill has been altered to include *Trilby* on Saturday night, with Miss Collier in the title-part and Mr. Tree as the weird Svengali.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliott and company are here, attracting crowded houses nightly. They opened with *Hamlet* on the first two nights, Mr. Forbes Robertson playing the title-part, in which he gives a vivid delineation of all the varying moods swaying the crime-shocked Prince of Denmark. Miss Gertrude Elliott as Ophelia portrays the grief-stricken maiden with great tenderness and pathos, rendering the incidental snatches of song in a voice of charming sweetness. Mr. Ian Robertson as the King acts the part with kingly dignity, while the Queen finds a strong exponent in Miss Adeline Bourne. The Ghost is played with fitting solemnity by Mr. Percy Rhodes. Mr. Hylton Allen is the Horatio, and Messrs. Charles Vaughan, Halliwell Hobbes, and W. Pilling act respectively the soldiers Marcellus, Bernardo, and Francisco. The part of Laertes is ably interpreted by Mr. Vernon Steel, and Mr. Charles Langley makes a courtly Polonius. Osric is satisfactorily played by Mr. Frank Ridley. Rosencrantz by Mr. J. H. Beaumont, and Guilden stern by Mr. Frank Bickley. The Gravediggers are embodied by Mr. Charles Bibby and Mr. S. T. Pearce, and the Players' parts are all in able hands, Mr. Walter Ringham declaiming well as First Player, Mr. S. Thompson as Second, and Miss Dorothy Paget as Player Queen. *Mice and Men* was played on two evenings and *The Merchant of Venice* on Friday.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—*The Belle of Mayfair*, the latest musical comedy to come to Glasgow, is here for the first time. Mr. Percy Yorke as the Earl of Mount Highgate acts well and sings his military song with the requisite dash and go. Mr. Vernon Davidson as Raymond makes an able lover; his disguises are good and he sings and dances most acceptably, while he has several fine scenes with Julia (Miss Russon) when both score. Mr. Charles McNaughton as Sir John Chaldicott, Bart., keeps the house in a titter; he is a prime favourite throughout. Mr. Wensley Russell is good as Hugh Meredith, his fine baritone singing being admired. Mr. Trueman Travers makes a dignified Bishop. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., a versatile Count Perrier. Mr. Arthur W. Metcalfe is excellent in the light rôle of Captain Theobald, and Mr. R. Calvert Haws as Bramley makes a success in an interesting part; and in lesser characters Messrs. G. F. Ide and C. Clayton are reliable. Miss Alice Russon as Julia is charming, well deserving her many recalls. That sweet singer and accomplished Scottish artiste, Miss Joan Keddie, as the Princess, has made a big hit. Miss Maud Aston, as Pincott, is another clever performer. She is a dainty dancer and sings well. The Countess (Miss Rosa Snell), Lady Chaldicott (Miss Barbara Huntley), Lady Rooksley (Miss Blanche Massey), and Lady Glossop (Miss Dorothy Hanburg) have each credit for delightful work, and the other ladies in the long cast and the chorus give much satisfaction.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A highly successful production of *Rob Roy* entered upon its last week on Monday. Mr. E. C. Hedmondt makes an ideal Francis Osbaldistone and renders his numbers in a highly artistic manner. Mr. W. Geo. Robb gives a fine portrayal of Bailie Nicol Jarvie. Mr. Nelson Ramsay as Rob Roy is another performance of high merit. Madame Alice Esty makes a charming Diana, and her excellent singing receives great applause. The choruses are rendered in a very efficient manner, and the mounting of the production is in every way satisfactory.

Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdock.—*The Beast and the Beauty* is this week ably interpreted by Mr. Fredk. Melville's company. The drama is powerfully written and abounds in scenes of a sensational character. Mr. Milton Rosmer is worthy of praise for fine acting in the rôle of Jack Barrymore. Miss Alice Bowes as Violet plays with much feeling. The portrayal of the Earl of Loman by Mr. William E. Passmore is a good performance. Mr. Bernard Mervyn depicts cleverly the evil nature of Henry Denver, and Miss Daisy Gwynne impersonates Delilah in excellent style. Tom Chicken is well played by Mr. H. Talbot, as is also Dick Soames by Mr. Harry Wimpenny. Miss Mamie Rendle gives a smart impersonation of Mimi, and Ned Samson has a clever exponent in Mr. Eric Campbell.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, well known to Glasgow audiences, is this week excellently portrayed by a company under the direction of Mr. John A. Atkin. Mr. Henry Lonsdale as George Madison, the hero of the piece, carries the audience with him from the rise to the fall of the curtain. As Lucy, the heroine, Miss Nellie Bonser, succeeds in evoking the entire sympathy of those present. The unpopular part of Chas. Severeux is in the able hands of Mr. Louis Hector, whose every appearance is greeted with boisterous complimentary hisses. As Timothy Tuttut and Patty Lovejoy Mr. Fred De Vere and Miss Denny Fitzherbert appear with great success, and to them is due the merriment of the evening. Miss Octavia Noel admirably sustains the part of Lady Lucretia Lancaster, while Mr. Kenneth Black and Miss Barbara Gatt as Sir Geo. Lancaster and the Mother Superior respectively embody their characters in a manner that proclaims them artistes above the average. The intervals are cheerily occupied by selections on the Edison Bell Phonograph.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—That popular young Irish comedian, Mr. Chalmers Mackey, is again here with his able company, and giving *The Wearin' o' the Green*, *The Colleen Bawn*, and the well-known lively farce *His Last Legs*. On Monday, in the first-named play, Mr. Mackey had a good reception, and played Barney O'Hea in his best style. He receives excellent support from Mr. Charles Homer, Mr. St. John Stuart, Mr. H. Sainsbury, Mr. Haughton Macaulay, and Mr. David McFarlane; while the ladies' parts are well played by Mrs. Chalmers Mackey as Norah, Miss Nana Flensberg as the lively Biddy McGinn, and Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs. McDermott.

New Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—This popular theatre was well filled at both performances to witness the New Gaiety dramatic company (under the personal direction of M. Montgomery) in the domestic comedy drama, entitled *What Women Suffer*. The principal characters are in able hands, special mention being due to Mr. Alfred D. Adams in the dual rôle of Wilfred Coventry and John Coventry; also Miss Laurie A. Pardy as Edith Coventry. Mr. Horace Booth as Herbert Standish acts the villian's part successfully; and Mr. H. Hesslegrave as John Meredith plays with feeling. The piece is well staged.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The novel illusion, Buddha's Blackboard, is the principal item here, and the mystic answers produced thereon are truly inexplicable. Those rich humorists, Ted and May Hopkins, give their clever turn, which is fresh and most enjoyable. Chas. Leonard Hatcher appears in the monologue, *At the Telephone*, which is thrilling in its suggestive realism. Frank Danby and his smart company cause lots of fun with the musical playlet, *The Chauffeur*. Merotti's daring turn on the running wire is a big attraction, and this artiste has introduced several new feats. Mezetti and Mora, bar performers; Flo D'Orville, comedienne; Frank Hartley, boy juggler; Hans and Lux, knockabouts; and the Bioscope complete a varied bill.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Kauffman Troupe of Lady Cyclists are the star turn in a programme full of good things. The Eight Sunrays dance pleasingly. James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," is once again in favour, and Madge Osmond is on the right lines as a male impersonator, her dancing pleasing greatly. In J. C. Kurry we have a quaint performer, and he shares the applause with another turn of a like nature, that of a Harry Marte, whose return is a welcome one here. Berner's Fantoches is a clever exhibition of the marionette order. The Frantz Family, in Happy School Times, combine singing, dancing, and acrobatism in a way that earns them deserved applause, while in *The Lie Alarm* the Smythson's comedy company win appreciation. The orchestral selections and the bioscope pictures deserve recognition.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd. — The all-absorbing vaudeville stage this week claims Fred Wright, jun., who is starring here, and delighting the audiences with some of the songs associated with his musical comedy successes. Then Austin Rudd comes provided with lots of songs, and the fun of his "Old Apple Tree" parody is most hilarious. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory girls, give a good singing turn; Will Godwin again catches the fancy of the crowd with his tuneful songs; Stewart and Morgan in their scena, *Leaving Ireland*, do well; Marie San Toi, Japanese tea garden sketch, is another strong item; and Otto and Olga, in their mock operatic business have made a striking success. Henri Bekker's conjuring is neat and clever; the Five Olracs are smart acrobats; Pauline Zaro dances smartly; and the Cotton Blossom Quartette sing their harmonised choruses with fine effect.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The programme provided here this week includes Harry Champion, comedian, who tops the bill; Grant and Grant, American octoroons, are also accorded a hearty reception, their singing and dancing being thoroughly enjoyed. Other notable artists are Lee and Arden, in a comedy duologue; Chas. Somers, comedian; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats; Mollie Doon, comedienne and dancer; George Young, blind musician; the Narow Bros., comedy cyclists; Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer; Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers; and the Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here this week. Morris Cronin and troupe, jugglers, are the principal attraction. Another interesting turn is that of Rose Naynon and her marvellous troupe of trained tropical birds. Other notable turns include Whimsical Walker, in a new sketch; Nettie Starr, comedienne; Francis Wylie's Dog Circus; José Collins, comedienne and vocalist; the Monte Myro Acrobatic Troupe; the Stella Troupe of singers and dancers; Happy Tom Parker, comedian; and the Bioscope, with a splendid set of pictures.

Queen's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—This week Miss Anna Kenwick, American comedienne and dancer, tops the bill, and has had a flattering reception. A quaint turn is submitted by Smiler Lee, his songs, patter, and stories keeping the audience in roars of laughter; while the efforts of J. W. Barker, society entertainer, are quite successful. Ernest Rees, the "droll" comedian, is decidedly amusing; and Marie de Paso gives a clever exposition of clay modelling. The bill also includes Ada Kingsley, comedienne; Zavan, the man on the lamp-post; Bishop and Hanlon, comedy artists; and the Queen's Bioscope, with new films.

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—On Monday this theatre was thronged by an enthusiastic audience who accorded a most hearty reception to *The Walls of Jericho*, in which Mr. and Mrs Arthur Bourchier appeared. It was generally agreed that Mr. Bourchier's Jack Frobisher was one of the finest things he has done of recent years. Miss Vanbrugh's talents, as Lady Alethea, were likewise seen in all their greatness. The thoughtless mother's gradual awakening to a sense of duty was shown with that delicacy and skill which stamps the true actress. Among the principals in the Garrick company who afforded strong support were Mr. Arthur Whitby, whose Steventon was an admirable sketch of an impecunious, self-seeking marquis; Mr. Charles Goodhart, the vigorous, unpolished Australian Bannister; Mr. H. Nye Chart, an excellent intriguing Dallas; Mr. Douglas Imbert, who made the most of Lord Drayton; Miss Nora Greenlaw, a tactful and pleasant Lady Westerby; and Miss Pamela Gaythorne, who proved a pretty and vivacious Lady Lucy.

Shakespeare Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. George Dance's premier company has presented the brilliant musical play, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, at this popular house this week. Miss Kitty Gordon in the title-rôle showed conspicuous ability; Mr. Frederick Moyes was the Napoleon, a well-drawn character which afforded evidence of that actor's high abilities; Mr. H. C. Barry, well known and popular in Liverpool, created great laughter with his extremely humorous Papillon; Miss Josephine McCarthy and Miss Doris Grenville did excellently as the Emperor's sisters; Miss Lily Edmunds made a charming Lisette; the part of Renee was well presented by Miss Lilian Best; Mr. Albert Chapman as Francois acquitted himself creditably; and Mr. T. C. Maxwell earned loud applause for his singing as Adhémar.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—For the first time in this city Hardie and Von Leer's London company produced here on Monday *For Life and After*, from the pen of George R. Sims. The work proved exceedingly popular, and good business has been done. Miss Grace Heywood played with much dramatic effect as Marion Grey; the rôle of the husband was well-placed with Mr. Vernon Sansbury; Miss Muriel Dean made a sympathetic Dora; Mr. Chris. Mason as Joe Grimper and Miss Edith Barwell in the character of Mrs. Grimper aroused endless laughter; Mr. Henry Hare worked hard and successfully in the parts of Jack and Jim Huggett; Mr. Sidney Vautier gave satisfaction as Gilbert O'Neil; Mr. Charles Osborne was an efficient Rube Hexham; and Miss Marion Fawcett did credit to the part of Jenny Huggett.

Star Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—The popular *Still Alarm* is here this week with Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. The important rôle of Jack Manley was admirably filled by Mr. Glenville; Miss Hetty Zillwood made herself popular as Carie Wilber, her songs and dances being appreciated; Mr. Fred Osmond was exceedingly funny as Doc Wilber; Mr. George Arthur afforded the utmost satisfaction as John Bird; Miss Maud Warburton played sweetly as Elinor Fordham; Miss Mabel Veriton was well-placed as Mrs. Manley; and praise is due to Mr. Lewis Gordon for his Franklyn Fordham.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*The Trumpet Call*, from the pens of Sims and Buchanan, has proved a strong attraction here this week, an efficient company, under the direction of Mr. Charles F. Cooke, presenting it. Mr. Leonard Yorke most ably filled the part of Cuthberth Cuthbertson; the rôle of Sergeant-Major Milligan was done full justice to by Mr. W. G. Blunt, who undertook it at a moment's notice through the sudden illness of Mr. Charles F. Cooke; Mr. Joe Bracewell was very humorous as Professor Ginnifer; Mr. Freddie Bentley proved a sprightly Tommy Dutton; Mr. J. B. Glover afforded evidence of high talents as Captain Sparks; Mr. Alec Murray made an excellent doss-house keeper; Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill earned the sympathy of her audience for a fine representation of Constance; Miss Doris Gilliam undertook with the utmost credit the difficult and trying rôle of Astrea; and Miss Phyllis B. French was a sweet Lavinia. The drama was presented in excellent style.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Top of the bill here this week is Corri and Dereve's musical sketch *Office Hours*, which has been greatly enjoyed. The sensational act, *Indians of the Past*, provided by the Deer company of North American Indians, was an excellent item. Harry Edson made his well-trained dogs go through a remarkable performance; the Lavalis, as gymnasts, executed clever tricks on the break-away ladder and silver chains; some picturesque posing was provided by Mlle. Kloet; Farley, Rennie, and Farley caused much merriment with their comedy act *Fun at a Railway Station*; Lily Sharplin gave a clever exhibition of mimicry; as dancers and duettists the Sisters St. Julien proved most acceptable; and also in the bill were the Pargon trio of speciality vocalists; and Ted Cowan, comedian. Phil Ray was unable to appear through illness, but Ike Scott and Son proved an excellent substitute.

New Parthenon. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Principal at this popular little house this week is Eno, whose impersonations of well-known stars are both clever and funny. York, Mac, and York have a laughable comedy boxing act, entitled *Widow Mac's Troubles*; G. B. Geoghan and Connie Downs remain another week with their attractive illustrated songs; James Toner, the singing newspaper boy, has several popular numbers; and among others who appear are Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; and Harry West, actor vocalist.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*A Gipsy's Revenge*, from the pen of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, is the dramatic sketch presented here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher proves a humorous Larry Murphy; Mr. Harry Tresham held the part of Harold Raymond with credit; the heavy rôle of George Oakley is capitally played by Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood makes a striking Walter Hastings; the gipsy, Charzel, is ably presented by Miss Beryl Ravenswood; Miss Florence Palmer acts gracefully as Minnie Hastings, and strong support comes from Mr. E. D. Allen (Theophilus Hope), Mr. R. Wilton (Billy Smart), and Mr. Leo Montgomery (Joe).

Park Palace, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week are the Bros. Ashley with a very funny comedy boxing sketch, *Next Please*, in which they are assisted by Messrs. W. Barnes and Frank Yapp; Squire Wyndham and Tom Waters submit an amusing vocal sketch *The Professor and His Pupil*; H. O. Wills is particularly funny; Gena Manon sings nicely; the Bohemians are both clever and humorous as musical specialists; and Tod Lowen raises many a laugh with his quaint sayings.

CHAT WITH MDLLE. GENÉE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mlle. Adeline Genée, who has occupied the position of première danseuse at the Empire Theatre for nearly nine years, will sever her connection with that establishment at the end of next year. "I was originally engaged," she tells us, "for six weeks only to dance in the Jewel Scene in *Monte Cristo*, and when I leave I shall be able to claim ten years' service, so you see how my six weeks have panned out."

"But you won't retire just yet?" And the idea of so young an artist relinquishing her work caused Miss Genée to indulge in a merry little laugh.

"Indeed, no; and I may come back to the Empire. I am very anxious to go to America, and that is what I hope to do after we have said good-bye to 1907. I think that the Americans appreciate the best style of dancing."

"How is it we can't turn out first-rate dancers in this country, Miss Genée?"

"Because dancing is not properly taught in England, and, as a matter of fact, your country-people do not regard dancing as a serious study. In Denmark, my native land, there are schools set apart specially for dancing. Children are taught how to comport themselves, how to move about in a graceful, easy, and natural manner, and at the same time their musical education is not neglected. There are schools for dancing in all the national theatres, and a similar system exists in Berlin and Munich."

"As we have no State-aided theatres in this country, Miss Genée, do you suggest that schools for dancing might be maintained at such establishments as the Empire and the Alhambra?"

"I certainly think that the ballet-master in a theatre ought to keep up the classes for the corps de ballet, which in London are not trained as they should be. Every member of the ballet should be compelled to attend the lessons, and an adequately remunerated teacher should be employed to give strict attention to the rehearsing of the ballet as well as to the training. You see, the public don't want to watch mere automatic movements. There should be expression in the face of the dancer as well as in her motions.

"Naturally"—this in reply to another question—"I prefer the old orthodox dancing in ballet skirts. I like a dance which tells a story, and in that connection I might say that the pantomimic acting should be made quite as much a feature of as the actual dancing. We get this in *Coppélia*, which, both from a point of view of dancing and

MDLLE. ADELINE GENEE. [*Photo by Hana.*

dumb show, is the best ballet I have seen at the Empire. I had a very high opinion, too, of *Round the Town* and *Les Papillons*, which were entirely of the ballet order, and did not contain character dances. I am exceedingly fond of a good descriptive dance, such as I got in the riding scene in *High Jinks*."

"Dancing," says Mlle. Genée, "is not treated nowadays as it ought to be. There seems to be a general impression that the higher a girl can kick the better dancer she is. The lifting of the leg into a line parallel with the body, or indulgence in what is vulgarly known as the splits, are merely acrobatic performances. To call this dancing is to libel a fascinating and beautiful art. To become a successful public dancer, a girl must, in the first place, be constitutionally strong. She must bear in mind that the profession is an exacting one, and demands all the energy that can be put into it. The beginner should satisfy herself that her lungs are sound, otherwise she had better try something else. Girls take naturally to dancing, and they ought to be encouraged to perfect themselves in the art. They should begin practising at eight years of age. There is no royal road to success—the only key is hard work and systematic training under a good master."

In private life the première danseuse of the Empire is a very different person from the bright and sprightly and vivacious young lady Londoners have so often admired engaging in a merry whirl before the footlights. You might pass her in the street without stopping to give a second glance at her, provided you were not personally acquainted with Mlle. Genée. She dresses in a quiet, ladylike fashion. She never occasions a grin from the vulgar rabble by reason of a picture-hat of Brobdingnagian proportions, nor could anyone hope to recognise her by looking for an array of appalling lengths of lace and ribbon and frills. Alert and businesslike, decisive of movement and speech, one feels that the lady has a mind of her own, and in business or other matters would scarcely allow herself to be trifled with. Her straightforwardness of manner and her total lack of sentimental effusiveness must commend her to anybody who enjoys the pleasure of her acquaintance.

Mlle. Genée tells us that she has danced since early childhood. She performed first of all in her uncle's own theatres, making her début at the Tivoli in Christiania.

Mr. Henri Gros, on seeing Miss Constance Moxon's monologue, *A Toff for Ten Minutes*, at the Chelsea Palace, has re-booked it for the Metropolitan, where she will appear on Oct. 1.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Top here are Cline and Clark, a popular vocal couple, and speciality dancers; endless laughter follows the antics of Fred Cullane's comedy entertainers in *The Ladies' School*; some creditable work on the trapeze is performed by Ariel and Astarte; for a boy, Marco accomplishes some smart conjuring; the songs of Louis Murray prove acceptable; T. C. Jaques has several humorous songs; and Little Violet acquits herself creditably as a vocalist.

Olympia, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The patrons of this fine place cannot complain of the excellence of the fare offered this week. At the top is the renowned Harry Tate, whose *Fishing* episode, it is needless to say, created great mirth; Hetty King, also in big type, had a most hearty reception for her popular songs; Barnard's Mannikins caused laughter with their droll sketch *The Coon's Revelry*; Eadie and Ramsden did admirably as comedy artistes; Josh Dixon earned much applause for his funny ditties and patter; the comedy hypnotism, provided by Professor Therese, was very diverting; and the list also contained the names of Fred Lincoln, comedian; and Rezene and Robins, "Two love birds on a perch."

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Success continues to follow this recently-opened house, due to the popular programmes that are offered. This week the Jackley Wonders are foremost, their acrobatic work on the table being neat and smart; Hill, Lane, and company have a taking comedy and musical act; G. W. Foster furnishes several humorous pieces; as speciality artistes Johnson and Hare acquit themselves; Rose Waller is a comedienne with good points; and Boden and Bell remain another week, pleasing everyone with their coon songs and dancing.

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" stock dramatic company here are presenting *The Sins of the Fathers*, from the pen of W. J. Mackay. Among the cast are Messrs. Walter Foster, Albert Sember, Frank S. Strickland, H. G. Brandon, Vincent A. Briscoe, and F. E. Wybert, Misses Evelyn Kingston, Florence Barnes, Lena Pierpoint, and Lilian Burns.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and P. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—An all-round good array of talent is billed here this week, with the King's College Boys holding premier position. Their solos and choruses are loudly applauded. An artistic and clever acrobatic performance is that of the Five Whiteleys; Julian Mack is a clever comedian, his patter being decidedly original; Happy Attwood's appearance is sufficient to put the house in roars of laughter; and Ike Scott and Son are clever dancers, and their sketch is very laughable. Rosie Archer is good at mimicry; Frank A. Wood renders his numbers in an artistic manner; Mlle. La Tosca is clever as a statuesque artiste; and the Five Casino Girls are applauded.

"SPLENDID SILENCE."

A New Dramatic Sketch, in One Scene, by Robert Overton, produced at the Middlesex Music Hall, On Monday, Sept. 17.

Oliver North ..... Mr. Charles Freeman
Father North ..... Mr. John W. Mason
Field-Cornet ..... Mr. C. Lodge-Percy
Van Stoop ..... Mr. Edwin J. Arthurs
Hans Yessen ..... Mr. Ernest Tiffen
Daisy North ..... Miss Florence Tench

Splendid Silence may be recommended as a very good example of the kind of dramatic sketch which is specially suited for representation on the variety stage. Short, crisp, impressive, with not a line of superfluous dialogue, the new production held the attention of the audience from the start; and the experienced author, Mr. Robert Overton, has been wise enough to provide a happy ending. The Boer War occupies an important page in English history, and the strong feeling which the long struggle excited in the public mind should still be strong enough to render the new sketch specially interesting.

The scene is an isolated station in Cape Colony during the late war. From the telegraph wires a Field-Cornet of the Boer forces has managed to take down a message, which he is convinced would give important information respecting the position of the enemy, but as it is in cipher he and his comrades are unable to make out its purport. In charge of this lonely station on the veldt are an Englishman named Oliver North and his wife, with whom reside North's aged father and mother. The old couple had only recently left England to join their son, who was doing well in South Africa, and had invited them to share in his prosperity. The Field-Cornet, a rough, stern Boer, cherishing a fierce hatred for the English, has Oliver North arrested and brought before him. He demands that the Englishman shall reveal the secret code, but is met by a point-blank refusal. To comply with the Boer's request would be to betray his fellow-countrymen into the relentless hands of the enemy. The Boer leader threatens North that if he persists in his obstinate refusal the consequences will be death to his father. The old man, who suddenly appears, intimates that he is prepared to die, and implores his son to preserve the secret of the cipher at all costs. The plucky old Englishman is then marched off, and a volley is heard, the Boer leader testifying that the execution has taken place. The next victim is Oliver's mother; and then appears his wife, Daisy, who cuts the ropes by which her husband is bound to a post. Escape, however, is impossible, and the Boer makes another appeal to North, but his wife interceding, expresses her willingness to give up her life rather than her husband should betray his trust. And then, when this dramatic climax is reached, the Boer makes the startling announcement that Oliver's father and mother are alive and well, this fact being attested by their appearance. The Boer had not the heart to carry out his threat; the shooting party used only blank cartridges; and his admiration for the Englishman's devotion to his country and high sense of honour prompts him to shake hands with the brave Britisher.

Mr. Charles Freeman displayed a true manly spirit and steadfast determination as the telegraphist, Oliver North. Mr. C. Lodge-Percy was appropriately bold, emphatic, and incisive as the Boer leader, and was ably supported by Mr. Edwin J. Arthurs and Mr. Ernest Tiffen as the burghers, Van Stoop and Hans Yessen. Mr. John W. Mason did well as the elder North; and Miss Florence Tench won sympathy and applause as North's brave little wife. The sketch was adequately staged, and appropriate music has been furnished by Mr. Richard Lawson.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

A fine programme was given on the 13th inst. at Queen's Hall, and it only shows how greatly the public have advanced in musical knowledge for such a programme to be appreciated. The chief novelty of the evening was the "Entr'acte Symphonique" from Alfred Bruneau's *Messidor*, and it is strange this fine work has not been heard before in London. *Messidor* was produced at the Paris Opéra in 1897, and is the third work MM. Zola and Alfred Bruneau have composed, the two former works being *Le Rêve* and *L'Attaque au Moulin*; but differing from these, *Messidor* is not founded on either a novel or tale, and when heard in Paris aroused considerable interest. The story has strong human motives, and deals mostly with peasant farm labourers, and the plot turns on the overreaching character of a rich owner who diverts a river from its course in order to obtain gold. The work is in four sections, which represent the Four Seasons, and the "Entr'acte Symphonique" heard on Thursday evening is the Prelude announcing the coming of Spring. This reveals great gifts of melody and originality by the composer, and the performance causes one to wish that the entire work could have been given. Other compositions by Bruneau are two music dramas, *L'Enfant Roi* and *L'Ouragan*.

Although not often heard, the Tone Poem, "Don Quixote," by Richard Strauss, is certainly one of the most characteristic of this remarkable composer's works. "Don Quixote" has only been played at the Strauss Festival in 1903, and at the Queen's Hall last February. The orchestra admirably performed the work, the 'cello solo being most skilfully undertaken by Mr. Jacques Renard. A young pianist, Mr. Jean du Chastain, made a most successful first appearance in Eugen d'Albert's sparkling Concerto in E, and being encored gave Schubert's Minuet in B minor. Miss Jessie Rayne was the vocalist, and sang Saint-Saëns' famous air from *Samson et Dalila* with great ability and expression. There was a large and enthusiastic audience.

Tuesday night's programme at Queen's Hall was of special interest, as it included Wagner's beautiful Prelude to *Lohengrin*, Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 1 in C (capitally performed by Mr. Wood's clever orchestra), Gluck's overture "Iphigenia in Aulis," as well as a new work by a Flemish composer, Jan Block, heard for the first time in this country. "Symphonie Triptych" is the title of the new production, which is divided into the three sacred festivals of the year—All Souls' Day, Christmas, and Easter. In these three movements the composer make great use of the pianoforte and the bells in All Souls' Day and Easter, and with considerable effect, and although the Flemish composer does not succeed in getting all the interest in his work so fine a subject offers, there is unmistakable talent in the "Triptych"; and the last movement—Easter—has some really fine portions. Under Mr. Wood the work was admirably played. The vocalists were Miss Gwladys Roberts, who was entirely successful in Gluck's "Divinitiés Styx," and Mr. Percy Rhodes, who did himself credit in an air from Handel's *Atlanta*. Miss Gertrude Meller, who made a first appearance, gave a clever performance of Rubinstein's Fourth Pianoforte Concerto in D Minor. A large audience was present.

The attention of artists is drawn to the benefit matinée which Mr. Lennox Barry is organising to take place at the Hippodrome, Hounslow, at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday next, the 21st inst., in aid of Mrs. Coker, the afflicted mother of the poor boy, James Coker, who was accidentally killed by the Duchess of Connaught's motor-car in the High-street, Hounslow, last week. A letter from Mr. Barry referring to this matinée, appears in another column, and Mr. Barry will be glad to hear from any artists who can conveniently arrange to appear for him at this matinée, which is under the special patronage of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Brierley Hill, Heyford, Idle Feast (Bradford), Woodhouse Feast (Leeds), Arundel, Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Cambridge, Chertsey, Haslemere, Long Sutton, Pickering, Wotton-under-Edge, Hartland, High Wycombe, Moreton (Dorset), Over (Cheshire), Solihull, Spalding, Birmingham, Todmorden, Chesham, Eleven Lane Ends Feast, Long Stratton, Studley (Ripon), Alton, Ampthill, Bracknell, Cranbrook, Dorchester, Hanbury, Uxbridge, Wallingford. In Scotland we have Dumfries, Fraserburgh, Cupar (Fife), Sinclairtown. In Wales, Cowbridge, Fishguard, Llanelly, Llanfyllin, and Maestag.

PENDLEBURY, near Manchester, is an excellent example of a well-managed Corporation Fair. The expert official of the corporation—Mr. George Meech—set out the fair in capital array. The shows and exhibitions were those of Clark, Dyer, Trainer, Hague, and Boscoe. The machine list included John Collins' wheeley-whirley and gondolas, his No. 3 machine (the gallopers), and No. 4 machine (the steam yachts); T. Hurst's farm-yard set; Shuttleworth's gems and overboats, and park swings by the same proprietor; the Winchester ranges and bottle batteries were the well-known concerns of Messrs. Cornwell and White. The other fairground novelties were provided by Williams, Heywood, Clayton, Brennan, Lynch, Worthington, Thomas, and Salter. The next fair at Pendlebury is on March 22, 1907.

THE old-time fair at Wareham was in the capable hands of the local showmen, and the novelties included Burchall's cinematograph theatre, Winchester range and throwing games; Cole Bros. switchback; Smith's galloping horses, highfliers, and variety stalls; Weldon's Winchester range and varieties.

YET another proof of the far-reaching influence of the Showmen's Guild was given at Holbeck Feast, Leeds, last week. We are referring now to that part of the Guild work to which we called attention last week, and that intimately concerns the recognition of the showman's vocation in life and the betterment of his social status. The Press gave currency last week to what was considered a remarkable event on the fairground at Killamarsh—"a preacher using the switchback as a pulpit." That this should happen was considered of sufficient moment to justify the Press agencies paragraphing the occurrence through the length and breadth of the land. But to the members of the Showmen's Guild, and indeed to the whole body of showpeople, there is nothing unusual or startling in the event, for there are a number of towns where the annual fair is utilised by the local clergy, not merely to minister to "the stranger within their gate"—the itinerant entertainer—but it is seized upon as a golden opportunity to enlist the ever-ready co-operation of the showman in order that the clergy may reach crowds of their own people that otherwise would not be touched at all.

CERTAINLY the showman values the ministrations of the clergy, and welcomes all efforts to help him spiritually that do not begin with the fatal Puritanical mistake of regarding him as requiring special Evangelistic effort enterprised with the idea that his work in life is a sort of ante-room of the establishment of the Prince of Darkness. For twenty years past work of the right kind to help the showmen and to help the parish has been done by the Vicars of Holbeck. It is a very wholesome tradition amongst the mothers of the Road on the Yorkshire round to bring their babies to the font for holy baptism at Holbeck Feast.

THE *Church Times* has an interesting account from the Churchman's point of view of mission work on the fairground; this included a procession of the clergy and choir from the mission church close by the fairground to the centre of the fair, where on the front of Monte Bros. cinematograph theatre an open-air service was held. The immense crowd joined in the service with the greatest possible attention and reverence. This was followed by a second service, at which advantage was taken of the appliances of the show to illustrate the address with beautiful lantern slides. Again at 6.30 the procession (the Church's outside parade) was formed, and again a rousing appeal to the people from the front of the show, followed by the last of the services illustrated by limelight pictures thrown upon the screen in the theatre.

OF course these things may be news to the outside world, but there is no particular novelty about it in the world of shows. A glance at the list of honorary local chaplains in the Showmen's Year Book is sufficient proof, although that list does not cover one-tenth of the ground covered by the Church, encouraged and led by the Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild.

GLOSSOP Old Wake commenced on Friday, the 14th inst., and was continued with zest until Tuesday. On the market ground were G. Sudling's football, W. Royle's shooting pavilion, Jas. Hibbert's flying motors and poultry farm, Johnny Walker's steam horses and aerial flight, J. Glynn's aerial flyers, Montgomery's cockerels (juvenile set), Shaw's steam swings, Griffin's Excelsior games, Sutherland's Emma stalls, Whatmore's Emma stall and cocoanut alleys, J. Frail's and M. Thomas's cocoanut alleys, J. Cordwell's cocoanut alley and bazaar, and other minor novelties.

ALVECHURCH is an ancient village in Worcestershire, three miles from Redditch, ten miles from Birmingham, five from King's Norton, and nineteen from Evesham. The population in 1901 was 1730. The Mop will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 3.

ASTWOOD BANK is a large village in Worcestershire, three miles from Redditch, thirteen from Evesham, five from Alcester, and eight from Bromsgrove. Industries—needles, fish hooks, &c.; also large cycle works at Hunt End, one mile distant. No menagerie has been here for several years. A good portable theatre or marionettes would do well during the winter months.

FROM the *London Gazette* we take the following—"The Fairs Act, 1873. Hucknall-under-Huthwaite fair or feast. The Secretary of State for the Home Department gives notice that a representation has been duly made to him by the Urban District Council of Hucknall-under-Huthwaite, to the effect that a fair or feast has been annually held at Hucknall-under-Huthwaite on the Saturday preceding the third Sunday in July and the two following days, and that it would be for the convenience and advantage of the public that the said fair or feast should in future be held on the Saturday preceding the first Sunday in September and the two following days. On the 4th day of October, 1906, the Secretary of State will take such representation into consideration, and any person who may desire to object to the alteration of the dates for the holding of the said fair or feast should intimate his objections to the Secretary of State before that day.—Home Office, Whitehall, September 4th."

IT is for our showmen readers on the Derbyshire round to consider the proposal to alter the days of the fair from the month of July to September, and to take action against the change if detrimental to their business.

NEATH Pleasure Fair drew a large number of people last week from the surrounding valleys. Messrs. Henry Studt and Sons' gondolas, switchback, farmyard, and motor-cars, and Mr. John Studt's motor-cars and farmyard were as popular as ever; as were also Messrs. E. Dauter's zoological circus, White's tunnel railway and zig-zag chute, Wadbrook's popular electric bioscope, Messrs. Hagger and Sons' electrograph, which was beautifully illuminated with fairy electric lamps. Messrs. Dooner's biograph, Crecraft's lion show and bioscope, and Wortley's working model of a colliery village were well patronised. The side shows did very well. Amongst them were Nail's fine art gallery, E. Handley's Winchester range, and J. Fossett's rifle saloon; bottle shooters by John North, J. Butlin; booths, Wm. North, Deakin, and Roberts; coker sheets by J. North, J. Jones, Boswell, J. Day, Butlin; miniature ponies by Messrs. J. Alfred and J. Butlin; pipe saloons by Boswell and Butlin; and boxers by Messrs. Tom Thomas and J. Scaretts. Last but not least, Madam Baker and Son's well-known and popular circus was well patronised by friends old and new.

AYR is the venue this week for all the showmen of a wide area. The Newton Public Park is again the spot set apart by the authorities, who have leased the ground to Mr. George Green, of Glasgow Carnival Grounds, who sub-lets to the others. Mr. Green has electric motor-cars, cocks and hens, and a cinématograph and variety show. The other attractions are Wilmot's horses, Wilmot's electric motor-cars, Wingate's bicycles and Wingate's airship, Howard's over boats, Baker's twin yachts, Leo's modern American show, McIndoe's Scottish show, Johnson's circus, Swallow's cocks and hens, Stevenson's fly boats, Moor's boxing saloon, and an innumerable host of booths, dollies, shooting booths, and stands. Special cars are being run to and from the show grounds, and the patronage of the public is great. Given good weather, good business should result.

MR. WILSON'S cinématograph exhibition is paying a week's visit to the Market-place, West Stanley. The pictures are clear and up to date, the film of "Ned Kelly, the Bushranger," being worthy of special mention. The front of the exhibition, which is fully 30 feet wide, is exclusively occupied by a magnificent orchestral organ, which is beautifully illuminated by electricity. Crowds of people flocked to the Market-place to obtain a view and to hear the fine music produced by this excellent piece of workmanship.

IMMEDIATELY following Holbeck Feast we have the two important fixtures of Batley and Chapeltown. To take these two fairs the principal concerns at Holbeck Feast divide. For Batley the concerns were Relph and Pedley, Monti Brothers, Professor Gibson, and Priest with freak show, Waddington's, Howden and Marshall's motor-cars, Ralph and Pedley's whirl, Waddington's yachts, and Houldsworth and Burgess's shooting concerns, and the usual attendant throng of minor novelties.

THE Chapeltown division were Chipperfield's and Testo's shows; Murphy, Hamilton, Dobson, and Morley's machines, and the minor novelties by Messrs. Ratcliffe, Steward, Johnson, Ashcroft, Dobson, Batnes, and some forty or fifty other novelty caterers.

FROM the Midland round our correspondent writes that at Willenhall, near Wolverhampton, the fair was held Sept. 14 to 18, and the novelties on the ground were Mrs. Collins's palace of animated pictures, Captain Bevan's reptiles, Harry Sullis's boxing saloon, motor-cars, mountain ponies, racing cockerels, steam yachts, wheeley-whirly, and slipping the slope by P. Collins. Shooting-galleries by Ford, Dobson, Whyatt, and Stockton. Throwing games and varieties by Humphries, Beech, Wagstaffe, Whyatt, Hodgkiss, and others too numerous to mention.

ON the same days the Staffordshire Fair at Newcastle-under-Lyme had for its amusements, P. Collins' motors Farrell's jumping horses and racing cockerels, Lawrence's cinematograph and nannikins, Gal. Hague's boxers, overboat by Bennett and Farrell, and all the fun of the fair by Wright, Beaumont, and Beech, and the usual big array of pannum stalls and varieties.

THE principal fair in the Metropolitan district this week was at Hemel Hempstead, and attracted a large crowd of the best concerns on the London round. These were Purchase's menagerie, Biddall Brothers' cinematograph theatre and Empire of varieties, Bailey's fine art show, Robert's freak exhibits, and the fistiana colleges of Messrs. E. Elliott and W. Weston. Gondola switchbacks by Barker and Thurston, bicycle track by Thurston, galloping horses by Hewitt, gem motors by Abbott and G. Holmes, and swings by Mrs. Matthew and Mrs. Brinckley. Rifle saloons by Matthews, Wilson, and Hewitt. Varieties by Mayne, Lang, Burgess, Abbott, Wilson, Peters, Harris, Davis, Rowe, Taylor, Lang, and Miller. The stall-holders were Taylor, Bond, Maise, Connard, Saunders, and Burgess.

MR. JAMES PETTIGROVE'S steam switchback railway is at the Central Cricket Ground, Hastings, entertaining large crows each evening. The side-shows include Mrs. Ward's Aunt Sally and giant head shies, swings, shooting galleries, American bagatelle, and cokernut shies, which affords to many young folk much amusement and recreation.

SHOWMAN generally, more particularly those travelling in East Anglia, have lost a good old friend by the decease of Mr. R. Tidman, sen., whose death took place peacefully on September 1. He had reached the ripe old age of eighty-three years, and thirty-five or forty years ago was host of the King's Arms, Bishop Bridge, Norwich. The King's Arms was for many years the winter home of the leading showmen of the day. Amongst the since departed, and some who are with us still, may be mentioned John Barker, Sam Whiting, Alf. Duffield, Charles Bugg, Biddall, J. Crighton, and G. Aspland. The deceased was the founder of the firm of Robert Tidman and Sons, and father of the present members of the firm, Messrs. Robert and Fred. Tidman.

THE funeral took place at the Rosary Cemetery, Norwich, under the shadow of the monument raised (by his colleagues) to the late John Barker, amidst feelings of profound sorrow and sympathy. The chief mourners were:—Mr. and Mrs. R. Tidman, Mr. and Mrs. F. Tidman, Mrs. Watts (sister), Mr. R. J. Tidman (grandson), Miss Clara Watts and Miss Hannah Watts (nieces), Miss Brown (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Burgess (cousins), and Mr. R. J. Knights. There were many wreaths, and other floral tokens of sympathy.

GUILD subscription for 1906, per Mr. Cornwell:—J. W. Taylor, Esq., Gorton, 10s. 6d.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. M. (Blackburn).—*You were quite right in demanding full security for so large a deposit as £50. We do not think that the power reserved by the syndicate to close their enterprise at one week's notice justifies them in demanding more than two weeks' rent in advance. The risk should be mutual, and the financial burden equal between the contracting parties. To pay a month's rent in advance, without a guarantee of a month's run of business, is not, in our judgment, an equitable agreement.*

J. H. (Uttoxeter). — *We are sending you the material you ask for, and we still rely upon your able assistance in the matter of Showmen World news.*

H. H. H. (Neath).—*Yes; we certainly desire you to continue your excellent work.*

THE GOSPEL OF RECREATION.

By the Rev. T. Horne.

It would be extremely comical did not the memory of the past involve so much that is sad, to compare the opinion of men of science to-day with the view held only a few years ago with regard to surcrease from toil and necessary recreation and amusement after work, whether it be work of the hands or of the brain. The dismal scientist of the mid-Victorian era held that all rest from toil was an economic loss, and hence the mistaken crusade of the leaders of the people against the popular amusements of our Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes.

We were told by the highest authority on political economy that when not making money we were actually robbing the State of values due to it. Philosophers and writers of the Dr. Smiles sort held up the blessing of constant work and the glory of success by never, never ceasing to urge men to get; to have; to hold. All joy of life outside of the joy of climbing the ladder of success was held to be waste; criminal waste of natural forces. The youth of the nation were urged to work, work, aye, always work. This philosophy of greed was satirised by one of the early unbelievers in its soundness as being an exhortation "to get on." "Get on—honestly if you can—but, if not, well, get on."

We remember how the poor travelling showman was regarded as a menace and danger to national thrift, and how great towns like Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin, and even London itself, made haste to abolish the fairs and open-air carnivals of the workers because political economy said such times of general holidays were saturnalias of extravagance; exhaustion of the wage fund of the people for that that would bring no return of good to the Commonwealth.

Nothing that we know marks the change in the general conception of life more than the utter rout of the dismal scientists—the men of the Jeremy Bentham, John Stuart Mill, and the Cobden school of economists. The new school of political economists began with an entirely different aspect of life and its duties to the Commonwealth. The persistent insistence of *The Era* has been more than justified; it is a veritable triumph of humanism. We are helping now to create a world in which joy and laughter (as the good God meant it to be) shall find ready outlet, and where toil shall be the means to the great end of human happiness, and where the success of a nation shall not be measured by the number of its millionaires, but the higher standard of a joyous and contented people.

All that we have said is relevant to the question of the hour raised by that greatest scientist, Sir James Crichton Browne, at the Blackpool Congress of Sanitary Inspectors. With the clear precision of the trained thinker and observer of human affairs, Sir James Crichton Browne preached a gospel of recreation. He gave to the most notable section of his presidential address the sub-title of "Mental Hygiene," and it was in that portion of his original dissertation that he touched the very heart of the matter. He declared that we were all valetudinarians in these days, and that it had become the duty of every doctor to preach from time to time the gospel of recreation, and that what had been called advancing civilisation meant an increasing division of labour; and that meant the excessive use of certain parts of the organism to their undue fatigue, and the comparative superannuation of other parts with exposure to rust; that owing to our faulty economies overwork existed, and was bearing fruit in debility and disease. The savage who had to do everything for himself—that was not done by his wife or wives—and the agriculturist who had to divide his attention between herds and crops, and to vary his work with the ever-varying seasons, exercised tolerably, impartially, such brain centres as he possessed; but the workman who had to spend his whole time in making the head of a pin, boring a hole in a button, or watching the to-and-fro of a shuttle, exercised a very small tract of his nerve centres and left wide areas dormant. His work was fatiguing out of all proportion to its value in foot pounds. It tended towards automatism, and if he was to save his soul alive he must come to Blackpool from time to time—he must have recreation."

Continuing his argument, he said "Stimulus was necessary to the brain as well as rest. We must have amusement as well as slumber; that was to say, we must have the exercise of faculties that were not employed in our daily employment, and so daily recreation was demanded. And those of us who worked in any degree had every now and then arrears of fatigue to work off, hence the necessity for the periodical holiday." He contended that "Mental Hygiene"—the sanitation of the brain—"that cunning pattern of excelling nature"—was day by day becoming more and more of urgent and pressing importance; that hygiene had at length forced its way into the school, and it would not stop at ventilation and cleanliness, the protection of the eyes and teeth, or at physical training, but would assert its legitimate control over the exercises of the growing brain.

The *Times* in a trenchant leader, true to its well-worn traditions, refuses to accept the gospel of recreation, and tries to reincarnate the dismal science of "Work, work, and when you want a change, change your work," and argues that holidays are but occasions for idleness. That the tyrant Pharaoh was altogether right when he said, "Ye are idle, ye are idle; get ye back to your burdens." It would do the superior person good to live as we have done in a great cotton town in Lancashire, to watch the wasting of human life that the spinning mills mean, to see the vacuous look setting in on the face of the worker, and then to go to Blackpool even again as we have done and see the good results in the morals and physique of the people after one of these so-called orgies of idleness and thriftlessness.

Or even to visit Oldham at the time of the Wakes, and to note, as we have done, the brightening up and the refreshing of the people after one of these so-called times of economic waste. We welcome with both hands the new apostle of the gospel of recreation, Sir James Crichton Browne. He is amongst the prophets. "For centuries the school of the prophets has been the poor, despised and much maligned showmen; the clown who bade the people "to laugh and grow fat."

The Silly Billy on the show front who said, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" was also amongst the prophets, but a little before his time, and so he was stoned; and some were (like the greatest of all the prophets of the joy of life) crucified; but, after all, what is the conclusion of the whole matter but "That wisdom is justified of her children"?

WE hear that Prince Samouda, the mystery man, has signed a contract with Messrs. Moss and Stoll, to open his latest novelty in occult mysticism on their circuit, commencing at Edinburgh, and then taking their principal London halls. The Prince is now finishing long-standing contracts, and intends to open with his new mystery, "Hexentirsch," for the first time in Europe. The motive is founded upon the Eastern fable of "the animated table," and embodies some of the most marvellous demonstrations of occult force known to modern magic.

IN Buckinghamshire, at the pretty village of Penn, the annual fair was well maintained by Chittock's Royal London cinematograph, Mathews' steam-horses, gallopers, and ostriches, and range of park swings. Shooting saloons, Emma and coker sheets by numerous caterers, amongst whom were Messrs. Brown, Mayne, Bond, and Matthews.

HOLBECK FEAST.

Leeds, like all great provincial cities, has its outer circle of fairs. These holidays of the people in Yorkshire are known as "feasts." There are around Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Halifax, and Wakefield belts of popular feasts, that now supply open-air entertainment for the city and town workers, and compensate for the too hasty mistake of the City Fathers in abolishing (as many town authorities did thirty years or more ago) the pleasure fairs of the town.

It is always the country that comes to refresh the town, so that when the town spread out, and octopus-like, grasped in its many spreading tentacles the villages nigh its borders, the feasts of the absorbed villages remained, although the city fair had been unwisely abolished. There are to-day in Merrie England scores of such village feasts now in the thronged suburbs of our large towns, and they fulfil all the necessities of the ancient town and city fairs.

London itself, with its holiday fairs at Hampstead Heath, Wanstead Flats, Blackheath, and Wormwood Scrubs, fully illustrates this adaptation of fairs to modern life. Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Leeds bear equal testimony to the conservative instincts of the people as regards the preservation of their old pleasure fairs, and the economic fact (so often forgotten) that as fairs have grown with the onward progress of national life, they have their rootage in the very heart of the people.

At one time, and that not long ago, *The Era* was the only voice (like unto one crying in the wilderness) raised to proclaim these truths.

Forty years ago, according to all the then authorities, the fairs of the people were dying out, and the travelling showman would soon be as extinct a curio as the Dodo. But these apostles of the dismal science were soon proved to be false prophets, and for every fair abolished ten more sprang into existence, and to-day the shows and fair-ground entertainments come not only in single file but in battalions to amuse and entertain the work-worn people.

The British Press now take up *The Era* evangel, and with one voice acclaim the saving grace and good honest humour of the fair.

Speaking of Holbeck Feast, the *Leeds Mercury* says:—"All the youth of Holbeck and half the youth of less-favoured parts of the city which possess no 'feast' of their own, found their way to Holbeck Moor on Saturday, and for the greater part of the present week Holbeck Moor will still be the Mecca of those whose soul longs for revelry.

"For it is Holbeck Feast, and to the loyal Holbecker this is an event sacred in his eyes. It is the day of days in his year, the red-letter day in his calendar. Is it not during 't feeast' that he opens his hospitable doors and in very truth feasts the friends, who would sooner miss the Christmas pantomime than miss a visit to Holbeck during the feast? Is it not, too, the event by which he marks the hours, as it were, on the dial of his life?

"Possibly it was during the feast that he led his blushing bride to the altar. The birthdays of the olive branches are remembered as having taken place so long before or so long after Holbeck Feast, and probably it was during feast week that mother-in-law came to reside with the family. And while the older members of the family tell over again the events that happened at the feasts of long ago, the younger members following, as it were, 'in father's footsteps,' are enjoying the few brief hours of revelry which they, too, will recount as they sit, aged and infirm, in the ingle nook in years to come. For the feast enjoys the blessings of perpetual youth, and in the opinion of the Holbeck patriot, only a cataclysm could justify its cessation.

"In the opinion of some other people also it would require an act of providential intervention to change the established order."

And, again, the same writer:—

"It is surprising how quick the enterprising showman is to scent, as it were, change in popular taste. The mild excitement that satisfied our grandfathers and grandmothers is held in contempt by the sensation-hardened youths and maidens of to-day. The skittle-alley of the old-time fair is too tame nowadays. We must have something to smash, and so we get a bottle swinging on the end of a rope or a pyramid of teacups to tempt the marksman, and exhibit his general incompetence. It looks so easy to smash a dozen teacups standing in a pile not ten yards away, or to send the cocoa-nuts flying from their sawdust perches, but the showman knows his business, and the crowd more generally has to laugh at failure than applaud success.

"Then, too, the old-time Temple of Thespis has disappeared, the heavy tragedian no more struts the boards, a huge dagger in his hand, and some deep but quite incomprehensible scheme on foot. Romance has given place to mysticism, and the drama has fallen into decay, before the marvels of the cinematograph. No longer does the heavily-befurred manager stalk with lordly mien up and down before his 'theatre,' admonishing all and sundry to 'Walk this way—the play is about to commence.'

"Nowadays placards announce that the 'White Mahatma' will reveal the inmost secrets of yourself and your dearest friend, and a gentleman sparkling in gold and diamonds and more or less immaculate linen intimates that the séance is about to commence.

"It used to be that 'the play's the thing,' but now it is the picture that is everything.

"Happily, however, the lion-tamer, the 'smallest human being on earth,' and the 'fat woman' are still with us, and are all to be seen at Holbeck Feast.

"Especially interesting are the changes in what used to be known as the 'merry-go-round.' The mild excitement of going round at a moderate pace on a wooden horse has long since been discarded, and now we fly through the air on the back of a giant cockerel or whirl the whirl on a wheel that plays strange pranks with our centre of gravity, or rush with brief but giddy speed round a hilly circle on a good imitation of a motor-car. Even the babies have their motor-cars, and right merrily they seemed to enjoy them on Saturday night.

"When you can play football with the leading teams in England, or smash crockery or cocoanuts to your heart's content, or see pictures of beautiful women and fearsome beasts, or be whirled about on all sorts of strange contrivances till you are ill, or rush with lightning speed down the outside of a sort of lighthouse tower, and do and see innumerable other things, all to the exhilarating strains of the steam orchestra, and the shrieking siren, it is little wonder that Holbeck Feast is an event to be remembered."

The shows were Monti Brothers, Relph and Pedley's, Crighton and Testo's cinematograph, Walton's boxers, Gibson's mystery, Hasting's ground booths, Westray's freaks, Blakey's wrestling ladies, Chipperfield's menagerie, and W. Shaw's fine art. The mechanical novelties—steam and electric—were by Murphy, Waddington, G. Marshall, and G. Redfern, with motor-cars both aerial and terrestrial, Relph and Pedley, and Howden and Sons, with whirling the whirl machines, Collins and Waddington with farm-yard sets, Tuby and Hamilton with galloping horses, Waddington's yachts, and five sets of steam swings by Messrs. Burgin, Corrigan, Shaw, Amos, and Morley; Dobson's razzle-dazzle, Colling's and Batty's motors; Hutchinson, Thomas, and Johnson with gem swings; Thomas, Doubtfire, Cooper, and Johnson with gem motors; and manual swings by Hughes, Batty, Proctor, Dobson, and Morley. The long length of bazaars were provided by Messrs. Seed, Gledstone, and Howarth Brothers. The refreshment booths were provided by Messrs. Hughes, Hutchinson, and Bates. The Winchester ranges and rifle-saloons were provided by Messrs. Jameson, Cutler, Thomson, Ratcliffe, and Dobson. There were over fifty throwing games of the three-shots-a-penny variety; the principal proprietors were Messrs. Powell, Steward, Johnson, Ashcroft, and Baine.

The above list of names, exclusive as it is of some hundred or more stall-keepers and fair-ground traders, is yet large enough to indicate that the modern fair at Holbeck, Leeds, even if we omit the mention of big local feasts like Armley, Kirkstall, Woodhouse, Chapeltown, and York Road, is sufficient to prove that although Leeds Fair was abolished by the Corporation in the bad old days, there exist to-day in greater Leeds fairs of three times the importance of old Leeds fair.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the popular and courteous acting-manager of this handsome hall, has now firmly established himself a favourite in the district. The programme on the night of our visit was of the usual excellence. First came Mr. Dan Crawley, a quaint comedian, who had a very warm reception, and was as genuinely funny as ever. His songs, "Anywhere does for me," "They can't diddle me," and "Wouldn't you like to be me?" were loudly applauded. Fred Karno's comedians appeared in a screamingly funny sketch, entitled *The Smoking Concert*. This turn was staged and managed with the ability that characterises all Fred Karno's productions, and was capitally acted all round. Charming Miss Lilian Lea contributed two well-rendered songs, entitled "Peggy Machree" and "My Bungalow." The American Bioscope exhibited some excellent pictures, including "Off to the Foot Hills," "A lucky strike," "Treachery," and "A mining story." Next came Jack Charman, correctly described as "a popular vocalist." Gifted with a good voice, he was heard to advantage in two good songs, entitled "Pals" and "May I come home again?" Silent Tait next appeared in an interesting illusory entertainment, which was plentifully interspersed with quiet fun. Miss Katie Butler, a delightfully clever comedienne, made a considerable success with "Daisy" and "A sad, sad story," and a great hit was made by the Molasses Quartette, whose dancing was remarkably good, their dresses being both rich and tasteful. Miss Lilian Bishop, who looked very pretty in modern male dress, danced well and sang in acceptable fashion. The Dumond Minstrels appear as itinerant musicians and vocalists. The mandolin, the guitar, and the violin in the hands of the trio are, nevertheless, played with the taste and expression that proclaim them to be artists of considerable ability and culture. Indeed, the fiddler is an exceptional performer. Mr. Louis La Rondelle conducts with admirable skill the fine orchestra, which is one of the attractions of the establishment.

"LA MILO."

A CHALLENGE.

In view of Mrs. Ormiston Chant's strictures on "La Milo," in a contemporary, Cruickshank, "La Milo's" manager, has addressed the following letter to Mrs. Chant:—

The London Pavilion, Sept. 19, 1906.

MADAME,—I have read with a great amount of interest your article in the *Free Lance*, entitled "Morality and the Music Halls," but with regard to the section of it that treats of La Milo, though I feel confident that you write with the best of intentions, yet you must have been sadly misinformed. There is no suspicion even of sinister intention in any portion of the act; on the contrary, our artistic standpoint—I speak for Miss Montague and myself—is based on the fact that any suggestion or feature that might be in the least calculated to appeal to the baser-minded of our audience has been carefully excised, and I claim, without any fear of contradiction from any person who has seen the act, that it is entirely free from offence in any particular; and further—though this is certainly not the *raison d'être* of the exhibition—it exercises, if anything, a refining and elevating influence on the spectators.

This may perhaps read to you like a sample of professional cant, but I may state that many of our most violent critics now admit the point; indeed, so careful have we been to suppress the "living element" that those who may have gone to the Pavilion hoping to see simply a nude woman have been disappointed, and have openly complained that they saw but a "cold marble statue."

You state that you have never yet been to the Pavilion, and, therefore, I take it that you have never witnessed La Milo's exhibition. As I feel that in you we shall at least have a generous and fair-minded antagonist, might I request you to honour us with a visit, and see for yourself "the worst feature in the programme," and we are perfectly willing to abide the result. By the courtesy of Mr. Frank Glenister, I am enabled to offer you seats any evening you may favour us with your presence, and if you will kindly intimate a convenient time he will at once forward them to you.

I do trust that you will do us the justice of seeing the act you complain of before making any further strictures in the Press.

In conclusion, I may add that I am quite convinced that La Milo's poses will not "shock you profoundly," and, after a visit, I have every confidence that we may number even you amongst our converts.—I remain, Madame, with sincere respect,

CRUICKSHANK (Manager for La Milo).

MRS. COKER'S MATINEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to draw attention to the benefit matinée which (by permission of Mr. and Mrs. John Lawson) I am organising to take place at this hall on Wednesday next, the 26th inst., at 2.30 p.m., in aid of Mrs. Coker, the mother of the poor boy, James Coker, who was accidentally killed by a motor-car in the High-street, Hounslow, last week? This unfortunate accident is made all the more serious by the fact that Mrs. Coker has, within the short space of three months, lost both her husband and two other children.

She now has a baby fourteen months old, and is shortly expecting an addition to her family, which prevents her from following her occupation as a picker in the market gardens. I have communicated these facts to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, who has very graciously consented to extend her patronage to this matinée, and as the time is very short, I shall be glad to hear from any artists who will kindly appear for me, and thus assist me in getting together a substantial sum for this poor woman, whose pitiful case is deserving of every sympathy.—Yours faithfully,

LENNOX BARRY.

Hounslow Hippodrome, Sept. 20, 1906.

(Copy of letter received by Mr. Barry.)

Clarence House,
St. James's, S.W.

The Comptroller of the Household of H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught is desired by Her Royal Highness to acknowledge Mr. Lennox Barry's letter of the 16th inst. with regard to the matinée performance which it is proposed to give at the Hounslow Hippodrome on Wednesday, 26th September, in aid of Mrs. Coker, and to inform him, in reply, that it will give Her Royal Highness much pleasure to extend her patronage to the performance on that occasion.

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Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 5, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 24.
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Oct. 29, Dec. 31, Feb. 11, 18, on
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 1, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Wire,
Nov. 26, May 6, 13, 20, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
April 22, May 6, 13, 20, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, Jan. 7, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 8, 15, onwards.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.

WANTED, Really Good Companies, Dec. 3 and 17, on All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

AVENUE THEATRE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Nov. 5, only vacant date this year.
All communications,
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Attractions,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Nov. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON, Nov. 26.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, Oct. 22. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business here. L. CARSON, Keighley.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Companies for few remaining dates, Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 19. Address as above.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 5 and 19.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24a, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 10. Address, HARRY YORKE.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Dec. 10, 17, and Xmas. E. H. PAGE.
N.B.—No wires or stamped envelopes, please.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 26, Dec. 10 and 17.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

THEATRE ROYAL, SCARBOROUGH.
Sole Proprietress, Mrs. HENRY MAYHEW.
The Popular Theatre.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 29th (through obliging Miss Mary Austin and E. Vivian Edmonds, Esq.), and Nov. 5. Also First-class Pantomime, January. Apply, F. P. MORGAN, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Nov. 26 and Dec. 10.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS,
T. R., Plymouth.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.

WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17. Vacant for first-class attractions only. Full particulars, &c., to J. C. IMESON.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions (Musical), Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 19, 26.
JAMES BELL.

Vacant through disappointment, the following dates.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Nov. 19, PRINCE'S T., MANCHESTER.
Nov. 26, GRAND THEATRE, LEEDS.
Dec. 3, LYCEUM THEATRE SHEFFIELD.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

CARLTON THEATRE,
BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Companies,
Dramatic or Musical,
Dec. 3, Jan. 7 and 14.
Address,
JAMES ALEXANDER.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, Good Sound Attraction, Comedy preferred, for Oct. 22, week.
Particulars,
MANAGER.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and on.
Dramatic, Musical, or Variety Combinations.
R. ADDISON, LIMITED.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 5, Feb. 25, March 25, April 8, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, Oct., onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, March 25, onward.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Sept. 27, Oct. 1, 15, onward.
(Three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Oct. 1, 8, onward.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 29, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Oct. 29, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.

All Communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, Companies, His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness. Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. The leading theatre in the town. Seats 1,200. Thanks to Mr. Chester Fox for First Offer for Barrow of "Raffles" (including Mr. Leonard Boyne). Sorry, date already booked. Bookings (no pencillings) include Mr. Bannister Howard's Co.'s, Mr. Charles Macdona's Co.'s, Mr. Morton Powell's Co.'s, "The Prince of Pilsen," "The Walls of Jericho," "The Lion and the Mouse," Native Choir from Jamaica, "The Private Secretary," "Sergeant Brue," "The Freedom of Suzanne" (including Miss Mabel Love), "Cousin Kate," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Sailors of the King," "Wearin' o' th' Green," and "Kitty Grey."
Several of the above are return visits within the year to His Majesty's.
Christmas, and a few Spring Dates Open.

CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, and various onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Jan. 10, and various onwards.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Jan. 17, Feb. 4.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 9, and onwards, with exceptions.

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
Twice Nightly.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17. Seating capacity 1,500. Holds £65. Lighted throughout with electricity; can stage largest show on road. Wanted, Good Pantomimes. Big terms to first-class shows. CHARLES ELDERTON, Prospect Hotel, Douglas.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED, Musical Plays, and other High-class Attractions; no dramas. Vacant Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, First-class Attractions only. T. R., Stockton.

KIDDERMINSTER OPERA HOUSE.
Elegantly equipped and eminently successful.
WANTED, First-Class Companies only, Oct. 22, 23, 24, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 7, 8, 9.
500 sheets posting; 600 lithos., circulars, &c.
Address,
JAMES P. MOORE, Theatre, West Bromwich.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
Manager and Licensee, J. FRED WATSON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Nov. 5, for the above. must be strong show or useless. Musical Show preferred. Our only vacant date till Autumn, 1907.

OPERA HOUSE,
WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 4 (3 nights) and Dec. 3, also First-class Pantomime. Address, STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, and on.
W. E. PORTS.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

RAMSGATE.
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
The Old-established and Popular Theatre.
Lessee and Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
WANTED, First-class Company, Oct. 22. Vacant through obliging.
Also Good Pantomime,
Dec. 31 or Jan. 7 (first in).

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Nov. 26.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, First-class Company, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, for Nov. 12 and 26, onward.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Dec. 10.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical preferred, for Christmas week, at Drill Hall, Hereford.
(Holding capacity 1400.)
A. LOVESEY, Offa-street, Hereford.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, March 11, and on, with exceptions.
MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, Company (through breach of contract), Oct. 1 (3 nights). Company booked please note, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

SOUTHPORT OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Jan. 7 and 14, also for March and April dates.
Apply, SECRETARY.

WANTED, Companies for the Theatre Royal, Dereham, Norfolk, under the management of Mr. Horace Royle and Mr. Frank Mervin. Address, Pier, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, Companies (small, smart), for the Victoria Hall, Rhyl, Oct., Nov., sharing. Good business for good shows. FOWLER, Millbank, Rhyl.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 11, on, with exceptions.
The following is a list of future (not past) bookings and pencillings for the ensuing season, viz.:—"Beauty and the Barge," Frederick Melville Co., J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Company, "When It was Dark," "La Poupee," "Lucky Durham," Norman V. Norman, Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique." Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, Good Attractions, Oct. 15 (?), 29, Dec. 24, and on.
Address, C. M. JULIAN, R. T., Morecambe.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Musical Preferred, Oct. 1, 22, on, two or three nights each town; also booking season, 1907. Wire for Oct. 1. CHAS. CHAPLIN, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (not drama), for Oct. 15 and 22. Apply, SECRETARY.

CASINO, BEXHILL.
WANTED, Full Companies, Oct. 1, 8, 22, large stage; Shares or Certainty. Write or wire, FORBES and MAYNARD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply PROPRIETOR.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Grand Autumn Production,
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Spring and Autumn, 1907.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, 24, and 31. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, on. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 3, 24, 31. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Theatre for Christmas Week, Jan. 21 and March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for the Scala Production, Nov. 5, South preferred.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

Mr. and Mrs. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Date (through transfer), Oct. 29. CHALMERS MACKEY, Sept. 24, Coatbridge (3), Motherwell (3).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 1, Oct. 1,
Oct. 15,
Oct. 15,
Wire to-day, J. W. CORDINER,
Spa Theatre, Whitby.
Sept. 24, THEATRE ROYAL, SCARBOROUGH.

"CLAUDIAN."
The Greatest Dramatic Production Travelling.
WANTED, Large Theatres, for Christmas, New Year, and Easter. See Page 2.
WILLIAM MACLAREN, T. R., Blackburn (Return).

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas. GEORGE DENHAM, Theatre R., Bedford Leigh.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Oct. 15, for this great Play, now going stronger than ever; Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for parade.
F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Xmas Week, for "THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS"; also Nov. 5, 19, for "THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
EUGENE BERTRAM,
Royalty T., Morecambe.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Theatres, March 4, 11, April 22, 29, Aug. Bank Holiday, on, magnificently mounted and dressed. Booked by all managers and re-booked. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, P. of W. T., Mexboro'.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS,
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this most successful Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, 29, beautifully mounted, splendidly played, first-class agent, and printing ad lib. Re dates, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5 and Xmas weeks. Address, CHARLES DURIE, New T., Consett.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Nov. 5, for Mr. Harold V. Neilson,
Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, in
"THE PERFECT LOVER," by Alfred Sutro.
Only vacant date this year. Spring rapidly booking. Address, HAROLD V. NEILSON, Imperial T., S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Oct. 1, 15, and 22. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money book this Splendid Production. Vac. Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, 31. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres. CARSON, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, vacant Nov. 19 and Dec. 3 (South or Midlands).
Christmas and New Year's Weeks vacant.
Also Feb. 4 and 11, with few later.
New special scenery and effects. A solid success.
Sept. 24, GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only. Only Vacant Date this Year, Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
Supported by
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, Miss Iné Cameron, Miss Carrie Baillie.
WANTED, Dec. 3, 17, and 24, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March 4 (?), 11, April 29, May 6 (?), onwards; also Good Theatre for Summer, Stock, commencing May 20 or 27.
This, T. R., Leamington;
next, Athenæum, Lancaster.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, through transferring, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 31, various, onwards, for this sterling success and really remarkable attraction.
J. H. CLYNDES, Metropole, Hoyland.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 29,
Nov. 12,
Dec. 24.
No greater success touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.

Wire, JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this excellent Attraction, Oct. 15, between Brighton and S. Wales, also Dec. 3, and Xmas.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

MISS MARIE DAGMAR and
MR. FRED C. SOMERFIELD'S
Excellent Play,
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Vacant Oct. 22, 29,
Vacant Oct. 22, 29,
Xmas, New Year, Early Spring.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD, T. R., Colne.

WANTED, for "Life" and "East Lynne," Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29 (precede return Buchanan dates), March 18, on, magnificent pictorials. This version of "East Lynne" is licensed and protected, and any infringements will be speedily dealt with. "Aladdin" Panto., only Vacant Dates Feb. 4 and 11, First-class Theatres only, between Birmingham and Lincoln. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Muncaster T., Bootle. Letters, Palace T., Rhyl.

WANTED, Oct. 15, Wire, Wire, Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A Solid Success.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10, 31,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
Entirely New Production of
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Magnificent New Scenery and Uniforms.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-seventh week of present tour.
Booked and Re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, Printing, Scenery Al.
WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, Oct. 1 and 8, Wire for Oct. 1 and 8.
FRANK AYRTON, this, Carlton, Birmingham; next, Metropole, Abertillery.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
MISS DORA DENCH AND FULL CO.
A Drama to please everyone, and a safe booking at any Theatre.
WANTED, Theatres, vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8. Wires or letters, DENCH, T. R., Grantham.

"GEOFFREY STIRLING."
WANTED, for this High-class Play, which has created a profound impression at Aberdeen this week, Dates in Good Theatres, from Nov. 19, onwards. Address, HENRY DOUGHTY, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Way of the World, vacant Oct. 1. Miss Sidney Crowe, Star Lead. Racehorses, 2 ponies. Wire, SKARDON, to-day, Colne.

"THE TRAITOR."
Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON,
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov 5 (precede Portsmouth).
FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Xmas Week.
FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Nov. 5 (?), 19, and 26, for this never-failing attraction; also Xmas week.
H. HOLLISTER, Grand Theatre, Islington.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 1, 22, and 29.
Fifth Year of Tour.
A Sound Financial Success.
Address, STUART CLEVELAND, Boro' T., Heywood.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Her Fatal Past," Oct. 15 week unexpectedly vacant, everything carried, powerful company. Wire, T. E. WARD, T. R., Aston.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, between London and Manchester; Nov. 12, various, on, till summer, 1907. W. J. MILLER, Palace Theatre, Swansea.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
WANTED, Oct. 8, Oct. 8.
MARK BLOW,
11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's Park, London.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 1, 15, and 22.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, as follows:—
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19 (?), various, on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov., various, on.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT."
Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 24, 31.
DR. WALFORD BODIE,
Various, 1907.
Address,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres,

"FLORODORA,"
Oct. 15, Nov. 26 (3 nights), and various spring.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Oct. 29, Dec. 3 (3 nights), Dec. 31, Jan. 7, and various onwards.

"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford).
Nov. 8, 12, 19, 29 (3 nights each).

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend. Enormous Success. Thanks Mr. Buchanan for Contracts for Ten Theatres after Successful Week at Princess's, Glasgow. By arrangement with Miss Haldyard, this company can play everywhere, London included. Bookings include Sunderland, Gateshead; Rotunda, Liverpool; Barrow; Alex., Sheffield; Mexborough, Stanley, Glasgow, Dundee, Chesterfield, Leeds, West London, Macclesfield; Prince's, Bradford; Walsall, Dublin, Londonderry, Burnley, Doncaster, St. Helens, S. Shields; Alex., Birmingham; Prince's, Portsmouth; Cardiff, and R. C. Buchanan's Theatres.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28. MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, Royal, Chesterfield.

"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."
The new Romantic Servian Drama.
By Sydney Spenser and Clarence Burnette.
WANTED, Oct. 8 and 15 (follow Swindon), for this magnificent production.
JAMES HARE, 22, Silver-street, Edmonton.

GRAND OPERA.
WANTED, Oct. 8, and onwards, with exceptions, for the Virgo-Oliphant Grand Opera Company (Grand Opera (Bijou), Limited),
Répertoire: "Faust," "Maritana," "The Bohemian Girl," "Il Trovatore," &c., &c.
Cast includes:
Miss Fanny Hopwood (Soprano) (late Covent Garden, Moody-Manners, &c.), Mr. Walter Wood (Basso), Mr. Harry Thornton (Baritone) (late of Turner's Opera Co.), and Mr. Wilfred Virgo (Tenor) (late of Mme. Patti's Grand American Tour), Chorus of twenty-five; special instrumentalists, Conductor, Mr. Sydney Payne. Wanted, immediate dates. Write or wire, HERBERT LLOYD, 112, Great Portland-street, London, W. (registered offices). Next week, Bromley and Stafford. Thanks Milton Bode, Bannister Howard, Graham-Falcon, George Conquest, Charles Macdona, &c., for contracts and pencillings.

"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Oct. 1 (unexpectedly vacant), Oct. 1, Oct. 1, Oct. 1, Oct. 1.
Wire, A. B. CROSS, Pavilion Theatre, Ramsgate.
Next week, Grand T., Llandudno.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, for above Successful Attraction, Oct. 29, Nov. 5.
Address, this,
F. L. CONNYNGHAME, Queen's, Dublin;
next, Opera House, Londonderry.

Gorgeous revival of Walter Howard's new
"MAN AND WIFE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Xmas, and Feb. 11 and 18 (weeks). Only vacancies Spring 1907.
Address, T. E. WARD, T. R., Aston.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Oct. 1 and 15, for Thomas Thorne and Company. Wire, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO., in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 29, Nov. 12 (3 nights).
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 5, 12. CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, T. R., Smethwick; next, T. R., Glossop.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12; must be first-class theatre, and give equitable terms.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
This, T. R., Smethwick; next, T. R., Glossop.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 8, 22, for Stanley Carlton's Co.'s, "A Life's Story," "A Marriage of Vengeance," only dates vacant. Theatre, Burslem.

"A HEART'S DESIRE,"
By Frank Adair. By arrangement with Travis Green and Arthur Hinton.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 8, Various, onwards.
Address, H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Pantomime, with big cast of acknowledged Star Artists, Feb. 11, and on.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, Dates, for Grand Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." Powerful company of recognised artists, including Geo. Lupino and Troupe, Comic Opera Chorus, and Specialities. Grand Harlequinade. JOHN M. EAST, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11. Apply, JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Oct. 8, to precede Carlisle. DICKIE CLARE, Central Theatre, Northwich.

WANTED, Oct. 8 and 29, for "No Man's Land." HENRY HERNE, to-day, Metropole, Gateshead; next week, Gaiety, Clydebank.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Broken Melody." Xmas Week. Apply, AUGUSTE VAN BIENE, Sept. 24, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Oct. 1, 15, and 22, for the most successful Variety Combination on the road.
Wire, ONDA'S Circus, Bury.
Next week, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 1, 15, and 22, for the most Successful Variety Combination on the road. Big Success this week, Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
next week, Circus, Bury.

WANTED, Theatres, Xmas and New Year weeks, for good Variety Company. Wire, CUMBERLAND, Hippodrome, Birmingham, must be good.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR, commencing Oct. 15.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen, to complete Company. Letters only, with terms and all particulars, to EDMUND TEARLE, Court Theatre, Galway.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady (young, strongly emotional), Comedienne, Aristocratic Gent., for First-Class Company. Photos., lowest terms. STAGE-MANAGER, 58, St. John's-villas, Holloway.

"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."
WANTED, First-Class Chambermaid, young, pretty (not sing or dance); Heavy Gentleman, powerful, tall, dress well; also Intense Character Actor. Photos., refs., terms, and full particulars, G. CARLTON WALLACE, T. Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, for "The Romany's Revenge," through disappointment, good rough chambermaid, and comedian (Lancs. or Yorks. dialect), to sing or dance, good joint not objected to, rehearse next Tuesday, S. Wales. Age, height, refs., photo., terms (which must be low, for long tour), E. A'DELL, Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth, S. Devon.

WANTED, Bright Chambermaid for "The Dear Homeland," rehearse Bedford, Sept. 25. Terms, photos. (essential), &c., to GEOFFREY FULTON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, refined Chambermaid, young, pretty. Photos. and references with all applications.
E. HILL MITCHELSON, T. R., JARROW.

WANTED, long engagement, brilliant Child Actress, 14, very small for her age; sing preferred. Box 3.749, "The Era."

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Robust Character Actor, to Double, and Stage-manage. Latest photos., references, and lowest terms, MAUD HILDYARD, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MADGE DUCKWORTH'S COMPANY,
"HER NAMELESS CHILD."
WANTED, Juvenile Man (must look 21), Comedian, Chambermaid, Character Actor (small parts), Acting-Manager to play small parts, Utility Lady. Apply, SAM DUCKWORTH, T. R., Ton-y-pandy.

"THE MANXMAN" TOUR.
WANTED, through releasing, young, good-looking Juvenile Leading Gentleman, for Philip, to rehearse at Edinboro', Oct. 2; good wardrobe absolutely essential. Age, height, photo., recent references, and terms, A. B. CROSS, Grand T.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Juvenile Leading Gentleman (Military part), tall, clear voice. Terms, references, photographs. Miss MAGGIE MORTON, Town Hall, Retford.

WANTED, good Juvenile Man, to rehearse Tuesday, Stalybridge. Photos and full particulars to ARMADALE and WARREN, 4, Graham-road, Dalston, N.E. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, good Juvenile Man, good Responsible Man, and Baggage Man. Send age, height, lowest salary, photo., and last two references. A. CARLTON, T. R., Worcester.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman and Small Comedian (Pantomimist), for "Call-boy" part. Age, height, terms, and last three refs. to Box 3,750, "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile Gentleman, for Short but showy part (costume); must be young and of good appearance. To rehearse next week.
Address, HENRY DOUGHTY,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, for Sketch, Open Monday, Low Comedian and Walking Gent., short parts. Good salary offered; those near Newcastle preferred. MURRAY, 26, Agate-road, W.

WANTED, young useful couple, lady for Lead, steady, attentive, up in Portable Stock business, open Sept. 24. HODSON, Theatre, Bolsover, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Gentleman to play part of Theodore Grey in "Sally in Our Alley," also Juvenile Society Lady; must be experienced. Write, CISSIE LAWSON, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Lady and Gentlemen Amateurs, for Recognised Fit-up; long tour. M. L. RONDELLE, Market Hall, Wadhurst.

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman for a Company giving one night performances round London, not tall, refinement essential, evening rehearsals. Write, giving particulars, to Box 3,760, "The Era."

WANTED, Trio or Quartette of First-class Speciality Dancers, Clever Children who can Sing and Dance, and Wardrobe Mistress who can cut out and make. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Intelligent Young Man, as beginner in Dramatic Work, with first-class Repertoire Company, one willing to make himself useful and give a little time preferred. BEN SYDNEY, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

WANTED, Young, Pretty Girls, for Dancing Troupes.
Call, Dancing Academy, 118, Kennington-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Clarice Lilian, Violinist, Vocalist, and Pianist, Dis. Oct. 15. Offers invited. Add., 6, Orwell-place, Ipswich. Tour or perm.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Artists in all Lines, and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, Dancers and Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime and Sketches.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars and enclosing photograph, to JOHN TILLER and Co.,
15, Lime-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photo., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, all Lines, Sisters, Principal Boys, Girls, Cat with Speciality. Photos., Pantomime experience, GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists for "Cinderella." Send terms, particulars, where working next two weeks. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, Wanted, Known, George Conquest open to negotiate for Aerial Ballets.
Address as above.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies. Apply Tuesday and Thursday next, 2 to 3, EDWARD CRANSTON (Second Floor), Rulo's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Three Comedians, working together London pantomime, suitable two mates and captain, with speciality. EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, W.

WANTED, Musical Director for Pantomime. Letters only, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-rd.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Trios, Quartettes, Troupes, Acrobatic Dancers, also Juvenile Troupes, at Liberty, Panto. DIRECTRESS, 43, St. James's-street, Leeds. Smart girls apply.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy, at Liberty for Pantomime. Monday, Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy, last year West London T. Permanent, 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lottie Bray, at Lib. Principal Boy or Girl, London only. Thanks for offers. All coms., Cambridge, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bouverie Pleydell, at Liberty for Pantomime,
to play boy or girl.
17th, Empire, Nottingham;
24th, Empire, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Maud Esmond, Refined Burlesque Artist, vacant for Principal or Second Boy, London, 6 weeks. 10, Kenbury-gardens, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell.

Specially engaged by Fred Conquest, Esq., "The Freak's Revenge."
WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, Wolf, Poodle, Cat, Traps, &c. Address, LEON DUBOIS, Euston Music Hall, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, by Agbra, vacant for Panto. in his Latest and Sensational Act of Human Strength, now touring France. C/o "Era."

WANTED, Known, Chas. H. Ross, Comedian and Pantomimist, Disengaged for Panto, 1905-6, Britannia T., London, N. Play Clown if required. 70, Marquis-road, Camden-square, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Brooks, Comedians, &c., are at Liberty for Pantomime. Last six seasons with Messrs. Dottridge and Longden, F. W. Warden, Esq., and Milton Bode, Esq. BROTHERS BROOKS, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, Harry Barford, producer or Stage-Manager, last season Producer Fulham Theatre. 34, Hillcrest-road, Acton Hill, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, thoroughly up in panto. work, to paint a complete production; quick worker, able to get the best effects and colouring. Only those experienced in panto. work apply. Address, with refs., VICTOR, Pelham House, Paignton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, Theatre Fit-ups, Repainting, &c.; experienced. Low terms. Note address, 104, Loughborough-park, W. HENRY, Scenic Artist.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contracts; best results; lowest terms. W. B. ROBINSON, Carlyle Scenic Studio, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by young man, with Scenic Artist, in London; would make himself useful and take small wage; can paint a little. C. D., Styles Farm, Horsmonden, Kent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Acting-Manager, commence Oct. 1.
Send references,
and salary required.

WANTED, Stage-Manager and Producer, one used to Musical Comedy, Burlesque, and General Stock for fifteen to twenty weeks, from March, 1907. Apply, stating experience, previous appointments, and salary required, to SECRETARY, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Experienced Manager, who thoroughly understands music hall business, stage-management, advertising, and front of house, for provincial music hall. State absolute lowest terms, reference, &c.,
Box 3,758, "The Era."

WANTED, Secretary. Well-known Dramatic and Variety Agency,
Salary £2 per week.
Experience not Essential;
must invest £100.
Box 3,759, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Young Gentleman, for Secretarial Work (resident position); must be good at correspondence, accounts, bookkeeping, shorthand, and smart typist. Full particulars of experience, &c., and salary expected, HENRY CHATTELL, Maiden Cottage, Watford.

WANTED, Book-keeper, for a Music Hall, capable of assisting in management; must have good experience. Apply (in confidence), stating fully age, references, experience, and salary required, to Box 3,751, "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Refined Young Gent., as Baggageman and General Assistant. Photo., age, refs., salary, to L., 33, Butler-street, Blackpool.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Carpenter and Wardrobe Mistress, both capable of small parts. Full particulars, terms, references, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Good Carpenter, tall, play small part. Photos., height, last two refs., with addresses. T. ARTHUR JONES, T. R., Batley.

WANTED, as Companion to Lady Artist, a smart, intelligent girl, age 14; must be small for age. Will be trained as assistant to illusionist. Comfortable home. Address, Box 3,754, "The Era."

WANTED, by a young Gentleman Clerk, age 22, Engagement, Box Office, or Assist. Manager; good refs. from previous situation. J. C., 298, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

WANTED, by Young Man, smart appearance, Situation as Clerk, with view to learning Assistant-Manager's Duties; small salary in exchange for services; good references. Box 3,757, "The Era."

WANTED, in October, Situation in Music Hall, office work, and assist manager, by young man (22). Premium given. Box 3,741, "The Era."

WANTED, position as Advance Agent, Lib. Sept. 29, used to Fit-ups, Pictures, &c.; fourth season Llandrindod; refs. YATES, Vaga House, Llandrindod.

WANTED, Known, Frank L. Webber, Disengaged for Carpenter and Parts; also Sidney Lewis as Property; joint. Excellent refs.; abstainer. 207, Malmesbury Park-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, Baggage Man seeks employment; good refs.; young, willing to make himself useful. FRANK SEARLE, 48, New-st., Exmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, Electrician and Stage-Manager, 2½ years with Mr. Laidler, Princess's Theatre, Bradford, desires change new theatre or where modern electrical improvements are required preferred; last Panto. 400 lamps permanently fixed on stage in a fortnight by self. RUSHWORTH, Faraday House, Earl-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Window Biller, smart, Disengaged, would open new ground, take evenings in house. TAYLOR, 51, Camellia-street, Wandsworth-road, S.W.

WANTED, Situation as Billposter; experienced; good references; steady, sober, and reliable. W. WEEKES, 1, King's Cross-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, age 20, requires Stage Situation, as Assistant or otherwise; no previous experience; smaller salary. 19, Reginald-road, Eastney, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Competent Wardrobe Mistress, design, cut, fit, take whole production through. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-rd., Teddington.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

LYCEUM THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First-class Leader, open Oct. 1; must have held similar position. State terms, age, recent references, and fullest particulars, GEORGE BURNLEY, Musical Director.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, to commence Oct. 1,
Conductor (Violin),
Piano, Cornet,
Trombone, Bass Flute,
Drums.

WANTED, Musical Director for Pantomime; must be well up in Pantomime Work.
Address, B. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First Violin, Leader, Pianist and 'Cellist (ladies), for high-class café; only experienced really good players need apply; young, good appearance essential. Terms, photo., reference, to Box 3,756, "The Era."

EASTBOURNE TOWN BAND.
WANTED, immediately, Two First Violins, Clarionet, Cornet, Horn (all must be good); others write. Terms, shares. MANAGER, 105, Tideswell-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Lady Violin, Cornet, Bass, Flute, and Piccolo, Oct. 10 to Nov. 24. Apply, STANLEY, Exhibition Office, Midland-street, Hull.

WANTED, a Violinist or Pianist, with own Portable, to join at once; money low, but sure. Albert Forshaw write in. Send lowest terms. W. H. GRANT, Bazaar Combination, Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone.

WANTED, Second Violin, Drums and Effects, commence at once. Wire, Sat., BANDMASTER, Circus, Framlingham; Sun., Mon., Stowmarket, Suffolk.

WANTED, Solo Cornet and Clarionet, to Double String preferred.
ALEX CORRISON,
Conductor, Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, must be good, for two weeks, Eastbourne Municipal Military Band, commence immediately. BEHARLEY, 80, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, a good, reliable, Cornet, young; evening dress essential. Photo. Miss Jennie Sears write. JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Town Hall, Market Drayton, Salop.

WANTED, Clarionet, Open Monday, Sept. 24, permanency. Wire terms, &c., E. GRAHAM-FALCON, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Trombone and Solo Cornet. Terms, 30s. per week.
Griffiths Town, Sat.; Usk, Mon.; Raglan, Tues.; Monmouth, Wed., Monmouthshire.

BAND 3rd K.W. KENT REGIMENT.
WANTED, Euphonium or Trombone Players, for Permanent Staff, good band pay given during Training. Apply, THE BANDMASTER, Barracks, Maidstone.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting Ireland, good Trombone, to join at once. Wire, METCALFE, Leader, Sat., Craiguemanagh; Mon., Enniscorthy; Tues., Wexford.

WANTED, Violoncellist, Experienced, for Daily Café Engagement, Ireland. Salary, 30s. weekly. State full particulars, STEWART PHIPPS, Musical Director, Port Soderick, I.O.M.

WANTED, a Pianist, for Variety Business, orchestral; must be first-class, strictly sober, gentlemanly; winter resort, seaside. Terms and refs. (six nights, one matinée), apply, CONDUCTOR, Palace, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Pianist, Good Vamper and Sight-reader, to travel, Singer preferred. Permanent situation to suitable man. MARSHALL'S Auction Tent, Heywood, Lancs.

WANTED, a Good Pianist, Orchestral, open Darwen Monday, tour, evening dress. Age, terms 30s., wire, BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, Smart Youth Pianist, for Animated Pictures (Touring), and make himself useful. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Pianist, must be thoroughly competent sight reader and used to Variety business. Lowest terms and last three references. A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, for Suburban Theatre, Pianist, Violin, Viola, Clarionet, Cornet, and Double Bass, permanency. State salary, refs., enclosing addressed envelope, to Box 3,736, "The Era."

WANTED, Oct., First-Class Drummer, with Tympani, Glockenspiel, Zylophone, and effects, must be smart and experienced. Send references, age, and terms (twice daily, no Sundays), to HORACE TRAGUE, Musical-Director, Municipal and Opera House Orchestra, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Double Drummer, with own Effects. Age, references, lowest terms,
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Musicians,
for Good Line Band,
Clarionet,
Cornet,
and Piccolo.
Apply, P.S.,
c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WANTED, immediately, Musicians, Bass, 'Cello, &c. (ladies), Café work. Particulars, Box 3,747, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Musicians to complete Orchestra of ten, including piano, or Conductor, to supply same, for the Paisley Hippodrome, to open Oct. 15; must be thoroughly competent and steady. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Good Band of 5 or 6 Performers, for about £10 per week, with fares. Permanency. Letters to MANAGER, Exhibition Syndicate, 80, Coleman-street, London, E.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success with own band. Disengaged Oct.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Concert Orchestral Conductor, with good Company or Corporation; excellent classical and popular répertoire; first-class testimonials. Box 3,636, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, A. Peulevé, Musical-Director (Piano), at Liberty Oct. 1, Variety or Theatre; excellent refs; disengaged through change of management. Address, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Shortly at Liberty, really first-class Conductor, smart, and experienced. Offers invited. Address, Box 3,743, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical Director, Violin, Engagement, Variety preferred, thoroughly experienced and reliable; highest references. Address, Box 3,740, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagements (Violins), as Leader and Repetiteur, together or singly, at Liberty. Terms mod. Add., W. and G. VERNON, Violinists, 66, Winstanley-crescent, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, Viola, Disengaged Sept. 24, Britannia Pier, Gt. Yarmouth. ELEANOR STEVENS, Perm. Add., 40, Hilldrop-rd., London, N.

WANTED, by Violinist (Lady), Quick Reader, an engagement. Address, B. W., 274, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Violinist, first or second, Theatre or Variety; good refs. and experience. MODEN, 17, Gordon-place, Crown-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Engagement in a Theatrical or other Orchestra, or teach Violin. C. NESBITT, Railton-road Post Office, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist, at Liberty Sept. 29, tour or permanent; good appearance. Address, VIOLINIST, Assembly Rooms, Great Malvern.

WANTED, Known, Violinist and 'Cellist, concluding hotel engagement (third season), at Liberty end of Sept., together or singly, theatre, café, &c. 5, Redesdale-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, any Line; splendid references; can open at once. P. LEWIS, 13, Guppy-street, Swindon.

WANTED, Engagement, through Closing, by R. Tripp, solo cornet, Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes, thoroughly experienced, competent, reliable, excellent refs., Dis. Oct. 1.

WANTED, Known, First Cornet, Disengaged Oct. 1, well experienced, any business; also in transposition. CORNET, 45, St. John's-walk, Bridlington, York.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, First or Second, experienced, variety or theatre. Can open at once. J. ROBSON, 2, Ring-o'-Bells-yard, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Solo Cornet, finishing Summer Season, Sept. 30; excellent references. SOLO CORNET, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, Perm. or Deputy; reliable and steady player; good references. Address, CORNET, 45, Sydner-road, Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Cornets and Trombone, together or separate; experienced, any business. Apply, WOODS, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet; experienced in Theatre or Variety; reliable; good references. J. A., 12, Bodafon-row, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement as First Cornet; thoroughly experienced and reliable. Address, FOWLER, 98, Liverpool-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Mr. A. Launder, Solo Cornet, Engagement, theatre or variety, good references, disengaged Sept. 29. 38, Castle Hill-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Clarionet, any business, reliable, good refs., at Liberty now. Address, CHAS. MANTLE, 11, Victoria-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, at Liberty Theatre or Variety, thoroughly experienced and reliable; good refs. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Clarionet, combine Violin (late Band-Sergeant); would join good Band, any line, in return for good situation. Distance no object. Apply, JACQUES, 19, Seymour-place, Portman-square.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, any Business; distance no object; good references. B. GEORGE, c/o P. T. Cooke, Swindon-road, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, any business, experienced, reliable, and good refs. COWIE, 98, Ashford-villa, Ashford-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass; good experience in every business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany). Disengaged Oct. 1. Herr OTTO BAYER, 3, Woodfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, at Liberty Oct. 1, any Business. Apply, "BASSO," Grand Theatre, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, Double Bass.
H. SMITH, 35, Islip-street, Kentish Town.

WANTED, by Solo Trombone, Engagement, finishing season, late Grenadier Guards and Crystal Palace. PERCIVAL, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, an Engagement by a good Trombonist, can combine Violin. MUSICIAN, 16, Sydney-road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

WANTED, by Good Trombone, any Business, at Liberty Oct. 1. C. KITCHENER, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Nellie Kent, Trombone and piano. 35, Claybrooke-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horn, either First or Second, Disengaged Oct. 7; good refs. Box 3,742, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as E flat Horn Player, any Business, can join at once. Address, JOHN H. CRAIG, 19, St. Ann's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Viola; play Violin by request; any Business; good refs. ALFRED W. MONTAGUE, 65, Goldsmith's row, Hackney.

WANTED, by experienced Oboe, Engagement; sober, reliable, late R.A. Band, Woolwich. FRANK FIELD, 2, Lambert-street, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboist, at once, any Business, well up in variety work; good references. OBOE, 6 Camden-st., Islington Green, N.

WANTED, by Æneas Gibson, Harpist, Pianist, first-class engagement, England or abroad; long experience, high-class references; rapid reader any class of music; conclude engagement end Sept., age 31. Musical Instrument Dealer, Ilkley.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Benn, Solo Harpist and Pianist, Disengaged Oct. 1. Panto. settled. Grand Theatre, Leeds. Apply, Summer Gardens (Second Season), Bridlington.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Oct. 8, A. Brook, 'Cellist, and F. Brook, Flautist; experienced London men, any business, soloists; just concluding eighteen weeks' successful season Tynemouth Palace. 9, Tynemouth-place, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Experienced, Engagement, hotel or café preferred, soloist.
Box 3,744, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced, well up in all business, just disengaged. 47, Melrose-gardens, W. Kensington Park.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, good references; or deputising. O. H., 53, Sugden-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flute and Piccolo, finishing season Sept. 30. Address, FLAUTIST, Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay. Excellent refs.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Flute and Piccolo; good references; can join at once. W. MARSHALL, 19, Portland-place, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by smart young Pianist, with Picture Show, Variety, or Drama, Dis. end of Sept.; sight reader. ROGERS, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Known, John Brierley, Pianist and Conductor, at Liberty Oct. 1, last three years H. and F. Poole's Myriorama. Address, 152, Ribble-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist; slight experience and good reader. Address, ERNEST GILPIN, 49, Swan-street, Trinity-square, S.E.

WANTED, by Accompanist-Pianiste, Engagement.
Box 3,748, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist (reliable), who can Combine Second Violin or Viola, re-engagement. Refs. Terms moderate. 24, Theresa-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, any business, excel. refs., can open Mon., 24th. Write or wire, STOLL, 30, Egerton-st., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drums and Tymps, &c. Pier, Hastings, this season. Any Business. Refs. Address, JAS. ROGERS, 42, Cambridge-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drummer and Tympanist, with own tympanis. Highest London references. Address, DRUMMER, Albert Hall, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, variety preferred. Good references. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer; thoroughly experienced; excellent references, Disengaged Sept. 24. R. S. GEISS, 5, Bradstone-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Re-engagement; experienced and reliable; any business. DRUMS, 10, Cadogan-st., Sloane-square, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Rosabel Ladies' Military Band, now concluding successful season's engagement, Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth, at Liberty Oct. 1, for Exhibitions, &c. Address, Miss ROSE TELFER, c/o Messrs. Hart and Son, 28, Wardour-street, London.

WANTED, Known, the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, can supply any number of Artists; brilliant costume, large répertoire. CONDUCTRESS, "Volthurst," Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Madame Anglees's Ladies' Orchestra, vacant October, onwards. Address, 78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for King Ohmy's
Great Circus Company,
the Greatest Star Turns and Up-to-date Novelties, Startling Sensations, Riders, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Clowns, &c.; all must be of the very best, to complete the Greatest Circus Show and Variety Entertainment now before the English public, to visit some of the largest towns in Lancashire and Yorkshire.
Opening date, Oct. 15. Over 100 Artists already engaged, and 100 more still wanted. Address, KING OHMY,
111, Raikes-road, Blackpool.
Interviews by appointment only.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS
AND HOME OF EQUESTRIANISM,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, the Best of Everything that can be done in a Circus Ring, Boarded Floor, with Ring Mat. Address as above. The opening is fixed for Oct. 15. Wanted, Novelties, Weekly. All Artists to Date their letters, and to give permanent address if possible, as it is not convenient at all times to answer letters per return. All Male Artists engaged to me for over one week must please dress my ring doors when not in the ring with their own act. I find evening dress uniform.
JOHN HENRY COOKE.

WANTED, Aerial Acts, Musical Clowns, or any other Novelty, suitable for Circus Ring, Xmas and onwards.
Send absolute lowest terms to
GEORGE GASCOIGNE,
Victoria Villa, Victoria-terrace, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Good Riders, Clowns, and Circus Acts, commencing Oct. 1; town small; terms must be low. TRANSFIELD'S CIRCUS, Dartford.

WANTED, Circus and Variety Acts all Lines.
SAM HART,
7, Lancaster House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton, London.

WANTED, a Good Acrobat (Top-mounter), good on his hands, and able to play comedy part. Box 3,745, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Lad, about 15, for Acrobatic business, must be small. Apply, H. PRINCE, Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, for Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, travelling France, three respectable Young Men, one as Elephant and Camel-keeper, others as Inside-men. Can join at once. Apply for particulars, &c., FRANK BOSTOCK, c/o Mr. Devere, 17, Rue Saulnier, Paris.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Tudor, Four Champion Trick Ponies, Five Acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare. Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, with Riding Collie Dog, Pigeon Charmers and Foot Equilibrists, Liberty for Oct., with six Acts, own Horse, and good Dresses. 144, High-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Rosa Monteros Tour, eight weeks, Hippodrome, Llandudno. Managers with buildings suitable for circus company send vacant dates.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Novelty Act.
Sanger's Hippodrome, on tour.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, Refined Gymnastic Speciality, vacant Dec. 24, on. Agent, STEBBINGS. Perm., 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats and Equilibrists, also Comedy Bar Act, two distinct turns, at Lib. Nov. 12, also for Pantos. All coms., 130, Magdalen-road, Norwich. Enormous success everywhere.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday, Queenie Lolo, Lady Gymnast and Teeth Expert, now concluding Successful Engagement at Hippodrome, Llandudno. Address, 127, Aughton-road, Southport.

WANTED, by Onzelo and Onro, Comedy Juggiers, Equilibrists, and Funny Trapeze Experts, Oct. 22, Halls or Pantos. Coms., 76, Cobourg-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Joe Hastings thanks the three proprietors for offers. Settled Hanneford's Circus, Ireland. Perm. Add., 62, Monument-rd., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Young Man wishes Engagement, in Comedy Bar Act, or Hand-to-hand Balancing Act. WILL MILLAR, 174, Snowdon-street, Glasgow, S.S.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
Representing the best establishments.
The Best Numbers Required.
Must see all, Recommendations useless.
no matter who from.
30, Maiden-lane, Strand. 6704 Central.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Sept. 17, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Good Sisters, Doubles doing Singles, Clever Comedians, &c. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines. Full particulars ,with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
DALTON'S AGENCY. send private address where
DALTON'S AGENCY. staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Gran-
DALTON'S AGENCY. beste Withington," Tele-
DALTON'S AGENCY. phone, 193 Didsbury. 29,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Mauldeth-road West, With-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ington, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

Palace, Lancaster.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines,
JOHN FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Olympia, opening day Oct. 1. Apply,
RICHARDSON, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29. CHARLES A JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, Music Hall, Circus, Vocalists, and others requiring Engagements. Apply, INTERNATIONAL AGENCY, 64, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Oct. 15, onwards. Good Combinations Entertained.
Write, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big singing acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool. Contract waiting for the Hugo Troupe. Kindly wire address.

WANTED, Artists coming North to Send Vacant Dates and Terms to ANDERSON'S AGENCY, 6, Gt. Clyde-street, Glasgow.

PALACE, BOSTON. Lessee and Manager, GEO. SAPHRINI. PUBLIC HALL, WISBECH. Lessees and Managers, CHAS. MOSS and GEO. SAPHRINI.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Oct. 1, onwards. Two weeks to suitable artists. All communications, GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Wanted, all Artists to Notice the above Hippo. is now closed, and will not be opened again, but will be dismantled in due course; therefore, all contracts for the coming seasons are cancelled. This is the fifth time this notice has appeared.—Signed,
Mrs. E. P. E. VEITCH, Proprietress.
C. ALGIE, General-Manager.
Sept. 22, 1906.

WANTED, Anything and Everything that's good. Send lowest terms, vacant dates, and bookings, and lithos. (if any), to BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

Notice change of address.

WANTED, Top Liners, Top Liners, Specialities, Comedy Act, &c., for Oct. 1 and onward. LEO FRITZ'S Agency, 211, Parade, York-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Oct. 22, onwards, Top Liners, Serios, Sisters, and Variety Acts, all Lines. Lithos., memos., T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Big Top-liner, Oct. 1. Wire; also Talent, all lines, Oct. 8 and on.
ALFRED SELWYN, Empire Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Acts, Oct. 1.
OTTO C. CULLING, Circus of Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Smart Man that can get in Schools for Conjuring. Write, F. DAVIES, Post Office, Kingston, Surrey, till called for.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
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WILL SLEY,
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WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
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41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Manchester.
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Manchester.
Manchester.
Manchester.

Telephone 09144.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
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finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.

WANTED, February,
onward,
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object.
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Stars, Novelties, Big Features, immediate and future dates, for leading London and provincial establishments. Nothing but the best. Nothing too big. Visiting this week Glasgow, Blackpool, Morecambe, and all West Coast Towns. Full list bookings, &c., H. CAZMAN, 55, Albert-road, Blackpool.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once.
Silence a polite negative.
Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Nothing too Big,
to Communicate,
DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY, 24, Islington, Liverpool.
Telephone No. 1114 Royal.

WANTED, Big Stars, Oct. 1, onwards. Full for small numbers. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you.
JESS VERNO'S AGENCY,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, for Oct. 1, 8, and 15,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Star Turn, with own combination, one week commencing Nov. 12. Address, HARRY YORKE.
N.B.—A Unique Opportunity for Star Turn. Tremendous business certain, as the Palace Music Hall are running Opera this week.

WANTED, Big and Small Turns for the North, Oct. 1, and on. Terms must be low. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Talent, Share or Salary, Circus, Hippodrome, Rochdale.
Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: Sisters Russell, Chas. Woodward, Vernon's Bioscope, La Tosca, Lynn, Clyo and Rochelle, Tom White's Arabs, Rene and Smith. Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Oct. 1, onward.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

THE HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Oct. 1, First-Class Specialities; also wanted, good Comedians and Comedy Acts of every description, for Winter Season, commencing Oct. 8. Lowest terms, &c. Apply, GEO. ZALVA.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

Telegrams, "Nedlog, London."
Telephone No. follows.
Please Note Change of Address.
Please Note Change of Address.
Please Note Change of Address.
Please Note Change of Address.
Please Note Change of Address.
V. GOLDEN,
V. GOLDEN,
V. GOLDEN,
V. GOLDEN,
V. GOLDEN,
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.

WANTED, the Greatest Novelties, of all descriptions,
for
America (North and South),
Australia,
and the
Continent.

Also,
New Productions of Sketches,
Double Turns, Comedians,
&c.

N.B.
Wanted, Ladies,
Good Appearance,
Good Singers and Dancers,
and
Instrumentalists,
for Pantos.,
&c.

Please Note Change of Address,
Please Note Change of Address,
Please Note Change of Address,
Please Note Change of Address,
Please Note Change of Address,
12, Little Newport-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
12, Little Newport-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
12, Little Newport-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
12, Little Newport-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
12, Little Newport-street, Leicester-square, W.C
(Back of Hippodrome).
(Back of Hippodrome).
Office Hours, 10.30 to 5.
Private Address,
172, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.
172, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.
172, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

Attention.
Attention.
? ? ? ?
La Magdalene
La Magdalene
will produce in a short time
a Big Novelty.
a Big Novelty.

For further particulars
watch this Paper.

For my Address
see
Agents' Column of "The Era"
every week.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Specialities and other Acts, Oct. 29, Nov. 5 (South), Dec. 3, 10 (North).
MARTINO'S AGENCY, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, for Long Tour, a really good Speciality. State full particulars, and where Act can be seen, to JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Town Hall, Market Drayton, Salop.

WANTED, to Play Part in Sketch, Young Man; must sing and dance well; height about 5ft. 4½in. State all particulars, salary required, and if possible send photo. (which will be returned), to W. H. WALLIS,
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Girls (14 to 18), experience necessary, good voices essential. Apply personally to CARTER'S Dixie Girls, 40, Fitzwilliam-road, Clapham.

WANTED, a Ventriloquial Entertainer; must be up-to-date and steady; good long engagement to suitable person. Apply, with lowest terms, SHAW, 20, High-st., Ferndale, S. Wales.

WANTED, Good Ventriloquist, Long Engagement. No broken dates. Address or wire, first instance, Mrs. LEE, G.P. Office, Treherbert.

WANTED, young, nice Skating Girl, for long Engagement, young, small, and nice girl. Send photo. to AGENCE RUBINI, 12, Boulevard du Temple, Paris.

WANTED, Mesmeric Subjects to apply (letter in first instance) to
ELSON, 68 Macfarlane-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, for Tour, commencing Oct. 8, Bioscope, with latest pictures, one hour show nightly. Lowest terms to WILL HALL, 16, Thwaites-st., Barrow.

WANTED, an Operator, for Cinématograph, one used to Electricity; also one to take Pictures and Develop preferred. Apply, RICHARDSON, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Bioscope Limelight Operator. State age, absolute lowest for permanent shop, references, which will be applied for. B. GRAPHE, Post Office, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with own Machine, &c., for Long Tour of best Theatres, on sharing terms. Write, KARDOC, T. R., Dover.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Charles Beanland, Comedian and Cartoonist, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 5, and 12, '06. The Era, Sat., Sept. 15, says:—Mr. Charles Beanland, that delightfully original comedian, was very amusing in his humorous songs, and kept the house in roars at his many "funniosities." Monday next, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, in his speciality, the Cycling Monkey, Vacant Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and 8. 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Nov. 19 and 26, the Great Ragluz, American Eccentric Golf Ball Manipulator, North only. Next, Emp., Greenock.

WANTED, by Walter Howard, Refined Comedian and Instrumentalist, Sept. 24, or Tour. Fine show. 18, Boyson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct., Xmas, The Happy Dutchman, with Concertinacalities. BUVAL, Palace, Gloucester, Mon. 'Phone, 1833, Tottenham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Allan Hanbury, Eccentric Patter Comedian, Great Success, Stoll Tour. Wire, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bert Rainer, Comedian and Vocalist, concluding seventeen weeks here. Wire, Pier Pav., Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Nov. and Dec. next, Herr Schuler, World's Greatest Saxophonist. San Francisco says: Sousa has not anyone in his band equal to him. Communications to 49, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Henry A. Moore, the Renowned Actor and Mimic, Vacant Monday and Oct. 1. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Leslie Clements, Banjoist, at Lib. for Halle, Concert Party, Tour, &c. Wire or write, 106, Tottington-road, Bury.

WANTED, Monday next, and few immediate Dates, by Louis Murray. All coms., 118, Great Mersey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Bosanquet, vacant Sept. 24, a sure success everywhere, top and bottom. Wire, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday, Leslie H. Murray, Magician, Disengaged Monday next. Wire, 132, Hampton-road, Southport.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bert Boothroyd, Oct. 1, in his original Act, including Child Mimicry, Comedian of to-day, Lady Serio, and the inevitable Coon Artist, with Speciality Dance. This and next, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Magician and Bioscope Operator, Nov. 26, onwards. All coms. to perm., 27, Minto-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Chevalier T. H. Crowther, Champion Skater and Swordsman, at Liberty Monday next, on, two Acts, 30 to 120 minutes. Kursaal, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Known, Gicardo, Marvellous Boy Juggler, now appearing on the Macnaghten London Circuit, other halls to follow, open for November. Thanks to Fred Durham for booking me thirty-three weeks' work. Permanent, 19, George-st., Euston-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 15, onward, by the Great and Original Kyoto, and his mysterious Comedy Japanese Box. A laughing and applauding hit. A wonderful Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, and Conjurer. Also May Geraldine, Dancing Chic Comedienne. Enormous success, New Hippo., Burton. Mail, Sept. 18.—Kyoto was one of the big hits of the evening. He was marvellous in his contortions. He introduced some clever Conjuring and juggling tricks; the burlesque of accepted smart work evoked roars of laughter. Sept. 24, T. R., York. Wire quick for the above certain successes. A sure draw.

WANTED, Known, Miss Frances Ferina and Mr. John Hitchins are appearing in an original oddity, called "A Motor Muddle," "Pity the Blind," by Mr. Harry Pleon, Public Hall, Barnsley. Address en route.

WANTED, Monday next, by Zelda, Novel Musical Act; also Wal Owen, Silent Comedy Act. Always successful. Wire, The Palace, Porth.

WANTED, The Bohemians (Will and Madge), vacant Oct. 8; tremendous success this week P. Palace, Liverpool; next, Roscommon, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 1, 22, 29, for Duncan and Brasque's Refined Musical Dramatic Duologue, "A Dressing-room Romance." Well acted, well dressed, bright number, highly complimented by every manager. Address, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Sardous, Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers. The laughter hit of every programme. Also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Wire or write, c/o CAMERON, 315, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 1, &c., Bob Pearson, Vocal Comedian, Humorist, and Lecturer; also Lily Pender, Comedienne Balladist, and Brilliant Pianist; Re-engaged Jury's Animated Pictures. Clarendon Hall, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Known, the Lashmars, Big Success Hippodrome, Blackpool, now touring Wales, Vacant Oct. 22, on; also Panto., Second Girl, Cat, and Speciality. Address, Post Office, Abergavenny.

WANTED, by The Prinellas, Monday next, also Oct. 1, for their beautiful Rural Scena, "A Country Flirtation." Also Smart Single Turn. Wire, 10, Warwick-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Monday next, and Oct. 1, by the Allans, in their high-class musical speciality. Wire, Hippodrome, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success through Hungary.

WANTED, Known, Lang and Beal, Knockabout Musical Eccentrics, Vacant Oct. 29, also for panto., parts and speciality. Letters, c/o DREW BAYLEY, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 8 and 15, by Peakman and Walsh, Comedy and Expert Jugglers. This, Metropole, Manchester; next, Hippodrome, Salford. Good Agent write.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, by Heath and Wright, great success of Burlesque on "Cavalleria Rusticana," smart dialogue, good singing, roars of laughter. Wire, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Monday next, Esdale Bros., Novelty Comedians. Enormous success, Empire, York. Wire, 14, Clementhorpe, York.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lee and Arden, Hit, Palace, Glasgow. Wire, Palace, or c/o Leitch, 6, Millar-street, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents to Note that after Sept. 24 we, Maxford and O'Neill, will be known as Smith and Mews.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to Know Clyo and Rochelle will in future be known as Wall and Robson.

WANTED, Sept. 24, Dec. 24, Jan. 21, by Los Granadas, World's Greatest Trampolin Comedy Novelty. 64, Upper Sutton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, 24th and Oct. 1, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Conjurers, Pot-pourri Act. Wire, Pavilion, Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, the Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act; also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct acts, Vacant Oct. 1, 8, 15. Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

WANTED, Oct. 1, on, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, first-class act, well dressed, and refined. Thanks H. Kemble, Esq., for recommendations. Usual success, this week, Northampton; Monday, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 1 and 8,
by the Great Albano Troupe.
Address,
Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, immediate dates or tour, for "The Musical Outcast" Sketch Co., for Oct. 1, and onwards. Playing with enormous success. Reliable agent wanted. Wire or write. CYRIL GODWIN, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, for my Successful Sketch "A Gipsy's Revenge," four artists, special set carried. JESSIE ELVIN, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, for Matt Wilkinson's Comedy Success, "The Registry Office," and Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Hippo., Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Onda Bros., and Will Onda and Company, in "Motor Maniac." A draw. Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, by Billy Ross and Co., greatest comedy act. Starring, this, Hippo., Coventry; next, Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau, World-famed Troupe of Trick, Somersault, and the Highest Leaping Dogs in England, a few dates vacant from Oct. 8 to Dec. 15. Christmas settled. Communications, Red Lion, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Large Halls, two, three, or four weeks, for Great Fasting Man, Sacco, and Animated Picture Company. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Dates for Le Clair, with Urban Bioscope and Troupe of Dogs, one or both, 74 weeks Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope; Change of Films Weekly. Lime or electric. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, South Norwood.

WANTED, Dates for Shaw's Bioscope, first-class shows, electric or lime, latest films, permanency or tours. 154, Borough-rd., Middlesbrough.

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For price apply MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N. The largest stock of up-to-date Automatic Machines in the trade. Telegrams, "Minervanto, London," Telephone, 2152 North.

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WANTED, Immediately, Lady Character Reader, for Dahomey Exhibition, travelling fairs, &c. Mme. Cassello wire if disengaged. NORMAN, Fair Ground, Canterbury.

WANTED, Two Lady Wrestlers, for a Booth, shares or salary; or a good Performing Novelty; must have paintings, or can get posters. An organ to the show if required. G. BAKER, Post Office, Faversham, Kent.

WANTED, one or two Smart Lady Paraders, for cinématograph, join at once. Address, COTTRELL'S MODERN AMERICAN ENTERPRISE, Show Ground, Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire, till Thurs.; after, Market-place, Darlington.

WANTED, Good Knockabouts, also Lady and Gentleman Paraders; those with experience and used to fair business state terms and particulars, W. BIDDALL, Electric Pictures, Sat. and Mon., Stevenage, Herts.; Tues. and Wed., Sandy, Beds. Winter Engagement at Olympia, London, to suitable people.

WANTED, for Crighton's Cinematograph, Two Good Knockabout Comedians, used to Show and Fair Business; respectability and sobriety essential; live in or out. State lowest terms, and full particulars in first letter. Wednesday, over, Feaist Ground, Idle, near Bradford.

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WANTED, Engagement, by good Character Reader and Clairvoyante, also Good Novelty. Madame ETHEL, c/o Mrs. Paton, 28, Maberly-ct., Aberdeen.

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Apply
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To Showmen, Stallholders, Travellers, &c.
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direct run up to Christmas and New Year, when we have our well-known sheltered grounds to offer,
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BURY ST. EDMUNDS, in the Athenæum, Wed., Nov. 7, to Sat., Nov. 17.
IPSWICH, in the Public Hall, Sat., Nov. 24, to Sat., Dec. 1, inclusive.
The admission to the general Public will be FREE, on purchase of Programme, 1d.

Address all enquiries to MANAGER, Exhibition Office, Music Hall, Shrewsbury.

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"New Royal Red."
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Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

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No offers below £1,000 will be entertained.
Principals only need communicate with THEATRE,
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WANTED, to buy, a good Cinématograph and accessories, in perfect working order.
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WANTED, to Let, Hippo., Cambridge, for Circus or Variety Business, Stage or Ring, 40ft., vacant Oct. 1, on, good Combinations. Write, PROPRIETOR, 77, Newmarket-road, Cambridge

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WANTED, to Let,
SYNOD HALL,
EDINBURGH.

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during the next
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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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CALLS for MONDAY, SEPT. 24, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Tom Costello, Nancy St. John, Mons. Slippere, Alix Lukos, Will Vay's Juveniles, The Valdos, Sammy Shields, the La Vails, Rowland Hill, Pictures, Horace Wheatley.

HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Lew Lake and Co. in "Muggins, V.C.," Prince Kuroki, Grace Langley, Webb and Branston, Harry Zetter, Baltus Troupe, Dandy George, Cyril Carle, Clare Howard, Pictures, J. Collinson and Co.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Apollo, Herbert Cyril, Shas. E. Paton, Violet Morgan, Emil Amiel, the Avocas, Frank Hartley, Bert Byrne. Three Transfields, Pictures, Tom York, Arthur Rigby.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Daisy Dormer, Frank Leslie, Sisters St. Julian, Ted Cowan, Mlle. Kloet, Kentucky Trio, Geo. Ripon, Roxborough and Wright, Three Gilbert Girls, Frank Couch, Pictures, Leo Dryden.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Phil Ray, Shang Hai, Tom Moore, The Violas, Five Whiteleys, Harry Champion, Arleys Combination, Fred Land, Milner Verren, Pictures, Grant and Grant.

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Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, Jack Rae, Les Waltons, Delaur Trio, F. De Marce, Adams and Ward, Four Maisonas, Les Toreadors, Henry Helme, Pictures, Messrs. Crabtree and Co., Three Rainats.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 24, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Matinée, Monday, 24th, at 2.30.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Malcolm Scott, Mabel Hind, The Havêrleys, Mr. Charles Sloman, Lily Morris, Dusty Rhodes, May Mars, Joe and Louie Love, Three Sisters Silcott, Helen Charles, Mirzah.

GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
The Two Bees, Bob Hamilton, Carina Sisters, Edgar Budden, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, Elton and Edwin, Pavoscope, Austin and Cowan.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order,
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

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Address, HARRY MCKELVIE, Business-Manager.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, NEW HIPPODROME.
Twice Nightly.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 24. Rehearsal one o'clock. James Stewart, The Redferns, Mabelle May, Gulliver, Fred Lester, The Maros, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Swift Trio. For dates, apply Sole Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 24, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9
Rehearsal at 12 o'clock.
Kellino's Star Vaudeville Co., the Great Kyoto, Mike Goldman, Hess and Lisbon, May Geraldine, Baffen and Lucas, Will M'Ivor, Dale and Vale, Payne's Biophotoscope, and the Famous Kellinos in "A Fête in Venice."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, SWINDON.
CALL for Monday, Sept. 24, 1906.
Rehearsal 12 o'clock for
Herbert Darnley's Co., in the "Skirmishes" and "Moving In," the Dunlops, Volcano, Harry Wright, Cromo Bioscope, Miss Sivardo, Nellie Gannon, Marcus Boyle, Peggie Fame, &c. Manager (for Mr. Darnley), B. HALDANE.

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Borough Collector, WREXHAM.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, SEPT. 24, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

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Zaro and Arno, Maude Vera, J. H. Hawtrey, Mlle. de Rose, Bliss and Bliss, Lidden and Hayward, Ted Saunders, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Steinway Quartette, Frank and Free, Takio, Wirson, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, George Collins, Maud Beaumont, Three Bros. Curran, Cullen, Carthy, and Little Cluley.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
"Did He Deserve It?" A. E. Clifford, Ada Parker, Ringling Trio, Almos, Mac and Hill, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Bonnie Goodwin and Piccaninnies, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Keen and Waller, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Nash and Noel, Saxo, Baker E. Belphor, Florrie Bray.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Downes and Langford, Walter Emerson, Five Bon Bons, W. J. Churchill, Grace Langley, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, George Leonard, Florrie Gallimore, Josie Delaine.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
J. A. Wilson, Brown and Robinson, Will Musgrave, Lennie and Hast, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Du Gros Trio, Millie Denham, Osborn and Brookes, Leoni Clarke's Cats.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Austin Rudd, Sterling and Love, W. H. Downs, Bowman and Morton, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Sisters Marion, Clive Trio, Elton and Elma, W. B. Raby.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Two Bostons, Harry Walker, Harry Cotton, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Helen Martin, Gus Harris, Davis and Gledhill, Style, Beatrice Bonnie.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Capt. Kettle, Ben Albert, Les Rallis, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Flo Challis, Harry Brown, Almon, Edna Knollys.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
The Danbys, Minnie Moran, Tony Iveson, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Clivetta, The Three Orris, Nat Watkins, Harwood's Juveniles, Josephine Colona and Co., Selbo.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Kloof and Ramsey, J. C. Manley, Pat Carey, New York Quartette, Frank Cumminger, Roy Cochrane and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Jessie M. Lyons and Co., Arthur Goodman, Harry Ford, Frank Hardie and Co.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Tally-Ho Trio, The Marconis, Bonnetti and Corri, Marie Neilson, Flo Chevalier, The Westwoods, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bros. Dallwood, The Four Figaros, Charles Russell.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Herbert Rule, Diana Hope and Co., Leah Arden, Sisters Lytton, The Kays, Jack Heath, Daisy Silcott, Jimmy De Voy and Billy, Dronza, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Casey's Circus, The Little Wonder.

Artists please Note
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-Street, Sheffield."

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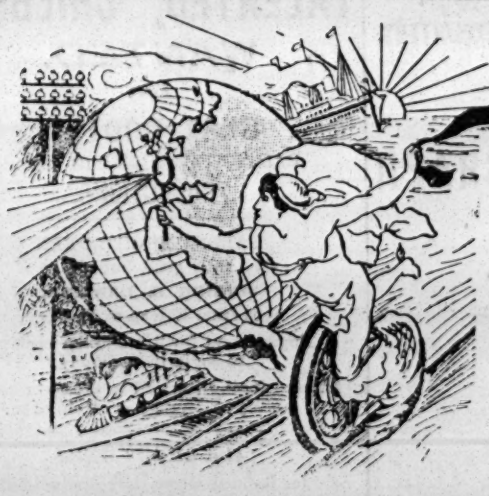

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9—LOVER ARRIVES WITH MOTOR. Signals by gravel at window; Maiden's Response; Lover's Impatience; Rapturous Meeting.
10—ELOPEMENT BY MOTOR. Lovers mount Car and Depart.
11—ARRIVAL OF REJECTED SUITOR IN BUGGY. Witnesses the Lovers' start; Despair; Vows Vengeance; Summons angry Father.
12—MOTOR CHASED BY BUGGY. Father and Suitor in angry Pursuit.
13—BUGGY SEEN FROM MOTOR. Despair of Lovers; Defiance; Full speed ahead; Skilful Chauffeur.
14—A STERN CHASE. Nearly Caught; Buggy Outpaced.
15—MOTOR ARRIVES AT CHURCH. Lover summons Vicar; Wants immediate Marriage; Service in Motor; Vicar Refuses.
16—VICAR HOISTED INTO MOTOR—which resumes Flight.
17—COMMANDED TO MARRY THE COUPLE. He Declines; Cajolements; He Softens; Consents; All rise except Chauffeur, who still drives at full speed; Bride removes Chauffeur's cap.
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10—MOTHER DISCHARGED, WITH BABY, FROM HOSPITAL. Determines to return to Lover; Scene by the way; Tired and Hungry, an old beggar man gives her food.
11—ARRIVES AT FARM. Farmer and Son at work in fields; She seeks them out; Altercation; Expelled a second time; She retires, dejected.
12—SON PROTESTS; FATHER STRIKES HIM. He follows the servant and their baby.
13—THE RIVER SIDE. Men unloading barges; Servant and baby approach, unseen.
14—SUICIDE. Clasping her child, she jumps into the swift river; She is seen
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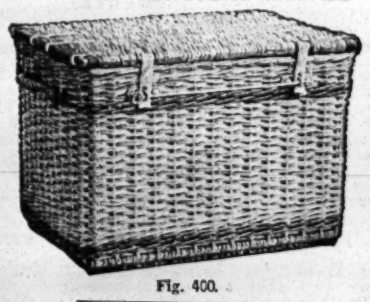

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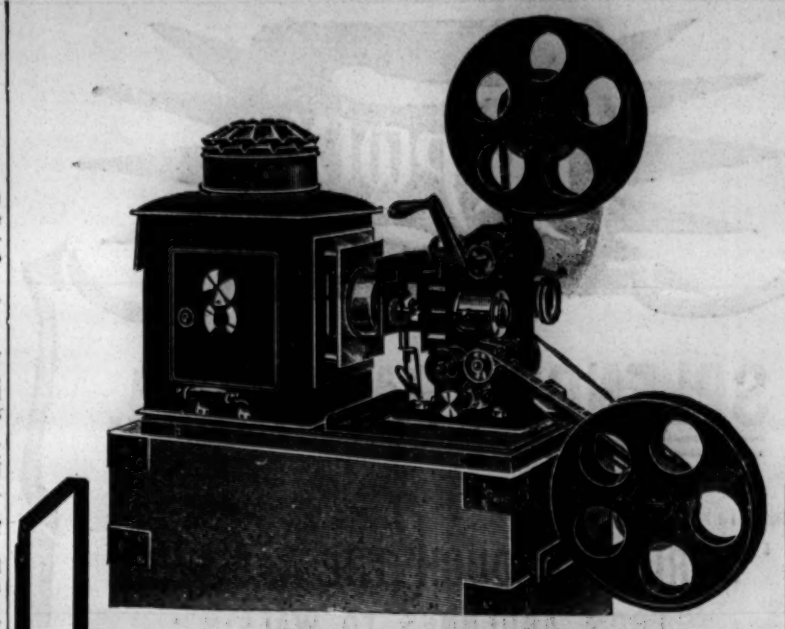

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingsworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Despres, the editor, contributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
In "The Era" Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), Miss Vesta Tilley breaks into verse, and a score or more of her comrades of "the boards" try their hands at fiction. The result is entertaining, and as there is added a list of new plays and revivals during the past year, with other information, the annual is worth a place on the playgoer's bookshelves.—The Yorkshire Post

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, AUGUST 14.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—Messager's fascinating work *The Little Michus* was presented for the first time on Saturday evening before one of the largest audiences which has ever assembled at this theatre. The occasion was a memorable one, marking as it did the return to Melbourne of the Royal Comic Opera Co. after an absence of over six months. The Michus Marie Blanche and Blanche Marie were charmingly played by Miss Florence Young and Miss Alma Barber. Miss Young sang as well as she has ever done. Mr. George Laurie as the choleric General Des Ifs is amusing; Gaston Regaud is well played by Mr. Reginald Roberts; Miss Clara Clifton is a picturesque Mme. Michu; Messrs. Percy and Leslie, Mr. Claude Bantock, and Miss Nellie Wilson fill minor parts satisfactorily. A sumptuous *mise-en-scène* has been provided, and the dressing is most elaborate throughout.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—The sensational domestic melodrama *Honor Thy Father* is still running to good business; nevertheless it will be taken off at the end of the current week to make room for Mr. Anderson's latest production, entitled *Man's Enemy*, described as "a drama for the times," since it deals with the drink and gambling evils. The leading part will be played by Miss Eugenie Duggan.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Several new artists made their first appearance on Saturday evening. The most notable of them was Brinn, described as a juggler and cannon manipulator. Brinn is an equilibrist and strong man rather than a juggler. He balances cannon balls and shells, varying in weight from 90lb. to 174lb. The most sensational feat of the evening was the balancing of a field gun—carriage and all—on his head. Miss Cassie Walmar, a quadroon lady, made a hit with her quaint singing and remarkably clever buck dancing. Other popular favourites appeared including Fred Bluett, Augustin and Hartly, Blake and Granby, Phillips Bros., Miss Hilda Lane, the Two Colliers, and Irving Sayles.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Joe Solomons.—There was a crowded audience on Saturday evening. Among the new arrivals may be mentioned Miss Gertie Mason (dancer), and Mr. Arthur Morley (baritone). The rest of the company gave a complete change of programme.

SYDNEY, Aug. 14, 1905.—Mr. Charles Holloway returned to the Criterion on the 11th, and produced an amended version of *Bleak House*, with his daughter, Miss Beatrice Holloway, as the waif Jo. The clever young actress had already given us a taste of her quality in *Two Little Vagabonds*, so that a good performance was expected, and every anticipation was realised. The new play acts closely and strenghtens several parts hitherto regarded as subsidiary, whilst giving Jo a prominence greater than usual. Miss Holloway submitted a consistent portrait of the "chivvied" victim of the police, and her auditory was moved to tears. Miss Rosa Conroy made Lady Dedlock one of her best impersonations—handsome and dignified and cultured in speech. Then came a fine characterisation of Hortense by Miss Ethel Appleton, the accent and fiery vituperation being excellent. Mr. John Hesford was Inspector Bucket, distinctly good and human. The Sir Leicester Dedlock of Mr. Godfrey Cass was the best we have seen; and Mr. W. Jefferson Taite's impersonation of Snagsby was purely Dickensian. Mr. John P. O'Neil, besides being stage-manager, realised the unctuous humbug Chadband to the delight of the packed house; and Miss Mabel Russell did Ethel Summerson's little bit of ingénue business perfectly.

THE TIVOLI has some startling newcomers. Seymour and Dupre perform a most acceptable turn, both being wildly cheered and recalled many times. Little Cliff is leaving; Vasco and Kelly and Agnes remain, and the bill for Mr. Harry Rickards' patrons is crammed with established favourites.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by C. R. Clarke and H. R. Silva, entitled
"HONOUR THY FATHER."

Honour Thy Father is the type of drama that naturally appeals to the susceptible *habitués* of Mr. William Bailey's Marylebone playhouse, hence a capital audience assembled to welcome Mr. T. Morton Powell's company this week. The performance of Mr. Walter M. Cameron as Gabriel Garth is one of prominent individuality and carefully thought out effect. The enunciation of Mr. Bertram Ross as Jack Halyard is clear and effective; Mr. W. H. Melrose's Ned Pennycomequick is a typical yokel; Mr. Frank Eden does well as Dr. Sleek; Mr. Fred Rolls is decidely brisk and clever as the rollicking Mike Copplestone; whilst Mr. W. R. Winning accentuates the villainies of Sir Duncan Bly in a forcible way. Decidedly pathetic, yet withal, convincing, is the portrayal of Gertrude Garth by Miss Kate Newton, the several trying scenes with Gabriel being most artistically presented. Miss Mabel Coleman creates a most favourable impression as Lilian Garth; Miss Lizzie Morley is bright and cheery as Poppy Cornleigh; and Miss Winnie Donovan sustains the important rôle of Mercy Merry with much graceful charm and womanly tenderness. Mr. Claude Merton is the stage-manager, and Mr. Frank Eden the general-manager, for Mr. Morton Powell.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Seen for the first time in the ancient and Royal borough of Kingston-on-Thames, this bright, witty, and tuneful play obtained a most favourable reception on its presentation at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night. Mr. George Dance has succeeded in securing a most capable company, of whom nothing but praise can be written. As the lively Gustav Babori Mr. J. S. Durant is full of life and activity, and succeeds in investing the part with an interest that never flags. Mr. Fred Payne also is remarkably good in the part of Mr. Girdle, his drolleries causing no end of fun. As Mrs. Girdle Miss Nellie Kavanagh acquits herself with distinction; and good work is also done by Miss Lillian Errol as Emmy-Lou and Mr. Louis Wigby as Stephen Henry. Miss Crissie Leonard is eminently successful in the part of Rosalie, which she invests with a naïve charm that quite captures the house, the omnibus and the tea-ship sketches in which she takes part with Girdle causing great merriment. Others who contribute materially to the success of the play are Mr. Harry Averill as Boniface, Mr. Ralph Holland and Miss Poppy Poole as the Baron and Baroness Papouche, Mr. Edwin Dodds as the waiter Felix, Miss Florence Lee as Dulcie Babori, and Mr. Moon Taylor as the hotel proprietor. The play is elaborately mounted both as regards scenery and dresses, and there are a numerous and well-trained chorus and an augmented orchestra admirably controlled by Mr. Knight Pearce.

IN our last week's issue by a printer's error we alluded to Mr. Gus Livesey as the proprietor of *The Village Blacksmith*. It is Mr. "Sam" Livesey who is the proprietor of the play, together with his partners, Dottridge and Longden. The company, it may be added, is breaking all previous records in Sheffield.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. George Alexander's company is appearing this week in *His House in Order*. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart and Miss Jean Sterling MacKinlay rise to a high point of excellence in the parts of Hilary Jesson and Nina; Mr. J. Edward Pearce gives an extremely good presentation of Filmer Jesson; and the members of the Ridgeley family are most capably portrayed by Mr. George Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest R. Holloway, Miss Augusta Haviland, and Miss Elaine Sledall. Miss Eve Grand is highly successful as Mlle. Thome; and the part of Derek Jesson is very charmingly played by Miss Moyna Hill. As this is the week of the Aberdeen Quatercentenary Celebrations, no less than three matinées have been arranged for towards the end of the visit.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The premier place among the attractions this week must be assigned to the Ten Loonies, whose sketch *Dotty* is most enthusiastically received. Goggin and Davis blend acrobatism and comedy admirably; Mr. Albert Windham and company appear in a highly-enjoyable sketch *Frivolity*; and among the other artists are Fancourt and Rubie, clever comedians; Miss Ray Ford, a sprightly comedienne and graceful dancer; Miss Janet H. Reynolds a charming vocalist; Mr. David Poole, a versatile ventriloquist; Mr. Mark Leslie, "the dusky Prince"; and Mr. Lachie Thomson's Top Weights, whose boxing, wrestling, and club-swinging are followed with the keenest interest.

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—*The Power of Gold* is presented here this week by Mr. Frank Ayrton's No. 1 company, Miss Lilla Wilde, specially engaged for the part of Lady Brandon, gives a powerful representation; Mr. Chas. Whitlock as the Malay Doctor, is very successful; Mr. Richard Oliver is satisfactory as Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton is well-suited as Mark Harley; Miss G. V. France's Meg Judson is much appreciated; Mr. Frank Ayrton causes great merriment as Sammy Smudge, and he is ably supported by Miss Madge Seymour, who becomes a firm favourite as Nora Donnelly.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. B. Barnes.—Mrs. Bandmann Palmer and her company opened here on Monday in the new addition to her répertoire, entitled *From Washerwoman to Duchess*. Mrs. B. Palmer gave an excellent performance of Catherine; Fouche by Mr. F. Skein was a good representation; Mr. R. Pittard must be complimented for his reading of Lefebvre; and the Corporal was well played by Mr. A. Wilson Wynne. Miss Katharine Herbert made an ideal Rosalie, and the other parts were safely placed with Miss E. Shepherd, Miss Elsie Howe, Miss A. Cecil. *Sapho*, *East Lynne*, and *Jane Shore* were also included in the week's performances.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parsons.—A good bill is provided at the above hall this week. King and Benson in a very smart turn fairly brought down the house; Mr. J. S. James gives a really clever performance with the bones; Miss A. Royal has a good voice, and is well received; the Three Sisters Jonghman do well; and Happy Attwood is very funny. Bob Sandford gets fairly in touch with the audience with his descriptive songs. Sauteram is one of the best trick jumpers we have had here, and H. T. Wills is always a favourite. The Bioscope complete a good show.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Seldom has Aldershot in its history of theatre life had an opportunity of listening to grand opera rendered as it has been during this week by one of the famous Moody-Manners companies. No less than seven operas are being given during the week, comprising *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Carmen*, *Il Trovatore*, *Pagliacci*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Maritana*. Crowded houses are naturally the order, and there was no exception on Tuesday night to welcome Miss Enriquita Crichton in her talented portrayal of Elsa; she has indeed a magnificent voice. Mr. Chas. Carter gave an effective embodiment of Lohengrin; whilst Mr. George Neilson's fine delivery of the score allotted to the king caused that rôle to stand out prominently. Miss Mary Norton is both vocally and histrionically a success as Ortrud; and Mr. Marshall Vincent's was a highly satisfactory impersonation of Frederick de Telremund; whilst Mr. Fred Earle's Herald was ably rendered. The chorus showed precision and attack, with excellent training. Magnificent costumes and superb spectacular effect are only a few of the pleasing features of the performances.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche opened here on Monday in the successful farcical comedy entitled *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Rignold as Pink, the butler, is admirable; Miss Ada Blanche, as the fascinating mischievous widow, Mrs. Barrington, wins many deserved plaudits. Miss Blanche is an adept in the delineation of character where humour is closely allied to tender feeling. Mr. Rignold as Pink, the butler, is prominent all through, and his dry humour is the cause of much laughter. Mr. Chas. Fawcett's Jack Barrington is a finished portrait of the good-natured Irish gentleman. Effective portrayals of varied characters are also presented by Messrs. Reddick Anderson, George Ascott, Harry S. Rignold, Louis Lingood, Alec Alves, Roy Byford, and Frank Kingsley. Favourable mention must be specially made of Miss Marie Daltra as Miss Foden, Miss Violet Gould as Mrs. Fleming-Smyth, Miss Hylda Davies as Miss Clarissa Dunlop, Miss Vera O'Connell as Miss Selina Dunlop, Miss Annie Goward as Mrs. Hake, Miss Minnie Willett as Sophonisba, Miss Dorothy Garth as Maria, and Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The excellent all-round programme here this week includes J. H. McCann, comedian and roller-skate dancer; Lack and Ford, who are very funny gymnasts; the Dancing Gilberts, an accomplished duo of sisters; the Villions, who give a clever cycling act; Lilian Levey, who sings two songs, in both of which she scores; Monty Biggs, female impersonator; the Troupe Pichel, gymnasts; Felman's Troupe of Juveniles, and the Bioscope pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—In addition to providing the best of entertainment for its patrons, the management of this popular house also looks well after their personal comfort, and to this end the orchestra-stalls have been re-carpeted in lavish manner, which harmonises with the general decorations. This week's programme is an excellent one, and is contributed to by the following artists: Mlle. Lumiere, serpentine and fire danseuse, in her spectacle, "The Fairy Grotto," in which novel electrical effects are introduced; Mr. Bert Kemble, humorist; Miss Bessie Travers, ventriloquial pianist; the Babusio Brothers, clever staircase performers and head to head balancers; Lytton and Bland, comedians and dancers, in a scena, entitled, *A Lesson in Love*; Mr. Fred Horsfall, double-voiced mimic; Miss Daisy Kay, in coon song and dance; and Mr. E. C. Clayton, with an admirable selection of pictures.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten. — Picture entertainments are still continued here, and are being patronised by large audiences, in which the juvenile element largely predominate.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—This week the theatre has been occupied by Mr. William Greet's No. 1 company in *The Sign of the Cross*. The Marcus Superbus of Mr. Frank E. Petley was picturesque, and he had admirable support in the Tigellinus of Mr. Charles Alfred and the Licinius of Mr. J. Weatherall. Glabrio and Philodemus were cleverly taken by Mr. Frank Wood and Mr. Harry Jones; the Nero of Mr. C. York was a fine piece of acting; Favius, Titus, and Melos were in the able hands of Messrs. Walter Fleet, Geo. Stanton, and E. Chapman; and Stephanus was made most affecting by Miss Effie Dane. Miss Marie Leonhard as Mercia was responsible for a sweet portrayal of the saintly character; the Berenice of Miss Gertrude Price was a fine conception; and Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia lightened the scenes in which she appeared.

BACUP. — New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is here this week with *A Queen of Villainy*. Mr. Gordon Carnegh as Sir John Desborough makes the most of his small part; Mr. Alfred B. Calver gives a pleasing rendering of Alex; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson is well placed as Kit; Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Reuben Hawk, a poacher; and Miss A. Ross Clyde as Sally Chimes, give clever studies. Dick Leicester finds a clever exponent in Mr. Owen Harris; Mr. Edward Hanley's performance as Stephen Faucit is sufficiently repulsive; and Miss Edith Blande as Cora Granville displays much malignant intensity. Miss Cecilia Desmond shows feeling as Rose Delmayne; and Mr. P. Howard Sturgess as Timothy and Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie keep the house fully amused.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Durward Lely and William Mollison's company, in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, is paying a return visit here. Mr. Mollison again impersonates Lachlan Campbell in the same masterly manner as heretofore and Miss Evelyn McKay is a picturesque and winning Flora Campbell. Mr. Kendal Chalmers is a fine Tammas Mitchell; Mr. Archie W. Chappell a capital Lord Hay; and Mr. Alec F. Thompson a characteristic Wee Posty; while Miss Josephine Woodward plays Margaret Howe with much distinction.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The Native Choir from Virginia, a troupe of excellent singers, consisting of six male and four female artists, are here, and please immensely by their pleasing singing.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Captain Lemar's Tennessee Guards do some lightning drill and wall-scaling acts, and Narow Brothers some good comedy cycling; the Sisters Poole prove pleasing duettists and dancers; Jack Martin is an entertaining actor-vocalist; Zanfretta and Napio are capital musical eccentrics; and Billy Hobbs is a capable coon comedian and dancer.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Gilbert Heron and his company are this week presenting the modern comedy, *The Superior Miss Pellender*, which has met with a cordial reception. Miss Jessie Danvers gets every ounce of fun out of the character of Mrs. Pellender; as the frigid Miss Grace Pellender Miss Jessie Belmore is excellent; to Mr. George Belmore and Miss Muriel Meek as Noel and Nancy the piece owes much of its brightness, the boyish candour of Mr. Belmore and the spontaneous laughter of Miss Meek causing great merriment; Miss Enid Meek enacts Edith in a lackadaisical style befitting the part; Mr. Gilbert Heron himself appears as Mr. Tister, his amorous scenes with Miss Danvers being capitally carried through; the new comedietta, *A Lesson in Pearls*, precedes the comedy, a notice of which will be found in another column.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Bonnie Goodwin's Real Apollo Picaninnies are creating quite a furore this week, the dancing of the youngsters securing them many recalls. After a long absence two popular favourites (Kitty Wager, comedienne, and Fred Poplar, comedian,) are paying welcome return visits, their success being more pronounced than ever; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers, gain plenty of applause for their merry turn; Baker E. Belphor is retained for a second week, and gives fresh illustrated songs with admirable effect; Florrie Bray, comedienne, and Saxo, musician, also come in for their share of favour. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are showing the Cambridge-Harvard boat race.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitby.—*A City of Sin* is here this week. The company, under the direction of Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott, is efficient. Mr. Henry W. Hatchman, a sound actor, is conspicuously successful in the heavy part; Mr. Conrad Heywood plays with power; Mr. W. H. Burton acts with discrimination; and Messrs. Wilfrid Grahame, C. H. Spencer, and V. W. Gully lend useful assistance. Miss Edith Wallis as the persecuted heroine presents a telling portrait; and Miss Jenny Weston deserves praise.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company in the drama *The Dear Homeland*, by David Muskerry. Mr. Charles O'Connor makes an excellent Roy Trevelyan; Mr. Harold C. Macartney cleverly depicts the evil Duncan Tremaine; and Mr. A. Trail as Father Gregory leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Violet Hammersley impersonates Doreen Trevelyan with vigour; Miss Olive Fulton interprets with success the rôle of Judith.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company opened here on Monday in *Sunday*. Miss Emelie Polini, a charming actress, ably sustained the title-rôle. Mr. Leonard Pagden was an excellent Col. Brinthorpe; and the difficult rôle of Arthur Brinthorpe was creditably sustained by Mr. G. Wallace Johnston. Mr. William Lockhart was a most amusing Towser; and Mr. Sidney Renouf submitted a skilful impersonation of Davy. Congratulations are due to Mr. Arthur Vezin for his interpretation of Jacky; and in the rôle of Lively Mr. Cecil Yapp did well. Miss McAimee Murray submitted a clever impersonation of Mrs. Naresby.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The leading attraction at this popular hall is provided by Hill and Whitaker, vocalists and instrumentalists; Mr. Gustave Fasola executes some startling feats; the Gregson Trio appear to advantage in their comedy sketch, *The Dummy*; and the Athlones appear in their marvellous athletic speciality. A feature of the bill is provided by the Deer Family of genuine North American Indians, in their sensational act, *Indians of the Past*; and also here are Mr. Chas. Austin, Mr. Fred Arthur, and the Palace pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Harry Tate's company tops the bill, and in the first house presents *Motoring*, and in the second *Fishing*. Much amusement is also created by the Smythson's Comedy Company in *The Lie Alarm*; the Monte Myro Troupe introduce with much effect their sketch, *Terrible Adventures in a Café*; and the Stella Troupe are capital vocalists and dancers. Also appearing are Miss Nettie Starr, a charming comedienne; the Bros. Obo, ably described as "laughing comedians"; Mr. Charles Leonard Fletcher, and the Empire pictures.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company continues its successful career here, good houses nightly being the rule. This week *Hand in Hand*, by Mr. Fred Benton, is the attraction, and congratulations are due to that charming actress Miss Nina Blake-Adams for her skilful impersonation of Grace Edmondson. Mr. Cyril Grier furnished a clever impersonation of Edgar Hartington; and the villainies of Herbert Hartington were realistically portrayed by Mr. Horace Denton. Miss Alice Clarke made a skilful Polly; and the humour of the piece was in the safe hands of Mr. T. H. Solly, who was certainly very funny as the poetical Billy Barton. Miss Norah Caronne was seen to advantage as Elsie Marchant; and other rôles were admirably sustained.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—With good scenery and characteristic dresses, *Napoleon the Great* is being played here by Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company. In the title-rôle Mr Hugh Montgomery takes advantage of his opportunities; Miss Elsie Warner's Marie is interesting; the two colonels, Lavarennes and Jules Meuron, have satisfactory exponents in Mr. Henry Earlsmere and Mr. Phil Harper; Miss Maud Russell is a capable Leonie; and Mr. Bartlett Garth, a fierce Paul Laczinkska. Very good service is also rendered by Mr. Frank M. Thorne, Mr. Albert Sinclair, Miss Marie Harcourt, and Miss Florence Thorne.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Walter Reynolds's new play, *Mr. Smith*, forms a strong attraction here. A capital rendering of the title-rôle by Mr. Cecil Du Gue receives flattering recognition; the Earl of Oxted is well represented by Mr. Sydney Price; the Duke of Angleland is in the capable hands of Mr. Wm. Dunlop; and Mr. Geo. F. Rose gives an admirable interpretation of Herr Deidrich Anheuser. Lady Mary Hildergate is finely played by Miss Elaina Gaunt; Miss Mildred Cottell is stately and effective as the Duchess; Miss Daisy England is well suited as Mrs. Smith; Ruth Anheuser is admirably undertaken by Miss Phyllis Relph; and remaining parts are capably played by Mr. Austin Spencer, Mr. Russell Norrie, and Mr. A. W. Jones.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Six Brothers Luck are continuing a successful engagement, appearing this week in the pantomimic absurdity *Blazes*, with excellent results. Mr. Melot Hermann, in his mystifying entertainment, is a big favourite; and Lieut. Travis, the popular ventriloquist, is also a leading feature. Other prominent attractions are Miss Minnie Cunningham, a charming comedienne; Mr. Cliff Ryland, comedian; Johnson and Bert, in their sketch *A Queer Customer*; Miss Gracie Taylor, comedienne; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The White Chrysanthemum* reveals its attractions here for the first time, gaining most flattering encomiums for Mr. Frank Curzon's company. Miss Nora Guy, a most accomplished actress and vocalist, merges herself in the title-rôle with charming effect; Miss Daisy Le Hay, who proves a most delightful chaperone, discourses on "Hints" in an arch and well-pointed manner; Miss Katie Vesey, whose exquisite dancing and shapely form are admired in the rôle of the wealthy Cordelia, is an undoubted attraction; Mr. O. E. Lennon capers nimbly, and makes a big hit as Sin Chong; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., disports well as the ingenuous Perks; Mr. F. Pope-Stamper is acclaimed for his vigour and good humour as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; and those clever and well-contrasted comedians, Messrs. Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins, swell the mirth as Lieutenant "Chippy" Belmont and Admiral Amitage respectivey.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Belle of Mayfair*, which is also on its initial visit, is bringing honours and full houses to Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and Chas. Frohman's company. First, Mr. Percy Yorke deserves a special meed of praise for his splendid enunciation as the Earl; Mr. Vernon Davidson plays the rôle of the ardent lover, Raymond, in a most efficient way; Mr. Chas. McNaughton appears in capital and quaint relief as the old parvenu, Chaldicott; Mr. Wensley Russell sustains the rôle of Hugh Meredith with much éclat and spirit; Miss Alice Russon invests the dainty Julia with sparkling animation, and sings the songs allotted her with rare sweetness; Miss Joan Keddie is much appreciated for her happy style as the Princess; and the Misses Blanche Massey, Barbara Huntley, Rosa Snell, and Maud Aston, together with Messrs. Robert Whyte, jun., Trueman Towers, A. W. Metcalfe, Cecil Clayton, and G. F. Ide, certainly contribute to the success achieved.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Village Blacksmith* is here in the person of Mr. Sam Livesey, who for his vigorous and dramatic exposition of the title-rôle, John Strong, receives a rousing reception nightly. Mr Joseph Carter gives a graphic study of villainy as Captain Lee; Miss Maggie Edwards arouses the strongest admiration and sympathy as the persecuted wife, Kate; Miss Bertha Hanbury delights the audience as Harry Strong; Mr. G. V. Campbell affords many amusing moments as Billy Twigg; Mrs. T. C. Livesey's clever powers of comedy are seen to advantage in the rôle of Sal Parkins; Miss Cassie Le Grand proves an effective actress as Ruth; Mr Edwin Maydew acts in a suitable style as the catspaw, Lucas Marlow; and Mr. Thos. E. Marshall is highly successful as Jeremiah Parkins.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—*The Power of the Cross* has signified its attractiveness by drawing a full house here nightly. Mr. Lingford Carson supplies the company, with Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby as Baron Woulfe Curzola, a character which originates from an old Hungarian legend, and which, in the present case, is acted with great skill and power. Mr. H. C. Rutland meets with much applause for his clever acting as Gerald Fairfax; Mr. Royce Carleton depicts Leslie Fairfax with much success; Miss Stanley Burt gains sympathy as the unfortunate Margaret Seaton; Miss Cissie St. Elmo gives full play to the rôle of Rita Lascelles; Miss May Grayce appears as Blanche Kingsley with good effect; and the humorous sallies of Mr. Richard E. Nugent as Timothy O'Dowd and Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray prove most diverting. Other clever rôles include Mr. L. Fred Tenour as Benjamin Hawke, Mr. J. Murton as David Kingsley, and Mr. Rupert Ronald as Inspector Blake.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*An Unwedded Wife* made its first appearance in Birmingham on Monday, when its reception proved distinctly favourable. Miss Ethel Van Praagh, in the title-rôle, showed remarkable emotional power, sympathy for the betrayed woman being heartfelt and sustained; Mr. Edward Whitty as John Hawthorne acted in a highly satisfactory manner; Mr. E. St. Claire Forbes played the part of Philip Blackstone with a thoroughness that won him eloquent manifestations of success; Little Ella showed wonderful intelligence as the boy, Reggie; Miss Violet Wilson as the persecuted Elsie Langham acted finely; Mr. Reginald Payne gave the necessary ring of sincerity to the part of Frank Armstrong; and some excellent comic relief was forthcoming from Mr. F. C. Imbert as Napoleon Boomer, Miss Amy Coralli as Caraway Crumpet, and Mr. Harry Townley as Perkinson Pimple.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Swiss Express* is running successfully here. Messrs. C. and F. Renad in their rôles of the doctor's servants continue to contrive many mirth-provoking situations; Mr. Johnny McElroy takes an active part as Dr. Gull; Mr. George Martin shares in the plot with much success as Bob Rollington; Mr. Alec Wylie is egergetic as Dudley Green; Miss Ida Ernest figures to much advantage and charm as the bride, Virginia; and the Misses Blanche Lee, Rosa George, Violet Lee, Dore Moorhouse, and Messrs. A. E. Cooke, G. Mason, Harwood Cooper, C. Gray, and Mons. Leloire shine in the production, which is also supported by the Edene Quartette of vocalists and dancers.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Her Fatal Past* is being played here by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company. Miss Ward, in the titular part, Honor Symes, is responsible for many tears, her clever acting striking a deep, pathetic note. Miss Adeline Raby excites due aversion by her bold and skilled acting as the adventuress, Bella de Lara; Mr. Wilson Coleman still further excites the antipathies of the audience by his strenuous acting as Gilbert Fernside, the villain; Mr. Geo. M. Newall as Mark Desmond has the sympathies of the house deep set; Miss Audrey Sutherland is admired as Little Leonard; Mr. T. Edward Ward is a pillar of strength as the truly humorous Nobbs; and the comedy parts, which are numerous and strong, include Mr. Sydney Byrant as Dicky Bird, Mr. Claude Pagett as Treadaway, Miss Gertie Reid as Kitty Sprigwell, and Miss Ettie Spalding as Martha Sprigwell

Empire Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—T. E. Dunville is attracting crowded audiences here, his eccentric mannerisms, songs, and patter being most entertaining. Wilson and Waring come in for a good deal of applause; Harriet Vernon renders her songs with her usual success; some clever dances are done by the Eight Sunrays. Professor Therese in a comedy hypnotic act; Hans and Lux; and Roy Glen and Ryder Slone, comedians, appear with success; and another good turn is Barnard's Mannikins.

Gaiety Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The ever popular Vesta Victoria is here again; her songs are repeatedly encored. Gladys Mavius sings well; the McConnell Trio are seen in an amusing musical farce; the Sisters Chester, vocalists and banjoists, are excellent; and other popular turns are those of the Bros. Bright, Eily Adair, Leslie Race, and Fields and Lewis.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Leo Dryden presents his song scenas, which are received with loud applause; Roxborough and Wright have an amusing sketch, *Cockie*, which goes well; Daisy Dormer sings her coon songs in an effective manner; Mlle. Kloet poses in an artistic manner; and a long programme concludes with a series of pictures shown by the Barrascope.

Bordesley Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*The Amber Light* is being presented here by Fred Eustance and company, all the parts being well acted, the principal rôle being in the hands of Mary Eustance. The Haytors are as popular as ever; Vernando gives a novel and clever ventriloquial turn; Edith Courtney sings sweetly; and Fred Lincoln and Halter and Ray are applauded.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Charles Carey's company is here this week in *After the Ball*. Colonel Menit is admirably played by Mr. Algernon W. Lee; Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Joseph Menit and Mr. Buckstone Clair as Martin are responsible for much laughter; Dick Seymour is capably handled by Mr. Norman Bowyer; Miss M. Sadie is a vivacious and captivating Nancy; as Kitty Miss Nellie James is good; Miss Eva Ellis is pleasing as Ruth Gay; and Miss Queenie Finnis sings some excellent coon songs in the rôle of Nellie Mather.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Mr. Edward Terry and company are paying another of their very welcome visits here this week, and meeting with their usual and well-deserved successes. *Liberty Hall*, which has only recently been added to Mr. Terry's répertoire, was the play selected for Monday, and the part of William Todman found in Mr. Terry an ideal exponent. Sir Hartley Chilworth was played in a very pleasing manner by Mr. Allan Pollack, whilst Gerald Harringay was ably accounted for by Mr. Frank Cellier, jun. Miss Fyfe Alexander as Blanche Chilworth and Miss F. Glossop Harris as Amy Chilworth play their respective parts in the right spirit; and Miss Eugenie Vernie is a capital Crafer. *The Magistrate* and *Sweet Lavender* have also been presented during the week.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergeanson.—*A Girl on the Stage*, most capably performed by one of Mr. George Edwardes' best companies, is proving an immense attraction here this week. There is not a weak spot in the whole cast. With Miss Queenie Leighton as Marie Montrose, Mr. Arthur Longley as Algernon Southdown, Mr. J. R. Hale as Lord Congress, Mr. John Humphries as Shingle, Mr. Lennox Pawle as Lord Sanctobury, Miss Fanny Dango as Lady Isabel, Miss Valli Valli as Lady Dorothy, Mr. Colin Coop as Alderman Briggs, and Mr. Nelson Keys as Ethelbert, together with a strong and tuneful chorus, pretty dresses, and magnificent scenery, a brilliant success is the natural result.

Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A brilliant star programme is provided here this week. The Harmony Four appear in a musical sketch; Jock Whiteford is a popular Scotch comedian; Sanford and Lyons catch on as dancers; Leonard and Francis cause hilarity with their bull-fighters' burlesque; Henri Cazman gives his one-man music hall turn; Horace White is a clever ventriloquist; Dolly Golden dances well; and Charles Norton is a favourite mimic.

Hippodrome. — Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—Marie Collins tops this week's bill. Walter Curtis is also a great favourite. Other capital turns are given by Baker and Balfe, xylophone artists; Mezzetti and Mora, acrobats; Jimmy Shields, comedian; Bessie Lind, comedienne; The Cranleighs, vocalists; Cleveland Burlesque Company; Rai Walters, comedian; and Sisters Terry, burlesque artists.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The visit this week of Miss Hettie Jeffries' company with the comedy-drama entitled *The Curate*, has proved a popular one. In the part of the Rev. John Audley we renew acquaintance, after a long absence, with a very old favourite in the person of Mr. Geoffrey Broughton, who gives a powerful reading of a prominent character in the play. To Mr. Whitmore Ledger every praise is due for an admirable portrayal of Gilbert Westwood. Mr. T. Handley as Gregory Verner achieved a success; and Mr. Harry Edlin was an amusing Simon Peter Muggs. The May Verner of Miss Annie Stewart was well received; whilst Dick the Trumpeter, in the hands of Miss Hettie Jeffries, was a decided success, and won the hearty applause of the audience. For Friday night *The Bells* was underlined, with Mr. Whitmore Ledger in his successful impersonation of Mathias.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. George E. Good. —The week's programme includes Carman's Juveniles, in a pleasing scena, entitled *Christmas Eve*; the Two Dawns, speciality dancers; and Martengo, 'cellist and baritone.

The Gaiety.—Proprietor, Councillor Jno. Grantham, J.P.; General-Manager, Mr. Snoudeni James.—The Albion Glee Singers top the bill, and are a popular turn; Rolfe, ventriloquist, wins success; Bob Long, dancer; Joe Ritson, tenor; Southall and Palmer, vocalists; George Mayo, in feats of strength; R. D. Grundy, baritone; and bioscope, supply attractive items.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—The attraction here is the old Adelphi drama, *The Trumpet Call*, from the pen of G. R. Sims and Robert Buchanan. The company presenting it is Mr. Chas. F. Cooke's. Mr. Leonard Yorke ably takes the part of Cuthbert Cuthbertson; Sergeant-Major Milligan is in the capable hands of Mr. Chas. F. Cooke; Mr. Joe Bracewell (an old favourite here) is very humorous as Professor Giniifer; Mr. John Dennys plays forcibly the part of Richard Featherstone, the villain; and Mr. Freddie Bentley is sprightly as Tommy Dutton. Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill is sympathetic in her representation of Constance; Miss Doris Gilham appears with success in the trying part of Astrea; and Miss Phyllis B. French is sweet as Lavinia Ginnifer.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Foremost this week are Paulinetta and Piquo in their original gymnastic act. Mary Glenn is an excellent Scottish vocalist; Cavelli, a promising and clever ventriloquist; Dora Lyric, a refined comedienne; the Four Jumels, admirable in their musical act; and George French, "the amiable idiot" comedian, has lost none of his popularity. Other attractions include H. Leslie Bell and Lily Pearl in their comedy vaudeville, *A Bit of String*; Mark Merry, a quaint comedian in *Mirthful Melancholy*; Mozzetto, juggler; Mephisto, a clever society contortionist; Hall and Earle, eccentric comedians; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr. Chas. Harrington's company in the drama *Sailors of the King*. The play is interesting throughout, and the company a capable one. Mr. Chas. Harrington makes a good Admiral Drake; and Mr. Frank Stephens a powerful and manly Dick Drake. Miss Madge North is pleasing in the character of Felicia Phrynne; and Miss Lilly Prescot is admirable as Daisy Dent. Villainy is well represented by Mr. R. F. Stacey as Orrel Drake; and Miss Sylvia Stella scores as Rebecca Crosby. Much merriment is caused by Mr. K. Black, jun., as Barnet Fair, and Miss Hero Hatherly as Penelope Pen.

BOSTON.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrim.—An excellent variety company is engaged here this week. The Marvellous Pardoes score heavily in *On the Sands at Brighton*; Miss Lottie Holland sings refined songs; and Teddy Voke is amusing in his musical sketch; Fish and O'Neal, Violet Rivers, Tom Hulme, and Elsie Kedwards complete a very good programme. The Bioscope adds to the enjoyment of the audience.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. George Dance's principal company in *Lady Madcap*, under the management of Mr. J. Parson, is paying a return visit. Mr. J. Knox-Orde has made a careful study of Count St. Hubert, and renders the part with much effect; Mr. Bay Russell, who can sing and dance, does very well as Stratford, and is assisted by Mr. James Graydon as Posh Jenkins. A really excellent study of Oroya Brown is provided by Mr. Harold Parks, who is genuinely humorous, and he is well supported by Mr. G. Whillis as Corporal Ham. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Isabelle Dillon, who does full justice to the character, and other good performances come from Miss Ethel Beech as Susan, Miss Maud Davis as Gwenny, and Messrs. Emlyn Jenkins, E. Crestfan, Sherriff Clunes, and Frank Hilton as the four Hussars.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Musical comedy still holds the stage here, and a return visit of *The Catch of the Season* is cordially welcomed by packed audiences. The company is Mr. George Dance's, and a fine exponent of the bustling part of the Duke of St. Jermyns has been found in Mr. Frank Lincoln. In Miss Zena Dare (whose entrance in the character of Angela was the signal for quite an ovation) Mr. Lincoln has a charming, vivacious, and very graceful partner. Mr. E. H. Kelly as Lord Dundreary and Mr. Julian Cross as Sir John Crystal lend admirable support. Master Grata, who is quite a prodigy, elicits much laughter as Bucket, the page; Miss Belle Napier gives a delightful performance of Lady Caterham; Miss Gwynneth Galton is admirable as The Duchess; the stern Lady Crystal has an able exponent in Miss Ida Mann, and Miss Margaret Saville and Miss Jane Eyre are good as her pampered daughters. Mr. Alfred Lloyd well fills the part of the much-married Mr. Gibson, and his daughters and the Lucille Girls are a bevy of very charming ladies. The familiar numbers are well rendered, and the comedy, which goes with a merry swing from first to last, is beautifully staged.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Messrs. Ernest Carpenter and Sidney Cooper are presenting here this week *The Spider and the Fly*, in which the acting is good and the scenic effects excellent. The much-tried hero, Cyril Girdlestone, has a very capable exponent in Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, and Stella Gray, the Spider of the story, is an able performance by Miss

Nancy St. John is a dainty comedienne; Horace Wheatley, comedian, affords great pleasure; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company opened here on Monday with *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*. Mr. Norman's Sir George Sylvester was an excellent character study; Miss Beatrice Wilson gave a charming portrayal of Lady Ursula, whose brother found a capital exponent in Mr. Dennis Clough; Mr. Francis Hope was well suited as the Rev. Mr. Blimboe; Miss Sybil Ruskin was a graceful Dorothy Fenton; and Miss Hilda Gregory as Mrs. Fenton and Mr. Brember Wills as Mr. Dent also merit praise. The programme for the week also includes *Nell Gwynn*.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope proves very attractive here. Prominent among the capital series of pictures are "Chinese Coolies," "Life in the Rand Mines," "The Continental Smugglers," "The Dream of a Rarebit Fiend," and "The Terrible Kids." The bioscope is a happy blend of instruction and humour.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—A large audience was attracted on Monday by Mr. George Alexander's company in Mr. Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*. The play is staged in a very complete and artistic manner. Miss Auriol Lee is highly successful in the difficult and exacting part of Nina; Mr. Frank Fenton submits a careful and convincing study of Hilary Jesson; Mr. Cyril Harcourt does full justice to the rôle of Filmer Jesson; Miss Carmen Woods acts prettily as the child, Derek Jesson; Mr. Adam Alexander, capitally made up, presents a clever study of the narrow-minded Sir Daniel Ridgeley; Mr. George Silver makes the most of the rather objectionable part of Pryce Ridgeley; and Mr. Charles Tyrel is admirably placed as Major Maurewarde. Lady Ridgeley has an excellent exponent in Mrs. Kemmis; Miss Audrey Campbell is sufficiently austere and precise as Geraldine Ridgeley; and Mlle. Juliette Milo is pleasing as the French governess, Mlle. Thome. The smaller parts of Dr. Dilnott, Harding, Forshaw, and the two servants are satisfactorily taken by Mr. James Annaud, Mr. Langford Brown, Mr. Cyril Cattley, Mr. W. Barnett Parker, and Mr. Frank Elton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—The popular drama, *The Span of Life*, is the attraction here, the sensational act of the "Human Bridge" being smartly done by the Almo Trio of Acrobats. Mr. Kyburn Dellar acts with care as Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffat presents an excellent study of Dunstan Leech; Miss M. Douglas plays well as Cecil Jelf; Miss Ella Willmer is pleasing and sympathetic as Kate Heathcote; Miss Phylis Hamilton is stately and effective as Mrs. Jelf; and Miss Kitty Russell and Mr. Walter Dale do justice to the comic parts of Shrove Tuesday and Nutty Brown. The remaining rôles are all carefully performed.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Mr. Fred Ginnett's company is here with the sensational equestrian spectacle, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. The sketch is well staged and carefully played, Mr. Fred Ginnett obtaining much applause for his clever performance of Dick Turpin. Ross and Grayson are highly successful in a mélange of music, singing, and dancing; Carl and Carr amuse with their speciality, *Fun Outside the Workhouse*; the Karno Trio have a good knockabout sketch, *The Traveller's Rest*; Miss Lily Stuart is a pleasing coon vocalist and dancer; Walter King, comedian, obtains applause; Frank Maura, Mexican juggler, does a good turn; and the programme also includes interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—The French comedienne, Eugenie Fougère, heads the programme, and, though her cleverly rendered songs are given in the French language, she obtains well-deserved appreciation, and is also much applauded for a graceful dance. George M. Marriott's company scores a success in the romantic musical sketch, *The Maid of the Alps*, Mr. Marriott appearing as Mother Potard, and Miss Edith Finlay as Louise. Max Duffek, musical contortionist, obtains applause; Bert Brantford, patter comedian, is amusing; Grant and Allen, speciality comedians, are appreciated; Morny Cash, comedian, has a flattering reception; the Itrams score with their speciality perch act; Bromley and Fontein have a good scena, *A Musical Birthday*; Margaret Agnes, comedienne, is decidedly pleasing; and the Empire animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. Fred J. Watson.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* had a good reception on Monday, when Mr. Douglas Bruce's company drew a large house, who were very appreciative of the good all-round acting. Miss Evelyn Clyde as Molly Vernon was seen to advantage. Villainy was excellently presented by Mr. Frank Adair as Capt. Caversham, and Miss Lydia Manningham as Marian Franklyn; as Rev. Robt. Everton Mr. Edwin J. Collins gave a good study; Mr. C. W. Standing merits much praise for his portrayal of Jack England; Mr. Geo. H. Asquin as Dick Punch, and Miss Daisy Maynard as Isabella Jones revelled in their comedy business; Miss Ethel Bracewell was a charming Rose Seymour; James Sutton (a repentant forger) was played effectively by Mr. George Mitchell. The play was produced by Mr. Douglas Bruce, scenery and staging being first-class.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Large audiences are here witnessing *The Geisha*, presented by Mr. Mouillot's company. Miss Lydia Bland sings sweetly and acts charmingly as O Mimosa San; Miss Doris Langdon is clever as O Juliette Diamante; Miss Edith Adeson is vivacious as Molly; Mr. Wilfred Heath as Reginald Fairfax makes excellent use of a good voice; Mr. E. Pollard is good as Dick Cunningham; the Marquis Imarie of Mr. J. H. Booth is a clever representation; and Mr. Royton Hoare performs well as Arthur Cuddy. The life of the piece is Mr. Edward Kipling, who plays the rôle of Wun Hi, and is heartily applauded. Mr. Harry Reynolds does well as Takemine; Miss Winifred Knightly is an aristocratic Lady Constance; and Miss Emily Lovell is good as Tom Manley. *A Greek Slave* was presented on Thursday.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Columbia Comedy Trio give an excellent performance here this week. Paulton and Dooley are smart and funny cyclists; Harry Marte is a good comedian; and Welda and Wynne in a comedy act are most acceptable. Florence Wood, serio, is well received; Zeta Grey and company create endless laughter with their comedy, *The Lancashire Lass*; the Three Whirligigs are clever dancers; and Farley, Rennie, and Farley in a comedy sketch are very good.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — THE NEW HIPPODROME (late Opera House). — Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Walter.—The new venture has fairly caught on, and crowded houses are the rule. Gulliver gives a clever show with his Lilliputians; the Redferns (Ruby and Elsie) are seen to advantage in dance and with the banjo; Thos. Cook did a turn in place of Mr. Fred Lester, who is indisposed; the Maros cause roars of laughter in their triple bar act; Mabelle May shines in song and dance; an up-to-date trick bicycle exhibition is presented by the Swift Trio; Mlle. Lucretia sings a pleasing song, and her dance fairly captivates the audience; Mr. James Stewart, the original tramp at the piano, is responsible for some smart work; and the Raymond's Bio-Tableaux with good pictures is also in evidence.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — ATHENÆUM HALL. — Manager, Mr. E. A. Crack.—Messrs. Smith and Ramsdale's company in *The Babes in the Wood* occupied the boards here on Monday. As Dame Koff Droppe, Mr. Fred Ramsdale kept the fun going merrily; Mr. J. H. Maxwell lending excellent aid as the Wicked Baron Whatts-his-name. Miss Lilian Ramsdale was a sprightly Robin Hood; Miss Elsie Douglas played Maid Marion in a captivating manner; and some graceful dancing was contributed by the Sisters Glynne. *Aladdin* was given on Tuesday night

BUXTON. — OPERA HOUSE. — Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. Walter Maxwell's company in *The Lion and the Mouse*. There can be no two opinions about the excellence of the company. Miss Christine Silver's Shirley Rossmore was a fine piece of acting; Mr. Leslie Carter as John Burkett Ryder contributed a clever study of the millionaire; Mr. Stephen Wentworth played with sound judgment as Jeff Ryder; Mr. J. W. Mackie was amusing as the Hon. Fitzroy Bayley; and Mr. George Lyttleton did well what was required of him as James Rossmore. Mr. Richard Norton was a capable Mr. Stott (Rossmore's legal adviser), and Mr. John Wheatman played J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P., suitably. Miss Dorrie Roberts acted nicely as Kate Roberts, and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was admirably placed as Mrs. Ryder.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Another excellent piece has been produced here this week in *Held in Bondage*. Mr. Vivian Grantham is responsible for the production, and also enacts Sir John Hawthorne in a most creditable manner; Mr. Richard Vane makes a capital villain in his personation of Prince Mazaroff; Miss Florence Tyrrell is seen to advantage as Zara; Mr. Charles Stirling plays Ivan Dronski very ably; Mr. George Scully (Harry Dunn), and Miss Maude Merrick (Lisette) supply the comic element, and Mr. Cecil Vernon Procter (Paul). Mr. Robert Dryden (Colonel Ispanoff), Mr. Harold Knight (Dr. Petrovitch), Miss Grace Baring (Leonie Devigne), Miss Amy Rudd (Princess Mazaroff), and Miss Joan Pereira (Baroness Augusta Vallinski), all give adequate support.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Patrons of the Royal are favoured with a visit this week of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was presented to a large audience Mr. Benson's impersonation of Shylock was a clever piece of acting, the popular actor being responsible for a most interesting reading of that much-discussed character. Equally successful was Mrs. Benson, whose Portia was excellent. Mr. Clarence Derwent as Antonio acquitted himself creditably; and as Bassanio Mr. George Buchanan displayed ability, Mr. H. O. Nicholson's portrayal of Gratiano being carefully studied delineation. Mr. George R. Weir was good as Launcelot Gobbo; and Miss Helen Haye as Nerissa, and Miss Olive Noble as Jessica, gave two acceptable impersonations. On Tuesday *Twelfth Night* was presented. *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *As You Like it*, and *Henry the Fifth*, are also in the répertoire of the week.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*Under the Czar* was staged here on Monday by Mr. Jarman's company. The principal character of Nicholas Yerosloff was taken by Mr. Newton Buckland in a capable manner; Mr. Gerald Smythe gave a life-like portrayal of Captain Johnson; and Mr. W. H. Riley as Rovesky made good use of his opportunities. Sonia was charmingly played by Miss Francesca Strickland; Miss Nancy Newell gave a characteristic rendering of Zara; and Miss Linda Riley was a clever Siomka.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—An excellent programme is being presented here. Tschernoff's animals are certainly clever; another quadruped turn is *The Rejected Remounts*, a diverting equestrian sketch by Fred Ginnett's company; the attractive comedienne, Carlotta Levey, is a favourite with her capital songs; Kelly and Gillette are extremely amusing; the Lyons Trio evoke applause for a capital pantomime sketch; the Vernon Troupe are certainly smart xylophone players; and Die Obersteirers, with their Swiss singing and dancing; Chas. Vincent, a clever comedienne; and Dorothy Clarke, a pleasing ballad vocalist, with the Bioscope, complete the bill. On Tuesday, the 25th, grand anniversary performances were held to celebrate the sixth year of the Empire, and enthusiastic audiences packed the house.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. J. W. Turner is always a big favourite here, and on the opening night of his engagement, when he appeared as Don Cæsar de Bazan in the ever-popular *Maritana*, the house was packed in every part. Mr. T. Griffiths as Don Jose again sang and acted with his accustomed refinement and skill; the King of Spain was successfully impersonated by Mr. Sidney Clifford; the title-rôle was in the safe hands of Miss Kitty Brownlees, a charming vocalist and clever actress, and Miss Jessie Dennis did particularly well as Lazarillo.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—A well varied programme is being provided here this week, the principal attraction being the Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats and vaulters, who are making their first appearance in England at this theatre. They do some remarkable feats. J. W. Rickaby is a most amusing comedian; as a humorous imitator of animals Gilbert Girard scores a big success; Cyclumina contributes a smart turn with his electric cycle act, and the Calcotts, who know how to play a banjo, also score as dancers; Miss Jennie Sydney is a particularly neat dancer, and Fraser and Haley, duettists and dancers, and some effective and interesting pictures by the Pepiscope complete the bill.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—*The Love that Women Desire* is being presented here by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's excellent company, under the personal direction of Mr. Hugh Wallace. Mr. J. O. Stewart's study of the unscrupulous Squire Abington is a strong piece of work, and stands out as one of the best performances of the evening. Mr. Fred Lloyd as Philip Carnaby wins much favour by his excellent acting in a trying part; Miss Laila Stanhope plays Sybil Thorburn, whose trials and troubles she portrays in a winning manner; while from Miss Alice N. Livesey comes a convincing study of Madge Abingdon. Mr. Alfred Grenville gives a capital delineation of the villain Richard Abington; Mr. Chas. Herberte is clever, and makes the most of his part as Frank Hardy; Mr. John Hignett is funny, and causes much laughter as Dennis O'Rourke. Assisting in the comedy scenes, Miss Helen Richmond as Pattie Swift acts with much vigour, and achieves a complete success. The stage-manager, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, as P.C. Sowerberry is also responsible for much unctuous humour. Mr. E. Morris makes a successful Bailiff; while Miss Violet Haye is seen to advantage as Molly.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—*Are you a Mason?* as represented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, is creating a roar of laughter from start to finish. Mr. E. H. Paterson is highly successful as Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Howard L. Tracy a capital Frank Perry; Mr. Edwin Millins' John Halton is a fine bit of work; Mr. Ernest Cossart's George Fisher is quite a triumph; Miss Adelaide Grace is decidedly good as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; and Miss Minnie Rayner is an amusing little Lotti. The rôles of Eva, Lulu, and Annie, Mrs. Bloodgood's three daughters, are in the safe hands of the Misses Mabel Younge, Babs Stuart, and Madge Merrique respectively. The farce is preceded by the one-act play, *The Ruby Heart*.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford. — Baron H. Harriss's company in *The Prince of Pilsen* opened a week's engagement on Monday. Mr. Harry Kilburn as the brewer is inimitably droll and amusing; Miss Sophie Harriss is irresistible as Mrs. Maddison Crocker; Mr. Frank Crimp as the Prince is picturesque, and makes a hit in a duet with the heroine, Miss Dorothy Grasdorff, a very charming skirt-dancer and pleasing vocalist; Mr. Roy Sidney as the young American lieutenant is clever; Miss Florence Deech acts prettily as the Vassar girl; Mr. Bernard Russell is funny as the inevitable dude; Mr. G. W. Hulme is distinctly imposing as the first gendarme; Mr. Ernest Gifford as the waiter, Miss Connie Leon as the lady's maid, and Miss Mollie Wynne are a very lively trio, all being remarkably nimble dancers. The members of the chorus are well drilled.

MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENTS. — A complimentary benefit performance was given on Wednesday at the Town Hall to Mr. Alfred W. Newton, the popular director.

CHORLEY (Lancs.)—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—The attraction this week is Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Gerty McQueen undertakes the part of Robin Hood with capital effect; Miss Fanny Adamson being also good as Maid Marian. Ally Benson is a host in himself as Dame Flossie, and the Baron is well placed in the hands of Mr. Ernest Thirlway; Messrs. Trayner and O'Conner are responsible for much fun as Blustering Bill and Wavering Wally, and Billy the Buttons is excellently portrayed by Paddy Mills. Miss Gertie Wasley is charming as Fairy Goodheart, and Miss Hilda Deacon very effective as Dolly Dimple. The chorus and ballet are particularly smart.

TOWN HALL.—This hall is occupied by Mr. Chas. W. Poole's up-to-date Myriorama. The pictures are relieved by an excellent variety entertainment, the turns including Woolford's performing ponies, dogs, &c.; the Fordyces, attractive singers and dancers; Dane's Marionettes, cleverly worked; Coma, a smart Japanese juggler, and Harry Raymond, an entertaining coon.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—PALACE, LTD.—Dagonet's Society Entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Blascheck, are here this week. They include Misses Mildred Wrighton and Lily Beaton and Messrs. Henry Stockwell, Claude Hamilton, and Reginald Mountfield.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert I. Montague.—The attraction here this week is the sensational drama *No Man's Land*, presented by Miss Ida Millais' company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne). Miss Millais is worthy of high praise for her careful handling of Mary Bathurst; Mr. Henry Herne gives a highly satisfactory performance of Harry Oatlands; Nat Marsden is convincingly portrayed by Mr. A. G. Lytton; in the dual rôles of Gilbert and Captain Norman Bathurst Mr. Alfred Bryon displays histrionic abilities; Silas Moore is cleverly acted by Mr. Frank Dennis; Mr. Vernon L. Thomas does well as Thompson Poodle; Miss Nancy Mitchell is well placed as Bessie Poodle; and Mrs. Poodle is safe in the hands of Mrs. Mallalieu.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—The attraction this week is that charming lyrical comedy, *The White Chrysanthemum*, and it is being presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company. In the title-rôle Miss Muriel George was well placed, her voice being both powerful and particularly sweet, whilst as Reggie Armitage Mr. H. Langdon Bruce gave her every assistance; Mr. H. E. Garden as Chippy Belmont and Miss Nellie Groves as Cornelia Vanderdecken were perhaps the hits of the evening, their styles being characteristic and decidedly clever; Mr. Charles Schmiedt as the Admiral, Mr. Richard Jelford as Sin Chong, and Mr. Jamie Dallas as Perky were three extremely clever humorists, and caused some genuine merriment, whilst the gay young widow was worthily represented by Miss Emily Taylor.

HIPPODROME.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—Le Diabelo, looping the devil's wheel, tops this week's bill; the Brown and Kelly combination present a funny sketch entitled *The Butler Knows*; Miss Harvery has a hearty reception, and is encored for her songs, whilst another turn which finds favour is the Sisters Brooks, duettists and dancers. The pictures are capital, and the bill is completed by Blanche Holt, Anglo-Dutch comedienne and dancer, and Harry Leroy.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarence.—Miss Lillian Beezant's company has fulfilled a three nights' engagement here with *An Actor's Romance*. Mr. R. Eardley Howard did well as Harold Davenport; as Robert Livingstone Mr. Cecil Flower was capable; Mr. Harry Agar Lyons made an excellent Jack Woodford; as Charlie Cummins Mr. Harry Wren was funny; Ikey Isaacs was in the able hands of Mr. Percy Warlow; and Mr. Ernest F. Wallace was commendable as Lester Bond. Miss Beatrice looked an attractive Louise Davenport; as Florence Hastings Miss Florence Nelson was forcible; Miss Marion Ryder as Phyllis Davenport was deserving of praise; and as Dotty Dillingham Miss Lillian Beezant deserved the applause accorded her. Mr. Bannister Howard's company with *The Christian*, was billed to appear on Thursday.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company opened here on Monday in *Charley's Aunt*. In the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley Mr. Stanley Cooke proves himself a comedian of ability; he is intensely amusing. Miss Lena MacNaughton as the Aunt fills the part admirably; Miss Lilyan Lait as Kitty Verdun acts with great taste; and the same may be said of Miss Kitty Carew as Amy Spettigue, As Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham Messrs. H. Lynn and R. B. Mason win success; and the Sir Francis Chesney of Mr. C. B. Keston and the Stephen Spettigue of Mr. W. Beaumont are excellent studies.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The enjoyable entertainment provided here includes the performances of Marco, a clever sleight-of-hand conjurer. The Sisters Aindow, musical speciality artists, give a capital performance, and win considerable favour; Harry Drew possesses a good basso voice, and his singing is a pleasure to listen to. The Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists are marvellous riders; Conan and Doyle, comedians, sing well, and introduce humorous patter; Rita Resden's turn as male impersonator receives applause; Elsie Rubina gives a very clever performance on the slack wire; the Three Seymours are novel speciality artists; and the Lezzette troupe of lady acrobats do smart and difficult acts with skill and ease.

COVENTRY. — THE OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—A large house gathered on Monday to give a hearty reception to a return visit of the drama, *A Woman's Pluck*, by James Willard, and presented by that gentleman's own company; Miss Grace Lester gives a capital impersonation of Grace Daremont; Dick Derrell is in the capable hands of Mr. Austin Mortimer; Mr. Harry T. Wood is seen to advantage as Winston Dale; Mr. Fred Norburn gives capable impersonations of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont; Mr. John Campling is an amusing Sir John Daredevil, and Miss Violet Carr a pleasing Jessie Pope.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—A noteworthy entertainment is being given here by Marie Santoi and her merry little Japs, in which some capital songs are introduced; the Harlfords provide trick cycling, and a horizontal bar performance on a frame attached to the machine; the Cape Girls are responsible for a good exhibition of singing and amusing dancing; Miss Minnie Dare is a capital vocalist and dancer; Miss Alice Maiden is well received as a comedienne, and Yorick and Yorick are amusing as knockabouts.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Messrs. Fred. J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company is giving us *The Two Hussars* this week. Mr. Wilson Benge, as Harry Alford, gives a capable interpretation; Mr. F. J. Webb acts the part of Villiers in a cool cynical style; Miss M. Danvers Smith is responsible for some clever acting as Ellen Maythorne and Will Gunstock; and Mr. J. Stuart is also successful in a dual part; Mr. Paradise make a smart Sergeant; and Mr. Louis Vanton, as Robert Runn, in the first act, and Robert Gunn supplies the humour; Miss Lallah Price shows ability as Molly Cattis; and Miss Sadie Smith makes the most of her part as Marie.

CREWE. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Messrs. Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company, in *On the Stroke of Twelve* is here this week on a return visit. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle plays the part of Jack Rutledge with ability; Mr. Fred Guinness, as George Bainbridge, gives a careful representation; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt is excellent as James Horton; Mr. Fred Ferne is a capable exponent of Henry Rutledge; Mr. Fred J. Little is capital as the nigger, Jasper; Mr. Syd T. Russell as Moses Levi does well; and Mr. Will Bass as Pat Cathill is a favourite. Miss Nellie Moore gives a pleasing rendering of Jess Bainbridge; and Miss Beatrice Moore acts with natural charm as Doris Rutledge. Miss Madge Laverton sustains the part of Marie successfully.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The visit this week of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company is causing no little sensation in Croydon, and the Grand is being filled nightly to its utmost capacity. The staging of the operas can only be described as magnificent; the excellent chorus and ballet render valuable services, and the dresses and properties are worthy of special mention. On Monday the exquisite music of *Faust* was done full justice to under the bâton of Mr. Eugène Goossens. Miss Elizabeth Burgess made a sweet and winsome Marguerite; Miss Douglas Wilson proved herself a capable actress in the rôle of Martha; Mr. Edward Davies gave a masterly and artistic rendering of Faust; Mr. Arthur Winckworth thoroughly identified himself with the part of Mephistopheles; and Messrs. Dillon Shallard, Frederick Clendon, and Miss Dorothy Mayfield deserve praise as Valentine, Wagner, and Siebel. An imposing performance of *Lohengrin* was given on Tuesday. Mr. John Ebbeler's noble bearing admirably fitted him for the rôle of Henry the Fowler; Mr. Charles Victor proved himself a veritable tower of strength as Telramund; Mr. Frederick Clendon delivered his lines with expression as the Herald; and Mr. Julius Walther acted in highly finished style and sang to advantage as Lohengrin. Miss Grace Nicoll as Elsa was vocally and dramatically all that could be wished; and Miss Marie Alexander had a part in Ortrud which called her best powers into play. The répertoire for the week includes *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *Fidelio*, and *Marriage of Figaro*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps* is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. Mr. C. P. Wentworth as Captain Rodney Hayes is very capable; Mr. Sam Arthur as David Eaglehart acts with intensity and power; Mr. Chas. E. Sutton is good as Mr. Furnaby Fuller; Mr. D'Arcy Kelway is mirth-provoking as Sammy Blyth; Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead is particularly smart; and Mr. Harry Barham does well as Mark Blackwood. Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queen Carruthers acts with convincing sincerity; Miss Maude York as Hilda Carode earns distinction; Miss Bessie Frank scores as Carrie Jones; Miss Daisy Clifford as Maud de Ferler deserves praise; Mrs. Edith Colona ably sustains the rôle of Signorina Robertio Jonesio; and the child Leila is pleasingly impersonated by Miss Josephine Goldsmid.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Visitors are appreciating the entertainment given at this comfortable house. Fred Karno's company is creating quite a furore in the amusing sketch *Moses and Son*. Fred Kitchen is a host in himself in the principal comedy part, and he is ably supported by Herbert Landeck, Anthony Gordon, Misses Leah Morris, Janet Reeve, Madge Rockingham, and a powerful chorus. Johnny Johnson is a clever comedian and instrumentalist; Sinclair and Whiteford are irresistible in the sketch *Getting Even*; Curtis and Vanity bring down the house with their eccentric dancing; and acceptable turns are given by George Bendon, comedian; Sylvia du Barry, vocalist; and Cissie Dryden, comedienne.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Robert Perris's company, under the direction of Mr. Karl H. Edwards, opened here on Monday in the excellent drama, *A Fight for Millions*. Mr. Hugh Newburn is seen to advantage in the heavy rôle of Richard Dudley; Mr. J. C. Carlyle makes a capital hero as Tom Manley; Mr. P. George Berresford is good as Hudson Rivers; whilst Mr. Karl H. Edwards gives a capital impersonation of the Jew, Solomon Mosses. Miss Elma C. Turner submits a fine portrayal of Helen Dudley; Miss Alwynne Ermon is an admirable Pearl Rivers; and little Miss Howe deserves a word of praise for her rendition of Madge. Mr. Harry Howe is distinctly funny as Willie Neverwork; and Nicholas Conway, the butler, assists in with the lighter side of the piece.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's principal company is this week presenting *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Archie Helsby makes a typical villain, and submits a finished performance; Miss Kathleen Magee gives a well-studied interpretation of the part of Margaret Rivers, and Miss Mildred Eversleigh is admirable as Mrs. Carsdale; Captain Frank Carsdale finds favour in the hands of Mr. Beresford Lovatt; General Kingsley is well enacted by Mr. Edward Bikker; Mr. Philip Redgrave is very good as Major Kilkerren, and the two drummer boys have capital representatives in Miss Lily Beverley and Miss Maggie English; Miss Edie Macklin and Mr. J. Magrath, with Mr. Harry Lyndon, keep the audience in merry spirits while they are on the stage, Mr. Magrath being very funny as the Irish Corporal.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The bill here this week is headed by the Seven Zerbinis, in their spectacular scena, *The Enchanted Glen*—a musical act of a high-class character. Maude Mortimer, a charming burlesque comedienne, is to be congratulated upon her success; Johnny Danvers, comedian, is both amusing and clever; the Three Rubys are graceful trapeze performers; Hugo is an entertaining illusionist; the Jansons are capable gymnasts; Jack Crawley is a praiseworthy comedian and entertainer, and the Palace Bioscope has some interesting pictures.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Mr Fred J. Kirke's company proving so attractive last week, they have been re-engaged in a piece very popular in the dockyard town, entitled *The Naval Detective*. Mr. Kirke undertakes the principal part of Lieut. Jack Beresford, and introduces some clever quick-change business; Mr. Frank Beaulieu is a very good villain as Dr. Schreiner; Mr. C. Burns as Hans Winklepump furnishes some acceptable instrumental items; Mr. Lorrimer Stuart is good as the dude, the Honourable B. Fairlox, and the sisters English (Violet and Lillie) enhance their reputation for clever dancing.

DONCASTER. — GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Royal Divorce* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon is deservedly popular; Mr. Percy H. Vernon is quite an ideal Talleyrand; the Marquis de Beaumont is represented with vigour and unaffected aplomb by Mr. Graham Woods; while Mr. Thomas Harry adds piquancy and interest to General Augereau, and Mr. St. George Frere is powerful as Marshal Murat; Mr. Denis Bryan is humorous as Grimaud; Miss Agnes Imlay is graceful in the rôle of Marie Louise; Stephanie de Beauharnais affords excellent scope for the natural alertness of Miss Clara Russell; a clever representation of the little King of Rome is submitted by Miss Doris Ivaits; and Miss Loyale Frere is also well placed; Miss Edith Cole as Josephine plays the rôle with a womanly pathos and charm that appeals to everybody present.

DOUGLAS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Grand Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. R. Wood.—For the final week of the season Mr. Alfred Hemming puts forward melodrama pure and simple, Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Repertoire Company presenting *A Modern Adventuress*, *The Heart of a Hero*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and *The Octoroon*. The company which Mr. Carson has enlisted under his banner play for all they are worth. Mr. Charles Draycott and Miss Muriel Thompson impress and interest audiences in any play of emotion in which they appear. Mr. Charles Draycott's Pietro Donelli in *A Modern Adventuress*, is a particularly fine creation. Miss Muriel Thompson as Violet Meredith, a notorious woman, played with power; Miss Marie Robson was pathetic as the wronged wife; Miss Daisy Norman very quaint in a slavey part; Mr. Sydney C. Cranston worked hard as the titular hero, Harry Delby; Mr. Ernest J. Fare invested the villain, Wallace Dainton, with melodramatic forcefulness; Mr. Arthur Byron as John Crompton evoked laughter; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as the Detective, Walter Beale, was effective; other parts were excellently played by the members of the company.

THE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brittain.—This popular place of amusement has been packed during this, the last week of the season. Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra discourses delightful music. The variety programme was also exceptionally attractive. Lieutenant Albani submits an illusion, the Lady in Black, which puzzles the pseudo-scientist and charms the unsophisticated. Mr. Harold Hughman is a mimic who reproduces types of the day; Messrs. Craig, Rose, and Craig increase their popularity with their novel gymnastic act; Jennion's Marionettes capture the hearts of children, young and old; Ray and Miles are quaint comedy jugglers; and Vernon's Bioscope has many admirers.

BUXTON'S PIERROTS AND TEA VILLAGE have secured their full share of patronage. In the day, if fine, two performances are given on the Corporation Band Stand; if wet, in the New Grand Pavilion, which Mr. Frederick Buxton has erected on the promenade. At night a special entertainment is given in this building. These shows of Mr. Buxton's attracts thousands, and deservedly so.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—*Florodora* was the attraction the first three nights of this week, and was capitally played by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. The rôle of Dolores was admirably portrayed by Miss Daisy Lake, whose excellent voice was heard to advantage in the pretty musical numbers allotted to the part. A charmingly piquant impersonation of Lady Holyrood was given by Miss Rosa Sullivan, a graceful and talented artist, while Miss Dorothy Dempster played with delightful simplicity as Angela Gilfain. Mr. Gus Danby, the possessor of an apparently inexhaustible fund of natural humour, did full justice to the part of Tweedlepunch, and Mr. Colin Johnston was amusingly dignified as the American millionaire, Cyrus W. Gilfain. Mr. Howard V. Crofton, who has a fine baritone voice, acted most convincingly as Frank Abercoed. Mr. H. Carnelley-Joyce was highly successful as Arthur Donegal, and sang well. An excellent make-up and good business rendered Mr. C. A. Read-Night's impersonation of Leandro most striking, while the efficient chorus, under the direction of Mr. L. S. Tute, gained hearty applause. On Thursday *Florodora* gave place to *The Lights of London*, played by Mr. Herbert Hollister and company.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. George Edwardes has this week introduced us again to that charming and clever comic opera *The Little Michus*, which attracted an appreciative audience on Monday. Mr. Eric Thorne in his amusing and characteristic creation of General Des Ifs received a flattering reception. Miss Iris Hoey portrays the rôle of Blanche Marie in a successful manner, and Miss Thelma Raye makes an admirable Marie Blanche. The humorous representation of Bagnolet by Mr. Jack Cannot is heartily enjoyed, and Mr. Leonard Mackay is encored for his excellent singing in the part of Aristide Vert. Mr. W. Talleur Andrews as Gaston Rigaud is equally successful, and Mr. George Miller is an excellent Pierre Michu. Madame Michu is admirably presented by Miss Florence Parfrey, and the rem

Dorcas Crosby as the old housekeeper and Mr. Hawley Francks as Jake are responsible for much humour.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The chief turn is *Casey's Court*, in which thirty midget mimes appear in a humorous sketch. There are clever singers and dancers among them, and their turn is decidedly novel and entertaining. The Ellimans are musicians of a high order, and their contributions are much enjoyed; Dan Conroy, with a budget of new songs, is cordially received; the Kimberley Boys score a big success; Ethel Dove presents an original performance; Ida Kathrena sings sweetly, and Barney Salmon gives a few military songs in fine style; the Sisters Bartholomew, in song and dance, prove acceptable, and the Bioscope completes.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—A varied and interesting programme is again in evidence here; Anna Kenwick, an American comedienne and dancer, makes a decided hit; Jessie Star, styled "The Child Harry Lauder," mimics the eminent Scotch comedian to the life; Spencer and Marks, comedians and dancers; Jenny Clare, comedienne; Kenneth and Kane in a musical act; George Raper, comedian; Allis and Allis, patterers and dancers; a very amusing sketch, *Fun in a Court*, and the Gaiety Bioscope, are other attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—*I Defy the World* is being presented here this week. Mr. Percy Ballard as the hero plays with considerable force; as Blanche Sarville Miss Violet Crawford is a decided success; Miss Rosie Dane is excellent in the juvenile part of Fanchette; Mr. Charles Conway striking and effective as Laroche; and Mr. Charles Wilton satisfactory as Count de Beaulieu.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company is presenting here this week *Lady Godiva, Nell Gwynne, Jane Shore*, and *Richelieu*. On Monday *Lady Godiva* was staged in pleasing fashion. Mr. F. B. Woulfe gave much expression to the part of Tom; the Lady Godiva of Miss Ethel Griffies was full of tenderness; Miss Edith Lorraine as Elfrida, and Mr. Bob Anderson as Robin Shackleton were most amusing; Leofric was powerfully depicted by Mr. R. Seath Innes, and Mr. Wm. Macready as Algar gave a good account of himself.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Miss Olga Nethersole's répertory for the week has included *Carmen, Sapho, Magda, Camille*, and *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, so that playgoers have had the opportunity of seeing this talented actress in a round of her most famous parts. Able support has been rendered by Mr. Frank Mills, Mr. Julian Royce, and other members of a strong company. In Carmen Miss Nethersole gave a realistic presentation of the voluptuous gipsy; Miss Molly Pearson was a sweetly sympathetic Dolores; and Miss Rosalind Ivan exceedingly good as Teresa. Mr. Frank Mills in the trying rôle of Don José and Mr. Julian Royce as Lucas Mendez were well received. In Paula Tanqueray, on Tuesday, Miss Olga Nethersole found her opportunity for an intensely interesting piece of work, and achieved a veritable triumph; Miss Ivan was a graceful and intelligent Ellean; the acting of Mr. Mills as Aubrey Tanqueray was powerful and judicious; and Mr. William Clark made a good Cayley Drummle. Dresses, *mise-en-scène*, and details of stage-setting have been irreproachable, and in some respects a revelation.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—*Colonel Newcome* has the disadvantage of plays founded on such classics as the novels of Dickens and Thackeray, but it gives Mr. Tree a fine character part, and affords good chances for other actors included in the cast. Mr. Tree's portrait of the grand old colonel is a splendid piece of work; Miss Constance Collier brings before us much of the charm and grace of Ethel Newcome; Mr. Edward Maurice reproduces the genial humour of the great Fred Bayham; Mr. Sydney Brough is quite a characteristic Lord Farintosh; Mrs. E. H. Brooke as Mrs. Mason, Miss Annie Schletter as the old campaigner, Miss Mary Sumner as Rosey, and Mrs. Perceval as Madame de Florac give life-like impersonations; and Mr. Charles Quartermaine and Mr. A. E. Benedict deserve praiseworthy mention for their acting as Clive and Barnes Newcome. But the greatest delight of all is the artistic harmony which pervades this most beautiful stage picture—a performance which should be seen and remembered. The latter half of the week's programme has been devoted to others of Mr. Tree's notable productions, including *Business is Business, The Ballad Monger, Trilby*, and *The Man Who Was*

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—Mr. Mark Sheridan's genial philosophy is being conveyed here in lively song and patter, and Mr. R. H. Douglass is another good exponent of the art of comic monologue. Miss Florence Esdaile distinguishes herself as a ballad vocalist; Miss Madge Osmond shows marked ability as a male impersonator; the Three Sisters Sprightly give a turn quite in accordance with their name; and an entertaining novelty is supplied by Ted and May Hopkins in their character sketch, *A Cambrian Courtship*. The Kaufman Girls provide an exceedingly smart display of trick cycle-riding; the Picquays put in some marvellous work as handbalancers; the Mariano Sisters appear in a thrilling breakaway trapeze act; Marba and Verity are clever dancers and somersaulters; and Mr. Will Cornish produces wonderful effects on silver chimes.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. R. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—This week we have a visit from Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Company, *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Edward Hamilton portrayed the hero with much ability, and as Walter Beech Mr. John J. Hooker is quite successful; Miss Kate Hallam as Harry's wife is impressive, and a charming little actress is Miss Elsie May as the boy Robert Beech.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Arnold Bell and company appeared here in *Ben-My-Chree* during the first half of the week. Mr. Bell, in the principal rôle of Dan Mylrea, acquitted himself with distinct success; Mona Mylrea was portrayed in a thoroughly sympathetic manner by Miss Marion Forrester; Mr. F. C. Robson's Davy Fayle was a capital piece of acting; and the Kitty of Miss Violet Campbell was played in spirited fashion. Mr. Cuthbert Imrie made a stately Bishop; and Mr. W. G. Gregory an impressive Deemster. Mr. Frank Carlile gave an excellent interpretation of Mr. Harcourt; and Ewan Mylrea was intelligently played by Mr. Guy Morville. Hommy-beg was humorously sustained by Mr. Herbert Fuller; and Mr. J. Crow gave a clever representation of the part of Jim Gurphy. On Thursday Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company commenced a three nights' engagement of *Under Two Flags*, with Miss Mary Thorne as Cigarette.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a visit from Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company, in *The Worst Woman in London*. Miss Florence Dalton as Francis Vere is to be warmly complimented on her spirited acting; Miss Emily Kelsey and Mr. Willie Garvey are responsible for the comedy element; and Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as Vincent Lyle is forcible.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Manager and Lessee, H. J. Snelson.—This week Mr. F. Garton's juvenile company is presenting *The Beryl*, a bright little musical comedy. The chief parts are in the hands of Mr. C. Torraine, as the owner of the Isle of Verona, and Mr. Buckley, as a stranded actor, and both are well played. Master Harry George does well in the part of a detective; Miss Lucy Garton as a yacht's captain and Miss Etty Garton as Dora are a charming pair of lovers; Baby Ada is a charming little child-actress; Little Annie also makes a hit.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A special attraction is here this week in D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, with *The Gondoliers, Yeomen of the Guard, Iolanthe, Princess Ida, H.M.S. Pinafore, The Mikado*, and *Patience*. In the first-named piece Mr. C. H. Workman scored a success as the Duke of Plaza-Toro; Mr. Leicester Tunks was a capable exponent of Luiz; Mr. Fred Billington as the Grand Inquisitor gave a capital performance; Mr. Pacie Hipple sang well as Marco; Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Guiseppe Palmieri was seen to advantage; Miss Theresa Rassam made a dignified Duchess of Plaza-Toro; Miss Mabel Graham was charming as Casilda; and Miss Hope Hastings and Miss Mabel Burnege were successful as Gianetta and Tessa.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robt. Kirk.—Mr. George Harvey's company appeared here for three nights last week in *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr. Harvey was seen to great advantage in the trying part of Prince Lucio; Mr. Bertram Croucher was the Geoffrey Tempest; Miss Vera Hodym was a charming Mavis Clare; Miss Eleanor Glover appeared as Lady Sybil; and the other characters were filled by Miss Beattie Wilson, Miss Mabel Saunders, Mr. G. Nelson Turner, Mr. Arthur Bell, and Mr. Gifford Reynolds. On Saturday a melodrama, entitled *A True Briton*, was played.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General Manager, Mr. Joe May. Starring here this week is Tom Leamore, a quaint comedian; an athlete whose show is above the average is Ben Hur; Will Godwin, descriptive vocalist, scores; the Bros. Harrison, comedians, raise roars of laughter; another pair of mirth-provokers are Margaret and Ruby Laws, in a quick change act; Percy Hannon, a youthful baritone, has many admirers; the Cotton Blossom Quartette render in humorous style a series of part songs; the Five M.P.'s provide an entertaining musical act; and the Bros. Wynford, expert jumpers, complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Occupying the top line here this week we have Miss Frances Harrold's company in a comedy sketch entitled *My Son's Wife*. The trifle causes much amusement, Mr. W. J. Mackay as Peter Dredge being responsible for some very humorous sayings. L. B. Athol, descriptive vocalist, is loudly applauded; Auto is an eccentric musical comedian; Frank Newbury entertains with whistling solos; Crissie Cross, daintily attired, sings two ditties in taking style, and Downey's Living Pictures conclude the entertainment.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France. — Drawing large audiences here this week is Mr. Horace Stanley's company in *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Stanley in the part of Sam Wagstaffe is the cause of much merriment; Mr. George Beverley is a praiseworthy Jack O'Malley; Mr. Chas. Burdon submits a polished impersonation of the villain, James Inderwick; Mr. Edwin Clark is successful as Huntley Mason, and a like remark is applicable to Mr. Alaric Burton, who portrays Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Elsie Capell cleverly depicts Bessie Leigh; laughter is caused by Miss Evelyn M. Walton in the rôle of an elderly spinster, and another humorous character is Peggy Potts, successfully played by Miss Kate Kilpack.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company in *Her Luck in London* is here this week. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester as Fitzgerald O'Connor submits a powerful portrayal; Mr. Douglas Tremayne presents an admirable delineation of the character of the Rev. Lionel Strong; and Mr. Tyrone Power gives a fine performance of Stephen Harborne; Mr. G. Langdon ably fills the rôle of Richard Lenowen; Mr. Bruce Chapman is effective as Algie Kircumbrie; Mr. A. J. Harding as Jerry Gotobed and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys Shovepenny are responsible for much fun; Miss Mary Neil scores as Nellie Harborne; Miss Frances Bruce commendably sustains the part of Lilian Harborne; and Miss Ada Roscoe is good as Madame Gabrielle; Miss Pamela Hodson is prominent as Angelina Plantagenet. Mr. E. S. Nuttall, Mr. G. Stones, Mr. W. Wroe, Miss Daisy Moss, Miss Queenie Lamont, Miss Kitty Gerald, and Miss Dora Woodbery are all effective in their respective parts.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John R. Tomlinson.—Miss Rose Faith's company is here on a second visit with the Georgian costume play, *No Cross No Crown*. Mr. W. Carriden gives an exceedingly fine performance as Sir Francis Luttrell. Mr. Harrison Chapman is a clever Professor Nebb; Mr. Herbert De Ville acts the rôle of Austin Blake, the villain, with much realism; Mr. C. George plays with dramatic force the part of Rawson Haines; Mr. Fred Gresham is highly amusing as Dr. Ashby. In the character of Clare, Miss Rose Faith holds her audience enthralled; Miss Gwen Stuart shows excellent acting qualities in the dual rôle of Mistress Gray and Lady Margaret Luttrell; Miss Rita Rosslyn is seen to advantage as Dame Priscilla Barclay; Miss Maggie White is a capital Agatha; Miss Ada Clawsen as Plato and Little Ruby as Dorris Luttrell are also worthy of special mention. For the latter part of the week *A Wrecker of Men* is announced.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Mouillot's company this week is submitting the celebrated burlesque *Faust Up-to-Date*. Miss Mimi Fisher sings well as Young Faust; Miss Daisy Irving is a charming Marguerite; Mephistopheles is excellently represented by Mr. Roland Henry; Mr. F. W. Bowes is an amusing Valentine; Mr. A. Gambier Melford a comic Lord Chancellor; Miss May Davis an admirable Siebel; and Martha is capitally portrayed by Miss Maisie Riversdale.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—For the last week of the summer season an admirably varied programme is provided. Luis Hardt, the mighty atom, performs wonderful feats of strength; Aerian and Ostara give an exceedingly clever trapeze show; Lilian Rigby sings and dances well; Rebla contributes a smart juggling turn; Gelding provides a novel equestrian show as *Shaw, the Lifeguardsman;* the Bishops cause plenty of laughter in their comic scena; the Humels give a capital show on barebacked horses; and Frank Craig and his cake-walkers win loud applause. On Monday evening Mr. Tom Culeen had his benefit, when there was a crowded house.

GREENOCK. — ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright. — *Rob Roy*, the ever-popular national drama, is being presented here this week. Diana Vernon is charmingly impersonated by Mme. Alice Esty, her whole performance being delightfully effective; Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, in the rôle of Francis Osbaldistone, scores a distinct success; Mr. W. G. Robb, as Bailie Nicol Jarvie, is worthy of special mention; Mr. Nelson Ramsay as Rob Roy is another fine performance. The Dougal Cratur of Mrs. Herbert Bentone is exceptionally good, and others notable are Miss Marion Lind, Helen McGregor; Miss Jeanie D. Harle, as Mattie; Miss Jennie McIntyre, Jean McAlpine; Mr. Walter Russell, Sir Frederick Vernon; Mr. Montague Corrie, Mr. Owen; Mr. W. E. Holloway, Rashleigh; and Mr. Robert Minster, Capt. Thornton.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—De Vere and Kenwick head the bill here with a novel entertainment, introducing burlesque pictures on popular songs; the Edgar Forest Combination is well received, and was responsible for much laughter; the Bristons are daring trick cyclists. Other turns are George Young, a blind musician, who plays well; Lade Henderson, character vocalist; Henri Bekker is a smart conjurer; Lola Patey sings well; while there is an interesting exhibition of Empire films.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Lessees, The Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake) head the bill here this week. They appear in a laughable comedy, entitled, *The Man in the Moon;* Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers, do extremely well; the Sisters Carina submit a smart performance on musical instruments. Other good turns are Edgar Budden, bone soloist and roller skate artist; Rob Hamilton, comedian; and Minnie D. Aubyn, comedienne and dancer; and the exhibition of the Pavoscope completes the list.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*The Price of Her Soul* is being presented here by Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company. Mr. John B. Shinton himself as Lord Rolfe Mandeville shows to advantage; Miss Ada M. Ryder as the Countess submits a successful impersonation; Miss Mona Gray makes the most of the part of Olga Lavonitz; and Mr. Annesly Hely portrays Major Skoboloff in vivid colours. Miss Ada Arnott is responsible for amusing work as the eccentric Lady Jemima, and Mr. Will Percy creates plenty of fun as the Irishman, Pat Murphy.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. North.—The Black Troubadours are a quartette whose voices blend admirably; smart cycling feats, coupled with refreshingly original comedy, are provided by Newhouse and Ward; Keith, Merson, and Co. occasion considerable merriment in their sketch, *The Meet;* Hill, Lane, and Co. contribute an entertaining musical turn; Jules Kiaro gives an equilibristic exhibition; and others appearing are Wall Robins, black and white performer; Kit Keen, a coloured comedian; and Cissie Curlette, a pleasing mimetic vocalist.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Billy McClain's coloured sextette give a turn here which embraces plenty of variety. They present a speciality, *The Hottest Coon from Dixie*, and work in excellent songs, quaint dances, and an abundance of amusing patter. Prince Fee Lung, a Chinese conjurer, proves a capable exponent of his art; George Barrington displays skill as a trick pianist; Lily Vane is versatile; Linton introduces a daring wire-walking speciality; Cole and Rags contribute a capital comic juggling turn; the Custances present an interesting sketch, *A Game for Two;* and W. J. Lytton sings humorous ditties.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—An enthusiastic welcome was accorded Mr. Norman Macowan and company here on Monday in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Mr. Macowan played with much gallantry the title-rôle; Mr. Murray Hathorn made a commanding Duke of Winterset; a faithful Major Molyneaux was found in Mr. J. C. Taylor; and Mr. P. Ramsey Forman did well in the rôle of Captain Badger, Mr. Robert Entwhistle being a plausible Master of Ceremonies; Mr. Nakell had a typical representative in Mr. Conybeare Gough; Miss Violet Sterne was responsible for a sweet and amiable presentation of Lady Mary Carlisle, her efforts being ably seconded by Miss Emil Leslie, a natural Lucy. On Tuesday *A Soldier of Fortune* was staged.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Don Juan Caceido, a most remarkable performer on the slack wire, holds the exalted position here this week, and is enthusiastically received. Frank H. France and Marie Stewart give us a taste of their quality in a touch and go travesty, *The 100 to 1 Chance;* La Danseuse is to be commended for her speciality, "Santa Claus"; really smart coloured musical coons are Martinet and Wallace; and Burns and Bentley would be difficult to excel as dancers; J. Reichen's sagacious terriers perform remarkable feats; and the Brooklands, in song and dance, the Llewelyns, operatic vocalists; and the Sisters Geretti, in a novel trapeze act, complete the bill.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Austin Rudd, after a long absence, makes a welcome reappearance here this week; W. H. Downes sings capitally; W. B. Raby is quaint; some good dancing comes from the Olive Trio; a couple of talented vocalists are the tiny Sisters Marion; Bowman and Morton score heavily, as do Sterling and Love, in a vocal and instrumental comedy act. Elton and Elma prove successful in a triple bar act.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is paying a welcome return visit in that enjoyable comedy *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams contributes his admirable portrayal of Captain James Barley, which is thoroughly appreciated; Miss May Fairclough as Ethel Smedley is all that could be desired; Mr. Edward Coventry plays the part of Lieut. Boyne to the life; and Herbert Manners finds a capital exponent in Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu. Mr. Walter Pemberton does well as Major Smedley; Mr. Ewart Drake is good as the innkeeper, Porter; John Dibbs, in the hands of Mr. Charles White, is an interesting character; Mr. Fred Knight is well placed as Tom Codd; Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy Dallas acts with grace; and Miss Mona Robin is capital as Mrs. Smedley. As Mrs. Baldwin Miss Ruby Wyndham is distinctly successful; as also is Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs. Porter. Mr. Thomas Pauncefort makes a desirable Augustus. The curtain-raiser *Jerry and a Sunbeam* is well played by Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu and Miss Mary Pemberton.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwards.—Packed houses greet the engagement of Geo. Hackenschmidt, whose exhibition of wrestling is most interesting; the Poluski Bros. are, as usual, a huge success; Bishop and Hanlon, in their patter and dancing turn, are much appreciated; Harry Weldon sings his songs cleverly; the facial business of Harry Kirk is excellent; the Sisters Anderson are capital duettists and dancers; Miss Adele Lincoln scores successfully in her songs and dances; the Fimans, in their sketch *The Fire Station*, cause roars of laughter. The Grand pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—For the first three nights of this week we had a return visit of *Cousin Kate*, presented by the Hutchison company. In spite of the fact that this charming play was here only seven weeks ago quite a large audience was present on Monday. Miss Lilias Earle made an excellent Kate Curtis, and had good support from Mr. Percy Hutchison as Heath Desmond; Mr. Ernest Cox gave a clever reading of the part of Rev. James Bartlett, and Miss Hilda Honiss was well suited to the little prig, Amy Spencer; Miss Amy Coleman made a motherly Mrs. Spencer, and Bobby had an able exponent in Mr. Irwin Barrett. *Cousin Kate* was preceded by *Why Women Weep*. For the rest of the week Mr. Walter Maxwell's company in *The Lion and the Mouse* was down on the bills.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Marquis Itonge, king of cannon balls, in a smart equilibristic act occupies premier position on the bill for this week; the comicalities of Charles Chard are provocative of much amusement; the snake-like contortions of Zaid cause wonderment; quite a novel turn is provided by Willie Gardner, who dances excellently on roller and ice skates; Fred Villiers, a vocalist of a refined order, submits two taking songs; the Three Oxos, harmonising and descriptive vocalists; Edna Latonne, a chorus comedienne; Leo Warner Burl, vocalist; and a new selection of Bioscope pictures contribute greatly to the success of the programme.

HASTINGS. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Mr. James Welch, with his company, opened his first visit in Hastings with Chas. Marlowe's amusing farce, *When Knights were Bold*. Mr. Welch was a most amusing representative of Sir Guy de Vere, and the Rowena Egginton of Miss Audrey Ford was a fine performance; Mr. Edward Sass as the Irishman, Sir Brian, gave excellent support; Mr. Arthur Grenville played cleverly as Mr. Isaacson, and Mr. Henry J. Ford was an amusing Charles Widdicombe; Miss Daisy Cordell was commendable as Miss Isaacson; Miss Estelle Winwood as Millicent and Miss Emma Gwynne as Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave ably sustained their respective rôles, and a very good sketch of the Rev. Peter Pottlebury was supplied by Mr. James Nelson. The play, which was well mounted, was preceded by *The Lady Burglar*.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—A full and strong programme is delighting good audiences. Alverton is a remarkably smart conjurer; an attractive comedienne is seen in Miss Sadie Seymour, whose songs are favourably received; the Olma Trio exhibit some interesting performances as statuary acrobats; the scenes of the Hippodrome Bioscope are exceptionally interesting; an amusing episode by Miss Ada Tilley and a little company is well enacted; they also associate in a tabloid comedy, which is thoroughly well played, entitled *The Irish Doctor. A Dressing Room Romance* provides an attractive turn, being a new and original sketch. Although of the simplest kind, Miss Cora Duncan is charmingly natural as the music-hall artist; and Dr. Gordon is ably impersonated by Mr. Albert Blasque. Dan Agar, character comedian, is very droll, and causes a good deal of merriment. The Ramlos are very nimble and diverting in their comedy triple bar act.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson.—Mr. John V. Gordon's company in *The Best Woman in the World*, a domestic play full of interest, has occupied the boards here for three nights this week. Mr. Arthur Curzon's Captain Sir Arthur Langley is a capital performance; Mr. Basil Mitchell paints Captain Dudley Stewart in very black colours; Mr. John V. Gordon plays Major Ludlow in fine style; Mr. Teddie Smyth as the Hon. Herbert Fitzherbert, a dude, acts the part well, and his songs and dancing are decidedly good; Mr. Horace H. Arthurs gives a natural rendering of Solomon Isaacs; Mr. Joseph W. Boyling appears as Richard Thorp and Miss Lelia Drummond's Grace Beale is a most artistic performance. Miss Lily Annesley's efforts as Muriel Clifford receive full recognition; Miss Phyllis Elton is a vivacious Trixie McKinley of Chicago.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Geo. R. Baker.—This week we are favoured with a visit from Mr. J. H. Clyndes and his company in *A Royal Menage*. Mr. J. H. Clyndes as Estevan Alvarez and Pedro de Castro is very good, and Miss Aimée Gratton Clyndes as Cora Casilda has scored a great success. Messrs. G. Foster, W. Kenyon, H. W. Bradford, A. F. Dudley, and Misses Enid Edoni, Emmeline Roselle, and Ethel Whitely are admirably suited to their respective characters.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—*The Golden Ladder* is being played successfully by a company headed by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, who are seen in the parts of Lillian Thornhill and Peranza respectively. Mr. William Clayton is excellent as the Rev. Frank Thornhill. The humour is skilfully supplied by Mr. Joseph Rowlands and Miss Nellie Graham as Mr. and Mrs. Peckaby. Two juvenile parts are well played by Miss Winifred Acton and Miss May Ediss.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A really good bill is headed by Miss Alice Raymond and John Kurkamp in a fine musical turn. Others are the Wartenberg Brothers, foot balancers; Callie and Walker, in song and dance; Story and Trigg, comedy trapeze artists; Dan Fitzgerald and company in *The Burglar Prince;* Barney, Burke, and Bray in their absurdity, *From London to Madrid;* the Phydoras, leg maniacs; and new films on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—This week Mr. Morton has been reaping a rich harvest by his enterprise in securing for his patrons Mr. Frank Curzon's musical comedy company with *The Girl Behind the Counter*, from Wyndham's Theatre. For the first time Mr. Hayden Coffin has travelled North, and that charming singer, Miss Isabel Jay, is also one of the company. The success of the evening is achieved by Mr. J. F. McArdle as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby. Miss Isabel Jay charms and delights the audience by the sweetness of her voice; Mr. Geo. Barrett surpassed himself as the waiter at Baron's Court; Mr. Lionel Victor (succeeding Mr. Horace Mills) made an excellent impression as a page boy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Geo. Dance's *The Duchess of Dantzic's* company is here this week. Miss Kitty Gordon in the title-rôle realises all its possibilities; Mr. Fredk. Moyes is sufficiently Napoleonic; the Lefebvre of Mr. Albert Chapman is a fine piece of work.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company in that fine melodrama, *Driven from Home*, is doing well here. The company includes such well-known actors as Felix Pitt, a favourite always, who as Anthony Raybrook made a conspicuous success; Miss Frances Ruttledge was a meritorious Laura; Mr. Percy Dawson figuring successfully as Willie, the outcast.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alf Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Rose Elliott receives an enthusiastic reception; and other artists supporting include Lill and Silcott, Will Sullivan, Musical Johnsons, Harry Edson, Russell Carr, Elsie Earle, and Frank Coyle.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Harry Kandall is "the man of the moment"; and Alf Gibson takes second honours. The fine vocalism of Lilian Lowe is much appreciated; Alf Le Fre has a nice breezy style; Hanid Alexander is a young entertainer of promise. Other talented artists include Joly, Burley and Burley, George Reeves, and Ernest Ball.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson. Dyson's Swiss Choir are still drawing crowded houses.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Large houses are being attracted here this week by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's *The Female Swindler* company. As Lu Valroy Miss Grace E. Leslie looks charming and displays exceptional histrionic ability; Mr. John Millane submits a finished study as John Coulson; the villainous nature of Geoffrey Warden is skilfully depicted by Mr. Wilford Cheetham; and Mr. A. Kenyon Gray as James Oliver is well placed. As Harold Travers Mr. Guy P. Ellis makes a sufficiently ardent lover; and Miss Florrie Kelsey is sweet and sympathetic as May Andrews. Mr. J. Belton as Abraham Mikestein ably portrays the shady side of human nature; Mr. Henry Wright as Binks proves himself a resourceful comedian, and keeps the risible faculties of the audience well employed; whilst Miss Mary Dawson is a pretty and attractive Mary Ann Mee. The play is excellently mounted.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson and company are appearing here this week in the drama, *A False Wife*, in which Miss Florence E. Florence, as Lady Mansfield, exhibits acting of an excellent order; Mr. Howard Barlow presents a good reading of Lieut. George Mansfield; and Miss Annie Hylton appears with distinction as Agnes Weyland; Zorak, the mad wizard, is capitally represented by Mr. James Chippendale; Mr. Elton Morgan, as Ben Rattler; Mr. Owen Edwin, as Archibald Brown Tee; and Miss Minnie Leslie, as Bessie Blazer, keep the house in a hilarious mood with their comedy business; the part of Sarah Bernstein is well taken by Miss Flo Morgan; Mr. F. Marriott-Watson himself is seen to advantage as Jean Beraud, a French adventurer.

INVERNESS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Cameron Burgess.—Mr. George Dance's company opened a three nights' engagement on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Blanche Lynd scored all through as Sans-Gêne; Miss L. Hildroe was seen to advantage as Renee de Saint Maynord; and Miss Lilian Drake was a dignified Josephine. Mr. Alfred Ibberson as Napoleon looked the little corporal to the life; the Duke of Dantzic was well played by Mr. Leonard F. Griffiths; and Mr. Cecil Porke as Vicomte de Bethune and Mr. Arthur Ferris in the comedy part of Papillon, a pedlar, gave creditable performances.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*The Earl and the Girl* has been played here this week by Mr. William Greet's company, on a return visit. Jim Cheese is well impersonated by Mr. Alfred Donohue; Mr. T. Kennard does justice to the part of Dick Wargrave; and Mr. Ernest Plumpton renders good service as Downham; Miss May Yates is a graceful Elphin Haye,; and Miss Lena Hicks and Miss Ida Statham greatly add to the success.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief item of a varied bill here is George Bastowe, whose "Farmer Giles" at once gains the good opinion of the audience. Other turns include Maude Edwards, a clever ventriloquist; Russel Wallett, humourist and satirist; Lena Brunton, an accomplished mimic of musical stars; the Cullane Trio is amusing sketch; Onda and Leon, in a horizontal bar performance; and Vi Carlyle, who sings "My Mountain Maid," with appropriate scenery; and Barney Armstrong, comedian.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. George Watson.—Mr. J. Poole's Myriorama, has attracted large audiences during the week, a variety company adding to the success. Among the latter are Harry Miers, comedy juggler; the Four Rosaires, acrobats; the Three Boleros, bar performers; and Johnny o' Rourke, patter singer.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company opened here on Monday with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Mr. L. Race Dunrobin is an excellent exponent of the part of Captain Harry Peyton; Mr. Franklyn Graham looks sufficiently sinister in the rôle of John Colden; Mr. Fred Dark is exceptionally good as Mr. Valentine; and Mr. H. Grey Dolby as John Edwards, Mr. Donald Young as Sergeant Carrington, Mr. F. G. Martindell as Black Sam, and Mr. J. Thomas as Cuff are efficient representatives of their respective parts. Miss Leonora Braham gives a finished and delightful rendering of Mistress Sarah Williams, Miss Phyllis Back is a taking Molly Edwards, and Miss Lilian Hallows a painstaking Miss Elizabeth.

KEIGHLEY. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. Willie Carson.—*The Duchess of Dantzic* is entertaining large audiences here; Miss Mary Glenn is artistic in the title-rôle; Mr. Gilbert Yorke as Napoleon is capitally suited to the part; Mr. Ernest Torrance gives a fine rendering of Lefebvre; Mr. Alec Johnstone's Adhémar is entirely satisfactory; and Mr. Steve Fitzgerald is amusing as Papillon.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—This week we are having a visit of Mr. Fred Karno's company in *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Rolando Martin works hard and successfully as John Willie Jaggs; Miss Amy Rogerson appears to advantage as Clorinda; Miss Daisy Stone is a charming Violet; and Miss Ada Maskell a highly amusing Aunt Skinner. Mr. Dick Harcourt portrays Mr. Potts in admirable fashion; Mr. H. Gordyn is a pleasing Tom Fraaman; and Mr. J. W. Bradbury as Mr. Blake and Mr. J. Fletch as Spinks add considerably to the fun.

KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Major Ward.—*The King's Signet*, presented by Mr. Johnstone Marsh, has proved a special attraction here this week. Mr. Alfred Woods gives a carefully studied rendering of the part of Maurice D'Alroy, and Mr. R. W. Maule Cole acquits

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EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—One of the best programmes seen here for a long time is topped by that clever and popular coon specialist, Mr. Eugene Stratton, whose melodious singing and excellent dancing prove very acceptable to crowded houses. The Deane Tribune company is a prominent and enjoyable feature in the presentment of a comic episode, *Applicants;* Goodfellow and Gregson are popular in a boisterous comedy specialty; that smart comedian Josh Dixon is again having a very successful week; and in the same line Alf Hurley hits the popular taste; Rita and Roma are giving pleasing vocal renderings with great success; eccentric yet expert musical specialties by the Two Tees are received with acclamation; whilst Phillips and Terry, comedy sketch artists, and Beatrice Renee, comedienne, are also contributing enjoyable items.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—This week's bill is headed by Lew Lake's company in a mirthful extravaganza, *Muggins, V.C.*, which is popular in that it includes, amongst other things, the eccentricities of that clever comedian Fred Lawrence, and the excellent song and dance abilities of Lottie Stone's Black and White Girls. Another screamer is supplied by Collinson's company in the comedy episode, *The Topsy Turvy School.* Dandy George again presents his canine companion "Rosie" in a wonderfully intelligent performance; the Baltus Troupe accomplish some marvellous acrobatic feats; Prince Kuroki as Japanese illusionist provides a mystifying entertainment; a popular actor-vocalist, Cyril Carle, finds great favour; operatic duets by Webb and Branston are enthusiastically received; whilst the comedy contributions of Harry Zetter and a comic conjuring act by Carl Howard are also enjoyable items.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Those clever juveniles the New York Nippers are again a big line here; a musical comedy act by that accomplished pair Tom and Marie Motramo is particularly enjoyable; a similar turn by Hallam and Stanton is also a popular feature of the bill; whilst amongst the comedians Tom E. Hughes and Arthur Slater are having a most successful time; the Brothers Voldam are exceptionally smart in acrobatics; Beaty and Blanche with song and dance are an enjoyable turn; and we are further entertained by Nellie Martell and Maudie Ford, both of whom are capable and favourite comediennes.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Another enjoyable attraction is being presented here this week in Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company in *Mr. Hopkinson.* In the title-rôle Mr. Frank Stanmore's talents are given full scope; Mr. Shirley Lea makes an excellent impression as the Earl of Addleton; and as the Duke of Braceborough Mr. Arnold Lucy is also to be highly complimented. Mr. Reginald Dane is good as Lord Cawthorpe, as also are Mr. George McCloskie as Mr. Smethurst and Mr. C. M. Heslop as the Hon. Otho Dursingham. Miss Alison Alexander distinguishes herself as the Duchess of Braceborough; Miss Gladys Jesson is an attractive Lady Tyra Egglesby; and Miss Katherine M. Romsey a capital Eliza Dibbs. *The Snowstorm* precedes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards here are held this week by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail.* As Harry Steyne Mr. Alfred Goddard is seen to advantage; Mr. Fred G. Evison displays versatility as Billy Brewer; and as Nancy Brewer Miss Mildred Carr is to be complimented. Miss Ada Oakley is all that can be desired as Mary Steyne; and Miss Phyllis Dailley is admirable as Lady Phyllis Eustace.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—At the head of this week's bill is *Casey's Court,* presented by the Midget Mimes (thirty in number), who are headed by Bob King as the Widow Casey. The youngsters display much cleverness in various ways, and the entertainment affords great amusement. At the other end of the programme is Ernie Mayne, a comedian of undoubted ability, whose songs and patter prove most mirth-provoking. Hanvarr and Lee, in *The Golfer and the Maid,* are popular with a smart and clever show; Colby and May, the former as an entertaining ventriloquist, and the latter in clever impersonations of a dancing doll, are scoring a success; the Three Albions are both amusing and clever in their novel musical act; Stelling and Revell display ability on the bars; Billy Tucker is the best ball-puncher that has been seen here; Bouverie Pleydell is a *chic* comedienne and a delightful dancer; and the Brothers Lang, comedians, and the American Bioscope are also entertaining features of the programme. On Monday evening the Sisters Kildare presented *The Jockey's Temptation.*

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Bliss and Bliss, comedians, are creating hearty laughter here; Zaro and Arno are good in their novel comedy bar act; Ted Saunders successfully impersonates a number of star artists; Maude Vera is a versatile vocalist; Mlle. de Rose, the lady baritone, secures her usual warm welcome; Lidden and Hayward are funny in their comedy, *The Midnight Express;* J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, goes well; and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope remains a special feature.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—The annual visit of Mr. Fred Clements and his concert party is now looked forward to with much pleasure at Leicester, as they present a programme of all-round excellence and refinement. The company on this occasion is a strong one, and includes Fred Clements, comedian; Charles Coverdale, comedian; Donald Keir, bass vocalist; Mabel Kempton, vocalist; Charles Doré, comedian; Syd Crossley, comedian; Wally Young, actor-vocalist; J. C. Morris, comedian; Jack Clements, baritone; Bob Baddow, ventriloquist; Arthur Royce, comedian; and Horace Bernard, tenor vocalist and accompanist. The sketch *The Three Buttercups* is presented amid much hearty laughter by Messrs. Fred Clements, Syd Crossley, and Charles Doré. As duettists Keir and Kempton also shine. A singing competition took place yesterday (Friday).

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here this week, with *A Midnight Wedding.* Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a striking impersonation of Paul Valmar; Miss Annie Saker, in the dual rôles of Princess Astrea and Lieut. Karl Helsburg, must be congratulated upon admirable renderings; the villainy of Captain Rudolph is well depicted by Mr. Clinton Baddeley; Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman acquits himself creditably as the Crown Prince; Kathie is brightly played by Miss Ada Champion; and the comedy element could scarcely be in better hands than those of Messrs. J. B. Page, Percy Compton, and Algie Spalding.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A warm reception has greeted the return visit of *Kitty Grey,* which is well produced by Mr. George Stephenson and a good company. Miss Hilda Guiver repeats her striking impersonation of the name part; Lady Binfield is nicely played by Miss Marie West; and Miss Nellie Lauraine is specially happy as Mrs. Bright; while Sadie, Mabel, and Violet find smart representatives in Miss Elsie Skillings, Miss Maud Howard, and Miss May Wallace. Among the male performers, Mr. Lauri Lisle comes out strong as the King of Illyria; Mr. Leslie Steward's Lord Plantagenet affords plenty of amusement; and Mr. George Stephenson appears to advantage in the rôle of Sir John Binfield. The chorus is thoroughly efficient, and the staging of the piece in every way creditable to all concerned.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—*A Mother's Love* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Arthur Mervyn is a capital Paul Wingate; and Mr. Arthur E. Pringle is good as Geoffrey Mannering; Mat Ruddock is capitally played by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame; Miss Nena Ellis plays Elaine very finely; and Miss Rosa Mervyn is excellent as Winny Wingate.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. A. Smith.—A popular attraction this week is the return visit of Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company in *Sergeant Brue.* Mr. E. Russell, despite a severe cold on the opening night, presented a clever picture of the Sergeant; Mr. T. A. Slab, an old favourite, is a most amusing Crookie Scrubbs; Miss Lily Lingard gracefully enacts the part of Lady Bickenhall; and Aurora finds a charming representative in Miss Kitty Dale. Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is suitably placed as Michael Brue; and Mr. Henry Chichester presents a good sketch of the Magistrate.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A large and enthusiastic audience greeted the appearance of Mr. Charles Verney's company in *The Coal King* on Monday. Mr. A. Alexander gives an ideal impersonation of Tom Roberts; Sir Reginald Harford is admirably sustained by Mr. R. Gordon; Mr. R. Shiells is clever as the designing scoundrel Walter Harford; Mr. P. Beaufoy is a capable Dick Shirley; and Seth Baker is well represented by Mr. A. J. Williams. Miss Florence Mitchell deserves praise for her portrayal of Mad Ann; and as Grace Shirley Miss Olive Lloyd acts with charm. The play is relieved by the bright and vivacious humour of Mr. T. Squires as Jem Williams and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Araminta.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—A good programme is headed by Charles Fisher's Opera Company in *Faust* and *Maritana.* A-Be-Kou is a clever juggler and equilibrist. Miss May Marton, comedienne, and Sid Cotterell and company in *The Substitute* are popular. Francis Melli submit a smart speciality act. Harry Sims, vocalist, and Miss Ray Phillips also appear.

MANSFIELD.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Cecil Clayton; Manager, Mr. Edward Gay.—On Monday and the two following nights, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company presented here *The Eternal City.* As Donna Roma Volona Miss Sara de Groot displayed admirable histrionic powers; the part of Baron Bonelli was in the capable hands of Mr. Lewin Mannering; Mr. Henry Deas made a frank and sympathetic David Rossi; Mr. Herbert Legerton played the part of Charles Minghelli with very great credit; Mr. W. O'Flynn as Bruno Rocco was an admirable hot-blooded, but generous-hearted, Italian; Mr. J. Fortescue played the part of Pope Pius XI. with a quiet, dignified bearing; Commendatore Angelelli was ably sustained by Mr. J. Pool Kirkwood; Mr. Edward Comberbach was a sympathetic Father Pifferi; Miss Eva Stuart was good as Elena; the parts of Sir Evelyn Wise and General Potter were carefully interpreted by Mr. A. Jefferson and Mr. G. Roberts. On Thursday and Friday Mr. G. Dance's company occupied the stage with *The Orchid.*

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Lessee, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh. — This week Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon has introduced the interesting musical dream-play, by Mr. Seymour Hicks, entitled *Bluebell in Fairyland,* with a full company of some forty artists. Mr. Lawrence Emery distinguishes himself by his natural ease and bearing as Dicky; Mr. Harry Vernon and Mr. Will Clement work together with the happiest results as Will and Wont; Mr. Frank Lennard is well suited as the rich city merchant, Joplin; and in the dream, Messrs. Lennard, Clements, and Vernon, put in good work. Mr. Jack Crowe is effective as the Reigning King; Miss Lily Eyton wins all hearts by her charming representation of Bluebell; and the Misses Maud Harris and Rena Robertson have been playing well as Mab and Winnie. Mention should be made of the amusing antics of the Cat, played by Mr. Albert Mack.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The programme this week is contributed to by Charles Banks, the singing comedian, and his dog "Woof," who makes a decided hit; Walter Wallis, comedian, on a return engagement, is again most amusing; Gold and Sterling, duettists, are good, and the painting of a picture during their singing is a novel feature; Los Rupertos, equilibrists, give a clever performance; and Peggy Pryde, the popular comedienne, is recalled several times, her reception being a most flattering one. Johnny Alexander and company are amusing in *The Troubles of a Tourist.*

MATLOCK.—VICTORIA HALL AND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Webb.—Mr. Geo. Dance's *Orchid* company appeared here on Monday night. The performance was an excellent one in every respect. Mr. Harry Walsh scored as Meakin; Mr. Clifford Bing was excellent as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, and Miss Poppy Wilkinson as Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Hilda Vining as Caroline Vokins; Miss Sissie Brand as Zelie Rumbert, and Miss Clara Beck as Thisbe were all exceptionally good. Others in the company who added to its strength were the Misses Kitty Smythe and Trilby Collier; Messrs. Frank Manger, Chas. Seymour, Len Neville, Geoffrey Berwick, H. Carson, A. C. Cheshire, H. Gray, and Tom Borrows.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Limited; Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert.—*For Better or Worse,* presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company is the attraction here this week. Mr. G. E. Clive plays with energy the part of Capt. Hilliard, and Mr. Scott Leighton presents an effective representation of Major Crawford; Mr. Owen Remonde makes an excellent Lieut. Dalrymple; Mr. Willie Black as Horatio Ranter is responsible for a great deal of fun, and Mr. Carthage Coldcleugh is particularly good as Ned Earnshaw. Miss Elsie Marriott-Watson as Olive Heathcote enlists the sympathies of the audience; Miss Chrissie Dunbar shows ability as Belle Baverstock; Miss Nellie De Lacy as Dolly Delaney and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Melinda are also worthy of mention.

TEMPERANCE HALL, EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The programme here includes the marvellous Howards, re-engaged from last week, Parker and Parry, Gracie Logan (soubrette and dancer), the Musical Keiths, Cinizelli (the silent jester), Londoun Cameron (conjurer), and the Biograph with first-rate pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Augustine Knight and company are appearing here this week in *The Assassin.* Mr. Augustine Knight gives a masterly and highly dramatic portraiture of the villain Prince Demetri; the Ivan Ipanoff of Mr. Ed. E. Ashby is a very careful rendering; Mr. Theo. Balfour is an impressive Duke Carl; Mr. Chauncy Morris is an excellent General Nichol; Mr. Edwin Jenner is interesting as the Irish officer Capt. O'Neil; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is funny as Baron Alphonse; and he is cleverly supported in the comedy by Mr. Tom Taylor (Peter) and Mr. Jack K. Smith (Evengie). Miss Ella Vane gives a capital interpretation of the title-rôle, playing with great power and earnestness; Miss Georgina Hamilton acts delightfully as Connie Jonathan, an American; while Miss Francis Waring performs creditably as Nita. Miss Marie E. Robertson is a pleasing Katrina.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—*Three Little Maids* is being presented here by Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company. Mr. Victor Kerr as Lord Cheyne presents a delightful sketch of that nobleman; Mr. Charles Caffrey is amusing as Cupid, the caddy; Mr. Charles Liverton is exceedingly good as the Vicar; and the Misses Cora Lingard, Daisy Sylveston, and Eva Weigh prove themselves three charming little maids. Mr. Eric Barrington is as droll as ever, and Miss Edith Maynard as Lady Crichton invests the part with much charm.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chattle.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is the attraction here this week. On Monday *Tannhäuser* was presented in a manner well worthy of the company's reputation. Mr. Wilson Pembroke met with his usual cordial reception in his able portrayal of Tannhäuser. Mme. Fanny Moody was responsible for a charming rendering of Elizabeth; Miss Toni Leiter as Venus was dramatically impressive; Miss Burns created a pleasing impression as the Shepherd; Mr. Chas. Magrath made a dignified Landgrave; Mr. Anderson as Reinmar was seen to advantage; and Mr. Lewys James was a decided success as Wolfram. *Romeo and Juliet* was billed for Tuesday, and other operas in the répertoire of the week are *The Lily of Killarney, Cavalleria Rusticana, Carmen, Lohengrin,* and *Maritana.*

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—Claude Ginnett and company are the star turn in a sketch entitled *Rejected Remounts,* which is very entertaining; Clavier and Piccolo provide a clever juggling and balancing turn; Dale and O'Malley are funny comedians; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene are amusing in their sketch, *His Birthday;* a clever singing and dancing turn is provided by The Leonards; Vesta and Minnie Pine cause much amusement in their musical comedy, *Maggie's Day Out;* and Stella Stanley, comedienne, does well.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—An excellent programme is being submitted here. The Mannons, in their sketch, *Uncle Yank,* create roars of laughter; Edie Gray and White Coons give a successful singing turn; the Three Seabornes are clever acrobats; Angeline, the lady juggler, is well received; and Gus Garrick, comedian, does well. The other turns are Jessie Merrilees, vocalist, Cyrus and Maude, and the Palascope.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company has appeared most successfully in *The Breed of the Treshams.* The principal character, Lieut. Beresby, "The Rat," is sustained by Mr. E. Tripp Edgar with great success. Miss Tressilian is particularly successful as Margaret Hungerford; and Miss Celestine Bertram charms all by her delightful interpretation of the boy Batty. As Cornet Tresham, Mr. Cecil C. Klein is good; and Mr. Richd. A. Green's Col. Hungerford is made sufficiently villainous. Mr. Oswald Lingard is requisitely severe as Viscount Dorgington; and Miss Madge Sagay and Miss Miriam Holt, as Mrs. Bagshaw and Helena Pierrepont, are well suited to their parts.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Miss Winifred Maude's company is this week appearing in *The Sins of a City.* Miss Maude herself appears as Seaweed, and wins unlimited applause by her sympathetic rendering of the part; Sandy McDonald is well impersonated by Mr. William Vane; equally good is Mr. Leonard Harrison as Donald McIvon; Mr. Victor Du Cane is excellent as the villainous Blackwater. Mr. Harry Jobson ably sustaining the rôle of Isaac Levi. Mention should be made of Mr. Norton Shields, who successfully doubles the parts of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh. Miss Jenny Hackett is a prime favourite in her song and dance business, and Miss Ethel Tinsley scores in the role of Lesbia.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—This week Messrs. Alf Northway and W. V. Garrod present a revised version of the melodrama, entitled *The Prodigal Parson.* Mr. W. V. Garrod does some really good work as the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Hugh Carmichael cleverly impersonates the character of Enoch Jaggins; Mr. William Hayward is good as Ben Jaggins; Mr. Walter Vincent does well as Ned Kettlepin; Miss Pattie Hastings ably sustains the leading part as Fern Godley; Miss Gladys Conover is pleasing as Myrtle Godley; Miss Gertie Douglas as Gretchen Van Craus and Mr. Herbert Newton as Phil Drive are responsible for the funny element in the piece.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Once again is a welcome visit being paid to the Theatre Royal by Mr. Martin Harvey and company in an attractive répertoire. On Monday evening *The Only Way* was staged, and upon the curtain rising for the first act after the prologue the popular and accomplished actor was accorded a flattering reception, and at the close of the play was not allowed to quit the stage until he had delivered a short speech, in which he said that he and his company were pleased that the play with which they had won their spurs in Newcastle still appealed so strongly to Novocastrians. Much could be written of the impersonation of Sidney Carton by Mr. Harvey, but it must suffice to say that it was again a masterly one throughout. A wonderfully sweet and touching interpretation of the part of Mimi was given by Miss Ethel Patrick, and equally as graceful and effective was Miss Coleridge as Lucie Manette; Mr. Leonard Craske was an eloquent and manly Charles Darnay, Mr. Fred Wright, sen., a picturesque Dr. Manette, and Mr. Philip Hewland a jovial Mr. Stryver, while a vigorous and passionate impersonation of Ernest Defarge was given by Mr. Charles Glenney. Others in an excellent company are Mr. P. Alexander as Mr. Lorry, Mr. Charles Cameron as President, Mr. Paul Barry as the Public Prosecutor, Miss Mary Rorke as the Vengeance, Mr. A. E. Raynor, Mr. J. E. Frazer, Mr. Alfred Mansfield, Mr. H. Blackmore, Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, Mr. Eugene Wellesley. Mr. Leslie Palmer, Mr. H. Blake, Mr. A. Lingley, Mr. W. Hargreaves, Mr. George Cooke, Mr. John Alexander, Mr. L. Arthur, and Miss Bessie Elder. On Tuesday night *Boy O'Carroll* was staged, and *Hamlet* was announced for Thursday, and *The Breed of the Treshams* on Friday.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Robert Courteidge's company opened with *The Dairymaids* on Monday. Mr. Harry Dent and Mr. E. Statham Staples as Joe Mivens and Sam Bludenell are responsible for a continual ripple of merriment; Miss Violet Lloyd, who takes the part of Peggy is an excellent lyrical artist, her Sandow girl song is delightfully rendered; Miss Rhoda Gordon as Winfred is excellent; Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Daisy sings with much sweetness, whilst capital comedy is supplied by Miss Nellie Beryl in her sketch of the domestic boarding school; and Miss Edith Blanche is clever as Lady Brudenell. Mr. Clarence Blakeston presents the Irish character of Dr. O'Bryne in a manner which deserves great praise; Mr. George Desmond gives a spirited and dashing impersonation of Lieut. Frank Brudenell.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Messrs. Charles Durrell and George Testo Saute's novelty drama, *The Life of a Showman,* fills the bill here this week. Feats of strength, clever acrobatic performances, and wonders in the way of music are all to be found in the piece, which has had a good reception. In the part of Hendrick Marias Mr. L. Darra is excellent, and Mr. E. Warden as the Rev. Cyril Arliss secures a warm reception; Mr. George Richardson as Stickers is quite at home; Mr. George Testo Saute gives a fine performance in the part of Brien Leader; Miss Amy McNeil in the rôle of Agatha Winter earns much well-merited applause; Miss Grace Harlington (Lynette Leader), Mr. Fred Vaughan (Ned Chuckers), and Mr. Will Lindsey (Ben Tic Tac) ably add to the attractiveness of the entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*The Indian Mutiny* is being presented here this week by Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company. Mr. George Steel gives a sterling impersonation of Lieut. Manley; the part of Captain Manley is ably represented by Mr. Cyril Harrison; and Mr. John Davidson makes an imposing Major Ingleby; Miss Lillie Grey and Miss Agnes Kingston in their respective parts of Mrs. Major Ingleby and Kate Ingleby give clever and pleasing performances. Mr. C. Birch (Ensign Blake), Mr. C. Morand (Terry O'Brien), Miss M. Melrose Millett (Ghwz-nah) are also included in the cast.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — The place of honour at the Empire is deservedly filled by Miss Vesta Tilley, and it is a foregone conclusion that crowded houses will be the rule nightly. This was forcibly demonstrated on Monday evening, when many were turned away at the second house, unable to gain admission. Her contributions to the enjoyment of the patrons of the house were as successful as ever, and she was repeatedly recalled. The Wedburns delighted everyone with their patter and ditties; Professor Dunning is a clever ventriloquist; Leo Tell as the equine mimic was well received; Miss Ella Retford rendered her coon songs in a charming manner; Kahn and Kahn mystified the audience with their wondrous modern necromancy; James H. Jee performed many clean and clever feats on the wire; Maude Hillman and Maurice Russell, in the vocal comedy duo *The Somnambulist,* and Beatrice Willey, vocalist, completed quite a mammoth evening's entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Despite the absence of Phil Ray (who is unable to appear owing to indisposition) the programme is quite up to the high order maintained by the management of this popular hall. An admirable substitute was the Harvey Boys, who are appearing in their amusing rôle as London messenger boys; Harry Champion rendered his songs in his usual quaint style; Grant and Grant, American octoroons, ever a popular turn here, were frequently recalled for their negro songs and dances; Fred Laud, the man with the short stick and the sharp wit, was an outstanding item; the Violas as the White Mahatmas were very interesting and clever; the Five Whiteleys performed some wonderful feats on the wire and in their musical pot-pourri act; Tom Moore, comedian; Cardo, magician; Arley's Combination with their dogs; and Milner Verren, tenor vocalist, also contributed to an enjoyable evening's entertainment. A special word of praise is due to the enterprising management, which produced the launch of the famous Cunarder, the "Mauretania," on the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here this week with *Lucky Durham.* Mr. Edmund Kennedy, in the title-rôle, acts with much force, his reading of the part being consistent throughout. As the Hon. Reginald Steighton Mr. Arthur Leigh admirably suggests the struggle between weakness and folly; Miss Alice Esther Belmore, who is sweetness itself, plays naturally the part of Helen Vallerton; Miss Florence Dulhurty does well as the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Frances Wolviston presents a capital character-study of Lady Mountfallon. The Mrs. Durham of Miss Louisa Gourlay is a delightful piece of acting; Mr. A. E. Walker is good as Mr. Vallerton; and Mr. Robert Forsyth as Lord Mountfallon and Mr. W. V Simmons Lynn as Arthur are satisfactory.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—A strong programme, full of interest, is presented here this week. The Macnaughtons are a funny pair, their patter and repartee being smart; Alice Lloyd sings two popular songs; De Dio executes a weird dance with magnificent effects; and Chas. S. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum, in *The Cuckoo,* are decidedly successful. Park's Eton Boys are excellent juvenile vocalists; Forest and King perform some clever feats; and Jake Friedman, who has a good voice, adopts a style quite his own. The Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—After a very successful career, *The Blue Moon* has returned to the place of its first production, stamped with the London hall-mark of approval. Since its appearance here it has been revised by Mr. A. M. Thompson, who has brought it thoroughly up to date. Mr. Alfred Clark is still the "goey" Major, as jolly as ever; Mr. Arthur Soames repeats his dignified and consistent rendering of the Ruler of Kharikar, which receives due approval; the part of Chandra Nil, the Blue Moon, is now allotted to Miss Clarice Lockstone, who has a sweet voice and charming method; Mr. Alex. Fraser sings and acts the part of the lover, Captain Jack Ormsby with excellent effect; Mr. Alfred Beer is full of fun as Moolraj; Miss Ethel Callanan as Evelyn Ormsby and Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne as Bobbie Scott present an amusing courting couple; Miss Kathleen Cartaret is very good as Lady Augusta Brabazon; Miss Florence Imeson as Millicent Leroy (Evelyn's maid) and Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charles Taylor are capital in their efforts at providing fun, the lady's dancing being dainty and charming.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Alma Obrey, character comedienne, is a big success here; the Sisters Daventry, duettists, &c., are well received; Verno and Voyce give two character duets which are highly relished; Phil Rees appears as a coloured comedian; Lethbridge introduces La Somnambula in a weird performance; Box Baxter, comedian, provides some good songs; Ernesto is a juggler and musical equilibrist of great ability, and his clever performance is highly applauded. The Palace Pictures, which still maintain their popularity, complete the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Bert Coote's capable company with *The Fatal Wedding* is paying a welcome return visit here this week. As Howard Wilson Mr. Ernest Owttrim wins much favour, and Mr. S. Herbert Humber gives a capital impersonation of Robert Curtis; Mr. C. H. Hughes makes a satisfactory Toto; Mr. Cyril Melton is funny as Peter Schwartz; Mr. George Waring makes the most of O'Reily, and Mr. Alan White is prominent as Rev. Doctor Lanceford; Miss Madge Haines successfully fills the part of Mabel Wilson; Miss Gertrude Harrison submits an admirable portrayal of Cora Williams; Miss Maud Locker is highly successful as Bridget, and Jessie, the little mother, has an excellent representative in Miss Marjorie Lawrence.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Four Aces, comedy acrobats, top the bill here, and give a smart performance. Mr. Alec Kendal, a capital comedian, creates much amusement, and Mr. Ragnus Danello, golf ball manipulator, is clever; Mr. J. H. Malva, ventriloquist and mimic, does well; Mr. Tom Reed, comedian; Furber Leath, oil painter, and the Bio-Photoscope are successful.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company gives unmixed pleasure to appreciative audiences in *Oliver Twist,* as prepared for Mr. Beerbohm Tree by Mr. J. Comyns Carr. Mr. Stanley Drew submits an excellent representation of Fagin; Mr. James Skea (an old favourite in Norwich) is everything desirable as Bill Sikes; Mr. Fred Penley is very good as Mr. Brownlow; and Mr. W. Rotherham does well as Monks and Mr. Grimwig. Mr. Paige Lawrence deserves every praise for his acting as Harry Maylie; Mr. Edward Walsh is successful as Bumble; whilst Mr. T. Williams is humorous as Giles. Miss Dorothy Marsden scores in the rôle of Oliver Twist; and Miss A. Lingham is good as Rose Maylie. Miss Dorothy Mayhew as Mrs. Maylie gives complete satisfaction; and too much praise cannot be accorded Miss Edith Aubon Laing as Nancy.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Large audiences testify their appreciation of the programme this week. The Three Panamas (a boy and two ladies) present a pleasing acrobatic and dancing pot-pourri act, and are very attractive; Lilith introduces a lady to the stage who floats about in a mysterious manner and excites wonderment; Michael Nolan, Irish comedian, is well received; Tennyson and Wallis, are a laughable turn; Lilian Warren, with songs illustrated by lantern colour-pictures, is pleasing; the Bensons, in their vocal comedy act, are successful; and the same may be said of Agnes Hazel as a comedienne. Rastus and Banks are amusing coloured American entertainers. The Hippo Bio is also good.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The Drury Lane company is presenting *The Prodigal Son* here this week. Miss Lily Hall Caine as Thora gives an admirable impersonation of the patient, suffering wife. Miss Cecil Cromwell plays Helga with a finish and expression that carried conviction. Miss Alma Murray realises the true womanly nature of Anna, and Miss Mima Renouf gives a happily conceived comedy study of Margaret Neilson. Owing to the unfortunate illness of Mr. Henry Renouf, the part of Magnus was filled by Mr. Herbert Hewetson, who gave a fine performance, full of energy and passion. As Oscar Mr. Norman Partriege aptly assumes this vacillating character, and Mr. Henry George admirably portrays the stern Stephen Magnusson. Mr. Fred Epitaux submits an intelligent reading as Oscar Neilson, and Mr. C. Maynard does well as the Sheriff. Other characters are conscientiously rendered by Messrs. W. Herberte, Howard Russell, C. Douglas Cox, and Gordon Macintosh.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Human Hearts* possesses the power of thrilling audiences, and Mr. C. W. Somerset's company has received a gratifying reward for their admirable presentation of the drama. Mr. George Rowlands makes a manly straightforward hero as Tom Logan, and Miss Winifred Pearson plays the erring wife in a manner that calls for approval. The tender-hearted and loving Ruth Western is excellently portrayed by Miss Minnie Silvestre, and Miss Barbara Bateman does well in the part of Jimmy Logan. Mr. Sydney Sarl richly earns the hearty recognition of his character-study of the poverty-stricken Jim Mason, and Mr. Edwin Palmer is easy and natural as Richard Markham. Mr. L. William (Fred Armsdale), Mr. Arthur Estcourt (Mose), Mr. Ben MacDale (James Shaw), and Mr. Frith Leicester (Deputy Western) capitally fill their various rôles.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—As a male impersonator Miss Hetty King is daintiness itself, her versatility and vivaciousness compelling the greatest admiration and enthusiasm. As an artistic turn the Three Olympiers leave nothing to be desired in their grouping, the effect being highly enhanced by the bronze colouring. The Mayvilles draw rounds of applause in a Lilliputian entertainment, and the De Breams show dexterity as jugglers. The piping, dancing, and acrobatic feats of the Sutcliffe Family thoroughly merits their recognition, as also the performance of Nelson's Newsboys. Griff is an old favourite who never fails to please, and the tricks of Max York's dogs are the outcome of much time and patience. Jack Lorimer's Scotch songs are prolific of humour, and the American Bioscope supplies a number of diverting pictures.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is on a return visit here with *His Majesty's Guests.* Mr. George Hestor as Sergeant Lightning keeps the audience in a state of hilarity; Mr. Frank Morton is a good Lord Easem; Mr. Chas. Usher submits a capital assumption of Mr. Miffen; Mr. F. Melroyd causes amusement by his humorous acting as Mr. Minks; Miss Leonora Castelle is an accomplished Lady Maud; and Miss May Vernon does good work as Dolly.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*For Life and After* is the title of G. R. Sims' latest drama, and Hardie and Von Leer have sent out a first-rate company to interpret. Mr. Vernon Sansbury gives an artistic rendering of Richard Grey; Mr. Sidney Vantier plays well as Gilbert O'Neill; Mr. Henry Hare as Jack and Jim Huggett is capital in the dual rôle, and Mr. C. Osborne as Rube Hexham excellent; as Joe Grimper, a comedy rôle, Mr. Chris Mason shows to advantage, being ably assisted by Miss Edith Barwell as Mrs. Grimper; Mr. Harry G. Wright is good as Zeke, as is Mr. H. F. Wright as Dr. Shand; Miss Grace Heywood is effective in the part of Marion Grey, and Miss Muriel Dean is a good Dora Grey; Miss Rosslyn Vayne makes the most of Loo Hexham, and Miss Marion

distinct acquisition to the company; Mr. F. Ludlow is a fine baritone; and Mr. J. M. King an able supporter of the comic business.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company is here in the Lancashire play entitled *The Coal King*. The chief interest is centred in the masterly assumption of Tom Roberts by Mr. Lauderdale Maitland. Mr. Lionel Thompson as Sir Reginald Harford is to be heartily congratulated on his performance; Walter Harford is ably portrayed by Mr. Escott Robson; Mr. Alfred Terris is seen to advantage as Jim Williams; Dick Shirley is capably sustained by Mr. Frank Dalton. Mad Ann is well represented by Miss Sinna St. Clair; Miss Sybil Coghlan is a smart Araminta Green; Miss Gertrude Valentine contributes a capital interpretation of Grace Shirley.

PORTH. — THE PALACE (late OPERA HOUSE).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Heading the bill here we have the famous Royal Tokio Japanese Troupe, who are enthusiastically received. The Saletos are marvellous head and hand balancers; Rose, Taylor, and Elvio are responsible for some capital fun; Primavesi, juggler, meets with a cordial reception; Henderson, blind concertina and piano soloist, is well received; Milsted and Bell, with *The Belle of Arizona*, are much appreciated; Les Uniques, the perpendicular ladder gymnasts, display ability; and the pictures shown are exceedingly pretty.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is here this week with the musical play *The Girl From Kay's*. The interpretation is a capital one. Miss Nancy Hervyn is most attractive and smart, with just coldness enough to make the scheming Minnie Harborough successful. Miss Aimee Grey plays with simple directness as Norah Chalmers; and the maid Ellen is sustained by Miss Chrissie Ralland with great vivacity. Mr. Herbert Franklyn is capable as Harry Gordon; the Hon. Fitzthistle is amusingly taken by Mr. Tom Shelford; Mr. S. Major Jones makes a pompous Joseph; and Mr. Arthur Stigant is genuinely funny, making the best of the part of Max Hoggenheimer. The chorus and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Basil Horsfall, is excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, with the successful drama *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is the bill of fare here for the week. Mr. Henry Lonsdale makes an excellent and manly George Madison; Mr. Louis Hector personates the scoundrel Charles Devereux very convincingly; he is ably supported in his nefarious plans by Mr. Leonard Maxwell in the part of Geoffrey Broughton. Mr. Kenneth Black as Sir George Lancaster does some capital work; and Mr. Fred de Vere as Timothy Tuttutt, together with Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty Lovejoy, score well in their comedy efforts to relieve the sombre portions of the drama. Miss Octavia Noel sustains the rather trying part of Lady Lucretia Lancaster with ability; and Miss Nellie Bonser charmingly impersonates the ward Lucy.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The attractions here this week are much varied. Heading the bill the Nine Akimotos, Japanese jugglers and equilibrists, astonish and delight the audience with wonderfully clean and seemingly untiring feats of balancing. Georgina Lenard, a vocalist of attractive appearance and sympathetic voice, has received quite an ovation; Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone, had also a good reception; Mlle. Eldee's refined artistic posings are much appreciated; Howlett's Fantoches are well manipulated, and receive due acknowledgment; the Davenports, lightning magicians and illusionists, are unusually smart; the Morton Trio do exceedingly well; Florence Schuberth, a pleasing burlesque actress, is well applauded for her efforts; and the Sisters Selwyn, comedy musical speciality artists, and Payne's Bioscope wind up a capital programme.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—A return visit of Mr. Sylvanus Dauncy and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company in *The Walls of Jericho* provides a strong attraction here this week, and the play has again been received with cordial appreciation. Mr. A. E. Anson is thoroughly successful in the rôle of Jack Frobisher; Mr. Alfred S. Barber gives a clever and humorous impersonation of Hankey Bannister; Mr. Cecil Warde is an excellent Marquis of Steventon; Mr A W. Tyrer is well suited to the part of Harry Dallas; and Bertram Hannaford is creditably embodied by Mr. Norman Aveling. Miss Marguerite Cellier gives a sympathetic portrayal of Lady Westerby; Miss Mornington has a vivacious representative in Miss Lilian Rogers; Miss Norah Wynne makes a pleasing Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss May Taverner defines with convincing ability the character of Lady Althea Frobisher.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is here with the successful drama *Judy*. Mr. George Kirk, in the rôle of Grip, leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Louisa Peach successfully plays the dual part of Alice and Polly; Mr. George Langdon is an excellent representative of Duburg; Miss Connie Laurie as Judy captivates the audience; Mr. J. Telly Dilisen creates much merriment as Jim the Coster; Miss Mara Collings ably sustains the difficult character of Blake; Mr. Stephen Cross deserves great credit for his conception of Sterling, the banker; and Mr. H. M. Hollies gives a capital delineation of Giddles the showman.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week are Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther, who appear with success in a mirth-provoking sketch; Will Letters keeps the audience in continuous laughter with his funny stories; Miss Lottie de Abbey is a vocalist of merit; *The Right Road*, a sketch presented by Warden Reed and company, is well appreciated; the Montaldos, in a slack-wire act, introduce a number of highly-trained birds; and Copland and Son contribute some popular step-dancing. The Bros. Hampson are amusing patter comedians; and La Belle Lillian gains loud applause for her wonderfully clever trick cycling. A display of exceptionally good pictures on the Bioscope completes an enjoyable programme.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman. — Miss Florence Baines and company, in *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.*, are drawing their well-merited "full houses." The farce, from beginning to end, is a gigantic success. The conception of the part of Mary Ellen, "the Lancashire lass," by Miss Florence Baines, is most realistic, the lady receiving numerous recalls both for her acting and singing. Miss Annie Mitchell also gives a delightful performance of Eva Lancashire; and Miss Muriel Johnson as Bertha Higgins displays excellent qualities. Miss Pattie Groves is a successful Bridget Thompson; Mr. Burt Burton is a typical Isidore Moses; and as John Higgins Mr. David Donaldson is effective. Mr. Patrick Evans is most successful as Harry; and Mr. Will Casey as Herbert Fox makes a fussy and energetic solicitor. Mr. Walter Hiells as Grant, the butler, adds to the fun.

RAMSGATE. — AMPHITHEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. Henry Borman.—Mr. Gerald Hunt, who is a well-known personality to the Ramsgate public, has been attracting big and extremely appreciative audiences here this week with his combination of fine biograph pictures and attractive variety turns. All the most interesting of recent events are mirrored on the screen, and to these are added living pictures of a thoroughly humorous character. The variety artists who contribute to the programme include Miss Marie Beresford, Mr. Gilbert Serony, Vosco, and Sid and Minnie Morrell.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. J. Richeux.—The boards at the "Pav." have this week been occupied by Mr. Fred Paul's company in the new musical play, entitled *The Lady Cobbler* originallly produced as *The Lord of the Last*. Miss Louie Tinsley is admirable as Mrs. Jonas Jones, and Mr. A. Ricketts proves himself a clever comedian as Jackson; and Miss Pauline Hague sings and acts with charm in the title-rôle.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Charles Macdona is presenting the popular comedy with music, *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, this week. The play is excellently staged, the motor carnival scene being especially effective. Mr. Morris Harvey acts cleverly in the title-rôle; Miss Maimie-Brickwell is most fascinating as La Bolero; Miss Claire Pridelle is an attractive Violet Brinton; Mr Tom May is diverting as Platt; Mr. Herbert Dickeson is good as Norman Popple; Mr. Fred Maguire sings effectively as Jacques Kenyon; and Mr. Augustin Symonds as George Hennay, Mr. Fred. F. Allen as Henry Doring, Miss Louie Rene as Mrs. Doring, Miss Stella St. Andrie as Mrs. Hennay, and Miss Lulu Londen as Louise, all act well.

RHYL.—QUEEN'S PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Howard Lees.—For the first three nights this week we were favoured with a visit of Mr. Weedon Grossmith's company in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith was a host in himself as Crosbie; Mr. F. H. Denton was natural and convincing as Frank Frayne; Miss Evelyn Howard as Lady Hampshire was both dignified and graceful; Miss Maud Linden played delightfully as Pauline; Alderman Cargen was amusingly portrayed by Mr. Edmund T. Sayers; Mr. Aidan Lovett was successful as Sir Charles Hampshire; and the same may be said of Miss Stanley Ronalds and Mr. Douglas Munro in their respective rôles of Gipsy and Mr. Flambert. For the latter part of the week *East Lynne* was billed, in which Mr. Herbert Barr's company was to appear.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots conclude a successful season here to-night. Wellesley Lynne's entertaining items are heartily applauded; Charley Harvey, as usual, creates much amusement; Jack Macdermott has a cordial reception nightly, and others appearing are Hulme Sharpe, comedian; and Austin Mahony, tenor.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—Mr. George Dance's No. 1 company is here this week in *A Country Girl*. A delightful performance was witnessed by a large house on Monday. Mr. John M. Hay was successful as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Arthur Jackson made the most of the amorous Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. F. J. Rooney as the Rajah of Bhong was encored for his capital singing; and Mr. Coningsby Brierley convulsed the audience with laughter in his impersonation of Barry; Mr. H. A. Mather deserved a good word as Granfer Mummery; Miss Barbara Babington charmed her listeners as Marjory Joy, her singing being delightful; Miss Ernestine Desborough made a majestic Princess Melaneh; Miss Cissie Sephton danced and sang with vivacity as Madame Sophie; and Miss Ellaline Thorne made a piquant and attractive Nan.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—Tom White's Arabs, including "Pimple," are here again, creating roars of laughter. The Sisters Russell, comedy artists, are popular; Mlle. La Tosca, artist's model, scores heavily in classical poses; Syd Bazley is an amusing comedian; and other turns include Reve and Smith, speciality artists; Lynn, character actor; Chas. Woodward, swell comique; Clyo and Rochelle, acrobatic comedian and soubrette; and Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—A capital array of talent is here this week. The Boccaccios, including Signor Francia, mandolinist, are vocalists and instrumentalists of exceptional ability; Chas. Diamond and Miss Beatrice quite captivate audiences with their finely executed selections on the harp and saxophone; Gillin, ventriloquial humorist, is genuinely funny with his dolls; Daisy Pearl is a dainty comedienne; and H. B. Raven, comedian; Billy Barns, singing pit lad; Ada Merry, comedian and dancer; and the Empire Bioscope complete the bill.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Harry Starr and company are paying a welcome return visit here with *The Unseen Power* and an old favourite in *Carl the Clockmaker*. Mr. Harry Starr is as versatile as ever in his many parts, and his songs receive unstinted applause. Mr. William Miller scores as Harold Granville; and Mr. Edwin Firth is seen to advantage as Antonio Romano and Maurice Helmore. Mr. Will Hee is deserving of mention as George Granville and Count Ivon Nerklevitch; and Mr. Fred W. Graham is amusing as Horatio Cracklesby and Arthur Attwood. Miss Cissie Hastings is pleasing as Lucy Romano; and Miss Lizzie Jacobs is a smart Jennie Shrub. Miss Ella Crossley is sprightly as Jerusha Jane Pickle-finch; Miss Madge Blundell gives a careful rendition of the part of Madge Ryder; and Miss Kate Norris is deserving of mention as Lena Harrigan.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—This week Duse Mohamed and company are here in his one-act sketch, *The Jew's Revenge*. Duse Mohamed proves himself to be an actor of ability, and is equally at home as a humorist; Mr. Delph also does good service in both sketches. Chee Tou Say, the Chinese juggler, assisted by Madame Chee You Seng and Que-Son, give a capital entertainment; Miss Rosaline Thorne, and Miss Maggy Osmunde are talented vocalists; Miss Madge Bryce is an excellent singer; and Miss Ethel Netherton, as a male impersonator, proves a great success. The Bodina Trio are clever; and Les Bou Bous give an interesting, clever exhibition.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is presenting *The Executioner's Daughter*, and on Monday a good house followed the story with interest. The title-rôle is well sustained by Miss N. Howitt; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe successfully portrays Monsieur Roche; as Felix Marius Mr. Juan D'Alberti acquits himself admirably; a manly Paul Bovel is presented by Mr. W. Ruddle Brown; and Mr. Willie Hicks is a humorous Tom Holmes; Little Miss Marie Ada Dowsing is a charming Christina; a bright Sally King is presented by Miss Bella Moody; Mr. W. S. Stevenson does well as Kratch; Mr. G. Chate works well as Vivian Ormonde; and Miss Evelyn Robson makes an impression as Felice. The other characters are well presented, and the staging is good

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson. — A brilliant programme includes Albert Whelan, a smart Australian drawing-room entertainer, who is the chief attraction; Ernest Rees, droll comedian; La Belle Nello, lady contortionist; the Wilfords, herculean equilibrists; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; Jean Seul, magician; Speedwell, lightning painter; Walton and Lester, comical illusionists; and the Lurins (Frank and Alice) in their extravaganza *Cinders* also appear.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The top line here this week is Cattaneo's Troupe of comedy acrobats. The Gondoliers, including Miss Helen Bourne, a wonderful lady tenor, are much applauded; Smarte Brothers do well in a novel specialty. *The Jolly Sportsmen*. The other turns include Baby Lilybelle, comedienne and sand dancer; Peakman and Walsh, clever comic jugglers; George Foyle, character comedian; the Gladenbecks; Bert Danson, eccentric vocalist and patter comedian; and Edwards and Espinosa, in their new act, *The Coon's Holiday*.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter. *La Poupée* is the attraction here this week. Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia takes the part of the Doll with her well-known ability; Hilarius is in the capable hands of Mr. W. H. Powell, who shows much dash and humour; Mr. Manfred Russell, as Launcelot, ably handles this difficult part, and sings his songs with much fervour; as Father Maxime Mr. Frederick Hobbs delights the audience with his fine voice; Loremois is capitally portrayed by Mr. Fred Seymour, and Mr. Wm. Griffin gives a faithful representation of the Baron; Mr. Harry Rushworth capably handles the chorus and orchestra. On Thursday and Friday *Amorelle* was given.

SPA THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Cliff Bridge Co.; Manager, Mr. Francis Goodricke.—Miss Emma Hutchinson and Mr. Percy Hutchinson's company is here this week with *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love as Susanne is attractive and in every way charming; Mr. Temple Powell as Chas Trevor acts in a very able manner; Mr. J. Hastings Batson, Mr. T. Whitling, and Mr. R. Neville materially assist as Suzanne's admirers; and Miss Charlotte Mead as Miss Minching secures appreciation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Hy. Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Packed houses are attracted here this week to see Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in *Dare Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dorothy Desmonde in the title-rôle meets with her usual success; Miss Marie Vere as Ruth acts in a convincing manner; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith is in good voice, and executes some excellent dances; Mr. Will Bereton as Silas Crump provides plenty of amusement; Mr. Henry Ward as Captain Dudley and Mr. Hartley as Hawkins give general satisfaction; and Mr. Walter Ashley as Fielding sings exceedingly well. The variety turns are of the most pleasing character.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—As is usual at this popular place of entertainment, after the close of the season's programme, competitions are held weekly. This week prizes of £10 and £5 were given for a ladies' beauty show. Addison with his fox terriers shows what careful training can do with animals. The Three Henriques give a varied acrobatic show, and are very entertaining; Mr. Alfred Cook gives a novel performance of the life of a sailor on horseback; Vincent does some sensational somersaults; the two Eltons on the triple bar are very smart; and Doodles and Co. provide the funny part of the programme with *Love in a Tub*.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The winter's programme has now been arranged, commencing this week with Mr. H. K. Bradshaw, a tenor vocalist, who acquits himself admirably; Barry Gilmour, comedian, indulges in absurdly comical songs and discourses; Harley and Horden, as eccentric comedians, are genuinely funny, and their patter is us to date; Horton and Linder spring at once into favour with their gymnastic act; Max Merlin, contortionist, is all activity, and executes his difficult feats with ease and grace; Fanny Humber is a combination of musical attainments; Reade and Lerne, comedians, make a palpable hit; and Curtis Leo, conjurer, is still retained in the programme, which also includes some capital pictures by Vernon's Bioscope.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Jas. Kiernan.—Mr. Milton Ray's company fills the bill here this week with the musical farcical episode, *The Cruise of the Calabar*. Mr. Fred Russell looks and plays well as Captain Frank Fairweather, and Mr. Joe English wins golden opinions by his clever comic rendering of Peter Pauley, his dancing and patter being exceptionally smart. Miss Hettie Lind sings and plays excellently as Maude Chickington; Mrs. Cherrible Chickington is a part well handled by Miss Minnie Mulvey; Mr. Arthur Milton is seen and heard to advantage as Cherrible Chickington; and the smaller parts are ably played by their respective exponents. The principal piece is preceded each evening by a smart little comedy-drama, *The Rough Diamond*

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company is here this week, playing, for the first time in Seaham, *A Gambler's Daughter*. Mr. Ayrton's portrayal of Desmond O'Dare is a feature of the performance; Mr. Richard Pitt depicts the gambler, John Grant, in realistic style; Jack Grant, the son, offers Mr. Victor Millaird plenty of scope for his ability; Stephen Brand is played with distinction by Mr. Arthur T. Lennard; Capt. Stanhope is embodied in manly style by Mr. Milton Curtis. Solomon is amusingly sketched by Mr. Alfred Sanders; Mildred and Miriam Grant offers Miss Adria Hill sufficient opportunities for her versatility and skill; Miss Harriett Loydall represents Aunt Zob with much success. Carita is well played by Miss Dot Beresford; Miss Florence Cooke is good as Little Miriam; Miss Annie Broughton, Miss Lottie Sanders, and Miss Maggie Hubert do well.

SHEERNESS. — THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Moul; Manager, Mr. F. Leighton. —The excellent bill of last week is superseded by another of equal merit. Charles Matthews, who is assisted by Miss Doris Reece gains unstinted applause for his remarkable jumping feats; Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and speciality dancers, are well received; Little Rose Pink is a clever juvenile comedienne; Tom Garland gains approbation as an expert ventriloquist; Miss Marie Gibson, balladist, meets with a hearty reception, and Anderson, society conjuror, is likewise highly successful. Other enjoyable turns include Mr. J. G. Scatter, comedian and dancer; and Harry Wenburn, eccentric comedian, who is staying another week. The pictures are also included in the programme.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Another excellent company occupies the boards here this week, and business is very fair. Mr. Chas Grantley is a clever comedian and mimic; Miss Lillie Coleman has a good voice, which she uses to great advantage in several high-class songs; Mr. Jack Foley fully sustains his reputation as a first rate comedian; Miss Louie Hurman as a burlesque actress and vocalist would be hard to beat; Dene and Dawson, comedy entertainers, make a hit with their laughable act, *Stage Aspirants*, and the Andley company conclude with a comedy sketch, *A Little Knowledge*, which creates roars of laughter.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Russ Whytal and a special company, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Hardy, opened on Monday in J. M. Barrie's play *Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire*. Mrs. Russ Whytal made Mrs. Grey a charming and altogether delightful creature; Miss Miriam Dudley was a clever representative of a little maid-servant; Miss Beatrice Bramah made a graceful Amy Grey; Mr. J. J. Bartlett was a soldierly representative of Colonel Grey, and other characters were in the able hands of Mr. A. W. Baskcombe, Mr. Claude King, Miss Lucie Verrier; Miss Lilian Locke; and Miss Ada Marius. The performance concluded with the one-act piece entitled *The Royal Flower*, in which Mrs. Russ Whytal appeared in 18th century costume as a French marquise. Both pieces were staged effectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B Beaumont.—*A Message from Mars* on Monday came as a welcome change after a long course of sensational drama, and the acting of Mr. Mouillot's company fully brought out the mingled humour, satire, and pathos of Mr. Ganthony's stage sermon. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley made an admirable representative of Horace Parker; Mr. William H. Brougham was a dignified and sonorous visitant from Mars; and Mr. Bruce Lindsay's tramp was a clever character study; Miss Peggy Yeoman was a delightful Bella; Miss Flora Hastings was good as Miss Parker; and Miss Joan Ellis was the embodiment of sweet and ladylike femininity as Minnie Temple; Mr. J. Edgar Stephenson was excellent as Arthur Dicey; and the small parts were all carefully played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Still Alarm* is again being performed here by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. Mr. Matthew J. Glenville is a manly and popular hero as Jack; Mr. Fred Osmond's Doc Wilbur is an impersonation full of characteristic humour; the rascally John Bird is depicted in bold colours by Mr. George Arthur; and Mr. Lewis Gordon acts with care as Franklyn Fordham; Miss Maud Warburton makes a womanly and sympathetic Elinor Fordham; and Miss Hettie Zellwood's Carrie Wilbur is a bright and vivacious performance. In the fire station scene the celebrated horses Pegasus and Bucephalus appear.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The famous illusionist, Carl Hertz, opened on Monday in his new mystery, "The Bridal Chamber," and in his travesty on the Chinese methods of conjuring; May Henderson was enthusiastically applauded; the Anartos, with funny patter and good music, provided first-class entertainment; Mr. O. K. Sato submitted a comic juggling act, and the Rio Brothers proved to be smart athletes; the Mezzettis in their funny and agile performance on the bars made a big hit; the Eight of Hearts are comely maidens who sing and dance; Miss Rosie Bartlett sings agreeably; Herr Grais's wonderful baboons do a most interesting show, which was deservedly applauded; and the programme concluded with animated pictures.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The company this week includes Mr. James Willard's cleverly constructed sketch *Did He Deserve It?* Miss Ada Parker, serio; Mr. A. E. Parker, vocalist; the Almos, leapers, &c.; Mar and Hill, the Ringling Trio, comic sketch artists; and Pallister's popular Bioscope.

CENTRAL HALL.—Animated pictures, Kyoto, and other variety turns are bringing grist to the mill here.

ALBERT HALL.—Mr. George Burton's Bohemian concert party, including Messrs. Karr and Kooney, opened on Monday for six nights under the personal direction of the "young reliable."

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's capable company was here on the first four nights of the week playing the old favourite musical comedy, *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. Jas. Wilson was a dignified and successful Hang Chow; Mr. Louis Ashmeade played with care and ability the part of Chippie Chop; Mr. Edwin Sykes was a burly and breezy Hi Lung; Mr. C. F. Howard acted creditably, and sang with fine effect as Tom Hatherton; Mr. Lindsay Harman was diverting as Mr. Pineapple, and his matrimonial song was cleverly given; Miss Florence Wilton was vivacious as Mrs. Pineapple, and her singing pleasing; Miss Kitty Clayton as the lively waitress, Fi Fi, herself caused much merriment by her really clever drolleries; Miss Dulcie Greatwick and Miss Sybil Ross were a charming pair of bridesmaids; Miss Alma Bolton was in the well-placed rôle of Mrs. Brown; the Misses May Davies and Louie Love were attractive and successful as maids of honour; Miss Florence Manners was good as Mi Mi, and Miss Francis Olgar merited praise as Loo Loo.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. B. Hewitson.—That vivacious comedy, *The Gay Parisienne*, is paying a first visit here this week. Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company has been engaged, and is enjoying capital receptions here. Miss Evelyn Hughes as the fascinating Julie plays in a most attractive manner; Miss Madge Soutter gives many quaint and clever touches to the rôle of Ruth; the Misses Holford Meringer and Ethel Ivimey shine as Mrs. and Miss Honeycombe; Mr. Will Harman portrays the humour of Mr. Honeycombe in a diverting manner; Mr. T. Gideon Warren scores as the Major; Mr. Clifford Seyler acts in a dexterous style as Mr. Pompier; Mr. Henry J. Barrett is successful as Amos Dingle; Messrs. Edwin Ashwin and Dutton Nicholls lend able assistance. Special mention should be made of the Imperial Glee Singers, Messrs. Ashwin, Rose, Jones, and FitzJames. The American Bioscope in a new series of up-to-date subjects adds to the enjoyment of the audience.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton. — Mr. Mouillot's own company is here this week with *San Toy*, which is as popular as ever.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—Leonard Mortimer and company are scoring with *The Kettledrum*. Ben Albert and Harry Brown score great successes; Les Rallis provoke considerable mirth in their sketch, *The Artist and His Monkey*; Edna Knollys goes well with her illustrated songs; and others who do well are Flo Chalis, contralto vocalist; and Almon, novelty hand acrobat.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Fame and fortune have attended Dr. Walford Bodie on his return visit here. Overwhelming crowds flock to see his marvellous hypnotic and electric experiments. The other members of the company include Arthur Croxon, mimic and entertainer; Mlle. Frederica's toy terriers and Dot, the cake-walking pony; Venie Clements, a clever dancer; the Pasquali Bros., Continental acrobats; Fioretti and Miss Elly, in a novel spade-jumping act; and Natalie and Diana, aerial gymnasts.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*The Christian*, presented by Mr. Wentworth Croke and powerful company, is gaining capital support and proving immensely popular. Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle and Mr. Frank Tennant as the Hon. John Storm are seen to every advantage, and win well-deserved recognition. Messrs. Charles Hill and Edward Ling are good as Parson Quayle and Father Lamplugh respectively, Archdeacon Wealthy being well taken by Mr. Charles E. Dering. Lord Robert Ure has in Mr. George R. Montford a clever interpreter, whose villainy is clearly portrayed. Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Horatio Drake is admirably suited, Miss Vashti Welborne is a pleasing character as Polly Love, and as Mrs. Callander Miss Mollie Hayden gives entire satisfaction.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Lord Watson again presents this weeks' attraction, and his success of last week is well maintained in the production of the musical comedy, *The Pet of the Regiment*. It has pretty scenery, and the cast consists of a clever troupe of comedians. Mr. Tom Carpenter, a well-known favourite here, is in his element as Percy Featherstone. Lord Watson gives a smart portrayal of Sergeant Smith, being capitally assisted by Messrs. Billy Ross and Harry Watson as Troopers Cook and Green respectively; Bob Leardo provides amusement in the rôle of James Treacle, the waiter; Miss Flo Stanley, the writer of this military play, takes her character admirably, and is well supported by Miss Kittie Harrison as Rosie. Miss Maud Roberts gives a creditable characterisation of Matilda Smith, and the Misses Grace and Lillie Dudley deserve special mention for their excellent dancing. The Kursaal orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Harry Read, give selections in the Dome, which are greatly appreciated.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless. —The attraction for this week is *The Earl and the Girl*, which is produced by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, who is supported by a strong company. The play has excellent scenery, whilst the dresses are both costly and pretty. Mr. C. D. Cleveland, in the rôle of Jim Cheese, is funny in the extreme, provoking hearty merriment throughout. Mr. Frank Wilson as Dick Wargrave is decidedly good, as also is Mr. E. Fitzgibbon as the Hon. Crewe Boodle. Mr. Alec Godfrey well takes the rôle of Downham, Miss Alice Nixon is good as Elphin Haye, and 'Liza Shoddam is well interpreted by Miss Adele Roze. Miss M. Maude does credit to the character of Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Carmen Cecil is pleasing as Miss Virginia Bliss, and sings tastefully.

ALFRESCO THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless.—Professor Vincent has a capital entertainment for the closing week, and still gains good support. These concerts, which are given more for children, have proved immensely popular to adults. The chief items are perhaps the capital selections of the Bijou Orchestra, the Urban Bioscope, and Professor Le Clair's high-diving dog Spot, whilst Professor Vincent has proved himself a really clever ventriloquist.

PIER HILL BANDSTAND.—Lessee, Mr. H. E. Angless. —This is the closing week of this well-known and attractive place of amusement, the excellent programmes being given with as complete a success as hitherto. Mr. Ballard Brown was given a richly-deserved benefit on Wednesday evening, when a number of talented artists testified their appreciation of his popularity.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Notwithstanding the prevailing extraordinary outside attractions a large audience assembled on Monday evening to witness the first production at this theatre of the comedy *Raffles*, which was presented by Mr. Charles Frohman's excellent company. The principal rôle was in the capable hands of Mr. Leonard Boyne, who gave a brilliant and skilful representation of the dashing, debonair cracksman who gives the play its title; Miss Hilda Stuart submitted a praiseworthy and powerful impersonation of Mrs. Vidal; Crawshay was characteristically and cleverly portrayed by Mr. Dalziel Heron; Mr. Lewis Edgard was highly satisfactory in the part of Harry Manders; Mr. Arthur Willoughby depicted the Earl of Amersteth with praiseworthy effect; Curtis Bedford, the detective, was exceedingly well acted by Mr. Clifford Brooke. Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald was a commendable exponent of Marie; Miss Amy Thomas was dignified and artistic as Lady Melrose; Miss Hazel Thompson's Gwendoline Conran and Miss Madge Murray's Lady Ethel were both good impersonations; and Mr. Edmund Brecon did well in the character of Viscount Crowley. The play was preceded by a one-act piece, entitled *A Lesson in Shakespeare*.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS. — Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The Athos Troupe of original acrobats and ball manipulators occupy the premier position in the strong bill presented here during the current week. The programme includes Zarmo, the original Hebrew juggler; Tray and Rich, black and white face comedy team; Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; Bert Marsden, the six-man comedian; Ethel Ra Leslie, character vocalist; Kate Marsh, actress, vocalist, and dancer; Regan and Ryan, in their high-class comedy act, and the Bioscope with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Conison.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is appearing here this week to good houses in *East Lynne*. A charming and graceful actress is Miss Julie Kennard, who enacts the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine; Francis Levison is strongly portrayed by Mr. Eric Mayne, and Mr. Alfred Beaumont interprets Archibald Carlyle in a finished style; the comedy element is cleverly supplied by Mr. Alfred Tate (P.-C. Bullock), Mr. C. C. Grattan (Justice Hare), and Miss Ethel Hardacre (Cornelia Carlyle); Miss Ethel Saville as Barbara Hare and Miss Ida Heron as Joyce are both good. Minor parts and the mounting are commendable.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The Boissets cause as much merriment as ever in their laughable sketch *The Bricklayers*; Bert Williams, a clever ventriloquist, scores heavily; Spry and Austin, old favourites, are enthusiastically received; the Bros. Redmond, grotesque comedians, are much appreciated; De Paci Bros., clever mandoline and guitar experts, are accorded a hearty reception. Other good items are Marion Scott, comedienne; Harry Hayton, eccentric comedian; and the Bioscope, with new films.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—At the top of the bill is Carl Lynn, who gives clever imitations of various animals; Halma contributes some smart juggling tricks; a good marionette show is contributed by Chester and Lee; Minnie Miriam and Fred Mulvey appear in an excellent comedy sketch, *In the Studio*. The remaining items are Charles Orme, a pleasing comedian; Frederick Clifford, Harvey Briggs, and Walter Payne

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Comedy, by Owen Hall and Liza Lehmann, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

Sparkling with the wit and humour of Owen Hall, and the melody of Liza Lehmann, this clever musical comedy can hardly fail to attract anywhere, and the aspect of the King's auditorium on Monday gave plentiful evidence that *Sergeant Brue*, of the "C" division, bade fair to secure a week's successful run. The audience was highly amused at the repeated failures of the Sergeant in his attempts to obtain promotion, so as to secure the fortune under the will, and the comedy, as presented by Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company, went with a swing and a dash that were quite refreshing. Mr. Arthur Reynolds impersonates Sergeant Brue with all the unctuousness of that individual, and deserves every praise. As Crookie Scrubbs, the criminal, Mr. Charles McLagan scores a legitimate success, and causes the audience to roar with laughter at his genuine drolleries. Mr. E. Percy Rogers makes of Michael Brue an easy and manly young man, who sings and acts pleasantly. Mr. Harry Soutar represents Mr. Habisham, the solicitor, effectively; and Mr. Cecil Hood as Inspector Gorringe is excellent. The magistrate, Mr. Crank, finds an exceedingly capable representative in Mr. Charles Sims. Miss Hebe Bliss is an artist of undoubted ability, and her acting as Lady Bickenhall is altogether artistic and smart. Miss Mary Hay plays bewitchingly as Aurora Brue, and in her song, "Under the Panama," easily obtains rapturous encores. Miss Marion Hargrave is a funny Daisy; and Miss Mabel Keith a charming Mabel Widget. The chorus is bright and animated, and the orchestra is ably directed by Mr. Norman Latham. Scenery and costumes are alike artistic.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Tuesday, Sept. 25,
the Comedy, entitled
"THE HOUSEKEEPER."

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are paying a very welcome return visit here this week, the engagement opening with the ever-popular play, *The Elder Miss Blossom*. On Tuesday, the farcical comedy, entitled *The Housekeeper*, was presented to a well-filled house. Mr. Kendal's acting is too well known to need much comment here. Suffice it to say, in the character of Colonel Lionel Trent, the woman-hater, he plays the part with that degree of finish that characterises all his impersonations. His success is entirely due to his naturalness, and an entire absence of any straining after effect. And what greater compliment can we pay his charming wife, Mrs. Kendal, than to say that the same remarks apply to her in every particular. Mrs. Kendal's reading of the part of Lady Audrey Whitby is admirable, showing an insight into the character as real as it is artistic. Mr. Bassett Roe gives a clever and highly-finished study of the rôle of Lord Brunswick, M.P. The humour of Mr. Ernest Hendrie as William Hickson wins ready appreciation, and evokes persistent laughter; and Mr. Metcalfe Wood presents an amusing combination of perplexity, high spirits, and good nature personified. The part of Subaltern Sledmere is capably undertaken by Mr. Edward Vaughan; and Mr. F. Charles Pool makes a little capital out of the part of Pennington Greene. Special mention must be made of Mr. W. M. Rutherfurd's Crane, the butler. Small as his part is, he makes the most of it, and is quite a shining light in the play. Mrs. A. B. Tapping's Lady Robertson is a capital performance of the deaf old aristocrat; and Miss Marie Lohr is an attractive Cicely Blake. Miss Dorothy Moore-Lane elicits much fully-merited appreciation for her clever assumption of the vivacious little American lady, Mrs. Pennington Greene. Her spirited, yet easy, playing, contributes in no small measure to the enjoyment of the audience. *The Iron Master* was presented on Thursday.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Mr. George Edwardes's Gaiety company is attracting crowded houses at the Camden this week in the latest success from the popular Strand theatre. *The Spring Chicken*, which is adapted from the French by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., is a bright and diverting entertainment, but it undoubtedly owes its success largely to the excellent company of artists engaged. There are several pretty musical numbers, and crowds of charming ladies, and the whole piece is staged in a manner which does credit to Mr. George Edwardes. As Rosalie, we welcome that bright young actress, Miss Gertrude Glyn, who greatly adds to her reputation by this impersonation. She sings and dances well, and her dainty Dutch song and dance is quite the prettiest number in the play. Mr. George Gregory is already a favourite here, and his appearance as Mr. Girdle enhances his popularity. It is an intensely funny character, and he scores heavily. Mr. Gregory is ably seconded by Miss Irene Verona, who is a first-class Mrs. Girdle, and she makes a great hit with her song, "In Regent Street." Another amusing comedian is Mr. John Brabourne, who has quite a style of his own, and his acting of Gustave Babori is full of quaint touches. Dulcie Babori is charmingly portrayed by Miss Gertrude Gilliam, who sings very sweetly, and one wishes she had more to do. Miss Nancy Langtyre, who is well-known here, is decidedly captivating as the Baroness Papouche, whose eccentric husband, the Baron, is played in a most diverting fashion by Mr. Frank Hector. Miss Nellie Lonnen and Mr. Will Spray are both excellent as the pair of young people. Miss Lonnen also joins Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., in a song and dance, which was much admired and an encore insisted on. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., appears as Boniface, and the little he has to do is exceedingly well done. Mr. Ernest Mahar is very good as the head waiter at the Crimson Butterfly; and Mr. Jocelyn Hope is successful as the proprietor of that establishment. The Misses McNulty and Dunbar are seen to advantage as Sylvana and Therese; while the remainder of the cast is well filled. The chorus do most praiseworthy work, and Mr. Ernest Vousden has the orchestra well in hand. The stage is under the direction of Mr. H. C. Portway, and Mr. W. Hesseltine is the general-manager for Mr. Edwardes.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"THE TRAITOR."

That stock seasons at the Elephant and Castle are popular there is no doubt. This is due to the careful selection of the best and worthiest specimens of dramatic workmanship which have attained a name, and also the engagement of an excellent all-round company to present them. Mr. J. M. East is general-manager, and it is to him that all praise is due. This week, the second of the season, the drama, *The Traitor*, has been produced, and as the action of the play takes place abroad, the foreign uniforms and costumes, which are extremely smart, come as a pleasing change, and are much appreciated. Mr. Albert Ward, who obtains a cordial reception, is again seen in the leading part—that of the Crown Prince Rudolph, who masquerades as Colonel Nervi. Mr. Ward scores heavily, playing throughout with distinction, his fine declamatory powers in many telling passages evoking frequent applause. Zula, the avenger, is beautifully portrayed by Miss Kathleen Russell, and she obtains in a constantly increasing degree the deepest sympathies of the audience. Mr. Horace Hunter gives a really finished and realistic performance as the Chief of Police, the traitor, and very ably portrays the cast-iron nature of the man. Mr. Hunter wears his uniforms with an ease and distinction which are seldom seen. Mr. Harold West makes a manly and resolute Lieutenant Nicholas, the martyr; Mr. Walner Gregory is a bluff, breezy sea captain to the life as Captain Ross, R.N.; as Jack Boult, the captain's servant, Mr. Teddy Coleman works hard, and makes the most of his part, winning the appreciation of the audience. Mr. Alfred Holles as General Hertz, and Mr. Brian Daly as Zoff, cause much amusement. A little Japanese girl, much in love with Jack Boult, is daintily and prettily impersonated by Miss Agnes Paulton. Miss Florence Harcourt is very successful in accent and manner as Elsie Duprée, a Paris detective. Countess Zecka, an adventuress character, is in the hands of Miss Ellen Snow, who acts throughout with much power and resource. Mr. T. W. Hurst as General Franz, Mr. Thompson as Speaker of the "Hidden Council," and Mr. E. Vincent as Sergeant Neidroff, ably sustain their parts. The play is capitally staged, and excellent assistance is rendered by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Nurnberger.

CORONET THEATRE.

A New and Original
Monologue of Character Studies, in One Act,
"PASSING THE DOCTOR."

Bill Hawkins .....
Hoggenheimer .....
Madame Rosa .....
John Barker .....
} Mr. Willie Edouin

Mr. Willie Edouin appeared on Monday, Sept. 24, in a new and original act similar in effect to *A Case of Arson* or *The Factory Fire*, in which Mr. Henri de Vries recently appeared, only in this case all the characters impersonated by Mr. Edouin, with the exception of one, are framed on the lines of broad comedy, and he goes one better than the others in making up in full view of the audience. Seated at the desk as an inquisitorial and inquisitive character is the supposititious insurance doctor—with a bouquet of flowers protruding from a frock coat—who puts a string of imaginary personal questions to the would-be aspirants for life insurance. As Bill Hawkins, a painter, Hoggenheimer, a millionaire, Madame Rosa, a fashionable milliner, and John Barker, the aged and honest bookbinder (the one pathetic picture in the piece), Mr. Willie Edouin, who enacts all the parts, contrives to convey a characteristic touch of nature; and both in their actions and speech—however exaggerated for the purposes of the stage—he manages to reproduce the manners and jargon of each craft to perfection. His "business," too, is always apt and amusing, and as the poor old bookbinder he gives quite a miniature Dickensonian sketch.

The farce-comedy *Our Flat* is familiar as a household word at the Coronet, and everywhere else in and around mirth-loving London. Roars of laughter always ripple along the stream of action in this truly comical and perennial piece. Mr. Willie Edouin once more figures in the cast, and carries the mind back to the first performance of Mrs. Musgrave's farcical comedy at the Prince of Wales's Theatre in June seventeen years ago, prior to its transference to the Opera-Comique, when he was assisted by Miss Fanny Brough as Margery Sylvester and Mr. Albert Chevalier as Mr. McCullum. Little remains to be said of the stage type of theatrical manager, loud, unctuous, and shrewd, as portrayed by Mr. Willie Edouin, except to say that it retains all its pristine excellence and effectiveness. Mr. Charles Steuart has thoroughly mastered the exigencies of the part of the impecunious author Reginald Sylvester, and highly diverting are his more or less successful efforts to evade his creditors. The Margery Sylvester of Miss Daisy Atherton is also a very old and valued acquaintance, and as we wrote in April, 1903, so we can safely say now, that she is not only extremely charming in the part, but acts with a keen sense of humour and finesse and great incisive skill. Miss Pollie Emery is admirably droll and diverting as "our Bella," the presiding deity of the Montmorency Mansions ménage, and her antics are excruciatingly funny. The deft manner in which she and Miss Atherton convert all and sundry useless lumber into handsome art furniture never fails to wring a round of applause from the audience. Miss Katie Yates is excellent as the exasperating little imp Clara Pryout; Mr. Clayton Greene and Miss Rosamund Rokesby are good as the pair of lovers Clarence Vane and Lucy McCullum; Miss Mary Stuart excels in her old part of Madame Volant, *alias* Jane Brown; and Messrs. Frank Emery, capital as the porter of the flats; S. Carl Lyel as Pinchard, the dairyman; Fred Conyers (who is stage-manager of the show); and H. Lock all do good service. Mr. Cecil S. Lamb assists the courteous and genial Mr. Edward Lytton in the "front" of the house.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

A pleasing series of musical comedies is in store for audiences at the Dalston Theatre, and the first on the list is *The Belle of New York*, which, judging by the hearty welcome accorded, is a favourite with Dalstonians. The merry play is admirably acted by members of Mr. George Musgrove's principal company, presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard. Mr. Paddy Dupres as Ichabod Bronson, the millionaire and anti-cigarette enthusiast, provides a fund of amusement, and his song containing the self-opiniated phrase, "Of course, you can never be like us," retains a prominent position in the performance. Harry Bronson, the son of this erratic philanthropist, has a jolly representative in Mr. John Doran. The duet, "Teach me how to love," which he sings with Fifi, the Parisienne (Miss Lily Maxwell), is one of the most successful items in the production. Mr. Max Copeland appears as the Polite Lunatic, with a mania to "kill Mr. Bronson"; Mr. Alfred Sandoe is Doc Snifkins, manager of a comic opera company; Mr. Walter Uridge is Mugg, a comedian in that company; and Mr. Lionel Yeoman and Mr. R. L. Cody are the twin Portuguese. Blinky Bill McQuirck, the "mixed-ale pugilist," is represented in sprightly style by Mr. Frank Lawton, whose neat dancing and whistling abilities create admiration. Miss Empsie Bowman claims notice for her sweet singing as Violet Grey (the Belle of New York); and Miss Winnie Browne is a decided success as Cora Angelique, prima donna of a comic opera company. Others in the cast include the Misses Florence Hersee, Alice Blanche, Ruth Allandyce, Maud Hewetson, Maud Lena, Blanche White, Ruby Gibbons, and Violet May, and Messrs. A. Linforth, C. W. Anson, Owen O'Brien, and Kenneth Gordon.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE LONDON FIREMAN."

Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company is here in the above drama this week, and good houses have been the result. Admirably adapted for a popular audience, the play has supplied those sensations so dear to the heart of the lover of melodrama, and its reception has been very cordial. The members of the company are in every way capable and hard-working, and exert themselves to the full to ensure a thorough success. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Colonel Fleming, and afterwards Hal Curtis, is excellent. Mr. Edward Garside as Curtis is also to be congratulated on a good performance. Mr. Harry C. Boucher gives a fine character-sketch, as does Mr. Frank Hertie as Dr. Gerrard. Mr. William Burgess as Fortnum is always in the picture. Mr. Oliver Birrell gives a capital portrayal of the dissolute nobleman; and Mr. Joe Rockley as Nixey is alert and capable in the comedy scenes. Miss Nellie Waddington as Countess Fleming is dignified, and acts with great sincerity; Miss Florence M. Daly as Grace Curtis gives an intense and effective reading of a difficult part; Miss Nellie Garside as Polly is of great assistance in the lighter portions of the drama; and Miss Nellie Shirley is sympathetic as Ida Curtis. The remaining parts are all in good hands, and the scenery and mounting leave nothing to be desired.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

The return visit of Mr. William Greet's company in this popular and diverting musical comedy is proving a huge attraction at the Shakespeare this week, and bids fair to excel last year's success. The play is lavishly mounted, and the magnificent scenery and dresses excite general admiration. The chorus, too, is well trained, and their rendering of the concerted pieces is all that could be desired. Mr. William Cromwell scores by his clever impersonation of Jim Cheese, and, in a rôle which gives him ample opportunities, keeps the audience in uproarious laughter throughout. Mr. Robert Hyett is well placed as Dick Wargrave, and uses his fine voice to good effect, his rendering of the "Cosy Corner Girl" being greatly appreciated. He is ably supported by Mr. Stanley Harrison, who gives a natural representation of the Hon. Crewe Boodle, and acquits himself with success. Mr. A. E. Coleby is thoroughly efficient as A. Bunker Bliss; and Mr. Frank Cane as Downham, and Mr. Arthur Cassidy as Mr. Talk, are capable exponents of their respective parts. Mention may also be made of Mr. Fred W. Pattrick as Mr. Hazel, Mr. Charles Greenhill as Dudley Crambourne, Mr. Wilfred Norman as George Bellamy, Mr. F. Payne Palmer as Hugh Wallander, and Messrs. F. R. Edmond and G. W. Rolfe as footmen. Miss Gertrude Simpson as Elpin Haye is the picture of girlish grace and freshness, and acts the part with sincerity. Her songs, too, are rendered in charming style, especially "Zanzibar," which gained a well-deserved encore. Miss Florence Wix cleverly assumes the part of 'Liza Shoddam, and submits a complete character-study. Miss Eva Bevington sings and acts charmingly as Daisy Fallowfield; and Miss Helen Langton is sufficiently dignified as Miss Virginia Bliss. Miss Nellie Grant is an imposing Mrs. Black; and the ladies of Crewe Boodle's party are well impersonated by Mesdames Helen Malo, Grace Massey, Dolly Hunt, and Miss Nellie Lawrence, who also contributes some excellent dances which gain much applause. The chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Percy E. Fletcher; and Mr. Alexander Telford is manager, and Mr. George Highland stage-director, for Mr. William Greet.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, entitled
"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

The above old but still popular drama is the attraction at the Standard this week. The representation given by the Standard stock company is complete in every detail, and the artists engaged seem to have thoroughly grasped the full meaning of their respective rôles, whilst the conscientious acting of each individual member of the company tends to make the performance a huge success. Mr. Frank Lister ably portrays the part of the hard-hearted and unrelenting father, Anthony Raybrook. His very pleasing efforts are amply rewarded with success, and the excellence of his acting is noticed particularly in the latter portions of the play, where he is driven almost mad by sorrow and remorse. Substantial aid is rendered by Mr. Wingold Lawrence as Walter Hatherleigh. He plays exceedingly well throughout, and his histrionic ability is very noticeable in his death scene. Mr. Alfred Russell supplies a satisfactory delineation of George Clissold; whilst Mr. J. C. Aubrey acts the rôle of Geoffrey Waring with his customary skill, and imbues the part with all the hideous cruelty that is necessary. Mr. George Aston is well placed as Peter Pettifer; and Mr. Leslie Jacks as Tom Mortlake causes laughter as a comedian of the knockabout type. Mr. Frank Pentland is all that could be desired as Adam Marley, a solicitor. As the half-witted outcast, Willie, Mr. Roy Redgrave plays with the simple innocence necessary to such a part, affording evidence of exceptional ability. Mr. Willie Reid's delineation of John Anderson is the essence of humour, and he is ably and substantially assisted by Miss Eva Dare as the light-hearted Margaret Bailey. Mr. H. C. Cooper is a satisfactory David Wilson; Mr. Jack Denton is pleasing as Jabez Thomas; and a capital portrait of Dick Saunders, a bad sample of a British workman, is supplied by Mr. George Villiers. Miss Frances Ruttledge acts the part of Laura Raybrook with feeling and ability, and is much appreciated; whilst Miss East Robertson imparts the required amount of cruelty to the rôle of Barbara Ashdown. Miss Beatrice Aimler does all that is possible as Jane, and much praise is due to little Miss Florrie Greene for her Walter Hatherleigh the younger.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Comedy, in Three Acts,
by Charles H. Hawtrey, entitled
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

A fresh lease of life has been taken by *The Private Secretary*, which has attained its twenty-second year of popularity, having been performed uninterruptedly since 1884, and has over 13,000 representations to its credit. The comedy brought fame and fortune to the Globe Theatre, where all London was put into throes of merriment at its absurd situations and amusing dialogue. The theatre has long since been levelled with the ground, but the play goes on blithely, and a new generation the world over grows hilarious at its evergreen humour. At the Madison-square Theatre, New York, the comedy ran over 300 nights (a very long run for the States), and in Australia it was played in every principal town with the greatest success; in fact, there is hardly an English-speaking town in the world where *The Private Secretary* has not brought to its inhabitants many a merry evening. Mr. Eugène C. Stafford, who has had an experience of the theatrical profession extending over thirty years, was the pioneer of *The Private Secretary* at the Globe, and has booked many tours throughout Great Britain, where the reception accorded to the farce has always been wildly enthusiastic. Mr. Stafford's company is presenting the play this week at the Brixton Theatre, and large audiences have shouted themselves hoarse with laughter and applauded the exponents of the various parts to the echo. A brilliant company of comedians are associated in the production. Mr. W. Hargreaves, who plays Mr. Cattermole, has been identified with the part for upwards of eighteen years, and gives a performance that could not be excelled. Voice and facial expression are admirably combined in depicting with irresistibly comic effect the varied feelings which animate the "uncle from India," and all the best traditions of comedy are recalled in the presentation of the part. Mr. Donald Price-Evans plays the Rev. Robert Spalding, and correctly assumes the meekness and the querulous accents of the effeminate private secretary. Every appearance of the personage, surrounded by his "goods and chattels," is the signal for hearty mirth, and Mr. Evans, who acts with praiseworthy restraint, wins high commendation. Miss Dora Gray makes a captivating Edith Marsland. Her ingenuous manner and cultured delivery are invaluable in perfecting the part, in which the constant vivacity of the talented young actress is agreeably conspicuous. No less engaging is the Eva Webster of Miss Beth Elliott, who makes a prepossessing appearance and wins general admiration. Mr. W. T. Elworthy infuses abundant spirit and energy into his impersonation of Mr. Marsland, whose hunting suit becomes him particularly well. His nephew Harry is capitally acted by Mr. James P. E. Hussey, and Mr. Randolfe Reade is a smart and buoyant Douglas Cattermole. The eccentricities of Sidney Gibson are vividly portrayed by Mr. Vivian Gilbert, who makes a fantastic personage of the Bond-street tailor, and by his efforts adds considerably to the merriment of the evening. Mrs. Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford shows what long experience can do in providing a comic interpretation of a difficult character; Miss Cecily Wade also contributes a finished impersonation in that of Mrs. Stead; and the servant John and Knox the writ-server are creditably played by Mr. D. Benford and Mr. John Macready. The chief piece is preceded by Buckstone's celebrated one-act comedy *Good For Nothing*, which employs the talents of several of the company. The title-rôle is assumed by Miss Dora Gray, who adds no mean achievement to the long list of actresses with whom the famous part is associated. The slovenliness of the hoydenish maiden is ruthlessly assumed by Miss Gray, who nevertheless cuts a very comely figure after the transformation is complete. Miss Gray, despite her youth, has had an experience of five years spent under the finest managements, and is entirely free from the restraint and awkwardness which are so often fatal in the impersonation of such a character. She is full of resource, and delivers the lines of the part in comically effective style, while the notes of pathos which occasionally recur are struck effectively. Mr. W. T. Elworthy gives a sound and consistent rendering of Tom Dibbles, the outbursts of passion being given in proper stentorian tones; and Mr. Randolfe Reade as Harry Collier is quite in sympathy with the part. Mr. Vivian Gilbert is an amusing Mr. Simpson; and a capable Charley is found in Mr. James R. Hussey. Two such old favourites as the pieces mentioned furnish an evening's amusement that it would be hard to surpass, and while such companies as that directed by Mr. Stafford are travelled the prestige of the theatre is assuredly safe.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Comedy, by Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Mr. William Greet's principal London company is paying a return visit with the still popular *Earl and the Girl*, and meeting with great success. The principal parts are in good hands, and the chorus, scenery, and dresses are excellent. As Jim Cheese, Mr. William Stephens continues to "add to the gaiety of the nations." He is as comical as ever, and plays with unflagging energy and spirits. Mr. Arthur Harrold is good as Dick Wargrave, and is well supported by Mr. Percy Wright as Crewe Boodle. Mr. Will Hindson still takes the part of the American solicitor; and Mr. Greene Taylor gives a laughable study of the English solicitor Talk. Mr. H. Courtin represents the irate Bunker Bliss with more than ordinary energy; and Mr. Tom Redmond is a good Hazell. As Elphin Haye, Miss Frances Earle is a distinct success. She is charmingly dainty, and sings delightfully. Miss Jennie Richards is capital as 'Liza Shoddam; and Miss Mary Morison is a stately Miss Virginia Bliss. Miss Gertrude Melville acts and sings brightly as Daisy Fallowfield; while Miss Beatrice Anderson is admirably suited as Mrs. Shimmering Black. There are numerous new songs and dances, of which the "Entente Cordiale" dance is one of the prettiest and most effective. Our old friends "Zanzibar" and "The Cosy Corner Girl" were well given and warmly received. The orchestra, including the special instrumentalists belonging to the company, is under the direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Ernest Denny, entitled
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."

Following the example of another actress not altogether unknown on the lyric stage, Miss Decima Moore has, it is to be hoped for the time being only, forsaken the class of work with which she has hitherto been identified, for comedy. On Monday last she appeared at the Alexandra as the heroine of Mr. Ernest Denny's comedy, *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, which is being presented by Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman. Miss Moore's impersonation of the impulsive, impetuous Peggy is, on the whole, a highly successful one; but it is in presenting the more serious phases of the character that she is seen at her best. Nevertheless, her comedy scenes are delightfully played, the scene at the breakfast-table in the second act being particularly skilfully handled. Mr. Frank Bayley submits a finished and clever performance of the entomological Lord Crackenthorpe, and it is difficult to imagine this character being better filled. Mr. Lionel Glenister appears to advantage as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel, and, although his performance throughout is highly praiseworthy, he, too, seems more happily placed in the scenes which call for stronger treatment. Mr. Henderson Bland admirably realises the impecunious Major Archie Phipps; and Mr. Harold Weston is a fairly satisfactory Jack Menzies. As good as anything in the piece is the sound and effective performance of Mrs. O'Mara, which comes from Miss Annie Brophy; it is a delightful piece of acting, which adds considerably to the enjoyment of the play. Miss Estelle Despar is rewarded with an enthusiastic round of applause at the conclusion of her one scene as the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun; her performance of the part displays genuine ability, and makes a most favourable impression. Millicent Keppel is prettily and naturally played by Miss Violet Barton-Astor. Miss Kate Wingfield is duly dignified and domineering as Lady Crackenthorpe. Mr. Harry Phillips appears as the footman, Parker.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Play, in Four Acts, by J. Gordon, entitled
"SOLOMON SCHARLATAN."

The drama, *Solomon Scharlatan*, produced at the Pavilion on Monday evening, was received with decided favour by a full house. The vitality and dramatic freshness which are characteristic of the plays of Mr. J. Gordon, are in none of his works more evident than the piece under notice, which was acted with a vigour and verve that reflect high credit on the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, both individually and collectively. The entrance of Mr. S. Feinman in the interesting first act was the signal for loud and continued applause. His powerful but unforced acting as Solomon Scharlatan is full of tender human traits beneath its assumed buffoonery, while his earnestness and versatility did not fail to receive due recognition. Mr. M. D. Waxman's rendering of the book-keeper Mishe was throughout effective; he played with naturalness, commendable reserve, and with every evidence of success. Praise must be generously given to Mr. J. Scherman for his assumption of Mendele, which was both clever and artistic. Although Mr. Goldsmith was too restless as Beines Vassastein, yet he extracted all the humour possible from the part; and an easy characterisation of Simon Muslin was presented by Mr. Schtreng. Mme. J. Kayzer gave a capable reading of Esther Rachel, which at times suffered from being a trifle too lachrymose. Mme. F. Waxman infused much feeling and played with charming archness as Alishbe; and the bright vivacity and unconventional humour of Miss Bryh as Goldeh was quite refreshing. The drama was excellently mounted, and left nothing to be desired. During the week, *The Daughter of Jerusalem* and *Money or the Tramp* have been given with great success.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, by E. Hill Michelson, entitled
"ROGUES AND VAGABONDS."

The Lyric's patrons are always ready to witness and appreciate an emotional drama, and a full house nightly was ensured from the enthusiastic reception given to *Rogues and Vagabonds* on Monday. From their excellent stock company Mr. Arthur Bawtree, an actor of local popularity and great promise, has been chosen by the management for the part of Harry Stanford, and he plays the rôle of the gallant young artist in pleasing manner. Mr. Fred Morgan acts the part of Fernand Delair, a despicable adventurer, with considerable brilliancy, and the applause he is greeted with is certainly his due. Miss Nellie Fletcher as Vera Taverner supplies a well-studied picture of a woman of shady character, giving to her rôle a touch of viciousness which is very effective. As Ben, the pauper newsboy, Miss May Seton is well placed, her make-up being very effective. Ample amusement is supplied by Mr. A. P. Kaye and Mr. Bert Morley in their respective parts of Nathan Baxter and John Lamb. A graceful, yet pathetic, Hilda Jefferies is Miss Sylvia Morris. Good work is done by Mr. Ashton Winslow as Policeman Clegg; and Mr. Geo. K. Ashley as Inspector Mathews, Mr. J. P. Dryden as Jonas Kerr, Mr. J. E. Manning as Dan Calder, and Miss Nell Gillmore as Patty MacGovern deserve commendation.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS."

There was a good audience here on Monday, when the fortunes of *Two Little Sailor Boys* and their companions, as portrayed by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company, were followed with much interest. Miss Blanche Steele was well suited in the part of Lola Grey, painting the character of this abandoned woman in hard, firm lines, and earning the heartiest execrations of the "gods" from almost her first entrance. Miss Alice Defoe submitted a sympathetic rendering of Mildred Grey, her acting being charmingly natural, and her unaffected style adding to the value of her impersonation. Miss Lizzie Chambers made a bright, hard-working Lucy Wilson; and Miss Ethel Frances Greene gave a touching rendering of Tom Yorke, whose aristocratic confrère, Cyril Grey, was cleverly played by Miss May Day. As Commander Noel Tregarthen Mr. Jerrold Heather acted forcefully, but at the same time with well-considered restraint, and gave a life-like portrayal of the clean-limbed, fully efficient modern naval officer. As Captain Tom Yorke Mr. W. H. Hallatt played a small part with feeling and distinction. Mr. Ellerslie Pyne was sufficiently scoundrelly and vindictive as Lieutenant Richard Redstone; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair was responsible for a good deal of laughter as Ben Baxter; Mr. Oscar Power made a thorough-going "salt" of Jack Jolly; Mr. Ambrose Horton acted strongly as Jim Royston; and Mr. J. Court Havard made the most of the rather unsatisfactory part of the Admiral. The smaller characters were all capably handled, and the mounting and dressing of the drama left nothing to be desired.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Sept. 24, the Drama by Arthur Jefferson, entitled
"LONDON BY DAY AND NIGHT."

The above interesting drama is drawing good houses to the Messrs. W. and F. Melville's popular Rotherhithe house this week. The excellent stock company gives a smooth all-round performance, which brings out the good qualities of the play to the fullest advantage. That popular leading man, Mr. Ashley Page abandons his usual rôle of a young lover and enacts with his customary earnestness and success the character of the silver-haired and middle-aged philanthropist, Richard Thorneycroft. Mr. Tom Taylor gives an effective portrait of Edgar Thorneycroft, and Miss Ida Taylor appears with success as the waif, Dick. Mr. Johnny Chippendale is very funny as Nicodemus Sneezer, an elderly lady-killer with a chronic cold in his head. Mr. C. A. Chandler is an impulsive young Lieutenant Hainsworth, and Miss Marion Denvil acts with her customary ability as his fiancée, Beatrice Thorneycroft. Miss Georgie de Lara makes a striking success as the cold and calculating adventuress, Olga Snake, and her partner in crime, Gideon Snake, is effectively rendered by Mr. Alfred Harding. Mr. John Sargent brings out well the villainy of the Governor of Portland Prison, Major Godfrey Snake. Miss Mattie Everett makes a *chic* and plump chambermaid as Maria Pink, and the scenes where she is continually pestered by Sneezer's unwelcome attentions cause roars of laughter. Mr. Horace Pollock is good as the repentant rascal, George Fleming. Special mention should be made of the sylvan glade in Epping Forest in the prologue, where many local children appear in addition to a detachment of the St. Olave's Lads' Brigade, and meet with an excellent reception. Mr. Will T. Taylor, the courteous acting-manager, looks well after the comfort of the numerous patrons of the theatre.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Musical Comedy, composed by Leslie Stuart, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Excellent audiences have been the rule during this week at the above popular South London house to witness Mr. Leslie Stuart's delightful musical comedy. The production is excellently presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company. All the favourite airs are welcomed, and some new numbers are introduced which find much favour, notably, "My starlight queen," a coon ditty, which is excellently rendered in Act II. by Miss Nellie Bowman, who charmingly impersonates Angela Gilfain. That excellent comedian Mr. Daley Cooper gives a side-splitting character-sketch of the sham phrenologist, Anthony Tweedlepunch, his ripe humour being much appreciated. Mr. Jos. R. Tate is excellent as the millionaire Cyrus W. Gilfain; Captain Arthur Donegal is well played by Mr. Harold Perry, who renders in appropriately dashing style "I want to be a military man"; Mr. Edwin Oxlee makes an excellent character-sketch of the small part of Leandro; and Miss Violet Grazia sings well and acts with dramatic vigour as Dolores. Frank Abercoed in the hands of Mr. R. Courtier Dutton is a popular favourite by reason of his capital singing and acting; and Miss Edith Housley is an arch and engaging Lady Holyrood, her songs being rendered in a chic manner. The chorus is large and efficient, and the old favourite "Tell me, pretty maiden" is heartily encored. The scenery and effects are beyond reproach. Mr. B. J. Patterson is the skilful musical director of the company, Mr. Henry Spens is the manager, and Mr. Jos. R. Tate stage-manager.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard have hosts of admirers in Glasgow, and as a result they opened on Monday to a house in which even standing room was at a premium. Sir A. Conan Doyle's comedy, *Brigadier Gerard*, is the play they are appearing in, and Mr. Lewis Waller's embodiment of that brave but simple follower of Napoleon is an admirable example of his romantic acting, the spice of comedy running through the part being delightful. Miss Millard makes up the Comtesse de Roquelaure, a fine character, and the varying emotions are depicted with the ease of a consummate artiste. Mr. Edward O'Neill gives an incisive touch to the part of the scheming Talleyrand. His satellites are ably acted by Mr. Shiel Barry as D'Albert; Mr. Frank Cochrane as the Secretary; and Mr. R. C. Smith as Pierre. Mr. Frank Woolfe acts well as Major Olivier, Mr. Owen Roughwood is of value to the caste as Major Bron, and Mr. Eric Scott, Mr. S. B. Brereton, and Mr. Herbert Vyvyan ably fill other soldier parts. Miss Helen Leyton makes an effective Agnes, and the other rôles are all well filled. In front of the play proper Mr. Lewis Waller appeared in Mr. Henry Hamilton's monologue, *Fortune's Fool*.

ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company is this week presenting *Oliver Twist*, and a large audience followed the play with deep interest. In Fagin Mr. William Mackintosh has a part to which he is admirably suited, and in all phases of an exacting character he is seen at his best. A better Bill Sikes than Mr. Cecil A. Collins it would be difficult to imagine. A capable portrait of Oliver Twist is given by Miss Maudie Ray, and Miss Marie Polini gives a praiseworthy reading of Nancy. As Monks Mr. C. H. Croker-King plays with considerable power and dramatic force. Mr. Harvey Braban gives a typical impersonation of Harry Maylie, and Miss Jane Savile is a capital Rose Maylie. Mr. E. C. Buffum's Mr. Brownlow is a careful study, well acted, and the remaining parts are in good hands.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Geo. Dance's principal company is appearing this week in *The Orchid*. As Lady Violet Anstruther Miss Mabel Sealby is most successful; Caroline Vokins is capitally represented by Miss Florence Vie; as Zelie Rombert, Thisbe, Countess Anstruther, and Josephine Zaccary, Miss Nell Hope, Miss Constance Hamilton, Miss Dorothy Tempest, and Miss Mary Fraser respectively portray each character in praiseworthy manner. Mr. Fred Thompson's acting as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour is clever. Mr. L. Bullock-Webster makes a first-rate Dr. Ronald Faussett. As Mr. Aubrey Chesterton Mr. Haddon Cave acquits himself in a capable manner, as also does Mr. Wm. Benton as Comte Raoul. Mr. Harry Ray's sterling acting and excellent dancing as Zaccary is highly appreciated. Mr. Bert Lloyd is an irresistibly funny Meakin, and all the other parts are capably represented. The staging is remarkably good and the dresses superb, while the chorus is rich and full.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, *The Blue Moon*, shines brilliantly at this large house, opening, as it did, on Monday, our autumn holiday to a very large matinée's audience, and in the evening to a packed house. It is one of the finest entertainments Mr. R. C. Buchanan has ever presented to his patrons, and rapturous applause and persistent encores were continuous. Miss Florence Smithson plays her original part of Chandra in a charming manner, and her beautiful voice and unaffected style delights everyone. Mr. Edward Lewis, as Moolraj, revels in the part; the house roars while he is on the stage. Mr. Bert Gilbert, as Private Charles Taylor, sings and acts with unflagging spirit, and never misses an opportunity. The Major, Mr. Leslie Gaze, is a fine dashing piece of work, and Mr. George Mudie, jun., as Bobbie Scott, proves a journalist of resource. As Captain Jack Ormsby Mr. Herbert Clayton is admirable, and is deservedly applauded. Mr. T. Holding makes a dignified and austere Indian Prince. Misses Daisy Revett and Lulu Valli are exquisite as Evelyn and Millicent respectively. Miss Mary Powell as Bingha and Miss Mabel Lorell as Lady Brabasham are first-rate. The minor parts are presented in a fitting manner, and the chorus sings excellently.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Acting-Manager, Hugh Murdoch.—Fred J. Little and Fred D'Arcy's company is this week presenting *The Shadow of a Crime* to large and sympathetic audiences. Mr. Stephen Crossley as the heroic lieutenant, Harry Bullington, is capital. Mr. Wm. Matthews as Jim Murdock has some fine chances, and scores notably, and the villainy of Ralph Esmond is well exemplified by Mr. R. Forder. Mr. E. W. Avery and Mr. Alfred Richards prove to be two good humorists in the parts of Brown and Todd, the former being much enjoyed. Mr. John H. Manley is a dignified, yet sympathising, knight and parent, and his daughter, Dora, is nicely treated by Miss Dorothy Riddell. Miss Bertha St. Ruth is lively and piquant as Sarah, and Miss May Rosine as Mrs. Brown makes the part humorous. The quiet and unaffected acting of Miss Ina Grant was a dominant feature of a good all-round performance, which is thoroughly enjoyed

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—A large audience welcomed the return visit of *Sentenced for Life*, which had a most flattering reception. Special mention is to be made of Messrs. Nevill, Vaughan, Louis, Maud, and Firth in principal parts; while the humorous element is well-sustained in the capable hands of Messrs. Keane and Oldroyd. The lady members of the company are very successful throughout the play. Between the acts of the play selections are given by the Edison Bell Phonograph Company from the répertoire of popular music-hall artists and bands, finishing up with a display by the Metroscope of Animated Pictures.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The attraction for the holiday week is *The Beast and the Beauty*, and the many stirring scenes were on Monday followed with interest by a large audience. The company is about the same as when at the other Glasgow theatres recently, the most important change being that the part of Jack Barrymore is now played by Mr. W. S. Hartford, who gives an able and convincing rendering of the character. Miss Alice Bowes is still the Beauty, and Mr. Bernard Mervyn ably depicts the evil nature of Lord X.

NEW GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—This week's bill consists of that strong drama, *The Mockery of Marriage*, and the members of the stock company, including Misses Laurie A. Pardy, Marie de Ross, and Crawford, and Messrs. Alfred D. Adams, T. C. Conover, H. Booth, etc., do ample justice to their respective parts.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—George Lashwood, bright, brisk, and debonair as ever, contributes several good songs, and winds up with a picturesque scena representing a colonial settler regretting the happy days (or nights) he used to spend in the gay West-end. Albertus and Millar contribute a smart and varied turn, with club swinging, &c., the lady being also a specially clever cornet player. Fielding and Hull again give their tuneful medley, *An Officer's Flirtation*. George Langdon sings well in an American illustrated song; Phil Hermann gives a dialect song; the Scottish Meisters harmonise well in their various items; Lillian and Vera are clever shots; Harry Carsdale's farmyard imitations are life-like; and the musical items and animal impersonation of the Lupino Bros. are notably good.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Gotham Quartette in their songs, humorous and serious, are vocalists of a high order, and their comedy is excellent. Griffiths Bros., in a motor incident, keep the audience hilarious. Nipper Lupino Lane is a smart young comedian and popular here. Norman and Saxon are clever vocalists; and in the comic line Dion Wade is well worthy of a special place. The Four Hearnes are neat acrobatic tumblers; Rosalie Jacobi gives a dainty turn; Playfair and Nikola are smart at their paper speciality; and Pick, Thall, and Taylor contribute good singing and dancing.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Malcolm Scott, disguised as Catherine Parr, one of the numerous wives of Henry VIII., keeps the audience in roars of laughter. Lily Morris, a strong Glasgow favourite, again fetches the audience with her catchy songs and animated style. Mirzah, the banjo player, shows marvellous dexterity with that instrument. Dusty Rhodes, a patterer of exceptional ability, meets with a hearty reception. Three Sisters Silcott give their various songs with a fine swing and dash. Mabel Hind sings a pretty Japanese song; May Mars gives a dramatic selection, "In the Shadow of the Pyramids"; The Haverleys contribute a popular illustrated song; Helen Charles is a particularly clever mimic; and attractive turns are given by Joe and Louie Love, two clever juveniles, and Charles Sloman, a droll young comedian.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Lingi Salvini, a clever young musician, opens a long programme in capable style. Bob Nicol has warm recalls for his excellent imitations. B. Troba toys with war missles in a marvellous way. Mamie Iris is a dancer and comedienne who pleases, and Tatten Hall displays much originality in his songs and patter. Cribb and Cribb are nightly encored. Collins and Rice renew acquaintance, as do Harry Mountford and Maud Walsh, in their usual specialities. Baroux and Bion are also here. The chief humours go to J. W. Rowley, whose hearty manner, genial style, and catching songs combine to keep him popular.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—An excellent company is attracting good houses here this week. The Caledonian Boys submit a musical programme which is thoroughly enjoyed. G. W. Hunter has a hearty reception, and his songs and patter provoke much laughter. In conjunction with Amy Desiree, Mr. Hunter also gives a clever magical séance. The company also includes Venola Bros., comedy gymnasts; Ian Colquhoun, baritone; E. J. Sheldon, comedian; Fox and Melville, descriptive vocalists; Lena Willard, comedienne; Lady Mansel's Juveniles, vocalists and dancers; and the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Walker and May, the clever coloured artists, give a wonderfully good turn here. Harry Pleon, in a new absurdity, *P.C. Pudden*, causes roars of laughter. The Lannons take well in their pedestal dancing. Dick's Comedy Five give a smart acrobatic display. Bros. Dunlop, comedians; Cissy Kent, a neat dancer; Little Lizzie Leaver in her novel turn; and George Antill, "the shadow," complete a very attractive programme.

AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A big crowd was attracted to this theatre on Monday by the appearance of Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry in their latest success, *Dorothy o' the Hall*. Miss Neilson plays the leading rôle, and makes a popular success of the part. The more genuine success, however, is that of Mr. Fred Terry as Sir John Manners, a restrained and gallant figure who moves and talks invariably well. Mr. Horace Hodges has good opportunities as Perkin, the dwarf jester; and others who sustain their parts satisfactorily are Mr. J. Carter-Edwards as Sir George Vernon, Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw as Sir Malcolm Vernon, Mr. Frederick Groves as the Earl of Rutland, Miss Claire Pauncefort as Lady Vernon, Miss Mary Mackenzie as Dorothy's maid, Miss Lilias Waldegrave as the unfortunate Mary Stuart, and Miss Miriam Lewes, who makes a dignified Queen Elizabeth. It may be added that the scenery and dresses are excellent.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy and company are here this week in the well-known drama *In Holy Russia*. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy plays the important rôle of Renee Rubinoff with admirable lightness and accomplishment; Mr. Carl Rovinelli has a vigorous and telling part as Laurice Steragoff; and Mr. Joe Cuthbertson succeeds in the rôle of Von Pleve, the chief of the Russian police; while Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is exceptionally good in the part of Mickey Nolan.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A highly entertaining programme here this week includes the Seven Wolfrunas, in a comedy acrobatic act; Sheila McNeil, a pleasing Scotch comedienne; Jack Truman, a good tenor vocalist; the Cumberlands, a fine troupe of athletic cyclists; Percy Curry, comedian; the Bros. Levett, champion vaulters; Stanley's Urchins, in a clever speciality act; Mdlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano; and the Two Dixons, in a very pleasing and accomplished banjo and dance act.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—A strong attraction here this week is provided by Mr. C. Watson Mill and company in a romantic drama entitled *A Warning to Women*. A prominent part in this entertaining play is sustained by Mr. C. Watson Mill, who makes a big success in the rôle of Dr. Marcus Dread; and Miss Rosalind Tate worthily shares the honours as Moira Kennion. Of the long cast supporting these talented principals, great praise is due to Mr. Norman B. Cannon as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter as Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Rutland as Squire Kennion; Mr. C. M. Davidson as the Rev. Wallace; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy as the lively Mike McQuade; Mr. Palliser Acock as De Joules, a clever study; Miss Emmie Barton as Squire Kennion's daughter; Mr. Stanley Wood as Forgie, the Irish lawyer; and Miss Emmie Barton as Molly O'More.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Mr. Walter Howard's success, *Her Love Against the World*, occupies the stage here again this week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—*Ivanhoe* has undergone improvements, and bids fair to prove successful here.

GAIETY.—Licensee, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. George Dance's company is here with *A Country Girl*. In the title-rôle Miss Maisie Gay is charming, singing in good style; as Marjory, Miss Nancy Rossiter is graceful and artistic; Miss Winnie O'Connor as the Princess sings successfully; Miss Dolly Tennyson makes a tall, stately Mrs. St. Quinton; the Mdme. Sophie of Miss Addie Lennard is sprightly; Mr. Charles Walenn is a humorous Barry; Mr. J. C. Graves a clever Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Percy Carr a satisfactory Geoffrey Challoner; and Mr. St. John Hammund a quietly effective Rajah.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—This week the programme here is headed by Bella and Bijou, who give a very clever and popular entertainment. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette add a cultured musical turn; the Marsumas give a smart exhibition of comedy acrobatics on bicycles; the Primrose Quartette of vocalists sing exceedingly well; Burnetti, character musician, gives a smart turn; Talbot and Pearce are popular in their pretty song-scena *The Spider and the Fly*; Cull-Pitt, assisted by Mdlle. Adele, is exceptionally smart in a pot-pourri of magic, comedy, and mimicry; Spry and Monti present their comic sketch *The Dandy Guardsman*; and Bessie Butt, a vivacious sonbrette, dances well. The pictures on the Biograph are entertaining, as usual.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. P. Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Wilkie Bard, the popular comedian, tops the bill here this week, and is received with enthusiasm by crowded houses nightly. Joe Elvin remains another week, and is presenting *Obedient Billy* with success. Extremely good turns are given also by the Ongars, terpsichorean artists; Maxwell and Francis, comedy duo; Bert Woodward, the cycling coon; Charles Ulrick, the barrel king; and Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; while Arthur Boyne, the funny man, and Nellie Stratton, comedienne, complete the bill quite satisfactorily.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Charming Lil Hawthorne, the favourite burlesque artist, tops the bill here this week, and delights with several well-rendered songs. John Le Hay and company present with success a novel musical farce entitled *Poor Beggar*; and Eadie and Ramsden are seen to advantage in a clever comedy act, introducing some unique eccentric dancing. Harry Grey, the Australian comedian, is full of whimsical ideas, and makes a big hit; the Two Butterflies are exceedingly clever juvenile gymnasts; Cabaret's dogs are wonderfully well trained; the Bisera Troupe are pleasing lady musicians; and Harris and Worth are amusing comedians. An illustrated song, "Two Little Dirty Hands," is nicely sung by Miss Madge Robertson, assisted by the choir, who also render a part-song, "The Miller." The Marble Industry at Carrara is an interesting film shown on the bioscope

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Alexandra Dagmar, the well-known comedienne and burlesque artist, is to the front here this week, and meets with a flattering reception, her songs and stories being very smart. Fred Herbert is a capital topical vocalist, and is well received; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, scores with his song "We keep on 'aving 'em"; Ione Meldon, comedienne, sings and dances nicely; Walter Clyde, tenor vocalist, sings well; the Sisters Florence are very pleasing dancers and duettists; and other good turns are those of Nellie Navette, burlesque actress and dancer; Phinas and Ada in their original revolving equilibristic act; Leslie and Player, comedy duettists; and Raymond's Vivagraph.

KING'S (LONGSIGHT).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch is the top turn here this week, and, as usual, creates no end of laughter. Tate and Tate are successful in their comedy trampolin acrobatic act; and the Great Penstone, assisted by Tsaou-Ngo, an accomplished lady sleight-of-hand exponent, presents some smart illusions. Carson Hicks is an exceptionally smart rag-time dancer; Merton and Rydon are good in a pleasing musical comedy act; and very enjoyable items are contributed by Bruce and Ross, comedy artists, acrobats, and dancers; Carney Brothers, comedy duettists and character vocalists; Jessie Jukes, juvenile comedienne and dancer; and the Lovelaces, American song illustrators. "The Wolf Trap" is depicted on the bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—"The Land Grabbers" have taken possession of the above hall this week, and cause no end of fun with their burlesque business. King Leo gives a capital ventriloquial act; Juan and McQue are amusing comedians and dancers; Les Bois is a smart comedian; and Little Beattie is a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer. The Rushworths are popular song illustrators; and Lil O'Gorman is a good sentimental singer and a neat dacer. Dickinson and Johnson, deputising for Amy Tiller's Minstrels, gave a clever aquatic display, and an unnamed artist, who excelled in farm-yard mimicry, gave an extra turn. Melly and Morrisy, who figure on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Jack McKenzie's company are here this week in the musical comedy sketch *The Belle of Barcelona*, including Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, after a successful week at the Queen's Park Hippodrome. Texas Hattie is marvellously clever and graceful in her tight-rope performance, and meets with much success. Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians, have some smart patter and songs; Alfonzo is a very clever foot equilibrist; and Arthur Stacey is a capital eccentric comedian and dancer. Other enjoyable items are those of the Tiger Lily, a real coon singer and dancer; Cailler in his act of strength; Flo Banks, comedienne; Alex Leo, comedian; and the bioscope pictures.

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A return visit of *Lady Madcap* has been welcomed here. Miss Vera Vere, in the title-part, proves eminently acceptable, both her dancing and singing being particularly good; Miss Peggy Primrose, as her maid, scored a success; the trooper, Oroya Brown, presented by Mr. H. V. Surrey, provoked endless laughter; Mr. Percival Knight, as Stoney Startiford, and Mr. Oliver Rounds, as his confederate, added much to the fun; Mr. R. S. Comber did well as the Colonel; Mr. Alexander Chentrens was an excellent Count; Miss North made an agreeable friend of Lady Betty; and Mr. Tommy Nelldon provoked much laughter as Corporal Ham.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Much satisfaction has been expressed among playgoers in Liverpool that another opportunity has been afforded them of seeing Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott, who, during the week, have presented *Mice and Men*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet*. Particular interest was centred in the second-named play, and on Tuesday evening the efforts of the distinguished artists, as Shylock and Portia, were cordially recognised. Mr. Percy Rhodes well fitted the rôle of Antonio; a capital Bassanio came from Mr. Vernon Green; Mr. Charles Vaughan, both in appearance and action, was a life-like Tubal; the rôles of Launcelot Gobbo and his father were excellently presented by Mr. Charles Bibby and Mr. Sam T. Pearce; praise is due to Miss Dorothy Paget for her Jessica; and Miss Esme Hubbard did every justice to Nerissa. Mr. Hylton Allen submitted an acceptable Lorenzo; and Mr. Charles Langley was the Duke of Venice. The beautiful setting of the comedy was particularly noted.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—Mr. Walter Melville's company with *Her Second Time on Earth* has been here this week. Miss Hilda Beverley was the Dora Grey, a part which she played with much dramatic intensity; Mr. W. H. Porter scored as Guy Brand; Miss Dorothy Hildebrande made a sweet Laura Norman; as Jack Carlton Mr. Frank R. Robertson acquitted himself creditably; Mr. John Nolan did well as Captain Norman; Miss Polly Marsh handled the part of Elizabeth Burke satisfactorily; Mr. Allick McWilliam gave a finished picture of the old farmer Gumbrill; and Mr. Will Corrie proved a humorous Teddy Butterfly.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The ever-popular *Silver King* has this week been played to crowded audiences. Messrs. Polini and Melford's company is an excellent all-round one. Mr. Fred D. Daviss was a fine Denver; Miss Daisy Scudamore gained great applause for her Nellie; Mr. Edward J. George scored with his Jaikes; as the Spider Mr. L. St. George Lowther made many points; Miss Dorothy Radford gave satisfaction as Olive Skinner; Mr. Byrom Pedley was tactful as Detective Baxter; and Miss Flossie Hall Davies played intelligently as Denver's daughter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*As Good as Gold* has been produced at this theatre for the first time in Liverpool. The trying part of Mark Williams was most satisfactorily undertaken by Mr. H. H. Barington; Mr. William Heilbroon made a manly Jack Stanton; the heavy rôle of Sir Richard Warncliffe found in Mr. Richard Ferris a capable exponent; Miss Gertrude Bonser was a pleasing Nora Williams; Miss Marie McAulay handled the part of Kate D'Arville with discretion; credit is due to Miss Irene Ross for her Kipper, and to Miss Ella Seaton as Madge Merry; while endless fun was caused by Mr. Norman Hall (Horatio Spanker), Mr. F. Thorpe Tracy (Timothy Nias), and Mr. Fred May (Jacob Simpson).

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A big attraction at this favourite place this week is Apollo, whose remarkable exhibition of wrestling, including the popular Ju-Jitsu, has been witnessed by delighted audiences. In his work he is ably assisted by Miss Moya Sam, a lady exponent, whose abilities are of a high order. Arthur Rigby's sketch, *The March of the Married Men*, is particularly funny; the Avocas present a pleasing operatic scena, *The Reckless Miner*; wonderful feats are performed by Emil Amiel, contortionist; Violet Morgan submits smart mimicry; the boy juggler, Frank Hartley, acquits himself creditably; as lady instrumentalists the Three Transfields are loudly applauded; Tom Yorke has some taking coster songs; and others in the list are Herbert Cyril, comedian; Bert Byrne, comique; and Chas. E. Paton, comedian. The Wednesday matinées here are exceedingly popular.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Selby and Myers, who head the bill here this week, are excellent dancers; Harry Carman, comedian, pays a return visit, bringing with him his latest success "Silent Jimmy"; the highly appreciated illustrated songs by S. B. Geoghegan and Downs are given for another week; a most laughable item, *The Mischief Makers*, is provided by Haverley and Homer; James Toner, the singing newspaper boy, remains a second week; and Daisy Lane, comedienne, is a good turn.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock company here is this week producing *Wife and Fortune*, from the pen of St. Aubyn Miller. Mr. Percy Boucher was as funny as ever in his original part of Tim Larks; Mr. Harry Tresham made a manly Jack Weston; Captain Desmond was ably impersonated by Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. R. Wilton played well as George Thornton; Mr. E. D. Allen was a capital Daniel Salmon; and Mr. Cecil Ravenswood deserved praise for his Mr. Keen, K.C. Of the ladies, Miss Florence Palmer presented a pleasing Mary Weston, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood acquitted herself well as Beauty Glitters.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Top of the bill here this week are the King's College Boys, whose singing is exceedingly pleasing; Barrett and Knowles are a couple of smart comedians; the Reays have a novel gymnastic act; Liggins and Mulone are a laughable black and white comedy couple; Joe Hocter, as a boy comedian, has some good points; and Ugo, "the man of mystery," also appears.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Welsker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Bros. Ashley are here in big type this week, making everybody laugh with their absurdity, *Next, Please*; the old favourite, Frank Caffrey, comes with some especially comical songs; Hurman performs several clever feats in juggling and club manipulating; Stave has a smart electric comedy act; and others in the programme are Carlotta Lunn, burlesque artiste; Harry Bent, comedian and mimic; and J. G. Aitken, comedian.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Hengler's comedy sketch, *Harum-Scarum*, is being presented here by a company numbering 100 artistes, the production creating great laughter; Millie Hylton and Decima Moore have a most complimentary reception for their song scenas; Marie Kendall's taking songs are loudly applauded; a clever exhibition of juggling and hoop manipulating is given by Atroy; Violi, a lady instrumentalist, provides a pleasing turn; C. J. Johnson, a negro comedian, is well received for his humorous songs; the Vivians Operatic Comedy company present a most charming musical playlet, *A Reverie*; and Rose Naynon, assisted by Clyde Phillips, has a beautiful stage novelty with her 100 trained tropical performing birds.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The dramatic sketch, *A Man in a Thousand*, is being presented here this week by the "Royal" stock company, principal among the artistes being Messrs. Albert Sember (Owen Penrose); Frank S. Strickland (Gregor Gibson); H. G. Brandon (Darby Quick); Vincent A. Briscoe (Jim Barkis); Miss Florence Barnes (Mrs. Barkis); Miss Lena Pierpoint (Laura Gibson); and Miss Lilian Burns.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A varied programme is drawing excellent business here. *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, which is immensely funny, heads the bill. F. V. St. Clair again delights audiences with his efforts; Laurence Barclay is decidedly a clever comedian, his smart patter and songs creating roars of laughter. Johnson and Devere are smart trick cyclists; and other turns of note are Amber Austin, Will B. Haines, Lena Mannon, Will Van Allen, and the Lirioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Principal here this week is the popular Chirgwin, who has been greeted by many old admirers; Annie Abbott again mystifies people with her "lifting" show; Whimsical Walker and company present the sketch, *Capt. Hamilton, V.C.*; Whit Cunliffe raises many a laugh; a smart comedy act, *The Intruder*, comes from Lord, Murray, and Lord; some neat coon songs are rendered by Esta Stella; and others who appear are José Collins, vocalist and dancer; Steve McCarthy, comedian and dancer; and Berner's Fantoches.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—At the top of the bill here this week are Squire Wyndham and Tom Waters, a smart comedy couple, with their laughable *The Professor and His Pupil*; the Bohemians submit a neat turn of mirth, music, and melody; Wallace Whitney has some taking character songs; Beatie Foster sings agreeably; Massona, the burlesque boy juggler, is clever and amusing; and T. C. Jaques, comedian, also appears.

At the Pavilion Theatre on Saturday Mr. J. Scherman, at very short notice, gave an excellent representation of the servant, Shamie, in the Yiddish *King Lear*, in place of Mr. J. Schilling, who was seriously indisposed.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"KLEIN DORRIT."

Comedy, in Three Acts (after Charles Dickens), by Franz von Schoenthan, produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus, Sept 15.

William Dorrit ..... HERR VOLLNER
Fanny ..... FRAULEIN ARNSTADT
Tip ..... HERR STRUVE
Amy ..... FRAULEIN ESCHBORN
Clennam ..... HERR BOSTICHER
Lady Ines Sparkler .... FRAULEIN VON MAYBURG
Sir G. Sparkler ..... HERR STANGEMANN
Prince Henry Edward ..... HERR GRIENDORFER
Gefängnis Director ..... HERR MULLER
Chivery ..... HERR BICHHOLZ
John ..... HERR WERRAK
Burnish ..... HERR PATRY
Nandy ..... HERR EGGERLING
Eine Frau ..... FRAULEIN MARTEN
Dick ..... FRAULEIN BORWITH
Bobby ..... FRAULEIN HELMSTADT
Mayor ..... HERR ARNDT
Charles ..... HERR HOCHSTELTER
Sambo ..... HERR H. MULLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 20.—This latest effort of Herr von Schoenthan is on a par with many of his other works. It flows from his pen lightly and gracefully, but with little originality, and, above all, there is scarcely a trace of Dickens to be found. The author has not only introduced numberless new characters, but has altered the real ones beyond recognition. He has made a plot to suit an everyday audience—an audience, too, which knows and cares not for the sacred name of Charles Dickens. The third act will suffice for an example of this want of consideration. In the story, poor Dorrit is dumbfounded at the sudden acquisition of wealth after his eighteen years of imprisonment, and dies. Herr von Schoenthan makes him live the life of a vulgar parvenu, who well nigh makes ducks and drakes of his late-gotten fortune. The character of Amy, too, is altered, and not to its advantage; and the same applies to nearly all of them. The piece was capitally acted, and the applause was very cordial, the author being called before the curtain several times. It is not improbable that *Klein Dorrit* will enjoy as successful a run here as it did last season at the Burg Theatre, Vienna.

A TRANSLATION of *Triplepatte*, the French original of *Toddles*, recently produced in London, has been staged at the Residenz. The translator is Herr Benno Jacobson, a man well skilled in such work. Herr Alexander—the lessee of the theatre and Berlin's best low comedian—gave, as usual, the chief rôle, that of Vicomte de Houdan, and achieved a tremendous success. The interpretation was, to use the latest Berlin slang, "tip-top." Fräulein Dewal, as the eighteen-years-old bride, was very bright and charming, and, along with the remaining thirty-odd *dramatis personæ*, supported Herr Alexander in the best possible manner. A long run is a safe prediction, judging from the unceasing roars of laughter and frantic applause.

HERR LEO BLECH, the new kapellmeister at the Royal Opera, commenced his duties the end of last week with *Carmen*. His début was a brilliant and well-merited triumph, and there is no doubt but that Herr Blech is an acquisition upon which the Intendantur is warmly to be congratulated. He conducts with great individuality; his "temperament," fiery though it is, does not run away with him, but is well under control, and every note tells. The large audience welcomed him cordially, and at the close of the second act broke out into enthusiastic applause. The performance was good throughout. Fräulein Emmy Destinn was very fine in the title-rôle, and the Don José of Herr Neval brought him hearty acknowledgment. Frau Herzog's rendering of Micaela is well known for its excellence; and Mr. Griswold, the new American bass, gave a sympathetic account of Escamillo. All in all, it was a representation worthy of our Royal Opera traditions.

THE Lortzing, having started under favourable auspices, is going on in very satisfactory manner, and when the long evenings come there will, I should venture to prophesy, be a full house nightly. Verdi's popular *Der Troubadour* (*Il Trovatore*) was put in the bill on Friday, meeting with a more than cordial reception. The interpretation was good and even Fräuleins Stellion and Waller, as Leonora and Azucena, and Herren Mueller and Maurel as Manrico and Luna, gave excellent renderings. *Fra Diavolo*, *Czar und Zimmermann*, and *Der Freyschütz* are in the bill in addition to *Der Troubadour* this week, so it will be seen that there is something for everyone's taste.

AT the Luisen Theatre, an old comedy, *Ein Kind des Glückes*, has been revived, with good results. The authoress, Frau Charlotte Birch-Pfeiffer, has been dead nearly forty years, but her works still form an excellent *pièce de résistance* for our managers. She was a prolific play-writer, and her pieces, though not pretending to any great literary or artistic merit, are interesting, natural, and refined, and her plots admirably developed. Frau Birch-Pfeiffer was engaged at the Munich Court Theatre at the age of thirteen, coming to Berlin some years later, where at the Royal Schauspielhaus she was much esteemed. Her knowledge of the stage was, therefore, an intimate one, and she used her experience to best advantage. Her plays were largely drawn from the novels of Victor Hugo, G. Sand, and Auerbach, while one of the most popular—*Die Waise von Lowood*—was adapted from "Jane Eyre." The acting of *Ein Kind des Glückes* was capital, Fräulein Hamel giving the grateful rôle of Hermance charmingly.

ISSEN'S enigmatical play *Hedda Gabler* was given last Friday at the Lessing with a very fine cast. Frau Irene Triesch was at her best in the title-rôle, and that is saying much. Herr Rittner played the part of Lövborg, Herr Grunwald that of Tesman, while Herr Sauer was Brack. In the part of Frau Elosted, Fräulein Gernod scored. Many connoisseurs have tried in vain to solve the riddle of *Hedda Gabler*, but acted as it is at the Lessing it cannot fail to impress even the most critical audience.

MISS GERALDINE FARRAR, the handsome young American singer at the Royal Opera, is not to be lost to us altogether. Her contract with the Intendantur has been renewed for three years, allowing the spoilt child of fortune every possible liberty for touring between times. Miss Farrar's voice has greatly increased in beauty of tone and volume the last few years, and her acting proves the careful study she has given to it. There is no doubt that the loss of Geraldine Farrar would be very disadvantageous to the *Casse* of the Royal Opera—a fact those in authority have recognised.

THE side-splitting farce-burlesque *Wenn die Bombe Platzt* has passed its twenty-fifth consecutive performance at the Thalia, and bids fair to run merrily for weeks. The afternoon performance on Sunday is the old draw *Bis früh um Fünfe*.

PRESENTATION.—At the conclusion of the performance at the Grand Theatre, Heaton, on Saturday evening, Mr. Pat Nevin, who has acted as stage-manager at the theatre since its opening, thirteen years ago, and who has now accepted a similar position at the Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was presented with a handsome gold watch. Mr. R. G. Elder, the resident-manager, made the presentation.

MR. EDITOR,—SIR,—I note in to-day's *Era* a suggestion that a history of Drury Lane would be acceptable to theatre-lovers. Kindly allow me to state that I have been at work upon one for some few years, and hope to have it published very shortly.—Faithfully yours, LITA SMITH, 5, Edith-road, Kensington, W., Sept. 22.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, whose diplomatic exertions in behalf of the Musical Copyright Act were crowned with such complete success, will find an appreciable honour awaiting him on his return from America. In recognition of his work in championing their cause, the popular M.P. is to be entertained to dinner some Sunday in November by a number of music publishers and composers.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has delivered himself frankly to a Glasgow interviewer on the question of social order in that city. "Glasgow," said the eminent actor, "is a good city to be away from on a Sunday. Sunday in Glasgow is a day of Godless gloom. You take away, if you do not forbid, all the chances the people may have of obtaining rational recreation, and then you wonder why drunkenness is the disorder of the day. People talk of the Continental Sunday. I have just come from there; and what is the Continental Sunday? It is a day of joy, of life, of beauty. The people are given opportunities of hearing delightful music. Now, why can't you have such in Glasgow? Why can't the municipality of Glasgow establish places of recreation where the public may obtain their refreshment, seated comfortably, and listening to good music, instead of standing in a crowd on a sawdust-littered floor, drinking as much as they can in the brief while allowed them?"

OPPORTUNITY was taken by Mr. Tree while in Scotland for gathering local colour for *Macbeth*, which will be produced early in the New Year. "Absolute simplicity," said Mr. Tree, "will be the keynote of *Macbeth;* rugged simplicity and strength." Asked why the programme at His Majesty's varied between Shakespeare and Mr. Morton and Mr. Belasco, two American dramatists, to the exclusion of the British playwright, Mr. Tree replied, "Well, you must admit that Mr. Morton has made a pretty good job of *Colonel Newcome*. Certainly I am a patriot, but I have a larger patriotism—the patriotism of the world, so far as art is concerned. But poor Morton! On this side he is taken to task for being an American, while on the other side he is almost daily lectured on the sin of being an Englishman! What is a poor fellow to do between you all?"

REFERENCE to the late Robert Louis Stevenson evoked from Mr. Tree the following appreciation:—"He was a most charming fellow. I was his guest on several occasions, and I have always regarded him as the ideal literary man. A little careless in dress: he wore a flannel shirt, his hair rather long, and a velvet jacket; but, then, he was so occupied in thinking about greater things that he had little time to give to collars and boot varnish. He was fond of life; he liked a good wine and a good dinner."

MR. LEWIS WALLER will have his first singing part in the new *Robin Hood* play when it is produced at the Lyric Theatre, on Oct. 17. He has a single song in the character of the outlaw. "Musical numbers" are also provided for other members of the company, and a good deal of incidental music will be introduced. Mr. Philip Cunningham will be the Cœur de Lion, Miss Evelyn Millard Maid Marian, Mr. Cameron Allan-a-Dale, Mr. Devereux Prince John, and Mr. A. E. George Friar Tuck.

SIR HENRY IRVING'S tomb in Westminster Abbey is still frequently visited, and floral tokens of remembrance show the world-wide respect in which he was held. Inquiries for the great actor's last resting-place repeatedly come from Americans, and one gentleman from the United States, standing by the graveside, was recently heard to remark, "We Americans remember Irving with affection as well as respect. He endeared himself to our hearts even as he captivated and convinced our intelligence."

MR. E. S. WILLARD and company arrived in America on the 21st inst. They were due the following day at Montreal, where they open their season with *Colonel Newcome*.

"THE BONDMAN" has been judiciously cut and brought within the limits of regulation time at Drury-lane, and the curtain now rises at 8 p.m. and falls at about 11.20. The revision has resulted in the abandonment of the final tableau, so that a purely dramatic ending is now secured for Mr. Hall Caine's work, which is attracting overflowing houses.

"THE SILVER BOX," produced at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, is Mr. John Galsworthy's first play. He has been a novelist for about eight years, having used the pen name of John St. John at the beginning of his literary career.

MR. LEWIS WALLER has sent a further sum of £2 12s. 6d. to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, obtained by means of his autograph; and Mr. Cecil Paget £1 1s. 5d., which he has collected in the Fund's boxes at the Crown Theatre, Peckham.

TERRY'S THEATRE will be reopened this evening by Mr. W. H. Nation with a compressed version of Holcroft's comedy *He's Much To Blame*, and a new musical play, entitled *Yellow Fog Island*, the book of which has been written by Mr. Arthur Sturgess. That admirable comedian Mr. Charles Groves heads the cast of the first-named piece, which also includes Messrs. W. R. Staveley, A. B. Imeson, Norman Wrighton, and Campbell Bishop, and Miss Maie Ash, Miss Alice Barth, and Miss Gladys Archbutt. *Yellow Fog Island*, which has been founded on a story of Gilbert A'Becket which appeared in the "Covent Garden Magazine," will be sustained by Messrs. Campbell Bishop, Robson Paige, and A. B. Imeson, and Miss Elise Cooke, Miss Maie Ash, and Miss Gladys Archbutt.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has secured the co-operation of Mr. Percy Anderson, who has undertaken to design all the costumes for *Macbeth*, which Mr. Bourchier will produce at Stratford-on-Avon.

THE Council of the Actors' Association, as the representative body of the theatrical profession, have issued a circular to the authorities in all towns in the United Kingdom calling attention to the necessity of periodical inspection of the dressing-rooms and accommodation behind the scenes in all theatres. The Council gratefully acknowledge that, in the majority of theatres, the managers are anxious to provide for the comfort and convenience of actors and actresses, but there are still cases where the cleanliness and ventilation of the dressing-rooms, the sanitary arrangements, and means of exit are unsatisfactory. The Council, in issuing this circular, do not reflect on any particular theatre. They are merely desirous that thorough inspection of the accommodation provided should be made; and that, where it is found to be defective, the manager should be asked to make reasonable and necessary improvement.

THE third Thursday in October is the day appointed for Actors' Day, inaugurated by the Actors' Association. The date this year will be Oct. 18, when it is hoped a united effort will be made to support a project the excellence of which is manifest.

MISS NORA LANCASTER, daughter of the celebrated actress, Miss Wallis, has made a most successful appearance with Mr. Tree on tour, in Miss Viola Tree's rôle of Inez Izard in *Business is Business*. The talented young actress will take a notable step in her profession next week, when she will appear with Mr. Tree in the principal lady's part in *The Ballad Monger*, which is to be added to the company's répertoire.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS, having started *The Bondman* fairly on its prosperous way, is now giving added attention to the Christmas pantomime, in which a new and elaborate view of *Sinbad the Sailor* will be presented. Last year's favourites are happily to be included in the cast, in which Miss May de Sousa, Miss Queenie Leighton, Mr. Harry Fragson, and Mr. Walter Passmore are prominent.

AMONG seasonable entertainments at Christmas will be the popular *Alice in Wonderland*, which Mr. Seymour Hicks will produce, in association with Messrs. Greet and Engelbach, for a series of matinées, at a theatre which is yet to be decided upon. Miss Marie Studholme will be Alice, and Mr. Hicks himself the Mad Hatter. At the Duke of York's Mr. Charles Frohman revives *Peter Pan*, with Miss Pauline Chase in the name-part. Miss Chase, it will be remembered, appeared in the original production at the Duke of York's two years ago, when she gave a delightful rendering of the First Twin. A tour of the piece, with another company, including Miss Zena Dare in the title-rôle, will be begun on Christmas Eve.

MISS NELLIE COLEMAN is meeting with great success on her American tour. She is at present appearing at Keeney's Theatre, Brooklyn.

MR. CHARLES HARTLEY AND MISS ETHEL GORDON PAULL will bring a very successful dramatic and song recital to a close to-night at Malvern, having visited over forty towns since July 28. To-morrow evening they will fulfil a special engagement at the Hotel Bristol, Paris, after which they will take a short holiday previous to opening a tour on the South Coast at the end of October.

MR. GEORGE HEMSLEY, son of the well-known scene-painter, Mr. W. T. Hemsley, left England on Tuesday for India. Mr. Hemsley is, like his father, a brilliant scene-painter, and he is going to India to assist Mr. Maurice Bandmann in the presentation in that country of English plays, musical and dramatic, staged on the same lines as in England. Mr. Hemsley has for the past few weeks been busily engaged in the preparation of the scenery for the forthcoming Greek play at the New Theatre, Cambridge.

THE musical comedy *Lady Madcap* has been produced by Messrs. Schubert Brothers, at the Casino Theatre, New York, under the title of *My Lady's Maid*, the jokes being all Americanised.

THE stock company system under peculiar conditions is about to be started in Chicago, where the New Theatre opens as a repertory house on Monday. No member of the company will be given prominence over any other, and the run of every piece is limited to a fortnight. The project is supported by Chicago merchants and lovers of the drama, and will be under the direction of Mr. Victor Mapes. The first programme will consist of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's poetical tragedy, *The Tempter*, and an original one-act play by the same gifted author, entitled *The Goal*.

At West London Police-court on Monday, Henry Blackburn, who enjoys the distinction of being Miss Edna May's chauffeur, appeared to answer a summons for driving a motor-car in a dangerous manner in Holland Park-avenue, Kensington, on July 14. Inspector Stiles said the defendant had been twice convicted at Cromer this summer for excessive speed, and on the last occasion was fined £20, together with suspension of his licence for twelve months. The magistrate imposed a penalty of £10, or one month's hard labour.

MISS FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS AND MR. FRANK CELLIER, JUN., will, on their forthcoming tour, be supported by a strong cast, including Mrs. Edward Saker, who will play the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet*. Miss May Saker, her talented daughter, will also be playing prominent parts in the company. The répertoire will be a large one, including many Shakespearean plays.

MR. HENRY W. BRAME, formerly with Wilson Barrett, Mrs. Bernard Beere, and many years with Mr. Penley's No. 1 *Charley's Aunt* company, who died on Sept. 13 at the early age of forty-six, at 346, High-road, Kilburn, left a widow totally unprovided for. Mr. Brame, who was the eldest son of Mr. Henry Westland, for a long time a member of Mr. Toole's company, was for twenty-seven years in the profession, and was greatly esteemed by all who came in contact with him. He was ever foremost in the assistance of any deserving case, and the opportunity thus afforded of according to his widow the help he so willingly gave to others will, it is hoped, be readily taken.

MRS. LANGTRY had an enthusiastic send-off from a number of theatrical celebrities at Southampton on Saturday, when she embarked on the Philadelphia for America. The famous actress opens at Proctor's Theatre, New York, on Oct. 1, in Mr. Graham Hill's play, *Between the Night and the Light*, supported by Mr. Hubert Carter and Mr. Holmes Gore. After a seven weeks' season in New York, Mrs. Langtry will visit Boston, Buffalo, Pittsburg, and other large towns, returning to England next March. On this tour, for which she is receiving the record salary of £500 a week, Mrs. Langtry will also appear in a new comedy in one act, named *A Maid of Many Parts*, which she has written in collaboration with Mr. Hill. By the same vessel went the *Mr. Hopkinson* company, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Alice C. Hardcastle, and Barnum and Bailey's company.

EIGHT pens have collaborated in the creation of *The New Aladdin*, which Mr. George Edwardes will produce at the Gaiety Theatre this evening. The "book" is written by James T. Tanner and W. H. Risque, the lyrics by Adrian Ross, Percy Greenbank, W. H. Risque, and George Grossmith, jun., and the music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, with additional numbers by Frank E. Tours. The full cast consists of Messrs. George Grossmith, jun., Arthur Atherton, Harry Grattan, Robert Nainby, Alfred Lester, Charles Brown, Eustace Burnaby, J. R. Sinclair, S. Hansworth, J. W. Birtley, and Edmund Payne, and Misses Adrienne Augarde, Lily Elsie, Olive May, Jean Aylwin, Winifred Dennis, Kitty Mason, Enid Leonhardt, Jessie Hackney, Gladys Desmond, Violet Walker, Minnie Baker, Gaby Deslys, and Connie Ediss.

THE Wednesday afternoon lectures at the Royal Academy of Music during the Michaelmas term consist of two courses—the first by Mr. Stewart Macpherson on "The Evolution of Symphony," the second by the Principal, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, on "The Bohemian School of Music." The first series commences on Wednesday, and the second on Nov. 7.

THE Playgoers' Club report for the year records a most successful season, especially in the matter of debates on plays produced. The Children's Pantomime Fund was the means of giving a treat to nearly 19,000 little ones during the Christmas season. Mr. Hall Caine has accepted the invitation to be the president for the ensuing year, and Mr. H. Passmore Edwards will be proposed as vice-president. It is hoped that Mrs. Patrick Campbell will preside at the annual ladies' dinner in December. The first debate of the season will be held at the Cecil on Oct 21, the subject being "The Importance of First-Night Criticism."

AT the conclusion of the fourth act of *The Village Blacksmith* at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, on Saturday, Miss Maggie Edwards (Mrs. Sam Livesey), the leading lady, was the recipient of a handsome basket of flowers, composed of roses, maidenhair fern, and white heather, from Mr. William D. Forsdike, with many expressions of good wishes to herself and husband.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS is heartily to be commended upon his latest effort towards promoting the musical education of the people. His matinée at the Camden Theatre on Saturday, when Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* was performed to an audience of children numbering over fourteen hundred, drawn from schools in the neighbourhood, was successful from all points of view. The opera was artistically staged and sung, and the youthful audience followed the performance with the greatest attention, and applauded with enthusiasm. Prior to the beginning of the opera, a lecture explanatory of the work was given by Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser, and interest was stimulated by Mme. Fanny Moody's offer of prizes for the three best essays recording the impressions of those who listened to a grand opera for the first time.

AT the close of the performance, Mr. Manners put the question, "How many of you have ever seen a grand opera before?" and in reply no more than ten hands were raised. "How different in Germany!" was Mr. Manners's significant comment. It was with an educational object, he said, that he gave the performance, for the children could not be too highly educated, and a knowledge of good music as represented by grand opera might turn them from organ-grinders and jews'-harps. If anyone wished to experiment further, Mr. Manners said he was willing to place his services and those of his company at their disposal. By the means of such experiments they would possibly ultimately get on to national opera. Mr. Manners was warmly thanked by several prominent members of the London County Council who were present.

A MOVEMENT has been set on foot to raise a testimonial to Mr. R. W. Allum, the acting-manager of the Brixton Theatre, the present management of which terminates during next month. Mr. Allum has held the position for over eight years, and by his genial and unassuming manner and business-like ability has made himself respected in the locality and highly popular with members of the profession. An influential committee, composed of the leading residents of the neighbourhood, including Mr. Nelson Francis, manager of the Empress Music Hall, has been formed, and Mr. Henry Dann, of 457, Brixton-road, is the hon. secretary and treasurer, to whom subscriptions may be forwarded.

MR. HARRY COLBECK, who is at present stage-managing and playing a part in Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company of *The Christian*, paid a flying visit to King's Lynn on Wednesday last, to play the Rev. Robert Spalding in *The Private Secretary*. The occasion was the complimentary benefit to Mr. J. Bannister Howard on the second anniversary of the reopening of the New Royal Theatre, under his management. Mr. Colbeck was supporting Mr. Bannister Howard, who appeared in the rôle of Cattermole.

MR. CLAUDE KING sails to-day for India, to fulfil a starring engagement throughout the Far East, in a répertoire of all the most successful plays of recent years, embracing the work of Pinero, H. A. Jones, Alfred Sutro, J. M. Barrie, and other dramatists. He expects to return in about a year's time. Mr. King will be accompanied by his wife, and will carry with him the good wishes of his many friends.

MISS ELLALINE TERRISS has made an agreeable mark with her song "Hyacinth," in *The Beauty of Bath*, at the Aldwych Theatre. In the same piece this evening, Miss Barbara Deane will introduce a new song, entitled "Friends."

MISS LOUISA PEACH, who is playing a dual rôle in *Judy* with Mr. Geo. Kirke's company, has several very quick changes, and in rushing to her dressing-room unfortunately strained her knee. She was compelled, by doctor's orders, to rest for a couple of weeks, and, much to her regret, has to relinquish her engagement. Miss Peach managed to play this week in Preston, to enable Mr. Kirke to secure someone else, but returns home to London on Sunday.

A GOOD photograph of Miss Mamie Brickwell, daughter of Mr. H. T. Brickwell, so long associated with Terry's and the Garrick Theatres, figures in the current issue of the *Pelican*. Miss Brickwell made her first appearance as one of the school girls in the revival of *The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown* at the Court Theatre, about five years ago, but being the possessor of a pretty face and figure, a good voice, thoroughly well trained, and a natural gift for dainty dancing, she was secured for musical comedy. Miss Brickwell has played principal parts in Mr. George Edwardes's *San Toy*, *Kitty Grey*, and *Three Little Maids* companies on tour with great success, and she is now playing the chief part in *Mr. Popple* on tour. Her appearance in pantomime at Bradford last Christmas won enthusiastic commendation.

THE London production of *The Four Just Men*, which has been secured by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, is to take place at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8. In the cast will be Messrs. H. A. Saintsbury, Gordon Bailey, Hubert Willis, E. H. Dobell, H. Elliott Ball, Wilfrid Evesham, Legai Robinson, Algernon J. Hicks, Leonard Williams, Edward Russell, Harry Gregory, Charles Terric, W. T. Best, Louis Scott, James Bell, and Miss Alys Rees and Miss Dorothea Desmond. The duel which takes places in the first act of *The Four Just Men* is being arranged and rehearsed by the well-known fencing master, M. Felix Bertrand. This gentleman is also responsible for the fencing bouts in Mr. Lewis Waller's forthcoming production of *Robin Hood*, as well as the duel in *The Corsican Brothers*, which he is arranging for Mr. Martin Harvey.

THE incidental music running through the play of *The Four Just Men* has been specially composed by Mr. Fritz Hart, the musical director of the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. The song at the opening of the first act will be sung by Miss Alys Rees.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES'S tour with *A Country Mouse*, under the direction of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison, has proved so successful that an extension will be made. Miss Hughes will appear on Monday at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, to be followed by the Fulham and Camden Theatres. The comedy will be preceded by the one-act play, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, Miss Hughes playing her original parts in each piece.

THE season of grand opera in Italian at Covent Garden will begin on Friday. As at present arranged, the opera for the opening night will be *Rigoletto*, with Mme. Melba as Gilda, Signor Sammarco as Rigoletto, and the new tenor, Signor Krismer, as the Duke. Mme. Melba and Mme. Giachetti have been specially engaged for the season, and the company has been further strengthened by the engagement of well-known artists, including Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Mme. De Cisneros, Mme. Giaconia, and Mme. Scalar, Signor Zenatello, Signor Sammarco, Signor Amato, Signor Walter, Signor Thos, Signor Zucchi, and Signor Krismer. Performances will be given every evening, excepting on the nights of the fancy dress balls, which take place every alternate Friday.

THE Elizabethan fair and fête, held in the hall and garden of Lincoln's Inn last May, in which a number of prominent actors and actresses took part, has resulted in a profit of £6,700, which has been placed to the credit of the fund for the removal of King's College Hospital to South London.

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD had an unexpected and gratuitous advertisement in King's Lynn Parish Church on Sunday last, of his complimentary benefit at the theatre in that town. Both Mr. Howard's benefit and the Harvest Festival Service at the church were announced to take place on the same day, and the vicar, at the conclusion of his sermon on Sunday last, said he was pleased there were to be two performances at the theatre on the Wednesday, and he wished Mr. Howard all success. He only hoped that people would patronise the matinée performance, and thus leave themselves free to attend church in the evening, so that both events would suffer the least possible harm through the clashing of dates.

MISS JOAN DERRY, one of our rising young actresses, has been specially engaged by Miss Marie de Campi to support Mr. Charles Collette in his farce duologue, *Tea for Two*, to be played as a curtain-raiser before *The King's Signet*, in which Miss de Campi is so successfully starring in Scotland.

MR. ST. CLAIR BAYFIELD, who is playing the character of Robert Carne in *The Two Mr. Weatherbys* at the Maddison-square Theatre, New York, has won very flattering testimonies to his ability as a comedian. So great has been his success that he will probably remain with Mr. Walter N. Lawrence, under whose management the piece was produced, for some considerable time, so that Mr. Bayfield's friends in England will not see him until next year. *The Two Mr. Weatherbys*, it may be mentioned, is by Mr. St. John Hankin, and was produced at a special performance in London by the Stage Society. Mr. William F. Hawtrey has made a great personal success in New York as the "bad Mr. Weatherby."

THE winter term of the Crystal Palace School of Art, Music, and Literature has now commenced. The primary object in establishing the school, it may be recalled, was to utilise for educational purposes the company's magnificent art collections, which include the *chefs d'œuvre* of every school of art in Europe. The curriculum of the school has, however, been so greatly extended from time to time that the Crystal Palace has now become a great teaching centre. Students of music have exceptional advantages, the ordinary lessons by distinguished teachers being supplemented by lectures, musical recitals, &c., which students can attend at reduced fees.

A BENEFIT was tendered to Mr. Alfred Hemming, managing-director of the Grand Theatre, Douglas, on Thursday evening, when a crowded audience proved the general esteem in which this clever manager, actor, and author is held by all. The *pièce de résistance* was Mr. Lingford's Carson's *A Modern Adventuress*. The benefit was under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor, Lady Raglan, and suite, Mr. and Mrs. Hall Caine, and the notabilities of the Island. Mrs. Alfred Hemming, so well known under her stage name of Miss Mabel Allen, as a ballad singer and actress, sang some "old world" songs charmingly. Miss Mabel Hemming, a little maiden of eleven, recited Clement Scott's "Women of Mumbles Head" with fine elocutionary promise. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Buxton appeared with success. Mr. Alf. Hemming said a few gracious and eloquent words to his constituents, and the St. Mary's Dramatic Club presented an amusing Irish sketch, in which Mr. James King, Mr. Charles Carroll, and Miss May Robinson took part. The audience was enthusiastic, and the arrangements, which Mr. Stanley Grafton, Mr. Lingford Carson's general manager controlled, were excellent.

MR. W. COUTTS, the popular lessee and manager of the Star Theatre, Swansea, took a well-deserved benefit on the 20th inst. *The Drama of Life* was presented in two acts; the Swansea Amateur Dramatic Society appeared in *A White Hat*; a dramatic scena, *The Martyr's Bridal*, written by Mr. J. P. Lallen, was enacted; the band of the 1st Glamorgan R.G.A. played selections; and contributions to the bill were made by Miss Ethel Jones, vocalist; Master D. J. Davies (recitations); Elsie May, child vocalist; Bros. Maher, club-swingers and ball-punchers; W. Rees (tenor); Florence Bernard, vocalist; E. Ashbury (impersonator); C. H. Reynolds (baritone); Tom Jones (comedian); Mrs. J. F. Fricker and party (Messrs. G J. Osman, C. L. Trickey, and Mrs. Selwyn); Larry Warner, coon singer and dancer; J. Stephens (Llansamlet); H. White (one of the Merry Madcaps); and Soros, an illusion. Messrs. J. F. Fricker, Hyman Jones, and T. Theophilus accompanied. The Star Bioscope completed the programme. Mr. W. Coutts thanked his patrons, the artists, and the staff for their support.

MR. JOHN WORSWICK, the proprietor of the Court Theatre and Hippodrome, Wigan, is, we regret to learn, passing through a very serious illness. A fortnight ago he was seized with a severe attack of heart trouble, to which he has been subject in a lesser degree for some years. It necessitated his removal to his seaside residence at St. Annes, where he has since been confined to his bed. On Wednesday night, however, Mr. Worswick's condition considerably improved.

MISS NANNIE HARDING (late of D'Oyly Carte's operas) has, we are glad to hear, so far recovered from her accident as to be able to leave hospital. She is now taking a quiet rest at the Lodge, Paddock Wood.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by the late Wilson Barrett, will, by arrangement with Mr. G. M. Polini, shortly be sent on tour under the management of Mr. George Henry.

MISS FLORENCE HAMER is one of the fortunate actresses who travel to all parts of the world, making their fortunes and numberless friends at the same time. She has been engaged by Mr. Maurice Bandmann for an extensive tour through the East, including India, China, and Japan. Sailing by the Sardinia, P. and O. Line, on Oct. 6, the tour opens in Calcutta early in November.

BY the kind permission of the directors of the Central Pier Co., Ltd., Morecambe, Mr. T. W. Rawson will be given a complimentary benefit on Oct. 10 in the handsome pavilion on the pier. The patronage of the Morecambe and Lancaster amateurs, the Mayor of Morecambe, Canon Gorton (the rector), and many influential people has been secured, and it is confidently expected that the benefit performance will be a very satisfactory one. It will be remembered that Mr. Rawson met with a serious accident at Morecambe on July 15, during his visit to the seaside town in *The Bauble Shop*, and he has been ill since. Happily the clever actor is nicely recovering, and he has been much helped by the good wishes of his many friends.

ANNOUNCEMENTS were made that a play, entitled *Her one Great Sin*, would be produced at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, this week. Relying upon the accuracy of the notices, a considerable number of people found their way to the theatre on Monday night, only to find the doors closed and the place in darkness. Owing to the financial position of the theatre, it had to be closed, the last performance being given on Friday, the 21st inst. All bookings have been cancelled. The liquidator is proceeding with the winding up.

MR. ALBERT A. STRONG, a solicitor, who perhaps has had a wider knowledge and experience of theatrical and music-hall cases than anyone in London, is removing next week from his present address to 70, Gracechurch-street, E.C. Mr. Strong is the writer of that very useful an interesting column which has appeared in *The Era* under the heading of "Legal Notes of the Month."

MR. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN has fixed on Saturday, Oct. 13, for his production at the Criterion Theatre of Mr. W. Kingsley Tarpey's three-act comedy, *The Amateur Socialist*. As already announced, Mr. Eric Lewis is to appear in the title-rôle, while for the part of the heroine Mr. Allen has secured the services of Miss Lilian Braithwaite. Other important rôles will be fulfilled by Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Ethel Matthews, Mr. Percival Stevens, and Mr. E. Dagnall, who is producing the piece for Mr. Allen. *The Amateur Socialist* will be preceded by a one-act play, entitled *The Lemonade Boy*, by Gladys Unger, who, it will be remembered, is the author of *Mr. Sheridan*, which Mr. Arthur Bourchier will shortly produce. *The Lemonade Boy* has recently been presented in the United States by Mr. Arnold Daly, who sustained the name-part successfully. Mr. Leon M. Lion will represent Mr. Grant Allen in front of the house.

THE sympathy for poor Miss Stephens is world-wide. This week we have received from the United States a remittance from Miss Lily Seville for £5 12s. 4d., and from South Africa one for £14 1s., collected by Mr. Edmund Sherras, of the Edwards-Wheeler Gaiety Co.

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD will present at the Crystal Palace Theatre, on Monday next, Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company, in *Are You a Mason?* A one-act play, *The Ruby Heart*, by Josephine Ray and Thomas Sidney, will precede the farce.

MISS EDNA MAY and *The Belle of Mayfair*, after a long and successful association, have parted company, and the Vaudeville Theatre under the present management will know the popular actress no more. Miss May considered that undue prominence was given in the bills to Miss Camille Clifford, whose sudden ascent of the social ladder has increased her professional fame, and resigned her part. Mr. Charles Frohman thinks with Miss May, and being of opinion that the agreement made concerning her was violated, has seceded from his partnership with the Messrs. Gatti, thus severing a connection of six years' standing. Miss Phyllis Dare has been selected to follow Miss May, and will take up her duties on Saturday next, equipped with a new song from the pen of Mr. Leslie Stuart. In the meantime the part is being played by Miss Ethel Newman.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS has taken determined measures to run to earth a cruel slander, in which his name was associated with a young and talented actress who has only just reached the age of sixteen. The "sensational revelations" promised by some newspapers early in the week proved to be no more than an abominable fabrication of an individual now awaiting trial for criminal libel. On Saturday, Mr. Hicks obtained a warrant for the arrest of a man calling himself Frederick Vernon Dare, who was brought before the Liverpool Stipendiary on Monday. The accused, whose real name is stated to be Frederick William, or Vernon, Woolfries, had passed himself off as the brother of the Misses Zena and Phyllis Dare, and admitted, on his arrest, that his statements were entirely false. He was committed for trial at the assizes, bail being allowed in two sureties of £100.

RELIEF to the long-suffering matinée-goers has at length been found in Paris, where the new theatre hats that are being worn are practically no more than crowns. In most cases, the brim consists of nothing more than a twist of tulle, of the softest ribbon, or of a chaplet of flowers or ornaments. The lightest frames possible are used, and in many cases are merely skeletons of wire covered with net or soft silk. Nothing heavy in the way of trimming is worn, but the hats are made dainty with bright little touches of velvet and a small ostrich tip, which may be mounted to nestle closely to the head.

MR. H. G. DUDLEY BENNETT has secured the valuable services of Miss Winifred Hare for principal boy in the forthcoming pantomime of *Dick Whittington* at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.

MR. CHARLES A. WENMAN, stage-manager of the *Prince of Pilsen* company, was the victim of a nasty cab accident on Sunday last in Manchester. He was on his way to the station to catch the special train by which the company was travelling to Holyhead en route for Dublin, when the vehicle in which he was riding collided with a passing automobile, with disastrous results. Stunned and bleeding, Mr. Wenman resolutely declined all endeavours to take him to the hospital, and insisted upon being conveyed in a passing hansom to the Exchange Station, which was reached in the nick of time.

MR. WALTER MELVILLE will produce his new autumn drama, *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, at the Standard Theatre, on Monday. Mr. Melville, by whom the play will be produced, has engaged an exceptionally strong company, including Messrs. Roy Redgrave, Frank Lister, J. C. Aubrey, Wingold Lawrence, Jack Denton, and Willie Reid, and Mesdames Olga Audre, Eva Dare, Jessie Winter, and Frances Ruttledge. The scenery has been painted by H. K. Brown, E. P. Mullen, and Richard Douglass.

THE Amateur Players' Association, whose headquarters are at 92, Victoria-street, have elected Mr. H. Chance Newton president for the ensuing season in lieu of Mr. J. T. Grein, the retiring president, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded. On Oct. 17 Mr. Newton will open a debate on "First-Night Criticism."

MR. WALTER HOWARD'S new romantic play, *Her Love Against the World*, has proved a remarkable success at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester. The play was produced on Sept. 17, and its first week proved the record week for the autumn season; but in spite of this fact, which one would imagine had completely exhausted a local audience, the second week's takings have entirely eclipsed the first.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN will produce *The Chevalier de St. George* at the West Pier, Brighton, on Monday. The piece is written by the Rev. Canon Langbridge, part author of *The Only Way*, and of Mr. Norman's latest successful production, *Count Hannibal*. The new play will be given on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights, and Wednesday and Saturday matinées; and on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights *David Garrick* will form the attraction.

THE tenth anniversary of the opening of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, will be celebrated throughout the whole of next week, when special performances will be given. The work will begin with Mr. Lewis Waller's company, in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, which will be played on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings and Wednesday's matinée. On Thursday, the actual date of the anniversary, *The School for Scandal* will be presented, with Mrs. Peter Davey, the wife of the popular managing-director, as Lady Teazle. The performance will be under distinguished patronage, and the programme for that evening will give a complete résumé of the ten years' history of the drama in Kingston-on-Thames. Sheridan's comedy will remain in the bill for the rest of the week.

MR. SOUNES still continues to do excellent business at his new Poplar Prince's. This week, with *The Two Little Vagabonds*, the receipts were most satisfactory, and with the first visit of the principal *Florodora* company on Monday a financial and artistic success is again assured.

"THE SILVER BOX."

An Original Play, in Three Acts,
by John Galsworthy,
Produced at the Court Theatre at a Matinée on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

John Barthwick, M.P. .....MR. JAMES HEARN
Jack Barthwick .....MR. A. E. MATTHEWS
Mr. Roper .....MR. A. GOODSALL
Marlow .....MR. FREDERICK LLOYD
Jones .....MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL
Snow .....MR. TREVOR LOWE
Julius Holden .....MR. ATHOL FORDE
Livens .....MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Magistrate's Clerk .....MR. LEWIS CASSON
Relieving Officer .....MR. EDMUND GWENN
Usher .....MR. NORMAN PAGE
Mrs. Barthwick .....MISS FRANCES IVOR
Mrs. Jones .....MISS IRENE ROOKE
Mrs. Seddon .....MRS. CHARLES MALTBY
Wheeler .....MISS GERTRUDE HENRIQUES
An Unknown Lady ..MISS SYDNEY FAIRBROTHER

Many of the novels written nowadays are Protests against the existing condition of things. The English stage, however, as a rule, is indifferent to social science. Like Dr. Pangloss, it assumes that everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds, and leaves to non-artistic effort the task of exposing the defects of our system. They manage these things differently in France, where M. Brieux's plays are practically indictments of the social scheme. It seems, however, as if the Court Theatre might become a refuge in London for the Indignant Dramatist.

Mr. John Galsworthy's piece, *The Silver Box*, which was presented there on Tuesday afternoon last, is a very bitter pill for the average optimist to swallow. It shows two men, one rich and one poor, committing somewhat the same sort of offences against society; and it also shows the rich man getting off scot-free, while the poor man gets a month's hard labour. The three scenes of the first act all take place in the dining-room of a well-to-do family in the West-end. The son of the house, Jack Barthwick, comes in drunk, after having supped with a *cocotte* whom he has despoiled of her reticule, which happens to contain her purse with £7 odd in it. Jones, an ex-groom, one of the unemployed, helps the tipsy young man to get into the house, and is afterwards invited by him to "take a drink." Jones does so, and, under the influence of "whisky neat," picks up the purse which has fallen on the ground, and also takes away with him a silver cigarette-box which lay on the table. His wife, a hopeless, gentle, and patient drudge, is the charwoman at the Barthwicks, and is soon suspected of the theft. A detective calls at the wretched home of the pair, and arrests the woman. Then her husband confesses to the crime, and assaults the police in the execution of their duty.

As Mr. John Barthwick is a Member of Parliament, it is imperative that the fact of his son having "conveyed" home a prostitute's bag while in a state of intoxication should not get into the papers; so, in agonised dread, the father summons a solicitor friend named Roper, and implores him to get the family out of their difficulty. The scene of the last act is a police-court, where the case of the silver box is dealt with. The great point in the eyes of the Barthwicks is to suppress all evidence relating to the reticule. This Roper manages adroitly to do, and Jones is sent to hard labour for a month, while the magistrate smiles indulgently at young Barthwick's admission that on the night in question he "had too much champagne."

To a certain extent, Mr. Galsworthy's plea is specious and merely plausible. The crimes committed by Jack Barthwick and Jones are not identical. Jack has no intention of stealing, and he is intoxicated when he takes the *cocotte's* property. Jones knows very well what he is doing, and his plea that he purloined the silver box out of spite is absurd—he certainly did not take the lady's purse with the £7 in it for the same reason. So much by way of ethical criticism. The merit of the play lies in the careful and well-observed way in which all the picture is worked over; in the portraits of the "long-suffering" wife; the frowsy *cocotte*, with her anxiety about her rent; and the Barthwick parents, the husband with his talk about "principle" and his twinges of conscience, and the wife with her absolute freedom from the restraints of logic, her complacent class prejudices, and her weak indulgence for her son; the imperturbable manservant, always wearing the mask of servitude; and the other characters, "down to the very humblest"—all are really admirably drawn. Part of the impression of satisfying completeness given by the performance was undoubtedly due to the acting, which was absolutely adequate all round. Each of the personages was depicted with almost flawless fidelity, and the illusion was made all-powerful by the attention paid to every detail of dress and scenery. Mr. James Hearn played John Barthwick capitally, the passionate anxiety of the parent, his disgust with his son's folly and extravagance, and his uneasy doubts about the "principle" on which he claims always to act being suggested with great skill and solicitude. Mr. A. E. Matthews's Jack Barthwick had many subtle traits, the nervous grin of the youth being a quaint item, and his indifference to any considerations but those of his own comfort and enjoyment being very artistically indicated. Mr. A. Goodsall gave a neat and sharp performance as the acute and cynical Roper; and Mr. Frederick Lloyd was the acme of calm and polished subservience as Marlow. Mr. Norman McKinnel's Jones had all the required bitterness and brutality, and was a very picturesque and powerful piece of acting. Mr. Lewis Casson imitated exactly the accustomed "drone" of the Magistrate's Clerk; and Mr. Edmund Gwenn's Relieving Officer might have been—and probably was—studied from life. Miss Frances Ivor supplied a Mrs. Barthwick unimpeachably self-satisfied, obstinately prejudiced, and vigorously self-assertive; and Miss Irene Rooke's Mrs. Jones, though possibly too refined in pronunciation for the average charwoman, was very touching in its submissive gentleness and utterly "vanquished" quietism. Miss Sydney Fairbrother contributed a grimly pathetic portraiture of an over-dressed "unfortunate," which had many points of humour and humanity, and was thoroughly clever and convincing; and Miss Gertrude Henriques was quite commendable as Wheeler, Mrs. Charles Maltby doing useful work as Mrs. Seddon. The police-court in the last act was reproduced with conscientious fidelity, and the stage-management here was capital, all the details and incidents of civic justice being introduced with a care and ingenuity which were very creditable. *The Silver Box* is unique in its way amongst the entertainments of playgoing London, and should certainly be seen, if only as a curiosity. Its production proves what a vast amount of acting ability we have at our disposal, and what genuine interest can be created by a piece with an intelligent aim—and even a sociological theme for its basis—if only the thing be thoroughly well done, and the performance and production are on a level with the author's intention and idea.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

AMASIS: AN EGYPTIAN PRINCESS.

Mr. Frederick Fenn is a young writer possessing hereditary gifts, but that he should be responsible in his first effort for such a brilliant libretto as that to be found in *Amasis* speaks volumes as to his command of satire. It is true that the numerous witticisms of the dialogue owe something to the influence of Mr. W. S. Gilbert, but precisely the same remark was made of Captain Basil Hood when his first operetta, *Gipsies*, was presented at the Lyric Theatre some sixteen years ago. Mr. Hood has written much brilliant original work since, and Mr. Fenn, whose serious plays have been found acceptable at that theatre of the intellectuals, the Court, and who reveals such amusing qualities in the lighter vein, will no doubt do the same. Mr. Philip Michael Faraday, the composer, whose association with Mr. Fenn has had such happy results, was practically unknown in the world of comic opera until the public heard his flowing melodies and his ably planned concerted music, on the production of the Egyptian comic opera which has now become an established success at the New Theatre. His name suggests Science; but "Music"—heavenly maid—has claimed him for her own, and his enthusiastic worship of Euterpe is quite justified by his gift of tune and his able orchestration. May the new alliance be productive of many more works of an engaging character.

The opera has just run into fifty performances, and the members of the cast have now settled down to their work, doing complete justice both to librettist and composer. Since the first night Mr. Rutland Barrington has added verses to his topical song "The inference is obvious," and the little breeze at the Vaudeville which has resulted in the secession of Miss Edna May from the cast of *The Belle of Mayfair* is satirised in a special verse, which was received with much laughter and applause on the night of our recent visit. Mr. Barrington's Amasis the Ninth with his beautiful ringlets—modelled as a matter of course by the only Clarkson from Coptic portraits of the Ptolemies—cuts a genial figure, and possesses a wonderfully expressive smile that doesn't come off during the performance.

Mr. Lauri de Frece, who has suddenly leapt into fame as Sebak, the keeper of the crocodiles, made his mark, we believe, as a comedian during tours in the Rand. He is certainly an acquisition to the London stage. He is vastly amusing in the Egyptian official's report to his monarch on the condition of the sacred reptiles, and scores most unmistakably in his song—assisted by the pretty chorus of eight wives—which may be entitled "I'm adviser in this affair." Mr. De Frece is an excellent dancer, and with such unmistakable gifts for comedy should go far.

What a delightful singer and actress is Miss Ruth Vincent! As the Princess Amasis she looks as fresh and radiant as a May morning, and might be conceding encores all night were she so minded. The number "Little Princess, look up," which caught on so unmistakably the first night, is still listened to with rapture. Another tuneful number to which this popular comic opera heroine does complete justice is entitled "The stars which watched."

In the pretty duett between the Princess Amasis and her lover Prince Anhoteb Miss Ruth Vincent is assisted by Mr. Roland Cunningham—a cultured baritone with a voice of good quality. Mr. Cunningham is particularly happy in his recital of the story of the killing of the "royal mouser"—in which the prince explains that "though tabbies' lives are legion, if you smash the dorsal region" they are liable to "curl up"—and possesses a gaiety of manner that is decidedly inspiriting.

Mr. Whitworth Mitton, who comes from the concert platform, has an excellent voice, and sings with much fervour several numbers, of which we may pick out "What is life, dear princess, what is life?" Mr. Mitton has the only sentimental part in the piece—that of Cheiro, a Scribe, hopelessly in love with the heroine, and he plays with considerable intelligence and no little expressiveness. The cultivation of a clearer enunciation would, however, add much to the value of his singing, which is most favourably received.

Mr. Norman Salmond, who will be remembered as the original Father Maxime in *La Poupée*, is at hand to give dignity and hauteur to the high priest Nebenchari, whose solo in the second act enables the actor-vocalist to score. Mr. Salmond does not forget either that his part has a humorous complexion.

Mr. Herbert Ross as the Court Embalmer, Ptolemy Theopompus, Allakama, also puts on the antick disposition to some purpose, being especially good in the accusation scene in the first act.

Miss Madge Vincent has much of the charm of voice and manner that distinguishes her sister, and makes a pretty and fascinating Natis. She sings "I'm a lonely little maid" with the greatest success, and her gaiety and abandon are conspicuous in her scena with the mummy guards.

Mr. Frank Perfitt is a tall and commanding captain of the guard, making the most of his few opportunities; Mr. G. Mackarness speaks his few lines well as the wine merchant Zopyrus; and Mr. Leonard Calvert is effective in the small part of the town-crier.

The choruses "Has anyone seen our cat?" and "He has confessed" are capital examples of part writing; and the excellent orchestra does its work extremely well under the capable direction of Mr. J. A. De Orellana. Mr. Clement Barnes has caught the Egyptian spirit, as it were, in his fine paintings of the architecture of the Palace of King Amasis; and the dresses of the ladies have been admirably designed by Mr. Tom Heslewood, Mr. F. M. Kelly being responsible for those of the gentlemen, which seem to be fashioned after the garments worn by the figures carved on the pyramids. The new dances and chorus evolutions have been cleverly arranged by Espinosa; and Mr. Frederick Stanhope's stage-management is a decided factor in a smooth and interesting performance. Mr. Louis Calvert may be heartily congratulated on a most exhilarating production.

"A LESSON IN PEARLS."

A Comedietta, by Mrs. Barry Pain,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Bath,
Monday, Sept. 24, 1906.

Sir George Fullerton .....MR. GILBERT HERON
Kitty Fullerton .....MISS JESSIE DANVERS
Josephine .....MISS ENID MEEK

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This is an extremely bright and cleverly written little piece. The motif centres around a pearl necklace, the gift of Sir George to his wife on her birthday. The lady carelessly leaves it upon a table (a habit of hers which her husband endeavours to cure), and he, by accident finding it, to frighten and warn her places it in his cigarette-case. At her wits' end to know how to explain her loss, she borrows another necklace from a friend, intending to hoodwink her husband while trying to recover her own, but fortunately he carelessly leaves his cigarette case about, and she, opening it, finds her own pearls, and so is able to turn the tables in her favour, the end coming by the pair deciding to have lunch at a swell restaurant. Mrs. Barry Pain's dialogue is very entertaining, and the morceau was most cordially received. The two important characters were capitally undertaken by Mr. Gilbert Heron and Miss Jessie Danvers; while Josephine, her maid, was hit off in *chic* fashion by Miss Enid Meek.

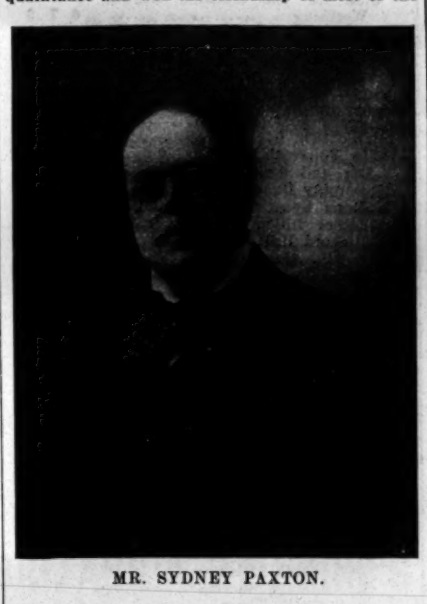
BUSINESS MANAGERS.

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON.

To be popular is the natural ambition of all public men; to attain that popularity is the luck of few; to maintain it is the privilege of only those who know how to value it, not from a selfish view, but from a grateful, whole-hearted, manly aspect. This Mr. Sydney Paxton, the courteous resident-manager of the Grand Theatre and astute district-manager of the Hippodrome at Southampton, has done. He has always been the idol of his staff, his co-workers in business, his personal friends, and all confrères who have had the honour of association with him during his short sojourn in Southampton. Although but three and a half years in the town, he has gained a wide circle of friends, and he is esteemed and respected by all classes of playgoers. And now, unfortunately, we have to say "Good-bye"—not merely "Au revoir," but good-bye—for Mr. Paxton, on relinquishing his managerial duties on October 4, intends to leave the town in which he has spent so many happy days. That he will carry away with him many delightful tokens and remembrances of the respect and regard in which he is held we are sure, for an energetic committee have been hard at work for weeks past arranging for a tangible recognition of his many good qualities, so that a hearty send-off is assured.

A grand farewell benefit concert will be given by the townspeople in his honour at the Skating Rink (kindly lent by Alderman E. Gayton) on Thursday next, under the patronage of the Mayor (Councillor H. Cawte, J.P.), Sir George Hussey, Colonel Swalin, and other distinguished public men.

During Mr. Paxton's twenty-seven years' connection with the profession he has made the acquaintance and won the friendship of most of the



MR. SYDNEY PAXTON.

theatrical celebrities of the period, and it is expected that many of his old friends will assist at his farewell on Thursday. It has been decided that the presentation shall take the form of a handsomely illuminated address and a purse of gold, together with a suitable gift to Mrs. Paxton.

That Mr. Paxton is equally popular behind the stage as in front is evidenced by the numerous presentations and souvenirs he has received during his Grand reign, and he has been thanked and complimented by all the leading managers of the day. We cannot do better than quote the late Sir Henry Irving, who, in his farewell speech at the Grand Theatre on Feb. 1, 1905, said:—"I would also like to thank a very old and valued friend of mine, the manager of this theatre, Mr. Sydney Paxton. I have known him for many years, and I knew his father before him. He came to me as a little bit of a boy, and I told him if he wanted to be an actor he must soon make a start and try. He made a start, and became an actor, and got on very well, and eventually became the manager of this theatre, and I congratulate you on having so conscientious a manager as you have in him. Sydney Paxton is a man who wants to make the theatre a place of recreation for high-minded and intelligent people, and I think he will succeed."

During his stay in the great seaport of the South, Mr. Paxton has thrown his influence and wide experience into many public matters. In the antiquarian affairs of the town he has taken the deepest interest, and he has served no less than three times on the jury of that quaint and ancient ceremonial known as Court Leet. His reverence for the past, however, was equalled by his anxiety for the present, for when the Southampton Development Association was formed, Mr. Paxton was "right there," and the knowledge that he naturally acquired during many years of travel was placed unreservedly at the service of the town. Then he was invited to, and did, join the committee of the Southampton Record Society, and was an enthusiastic member of the Dickens Fellowship.

Mr. Paxton's keen love of all manly sports led him into the presidency of the Bargate Cricket Club, a position which he most successfully filled for two seasons, and this year he had the satisfaction of seeing his eleven carry off the championship bowl and medals. Mr. Paxton also took great interest in the doings of the Southampton Football Club, and when the effort was made to improve the status and financial position of the Hampshire County Cricket Club it was through his instrumentality that a benefit matinée came off at the Grand.

He was always to the fore in the sacred cause of charity, and such deserving funds as the Hospital and Hilda were appreciably aided by the same means, so that it is not only socially, but publicly, that Mr. Paxton will be greatly missed.

As most people know, Mr. Paxton is the son of that celebrated divine, the Rev. Paxton Hood, and the son has proved himself worthy the sire and grandsire, who fought by Nelson's side as an officer of H.M.S. Temeraire. Mr. Paxton was born in 1860, educated on the Continent, and, after a brief commercial and journalistic experience, joined the theatrical profession in 1879. In the twenty-seven years he has passed in the profession Mr. Paxton has, at one time or another, served in almost every capacity in the business, and is exceptionally well qualified by actual experience, both on the stage and in "front of the house."

Mr. Paxton has served on the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund for the past twelve years, and for nine years was on the council of the Actors' Association.

He played the late J. L. Toole's part in *Walker, London* during the illness of that famous comedian, and he sustained the rôle of Spettigue in *Charley's Aunt* over a thousand times at the Globe Theatre, London. His last engagement before coming to reside at Southampton was as Alderman Hargen in Mr. Weedon Grossmith's *Night of the Party*, at the Avenue Theatre, London, which part he has played over five hundred times, including two hundred performances in the capital and a visit to America in 1902.

Mr. Paxton married Miss Lillie Garde, a daughter of Mr. George F. Leicester, and niece of the late Miss Eliza Johnstone, in 1894, and is the happy father of two charming little daughters.

"GARRICK AND HIS CIRCLE."

Biographies are so often "dry-as-dust" compilations that it is delightful to meet with one into which the authoress, having conscientiously accumulated material from all available sources, has infused her own bright, humorous, and acute individuality into her treatment of her subject. "Garrick and His Circle" is readable and amusing from beginning to end; and Mrs. Clement Parsons, the authoress of the thick, but not by any means "heavy," volume which has just been published by Messrs. Methuen and Co., must be congratulated on the clever way in which she has done her work, and on the excellent illustrations with which it is embellished. One of these represent the interior of a theatre in Garrick's time; and Mrs. Parsons, in her interesting *résumé* of the arrangements of the period, says:—"A letter, signed 'T. B.,' in the Garrick Correspondence, proves that, as late as 1762 theatre-goers could not book numbered and reserved seats beforehand. T. B. suggested copper vouchers, and, seven years later, some sort of a modern ticket system was in vogue, at any rate for benefit nights, as the following none too lucid extract from a finely printed playbill of Mrs. Clive's farewell benefit demonstrates:—

"'*N.B.*—No tickets have been given out, but to those Ladies and Gentlemen who have their Places secured, in the Pit or Boxes, and to prevent any Mistakes or Confusion, no Box Tickets will be admitted into the Gallery. Mrs. Clive begs the Favour of those who have Places in the Pit, to be there by half an hour after Five, and to let their Servants come to keep them a quarter before Four.'

"On this, as on other special occasions, the boxes and part of the pit were 'laid together'—a first presage of stalls. The bill does not state when the play (Mrs. Centlivre's *The Wonder*, followed by *Lethe*) was to commence, but probably at six, the usual hour. Garrick's own farewell performance (1776) began '*exactly* at half-past 6.' The theatre hour was determined by the dining hour, which was four, half-past four, or five o'clock among the wealthier classes during Garrick's years. Reynolds's famous Leicester-square dinner parties were at five. Thrale's table groaned at four. 'The' Club, when it took to dining, dined at half-past four. Then, as now, Saturday was the smart night at the theatre.

"Places, as we see, could be retained by dint of being sat in by men-servants. Sometimes the man-servants, far from Admirable Crichtons, farmed out this duty, till it was a matter of complaint that ladies who came early to the boxes, in full dress, were subject to the very palpable annoyance of sitting for some time next 'common porters of the street.' On the arrival of their mistresses, the servants moved up to the upper gallery, called the footmen's gallery, where, on one notorious occasion, the second night of the Rev. James Townley's *High Life Below Stairs*, they gave a good deal of trouble, which resulted in Garrick's abolishing their *gratis* gallery.

"The genteelest part of the house, where the quality folks sat, was the boxes. This part corresponded to our modern dress-circle, or grand-circle, and each seat in it was five shillings. Readers of Boswell will remember that Sir Joshua Reynolds, having promised to bring 'a body of wits' to Mrs. Abington's benefit, 'secured forty places in the front boxes.' March 5, 1744, when Peg Woffington played Ophelia at Drury Lane to Garrick's Hamlet, is the first recorded date of the front rows of the pit being railed into boxes. A note on the fashions of 1746 is afforded by Mrs. Cibber, who writes to Garrick in Dublin that her brother, Thomas Augustine Arne, the composer of 'Rule Britannia' and 'Where the Bee sucks,' is forced, for his approaching benefit, to put pit and boxes together, which, she reckons, will be no advantage to him, 'ladies' hoops taking up more room than the difference of price.' When not railed in with the five-shilling boxes, the pit was three shillings. It came as far forward as the orchestra, from which it was separated by spikes, on which the pitites spread fans and playbills. Above the boxes was the first or two-shilling gallery, and above that the upper gallery, at a shilling, where such patrons of drama as were fortunate enough to have pockets replete with gingerbread, shrimps, oranges, and possibly a bottle of rum punch, did not mind waiting through the 'first and second music.' Besides the Royal box, there were few private or 'side' boxes, and some were literally stage boxes, deep down the stage and overhanging it in two rows. At Drury Lane there was an enclosure, called Burton's box, at pit prices, in the centre of the first gallery.

"The pit was the place for the coffee-house critics. There sat ancient Macklin, retired from service. There sat Charles Churchill, still the Reverend, before whom all the men-actors, except Garrick, had cause to quake. Poor Churchill! After the Rhadamanthine airs of his *Rosciad*, his folly and weakness constrained him to make his one eulogy a ground for begging guineas.

"From 1753, plays, at the petition of the bishops, were suspended during Passion Week, whereupon Tate Wilkinson feelingly writes, 'Every player and playeress can recollect that week without a prompter.' The '45 pressed heavily on actors. They were reduced to half salaries, and playing to thin houses. They had other interludes of leanness—three weeks in 1751, at the death of the Prince of Wales ('Fred, who was alive, and is dead'); six weeks in 1760, for the demise of the Crown; a week in 1765, at the death of the Culloden Duke of Cumberland; a week in 1767, when Edward, Duke of York, died at Monaco; nine days in 1772, at the death of the Princess of Wales. In 1768, Barry writes to Garrick, 'The treasurer [of Drury Lane Theatre] has charged me with £48 for the death of the Princess Louisa.' As late as 1796 the following announcement appeared in the *Times* for February 1:—'The Theatres were shut on Saturday evening, to commemorate, with the greatest solemnity, the *Martyrdom* of King Charles.'"

The whole of Garrick's career is gone over in this amusing and interesting volume; and not only the great actor himself but his companions and associates are brightly and pleasantly dealt with. Mrs. Parsons does not disdain the use of modern phrase and "up-to-date" allusion in her pithy remarks upon individuals. She is quite a "woman-of-the-world" in her judgments of the personages she alludes to; and the ease with which she handles the large amount of information which she has collected is admirable. Altogether, "Garrick and his Circle" is a really "live" and readable work, and the portraits of actors and actresses are well chosen and most artistically reproduced.

MR. PERCY WILLIAMS, of the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, is credited with the intention of touring Devon and Cornwall with his capable stock company.

THE delicate perfumes of Vinolia Soap have long been familiar in the home of the actress, upon whose facial beauty so much of her success is often dependent, and the reasons why it should be invariably used form a formidable list. The chief recommendations are that the product contains no poison, and is free from chemicals, and irritating essential oils. Vinolia Soap preserves the complexion, softens the skin, and prevents blotches, rashes, &c., and above all is admitted to be the purest, safest, and best that can be obtained. The Vinolia Co., Ltd., claim that they are the only firm who, when they say their soaps are pure, publish analyses. The Vinolia Shaving Soap, which makes that operation a pleasure, and the Vinolia tooth preparations are equally recommended for their beneficent effects, and samples may be obtained from the Vinolia Company, Ltd., London, N.W., at a charge of 3d. to cover postage.

"A WIRE ENTANGLEMENT."

A Comedietta, in One Act,
by Robert Marshall, produced for the First time at the Comedy Theatre,
on Saturday, Sept. 22.

Thos. Highbury .....MR. GRAHAM BROWNE
Cristabel Tomlinson .....MISS SARAH BROOKE
Josiah Spragge .....MASTER GEORGE HERSEE
Millicent Hicks .....MISS DAISY MARKHAM

A merry prelude to the excitements of *Raffles* was provided at the Comedy on Saturday, when a new one-act piece by Capt. Robert Marshall was added to the entertainment. Courtship by telephone is not an altogether novel expedient, but Captain Marshall has treated the theme with so much freshness, and has allowed his witty pen such full play, that the laughter, which began almost with the first line, continued without intermission till the end. Exactly how far the office of the *Union Jack*, a political organ, is removed from that of the *Rialto*, a "smart" society paper, is not revealed, but on the stage the editorial rooms appear side by side. One is occupied by Thomas Highbury, the assistant-editor of the former paper, and the other by Cristabel Tomlinson, the writer of the ladies' column of the latter. Both are on terms of warm friendship, and when it is suggested that the columns of the *Union Jack* should be brightened by a ladies' article Cristabel's is the name that comes to Highbury's mind. He rings up the fair journalist, and the discussion of terms soon resolves into the preliminaries of a matrimonial engagement. At a critical moment in the conversation Highbury is summoned to the room of his chief, and the "call" is taken up by his shorthand clerk, who makes such violent love over the wire that Cristabel, after accepting a proposal of marriage, realises that it is not Highbury who is speaking. She cuts the conversation short in dismay, and when Highbury returns to his place pretends to faint, while her assistant answers his anxious inquiries. At length, fortified by her smelling-bottle, Cristabel is induced to resume negotiations, and the love compact is sealed and a luncheon arranged in celebration.

The extent to which the little play depends upon the rendering of the dialogue is evident, but as spoken on Saturday there was no cause for complaint. The telephone receiver is obviously not the best place to sound the different cadences of emotion; but Miss Sarah Brooke managed to project her charming personality, as it were, over the wire, giving reality to all the delicate shades of vocal expression that a maiden is correctly supposed to exhibit under the circumstances. Coyness, embarrassment, and business-like tact were cleverly mingled, and Miss Brooke filled her part to admiration. Mr. Graham Browne also touched the requisite note at Highbury's end of the wire. His eagerness in wooing and his coolness in calculation were drolly combined by Mr. Browne, whose display of irritation towards his assistant Josiah also reached a proper degree. That precocious youth was humorously impersonated by Master George Hersee, whose part, small as it is, once more revealed his talents as a comedian; and the lady shorthand writer was vivaciously presented by Miss Daisy Markham.

Raffles continues on its even way of prosperity. Mr. Du Maurier's fine impersonation of the title-rôle gaining the hearts of all. Cheers and laughter from a crowded house were almost incessant on Saturday, and the success of the piece was further shown by "curtains" innumerable.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
Henry Arthur Jones's Drama, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

A very hearty reception, many calls for the principals and hisses for the villains, gave emphatic signs of approval of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's very able company in this well-known drama. Mr. Horace E. Herbert's distinguished manner was well suited to the part of the hero, the emotions of the part being naturally portrayed, great effect also being given to the recital of Denver's dream in the fourth act. As the long-suffering wife, Nellie, Miss B. Doyle enlisted the sympathies of her audience; and Mr. Percy Foster's Jaikes was a good study of loyalty and integrity. The burglarious Spider of Mr. Oswald C. Cray was not exactly on the lines of Mr. Willard, but was welcome as an easy rendering of an unpleasant part. Mr. William Dempsey's Eliah Coombe was an excellent picture of senile depravity, full of by-play and suggestion; Mr. Seton Bernard was sufficiently brutal as Cripps, the rascally associate of the foregoing old villain, appearing also as Tubbs in the first scene. Miss Dorothea Black played Olive Skinner, the Spider's wife, with much discretion; and the pert and misguided Henry Corket was brightly acted by Mr. Ralph Leo. Mr. Laurie Hunter was effective as the doomed man, Geoffrey Ware; and Mr. Alex Begbie was quite the traditional sleuth-hound, Sam Baxter, the detective. Cissy (Denver's child) was cleverly played by little Madge Gillard; and the many minor characters were well filled. Amongst them we would notice the Mr. Parkyn of Mr. Walter Brooksmith and the Susie of Miss Dorothy Laine. Mr. J. R. Sharpe, the courteous business-manager, is again in front, after his somewhat lengthy sojourn in Spain.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds* company is receiving a warm welcome at Poplar this week. Not only is the play an excellent one, but it is made further attractive by being skilfully mounted and ably presented, and all the members of the company prove themselves capable exponents of their art. As George Thornton, Mr. William Fazan supplies an admirable bit of acting, especially in the drawing-room scene of Act 1. As Captain Darville, Mr. Henry Watson does good work; and the part of John Scarth is well played by Mr. Edmund Cuthbert. Mr. John Traynor gives a powerful rendering of the villainous Gaffer, his two confederates, Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop, being well represented by Mr. Ernest K. Nelson and Mr. Fred Archer respectively. Miss Laura Hansen quickly wins the favour of the audience by her earnest and painstaking portrayal of the part of Marion Thornton, the sorely-tried heroine; and Miss Mildred Hodson gives a capital performance as Barbara Scarth, playing the part with charm and vivacity. Miss May Hart is to be congratulated on a bright and spirited rendering of Dick, her acting throughout showing evidence of much study and thought. She quickly established herself as a favourite, and was responsible for much of the applause. Miss Margaret Nybloe gives a satisfactory performance as Wally, her portrayal of the poor little vagabond being extremely good. Mr. Leo St. Clair acts as manager for the company in a highly satisfactory manner.

OWING to a printer's error, the name of Mr. Milton Bode, of the County Theatre, Reading, has appeared in connection with the Southport Opera House. We wish to point out that Mr. Bode is in no way associated with that theatre.

"THE MIRACLE WORKER," a novel by Mr. Gerald Maxwell, will be published on Tuesday by E. Grant Richards. The leading personage of the book is an ardent young [illegible]eon, and the story in which he figures is an interesting combination of realism and romance.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.—Miss Ellis Jeffreys and her London company began an engagement at the Liberty Theatre last Monday, appearing in a three-act comedy, by Inglis Allen, called *The Dear Unfair Sex*. Mrs. Haviland Brooke is peevish, perverse, and ridiculously vain. But her husband adores her, and is her willing slave. She has been deluding herself with the notion that Jim Melville, a mutual friend of herself and her husband, is desperately in love with her, and when Melville arrives on the scene with Rosie Duveen, whom he introduces as his fiancée, Mrs. Brooke makes a virtue of her own disappointment, insists that the young man is merely trying to shield himself from her own fascinations, and goes to his room at night to persuade him that he is dealing unjustly with the girl in offering to marry her when in reality his heart belongs to another. Melville tries to persuade her to go; but, failing in that, he sends to a neighbouring club to summon the husband. In the meantime, Captain Gleinster, a convivial friend of all parties concerned, drops in, and there is the familiar situation of a wife secreted in a bachelor's apartment with the husband imminent and exposure almost certain. Glenister is ultimately got rid of, but he returns a moment later and discovers Mrs. Brooke. In his maudlin condition he accepts the statement that Mr. Brooke is also in the house, but the subsequent arrival of his wife and Melville's sweetheart, both of whom know Brooke's whereabouts at the moment, provides a complication to be subsequently unravelled. When Brooke comes, and is informed of his wife's escapade, he indignantly refuses to believe in her innocence, and the erstwhile submissive husband becomes a sort of Petruchio, who cows wife, relatives, and servants alike. But he presently relents, thanks Melville for saving the family honour, and joins in the efforts to suppress the compromising incident, a result that is eventually accomplished through the convivial one's desire to keep his own wife in ignorance of his night of hilarity. Miss Jeffreys, as the silly, selfish, and hysterical wife, played with her usual grace and charm, and was given a most cordial greeting. Mr. Charles Cartwright, whose fine work in *Leah Kleschna* is well remembered by New York playgoers, staged the piece, and was excellent as Haviland Brooke, the husband. Mr. George Giddens gave a most amusing representation of the bibulous Captain Glenister, making a distinct hit and causing hearty laughter. Mr. Gerald Lawrence, as Jim Melville, shared the principal honours of the performance, Mr. Herbert Standing, Mrs. Sam Sothern, and Mr. Herbert Sleath appearing to advantage in important rôles.

"The Tourists," a musical comedy in two acts, by R. H. Burnside and Gustave Kerker, is the Shuberts' first production at the Majestic Theatre, of which they recently became the proprietors. In addition to providing a first-class attraction, the Shuberts have made a wise concession to public opinion by fixing the price of the best seats at one dollar. The scenes of the play are laid in Hindustan, and the principal characters are a young American, known as the "Duke of Plymouth" until he confesses that he is plain John Duke, of Plymouth, Mass., "the place where the rocks come from"; Timothy Todd, Duke's tutor and guardian, an eccentric individual with a weakness for brandy and soda; Benjamin Blossom, an American millionaire, who is travelling with his five daughters; Julia Jellico, an American newspaper correspondent; Gopal Singh, Rajah of Rangapang; Princess Cholulu, the Rajah's daughter; Ram Dow, a rebel leader; Noorian, captain of the Rajah's bodyguard; and Loofah, proprietor of the Oriental Hotel in Rangapang. Duke is in love with Dora Blossom, with whom he intends to elope, and in order to extract some money from the close-fisted Todd he disappears, and sends word to his guardian that he has been kidnapped by the outlaw Ram Dow, and is being held for ransom. Loofah, the hotel-keeper, is in the plot, and is the bearer of the letter detailing all the horrible tortures the young man will have to undergo if the money is not immediately forthcoming. The tutor is blindfolded, and Loofah leads him by what seems to be a circuitous route to the outlaw's stronghold, making him jump over imaginary chasms, and pass through all sorts of wild and dangerous places, while the trembling Todd is really walking in a circle within a few yards of his hotel. Duke roars through a megaphone to simulate the voice of the terrible Ram Dow, and at intervals rattles a heavy chain, speaking in his natural voice between times to describe his sufferings. The scene is indescribably comical, and causes roars of laughter. The blindfolded tutor is completely "taken in," and hands over a note for five hundred pounds to the supposed Ram Dow, whereupon he is carefully conducted once more by way of the dangerous chasms and caves, and when the handkerchief is removed finds himself outside the hotel. The "captive" makes his appearance soon after in a dilapidated condition, and thanks his benefactor for paying the ransom, but the old gentleman turns the tables on him and brings down the house with the remark that the note was a counterfeit. But Todd has other adventures, for he unexpectedly encounters his first wife, and having married again, believing her to be dead, he naturally wishes to make himself scarce. The real Ram Dow turns up with a plan for marrying the Rajah's daughter by impersonating her betrothed, a high official whom she has never seen, but he tells Loofah, and the latter drugs the outlaw, having decided to marry the Princess himself. He drugs Todd also in order to get some cash, and shuts him up with Ram Dow. But Todd wakes up, and in his anxiety to escape dons the habiliments of Ram Dow, which leads to his arrest. He declares that he is the high official who is to marry Princess Cholulu, and is taken to the palace in a chair of state, while Loofah is taken into custody as the outlaw.

The second act passes in the Palace of the Rajah, who, needless to say, is a much-married man, but who has kidnapped Dora, intending to make her number seven on the list. The Rajah's daughter is in despair at the prospect of marrying Todd, while Todd is in no happy mood, knowing that he has two wives to his credit already. As for Loofah, he is to provide a meal for the sacred crocodiles. But when matters are at their worst the captives are rescued by a detachment of English soldiers, and all ends happily. This is a very tasteful and attractive offering, agreeable to both eye and ear, with a sufficiency of plot, a witty dialogue, and a series of laughable situations. Mr. Kerker's music, as usual, is delightful. The piece is capitally acted and sung, and is an undoubted success. Prominent members of the company are Alfred Hickman, Richard Golden, Philip H. Ryley, William Pruette, Albert Froom, Julia Sanderson, Grace La Rue, and Vera Michelena.

Our Lincoln correspondent, in noticing the production of *A Miserable Marriage* at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on the 17th inst., omitted the name of the author, Mr. Arthur E. Pringle.

Mr. Constantine Michael Sofiano, a director of J. Bannister Howard, Limited, and proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Ryde, must not be confused with a gentleman of similar surname who has recently been adjudicated a bankrupt.

Presentation.—At the conclusion of the performance of *A City of Sin* at the Grand Theatre, Newcastle, on Saturday evening last, Mr. Pat Nevin, who has acted as stage-manager at the theatre since its opening, thirteen years ago, and who has now taken a similar position at the Empire, Newcastle, was presented with a handsome gold watch. Mr. R. G. Elder, the resident-manager, made the presentation.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"JEAN CHOUAN,"

Play, in Five Acts and Six Tableaux, by MM. Louis Decori and Paul Olivier, produced at the Gaieté on Saturday, Sept. 15.

Joseph Bara	Mlle. Mellot
Mère Chouan	Mme. Bouchetal
Aimée	Mlle. Magda
Jacquemine Lebihan	Mme. Demidoff
Anne-Marie	Mlle. Body
Jean Chouan	M. Decori
Le Sergent Filoche	M. Gravier
Jambe d'Argent ..£	M. Pericaud
Le Prince Talmont	M. Renot
Dagorne	M. Coste
Capitaine Roger	M. Maxime Capoul..
François Chouan	M. Dauchy
Va-de-bon-Cœur	M. Danequin
Sans-Quartier	M. Adam

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Sept. 20. Jean Chouan is a historical personage. "Chouans" was a name given to the Royalist peasantry of Brittany and lower Maine, who carried on a petty warfare against the Republican Government from an early period of the French Revolution. The name, finally extended to all the Vendeans, was first given to Jean Cottereau, who, with his three brothers, organised these bands in 1792. Jean had joined a gang of dealers in contraband salt, and acquired the surname of "Chouan," from the cry of the screech-owl (in French "Chat-huant"), which he used as a signal with his companions. Jean Chouan was as great a scoundrel as ever lived. Murderer, thief, bandit, cruel and vindictive, he ought to have been hanged by his friends of the old régime guillotined by the Revolutionists. Fate, however, ordained that he should die an honest soldier's death, struck by a bullet whilst fighting in the ranks of the Royalist party. If the authors had shown up Jean Chouan in his true colours their play might have become very interesting, and, perhaps, even sensational. Instead of this, they made him good, respectable, and sympathetic. In fact, everybody in the piece is good, respectable, and sympathetic—except a certain Dagorne—with the result that the work becomes rather tame.

The story, as told by M. Decori—who, by the way, is a well-known actor, and plays a leading rôle in his own piece—and M. Olivier, is as follows. Jean lives in a small village in the Mayenne. He has an angelic soul. He adores his old mother, and dotes on his sister Anne-Marie and his brother François. But he has an arch-enemy, Dagorne, tax-collector in the days before the Bastille was stormed. Jean has also adopted Jacquemine, a young orphan. As he loves her, he wants to make her his wife; but when he discovers that his brother has also lost his heart to the girl he gives her to him. But Jean is not only an angel of goodness, he is also a hero. The "Blues"—a name given to the Republicans—are searching for M. de Talmont, a Royalist, and Jean hides him in a safe place. In truth, Jean does not risk much, for the Capitaine Roger, the Sergeant Floche, and the other "Blues" are so mild and humane that they would not hurt a fly. Moreover, they are all too busy love-making. Bara, a little drummer in the "Blue" regiment, courts Jean's sister Anne-Marie, and Roger, the gallant captain, sighs after Aimé, M. de Talmont's niece. But Dagorne, the villain, watches. He longs to hand M. de Talmont over to his enemies, and sends him a letter to say that his niece, Mlle. Aimée, is dying, and wants to see him. Captain Roger wants to warn the nobleman, but Dagorne intercepts the letter, and through his instrumentality Talmont is arrested, and likewise Roger, who, as an officer in the Republican Army, has betrayed his cause. Roger cannot escape the guillotine, and he knows it. But if he erred it was because he loves Mlle. Aimeé, and because—he is M. de Talmont's illegitimate son! When Roger heard of this it surprised him as much as it did us. Father and son are to be conveyed by the bloodthirsty Dagorne to Paris, where they will be arraigned before the revolutionary tribunal. On the way to the capital Jean Chouan and his followers try to deliver them, and in the fight that ensues Bara, the drummer-boy, and Anne-Marie are killed. Jean Chouan and his friends could have easily despatched every man of the Republican escort and set their prisoners free, but for some unexplained reason M. de Talmont insists on being taken to Paris with his son to be tried there. And the extraordinary situation becomes still more absurd by Jean Chouan making Dagorne promise that M. de Talmont and Captain Roger shall in no case be executed before twenty days have elapsed. Jean thereupon goes to Coblentz, and vainly endeavours to induce the Royalists to take up arms. He returns to Paris, where Roger and M. de Talmont are to be executed the next day. The resourceful Jean has no difficulty in saving them all, but, tracked by the "Blues," he is killed by a bullet, and the silly story comes to an end. The work was fairly well acted. M. Decori had assigned to himself the trying rôle of Jean, and dealt as well with it as he could. Mlle. Mellot, however, made rather a hit by her impersonation of the little drummer-boy, Bara. She was really pathetic, and drew copious tears. MM. Gravier, Péricaud, Renot, Capoul, and Mmes. Bouchetal, Demidoff, and Magda also made praiseworthy efforts to make the piece a success.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your notice of *Faust Up-to-Date* at Eastbourne, you allude to the dancing of Miss Marie Dale as vivandière. It should have been—Yours faithfully, Susie Raymonde, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

The Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, will be offered for sale at auction by Mr. William Thomson on Tuesday next, at 2.30 p.m., at the Law Association Sale Rooms, 14, Cook-street, Liverpool. The theatre, which is freehold, is an old-established house, occupying a unique position in the best shopping district of the city, close to Lime-street and Central Station, and within easy reach of Exchange Station, and surrounded by the main lines of the electric car system. The frontage to Clayton-square and Clayton-lane is about 42ft., with an average depth of 107ft., and the area is 4,500 square feet or thereabouts. The stage and appliances are of modern construction, and the auditorium seats upwards of 1,000. Vacant possession could be given on completion.

Mr. Alfred Lester, who is one of the new principals at the Gaiety Theatre—he figures as a Lost Constable in the cast of *The New Aladdin*—tells a good story of a certain comedian with whom he acted in lurid melodrama in the days of their theatrical youth. His friend was given the part, in a stock company, of a stage curate—a weak imitation of the Private Secretary. He could not see the possibility of a single laugh, but finally determined to act the part entirely on his own lines, and boldly declared that he would get a roar of laughter at his first three words. His friends were sceptical. They did not doubt his ability to make a success before the end of the piece, but that was a very different matter from doing so at three little words. On the first night, in a grotesque make-up, he made his entrance at the top of a flight of steps—it was a flight of steps of his own construction, and its appearance greatly surprised the stage-manager—and did a sensational fall from the top to the bottom. This certainly startled the audience, but it did not make them laugh, so the comedian picked himself up and observed, with a smiling glance at his friends in the wings, "I nearly slipped!" Those were his three words, and the audience promptly picked up its cue.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	688	15	5
The Coal King Company :—			
Lauderdale Maitland	0	5	0
Gertrude Valentine	0	5	0
John Coghlan	0	2	6
Sybil Coghlan	0	2	6
Escott Robson	0	2	6
H. S. Rutier	0	2	6
Lionel Thompson	0	1	0
Alfred Terris	0	1	0
Sinna St. Clair	0	1	0
Miss Claire Romaine	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
C. Adolf Seebold	0	10	6
Tom Hughes	0	10	0
Staff of the Theatre Royal, Worthing	0	7	0
William Forbes	0	5	0
The Little Breadwinner Co. :—			
Mr. and Mrs. Campbell	0	10	6
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Maurice..	0	5	0
Thorne F. Callam	0	2	6
Jenny Bostock	0	2	6
Matthew Boulton	0	2	6
The Manxman Co. :—			
Mr. and Mrs. Cross	0	5	0
Dorothy Duncan	0	2	6
Mona Spearing	0	2	6
James Dillon	0	2	6
Richard Hutton	0	2	6
The Still Alarm Co. :—			
Glenville and Osmond	0	10	0
George Arthur	0	1	0
J. Sutton Fateman	0	1	0
Tom Bearsley	0	1	0
Maud Warburton	0	1	0
Mabel Veriton	0	1	0
Frank Wilson	0	1	0
James Morgan	0	1	0
Nettie Zillwood	0	1	0
Winnie Glenville	0	1	0
Arthur Platt	0	1	0
George Owen	0	1	0
Collected by Lily Seville in America	5	12	4
Collected by Mr. Edmund Sherras from the members of the Edwardes-Wheeler Gaiety Co., South Africa :—			
Mr. Edmund Sherras	1	0	0
Miss Maude Thorne	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Staples ..	0	10	0
Mr. Sydney Holland	0	10	0
Miss Daisy Wallace	0	10	0
Mr. Myles Clifton	0	10	0
Mr. H. C. Howland	0	10	0
Mr. Whybert Stamford	0	10	0
Mr. T. R. Norbury	0	10	0
Mr. Victor Gouriet	0	10	0
Mr. Geo. Grundy and Sister ..	0	10	0
Mr. Percy Cahill	0	10	0
Mr. Harry Kemp	0	5	0
Miss Jessica Deane	0	5	0
Miss Nellie Palmer	0	5	0
Miss Daisy Griffin	0	5	0
Mr. T. B. Young	0	5	0
Miss Alice Pollard	0	5	0
Mr. B. Whitehouse	0	2	6
Miss Blanche Vandon	0	2	6
Mr. Leith Harvey	0	2	6
Mr. A. Gordon	0	2	6
Miss Esme	0	2	6
Mr. T. Gardner	0	2	6
Mr. Jack Harper	0	2	6
Mr. David Keay	0	2	6
Miss Millie Vere	0	2	6
Mr. W. P. Hennessy	0	2	6
Miss May Taylor	0	2	0
Miss May Kenneth	0	2	0
Miss Irene Wood	0	2	0
Miss Nancy Price Crewe	0	2	0
Miss Maude Duval	0	2	0
Miss Mabel Gregory	0	2	0
Miss Belle Fairley	0	2	0
Miss L. Bell	0	2	0
Miss Norah Jones	0	2	0
Subscribed by the Pretoria Opera House Stage-Hands :—			
Mr. C. N. C.	0	5	0
Mr. F. Wolff	0	5	0
Mr. Alf. Mallandaine	0	2	6
Mr. Freddie Wybrow	0	2	6
Mr. G. Harris	0	2	6
Mr. J. Pinchbeck	0	2	6
Mr. Ted Oliver	0	2	6
Mr. P. Mari	0	2	6
Mr. P. Cowie	0	2	6
Mr. T. R. Collins	0	2	6
Mr. R. Fox	0	2	6
Mr. G. Gandy	0	2	6
Mr. P. Farr	0	2	6
Mr. R. Matthews	0	2	0
Mr. C. R. Cowie	0	2	0
Mr. T. S. Cowie	0	1	0
Subscribed by members of the Orchestra, Opera House, Pretoria :—			
Mr. T. J. Waddington	0	2	6
Mr. A. D. Dominico	0	2	6
Mr. Ernest West	0	2	6
Mr. Charles Newman	0	2	6
Mr. W. Beresford Fry	0	2	6
Mr. H. Hedges	0	2	6
Mr. Ernest G. Maginnitz	0	2	6
Mr. P. Ross	0	2	0
Mr. C. Israel	0	2	0
Mr. E. Amorison	0	2	0
Mr. De Groen	0	2	0

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

ACTORS' DAY.

In addition to those whose names we have already published, the following actors and actresses have promised their support on Actors' Day :—Percy G. Arthur, J. H. Atkinson, James C. Aubrey, H. K. Ayliff, Evelyn Bateman, Gertrude Beattie, John Beamish, Henry Belding, Edwin Bennett, J. Berry, C. Rivers Bertram, Wilson Blake, Nellie Bowman, C. Haviland Burke, Julie Bristowe, Thomas Brooklyn, Kenneth Bruce, Alfred E. Calver, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Arthur Carlton, Charles Carlton, Frank Carlyon, Chas. A. Chandler, Arthur Claremont, Dennis W. Cleugh, Annie Clunn, Frank Cochrane, Josephine Colona, Thomas F. Courtley, Augustus Cramer, Cecilia Crawford, John Crook, Richard Dalton, Mabilia Daniell, Fred Danvers, Beatrix de Burgh, David Denard, Ivan Ewart, Elinor Foster, Robertson Foulis, Annie Francis, Frank Freeland, William Garrett, Charles Garry, Doris Gilham, Gertrude Gilman, W. Guilbert, Jack C. Gray, Hilda Gregory, Minnie Grey, Penn Hamilton, Frances Harmon, Bessie Harrison, George Harvie, Ida Heron, Alfred Hilliard, Francis Hope, Mrs. Wilson Holt, E. Killick, Gordon E. Kingsley, Stephen Langton, Stella Leigh, George P. Lester, Arthur Lester, Frank Liston, George F. MacKarness, Percy Marshall, Cecil McGuinness, Dora McIntosh, N. Morgan, Madge Morley, H. Moss, Esther Ohlson, Edward O'Neill, H. P. Owen, Harold Payne, Frank Powell, Celia Powis, Flo Preddy, Arthur Prescott, Wm. Pringle, Victor Rae, Frank Ridley, Marie Rignold, Kathleen Rind, Ethel Royale, Ethel Russell, W. L. Schonberg, Dorothy Sephton, Florence Sinclair, J. Sebastian Smith, Mary Stafford Smith, R. C. Smith, Florence Smithers, Arthur Somers, Eleanor Sowray, Andrew W. Spens, William Spray, Betty Stannard, Harold Gus. Standing, James Stevenson, jun., Annie Stuart, Olive Terry, J. S. Thacker, Ella Thornton, John M. Troughton, Derrick Vaughan, Sidney Vaughan, Julius Walker, Humphrey Warden, Minnie Webb, Kathleen Wentworth, Dorothy West-Syms, Brember Wills, A. Caton Woodville, Frank Woodville, Frank Woolfe, and George Wyley. The third Thursday in October is the day appointed for Actors' Day; that is, this year, Thursday, Oct. 18. As it is impossible to communicate personally or by letter with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. They would be glad to receive further individual promises of help and programmes of all companies now playing. Copies of the appeal and forms for signature will be sent to those who would be kind enough to write for them. All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

On Thursday, Sept. 27,
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

It was quite a happy thought on the part of the management here to bring over Mr. George Dance's company for a special matinée of this opera, and, judged by the crowded house, there should be no regret at the experiment. The opera is capitally cast, and was merrily rattled through, to the unanifest delight of the audience. Mr. Foster Courtenay cleverly imitated the mannerisms and eccentricities of the original General des Ifs. In a part of this description there is often a tendency to overplay it; the reproof does not lie at the door of Mr. Foster Courtenay. He was excellent throughout; his "gazeka" story went as well as ever, and in Act II., where he is confronted by the Michus in turn, his "business" and humour deservedly won the plandits of the house. Mr. Gilbert Childs worked indefatigably as Bagnolet, and happily seconded the efforts of his General; his song, "Frocks and frills," was rendered with no little energy, and was one of the successes—there were many—of the afternoon. To Mr. Robert C. Harcourt fell the rôle of Aristide Vert; he played it with becoming dignity, and sang superbly. Mr. Leon Simkin had but few opportunities as Pierre Michu, but certainly made the most of them; while Mr. Cecil Moylan succeeded as the guileless shopper with hazy ideas on the question of change. Between the Little Michus, the honours were fairly divided. Miss Alice Coverick as Marie Blanche and Miss Ethel Bryan as Blanche Marie were alike excellent, and it would be invidious to draw distinctions. The "St. Valentine" ballad afforded them vocal opportunities, and quite charming they were; their duet, "Two Little Maidens," was another happy effort. To Miss Florence Hylton was entrusted the part of Mme. Michu. It could not have been in better hands. Mr. William Everard was a fine, manly Gaston Rigaud; Mlle. Marjorie's dances were one of the hits of the performance, and she was greeted with tumultuous applause; valuable assistance was also lent by Messrs. W. Sangster and Standing and Mesdames Mackenzie, Young, Leslie, and Romaine.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Sept. 27,
the Comedy, entitled
"PUBLIC OPINION."

When a Judge of the High Court is faced in the witness-box by a former fiancée, with whom he has committed the indiscretion of amatory correspondence, the result may be imagined; when a lady confides to each of her male acquaintances—and their name is Legion—the fact that he is the only man who ever really understood her, the fun may be imagined. There is no halting about this comedy; the fun starts fast and furious in Act I., and continues till the fall of the curtain. Mr. Charles Harley as Spencer Traughton, C.B., was a comically irascible hypochrondiac with an "enlarged spleen"; delightfully humorous was Mr. Percy Marshall as the badgered solicitor; a capital Judge (Mr. Justice Mulley) was Mr. Fred Lewis; Mr. Ashton Pearse as the defendant in the Pansy breach of promise case (Lord Kilgour) played with unabated energy and no little skill; Viscount Poffley was capitally embodied by Mr. Douglas Greet; and Mr. Douglas Hamilton was sufficiently pedantic as Dr. Mulley. Miss Emma Hutchison was admirable as Lady Diana Caldershaw; Miss Connie Dene did splendidly as Phyllis Dagenham; excellent, too, in a marked degree was the artless, ingenuous Pansy. Other parts meriting mention as lending aid to the success of the representation were the Charlotte of Miss Violet Harley and the Smeeton of Mr. C. B. Wentworth. The comedy was preceded by *The Stratagem*, satisfactorily interpreted by Messrs. Hamilton, Pearse, Barber, Greet, and Miss Nancy Beresford. *Public Opinion* was produced by Mr. Percy Hutchison, so long associated with the Wyndham *régime*.

The Amalgamated Musicians' Union's annual concert in aid of their Benevolent Fund was given at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 23rd inst. at the Empire Theatre there. The overtures and selections by the orchestra (which numbered over 100 performers), under the direction of Mr. J. W. Dawson, achieved great success with Tschaikowsky's Overture Solonelle, "1812," which won well-merited applause. A special feature of the concert was the violin solo of Mr. John Dunn. The 8th Concerto, A Minor (dramatic), was the selected piece before the interval, of which he gave a most masterly interpretation. Mr. W. J. Dodds, a promising young baritone, rendered a couple of items in fine voice, receiving a recall for "At Thy Shrine." Miss Marie Cooper, who has a soprano voice of clearness and range, used it to advantage. The arrangements were admirably carried out by the committee, with Mr. H. Sculthorpe a hon. sec.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 1.

After the Ball.—T. R. Darlington.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Grand T., Croydon.
An Actor's Romance.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Crystal Palace T.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
At Cripple Creek.—Prince's T., Bradford.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Beast and the Beauty.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Beautiful Fiend.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Belle of Barcelona.—Tivoli, Barrow.
Belle of Mayfair.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Boro' T., Stratford.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Pav., Weston-super-Mare.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Penrith and Otley.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs., and Co.—Theatre R., Bath
Between Two Women.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Breed of the Treshams.—T. R., Preston.
Bulmer, Mr.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Liverpool.
Charley's Aunt.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—S. Wales District.
Christian, The (Croke).—T. R., Norwich.
Christian, The (Howard).—T. R. Blyth.
Cingalee (S.).—York.
City of Sin.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Coal King.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Convict's Daughter.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Country Girl (N.).—Blackpool.
Country Girl (S.).—Halifax.
Country Mouse.—Alexandra Theatre, London.
Cousin Kate.—Empire T., Southend.
Dairymaids, The.—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
Dandy Doctor.—Royalty T., Chester.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Empire, Cradley Heath.
D'Oyly Carte.—Camden Theatre, London.
Driven from Home (N.).—Theatre Royal, Darwen
Duchess of Dantzic (N.).—Glasgow.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Barnsley.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—King's Lynn.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—T. R., Aldershot.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—T. R., Worcester.
Eternal City (Howard).—Queen's T., Keighley.
Face at the Window.—Court T., Warrington
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Faust Up-to-Date.—T. R., Birmingham.
Female Swindler.—Empire T., Oldham.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Tunbridge Wells.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Prince's T., Poplar, E.
For Life and After.—Court T., Wigan.
Four Just Men.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Freedom of Suzanne.—T. R., South Shields.
French Spy.—Prince's T., Preston.
Frivolity.—Chesterfield.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—O. H., Dudley.
Geisha.—Woolwich.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Brighton.
Girl on the Stage.—Grand T., Hull.
Golden Ladder.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Great Awakening.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Held in Bondage.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Her Fatal Past.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Her Lost Self.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
Her Love Against the World.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Her Luck in London.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
Her One Great Sin.—Coatbridge and Motherwell.
His House in Order (N.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
His House in Order (S.).—O. H., Cheltenham.
Home, Sweet Home.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Indian Mutiny.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Judy.—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
Kitty Grey.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Manchester.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Dalston.
La Poupée (Levilly).—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
La Poupée (Ralland).—O. H., Wakefield.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Chelmsford and Brentwood.
Lights o' London.—T. R., Canterbury.
Lion and the Mouse.—Brixton Theatre, London.
Little Breadwinner.—Kidderminster.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—T. R., Belfast.
Little Michus (S.).—Derby.
London Fireman.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Rotherham.
Luck of Life.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
Lucky Durham.—Grand T., Swansea.
Marriage of Kitty.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Midnight Wedding.—Star T., Liverpool.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—T. R., Stockport.
Monte Cristo.—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Mr. Popple.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Southampton.
Mr. Smith.—T. R., Bolton.
Napoleon the Great.—Wednesbury.
Nethersole, Miss Olga.—O. H., Blackpool.
No Man's Land.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Norman V. Norman.—West P., Brighton.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—T. R., Colchester.
On the Love Path.—Empire T., Southend.
Orchid (N.).—Dublin.
Orchid (S.).—Aberdeen.
Otto the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—O. H., Cork.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—O. H., Northampton.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Prodigal Parson.—P. O. W., Salford.
Prodigal Son.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Proof.—Queen's T., Fleetwood.
Public Opinion.—Folkestone and Tunbridge Wells.
Raffles.—P. O. W. Theatre, Birmingham.
Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Middlesbro'.
Royal Revenge.—Prince's T., Horwich.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Birkenhead
Saints and Sinners.—T. R., Dunfermline.
Saturday to Monday.—Empire T., Southend.
Sherlock Holmes.—Aquarium T., Gt. Yarmouth.
Shulamite.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Sign of the Cross.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—Galashiels.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Queen's T., Leeds.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Shakespeare T., London.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Bilston.
Sins of a City.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Spider and the Fly.—Junction T., Manchester.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Bournemouth.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Sunday.—Irving Theatre, Seacombe.
Swiss Express.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Temptress, The.—T. R., Croydon.
Terry, Edward.—O. H., Southport.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Huddersfield.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona).—S. Wales and Mid. Districts.
Torreador (Macdona).—Midlands District.
Torreador.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Trip to the Highlands.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Two Hussars.—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Merthyr.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Grand T., Brighton.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Biggleswade.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—West London Theatre.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Crook.
Under Two Flags.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Unwedded Wife.—T. R. Batley.
Veronique (N.).—Portsmouth.
Veronique (S.).—Wolverhampton.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Hanley.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—T. R., Chatham.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Warning to Women.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Way of the World.—Aberystwyth.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. C.—*Miss Helen Cresswell was the original Alice Wenlock in* Youth, *which was produced at Drury Lane on Aug. 6, 1881.*

TENBY.—*He was of French parentage, but born in England.*

CLAUDE.—*William Creswick, the actor, died June 17, 1888, at the age of seventy-four. He made his first professional appearance in 1831, at a theatre in the Commercial-road, London. His last appearance on the stage was made at Drury Lane on Oct. 29, 1885, when he took part in a scene from* King Lear.

F. SANDS.—*Mr. Tom E. Murray made his first professional appearance in America.*

T. W. S.—*Joseph Derrick's three-act comedy, entitled* Curiosity, *was first performed at the Vaudeville Theatre on Sept. 14, 1886. The principal characters were played by Messrs. E. Righton, E. J. Henley, J. C. Buckstone, and the Misses Sophie Larkin, Zeffie Tilbury, and Kate James.*

S. G. N.—*Current Cash is the title of a drama in five acts, by C. A. Clarke, first performed at North Shields on May 3, 1886, and produced at the Surrey Theatre, London, on July 25, 1887.*

C. B. A. — *Patience was produced at the Opera Comique on April 23, 1881. On Oct. 10 of the same year it was transferred to the Savoy Theatre, which was then first opened to the public.*

T. PARRY.—*The pantomime produced at the Brighton Theatre Royal at Christmas, 1882, was* Dick Whittington and His Cat.

GRUMIO.—(1) *John Baldwin Buckstone was lessee of the Haymarket Theatre from 1853 to 1876.* (2) *Liston made his last appearance on the stage at the Olympic Theatre on May 30, 1838.*

ACROBAT. — *Risley's Troupe of Acrobats first appeared in London at the Lyceum Theatre on April 12, 1868.*

SURREYITE. — *The new Canterbury, Westminster Bridge-road, was opened on Sept. 23, 1876.*

A. WILLIAMS.—Dolly Varden, *a version of "Barnaby Rudge," by Murray Wood, was produced at the Surrey Theatre on Oct. 5 (not 8th), 1872, with the following cast:—Edward Chester, Mr. H. Talma Tempest; Gabriel Varden, Mr. S. Reed; Mr. Chester, Mr. Henry Lee; Maypole Hugh, Mr. Geo. Vincent; Geoffrey Haredale, Mr. Cecil; Solomon Daisy, Mr. Harold Jaye; Job Willett, Mr. W. Stacey; Joe, Mr. Clarke Nicholson; Simon Tappertit, Mr. H. Cornwall; the Stranger, Mr. Gresham; Dolly and Miggs, Miss Virginia Blackwood; Mrs. Varden, Mrs. Ann H. Lacy; Mrs. Rudge, Miss Marlborough; Emma Haredale, Miss Eversfield; Barnaby Rudge, Miss Rachel Mellor.*

ROSS CLYDE.—*You must protect your work by registering it at Stationers Hall in order to secure the copyright, and if you wish to obtain the performing right you should have a copyright performance. You cannot secure any copyright in the title, but it will be as well to register the same at Stationers Hall at the same time that you register the other.*

SCOTIA.—*We regret we are not in possession of the information you require concerning either gentlemen mentioned.*

J. T.—*He made his first appearance in London at the Strand Theatre.*

S. BUTLER.—*A personal matter concerning which we have no knowledge.*

ENQUIRER.—*Miss Zena Dare has been engaged to play the title-rôle in* Peter Pan *on tour, starting at Christmas.*

GRAND THEATRE, FOREST GATE.

On Monday, Sept. 24,
the Drama, entitled
"WHEN A MAN HATES."

Following the successful production of *A Royal Revenge*, Mr. Sydney Spencer presented on Monday an exceptionally strong attraction, *When a Man Hates*, being played by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company, while on Thursday and Friday *A Soldier of France* was in the bill. Both plays were performed with the finish that can only be obtained by the members of a company who play into each other's hands. In the first-mentioned piece, Mr. Arthur Hinton as Pietro Danelli looked the part perfectly, and scored at every point. Mr. Gerald Byrne as Paul, the half-witted, and Mr. Leslie Lingham, both maintained the interest of the play during the four acts. A clever, boldly-drawn sketch of the detective Smart was given by Mr. Travis Green; and other parts were played with marked ability by Mr. Frank Brunell, Mr. E. Sampson, and Mr. William Beck. Miss Leila Zillwood acted with power and patnos as Olga Gynne. In the rôle of Dolly Dimple Miss Florence Zillwood was quite at home. The mounting of the two pieces left nothing to be desired, and Mr. Frank Lile's orchestra deserves a word of praise.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—While thanking your respective correspondents for the Theatre Royal, Croydon, and the Lyric, Hammersmith, for their favourable notices, I should esteem it a favour if you would kindly state that the part of Sergeant Bryan in *The Death or Glory Boys* company has been played for the last three weeks by—Yours faithfully, GEO. K. ASHLEY, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, Sept. 24.

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The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

MANDERS.—On Sept. 23, at the Show Ground, Fulham, the wife of James Manders, of a daughter. Both doing well.

WELDON.—On Sept. 23, at 26, Lancaster-road, Fallowfield, Manchester, Mrs. Harry Weldon (Mabel Holt, R.C.M.), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HALLAM—TRUMAN.—On the 20th inst., at St. Giles', Costock, Willie Hallam to Daisy Bradley Truman. The bride is sister to Lizzie Valrose, and sister-in-law to Dan Conroy, and daughter of the old duologuists, Harry Bradley and Laura Truman.

SHIRES—URMA.—Sept. 25, at the British Consulate, Vienna, Edward Shires, of Blackpool and Buda-Pest, to Ada (of the Three Sisters Urma), eldest daughter of Sid Urma, 38, Hyde Park-road, Leeds.

DEATHS.

AINSLEY.—Sept. 23, at her residence, 61A, Langsdale-street, Liverpool, Mary Ainsley, wife of the late Edward Ainsley, and beloved mother of Sisters Ely. Interred in the family grave, Anfield Cemetery, Liverpool, Thursday, 27th.

BRAME.—Sept. 13, Henry W. Brame, eldest son of Henry Westland, at 344, High-road, Kilburn. Buried on Monday, the 17th, at Old Willesden Churchyard. Aged 46.

IN MEMORIAM.

DAVENTRY.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, George Daventry, who died Sept. 30, 1904. R.I.P.

"I do not grudge your eyes the blessed light
Which gladdens them upon life's further shore;
Although my eyes ache hourly for the sight
Of your dear face, lost, lost for evermore,
Till the old ties again are knit in one,
In an unchanging and immortal Land,
And the sweet links, by Death's rough grasp undone,
Are reunited by a Master Hand."

DAY.—In loving memory of James Day, who departed this life at Glasgow, Sept. 26, 1905. Rest in peace. Inserted by his daughter, Mrs. S. Mackintosh, The Carnival, Glasgow.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Winifred Hamilton—Saturday, Sept. 29.
Dora Pass—Saturday, Sept. 29.
Victor du Cane—Saturday, Sept. 29.
Charles Magrath—Saturday, Sept. 29.
Fred Russell—Saturday, Sept. 29.
James Sinclair—Sunday, Sept. 30.
Violet Fulton—Sunday, Sept. 30.
Kate Bishop—Monday, Oct. 1.
Horace Gilmer—Monday, Oct 1.
Amy Tilley—Tuesday, Oct. 2.
Harrison Brockbank—Tuesday, Oct. 2.
Hugh Metcalfe—Tuesday, Oct. 2.
Rose Faith—Wednesday, Oct. 3.
Clara Denman—Wednesday, Oct. 3.
M. E. Braddon—Thursday, Oct. 4.
Nellie Clarence—Thursday, Oct. 4.
Kate Winstanley—Thursday, Oct. 4.
Agnes Booth—Thursday, Oct. 4.
Mrs. Bernard Beere—Friday, Oct. 5.
Mrs. Beerbohm Tree—Friday, Oct. 5.
Marie Collins—Friday, Oct. 5.
Venie Clements—Friday, Oct. 5.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1906.

THE RATING OF THEATRES.

The decision of Sir ALBERT DE RUTZEN in the case of the adjourned summons on the Lyceum (1903) Limited for neglecting to pay to the Westminster County Council £1111 odd in rates is decidedly open to criticism. The case is one of great importance, as the amounts of the rates levied upon theatrical property are so large. The case of the Lyceum Limited can hardly be regarded as a "test" one. No attempt had been made to bring the house on a level with the ordinary empty dwelling-house. The usual scenery was on the stage, the floor was carpeted, and there were the usual carpets and rods on the stairs. The music-stands had been left in the orchestra; there were chairs in the auditorium; and, of course, the usual fixed seating accommodation. Not only that, but two rooms on the premises were let at a monthly rental. All these things gave the barrister who appeared for the Westminster City Council food for argument, and doubtless influenced Sir ALBERT'S decision. It was admitted that when the case was first before the magistrate the theatre was ready to be taken over at once if the defendants secured a tenant; and that the condition of the house, ready for immediate occupation and use, greatly added to its chance of being let. The counsel for the Westminster City Council represented to the magistrate the extreme—and very exceptional—instances of a London theatre being burnt down, and a manager wishing to find another playhouse ready for immediate use. In that case, said Mr. RYDE, the Lyceum people could make their own terms. By the ruling in the Queen v. Bradshaw, there is a liability to pay rates even if there is only a visible (and not a beneficial) occupation; and in the case of the Earl's Court Exhibition it was decided that the proprietors were liable to pay rates for the whole of the year, although part of their grounds might not be occupied for the dead season.

This was all most ingeniously argued. But the idea at the bottom of all rating law is obviously that of intercepting, for purposes of local taxation, some of the "benefits" accruing to the owner of property. Empty houses are not rated because the owner is, presumably, suffering loss instead of gaining profit by possession of the premises. The practice is to accept the removal of the out-gone tenant's furniture as evidence of the non-occupancy of the house. But the seats and drapery of a theatre are not, as a rule, taken away by the outgoing tenant; they are practically "landlord's fixtures." If this decision is to hold good, what theatre-proprietors will have to consider will be this: Will it pay them better to dismantle their theatre, "warehouse" their scenery, seats, hangings, and carpets, and thus place the premises on a level with an empty factory; or will the expenses thus incurred, and the disadvantage they would certainly be under in the case of immediate letting, counterbalance the possibility of obtaining remission of rates. For, after all, it is only a possibility. The only question, said Sir ALBERT DE RUTZEN, that he had to decide was whether the theatre was "occupied"; not whether the occupancy was "beneficial."

In the case of ordinary "empty" premises, such as factories and private houses, it is not customary to exact rates from the owners. What is the root idea of this remission? Is it not that while no money is coming in to the landlord no tax shall be taken from him? We say "from him," because, though the tenant usually pays the rates, that fact is always considered in the rent; and, in certain cases, such as small tenements, the rates are paid by the landlord, and he adds them on to the rent which he asks. An empty house, so far as the landlord is concerned is, if this contention of the counsel for the Westminster City Council be valid, in a condition of "beneficial occupation," for it is "ready for immediate occupation and use." Imagine a landlord who owns a London theatre and a house next door to it. Both his playhouse and his dwelling-house are unlet. He is losing his rent in both cases. But, in the case of the house, he is not also called upon to pay rates, whereas in the case of the theatre he is. It often happens that left in a dwelling-house are valuable "fixtures," such as electric light arrangements, &c., &c., which the incoming tenant takes at a valuation. But the local authorities do not make this an excuse for claiming that, because these fixtures are not removed, the landlord is liable to pay rates. In the case of dwelling-houses it is not customary, even when a "caretaker" is on the premises, for rates to be levied. It is true that the real reason of this is that the custom has been to get the rates from the tenant, and so when there is no tenant there is no application for them. But this makes no difference in principle. A theatre which is shut up, unused, and therefore, *pro tem.*, a "dead loss" to its owner, is just in the same condition as an unlet dwelling-house. Indeed, the dwelling-house is in a more "beneficial" state as regards the landlord than a theatre is. A new tenant can arrive at quarter-day with a couple of furniture vans, and the premises can be in a condition of profitable tenancy in much less time than it would take an *entrepreneur* to instal himself in a theatre. As the counsel for the defence, Mr. TRAVERS HUMPHREYS, argued at Bow Street, there was no "occupation" by anybody in the case of the Lyceum, unless it could be said that what would be called trade fixtures created in law what they did not create in fact. When we speak of an "empty" dwelling-house or an "empty" warehouse, we do not mean that there is not a chair or a table remaining in the premises, or that the blinds left by the last tenant have been removed. We mean that it is "unoccupied" in the sense that the owner is getting nothing out of it, that there is no paying tenant on the premises, and that the house is uninhabited. When it is desired to let a house it often happens that the landlord has it repainted and redecorated in order to attract a tenant. Does this, which certainly makes it "ready for immediate occupation," render the owner liable for rates?

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The Commissioners' committee held a meeting on Monday last, when Mr. Quinton McPherson occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). A resolution in connection with the question of unpaid subscriptions was passed, and the draft of a letter it was suggested should be sent to the Press, concerning the general work of the committee, was considered. It was suggested that the members of the committee might with advantage be increased from nine to fifteen, and the question of the appointment of the other six was referred to the council.

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present:—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, J. Cooke Beresford, Acton Bond, Fewlass Llewellyn, M. R. Morand, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Mr. H. Finestone, of 35, Elizabeth street, Liverpool, surgeon dentist, was appointed an honorary medical officer to the Association.

The secretary reported that he had written to the president and vice-presidents upon the subject of the proposed "Irving Memorial," and that he had posted in the rooms of the Association twenty further notices of the meeting of members, which will be held in the saloon of Drury Lane Theatre on Monday next, at 11 a.m., to consider the questions involved in the scheme, when Sir Squire Bancroft (the president of the A.A.) will occupy the chair.

Messrs. Acton Bond, Spencer Trevor, and Miss Kate Phillips were elected members of the "Selection of Plays" committee. The secretary reported the proceedings at the meeting of the Commissioners' committee, held the day previous, and in pursuance of the recommendation of that body, it was resolved that the number of the committee be increased from nine to fifteen, and that the additional six be co-opted by the original nine. It was agreed that the names of those whose memberships ceased by reason of the non-payment of subscriptions should be posted after removal from the register. The secretary reported the result of an arbitration held since the last meeting of the council. The report of Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. Edwin Oxlee, Frida Gerrard, Isidore Marcil, and Iredale Hope were nominated for election to the Association.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Acton Bond, supported by Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, J. Cooke Beresford, M. R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several questions of importance were discussed at considerable length, and the secretary received instructions to prepare a detailed statement in connection with a scheme which it was intended to place before the council in the immediate future.

THE pantomime at the Kennington Theatre this year will be *Humpty Dumpty*. The author is Mr. Frank Dix, who has been responsible for many of Mr. Robert Arthur's recent annuals. *Humpty Dumpty* is to have a most elaborate mounting, the scenery being almost entirely from the brush of Mr. Stafford Hall. A fairy island, a carnival at Venice, an Egyptian city, and a voyage to the planet of Mars will figure among the spectacular effects.

L.C.C. AS AMUSEMENT CATERERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—On July 10 this year, at a meeting of the L.C.C., the Parks and Open Spaces Committee recommended that application be made in the next Session of Parliament for authority enabling the Council (1) to arrange for vocal music to be provided as an extension of the music now provided under its existing powers relative to the provision of bands; (2) to make charges for programmes and for the use of seats and chairs at band performances; and (3) to make a charge for admission to such performances as the Council might think desirable to provide within doors, such charges to be made for the purpose of defraying expenses.

The amendments proposed against this resolution were negatived respectively by 61 to 31 and by 40 to 20, and the recommendation was approved by 40 to 17 votes.

On this report appearing in the press the hon. secretary of our Association wrote on behalf of the members to the L.C.C. protesting at the unfairness of the above proposal, and this has met with the stereotyped form of acknowledgment.

The Council, while waiting for powers, which will no doubt be granted if they persist by the present House of Commons, have since moved further in the matter, and already have made offers of contracts to music-hall artists to sing two songs twice daily at the Embankment Gardens, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Kennington, Battersea, Victoria, and Finsbury Parks, and a three months' contract to sing twice daily two songs at one of the following Town Halls, to be selected by the L.C.C.: Battersea, Holborn, and Kensington. The name of the manager engaged is not disclosed, but the ratepayers are to be congratulated on the generous manner in which the Council is prepared to deal with the salaries of the artists approached.

A peculiar situation will arise when an artist under contract to any of our members, containing a proviso that he or she is not to appear at any other place of entertainment within a certain radius, is thus engaged, and we apply for an injunction in the Courts to restrain the said artist from fulfilling an engagement with those in authority who can deprive us of our licences. Surely this will be a real travesty of justice, for it must not be forgotten that the L.C.C. are the supreme licensing authority for all the music halls of London; that it is a court from which there is no appeal, and which has been warned by the High Courts and by various Parliamentary Committees that they should exercise their functions judicially.

Now, Sir, can a body composed of such vast numbers act judicially, and more especially when they have entered into trade competition with those over whom they are to sit in judgment? If the Council persist in this new departure of extended municipal trading, will it not in common fairness surrender its licensing powers? And if not, will the present House of Commons in all equity and common sense, if it permit this competition, deprive this trading body once and for all of exercising judicial functions? With a vengeance we have here further encroachments upon the ratepayers, for to a certainty these municipal concerts, in whatever form they may be disguised, will end in wasting the ratepayers' money, and at their expense they will compete with some of those who contribute a not inconsiderable item to the rates.

To give indoor concerts it is necessary that the Council obtain the permission of the various Borough Councils, and most likely in many instances, though refused some years ago, this will be obtained.

Now, though the music halls to-day are up to date and equipped with all the necessary modern and stringent requirements of the Council, yet the County Council inspector, although a very gracious person in himself, is seldom away from the doorstep, and there are few licencees who are not worried in the course of the year with several notices inviting them to make changes and alterations, which from time to time are varied, and not infrequently in a contradictory sense. I maintain that not a single town hall in the metropolis will compare as to safety with the meanest music hall of the present day; and when the public will be offered something for nothing, we may take it for granted that town halls will be largely patronised, when comic singing, and no doubt later on dancing and probably ballets, are to be given *pro bono publico*.

The Chairman of the Parks Committee, in introducing his recommendation, mildly protested that this was merely a desire to lessen the strain upon the bands by introducing a little vocal music into the performances; and he further added that there was a great demand for these concerts, but refrained from giving the information whence this demand emanates. "To give the bands a rest" is the most paltry excuse that could be advanced for such an unheard-of innovation. It is further, in some quarters, stated that these concerts, especially in the winter time in town halls, are meant to educate those who cannot afford to pay for legitimate amusement, and that it will be a benefit to the poor. Hypocrisy never went further, and to advance this statement is knowingly a false pretence. The poor who are dissolute will not patronise the various town halls for music. The deserving poor, who require food, shelter, and fuel at the hands of those who can afford to give largely to charity, and which cannot be meted out, according to the present law of the land, out of the rates, will not be fed on music. They will not consent to exhibit their poverty by being shunted into back seats of a town hall gathering at a concert, or stowed away in some obscure corner, while those for whom these concerts are meant to be *free of cost*—the originators—occupy seats in the best part of the hall with their families, their friends, the officials and their wives, gloating over the fact that at the expense of the ratepaying community they are encompassing the doom of some of their constituents, and largest ratepayers, who cater legitimately for the public.

What with steamboats, a Works Committee, tramways, would-be electric light enterprises, and the continuous rivalry that has for its main object the stifling of private enterprise, which are both the pride and source of wealth of a trading community, there can only be one result—wasting the ratepayers' money and augmenting the enormous number of employees paid at high rates to exercise their voting power on behalf of their employers.

Shareholders in music-hall enterprises are financially interested in this question. Their interests are seriously threatened, and they should combine to resist this monstrous encroachment while there is yet time; and I shall be pleased to hear from any *bond-fide* shareholders willing to assist in this endeavour.

The L.C.C. elections take place next March, and steps should be taken to organise and send these faddists back to their leisure, to exercise their supposed philanthropic schemes on their own account, and not at the expense of the ratepaying community.—Yours faithfully,

HENRI GROS,
President of the London Entertainments Protection Association.
1, Durham House-street, Strand, W.C.
Sept. 20, 1906.

A NEW concert-hall is to be erected in London at a cost of between £20,000 and £30,000, on the site now occupied by the disused Church of St. Paul, Great Portland-street. The new building is to be erected in the Renaissance style of architecture, and will seat 1,100. It is expected that the hall will be ready for concerts within a year.

"HERNE THE HUNTER."

An "Historical Extravaganza," in Two Scenes, written and invented by Harry Rogerson, produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, Sept. 24.

King Hal ..... MR. WALLY SCOTT
Queen Anne Boleyn ..... MR. HARRY BICKLEY
Somers ..... MR. TOM LESLIE
Captain Bochair ..... MR. WILL KIRK
Mrs. Brian ..... MISS JESSIE SINCLAIR
Patch ..... MR. GEORGE BOOTH
The Ass, The Stag ..... THE BROTHERS MORRIS

The historical novels of Harrison Ainsworth were exceedingly popular half a century or so ago, and "Windsor Castle" was probably one of the best known of the series which issued from his prolific pen. In that story a weird interest surrounded that mysterious being, Herne the Hunter, the author making ingenious use of an ancient legend. Mr. Harry Rogerson, the author of the sketch produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday evening, has found material in the pages of the novelist whose early successes in the domain of fiction date back to the period when the late Queen Victoria had not long been crowned. Mr. Rogerson has chosen to treat Herne the Hunter from a humorous point of view, and the result is a brisk, amusing production, which has met with marked success at Chelsea. The first scene represents the exterior of the Garter Inn near the Royal borough of Windsor; and here a joyous crowd of lads and lassies indulge in that good old English pastime—a maypole dance. Amongst the merry throng is Somers, the Court jester, whose mission is to cheer his Royal master with jape and jest on all seasonable occasions. The Court fool was a highly privileged person, and was accustomed to take liberties that people of rank would not dream of venturing upon. And so it occurs to the mercurial and mischief-loving Somers to have some fun at the expense of King Hal and Queen Anne Boleyn. Aware that the Royal couple intend to take part in a stag hunt in Windsor Forest, the jester resolves to appear in the guise of Herne the Hunter, concerning whose supernatural powers many thrilling stories are current in the district. Under the spreading branches of Herne's Oak their Majesties sit down to a repast, but the jester by means of some ingenious contrivance causes the joints and other good things to disappear ere they can be carved, much less eaten. A roast turkey astonishes the Royal couple by doing a step-dance, and these uncanny manifestations of occult agency cause, as may be supposed, considerable consternation. And this feeling is naturally intensified when a forester is perceived traversing the woodland glade, carrying his head under his arm—a cleverly contrived illusion, by the way. One of the most amusing incidents of the scene is a burlesque stag hunt, and a funny encounter between this nimble animal and the ass that has borne His Majesty. When the jester tires of his practical joke, he enlightens the King as to the real author of it, and the jolly monarch forgives him for having given their Majesties a fright.

Mr. Wally Scott makes a capital representative of the much-married monarch, whose Royal spouse is portrayed with considerable humour and comic power by Mr. Harry Bickley. Mr. Tom Leslie proves to be an excellent exponent of the part of Somers, the Court jester, carrying through the trick played upon the King and Queen in the forest with notable smartness and dexterity. Mr. Will Kirk is well suited in the rôle of Captain Bochair. Patch, another jester, is a character that is safely entrusted to Mr. George Booth, and Miss Jessie Sinclair does well as the hostess of the inn. The animal parts—the eccentric stag and the comical ass—are energetically and amusingly played by the Brothers Morris, whose efforts add greatly to the fun of the piece.

The company engaged here this week includes Mr. C. Emlyn Jones's quartette, whose musical performance affords complete satisfaction. Each member of the party sings a song in character as the representative of the four countries—England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. All possess excellent voices and a cultured style, so that the effect of their singing, both as soloists and in the choruses, is remarkably pleasing. The reception accorded the quartette is of the most cordial description. The Whitworth Cycling Girls and Campkin give a performance that meets with deserved appreciation. Miss Mignonette Kokin is a vivacious little lady, who sings well, and whose dancing is quite a revelation in the art of Terpsichore. Miss Maud Esmond is another bright particular star in the variety firmament, whose brilliance is readily recognised. Comedy has excellent representatives in Mr. Nat Clifford, who has a reputation to maintain for astral knowledge, Mr. Harry Phydora, who is always welcome, and Mr. Charles Cardow. Mention must also be made of the contributions of the Four Olympians, and Francis and Alfred. Mr. J. Norman Berlin is Mr. Edward Swanborough's able assistant-manager.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

On Thursday, Sept. 20, the programme of the promenade concert at Queen's Hall included an overture, "In Springtime," Op. 21, by Mr. Norman O'Neill, performed in London for the first time. The work, though somewhat sombre for such a subject as spring, revealed talent on the part of the composer, although the composition suffers from too strong contrasts, and is, to a certain extent, wanting in melodic charm. The audience received the overture favourably, and called the composer to the platform. The programme of Thursday was an interesting one, the orchestra giving a fine performance of Wagner's overture to the *Flying Dutchman*, Berlioz's "Minuet des Follets," "Danse des Sylphes," and "Marche Hongroise," from the composer's *Faust*, as well as the two Hungarian Dances of Brahms, Tchaikovsky's "1812" overture, and Wagner's Prelude to *Die Meistersinger*. The vocalists were Miss Edith J. Miller, who was heard in the "Hymn to Aphrodite," from Mr. Granville Bantock's *Sappho*, and Mr. William Ludwig, who was most heartily applauded for his fine singing of Gounod's "Nazareth." A newcomer, Mr. Serge de Barincourt (a Brazilian violinist), also appeared with success, and gave promise of future excellence in his performance of Wieniawski's Violin Concerto No. 2, in D minor. Every part of Queen's Hall was filled.

MISS ETHEL NEWMAN, who is the present Belle of Mayfair at the Vaudeville, has been Miss Edna May's understudy since the piece was produced, and played the part for several weeks during the American Belle's summer holiday. Although her methods are different, Miss Newman closely resembles Miss May in appearance, and looks particularly pretty in the second act, when she wears a dainty frock of Brussels lace over white satin, with a turquoise blue belt, and a string of diamonds twined in her hair. A Manchester girl, Ethel Newman went on the stage about eight years ago, getting an engagement in the chorus for the last two weeks of the memorable run of *The Geisha*. Then she understudied and played the Belle of New York at the Shaftesbury, afterwards touring as the Belle for over a year, followed by pantomime engagements and leading parts in musical comedy. Miss Newman has been called "the girl with grey hair," for, oddly enough, her long, dark tresses lost much of their colour while she was still a child, and she very wisely let them alone, her young face losing none of its attractiveness by the powdered effect of her hair. She will play the leading part at the Vaudeville until the advent of Miss Phyllis Dare.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. HENRI GROS, in the trenchnat letter that we print in another column on page 19, smites the L.C.C. hip and thigh; and a very strong point in his argument against the authorities at Spring Gardens seeking Parliamentary powers to run municipal variety entertainments at town halls is that, if endowed with such powers, they should immediately relinquish their licensing powers. No body elected for judicial functions can discharge them with strict impartiality when it becomes *de facto* a rival trader, with capital supplied by the rates. Mr. Gros' manifesto comes none too soon. It should rouse the entertainers of the masses and the masses themselves to action, and in March next the Progresives and faddists, who are never tired of harassing proprietors with extensive structural requirements, should receive a message at the polls that they will not readily forget.

MUSIC-HALL directors, managers, and agents are influentially represented on the committee that is carrying out the arrangements for the testimonial benefit to Mr. Paul Valentine, the famous *maître de danse* and producer of a century of dainty *divertissements*. The veteran Paul may claim indeed to rank as an apostle of ballet at the halls before the present luxurious conditions prevailed "in front" and when stage mechanism and lighting were much less advanced than now. During his lengthy and honourable career he has done much to sustain the best traditions of the choreographic art, and at the same time has always been eager to adopt the latest developments.

IT WAS Mr. Valentine, we believe, who first utilised in the halls electricity as an additional attraction in the costumes of ballerine, and we remember the brilliancy and attractiveness of the ballet in question, it being produced at the Oxford during the latter days of Mr. Jennings' management. We expect to see a large gathering of the profession and the public at the Canterbury on Friday evening next, which has been fixed for the benefit, for Mr. Valentine deserves well of the profession he has so long adorned. Information concerning the benefit may be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mr. Fred Miller, the Canterbury, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.

MR. E. A. PICKERING, who has now taken up his duties as acting-manager at the Palace under Mr. Butt, speaks warmly and gratefully of the great kindness of his friends in South Africa. At a dinner given in his honour in Cape Town, Capt. P. C. Baum, a member of the Legislative Assembly, who was in the chair, spoke very feelingly when proposing the toast of "Our Guest," who though he had come to South Africa practically unknown, was leaving behind him troops of friends. Mr. Pickering, who was presented with a silver inkstand and a pair of Zeiss field-glasses, was evidently deeply touched by the kindly sentiment that prevailed, and expressed his heartfelt thanks in a short, manly speech.

MR. R. W. ALLUM, the acting-manager of the Brixton Theatre, who has been associated with that house for eight years, has made many friends in South London. They have resolved to give him some substantial recognition of their esteem on his departure. As already announced in our columns, the theatre is to come under the sway of Mr. Walter Gibbons, and will be run on the twice nightly plan, the inauguration of music hall entertainment being fixed for Oct. 22. The Rev. A. J. Waldron, the vicar of Brixton, is taking a leading part in the agitation against the establishment of a second variety theatre in the neighbourhood, and all the stale old arguments are being trotted out.

MR. HARRY LAUDER for some time past has been suffering from throat trouble that has entirely prevented him from fulfilling engagements. On Thursday, however, he was examined by a specialist, who gave a favourable report, and Mr. Joseph Wilson informs us at the moment of going to press that the famous Scotch comedian will reappear at the Tivoli on Monday week, Oct. 8.

WE are glad to hear better reports concerning the health of Mr. George Fuller Golden, who fulfilled so long and successful an engagement at the Palace Theatre about two years since. He first came over this side as a partner to Mr. Cliff Ryland, in succession to the lamented Irish comedian Sweeney. He did not stay long in the firm, but started on his own in the States, and made a decided hit when he started telling stories in Shaftesbury-avenue.

MR. LAURI DE FRECE, who is making London and suburban playgoers laugh at the New Theatre by his delightful humour in the character of Sebak, keeper of the crocodiles, is the youngest brother of Walter and Jack de Frece, and was born in Liverpool, where his father was a pioneer of variety entertainments. The young actor, at the start of his career, went in for hard work, and toured with the Sass and Nelson combination in South Africa, where he had excellent experience in a number of successful comedies and musical plays. Mr. De Frece has been secured for a term of years, and his position as a comedian should be assured.

THE Palace Theatre meeting took place on Thursday, when Mr. T. Ernest Polden occupied the chair. The balance-sheet of the financial year shows the total receipts to be £57,598, showing a profit of £4,186, which, with the £12,880 brought forward, makes a total of £17,697. The dividend of 5 per cent., which has already been paid, absorbed £4,500. It is proposed to place £3,000 to a fund to meet the expense of alterations that may be necessary to comply with the requirements of the L.C.C. The balance to be carried forward will be £10,197. Mr. Alfred Butt has been unanimously elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Count Max Hollender.

THE plans of the Willesden Empire were passed by the Willesden District Council on Tuesday, and Willesdenites are now looking forward to seeing an immediate commencement being made with the building, a full description of which was given in our issue of Sept. 8. Mr. Walter Gibbons has beaten all other competitors, as, of the three houses for Willesden which have been talked of, his appears to be the only one of which the probabilities have developed into actualities.

THOSE who can recall the remarkable success of the burlesque of Christmas pantomime by The Follies will be able to form some idea of the fun that may be expected in the new skit which Mr. Pelissier and his clever little company will present for the first time at the Tivoli on Monday. In *The Bustler of Bath, or The Crash Without Reason* (obviously inspired by the musical comedy at the Aldwych), Mr. "Seymour" Pelissier will appear as the Duke of St. Vitus, and Mr. "Camille" Sydney as a Gibson Girl; while a new recruit in the ranks of The Follies—Miss Lily Walbrook—will impersonate a railway station bun, with several jokes on "currant" subjects.

THE Dunedin Troupe and Mr. James Donegan, with their sensational cycling on the telephone wire, are now in San Francisco performing with great success as one of the chief attractions of the Ringling and Forepaugh and Sells shows. This wonderful organization presents three rings and two large stages, and employs one thousand men, the stud numbering five hundred horses. The show is given in a different town every day. Three railway trains are used—No. 1 for the working people, No. 2 for the horses and menagerie, and No. 3 for the performers.

MR. ARTHUR WESTON is to succeed Mr. Sydney Paxton as resident manager of the Grand Theatre, Southampton.

THE New Hippodrome, Portsmouth, is progressing very favourably, and the pretty buff terra-cotta facade, which will be a decided addition to the architectural features of the seaport town, is rapidly raising its head. The new variety house will be a notable addition to the rapidly extending circuit governed by Mr. Walter De Frece and Co., and will be ready for opening on Boxing Day.

MISS VESTA TILLEY will to-day lay the foundation stone of Mr. Richard Thornton's new Empire at Sunderland. "Dick," as the famous entrepreneur of the north of England is always called by his friends, has evidently lost none of his enterprise, but is as keen as ever to discover the possibilities of variety in the busy hives of industry this side the border.

MR. C. FINCH-HATTON, the new acting-manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre, who entered on his duties on Monday evening, comes to Leicester with excellent credentials from the Empire, Edinburgh. He is no stranger to Leicester, having visited the town as proprietor, manager, and actor. He will be remembered by the patrons of the Theatre Royal in the detective drama, *Scotland Yard*. He was also manager with Mme. Bellamy, Mrs. Bandman-Palmer, and other well-known touring people, and was at one time on the staff of the *Eastern Morning News* at Hull.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Brighton Corporation Council was held on Thursday afternoon to consider the future conduct of the Aquarium. The ratepayers have lost in the municipal muddle about £13,000 during three years' supervision. The Mayor, Alderman James Coulbourne, presided. The recommendation that application should be made to the Local Government Board for a provisional order to enable the Town Council to let the Aquarium on a lease for any period not exceeding 35 years came before the meeting. Alderman E. J. Reeves said the Aquarium, when opened in 1872, was the finest advertisement Brighton ever had, and now the Council owned the place it ought to be retained.

COUNCILLOR EDWARD JARVIS asserted that the purchase of the Aquarium for £30,000 was one of the worst blunders ever effected. The Town Clerk (Mr. Hugo Talbot) intimated that a provisional order would cost £100, and if opposed by the inhabitants £300. Alderman Carden said it would cost £5,000 a year to maintain the Aquarium. Alderman Chas. Blake admitted that the Aquarium was a white elephant to the ratepayers. Alderman Reeves asked whether there was any chance of procuring a provisional order. The Town Clerk replied, "not under existing circumstances." A division was taken, with the result that 15 members voted in favour of the provisional order and 23 against it. Consequently the burden of the expense will fall upon the rated householders in London-by-the-Sea.

MR. ISAAC R. WILKINSON, formerly secretary and general-manager of the Brighton Aquarium, St. Ann's Spa, Hove, and the West Pier, Brighton, was married on the 19th inst. at the old parish church of St. John, West Bourne, Sussex, to Charlotte Elizabeth, only daughter of Richard Christian, of 3, Round Hill Crescent. The Rev. Lloyd Bartley, M.A., performed the ceremony.

THE Southend-on-Sea Kursaal has had a most successful season, thanks to the enterprising management of the secretary, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon, who is quite sanguine that it will be possible to avoid the usual closing down. We shall watch with interest whether the experiment meets with the support it deserves, particularly as other local places of amusement are announcing last nights.

THE agency carried on so long in Glasgow by Barney Armstrong has been taken over by his nephew, Bernard, who has practically conducted the business for the last five years. Mr. Barney Armstrong finds it necessary to devote his whole attention to his two houses and his professional duties. Artists going north can be booked for four or five weeks round Scotland.

MR. HARRY MARVELLO, proprietor of the Royal Geisha Entertainers, Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, took his annual benefit on Friday, the 21st inst., when the Pavilion was crowded. When Mr. Marvello had finished his magical act, Mr. Clifton Hall stepped forward, and, on behalf of the company, presented him with a handsome dressing-case. Mr. Marvello expressed his thanks for the gift, and audience and company broke forth into "He's a jolly good fellow." The company and friends were afterwards entertained by Mr. Marvello to supper in the Bungalow Café.

DR. WALFORD BODIE is breaking all records this week at the Hippodrome, Southampton, despite the fact of its being his second visit. The huge building is packed nightly. Dr. Bodie has been personally complimented by the Mayor and Mayoress. Mr. Geo. Adney Payne has arranged with the doctor to give a lecture on Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Euston, entitled "What is a miracle? Hypnotism *v.* Scientific Medicine." The Christian Scientists and the Peculiar People, with all the Press of London, will be invited.

A MATINÉE in aid of the Teams Widows and Orphans Fund will be given in the King's Theatre, Gateshead, on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 24. Messrs. Richard Thornton (Newcastle Empire), Will Boardman (Newcastle Pavilion), Sidney Bacon (Grand, Newcastle, and Metropole and Queen's, Gateshead), and Joe May (King's, Gateshead), have promised their support. The committee will be pleased to hear from artists who will give their services in aid of this deserving charity. Mr. George Reeves, Teams, Gateshead, is the secretary.

DOLLY, AGNES, AND MAUD, the "Factory Nightingales," were specially engaged to sing on Saturday last at two grand recitals, promoted by the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Glasgow. By kind permission of Mr. J. Lloyd, of the Pavilion, Glasgow, these ladies illustrated their factory life by making cardboard boxes while they sang some gems of melody.

THE Drolls and Demures, under the direction of Messrs. Fred Solo and Derick Knowles, have terminated a successful season of sixteen weeks on Redcar Pier, where they have created a most favourable impression. A few weeks ago they were specially engaged to give their refined entertainment at Wilton Castle, on the coming of age of Mr. J. G. Lowther, a nephew of the Speaker of the House of Commons. Mr. Solo is re-engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur for his pantomime season.

MR. H. SMITH, the cinematograph operator at the Margate Hippodrome, has been engaged to remain for some time longer, much to the satisfaction of the large number of patrons of this place of entertainment.

THE Herne Bay Urban District Council invites tenders for the privilege of giving entertainments during the seasons 1907, 1908, and 1909, on sites on the East Cliff and beach. The entertainers are to pay themselves by collections. Tenders are also solicited for the privilege of using the Central Hall of the East Cliff Pavilion in connection with the East Cliff Site in times of inclement weather. Here a charge may be made for the use of chairs. Applications on prescribed forms are to be sent to the Clerk of the Council, Town Hall, Herne Bay.

MR. FRED NEIMAN has been elected chairman of the tenth annual general meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, which will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at the Empire, Camberwell.

MISS MARIE LLOYD was present at a most successful meeting of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild on Tuesday at the Savoy Palace Hotel, Savoy-street, and was elected its first president. The secretary is Miss Alma de Grey. Among those present were Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Lily Burnand, Miss Myra Stansfield, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Misses Mary and Queenie Burnand, and others. A meeting was held yesterday (Friday) at 2.30 to elect a committee.

THE success of Miss Marie Tempest at the Palace has been so emphatic that Mr. Alfred Butt, taking the tide at the flood, has re-engaged the famous singing comedienne to appear for a further period of two weeks. She will considerably vary her programme, and in compliance with many requests, will sing some of her old favourites.

MISS WINIFRED HARE, who is at present prosecuting a successful tour of the Moss-Stoll Empires, has become an expert swimmer. In the various towns she has spent the better part of the day in the baths, and practised with such effect that she is now capable of entering for a championship.

MISS SYRIA LAMONTE, the well-known soubrette and operatic vocalist, has returned to England after three years' absence, during which she has visited Paris, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Moscow, and has toured Roumania, Austria, and the United States.

MR. GUS ELEN, who is spending a fishing and motoring holiday in the vicinity of Deal and Walmer, distinguished himself a few days since on the pier of the former place by landing two splendid soles at once. The *Angler's News and Sea-Fisher's Journal* is of opinion that this is a feat probably never before accomplished.

MR. GEORGE ROBEY sailed on Saturday to fulfil engagements with Sydney M. Hyman, Ltd., at Johannesburg and Capetown. With a new Constitution on the Rand, Johannesburgers can readily find a place for "the Prime Minister of Mirth."

MR. E. W. LURRING, late the acting-manager of the Ealing Hippodrome, has been transferred by Mr. Walter Gibbons to the Grand, Clapham, where he takes up the position of resident-manager. His place at Ealing is now filled by Mr. W. Draper, who comes from the Duchess, Balham.

IN their match against the Cross Arrows on Tuesday the London Pavilion team wound up their season with a brilliant victory. The chief honours of the game rest with E. L. Jones and Clegg, who took between them nine of the Arrows' wickets. Jones, in addition, scored 68 for the Piccadilly people. On the opposing side were Captain Wynyard, who plays for Hampshire, and two members of the Hearne family.

MR. W. T. STEAD attended a Christian Endeavour Convention held at Dr. Maclaren's chapel in Manchester on Saturday night, and spoke of the music hall as an institution which occupied the leisure and influenced the lives of millions of human beings. He had come to the conclusion that it would be very useful if Christian Endeavour Societies in various towns appointed one or two of their number to visit and report to their members. The whole question of the amusements of the people ought to be taken into consideration by the churches. He believed we were returning to a renaissance of everything that made for the joy of life. We would recommend the L.C.C. to secure the services as music-hall inspectors of a few young men as Christian Endeavourers.

MLLE LA TOSCA, the well-known artists' model, whilst performing last week at the Lyric, Liverpool, met with a serious accident. During her performance of "Popular Paintings," the electric streamers (which figure so largely in her studies) suddenly fused, the live current playing with weird effect through her body, burning her left arm severely. But for the promptitude of Mr. Fox, stage-manager, and the electrician in switching off from the main, and La Tosca's manager, Mr. Lynn, F.O.S., coming rapidly to the front and announcing the next study, the accident would have been far graver. La Tosca, notwithstanding the excruciating pain, bravely struggled on with her act to the finish, and then was attended to by Dr. Owen, of the M.H.A.R.A. The "Artists' Model" is still suffering great pain, but is fulfilling her engagement at the Circus, Rochdale, although under great difficulty.

THERE was a well-attended meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday night at the Royal Sovereign. A letter was received from a non-member drawing the attention of the Lodge to the business methods of an agent, who, it was alleged, had caused much trouble through his carelessness. A letter was also enclosed from a representative of the Empire Circuit, New York, saying that he was not allowed to do any more business through this agent. The meeting expressed its thanks for the information, but as the artist was not a member of the organisation nothing more could be done. A brother then opened a discussion on the method of selling stamps in vogue in the lodge. It was considered by everyone present that Executive Committee members should be entrusted with stamps to sell to members wanting them. All present agreed that many members were in arrears simply through the difficulty of getting stamps when they were travelling in different countries. The meeting was in favour of the Executive Committee trying a new method. It was also pointed out that it would facilitate business if the London office had lists of the payments already made by members, and also if they were informed by postcard of the deaths occurring.

THE Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons held their regular monthly meeting at the Town Hall, Chelsea, on Friday, the 21st inst., the chair being occupied by W.B. James W. Matthews, in the absence of W.B. Albert Le Fre. The officers were Bros. Serpentello, S.W., T. Rumble, of the Caledonian Lodge, J.W., W.B. Wolfe S. Lyon (treasurer), C. J. Doughty (secretary), W.B. H. Chenery, of the Asaph Lodge, I.P.M., Edwin Brett, S.D., Valazzi, J.D., F. H. Pedgrift, I.G., and Angelo Asher (organist). Brethren present were:—W.B. Harry Nichols, P.G.S.B., Scott Adecker, William Doust, Albert Christian, Jimmy Prior, Eric Farr, Henri C. Radford, Permane, Ernie Chester, Karl Hooper, H. Heriot Hill, G. H. Hill, Fred Neiman (members of the Lodge), and W.B. John Worth, A.G.P., J. J. Orr, and Bros. Hopekirk, Stovold, Abdullah, Locket, King, and R. W. Duce (visitors). The W.M. initiated Mr. William Collinson. W.B. Wolfe S. Lyon passed Bro. Fred Neiman, W.B. James W. Matthews resumed the chair, and subsequently vacated same in favour of W.B. Harry Nichols, who raised Bros. Farr, Doust, and Locket. W.B. Matthews again resumed the chair, and raised Bros. Radford, Prior, and Hill. W.B. Matthews thanked W.B. Nichols and Herbert Chenery for the assistance they had rendered the Lodge, and W.B. Nichols in reply stated that he was deeply sensible of the honour attached to the duties of the consecrating officers of the Lodge. He was always proud to be associated with the Chelsea Lodge.

MR. HARRY RICHARDS, who writes from Marseilles to Tom Pacey, says that he is already much better for the rest on board.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Pat Carey, who is to be married next Wednesday to a lady of independent means, who was at one time in the profession.

MR. C. DOUGLAS STUART completes to-day his tenth year as hon. secretary and secretary of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association.

MR. FREDERICK MAXWELL and his clever company, which includes Miss Lois Du Cane, will produce a new sketch, in three scenes, entitled *A Prodigal Wife*, at the Standard, Pimlico, on Monday.

A "ROUND ROBIN" signed by his Happy Valley company at Southend has been received by Chirgwin. The object of this expression was to mark the kindness and liberality which the White-eyed Kaffir has extended to the artists engaged by him during his first season, which has been a great financial success.

MR. P. C. ROWE, who has for the past two years been employed at the head office of Moss Empires in the accountancy department, has just received a well-deserved promotion in being appointed to the assistant-managership of the Swansea Empire. Mr. Rowe was presented with a handsome fitted dressing-case on taking leave of his headquarters' colleagues on Saturday last.

THE new farcical absurdity *Neighbours*, written by Mr. Charles Wilmott and Mr. Edmund Edmunds, has been repeating at the Holloway Empire during the week the extraordinary success it achieved at Hackney on its initial production the week prior. It has been a big departure from the staple usually submitted by the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, by whom it is played, but its success has justified the experiment.

DR. BODIE'S last evening at the Hippodrome, Colchester, must have been very gratifying to him, as the vast audience continuously showed its delight in loud applause. Just prior to the close the doctor called the popular manager, Mr. Ben de Frece, on to the stage, and presented him with a handsome salad bowl and servers, as a mark of his personal esteem. Mr. de Frece acknowledged the gift in a very graceful speech.

MR. OSWALD BRAND'S sketch *The White Squaw*, adapted from John Baldwin Buckstone's famous drama *The Green Bushes*, was booked for the halls immediately after its first production at the author's benefit matinée at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on the 18th inst., and will shortly be reproduced with Miss Helen Bancroft as Miami, a part made memorable at the Adelphi by the talents of Mme. Celeste.

THE demolition of the Great Wheel at Earl's Court has been determined on, and the disintegration of the famous landmark will begin on Oct. 8, and after five months London will see it no more. A million and a half persons have travelled on it since July, 1895. There has been only one serious breakdown, that on Whit-Monday, 1896, when sixty-six passengers were imprisoned on it all night. That incident cost the management £300, but it was worth all that as an advertisement.

MR. STRATTON MILLS has secured the sole rights of a new and original comedy sketch, entitled *A Lovely Liar*, by Herbert C. Sargent, the initial performance of which will take place on Oct. 1, at the Empress, Brixton. The cast will include Mr. Ralph Nairn, Miss Minnie Blanchard, and Mr. Stratton Mills; the costumes will be provided by Harrisons, Ltd., and the entire production will be under the direction of Mr. E. T. Steyne.

THE New Pavilion, Kingstown, will inaugurate its first dramatic season on Monday next, when Mr. M. Russell Rosse's Répertoire Company will appear in a succession of modern comedies, supported by an efficient company, at the head of which is Mr. David James. The venture is causing a great deal of local interest, for it was after a protracted struggle that the directors have at last got the patent from the Lord-Lieutenant.

AT the Bedford on Saturday, at the conclusion of the performance of *The Merchant of Venice*, Mr. Lovesey, the manager, publicly presented to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Storey a handsome silver cake-basket inscribed "Presented to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Storey by Mr. B. P. Lucas, Bedford Palace of Varieties, as a token of his esteem and good wishes. Sept. 22, 1906." Mr. Lovesey dwelt upon the excellence of the production and the personal triumph of Mr. Storey as Shylock, which resulted in packed houses nightly, thus demonstrating the fact that Shakespeare is appreciated quite as much on the music-hall stage as in the theatres. Mr. Storey, in thanking Mr. Lucas for the charming gift, said the success of Shakespeare in the music-halls had been a source of delight to him.

THE accomplishments of Miss Lil Hawthorne, who is at the Hackney Empire on Monday, are too well known to need any eulogy. She was the first to sing a song with the refrain being repeated by vocalist in the audience. This has been a wonderful success, and, of course, has found numerous imitators all over the world. During the run of a pantomime at Glasgow, while singing her song, "I'll be your sweetheart," the little lad who was engaged to sing the refrain from the front of the gallery had a strange and somewhat rough experience. It happened that a new attendant had been appointed to take charge of this part of the house, and, knowing nothing of this performance, thought the boy was rudely interrupting. He at once picked up the youthful singer, and with great vigour proceeded to turn him out. The lad, while he was struggling and being so roughly ejected, most pluckily continued to sing. Lil Hawthorne, realising what was happening, could not proceed for laughing. Of course explanations took place, and the little songster, in the midst of wildest applause, once again appeared, and this time sang his verses without further interruption.

THE 482nd meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music-Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday afternoon, when the following were present:—Messrs. Fred Newman, Harry Freeman, A. Borelli, R. Abel, Jeff Vendome, Chas. Gardener, Bob Hutt, Frank Gerald, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary); Mr. Fred Neiman was voted to the chair; Mr. J. D. Highley, of the Staffordshire Knot Hotel, Burton-on-Trent, was, on the proposition of Mr. Borelli, seconded by Mr. Freeman, appointed as agent in that town. The following alterations were made in the list of the provincial agencies:—Mr. D. Evans, Court Arms, Merthyr Tydvil, and Mr. G. Cropper, White Hart Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. Frank Gerald proposed, and Mr. Bob Hutt seconded a resolution "That Mr. Harry Mountford be re-instated as a member of the association." Carried unanimously.

THE secretary submitted a draft of the annual report of the committee, which was passed as read. Regarding the disbursement of the amount in hand Mr. Charles Gardener proposed, and Mr. Borelli seconded a resolution, "That the sum of one hundred guineas be donated to each of the four charities: the Railway Benevolent Institution, the Railway Servants' Orphanage, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the Music Hall Home Fund; also that a sum of £300 be added to the present Reserve Fund, and the remainder carried over to next year's account." This was carried unanimously. Mr. Fred Neiman was asked to occupy the chair at the general meeting, which he consented to do. The meeting then terminated.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "I desire to convey my hearty thanks to the gentleman who sat behind me at the Empire, Liverpool, the other evening, and kept up a humming accompaniment while Chirgwin sang the 'Blind Boy.' I am sorry I could not hear the gentleman in the audience to the best advantage, because Chirgwin's little efforts kept interfering. This made me feel a bit 'raggy,' and I was on the point of getting on my hind legs and shouting: 'Hi, Chirgwin! Do shut up! How can I listen properly to the gentleman behind me when you're making such a drivel of a row up there?' Then I thought 'Chirg' might feel hurt, and I refrained. So did the other chap, he still *refrain-ed*."

MR. CHAS. M. DALY, the manager, author, and producer of Mr. Chas. E. Machin's sketches, and author of his last success, *The Gorilla's Revenge*, has just finished what Mr. Machin considers his masterpiece, viz., *Three Thousand Years Ago*, a twenty-five minutes' sketch, of which the scene is laid in ancient Egypt, the land of weird mystery. The chief features of the production are an eruption and the bringing to life of Amenalius, the mummified remains of a priestess of the Temple of Thieves. To add realism Mr. Machin has purchased two real mummies—one dating back B.C. 1200, a date that establishes the fact that it is 3106 years old. Upon its pedigree Mr. Daly has based his plot, which is as interesting as it is novel.

MISS MAIE HOEY, who is only fourteen, has learnt dancing under the incomparable Genée and deportment from Mesdames Francesca Zanfretta and Cormani. She has other talents, being a cultivated musician and a painter. With such credentials and the endowment of personal attractions Miss Maie should be successful on the stage, where she is shortly to appear.

MR. WILL MURRAY, of "The Casey Circus," has presented Mr. Dan Lipton (C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton) with a valuable bull-pup of the Champion Rodney Stone strain. The pup is registered at the Kennel Club as "Mrs. Casey."

OWING to the success of Mr. Arthur Jenner's musical leaflet, "The Land of the Maple Leaf," which was produced at the Cambridge on Thursday, Mr. Richards has engaged the turn for the Commercial-street house next week. The chief parts were sustained with the greatest success by Mr. Arthur Jenner and Miss Millie Warde.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE, both in Ireland and Wales, has evidently hit the public fancy, and the local Press has been loud in its praise of what Oswald Stoll describes as comedy of refinement and quite a refreshing style. Miss Payne returns to town on Oct. 22 with new songs.

"BILLY," the educated pony, introduced by his trained, J. De Voye, has returned to London, after a long and successful tour. Billy is at the Surrey this week.

IN consequence of the great success of the popular recruiting scena, "Come, my boy, and be a soldier," by Ralph Nairn, produced at last Saturday's Palace Theatre matinée, Mr. Dennis Drew has been requested to reproduce it at to-day's matinée. Only the difficulty of the boys' licences prevents its presentation nightly.

FANNY ROBINA and Florry Cooper, who have been meeting with great success on their first visit to the Richmond Theatre, start a six months' tour on Oct. 8.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS is fulfilling a very successful engagement at the Keith and Proctor vaudeville houses, New York, his characters from Dickens arousing keen interest and earning appreciative applause. Mr. Williams's "act" is a decided novelty in the States, and is quite in keeping with the efforts of the vaudeville managers to improve the quality of their programmes.

MISS MABEL SINCLAIR, lady ventriloquist, has scored a hit with our American cousins in Philadelphia and New York. She is touring the United States until 1907, when she returns to the London Pavilion.

IT is not generally known that at one or other of their London district theatres Moss Empires every Monday afternoon give provincial artists a private trial. The judge on these occasions is Mr. Will Collins, the well-known district manager for the metropolis. Next Monday a rather unique trial will take place. Eight troupes of pierrots from various seaside resorts, who have never before appeared in London, will at 2 p.m., at the Holloway Empire, give new and original "shows" with the object of securing the Moss-Stoll tours of thirty-eight weeks.

AMONG those whom Mr. Sterling Mackinlay has coached in the expression and rendering of songs two have since been singing at the Palace Theatre, while three others were engaged for Miss Agnes Fraser, Miss Evie Greene, and Miss Isabel Jay's parts in the principal touring companies.

MLLE. GENÉE, as stated in our columns last week, will conclude her present agreement with the Empire management at the end of 1907. She is considering a tempting offer to go to the United States, and may be permitted by the directors to pay a visit.

MR. WALTER F. MUNROE had the misfortune a few days since to gash his left wrist with a sharp piece of corroded metal, and blood poisoning has followed, the entire arm being affected. His wife (Miss Emma Don) and their company had therefore reluctantly to cancel engagements at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, and at Belham.

MISS BESSIE TRAVIS, the lady ventriloquist, has now fully recovered from her recent illness, and wishes to thank the eighty-four professional friends who wrote letters of sympathy. She is making her usual success this week at the Palace, Attercliffe.

THE Palace Theatre, Darlington, Limited, has this week been registered with a capital of £6,000 in £1 shares. The architect for the building is Mr. G. F. Ward, of 71, Colmore-row, Birmingham, and the site is well placed at the corner of Parkgate and Borough roads.

MR. FRED CURRAN thanks his friends for their numerous kind inquiries concerning his health, and is pleased to state that he has entirely recovered. On Nov. 16 he sails for Australia on the liner Ortona.

MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN., who made a successful début at the Palace Theatre recently, has placed his business in the hands of that rising young agent, Mr. Harry S. Hart, and opens on Monday on the Barrasford Tour.

MRS. MAUD SIMS-REEVES, the widow of the great tenor, will make her reappearance on the variety boards, after four years' absence, at the Empire, Islington, on Monday next, when she will sing some of the songs made famous by her husband. Her business has been placed in the hands of Messrs. Somers and Warner.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The *entente cordiale* in art is very happily called to mind at the Alhambra by the engagement of Mlle. Anne Dancrey, whose trio of songs prove her to possess a voice of exceptional brilliance in the upper register. The French artist cuts a superb figure in a wonderful pink confection that fits her like a glove. Of the three numbers to which she does complete justice, two are written to dance measures—the one a gavotte and the other a waltz. The first, a spirited march, has all the liveliness and gaiety that characterise popular music from across the Channel. The gavotte, too, is an engaging melody, and the waltz has dreaminess and charm. Mlle. Dancrey sweeps round her skirts in graceful illustration of both dances, and rouses the house to enthusiasm. Early in the evening the Bellong Brothers are responsible for athletics that display much strength, intrepidity, and a complete understanding of the niceties of equipoise. On a raised platform with a staircase one of the brothers stands erect on the larger wheel of a safety bicycle, the machine being unfixed. A feat of much greater difficulty is when the same brother rapidly climbs a pole balanced by his stouter partner, and, reaching the summit, stands once more on the wheel of a bicycle placed thereon. The house watches in breathless silence, and then applauds. A fine specimen of the modern gladiator is Bobby Pandur of the Pandurs, whose muscular frame seems equal to exceptional strain. This pair of athletes is also concerned with difficult balancing feats, and perform the greater part of their tricks on a platform apparently supported by the figure of a Hercules. Both men realise in their muscular development the perfection of manly grace, and their feats are accomplished throughout with rare *aplomb*. The final *tour de force* is the suspension by a stout webbing hanging from the neck of Bobby—who places his feet on the uppermost rungs of two ladders—of a bicycle on which his partner is seated. A remarkable show indeed.

New comers to the Alhambra are the Aquamarinoff Troupe, which includes an adult male, whose wonderful agility is agreeably displayed in the peasant dances of the Slavs. He is run very close in popularity by a lad who pirouettes with extraordinary facility. The chanting of the crowd is somewhat monotonous, the tune being most probably a Russian *volkslied;* but the entertainment is interesting, and the pretty national costumes are worn with much grace by the women. The Petching Brothers present a musical garden, in which climbing roses conceal tuned sleigh-bells, on which an American melody is played. "Believe me if all those endearing young charms"—Moore's Irish melody—loses most of its grace and beauty when the cadences are produced by short, disjointed notes that are sounded by instruments concealed among pots of flowers. A comic effect is obtained when the musical brothers extract the soothing influences of tune from the illuminated fruit of a pear tree. The electric effects are decidedly pretty.

Mr. Charles Urban is still putting the world before the Alhambra patrons. He now takes us to that wonderland of vast lakes and still vaster enterprise—Canada, and presents many most interesting pictures of the life of the people and the industries of the country—pictures that are engrossing and attractive throughout. But the developments of animated photography, as Mr. Urban long since proved to us, are not restricted to the production of the real: they are equal to the fanciful representation of comedietta without words—such a one as *Love Wins Out; or, A Motor Marriage*, which illustrates an amusing series of adventures in a most graphic manner.

Some reflection of the glories of buried grandeur and ancient civilisation is shown in the ballet, *L'Amour*, in which is set forth a well-defined and dramatic story, with a superb Oriental setting, and wonderful pictures of an Assyrian garden and palace, by Mr. E. H. Ryan. The tale of the love of Mylitta, and the difficulties that hedge it round, has probably been drawn from the rich storehouse of Eastern lore by Mrs. Hay-Ritchie, the authoress of the libretto, and with such a perfect mistress of movement as Signorina Maria Bordin, and such a dramatic mime as Signor Alfredo Curti, the plot is revealed with rare significance. The sinuous grace of the gifted *prima ballerina*, who comes from Milan, is perhaps best displayed in the temptation scene, wherein Prince Nashar el Din has to pass a probationary night in the temple, subject to the fascinating allurements of sirens; but Signorina Bordin is responsible for a series of brilliant *pas* in the final scene. The music of M. François Thomé, which has a very pretty love motiv, is very finely rendered by the orchestra, under Mr. George Byng. *Parisiana*, in its second edition, now employs the talents of Signorina Enrica Varasi as principal danseuse, and she is well received in a variation of considerable difficulty. The music of Mr. Jimmy Glover always sounds the joyous note, and the picture of the fête at Neuilly is full of animation.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The task of filling the vast auditorium of the South London is no ordinary one, but that happy state of affairs is frequently effected, and both houses usually present the crowded state for which the managerial heart yearns. No exception to the rule was apparent on the evening of a visit this week, when a large audience gave every evidence of appreciation of the bountiful entertainment overseered by Mr. William Payne, the new manager. A melodramatic sketch is included in the programme, and is entitled *The Secret Spy*. It is not easy to conceive a spy who is not secret, but no effort is made to cloak the evil wrought by the villain, a renegade Frenchman in the employ of the German Emperor. He endeavours to steal a despatch sent by the English Government to the Czar and to connect a young officer with the crime; but he is foiled by a regenerated drunkard, with whom he engages in a terrible fight with daggers. There is a certain love interest in the plot, over the representation of which the audience grows very excited. The little piece is strongly represented by Mr. Fred G. Brooke's company, and is elaborately mounted and dressed.

A brightly-shining star of the bill is found in Miss Lily Burnand, who was never in better trim. Her fine voice is heard agreeably in the refrain "When she was in the ballet," which tells of a fascinating young dancer who was wooed and won by a peer of the realm, and the finesse with which she invests the words gives them added point. Miss Burnand's vocal ability receives further proof in her ballad of "The Stowaway," the chorus of which is thoroughly grasped by the gallery and echoed with enthusiasm. Miss Burnand's popularity is great in South London, as everywhere else, and applause of the heartiest denotes the delight of her admirers. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope occupies an important position in the entertainment, and the pictures shown are highly appreciated. The first series depicts a daring cavalry ride, in which mounted soldiers are seen leaping precipitous slopes and fording streams, many an awkward tumble befalling some of the troopers. The representation of a horse's sagacity in bringing aid to a wounded man is also greatly enjoyed, and the interesting films are loudly cheered.

An unmistakable hit is achieved by Mr. Edward Ford, who gives imitations that are varied and comprehensive. His facial manipulation is unique, and the way in which he contorts his features is incredibly grotesque. An encore is insisted upon, and extracts from the artist perhaps the most comical impersonation—that of an orator delivering a speech, in which the most extravagant phrases are used. The Great Northern Troupe win admiration for the neatness of their dancing, their jigs and reels being executed in the smart manner which long since won recognition. An old couple who dance energetically add the element of humour to the show, which thoroughly pleases all. The art of Terpsichore has also doughty champions in the Eight Lancashire Lads, to whose efforts we refer in the notice of another hall. The clever lads are much in demand this week, and their success at the South London is equal to that at the other houses at which they appear. A feature of the bill is the sketch, *A Poor Weak Woman*, an amusing trifle, only recently produced, in which the physical proportions of Miss Helen Kinnaird are utilised in the title-rôle to droll advantage, and Mr. Willis Searle renders capable assistance. The nimble-limbed Herbert La Martine, who sings tunefully while he dances inimitably, is another attraction of the programme, which also includes Miss Trixie Lee, comedienne, and Drew and Alders. The well-manned orchestra is led with credit by Mr. Charles E. Howells.

THE SURREY.

Of the thirteen items on the programme this week at the Surrey sketches claim the larger number, and the one that provokes the most merriment is *The Casey Cirkus*, one of Mr. Harry Cadle's "Casey Court" series, illustrating some amusing episodes of juvenile life in a slum quarter. We find that Mrs. Casey's weekly washing of dirty linen has been appropriated by the juveniles to advertise the performance of *The Casey Cirkus* on the broadest lines of burlesque and pantomime. Paraded before us are most wonderful specimens of the animal world, labelled according to "Ruzvelt speling." In the background is Casey's special "Orkester." To attempt to describe all the absurdities in this revel of foolery would be to attempt the impossible. In quick succession come a bareback rider on a marvellous steed; the marching and drill of Casey's Guards; a clever parody of Sandow by an emaciated specimen of mankind; and an exhilarating burlesque of *Turpin's Ride to York*. Will Murray as the moving spirit—Mrs. Casey—is delightfully droll, and his juvenile comedians are deserving of the warmest praise.

In direct contrast is the one-act miniature drama, *Her Good Name*, admirably played by Miss Diana Hope and company. Miss Hope, as the chemist's flighty wife, Adelaide, invests her part with grace and charm; as the Hon. James Augrum, Mr. F. S. Ingleby gives a character-study of rare merit; and Mr. Monte Bayly's delineation of the outraged husband is a creditable performance.

In the farcical sketch, *The Little Wonder*, the personality of Little Tony claims attention for this miniature comedian as Mr. Gorfunkle, a stockbroker, who has to impersonate a baby, is responsible for one of the best pieces of comedy acting to be seen on the variety stage. As the domineering wife who assumes the rôle of mother, Miss Nora Layton is chic, smart, and decidedly clever; Mr. Harry Gribben as the massive plumber, Mr. Piper, who reluctantly consents to act as father to the baby—*pro tem.*—puts in some strong and effective work. As the rich Uncle, Mr. John Wilkinson helps in no small measure the humorous intentions of the author. This bright and merry sketch deserves to be seen and appreciated by many audiences. "Dronza's" talking head will long remain a mystery, for although a committee invited from the audience surrounds the pedestal on the stage and closely inspects the intricate mechanism, the members of it leave the stage profoundly mystified, for this wonderful piece of mechanism, designed and built in Sunny Italy, not only answers all the questions accurately, but indulges in thought-reading and prophesies future events.

The Sisters Lytton are charming vocalists, whose voices are heard to advantage in selections from our most popular operas. For animal intelligence Mr. James De Voye's beautiful horse, "Billy," would be hard to beat, for this highly-educated quadruped is not only a good arithmetician, but plays Nap with his master, and wins. Herbert Rule is a quaint comedian with original methods. His droll spoof song, "This is the chorus," keeps his audience in a good humour all the time. Daisy Sillcott is chic and smart, and has a good song in "Woman wants everything she sees." Leah Arden has a well-cultured voice, and sings with perfect expression and sweetness a pretty ballad, "Say your heart is mine." Jack Heath's comic ditty, "I'll have a little bit of meat," finds favour. The Kays, in a pretty drawing-room scene, and costumed in a series of smart and becoming confections, give a musical sketch that is interesting all the time. Their "Cuckoo" song is rendered with great purity of tone and facile execution. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are, as usual, highly interesting.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Obstructions beset the path of the pedestrian on Denmark-hill, where the electric tramway is being laid down, but a haven of safety is secured within the elegant and cosy Palace, which now dispenses lavish entertainment on the twice nightly principle. A beacon light looms large on the bill in the name of Miss Marie Lloyd the incomparable. Her account of the country maiden who at home is always "strictly proper," but in town gives rein to her frivolous instincts, is highly relished by the audience, who also enjoy the dainty little measure which is danced. "The custom of the country" is a song which proves no less instructive than amusing, and Miss Lloyd renders it in her most artistic fashion. Another lady vocalist gifted with piquancy and charm is Miss Gracie Grahame, whose refrain "The bells were ringing in the steeple" refers to a wedding which did not take place owing to the lady changing her mind and sending round her husband to declare it off. Miss Grahame, who is attired in a becoming bridal dress, assumes another pretty costume for her song "Fishing," in the course of which the youth of Camberwell is invited to come into the matrimonial net, much to the embarrassment of certain young men in the stalls who are selected for special invitation. It is a pleasing variant on Miss Grahame's song of "Charley," and the delight of the audience is loudly expressed.

Rich and Rich are jesters of a most original kind, their "cross-talk" being fresh and ingenious. The laughter of the audience is continuous during their turn, which includes a droll parody of "Mary of Argyle." Signor and Mme. Borelli have introduced a new entertainment, which begins with a skilfully executed pianoforte duet. Imitations of Continental comic singers reveal laughable travesties of Italian, German, and French vocalists, and in response to an enthusiastic recall the old favourite "Cats' Duet" is given realistically, but no less also harmoniously. Mimicry is cleverly supplied by Mr. George Newburn, who puts the voice and mannerisms of Alec Hurley, Fred Earle, and Harry Lauder faithfully before the audience. An encore is inevitable, and Mr. Newburn accedes to the demand with a clever reproduction of Mr. George Lashwood bidding good-bye to his latch-key. The Lomas Trio give a skilful display on the flying rings, many feats of muscular endurance being performed. In the second part of their performance a picturesque effect is created by a revolving trapeze gleaming with coloured electric lights, upon which the trio execute graceful gymnastic feats. The show is a pretty one, and is applauded as it well deserves.

Dancing in many varied forms is supplied by the Eight Lancashire Lads, who give a fine exhibition of footplay in addition to singing a tuneful chorus, supplemented by some curious terpsichorean movements. Their smart stepping on the pedestal, on which each member of the troupe gives a specimen of his own particular style, is neatly executed, and proves a very exhilarating item. Mr. Billy Williams, the Australian comedian, gets a good reception, his parody on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" proving very diverting, and a vivid picture of "A Slippery Intruder" is shown on Vernon's Bioscope. The Sisters Warner, singers and dancers; and the Moncktons, in a comedy act, are also on the bill; and on the night of our visit an "extra turn" was supplied in the charming person of Miss Amy Allnutt, who thoroughly amused the house with her rendering of "Why don't you finish the job?" and "You have a bit on me," in which her low comedy talents were agreeably apparent. Additional strength is given to the entertainment at the second house by Mr. Harry Freeman, Miss Cora Casselli, and Mr. Ernest Montefiore, in the sketch *The Little Colonel*. Mr. P. A. Lennon is the manager of the hall, the musical forces of which are still capably directed by Mr. Leon A. Bassett.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

Mr. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians are on a visit to the Islington Empire in their latest skit, entitled *Muscles; or, Muscular Development Personified*. Although devoid of a connected story, this new production fulfils its purpose. It affords an audience much cause for boisterous merriment by a harmless skit on the "physical culture" which in the case of some people becomes a positive craze. The scene is a school in which the latest system of muscular development is carried on; and the characters introduced include a decrepit old military officer, an inebriated swell, a couple of muscular maidens, an ancient auntie in charge of a comical kid "who won't grow up," a strong man, and a parson. The business is of the pantomimic order, the lifting of a supposed heavy weight being one of the numerous devices for exciting the mirth of the onlookers. In a merry, bustling scene all the principal performers work hard and successfully in promoting the continuous hilarity of the audience, and "twenty minutes' solid laughter" can be accepted as a correct description of the result of their energetic efforts. Quite different in character is the little piece entitled *Her Birthday*, which is founded on one of those misunderstandings between man and wife that, skilfully used for stage purposes, never fail to interest and amuse an audience. In this capital duologue the lady is first seen at home awaiting the return of her husband, who has promised to take her to a Covent Garden ball, it being her birthday. She discovers a telegram which she rather hastily assumes to be addressed to her husband by a lady, making an appointment, so that when that gentleman at length appears he finds his better half in a very bad temper, and she attacks him vigorously with the weapon of her sex—her tongue. He offers no defence, and matters reach a domestic crisis, when Charles accidentally drops from his pocket a parcel, which proves to be a lady's garter brilliant with diamonds. Of course this was bought as a birthday present for the wife, and the telegram was also intended for her. These explanations being forthcoming, peace reigns again, the lady expressing her regret that she so *nearly* lost her temper. The duologue is excellently played by the couple known as Hunt and Thomas, the lady giving at the opening an admirable rendering of a song called "In Dreamland." Another clever pair are Barlee and Smith, who appear in an episode entitled *A Rehearsal*, in which the gentleman assumes the character of a theatrical agent and the lady that of a young stage aspirant. In a duet they give imitations of ways of making love by various people, including a coster and an aristocrat. This turn is loudly applauded.

An acceptable variation from the ordinary programme is found in D'Arc's marionettes, which are very smartly worked and voiced by a lady and gentleman. The novel feature of the turn is that the dolls represent in miniature such well-known variety stars as George Robey, R. G. Knowles, Vesta Tilley, May Henderson, and Eugénie Fougère, the voice of each being cleverly mimicked by the unseen workers of the figures. The effect is remarkably realistic, and the audience evince their keen appreciation of a capital show by vigorous applause. The Three Delareys in their speciality act, *The Demon*, give a notable performance on the hanging rings and double trapeze, some of their feats being marked by pleasing novelty. Mr. Harry Conlin, comedian, is the cause of much merriment by his quaint impersonation of a middle-aged female, who wears a hat ornamented with real fruit and carries a muff made of a loaf of bread from which the middle has been extracted. Mr. Gus Barra, musical comedian, makes his appearance in a miniature motor-car, and wears an overcoat to which are attached "tooters," on which, accompanied by the orchestra, he plays melodies. He also affords proof of his skill as a concertina player. The Clarkes, a lady and gentleman, distinguish themselves as banjoists, their selections including the well-known overture to *William Tell*. Miss Madeleine Rees sings in good style "When love comes knocking at the door"; and Miss Jessie Albini scores with "There's not another girl like me." On Monday evening Miss Nellie Farrell appeared in the place of Miss Lilian Elfreda, mimic, and gave an Irish song and dance. The bioscope presents a series of pictures entitled "A Free Pass," depicting the laughable adventures of a family who, having been given an order, pay a visit to a theatre on a hot summer's evening. Mr. George L. Wilson is the popular manager at this flourishing hall, and he is ably assisted by Mr. Harry Blight, acting-manager.

THE PARAGON.

Amongst the many attractive turns in the current Paragon programme prominence is appropriately given to that favourite comedian Mr. Alec Hurley, who, with a numerous and excellent company, is appearing in the sketch in three scenes entitled *The Coster's Beanfeast*. It might be called "The Coster's Courtship," for running through the sketch is a vein of sentiment, Bill's true affection for his pretty little "donah," Emma, being portrayed with some clever touches by Mr. Hurley. When the young lady shows temper, for which there appears to be very little cause, Bill sings to her in plaintive tones and expressive language that tells of undying devotion. She is the only "gal" for him in the wide world; and Emma would indeed be a very hard-hearted young woman if the appeal failed to have its intended effect. Of course she yields, and the couple go off together quite reconciled and loverlike. This little episode happens on the road to "The Old Rye House," the scene revealing a pretty landscape; but it is at that famous pleasure resort that we get a complete picture of the sunny side of the coster's life. The party have travelled from the Mile End-road in a char-à-banc, and we see them tripping it merrily to some popular melody of the day. And there is no doubt about the genuineness of their enjoyment; it is expressed in every movement of their merry dance. And when the shadows begin to lengthen Bill and his campanions, having had a real good day, take their places again on the brake, which is drawn by two live horses; but not before they have made the welkin ring with a rattling chorus song that can be heard a mile away. Of Mr. Alec Hurley's embodiment of Will, the coster, there is nothing new to be said, and his singing retains all those excellent qualities to which we have already frequently borne testimony. He is fortunate in being supported by a company who display all the spirit and vim which a sketch of this kind imperatively demands. The scenery is also of a thoroughly satisfactory character.

Here also are Mr. Arthur Conquest and company in the pantomimic sketch entitled *The Sioux*, which we fully noticed when it was played recently at the Euston. Mr. Conquest's embodiment of the ape, known as Chadi, is a remarkably clever animal-study, and moreover it is a part which requires for its perfect representation considerable muscular strength, much agility, and the skill of being able to climb a rope like a monkey. All these qualifications Mr. Arthur Conquest possesses, in addition to which he is an actor of experience who learnt his business in that one-time excellent training school the Surrey Theatre. The part of the little girl who is Chadi's playmate, and whom he saves from death at the cost of his own life, is prettily played by the youngest member of the company.

A very cordial reception is extended to Miss Victoria Monks, a dainty and clever comedienne, whose ditty in praise of "London Town" is likely to receive the approval of every true cockney. She also introduces one of the latest American song successes, entitled "Moving Day." A married couple have taken a flat, and as they cannot pay the rent the furniture is removed by order of the landlord. The lady finds herself in the street with only a wooden box to sit upon, and even then she is moved on by a policeman. Miss Monks sings the ditty with the most successful results. The Holloway Trio present one of the most interesting and cleverly-worked wire acts we have seen for a long time, one of the features being an imitation of a coon dance. This is given on the wire by two members of the company, and is loudly applauded. Mr. Frank Harwood is excellent as a descriptive vocalist, opening with "May and December." His song addressed to his pipe, his "only pal," with spoken passages, is highly dramatic and effective. Radford and Valentine give a good turn as speciality artists, the gentleman being most ingenious in his devices for causing merriment. Mr. George Mozart, the favourite comedian, scores in his comic description of the meetings of various people, and his song given in the character of the Colonel of the "Fighting Nuts" is well received. Mr. Harry Maxam's funny policeman impersonation ditty deserves special mention; and Mr. Walter Stanley, comedian, has a most flattering reception. Miss Maude Courtney, "the American girl," sings a duet with a gentleman vocalist stationed in the circle, and their efforts are rewarded with loud applause; Miss Hettie Chattell, character burlesque artist, and Oakley and James (Bert and Polly) also meet with a hearty welcome, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, is appreciated. During the interval, a selection of popular American melodies is played by the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Arthur Grimmett, and the front of the house is carefully looked after by the manager, Mr. Chas. Beecham.

EALING HIPPODROME.

A shuffling of the cards occurs in the management this week. Mr. E. W. James loses his popular acting-manager, who is transferred to the Clapham Grand, while Mr. W. Draper comes to Ealing from the Duchess, at Balham. Hearty wishes accompany Mr. E. W. Lurring to his new post, and his successor is accorded a most cordial welcome.

Many moons have risen and set since Miss Lottie Collins sent London into a furore of excitement over her unforgetable "Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-Ay" song and dance, and the torrent of cheers that arises as her number goes up testifies to her unceasing popularity. Miss Collins has been furnished with some excellent numbers, which include "Only a giddy Gaiety girl," "I'm a widow," and "A marriage of convenience," this last by George Arthurs and Orlando Powell. With three changes of costume, each of which would do honour to Worth, Miss Collins makes a striking stage picture, and she is accored a reception with which she must be very gratified. Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog Pilu unite in mystifying alike stalls, pit, and gallery. As question after question is set by the audience and put to Pilu by his excitable master, who is in himself a veritable bubble of volatility, the "doggie," after profound cogitation, proceeds to reverse certain cards bearing numbers answering to the queries. Endless merriment is the outcome of the replies as to age, addresses, and prospects in the matrimonial market of the numerous questioners, a merriment which is increased by the happy outbursts of Ancillotti himself at the success of his aged companion—for Pilu, sad to relate, owns to seventeen years. A very happy alliance of song and picture is found in the "pictorial songster" of Miss Belle Braham. "The Only Way"—a romance of the "conciergerie" and the French Revolution—is graphically told in a series of lantern views, the while that Miss Braham unwinds in song the sad history of Sydney Carton. In "Popular Songs and Singers" a happier vein is struck, and an almost endless procession of well-known favourites grows and fades upon the magic disc. To mention names would be to catalogue the variety stage, but to one and all is allotted a line that "fits."

A most laughable interlude is provided in the "comedy duologue," *Saucy Maid*, from which much fun is squeezed by the Buontes. In the opening, the saucy maid, a boarding-house drudge, is discovered immersed in the perusal of one of the "love for ever sixpenny awfuls," and, upon the entrance of a certain Captain Rudolph, falls incontinently in love with him. The Captain is in expectation of the arrival of Maud Cunningham, an actress, and a letter he addresses to her is mistaken by the "maid" as being intended for herself. Thinking her love returned, she casts herself into the gentleman's arms. Soon undeceived, however, she determines to impersonate the actress, and so well does she counterfeit the expected guest that she is received with rapture by the Captain, who is sadly undeceived in the end at finding he is pressing kisses upon the lips of the dreadful "saucy maid." The scena is most briskly played by the Buontes, who receive a most hearty and well-earned recall. Miss Queenie May, "the juvenile prize packet," instils an immense amount of energy into her two numbers, and obtains an enthusiastic recall; but songs more appropriate to her age might well be chosen. Miss Jane Temple, American comedienne, is most entertaining in her two songs, and as a *raconteuse* is especially amusing, some of her tales being particularly *ben trovato*, while every point is exploited to its full value. In a rollicksome medley of song and dance, Messrs. Allsopp and Beckwith depict the incidents of the courtship of a lady who would and a gentleman who wouldn't. The little comedy culminates in the end to the mutual satisfaction of the happy pair and their audience. Mr. John Callan, comedian, is very welcome. In his "game of Bridge" the varying potentialities of diamond, club, heart, and spade are most graphically illustrated, and Mr. Callan establishes a true note of sympathy betwixt the house and himself. It is reserved, however, to Mr. Will Johnson, in his "I live down a quiet street," to raise a storm of laughter. In his make-up as a lady he is quite too utterly funny, while his patter is comic in the extreme. Mr. Johnson is happily termed a "lively comedian." An absolutely side-splitting production is presented in *Three of a Kind*, "a conglomeration of mirth, mystery, and muddle, wherein chance resemblances in features provide laughter, both loud and hearty, under the direction of Arden and Abel, Limited." Muddle there certainly is, and mystery worse confounded. A plot so full of surprises was surely never before invented.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

Ever ready in sweet charity's cause, Mr. Lennox Barry, the courteous manager, organised, quite successfully, a benefit entertainment here on Wednesday. It had already been pointed out in the columns of *The Era* that aid from outside sources would be welcomed, and a number of artists generously responded to Mr. Barry's appeal in our last issue. The programme was under the distinguished patronage of H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught. Mr. John Sale renounced for the time his bâton at the Holborn Empire to conduct the augmented orchestra, and Mr. John Burgess filled the rôle of hon. stage-manager with every success. Miss Nellie Chantler opened the proceedings with a really tasteful rendition of "The Flight of Ages." Phillips and Merritt afforded considerable amusement, Miss Merritt winning quite an ovation for her whistling solo. Miss Ethel Walker, at the pianoforte, amused with her clever ditties. "It *did* go," her first item, caused a lot of fun, and her imitations of Vesta Tilley, Millie Lindon, &c., were excellent. Mr. Fred Errick told of the reception accorded him by his spouse after falling from a balloon; bright, winsome little Violet Duprez danced herself at once into the hearts of the audience; and another dancer, of the opposite sex, who deserves honourable mention for his cleverness was Mr. Percy Dalton. Mr. Rollo Balmain's fine elocution was heard to distinct advantage in his recitation "Karl, the Martyr," enunciation, gesture, and tone being alike excellent. Miss Madge May, as a coon lady with aspirations, was quite amusing, the audience apparently thinking "Mr. Simpson" had only met his just fate; and Miss Nellie Chandos confided to the crowded house that she had "A Bungalow in Borneo." From Borneo to the snow slopes of Canada is a far cry, but Miss Bella Bashall was responsible for the trip, and enjoyable enough it appeared, if one may judge by the enthusiasm displayed. Mr. Johnnie Hanson knows his Dickens, his make-up in a "Sairey Gamp" part being extraordinarily amusing. "Sarah Stinger," indeed, was one of the hits of the afternoon, and the house fairly rocked with hilarity.

During the afternoon Mr. Lennox Barry announced from the stage that the entertainment had realised £25, which would be handed to Dr. A. S. Gordon, who would act as hon. treasurer. He cordially thanked all the artists who had so unselfishly given their services in a good cause.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

It seldom happens in the experience of a manager that he is compelled to close the doors of his theatre as the only means of keeping would-be patrons out, but this was the experience of Mr. Arthur J. Barclay at the second house here on Monday night. When the "first house" audience with difficulty made their way into the street, it was only to find the surrounding thoroughfares filled with a surging throng waiting to get in for the second performance. The result was, as has been hinted, that very shortly after the doors were opened for the second house, they had to be closed again, as neither Mr. Barclay nor Mr. Slatter, strive as they would, could find another inch of standing-room for the crowd of applicants, and hundreds had to go way disappointed. The regular bill presented is in itself sufficient to ensure good business, but to this must be added the fact that a five-nights' ticket-benefit in aid of a deserving local charity helped to swell the numbers. One of the most attractive features of the programme this week is the welcome reappearance of Miss Victoria Monks, whose handsome presence, exquisite costumes, and sparkling gems are only eclipsed by her brilliant talents. Miss Monks sings delightfully of "London Town," and is no less successful in imitating the bona-fide "coon"; she is recalled three times. Miss Daisy James, looking younger and more sprightly than ever, sings her latest success, "Tell me, Jane," as only she can sing it, and afterwards gives her smart imitation of "The Gibson Girl." Miss Aline Sudbury is a pretty lady in pretty frocks. Her voice is good and her manner charming. The Three Prestons—two gentlemen and a lady—are very amusing in their absurdity, *The Lift Man's Rise*, keeping the audience in a constant state of merriment, and concluding with a bewildering dance. Mr. John Lawson and his company appear in one of their latest successes, *The King's Minister*. This intense little drama, written by Mr. Cecil Raleigh, may not afford Mr. Lawson so many opportunities as some of those with which his name is associated, but he presents a vivid picture of the Jewish Prime Minister. Miss Cissie Lawson is charming as the Minister's daughter, Muriel. The gentleman who plays "the villain of the piece" is also good. The mounting of the sketch leaves nothing to be desired. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents some new and attractive pictures. In honour of the philanthropic society which "benefits" this week a host of "extra turns" are forthcoming. Master George Phillips (late of Park's Eton Boys) sings delightfully, and proves himself an expert dancer. Mr. Leslie Gordon is the possessor of a fine baritone voice, used with great effect. Miss Elsie Croft, a charming young singer, appears in a new musical scena, "The Basket of Flowers." A poor flower-girl, thanks to the discovery of a locket, finds herself heiress to a fortune, and is translated to Park Lane. Miss Croft sings admirably, and acts with a rare amount of intelligence. Many other "turns" appear during the week.

"THE WOMAN WHO WAS."

A New Sketch, in One Scene, by Harry Pleon, Produced for the First Time in London at the Oxford Music Hall on Monday, Sept. 24.

Adam Fair ..... MR. ARTHUR ROBERTS
Lord Boodle ..... MR. CHRIS BURN
Don Asbestos ..... MR. S. DAMERELL
Fewkey ..... MR. HUDDLESTON
Lizette ..... MLLE. ANDRÉE CORDAY
Lady Boodle ..... MISS FRANCES DARLEY
Diana Chetwynd ..... MISS BURGWITZ
Bella ..... MISS CORA PLEON
Mme. Elise ..... MISS RUBY CELESTE

The Woman Who Was, which was produced on the 17th inst. at the Brighton Hippodrome, is a sketch that quite fulfils its purpose, inasmuch as the leading character affords Mr. Arthur Roberts abundant opportunities for the display of his quaint humour as a comedian. Adam Fair is a chauffeur whose fondness for a flirtation places him in an exceedingly awkward position. While on the Continent he has made ardent love to a charming French dancer named Lizette, who treats the matter seriously, and follows her fickle admirer to England. Discovering that the French girl is close upon his heels, Adam seeks refuge in a West-end shop, the manageress of which is a certain Mme. Elise, and, having explained his predicament, implores that lady to provide him with a temporary place of concealment. Madame suggests that he shall impersonate her new assistant, Miss McGinty, and Adam thereupon hastily disguises himself as the young lady, thus baffling the French maid, who is in pursuit of him. As one may readily suppose, a number of amusing complications follow. Lord Boodle, a director of the company owning the "Bon Marché," puts in an appearance, and has something to say to the supposed assistant, who is also called upon to measure a lady customer, Miss Diana Chetwynd, for a new dress. The entrance of Lizette, accompanied by her father, Don Asbestos, and both swearing to be revenged on the false Englishman who courted the young lady, does not tend to Adam's peace of mind. Moreover, Lizette, whose suspicions have been aroused, warns her father to keep an eye upon Miss McGinty. Lord Boodle again enters, and is induced to exchange clothes with the new assistant, she explaining that it is early-closing day, and the shop girls would enjoy a little fun and frolic. No sooner, however, has his lordship put on feminine garb than he encounters his wife, Lady Boodle. Lizette and her father also put in an appearance, and demand to know where Adam Fair is to be found. Eventually, Lizette penetrates Adam's disguise, and calls upon him to fight a duel with her father, the alternative being self-destruction by a pistol shot; but the would-be suicide escapes death through his bad marksmanship.

Mr. Arthur Roberts, in the character of the supposed lady shop assistant, is exceedingly funny, and Miss Ruby Celeste as Mme. Elise cleverly co-operates in the scheme of amusement. Mr. Chris Burn supplies a capital sketch of Lord Boodle; Mr. S. Damerell is good as the truculent Don Asbestos; and Mr. Huddleston is well placed as Fewkey. Mlle. Andrée Corday scores in the rôle of Lizette; Miss Frances Darley plays excellently as Lady Boodle; Miss Burgwitz is successful as Diana Chetwynd; and Miss Cora Pleon as Bella completes the cast.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR OCTOBER.

ENGLAND.

Oct. 1. Alnwick (6,716)
Oct. 1. Burton-on-Trent (50,386)
Oct. 1. Dudley (48,809)
Oct. 1. Hounslow (6,790)
Oct. 1. King's Norton (57,120)
Oct. 1. Macclesfield (34,635)
Oct. 1. Middleton Feast
Oct. 1 New Wortley Feast
Oct. 1. Selby (7,786)
Oct. 1. Tamworth (7,271)
Oct. 2. Atherton (6,211)
Oct. 2. Braintree (5,330)
Oct. 2. Kineton (1,000)
Oct. 2. Lambourne (900)
Oct. 2. Liskeard (4,011)
Oct. 2 Lymington (4,164)
Oct. 2. Peterboro' (30,870)
Oct. 2. Retford (4,200)
Oct. 2. Woodstock (1,684)
Oct. 3. Alvechurch (1,600)
Oct. 3. Belford (1,600)
Oct. 3. Bridport (5,710)
Oct. 4 Nottingham (239,753)
Oct. 4. Tiverton (10,382)
Oct. 4. Yarnborough Castle
Oct. 5. Evesham (7,101)
Oct. 5. Horwich (15,083)
Oct. 5. Kirkby Lonsdale (1,638)
Oct. 5. Wibsey Feast (4,568)
Oct. 6. Amesbury (1,000)
Oct. 6 Brough Hill (1,000)
Oct. 6. Glodwich (1c 0C0)
Oct. 6. Ilkeston (25,383)
Oct. 6 Marlboro' (3,046)
Oct. 6. Pilsley (2,347)
Oct. 6. Winchcomb (2,964)
Oct. 8. Abingdon (6,480)
Oct. 8. Cirencester (7,536)
Oct. 8. Great Grimsby (63,138)
Oct. 8. Halesowen (9,000)
Oct. 8. Houghton-le-Spring (8,000)
Oct. 8. St. Ives (Hunts.) (6,700)
Oct. 9. Alcester (2,500)
Oct. 9. Barkerend Feast
Oct. 9 Hartlepool (22,737)
Oct. 9. Kingsclere (2,000)
Oct. 9. Ledbury (3,259)
Oct. 9. Moreton-in-Marsh (1,559)
Oct. 9. Penryn (3,190)
Oct. 10. Chipping Norton (3,780)
Oct. 10. Colne (23,000)
Oct. 10. Gosport (29,000)
Oct. 10 Henley-in-Arden (1,000)
Oct. 10. Lancaster (40,329)
Oct. 10. Leicester (211,574)
Oct. 10. Mitcheldean (750)
Oct. 10. Northleach (180)
Oct. 10. Sherborne (6,000)
Oct. 10. Tavistock (4,728)
Oct 10. Tetbury (1,989)
Oct. 10. Tewkesbury (5,419)
Oct. 10. Worksop (16,112)
Oct. 11. Ashford (12,808
Oct. 11. Basingstoke (9,793)
Oct. 11. Burwell (Cambs.) (2,000)
Oct. 11. Faversham (11,300)
Oct. 11. Henley-in-Arden
Oct. 11. Highworth (2,500)
Oct 11. Hingham (1,564)
Oct. 11. Hungerford (5,000)
Oct. 11. Hull (240,618)
Oct. 11. Lingfield (3,200)
Oct. 11. Lowestoft (29,842)
Oct. 11. Nuneaton (25,000)
Oct. 11 Ramsbury (2,200)
Oct. 11. Thame (2,911)
Oct. 11. Torrington (3,006)
Oct. 11. Tring (4,368)
Oct. 11. Wooler (1,500)
Oct. 12. Bedford (35,144)
Oct. 12. Caistor (Lincs.) (2,000)
Oct. 12 Hitchin (10,072)
Oct. 12. Needham Market (1,300)
Oct. 12. Stratford-on-Avon (8,310)
Oct. 12. Warwick (11,889)
Oct. 13. Ashton-in-Makerfield (18,695)
Oct. 13. Aylesbury (9,244)
Oct. 13. Basford (Notts.) (11,600)
Oct. 13 Buckingham (3,400)
Oct. 13. Clay Cross (8,348)
Oct. 13. Crick (624)
Oct. 13. Farnsfield (942)
Oct. 13. Highworth (2,500)
Oct. 13. Hockley Heath (755)
Oct. 13. Ilmington (705)
Oct. 13. Luton (36,400)
Oct 13. Middleton (Stoney) (300)
Oct. 13. Pinxton (2,412)
Oct. 13. Shipston-on-Stour (1,700)
Oct. 13. Tapton (229)
Oct. 13. Wantage (3,766)
Oct. 15. Bakewell (2,850)
Oct. 15. Fazeley (1,800)
Oct. 15. Southam (1,800)
Oct. 16. Burley-in-Wharfedale Feast (3,310)
Oct 16. City Road (Bradford) Feast
Oct. 16. Hereford (21,382)
Oct. 16. Salisbury (17,117)
Oct. 16. Shipton-on-Stour
Oct. 17. Axminster (3,500)
Oct. 17. Banbury (12,967)
Oct. 17. Ivinghoe (1,300)
Oct. 17. Maidstone (33,516)
Oct. 17. Market Bosworth (911)
Oct. 17. Newbury (11.061)
Oct. 17. Wigan (60,770)
Oct. 18. Daventry (3,780)
Oct. 18. Hatfield (4,000)
Oct. 20. Arnold (8,757)
Oct. 20. Chichester (12,241)
Oct. 20. Clitheroe (11,414)
Oct. 20. Devizes (6.532)
Oct. 20. Leek (15,484)
Oct. 20. Oundle (2,404)
Oct. 20. Princes Risboro' (3,000)
Oct. 20. Sawbridgeworth (2,085)
Oct. 20. Sleaford (5,467)
Oct. 20. St. Austell (11,712)
Oct. 22. Bridlington (12,473)
Oct. 22. Blyth (Notts.) (1,629)
Oct. 23. Gainsboro' (17,660)
Oct. 24. Cinderford (5,000)
Oct. 24. Market Drayton (6,000)
Oct. 24. Skegness (2,140)
Oct. 24. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,386)
Oct. 24. Upper Ottery (763)
Oct. 25. Bingham (1,604)
Oct. 25. Ely (7,713)
Oct. 26. Warminster (5,547)
Oct. 27. Edwinstowe (1,560)
Oct. 27. Heath (9,441)
Oct. 27. Holmfirth (8,976)
Oct. 27. Horncastle (4,038)
Oct. 27. Kirkby (10,318)
Oct. 27. Oxcroft
Oct. 27. Stanfree
Oct. 27. Totnes (4,036)
Oct. 27. Wellington (6,273)
Oct. 27. Winferworth (382)
Oct. 29. Great Marlow (6,000)
Oct. 29. Wellingboro' (18,412)
Oct. 29. Hindon (500)
Oct. 30. Falmouth (11.773)
Oct. 30. St. Just (5,633)
Oct. 31. Belper (10,934)

SCOTLAND.

Oct. 8. Forfar (12,061)
Oct. 9. Dundee (153,066)
Oct. 11. Galashiels (13,508)
Oct. 13. Alloa (11,417)
Oct. 29. Edinburgh (208,069)
Oct. 31. Selkirk (5,488)

WALES.

Oct. 5. Maesycwmmer (800)
Oct. 6. Pembroke (16,000)
Oct. 10. Pontypool (6,000)
Oct. 20. Llandovery (1,809)

WOODHOUSE FEAST finishes the Leeds round, and in the same way the Manchester suburban round of fairs comes to an end at Altrincham this week. All the great concerns are making for the big round of back-end fairs, which includes Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, and Hull. We are also at the commencement of the autumn hiring fairs, known as "statties" in the Northern counties, and as "mops" in the Midland, Western, and Southern counties. The word "statties" is a corruption of "Statutes," fairs held primarily for the hiring of servants, and in all cases accompanied by holidays and a pleasure fair. According to the best authorities, the singular term "mop" is derived from the word "mappa," and the story connected with it is that the Roman Emperors, as the signal for the sports and carnival to begin, dropped a napkin, the "mappa." It is interesting to remember that in our village sports to this day it is usual to drop a handkerchief or a small white banner as the signal for the races or sports to begin. Anyhow, from "mappa" we are said to have derived our word "mop," which of course is merely local patois for "hirings," or statutory fair.

THE most celebrated of these mops are those at Gloucester, Stratford, Warwick, Burton-on-Trent, Banbury, and Woodstock, and the Northern hirings include important centres like Pontefract, Wetherby, Malton, Driffield, and York. It is somewhat the fashion to lament the supposed decadence of these hiring fairs, but it is nearer the truth to say that in the great agricultural centres they still serve a very useful purpose under modern conditions, and in these districts no self-respecting servant would think of renewing a contract of continued service without the all too short spell of freedom and pleasure afforded by the mop, or hiring fair.

WE have a note of considerable alarm for Lancashire show-people. The Darwen Corporation General Purposes Committee have determined to recommend drastic regulations with regard to Darwen Fair, held on the market ground during the July holidays. We hear that it has been resolved to exclude from the fair-ground steam and other power organs, and in the second place to close the fair at eleven o'clock at night. In a matter so important it is obvious that the Showmen's Guild and other trade societies in the fair-ground business will have something to say, and however legal the Markets Committee may be in this restriction of music, there is no doubt whatever that they have no power without an Act of Parliament to close the fair at eleven o'clock at night. A number of corporations in recent Private Bill legislation have sought power to do this, but in every instance the clause has been thrown out. The question, it will be remembered, was first raised by the Corporation of Mansfield, and after full argument before the Private Bills Committee of the House of Commons the Corporation lost the day, and it was decided (and has been held so ever since) that the ordinary law of the land as regards hours of opening or closing business is the same for the travelling showman as for the regular fixed shopkeeper or market trader. The justice of this is so obvious that we feel sure it only needs to be brought home to the Town Council of Darwen, and they will not attempt any unfair interference with their showman tenants at the time of the fair.

ILKLEY FEAST was, as regards its open-air amusements, under the capable management of Mr. Waddington, the well-known Yorkshire caterer, who provided gondolas, high-fliers, swings, shooting concerns, and other varieties.

WOODHOUSE FEAST caters for an entirely different crowd of people than that that resorts to Holbeck crowd of people from that which resorts to Holbeck pre-eminently a well-to-do middle-class suburb, and yet, although socially the Woodhouse crowd differs from the Holbeck patrons of the world of shows, it is none the less a popular and well-patronised fair. The principal shows at Woodhouse we have already mentioned as being at Holbeck; and other fairs on this round include Chipperfield's menagerie; Monte Bros.' and Testo's cinematographs; Rhodes' Theatre Royal; Professor Gibson, Hastings, Westray, Priest; the wrestling ladies; Murphy's, Howden's, Relph and Pedley's, Hamilton's, Collings', Waddington's, Corrigan's, Redfern's, Hughes's, and Johnson's machines, great and small; Thomson, Cutler, Jameson, Dobson, Houldsworth, Powell, Crowther, Baines, Illingworth, and some seventy other Yorkshire caterers and stallholders.

AT High Wycombe the Michaelmas Hiring Fair in the ancient market-place attracted an immense gathering from all parts of the county. It is about the oldest and largest fair of its sort in the country. Shepherds appeared with tufts of wool in their hair, while ploughmen sported knots of horse-hair and whipcord in their caps and buttonholes, proud of their distinctive callings. There was no dearth of farm servants, and the supply was much larger than the demand. The shows and fair-ground novelties included the best concerns on the metropolitan district and southern rounds, and all did excellent business.

AT Whichford Wake were Forrests' roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, &c.

AT the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, this week the attractions are Mr. C. Herbert's roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, and other amusements.

THE principal agricultural shows and horse and cattle fairs for October:—Brough Hill (Westmorland) and Alnwick, on the 1st; Downton (Wilts.), Lambourn, Retford, Thurles and Ballinasloe (Ireland), on the 2nd; Preston, Clonmel, and Peterborough on the 3rd; Huddersfield, Macclesfield, Yarnboro' Castle, Armagh, Blandford, Chester, Epworth (Lincs.), Nottingham, and Ripon, on the 4th; Wibsey (Bradford), Oakham, Chatteris (Cambs.), and Moy, on the 5th; Corby, Glastonbury, Grimsby, St. Ives (Hunts.), and Falkirk Tryst, on the 8th; Bingley, on the 9th; Weyhill, Drogheda, and Worksop, on the 10th; Barnsley, Hull, Malton, and Leicester, on the 11th; Banbury, Leyburn, Caistor (Lincs.), and Alston (Cumb.), on the 12th; Farningham (Kent), Luton, and Sherborne, on the 15th; Thrapston, on the 16th; Donington (Lincs.), Maidstone, Market Harboro', Knaresboro', Leek, Royston, and Partney, on the 17th; Yarm, on the 18th; Wooler, Ashborne, Brampton, and Lincoln, on the 19th; Rugeley and Rugby, on the 22nd; Ripley, Stockport, Winchester, and Ashford (Kent), on the 23rd; Gravesend, Melton Mowbray, East Ilsley, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Gainsborough, on the 24th; Clitheroe, Dorchester, Brampton (Devon), Bourne, Clones, Ely, and Limerick, on the 25th; Grantham, Warminster, Salisbury, Louth, and Tonbridge, on the 26th; Kirkby Stephen and Horncastle, on the 27th; Burton-on-Trent and Morpeth, on the 29th; Newcastle, on the 31st.

MR. TOM GREEN, who is so well known for his picture productions, in addition to turning out new sensations for the Walturdaw Co. and Gaumont and Co. has just finished one of the longest comics yet seen, 1000ft., for the well-known firm of Cricks and Sharp, and is still busy at his studio at Croydon.

LORD JOHN SANGER'S hippodrome and menagerie paid a visit to Bromley, Kent, on Saturday last, and gave two successful performances. Among the items of the programme were Zampo, the bounding wonder; M. Roberts, Continental jockey; Pimpo and his performing dogs; the pony with the human brain; Miss Lina, with her educated horse; and Sanger's famous troupe of elephants.

THE showmen at Gloucester, through Mr. Jacob Studt, the lessee of the Corporation fairground, have sent an urgent request to the Rev. T. Horne to address a Guild meeting there on Sunday next. (See announcement in our advertisement columns.) This Mr. Horne has promised to do. Will all showmen on the Gloucester Round make a point of attending this big rally in support of trade organisation and defence.

THE Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will hold its annual Nottingham Fair meeting on the fair, Thursday.

GUILD SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1906.—Per Mr. Mitchell: P. Knowles, Esq., Accrington, £1 1s.; J. D. Humphries, Esq., 5s.; per Mr. Cornwell: J. Bleackley, Esq., 10s.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. B. A. (Crediton).—*Our advice to you is that you curb for the present your desire for the life of the road. Wait until the circumstances of your home life make it possible for you to go forward undeterred by duties and responsibilities, which we cannot advise you to ignore.*

J. MILLER (Blackburn).—*We thank you for newspaper cutting, and notice with pleasure that you are again to the front as local champion of showmen's rights.*

WEEK-END golfers are offered special facilities by the Great Eastern Railway for visiting, during the autumn months the fine and exhilarating links which follow the line of the Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk coasts. During October, first and third-class restaurant-car accommodation will be provided on the train leaving Liverpool-street at 1.30 p.m. for Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Mundesley, Sheringham, and Cromer. For those who are desirous of returning on Sunday evening table d'hôte dinner will be served on the train leaving Cromer at 5.45 p.m., with which, trains leaving Yarmouth at 5 p.m. and Lowestoft at 5.8 p.m., will connect at Ipswich, and trains from Clacton and Frinton at 7.16 p.m. will connect at Colchester. Express dining-car trains will also leave Liverpool-street daily for Cromer, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Felixstowe, Hunstanton (and on Fridays to Sheringham), breakfast-cars being run on the morning expresses to London from the same resorts. The principal towns in the Eastern Counties, including Norwich, Ipswich, Lynn, and Cambridge, are also served by the restaurant and dining-car trains. These facilities will enable the railway journey, both going and returning, to be accomplished with the maximum of comfort in minimum time, and will, it is anticipated, attract a goodly company of golfers to the East Anglian links.

BIRMINGHAM GREAT ONION FAIR.

It is a curious and interesting historical fact that the ancient fair rights of Birmingham, secured by Royal charter, still remain, although since 1875 no facilities have been accorded by the Corporation for the due enjoyment of those rights. The charter provides for the holding of two fairs, one within the high festival of Whitsun, and the other during the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, commonly called Michaelmas. In the days of its ancient glory as a big market as well as pleasure fair it obtained its name, "the Great Onion Fair," from the fact that it was the biggest centre for the sale of onions in the United Kingdom. The Michaelmas Fair was changed to the last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in September, in order not to clash with the date of the Birmingham Musical Festival. Like many another historic fair, it was not under the control of the Corporation until recent years; in fact, it was a little over half a century ago that Birmingham obtained control of the fairs. It was a manorial right and source of revenue to the Lords of the Manor, whose agents, the officers of the Court Leet, the high and the low bailiffs, managed the fairs and drew the tolls.

The pomp and ceremony of proclaiming the fair at certain stopping-places, and in accordance with the ancient civic ritual, is still well within memory of old inhabitants of the Midland capital. The officers of the Court, the bailiffs of the manor, the town crier, with a band of music, perambulated the principal streets, and with these officials went the prominent men of the town. The fair was proclaimed in the Bull Ring, New-street, Dale End, Smithfield Market, and Jamaica-row, and well within the centre of the town, as indicated by these thoroughfares, the fair was held. The ceremonial of proclaiming the fair meant the declaiming by the town crier, from the words of the charter, the fair rights and franchises of the people of Birmingham, as well as the Lord of the Manor, to hold a "mercate" or fair. The various steps taken by the Puritanical majority on the Council to do away with the fair were cunningly arranged and carried out. No attempt was made to obtain the consent of the people or to exercise the statutory powers of the Abolition of Fairs Act, for this reason—that to do so would involve an appeal to the people and a vote being taken for or against abolition. The Puritans remembered that any appeal to the people would defeat their purpose, and so they began to curtail the ground space and to diminish the facilities for holding the fair. Originally the fair could extend itself through the Bull Ring, the lower part of Bull-street, the whole of High-street, part of New-street, Dale End, Digbeth, Allison-street, Spicehall-street, Jamaica-row, and the whole of Smithfield. Their first step was to limit the fair ground to the Bull Ring, Smithfield Market, and the upper part of Digbeth. This was in the year 1860. Then followed a series of still greater curtailment of the available ground, and in 1875 arbitrary decisions were made by the Borough Council—(1) not to let any Corporation ground for shows or exhibitions, and (2) not to allow the streets of the town to be used by stalls or temporary erections during the weeks of the fairs. The showmen of England in 1875 were without any cohesion or organisation. Right and left of them—as at Birmingham, so in other towns—fairs were being abolished by the arbitrary decision of local authorities, and the whole of the show business was at the mercy of any jack-in-office or elected person. It was fifteen years later, when the Puritanical crusade of George Smith and his allies compelled them to unite and defend their business and their character, that it became possible for the travelling showman to influence public opinion against the unwarrantable encroachments of public bodies.

From 1890 up to the present day every attempt of public bodies to interfere with the trade rights of showmen and the pleasure fair rights of the common people has been challenged by the Showmen's Guild, and almost without exception the fairs have been preserved, and, in some instances, improved by the mutual effort of both showmen and corporations. Birmingham has many associations with the historic past of British shows. Mme. Tussaud's waxworks were exhibited in Birmingham in 1813, at the Shakespeare Tavern in New-street, and here again she came in 1822. Ryan, with his circus, held the fair in 1815 on the Old Moat Ground, now the City Market, for the Whitsun week fair, and with him on the ground were Haddock's mechanical exhibition, Ingleby, the magician, with conjuring booth, Cartwright's scientific show, the philosophical fireworks and musical glasses, with many other novelties and entertainments of a smaller kind. We have a memory of a visit to Birmingham Fair in the early sixties, before the era of steam-driven machines. The shows included Wombwell's menagerie, Newsome's circus, Holden's glass-blowing, Chapman's performing birds, Buckley's walk-up van, Ewen's waxworks, and the usual attendant throng of fair-ground novelties. But, to come to modern times, it is no exaggeration to say that Birmingham Great Onion Fair is dearer than ever to the hearts of the people, and that the attempt to abolish it without consulting the wishes of the people has only resulted in creating a strong public opinion in its favour.

The men to gauge the strength of that public opinion, and to provide for its full gratification, were Messrs. P. and J. Collins, who very soon secured an admirable fair-ground, called the Old Pleck. Upon this site, near to where the people dwell in their thousands—in fact, at their very door—the fair is set out, under the personal supervision of Messrs. Collins and their expert staff of managers. Thus, whilst Smithfield Market, the Bull Ring, and Dale-street, are bright no more with the interesting array of the fair, the Old Pleck rejoices in the glory, pomp, and magnificence of one of the best-ordered fairs in the world. When we paid our visit to Birmingham there was no doubt as to the trend of the vast crowds emptied into every railway station on pleasure bent. Every tram-car going to the Old Pleck was loaded. No distance ever daunts a British crowd in search of a fair, so

"Hey-ho, and away we go."

So sang the ballad-monger in the olden time. As we left the car at the nearest point to the fair-ground, and entered the great avenue leading to the fair, we found ourselves carried along in the surging crowd making for the goal of its ambition, and speedily we were in the throng of the fair. Oh! the swing and joy of it, the magnetism of its thousand-and-one attractions, the extraordinary blend of much music, the bright and varying effects; for all the gold there did glitter. The show fronts in a blaze of electric light, whirling gondolas, undulating Japanese airships, ascending switchbacks, rampant horses, careering cockerels, flying ostriches, racing ponies, motor-cars, great and small, and the other mechanical and ingenious contrivances, and all available for the nimble penny. The shows numbered ten in the front rank, and included cinématographs, variety theatres, circuses, menageries, freak and novelty booths, conjurers, and the inevitable boxing booth. Fifteen to twenty machines, little and big; swings, shooting galleries, photo. booths and vans, and literally miles of stalls and throwing games—such is Birmingham Great Onion Fair, and, comparing the ancient with the modern, it demonstrates the too often forgotten fact that, at any one of our great fairs, like Birmingham, Nottingham, or Hull, there are more shows in number alone, without regard to value, than could have been found in the whole of the United Kingdom sixty years ago. That, we take it, is the answer direct to the ignorant talk that sometimes one hears of the decay of British fairs, and that showmen are, in their business matters, out of date.

A COUNTRY RECTOR ON TRAVELLING THEATRES.

The Rev. F. J. Metcalfe, Rector of Killamarsh, near Sheffield, has kindly consented to act as hon. local chaplain to the Showmen's Guild.

For some years past the reverend gentleman has held a service on the fair-ground at the time of the annual feast. This, as rector of the parish, he, good man, regarded as but part of his ordinary work. This year, however, the press agencies got hold of the interesting and (to them) novel fact that a parson had the platform of a switchback as a pulpit, and had led the prayers and praises of the people on a fair-ground.

Mr. Metcalfe is a man of wide sympathies, and in the truest sense a priest of generous mind and broad views. His book, recently published, "Colliers and I," is a storehouse of "live" experiences. Thirty years and more in one centre of throbbing life either makes or mars a man. That Mr. Metcalfe has realised how to minister to the sons and daughters of toil is fully shown in the deeply interesting chronicle of his work amongst the colliery folk of his Derbyshire parish. The chapter on theatres—especially the portable theatre—is of immense interest to a considerable class of people, and in these days of rapid transition, when the portable coliseum and the empire of varieties penetrates in districts where there are, and cannot be for many years yet, permanent theatres or variety halls, the attitude of the local clergy and the leaders of the people is of the utmost importance.

We may safely take Mr. Metcalfe as an example of the better mind now animating the clergy with regard to the necessary amusement of the people. Speaking of theatres in general he says:—

"In my younger days I was taught to look upon these places as bad and harmful; in fact, I own to have been somewhat bigoted in this matter; and it was only by very slow degrees that my opinions began to alter, until at last I gave my name to patronise the very places that I had often fined my boys for attending.

"I began by slowly realising that the desire to see, and the power to appreciate, acting and mimicry was universal, and natural to all nations and peoples, whether religious or otherwise.

"The desire is found in the youngest of children; the child who cannot act or imitate is of weak intellect, and will never make its way in the world. Then again, I thought that the highest development of intellect finds, and has always found, its climax in the writing and interpretation of the drama.

"The man who reads, recites, preaches, or sings without dramatic effect in tone, eye, hand, or posture is a duffer, powerless to elevate or move his audience for want of inward fire. The working men—above all, colliers—cannot be moved by the deeply thought-out essays or the discourse of polished English, however beautifully read from a manuscript.

"This power of living representation is a tremendous gift of God; but it is, as all such brilliant gifts are, a very sharp-edged tool.

"Greeks and Latins of old, each in their time and place, moved the world, and still do move thousands, by the God-given powers of their great and celebrated dramatists.

"What would the histories of the world and the nation be unless they were filled by living interest? Merely exploded volcanic craters. It is the power of the imagination in the reader that fills every ode, every chapter, every hill and valley, every plain, every rock and lane, the sea coast, the mountains, with the living forms of the gods, the heroes, the armies, the fishermen, the pastoral shepherds, the maidens, and the swains described therein.

"Now turn to Holy Scripture: it is full of dramatic expression. I have heard the finding of Ahab by Elijah read in the sanctified, assumed nasal twang of the sixteenth century without being the slightest degree moved; and, on the other hand, I have hardly been able to sit still for thrilling when I have heard the same passage read by my father. May I here venture to say that I believe anyone desiring to learn how to move and be moved would find their time well and profitably spent in the study of George Adam Smith's book on 'Isaiah'? Every page, every line, will thrill him as if all were really enacted in his sight. See also the 'Song of Solomon,' as set forth in Jeremy Taylor's 'Marriage Ring.'

"To condemn the drama, then, is simply to condemn the best literature of the cultured and civilised world, and one of the highest gifts God has given to man. This overwhelming desire and power cannot be suppressed unless you can suppress the almighty himself. After a graphic and dramatic scene, did not our Saviour say 'Go thou and do likewise'?

"What cannot be suppressed can be directed. Under direction its power for good is seen, as at Oberammergau. Its power for moral force is seen in the representation of Shakespeare and the best of modern playwriters.

"Its influence for evil is seen most in houses condemned by severe public criticism.

"To condemn and ostracise the whole profession and its work has the effect of driving it out of cultivation, until it becomes a weed of evil and deadly influence. Many actors, both great and small, have been good men, good citizens, and religious withal.

"Queen Victoria was always a great patron of the drama up to the end of her life. She showed how to deal with the matter by inviting the most worthy companies to act before her; and she, above all people, would not encourage anything immoral. Her life is held up to her subjects as a model and example by even those who have most bitterly condemned the theatre. How they explain their inconsistent position I fail to see. The Queen took much delight in ballet dancing—*i.e.* acting without words—and had the most famous dancer of the day as a teacher for her Royal children.

"The strict attention and severe strain which their profession makes on actors entirely precludes the idea of more immorality than is common to outsiders.

"Sin in the boxes, dress circles, pit, and galleries ought not to be accounted to the stage.

"In the beautiful forms of a nude figure in pure marble there is no sin; no suggestion of sin; no copy of sin. The sin, if sin there be, is in the man who gazes, and excites his lust rather than glorifies his God as the Creator of purity and beauty."

In the same chapter he gives his own experience with regard to portable theatres. We reproduce it with great pleasure as being of that wisdom that contact with life as it is brings to the man of God.

"The country parson's attitude of dragooning the unpretending theatre, when it comes to his parish, has simply the effect of driving immorality deeper down—*i.e.*, from the theatre to the music hall, thence to the publics, street corners, and chip shops. But more of these anon.

"Driven objects of attack always sink lower and lower, making cure more difficult, and open fresh fields of temptation."

Travelling theatres (in which I am much interested) are what we make them. Respectable folk and their denunciations ruin all. "I wouldn't be seen in such a place," say they. No, they prefer refined vice.

"In both the places in which I have worked as priest I have found these theatre people most thankful to be helped to raise the tone of their performances. They have welcomed the assistance of our bands and patronage. At both places the proprietors used to come and ask us to name some play we should like to see. I have paid a 'pop visit' several times, and only once did I hear a questionable song. When it was over, I jumped up on the stage, and, addressing the audience, I said, 'I am going to ask the manager a favour, and I am sure you will all approve; I am going to ask him not to allow such songs as the last to be sung any more while they stay here.' The effect was wonderful—on players and people; and I never had occasion to speak again, though, after that, I was often invited by the proprietor to address the people from the stage, which I was pleased to do, sometimes acting a little play on my own account, and, though I say it myself, bringing down the house. One night, after I had been playing the fool a bit, the manager said to the audience, 'The reverend gentleman is the only performer who has succeeded in obtaining an encore to-night. Should misfortune ever overtake him, he need have no fear of not getting a living, for I will give him a good salary to be my comedian.' During the visit of one of these theatres, the clog-dancer and singer, after one of his performances, was taken very ill. I was away from home, but came at once on receipt of a telegram. When I got home, the poor fellow was unconscious in bed; the theatre people stood weeping around. I held a short commendatory service; the poor fellow passed away, and I buried him. On the following Monday night I went to the theatre, and, addressing the audience, I said: 'Now then, you fellows don't often give anything to anyone; now is your chance to do a good action, and I know you will do it. See, here's my hat; pass it round, and give something for this poor widow and her three children.' The hat went round, and I had the pleasure of giving the woman before them all £4 all but a shilling or two.

"Some twelve months after this the proprietor himself died suddenly, and though the theatre was some miles away in Nottingham, I was sent for and asked to take the funeral, which I did in the Mansfield Cemetery. The following is a copy of a letter I received from the stage-manager a few days after:—

'Queen's Theatre,
'Sutton-in-Ashfield,
'April 17, 1901.

'MR. METCALFE,

'DEAR SIR,—Allow me to thank you on behalf of the Queen's Theatre company for your most thoughtful and sympathetic letter to them in their bereavement, which I had the pleasure of reading to them this morning. I can assure you I can find no words strong enough to express to you our gratitude for the kindly feeling which prompted such an action on your part, and can only say that the kind wishes expressed by you are thoroughly reciprocated by them. We have also to thank you for officiating at our late manager's funeral, and hope that you will feel no ill effects from the inclemency of the weather. It is such actions as these that tend to give us better thoughts, and, I trust, induce us to think more seriously of religion, by letting the poor players know that there is at least one clergyman who respects them—and in his heart. If it would not inconvenience you, Mrs. Bates's family and company would be pleased to see you here in Sutton on Monday next, the 22nd inst. If in your power to come, would you kindly let me know? And your presence will be welcome to all, and to none more so than—Yours respectfully,

'ALF SANDERS, Stage-Manager.'"

We have one great hope, and that is that, through the action of the Showman's Guild, all good men and true, whether clergy or lay-folk, will be drawn together by the common desire of showing fellowship (as Mr. Metcalfe and others like-minded are now doing in increasing numbers) with the travelling entertainers of the people.

MR. JOHN LAWSON INJUNCTED

In the Vacation Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane, was heard the case of the Canterbury and Paragon (Limited) v. Lawson.

This was a motion to continue an injunction, granted on Monday, restraining the defendant, John Lawson, his servants, employees, and agents, from performing or taking part in a performance of any description at the London, Shoreditch.

Mr. J. F. Carr appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. W. H. Draper for the defendant.

The plaintiffs were the proprietors of the Canterbury and Paragon, and the defendant was the well-known music hall artist, who performs with a troupe of assistants under the name of John Lawson and Co. By an agreement, dated Sept. 22, 1905, the defendant was engaged to perform at the above halls during four separate non-consecutive weeks, extending over a period of more than a year. In the agreement was a clause forbidding the defendant "prior to or during the fulfilment of this contract," to perform at, among other specified halls, the London, Shoreditch. In pursuance of this agreement he was bound to appear at the Paragon during the week beginning Nov. 12 next. In breach of this last clause the plaintiff, for the week commencing on Sept. 24 last, had engaged himself to fulfil a week's engagement at the London in a sketch, entitled *Sally in our Alley*. The London is situated within a mile of the Paragon, and it was stated by the plaintiffs that the defendant is "the great music hall artist in the East End of London," and that his performing at the London now would injure the receipts at the Paragon on Nov. 12. On behalf of the defendant it was said that the clause forbidding him to appear at the London was struck out in ink and initialled by Mr. G. Adney Payne, the managing-director of the plaintiff company.

Mr. Draper, on behalf of the defendant, submitted that the proper remedy was not injunction, but damages. He cited "Whitwood Chemical Company v. Hardman" (1891, 2 Ch., 416); and "Ehrman v. Bartholomew" (1898, 1 Ch., 671). There was a conflict of evidence as to the striking out of the prohibition clause, which it would be difficult for the learned Judge to decide. He submitted also that it was a hardship on the defendant that he should be prevented from earning a livelihood during the gaps by a contract which scattered four weeks' performances over a period of more than a year.

Mr. Carr pointed out that Mrs. Lawson, who transacted Mr. Lawson's business at times, in a letter dated Sept. 12 to Mr. Payne, said, "It is understood that the Cambridge and the London may be worked in the meantime." This was not consistent with the contention that defendant had a right to perform there. Leave to perform at the Cambridge, one of the prohibited halls, had been, in fact, granted. The real reason of the breach of the contract was that the proprietors of the London had offered the defendant a much higher salary than that given by the plaintiffs.

Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane said that the contract was quite clear. (His lordship read the above clause.) The defendant proposed to perform at the London Music Hall during this week. Mr. Payne had drawn his attention to the matter in a letter dated Sept. 20. The reply was a telegram beginning "Unkind," which was not consistent with the defendant's present contention. It was then contended that the contract was unreasonable. He could not say that when he observed that it was in a common form such as had been entered into by the defendant many times before. The injunction must be continued until the end of the week commencing Nov. 12 next.

THE latest contributions to the "Fred Locke" Fund, received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, include:—Fred Wright, jun., 10s.; R. Macdonald (Lodge Star, 517), 10s.; J. S. Stitt (Paris), 5s.; J. G., 3s.

"BURNING TO SING; or, SINGING TO BURN."

A Satire on the Methods of Grand Opera.
Music by Gustave Kerker,
and Libretto by R. H. Burnside.
Produced at the Empire, on Monday, Sept. 24.

Mme. Marguerite Tremolini..MISS ANNA HICKISCH
Signor Eduardo Tremolini..MR. OTTLEY CRANSTON
Bill Jones .....MR. HENRY FRANKISS
Tomassini .....MR. T. TREMAYNE
Jim Higgins .....MR. N. MASON
Tom Harris .....MR. V. BOOTH

Mr. Gustave Kerker, the composer of the tuneful score of *The Belle of New York*, had a warm welcome on taking the conductor's seat at the Empire on Monday, when he directed the first performance of a really amusing satire on the methods of grand opera. The skit was originally designed for a "gambol" at the Lambs' Club, New York, the members of which world-known coterie have often extended the heartiest of welcomes to English actors and entertainers. It was suggested to Mr. Kerker by one of the "shepherds" that he should found the score of a musical comedy on selected airs of classic opera; but this meant too much research, and the composer therefore thought it would be quicker to compose an original work. The idea of the skit occurred one evening at a home musical party. Observing an alarming fire in the next thoroughfare, he kept his knowledge to himself, and the informal concert was continued, the ladies being saved from much fright. In *Burning to Sing; or, Singing to Burn*, the librettist introduces us immediately on the lifting of the curtain to a young married prima donna, who is occupying a bed-sitting room in the Hotel Pitz. Dressed in an elaborate peignoir, she pours out in roulades her sorrow and disappointment at the indifference of her husband, who at 4 a.m. still remains at his club. When at 4.5 a.m. he returns—singing rather hilariously and uncertainly—he brings with him a couple of long French loaves as a peace-offering to his neglected wife, who strikes him to the ground, but eventually forgives him in "accents sweet" and joins him in singing a love duet, an inevitable convention in grand opera. The skit becomes more hilarious with the arrival of Bill Jones, the page boy, who opens the door while at the same time requesting in *agitato* tones to be allowed to enter. He is not supposed to do so until the prima donna and her baritone husband have finished their second duet, "Let us see who can it be." When Bill is at length admitted, with the manager's compliments he gives them a polite message—a string of lengthy sentences set to music in the manner of grand opera recitative—that as the hotel is on fire they should make all reasonable haste and leave. Still singing, madame sits down to arrange her coiffure, and the signor, with a light-hearted air—in a double sense—commences to shave. Neither is in the slightest degree disturbed by the arrival of the hotel manager Tomassini, who in ponderous recitative enunciates his very strong opinion that it is time they should be going—an opinion that is strongly emphasised by the crumbling of the scorched walls, and the commencement of the destruction of the ceiling. But the departure cannot be made without a farewell—a long farewell (in song) to the furniture. They then hurriedly make for the door, but the wife returns for the canary—an incident that provokes a madrigal concerning the song of birds and spring's delights. When at last the door is reached the prima donna hurts her toe—another opportunity for a long concerted piece. Even when flames flash in at the door the quartet sit down calmly to cards. A couple of firemen come and leisurely move the furniture, and it is only when the streaming water from the hose begins to play upon the interior of the hotel that the operatically mad quartet seek—their umbrellas. When we take our leave of them they still seem to be enjoying a *crescendo* of jubilation.

The sketch is conceived throughout in the true spirit of parody, and the numbers—notwithstanding their absurdity—showed musicianly skill, a knowledge of part-writing, and a flow of melody that one naturally expects from so gifted a composer as Mr. Kerker. Miss Anna Hickisch sang with brio and enthusiasm, displaying no little humour; and Mr. Ottley Cranston, whose operatic training stands him in good stead, has a lively sense of fun, and was responsible for a capital sketch of the husband, his voice being of excellent quality, and giving considerable pleasure. Mr. Henry Frankiss cut a whimsical figure as the page-boy Bill Jones; and Mr. T. Tremayne was effective as the hotel proprietor.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

There is a perfect prodigality of good things in the bill here this week, and capital business is resulting. Leverto dances with wonderful agility, and lives up to his title as a "dancing marvel." A duologue, bearing the title of *A Misunderstanding*, afford Mr. Henry J. Corner and Miss Queenie Essex respective opportunities, each suspecting the other of madness. The duologue should, however, be played under its proper title—*A Pair of Lunatics*, if we mistake not. As usual at this house, the orchestral selections are always well done. This particularly applies to the excerpts this week; special mention may be made of *The Toreador* (Ivan Caryll), the band being ably conducted by Mr. F. R. Kinkee. As musical grotesques, Messrs. Barton and Franklin give an excellent show, their versatility with a number of musical instruments—including banjos, glasses, concertinas, &c.—being quite wonderful. Dashing Fanny Robina displays a remarkable vocal register, and her selection on "Contentment" was hugely enjoyed by the audience. A capital melologue, entitled *Under the Maple Leaf*, teemed with excitement and tragic situations; the sketch was capitally interpreted, chief honours going to the author, Mr. John Henderson, who, as the Scotch packman-carrier, Sandy Macfarlane, was admirable. Mr. Cyril Fairlie was quite a respectable villain, paradoxically; and the Troop Sergeant-Major was satisfactorily played by Mr. Charles Beckville. As the post-mistress of the lonely station among the Rockies Miss Millie Henderson filled the rôle with no little ability; Miss Florrie Cooper sang a pathetic ballad with much sweetness, and was applauded. The Walonells, a couple of comic gymnasts, caused considerable fun; while the Dandies, a clever company of artists, repeated their success in a *mélange*, entitled *Song, Mirth, and Dance*. The bioscopic scenes here are much appreciated, while Mr. Kay Draco keeps an ever-watchful eye on the comforts of his clientèle, and does much to enhance the popularity of the house.

"THE SCARECROW."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I saw in your last issue an announcement that a scarecrow song had just been written and accepted for publication. I have been singing a song on the same subject since the middle of April. The words are by A. E. Sidney Davis, and the music by Hermann Darewski, jun., and it has been so successful that I have to thank it greatly for securing two years on the Stoll tour, a good panto engagement, and a number of other contracts. If there has been any cribbing of ideas it has certainly not been on the part of the author and composer of my scarecrow song.—Yours truly,

BESSIE BUTT.

Ardwick Empire, Manchester, Sept. 26.

MR. CHARLES CORNELL, author and composer, after a critical operation at the Charing Cross Hospital, is now well on the road to recovery.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS WINIFRED WARD is featuring with much success, Will Hyde's latest chorus song, "My Houseboat Queen." This song is of the "free" order, and should be a great pantomime number. It has been secured for publication by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE will shortly produce a new march song—"Singapore"—by the composer of "Hiawatha." This is an ideal number for principal boys for pantomime, and already numerous permissions have been given by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured Coon, has been singing with marked success his new song, "A Lonely Bachelor Coon." This worthy successor to that fine ditty, "My Havana Queen," of Gifford and Lawrance, is by H. F. Greenfield, and Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have already placed it on the market. The writer has just written another for Mr. Elliott and one for Mr. Frank Harwood.

THAT clever and consistent author and actor-vocalist, Mr. Herbert Shelley has, in conjunction with Stephen Philpot, written and composed a striking number in "The Old Oak Wall," which Mr. David Day is publishing. With a view to pantomime a special topical version has been prepared.

MR. TOM LEO has this week made his initial bow to Brixton audiences, and his "Too Lazy to Live" song has been greatly to their liking. The Simple Simons, the Page Boys, and especially the Idle Apprentices of pantomime, are already making this song as their own for Christmas use.

MR. FRED EARLE'S forthcoming comic song, entitled "Birdseed" is in the Press, having been secured for publication by Mr. David Day.

MISS ADA REEVE has scored a very big and artistic success at the Tivoli in a new Chinese scena, entitled *Sansy Pansy Soo*, written by Herbert Shelley, and composed by Ernest Bucalossi.

"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA," Murphy and Lipton's wonderful march chorus-song, is gaining fresh admirers every day. Two of the best-known pantomime producers in the kingdom have spoken in the highest terms of this number, and the writers are being warmly congratulated by their brother authors and composers.

"RUN, RUN, YOU LITTLE ONES," the highly-successful "Sweep" song, written and composed by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton, has this week been placed on the list of Francis and Day's "Sixpenny" edition.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD has just secured from Messrs. C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton a comedy waltz song, which he will produce as soon as possible. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have this number in the press.

MR. ERNEST SHAND has achieved a signal success at all his "turns" this week with Messrs. Harrington and Tate's comedy "Curate" song, "Oh, dearly beloved breth-er-en," and so great have already been the trade demands for this song that the publishers (the Monte Carlo Publishing Company) are pushing forward the publication of the number with all speed.

MISS EDIE KING has just accepted from Messrs. Harrington and Tate a new song, entitled "Let me show you," in which she will illustrate the distinctive dances of various nations.

MR. JOHN P. HARRINGTON has signalised his return to business by writing two remarkably quaint songs for Happy Fanny Fields, entitled: "Hello, Gretchen!" and "He Blow! Blow! Blow!" the melodies to which have been composed by Mr. Jas. W. Tate. So highly is the latter song thought of that it has been accepted for early inclusion in the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes."

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have this week accepted from Mr. J. F. Lambe a charming new song, written and composed by him, entitled, "My Lily Love," which bids fair to rival this gifted author-composer's two great successes, "Widow Doolin" and "Queen of Old Samara," published by the same enterprising young firm.

MISS MARIE LLOYD'S latest comedy success, "Customs of the Country," by Harrington and Tate, is now in the press, and will be issued at an early date by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

MESSRS. NEWTON BUTTS and Herbert Rule have this week disposed of a striking new comedy song, entitled, "She Didn't Come from Borneo," to the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., the expert "song-placers," which go-ahead firm hope and expect great things of this highly-humorous and melodious number.

ONE of the songs in great request for pantomime is the new number which is being placed on the market by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, entitled "I want Molly, and she wants Me," by F. W. Leigh, whose "Molly, I love you" has proved such a hit everywhere.

A WELL-KNOWN humorist was marvelling recently how Mr. Lester Barrett managed to get his coat on and off at this time of the year, having in view the number of "good things" he usually has up his sleeve for the Christmas "annuals." Among them this year must be reckoned the coon song, entitled "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm out," which that dainty artist Daisy Dormer has been singing in the provinces. The song is by Charles Collins.

MISS VICTORIA MONKS' latest acquisition is from the joint pens of Murphy and Lipton, and is named "Ain't the old place good enough for you?" Mr. David Day has secured the number.

HENRY E. PETHER, whose "I can see red roses blooming," written in conjunction with Fred W. Leigh, is acclaimed as one of the most charming ballads of the day, has just completed a number entitled "Mona's daughter (in the sweet Isle of Man)." This popular composer is now seeking inspiration in a new domicile in the neighbourhood of Harringay.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday evening a well-attended concert took place in the Central Hall. The Westminster Singers, consisting of Messrs. George May, Wilfrid Kearton, Bertram Mills, and W. H. Brereton, My Lady Sleeps" and other contributions equally rendered admirable service in the part-song "While commendable. Another number which called for meritorious recognition was that of "Tell Her I Love Her So," by Mr. Walter Hyde. The violin solos of Senor Jose Gomez called forth rapturous applause. Miss Esta D'Arco, who possesses a rich and cultured voice, won golden opinions by her renderings of "A Butterfly Song" and "If No One Ever Marries Me." No less successful was Miss Edna Thornton, who charmingly sang "The Ship that Sailed into the Sun," and "I Know a Lovely Garden." Mr. Charles Sullivan gave Irish songs, including "I Know of Two Bright Eyes" and "The Little Irish Girl." Mr. Bertram Mills and the Quartette, Misses Esta D'Arco and Edna Thornton, and Messrs. Charles Hyde and Charles Sullivan also deserve mention, and to the accompanist, Mr. G. D. Cunningham, is due unstinted praise for his untiring efforts in that capacity; his organ solo was also successful.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 11.)

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—GRAND.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Chas. R. Whittle, comedian, is a pronounced success here; the Three Laurels are clever tumblers; J. P. Ling, mimic, is applauded; Walter Monroe is still the same good old Irish comedian; Howard and Collinson, the British Quartette, Percy Mayer, and the pictures complete a good programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Sidney Bacon's comedy, *The Duchess of Tooting*, is the great draw this week, and is well played by the company. Atlas Nuicana, athletes, are applauded for their feats of strength; the Jalvans, oriental entertainers, the Five Olracs, acrobats, Paragon Trio, vocalists, Paulin Zaro, comedienne, Lily Sharplin, mimic, and the Fitzops, gymnasts, are also in the programme.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—The management are this week submitting an entire change of programme to their patrons, having engaged Mr. Herbert Darnley's vaudeville company. One of the most interesting items in a well-varied bill is Volcano, an Herculean athlete, whose feats of strength are marvellous; Nellie Gannon scores with her well-rendered patriotic songs; and Harry Wright makes a great hit with his songs, both artists being awarded unbounded applause. Lilian Sinado, a clever lady gymnast; and Peggy Fame, an accomplished comedy girl, are two enjoyable turns; while the Dunlops cause considerable laughter with their cycle performance. Marcus Boyle, comedian; Arthur Dornton, Doyle and Marney (dancers), the Chromo Bioscope, and two amusing sketches, entitled *Moving In* and *Skirmishers*, complete the bill.

TAMWORTH.—ASSEMBLY HALL.—Manager, Mr. F. Hughes.—Miss Maggie Morton's company paid a flying visit here on Saturday night with *Life's Sweetest Sins*, under the management of Mr. Fred Herman. Mr. Otto Minster, as Captain Harold Marston, gave a fine rendering of a difficult part; Mr. Dudley Wynton as Dr. Colebrooke made a polished villain; Mr. Ernest Turner as Bob Tanner and Mr. C. H. Brooke as Martin, with Miss Phyllis Esdaile as Bess Gregson, were responsible for some amusing comedy scenes; Mis Maud Burleigh was a decided success in the emotional part of Doreen Rivers, the heroine; Miss Mabel Liston as Fay Colbrooke, the doctor's daughter, gave a capital representation of the character.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. H. Armitage and Mr. Arthur Leigh's company opened a week's engagement on Monday with *Leah Kleschna*. In the name part Miss Bessie Rignold played with consummate ability; the Paul Sylvaine of Mr. William F. Grant was characterised by real feeling, restraint, and dignity; the Kleschna of Mr. Paul Belmore was an admirable embodiment, and Mr. Hamilton Deane portrayed the part of Raoul Berton with considerable discretion and talent; Mr. Max Alison as General Berton was good, and the Schran of Mr. Campbell Goldsmid was excellent.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The season here concludes this week, and the popular Olmypian Entertainers are paying a return visit. Miss Doris Lee is an artist of attractive personality, and is repeatedly encored; Miss Haidee St. George also does well, and her talented singing is much appreciated; Mr. Philip Ritte has a tenor voice of exceptional power, and the applause with which he is received is fully merited; Miss Evelyn Keath's recitations are well received, and Mr. J. G. Taylor, an old favourite, causes general hilarity; Mr. Harry Harmer is heard to advantage in some new humorous songs, and Mr. Paul Mill is as popular as ever; Miss Flora Ledna is also a capable artist, and Mrs. Paul Mill is an accompanist of unusual ability.

TREHERBERT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole; Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—The first visit of *At Duty's Call* drew a crowded house on Monday, when the audience fully appreciated the efforts of Mr. John Gerant's capable company. Mr. Gerant gives a powerful and successful reading of the part of Harold Allison; Mr. Harry Scott deserves great credit for his impersonation of Captain George Allison; Mr. Ernest St. John makes the most of his opportunities as General Gordon; and Mr. Harry Ugar is thoroughly amusing as Terry O'Halloran. Jack Spencer is effectively represented by Mr. Walter P. Carr; Miss Lily Crammonde evinces marked ability in the part of Dora Drummond; Salema is charmingly played by Miss Beatrice Western; and Miss Eva Bell acquits herself well as Mary the maid. Able support is given by Mr. A. H. Harvey, Mr. J. T. Lewis, Mr. Harry Austin, Mr. Ivan Mavis, Miss L. Cleveland, and Miss Hetty Poplin.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—*The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* presented by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey's and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company, has had a successful three nights' season. The part of Lady Clarice was played with fascination and verve by Miss Gladys Mason; Mr. Reginald Darice gave a clever interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton made an excellent representation of the gallant colonel, whose faith in Lady Clarice is unshaken; and the other parts are undertaken with equal success.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr Lindon Travers.—Walter George's Smart Set Entertainers head the bill here, and are accorded a flattering reception; the Seven Savonas and Six Cycling Elliotts remain under engagement, and continue to please by their excellent and original turns; Miss Ruby Bijou is a smart and dainty dancer. There is also an excellent show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—This week we have a visit from Mr. Alexander Loftus and company in the musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*. Mr. James Grant is well suited in the character of Colonel Claymore; the part of Bertie White finds a clever exponent in Mr. Charles Adeson; Mr. Alexander Loftus causes much merriment in his smart rendering of William White; and Mr. W. E. Chewd acquits himself well as the Frenchman. Mr. Michael Dwyer is a capable Captain Lovebury; Miss Amy Preston a fascinating Ethel Joy; Miss Maude Nichols a good Brenda Louth; Miss Violet Osmund is seen to advantage as Dora Heather; and Miss Winifred acts with dignity as Lady Moulton. Smart dancing is contributed by Misses May Hawthorne and Mona Grey.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Les Papillons, a quartette of charming lady vocalists and dancers, contribute a smart turn; Ariel and Astarte give a skilful gymnastic exhibition; Bert and Dora, comedy couple, win applause; Molly Doon is a dainty vocalist; Aldro Lukos, in a swinging perch act, merits favour; the Paulo Brothers, comedy acrobats, contribute successfully; and Will Daniels, comedian, is amusing.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A capital illusion is Buddha's Blackboard, which quite astonishes the audience; Frank Sylvo's comedy juggling is thoroughly enjoyed; Mona McDonald, comedienne, is most successful; Will Vokes, the loose-legged dancer, Linda Wasey, and the Three Sisters Kilner, comediennes and dancers, add greatly to the attraction of the programme. Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts in a singing and dancing act meet with a good reception. The pictures shown by the American Bioscope are very good.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is appearing here this week in *Two Little Vagabonds*. Mr. Douglas Vigors makes a capital George Thornton; the Captain Darville of Mr. Edward McLean is in every way efficient; Mr. Lionel Ellis is well placed as Bill Mullins; Miss Valerie Crespin is successful as Marion Thornton; Miss Lucy Beaumont as Dick and Miss Gladys Vernon as Wally play their respective parts to the life; Mr. Frank Gordon and Mr. Gerald Valentine both do well as Dido Bounce and the Cough-drop.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company, including Mr. James Danvers and Miss Josephine Ellis, is here this week, in the comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle*. As Professor Septimus Stoney Mr. Danvers has ample scope to display his versatile powers as a comedian; Miss Josephine Ellis is a charming Gaye Sparkleton, acting vivaciously throughout; Mr. Edward Chester submits a clever sketch of Theocritus Ward Sparkleton; and the two undergraduates, George Barker and Albert Perrin, are well represented by Mr. R. Harley West and Mr. Roy Barraclough; Mr. Frank Lilliput as the diminutive college scout, is humour personified; Miss Nellie Parker Dent is well placed as Mrs. Barker; and Maud Stoney is well interpreted by Miss Beatrice Egerton; Miss Nellie Beacon is an excellent Eva Stoney. A pretty curtain-raiser, *The Last Hour*, precedes *The Varsity Belle*, and Messrs. Danvers and Warley West and the Misses Dent and Egerton score well.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Ike Scott and Son appear here again this week, in new business, and score well; Geoffreys and Benson are seen to advantage in the sketch *Spoofed*; Guf Rider is a sweet singer; and the Sisters Cora are refined dancers. Carr and Rose are a humorous pair; and Miss Rosie Archer is a clever mimic; J. H. Wakefield is an up-to-date coon; and the Royal Bioscope pictures are pleasing all.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby.—Mr. Junius Booth's company in the costume play *Monte Cristo* is here this week. Mr. Junius Booth in the rôle of Edmund Dante gives an interesting interpretation, and is ably assisted by Mr. Leonard Marshall as M. Morel. As M. Nortier Mr. E. Howard Templeton makes a marked impression; whilst the important part of General Fernand Mondego is admirably rendered by Mr. C. W. Crowe. Baron Danglers finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Augustine Bowerman; Miss Emma Robberds is responsible for the portrayal of La Carconte; and as Mercedes Miss Clare Elston wins appreciative applause. A well-studied part is that of Sophie Danglers, successfully played by Miss Doris White.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's highly interesting drama, *The Little Bread-Winner*, is paying a visit here. Mr. Eugene Santley gives a clever impersonation of Lord William Dorrington; Mr. M. Boulton is good as Richard Lawrence; Mr. Alfred Maurice as Joseph Prior is excellent. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Allen Charles and Miss Nellie Thorn-Haliam, who work well, and keep the house in a good humour; Miss Mary Fulton is suitably placed in the character of Margaret Daventry. The success of the piece is the exceedingly smart and clever acting of Little Emmie Thomas as Meg, the little bread-winner; a word of praise must also be given to Miss Lissa Young for her artistic rendering of the somewhat difficult part of Bobby Trott.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvestor; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—Mr. Tom Lloyd is highly successful as the star turn here; the quaint style of Jack Pleasants causes the audience much pleasure, and he well deserved the many encores accorded him; a clever turn is submitted by the Bros. O'Brien, horizontal bar experts; Halm and Cozens appear with great success; Yenton Swift contributes some clever dancing; Billy Ross and Co. give a good turn; and so does Miss Evelyn Taylor; Amasis, assisted by Iseult, submits a pleasing musical turn; and the latest pictures shown by lime have proved very interesting.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—A return visit is being paid this week by E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company in *The Traitor*. The principal rôles are filled by Mr. E. E. Clive, who deserves unreserved praise for his acting in the character of Prince Rudolph; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, who capitally fills the thankless but telling part of Chief of Police; Miss Catherine Vere, as Elsie Dupres; Miss Ruth Shepard, who gives a piece of most impressive acting as Zula; Miss Gwynne Warren, as Countess Zicka; Miss Isabel Hunt, who enlists sympathy as Lieut. Nicholas; Mr. T. W. Hurst, as Captain Ross; Mr. Ed. Duff, as General Franz; and Mr. Arthur McCulloch, as General Hertz.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Davis and Gledhill, roller champions, in a cycle and motor-paced sensation, are a great attraction; Stylo, hoop manipulator, gives an exhibition that is almost incredible; Gus Harris is at all times a popular turn, and his latest creation, *The Synagogue*, increases his popularity; Beatrice Bonnie pleases immensely: the eccentric comedy business of Harry Cotton is decidedly amusing. Considerable merriment is caused by the bull-fight introduced by the Two Bostons, novelty showmen; Helen Martin, vocalist, has a pretty voice, and her songs are much appreciated; Harry Walker, eccentric singer; and a new display of Bio-tableaux were also in the bill.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Lawrence Brough's company is on a return visit here this week in *The Lady of Ostend* and *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*. The former was staged on Monday. Mr. Lawrence Brough gave a richly humorous and artistic impersonation of Le Baron de Longueville; Mr. H. Hampson rattled through the part of Dick Whortles to the delight of the audience; the Joseph Carbury of Mr. Charles Groves, jun., was a really good character study; Mr. Watkin Wynne made an excellent Toby Krockitt; Mr. H. Collier (John Humbert), Mr. Hewson Elliott (James), and Mr. H. Douglas Cottell (Thompson) all did good work in their respective parts; Miss Kate Milford looked charming, and gave a finished piece of acting as Dorothy Whortles. It would be difficult to speak too highly of Miss Bessie Harrison's Matilda Carbury; Millie Grace was delightfully portrayed by Miss Evelyn Ormonde, and Miss Daisy Cook was distinctly good as the Lady of Ostend; Jane found an able exponent in Miss Ida Vynall.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Jack Haddon and company are presenting the drama *Under the Russian Flag* here. Mr. Haddon is responsible for some powerful acting as Capt. Demetrius; Mr. Geo. Herbert gives a fine portrayal of General Romanoff, while his two sons, Michael and Ivan, are faithfully represented by Mr. Edward Avinal and Mr. C. Melton; Mr. Fred Haming is a comical Alexis Skopolophi; Mr. W. Wilson is an imposing Colonel Souvaroff; Mr. Hal Ford is responsible for an amusing embdiment of Peter Poulski; Mr. Chas. Liddon plays Wolf Larischla in capital style; Miss Elaine Vanburgh is a pleasing Vera Vassiloff; Miss Marie Raynor scores as Luke Marischla; Miss Violet Lytton is a vivacious Orgarita.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. J. Cassidy.—Miss Grace Warner, supported by Mr. G. Gordon and company, opened here on Monday with *The Scarlet Clue*, and the week's bill includes *The Little Widow* and *My Artful Valet*. Miss Grace Warner as Sal Scarlet proved that she is an actress of no mean ability; Mr. Geo. Gordon submitted a powerful portrayal of Michael Stanton; Mr. Reginald Brown in the dual rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond played in good style; Mr. S. Brien made a capital Edward Croker; Mr. Jack Clarence gave an imposing presentation of Sir Desmond Lisle; Mr. J. L. Leigh as Billy was responsible for some capital singing; Little Violet Palfrey was a clever Little Polly; Mr. Arthur Page, Mr. Edgar Bruce, Little Phyllis Massey, Miss Hilda Herne, Miss K. Kranston, Miss M. Stamer, Miss Mowbray, Miss Esther Dean, Mr. W. Bird, and Mr. Reynolds sustained their respective rôles in a creditable manner.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Clark.—A return visit is being paid here by Messrs. Chas. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company in the drama, *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Chas. Phelps is earnest in the character of Gerald Dalton, and Mr. Frank Harvey is good as Parson Ray. Mr. A. G. Fry makes a capital villain, and Mr. Bernard Webb is dignified as Jasper Waterford. The comedy element is strong in the hands of Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dobbins, and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie, and Miss Mabel Hall is clever in the title-rôle. Miss Amy Dalby is pleasing as Viola, and Miss Belle Tilbury capably acts the thankless character of Isabel.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—This week we have here Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company in *The Days of Cromwell*. Mr. Henry Belding plays the part of Ironhand with much force; Mr. Robertson Foulis does capital work as Sir Marsden Mardyke, and Mr. Howard Hardy is equally capable in the part of Matthew; Mr. Jack C. Gray acts Walter Clifford with marked ability; Mr. Geo. P. Lester is a grim figure as the Protector; the Sir Wilfred Avondale of Mr. T. R. White is soundly played; Mr. Stephen Herbert is a typical host as Shadrack, and the Toby of Mr. Geo. Harvie is a piece of humorous characterisation; Miss Cecilia Crawford is an effective Mistress Judith; Miss Kate Brand an excellent Mrs. Shadwell, and Miss Annie Clunn as Betsy does well; Miss Gertrude Gilman in the difficult part of Ruby Avondale shows conspicuous ability.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The members of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's principal company, in the successful musical comedy, *Florodora*, are renewing acquaintance with Wigan audiences this week. Tweedlepunch as represented by Mr. Alf E. Passmore is as humorous as ever, and Gilfain, played by Mr. Stanley White, is an admirable colleague of the punster. Mr. Allan Morris as Frank Abercoed gives an excellent rendering of the tenor solo, "In the Shade of the Palm," and Mr. Herbert St. John as Arthur Donegal creates a good impression. The part of Dolores is ably taken by Miss Josephine Sullivan; Miss Lily Cullick sings well as Angela Gilfain; and Miss Kate Leicester is also favourably received in the rôle of Lady Holyrood.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worsick.—Jack and Evelyn in their sketch, *Cigarette Papers*, are great favourites. Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi are clever and daring Japanese equilibrists, and Mlle. Haydee's bijou theatre and miniature performing characters are a remarkably interesting and entertaining form of marionettes. The Tabloid Farce Comedy, *The Collar Stud*, as performed by four artists, is an original and amusing sketch, and Lily Lonsdale, who possesses a rich soprano voice of great range, is recalled for each of her songs. George Prince, comedian, is also very popular; "Lady Julia" is a cleverly trained monkey, which impersonates several characters; Ernie Myers is an acceptable patter comedian; Yorkshire Tom is a good farmyard mimic; and the Society Quartet are skilful singers and speciality dancers.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—The bright and attractive musical comedy *The Cingalee* is being played here this week by one of Mr. George Dance's excellent companies. Mr. Cyril Dane appears as Harry Vereker, and does full justice to the part. Mr. Helier C. Maistre is an excellent Boobhamba; Mr. Grafton Williams is seen to advantage as Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards is a capable Bobby Warren; and Mr. Jack Crichton is a host in himself in his admirable impersonation of Chambhuddy Ram. Miss Georgina Middleton takes the part of Nanoya in excellent fashion; Miss Marjory Clark sings well and has a good stage presence as Lady Patricia Vane; and Miss Gladys Guy is a smart and charming Peggy Sabine.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—The leading light here is Sam Mayo, comedian; while an attractive bill also includes Clown Barker; Miss Roziska, with performing animals; Conway and Garland; Alice Blandford; Pete and Juno, comedians and dancers; Violet Nunn, and Ossi Somplessi.

HIPPODROME.—The Marvellous Craggs, in their excellent sketch, *Billy*, head the bill this week. The programme also includes Hayman and Franklin, and other capital artists.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—After an absence of several years, Mr. F. R. Benson has resumed his associations with the city by sending his entire North Shakespearean company upon a week's visit. A change of programme each evening has been provided, and an admirable selection of works has served to secure such a measure of support as it is hoped will lead Mr. Benson to personally visit the Theatre Royal at no distant date. The week's performances opened with *Taming of the Shrew*, and upon successive evenings the plays produced have been *The Merchant of Venice Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Richard*. The company is a capable one, and includes Mr. Hy. Herbert and Miss Dorothy Green, who are well-known in the provinces. Other members of the numerous company are Mr. Ross Shore, Mr. Gerald Ames, Mr. E. Spencer Geach, Miss Rosa Burgess, Miss Mary Webb, Miss Louise Graeme, &c.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night Mr. Gilbert Payne and his company presented *The Honeymoon* to a large and appreciative audience. As Noodle, Mr. Payne's quaint humour and singing were delightful, and he was frequently applauded. Mr. John Hames as the Colonel was amusingly eruptive; Mr. L. Erle was pleasing as Jack; and Mr. Harry Farrow was lively as Archie; Miss Pattie Farley played and sang effectively as Madge; Miss Nellie Dyson was graceful as Stella. Her songs were tastefully rendered. Miss Rene Walton gave satisfaction as Emeretta; the Florentine Dancers were applauded

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here with *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Wallace G. Court gives a manly delineation of the character of Jack Frobisher; and Mr. Lionel Gadsden does well as Hankey Bannister. Mr. A. Collins-Rolfe is excellent as the Marquis of Steventon; and Mr. B. Martin Pellar is at home in the character of Harry Dallas. Too much praise cannot be allotted Miss Maud Stuart as Lady Alethes Frobisher; and Miss Bertha Frances is also excellent as Lady Lucy Derenham. The remaining characters are well enacted. On Thursday Mr. Lewis Waller's company appeared in *Brigadier Gerrard*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week Mr. J. H. North, eccentric comedian, has paid a welcome return visit. Trick and Trixie, musical comedy artists, proved a big attraction; and Mr. Alf Chapell, coon vocalist and dancer; the Two Ogdens, comedians; and Miss Beattie Anthony, dancer; with the pictures, completed a good programme.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre. The Kellinos, who head the bill here this week, score a great success; Mr. Wm. McIvor is heartily applauded for his clever scena, *Dreaming*; Hess and Lisbon cause much amusement as trick skaters; Dale and Vale delight with their novel dancing; Kyoto is a good conjuror and clever contortionist; Mike Goldman scores with his humorous songs; Miss May Geraldine, comedienne and dancer, is well received; and Baffin and Lucas give a good musical turn. Some capital pictures by Payne's Bioscope complete the programme.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Miss Lillie Soutter is a great attraction this week, her success in character impersonations being most pronounced; Mr. Geo. D'Albert in some clever songs scores well

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 5, Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Feb. 4, 18, 25, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 24.
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Oct. 29, Feb. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 1, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dalston, Oct. 15 and 29;
Reading, Nov. 5; Northampton, Oct. 29;
Chester, Nov. 5; Wolverhampton, Nov. 19;
Leamington, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1 and 12 (three nights each).
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 26, Dec. 3.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Oct. 29, April 22, May 6, 13, 20.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 7, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, and 'Xmas.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County T., Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Really Good Companies, for Dec. 3 and 17, on. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT
Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 14 and 21.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

WANTED, for Nov. 5 and Dec. 10, this year, first-class attraction, either musical comedy or London successes. All communications to CHAS E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 3, 17 (?).
Required, Big Attraction for Xmas and New Year weeks.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL,
BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, High-Class Attraction, for week of Nov. 5.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 10.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

OPERA HOUSE,
WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 4 (3 nights) and Dec. 3, also First-class Pantomime.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct 15, 22,
Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17.
JAMES BELL.

Vacant, through obliging a manager, Oct. 15,
WANTED First-class Company, PRINCE'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 25, March 25, April 8, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Oct. 29, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3, Musical Comedy preferred. Communicate, W. C. DORNTON, Business-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Co., Oct. 29.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company for Oct. 29, and possibly Nov. 26.
Copy of bill, &c., to
JOSEPH H. CURRY, as above.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 24.
A. D. VERNON.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, Nov. 26, Dec. 10 and 17.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, onwards. FRANK PANT Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 17, March 25, April 22, onward.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Oct. 1 onward.
(Three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, onward.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Oct. 29, Dec. 3, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 5, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Nov. 5, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S" COMPANY,
Vacant Oct. 8, 15, and 22,
Nov. 19, 26.

All Communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 11, on, with exceptions.
The following is a list of future (not past) bookings and pencillings for the ensuing season, viz.:—"Beauty and the Barge," Frederick Melville Co., J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Company, "When It was Dark," "La Poupee," "Lucky Durham," Norman V. Norman, Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique." Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, and various onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Jan. 10, and various onwards.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Jan. 17, March 4.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE,
Oct. 29, Nov. 9, and onwards, with exceptions.

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 15 (?) and 29,
Dec. 24 and 31 (Pantomime preferred).

Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager, Oct. 1, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Wire, wire, wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good Companies, for Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and on, Drama, Musical, or Variety Combinations.

R. ADDISON, LIMITED.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Dec. 10 (to oblige Geo. Kirk, Esq.).
Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

GRAND THEATRE WEST HARTLEPOOL.
WANTED Musical Plays, and other High-class Attractions (no dramas), Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, Dec. 3 and 17, through cancelling. Vacant Spring Dates, Jan. 28, Feb. 18, March 18, 25, April 15, 22, 29, on, with exceptions. Strong attractions new to Blyth audiences always do splendid business.
Apply, A. C. MOODY, Lessee.

WANTED, Companies,
T. R., RUGBY,
Nov. 5 (3), 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 31, Jan. 21, on, with exceptions.
A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime, for Xmas, one or two weeks; also Attractions for Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 7, and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, F. C. DEW.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Nov. 22 (three nights),
Nov. 26 (six nights).
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 26, Paisley; Jan. 14, 21, Perth.
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3 and 10.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, for Nov. 12 and 26, onward. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Dec. 10,
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, Oct., onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

SOUTHPORT OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, April 8 and onwards.

Apply, SECRETARY.

WANTED, Companies, for Theatre Royal, East Dereham, Norfolk, under the management of Mr. Horace Royle and Mr. Frank Mervin.
Address, Pier, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Good Companies, Borough Theatre, Heywood, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. JONES, 18, Blossom-avenue, Oxford-road, Manchester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical preferred, for Christmas week, at Drill Hall, Hereford (Holding Capacity 1400.) A. LOVESEY, Offa-street, Hereford.

VICTORIA HALL, RHYL.
WANTED, Small Smart Companies, November, on; good shows can do good business. Sharing. MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply PROPRIETOR.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING,"
Grand Autumn Production,
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Spring and Autumn, 1907.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, 24, and 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 3, 24, 31. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatre, Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatre, Oct. 22.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Oct. 22,
Xmas week, Jan. 21, and March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for the Scala Production, Nov. 5, South preferred.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10. Now booking 1907. An enormous success everywhere. A perfect production.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 19, on. Now booking 1907. Full chorus, negro specialities, magnificent scenery, printing, and company. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre, Colne.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Oct. 15,
Oct. 15,
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5, fifth year of Tour. Everything absolutely A1.
Address,
STUART CLEVELAND, T. Royal, Thornley, Durham.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Bigger Success than Ever.
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
Can play anywhere, London included.
WANTED, Oct. 15, through dispappointment, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, New Year,
Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, Mar. 11, 18, 25,
April 15, 22, 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?).
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, Royal, Leeds.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Attraction, Oct. 15, between Brighton and South Wales; also Xmas and New Year.
Apply, FRED GRANVILLE, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Theatre for
"Frivolity" and Big Attraction,
Oct. 8.
Oct. 8.
Oct. 8.
Vacant through obliging Manager.
Wire,
LEOPOLD,
Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield.

WANTED, for "An Actor's Romance," Nov. 5, Xmas week, also Spring date. Address, CHARLES DURIE, New T. Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Xmas aind New Year weeks, for "THE MIDNIGHT MAIL"
and
"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov 5 (precede Portsmouth).
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Xmas week.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Xmas and Easter Week.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Theatres, March 4 (?), April 22, 29 (South), Aug. Bank Holiday, on; magnificently mounted and dressed. Refer to all managers visited. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, T. R., Chesterfield.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANY.
"THE FOUR JUST MEN."
by arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury.

WANTED, Oct. 15, to follow the King's Theatre, Hammersmith; also Oct. 29, Nov. 12 and 26.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

WANTED, for the Gorgeous Revival of Walter Howard's New "Man and Wife," Xmas Week, Feb. 11 and 18. Coms., T. E. WARD, Artillery T., Woolwich.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, through obliging, Nov. 19, between Hastings and Ipswich. Wire, MARRIS, to-day, Luton; next, Chester.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Pantomime, with big cast of acknowledged Star Artists, Feb. 11, and on.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Really First-class Theatres, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 24.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
Theatre, Darlington.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, as follows:—
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
Oct. 8, 15, 29, various, on.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, various, on.
"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov., various, on.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT,"
Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 24, 31.
DR. WALFORD BODIE,
Now booking, 1907-8.
Address,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
MR. ARTHUR CARLTON'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 8, 15, 22,
Oct. 8, 15, 22,
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Oct. 22, Nov. 5.
Company of Nineteen Artists, including
Miss Mary Austin,
Mr. William Clayton,
Crowds of Auxiliaries. Nine Complete Sets.
Bookings this tour:—
Coronet Theatre, W.;
Prince's Theatre, Poplar;
Grand Theatre, Woolwich;
Palace Theatre, Newcastle;
Metropole Theatre, Birmingham;
Theatre Royal, Cardiff;
Theatre Royal, Plymouth;
Theatre Royal, Leicester;
Opera House, Northampton;
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton;
Theatre Royal, Huddersfield;
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth;
Grand Theatre, Nottingham;
Theatre Royal, Rotherham;
Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Vacant Oct. 22 and Nov. 5 (only vacant dates).
Wire, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, to-day, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield; next, New Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates, Dec. 31, Jan. 28, March 11.
Bookings include:—
Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
Palace Theatre, Newcastle;
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth;
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction;
Borough Theatre, Stratford;
West London Theatre;
Prince's Theatre, Poplar;
Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth;
Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, New Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

"QUEEN OF VILLAINY."
MR. P. HOWARD STURGESS'S COMPANY,
including Miss Edith Blande.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 8, 15, 29,
Oct. 8, 15, 29,
Lancs. or Yorks.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
"A BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for
Oct. 22, 29,
Oct. 22, 29,
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
FRED C. SOMERFIELD,
Queen's Theatre, Longton.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this most Successful Attraction, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, beautifully mounted, splendidly played, first-class agent, and printing ad lib. Re dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"A CITY OF SIN."
WANTED, for Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's Company, three nights, Oct. 18, and six nights Oct. 22; everything carried. Wire, ELLIOTT, this, T. R., Batley; next, T. R., Leicester.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, through misunderstanding with Shakespeare, Clapham, Oct. 22, London or Midlands; also Nov. 5 (?) and 19;
Xmas also vacant.

H. HOLLISTER, T. R., Dover.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 15 and 22, for the new successful Musical Absurdity,
"THE HONEYMOON."
Enormous success at O. H., Workington (refer).
Wire for Oct. 15 and 22.
GILBERT PAYNE, O. H., Workington.
next, Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster.

"CLAUDIAN."
The Greatest Dramatic Production Travelling.
WANTED, Large Theatres, for Christmas, New Year, and Easter. See Page 2.
WILLIAM MACLAREN, T. R., Dewsbury.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Nov. 19,
between Jarrow and Brighouse,
DICKIE CLARE, Shakespeare Theatre, Altrincham.

"LIFE" and "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Oct. 8 (three nights), Oct. 22 and 29 (precede Buchanan return dates), April 1, on, with exceptions, "Aladdin," vacant Feb. 4 and 11. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Palace, Rhyl; Monday, Prince's T., Llandudno.

HENRY BEDFORD'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Oct. 15.
Wire, BEDFORD, Shakespeare, Altrincham, till Sunday; after, Carlton, Saltley.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, November Dates, for Above. This autumn tour has been as successful as any during the seven years the piece has been running.
Write, EDWARD MARRIS, Royalty, Chester.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Xmas.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Oct. 15, Wire, Wire,
Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A Solid Success.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10, 31,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
Entirely New Production of
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Magnificent New Scenery and Uniforms.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "Mr. Hopkinson" (chief company), Oct. 8, Nov. 5, 19; "Gay Parisienne," Oct. 22, Nov.'19; "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19, 26; "Chrysanthemum," Oct. 8, 9, 10, through re-arrangement. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Nov. 5 and 19, for
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
Another Great Week at the Queen's, Dublin.
Last Week over 5,500 Persons Paid for Admission to see above, at the T. R., Sheffield.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS,"
Wanted, Xmas Week, Jan. 28 and Feb. 4.
EUGENE BERTRAM,
T. R., Preston.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, through obliging, Nov. 19, between Hastings and Ipswich. Wire, MARRIS, to-day, Luton; next, Chester.

"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER,"
Farcical Comedy.
WANTED, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, onwards; extension of tour. Wire, PHILLIPS, T. R., Bath; next, Garrick T., Hereford.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Oct. 29 (between Manchester and Portsmouth), Address, FRANK E. BURDETT, Oct. 1, Metropole T., Gateshead.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres,

"FLORODORA."
Nov. 26 (3 nights), Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and various onwards.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Oct. 29, Dec. 3 (3 nights), Dec. 31, Jan. 7, and various onwards.

"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford).
Nov. 12, 19, 29 (3 nights each).

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Jan. 14, 21, and various onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this Magnificent Productoin,
Oct. 22, Oct. 22,
Oct. 22, Oct. 22,
Oct. 22, Oct. 22,
Also,
Dec. 3, 10, and Xmas Week,
Dec. 3, 10, and Xmas Week,
Jan. 21, on, with exceptions.
Superb dresses, elaborate scenery, attractive printing, and company of Eighteen Artists.
Address, FRANK BATEMAN,
Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Lanc. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN,"
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 31, various, onwards, for this remarkable attraction, and sterling coin of the realm success.
J. H. CLYNDES, Prince's Theatre, Horwich.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas.
GEORGE DENHAM, this, Brighouse; next, Chorley.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by
MR. G. ALEXANDER MARSH, MISS INE CAMERON, MISS CARRIE BAILLIE.

WANTED, Theatres for only vacant dates, Dec. 17, Xmas, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March 11, April 29, May 13, onwards; also good Theatre for Stock, four weeks or longer, commencing May 27. Next week, T. R., Shrewsbury.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 5, 12. CHARLES A. LEICESTER, this, T. R., Glossop; next, P. O. W. T., Grimsby.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12; must be first-class theatre, and give equitable terms.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
This, T. R., Glossop; next, P. O. W. T., Grimsby.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH,"
by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Oct. 8, wire; also vacant, Nov. 5, 19, Xmas, Dec. 31.
FRANCES DELAVAL,
Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

"THE TRAITOR," E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's magnificent production.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, Middlesbro'.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-seventh week of present tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Oct. 8. Wire for Oct. 8.
Wire, terms, printing required, Oct. 8.
Everything free per return.
FRANK AYRTON, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 15, 22.
Tremendous Success at Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Thanks Fred Fredericks, Esq., for return Contract.
Every scene and property carried.
Miss GEORGETTE THIERRY as NINON.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Oct. 8 and Nov. 19, Henry Herne,
To-day, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank;
next week, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

THOMAS THORNE and COMPANY.
WANTED, Oct. 15 and 22, for above, in "Our Boys" or Repertory. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, T. R., Dublin.

"SINS OF SOCIETY," by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3, Xmas, Xmas.
Bookings and pencilings, Portsmouth, South Shields, Southend, Liverpool, Aston, Smethwick, Warrington, Swindon.
BESSIE ELMA, 10, King-street, W.C.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, 18. Apply, JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

EDWARD MARRIS'S "CRUSOE."
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, for Above.
Company and Chorus of Forty, including the Waldrons, Harry Russell, Verna Reed, &c.
EDWARD MARRIS,
T. R., Grantham.

MOHAMED'S VAUDEVILLE COMBINATION.
Mohamed's Methods Make Money for Managers.
Grand Show. Ten Star Turns.
Great Success at T. R., Rugby.
Refer A. F. Cross, Nuneaton.
WANTED, Oct. 8, Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, Good Theatres or Halls only.
Wire to-day, POSLEWAITHE, T. R., Rugby.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec. 24 and 31, for E. G. Cumberland's Variety Company.
Nothing but First-class Shows booked.
Next week, Oct. 1, Theatre of Varieties, Oldham.
Oct. 8, Hippo., Exeter.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, full Company, all lines,
Musical Comedy Sketch.

State terms, references, to
Box 3,793, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Lady Soubrette, for Small Musical Comedy Sketch, good voice, and can dance, experience necessary, to open during Nov., '06, for long tour, height from 5ft. to 5ft. 2in. Letters and photographs to A. BARON, Hippo., Hull.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, Young Lady Amateur, for Small Parts, and Understudy, in splendid répertoire; one able to play piano preferred; refinement most essential. Address, with photographs and particulars, Mr. DOBELL, Public Hall, Stevenage, Herts.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Good Character Actor, tall, to combine Stage-Management. Latest photos., references, and actual lowest terms, Miss MAUD HILDYARD, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, a Character Actor, capable of Sentiment and Comedy. Lowest terms, photo., references, age, height, and full particulars, C. HARRINGTON, T. R., Colne.

For New Comic Opera.
WANTED, a Small Eccentric Comedian; must be short, one able to Sing and Dance well, for good prominent part: also Tall Eccentric Comedian, for part of American Aristocrat; must be able to Sing well, and Dance. Send full particulars, salary required, and permanent address. Interview by appointment. Box 3,781, "The Era."

"THE PRINCE OF MONTE CARLO."
WANTED, Smart Eccentric Knockabout Comedian, one able to dance a little preferred, for part of Waiter; long engagement to suitable person. Terms, photo., height, references, HARRY ROXBURY, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Small Comedian (Pantomimist), for Call Boy part in First-Class Play; tour commences Oct. 15. Age, height, terms, and last three references, to Box 3,789, "The Era."

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, First-class Leading Man, tall, good appearance and voice. Photos. and references, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T. R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Tall Gent, for Three Weeks, to Play Torpedo (show, "The Light that Failed." Particulars, HAROLD NUTTALL, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, immediately, Trio or Quartette of First-Class Speciality Dancers, clever children, who can sing and dance, and Wardrobe Mistress, who can cut out and make. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Singers, Tenor, good Quartet, touring, abstainer, £3 weekly and travelling expenses for all engagements fulfilled, Londoners only; send capabilities, letter only. RICHARDS, 24A, Cleveland-gardens, Bayswater.

WANTED, Refined Young Lady Vocalists, for tour abroad, from October to April. Photo. (recent), age, experience, and all particulars, to BILLY KERNE, Empire Theatre, Stockport.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Two Acrobatic Dancers,
for Quartette.
Rehearse once; those known wire photos., terms, particulars, to
LENA STANTON, Pagoda, Littlehampton.

WANTED, smart experienced Lady Dancers. Call 12 o'clock, Monday, Oct. 1, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Engagement after Oct. 13, by Contralto; experienced; can play piano. MARJORIE IRVINE, 2, Eastbourne Villa, St. Paul's-road, Bournemouth.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists in all Lines,
and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233A, Regent-street.

C. and F. RENAD'S
"PUSS IN BOOTS" PANTOMIME CO.
WANTED, Fairy Queen, Two Speciality Dancers (to augment Troupe), Chorus Ladies, also Wardrobe Mistress. Photos., terms, and full particulars to C. and F. RENAD, Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E.

Pantomime.
WANTED, Stage-Manager, Abanazer, Friday, in "Crusoe," Chorus.
DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, at once, Artists capable of playing Mime Comedy and Character Parts, do leaps, roll-outs, vamps, for English Continental Pantomime, age not over 36. Send photos., lowest salary, experience, and full particulars, to A. LONG, Rue de Burbure, No. 31, Antwerp, Belgium.

WANTED, Male Choristers for Pantomime next Christmas. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Ballet Dancers for a Provincial Pantomime. Photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Pantomime. Also Chorus for Musical Comedy and Pantomime; must be young and pretty, and have good voices. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, for "Cinderella." Send terms, particulars, where working next two weeks. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime, London and Provinces. Apply, Tuesday, 2 to 3, EDWARD CRANSTON, Rule's (second floor), Maiden-lane, Strand.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, Known, George Conquest, open to negotiate for Aerial Ballets.
Address as above.

WANTED, DANCERS,
Good-looking and Smart,
for Troupes and Pantomimes.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars,
and enclosing photograph,
to JOHN TILLER AND CO.,
15, LIME-GROVE, OXFORD-RD., MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Smart Troupe of Acrobatic Dancers, for pantomime. Terms, photos.,
CHARLES KITTS, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, a Principal Comedian, for Pantomime, and Refined Pair of Singers, Dancers, and Patterers. Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, the popular Principal Boy, at Liberty for Pantomime. Monday, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Pantomime, Lieut. Chard's Wonderful Trained Dogs and High-leaping Hounds. A sensational act. Address, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy, last year West London Theatre. Permanent, 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Flo Melville, Burlesque Artist, Liberty Panto., Principal Girl or Second Boy. Whitworth House, Whitworth Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Miss Bouverie Pleydell,
at Liberty for Pantomime,
to play Boy or Girl.
Oct. 1, Empire, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Fred Clements, Comedian, is at Liberty for Pantomime. Offers invited. This week, Leicester; next week, The Bedford, London.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, the Great Cat Speciality, Second Girl; the Original Kyoto, May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne. Mon., Hippodrome, Scarborough. Own Skin.

WANTED, Panto, by Albert Ventor, late proprietor Pavilion, Coventry; excellent Idle Jack, Billy Crusoe, Simple Simon, Page, &c.; a comedian with funny catchy songs, and a voice to sing them. BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

Specially engaged by Fred Conquest, Esq.,
"The Freak's Revenge."
WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, Wolf, Poodle, Cat, Traps, &c. Address, LEON DUBOIS, Euston Music Hall, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Chas. H. Ross, Comedian, Dis. for Panto. 1905-6, Britannia T., London, N. 70, Marquis-road, Camden-square, N.W.

WANTED, Known, by A.G.L.R.A., Vac. Panto., in the most up-to-date exposition of phenomenal strength extant. Now touring France. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Pantomime, by Zampo and Clown, Novelty Speciality, play comedy, parts. C/o Sanger's Hippodrome, Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Panlo Bros., Comedy Acrobats, &c., Liberty for Pantomimes, with animal parts and speciality, &c. Offers, Empire, Hull. See Cards.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contracts; best results; lowest terms. W. B. ROBINSON, Carlyle Scenic Studio, 170, King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, C. H. Frampton, Scenic Artist and Stage-Manager, at Liberty, Varieties or Theatre; highest references. Address, Opera House, Jersey.

WANTED, Engagement, Scenic Artist, well up in Panto. work; references from well-known Managers. Write, T. CLARK LOCKETT, 53, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager, for important suburban theatre, fully experienced in shorthand and typewriting, accurate book-keeping, and general theatrical business duties. State salary required, appearance, age, and give three references, to Box 3,791, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, good responsible Gentleman. Send last two references, lowest terms, and photograph, to ARTHUR CARLTON, T. Royal, Worcester.

Private Secretary.
WANTED, by Advertiser, Young Gentleman, aged 21, thoroughly reliable, position, for betterment, as above, to Artist of Repute, or Manager of good Theatre or Hall, resident or tour. Expert shorthand-typist (own typewriter), good book-keeper, and experienced in box-office. Highest references. Now holding similar position.
Box 3,787, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs for an Amateur Gentleman in a First-class Dramatic Company, to play Light Comedy part and learn duties Acting-Manager; thorough tuition. Apply, full particulars, enclosing photograph, to Box 3,785, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, smart, experienced Advance Agent, for big Variety Combination; one who knows best towns up North and able to book same; good salary, expenses, and long engagement. Write fully, age, refs., &c. Wire, Box 3,792, "The Era."

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"SILVER KING" FIT-UP TOUR.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced and competent Baggage and Fit-up Man. Full particulars, references, to F. ADDERLEY, Post Office, Innerleithen, N.B.

WANTED, for a small Country Town, middle-aged Bill Poster, to Manage, must be steady and sober; married man preferred; easy job. Wages £1 per week and commission.
Apply,
DE REES Co., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, First-class Billposter, thoroughly experienced in general work and filling in stations, very comfortable situation to a sober, steady man. Apply, A. C. MOODY, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress or Matron, combined troup children, 8 years, present engagement, out through closing. ELLISON GILBERT, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Experienced Wardrobe Mistress, for Pantomime. Terms, references, to
CHARLES KITTS, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Acting Assistant or Stage-Manager, Secretary, Bill Inspector, Advance Agent, by young man, tall, thoroughly competent back and front; cash security if required; excellent refs. E. H., 6, Chelsea-avenue, Southchurch Beach, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement as Acting-Manager; young, smart, energetic; expert accountancy and all routine; highest references. Box 3,776, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement as Acting Manager or Manager, touring or resident; experienced in theatrical and music hall control. Box 3,773, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation as Manager and Scenic Artist combined, twelve years' experience, understands every branch of the business. Interview any reputed person re qualifications. F. S., c/o King, 42, St. Mary's-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, Joe Elam, Master Carpenter. Bench, Resident, or Tour (three years with McCulloch and Co., Sheffield), desires Re-engagement. At Liberty Oct. 6. Pavilion Theatre, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter; good bench hand. Address, CARPENTER, 64, Dongola-road, Bruce Grove, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Miss L. Appleby, competent Wardrobe Mistress, design, cut, fit, make, and take entire production, at Liberty. Permanent address, 13, Queen's-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Appointment in Box Office of Theatre or Music Hall, or as Money-taker. Long reference, same position; security if necessary. X., 125 Stamford-street, S.E.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

TIVOLI VARIETIES,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, to Commence Oct. 8, Conductor (Violin), First Violin Pianist, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone, Drummer, with own Effects.
Only experienced, really good players need apply. Address, Signor PEPI, Palace Theatre, Carlisle. Mark envelopes "Band."

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, for Suburban Music Hall.
Write, Box 3,768, "The Era."

WANTED, Oct. 8, Leader, Violin and Pianist, for small band of five, permanency, always touring. Terms, refs., MANAGER, Trades Exhibition, Drill Hall, Kendal.

WANTED, for First-Class English Ladies' Orchestra, Pianist-Vocalist, also First Violinist (Leader), must be young and of good appearance, commence Nov.; touring in Scandinavia; only competent players. Address, A. KNOWLES, Bramsome-terrace, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, at Once, for Town Band, Bath, First Violin, First Cornet. Terms, shares. Must be steady. Mr. BECKER, 20, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, to open Oct. 8, Second Violin, 'Cello, Oboe, and Harp; must be well up in Variety Business. Age and references to FREDERIC BRAHAM, Conductor, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, Good First Violin, for Hippodrome, Norwich. Send refs. Age and terms for permanency. V. C. WHITE, Conductor.

WANTED, Young Lady, First Violin (Leader); must be used to Variety. Open Oct. 1. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Violin, Cornet, Bass; twice daily, Provincial Tour. State if soloists, age, experience, references, lowest terms, when disengaged, Box 3,782, "The Era."

WANTED, for Permanent Staff, Yorkshire (D.Y.O.) R.G.A., Good First Violin, combine other Wind Instrument, during training, also Cornet or Euphonium. Men serving, or have served, apply, with copies of character and testimonials, to ADJUTANT, above corps, Scarborough.

Pacific Liner Bands.
WANTED, Violin, Piano, 'Cello (or Bass), and Flute players.

Particulars from
J. O. SHEPHERD, 11A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to open Oct. 1, good Cornet Player, also Double Drummer; probable permanency. Apply, with lowest terms, Z. ANDREW, Theatre, Aberdare.

WANTED, Two Cornets, Euphonium, Bombardon, E flat; must be good to travel; 30s. J. W. LEWIS, 18, Spencer-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Cornets, Horns, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Drums, open Ohmy's Circus, Oct. 15, '06. Address, FRANK FISHBURN, 55, Brentnall-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Solo Cornet.
The vacancy for clarionet is filled.
ALEX. CORRISON, Conductor,
Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, for three nights, Oct. 4, 5, and 6, Flautist. Lowest inclusive terms, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Brilliant Pianist and Accompanist, for picture show, smalls. Apply, with lowest possible terms, DOURI, 4, Colley-end, Paignton.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Full Orchestra, to open Monday, Oct. 15. Lowest terms must be stated and last two references (copies only) forwarded. Applications to HARRY WAMBA, c/o Dale, 7, Glen-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Wanted, Instrumentalists, for Ladies' Orchestra.
Permanency. State instrument, salary, &c.

MANAGER, Trades Exhibition,
Conservative Club, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, for Putney Hippodrome. Write only, ALLINGTON, M.D., 35, Antill-road, Bow, London (opening November).

WANTED, Quadrille Band (Pianoforte, Violin, Cornet, and Flute),
3 nights a week, for the season.
District of N.W. Apply, letter, terms, &c., A. S., Garibaldi Hotel, 16, Blackfriars-road, S.E.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success with own band. Dis. Oct.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Leader, just finished season as same; highest references can be given. 47, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Situation, Bandmaster (Cornet and Violin), Institution or Works, instruct Reed, Brass, or String, CUTHBERT, Bandmaster, Poste Restante, Llandudno.

WANTED Known, shortly at Liberty, really First-Class Conductor; smart and experienced Violin or Piano. Address, Box 3,772, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds. Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, Shop, as First or Second Violin, any business; good refs. VIOLIN, care of Randall, 292, High-street, Brentford.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, First or Second, any business; can open at once.
C. DISNEY, 253, High-street, Camden Town.

WANTED, Shop, Second Violin, Viola, or Euphonium, late Army (Staff) Band.
F. SMITH, 130, Peckham Park-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Young Violinist, experience in Orchestra. Refs., &c., apply Box 3,763, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, any line; can open at once. Splendid refs.
PERCYVALE LEWIS, 13, Guppy-street, Swindon.

WANTED, Known, Clarie Lilian, Solo Violinist, Vocalist, and Pianist. Dis. Oct. 15, and on, high class, pier or tour. 6, Orwell-place, Ipswich.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, concluding season, Hippo., Margate, Sept. 29, sight reader, splendid refs. Address, Hippo. till Sunday; after wards, BRIGGS, 19, St. Ann's Well-rd., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, thoroughly experienced and reliable; can join immediately. A. C., 25, Back Caroline-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, by good Cornet, Engagement, Disengaged Sept. 29; good references. Apply A. LAUNDER, 38, Castle Hill-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business; can join at once. R. HORROCKS, 27, Newton-road, Lowton, near Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet, Disengaged.
W. WITTY,
31, Hatchet-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, thoroughly experienced and reliable, any business. H. JEFFORD, 140, Hampton-road, Southport.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Hyde Park Band, Engagement, any business, Disengaged Oct. 1. SHEEHAN, 11, Pelham-street, South Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Clarionet, any business, shares or wages; sober and reliable; good refer. Apply J. GRUB, 11, Bury-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Reliable, Experienced, any business. Good references. E. GEORGE, care P. T. Cooke, Swindon-rd., Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, Engagement, any Business; thoroughly reliable, total abstainer, bona-fide references; through season finishing. MCCORMICK, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Variety; experienced and reliable; good refs. Address, CHAS. MANTLE, 1, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet and Horn, steady and reliable, Disengaged to-day.
WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, for Double Bass; good experience in every business, late in Grand Opera, Halle (Germany). Disengaged Oct. 1. Herr OTTO BAYER, 3, Woodfield-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Bassoon and Violinist. Address, RUSSELL, 50, Eglinton-road, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, any business; experienced, reliable; excellent references. Terms moderate. A. K., 38, Wessex-buildings, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement by good Bassoonist, Deputising or Permanency; experienced and reliable, any business; good refs. ROTA, 3, Benedict-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass, any business, Disengaged Oct. 7. P. BROWN, West Pier Orchestra, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Contra Bass, well up in any business; good references. M. BOGEN, 133, Whitfield-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, Summer Engagement finishes Oct. 6; genuine references. E. J. ELLIOTT, Bandstand, White Rock, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement,
by Lady Bass Player.
Miss H. SMITH, 35, Islip-street, Kentish Town, N.W.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement as Double Bass. A. THOMAS, 20, Jubilee-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, Experienced, finishing season, Southend Kursaal, steady, reliable, good refs. H. EYRE, 13, Stanley-rd., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, Experienced in theatre work, musical comedies, or varieties. T. EDWARDS, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, for Trombone, any business; steady and reliable; good refs. TROMBONE, 3, Stanley-grove-rd., Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Situation as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; London or Suburbs preferred; good references. HURST, 105, Culford-rd., Dalston, N.

WANTED, by Trombone,
Engagement,
any Business.
Box 3,774, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone or String Bass, any business.
MILLER, 74, Archel-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, by Trombone, experienced, Engagement in First-Class Orchestra, Manchester preferred; any business; highest refs. Apply Box 3,766, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, any Business, immediate.
JOHN COTTON, 1, Athol-terrace, Dover.

WANTED, by Trombone, Steady and Reliable, Engagement, any business, music hall preferred. MORRIS, Guide, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, any business, just finishing season on the 29th inst. G. COWLAND, 51, Mendora-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, thoroughly reliable, any business; distance no object. HARRY WOODAGE, Roxborough-place, Alnwick.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horn, either First or Second. Disengaged Oct. 7; good refs. Box 3,770, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Re-engagement, experienced 'Cellist, well up in all business, just finished summer season. 47, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Engagement in Tea Room or Hotel. Address, Miss ANGLESS, 41, Tyrrell-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, good reader. To-day only, 'CELLO, Royal Pavilion, Ramsgate; later address, 6, Elizabeth-villas, Fairleigh-drive, Leigh-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Viola, in First-class Theatre or Concert Orchestra, well used to opera. ELLIS TAYLOR, Opera House, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe or Drummer. London preferred; sober, and fully experienced in any Business. T. SPARANO, Kennington Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Benn, Solo Harpist and Pianist, Disengaged eight weeks, Panto. settled, Grand Theatre, Leeds. Apply. 21, Castlegate, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Æneas Gibson, Harpist, Pianist, First-Class Engagement, England or abroad, long experience, sight reader, any class of music; high-class references; age 31; conclude engagement end Sept. Music Seller, Ilkley.

WANTED, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Engagement; good references; can join at once. W. MARSHALL, 19, Portland-place, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist, as Deputy. Vacant for a few weeks. TOM CLEMENTS, 93, Goldsmith-road, Leyton, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Flautist, finishing season Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay, Sept. 30. Address, 41, Cambridge-st, Hyde Park.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Oct. 8, F. Brook (Flautist), just finishing eighteen weeks' successful season Tynemouth Palace; any business; soloist. 9, Tynemouth-place, Tynemouth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Known, Marguerite St. Barbe, Pianist Liberty, concluding season Belper Pierrots; any business; highest refs. 11, Crown-terrace, Belper, Derbyshire.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Clarionet, any business. Good references. T. and C., 25, Guildford-road, Southend.

WANTED, immediately, by Brilliant Young Lady Pianist; permanent engagement in London; trained Guildhall School; thorough all-round experience. Apply, Box 3,764, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, good reader. Address,
ERNEST GILPIN, 49, Swan-st., Trinity-sq., S.E.

WANTED, by Pianist (reliable) who can combine Second Violin or Viola, Re-engagement, any Business; references. 24, Theresa-road, Spark brook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist; good references; can open at once; sober and reliable. PIANIST, 10, Bath-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Pianist, good accomp. and reader, used to Variety. Finishing season, Pierrots, Kinver. JORDAN, Wilstanley-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, by Pianist or Conductor, Re-engagement; Sight-reader, Transposer; young; Midlands preferred. CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist, Engagement, Orchestral, Variety, Accompanist, &c., London preferred. THOMPSON, 42, Holsworthy-square, Gray's Inn, W.C.

WANTED, by First-class Double Drummer, Engagement; experienced, Variety preferred; ref. Disengaged. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-rd., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Theodore Gordon, Double Drums, Tymps. At Liberty Oct. 1, any Business. 103, Lebanon-road, East Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by a First-class Double Drummer and Tympanist; good for any Business. S. BARBER, 123, Wardour-street, W.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Double Drummer and Tympanist, own Tympani, in London or suburbs. Address, HOWARD, 198, Ebury-street, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Cromptonroad, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for King Ohmy's Great Circus, Barrow-in-Furness, to open Oct. 15, all the Greatest Stars that are at liberty for that date, to complete the Greatest Circus Show now before the English Public. 100 Artists already engaged, and 100 more wanted to complete the Great Company, to open in King Ohmy's Grand New Circus at Xmas. Address, KING OHMY, 111, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

HENGLER'S, SAUCHIEHALL-ST., GLASGOW
Winter Season, 1906-7, commencing
Saturday evening, Nov. 3.
WANTED, First-class Artists, in all Lines. Full particulars in first letter to Mr. HENGLER, as above.

WANTED, Gymnasts, Trapeze, Flying Rings, Benders, Posturers, Good Knockabouts, Clowns, Niggers, Comedians. Terms low; join at once. J. FULLER, Circus, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, Circus Artists, for Sketches, &c., for Oct. 22. GINNETT, 135, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, immediately, Young Lad (over 14), for First-class Acrobatic Troupe, Tumbler or Bender; must be able to do a few tricks; also Boy Juggler. Board and lodgings all found. Both state tricks and salary, at once.
MARTINI,
Bush Hotel, Churchgate, Bolton.

WANTED, for Juggling Act, a Good Comedian; must be able to do a few Tricks, Tumbling, Hand-balancing, or Contortion; good salary. Box 3,783, "The Era."

WANTED, a Good Acrobat (top mounter), able to do Hand Balance, for Comedy Sketch; no amateurs required. Box 3,779, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, five acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare. Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown, had the record Benefit at the Hippodrome, Douglas. Although there were six Benefits the same week at the Hippodrome, mine was a success, and the hit of the season. This week appearing at the Tower, New Brighton, with grand success. No vacancies.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Austin, Double, Single Talking, Tumbling Knockabout Clowns and Agoustes, Eccentric Pyramid of Chairs and Foot Equilibrists, now on Tour Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Ireland, at Liberty Nov. for Winter Season. Address, 8, Huntingdon-road, East Finchley.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown,
Novelty Act.
Sanger's Hippodrome. On tour.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo, at Liberty, Lady Gymnast, graceful trapeze and teeth speciality. Address, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Mayon Troupe, two ladies, two gents, Gymnasts, Acrobats, at Liberty Oct. 15, on, with number of First-class Acts, suitable for Stage, Ring, or Carnivals. Com., No. 30, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, The Maros, Quaintest Three-Bar Comedians. Usual success, Hippo., Burton (wire); then, 126, Porter-st., Hull.

WANTED, Known, Almero, of Aerial Norwegian Spar Fame, and Wire Artist, concluding six months' successful engagement with George Beach, Esq., Vacant from Oct. 29. Perm., 142, Fernhead-rd., St. Peter's Park, Paddington, London.

WANTED, Known, Kavados, Juggler, First-class Act, Liberty Oct. 1, 8. Wire, 2, Rosamond-place, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by good Tumbler, good on hands and head, Engagement, to join troupe or sketch. C. S., 29, Willow-vale, Uxbridge-road, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAR, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Speciality Act, Oct. 8.
Artists for Manchester, Dewsbury, Sheffield, Bradford, Leicester, Oldham, London, Bolton, Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Burnley, Liverpool, &c.
Terms, lithos., bookings,
EDGAR STEBBINGS,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
'Phone, 09261. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED Variety Artists, all Lines, Oct. 8, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowst; hall small. P. RAYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, Serios, Good Sisters, Doubles doing Singles, Good Comedians. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, for Monday next, Oct. 8, and several weeks to follow, near London.
Fares paid. Write, ELLIS,
The Welcome, Harlow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artists, Serios, Dancers, Comedians, one combining Pianist. Vacant dates and lowest terms to H. J. WILLIAMS, 28, Calais-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now on. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29. CHARLES A JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-Class Music Hall Engagements please communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

IMPERIAL VAUDEVILLE CO.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, for long Tour, First-Class Vaudeville Company, Single and Double Turns, Musical Act, Sisters, &c. Urgent. Wanted, Pueblo and Cropp to wire address, Contracts waiting; also wanted, Musical Keiths to wire address. Send full details, very lowest; no fancy salaries, but Contracts await right people who are reliable. Write only (no callers seen without appointment), 10 Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Oct. 15, onwards. Call, Monday:—Five M.P.'s, Musical Palmers, Chas. Danton, Palette, Two Daniels, Sisters Hula, Daisy Palmer, The Boultons, Mlle. Bartincle, &c. GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big comic acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool. Contract waiting for the Hugo Troupe. Kindly wire address.

WANTED, Artists, Oct. 15, onwards; Good Combinations Entertained.
Write, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Oct. 8, 15, 29, Nov. 12. Lancashire address, c/o WILL ONDA, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Artists coming North to send vacant dates and terms to JAS. ANDERSON and SON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
DALTON'S AGENCY. send private address where
DALTON'S AGENCY. staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington," Telephone, 193 Didsbury. 29,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, Big Stars in all Lines, to communicate at once.
Silence a polite negative.
Your attention is called to Rule 3 of Contract.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, for Oct. 8, 15, and 22,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Nothing too Big,
to Communicate,
DAVE BARNARD'S AGENCY, 24, Islington, Liverpool.
Telephone No. 1114 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars, Oct. 8, onwards.
Full up for small numbers.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you.
JESS VERNO,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: Bellong Bros., Yorkshire Tom, Four Hearnes, Bert Lytton, Mlle. Yetta, Calcotts, Edwards, Vernon's Bioscope.
WANTED, Variety Talent. Share or Salary.
SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Talent all Lines,
Oct. 8, onward.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

ARMSTRONG'S
MUSICAL and VARIETY AGENCY,
now under the direction of
BERNARD ARMSTRONG,
Nephew to Barney Armstrong.
WANTED, First-Class Turns, all kinds, for immediate and future dates.

Send full list of Bookings, Terms, &c.
BERNARD ARMSTRONG,
New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big and Small Turns, in all Lines, Oct. 8, on. Just a few booked by me this week: Anna Kenwick, Oliver Conroy, Zavan, Bruce and Ross, Rolands, Lang and Beal, Irene Rose, Cosman, Pearce and Ward, Bros. Laurence, Claremont and Victor, Poole and Poole, Horton and Linder, Alvantee, Dalton and Travellie, Garland, Mannix, Stuart and Worth, Leopold and Lorna, Baroux and Bion. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns,
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work.
I can give you nine months' solid work.
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
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Manchester.

Telephone 09144.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Good Variety Turns, one week only, commencing Monday, Nov. 12, twice nightly and usual matinée Thursday. Address, with absolutely lowest terms, HARRY YORKE. N.B.—Silence a polite negative pro tem. There are no other vacant dates.

WANTED, a few Good Turns, to complete my 1907 list. Send bookings, sample litho., or poster, to PAPA BROWN, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W. Tel., "Jibbers, London." 'Phone, 887 Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession, to send lithos., memos., bookings, vacant dates, and lowest terms. Contracts waiting, Lade Henderson, Dick and Dorothy, Sisters Brenton, Rumbo Austini, Brothers Daniels, Miss Lily Arthur, and Sauteron, the Expert Champion Jumper. Address, BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Oct. 22, onwards, Top Liners, Serios, Sisters, and Variety Acts, all Lines. Lithos., memos., T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Sketches, Dramatic and Comedy, Oct. 8, onwards.
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21 Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Military Spectacle. State full particulars, absolute lowest terms, engagement to commence Xmas, and may continue three, four, to eight weeks. Pleased to hear from Selkirk's "Bonnie Scotland." Address,
GEORGE GASCOIGNE, Victoria Villa, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Sisters, Bioscope Exhibition, Touring, sing, dance, play piano; also young Lady Pianist-Vocalist; refs. Lowest terms. Box 3,777, "The Era."

WANTED, Pair of Sisters, do Single, cheap Speciality, Oct. 8, near Birmingham. Combination terms. HICKS, Gordon House, Wolfa-street, Derby.

WANTED, Lady, about 16, for Illusions, one used to preferred, smart appearance, quick for trap work, height about 5ft. 2in., weight about 7st., own dresses if possible, rehearse Southampton Oct. 7. Photo. (if any), lowest terms, and reference, Herr FRITZ,
66, Queen's-square, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Girl, with knowledge of International Dancing. Must state salary expected in first letter, with full particulars, Box 3,778, "The Era."

WANTED, Female Vocalist and Acrobatic Dancers, to do Split, High-kicking; good character indisp. Apply personally, between 3-5 p.m., 10, Upper St. Martin's-lane, W.

WANTED, for a First-class Established Minstrel Combination, Comedians, Tenor, Baritone or 'Basso as Interlocutor, also Male Soprano. None but the best need apply. State age, experience, and absolute terms for long Engagement. Tom Birchmore, Johnny Morton, and Fred McLean send address. Box 3,775, "Era."

WANTED, Comedian, to Sing Song in Sketch and play Small Part, on Oct. 22. GINNETT, 135, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, to play in Sketch, Young Man, sing and dance well; height 5ft. 4in.; to rehearse in London, Oct. 15. Send photo. if possible, which will be returned. State salary required to N. H. WALLIS,
Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Small Comedian (Pantomimist), for Call Boy part in First-Class Play; tour commences Oct. 15. Age, height, terms, and last three references, to Box 3,799, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lad, between 15 and 16 years of age, that has some knowledge of Scottish Dancing and Piping, and willing to learn acrobatics, to join a first-class Combination; all expenses paid, and everything found. Apply, stating salary, &c., to ALFRED SUTCLIFFE, 49, Agincourt-rd., Hampstead Heath, London, N.W.

WANTED, Juvenile Comedians, Juvenile Vocalists, Juvenile Acrobats, Juvenile Dancers, Juveniles in all Lines. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Boy Vocalists, age 14 to 16, stage experience preferred; good salary. Address, well-known professional troupe. The Elm Farm, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.

WANTED, a Young Man, for Acrobatic Sketch; must be funny; no amateurs required.
Box 3,780, "The Era."

WANTED, Humorist and Lecturer, for the New Imperial Pictures.
Apply, Mechanics' Institute, Bacup.

WANTED, First-Class Bioscope, Dec. 3 and 10. Brighouse and Farnworth. Absolute lowest. DALE, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, on. Star Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest; once nightly. J. CUMMINGS, G.P.O., Dalkeith.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.
WANTED, February,
onward,
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object.
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Liverpool. (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Magna, Magna, in her Beautiful and Classical Poses.
Absolutely the Finest Posing Act on the Stage.
Monday,
G. Theatre, Mexborough.

WANTED, Known, Gracie Bard, Character and Coon Speciality Artist. Liberty Monday Wire to 10, Blenheim-avenue, Barnsley.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, on, by Stelfane, Lady Magician. An Act that Stands Alone. Offers to Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, Engagements, by Miss Bessie Hardman, Soprano, Concert Party or Music Halls. 41, St. Mary's-square, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Oct. 8 and onwards, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker. The only one who will allow anyone to pour boiling lead into the handcuffs; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in the greatest Trunk Mystery in the World. Write next week, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Jack Barnes, Comedian, of the Rinaldo, at Liberty. Letters addressed 22, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next and Oct. 29, by Allan Hanbury, Eccentric Patter Comedian. Success, Stoll Tour. Wire, 66, Ebury-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Thomas, Comedian, wants Oct. 1, on; original songs, sketches, and scenas. Perm., 68, Truro-rd., Wood Green, N.

WANTED, by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality, "The Cycling Monkey," Oct. 22, to follow Empire, Shildon. 6, Middle Market-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Vulcaris (the Scottish Grossmith), concluding five weeks' consecutive Engagement at Central Hall, Edinburgh. Offers invited for Oct. 8 and 29 (weeks); now booking for Concerts. A great entertainment—Vulcaris and a piano.

WANTED, Monday next, by George Casey, King's English Comic Singer. Sure success. Wire quick, Tivoli, Dublin. Pantomime settled.

WANTED, Known, Harry Peacock, Baritone, Disengaged, late St. James's Quintette, Empire Quintette, Mr. Fred Karno's Cos. Permanent, 22, Greenhow-crescent, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Harry Plant, Novel Comic Musical Act and Comedian, at Lib., Monday. 36, Walton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, 29, by the Great Original Kyoto, and his Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box, a wonderful contortionist, comedy juggler; conjurer; also May Geraldine, Dancing Chic Comedienne. Another enormous success T. R., York. Monday, Oct. 1, Hippo., Scarboro'. Wire or write.

WANTED, Known, that S. Dot Stanley will, on and after Oct. 8 next, be known (with partner) as Estan and Elise. Managers and Agents kindly notice.

WANTED, Known, The Bohemians (Will and Madge), Instrumentalists, vacant Oct. 8. Big hit. This week, Roscommon, Liverpool; next, Hip., Dewsbury.

WANTED, by The Monckton, Monday next, also Oct. 8, in screamingly funny duologues. Enormous success, this week, Camberwell Palace, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Chas. Bradford, Comedian; Brenda Leslie, Song Illustrator; two distinct turns. Big Songs. Wire, Pavilion, Withernsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday, to Precede Glasgow. Wire, CLYO and ROCHELLE, Circus, Rochdale. 22nd, concluded three pleasant months, Chappell's, Yarmouth. Note.—New act produced, and our future new name, viz., Wall and Robson.

WANTED, Monday next, Barney Noble, Comedian; Olive Veno, Dancer.
Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Monday next, Arthur Richards, Comedian; Renee Walon, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire for two sure hits. Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday next, Ryder Davis, Comedian; also Eva Ward, Burlesque Artist. Wire, one or both, 32, Derby-sq., Loughborough.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, the Popular Songstress. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success through Hungary.

WANTED, by Onzelo and Onro, Eccentric Juggling Equilibrists and Comedy Trapeze Experts, Oct. 22, Halls or Pantos. 76, Cobourg-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Dec. 24, Jan. 21, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin comedy novelty. Empire Theatre, Camberwell. Agent, TOM SHAW.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 1, by Stanley's Urchins. Wire offers to STANLEY, 18, Ackers-st., Manchester.

WANTED, 1st and 8th, by Atlas, Vulcana (three Ladies, one Gentleman), the Society Athletes, best Top of Bill before the Public. Wire, Hippodrome, Stockton.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Oct 15 (?), 22, 29, The Three Behans, in the Greatest Comedy Quick change Act before the Public. Four Calls and Encore every show. This week, Hippo., Stoke. Oct. 1, Palace, Attercliffe.

WANTED, the Three Cheers, Original Speciality own Special Scenery. Chimes, introducing highly-trained cats. Vacant Oct. 8, 15, 29. 86, High-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Monday next, and onward, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope; everything up-to-date. Wire for Monday, 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Oct. 15, onwards, by Gulliver, and the Liliputians, refined ventriloquial novelty, splendidly dressed and mounted. This week, H., Burton-on-Trent, usual success; next week, Palace, Derby (return).

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, up-to-date Magician and Bioscope Operator, Nov. 26, on. Perm. address, 27, Minto-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent. and Conj., in the best of society, without bluff. Vacant Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Oct. 1 and 8, for Matt Wilkinson's Comedy Success, "The Registry Office," and Violet Beatrice, Boy Impersonator. Hippo., Lancaster.

WAANTED, Monday next, by Tom Davis's Comedy Sketch Co., "Furgusone's Dog," Wire, 30, Grosvenor-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle, "In Japan." Everything carried. Good pictorials. Sure draw. CLARKE, 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Devereux, Great Dog Sensation, a Troupe of Animals with Human Brains. A show that hits the audience everywhere. At Liberty Oct. 15, Nov. 5, on. C/o Young, 71, Scott-street, Garnet Hill, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Monday next, between Leicester and Bristol; also Oct. 29 and Nov. 19; the only vacant dates this year. Big set, great show, top-liner. Wire, 40, Clarence-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Sergt. M. Williams's Trick Dogs, in their Marvellous Riding School Exercise and Football Act. The only dogs that drill like soldiers. 24, Belgrave-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Halls, First-class Variety Co.; must have Orchestra. Scenery. Seating 500-1000. Sharing. Add., GEO. SANGER, Snuggery, Chertsey, Surrey.

WANTED, Large Halls, for not less than two weeks, Sacco (Fasting Man) and Up-to-date Animated Picture Co. Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, a well-known Acrobat Knockabout and Comedy Cyclist; will join anything big. Box 3,794, "The Era."

WANTED, Known to Magicians, Advertiser seeks Situation, Conjurer's Assistant; do Sleights; abstainer; reliable; come cheap. F. RICARD, Poste Restante, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Juggler and Dancer, wishes to join Juggler as Assistant, or Good Comedy Act. FRANCIS BRADY, 7, Suffolk-street, Glasgow (E).

WANTED, Engagements, public or private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Bioscope Engagement, twenty minutes' show each night, £3 per week, finest pictures; references given and expected, or first week's salary in advance; Lady Vocalist for Illustrated Song if required. J. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, October, December, Brandon Medland's Mystic Kettle, Genuine Liquid Air Show and Kinematograph (finest films). 44, Lorrimore-road, London.

WANTED, Prominent Positions, Piers, Public Halls, from May next, up-to-date Animated Pictures. HENRY, 3, Park-lane, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday, Bioscope, Latest Pictures, lime or electric. Wire, PICTURES, Pavilion, Withernsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Large Halls, for the New Pictures of the Century Co. Shares or rental. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Dates for Lingwood Bioscope and Illustrated Songs, films changed weekly. Electric or Lime. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, South Norwood.

WANTED, Known, Bioscope Operator, gas or electric; good refs; no reasonable offer refused; combine stage-manager. EDWARDS, 34, Sherdley-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by young, experienced Operator for Cinematograph, mechanic and electrician, Re-engagement; understands every kind of machinery. M. R., 6, Bolsover-street, W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Short Notice.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
WANTED, Known, Meeting at Gloucester Fair Next Sunday. Sept. 30.
Speaker,
The Rev. T. HORNE.
Chairman,
JACOB STUDT, V.P.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at
The Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on
Thursday next, Oct. 4, at 2.30 p.m.,
when all members are requested to attend for the transaction of important business.
Signed, THOS. HURST, Sec.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know. Wire, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, there is nothing to equal the American Automatic Arcade for making money easily, quickly, and safely. A well-chosen location under competent management should return over 100% p.a. We are contractors for the equipment of these arcades, and place our experience at the disposal of those interested. Interviews by appointment anywhere in town. Telegrams, "Minervanto, London." Telephone, 2152 North.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO.,
120, York-road, London, N.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 5s. 6d. a gross.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

SCOTCH EXHIBITION,
THE ARCADE, LOWESTOFT.
Oct. 15 to Nov. 26.
WANTED, Novelties, with Flash, 1 week at Lowestoft and one week at Yarmouth (distance 10 miles). Also Handkerchief Embroidering, on shares, good business done. Also one space to Let for Stamps or Monograms, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Good Freaks, Living Novelties, open at once. Sale of books, also post-cards, allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Good Novelties, at Once. Wire terms,
C. CHAPLAIN, 95, High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Refined Novelties, with Paintings or Posters, nothing too big, for Bristol, Cardiff, and other towns to follow. Address, THOMPSON, 78, Castle-st., Bristol. Wire for Monday. Good doorman write.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Living Novelties of every description; best position in town; Ghost Illusion, Large Shop write. F. DURLAND, Exhibition, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, at Once, for George Whtie's No. 1 Cinematograph, First-class Operator, with Knowledge of Photography preferred; must be sober. Terms and particulars, wire, GEORGE WHITE, Cinematograph, Torry, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, for George White's No. 2 Cinematograph, First-class Operator, also Good Pianist, Sight-reader, and also a Lady and Gentleman, married couple preferred, to do Variety Turns, Inside, Sketches, &c., and Parade People; must know the Business, or no use. No fancy salaries, but a comfortable and long engagement to suitable people. Sole Proprietor, GEORGE WHITE. Sole Manageress, Madame HERCULINE. All communications, GEORGE WHITE, Cinematograph, Torry, Aberdeen, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Joe Andy, Comedian and Pianksman, is at Liberty; steady and reliable. Wire or write immediately, 65, King-street, Southport.

WANTED, Madame Amelia, Hampshire Giantess, at Liberty Monday and onwards, concluded third successful season at Great Yarmouth; good flashes and photos.; have a first-class doorsman. 49, Sidmouth-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Monday, Nora Macarthy, Irish Giantess; and General Tina Mite; greatest contrast in the world. Good paintings and fit-up. MACARTHY, Show Ground, Greenhill-grove, Manor Park, London.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 23 at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily anticipated.

CARNIVAL AND EXHIBITION
PUBLIC HALL, IPSWICH.
Dec. 17 to 30, 1906 (best two weeks in year.
WANTED, Known Spaces to Let, for Engraving, Jewellery, Monograms, Photography, and Glass-Blowing, &c.; also Wanted, Slip or Helter Skelter, on shares.
For terms, MANAGER,
Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

BANBURY.
To Circus Proprietors, Showmen, and Others.
WANTED, to Let, Turner's Fair Ground, Station-road.
Apply, J. H. TURNER, Banbury.

WANTED, to Let, Three Remaining Spaces, at Annual Scotch Exhibition; Glass-blower and Tattooist wanted; 8 weeks' run. SHERMAN, Regent-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, two Spaces vacant in the Original Scenic Touring Exhibition, Barrow, Oct. 24 to Nov. 3. Special advantages to good working Exhibits and Midget Photographer. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Drill Hall, Kendal.

WANTED, Known, Norwich and Eastern Counties Arts, Crafts, and Industrial Exhibition, Oct. 16 to Nov. 8.
Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

GRAND XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARNIVAL,
DRILL HALL, DUNDEE.
220ft. by 80ft. under cover, 248ft. by 80ft. outside. Surrounded by wall 15ft. high.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Side Shows, Novelties, &c., Galloping Horses, also Motor-cars, in good condition, and up to date. Opens Dec. 15 till Jan. 12. Add., F. H. HOBBS, D. H., Dundee.

Norwich.
WANTED, to Let, Spacious Premises, opposite Market Place, Post Office, immediately, for three months only.
Suitable for Auctions, Exhibitions, &c.
Apply, GEORGE BOSTON, Norwich.

WANTED, to Let, with immediate possession, Large Auction Mart, with Show and Stock Rooms; situated in Central Thoroughfare of the Town; well known amongst all classes, especially Fishing Class. Season now started. Particulars, apply, W. BENJAFIELD, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suit Medical Electrician or Beauty Specialist. Terms, CHARLES A. JAMES, visited by the Elite, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Freaks write in.

WANTED, to Let, Auctioneers, Bazaars, Shows, Shop, High-street, central position. Apply, MILLWARD, Pontmorlais, Merthyr.

WANTED, in Touring Trades Exhibition, Space for up-to-date Bioscope, Oct. 8, onward. HILDER, 62, Alfred-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Hire, for two days, the picture of the Warwick Pageant. Wire or write, FARELL, Coliseum, King's Norton, Birmingham.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Saloon Pullman Living Car, made up-to-date, rounded corners, 21ft. long, beautifully fitted, every convenience, perfect condition, only wants seeing. £160. 106, Northgates-street, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, a Good Pullman Living Car, road or rail, fitted up well inside.
Apply, TUNN'S Pullman Living Carriages, High Mill-road, South Town, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, of every description, best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd., West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines, genuine bargains, fortune, photo., character, sweetmeat, post-card, cackling hens, cigarette, &c. MASON, 17, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Eight Switchback Gondola Cars, the best ever made, only been used six months, made by Spooner and Orton, Burton-on-Trent; will sell very cheap to a cash buyer. These gondolas are as good as new, beautifully designed fronts and backs, with splendid carved wheelboard; they are one mass of carving and gold.
For price and where can be seen,
apply, T. CLARKE,
29, New-road, Kidderminster.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap for cash, a set of Juvenile Motor Cars, complete, seating 48 children, all new this year; long illness cause of selling; also 28ft. Striker, with Side Wings, carved and gilded. For price apply, GEORGE HEARN, Fair Ground, Peterborough, Oct. 1 to 6.

WANTED, to Sell, Jewellery and Fancy Goods Business; Character Reading room attached; grand position. Particulars, HADLEY, 72, City-arcades, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks (65 figures), complete exhibition, splendid dress. Cost £250; price £50, sacrifice. MASON, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, good money-taking Novelty, Three-legged Mummy, with paintings, and stereoscope peep-show pictures of Monte Carlo, two sets. MARWOOD, 7, Belmont-terrace, Stapleton-road, Bristol.

WANTED, to Sell, a Chicken with a Rat's Head, alive, nine months old. LORENZO, Fairview Farm, Barkingside, Ilford.

WANTED, to Sell, Twisted Brass Ball-punching Pedestal, cost £20. Reasonable offer accepted; or money partner. 3, Robinson-square, Gorton-road, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Fish-pond, cased wood, cost £13, price £5; Avery's Weighing Chair, 100s., cost £20. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, Secondhand, Automatic Punching Machine, also address of English Agent for same. M. COLLINS, 102, South Circular-rd., Dublin.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Purchase, Distorting Mirrors. Send sizes, full particulars, and lowest cash price, Box 3,768, "The Era."

WANTED, steady and reliable Traction Driver, one who understands the light. E. LAWRENCE, Fair Ground, Burton.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

WANTED TO SELL.
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WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, to dissolve a partnership, a Successful Music Hall, in good Provincial town; playing to big business; no opposition; part might remain on mortgage. Apply, with bankers' references, Box 3,738, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Travelling Hamper, very large, as new, great bargain; also Large Oil Painting, Amy Sedgwick as Peg Woffington, painted by herself. CHAPMAN, Business Agent and Valuer, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

WANTED, to Sell, 144 Tip-up Chairs and 26 Benches, 19ft. long, whole upholstered in crimson plush, good condition. HORNER, Empire Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, Paul's Century Animatograph, in condition as new, ready for starting show, £10. Box 737, London Press Exchange, Ltd., 15, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, a Bargain, the Finest Lioness in Captivity, sound, in perfect health, good at any show; also 12ft. Beast Wagon and Safety Cage. Will sacrifice the lot £45. CRECRAFT, Bioscope, Fair Ground, Llanelly, S. Wales.

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"Harum Scarum," Bioscope, Ted and May Hopkins, Pierce and Maizee, Erick, Canary Co., Frank Lynne, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Lilian Boanas, Indian Fakirs.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Casey's Court," Paulinetti and Piquo, Lil Hawthorne, Clemart, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Lilian Warren, Harmony Four, Young Vento, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Vesta Tilley, Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lillian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Will Evans, Ray Wallace, Brett and Orford, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Imperial Russian Troupe.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Three Olympiers, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Leslie Bros., Sisters Caselli, Preston and Balmaine, Selkirk and Co., Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Nora Emerald.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Hetty King, Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Katie Butler, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lilian Lea, Ruby Dahl, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Nat Clifford, George Formby, Fred Russell, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Barowsky Trio, Ancillotti and Pilu.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Ginnetti's "Remounts," Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Tschernoff's Dogs, Die Obersteirers, Dorothy L. Clarke.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Howard and Elsworthy, Lily Langtry, Gwennie Hasto, Carrie Joy, Bennett and Martell, Clarice Netta, Millie Payne, George C. Doughty and Co., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
McNaughton, Alice Lloyd, Park's Eton Boys, Mlle. De Dio, Jake Friedman, Forest and King, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
John Lawson and Co., Griff, Sutcliffe Family, Mayvilles, Max Yorke, Jack Lorimer, The Debreans, E. J. Sheldon, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chirgwin, Bioscope, Stelling and Revell, Albert Le Fre, Hanvaar and Lee, Coloured Meisters, Bros. Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Billy Tucker, Caledonian Boys.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Welcome Home," Bioscope, Clement Trio, Ernie Mayne, Marvelle, Abdy, Sisters Anderson, Jose Collins, Three Albions, Millie Hylton and D. Brooke, Colby and May.

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THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Harry Tate's No. 1 Company, Nettie Starr, C. Leonard Fletcher, Pictures, Scottish Meisters, H. E. High, Stella Troupe, Smythson Comedy Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"The Chauffeur" Co., May Tyler, Ian Colquhoun, Fio D'Orville, Bros. Obo, Dion Wade, Phil Hermann, Albertus and Millar.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Boissetts, in "Evening Party," Edgar Budden, Hillman and Russell, Bioscope, Leo Tell, Lilian Lowe, Wedburns, Ella Retford.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Haley's Juveniles, Freda Gordon, Arthur Richmond, Pictures, Edith Grenfell and Co., Fred Dunstone, Slippere, Ruby Holly, Macdonald and Huntingdon.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Motramos, Bioscope, Jack Lane, Violi, May Henderson, Bros. Dean, Atree, Beattie and Blanche, Boswell's Circus.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Will H. Sloan and Co., Hamilton Hill, Tom Edwards, Chas. Cardow, Alma Grey, Ethel Loftus, Sisters Lunelle, Three Cape Girls, Starr and Leslie, Spry and Monti, Clarion Trio, Norman and Leonard Trio, Lennie and Hast, Roma and Romani, Pictures, Frank Halter and Marie Kay, Rose Hamilton.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
First Performance: Raku, Daisy James, Sisters Hall, J. E. Coyle, Will Johnson, Chas. Pastor, Harry Taft, Three Missouris, Starr and Leslie, McConnell Trio, Three Romas, Pictures.
Second Performance: Raku, Daisy James, Nellie Wallace, Haig and Novell, J. E. Coyle, Will Johnson, Billy Farrell, Starr and Leslie, Knick Knacks, McConnell Trio, Three Romas, Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens in October next. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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By the writers of "My Irish Molly."

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By the writer of "If the world were ruled by girls."

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"I WANT MOLLY, AND SHE WANTS ME,"
By the writer of "Molly I love you."

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By the writer of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you."

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By the writer of "Oh! Charlie, come to me."

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By the writer of "On the dear old shore."

"BORNEO,"
By the writers of "Nobody knows, nobody cares."

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By the writers of "There's a girl wanted there."

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By the writer of "Just like the ivy."

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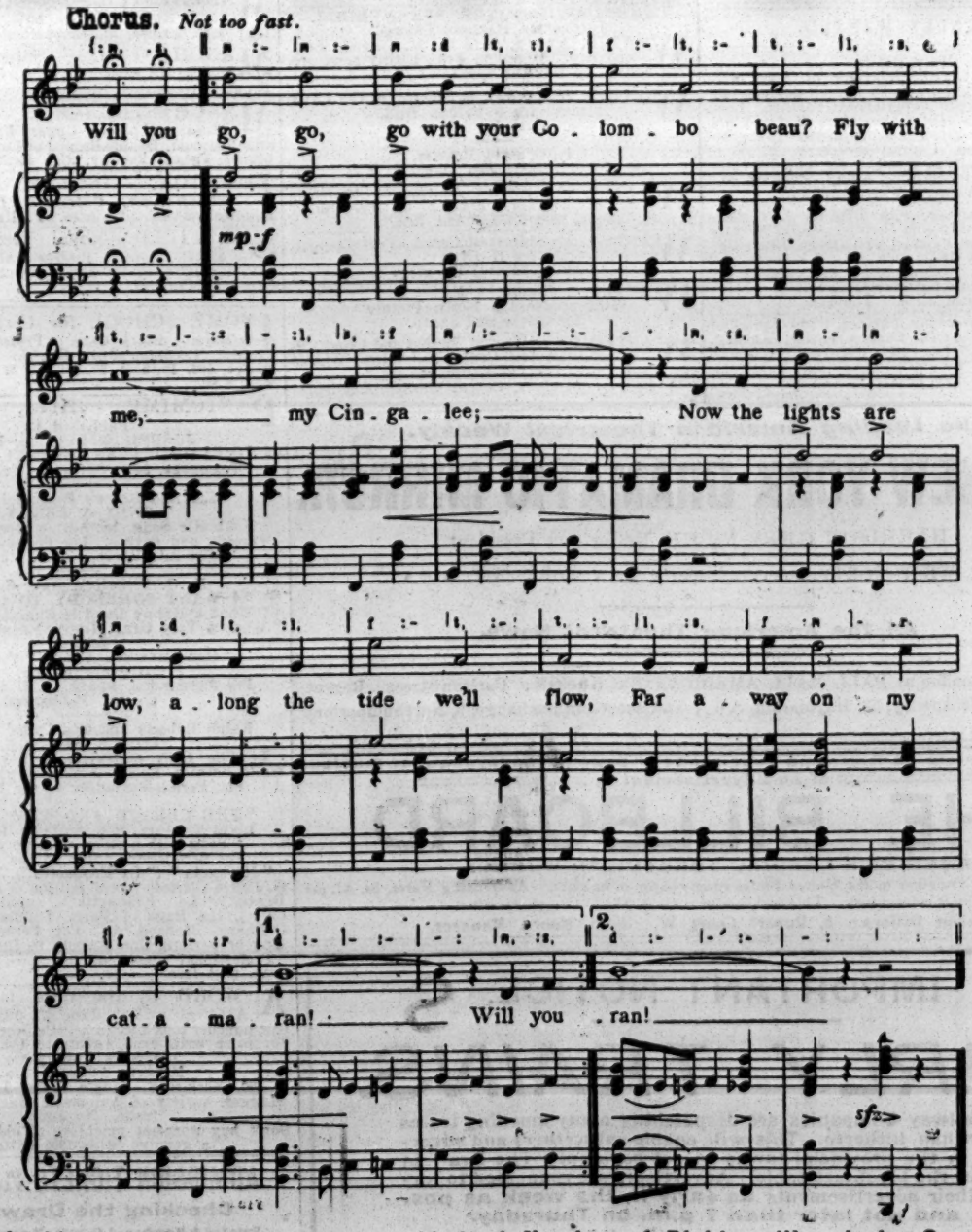

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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Fred Karno and Co. in "Dandy Thieves," Tom Yorke, Baroux and Bion, Deer Family, George Ripon, Nash and Noel, F. Fuller and Co., Cribb and Cribb, Pictures, Grant and Grant.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Sam Mayo, Carl Howard, The Valdos, Harry Zetter, Comunbia Trio, J. W. Hall, Willie Gardner, J. Collinson and Co., Cyril Carl, Pictures, Kentucky Trio.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Hal Godfrey, Nancy St. John, Alix Lukos, Frankie, Lew Lake and Co., Sisters Marion, Four Avocas, Harry Herbert, Rosalie Jacobi, Pictures, Four Emilons.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Vesta Victoria, Lillie Lassah, Frank Couch, Bicknelle, Regan and Ryan, Recco, Three Gilbert Girls, Violet Morgan, Fred Herbert, Pictures.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Five Olracs, P. Zaro, Three Rainats, Bertha Pertina, De Gracia, Belle Davis, Troba, Celina Bobe, Simms and Simms, Anthony, Lily Iris and the Koh-i-Noor Girls Johnson and Devere.

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All Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

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All communications to be addressed to the London Office,

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Oct. 1, 1906. 7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Alec Hurley and Full Company, Five Whiteleys, Mountford and Walsh, Fred Land, Clark and Clive, Martinetti and Grois, Minnie D'Aubyn, Elton and Edwin.
GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Hardeen, Gus Hindell, Richardson and Taylor, Steeley and Dowton, Karr and Krooney, Sisters Bartholomew.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

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All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.

CALL, Monday, Oct. 1, at 12 o'clock. Leo Dryden, Baltus Troupe, Bert Byrne, Violas, Shang Hai, Hallam and Stanton, Andy Burn, Lena Brunton, Johnny Dwyer, Ghita Corri.

Address, HARRY MCKELVIE, Business-Manager.

NEW HIPPODROME, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

CALL, Monday, Oct. 1, at 1 o'clock, for Jack Sheppard, Musical Silvo, Rowland Hill, Chas. Bu Val, Daisy Morell, Rene and Smith, Nellie Dunbar, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. All communications re dates to Sole Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, OCT. 1, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Davenports, Harry Walker, Gladys Williams, Almos, Bert and Dora, Jas. Willard and Co., Mac and Hill, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Cabaret's Dogs, Maude Vera, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Ringling Trio, Elton and Elma, Ted Saunders, Harry Brown, Lennie and Hast.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Harry Thurston, Wirson, Geo. Leonard, Llewellyn, Nettas, Johnson and Pelham, Carlotta De Yonsen and Co., Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
J. A. Wilson, Bliss and Bliss, Angelo, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Maud Beaumont, Vay's Juveniles, Nina Martino, Almon, Maurin's Fountains.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Austin Rudd, Sivronis, Sterling and Love, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Moule, Nicholls, and Co., Katheleen Gray, Geo. Collins, Les Rallis.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Walter Emerson, 5 Bon Bons, Tom Foy and Co., Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Helen Martin, Florence Yaymen, Woodward and Walton, 3 Rubys, Playfair and Nikola.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Lew Lake and Co., Du Gros Trio, Stirling and Cashen, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Will Musgrave, Frank and Free, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, 3 Bros. Curran, Arleys, Dutch Daly, Brown and Robinson, Rita Resdan.

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Bowman and Morton, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Chas. Gardner, Zampas, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Edna Knollys, Dronza, Ruth Lytton.

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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
"Rough on Tough," Flo. Chevalier, Stephens and Rennior, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sam Redfern, the Dallwoods, the Two Dalys, Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Leah Arden, Vaudeville Sketch Co., Baker E. Belphor.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Harwood's Juveniles, Sisters Lytton, the Danbys, Roze and Calvert, the Four Papilions, Minnie Moran, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, the Marconis, the Westwoods, Wilton Heriot and Co., Wild, Willie, and West, J. H. Bronson and Co.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Josephine Colona and Co., Gicardo, Kloof and Ramsey, Harry Varden, Harry Village, Jimmy De Voy and Billy, the Three Orros, the Little Wonder, Arthur Goodman, the Kays, Florrie Bray, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, W. J. Churchill.

SURREY THEATRE.
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Matinée every Monday.
"Mysteries of the Thames," New York Quartette, Bert Harrow, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley Johnny Holland and Co., Sable Fern, Clivetta, the Coolvilles, Frank Cumminger, Lucy Coventry, Sinclair and Whiteford.

Artists please Note
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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A horse stolen by a drunken man, and ridden by him in mistake to a racecourse, results in his winning the race, much to the disgust of the crowd assembled, who maltreat him.

148ft. The Subject £2 9s. 4d.

SURROUNDED BY GOLD.

Code Word, BROCHOIR.

A poor starving artist dreams that he is carried to a land where money abounds and only beautiful women reside, but wakes to find himself back in his old garret; then decides to hang himself. Surprised by his betrothed, who has sold her earrings to get him money, he finds that love and friendship are better than gold.

444ft. The Subject £7 8s.
Colouring, £3 8s. extra.

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IN SEARCH OF ADVENTURES.

A story of one hundred years ago, in the busy war time. A young peasant is cajoled to join the army, leaves his sweetheart, gets wounded badly, dreams of his betrothed, and manages to return to her. Grand quality, beautiful scenery.

545ft. The Subject £9 1s. 8d.

FORBIDDEN FRUIT.

Monks spy on lovers, who do all in their power to get away from them. Finally the young man pours a bucket of water on the most obtrusive one. Wonderfully fine facial expressions.

198ft. The Subject £3 6s.
Colouring, 6s. 8d. extra.

VENGEANCE OF A LAWYER'S CLERK.

A joke played on a lawyer by his clerk results in the latter's dismissal. He in revenge puts an advertisement in the paper for cripples and blind folk to call on the solicitor, in quest of a fortune. They arrive in scores, with very amusing results.

180ft. The Subject £3.

TRAGIC WEDDING.

Code Word, BRULOIR.

A country scene. The young and pretty peasant girl, betrayed by the evil squire, is turned away from her house by her father. She is neglected by her lover, becomes poorer and poorer with her ailing baby child. The squire is going to be married again. The betrayed girl swears revenge, and kills him coming out of the porch of the church. Intensely dramatic and soul-stirring.

528ft. The Subject £8 16s.

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One long laugh.
Length, 380ft. Price £9 10s. (Subject).
Code Word, "Mother."

FOILED BY A WOMAN; or, FALSELY ACCUSED.
A grand dramatic picture.
Code Word, "Foiled."

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The adventures of Mr. and Mrs. Jones on their first ride. A first-class comic.
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AN ORIGINAL SUBJECT. EXCITING AND SENSATIONAL. EXTREMELY COMIC.

Two lovers are surprised by the tide and make frantic efforts to escape. Others who come to their rescue are drawn into their predicament. At last they are drawn up the face of the cliff by means of a rope attached to the rear of a traction engine.

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NEW "NORWOOD" FILMS.

No. 007. THE DOG DETECTIVE.

How a high-class English retriever saves the property of a bank and his master's life by his wonderful sagacity, which equals any human intelligence.

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An original plot in which one man after another becomes a thief to catch another thief, which ends in a grand climax.

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Length 500ft. Price £10 net.

No. 513. HER MORNING DIP.

AN ENTIRELY NEW IDEA OF MUCH MIRTH AND MERRIMENT.

A beautiful damsel is escorted to the sea for her morning dip by a crowd of amorous young swains, who suffer a terrible mental shock upon beholding the object of their infatuation in bathing costume. Truly the change is remarkable, for from a winsome beauty with a dainty step and a Venus-like figure she has changed to a thin, gaunt-looking female of austere and repelling aspect.

Length 330ft. Price £6 12s. net.

No. 509. THE MASQUERADERS.

FUN AND FANCY RUNNING RIOT.

Lovers of clean, high-class fun will thoroughly appreciate the Masqueradors. Length 420ft. Price £8 8s. net.

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A ROLLICKING "KID" COMEDY FILM. FULL OF FURIOUS LAUGHTER.

It takes a pair of mischievous youngsters to make things hum, and we offer a pair which for unadulterated devilry has ever been equalled.

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A fine little film of unique quality. Two sailors come courting two girls under difficulties, and carry it on under difficulties, for it is only due to their resourcefulness that they are able to do any courting whatever.

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A lively little comic taken from London slum life. A characteristic picture.

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SPLENDID PANORAMA.

No. 1137.

"A RIDE THROUGH THE ARDENNES."

"FROM ARDENNES TO WALSIN."

No. 1142.

"FROM WALSIN TO DINANT."

The two films together make 500 ft., forming one beautiful panoramic view. They can also be had in two parts, 275 and 225 ft. The photographic quality is excellent and shows up the well-known lovely scenery with grand stereoscopic effect.

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"A FATAL LEAP."

An exceptional film of great sensation. A highwayman endeavours to make his horse jump a five-barred gate with disastrous results to himself. The wreckage is only too real, as one glance at the picture will show.

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OH, THAT DOCTOR'S BOY!

Dr. Killem's residence opens the picture. The Doctor's Boy, starting out on his round with the medicine, meets some of his particular chums in the shape of the butcher's boy and the baker's boy, and they all indulge in a game of marbles. The harmony of the game is interrupted by a cyclist colliding with the baker's basket, which is upset, and the butcher's boy throws some of the baker's boy's bread at the cyclist, general confusion ensuing, followed by the boys mutually exchanging volleys with their various commodities. Some of the physic bottles get broken in the tussle, and the Doctor's lad decides to replace them by some means or other, and he is next seen taking a devilish delight in filling up some bottles with paraffin, turpentine, weed-killer, &c., and then continues his round.

We next witness the patients taking their physic, the first being an elderly gentleman afflicted with the gout, who is immediately seized with horrible paroxysms consequent upon the noxious stuff that has been given him. Then a young lady patient receives her medicine from the nurse, and again follow terrible consequences. It is not long before the effect of the Doctor's strange physic is observed in the film, for messengers are seen gathering hastily at his house from all directions, evidently charged with news that will not wait, and the Doctor coming out detects the reason of all the trouble, and rushes to the relief of his patients. The boy plotter is then caught and given a dose of his own physic, but he escapes, and takes temporary refuge in a water-butt; but the defence is useless, and the water-butt is turned over, while the contents flow over the unhappy boy.

Code Word—"PHYSIC." Length, 336ft.

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TOURIST TROPHY MOTOR RACE, ISLE OF MAN.

We had two operators taking this subject, and have obtained an exceptionally good and EXCLUSIVE series of pictures. This advertisement having had to be made up for press on Thursday, we are unable to give the length.

PRINTS READY THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

SOUTH AFRICAN RUGBY TEAM VERSUS EAST MIDLANDS, AT NORTHAMPTON.

We had an operator at this match also, and we fully expect he has secured the usual Warwick quality and interest—namely, the best.

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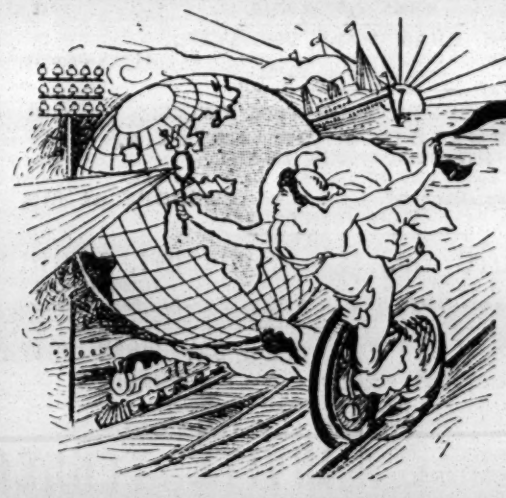

OUR LATEST SUBJECTS

1863.

WONDERS OF CANADA.

BY COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

A grand selection of special Pictures arranged for the purposes of this display, comprising the most wonderful and awe-inspiring of the many wonders which the Bioscope has been the means of introducing to public notice: marvels of Nature, of human handiwork and industry such as the world has never before seen. No pains or expense have been spared in the preparation of these subjects, which are selected from miles of film and represent absolutely the finest photographic quality.

ORDER OF PICTURES. . . .

1—ARRIVAL AT MONTREAL. A run up the St. Lawrence River by steamer.
2—WHEAT HARVEST ON A MANITOBA FARM. A combined reaper, thresher, and sacking machine, drawn by a team of forty horses.
3—FRASER RIVER FALLS. A glorious panorama.
4—THE IMPERIAL LIMITED EXPRESS (C.P.R.) on its 3,000 miles run across the Continent.
5—THE GREAT LOOP AT GLACIER HOUSE, KICKING HORSE PASS, taken from the front of the express engine. The railroad forms a complete loop or circle at this point, and by a gradual ascent passes over itself at the higher altitude. A snow shed in process of construction is also shown.
6—KICKING HORSE PASS, FROM THE FRASER RIVER CANYON. A monument of engineering skill, and a sublime panorama of mountain and river scenery.
7—BEAVERMOUTH CANYON, AS SEEN FROM THE OBSERVATION CAR. The Rocky and Selkirk Mountains, crowding together, force the river through a deep, narrow gorge, the railway clinging to the slopes high above it.

NOTE.—These pictures differ from all other Railway Panoramas ever photographed, as they not only show the approaching and passing scenery, but the entire train is constantly in view. The flight of the "Imperial Limited" Express is also a marvel of Bioscopic art. A new sensation.

9—TREE FELLING IN THE FORESTS. Axemen supported on platforms eight feet from the base first attack the gigantic tree, then expert sawyers cut through the trunk, finally a wedge is driven into the cut, and the giant falls with a crash.
10—METHOD OF TRANSPORTING LOGS THROUGH A GULLY. Hauled by means of block and tackle to the vicinity of the corduroy roads. Some idea of the depth of the gully may be formed by watching the descent of the horse.
11—HAULING LOGS THROUGH FOREST TO SEA. "Snigged" by teams of ten horses. This "train" is composed of ten logs, each averaging forty feet in length, and weighing from one to one-and-a-half tons.
12—CORDUROY ROADS THROUGH THE FOREST. Made by placing timbers across the road. Grooved blocks act as guides to obviate side rolling. The man in front greases the grooves to prevent friction and facilitate draught.
13—SLIDING LOGS INTO THE RIVER. As the log-train reaches the chute, the team is hitched to the back, the connecting "dogs" are removed, and each log, as it arrives at the end of the chute, falls into the water with a splash.
14—HOISTING LOGS TO THE MILLS. Drawn from the water over a log way by means of an endless chain gear, which conveys the logs to the mill.
15—PANORAMIC VIEW OF STEVESTON, B.C. The water front. Steveston is one of the most important salmon fishing villages on the Pacific coast.
16—HAULING IN THE SALMON NETS. Fraser River during the salmon season. This picture shows thousands of salmon struggling in the nets as the latter are drawn to the surface and finally emptied of their contents.
17—TRANSFERRING SALMON TO SCOWS. Each scow holds from 6000 to 10,000 salmon, and the fish is delivered at the factories within a few hours of being lifted.
18—FILLING SCOWS BY STEAM HOIST. The lifting of the catch from the salmon traps. By means of "steam brailing" 15,000 fish may be lifted in half-an-hour.
19—SPECIMEN SALMON, weight 32lb.
20—TRIBAL DANCE OF THE OJIBWAY INDIANS.
21—INDIAN CHIEF SMOKING THE PIPE OF PEACE.
22—THE WHIRLPOOL RAPIDS, NIAGARA (where Captain Webb lost his life), as seen from the gorge railway. A grand subject, showing the Cantilever Bridge, with train crossing.
23—GENERAL VIEW OF THE AMERICAN FALLS, NIAGARA.
24—BRINK OF THE AMERICAN FALLS CLOSE VIEW.
25—PANORAMA OF THE HORSESHOE AND AMERICAN FALLS, as seen from the Canadian side.
26—NIAGARA IN WINTER, showing the break-up of the Ice Bridge, the columns of shooting spray, wonderful mist effects, and the formation of ice hummocks, never before reproduced by animated photography.

NOTE.—Pictures 22 to 26 are tinted to show a beautiful moonlight effect, and form a superb ending to this remarkably successful and novel series, which illustrates the natural beauty and resources of Canada with extraordinary plenitude and variety of detail. So striking a sequence of animated illustrations of the Great Dominion has never yet been photographed.

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This series of twenty-two pictures forms a fifteen minutes' interlude of genuine fun without a suggestion of vulgarity. The pictures as projected are excitingly realistic, and a fine example is given of the progress of the animated photograph industry in the road panorama, with the motor continually seen at full speed during the chase, and an entirely new effect is produced by the presentation of a marriage ceremony conducted in a motor car travelling at express rate.

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Sportsman.—"The 'Urbanora' is of such value as an educational institution, as well as for its capacity to carry one into the extremes of the Empire, that its exclusion from the Alhambra programme would be well-nigh a calamity. The series is never dull, and the new films put in this week, illustrating the natural wonders and breezy life of Canada, are a triumph of the photographer's art, and should not fail to be seen."

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A magnificent Nature Study. Two young children take a thrush's egg and put it under the old hen. It is hatched, causing great excitement.
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Extraordinary adventures of a wonderful Cyclist, who rides across the dining table at a wedding gathering and snatches up the Bride. Very exciting.
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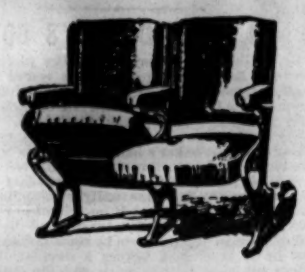

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We have just issued a very complete

CATALOGUE

which we are sure will interest anyone having a connection with Cinematograph matters, however slight. As soon as you read this, send us a post-card, and a copy shall be sent by return. It not only contains our "Empire" Specialities and Sundries, but a list of the latest new Films and our Film Hire List.

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Map, (19in. by 10in.), showing the distance betwixt the various Music Halls at a glance. Will tell if one Hall is within the barring radius of the other, thus saving fears, worry, and anxiety.
All About Artists' Luggage.
List of Clubs.
Information about Stamping Contracts.
Foreign Money Table.
London Music Halls and Theatres.
Their Telephone Numbers.
List of Brougham Proprietors.
List and Address of Photographers.
Size of Theatrical Printing Paper.
Names and Addresses of Theatrical Railway Managers, &c., &c.

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THE BOOK WILL BE SOLD AT ONE SHILLING Post Free.

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THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
. . AND . .
THE MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND.

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Mr. George Scott (Manager), Alhambra, W.C., writes: "Many thanks for the little book to hand, which will prove of valuable assistance to me."
Mr. Seymour Hicks, Aldwych Theatre, writes: "I thank you for the Telephone Book, which I find most useful."

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It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The Entertainment was entitled

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinematograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
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THE COUNCIL
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for the privilege of giving
ENTERTAINMENTS
during the Seasons 1907, 1908, and 1909, on Sites on the East Cliff and Beach as under:—
1. EAST CLIFF.—The portion of the Cliff opposite the north end of Belle Vue Road.
2. CENTRAL.—The portion of the Foreshore between the Culvert and the Groyne west thereof.

The Tenders should be in the alternative for one, two, or three seasons.
The successful Tenderers will be allowed to make a Collection, but will not be allowed to charge for the use of chairs.
Full particulars should be furnished as to the nature of the Entertainment proposed to be given.
The Council also invite Tenders for the privilege of using the Central Hall of the East Cliff Pavilion in connection with the East Cliff Site in times of inclement weather, &c. The successful Tenderer would not be allowed to charge for admission to the Hall during the Entertainments, but would be permitted to make a charge for the use of Chairs therein.
Copies of the Conditions to be observed, and forms of Tender and other information, may be obtained from the undersigned.
Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Open Air Eentertainments," to be delivered at my Office by SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1906.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender, and will consider no Tender except on the prescribed form.
(By order) JOSEPH JUBB,
Clerk to the Council.
Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Herne Bay,
September 20, 1906

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present isue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.